

March 28, 2012

CONTACT:

Bill Graf

South Florida Water Management District Office: (407) 858-6100, ext. 3837 or Cellular: (352) 516-5436 www.sfwmd.gov/news

Taylor Creek Boat Ramp Scheduled to Close for Renovation Lock will be closed from April until October

Okeechobee, FL — The S-193 Navigation Lock on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee at Taylor Creek will undergo a renovation to ensure decades of continued reliable service.

The lock, which is nearly 40 years old, will be out of service beginning April 1. The work is scheduled to be complete in October.

During the renovation process, the lock gates will be removed and refurbished. Concrete will be reinforced throughout the lock chamber, and wiring and other utilities will be replaced.

While the lock is out of service, boaters can launch into Lake Okeechobee at Jaycee Park near the intersection of U.S. Highway 441 and State Road 78. Other navigation options include launching on Henry Creek and entering the lake through the G-36 lock, or launching into the Kissimmee River just north of Lake Okeechobee at C. Scott Driver Jr. Recreation Area or Okee-Tantie Recreation Area.

Boaters are asked to use caution when navigating near the lock due to ongoing construction.

###

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.