

By the Committee on Appropriations; and Senator Book

576-04126-18

2018992c1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the C-51 reservoir project;  
3           amending s. 373.4598, F.S.; revising requirements  
4           relating to the operation of water storage and use for  
5           Phase I and Phase II of the C-51 reservoir project if  
6           state funds are appropriated for such phases;  
7           authorizing the South Florida Water Management  
8           District to enter into certain capacity allocation  
9           agreements and to request a waiver for repayment of  
10          certain loans; authorizing the Department of  
11          Environmental Protection to waive such loan repayment  
12          under certain conditions; specifying that the district  
13          is not responsible for repayment of such waived loans;  
14          providing an effective date.

15  
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
18           Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (9) of section  
19          373.4598, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is  
20          added to that subsection, to read:

21           373.4598 Water storage reservoirs.—

22           (9) C-51 RESERVOIR PROJECT.—

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

25           1. The district, to the extent practicable, must ~~shall~~  
26          operate either Phase I or Phase II of the reservoir project to  
27          maximize the reduction of high-volume Lake Okeechobee regulatory  
28          releases to the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries, in  
29          addition to maximizing the reduction of harmful discharges

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30 ~~providing relief~~ to the Lake Worth Lagoon. However, the  
31 operation of Phase I of the C-51 reservoir project must be in  
32 accordance with any operation and maintenance agreement adopted  
33 by the district;

34 2. Water made available by Phase I or Phase II of the  
35 reservoir must ~~shall~~ be used for natural systems in addition to  
36 any permitted allocated amounts for water supply; and

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

40 (f) The district may enter into a capacity allocation  
41 agreement with a water supply entity for a pro rata share of  
42 unreserved capacity in the water storage facility and may  
43 request the department to waive repayment of all or a portion of  
44 the loan issued pursuant to s. 373.475. The department may  
45 authorize such waiver if, in its determination, it has received  
46 reasonable value for such waiver. The district is not  
47 responsible for repaying any portion of a loan issued pursuant  
48 to s. 373.475 which is waived pursuant to this paragraph.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.