



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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South Florida Water Management District

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Traffic Interruptions to Occur on County Road 15B Through April *Construction on Lakeside Ranch STA leads to temporary inconvenience*

Okeechobee, FL – Project construction managed by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will cause temporary interruptions to traffic on County Road 15B between State Road 710 and State Road 441 S.E. in Okeechobee County beginning on Monday, January 11, 2010, and lasting through late April 2010.

Although a two-lane bypass will be constructed to facilitate traffic in this area, periodic lane closures are expected to continue to occur. This temporary inconvenience is a result of construction activities associated with the creation of a stormwater treatment area on the former Lakeside Ranch in Okeechobee and Martin counties. This project is a feature of the Northern Everglades and Estuary Protection Plan, which is a component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

When completed, the Lakeside Ranch project will improve the quality of water entering Lake Okeechobee by directing stormwater through a large filter marsh, where plants will remove nutrients from the water before it enters the lake.

For more information, please contact the SFWMD Okeechobee Service Center at (863) 462-5260 or (800) 250-4200.

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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.