


 splash!

quick facts on...

Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Project

Tamiami Trail Modifications

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The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.

Our Mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems, and water supply.

Project Description

The purpose of the Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Project is to restore natural hydrologic conditions in Everglades National Park, which were altered by the construction of roads, levees and canals. The Modified Water Deliveries Project is an essential, foundation project for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), providing the first major restoration effort for Everglades National Park.

Many of the anticipated CERP projects will not be technically feasible without implementation of the Modified Water Deliveries project. This project is necessary to help reestablish more natural flow patterns to Everglades National Park and improve the connectivity for wildlife. It is also essential to getting the water right by providing the flow capacity necessary for future CERP projects and will contribute to improved operating flexibility of the entire water management system from Orlando to the Florida Keys. This project will provide the increased flow capacity necessary to achieve the restoration benefits to Lake Okeechobee, the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary, St. Lucie River and Indian River Lagoon, the Everglades Water Conservation Areas, Everglades National Park and Florida Bay.

There are five major components of the Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Project:

- **Tamiami Trail Modifications:** Flow from Water Conservation Area (WCA)-3B to Everglades National Park Northeast Shark River Slough is blocked by both the L-29 levee and the Tamiami Trail highway. Tamiami Trail modifications include construction of two new water control structures (construction complete) to allow flow through the L-29 levee, along with raising US-41 Tamiami Trail and construction of a bridge to increase water conveyance under the road to provide essential flows to Everglades National Park.



- **L-67A Conveyance Features:** This component will involve construction of new water control structures to allow water to flow from Everglades WCA-3A into WCA-3B.
- **8.5 Square Mile Area Protection Features:** This component includes a protection levee, seepage collection canal, pump station and detention area to maintain existing levels of flood protection to the 8.5 Square Mile Area under the higher stages expected with increased flow to Northeast Shark River Slough. Construction of this component is complete.
- **S-356 Pump Station:** This pump station will collect water that seeps out of WCA-3B and Northeast Shark River Slough into the L-30 and L-31 canals and pump it into the L-29 canal so that it can be returned to Northeast Shark River Slough. This component will provide restoration benefits to Everglades National Park and avoid impacts on flood protection to the east.
- **Taylor Slough Bridge:** Replacement bridge to increase the flow capacity through the main park road. Construction of this feature is complete.

All five components are necessary to provide substantial flow increases to Everglades National Park.

Purpose and Benefits

Objectives of the Modified Water Deliveries project include improving:

- **Timing:** Change the water delivery schedule to Everglades National Park so that it fluctuates more in consonance with local meteorological conditions. Less regulatory releases and more flow dictated by rainfall.
- **Location:** Restore Water Conservation Area 3B as a functioning unit of the Everglades hydrologic system and restore water deliveries to Northeast Shark River Slough; more flow through Water Conservation Area 3B and more overall flow into Northeast Shark River Slough.
- **Volume:** Adjust water delivery volumes to the park to minimize effects of too much water. More flow during wet season and less regulatory flow during the last half of the dry season.

Project Status

- This is a federal project completely funded by the U.S. Department of Interior and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This project has an estimated completion date of 2011, which is unlikely with the current funding. Lack of funding has been one of the factors resulting in the significant delay in implementing this project.
- Completed water control structures in L-29 levee in 1996.
- Completed Taylor Slough Bridge in 2007.
- Completed 8.5 Square Mile Area Protection project in 2008.
- 100 percent federal funds needed to construct a 1.0-mile bridge along Tamiami Trail and a conveyance channel under the bridge.
- 100 percent federal funds needed to raise portions of the Tamiami Trail road base to protect the road from higher operating water levels in the L-29 canal.



The Modified Water Deliveries Project Tamiami Trail Modifications is in Miami-Dade County adjacent to the northern boundary of Everglades National Park. This roadway acts as a barrier to natural sheetflow. The purpose of the modifications is to improve water flow from Water Conservation Area 3B north of the roadway to Everglades National Park. Many of the anticipated CERP projects will not be technically feasible without implementation of the Modified Water Deliveries project.



At approximately 2,300 square miles, Everglades National Park is the largest subtropical wilderness in the United States. It is home to rare and endangered species and has been designated a World Heritage Site, an International Biosphere Reserve and a Wetland of International Importance, significant to all people of the world.



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