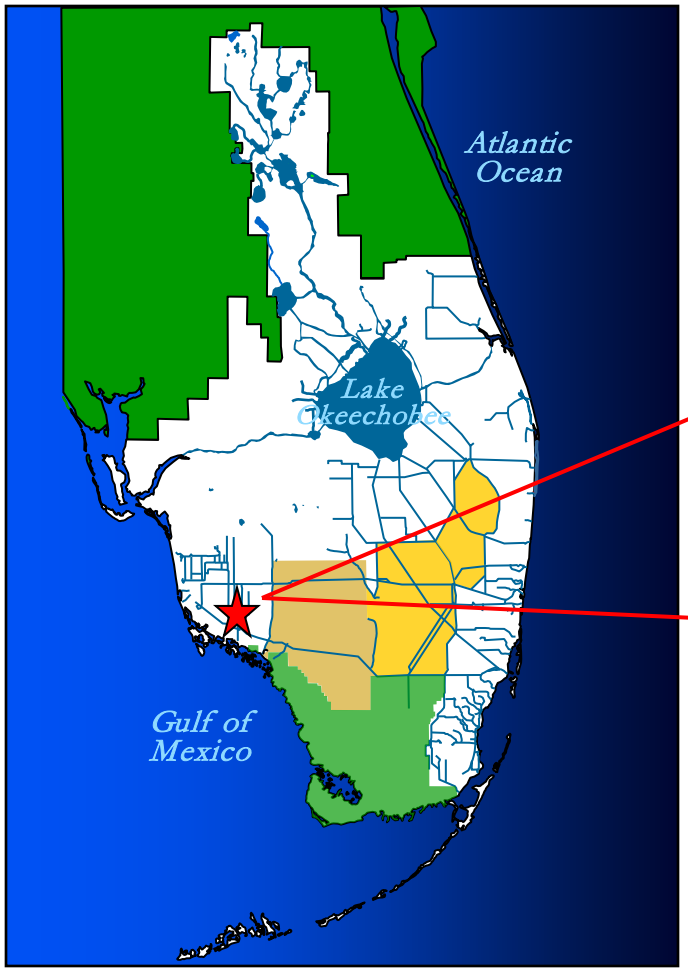
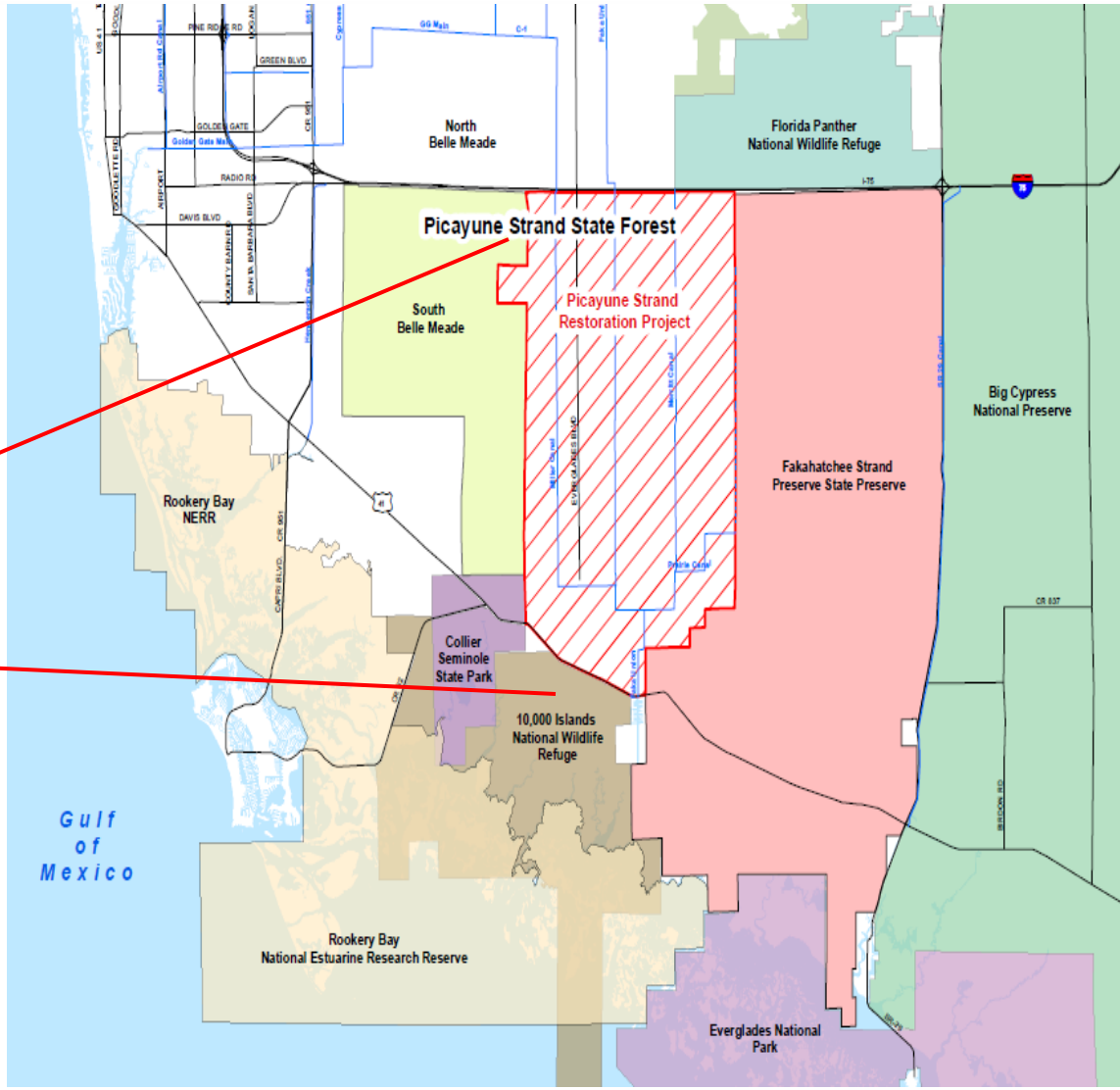
Picayune Strand Restoration Status

Governing Board Meeting
November 14, 2013

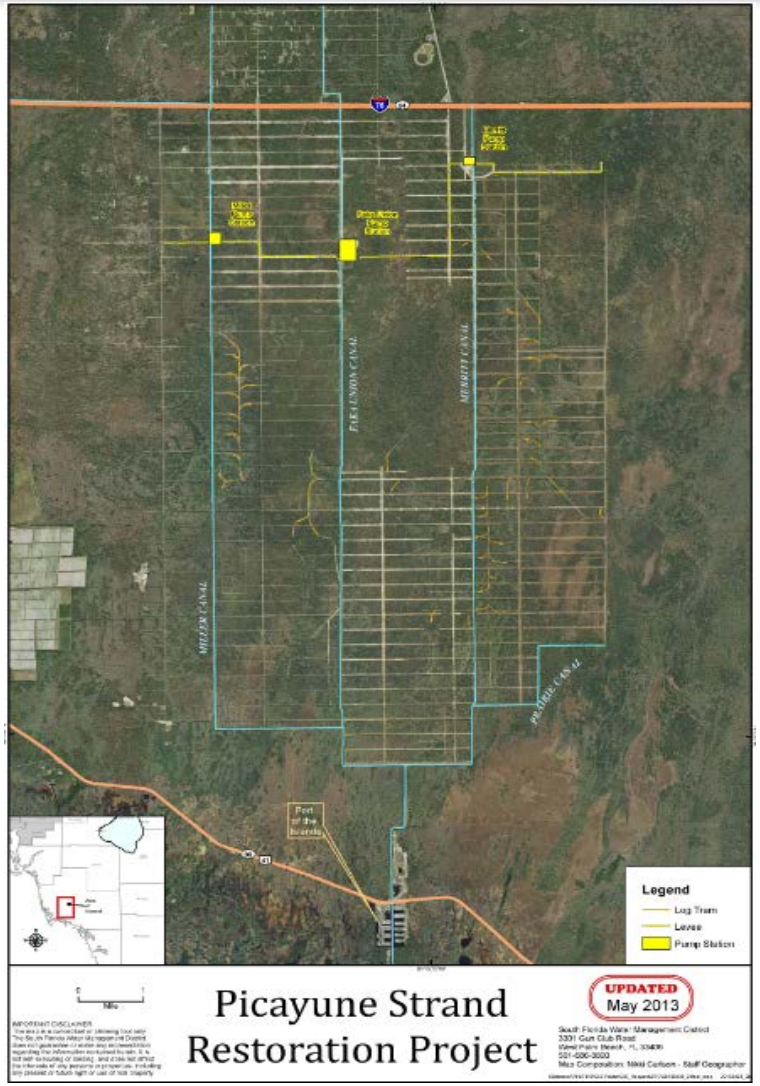
Tom Teets
Federal Policy Chief
Everglades Policy and Coordination

Picayune Strand Restoration





Picayune Strand Restoration Purpose and Authorization

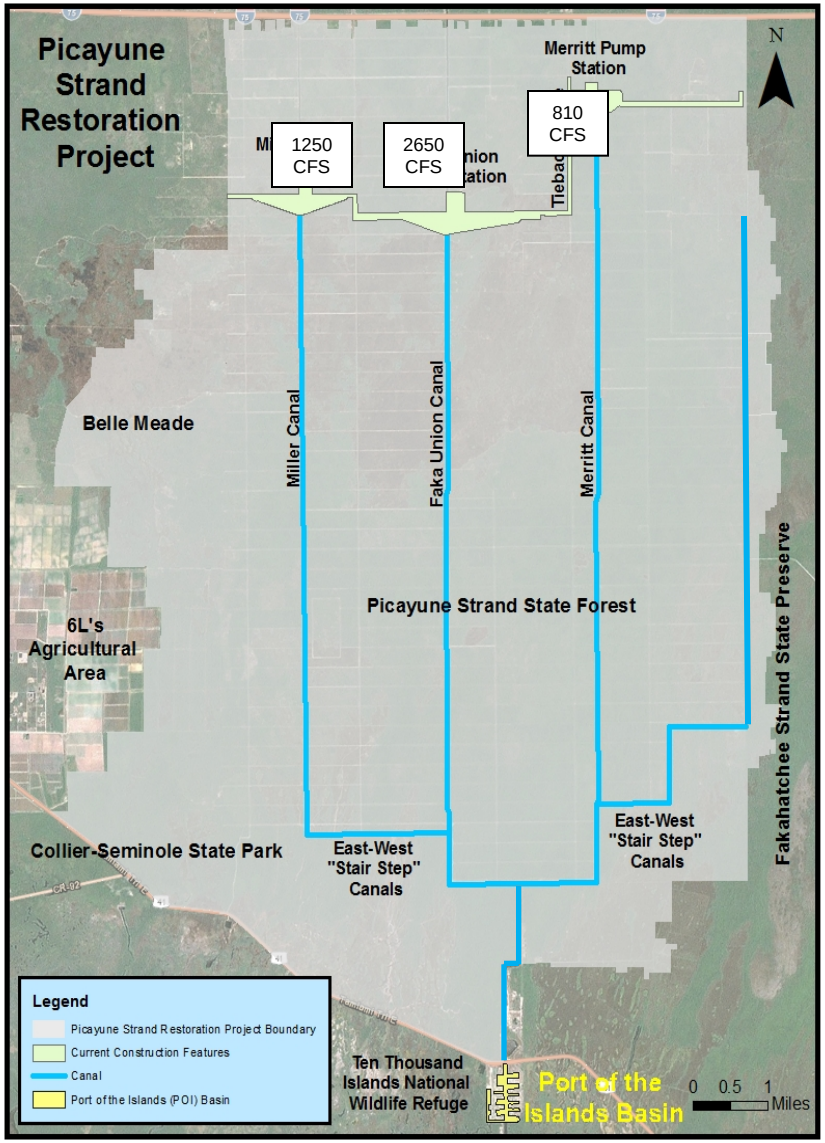


- Purpose
  - Restore and enhance wetlands in Picayune Strand and adjacent public lands by reducing over-drainage
  - Improve the water quality of coastal estuaries by moderating the large salinity fluctuations caused by point discharge of freshwater from the Faka Union Canal
- Authorization
  - WRDA 2007
  - Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) for all project features signed in August 2009
  - Cost Share – 50/50

Picayune Strand Restoration Project

Project features include:

- Three pump stations
  - Merritt – 810 cfs
  - Faka Union – 2650 cfs
  - Miller – 1250 cfs
- Plugging 48 miles of canals
- Removing 227 miles of roads
- Removing 61 miles of tram roads
- Protection features for adjacent lands
- Manatee mitigation feature



Picayune Strand - Phase 1 - Prairie Canal

- Seven miles of Prairie Canal filled
- 65 miles of roadway removed
- 17 culverts constructed to restore natural sheet flow under Tamiami Trail
- More than 13,000 acres of restored and enhanced habitat
- Completed by SFWMD 2007

Merritt Pump Station

- Construction Complete
  - December 2013
- Commissioning
  - January 2014
- Canal Plugging
  - March 2014
- Operational Testing and Monitoring Period
  - April 2014 to March 2015
- Transfer to SFWMD
  - April 2015

Faka Union Pump Station

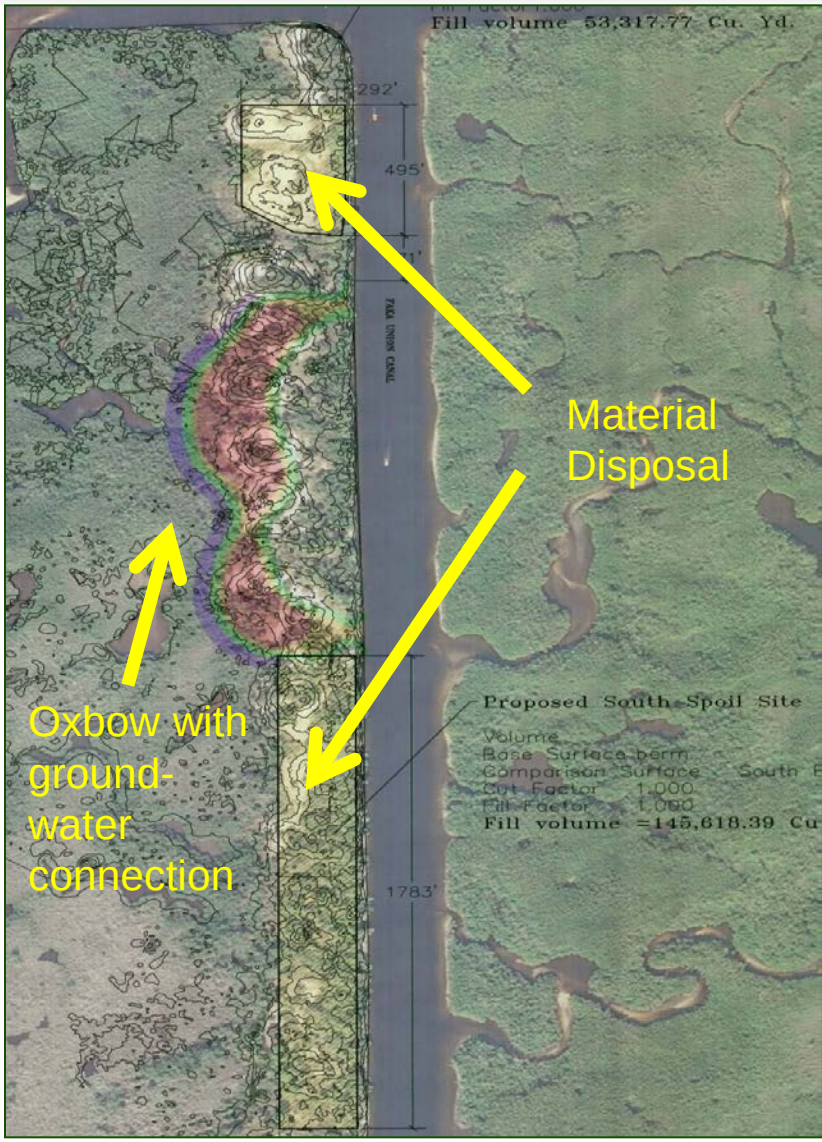
- Construction Complete
  - October 2014
- Commissioning
  - November 2014
- Canal Plugging
  - TBD
- Operational Testing and Monitoring Period
  - TBD, One-Year Duration
- Transfer to SFWMD
  - TBD

Miller Pump Station

- Contract Award (USACE): September 5, 2013
- Notice to Proceed (USACE): November 2013
- Construction Complete: January 2017
- Commissioning: February 2017
- Miller Road Removal & Canal Plugging: TBD
- Operational Testing and Monitoring Period:
  - TBD, One-Year Duration
- Transfer to SFWMD: TBD

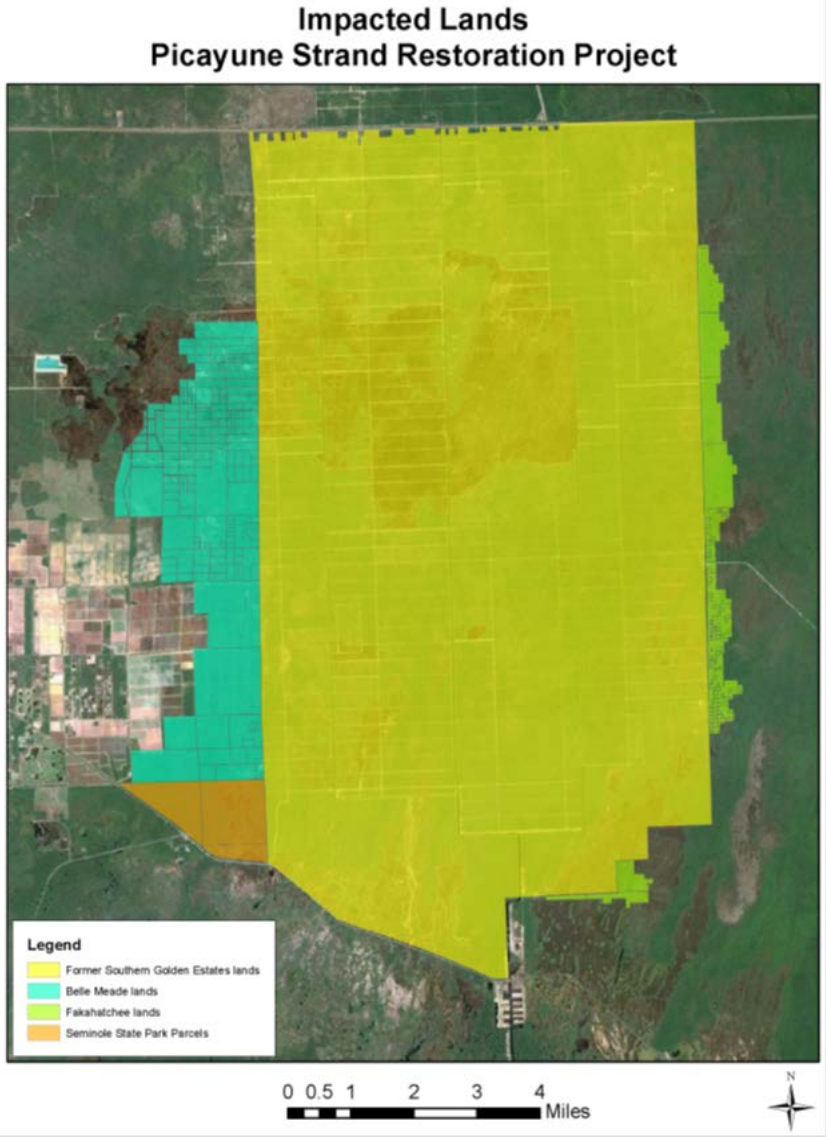
Manatee Mitigation Feature

- South of Port of the Islands on the western bank of Faka Union Canal
- Mitigates for effect on warm water refugium in Port of the Islands
- SFWMD will design and construct (SOETF)
- Public Meeting in late November



Real Estate

- Belle Meade: Approximately 55 parcels
- Fakahatchee: Approximately 28 parcels
- Adding new parcels to the Florida Forever Plan
- Belle Meade Funding Source: SOETF
- Fakahatchee Funding Source: FY13 Carryover



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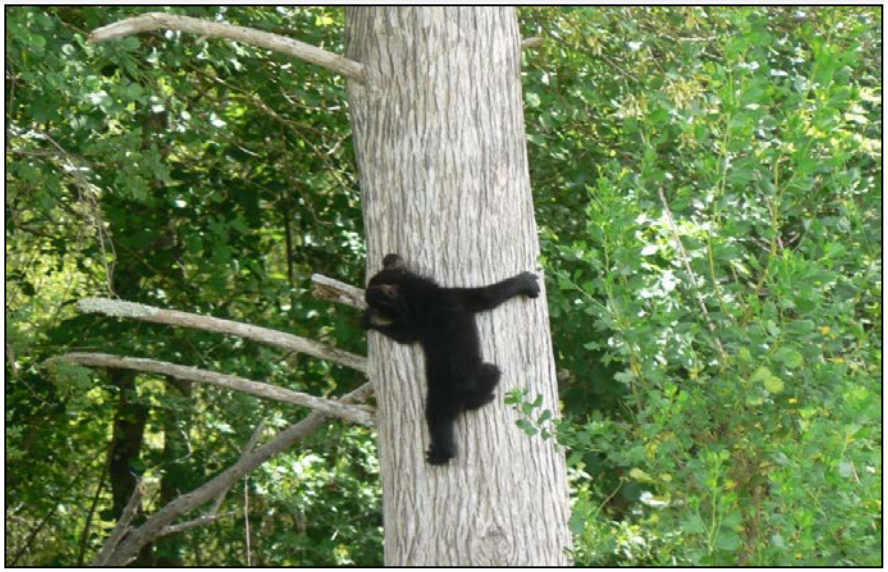
Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR)

- Purpose of LRR: Congressional Authorization of an Increase in Project Cost
- Design Refinements
  - Addition of Tie-back Levee
  - Addition of Redundant Pumps
  - Reduction in Protection Features
  - Addition of Manatee Mitigation Feature
- Revisions to Real Estate Needs
- Identifies Loss of Benefits if Not Authorized
- Requires SFWMD Letter of Support and Statement of Financial Capability

Questions