

Apopka Update
for August 2010 Governing Board

Lake Apopka Marsh Flow-Way Project:

Average flows through the system were 127 cfs over the past month. During May and June, the performance of C2 for total phosphorus removal was poor, while performance for TSS and TN removal was similar to long-term performance. Poor performance during summer months is not unusual. The C2 cell was releasing total phosphorus rather than retaining total phosphorus. C2 was releasing total phosphorus at low rates (~ 1-2 kg/d). Most of this release was soluble reactive phosphorus, particulate phosphorus was retained. Recent C2 phosphorus performance data is being reviewed. Data from June show that the operating cells retained 7,750 kg of TSS/day, 97 kg of TN/day and 3.3 kg TP/day. The most recent total phosphorus concentrations in the lake averaged 75 ppb.

Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration:

Construction of levees and cleaning channel in Phase 3 is nearly complete. Work in Unit 1 began in February and is about 60% complete. Completed work consists of removal of old structures and levee construction. Dredging of the alum floc in the Unit 2 Pump Basin was completed. Staff began preparing the Biological Assessment for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service concurrence for re-flooding on Phases 6 & 7 this fall. Initial testing of fish tissue from Phase 2 indicates low levels of pesticides. This is important because if this holds for the necessary time period, it confirms that the soil inversion was successful in that area. These Phase 2 data become part of the next biological assessment to flood additional acres in Phases 6 & 7.