



Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

September 18, 2019
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
12 HOB

Meeting Packet

Committee Meeting Notice

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

Start Date and Time: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 12:30 pm
End Date and Time: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 02:30 pm
Location: 12 HOB
Duration: 2.00 hrs

Presentations by the Department of Environmental Protection:

Springs Restoration Projects

Update on implementation of Chapter 2017-10, Laws of Florida, (CS/SB 10), relating to water resources

Update on biosolids rule development

NOTICE FINALIZED on 09/11/2019 4:11PM by Rundles.Victoria

Springs Restoration Projects



Protecting Florida Together

Focused on Water Quality and Quantity

Tom Frick, Director – Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

September 18, 2019

Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee



189 Springs Projects

Focused on Water
Quality and Quantity

There are estimated to be as many as 1,000 springs in Florida, including more than 30 Outstanding Florida Springs.

189 springs projects have been selected for funding since 2013.

Historic levels of funding this fiscal year for water quality projects, including Florida springs.



Accomplishments Since 2013

More than \$291 million in State Funds Invested



IMPROVE Water Quality



IMPROVE Water Quantity



Selected Projects

Priorities:

**Advanced Ag
BMP's**

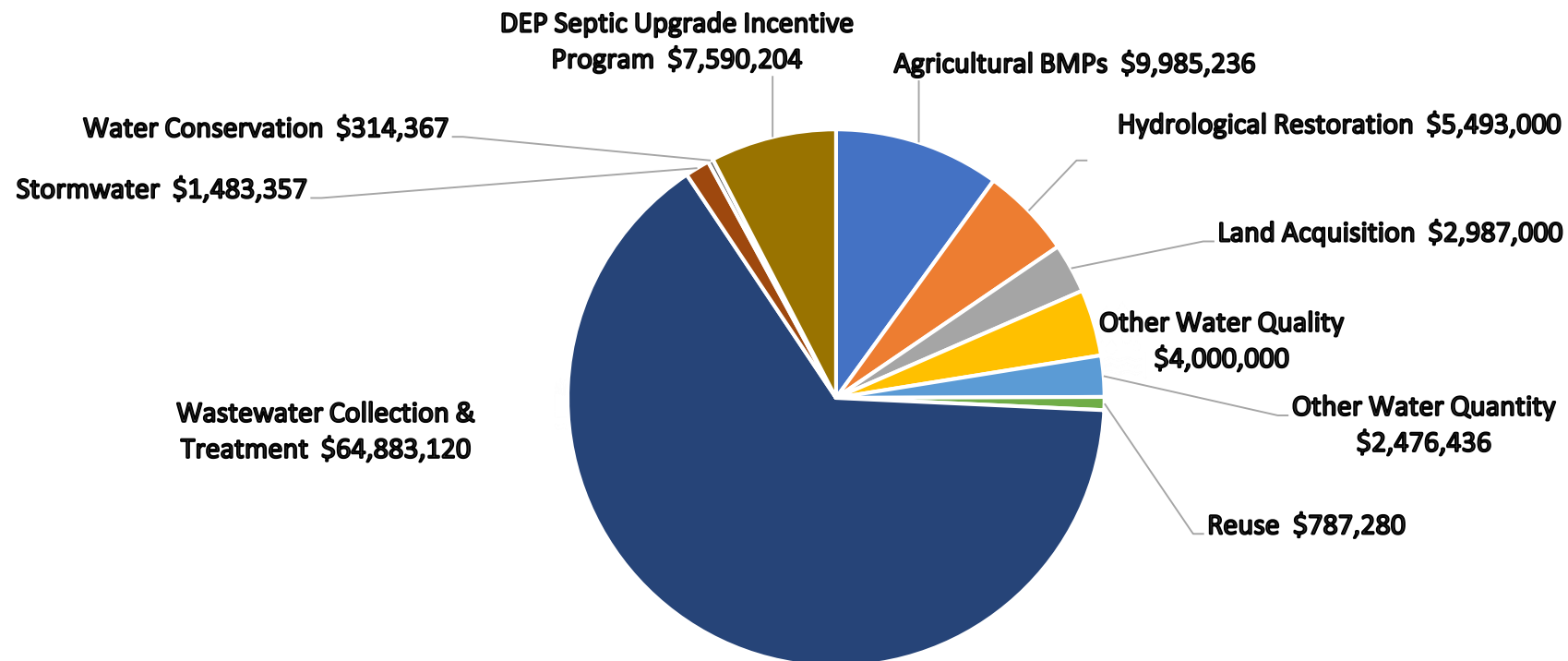
**Septic
Upgrade
Incentive**

**Wastewater
Collection &
Treatment**

**Land
Acquisition**



FY 2019-20 Selected Projects by Type



Funding Total:
\$100,000,000



Project Benefits



Cumulative Prior
Nitrogen Reduction

>8,877,000 lbs.



Anticipated Nitrogen
Reduction

Up to 2,613,000 lbs.



Cumulative Prior
Water Savings

>325 MGD



Anticipated Water
Quantity Made
Available

Up to 23 MGD



Cumulative Prior Land
Acquisition

8,491 Acres

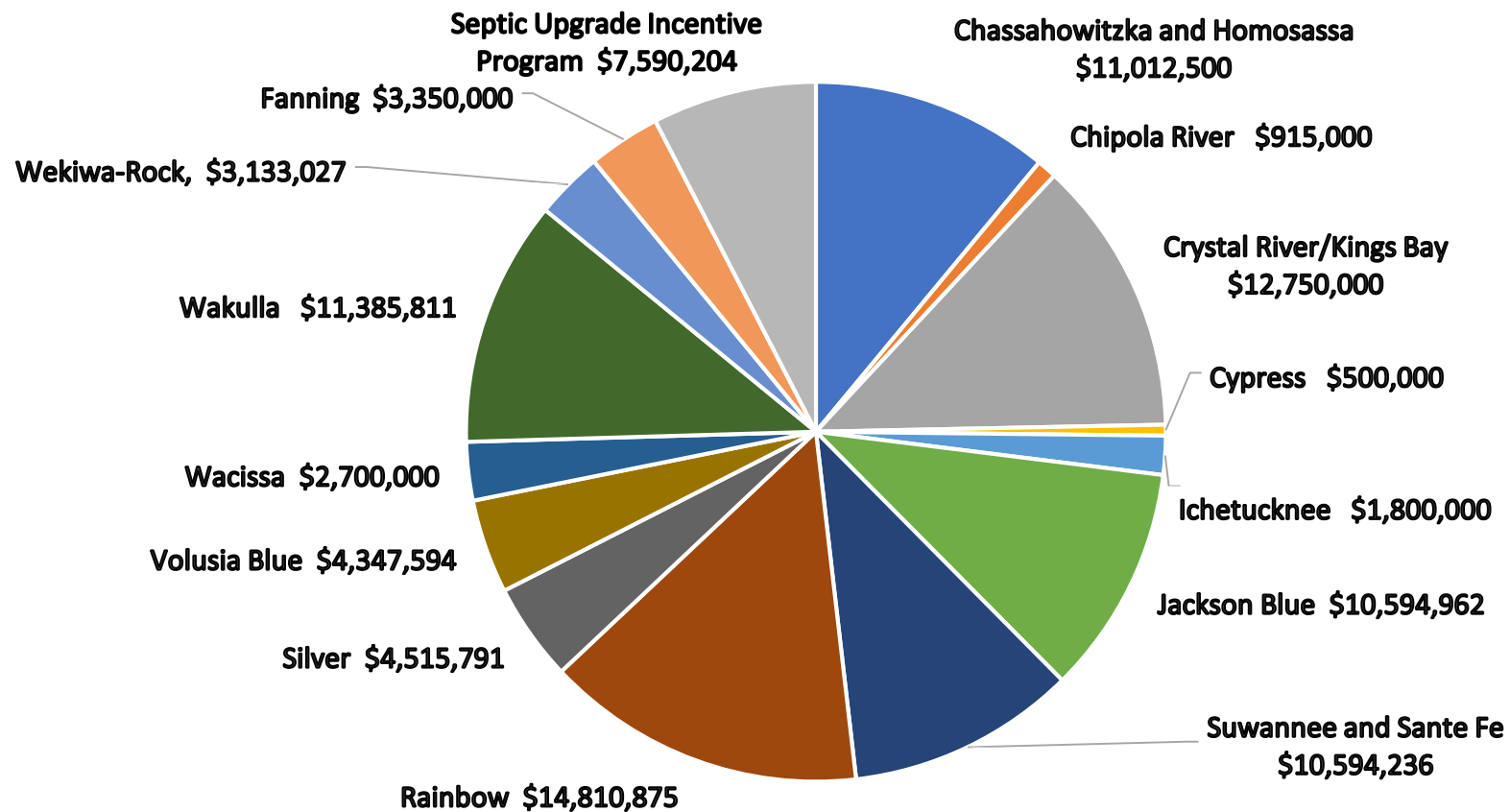


Anticipated Land
Acquisition

1,636 Acres



FY 2019-20 Projects by Spring



Funding Total:
\$100,000,000



Thank you!

**Tom Frick, Director – Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Florida Department of Environmental Protection**

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Chapter 2017-10 Update



Chapter 2017-10 Update EAA Storage Reservoir and A-2 STA Central Everglades Project

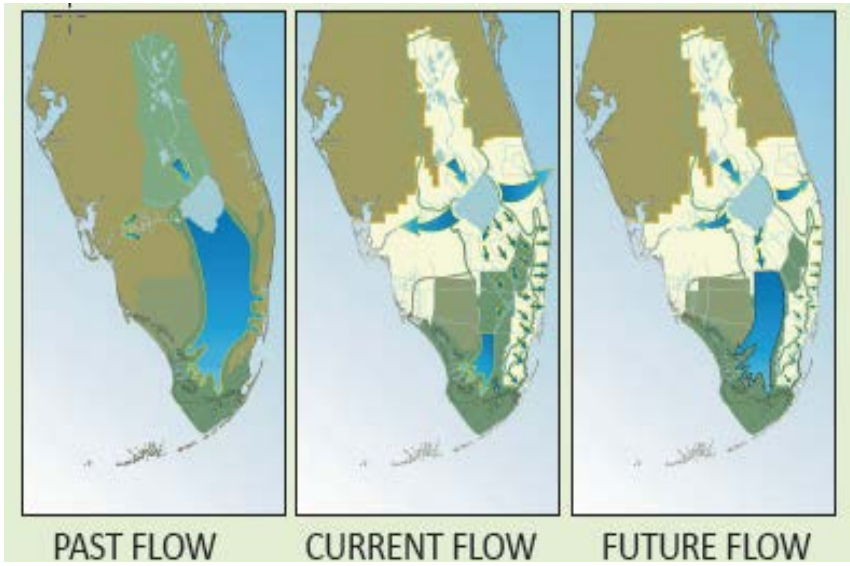
Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee
Florida House of Representatives
September 18, 2019

Edward C. Smith, Director - Office of Ecosystem Projects

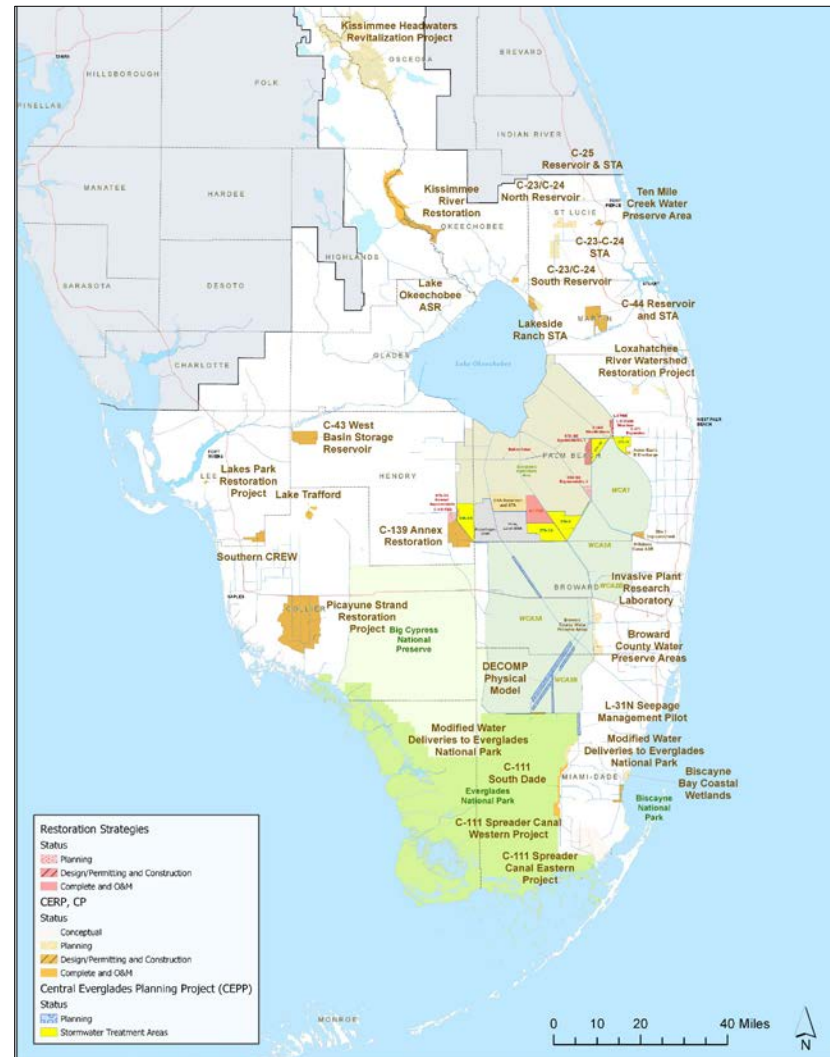


Overview Map of Restoration Efforts

Restore, Protect and Preserve Water Resources



- Store water north, south, east, & west
- Reduce harmful discharges
- Send clean water south
- Rehydrate Everglades National Park





Central Everglades Project

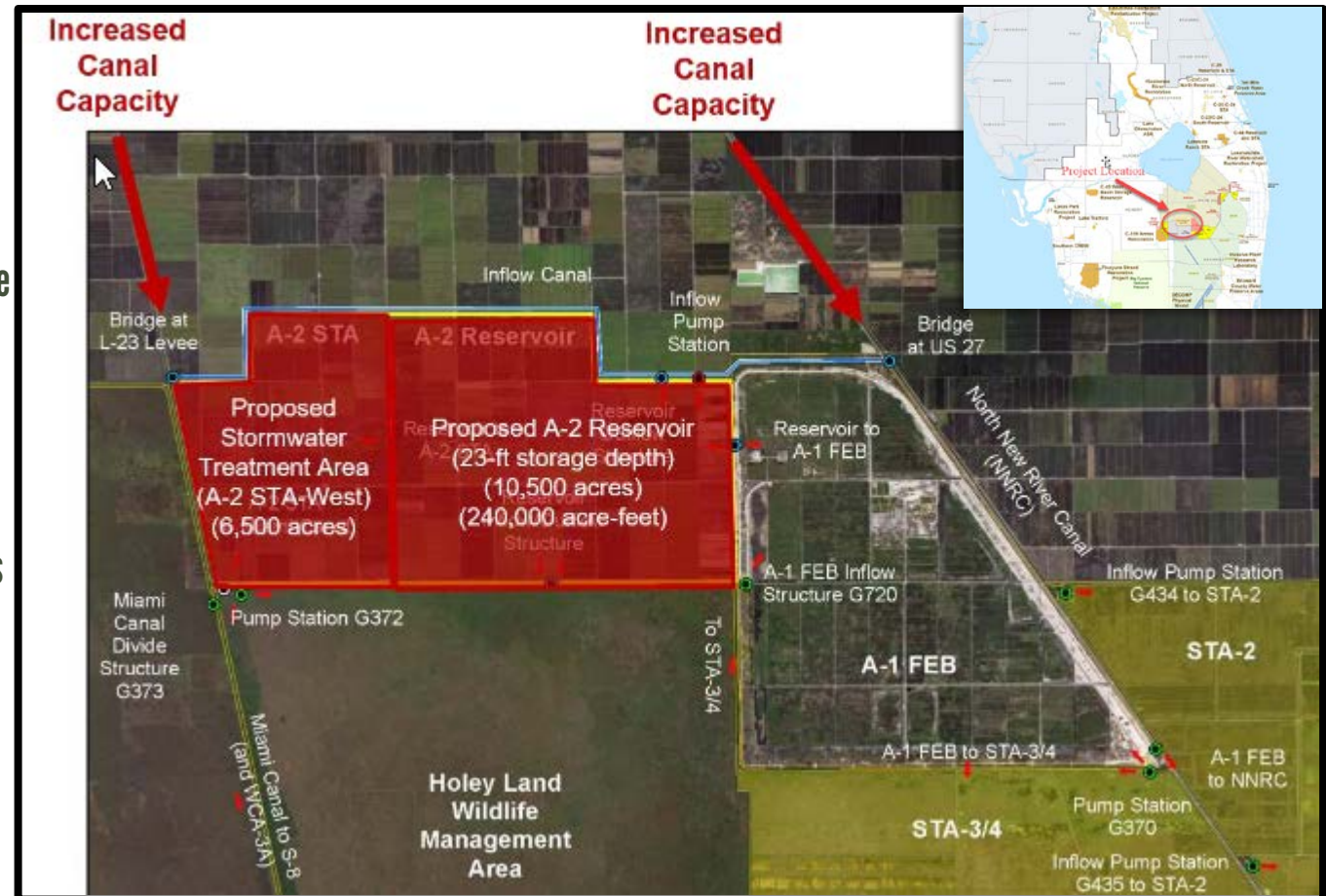
EAA Storage Reservoir and A-2 Stormwater Treatment Area

Status

- Joint Effort State/Federal
- Federally Authorized by Congress in 2018
- Final Environmental Review to be completed in January 2020

Benefits

- 370,000 ac-ft flow to Everglades
- 240,000 ac-ft of storage
- 6,500 acres of treatment area





A-2 Stormwater Treatment Area

Status

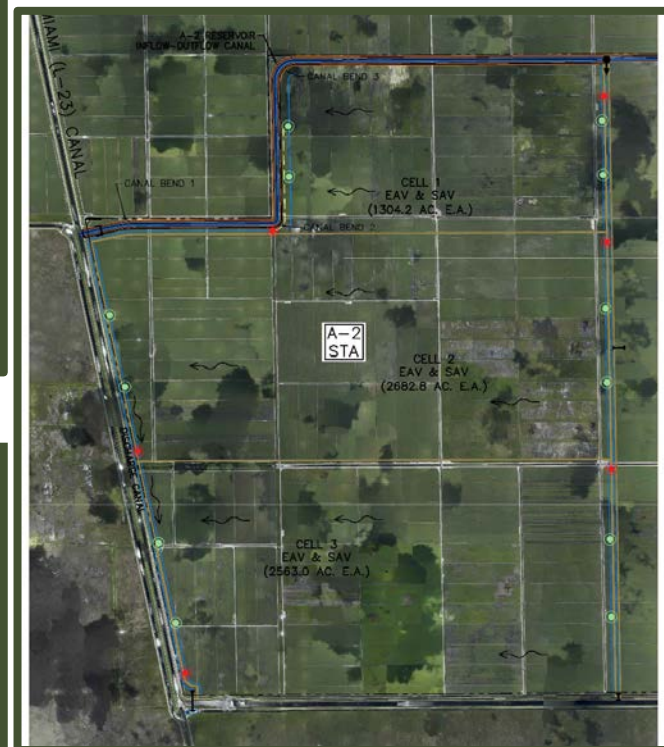
- SFWMD is lead
- Components include:
 - Inflow/Outflow Canal
 - Pump Station
 - Perimeter Levee
 - STA Cells
 - Canal Improvements
- Permits
- Execute the PPCA

Timeframe

2019-2024

Size

6,500 Acres





EAA Storage Reservoir

Status

- USACE is lead
- Components include:
 - Inflow/Outflow Canal
 - Pump Station
 - Perimeter Levee
 - Bridges
 - Seepage Controls

Timeframe

2020-2027

Size

10,500 Acres

240,000 ac-ft of storage

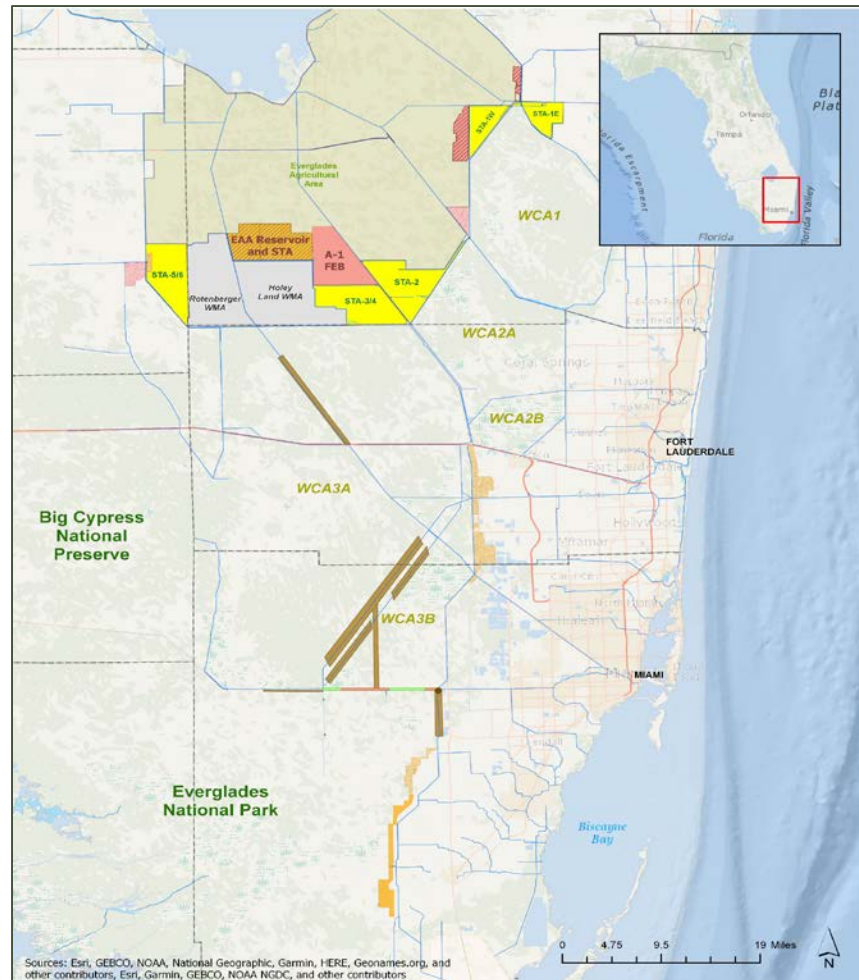




Moving Water South

Unprecedented Action

- ✓ Improving Water Quality
- ✓ Increasing Storage
- ✓ Conveyance from Lake Okeechobee into the Everglades



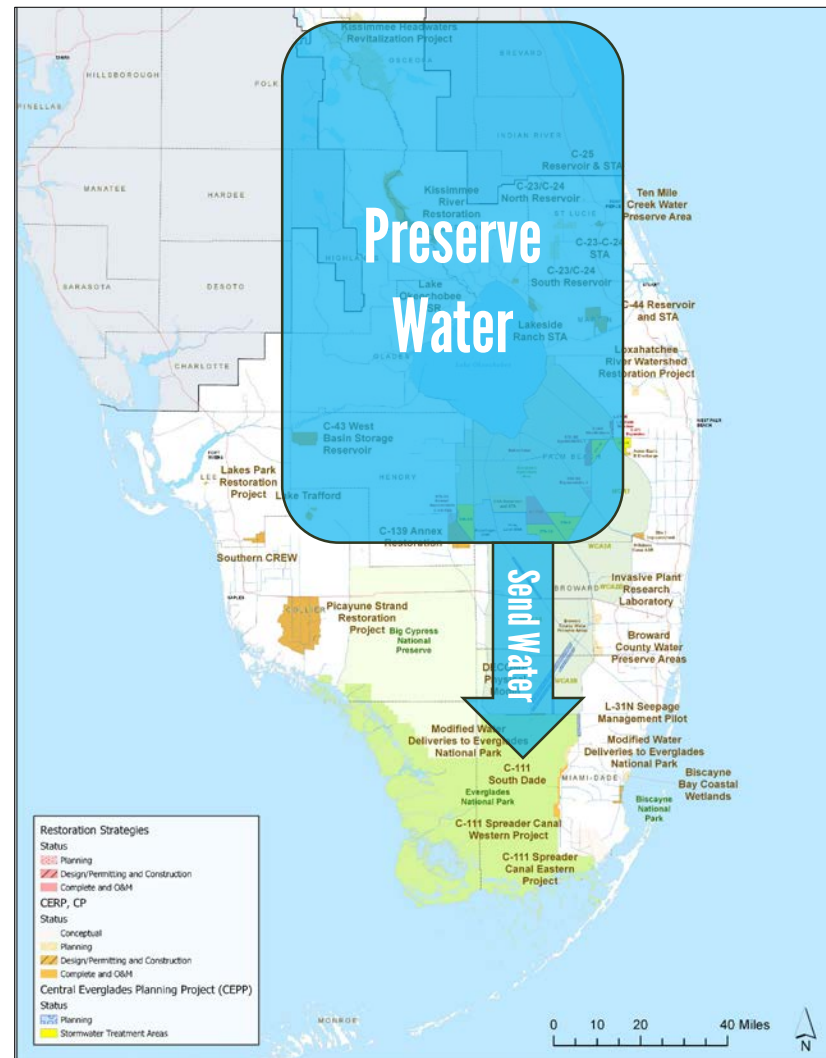
Sources: Esri, GEBCO, NOAA, National Geographic, Garmin, HERE, Geonames.org, and other contributors; Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



Incredible Opportunity to Achieve More Now

Within 5 Years

- Finish East & West Storage
- Finish Herbert Hoover Dike Rehab
- Remove Southern Barriers
- Restore Kissimmee Lakes & River
- Authorize Northern Storage
- Complete A-2 STA
- Start EAA Storage Reservoir





Biosolids Rule Update



Biosolids in Florida

Tom Frick

Director Division of Ecosystem Assessment and Restoration

Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

September 18, 2019



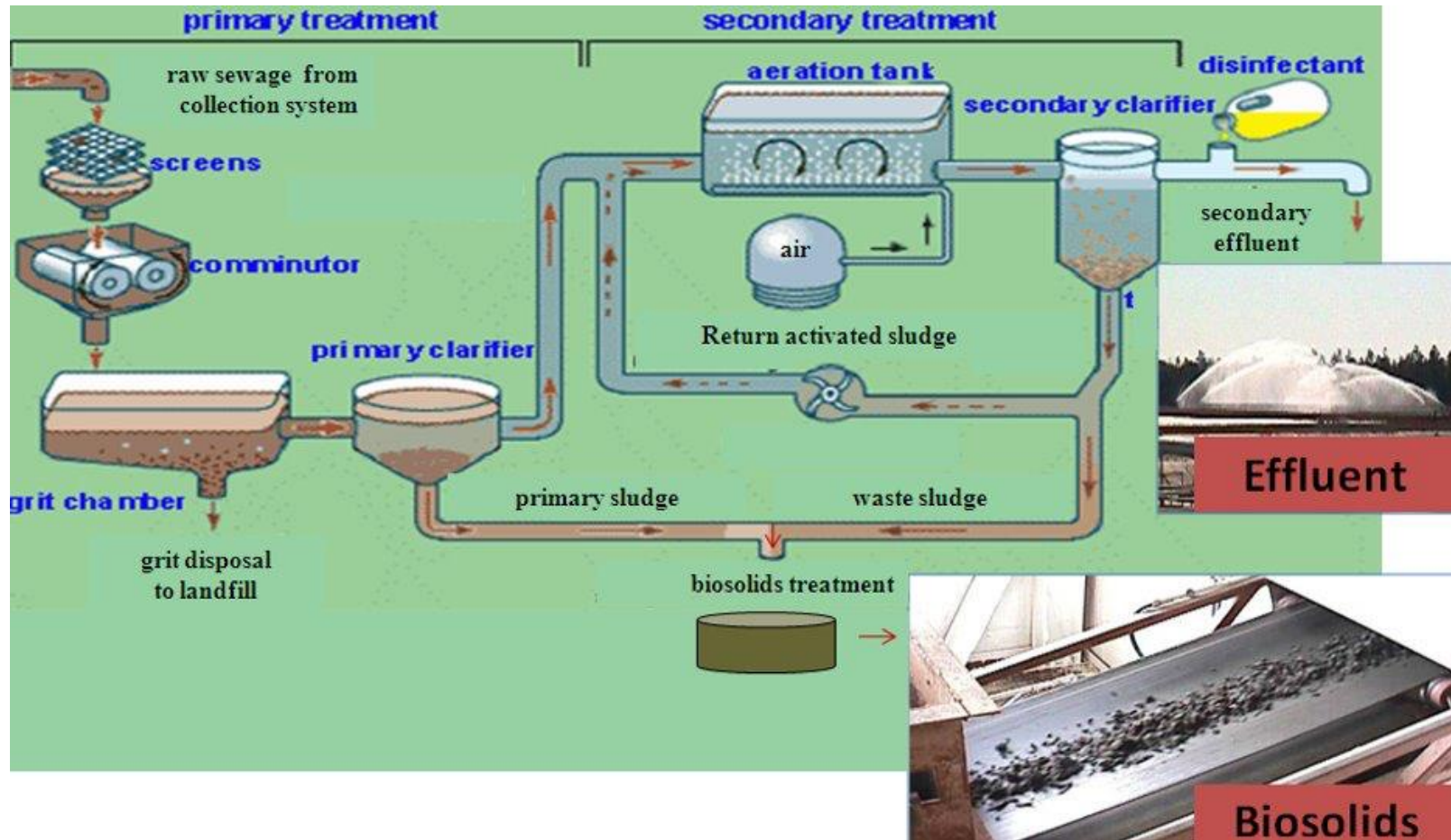
Overview

- **Biosolids Overview**
- **Biosolids/Septage Management in Florida**
- **Biosolids Technical Advisory Committee**
- **Ch. 62-640 Rule Development**
- **Summary of Comments**
- **Next Steps**



Biosolids Overview

The treatment of domestic wastewater produces two principal end products: effluent and biosolids





Classes of Biosolids

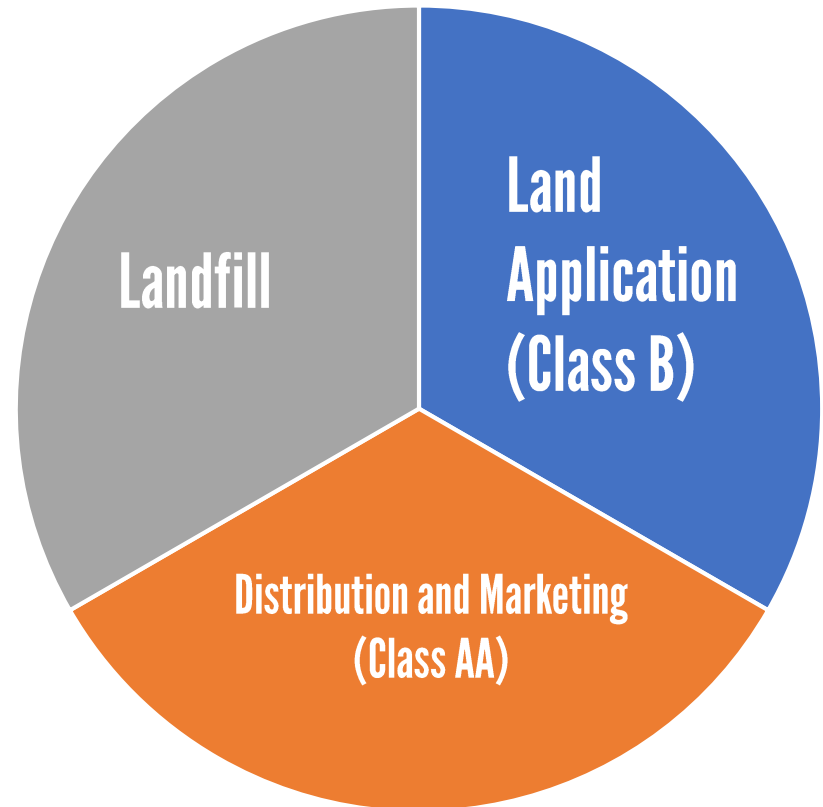
- **Two primary uses:**
 - **Land application**
 - **Typically Class B biosolids – lower quality for beneficial use**
 - **Distribution and marketing as fertilizer**
 - **Class AA biosolids – highest quality for beneficial use**





Biosolids and Management in Florida

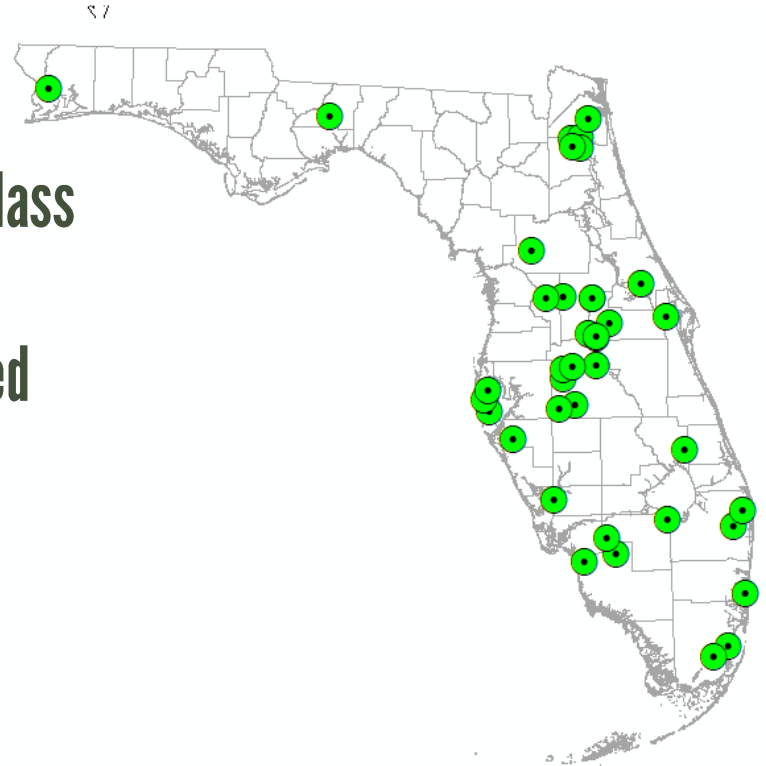
- **Estimated Total Production
340,000 dry tons/year**
- **Approximately two-thirds
are beneficially used and
one third is landfilled**





Class AA Biosolids-Distribution & Marketing

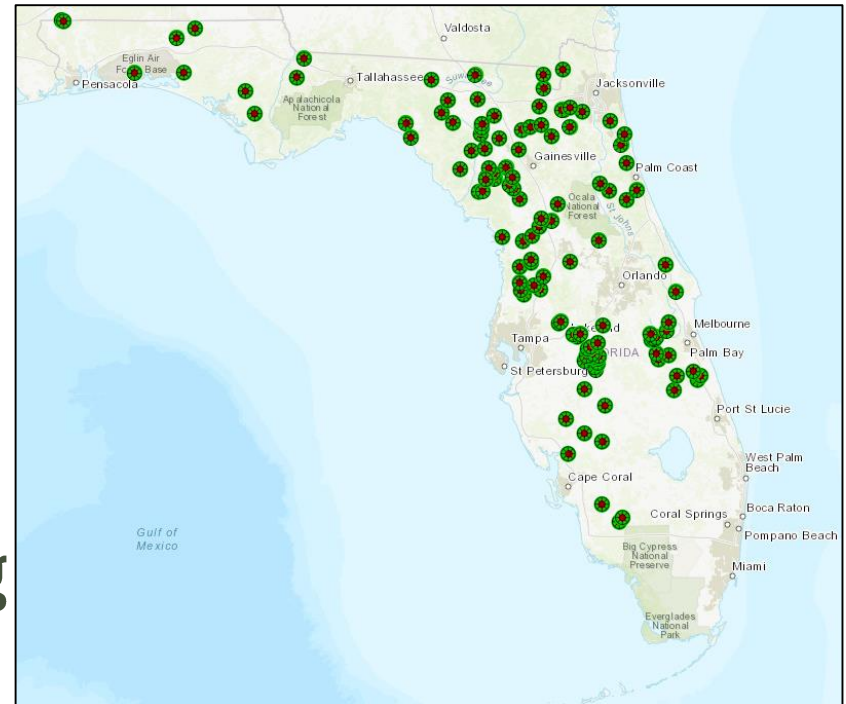
- Distributed and marketed as a fertilizer
- Approximately 39 Florida facilities produce Class AA
 - 192,879 dry tons distributed and marketed in Florida
 - 26,717 dry tons distributed and marketed outside of Florida





Class B Land Application

- **Approximately 140 permitted land application sites in Florida**
- **Haulers are the most common site permittees**
- **Utilities commonly contract with haulers/appliers instead of applying the biosolids themselves**





Current State Regulations (Ch. 62-640)

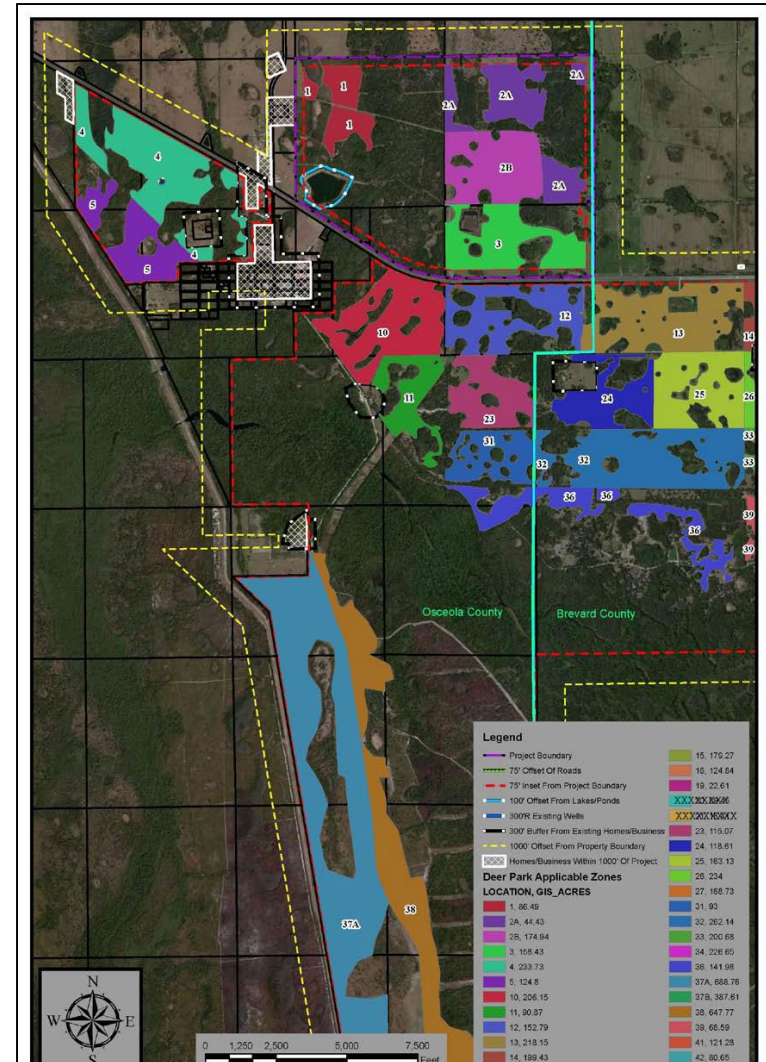
- **Land application permits include:**
 - **Nutrient management plan**
 - **Setback provisions**
 - **Ground water depth provision**
 - **Signage Requirements**
 - **Storage requirements**
 - **Public access, grazing, harvesting restrictions**
 - **Runoff provisions**
 - **Record keeping/reporting requirements**





Example Application Site

- Site in Osceola and Brevard Counties, shows the application zones, setbacks, etc.
- This site has 30 application zones covering 5,736 acres
- The odd shapes of the application zones, or fields, primarily result from setback buffers (i.e., wetlands, surface waters, residences, etc.)





Biosolids Technical Advisory Committee

- The Biosolids Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) convened in September 2018 to evaluate biosolids management and explore opportunities to better protect Florida's water resources
- The TAC members represented stakeholders from environmental and agricultural industry experts, large and small utilities, waste haulers, consultants and academics
- Each public meeting included an open public comment period, as well as discussion with experts among the TAC members, the audience and the Department



TAC Recommendations

- Permit biosolids in a manner that minimizes migration of nutrients, specifically phosphorus, to prevent impairment to waterbodies.
- Establish the rate of phosphorus application based on site specifics, such as soil characteristics/phosphorus adsorption capacity, water table, hydrogeology, site use, distance to surface water.



TAC Recommendations

- **Increase DEP inspection rate of land application sites.**
- **Develop monitoring protocols to detect nutrient migration.**
- **Develop and conduct biosolid and nutrient management research on nutrient run-off through surface and groundwater flow.**
- **Promote innovative technology pilot projects for biosolids processing that could provide a wider range of beneficial end products.**



Ch. 62-640, F.A.C. Revisions

- Department published notice of rule development to amend Ch. 62-640, F.A.C. on March 22, 2019.
- Rule revisions incorporate the recommendations of the TAC.



Primary Draft Revisions

- Existing facilities must be in compliance with new rule within three years of adoption date
- Specifies that land application must be done in accordance with applicable BMAPs
- Provides definitions for “capacity index”, “percent water extractable phosphorus”, “seasonal high water table”
- More stringent requirements must be provided in the Nutrient Management plan
- All biosolids applications are considered projects of heightened public concern
- Increased monitoring for surface and groundwater



Primary Draft Revisions

- **New Requirements for Nutrient Management Plans**
- **Require quarterly surface water monitoring when site is bordered or crossed with water of state and application zone is with 1000ft of waters of state**
- **Increase requirements for groundwater monitoring**
- **Allows DEP to install monitoring wells**
- **Require measures to be taken to prevent leaching of nutrients for the storage of biosolids**
- **Prohibit land application where the seasonal high water table is within 15cm of soil surface or within 15cm of the intended depth of biosolids placement.**
- **“Seasonal high water table” means the elevation to which the ground and surface-water can be expected to rise due to a normal wet season.**



Workshops

- Tallahassee (June 25)
- Orlando (June 26)
- West Palm Beach (June 27)

Attendance: approximately 15-20 ppl in person, 50-75 on webinar



Comments Received

- **447 Comments Received**
 - 10 from Industry Stakeholders
 - 11 from Local Governments
 - 16 from Environmental Stakeholders
 - Remaining comments received from individuals



Summary of Comments

- General opposition to biosolids land application
- Rule is not protective enough to prevent impacts to the environment
- 3-year implementation plan is too long/too short
- Class AA biosolids should be regulated
- The restrictions imposed of placement area due to seasonal high water table limits
- Request for equal protections for all waterways, similar to Lake Okeechobee restrictions
- Significant economic impact
- Potential for unintended consequences
- Concern BMAPs may be violated by new rule
- Surface and groundwater monitoring is either too restrictive or not restrictive enough



Next Steps

- **Publish Notice of Proposed Rule and the Statement of Economic Regulatory Cost**
- **ERC Hearing**
- **Adoption**
- **Legislative Ratification**

Tom Frick

Director Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration

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