



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Updated River of Grass Acquisition Documents Available at www.sfwmd.gov

West Palm Beach FL – As a part of its ongoing efforts to share information regarding the acquisition of land from the United States Sugar Corporation for Everglades restoration, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has updated its Web site with documents related to the proposed amended transaction.

The following documents are now available at www.sfwmd.gov/riverofgrass:

- Draft Amended Agreement for Sale and Purchase among the United States Sugar Corporation, SBG Farms, Inc., Southern Gardens Groves Corporation and the South Florida Water Management District.
- Draft Amended Lease Agreement between the South Florida Water Management District and the United States Sugar Corporation.

"We entered these negotiations with the goal of maintaining affordability in a challenging economic climate while still preserving the environmental vision and intent of the original acquisition," said SFWMD Executive Director Carol Ann Wehle. "This acquisition continues to be the largest single acquisition in the District's history, and I look forward to bringing the amended agreements before the District's Governing Board for their consideration."

In association with its Strategic Planning process, the District Governing Board will review the revised acquisition agreements for action beginning with a full-day **Special Workshop** on **May 11, 2009**, and continuing on **May 13 & 14, 2009**, during its regularly scheduled Governing Board workshop and business meeting.

The meetings will be held in the B-1 Auditorium at District headquarters at 3301 Gun Club Rd., in West Palm Beach and Web cast at www.sfwmd.gov.

Prior to the meetings of the Governing Board, the District will provide a *River of Grass* land acquisition update to the **Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC)** at its regular monthly meeting on **May 7, 2009**. The WRAC meeting will be held at the Royal Palm Beach Cultural Center, Royal Palm Beach, beginning at 9 a.m., and Web cast at www.sfwmd.gov.

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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.