

## SOLE SOURCE AQUIFER CHECKLIST

**PROJECT NAME:** State Road 710 from US 441 to L-63N Canal, Okeechobee County, Florida

**NAME OF SOLE SOURCE AQUIFER:** Biscayne Aquifer SSA Streamflows and Recharge Sources Zones (SSA 34b)

1. **Location of project:** Okeechobee, FL

2. **Project description:** The SR 710 new alignment portion from US 441 to SE 40th Avenue will consist of a four-lane divided urban and high-speed urban roadway, with two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction, a 30-foot median and curb along both the median and outside lanes. The project will also include 6.5-foot bicycle lanes along the outside roadway shoulder in both directions, a 10-foot shared use path along the north side of the roadway, and a 6-foot sidewalk along the south side. The required right-of-way (ROW) width is 160 feet. The design speed will be 40 miles per hour (mph) between the new intersection at US 441 and Taylor Creek and 50 mph elsewhere. The new alignment portion will include the construction of a new triple 12-foot x 14-foot concrete box culvert at Taylor Creek (0.2-mile east of the new SR 710/US 441 intersection). The SR 710 new alignment portion will construct new signalized intersections with US 441, SR 70, and SE 40th Avenue. A new intersection will be created at NE 32nd Avenue just north of NE 11th Lane. In addition, an intersection will be created within the existing SR 710 ROW at Center Street.

This project will also widen existing SR 710 from SE 40th Avenue to the project segment's southern terminus, approximately 0.26-mile south of the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) L-63N Interceptor Canal. The existing SR 710 typical section is a two-lane rural section with four-foot paved shoulders along the outside and open drainage swales. This portion will be widened to a four-lane divided high-speed urban roadway having the same dimensions as discussed above. A new two-lane bridge will be constructed over the L-63N Interceptor Canal to the north of the existing bridge to convey the future SR 710 northbound traffic. The design speed will range from 50 mph to 65 mph (south of the canal only).

The alignment for the proposed improvements is shown **Figure 1** attached.

3. **Is there any increase of impervious surface? If so, what is the area?** Yes, 39.43 acres

4. **Describe how storm water is currently treated on the site.** Currently, there is no treatment for the undeveloped areas within the project area. For improvements within the SR 70 ROW, existing ponds provide treatment for the existing SR 70 roadway.

5. **How will storm water be treated on this site during construction and after the project is complete?** Stormwater management during construction will be addressed in accordance with Section 104 (Prevention, Control, and Abatement of Erosion and Water Pollution) of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* and the applicable general and special conditions of regulatory agency permits that will be obtained prior to construction commencement. Post-construction, stormwater runoff will be routed to stormwater management facilities, which includes wet detention and dry retention ponds. Five off-site ponds (#s 1-5) are proposed (see **Figure 1**).

6. **Are there any underground storage tanks present or to be installed? Include details of such tanks.** No underground tanks are known to occur or proposed to occur within the project limits.

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**7. Will there be any liquid or solid waste generated? If so, how will it be disposed of?** Solid waste may be generated in conjunction with clearing and grubbing and other construction activities. Soils disturbed on-site are anticipated to be reused to the extent possible. Vegetation material may be disposed of by burning. Other solid materials encountered are expected to be disposed off-site at local landfills. If contaminated materials are encountered, the contractor will coordinate with the FDOT District One's Contamination Impacts Coordinator to locate and use the appropriate/certified disposal facilities, depending on the contaminant(s) encountered, as applicable. Liquid waste is not anticipated from the project. Dewatering, if required as part of the construction contractor's means and methods will be completed in accordance with a Water Use Permit as issued by the SFWMD and a National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

**8. What is the depth of excavation?**

Average Excavation Depth for Wet Ponds = 20 ft

Average Excavation Depth for Dry Ponds = 1 ft

**9. Are there any wells in the area that may provide direct routes for contaminants to access the aquifer and how close are they to the project?** Yes, there are seven (7) wells operated by the Okeechobee Utility Authority (OUA) adjacent to the south side of the northern portion of the SR 710 extension (new alignment portion), east of US 441 and Taylor Creek. Based on coordination with OUA representatives, the FDOT is re-aligning approximately one mile of the proposed roadway further north to reduce the occurrence of the SR 710 ROW within the 400-foot buffer of each well head to the maximum extent possible. With this realignment, the proposed 4-lane roadway and appurtenant stormwater management facilities will generally avoid stormwater discharge and/or percolation within 400 feet of the well heads (see **Figure 2** attached)

**10. Are there any hazardous waste sites in the project area, especially if the waste site has an underground plume with monitoring wells that may be disturbed? Include details.** Based on evaluations of the proposed roadway and stormwater pond/floodplain compensation ROW conducted by the FDOT's project team, there are 3 "No", 7 "Low", and 4 "Medium"-risk contamination sites documented within and adjacent to the project limits. For the "No" and "Low" sites, these have been determined to present a minimal risk to project construction and minimal risk of exacerbation from project construction activities. The four sites receiving a "Medium"-risk rating (i.e., Raulerson Hospital – 1796 US Hwy 441, Townstar #40 gas station (3993 SR 710), Florida Power and Light Okeechobee Service Center – 825 NE 34<sup>th</sup> and Pond Site 4, just south of the L-63 N Canal and Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center) will be reviewed once final construction plans are available to determine if additional testing is necessary.

**11. Are there any deep pilings that may provide access to the aquifer?** Concrete pile foundations (18-inch and 24-inch square) are proposed for the SR 710 bridge widening over the L-63N Interceptor Canal. Piles will be driven per FDOT Standard Specification Section 455 to achieve minimum tip elevation. Minimum tip elevations are expected to range between (-)29.0 and (-)39.0 North American Vertical Datum (NAVD)-88.

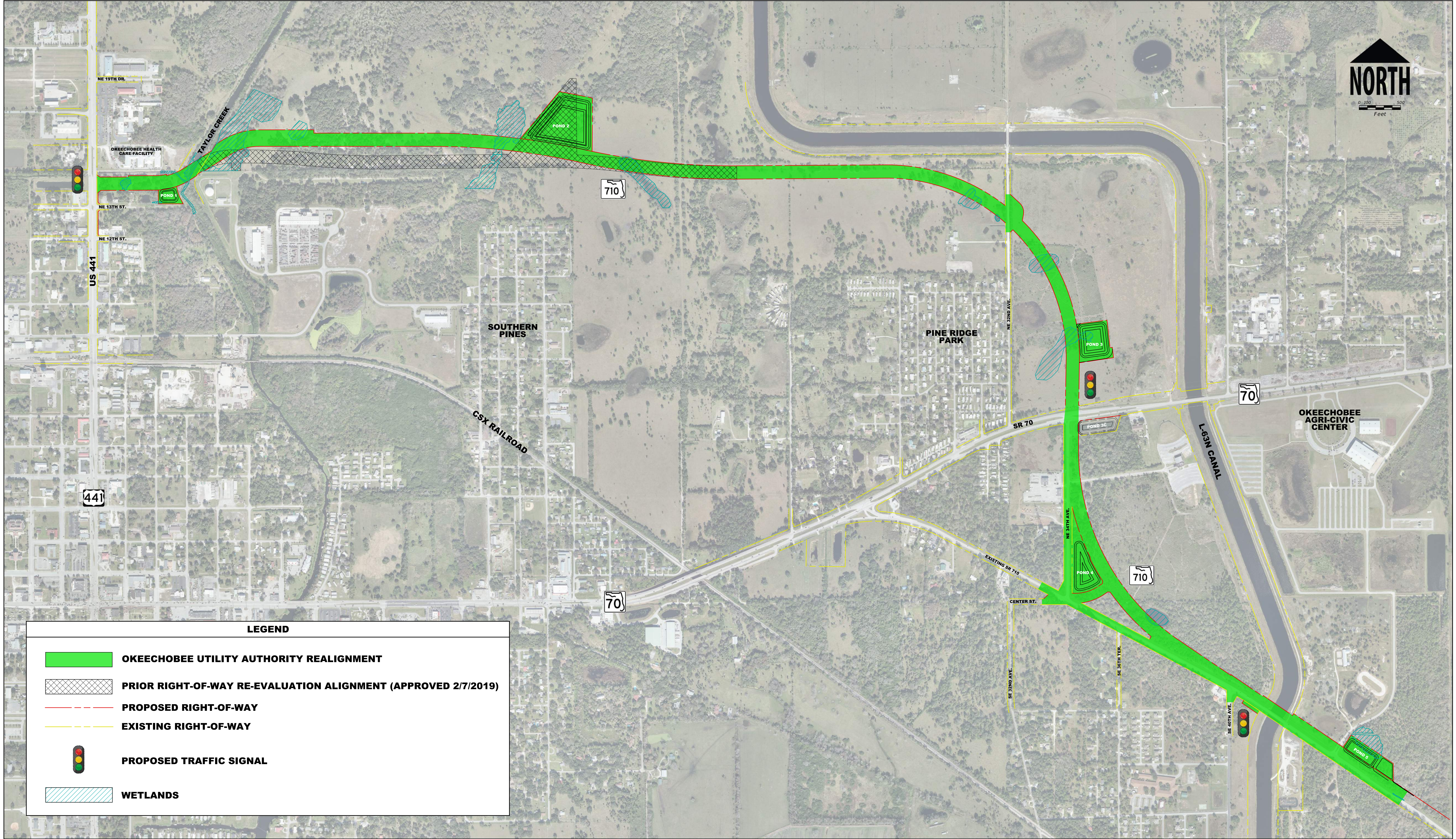
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**12. Are Best Management Practices planned to address any possible risks or concerns?** Project Construction will occur in accordance with Section 104 of the FDOT's *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction* ([https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/programmanagement/implemented/specbooks/fy-2023-24/fy2023-24ebook.pdf?sfvrsn=6b69416d\\_24](https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/programmanagement/implemented/specbooks/fy-2023-24/fy2023-24ebook.pdf?sfvrsn=6b69416d_24)) and conditions specified in agency-issued permits, including a State Environmental Resource Permit (issued by the SFWMD), a National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) permit (issued through the FDEP), and a Clean Water Act Section 404 Wetland Dredge and Fill Permit (issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers).

**13. Is there any other information that could be helpful in determining if this project may have an effect on the aquifer?** No

**14. Does this Project include any improvements that may be beneficial to the aquifer, such as improvements to the wastewater treatment plan?** No

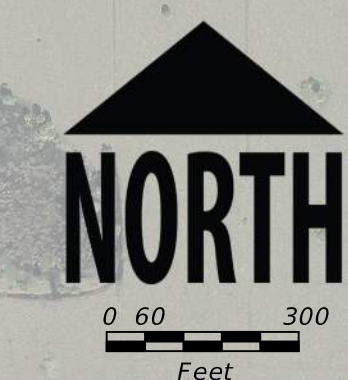




**LEGEND**

- OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY REALIGNMENT
- PRIOR RIGHT-OF-WAY RE-EVALUATION ALIGNMENT (APPROVED 2/7/2019)
- PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY
- EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY
- PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGNAL
- WETLANDS





TAYLOR CREEK

441

710

POND 2

L-63N CANAL




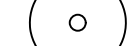
POND 1

400' R

SOUTHERN PINES

CSX RAILROAD

LEGEND

-  OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY REALIGNMENT
-  PRIOR RIGHT-OF-WAY RE-EVALUATION ALIGNMENT (APPROVED 2/7/2019)
-  PROPOSED SR 710 RIGHT-OF-WAY
-  WELLFIELD 400' BUFFER