

## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Repairs Close Portion of C-29A Canal**

Temporary pumps installed to maintain flood protection on lakes Hart and Mary Jane

**Orlando, FL** - The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has closed a portion of the C-29A Canal downstream from lakes Hart and Mary Jane to make needed repairs.

The canal has erosion problems that require the District to make canal bank improvements and remove shoaling, accumulated material that restricts the flow of water. To properly repair the C-29A, a stretch of the canal had to be dried out, making it incapable of taking water from lakes Hart and Mary Jane.

To maintain flood protection in the area as the repairs are being made, the District has installed temporary pumps at the S-57 and S-58 spillways. The pumps will move water upstream into lakes Myrtle and Joel and then south into the Alligator Chain of Lakes. In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has given the District approval to lower lakes Hart and Mary Jane a half foot below normal to guard against the possibility of extreme wet weather.

The work on the C-29A is scheduled to be completed by mid-September. Once the repairs are finished, the District will remove the temporary pumps, raise the lakes to normal levels and restore the flow of water through the canal.

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About the South Florida Water Management District — Celebrating 60 Years (1949-2009)

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.