

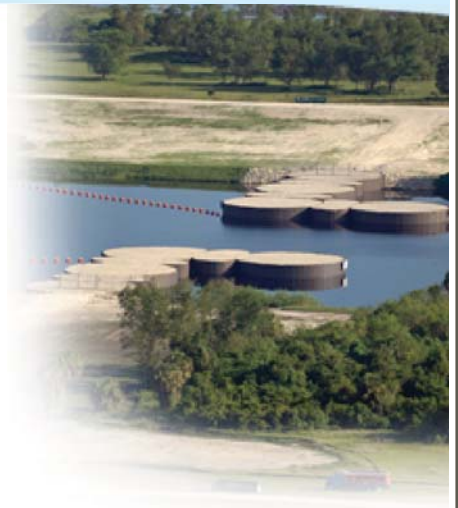


TAYLOR ENGINEERING, INC.

Jacksonville, FL - December 2008

In early 2008, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) recognized low water levels in Lake Okeechobee were causing forces capable of undermining S-65E, the water control structure located at the southern end of the Kissimmee River. Such a condition could cause structural failure and trigger severe flooding to upstream and downstream residential and agricultural properties. In response to these public concerns, the owner and operator of the S-65E structure, the SFWMD, contracted Taylor Engineering to develop an emergency solution before the upcoming hurricane season. Taylor Engineering, its subconsultant Hartman Engineering, the SFWMD, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers worked in concert to conceive a downstream structure — a low-elevation sheet pile weir — to reduce the Kissimmee River's channel width from 450+ feet to 200 feet and allow S-65E to discharge flows as designed. An aggressive design, hydraulic and structural analysis, construction document preparation, and bidding schedule allowed only two and a half months from Taylor Engineering's notice to proceed to start of construction, and four months for construction completion — a seemingly impossible task since this type of project would have taken 24 months to design and build. Two weeks after project completion, Tropical Storm Fay hit Florida. The storm produced record level flows that could have caused catastrophic damages to the counties surrounding Lake Okeechobee. For their accelerated response, Taylor Engineering and its team received one of the 2009 Grand Engineering Excellence Awards presented by the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers (FICE, www.fleng.org/FICE/aboutfice.cfm). The project is now eligible to compete for a national engineering excellence award sponsored by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC, www.acec.org).

TAYLOR ENGINEERING specializes in Coastal Engineering, Hydrology and Hydraulics, Waterfront Engineering, and Environmental Services with offices in Jacksonville, West Palm Beach, Tampa, and Baton Rouge, LA. For more information, visit www.taylorengineering.com.



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Alison Cornelius

acornelius@taylorengineering.com

904.256.1357

Taylor Engineering, Inc.

Coastal Engineering
Hydrology & Hydraulics
Waterfront Engineering
Environmental Services
GIS

904.731.7040

www.taylorengineering.com