



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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MEDIA ADVISORY

April 19, 2013

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SFWMD Releases First Draft Recommendations for Land Assessment
Public invited to workshop to comment on recommendations for District lands in the Upper Lakes region

WHAT: As part of its ongoing comprehensive land assessment, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) today released draft staff recommendations for its fee-owned lands in the Upper Lakes region, which includes parts of Orange, Osceola and Polk counties. The draft recommendations are available for review on the District's land assessment website at www.sfwmd.gov/landassessment.

Stakeholders and the general public will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft recommendations at a workshop next week in St. Cloud. Public comments may also be submitted on the land assessment website through May 6. In addition, the draft recommendations will be presented at the May meeting of the Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC).

Final recommendations for the Upper Lakes region will be submitted to the full Governing Board at its May 9 meeting.

The purpose of the land assessment is to ensure that each parcel owned by the District supports the agency's core mission of balancing and improving flood control, water quality, natural systems and water supply. The first phase of the assessment is a review of 750,000 acres of fee-owned lands – properties in which the agency has full ownership rights. This phase is scheduled for completion by mid-2013 and will be followed by a comprehensive review of non-fee-owned lands.

WHEN: Thursday, April 25, 2013

TIME: 10 a.m. to noon

WHERE: SFWMD St. Cloud Field Station
3800 Old Canoe Creek Road
St. Cloud, FL 34769

WHO: The SFWMD Land Assessment Team will meet with the public to receive comments on draft recommendations for agency lands in the Upper Lakes region.

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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.