

THE CELERY FIELDS

In the late 1880s, this area was converted from a sawgrass marsh to agriculture where celery was eventually mainly grown in the early 1920s. After 1992 when rainfall created flooding which was classified as a 100-Year Flood from Tropical Depression One, agriculture had continued until 1994 when Sarasota County purchased the land for flood water storage. The entire Regional Stormwater Facility, which now encompasses 444 acres, has been constructed with cooperative efforts between Sarasota County, FDEP, and SWFWMD along with a partnership with the Audubon Society.

With the Phase 3 Expansion, an additional 260 acre-ft of floodplain storage has been provided.

Street and structure flooding of nearly 200 homes has been reduced downstream within the Phillippi Creek drainage basin.

Due to the site's past use for agriculture, unacceptable high levels of arsenic was found in the soil. To manage this material, it was creatively used to create the 80-ft tall Observation Mound.

The overall cost to complete the facility is approximately \$27 Million.



PLANTS

The following is a list of some plants placed in the mitigation area:

Alligator Flag
Buttonbush
Cabbage Palm
Carolina Ash
Fragrant Water Lily
Knotted Spike-Rush
Lance-Leaved Arrowhead
Live Oak
Maidencane
Pickerelweed
Pignut Hickory
Sand Cordgrass
Saw Palmetto
Sawgrass
Slash Pine
Smartweed
Soft-Stem Bulrush
Sugarberry
Tarflower
Tickseed
Walter Viburnum
Wax Myrtle
misc. native wildflowers



ANIMALS

The following is a list of animals that may be spotted within the habitats:

Alligator
Banded Water Snake
Black-Bellied Whistling Duck
Blue-Winged Teal Duck
Bobcat
Florida Cooter Turtle
Florida Snapping Turtle
Great Egret
Green Tree Frog
Leopard Frog
Limpkin
Mottled Duck
Otter
Raccoon
Red Fox
Red-Necked Stilt
Snook
White Ibis
Wood Stork



WATER QUALITY

The primary pollutants removed within the Celery Fields are suspended solids, nitrogen, and phosphorus. From calculated yearly stormwater runoff volume, this facility was designed to remove approximately 52,000 lbs of suspended solids, 1,500 lbs of nitrogen, and 725 lbs of phosphorus. Retaining these pollutants on-site allows for better maintenance of the water quality improvement prior to discharge to Phillippi Creek and eventually Roberts Bay.

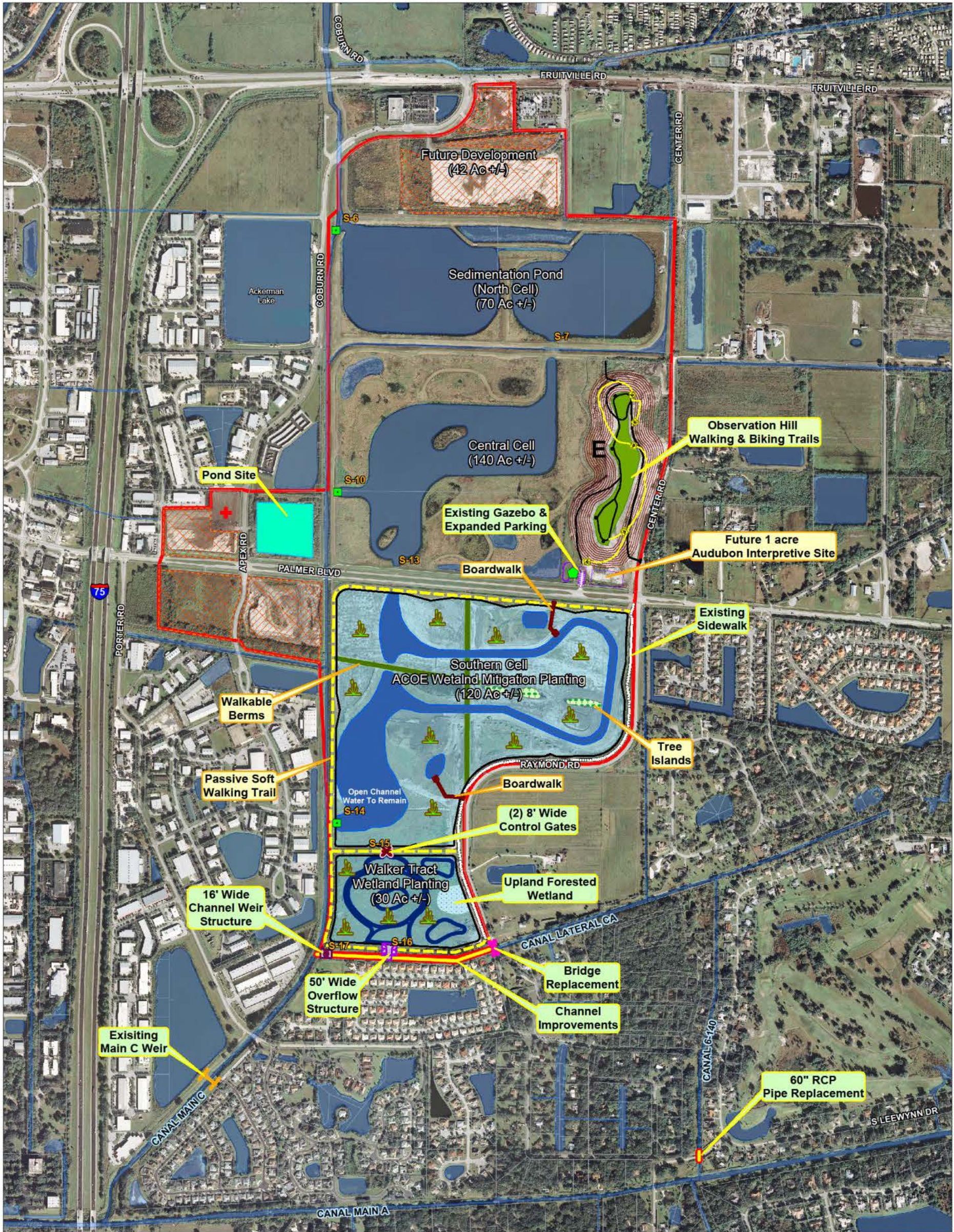
The suspended solids are mainly removed in the North Cell Sedimentation Pond. Nitrogen and Phosphorus is removed in the Southern Cell and Walker Tract Wetland Planting Areas.

The overall contributing area is 3,600 acres.



Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility Expansion Phase 3

CIP PROJECT#: 75829 Phillippi Creek Basin



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0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Existing Control Gates | Celery Fields Project Area |
| Existing Main C Weir | Water Features |
| Canal & Pipe Improvements | Proposed Pond Site |
| | Future Development |



Sarasota County

Aerial Imagery Provided by PhotoScience
Sarasota County, FL
December 2009 to January 2010
1" Resolution
N.A.D. 1983 HARN State Plane Florida West FIPS 0802 (U.S. Survey Feet)