

Loxahatchee River Restoration Local Initiative and Mecca Site Evaluation



Loxahatchee River Restoration Local Initiative and Mecca Site Evaluation

- Potential Concepts Considered:
 - **Mecca site as natural storage**
 - ~~Mecca site integrated with Avenir Preserve~~
 - **GL impoundment integrated with ITID impoundment(s)**
 - **C-51 Reservoir (smaller facility than analyzed by USACE)**
 - **Capture excess L-8 Basin stormwater runoff**
 - **Mecca as shallow impoundment (2.5 – 4 feet max. water depth)**
 - ~~Mecca Reservoir (excavated to lower embankment heights)~~
 - ~~Additional ASR wells~~
 - ~~ASR wells with reduced recovery efficiencies~~
 - **No ASR wells**
 - ~~Raising and relocating the C-18 West Weir~~
 - ~~Eliminate flow from Lake Okeechobee to Grassy Waters/C-51 Reservoir (except during emergencies or drought)~~

Loxahatchee River Restoration Local Initiative and Mecca Site Evaluation

- Alternatives Formulated and Evaluated:

	Alternatives			
	PB-1	PB-2	PB-3	USACE PLAN
Mecca Natural/Shallow Storage	X	X	X	
Integrated GL/ITID Impoundment	X		X	
C-51 Reservoir		X	X	
Capture Excess L-8 Basin Stormwater Runoff	X	X	X	
Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells				X
Mecca Deep Storage Reservoir				X

Loxahatchee River Restoration Local Initiative and Mecca Site Evaluation

■ Preliminary Results:

	Alternatives				
	PB-1	PB-2	PB-3	USACE PLAN	NO ACTION
Percent of Time Target River Flows Achieved (Wet Season)	100	100	100	98	78
Percent of Time Target River Flows Achieved (Dry Season)	88	88	88	91	65
River Minimum Flow and Level Exceedances	0	0	0	0	17
Storage Available to Reduce Undesirable Discharges to the Lake Worth Lagoon (acre-feet)	15,000	24,000	24,000	0	0
Estimated Cost (millions)	\$484	\$449	\$500	\$473	\$0

Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project

LETTER OF SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT TO FUTURE COLLABORATION

- On Dec. 5, 2019, the County transmitted a letter to SFWMD:
 - Recommending that SFWMD communicate their support of the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project to USACE
 - Requesting SFWMD's letter of support request that USACE's Chief of Engineers report recommend flexibility or allowance for consideration of alternative water storage options
 - Requesting SFWMD to collaborate with the County on alternative water resources solutions that:
 - 1) address County and stakeholder concerns with the proposed Mecca reservoir,
 - 2) achieve ecosystem restoration goals that are not being addressed by the Project, and
 - 3) are compatible with other SFWMD efforts to achieve state-mandated water quality initiatives within the County

Questions

