



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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MEDIA ADVISORY

September 24, 2012

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Lake Okeechobee Lock Becomes Operational as Water Levels Rise *S-310 lock enables navigation between the lake and the Clewiston Canal*

Clewiston, FL — With water levels in Lake Okeechobee rising, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) today began operating the S-310 navigation lock on the lake's south shore and placed a lock tender on duty at the structure.

The District makes the S-310 lock operational at 15.5 feet NGVD and higher to provide flood protection for residents and businesses located near that part of Lake Okeechobee. While today's lake level measured 15.36 feet NGVD, wind blowing inland from the lake has increased water elevations at the lock.

With the S-310 operational, boaters must "lock through" to navigate between Lake Okeechobee and the Clewiston Canal. The lock may be returned to the open position once water levels decline.

Operating hours for the S-310 lock are currently from 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Beginning October 1, the lock will be operated from 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, please call the SFWMD Okeechobee Service Center at (863) 462-5260.

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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.