

Apopka Update
for October 2010 Governing Board

Lake Apopka Marsh Flow-Way Project:

Average flows through the system were 108 cfs over the past month. This flow rate is low relative to the long-term average. Total suspended solids, TP and TN concentrations in incoming lake water were much lower than historical values for the lake. Low incoming flows, along with reduced concentrations represent a decrease in marsh flow-way inlet loadings. This in turn, decreases the opportunity the system has to remove nutrients and suspended solids from incoming water. In C2, staff dosed alum to the cell for one month (started on 7/29/2010) to mitigate the release of soluble phosphorus. The release of soluble phosphorus is typical during late summer and early fall periods due to vegetation senescence and die back. Data from August show that the operating cells retained 4,652 kg of TSS/day, and discharged 46 kg of TN/day and 2.1 kg of TP/day. The most recent total phosphorus concentrations in the lake averaged 62 ppb.

Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration:

Work in Unit 1 began in February and will be complete by September 30. Completed work consists primarily of levee construction and installation of new structures. Construction Management staff have prepared a draft work-order for Phases 4 & 5 to start in October. Staff continues preparation of the Biological Assessment for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service concurrence for re-flooding on Phases 6 & 7 this fall. 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.