

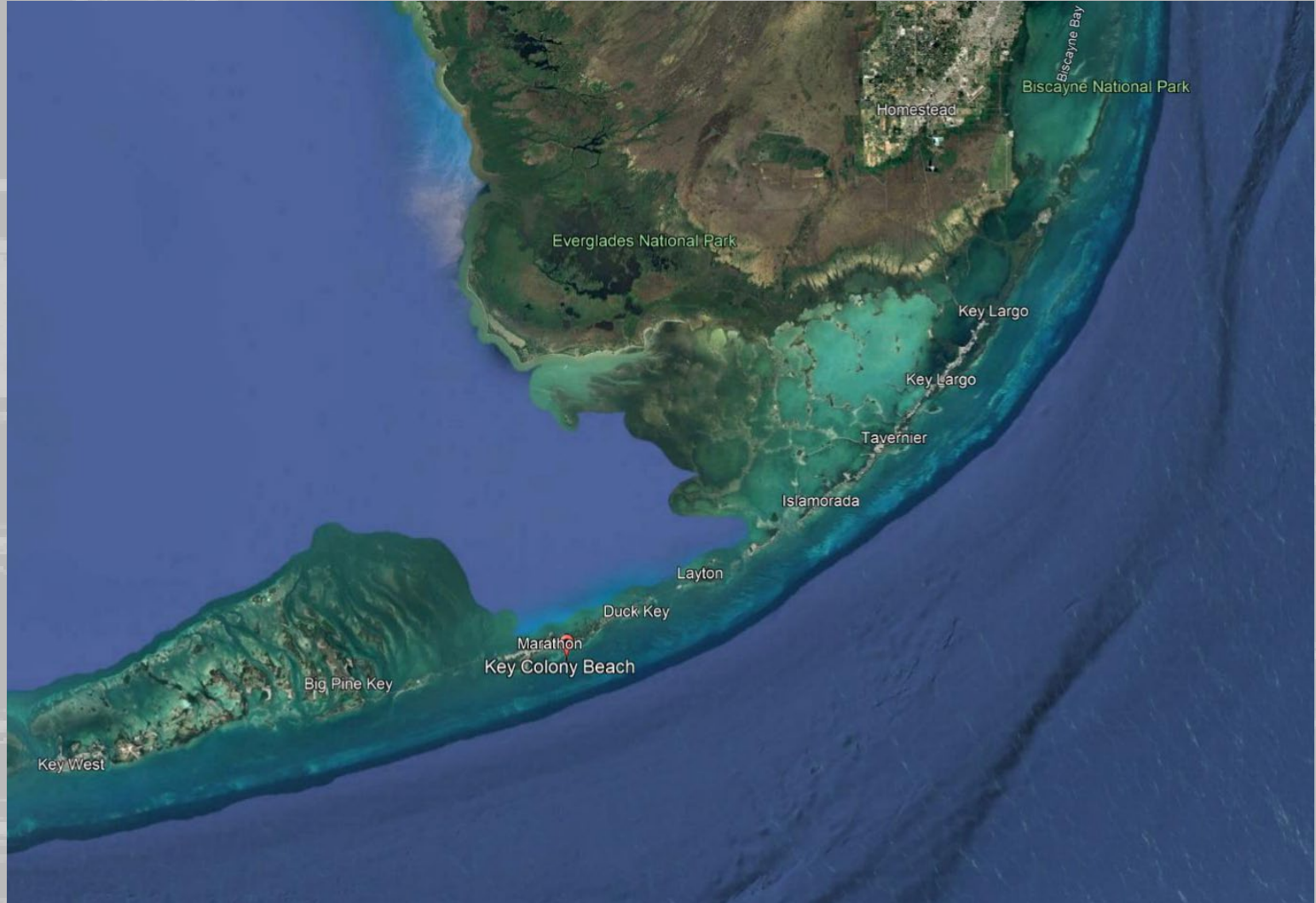
FLORIDA KEYS WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT

**USACE and Florida Keys National
Marine Sanctuary**

24 July 2025

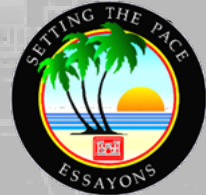
**Water Quality Protection Program
Steering Committee Meeting**



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**



PROGRAMS AND PROJECT DELIVERY SUPPORT (PPDS) BRANCH





Chief,
Programs and
Project Delivery
Support Branch

Brenda Calvente



Chief,
Small Program
Execution Section

Hector Cruz



Program Manager

Richard Butler



Project Manager

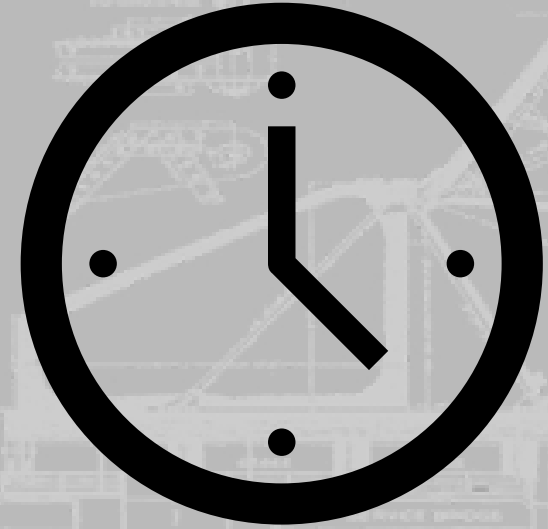
Dimael Lopez



AGENDA



- ☐ Program Purpose & Authorization
- ☐ Authorization, Funding, Responsibilities
- ☐ Current Program Status
- ☐ Future Efforts
- ☐ Action Plan/Next Steps
- ☐ Questions?



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

- OVERVIEW -



AUTHORIZATION: PUBLIC LAW 106-554, SECTION 109

As amended by Section 8376 of the WRDA of 2022 (Public Law 117-263)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has been authorized to provide technical and financial assistance to carry out projects for the planning, design, and construction of treatment projects to improve water quality within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The Corps has been authorized to expend up to **\$200 million** for this effort.



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

PROGRAM PURPOSE



The primary objective is to improve the quality of nearshore waters within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, the nation's largest marine protected area, by implementing projects within the wastewater and stormwater master plans prepared for Monroe County and various municipalities within Monroe County.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

AUTHORIZATION



- **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2022:** (2) Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements, Florida.—Section 109(f) of title I of division B of the Miscellaneous Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–554, appendix D, 114 Stat. 2763A–222 (as enacted by section 1(a)(4) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001 (114 Stat. 2763)); 121 Stat.1217) is amended by striking “\$100,000,000” and inserting “**\$200,000,000**”.
- The Congress authorized up to \$200 million (representing 65% of program costs).
- The Non-Federal interests will be responsible for 35% of the total project cost. Approximately \$107.7 million.



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

CURRENT REIMBURSEMENT STATUS



- Currently, \$86M from the initial \$100M authorization has been reimbursed back to the municipalities.
- By FY27, 100% of the remaining \$100M balance is projected to be reimbursed.

Municipality	Total Allocation	Remaining to be Reimbursed
Key Colony Beach	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
Layton	\$ 800,000.00	\$ -
Key West	\$ 10,320,000.00	\$ -
Islamorada	\$ 29,560,000.00	\$ 7,877,855.85
Marathon	\$ 29,560,000.00	\$ 459,321.60
Key Largo	\$ 29,560,000.00	\$ 933,090.76
	\$ 100,000,000.00	\$ 9,270,268.21



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

CURRENT PPA'S AGREEMENT AMENDMENT STATUS



- Islamorada Municipality: PPA Agreement Amendment executed on 12 May 2025.
- Key Largo Municipality: PPA Agreement Amendment under review for approval.
- Marathon Municipality: PPA Agreement Amendment under review for submission.



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



WRDA FUNDS AUTHORIZATION

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2022

- Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) earmarks, also known as Community Project Funding in the House and Congressionally Directed Spending in the Senate, are funded through a multi-step process involving Congress, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers(USACE), and Non – Federal Sponsor.
- Members of Congress can submit earmark requests for specific projects within their districts or states.
- These requests come from the Non-Federal sponsor through an application process to their Member of Congress



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

CURRENT REIMBURSEMENT FUNDING STATUS



- On Previous years, the program funding included ARRA funding, Congressional Ad funding and Workplan funding.
- USACE under the Earmark process requested \$9.9M in May 2024 for reimbursement on FY25.
- In FY25 no funding have been received and FY26 reimbursements will be dependent on receipt of workplan funding.
 - Workplan is tied up with passing a FY26 budget for USACE.
 - We're still under a continuing resolution.
- When FKWQI Program is included in the appropriations bill and the bill is ultimately signed into law, the earmarked funds will be allocated to the project in that FY.



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

FUTURE MUNICIPAL EFFORT



County

Municipalities

- Monroe County
 - Key Colony Beach
 - Key Largo
 - Key West
- Islamorada
- Marathon
- Layton



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

HOW TO START THE SECTION 109 PROCESS:



- **Municipality submits Section 109 request letter to USACE**
 - Include background, location, and scope of work.
 - If possible, include cost and rank priority.
- USACE evaluate municipalities request
- USACE make a preliminary determination if eligible & determine NEPA requirements
- If eligible, USACE begins drafting Letter Report & Section 109 Agreement for approval & execution
- Once letter report & Section 109 agreement are approved, construction may begin.
- Reimbursement of work listed in Letter Report



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

USE OF FUNDS



- Funding for USACE program management activities will be within available Federal appropriations for the Section 109 program and will be allocated to specific projects and shared in accordance with the terms of the agreement for such project.
- The Government will process reimbursement payments based on invoices submitted by the Non-Federal sponsor in accordance with the provisions of the Section 109 agreement.



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

QUESTIONS?

Dimael Lopez
Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(904) 232-1111 (Office)
(904) 229-6840 (Cell)
Dimael.Lopez@usace.army.mil



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**