



SUBJECT: Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements Program (FKWQIP)

BACKGROUND:

- The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary includes 2,800 square nautical miles of near shore waters that begin just south of Miami, Florida and extends to the Dry Tortugas. The Keys are made up of a chain of more than 800 islands extending approximately 220 miles southwest from the southern tip of the Florida peninsula and through the Sanctuary. Numerous scientific studies have documented the contribution of failing septic tanks and cesspools to the deterioration of canal and near shore water quality in the Keys. Research also suggests that increased nutrient loadings from wastewater into canals and near shore waters surrounding the Florida Keys is one of the major contributors to the decline of water quality in the Sanctuary.
- The FKWQIP was authorized via P.L. 106-554, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, and Related Agencies appropriations Act of 2001, Section 109 and conference Report H.R. 4577 and P.L. 110-114 (Sec 5062), WRDA 2007.
- The project authority provides for reimbursement to the local municipalities for planning, design and construction of water and wastewater infrastructure projects, up to \$100M in federal funds.
- Federal funds are for reimbursement of efforts undertaken by the municipalities. Funds must be expended before submitting invoices for reimbursement.
- Funding for this project has come in the form of Construction General funding (\$11,008,850.01) and ARRA funding (\$33,713,486.34).
- Total reimbursed to date: \$44,722,336.35
 - Key Colony Beach: \$196,996.00 (100% reimbursed of their allocation)
 - Layton: \$782,238.00 (100% reimbursed of their allocation)
 - Key West: \$9,875,923.00 (100% reimbursed their allocation)
 - Islamorada: \$2,008,219.70 (\$26,282,974.30 remaining in their allocation)
 - Marathon: \$15,952,489.49 (\$12,338,703.51 remaining in their allocation)
 - Key Largo: \$15,906,470.16 (\$12,384,723.84 remaining in their allocation)
- Total need in the Keys is in excess of \$600,000,000 to complete all of their wastewater and stormwater projects to meet State mandates.
- In FY 2015, FKWQIP will be receiving \$2,000,000 for from work plan funding (environmental infrastructure funding).
- Based on an Interlocal Agreement dated October 2014 between the 3 remaining municipalities, the \$2,000,000 will be divided as follows:
 - 25% Marathon
 - 25% Key Largo
 - 50% Islamorada

PREPARED BY: Shelley Trulock, Project Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
904-232-3292