

CREST Project: From Conception to Sustainable Project of the Year

Agenda

Understanding the Problem

Developing the Solution

Navigating the Challenges





**Understanding
the Problem**

A detailed historical map of the Florida peninsula, showing major rivers like the St. Johns and Suwannee, and numerous forts including Ft. Mifflin, Ft. Marion, and Ft. Adams. The map is oriented with North at the top.

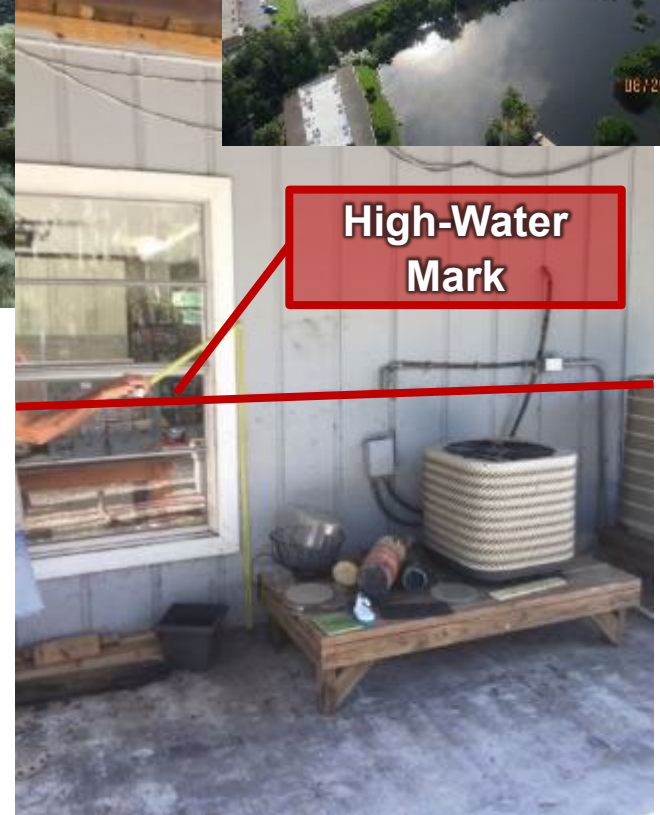
Understanding the Problem



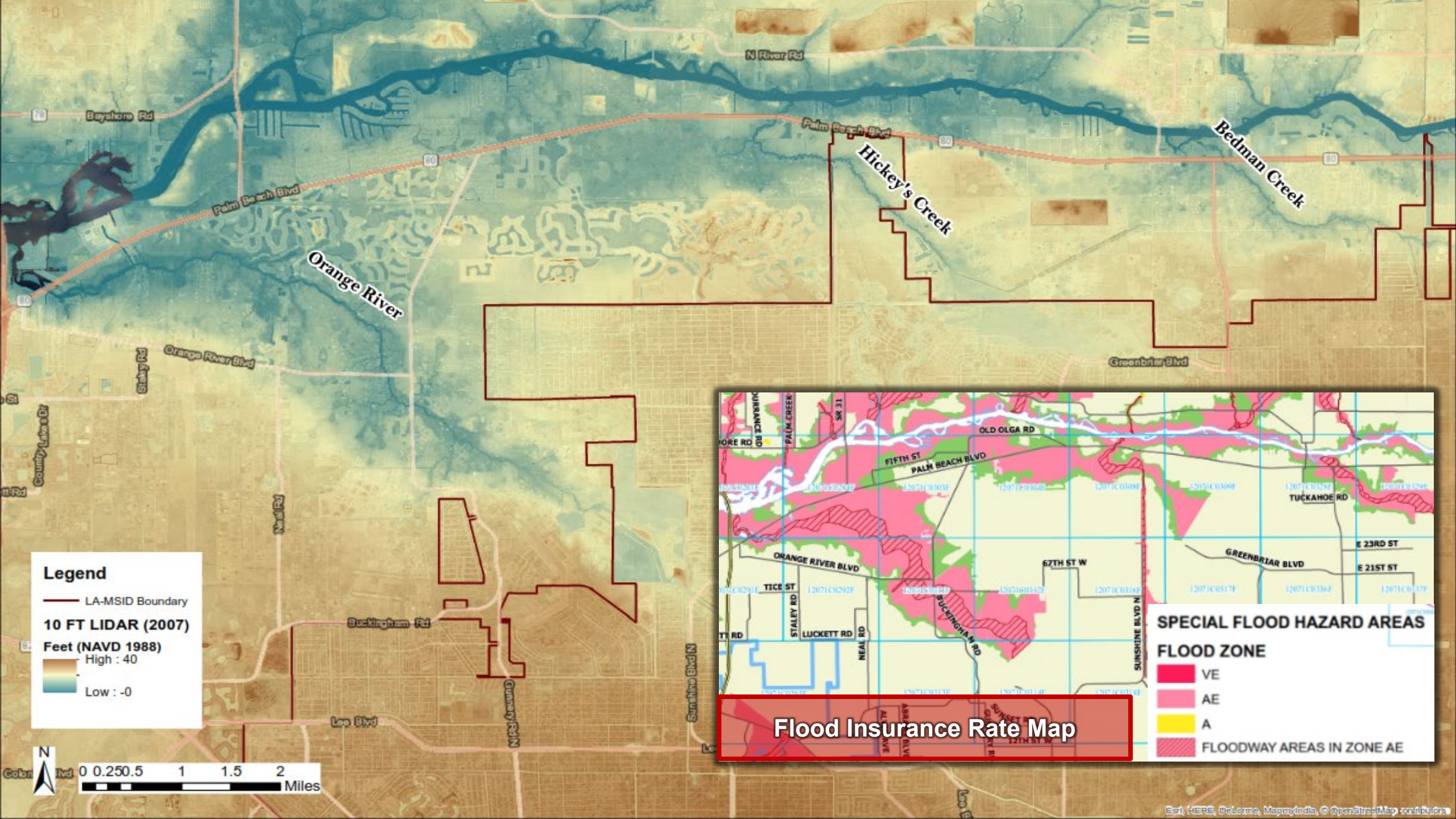
Isolated House



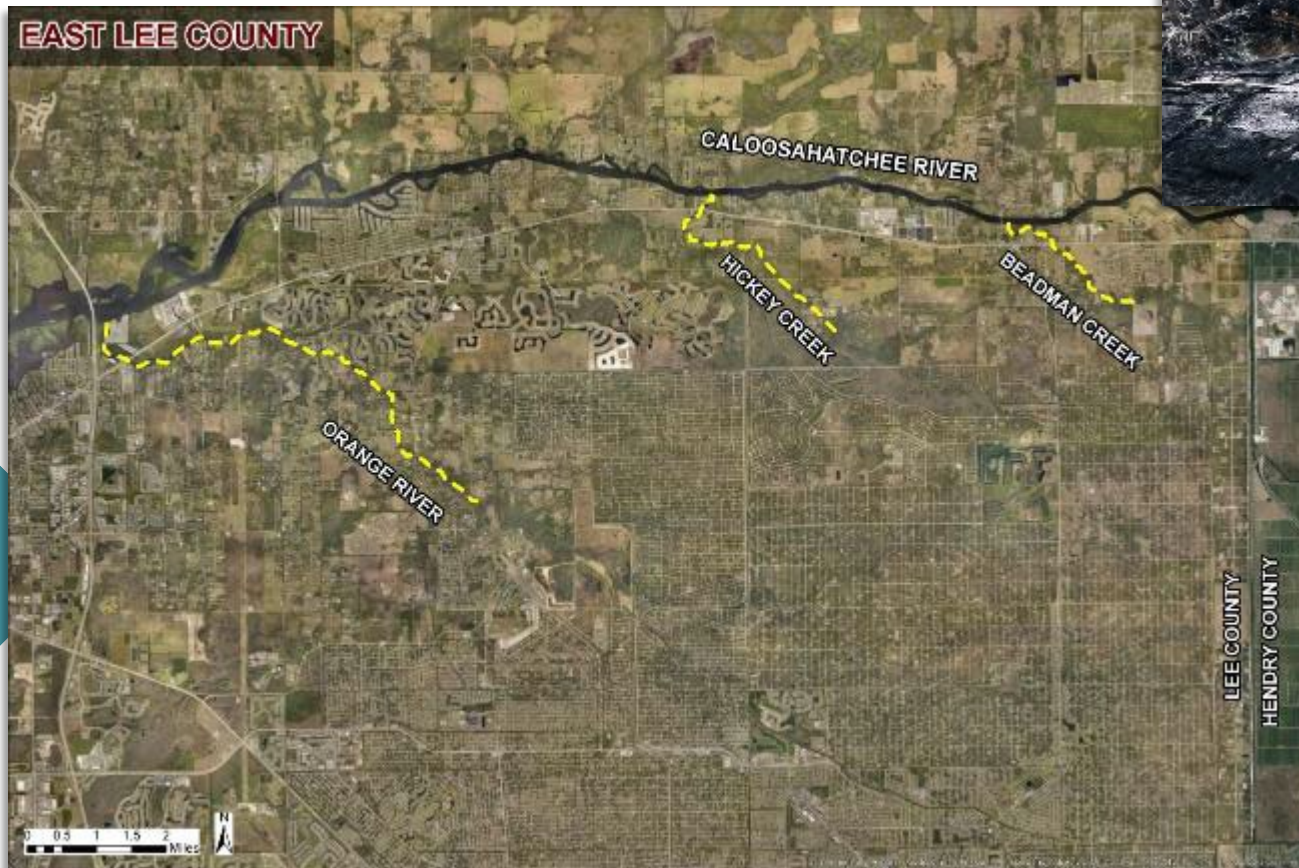
About 10 Miles of Lost Sheet-flow Conveyance



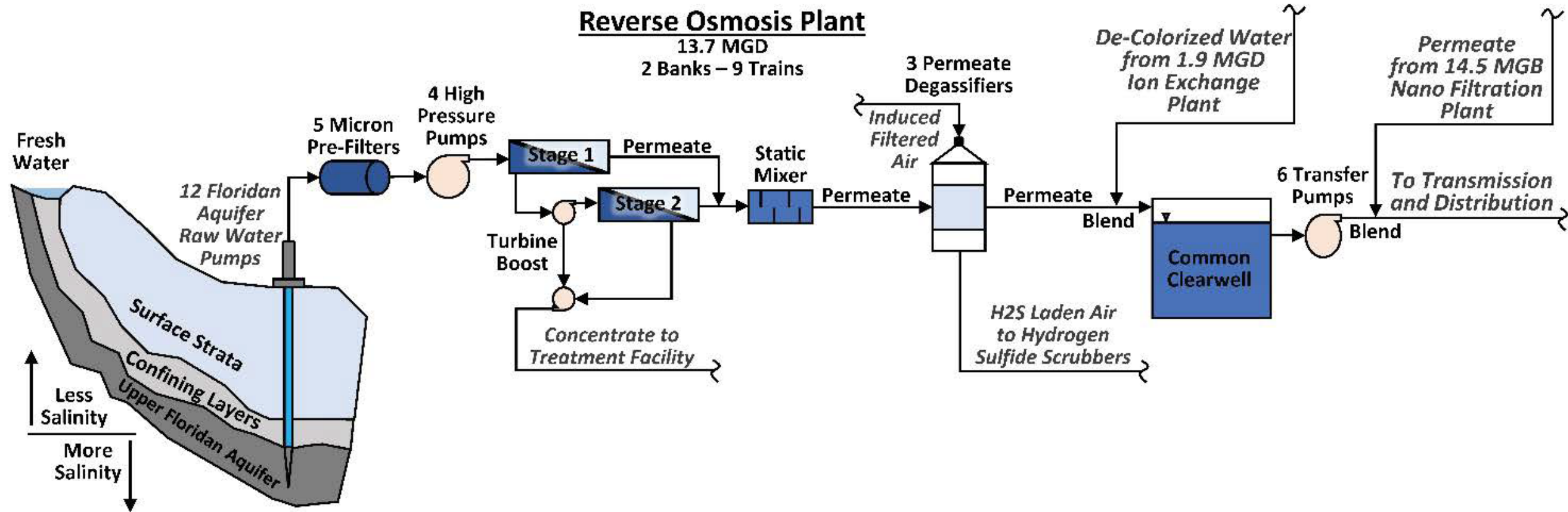
High-Water Mark



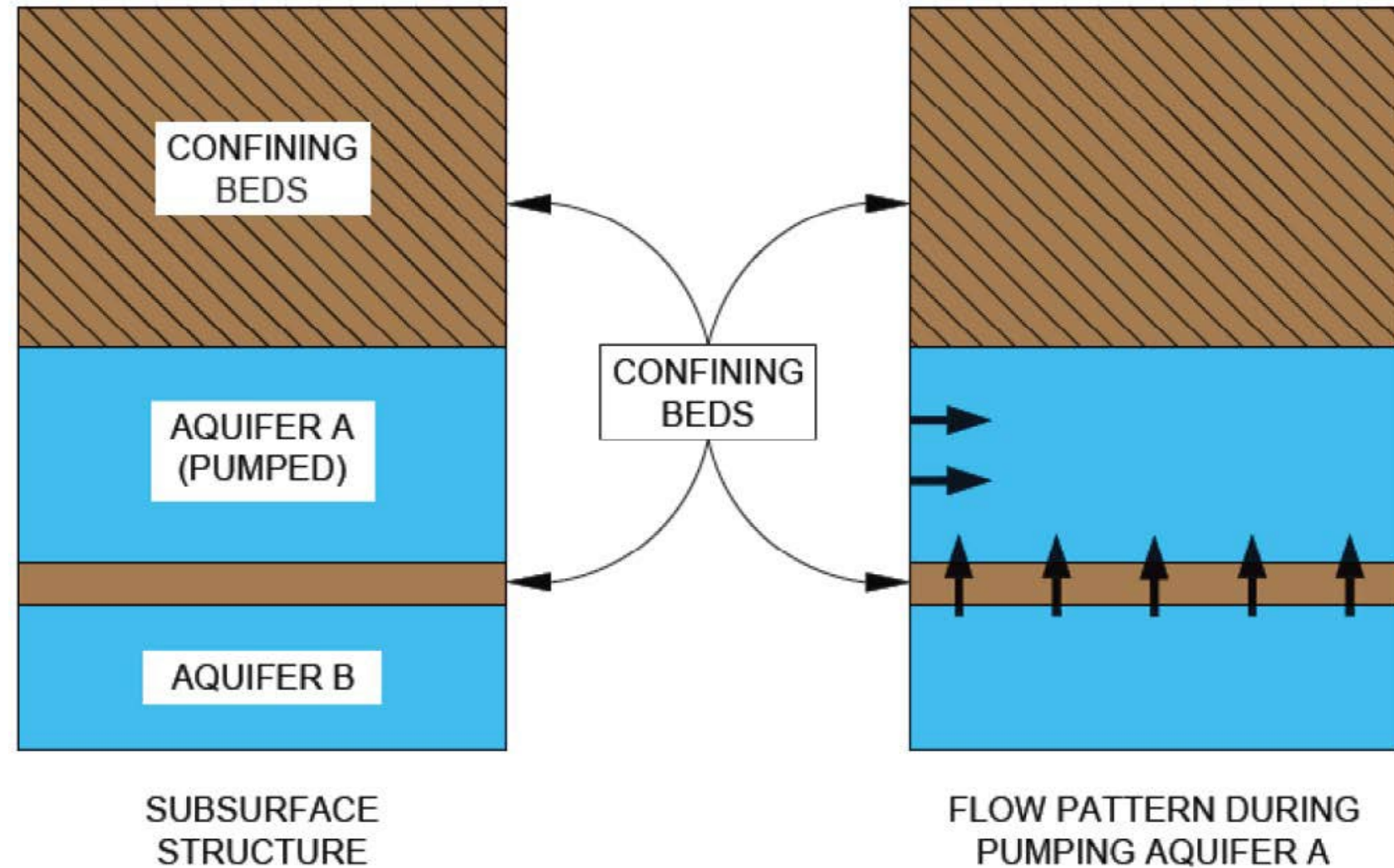
Understanding the Problem



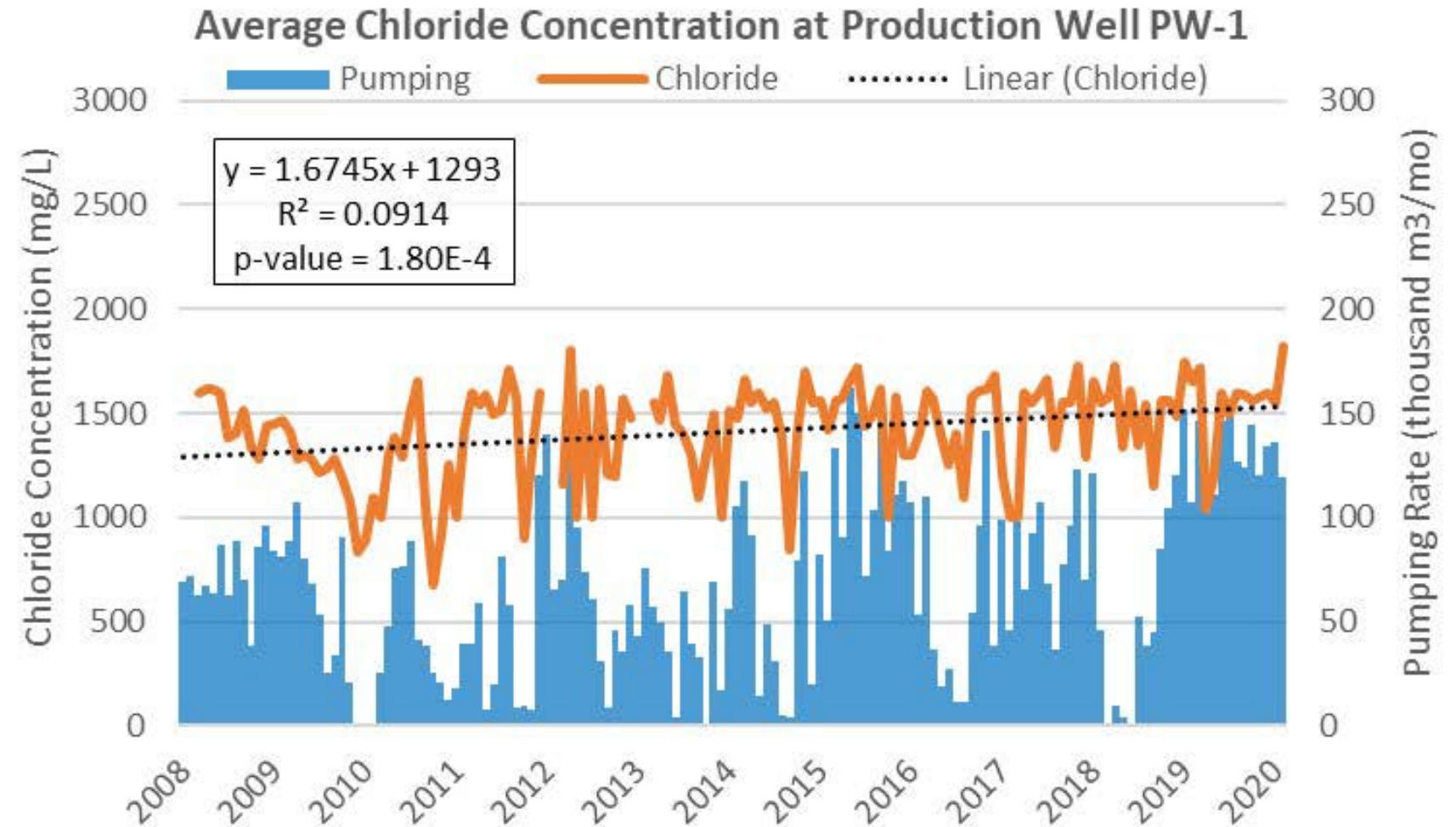
Understanding the Problem



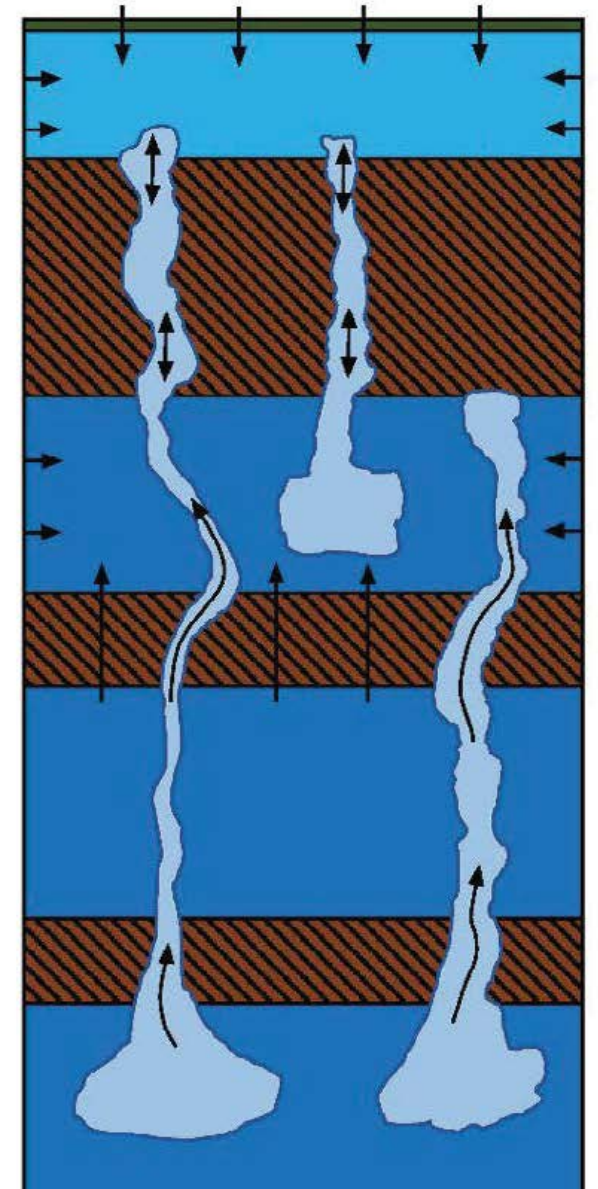
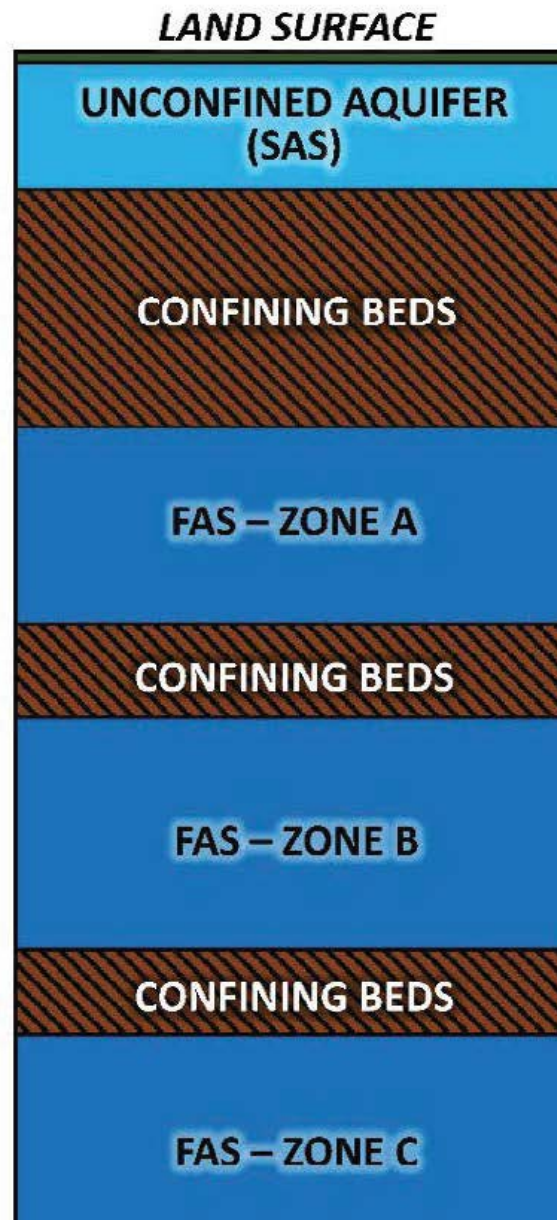
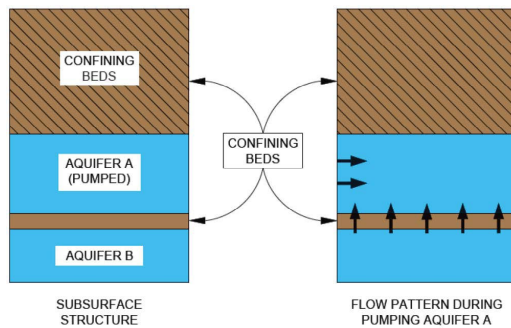
Understanding the Problem



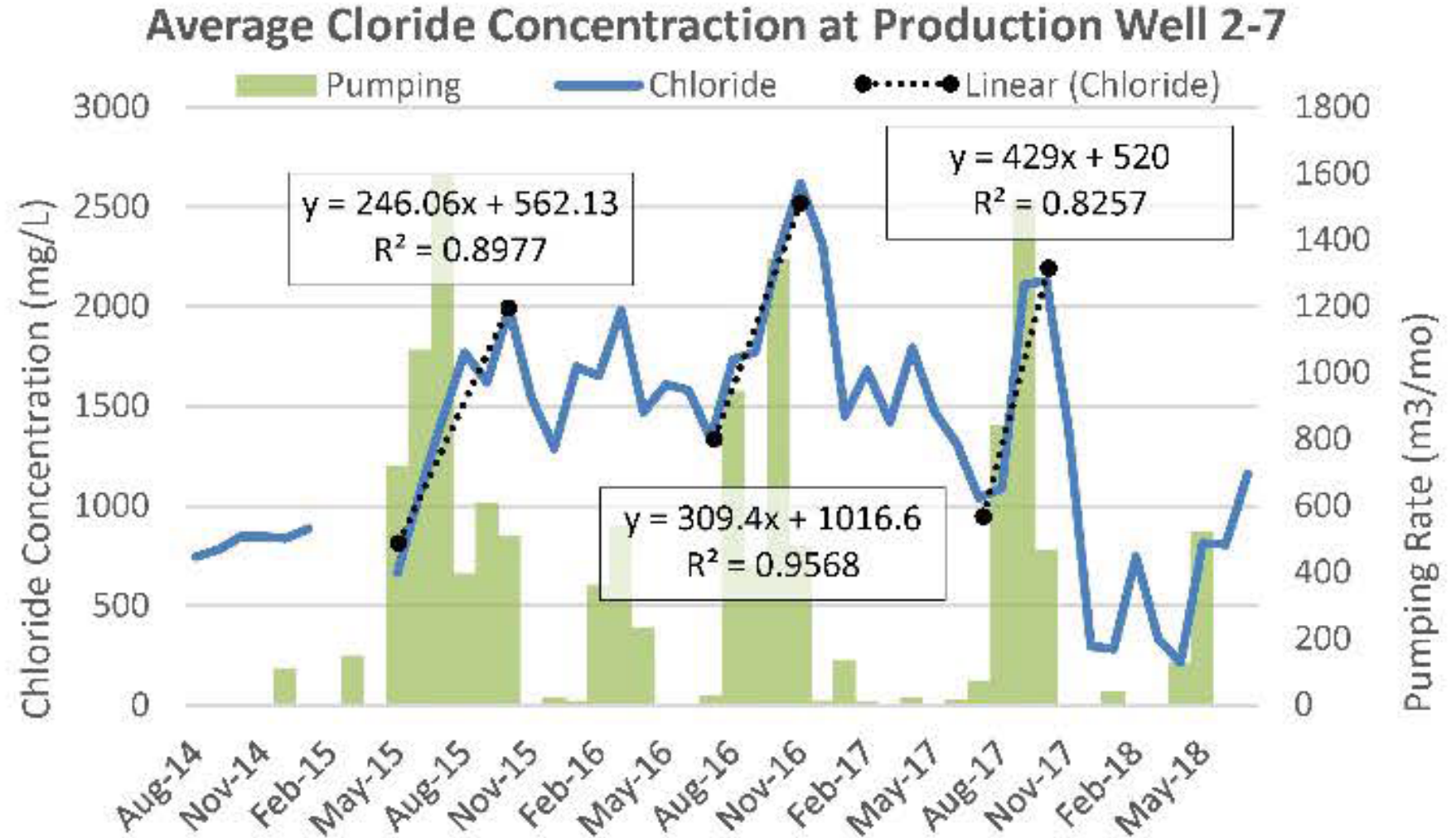
Understanding the Problem



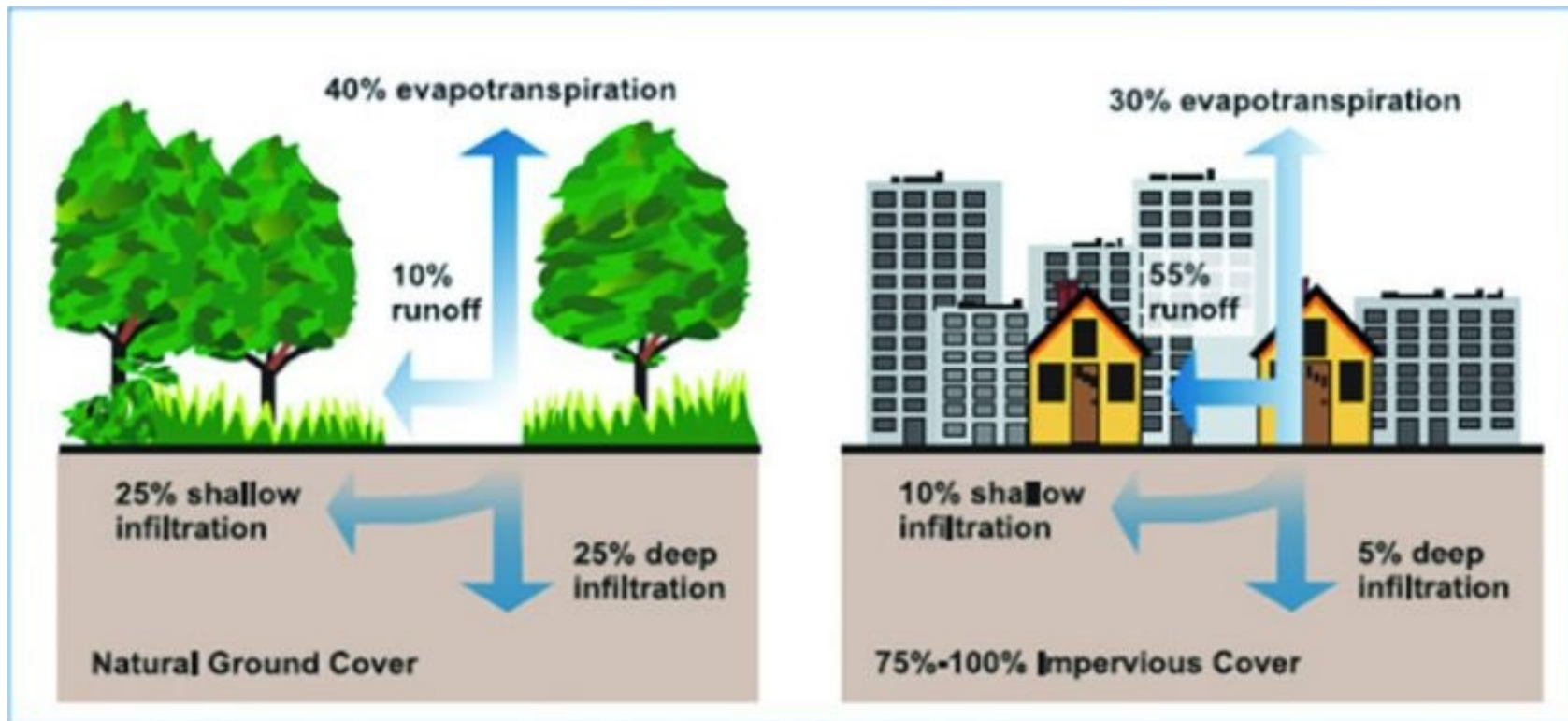
Understanding the Problem



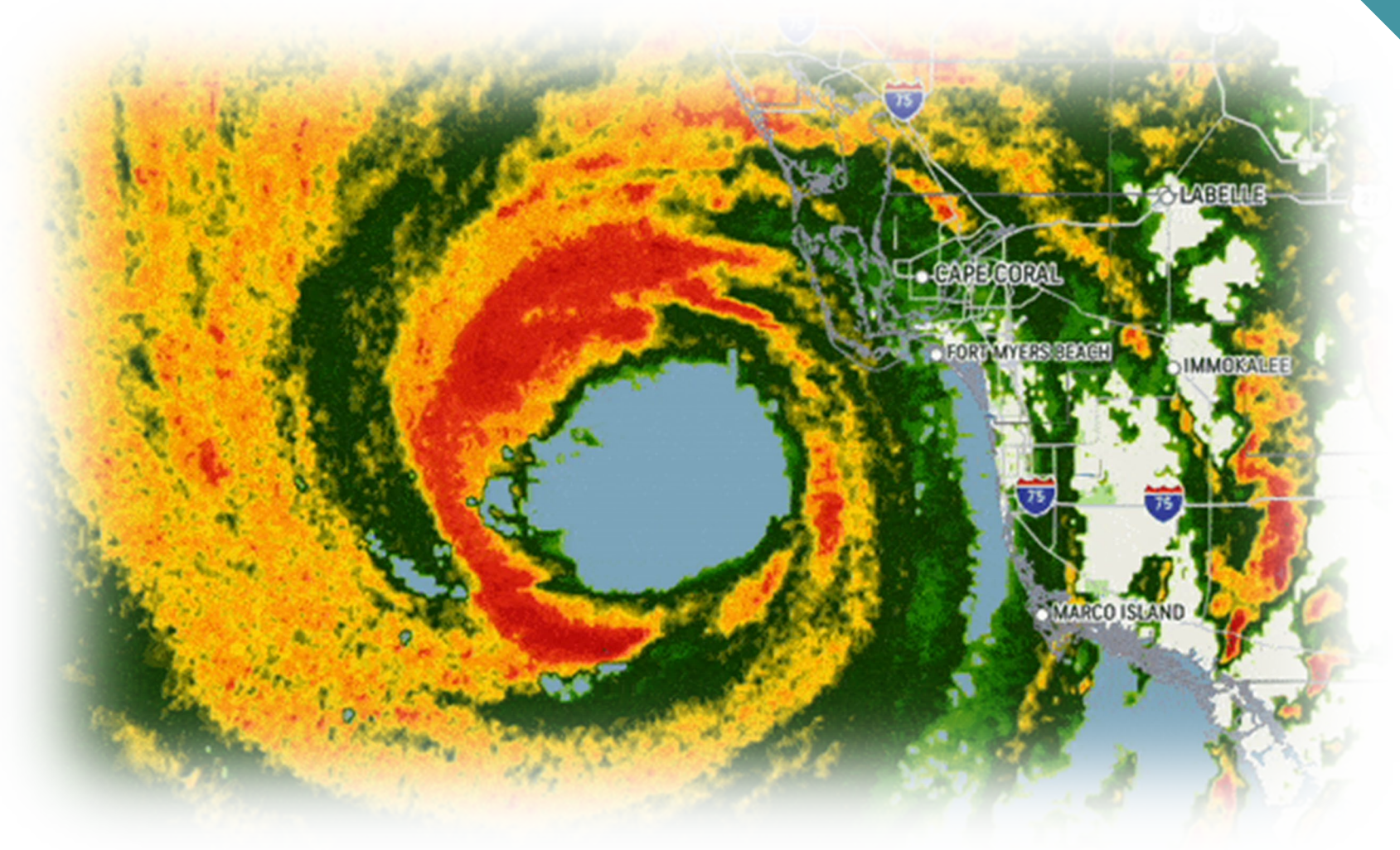
Understanding the Problem



Summary of the Problem



Summary of the Problem

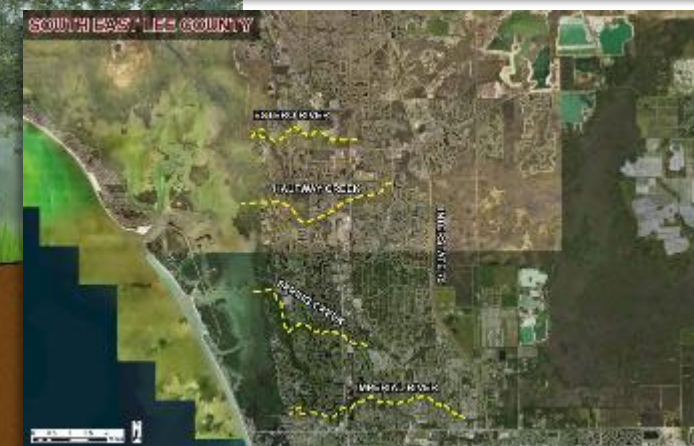




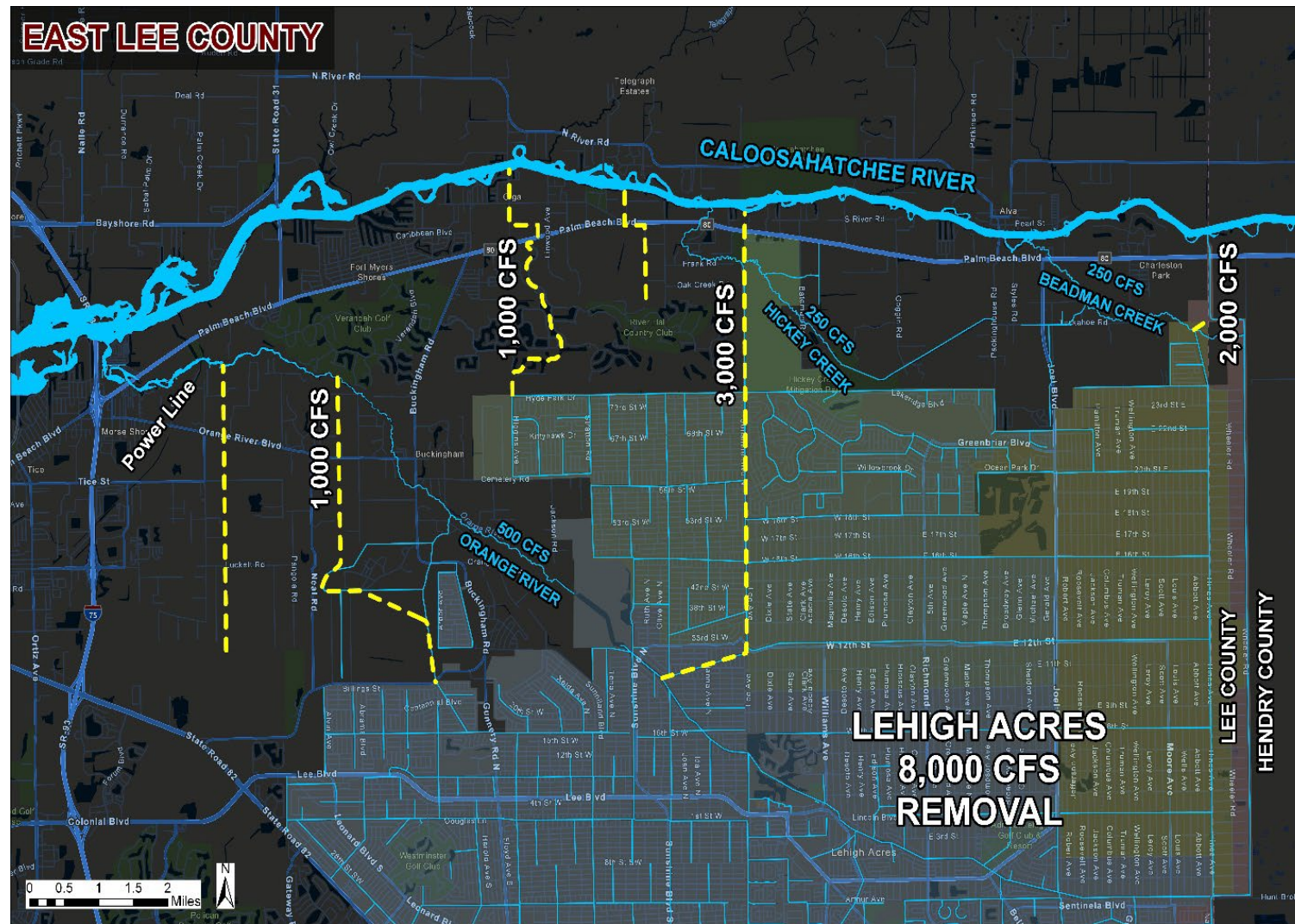
**Developing
the Solution**



Developing the Solution (Rual)

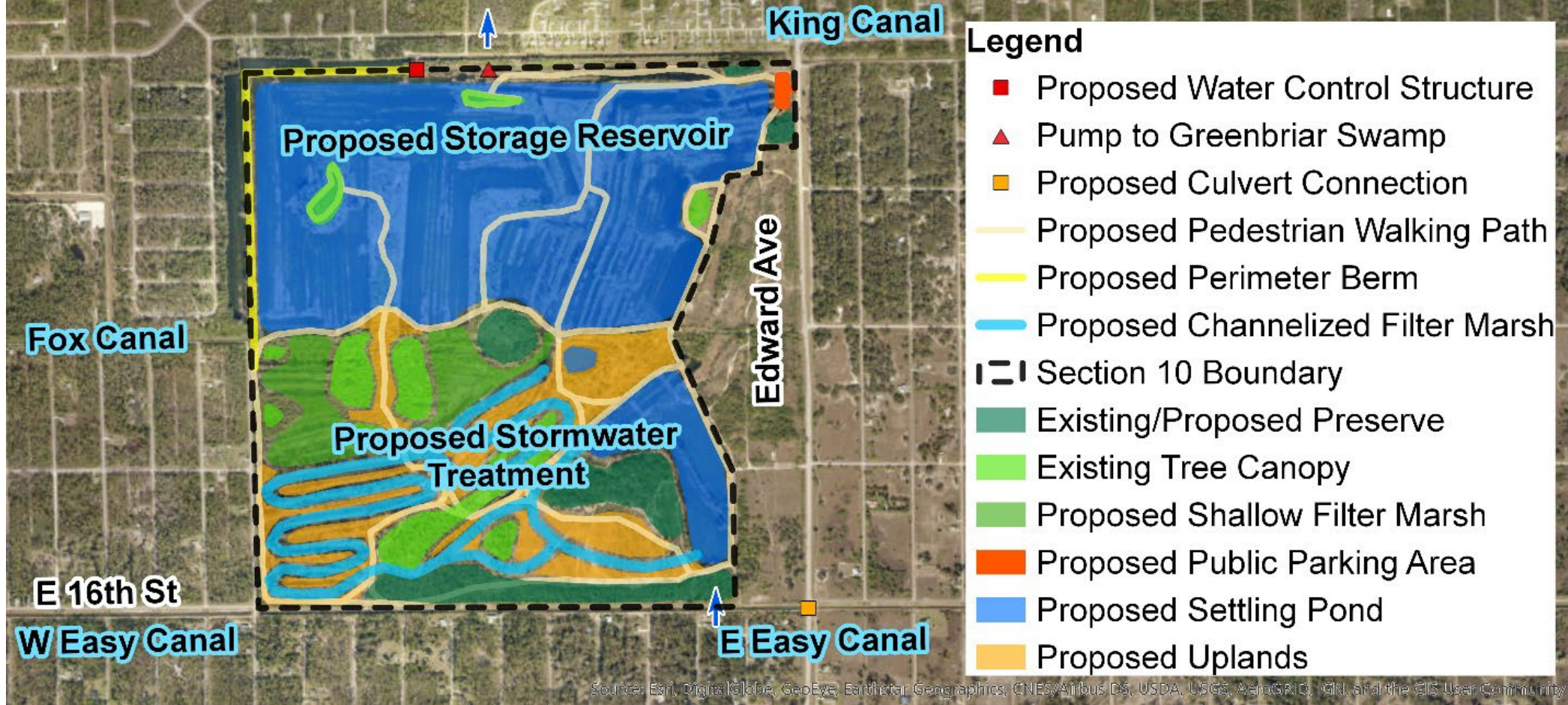


Developing the Solution (Urban)

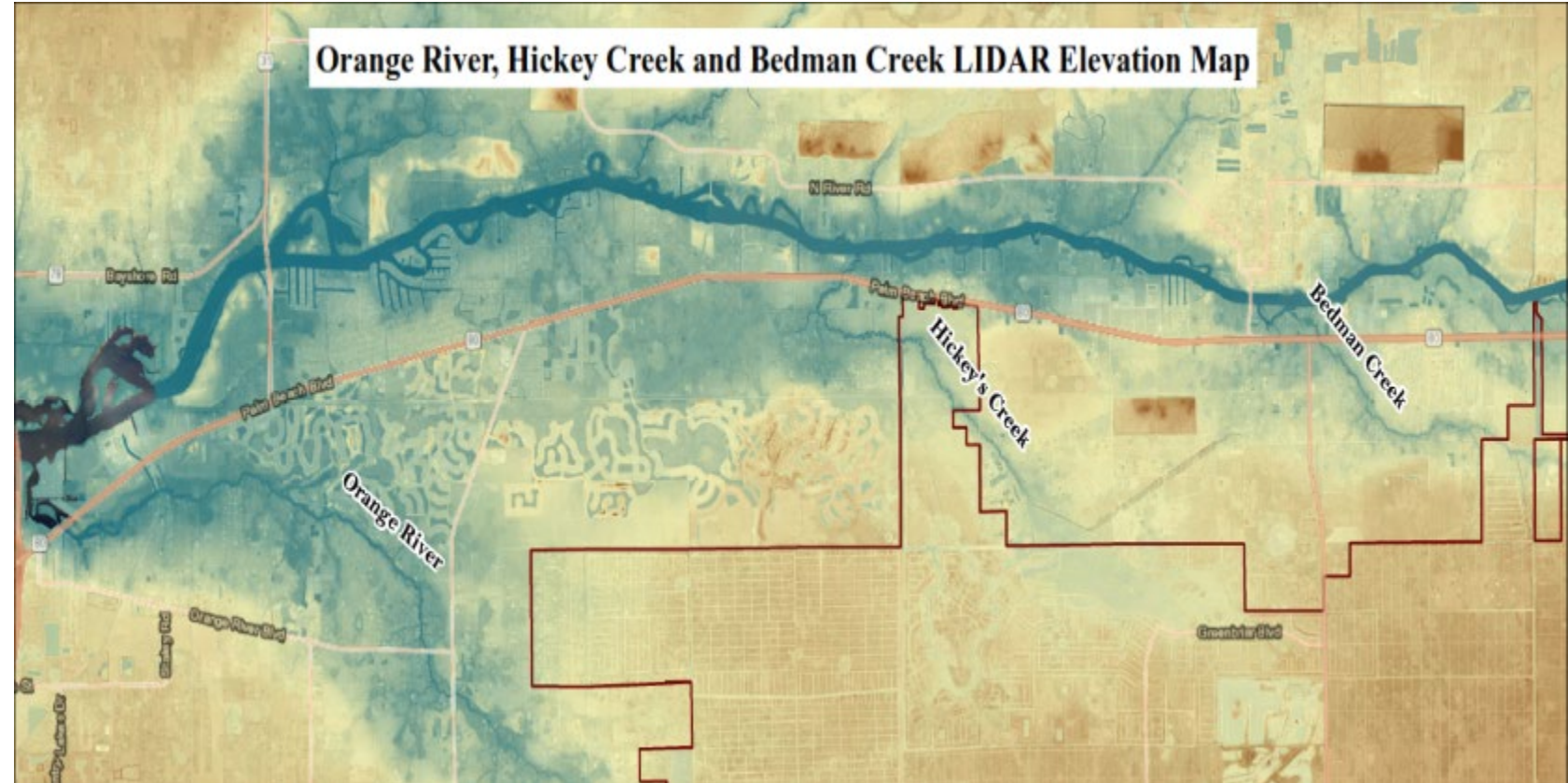
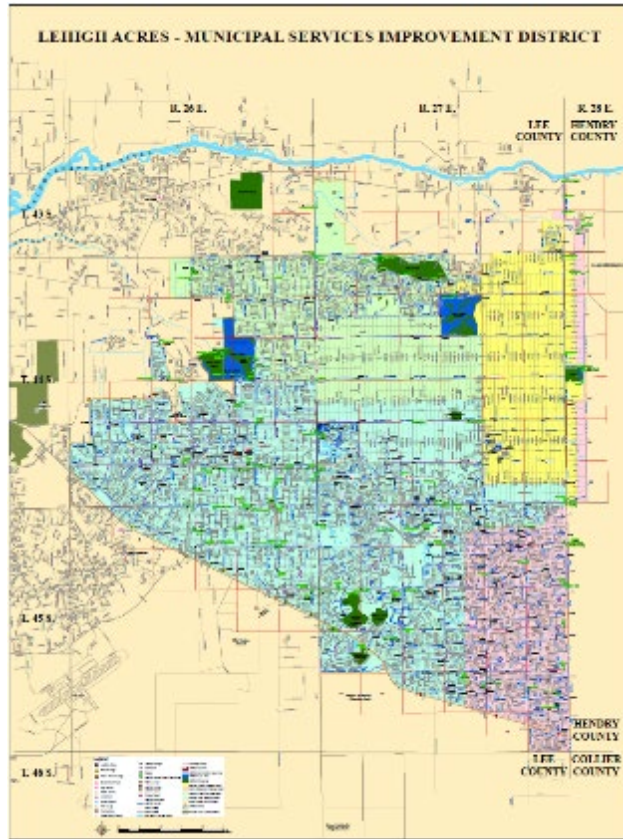


Developing the Solution (Mixed)

Concept Plan Detail



Developing the Solution (Ideal)



Lehigh Acres - Municipal Services Improvement District

311 miles of canals

20 Lakes

360+ Culvert Crossings

1,500+ preserve acres

112 Water Control Structures

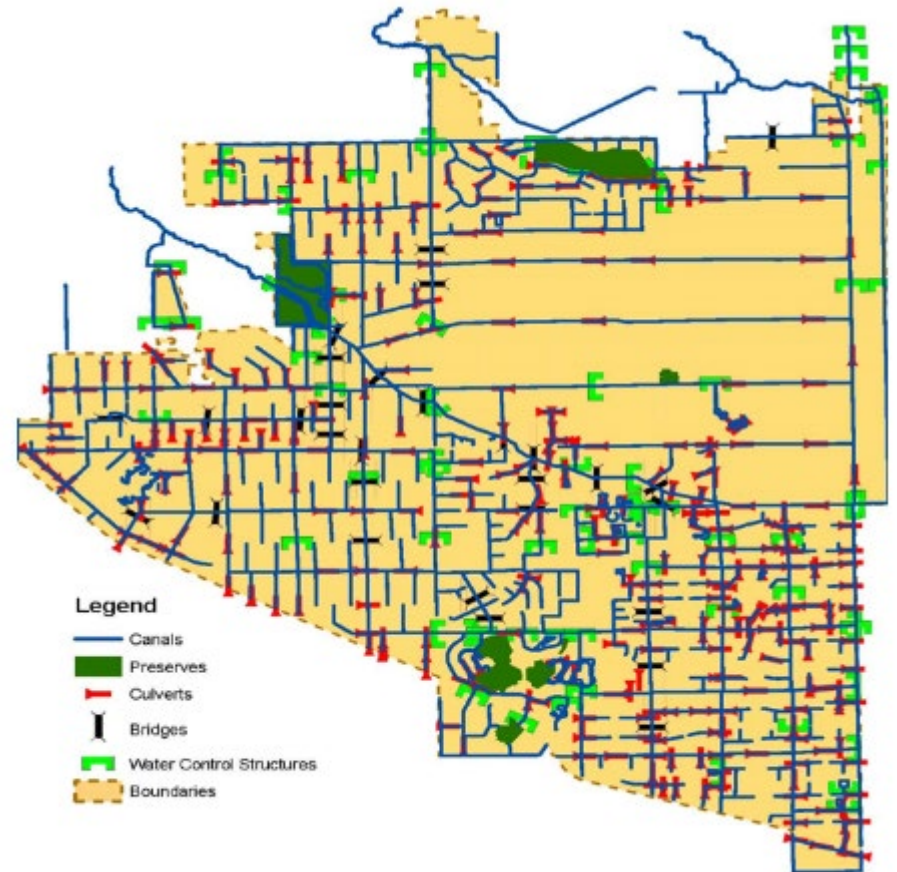
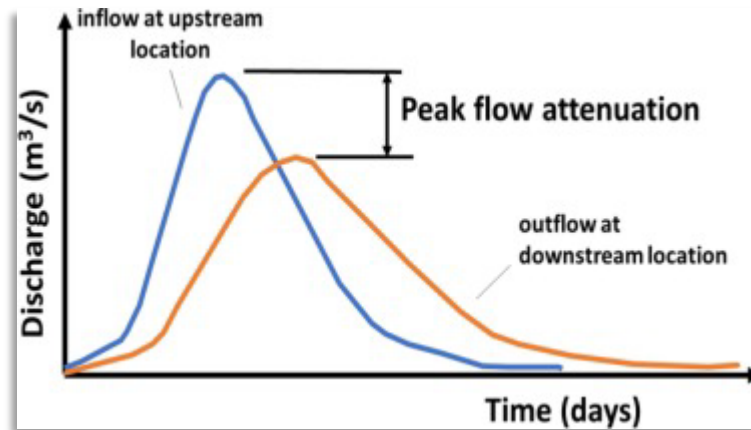
37 Automated Weirs

34 Stage Recording Stations

23 Groundwater Monitoring Stations

33 Rain Gauge Stations

1 Continuous Stream Gauging Station



LA-MSID Water Control System

CREST



CREST

Stormwater Storage:

600 ac-ft

Nutrient Removal:

1,118 lbs/yr of TN

190 lbs/yr of TP

Habitat Restoration:

5,500 Trees

133,570 Plants

Ecosystem Restoration:

Deep Lakes, Littoral
Benches, Circuitous
Treatment Marshes,
Uplands, and
Public Recreation





A multi-benefit project approach provided for a successful and innovative multi-agency partnership that spanned more than 7 years



CREST



CREST

Cost: 4.8 Million Dollars

Completion: February 2026



CREST

Cost: 4.8 Million Dollars

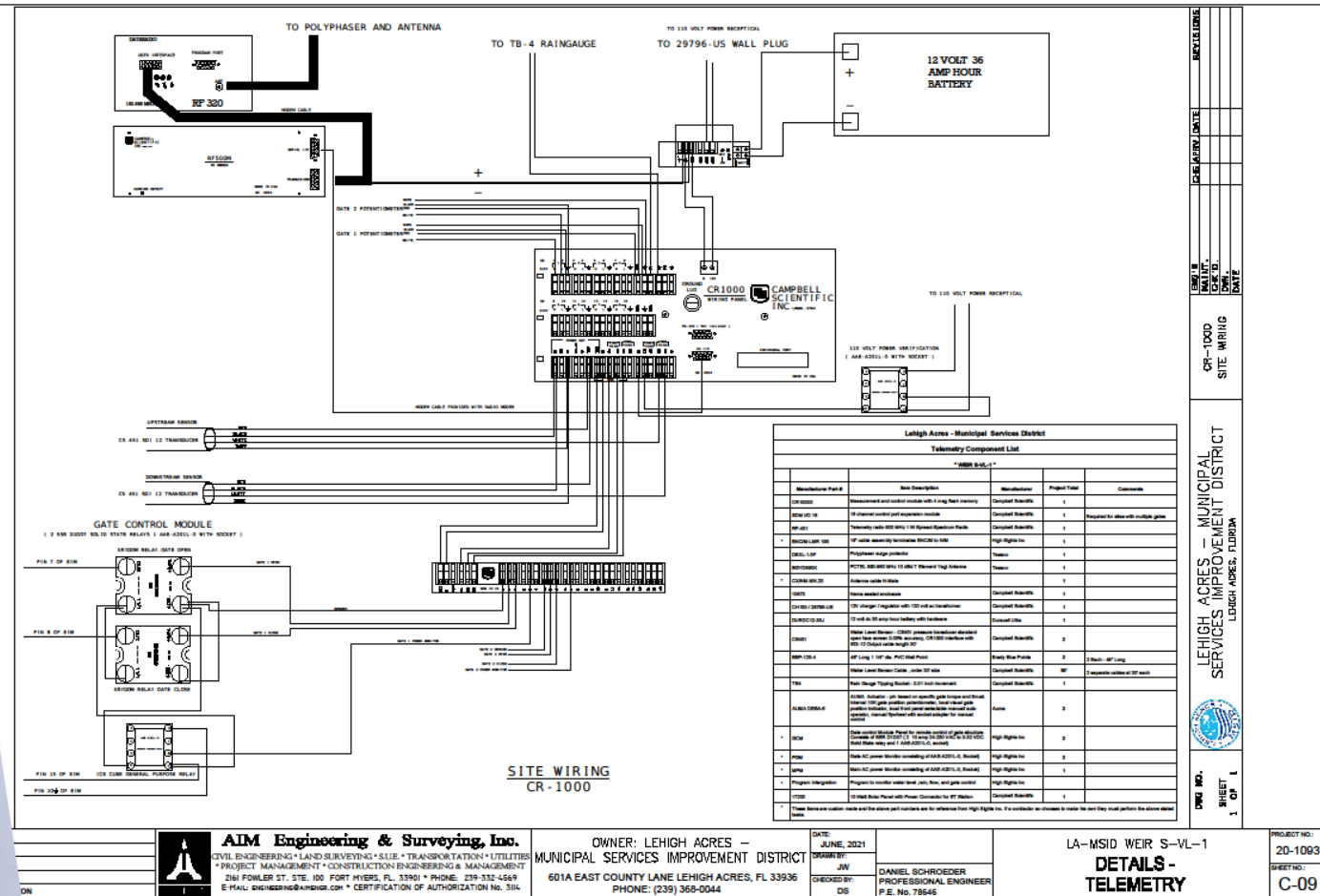
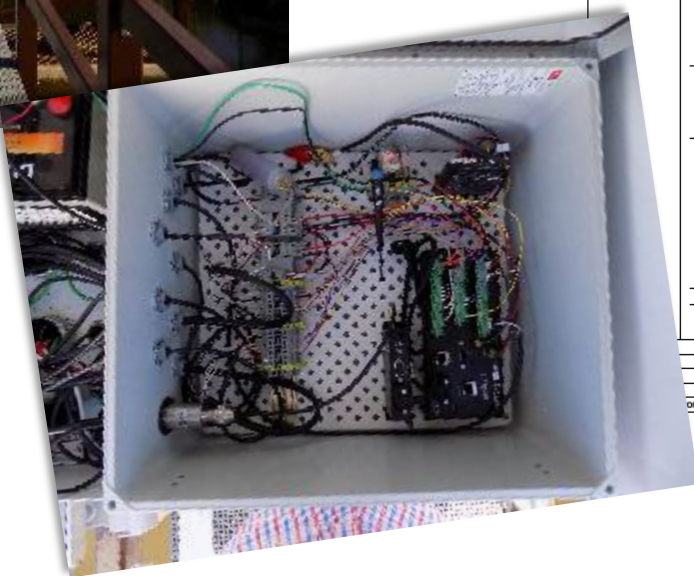
Completion: February 2026



CREST

Cost: 4.8 Million Dollars

Completion: February 2026



Developing the Solution

CREST



**C
R
E
S
T**

**SEASONAL
OPERATION**



**C
R
E
S
T**

**PRE-STORM
OPERATION**



**C
R
E
S
T**

**MID-STORM
OPERATION**



**C
R
E
S
T**

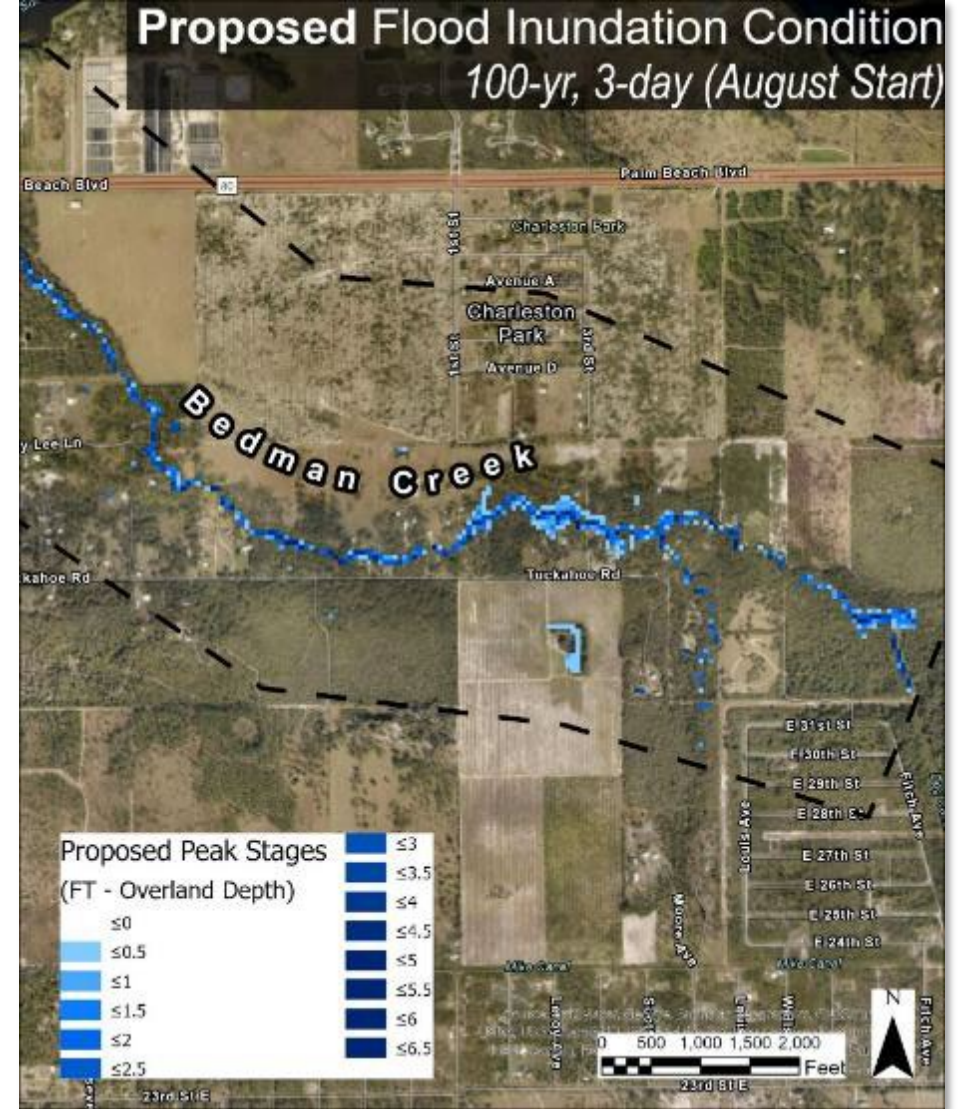
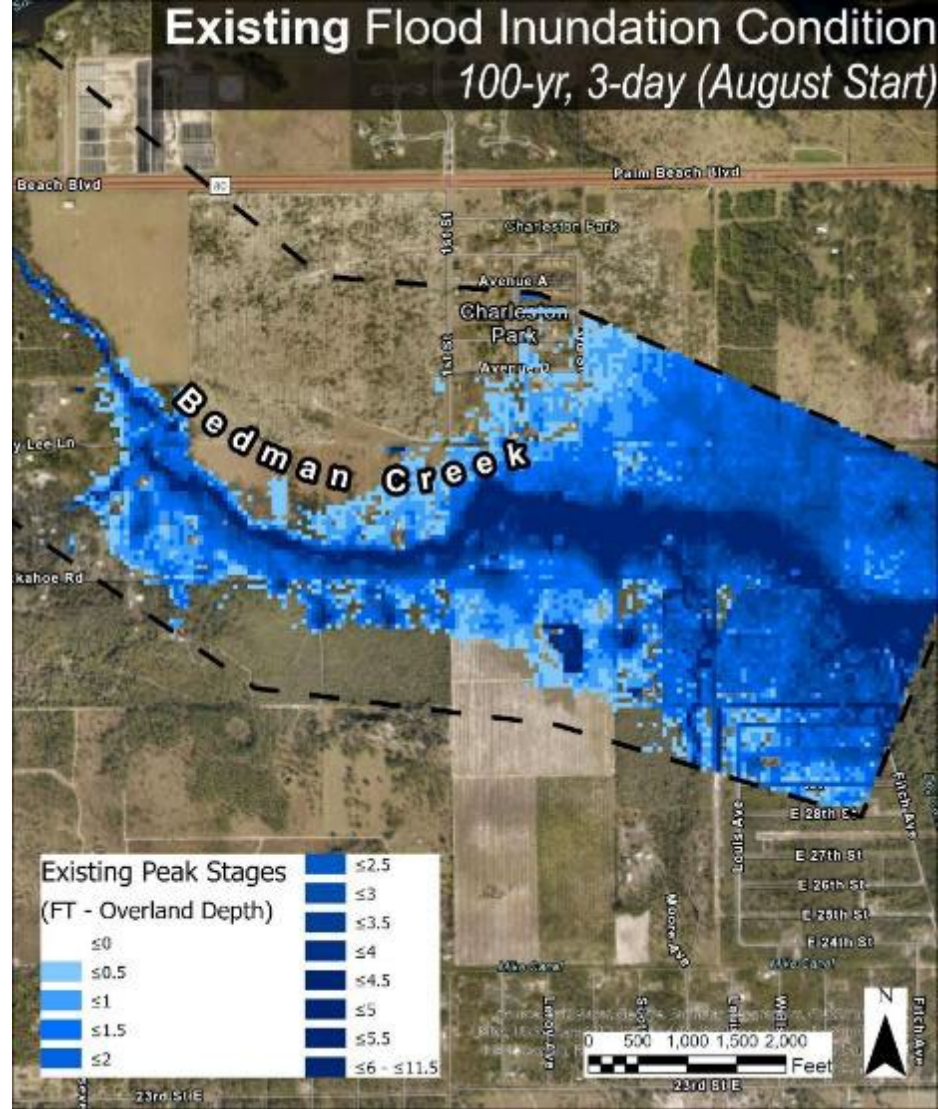
**PEAK-STORM
OPERATION**



**C
R
E
S
T**

**POST-STORM
OPERATION**



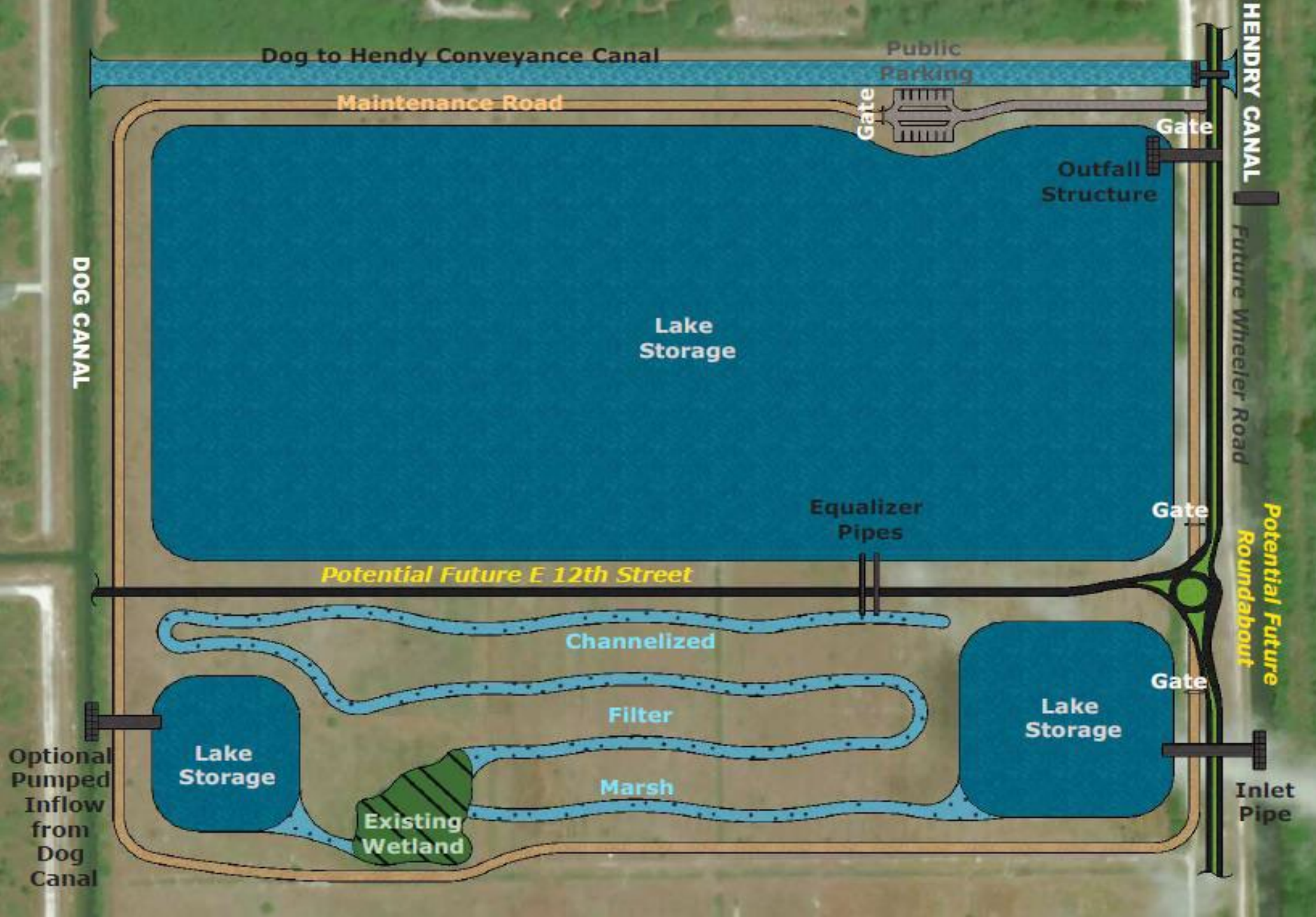


ANTICIPATED RESULTS



**Navigating
the Challenges**

CONCEPT



PHASING



PHASE 1

Dog to Hendry Canal
(CREST Canal)



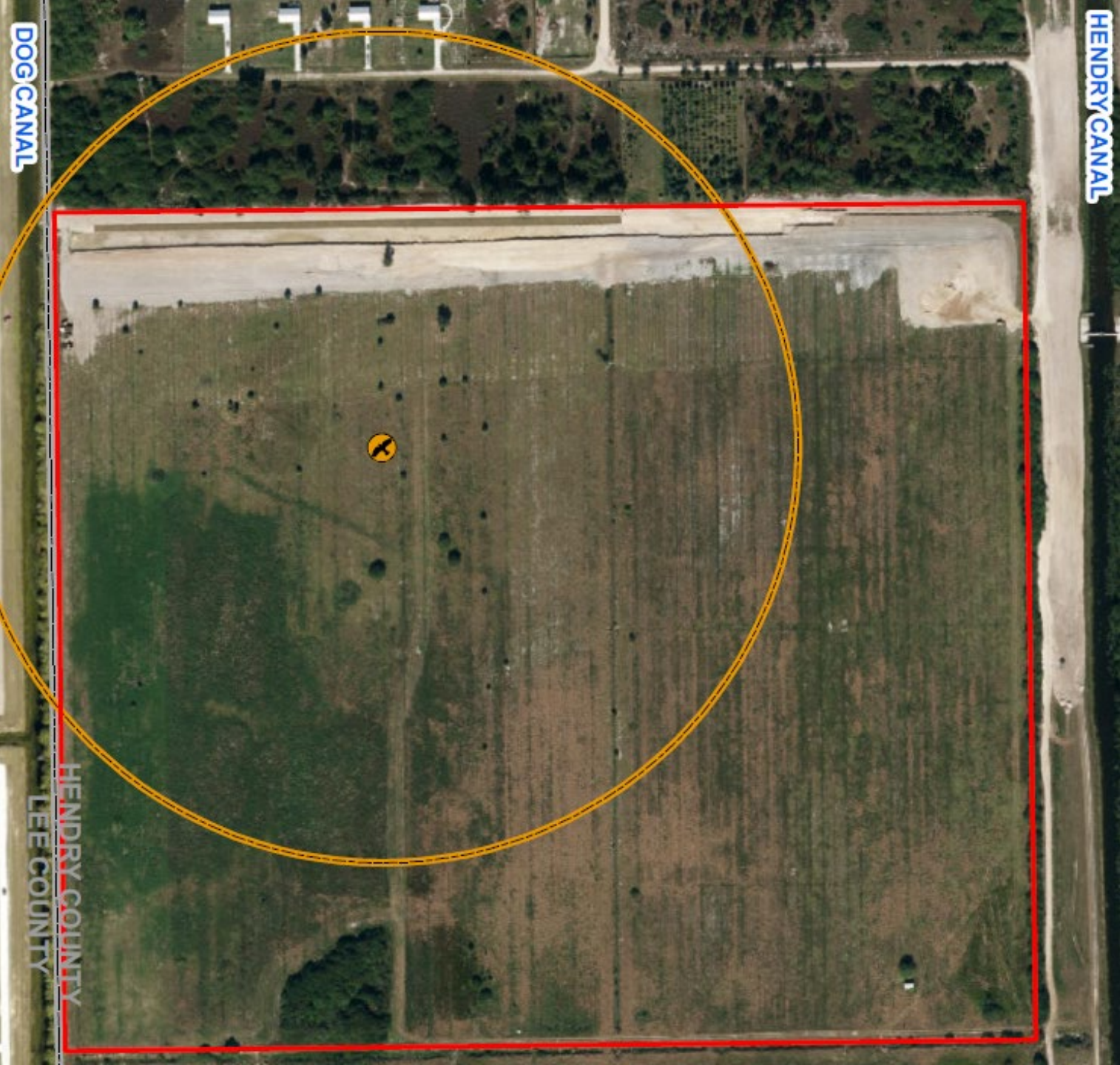
SPECIES



HENDRY CANAL

DOG CANAL

HENDRY COUNTY
LEE COUNTY



**P
E
R
M
I
T**

**P
H
A
S
I
N
G**

PHASE 2



**P
H
A
S
I
N
G**

PHASE 2



PERMIT



**P
H
A
S
I
N
G**

PHASE 3 (a)

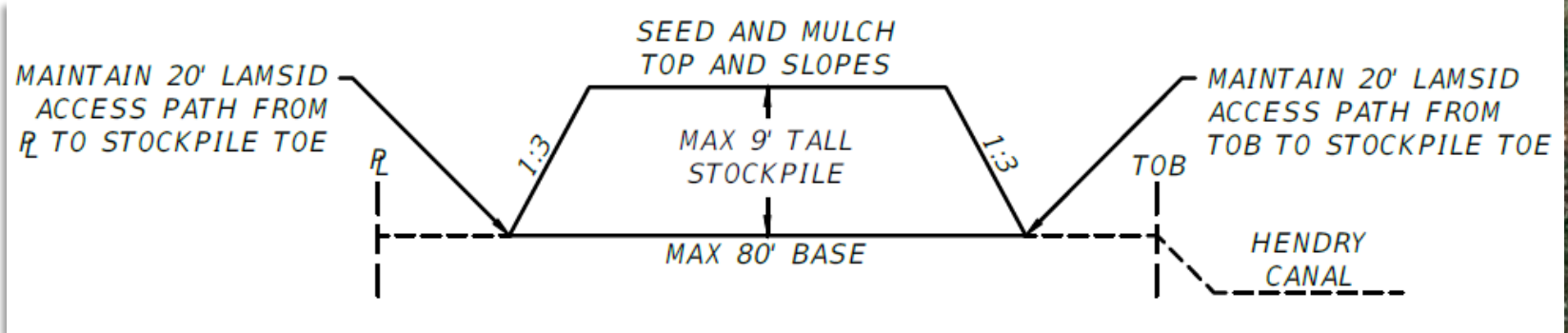


**P
H
A
S
I
N
G**

PHASE 3 (b)



ECONOMY



6 MILES LONG

805,000 CY OF EMBANKMENT

FUNDING



PHASE 1

\$809,485

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Grant



PHASE 2

\$2,000,000

FDEP State Water-quality Assistance Grant (SWAG)



PHASE 3

\$4,060,000

Florida House/Senate Legislative Appropriation

Caloosahatchee River Estuary Storage & Treatment



PHASE 2

2024 Sustainable Project of the Year (Local)

ASCE Southwest Branch



PHASE 3

2025 Sustainable Project of the Year (Local)

ASCE Southwest Branch



CREST (Caloosahatchee River Estuary Storage & Treatment)

2025 Sustainable Project of the Year (State)

ASCE Florida Section

2025 Top Stormwater Projects (National)

Stormwater Solutions Magazine & StormCon 2025

AWARD WINNING



Thank you

Daniel Schroeder, PE, MSE, PMP

239-823-8171

dschroeder@aimengr.com

aimengineering.com