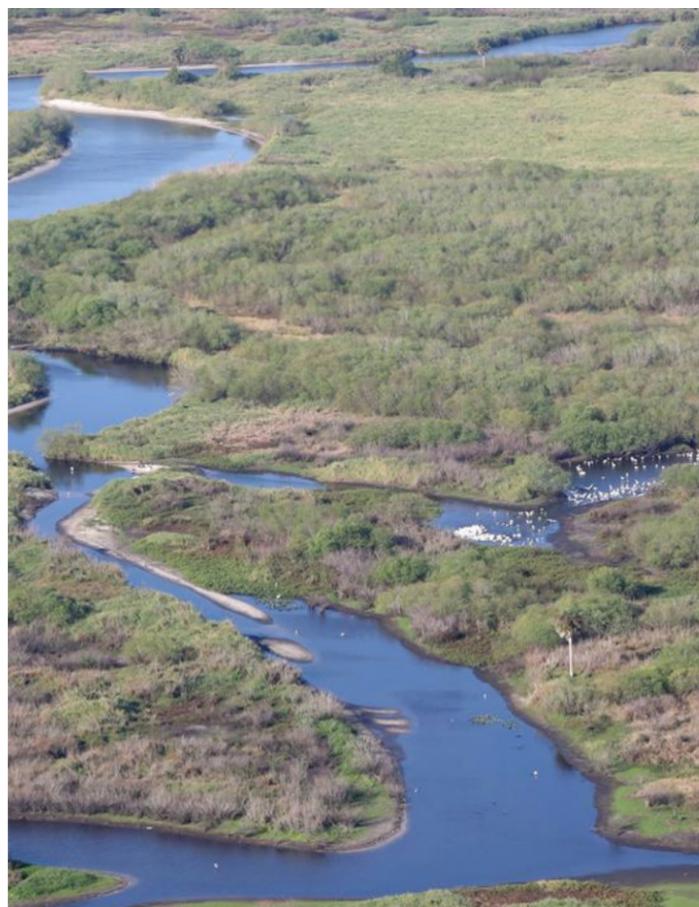


# KISSIMMEE RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT

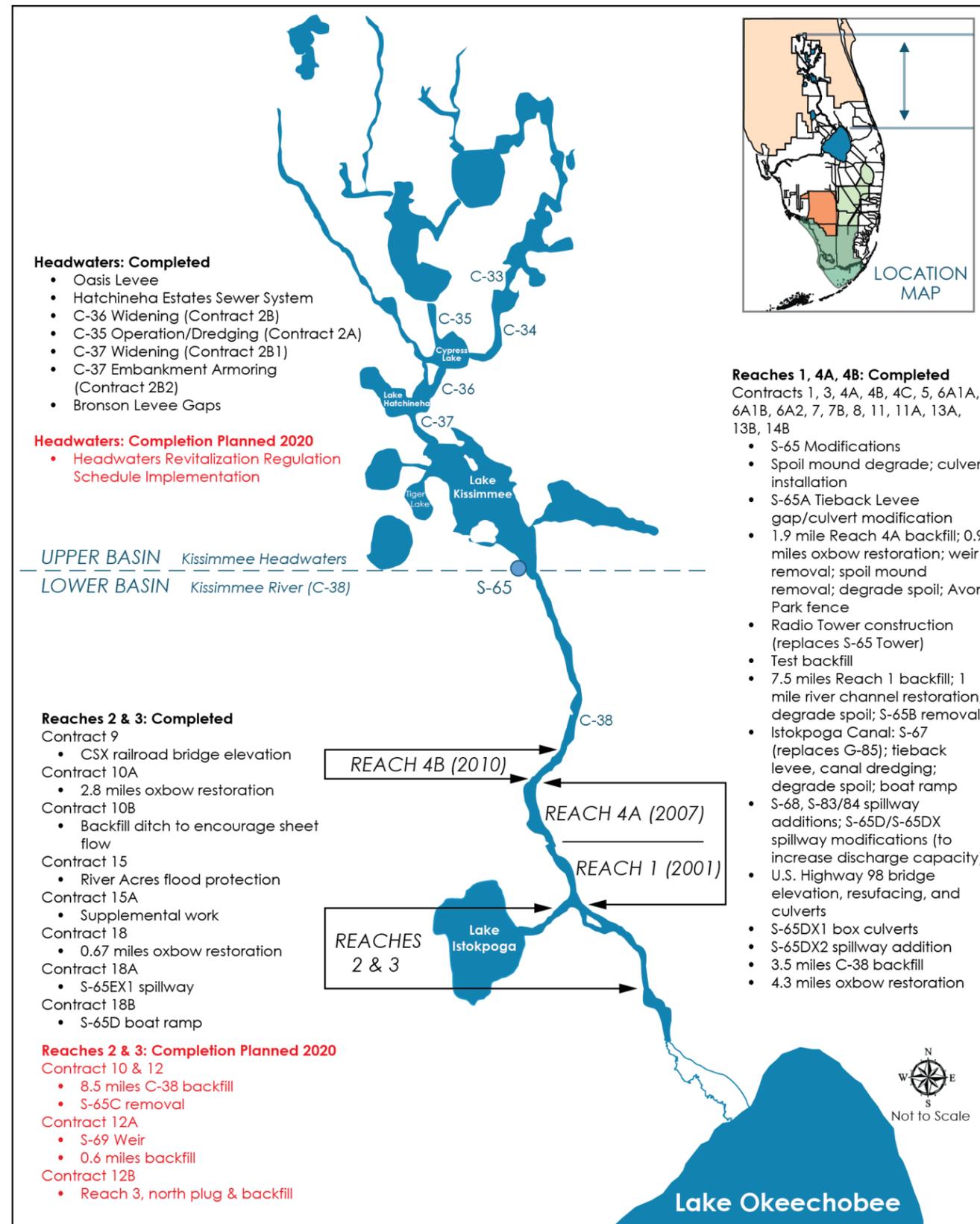
## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Kissimmee River Restoration (KRR) Project, authorized by Congress in 1992, is sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). When the project is completed in 2020, more than 40 square miles of river-floodplain ecosystem will be restored, including nearly 20,000 acres of wetlands and 44 miles of historic river channel.

Construction began in 1999; 21 miles of the canal have been backfilled to date. Seasonal rains and flows now inundate the floodplain in the restored area. Monitoring has documented increases in dissolved oxygen levels essential for aquatic life, recovery of wetlands, and increased populations of waterfowl, wading birds, and bass and other sunfishes.



Wading birds forage in dense clusters in drying pools of the Phase I restoration area. Image by Brent Anderson, SFWMD



## RESTORATION EFFORT RESULTS

Restoration efforts have resulted in environmental improvements that have exceeded expectations during many of the years post-Phase 1 and 4A. Densities of annual duck species, as well as long-legged wading birds, have increased. Improvements to foraging habitat have supported the return of the endangered snail kite.

## REMAINING PROJECT EFFORTS

- Remaining construction contracts:**
  - Construct weir in Canal 38 to redirect flows through the historic river channel.
  - Backfill approximately 6.5 miles of C-38, and remove S-65C water control structure and tieback levee system.
- Path forward:**
  - Complete construction by 2021.
  - Implement Headwaters Regulation Schedule upon completion of all segments.
  - Continue ecological monitoring.



Snail kite foraging in the littoral zone of Lake Kissimmee. Image by Brent Anderson, SFWMD

