



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Canoe Expedition Highlights Everglades Ecosystem, Importance of Restoration

Paddlers will trek 78 miles to kick off 25th annual Everglades Coalition Conference



(Click on picture for a larger version.)

Susan Sylvester, SFWMD Director of the Operations Control and Hydro Data Management Department, who recently paddled on the Cuyabeno River in Ecuador, will participate in the Everglades canoe adventure.

WHAT: The *River of Grass* canoe expedition, sponsored by the Arthur R. Marshall Foundation, will draw attention to the invaluable role the Everglades plays in the ecology of Florida. Paddlers will travel from the mouth of the Kissimmee River, along Lake Okeechobee and through the canal system before arriving at Grassy Waters Preserve in Palm Beach County. The

group will spend its days on the water and its nights camping.

AUDIO: Susan Sylvester, SFWMD Director of the Operations Control and Hydro Data Management Department, talks about the journey and efforts to highlight the challenges and success stories of Everglades restoration. [Click here to listen.](#)

WHEN: January 2 – 7, 2010. At trip's end on January 7 at 4 p.m., a flotilla of about 30 vessels will join in for the last leg of the adventure, paddling through the Loxahatchee Slough to the Bingham Nature Pavilion at Grassy Waters Preserve.

WHO: Expedition leader Chris Schuld, biologist Allen Trefry, Danielle Almeida, Janice Kerber, SFWMD's Susan Sylvester, Erika Fitzsimmons, Tom Salinsky, Rachel Scarafia, Janet Talbot, Maureen Connolly and Tomas Boiton. In addition, world-renowned author, nature enthusiast and wildlife photographer Dudley Edmondson will film a documentary of the trek.

TRIP TRACKING:

- Twitter: www.twitter.com/MarshallFoundat
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#/pages/West-Palm-Beach-FL/Arthur-R-Marshall-Foundation/104557100514?ref=ts>
- Blog: <http://www.arthurmarshallfoundation.blogspot.com/>
- Teacher Tube: <http://www.teachertube.com/viewProfile.php?user=Marshallfoundation&ref=Marshallfoundation>

VIEW LIVE BROADCASTS:

The Palm Beach County School District will host a daily live broadcast at 8:10 a.m. beginning Tuesday, January 5, through Thursday, January 7. Visit <http://breeze.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/riverofgrass> and log in as GUEST to see the live broadcast.

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About the South Florida Water Management District – [Celebrating 60 Years \(1949-2009\)](#)

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.