

Lainhart Dam on
Loxahatchee River

**Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project (LRWRP)
Project Status Update
Loxahatchee River Management Coordination Council – July 13, 2026**

**Michael Tompkins
Lead Project Manger
Ecosystem Restoration Planning Bureau
mtompkin@sfwmd.gov
561-682-6900**

Agenda

1. Project Overview
2. Purpose and Benefits
3. Flow-way 1 Status
4. Flow-way 2 Status
 - C-18W Impoundment
 - Revised layout and Design Progress
 - FPL Relocation
5. Flow-way 3 Status
6. Discussion



Lainhart Dam
Aug 21, 2025

Lox River Watershed Restoration Project Purpose

- **Restore** natural freshwater deliveries to the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River
- **Reconnect** the historic headwater wetlands that support the river's ecological function.

This includes rebuilding flow-paths, improving hydrology, and supporting long-term ecosystem recovery.



Authorized Plan: Alt 5R

Flow Way 3

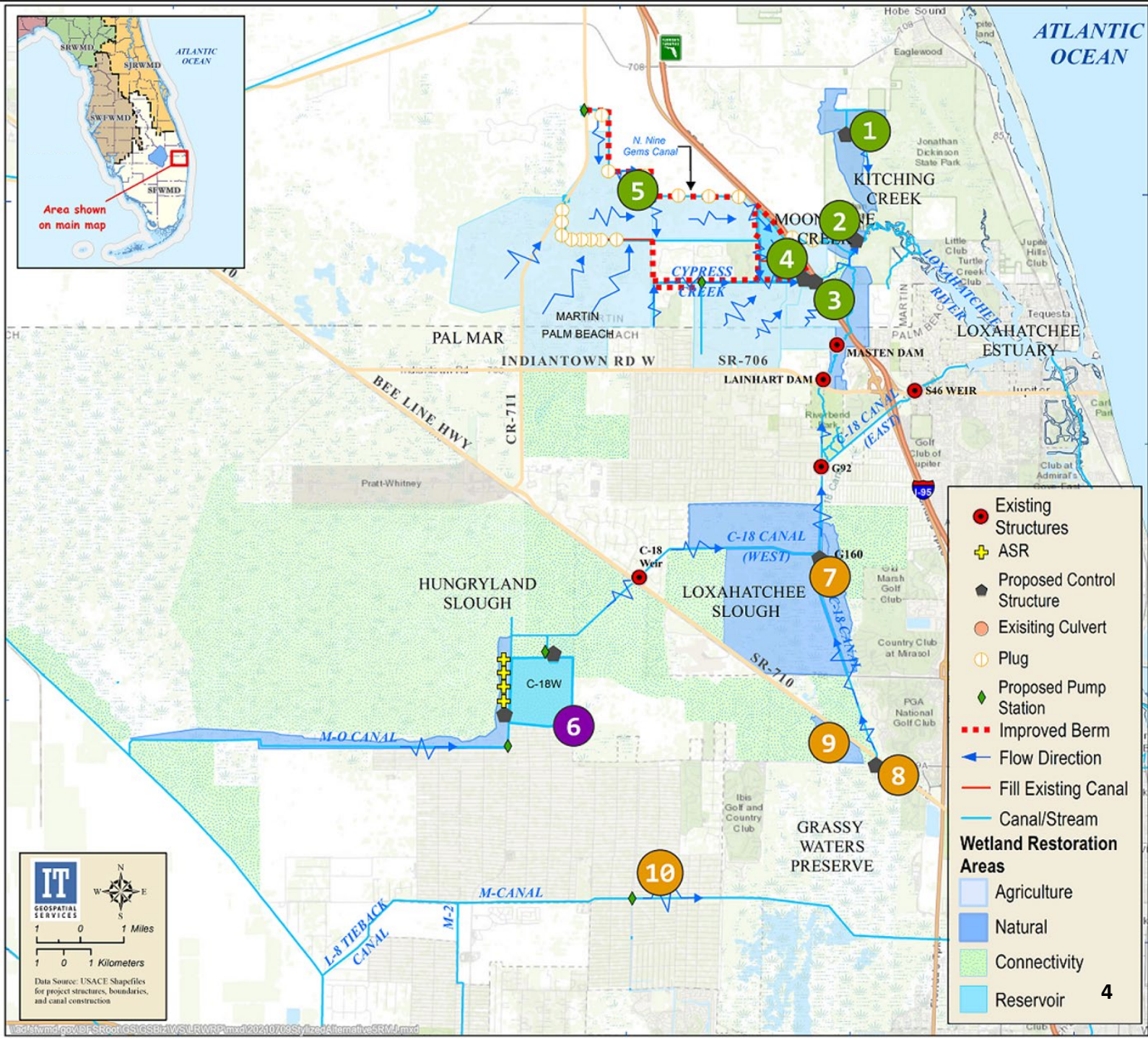
- 1 - Kitching Creek
- 2 - Moonshine Creek/Gulfstream East
- 3 - Cypress Creek Canal Improvements
- 4 - Gulfstream West Flow Thru Marsh
- 5 - Palmar East

Flow Way 2

- 6 - C-18W Impoundment (9,500 ac/ft & 4 Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) wells)

Flow Way 1

- 7 - G-160 Structure (built)
- 8 - G-161 Structure (built)
- 9 - Grassy Waters Triangle
- 10 - M-1 Pump Station



Project Benefits

1. Northwest Fork of Loxahatchee River target flows
 - 91% dry season,
 - 30-day average at least 69 cubic feet per second (cfs)
 - 98% wet season
 - at least 120 cubic feet per second (cfs) for 120 days
2. Improves watershed wetland hydrology
 - 17,000 acres existing or former agricultural lands
 - 10,000 acres existing natural areas
3. Improves/maintains ecological connectivity for ~78,000 acres
4. Provides additional recreation opportunities



Overall Project Status

Tasks Completed:

-  Project authorized by Congress – Water Resources Development Act 2020
-  Restricted Allocation Area (RAA) rulemaking – June 2022
-  Pre-partnership Credit Agreement (PPCA) – July 2022

Tasks Underway:

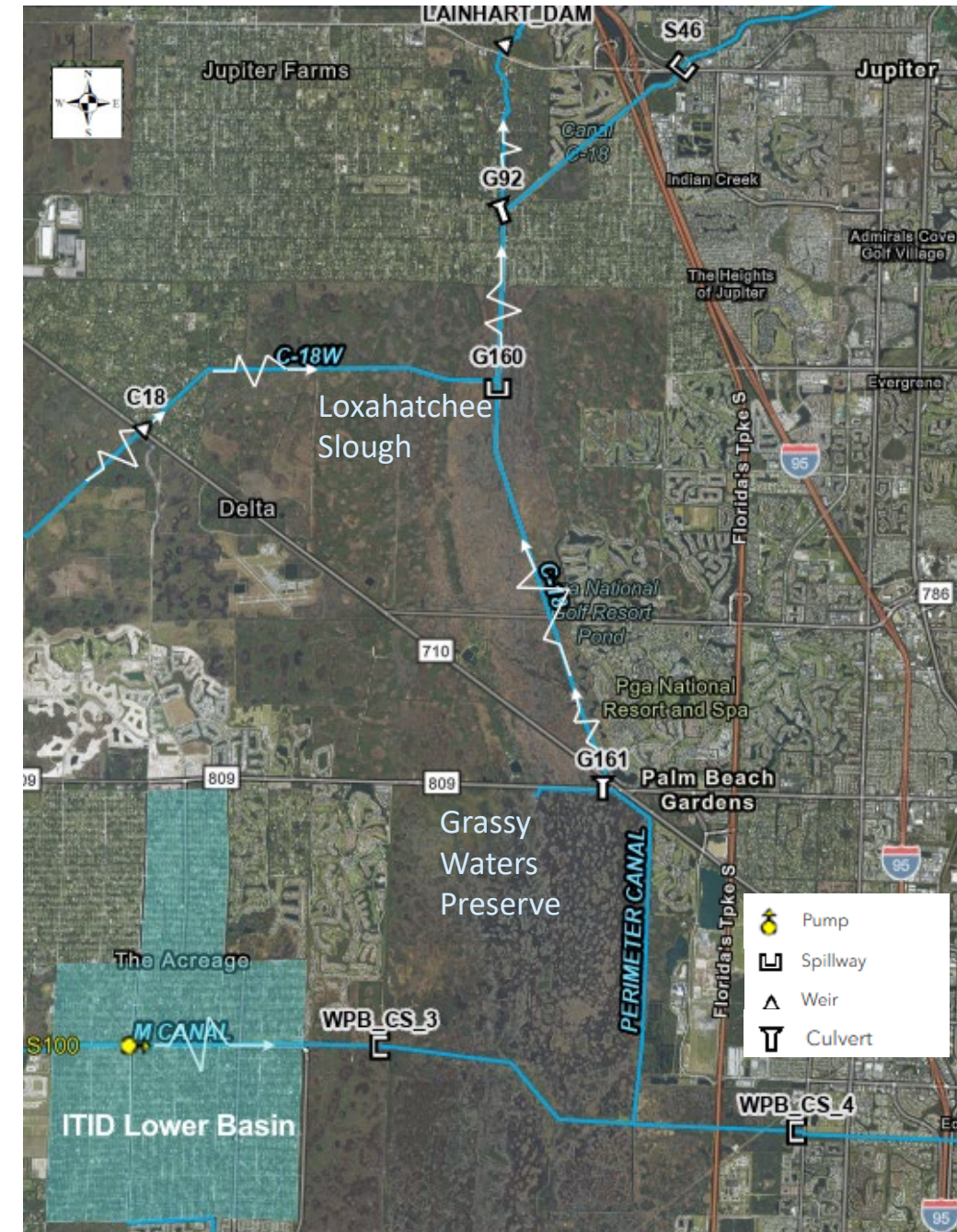
-  Preliminary Design
-  Relocations
-  Permitting
-  Agreement Discussions
-  Baseline Monitoring

Flow-way 1



Flow-way 1

1. Project Features
 - M-Canal Pump Station (S-100)
 - Grassy Waters Triangle Regrading
2. Purpose
 - Capture excess water from Indian Trail Improvement District Lower Basin that would otherwise be lost to tide and redirect to Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River.
3. Status
 - Agreements and stakeholder engagement – Ongoing
4. Next Steps
 - Modeling contract execution – July 2026
 - Preliminary design - to follow modeling



Flow-way 2 – C-18W Impoundment



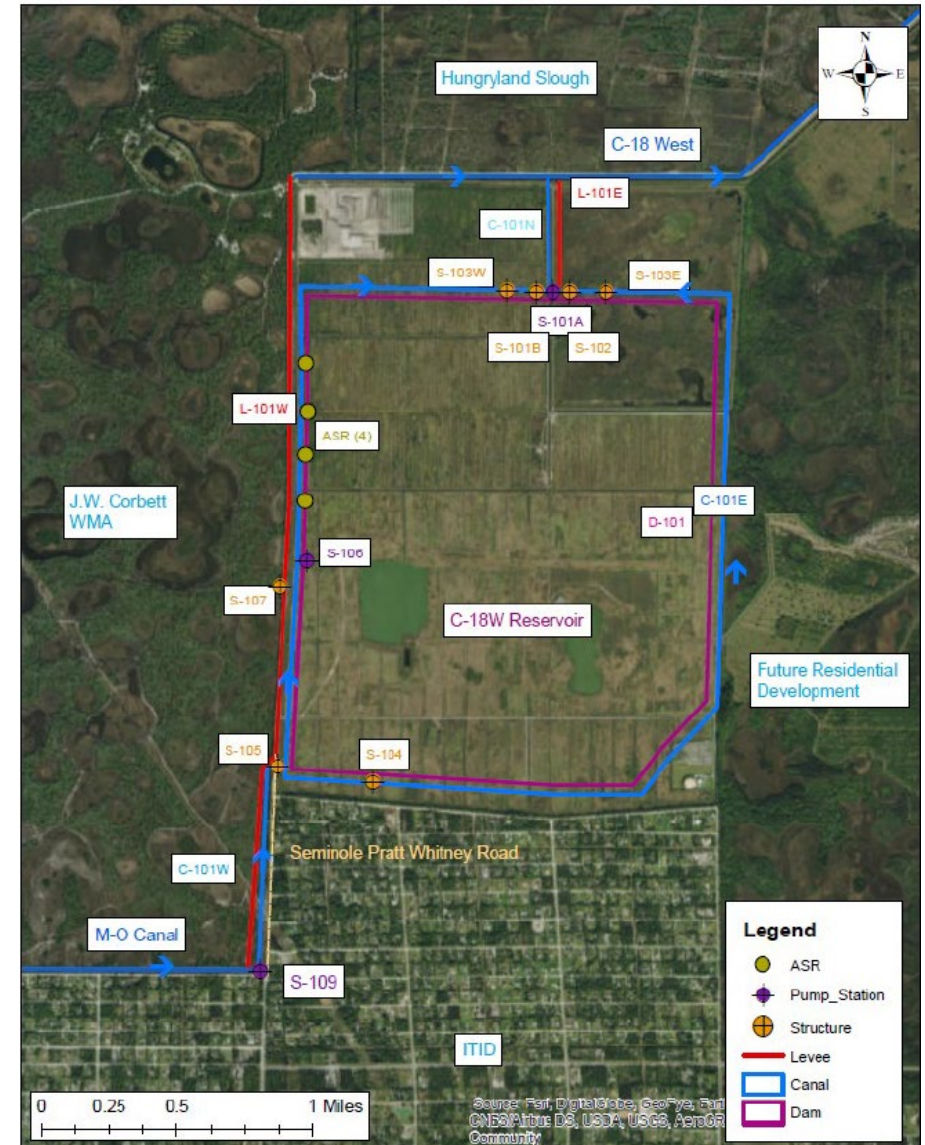
Flow-way 2

1. Project Features

- C-18W Impoundment & 4 co-located Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) wells

2. Purpose

- Provide water delivery to the Northwest fork of the Loxahatchee River to achieve restoration target flows
- Capture water that would otherwise be sent to tide and redirect to the Northwest fork of the Loxahatchee River.



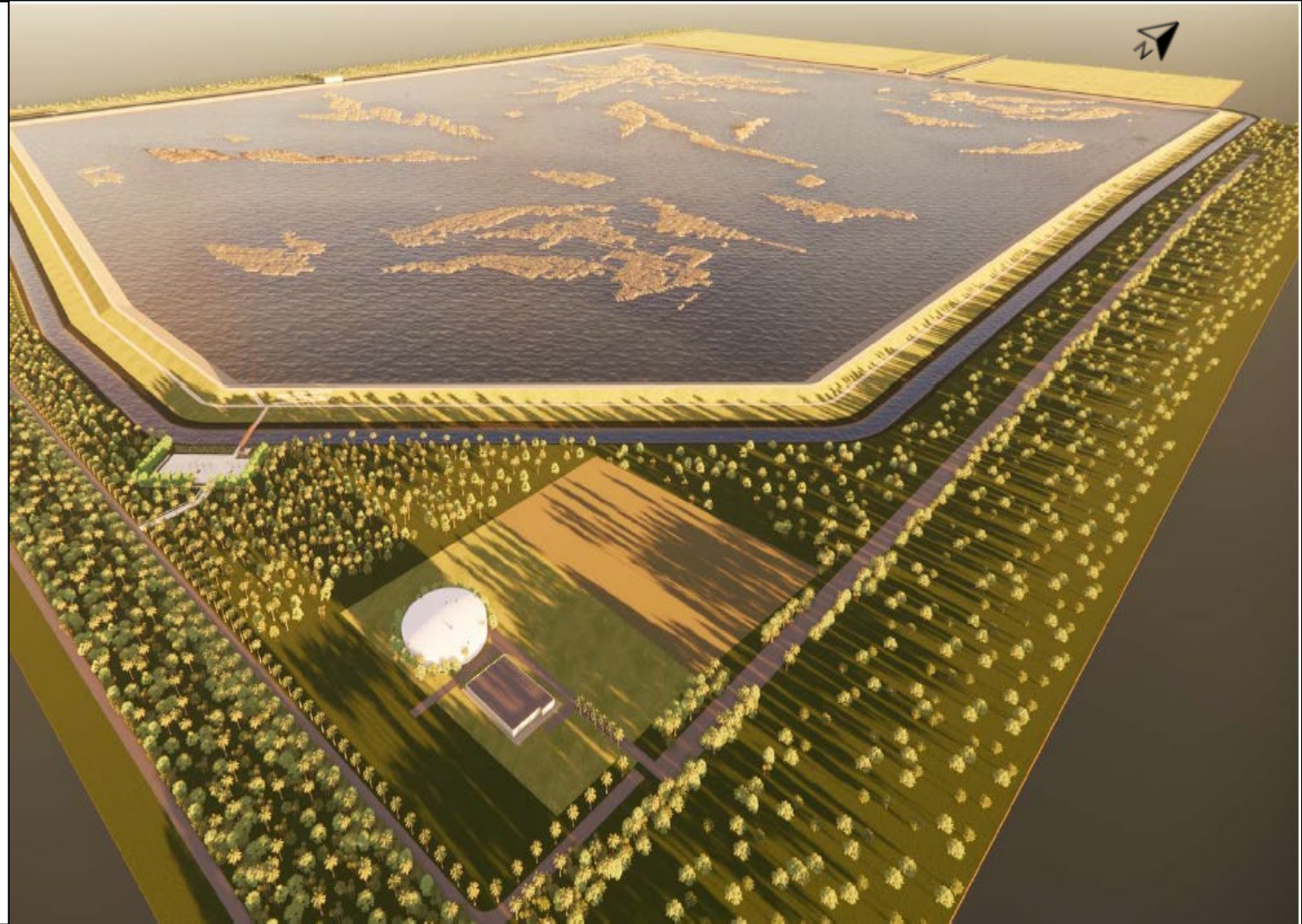
Flow-way 2

1. Status

- Preliminary Design Contract (Arcadis) - Executed July 2023
- Design Charette - Sep 2024
- Site investigations to confirm structure location - ongoing
- Preliminary design underway - Jan 2027
- Agreements and stakeholder engagement - Ongoing

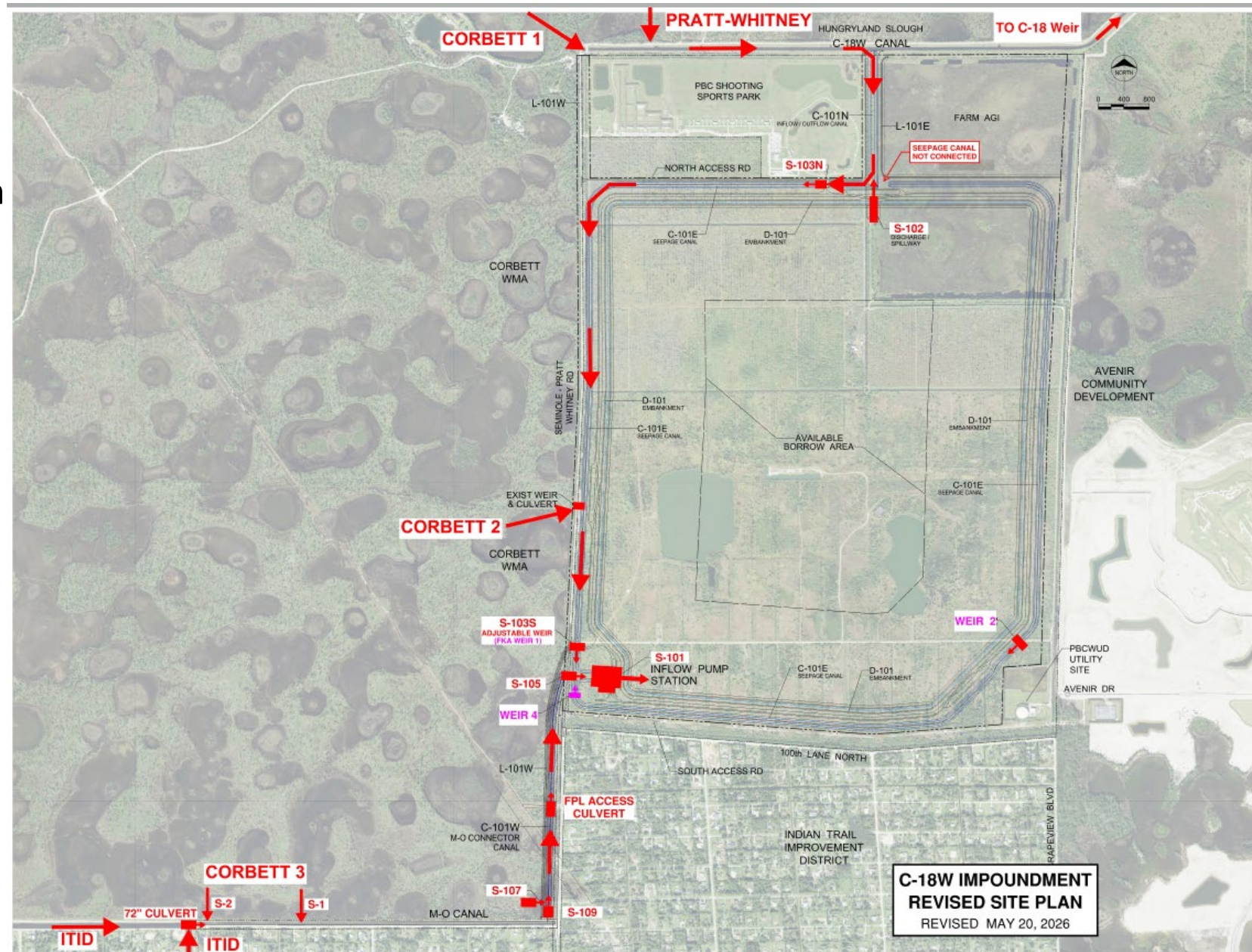
2. Next Steps

- Intermediate and final design contract, pending funding



Revised Flow-way 2 Layout Post Design Charette (Sep-2024)

1. S-101 single inflow pump station SW corner
2. S-102 combined discharge and emergency spillway
3. S-109 adjustable weir gate
 - Prevents over draining Indian Trail Improvement District
 - Operable during high water events
4. Weirs in seepage canal
 - Maintain lower water levels adjacent to Avenir and Indian Trail Improvement District

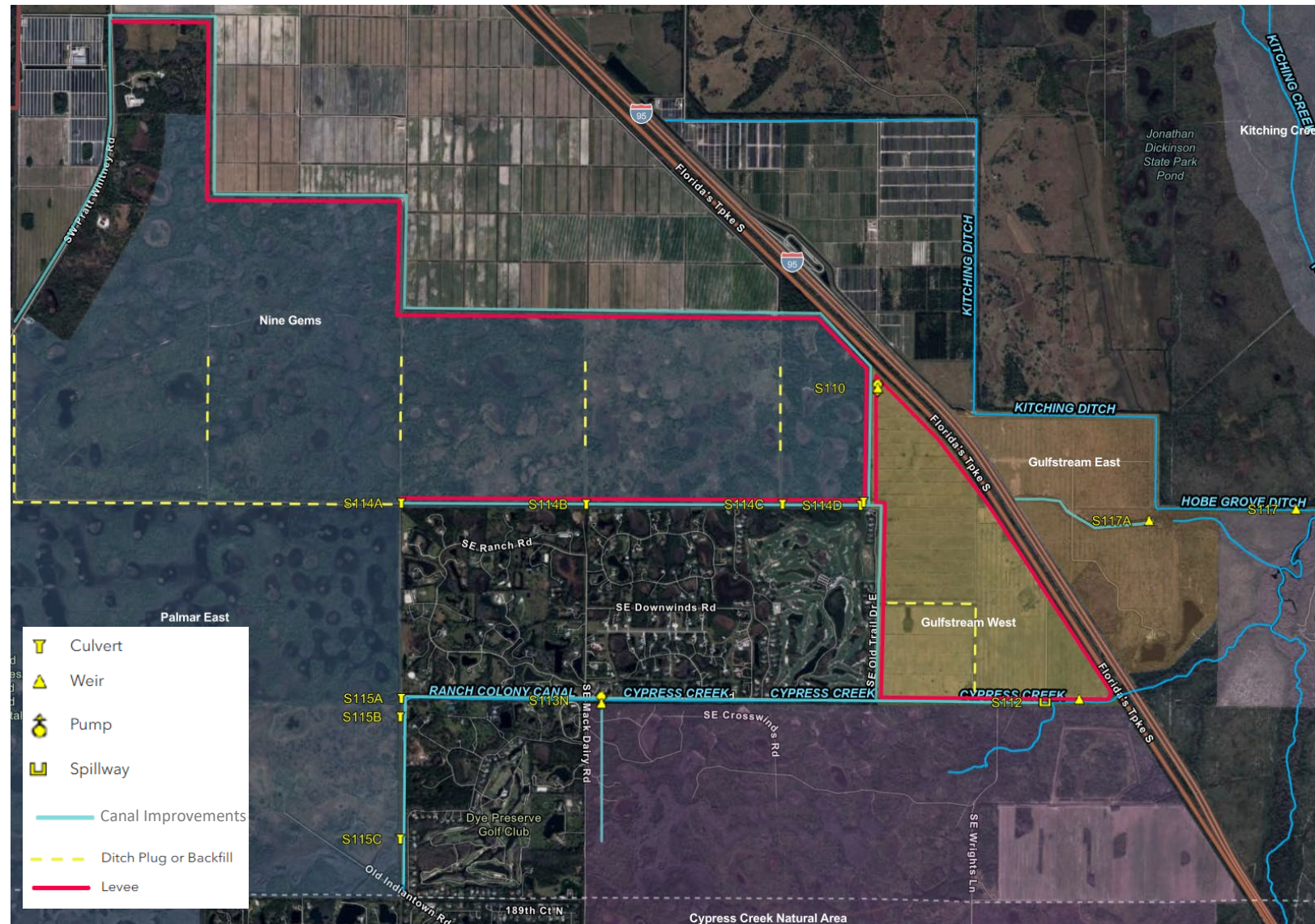


Flow-way 3



Flow-way 3 Status

1. Design contract (WSP) - executed Nov 2022
2. Preliminary Design of Gulfstream East and Kitching Creek - ongoing
3. Permitting, Cultural Resources Surveys and Environmental Site Remediation - Ongoing
4. Preliminary design contract for features West of I-95 – pending direction



Design for Kitching Creek

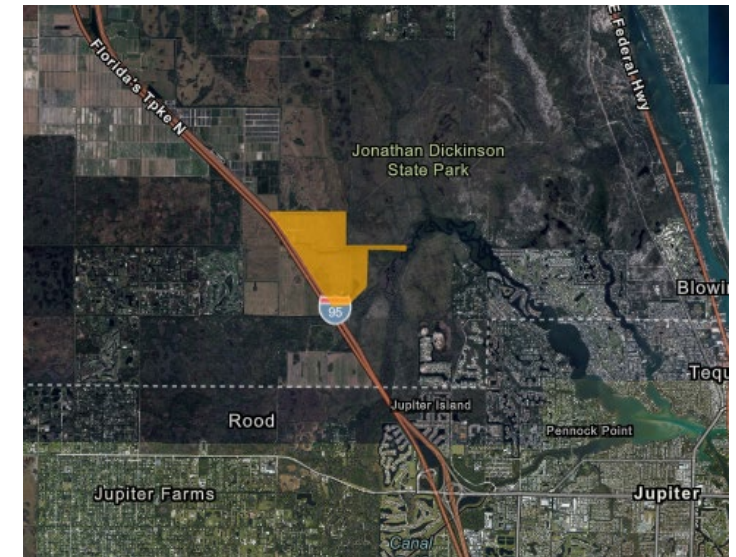


1. Small pump station (S-116), buried pressurized pipe, bubble up outlet, maintenance road
2. Letter of consent from DEP Division of Recreation and Parks – Jan 2026
3. Easement, permit, agreement discussions – ongoing
4. Project Implementation Report design included weir and spreader swales
 - Low Design Maturity resulted in new design concept
 - Similar challenges in all flow-ways

Design for Gulfstream East



1. Regrade site to restore natural topography
2. Create wetland depressions
3. Hobe Grove Ditch Weir S117
4. Turnpike Ditch Weir S117A
5. Ocean To Lake Trail Bridge

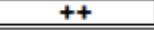


Discussion



DRAFT INTEGRATED DELIVERY SCHEDULE 2026 UPDATE

SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION | CENTRAL & SOUTHERN FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN

	Non-federal		Does not reflect budgetary development dollars or capability		Design, PPA Execution, Real Estate Acquisition
	Federal		Expected WRDA year		Construction (Initiated by award of construction contract)
	Fiscal Closeout		Project Implementation Report		Operational Plan
	Monitoring		Project Implementation Report with Exemption		Operational Testing and Monitoring Period

Project Locator	Project	Yellow Book Component	2024	2025	2026 W	2027	2028 W	2029	2030 W	2031	2032 W	2033	2034 W	2035	2036 W
	Planning Estimates Federal Construction Cost (SFER)++		\$429	\$1519											
	Planning Estimates Non-Federal Construction Cost (SFER)++		\$442	\$538	\$2,794	\$941	\$2,853	\$1,446	\$1,437	\$632	\$447	\$434	\$237	\$57	\$36
	Planning Estimates Total Construction Cost (SFER)++		\$871	\$2057											
CERP GENERATION 4 (AUTHORIZED WRDA 2020)															
P16	Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project	K, OPE													
	Flow-way 1 (M-1 Canal, G160/161 and Grassy Water Preserve)		●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●
	Flow-way 2 - C-18 Impoundment		●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●
	Flow-way 2- ASR Wells														
	Flow-way 3 (Kitching Creek, Moonshine Creek, Gulf Stream East, Cypress Creek Canal, Gulfstream West, Palmar East)		●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●●