

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: , Ecosystem Restoration & Capital Projects

DATE: September 8, 2022

SUBJECT: Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM) (Staff contact, Jennifer Reynolds)

Agenda Item Background:

The USACE is currently updating the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule 2008 (LORS2008). The updated Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM) has been under development since February 2019, and the USACE identified their final optimized lake schedule alternative in November 2021. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Water Control Plan (EIS/WCP) for LOSOM was posted for public review on July 29, 2022. For this agenda item, the Draft LOSOM EIS/WCP will be discussed with the Board.

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

Additional Item Background:

On June 29, 2021, the District hosted an all-day Governing Board workshop, which was open to the public, to review the Iteration 2 modeling results that were made available by the USACE on June 9, 2021, as part of the LOSOM process. Iteration 2 included six (6) balanced alternative lake schedules that were developed by the USACE. In August 2021, the USACE selected a tentatively selected plan to be optimized in Iteration 3 of LOSOM. And on November 2, 2021, the USACE identified their final optimized lake schedule alternative which was discussed at the November Governing Board meeting.

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The project supports the District's core mission of restoring South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protecting communities from flooding and meeting the region's water needs.

Funding Source:

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Jennifer Reynolds, jreynolds@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6672

ATTACHMENTS: