



## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

# STATEMENT

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**Re: U.S. Department of the Interior proposal for 5.5 miles of additional bridging of Tamiami Trail**

**Statement by SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Eric Buermann**

“Restoring America’s Everglades requires a full collaborative effort from all the agencies involved. Secretary Salazar’s proposal for improving water flow to Everglades National Park will enable other components of the restoration process to move forward and further demonstrates our federal partners’ commitment even in the current economic climate.”

**Statement by SFWMD Executive Director Carol Ann Wehle**

“The District applauds today’s proposal from Secretary Salazar as another critical step in restoring the historic flow of water in America’s Everglades. Another 5.5 miles of bridges on the Tamiami Trail would help ensure the success of ongoing and planned restoration projects by re-establishing a vital link to Everglades National Park.

“We appreciate our federal partners’ continued commitment to meeting our shared water quantity goals for Everglades restoration while also considering potential water quality impacts. We encourage the U.S. Congress to authorize and fund this proposal for the benefit of both South Florida’s ecosystem and its economy.”

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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.*