

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Program

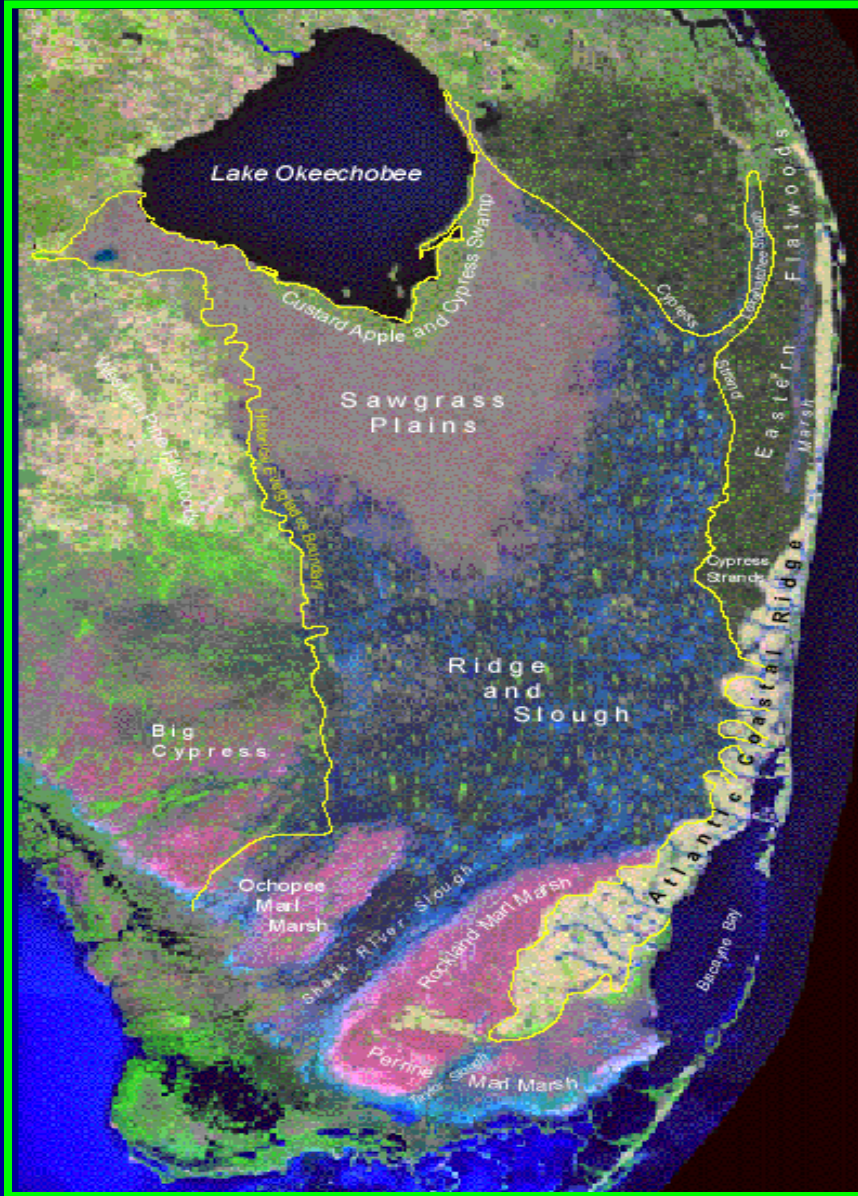


restoration  
RESTORATION

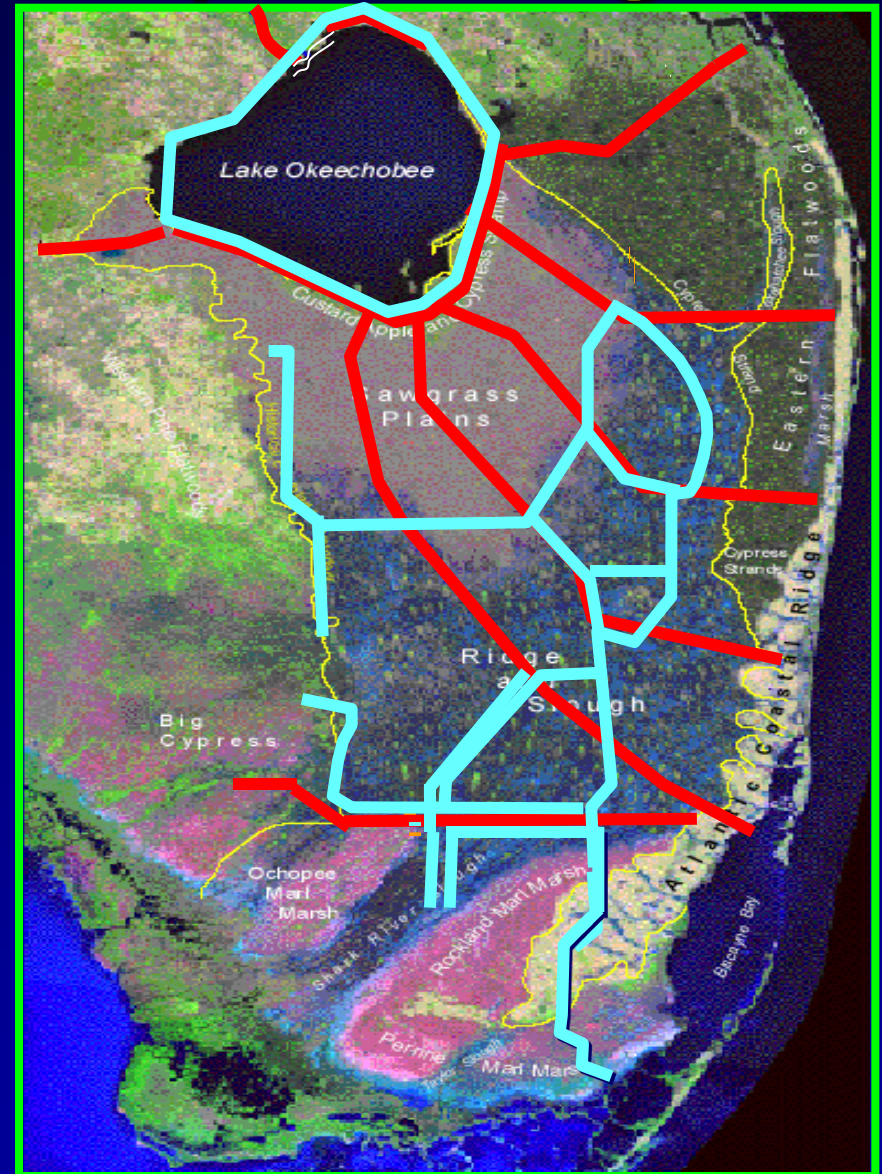
Briefing for Gulf Coast Task Force

May 31, 2011

# South Florida Landscape Changes



Estimated Pre-drainage System Landscape (circa 1850)



Current Flood Control System Serving 6.5+ million people

# The Ecosystem is in Trouble....

- Too much/too little water for the Everglades/south Florida ecosystem
- Loss of nearly 2/3 of Historic Everglades
- Massive reductions in wading bird populations
- 68 Threatened and Endangered species
- Degradation of water quality
- Repetitive water shortages and salt water intrusion
- Declining estuary health
- 1.7 billion gallons of water a day wasted to tide



# Getting The Water Right

Quantity

Quality

Q

Q

T

D

Timing

Distribution



# Key Steps in Restoration

- **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986**
- **Everglades National Park Expansion Act of 1989**
- **WRDA 1992 (Kissimmee Restoration)**
- **WRDA 1996 (South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force).**
- **WRDA 2000 (Comprehensive Restoration Plan Authorized)**
- **WRDA 2007 (Specific Projects Authorized)**
- **WRDA...**

# 1996: The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force

- Membership includes 7 Federal (Washington level), 2 state, 1 SFWMD, 2 local govt., and 2 tribal representatives.
- The Secretary of the Interior Chairs the Task Force.
- Role of the Task Force is to establish advisory bodies, coordinate science, conflict resolution, assist and support agencies, prepare integrated financial plans.
- FACA Exemption
- The SFERTF does NOT have budgetary control.

# Working Group

- **Task Force required to establish a Florida-based “Working Group”.**
- **The Working Group consists of representatives of entities represented on the Task Force.**
- **The role of the Working Group is to assist the Task Force in its coordination efforts and to help prepare technical and coordination documents for Task Force.**



# Advisory Bodies

- **The Science Coordination Group assists the Task Force by helping to coordinate ecosystem restoration science and research.**
- **Governor's Commission For a Sustainable South Florida**
- **Water Resources Advisory Commission**
- **Project Level Advisory Bodies**

# Task Force Strategic Plan

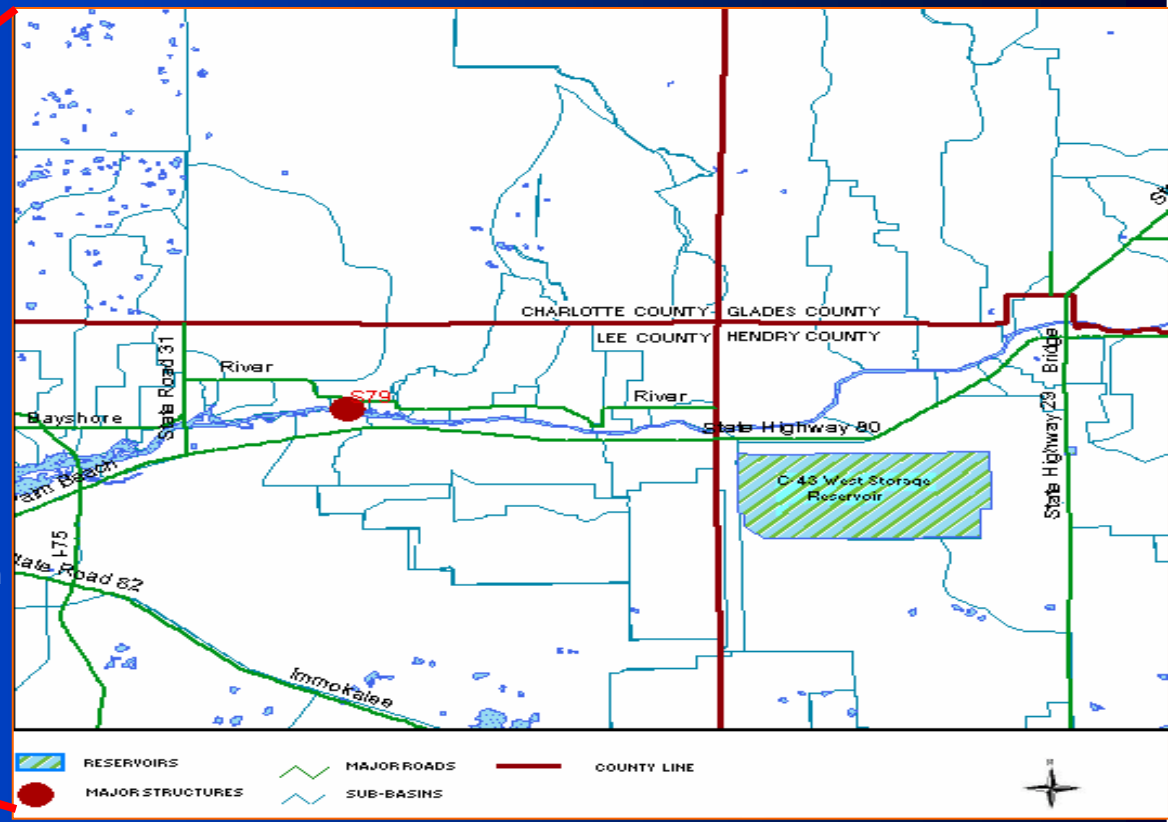
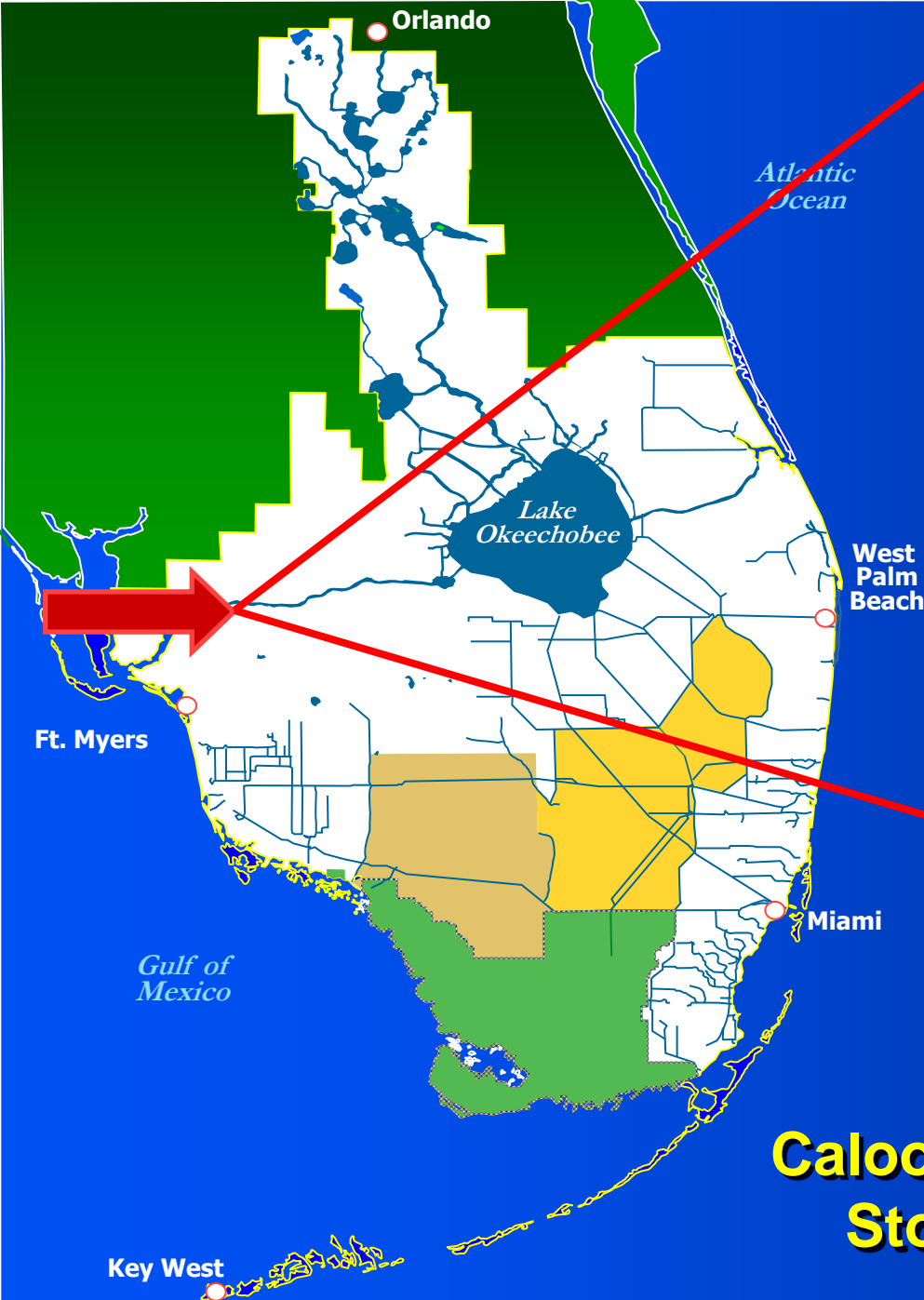
- Guiding Principles
- Vision: A healthy south Florida ecosystem supports diverse and sustainable communities of plants, animals and people.
- Indicators of Success:
  - Ecological Indicators
  - Compatibility Indicators






# Strategic Goals and Objectives

- Goal 1: Get the Water Right
  - Sub-goal 1-A: Get the hydrology right
  - Sub-goal 1-B: Get the water quality right
- Goal 2: Restore, Preserve and Protect Natural Habitats and Species
  - Sub-goals: 2-A and 2-B
- Goal 3: Foster Compatibility of Built and Natural Systems
  - Sub-Goals: 3-A, 3-B and 3-C

# A Restoration Plan Was Developed

- A project inventory was conducted to identify what was already happening in the ecosystem
- New projects were developed filling in the gaps for meeting the Strategic Goals (Particularly Goal 1)
- The resulting plan was delivered to the Florida Legislature and Congress.
- The Plan has evolved and been adapted since.



-  RESERVOIRS
-  MAJOR STRUCTURES
-  MAJOR ROADS
-  SUB-BASINS
-  COUNTY LINE



## Caloosahatchee River (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir Project Location

# State of the Caloosahatchee & Estuary

## The Goldilocks Principle

*Too Much Flow*

*Too Little Flow*



June, 2005



June, 2008

*What's Needed to Get it Just Right?*



**Lack of Storage = No Treatment**



**Important habitat for  
Fish, Shrimp &  
Blue crabs**



# Water Quality Past the Nutrient Tipping Point



# Caloosahatchee River (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir Project

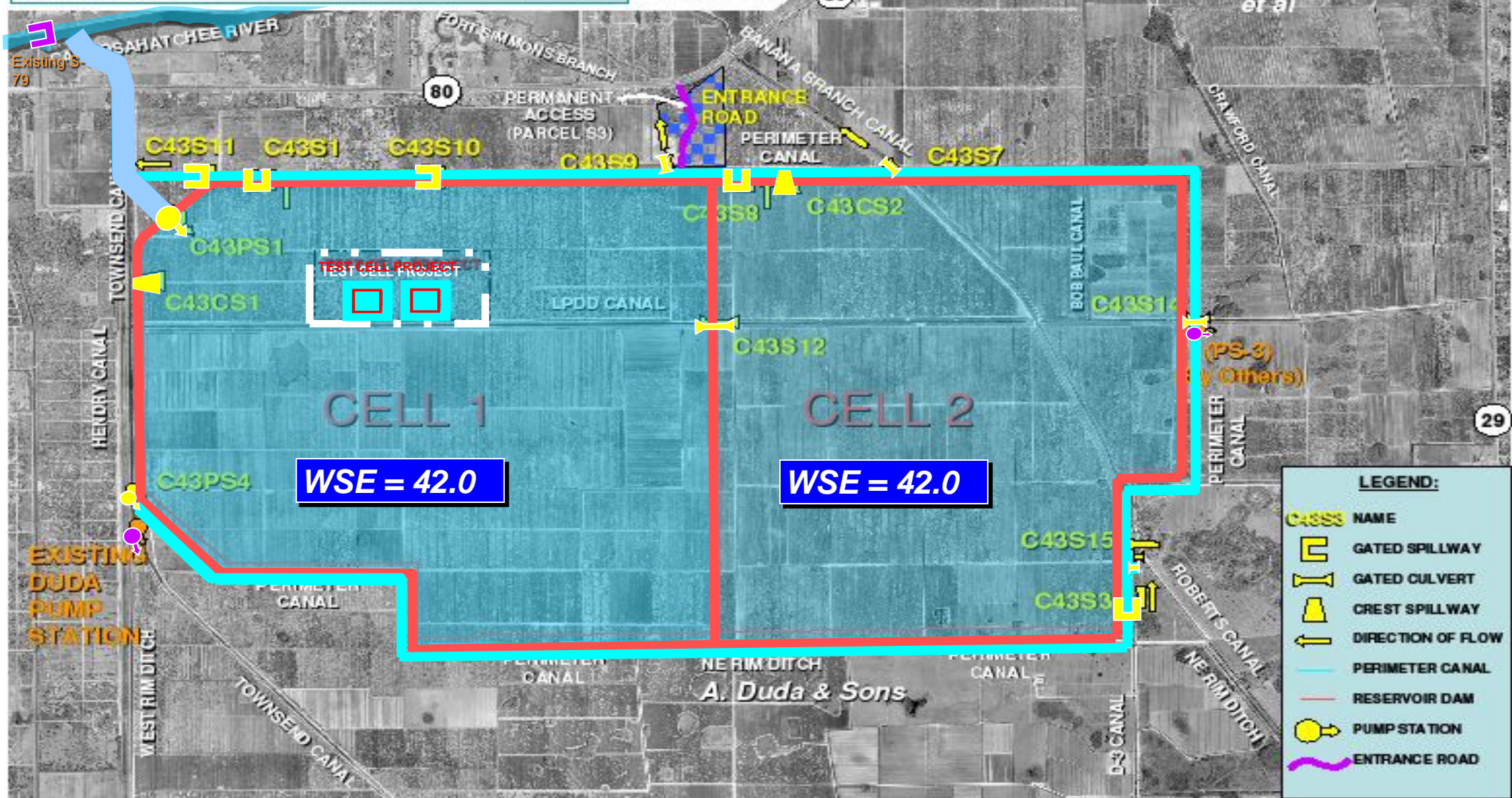
## PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN

Stanley Consultants

May 2007



**10,70 Acre Reservoir**  
**170,000 Acre-Ft Storage**



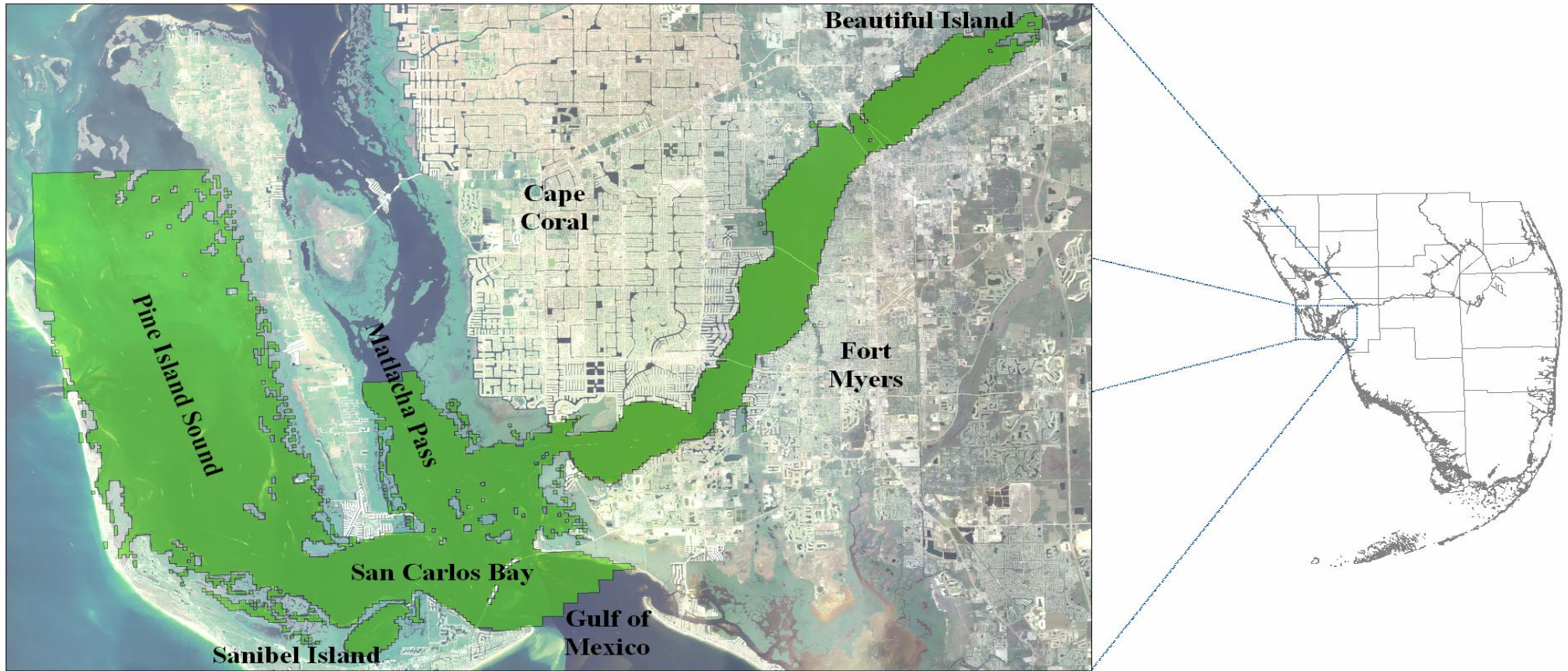
**WSE = 42.0**

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**LEGEND:**

C43SS NAME	DESCRIPTION
	GATED SPILLWAY
	GATED CULVERT
	CREST SPILLWAY
	DIRECTION OF FLOW
	PERIMETER CANAL
	RESERVOIR DAM
	PUMP STATION
	ENTRANCE ROAD

# Area of Ecosystem Benefit



Legend		
	Benefit Area	70,979 acres

Caloosahatchee River (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir

**Thank You**

