

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Lucine Dadrian, Engineering, Construction & Modeling

DATE: November 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project - Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Okeechobee, Highlands, and Glades Counties

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan - Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP), Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) supports exploratory/test well construction and testing to provide hydrogeologic data that will support the design of the ASR pumping systems, provide additional information of the properties of the Floridan Aquifer System (FAS) for the construction of ASR wells. This includes the drilling of exploratory test wells and associated monitoring wells. The testing will include conducting geophysical logs, collection of lithologic and water quality samples to determine the feasibility of completion of ASR facilities at multiple locations around Lake Okeechobee. Additional programs may also utilize the findings from this program to determine the feasibility of implementing ASR technology at other locations within the northern everglades area.

LOWRP is designed to improve water levels in Lake Okeechobee, improve the quantity and timing of discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries, increase the spatial extent and functionality of wetlands, and improve water supply for all existing legal water users. The project includes construction of up to 55 ASR wells located in clusters in various locations throughout the Lake Okeechobee watershed.

On March 11, 2021, the Governing Board authorized District staff to allocate funding for the ASR Program to construct test wells and testing, execute change orders as necessary and initiate new solicitations in support of the ASR Program for a total amount not-to-exceed \$50,000,000. To date, C-38S Test Wells 1 and 2, C-38N Test Wells 1 and 2, and L-63N Test Wells 1 and 2 are complete, and C-38S Test Wells 3 and 4 are under construction for a total Governing Board Authority allocation of \$42,017,929.57 leaving a balance of \$7,982,070.43.

This item is requesting \$50,000,000 in additional authority to continue constructing test wells and testing around Lake Okeechobee in Okeechobee, Highlands, and Glades Counties, approve change orders as necessary, exploratory coring and monitoring wells, purchase of long lead items, associated storage and other necessary activities to continue moving LOWRP ASR forward.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project, Aquifer Storage and Recovery supports the core mission of flood control, water supply, and ecosystem restorations.

Funding Source:

Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project, Aquifer Storage and Recovery will be funded through dedicated funds (State Appropriations).

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution 2025-1106](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)