



## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

# MEDIA ADVISORY

June 15, 2010

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### Construction Progress to Clean Lake O-Bound Water

*Lakeside Ranch becoming largest wetland treatment site in Lake Okeechobee watershed*



*(Click on the pictures for larger versions.)*

**WHAT:** Ranchland north of Lake Okeechobee is quickly transforming into a stormwater treatment wetland to remove phosphorus before it reaches the lake, improving water quality in the lake and the greater Everglades ecosystem.

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff will provide an update on construction progress at the Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area and detail the significant benefits of the project.

The Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area is a component of a landmark state restoration initiative known as the Northern Everglades & Estuaries Protection Program, which is strengthening protection for the Northern Everglades. The program addresses connectivity of the entire Everglades ecosystem and the importance of capturing and cleaning water before it flows into the lake.

**WHEN:** Friday, June 18, 2010

**TIME:** 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** 9472 S.E. 126<sup>th</sup> Blvd.  
Okeechobee, FL 34974

**DIRECTIONS:**

**From West Palm Beach:** Travel west on the Beeline Highway (S.R. 710). Approximately 17 miles from Indiantown, turn left onto County Road 15B. Go over railroad tracks, past Southeast Milk. Turn left into project entrance at SFWMD construction sign. Follow SFWMD event signs.

**From Okeechobee:** Travel east approximately eight miles on Beeline Highway (S.R. 710). Turn right onto County Road 15B. Go over railroad tracks, past Southeast Milk. Turn left into project entrance at SFWMD construction sign. Follow SFWMD event signs.

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**About the South Florida Water Management District**

*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.*