

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Kenneth G. Ammon, P.E., Deputy Executive Director
Everglades Restoration and Capital Projects 

DATE: November 1, 2010

SUBJECT: Amendment A03 to Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area Reimbursement Agreement 4600000750 with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Background: The South Florida Water Management District (District) entered into a reimbursement agreement with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for the Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area Hydrologic Restoration Project in April 2007. The project is divided into four phases that include the planning (Phase I), hydrologic and hydraulic modeling and evaluation (Phase II), design and permitting (Phase III), and engineering oversight for construction and construction (Phase IV). Phase I and II are complete. Phase III is scheduled for completion in March 2011. This amendment allows reimbursement for work orders issued to vendors other than AECOM for construction related support services and increases the reimbursement amount by \$1,500,000 to cover the cost of the District constructing the G-113 structure replacement. The District's contribution on this project includes project management, engineering, modeling and procurement support.

The ultimate goal of the project is to restore flow through Fodderstack Slough but due to reduced FWC revenues, priority has been given to the G-113 structure replacement. The G-113 structure was rendered "inactive" by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District in 2007 because of its dilapidated condition. Flashboard risers were removed from the structure in late 2007 and a temporary structure upstream of the existing structure was constructed in early 2008. The permit for the temporary structure expires at the end of 2012. Construction of the replacement structure, under the current schedule, is expected by July 2012.

FWC is amending the agreement to encumber available fixed capital outlay (FCO) funds in advance of construction. The District and FWC will amend this cooperative agreement again to add the scope of services for assistance during solicitation, engineering during construction, and construction management services, the specifications for the G-113 replacement structure, and any additional funding required for construction and construction oversight.

How this helps meet the District's 10-Year Strategic Plan: Replacement of the G-113 structure and restoration of flow to Fodderstack Slough and other wetlands supports the Everglades Restoration & Capital Projects resource area strategic priorities for restoration of the Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area Hydrologic Restoration Project and water control structure maintenance.

Funding Source: This amendment increases the reimbursement amount to the District by \$1,500,000, not to exceed the total project reimbursement of \$2,711,000, subject to Governing Board approval of the FY12 budget.

This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography: The Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area is located in the Kissimmee Upper Basin, just north of the S-65 Water Control Structure, on the east side of Lake Kissimmee. The overall goal of the restoration project is to re-direct flow from Lake Marian through Fodderstack Slough and to remove several man-made drainage features that have resulted in over-drainage of isolated wetlands. The project is expected to restore / improve the hydrology of over 6,000 acres of wetland area in this State-managed site of over 56,000 acres.

The Restoration Sciences Department in cooperation with the Everglades Restoration Engineering Department are providing the in-kind project management, engineering, modeling and procurement support.

What concerns could this Board item raise? The highest risk aspect of the G-113 structure replacement is FWC funding for the remainder of the construction costs. Funds required in addition to the \$1,500,000 will need to come from FWC's FY2011-12 recurring budget. Construction can not initiate until all funds are encumbered. If FWC funding is not made available in the FY2011-12 fiscal year, the encumbered fixed capital outlay funds may also be at risk. The permit for the temporary structure can be extended but not indefinitely. The District is the permittee for the temporary structure.

Why should the Governing Board approve this item? The Three Lakes Wildlife Management Hydrologic Restoration Project will restore wetlands and replace the existing dilapidated structure. A long-term solution needs to be implemented for the G-113 structure that provides the same functions and services as the original structure, including flood protection for local communities on Lake Marian. Approval to amend the reimbursement contract to include funding for construction of the G-113 structure replacement will reserve funding for construction and reduce future FWC construction costs.