Florida Earth Foundation

Florida Report

Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable

November 20, 2013

Wakulla River
flows south from Wakulla Spring
Photo by J. Schardt
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Major Topics

- **Springs and Aquifer Degradation**
- **Water Choices Forums**
- **Everglades Restoration**
- **Government Policy and Practice**
- **University Programs on Teaching SWR**
- **Field Trip**

Springs and Aquifer Degradation

- Silver Springs at ¼ flow from 1970
- Florida Water and Conservation Legacy project
  - Begun by Bob Graham
  - 200,000 Signatures
  - Set aside for research and solutions
- Sink holes
- Sea-Level Rise Resiliency and Adaptation

Water Choices Forums

- Florida Earth Domestic Program
- One day large think-tanks
- Held at universities all over the state
- Begun in 2010 at University of Central Florida
- Water Choices VI at Florida Atlantic University in August
- Product based solutions

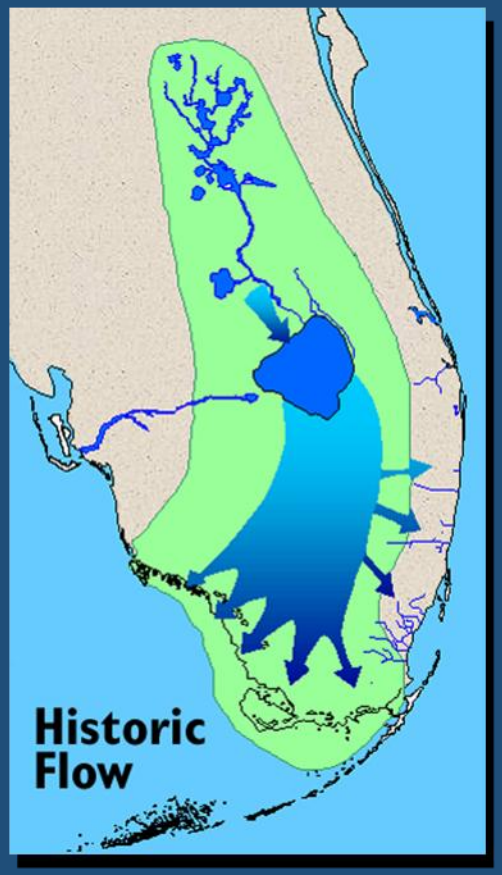
Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan

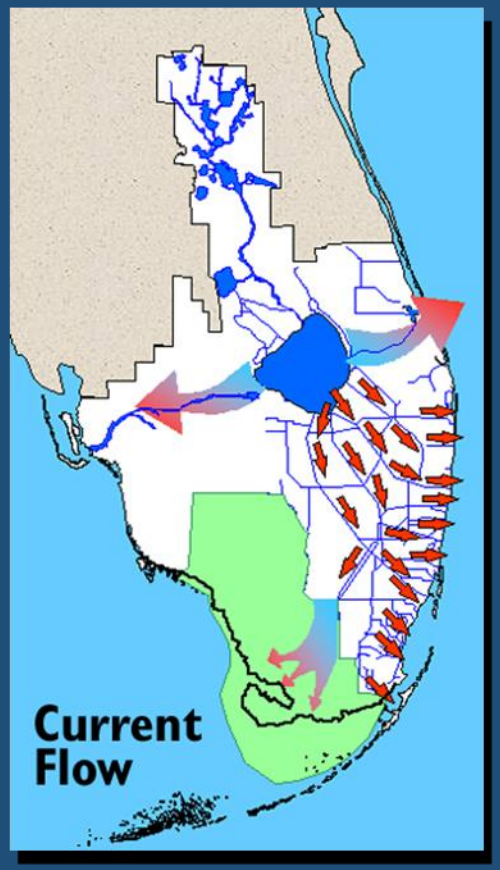
- Begun as the “Restudy” report in 2000
- 50/50 cost share between USACE and South Florida Water Management District
- First Adaptive Management WRDA in 2000

The Everglades is unique in all the world

Over the last century, the vibrant ecosystem was altered

Everglades ecosystem was defined by the way the water flowed





Government Policy & Practice

- Consumptive Use Permitting
- Agriculture BMP's and Innovation in Public-Private
  - Dispersed Water Resources Contracts
- Land Use Planning

University Programs in SWR

- Bob Graham Center at the University of Florida
- UC Santa Barbara Bren School
- USNC Academic Program