



# **Everglades 101: History and Restoration**

***Moderated by Dr. Steve Davis, Everglades Foundation***

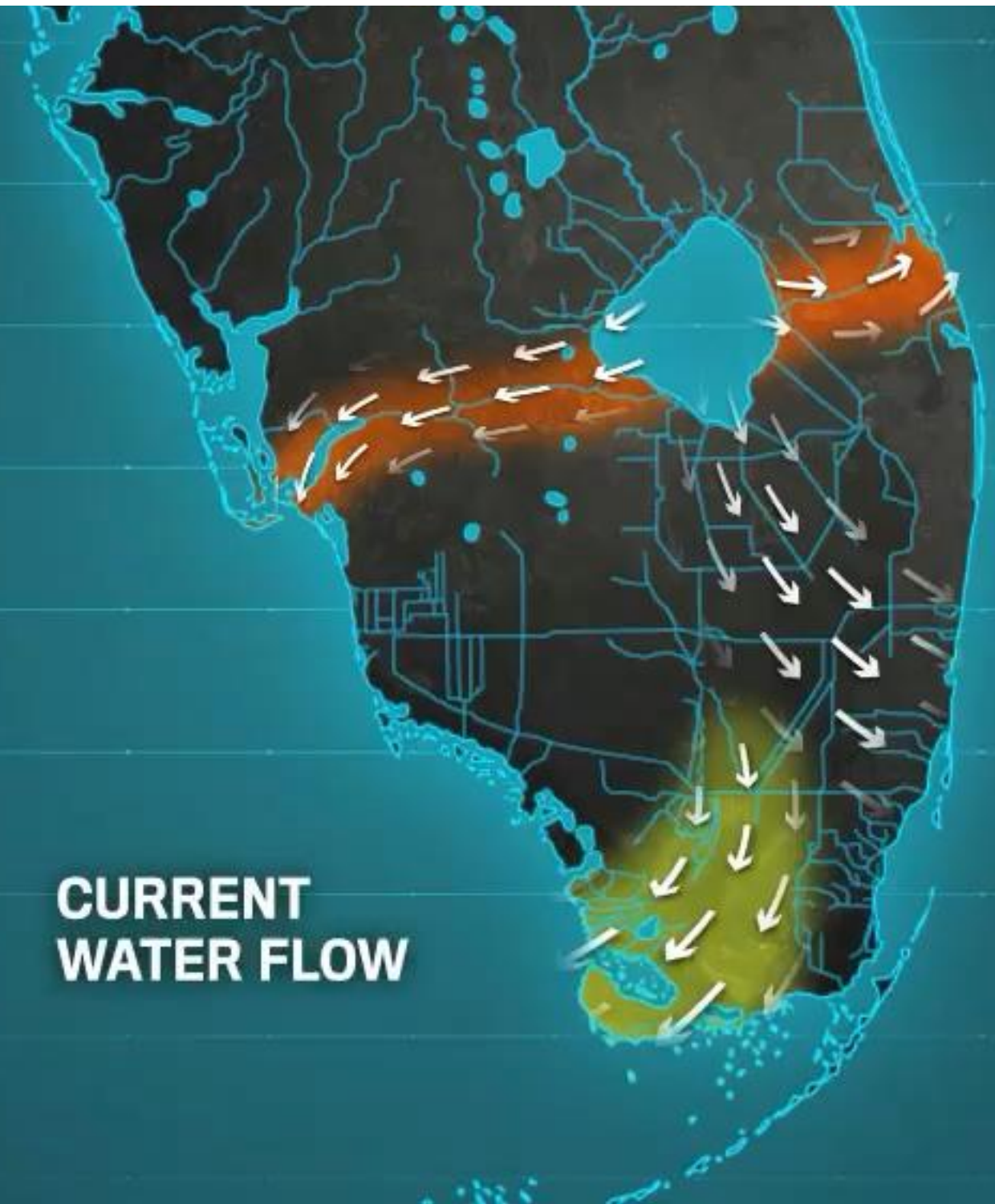
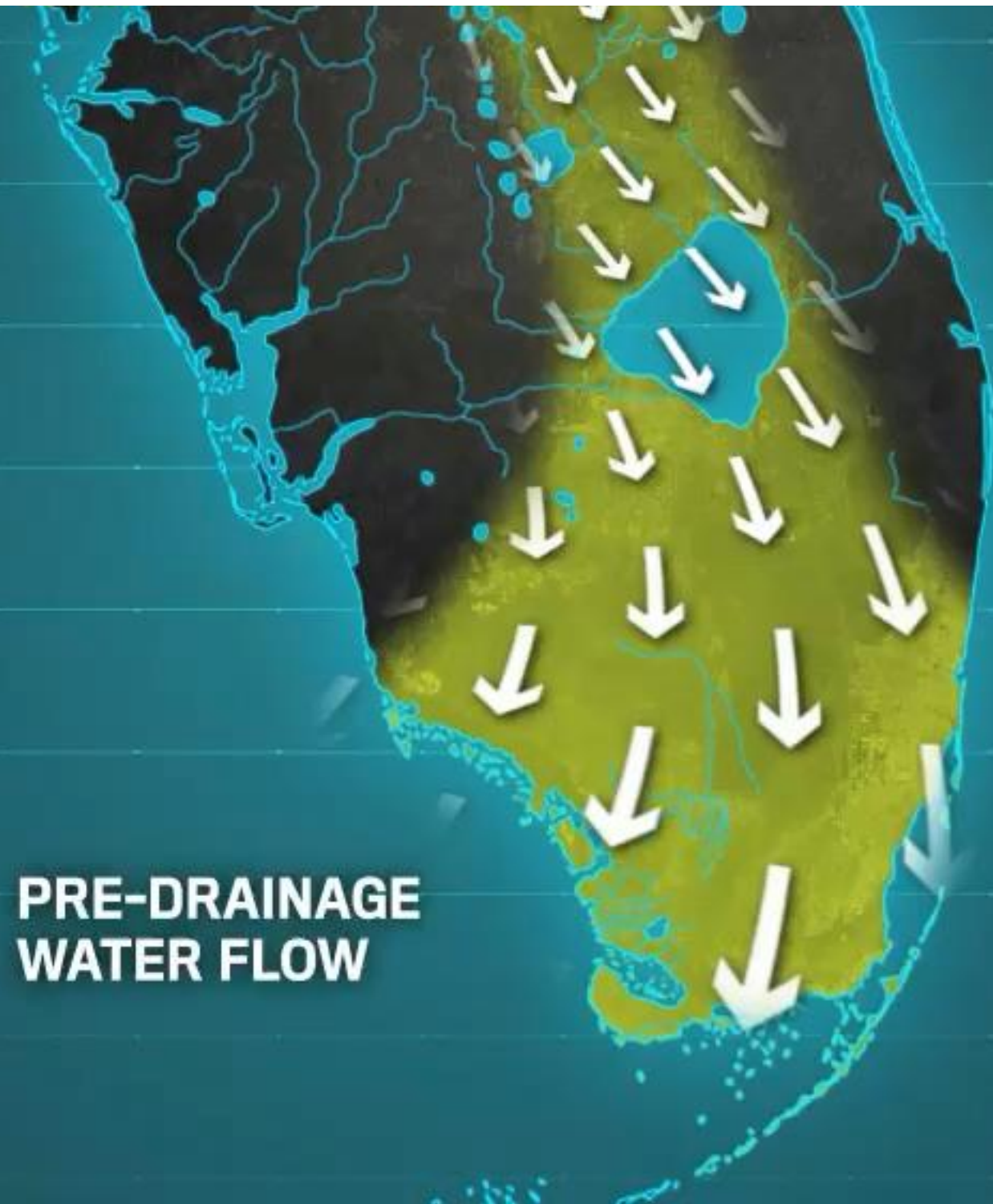




THE

EVER  
GLADES  
FOUNDATION

# What Will A Restored Everglades Look Like?



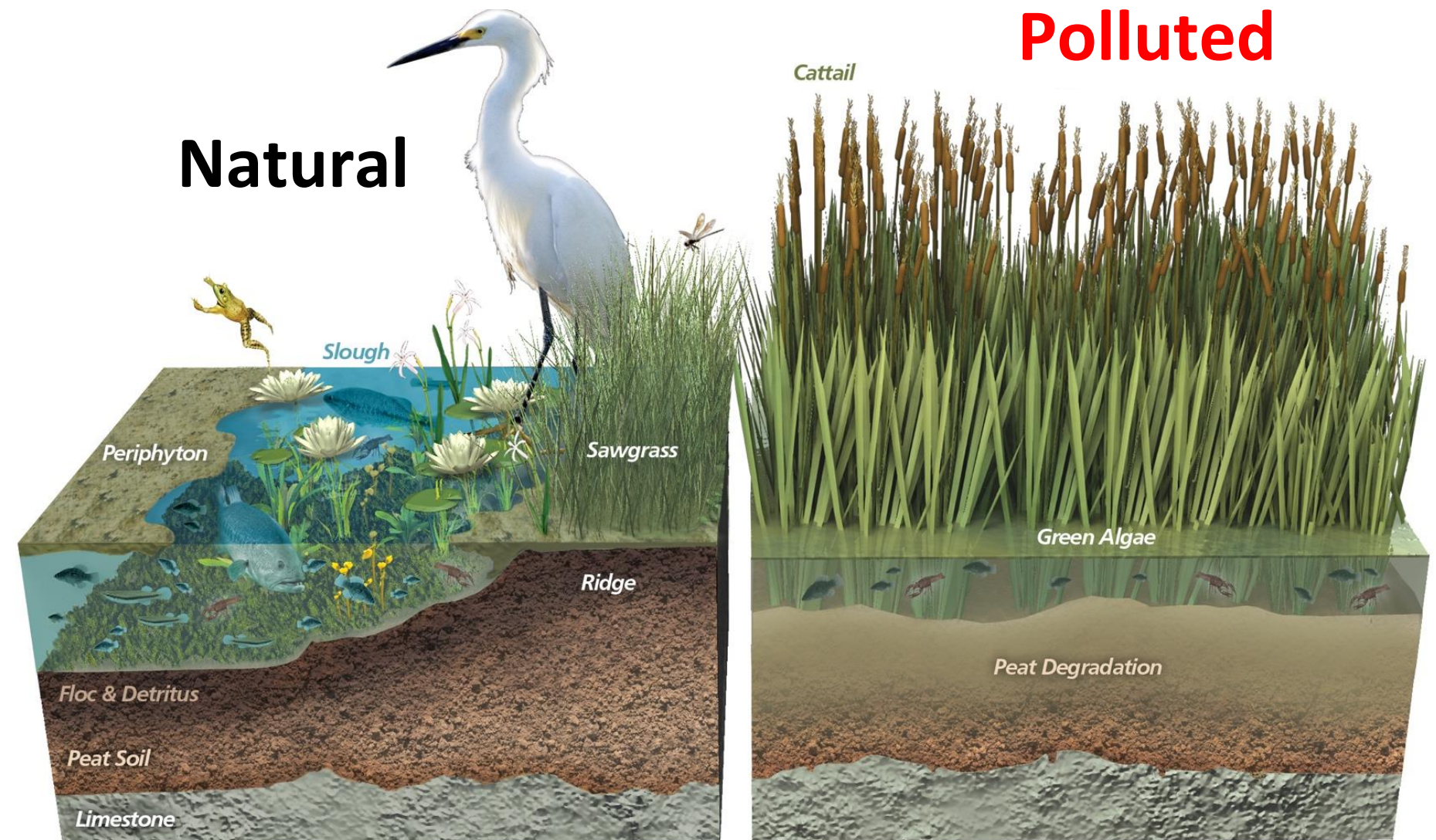


# It Starts With More Water



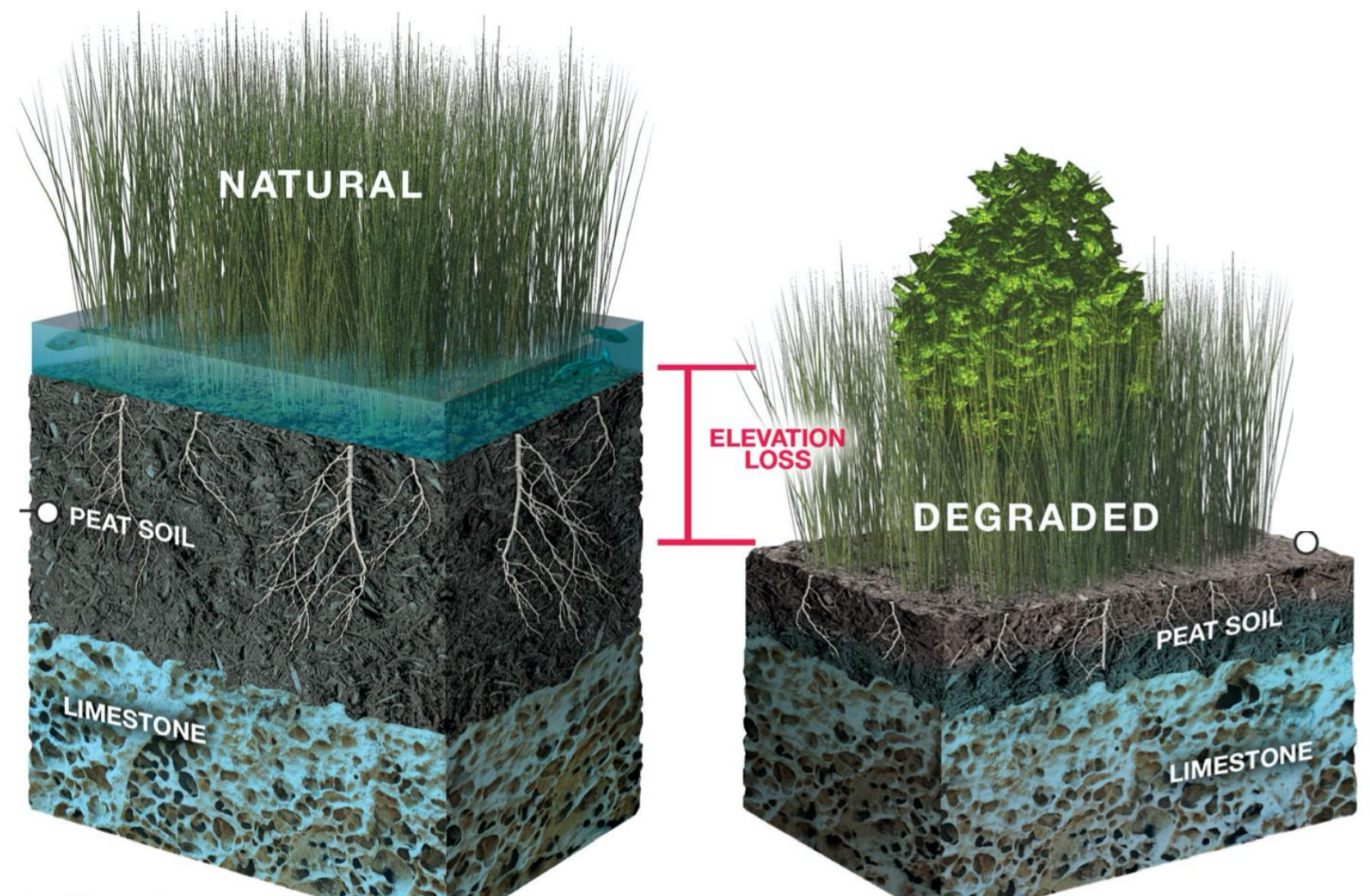


# Clean Water: Everglades Habitats Depend on Extremely Low Levels of Phosphorus



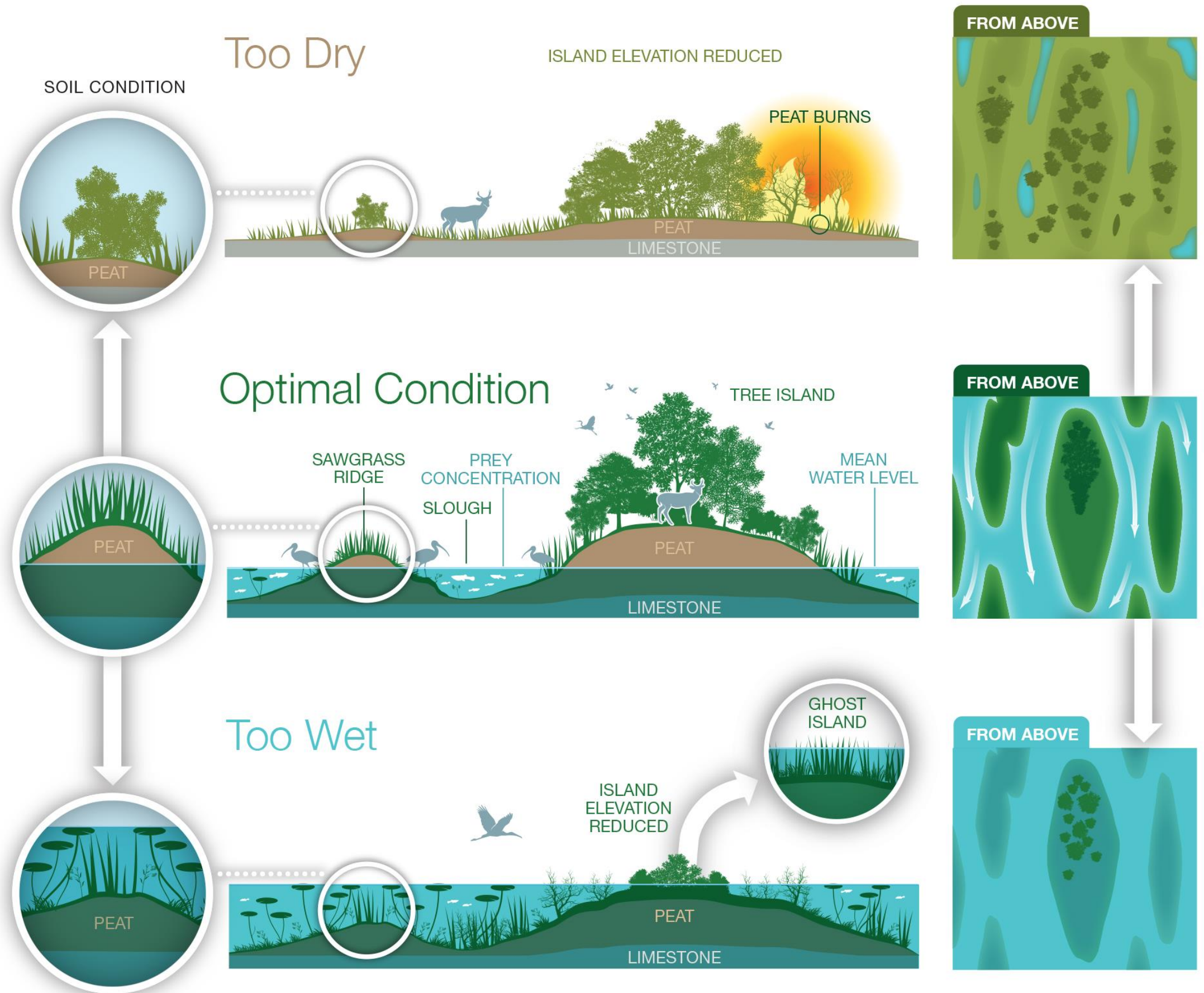


# Peat Soils: The Foundation of the Everglades





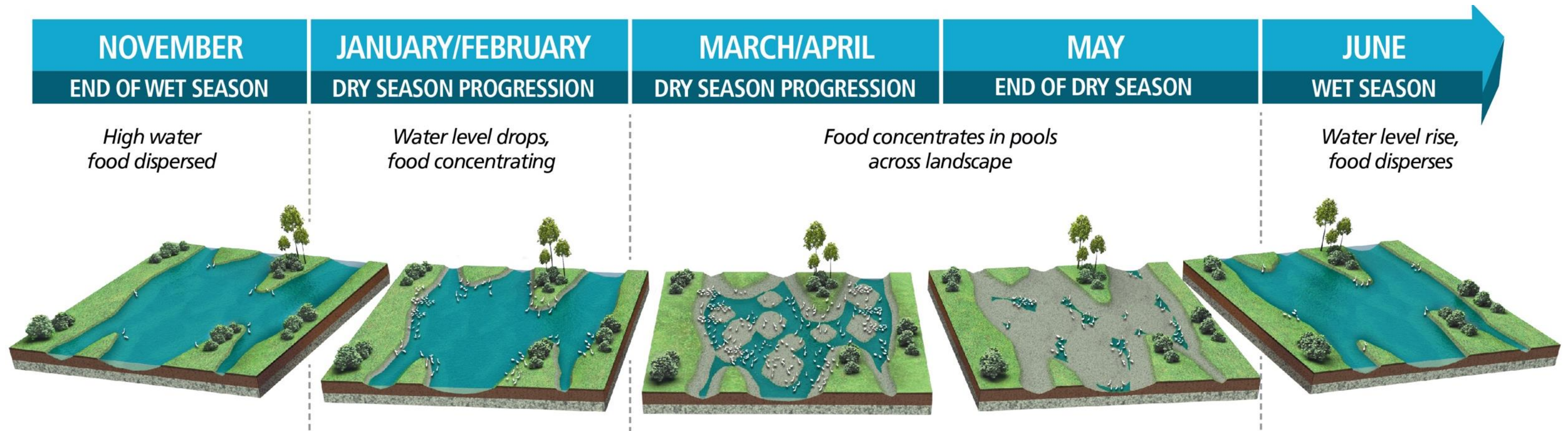
# Landscapes Reflect Long-Term Conditions





# Food Concentration

## Depends on Landscapes + Seasonality of Water











THE

EVER  
GLADES  
FOUNDATION





# Everglades 101: History & Restoration

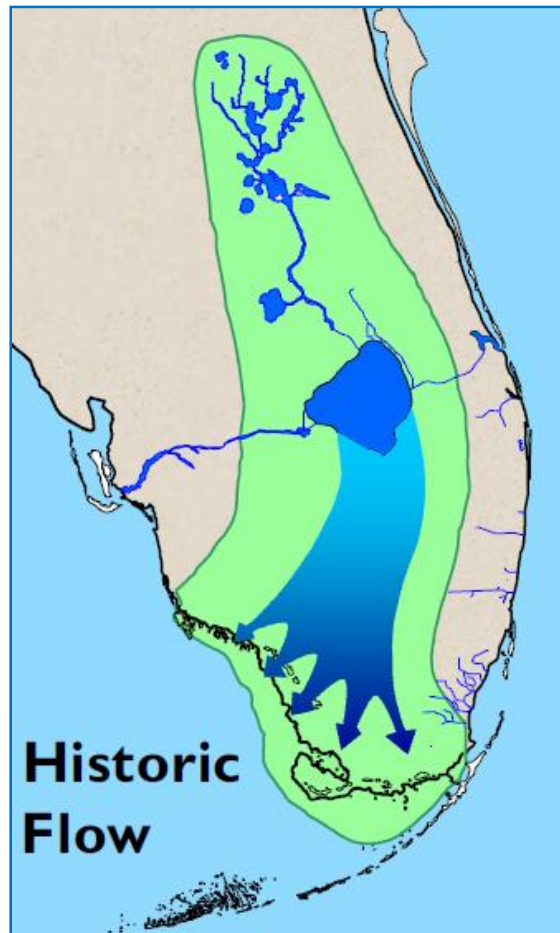
Cara Capp,  
Senior Everglades  
Program Manager



**100 YEARS**



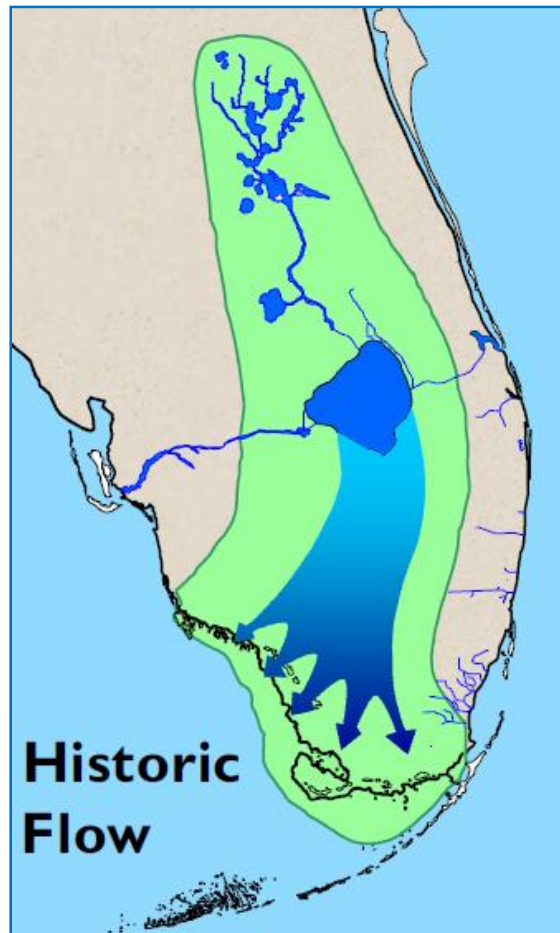
# Historic Waterflow



The naturally meandering  
waterflow of the Kissimmee River...



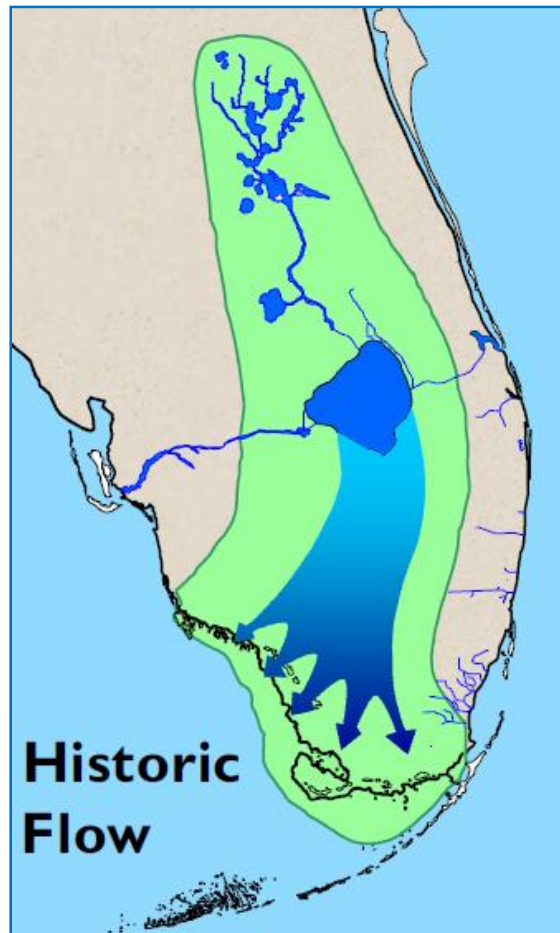
# Historic Waterflow



... would deposit into  
Lake Okeechobee...



# Historic Waterflow



← ...and spill over forming the  
"River of Grass" that would flow to the  
Southern Everglades and the Florida Keys



# Historic Waterflow

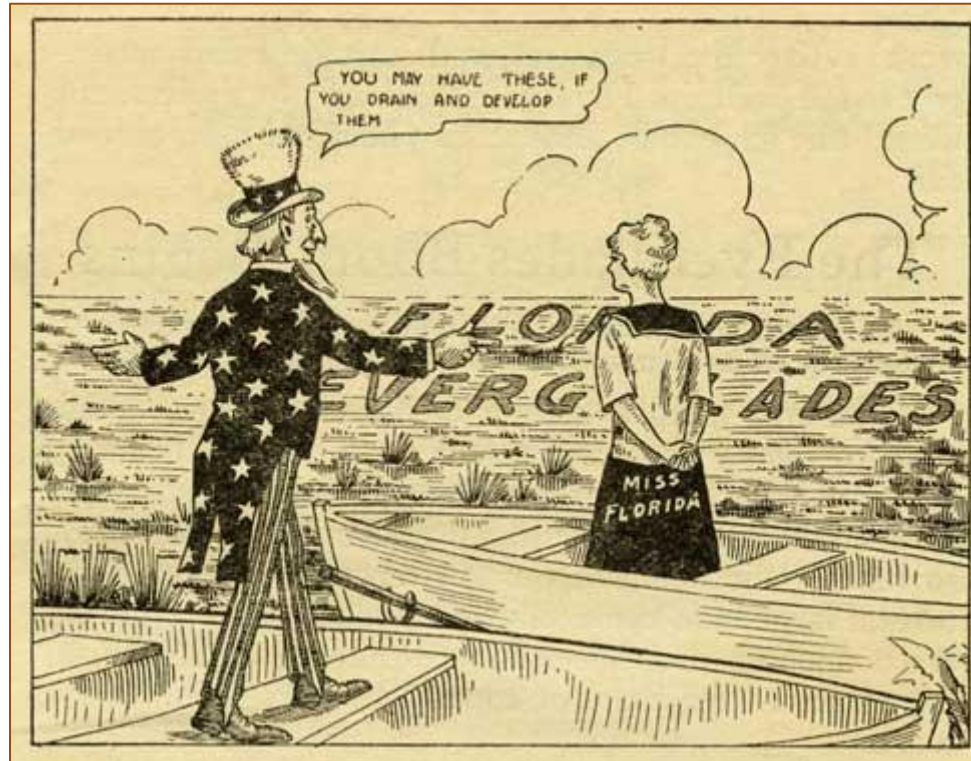


*All photos provided by National Parks Service (nps.gov)*



# Changes to the Flow

---



*Image: Historical Museum of South Florida*



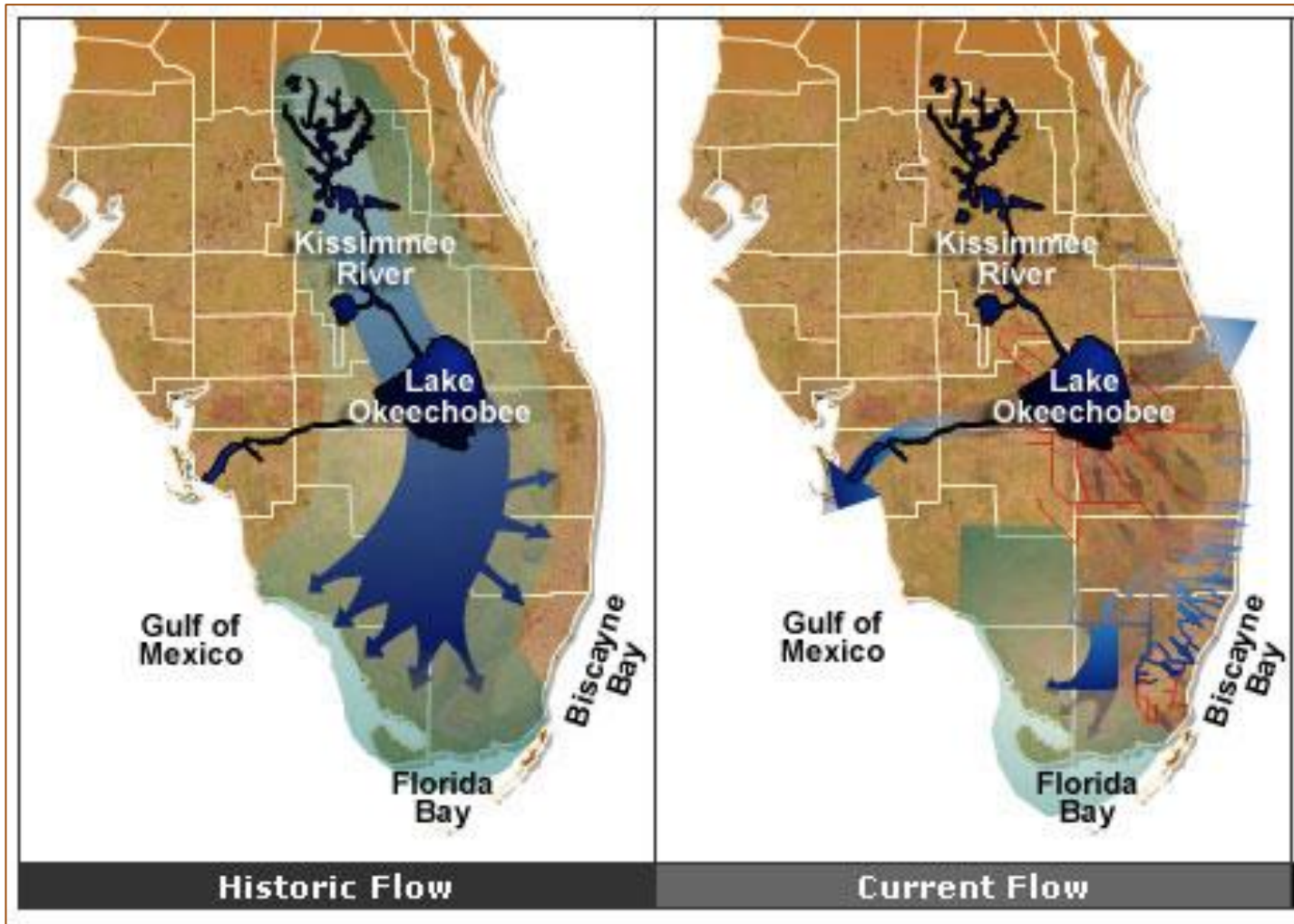
# Changes to the Flow



*Photos: [everglades.fiu.edu](http://everglades.fiu.edu)*

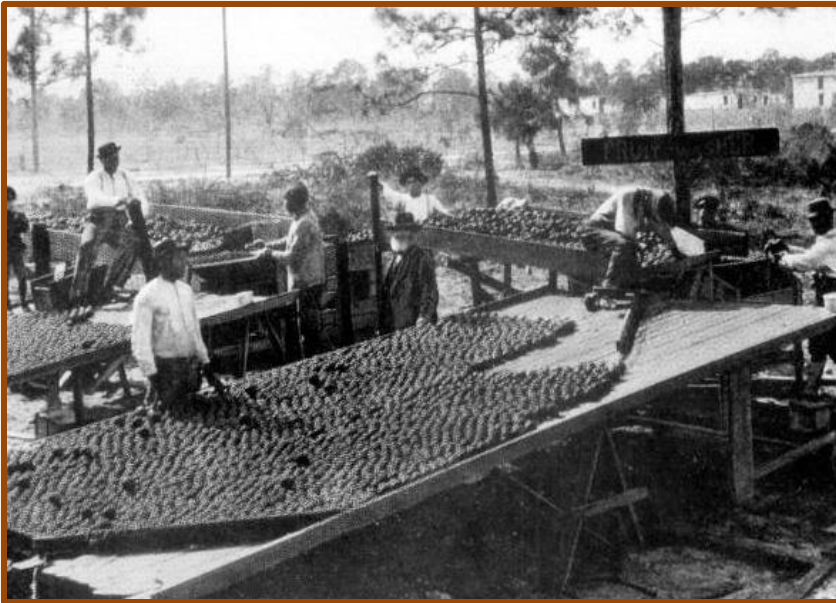


# Changes to the Flow





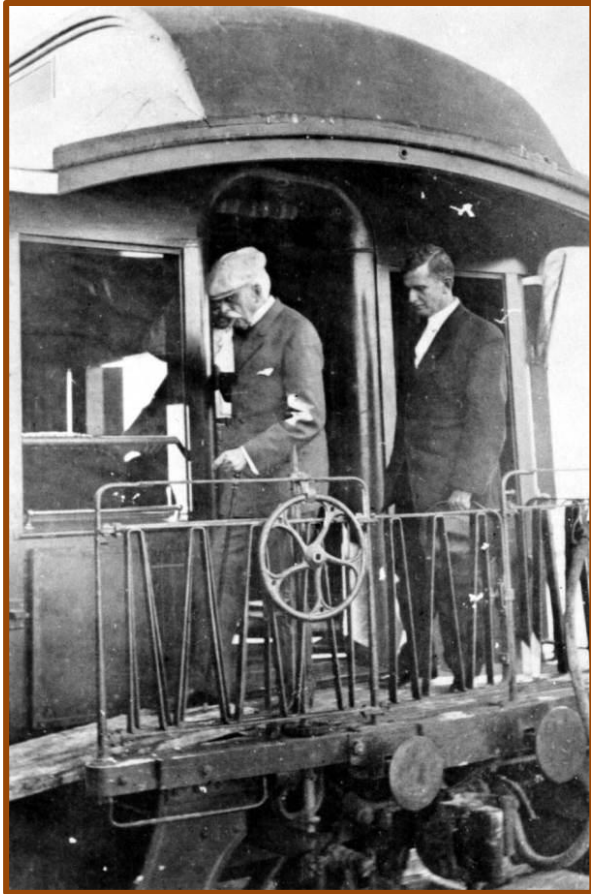
# Emergence of Agriculture



*Photos: State Archives of Florida*



# Travel, Tourism, Development



*Photos: [floridamemory.com](http://floridamemory.com)*



# Problems for the Everglades

## 1) OVERDEVELOPMENT

50% of the Everglades habitat was lost to development

## 2) LOSS OF WATER FLOW

70% of the natural water flow was diverted

## 3) POLLUTION

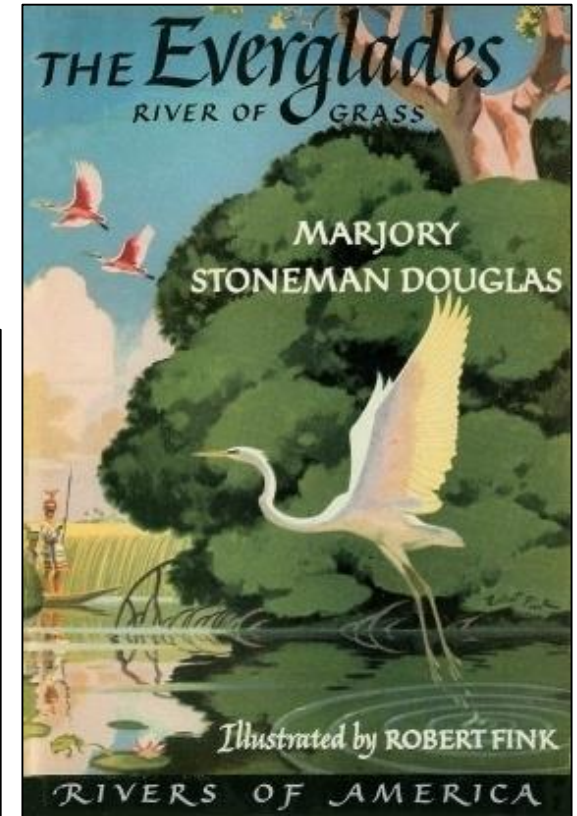
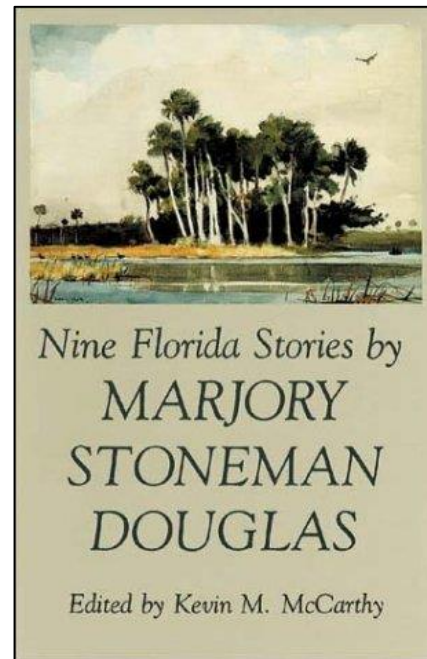
Runoff from agriculture and urban communities has deteriorated the quality of once pristine water



# Concern & Conservation



Marjory  
Stoneman  
Douglas





# Catalyst for Change: Florida Bay Collapse in 1980s



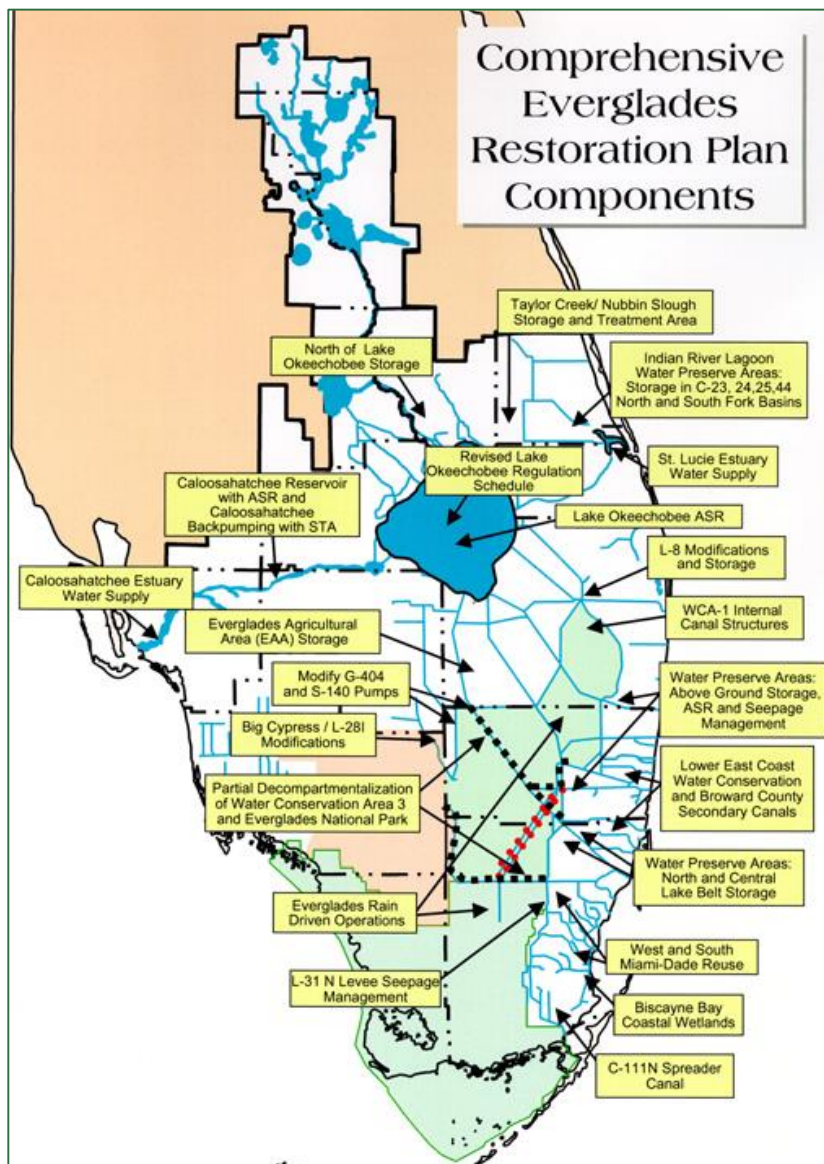


# 2000: Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan



*CERP signing in 2000*





# Restoring America's Everglades

- Remove barriers to flow into Everglades National Park.
- Redirect flow away from the coastal estuaries into water treatment areas.
- Clean water to acceptable levels.
- Send clean water south!

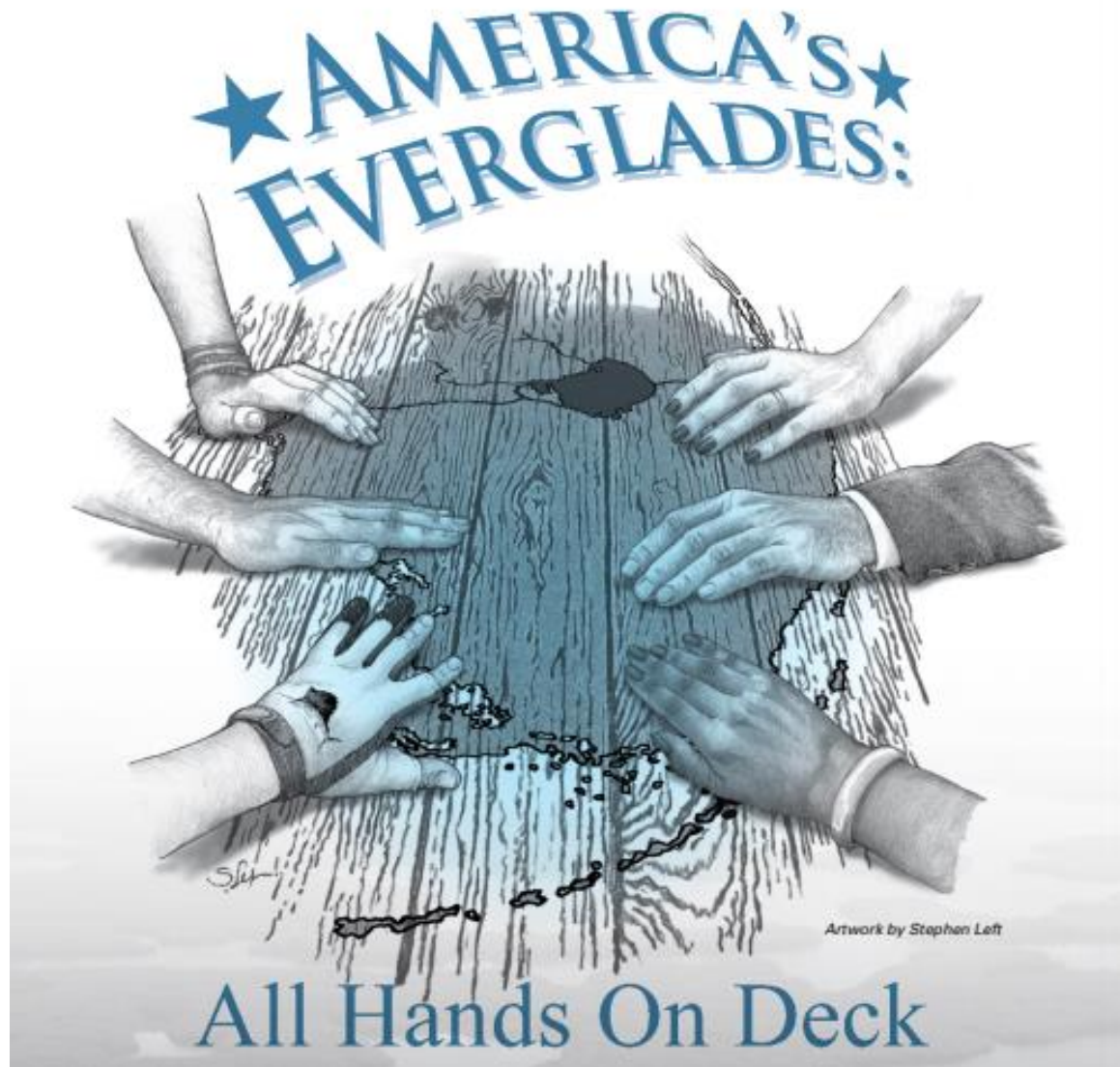




**Three Decades Later...**  
**Another Catalyst for Change**



35TH ANNUAL EVERGLADES COALITION CONFERENCE







# Everglades 101: History & Restoration

Cara Capp,  
Senior Everglades  
Program Manager



**100 YEARS**



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Everglades National Park

# Everglades National Park

The largest subtropical wilderness in the United States.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



# Everglades 101



## March 1, 1872

---

Yellowstone becomes  
America's first national park.






# Everglades 101



## August 25, 1916

The National Park Service is established.



*“The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.”*



# Everglades 101



May 30, 1934

Congress of the United States authorizes Everglades National Park.

*"The said area or areas shall be permanently reserved as a wilderness, and no development of the project or plan for the entertainment of visitors shall be undertaken which will interfere with the preservation intact of the unique flora and fauna and the essential primitive natural conditions now prevailing in this area."*





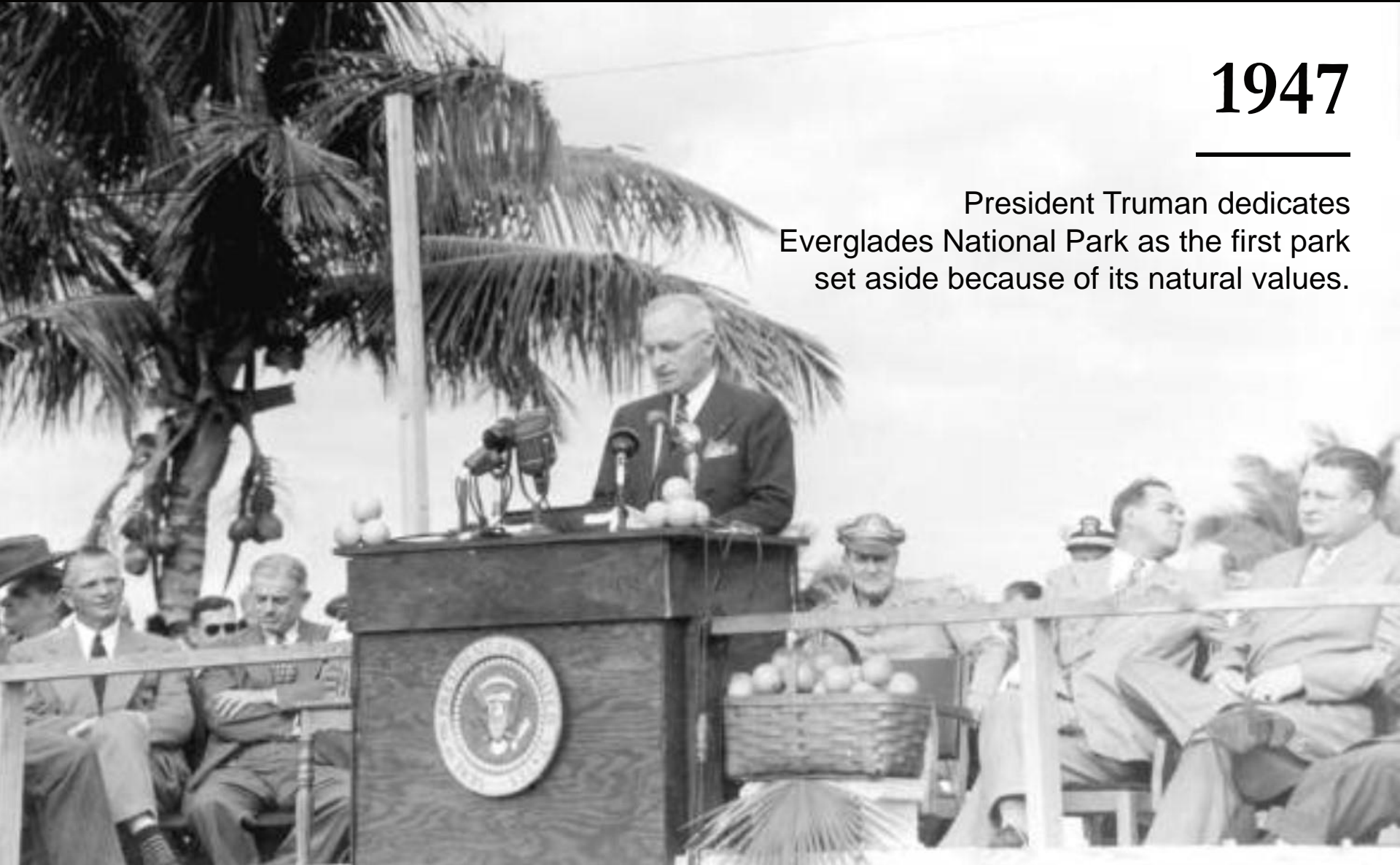
# Everglades 101



1947

---

President Truman dedicates  
Everglades National Park as the first park  
set aside because of its natural values.





# Everglades 101



1976

Everglades National Park is designated an International Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO, the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.



# Everglades 101



1979

Everglades National Park is designated as a World Heritage Site.



# Everglades 101



1987

Everglades National Park is designated a Wetland of International Importance by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.



# Everglades 101



## 1989

The Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act was signed into law by President George H. W. Bush, authorizing the addition of 107,000 acres of the east Everglades to the park.



# Everglades 101



2000

Congress authorizes the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)—a federal effort to restore the Everglades.



# Everglades 101



2002

President George W. Bush and Florida Governor Jeb Bush signed an agreement providing for Everglades restoration at a cost of \$7.8 billion to be shared by the federal and state government.



# Everglades 101



## Invasive Species

Beyond the restoration of its water flows, the park has increased its focus on the threat posed by exotic animals and plants.





# Everglades 101



## Today

Approximately 1.5 million people visit the park every year.

It not only provides for an outstanding set of recreational opportunities, but also serves as a very significant economic engine for the State of Florida.







Drew Bartlett, Executive Director  
35<sup>th</sup> Annual Everglades Coalition Conference

Great Blue Heron  
Dr. Mark Cook, SFWMD



# Mission



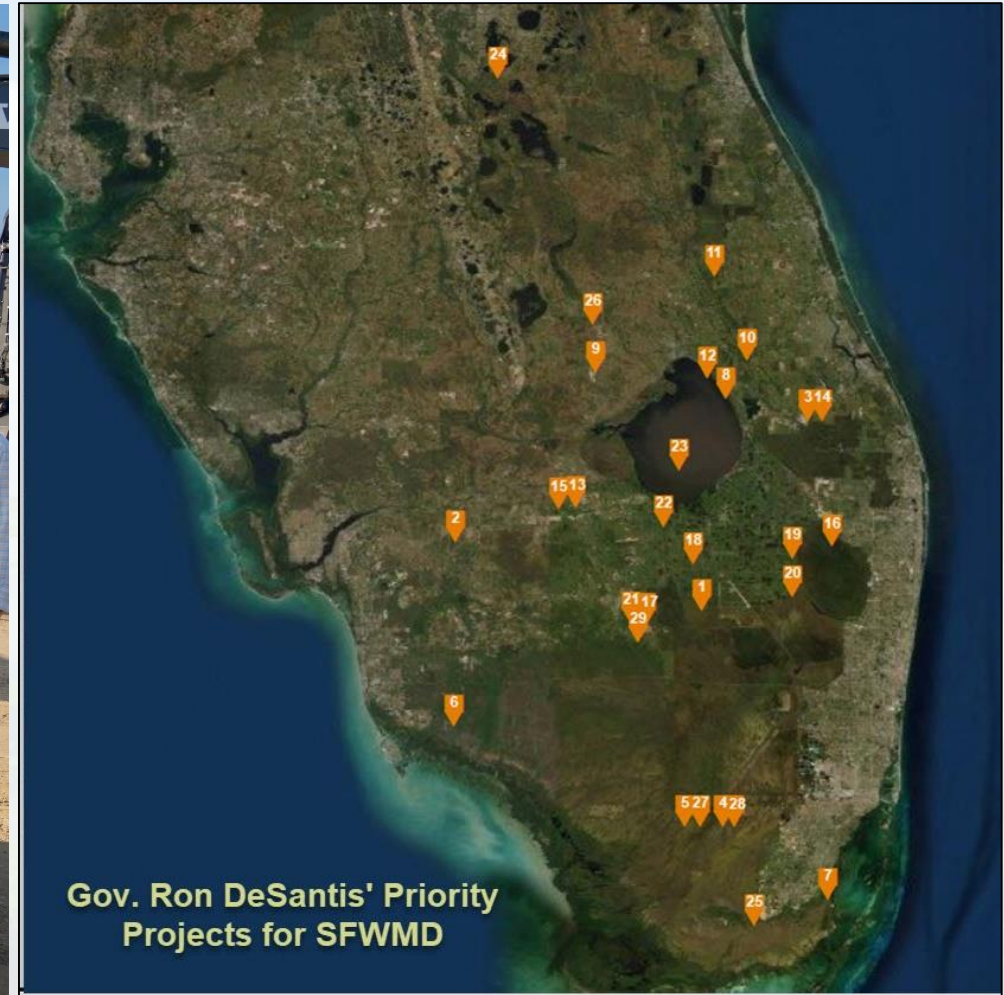
Key Largo  
Dr. Mark Cook, SFWMD

MARK COOK

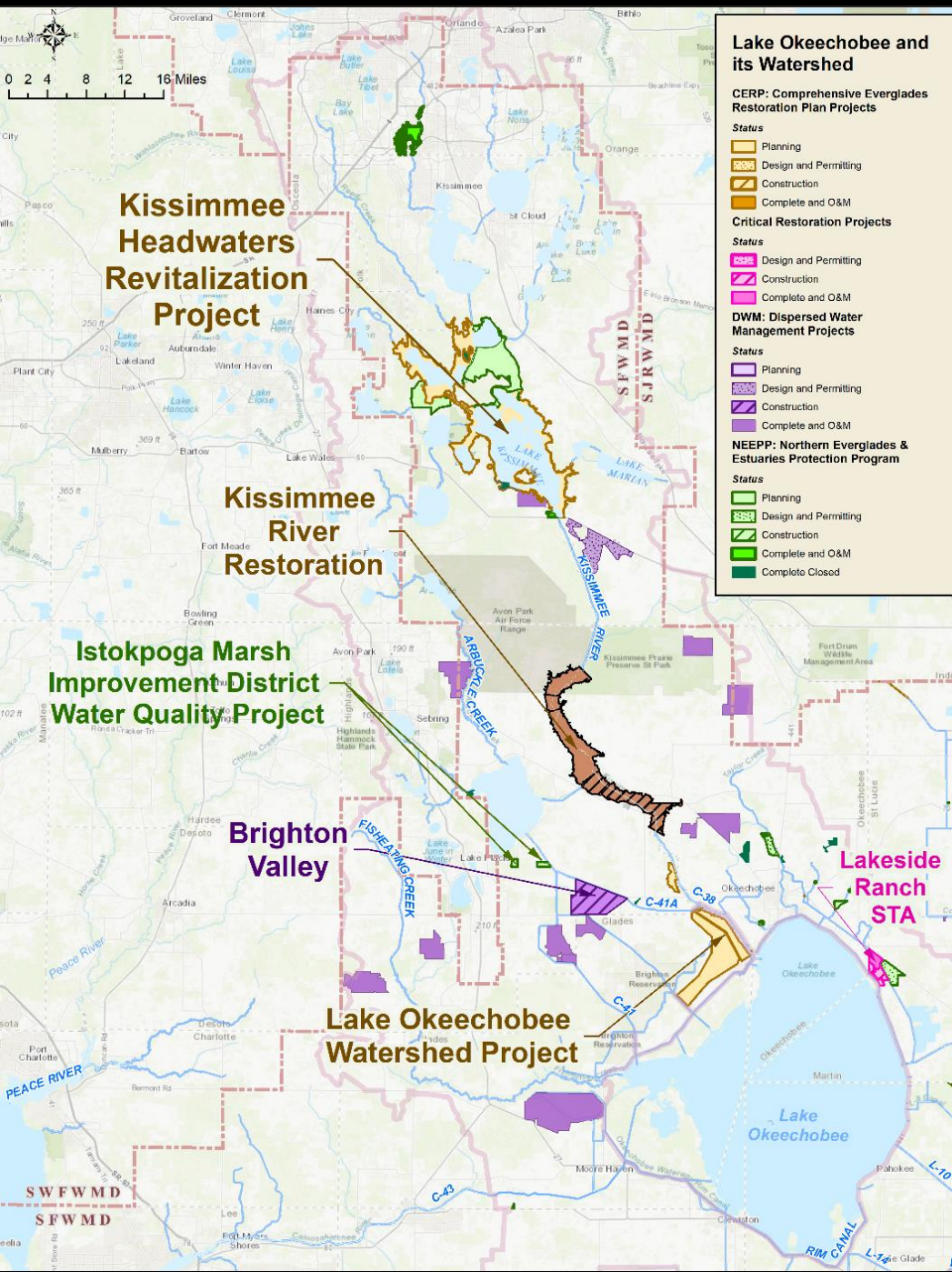
To **safeguard and restore** South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, **protect** our communities from flooding, and **meet** the region's water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders



# Governor DeSantis' Executive Order and Priority Restoration Projects







# Lake Okeechobee & Watershed

- Kissimmee River Restoration
- Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project
- Dispersed Water Management Public-Private Partnerships
- Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area

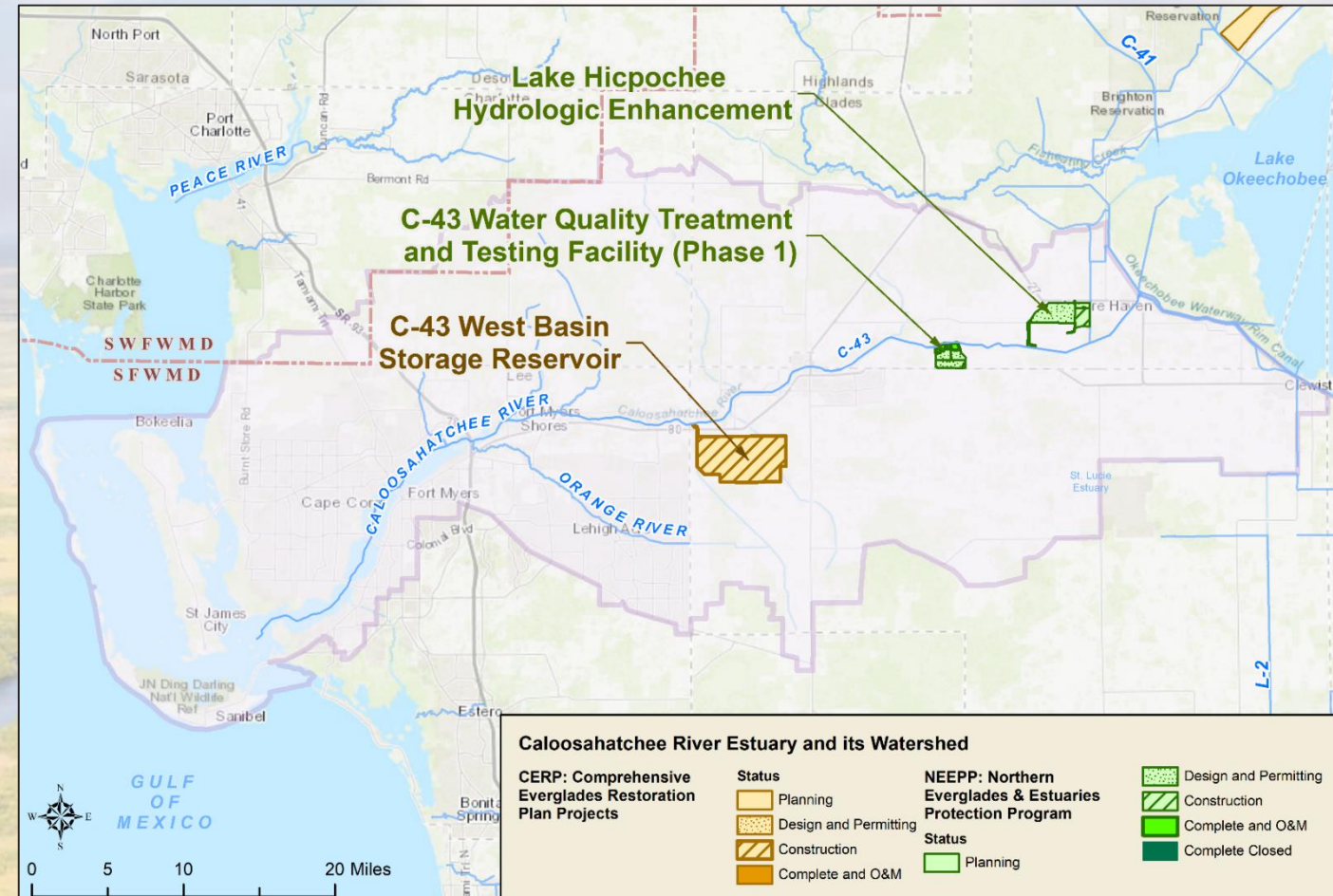






# Caloosahatchee River & Estuary

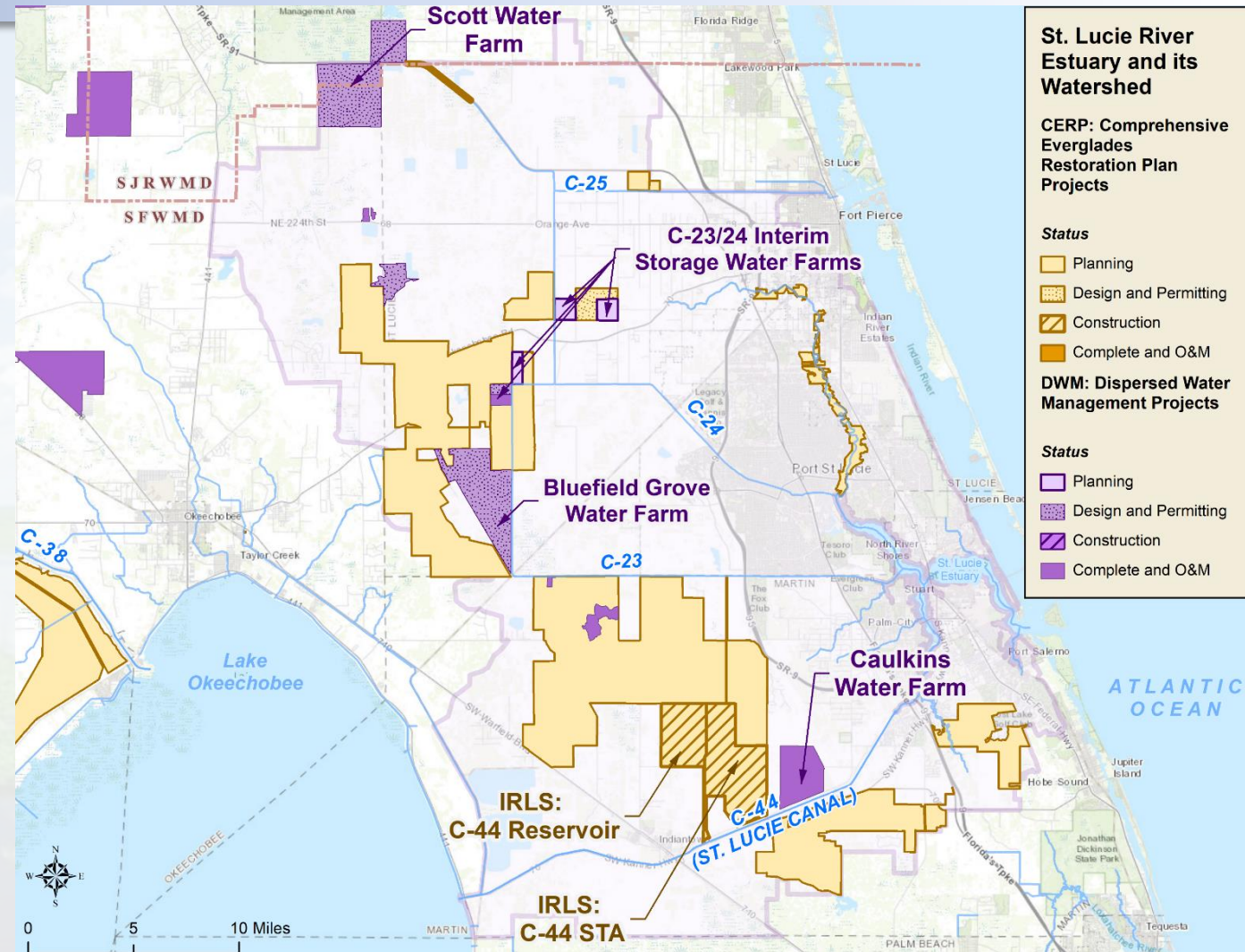
- Caloosahatchee Reservoir
- Caloosahatchee Reservoir Water Quality Feature
- Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement





# St. Lucie Estuary

- C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA)
- Caulkins Water Farm





# Everglades Restoration is Working



## The Miami Herald

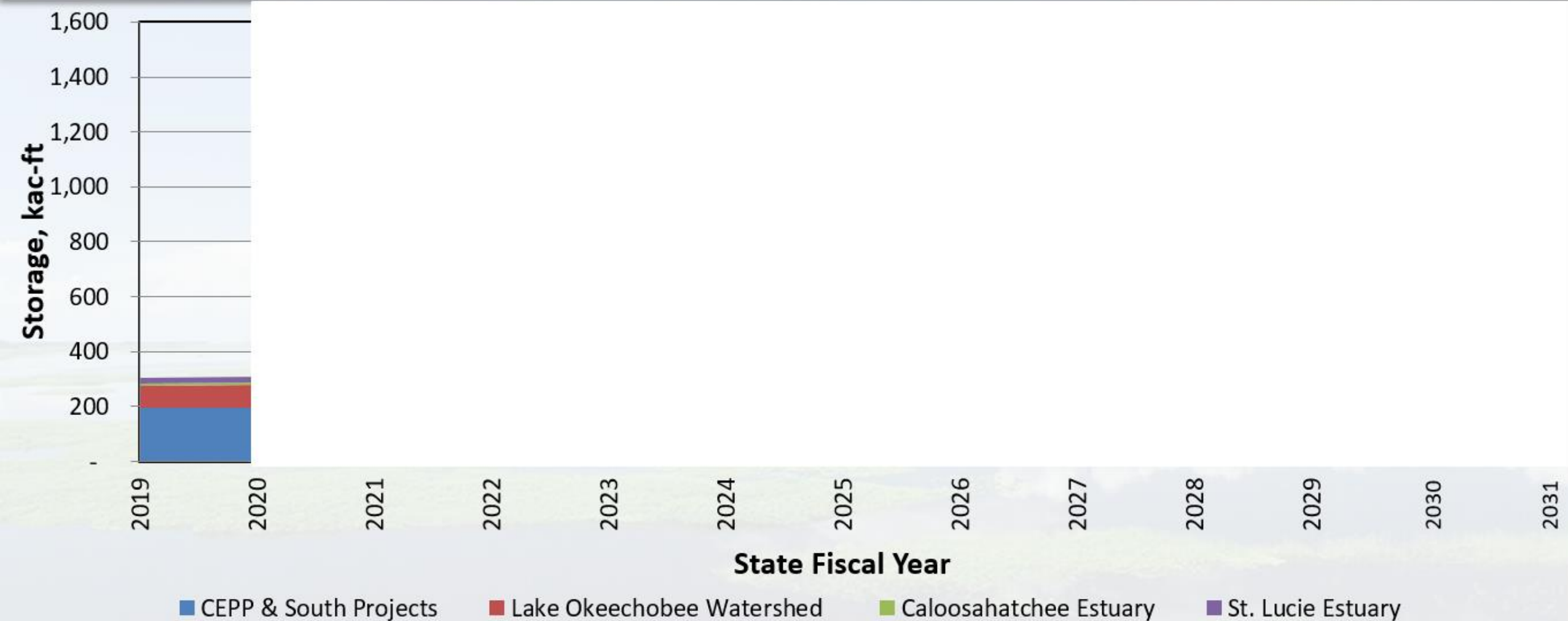
South Florida wading birds nested like crazy in 2018, a great sign for the Everglades

## SOUTH FLORIDA SunSentinel

Record number of wading bird nest is sign of hope for Everglades

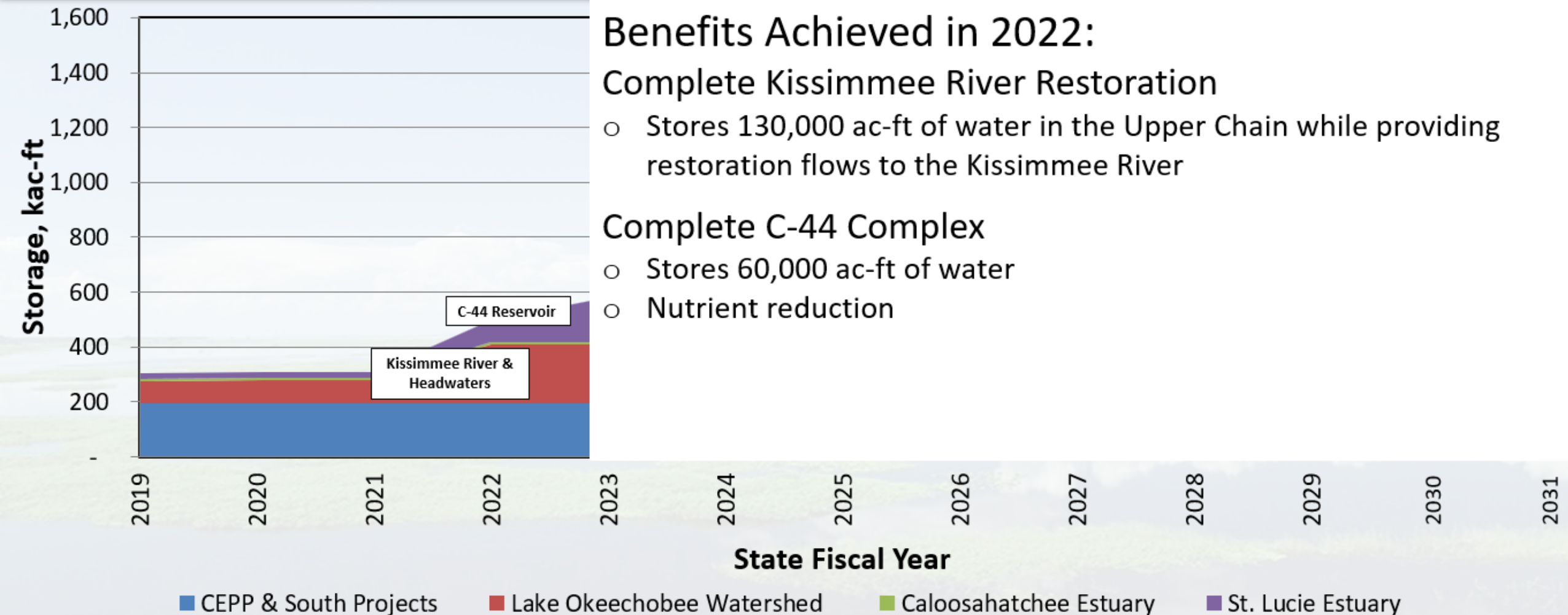


# Annual Storage Capacity by Region



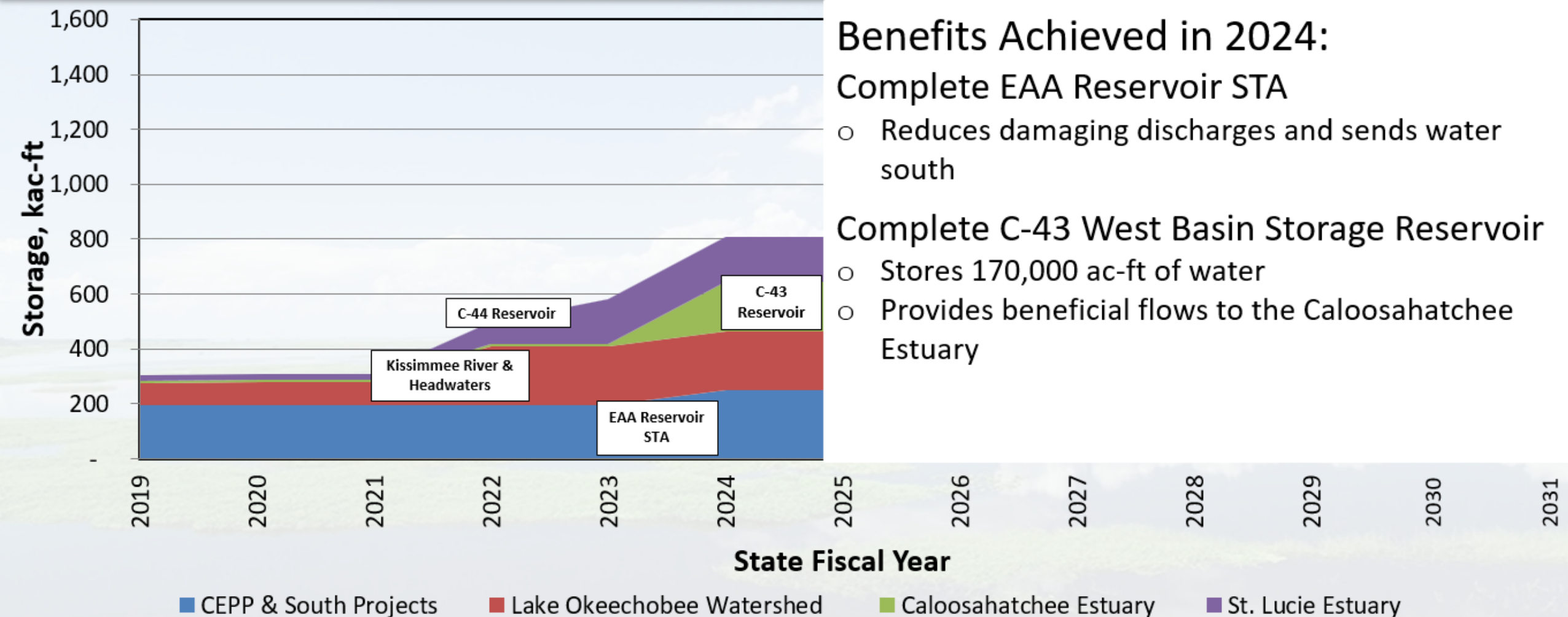


# Annual Storage Capacity by Region



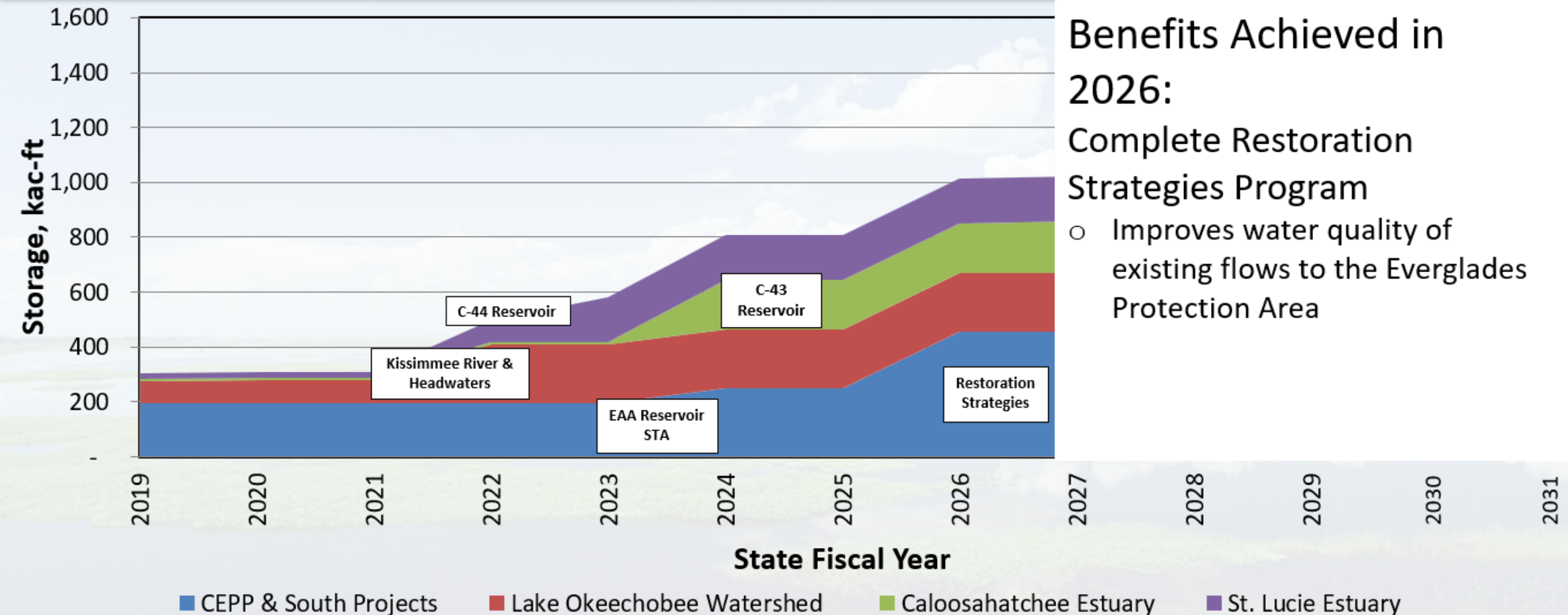


# Annual Storage Capacity by Region



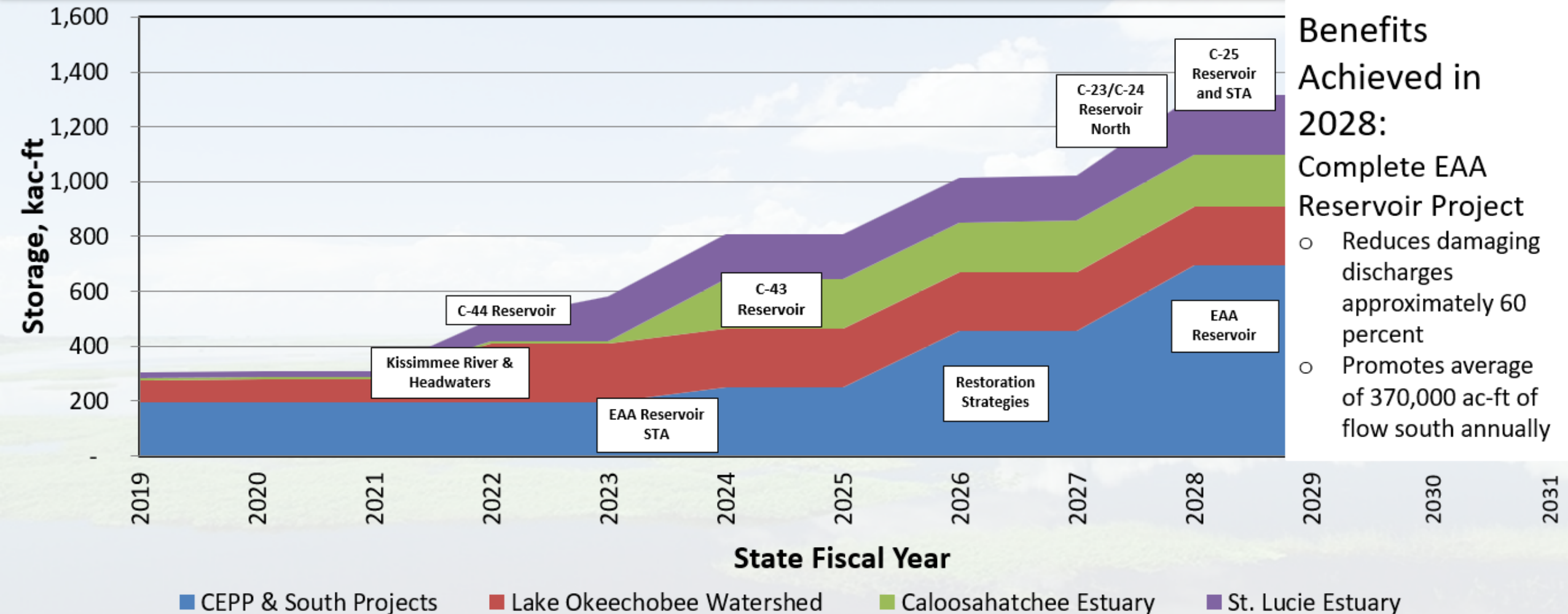


# Annual Storage Capacity by Region



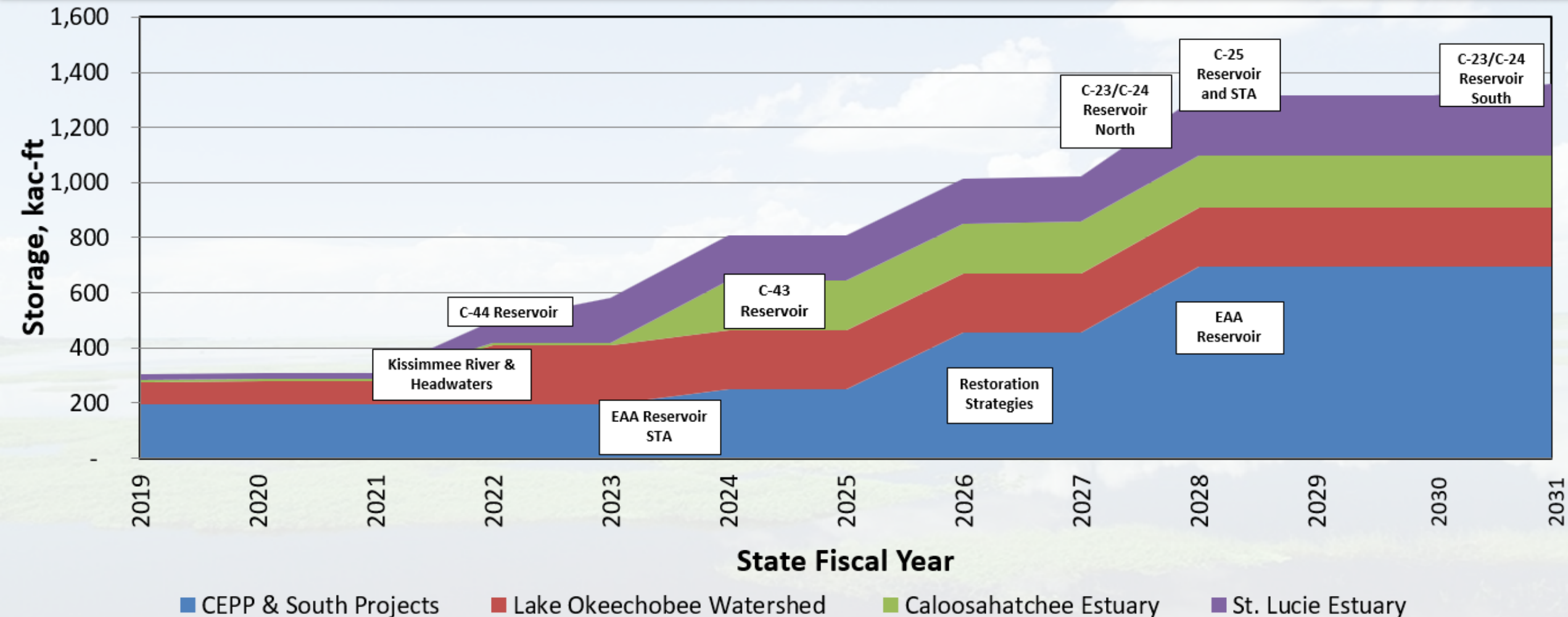


# Annual Storage Capacity by Region





# Annual Storage Capacity by Region





# Thank You

Drew Bartlett, Executive Director  
South Florida Water Management District  
[drew.bartlett@sfwmd.gov](mailto:drew.bartlett@sfwmd.gov)







# **Everglades 101: History and Restoration**

*Moderated by Dr. Steve Davis, Everglades Foundation*