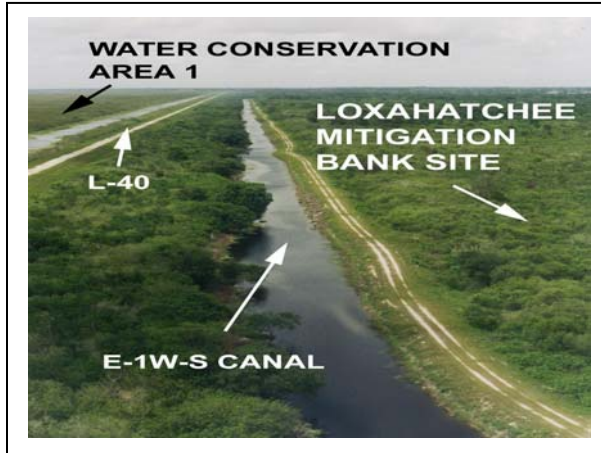
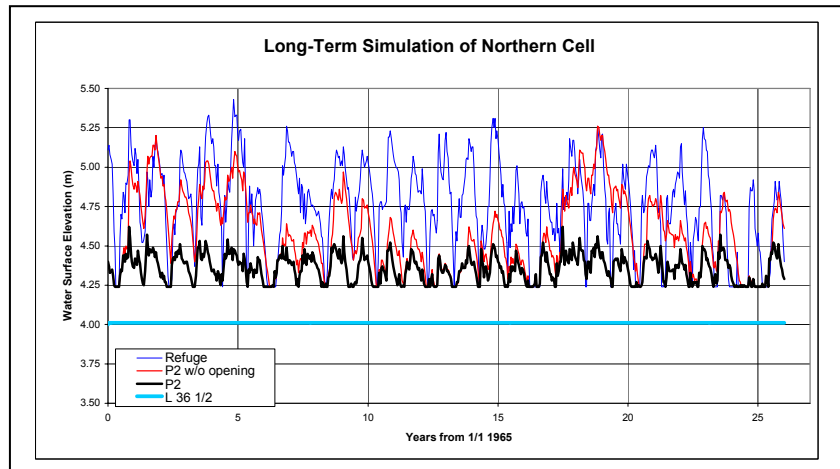
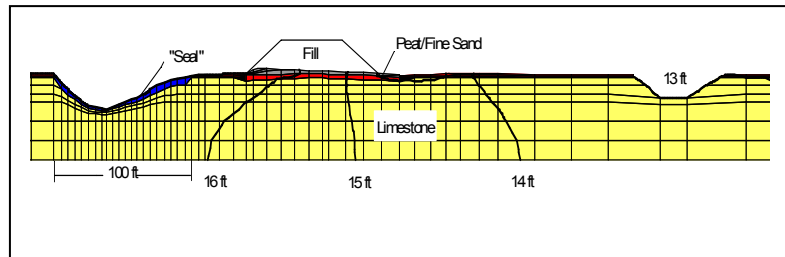
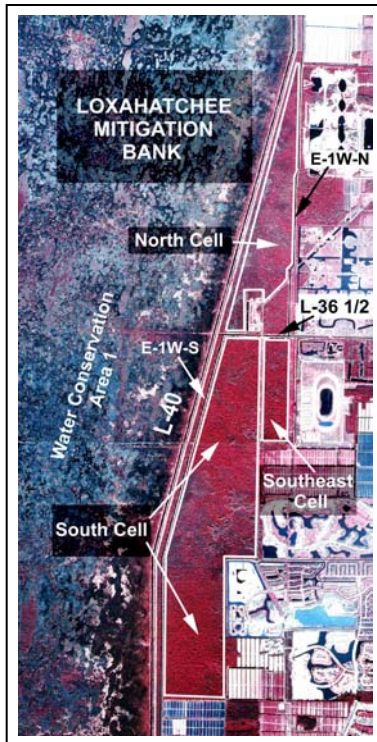


## Loxahatchee Wetlands Mitigation Bank, Florida



The South Florida Water Management District contracted Foster Wheeler to develop a wetlands mitigation bank. The two cells of the proposed bank comprised more than 1400 acres. WEST Consultants evaluated the hydrologic performance of the two cells under existing and proposed conditions. The analysis consisted of (1) running the Corps of Engineers' seepage model, SEEP2D, to estimate seepage into the wetland cells from the adjacent Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge and (2) running the Corps' Wetlands Dynamic Water Budget Model, WDWBM, to evaluate the water budget in each cell. The WDWBM model was modified to include levee seepage, calibrated to the results of the SEEP2D model and then run for almost 30 years of rainfall and evapotranspiration (ET) data. The results showed that the two wetland cells would maintain sufficient wetland hydrology, and contrary to expectation,

that direct rainfall and ET were the most important hydrologic parameters.



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