

By the Committees on Appropriations; and Environment and Natural Resources; and Senators Book and Mayfield

576-04589-19

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the C-51 reservoir project;
3 amending s. 373.4598, F.S.; revising the portions of
4 the C-51 reservoir project for which the South Florida
5 Water Management District may negotiate; revising
6 water storage and use requirements specified for the
7 project if state funds are appropriated for the
8 project; specifying that Phase II of the project may
9 be funded by appropriation, in addition to other
10 sources; providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Paragraphs (c), (d), and (e) of subsection (9)
15 of section 373.4598, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

16 373.4598 Water storage reservoirs.—

17 (9) C-51 RESERVOIR PROJECT.—

18 (c) ~~For Phase II of the C-51 reservoir project,~~ The
19 district may negotiate with the owners of the C-51 reservoir
20 project site for the acquisition of any portion of the project
21 not already committed to utilities for alternative water supply
22 purposes or to enter into a public-private partnership. The
23 district may acquire land near the C-51 reservoir through the
24 purchase or exchange of land that is owned by the district or
25 the state as necessary to implement ~~Phase II of the project.~~ The
26 state and the district may consider potential swaps of land that
27 is owned by the state or the district to achieve an optimal
28 combination of water quality and water storage. The district may
29 not exercise eminent domain for the purpose of implementing the

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30 C-51 reservoir project.

31 (d) If state funds are appropriated for ~~Phase I or Phase II~~
32 ~~of~~ the C-51 reservoir project:

33 1. The district, to the extent practicable, must shall
34 operate the reservoir project to maximize the reduction of high-
35 volume Lake Okeechobee regulatory releases to the St. Lucie or
36 Caloosahatchee estuaries, in addition to maximizing the
37 reduction of harmful discharges providing relief to the Lake
38 Worth Lagoon. However, the operation of Phase I of the C-51
39 reservoir project must be in accordance with any operation and
40 maintenance agreement approved by the district;

41 2. In addition to any permitted amounts for water supply,
42 water made available by the reservoir project must shall be used
43 for natural systems ~~in addition to any allocated amounts for~~
44 ~~water supply;~~ and

45 3. ~~Any~~ Water received from Lake Okeechobee may ~~not~~ be
46 available to support consumptive use permits only if such use is
47 in accordance with district rules.

48 (e) Phase I of the C-51 reservoir project may be funded by
49 appropriation or through the water storage facility revolving
50 loan fund as provided in s. 373.475. Phase II of the C-51
51 reservoir project may be funded by appropriation, pursuant to
52 this section, pursuant to s. 373.475, as a project component of
53 CERP, or pursuant to s. 375.041(3)(b)4.

54 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.