



South Florida Water Management District: Who we are, What we do

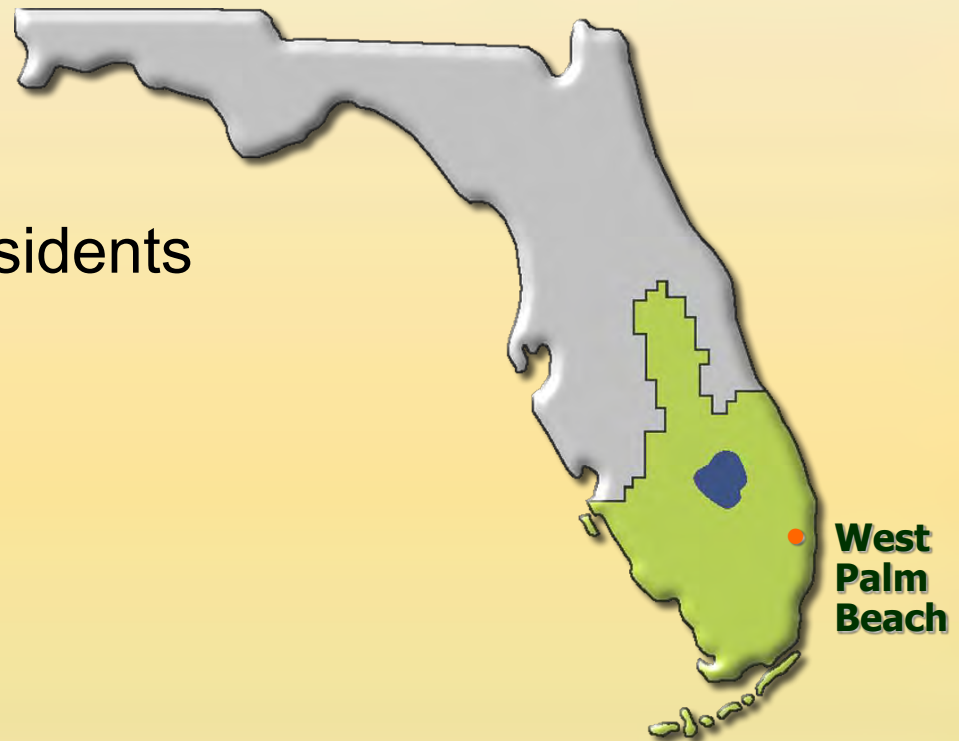
Village of Estero Council Workshop
June 24, 2015

Phil Flood, South Florida Water Management District

South Florida Water Management District

Covers an 18,000 square-mile region:

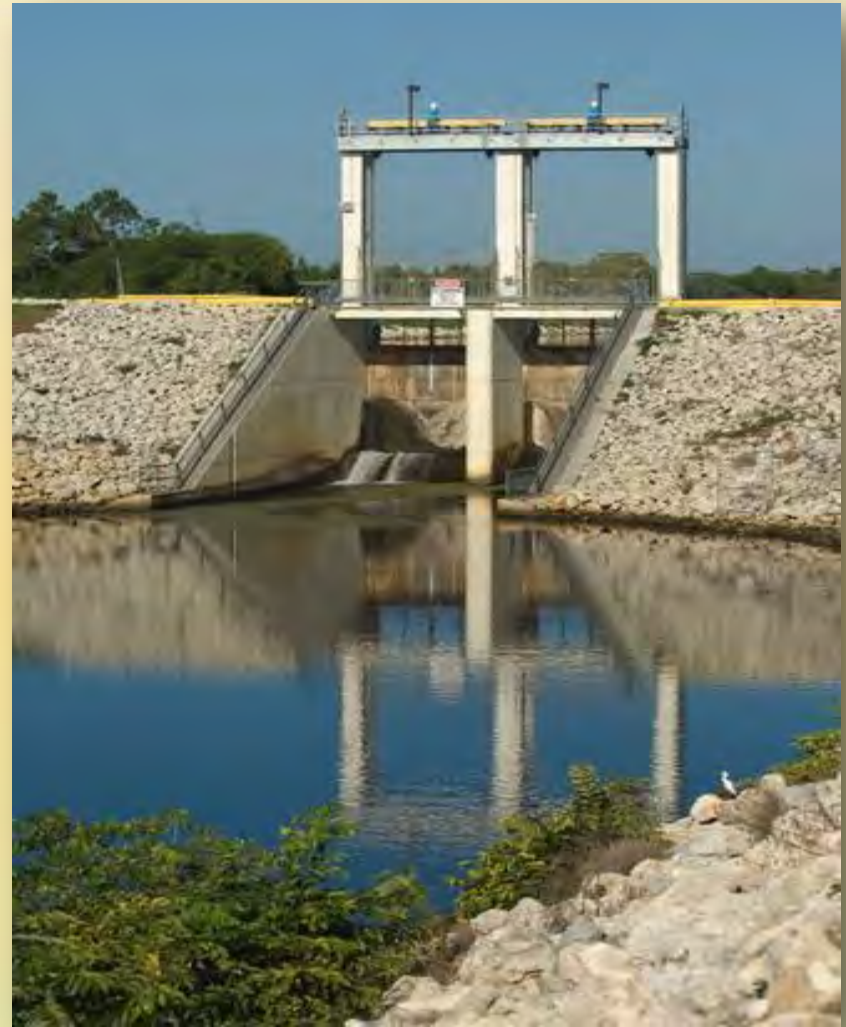
- 16 counties; 8.1 million residents
- Regional responsibilities
 - Flood Control
 - Water Quality
 - Natural Systems
 - Water Supply
- FY2015 Budget = \$720.4 million



Flood Control

Manage one of the largest flood control systems in the world

- Nearly 2,100 miles of canals and 2,000 miles of levees
- 600 water control structures and 625 culverts
- 70 pump stations
- Moves more than 20 million acre-feet (5.5 trillion gallons) of water annually



Flood Control

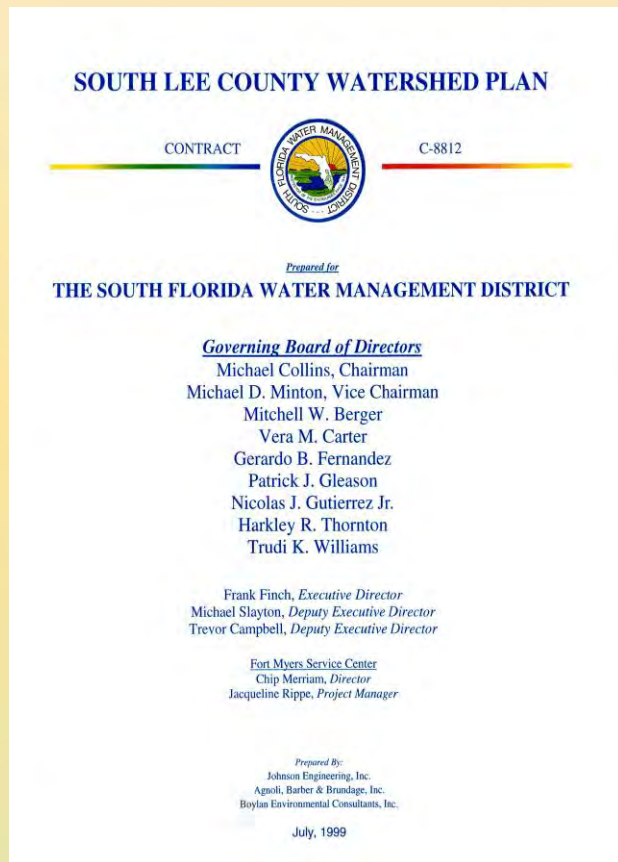


- Do not manage any canals or structures in Lee County
- Work on regional water management issues
- Provide assistance to local governments to improve drainage/flood control

Flood Control

South Lee County Watershed Plan

- Adopted by District and Lee County in 1999
- Land acquisition for water storage and flood protection
- Protection of major flow-ways
- Specific improvements within 315 mile study area
- SLCWP Update
Recommendations adopted in 2011



Water Quality



Improve water quality in the Everglades

- Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs)
 - 57,000 acres of Stormwater Treatment Area constructed
 - \$1.8 billion invested
 - 1,700 metric tons of phosphorus removed to date

Assist Local Governments with Stormwater Management Improvements

Natural Systems Restoration



Restore the Northern and Southern Everglades

- Improve quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water to freshwater and coastal systems
- 1.7 billion gallons of water lost to tide each day

Natural Systems Restoration



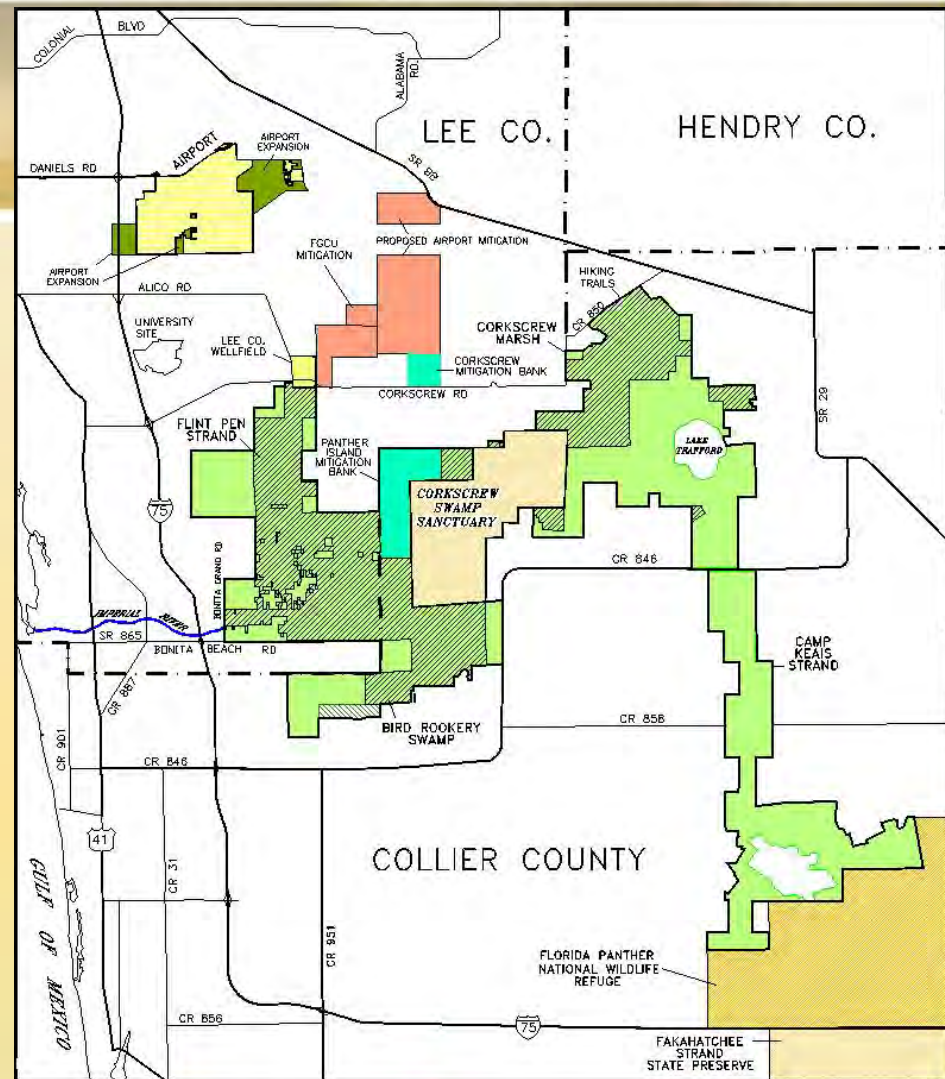
Southern CREW

- Restore and improve hydrology and ecology without significant adverse Impacts outside the project boundary
- No significant increase or decrease in peak discharges or flow depths in the Imperial River
- Increase hydro period within project boundary
- Improve habitat
- 4,000 acres

CREW Trust

Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed

- Established in 1989 as a public/private partnership to coordinate the land acquisition, management, and public outreach for this 60,000 acre project
- 45,300+ acres in preservation



- CREW (PROPOSED)
- ACQUIRED (APPROX.)
- CONSERVATION EASEMENT
- MITIGATION BANK
- OTHER PRESERVE/RESERVE
- AIRPORT MITIGATION
- AIRPORT EXPANSION

January 2005

(CREW)
CORKSCREW REGIONAL ECOSYSTEM WATERSHED

Regulation and Water Supply

Ensure sustainable water resources for South Florida's environment and economy

- Management of surface and groundwater through consumptive use and environmental resource permitting
- Agricultural, public water supply demand of 3 billion gallons/day



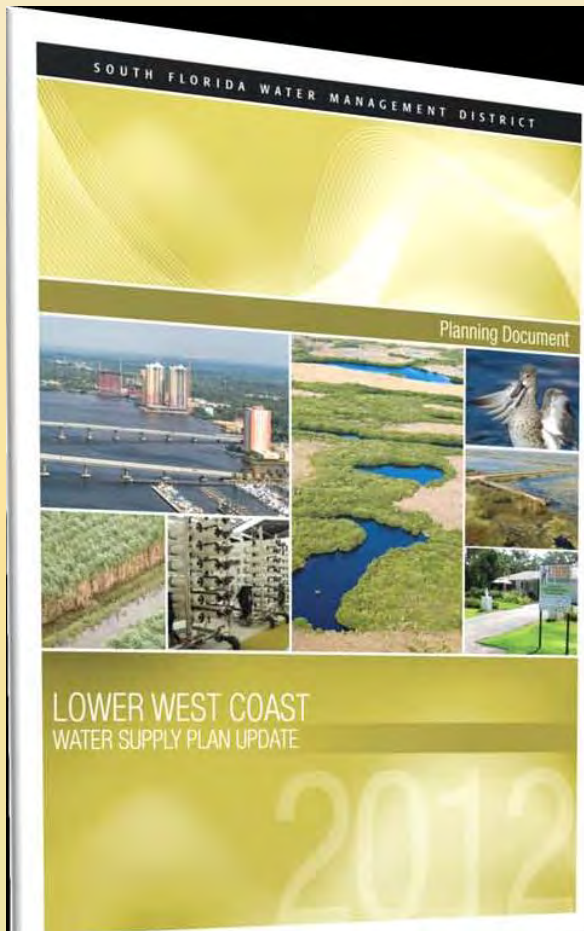
Lower West Coast Water Supply Plan

2012 Update

- Current and future look at water needs
- Strategies to meet future water demands and the needs of the environment
- Based on at least a 20-year future planning horizon
- Updated every 5 years



Lower West Coast Water Supply Plan



Plan Conclusion

The water demands of the region can continue to be met with *appropriate management and diversification of water supply sources* through 2030.

Bonita Springs Utilities

- 58% freshwater from Lower Tamiami aquifer
- 42% brackish groundwater from Floridan Aquifer
- 99% of wastewater being reused

Environmental Resource Permits

Regulation of “surface water management systems” including:

- Stormwater management systems, dams, impoundments, reservoirs, “works” and dredging and filling of wetlands

“Works” include:

- All artificial structures, ditches, canals, culverts, pipes and other construction that connects to, draws water from, drains water into or is placed across waters in the state



Environmental Resource Permits

- Primary Review Criteria
 - Wetlands
 - Water Quality
 - Water Quantity (flood protection)
- ERP is not a land use/comp plan decision or recommendation
- Land use decisions are made by local governments
- Operating Agreement between water management districts (WMDs) and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) establishes “activity-based” split of permitting responsibility.

WMDs

Residential

Residential dock/marina

Agricultural

Commercial

Highway

DEP

Mining

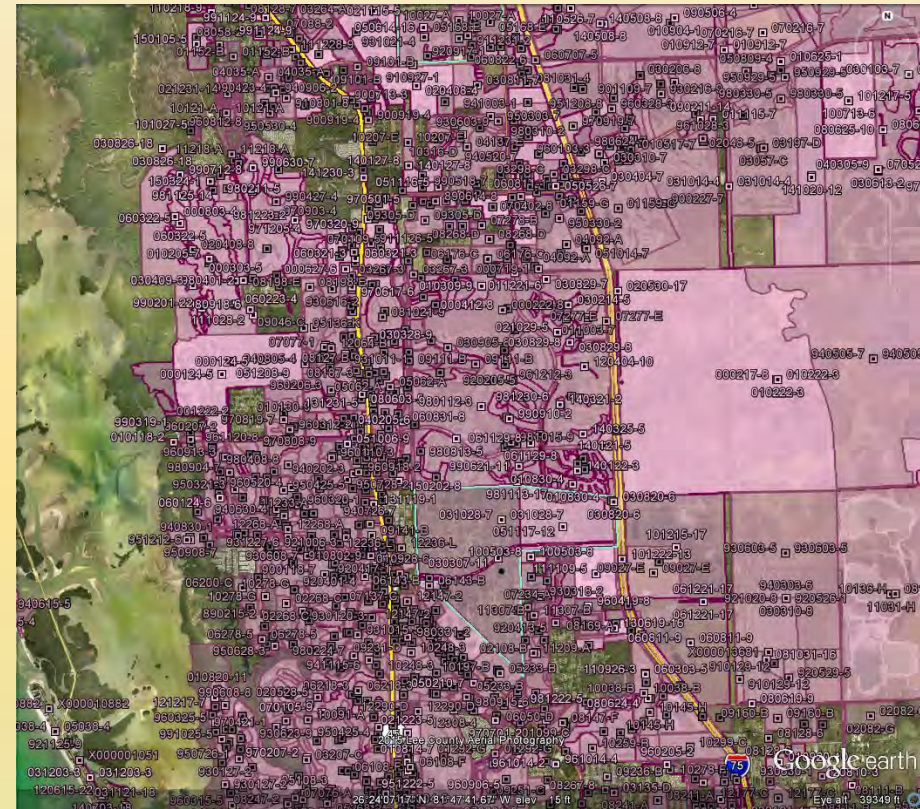
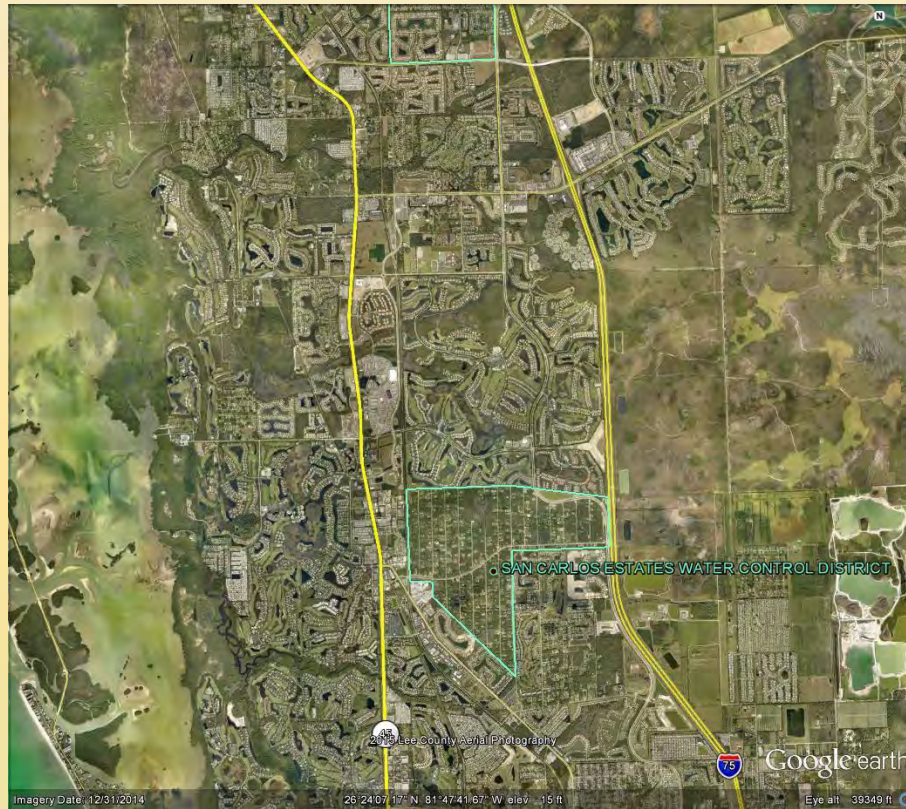
Industrial

Landfills

Commercial marinas

Single-family

ERP Permits in Estero Area



Environmental Resource Compliance

- Protection of water resources through compliance and enforcement of permitted and non-permitted projects
- Compliance and enforcement program includes:
 - Surveillance for non-permitted activities
 - Resolution of public complaints
 - Construction inspections of permitted projects
 - Enforcement documentation (notification and resolution)
 - Coordination with local governments; pre-construction meetings
 - Review of Construction Completion Certifications

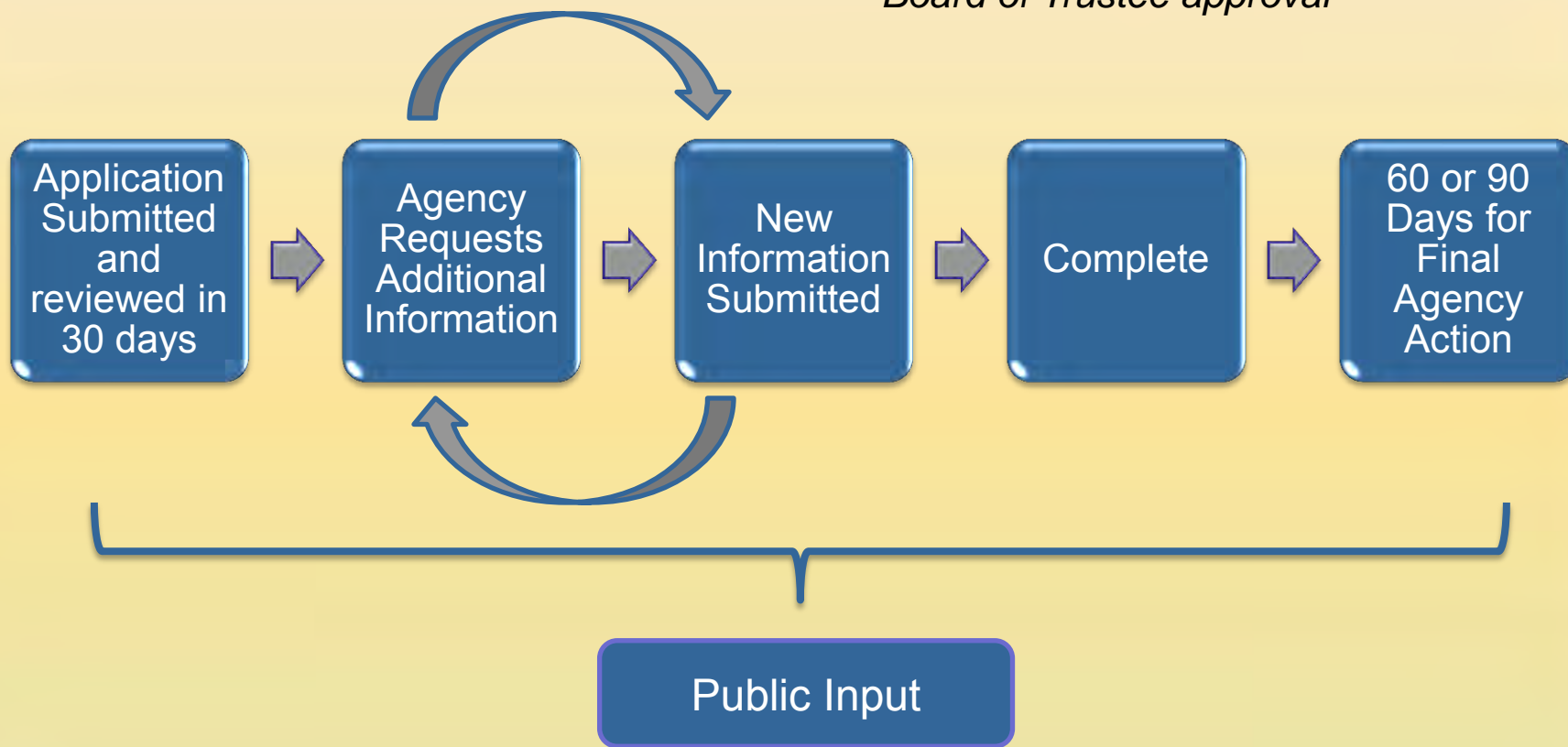
Consumptive Use Permit Program

Florida Water Law:

- District given exclusive authority to regulate the consumptive use of water by the Legislature
- No property right to water
- Users must obtain a permit to have a water right
- Statutory “Three Prong Test” for permit issuance
 1. Is a **reasonable-beneficial** use as defined in §373.019(4);
 2. Will not **interfere with any presently existing legal use** of water; and
 3. Is consistent with the **public interest**.
- Permits expire; must be renewed

Permit Review Process

**Potential delays in final permit action due to applicant waivers, challenges, Board of Trustee approval*



ePermitting Website



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WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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LAKE OKEECHOBEE LEVEL

LAKE ISTOKPOGA LEVEL

Feb 06, 2012
13.21 ft.

Feb 06, 2012
39.24 ft.



Water Shortage
Watch ▶



Permitting
Services ▶



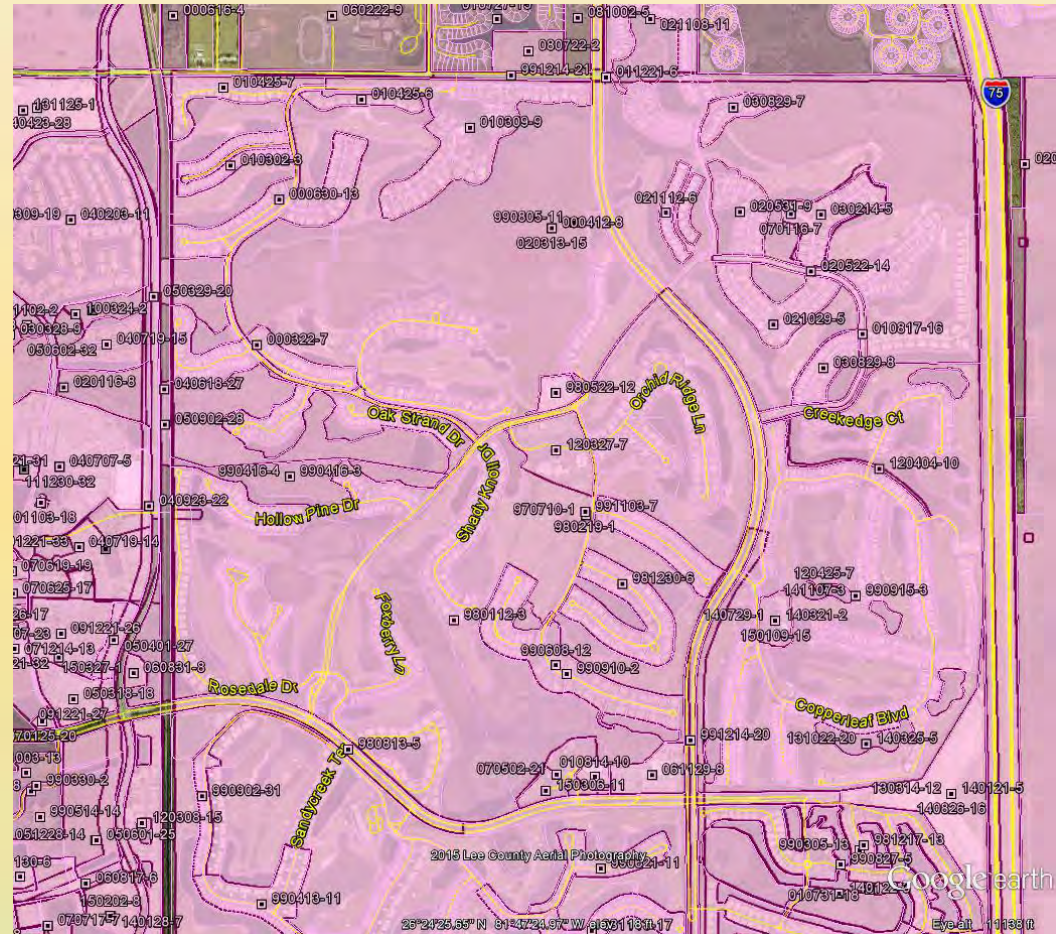
Restoring the
Everglades ▶

sfwmd.gov/ePermitting



ePermitting with Google Earth

- Records Search
- Electronic Noticing
- Application Submittals
- Compliance Reporting



Questions?

