

April 14, 2009

CONTACT:

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South Florida Water Management District Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 670-1245 www.sfwmd.gov/news

SFWMD Hosts a Morning of Bird Watching

Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West is a haven for waterfowl and outdoor enthusiasts



Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West, in Palm Beach County, attracts a plethora of birds such as black bellied whistling ducks.

WHAT:

Grab your binoculars, sunscreen and water and join South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Senior Recreation Planner and bird enthusiast Bijaya "BJ" Kattel on a bird-watching tour in Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West, as the District celebrates 60 years of serving the public.

Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) are the water-cleaning workhorses of Everglades restoration, yet they have also become renowned havens for wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts alike.

The District is committed to increasing recreational access to public lands, while continuing to manage them effectively to meet environmental restoration, water supply, water quality and flood control missions. For more information on recreational opportunities, please visit

www.sfwmd.gov/recreation.

WHEN: Saturday, April 18, 2009

TIME: 8 a.m. Please arrive before 8:30 a.m. as the gate will be locked at that time.

WHERE: The eastern gate of STA 1 West on CR 880

DIRECTIONS:

From West Palm Beach: Travel west on Southern Boulevard (SR 80). Approximately 11.5 miles west of State Road 7, turn left on to CR 880 at yellow flashing light. Cross green steel bridge, continue traveling on CR 880 for approximately 0.66 mile and turn left to the area.

From Belle Glade: Travel east on SR 80 (Southern Boulevard). Turn right on to CR 880 at yellow flashing light. Cross green steel bridge, continue traveling on CR 880, for approximately 0.66 mile and turn left to the area.

CONTACT: Please RSVP by April 16 to Doris Urban at 561 682-6202 or durban@sfwmd.gov

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About the South Florida Water Management District — <u>Celebrating 60 Years (1949-2009)</u> *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*

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.