

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
33880	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	I co-chair Northern Everglades Alliance, a loosely-knit organization of mostly ranchers and sportsmen created to advocate for the creation of Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area. Our ranchers own 850,000 acres of land between them. Our goal is to preserve working agricultural landscapes and increase traditional recreational opportunities throughout the undeveloped region of the Kissimmee River Valley, Fisheating Creek and SW Florida. The idea of surplus lands in the region when we have been working so hard to protect lands from development is very distressing. We've been tremendously successful in helping to direct hundreds of millions of dollars to our target areas, and for you to let land get away from us when we're working to preserve the rural character of the region is <b>angering, confusing and confounding.</b>	The District needs to evolve away from flood control and more towards your other core missions. If you surplus lands, at least surplus them with perpetual conservation easements attached.	Our organization supports more public access for hunting and other outdoor recreational pursuits. We would also support allowing cattle grazing on public lands through allowing leasehold interests.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	I am commenting on the Tibet-Bulter Preserve (in West Orange County) potential closing. This is a great use of protecting wetlands, habitats, and educating the public. I have visited this preserve several times on field trips from my kids schools, cub scouts trip, and church trips where they have the opportunity to see a huge variety of wildlife, including eagles, osprey, deer, fox, turkey, bobcat, heron and various other wading birds, otters, owls, etc. Please do not allow for this land to become yet another housing development. It will add to flooding, damage ecosystems, and reduce the property values of homes already in the area.	No. Please keep Tibet-Bulter preserve open to the public and preserving the wetlands and animal habitats .	No. Please keep Tibet-Bulter preserve open to the public and preserving the wetlands and animal habitats.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes,
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating				
34994	Kissimmee River	Poole E / Paradise Run - Yates Marsh Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	In my opinion Yates March is very important to the core mission of the District. Its close proximity to the Kissimmee river makes it important to the well being of the river and ultimately Lake Okeechobee. Besides its environmental impact it also provides a critical link in the Florida National Scenic Trail(FNST). Without Yates Marsh the FNST would be forced to implement a very long and very dangerous road walk on hikers using the trail.		The property is used by hunters and hikers and as indicated above is essential to the FNST.	Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
08094	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating				Lake Okeechobee,
10710	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Please keep these areas in the system preserved and protected and available for all the animals that inhabit these lands. Thank you.			
34446	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The land - all of it needs to be managed with wildlife, water and environmental protection as the priority. I view none of it as "surplus".	Management of nature requires a gentle and non-invasive hand - in collaboration with groups such as the Audubon Society and the Nature Conservancy. These lands are for the protection of all life - not just in Florida, but the planet.		Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
32043	Kissimmee River	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses. Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	No; Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	No; Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Lake Okeechobee,

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34235	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Other	Other	I'm not sure how the property discussed is being managed now, but I am interested for the future in preserving the land for the public use and the public good for reasons of recreation, the present and possible providing of our water supply and of course managing the quality of this water to a healthy level, flood control, natural systems restoration and the opportunities to tune children and people of all ages to the life-cycle of our planet and infinite Universe through spending time in these environments both just for the enjoyment of it and also more educationally, the preservation of threatened and endangered species for the reasons of their inspirational beauty and contribution to the life-cycle and for the cessation of abuse of these lands by corporations who purchase them with the intent to soullessly pollute and and rape them.	I'm not sure how the property discussed is being managed now, but I am interested for the future in preserving the land for the public use and the public good for reasons of recreation, the present and possible providing of our water supply and of course managing the quality of this water to a healthy level, flood control, natural systems restoration and the opportunities to tune children and people of all ages to the life-cycle of our planet and infinite Universe through spending time in these environments both just for the enjoyment of it and also more educationally, the preservation of threatened and endangered species for the reasons of their inspirational beauty and contribution to the life-cycle and for the cessation of abuse of these lands by corporations who purchase them with the intent to soullessly pollute and and rape them.	I'm not sure how the property discussed is being managed now, but I am interested for the future in preserving the land for the public use and the public good for reasons of recreation, the present and possible providing of our water supply and of course managing the quality of this water to a healthy level, flood control, natural systems restoration and the opportunities to tune children and people of all ages to the life-cycle of our planet and infinite Universe through spending time in these environments both just for the enjoyment of it and also more educationally, the preservation of threatened and endangered species for the reasons of their inspirational beauty and contribution to the life-cycle and for the cessation of abuse of these lands by corporations who purchase them with the intent to soullessly pollute and and rape them.	
33705	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking	the current use of protection is crucial to the water quality of the region	keep protected status	fish hatcheries	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River,
33705	Kissimmee River	All	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking	the current use does a great job of protecting our natural resources and increasing water quality	current protected status is good	fish hatchery	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33705	Lake Okeechobee	All	Recreation and Public Use	Fishing	lake okeechobee is the back bone to foridas water quality, flood control, and water supply. Do not mess this up	state park	bass fishery	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33705	Unassociated Parcels	Sportsman's Village Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking	help craet the florida corridor for wildlife	florida wildlife corridor	fish hatchery	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32696	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area does supports and ensures the mission of water quality and control of flooding as well as the additional protection of water quality and natural resource protection and is needed to continue the work of the District.	No.	Keeping the land and waterways pristine or improving water quality is the best use.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes,
44124	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	I believe that the balance of nature and development is pushing towards unbridled development. We visit Florida for its natural wonders and the walks on the beaches not the shopping nor the Di\$ney experience.	How about leave it alone.	Please make sure that invasive plants are removed and the trash and drugs stay out of the water.	
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Very well.	No.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
91607	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Other	Take it from a Californian who watches as disasters, natural and man-made, decimate our wildlife habit. Don't do as we've done; preserve yours. Once habitat is destroyed for the wild creatures, the humans won't be far behind.	Wetland reclamation after last season's storms.	See above.	
32608	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking	The Kissimmee / Okeechobee Assessment Region was designated as land for protection precisely because of Florida's need to control land to provide for water retention and cleaning as well as wild places for native plants and animals. We have precious little of these lands in our state, which is, sadly, mostly urban sprawl with all the accompanying roads and vehicles that cut critical reserved areas into pieces, disturb water cycles and wildlife. This land was assessed and carved out of development rights after significant study and time in legislation. It is part of the larger Everglades restoration and should STAY in its current state, serving the water management needs of SFWMD and preserving one of the last habitats of birds such as the FLorida Grasshopper Sparrow.	Absolutely not.	Since we know that man has not devised a way to duplicate natural systems, we should NOT consider trading what has been preserved so far for potentially degraded land elsewhere.	Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

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32608	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking	The Kissimmee / Okeechobee Assessment Region was designated as land for protection precisely because of Florida's need to control land to provide for water retention and cleaning as well as wild places for native plants and animals. We have precious little of these lands in our state, which is, sadly, mostly urban sprawl with all the accompanying roads and vehicles that cut critical reserved areas into pieces, disturb water cycles and wildlife. This land was assessed and carved out of development rights after significant study and time in legislation. It is part of the larger Everglades restoration and should STAY in its current state, serving the water management needs of SFWMD and preserving one of the last habitats of birds such as the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow.	Absolutely not.	Since we know that man has not devised a way to duplicate natural systems, we should NOT consider trading what has been preserved so far for potentially degraded land elsewhere.	Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34639	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Canoeing and Kayaking				Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
92105	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
72632	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing		Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. Magnificent tracts such as the former National Audubon Society Kissimmee Prairie Preserve, now jointly owned by the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida, are undergoing evaluation for possible surplus declaration in this round of the land assessment This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	This land is vitally important conservation land that should be retained by the South Florida Water Management District.	
34655	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Growth Management and Land Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	We must save our green space to keep our water clean and safe.	Keep as much of the property green as possible	Again - keep it green	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
34240	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee Prairie	Natural Systems Restoration	Other	Florida Dry Prairie is a globally imperiled ecosystem supporting endangered species. Kissimmee Prairie is one of the world's last remnants of the community and can only continue to exist in a naturally functioning hydrological system that SWFWMD is charged to restore. The property furthers the Districts core missions of Flood Control, water quality, natural resource protection and restoration.	The property must continue to be managed as part of a naturally functioning system, restoring the natural processes of fire and hydrology for the long term survival of the dry prairie landscape.	Since the health of the property is so dependent/responsive to water manipulation/hydrology of adjoining properties, it would seem that SWFWMD had the power and expertise to insure its survival	Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
55104	Lake Okeechobee	Lake Okeechobee Islands	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This is a crucial part of Florida's natural resources, providing habitat to many birds and other creatures, plus providing part of its water quality system. To sell and destroy means one less wild area available for permanent residents of wildlife as well as migrating wildlife, and threatens the water quality of this crucial area of our US wilderness. Please save and restore it as necessary. Margot Galt, Saint Paul, MN			Lake Okeechobee,
32819	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	I think we need to acquire more land to protect the quality of Everglades water. I am deeply disappointed that the State approved now leases for Big Sugar on land that should have been designated as floodplain protection areas.	All of the properties listed are needed for several uses: First, protecting water quality, which is done by limiting sprawl on every inch of green space. Second: providing green space for development-crowded residents to get a little respite. Third: Habitat protection - with all of this sprawl, where is wildlife to go?	No better use, although small education centers on some of the larger properties with public access would teach people about the importance of clean water and unspoiled wilderness in maintaining an ecologically healthy State.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

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07307	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Over 190,000 acres of land are at stake in this part of the review covering the "Kissimmee/Okeechobee Assessment Region," including properties in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes area (35,591 acres), conservation tracts adjacent to the Kissimmee River (116,317 acres), and lands around Lake Okeechobee (35, 681 acres). surplusmap_march2013.jpg Other smaller tracts described as "unassociated properties" totaling about 350 acres. The properties under evaluation are located in Polk, Osceola, Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades, Martin, Palm Beach and Hendry Counties. The Kissimmee / Okeechobee Assessment Region parcel profiles have been posted on the SFWMD Land Assessment website for your review. Audubon members, chapter leaders and leaders of other conservation organizations are urged to review the parcels and to submit comments to the district. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. Magnificent tracts such as the former National Audubon Society Kissimmee Prairie Preserve, now jointly owned by the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida, are undergoing evaluation for possible surplus declaration in this round of the land assessment This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	Over 190,000 acres of land are at stake in this part of the review covering the "Kissimmee/Okeechobee Assessment Region," including properties in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes area (35,591 acres), conservation tracts adjacent to the Kissimmee River (116,317 acres), and lands around Lake Okeechobee (35, 681 acres). surplusmap_march2013.jpg Other smaller tracts described as "unassociated properties" totaling about 350 acres. The properties under evaluation are located in Polk, Osceola, Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades, Martin, Palm Beach and Hendry Counties. The Kissimmee / Okeechobee Assessment Region parcel profiles have been posted on the SFWMD Land Assessment website for your review. Audubon members, chapter leaders and leaders of other conservation organizations are urged to review the parcels and to submit comments to the district. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. Magnificent tracts such as the former National Audubon Society Kissimmee Prairie Preserve, now jointly owned by the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida, are undergoing evaluation for possible surplus declaration in this round of the land assessment This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	Over 190,000 acres of land are at stake in this part of the review covering the "Kissimmee/Okeechobee Assessment Region," including properties in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes area (35,591 acres), conservation tracts adjacent to the Kissimmee River (116,317 acres), and lands around Lake Okeechobee (35, 681 acres). surplusmap_march2013.jpg Other smaller tracts described as "unassociated properties" totaling about 350 acres. The properties under evaluation are located in Polk, Osceola, Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades, Martin, Palm Beach and Hendry Counties. The Kissimmee / Okeechobee Assessment Region parcel profiles have been posted on the SFWMD Land Assessment website for your review. Audubon members, chapter leaders and leaders of other conservation organizations are urged to review the parcels and to submit comments to the district. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters.	
32043	Lake Okeechobee	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Boating	Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses. Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	No; Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	No; Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Lake Okeechobee,
34711	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Fishing	To be brief, it appears we as Floridians have not really taken seriously our role as stewards of the lands we have inherited and must preserve in order pass on to those who follow. It is inherent upon us at this time to be dedicated to following the restoration plans for the Kissimmee River and its headwaters, as well as the entire water supply for all of Floridians, NOT to be devising plans for special interests that would dilute the original goals of preservation and restoration.			Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
32210	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Water Supply	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	It seems that much has been done to further the core missions. These missions are all closely related and dependent upon each other. It is exciting to see the before and after pictures - such vast improvement! It will be very, very tragic if we loose any of the parcels designated for restoration and/or preservation. I do not see any of the properties in question as surplus.	No. These properties need to be maintained and should not given up to development and other uses not in support of the missions of the district.	I support and believe the best use of the land is water quality, water supply, wildlife management, and preservation. Those interested in any development should look elsewhere. There is plenty of land in developed areas.	
33611	Unassociated Parcels	Camp Mack Triangle Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	Very well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33611	Unassociated Parcels	Okeechobee Boat ramp Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Very well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34238	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Lake Kissimmee	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	We want these territories preserved.	Leave nature to thrive....no development.	NO, no better use. Keep things natural and untouched.	

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34787	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Adequate		Restoration of the Kissimmee River (pre Army Corps of Engineers) should be a top priority for this state. There is no such thing as surplus land or a re-contoured river This river will never be the same but we should not ease up on efforts to repair what damage we can.	Kissimmee River,
32608	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Canoeing and Kayaking		We need to get over this - uses - philosophy and let land be what it is. A home for all other animals and plants. We have taken way too much land for - uses - money and otherwise ( our own homes, usually egotistically extravagant land destruction ).	Any - use - that allows the World to heal itself.	
32960	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The areas in question were acquired to restore important lands around rivers and lake systems--and it is definitely accomplishing its objectives of improving flood control, improving water supply and quality, improving protection and restoration of natural resources, preserving habitat for wildlife habitat, and providing opportunities for people to enjoy natural serenity in our increasingly overcrowded state. I feel strongly that it would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to commercial development, housing development, or even recreational development. Leave these areas as wild as possible!!!! Do not sell or exchange these properties. Do not rent them to commercial concessions or for-profit eco-tourism outfitters. Do not develop them to accommodate noise-polluting mechanized recreational activities that do not respect that natural environment. These important conservation lands should be retained and managed by SFWMD.	No, there is no better use to which the property can be put. Any change would detract from fulfilling the District's core missions.	No, any other use or development would actually weaken support for protecting the natural environment and deprive the public of opportunities to experience the natural world in its pristine state.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33957	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The above-mentioned Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, in addition to being scenic and filled with wildlife, have a critical function in the maintenance and restoration of the Everglades (which, quite frankly, need all the help they can get!). For far too long, not only was too little attention paid to the Glades themselves, but too little connection was drawn between water-usage and property-usage to the North and the impact the same would have on the Glades. It is vital that each and every parcel of land currently held for conservation remain so. Otherwise, creeping development and overusage will also destroy the remaining parcels, and have a devastating impact on the Glades, which are at long last finally being worked on.	The best use of this property is the current one, for all parcels involved: to remain protected conservation land.	The best use of this property is to maintain it as free-flowing water and open conservation land, in order to protect the Everglades to the South.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32724	Lake Okeechobee	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	PLEASE DO NOT TAKE AWAY VITAL WILDLIFE HABITAT, ESPECIALLY FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES LIKE HTE FLORIDA GRASSHOPPER SPARROW.	ECO TOURISM, BIRD WATCHING IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE DISTRICT'S CORE MISSIONS.		Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33134	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Probably adequately, in the current climate funds are probably not available for significant improvement or remediation. Sale of land to raise money would be short sighted, money would be used ineffectively and inefficiently based on past performance. Hopefully keeping the land in state ownership will prevent it being pumped full of pesticides/fertilizers or coated in concrete!	No. Certainly not selling the land. Who would buy it except to make money out of developing it? It belongs to the people and should stay with the state, hopefully the institution with the best interests of Florida's population at heart.	Emphasis on a pollution free environment capable of nurturing our wildlife.	Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
92105	Lake Okeechobee	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
92105	Unassociated Parcels	St. Cloud Field Station Parcel	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33316	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing vacation someday	This property is vitally important conservation land which should be retained by SFWMD.	This property is vitally important conservation land which should be retained by SFWMD.	This property is vitally important conservation land which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes,
32128	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Hunting	seems to doing pretty well; hope that is the case.	conservation and protection are best uses	the property should remain unspoiled with passive use allowed	Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,
32301	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Very well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Magnificent tracts such as the former National Audubon Society Kissimmee Prairie Preserve, now jointly owned by the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River,

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34715	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	FI is not doing enough to protect wetlands, wilderness & wildlife & open areas.			
32043	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses. Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	No; Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	No; Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Lake Okeechobee,
19010	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The current use is okay, the problem is declaring any of it as "surplus lands" which could open to sale for development. All of these lands are part of a vital natural ecosystem and need to be protected. Thank you.			
10034	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
48439	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Boating	These lands provide vital services for conservation purposes.	No, these lands and territories should be used for conservation of wild plants and animals, as well as protection of the water supply.	No, please only use them for conservation.	
34744	Kissimmee River	All	Water Quality	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Current use is excellent--well controlled access, little damage to fragile ecosystems, threatened species, or water quality.	No	No--we must maintain our wild lands to manage our threatened species. We need even more wild lands to correct the setbacks in water quality we've observed lately!	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
38256	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating				
33611	Unassociated Parcels	Sportsman's Village Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Very well.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32656	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing				Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32034	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Very well.		No, I do not think there is a better use for the property! Remember these very important words from the Cree Native American people: Only after the last tree has been cut down, Only after the last river has been poisoned, Only after the last fish has been caught, Only then will you find money cannot be eaten. The development in south Florida is overwhelming. I truly hate going down there because of all the development. I grew up in West Palm Beach and watched it turn into a cement jungle and I hated it so bad; still do. I now live in Fernandina Beach and am hoping we never get as bad as down there. Kissimmee is still somewhat unspoiled and I would truly hate hate hate to see it be destroyed in the name of the almighty dollar. Let's not rape the land any more than we already have.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes,
34787	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Adequate		Restore the Kissimmee Chain to its original pristine condition as soon as possible	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River,
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Canoeing and Kayaking	Much could be done to improve upon the district's current mission and approach. Plant more natural vegetation to help with runoff and flood control. This area should be restored to as close to its natural state as possible. Only when humans become the invasive species does nature start to fight back.	Turn it into an Important Bird Area (IBA) or a national park but don't destroy it. So many species are endangered already, this land is home to the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. The only reason this bird is on its way out is because of habit loss due to human invasion. When will we stop and think? Why do we always need more more more? More housing and more sports parks? We don't even occupy the ones we have already built. One day, we will be in the same situation as the grasshopper sparrow and we will have noone to blame but ourselves. Well, our children's children will be ones placing the blame because they are the ones who have to suffer our legacy.	See above	Lake Okeechobee,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Canoeing and Kayaking	Much could be done to improve upon the district's current mission and approach. Plant more natural vegetation to help with runoff and flood control. This area should be restored to as close to its natural state as possible. Only when humans become the invasive species does nature start to fight back.	Turn it into an Important Bird Area (IBA) or a national park but don't destroy it. So many species are endangered already, this land is home to the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. The only reason this bird is on its way out is because of habit loss due to human invasion. When will we stop and think? Why do we always need more more more? More housing and more sports parks? We don't even occupy the ones we have already built. One day, we will be in the same situation as the grasshopper sparrow and we will have noone to blame but ourselves. Well, our children's children will be ones placing the blame because they are the ones who have to suffer our legacy.	See above	Lake Okeechobee,
33433	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	All of the land is needed for the restoration of the Kissimmee River back to its meandering state. It should be left alone as it provides habitat for wildlife and birds.	No, all of the land should remain untouched for conservation efforts to restore the Kissimmee River.	No, the water supply of south Florida is the most important need we have and we need this land to help with filtration efforts.	Lake Okeechobee,
33598	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Water Quality	Fishing	The current use is much better than your proposal to re-classify this land as surplus. This land is vitally important conservation land which should be retained by SFWMD. Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. Magnificent tracts such as the former National Audubon Society Kissimmee Prairie Preserve, now jointly owned by the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida, are undergoing evaluation for possible surplus declaration in this round of the land assessment This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. These are magnificent tracts, and are vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	Just like I said, Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. These are magnificent tracts, and are vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Lake Okeechobee,
33513	Unassociated Parcels	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	These lands are important for use for green way as well as restoration of the wet/ dry prairie for many vital species and water conservation.			Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River,
33026	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	I am concerned about the use of these designated lands that are needed for conservation and should be acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses because there are endangered species that live on these tracts of land like the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. These parcels of land must be designated for preservation of our environment. So much has been lost to development, so please reconsider about developing this land.	These land parcels are necessary to preserve our lakes and water systems. The natural flow of water from the Everglades needs this land to support the environment.		Kissimmee Chain of Lakes,
34221	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing			This is an area of FL we need to protect from pollution and development. This state depends on tourist money and areas like this draw tourist.	
32960	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Canoeing and Kayaking	The areas in question were acquired to restore important lands around rivers and lake systems--and it is definitely accomplishing its objectives of improving flood control, improving water supply and quality, improving protection and restoration of natural resources, preserving habitat for wildlife habitat, and providing opportunities for people to enjoy natural serenity in our increasingly overcrowded state. I feel strongly that it would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to commercial development, housing development, or even recreational development. Leave these areas as wild as possible!!!! Do not sell or exchange these properties. Do not rent them to commercial concessions or for-profit eco-tourism outfitters. Do not develop them to accommodate noise-polluting mechanized recreational activities that do not respect that natural environment. These important conservation lands should be retained and managed by SFWMD.	No, there is no better use to which the property can be put. Any change would detract from fulfillment of the District's core missions.	No, any other use or development would actually weaken support for protecting the natural environment and deprive the public of opportunities to experience the natural world in its pristine state.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32960	Unassociated Parcels	St. Cloud Field Station Parcel	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The areas in question were acquired to restore important lands around rivers and lake systems--and it is definitely accomplishing its objectives of improving flood control, improving water supply and quality, improving protection and restoration of natural resources, preserving habitat for wildlife habitat, and providing opportunities for people to enjoy natural serenity in our increasingly overcrowded state. I feel strongly that it would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to commercial development, housing development, or even recreational development. Leave these areas as wild as possible!!!! Do not sell or exchange these properties. Do not rent them to commercial concessions or for-profit eco-tourism outfitters. Do not develop them to accommodate noise-polluting mechanized recreational activities that do not respect that natural environment. These important conservation lands should be retained and managed by SFWMD.	No, there is no better use to which the property can be put. Any change would detract from fulfillment of the District's core missions.	No, any other use or development would actually weaken support for protecting the natural environment and deprive the public of opportunities to experience the natural world in its pristine state.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34135	Lake Okeechobee	All	Growth Management and Land Use	Fishing				
53403	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Boating	Almost all areas are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	Almost all areas are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	Almost all areas are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	not well at all as they are considering selling property thats is considered prime wildlife habitat	Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	
34773	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The Kissimmee / Okeechobee Assessment Region parcel profiles have been posted on the SFWMD Land Assessment website for your review. Preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. Magnificent tracts such as the former National Audubon Society Kissimmee Prairie Preserve, now jointly owned by the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida, are undergoing evaluation for possible surplus declaration in this round of the land assessment This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow, and important to many other species that depend upon large tracts for their survival.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,
32764	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Water Quality	Equestrian	First I would like to have the dollar amount the SJRWMD received/used to purchase each of the parcels in question. Secondly, where did the funds come from? If the funds were from taxpayers then what right do you have to sell the property to developers? Development is a key player of the distruction of Florida and you are sleeping with the enemy? HUH!!! We are poisoning our springs, wasting valuable water for entertainment (golf/amusement) and you hand out permits like crazy! I ride the Lake Monroe Conservation area and see the areas that DOT or other construction companies put in to compensate for the vital wetlands they destroyed. Do you know I have NEVER seen over a couple of inches of water in any of them? Zilch on the wetland fauna either. Does John Q Public know this is how the SJRWMD protects the water and wetlands of Florida? I dare say not. The property you acquired, most likely with taxpayer funds, should be allowed to be turned over to the public for restoration or recreation. To sell any of it to developers who will only bring more pollution and destruction should be a crime.	Yes, as I stated above, either allow the land to return to it's natural state or turn stewardship over to agencies who will use it for passive recreation and enviromental purposes.	Protecting our natural wildlife and water quality should be a priority now.	Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34786	Unassociated Parcels	St. Cloud Field Station Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	It is my understanding that you are considering selling off the Tibet/Butler Nature Preserve for development. We have way too much development going on in this segment of Orange County now. There are very, very few untouched parcels of land. We need to keep this Preserve and preserve or we will have no animals or peace and quiet left in our county	I would just like to know if this is a rumor or something you are considering?		Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32043	Unassociated Parcels	Okeechobee Boat ramp Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses. Preservation and conservation are the best options. Nature knows best.	No.	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Lake Okeechobee,
94043	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Much of the land in question was acquired for the restoration of the Kissimmee River and its headwaters. Magnificent tracts such as the former National Audubon Society Kissimmee Prairie Preserve, now jointly owned by the South Florida Water Management District and State of Florida, are undergoing evaluation for possible surplus declaration in this round of the land assessment This tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.			Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33611	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	Extremely well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	NO. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	NO. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33611	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	Very well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33611	Lake Okeechobee	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	Very well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33611	Unassociated Parcels	St. Cloud Field Station Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	Very Well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33611	Unassociated Parcels	Clewiston Boat Ramp Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Very well. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	No. Audubon Florida's preliminary review of these parcels indicates that almost all are vitally important conservation lands which should be retained by SFWMD.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32789	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This important resource protects water supply, provides flood control, and is an essential home to the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. As development continues in the Kissimmee area, this is an important area to protect.	No.	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,
33880	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating				
34202	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating				Lake Okeechobee,
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This tract of land is extremely important for the survival of the FL grasshopper sparrow. Research in this area has shown that banded grasshopper sparrows return to the same area each year. Since the number of grasshopper sparrows has declined dramatically, it is imperative that we do everything we can to conserve their breeding habitat. This conservation land is also important in water conservation so I would think that it would also be in SWFMUD's interest to maintain this land.	If a controlled water access could be established perhaps the public could use this land and the sparrows could maintain their habitat. This would enable SWFMUD could maintain this land in their water management plan while simultaneously conserving the land for grasshopper sparrow breeding grounds.	Water access is a definite possibility. As stated above, this would allow public access while still maintaining breeding habitat.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
60614	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Water Quality	Boating				
34231	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking	Leave the land natural	No we need untouched land for our wildlife and for our enjoyment	Leave the land natural	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
28403	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	There is so little truly protected natural areas that none should be sacrificed. Additional areas should be acquired, not current areas eliminated. Prime areas of additional acquisitions should include protection for the Everglades water resources and areas that connect physically to already owned areas to facilitate safe movement of animals.	No	Mutual Support of Each Other	Kissimmee River,
32563	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Other	Other	Please do not change the current designation of the Chain of Lakes.	Just please LEAVE IT ALONE.		Kissimmee Chain of Lakes,
46725	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing			It serves its purpose by being there.	

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32703	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Very well. I believe that leaving the lands undeveloped and in their natural state is much better for flood control issues and water quality, than it would be otherwise.	Not at all.	No! There are already enough Malls and people have plenty of places to go shopping and do whatever they want to do. Leave the land the way it is in its natural state, that is what is becoming few and far between: wooded lands with birds and animals. If we don't take a stand somewhere there will be none left.	Lake Okeechobee,
33513	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Equestrian	These lands are important for use for green way as well as restoration of the wet/ dry prairie for many vital species and water conservation.			Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River,
32703	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Unassociated Parcels,
34606	Unassociated Parcels	St. Cloud Field Station Parcel	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	It would appear to be vital	No.	This area is a little out of the way for me (today) but I may well move closer in the coming year. As an active Audubon participant, bird-watcher, bird conservationist, hiker, kayaker, cyclist (etc, ect) these lands are vital to me too! For example, I visit Weeki Wachee Preserve (also SFWMD property) on a near daily basis. Just this past month moth I twice helped with banding efforts of (amongst others) the endangered Grasshopper Sparrow. These birds are known to return year after year (in declining numbers) to exactly the same spot, so any changes in land use could be disasterous (even an extinction event) for them, so I urge you to avoid "chopping and changing" land use / ownership wherever and whenever possible, even if this is slightly outside my current geographical range. Thanks for listening!	
32960	Lake Okeechobee	All	Growth Management and Land Use	Boating	The areas in question were acquired to restore important lands around lake systems--and it is definitely accomplishing its objectives of improving flood control, improving water supply and quality, improving protection and restoration of natural resources, preserving habitat for wildlife habitat, and providing opportunities for people to enjoy natural serenity in our increasingly overcrowded state. I feel strongly that it would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to commercial development, housing development, or even elaborate recreational development. Leave these areas as wild as possible!!!! Do not sell or exchange these properties. Do not expand existing commercial concessions or for-profit eco-tourism outfitters. Do not encourage noise-polluting mechanized recreational activities that do not respect that natural environment. These important conservation lands should be retained and managed by SFWMD.	No, there is no better use to which the property can be put. Any change would detract from fulfillment of the District's core missions.	No, any other use or development would actually weaken support for protecting the natural environment and deprive the public of opportunities to experience the natural world in its pristine state.	Lake Okeechobee,
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Hiking, Walking, Jogging				
33549	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee Prairie	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This land was acquired by the South Florida Water Management District in hopes of the Kissimmee River and to include properties around the chain of Lakes and Lake Okochoebee to be included in its restoration of the land. It is my hope that any of those properties should not be sold off and should be retained by the SFWMD. Any sold properties would endanger the habitat of that land and especially endangered bird species like that of the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. This was the initial core reason for attaining this land and we should not lose its vitality by selling off these properties and endanger it with development.	There should be no other use than to maintain our beautiful waterways and habitat of those areas. We are losing the battle of keeping our animals and bird species safe and we are losing precious animals when they become extinct. Stop this so that our children and our grandchildren can enjoy our beautiful Florida.	To maintain the beautiful habitat and do everything possible to keep any more species becoming an endangered species. Protect our waters and habitat and by doing so we will have a more beautiful Florida.	Kissimmee River,
01474	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	Not too well.	Yes.	Absolutely.	Unassociated Parcels,
34119	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	All Natural resources, lands, water must be protected and kept in good health!	Keep it clean and clear!!	If the care and well being of the land and waters are inproved then more birds, fish and people will visit and enjoy the benifits of a health habitat!	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
92105	Kissimmee River	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
92105	Unassociated Parcels	Camp Mack Triangle Parcel	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	It is vital to keep these lands in their natural state for wildlife protection, flood control and more open space for visitors.	see above answer	see above answer	
33960	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Other	The current use of these properties is consistent with the District's core missions of flood control, water quality protection and improvement, water supply and natural resource protection/restoration. The continued management of these properties is vital to improving the quantity and quality of water heading south down the Kissimmee River and eventually Lake Okeechobee. The protection and management of natural resources throughout the Everglades Headwaters northernmost reaches is the focus of work being done by multiple agencies and non-governmental conservation organizations. Proximity to existing conservation lands are an important criteria in assessing properties for the new Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area. Changing the land use of any of these properties could have a potential negative impact not only on the natural resources, but could undermine efforts by other agencies and conservation organizations to protect the unique cultural heritage of the region. Many area landowners are seeking conservation easements that would prevent their land from being developed and provide tax incentives for conserving natural resources that benefit the public. Such measures ensure that a 500 year tradition of cattle ranching and other traditional uses of the land are not lost.	There is not a better use of the property for meeting the District's core missions.	Where feasible and consistent with the District's mission, it may help defray management costs to lease additional property for cattle grazing. In addition, the District should consider allowing Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to manage properties with high biodiversity as Wildlife Management Areas, providing additional outdoor recreational opportunities for the public.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33606	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Boating	The Kissimmee Chain of Lakes properties provide essential protection of the Everglades Headwaters, important habitat connectivity for wildlife, effective buffering of the watershed from suburban and rural sprawl and land for agricultural activities such as raising cattle.	I would support cattle leases in sustainable densities on most of these properties. Otherwise, their use is excellent for the District's core missions.	I may be useful to develop more connections for the Florida National Scenic Trail and develop more ecotourism opportunities, such as working outfitters to offer horseback trail rides including overnight excursions. There would a lot of demand for these types of activities in Orlando throughout the country.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33960	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The current use of the property is consistent with the District's core missions of flood control, water quality improvement and protection, water supply, and natural resource protection/restoration. The properties being assessed in this unit are very important to overall Everglades restoration, as they are a part of the Kissimmee River watershed, which feeds into Lake Okeechobee. In addition these properties provide important upland habitat that is utilized by wide-ranging wildlife such as the Florida black bear. University of Kentucky and Archbold Biological Station (Venus, Florida) tracked a black bear wearing a GPS-enabled radio-collar throughout the entire length of the Kissimmee River, from State Road 60 to Lakeport, Florida. Such movements highlight the importance of wildlife habitat corridors, especially in a landscape such as exists in central Florida; improved pasture, croplands and tree-less dry and wet prairie provide little concealment for larger, forest-bound species such as the bear and the Florida panther. Even narrow strips of canopied forest, such as those along the Kissimmee River can facilitate movement that in turn facilitates the mixing of genetic material between subpopulations and the movement or migration of subadults to outlying areas where larger blocks of habitat provide sufficient range.	There is not a better use of the properties in this assessment unit than for conservation and restoration of natural ecological processes.	There are not better uses of the properties in this assessment unit.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
32751	Unassociated Parcels	St. Cloud Field Station Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	If there are no plans to develop this site for a field station it should be considered surplus. Perhaps Osceola County or the City of St. Cloud has some use for this site to erect some public facility. They should be invited to consider the site for such purposes.	Surplus	Surplus	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32751	Unassociated Parcels	Camp Mack Triangle Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	While this is a small odd-shaped parcel with no particular fit with a particular district program, the conversion of this parcel to developed uses (such as expansion of the adjacent mobile home park) would present environmental impacts at a site bounded by canals that lead to Lake Okeechobee and other district managed resources. The site shows a Priority 2 ranking in the Strategic Habitat Conservation Area index, and a Potential Habitat Richness of 5-6 Species. The Rare Species Habitat Priority index shows a Priority 3 ranking. This parcel appears to be wetlands, and should it be declared surplus and later developed by a private party wetland permitting would be required. In light of the wetland character of the parcel, and the potential environmental impacts that would result from its development we believe it serves the Core Missions of Water Quality Protection/Improvement and Natural Resources Protection/Recreation to retain this parcel in District ownership. An alternative might be conveyance to a county environmental land program with retention of a conservation easement.	No	No	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Unassociated Parcels	Clewiston Boat Ramp Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The developed portions of these three boat ramp facilities appear to relate to the mission of providing public recreation access to Lake Okeechobee. To the degree that this is interrelated with Natural Resource Protection and Restoration, the continued use of these parcels for this purpose may be integral to one of the District's Core Missions. The District could consider transferring the developed portions of these properties to a local government willing to continue management of the public facility. However, it appears that the State of Florida has a growing interest in the development of ecotourism and visitor access to Lake Okeechobee through the ongoing efforts to develop and manage the trail circling Lake Okeechobee. We recommend that a careful study of the long term use of these facilities and their relation to the state/district's long term missions be performed before any divestment of these properties occurs. With regard to the Sportsman's Village parcel, we believe a large part of this tract should be retained by the District due to its high natural resource value. A significant part of this 284.4 acre tract actually consists of Lake Okeechobee littoral zone marshes. The GIS habitat value evaluations for the tract show a Priority 2 Ranking in the Strategic Habitat Conservation Area index, and Priority 2 in the Rare Species Habitat Priority index. The latter ranking is likely the result of the probable presence of the Everglades Snail Kite. Finally, this tract is shown as within Flood Zone A and Flood Zone AE of the FEMA flood hazard evaluation system. For these reasons, Audubon believes that the large undeveloped area of the Sportsman's Village tract should be retained by the District.	It is possible that the developed areas of these tracts could be managed by local government as recreational access points.	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - Riverwoods Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The staff description indicates "This was a small neighborhood that was acquired because it fell within the floodplain of the Kissimmee River Restoration Project." That means the property was necessary for Flood Control purposes, as well as Natural Resource Protection and Restoration. These are two of the District's core missions. The GIS mapping provided by staff shows that almost all of this property ranks at priority 2 on the strategic habitat conservation area index. GIS mapping also shows that this property is located in Flood Zone A of the Kissimmee River as determined by FEMA. Audubon believes that this parcel should be retained by the District.	The staff description contains several examples of uses on the property that have value and are regularly engaged in by staff of the District: "...a staging area for field work, for laboratory facilities, and for boat and equipment storage. The District also has a contract with the Florida Atlantic University's Center for Environmental Studies to provide field support for District restoration evaluation studies. Additionally, they provide significant support for District outreach such as logistics and pontoon boat support for District tours of the restoration area and for onsite meetings." Perhaps formalization of this site as a field station for these uses is appropriate, recognizing that such uses are subject to inundation with the rise of water levels in the Kissimmee project.	This could be an ideal county park or access site to the Kissimmee River if is no longer needed for the District field operations functions described above.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - Ft. Basinger Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	As noted in the staff write-up, this property has a high degree of historical significance and artifacts of that history are clearly apparent on the site. Further, this site ranks high as a priority 2 in the strategic habitat conservation area index, and at priority 3 in the rare species habitat priorities. It also scores 5-6 species generally in the potential habitat richness rankings, with some parts of the tract ranking 7 species. We believe the District should retain this tract.	The district should continue to explore the possibility of partnering with other agencies or nonprofits for the management of this tract. The improving economy may allow eventual partner participation.	Management of the site in conjunction with a partnering organization may lead to more regular public use.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - Pearce-Lockett Estate Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	As noted in the staff write-up, this property has a high degree of historical significance and artifacts of that history are clearly apparent on the site. Further, this site ranks high as a priority 2 in the strategic habitat conservation area index, and at priority 3 in the rare species habitat priorities. It also scores 5-6 species generally in the potential habitat richness rankings, with some parts of the tract ranking 7 species. We believe the District should retain this tract.	The district should continue to explore the possibility of partnering with other agencies or nonprofits for the management of this tract. The improving economy may allow eventual partner participation.	Management of the site in conjunction with a partnering organization may lead to more regular public use.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - Chandler Slough Lofton Frontage Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The Chandler Slough tract ranks high at priority 2 on the strategic habitat conservation area index and at priority 3 in the rare species habitat priorities. In addition, the tract shows up at 5 species on the potential habitat richness scale. This pasture area is important to birds such as Audubon's Crested Caracara, Florida Sandhill Crane and Bald Eagles. We believe that this tract continues to fulfill the core mission of Natural Resource Protection and Restoration, and should be retained by the District.	No	No	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - Lamb Island - County Road 68 Parcels	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The staff write-up indicates that "...There are no planned uses for the small residential lots that lie between the swamp and County Road 68. However, we doubt that Florida Sandhill Cranes, Bald Eagle, and Audubon's Crested Caracara have read those words or would agree with them if they had. The "residential lots" which provide a contiguous connection (and access) from SR 68 to the cypress swamp actually have higher habitat values than the cypress swamp itself. The lots show up as priority 2 in the strategic habitat conservation area index, whereas the cypress swamp shows up ranking in priority 5. In the potential habitat richness ranking, much of these lots show up at 5-6 species while the cypress swamp is only ranked at one species. Similarly, portions of the lots show up at a priority 4 ranking in the rare species habitat priorities, while the cypress swamp area is not ranked at all in this priority category. The presence of higher ecological values on the lots reflects the ecotone at the edge of the cypress swamp. Audubon believes these properties should be retained as an ecologically important part of the larger property. This property clearly fulfills the core mission of Natural Resource Protection and Restoration.	Restoration of any disturbed areas as funds become available or as can be arranged through mitigation requirements	No	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Unassociated Parcels	Sportsman's Village Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The developed portions of these three boat ramp facilities appear to relate to the mission of providing public recreation access to Lake Okeechobee. To the degree that this is interrelated with Natural Resource Protection and Restoration, the continued use of these parcels for this purpose may be integral to one of the District's Core Missions. The District could consider transferring the developed portions of these properties to a local government willing to continue management of the public facility. However, it appears that the State of Florida has a growing interest in the development of ecotourism and visitor access to Lake Okeechobee through the ongoing efforts to develop and manage the trail circling Lake Okeechobee. We recommend that a careful study of the long term use of these facilities and their relation to the state/district's long term missions be performed before any divestment of these properties occurs. With regard to the Sportsman's Village parcel, we believe a large part of this tract should be retained by the District due to its high natural resource value. A significant part of this 284.4 acre tract actually consists of Lake Okeechobee littoral zone marshes. The GIS habitat value evaluations for the tract show a Priority 2 Ranking in the Strategic Habitat Conservation Area index, and Priority 2 in the Rare Species Habitat Priority index. The latter ranking is likely the result of the probable presence of the Everglades Snail Kite. Finally, this tract is shown as within Flood Zone A and Flood Zone AE of the FEMA flood hazard evaluation system. For these reasons, Audubon believes that the large undeveloped area of the Sportsman's Village tract should be retained by the District.	It is possible that the developed areas of these tracts could be managed by local government as recreational access points.	No	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32751	Unassociated Parcels	Okeechobee Boat ramp Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The developed portions of these three boat ramp facilities appear to relate to the mission of providing public recreation access to Lake Okeechobee. To the degree that this is interrelated with Natural Resource Protection and Restoration, the continued use of these parcels for this purpose may be integral to one of the District's Core Missions. The District could consider transferring the developed portions of these properties to a local government willing to continue management of the public facility. However, it appears that the State of Florida has a growing interest in the development of ecotourism and visitor access to Lake Okeechobee through the ongoing efforts to develop and manage the trail circling Lake Okeechobee. We recommend that a careful study of the long term use of these facilities and their relation to the state/district's long term missions be performed before any divestment of these properties occurs. With regard to the Sportsman's Village parcel, we believe a large part of this tract should be retained by the District due to its high natural resource value. A significant part of this 284.4 acre tract actually consists of Lake Okeechobee littoral zone marshes. The GIS habitat value evaluations for the tract show a Priority 2 Ranking in the Strategic Habitat Conservation Area index, and Priority 2 in the Rare Species Habitat Priority index. The latter ranking is likely the result of the probable presence of the Everglades Snail Kite. Finally, this tract is shown as within Flood Zone A and Flood Zone AE of the FEMA flood hazard evaluation system. For these reasons, Audubon believes that the large undeveloped area of the Sportsman's Village tract should be retained by the District.	It is possible that the developed areas of these tracts could be managed by local government as recreational access points.	No	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - 4Es Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The staff description of this property says: "...this is a small portion of a larger parcel that is effectively cut-off from the larger property by U.S. 98. The site is covered by invasive and exotic shrubs and trees. There is a small pond at the west end of the property. There are no public use facilities on the site...". However, regardless of these factors, the GIS mapping disclosed for this site shows very significant natural resource protection values. The site ranks at priority 2 on the strategic habitat conservation area index; priority 3 on the rare species habitat priority rankings, and much of the site shows up with a 5 – 6 species ranking on the potential habitat richness scale. These rankings are likely the result of this property being used by Florida Sandhill Crane, Woodstork, Audubon's Crested Caracara and similar species. The "pond" referred to in the staff description is actually a borrow pit, however its appearance on aerial photography suggests a useful littoral zone. The pond is likely a strong attractant for wading birds including woodstorks when more shallow prairie sloughs dry up during the dry season. Audubon believes that this property should be retained by the district, and that it fulfills Natural Resource Protection and potentially restoration elements of the Core Missions of the District.	Restoration of the site by removing exotic vegetation and replacing exotics with native species would be of significant value.	This property could be opened to the public. A small parking area accessed from US 98, combined with a trail to allow the "pond" to be reached by visitors could provide freshwater fishing opportunities.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - 52 Acre Hammock Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	We believe that this parcel supports the District's core mission of Natural Resource Protection and Restoration. The oak hammock adds significant ecological value to the floodplain or marsh parcels standing alone. The ecotone between wetland and upland environments is one of the richest types of habitat areas. This site ranks well showing a priority 2 in the strategic habitat conservation area index, and 5-6 species generally and 7 species in some portions reflecting potential habitat richness. We believe that the District should retain this parcel.	No, generally just retain it as is.	Improving and adding to the public access features as funds become available would be desirable.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area - River Acres Floodplain Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The staff write-up indicates that "...This water retention area was acquired because it falls within the topographic contours defining the Kissimmee River floodplain." In general, we think that the discussion regarding whether the District should retain this property ends here. It is obviously a property which SFWMD was required to acquire under the agreements with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in connection with the Kissimmee Restoration Project. This parcel should be retained because it meets the District's Flood Control, and Natural Resource Protection and Restoration missions.	The condition of this tract being invaded with exotic plants presents opportunities for restoration which should be pursued as funds become available, or though the mitigation/restoration needs of other parties.	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32751	Kissimmee River	Istokpoga Floodplain	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The staff description states "...the portion outside of the floodplain does little to support the District's core mission in its present condition, other than to limit the potential impact to water resources from development or an intensification in land use." We would disagree strongly with that characterization, but do note that the value of limiting impacts from development or an intensification of land use is an important feature in itself which supports several of the District's core mission (Flood Control, Water Quality protection/Improvement, Natural Resource Protection and Restoration.) The portion outside the flood plain ranks high in value on at priority 2 on the strategic habitat conservation index, at priority 3 on the rare species habitat priorities. As noted in the staff write-up, this property is adjacent to a much larger state conservation property to the west, and serves as a wildlife corridor. Audubon believes that this property meets the core mission of Natural Resource Protection and Conservation. We recommend that it be retained by the District.	No	No, however the district should continue its evaluation of possible public use noted in the staff description.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee River	Poole E / Paradise Run	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	(Note - this comment encompasses everything in Pool E/Paradise Run, INCLUDING the Yates March Parcel, Paradise Run Parcel, Telex Marsh Outparcel, and Spoil Sites) The bulk of the properties listed in this section (including the various individual parcel assessments) are valuable acquisitions associated with the Kissimmee River Restoration project. Even though some of these are impacted or degraded properties, the scoring in the GIS based data evaluations show high values in priority 2 range of the strategic habitat conservation area analysis, priority 3 of rare species habit priority rankings, and reaching at least 5-6 species in the potential habitat richness evaluation. To one degree or another, each of these parcels is needed for Flood Control, Water Quality protection/improvement, and Natural Resource Protection elements of the District's Core missions. Some of these parcels (spoil bank parcels) may have little apparent natural resource value. However, if these parcels were to be declared surplus and marketed to private parties, the access to these parcels for development, and the environmental impacts of such development relating to the Kissimmee Restoration Project immediately adjacent to them must be carefully weighed. Moving such parcels into private ownership would present many complicating issues which are best avoided by District. Audubon recommends that these parcels be retained in District ownership.	Additional restoration as funds become available should be evaluated.	Additional opportunities for public access should be evaluated as funds become available. Partnership management with the adjacent county park may be appropriate in the case of the Telex Marsh Outparcel. It is also possible that conveyance of the Telex Marsh Outparcel to Okeechobee County maintaining appropriate conservation easements and reverter provisions in favor of the District may be worth consideration.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Lake Okeechobee	Lakeside Ranches	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This tract serves District Core Missions of Water Quality Protection/Improvement, and Natural Resource Protection and Restoration, and should be retained. In addition to the important STA construction, the land ranks high in the GIS analysis of habitat value. Strategic Habitat Conservation Area rankings are at Priority 2, Potential Habitat Richness ranks 5-6 species through 7 species, and Rare Species Habitat Priorities are at Priority 4.	Completion of the STA and management of the remainder of the site for wildlife habitat. The staff analysis has correctly predicted that the forested area is important in conjunction with the re-created wetlands in the STA as a roosting site for birds that will feed in the STA.	No. Recreational access features should be added as soon as practical.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
	Kissimmee River	Pool A - KICCO and Blanket Bay	Recreation and Public Use	Hiking, Walking, Jogging			I heard from River Ranch Resort that there is a land swap proposal between them and land within KICCO that I did not find listed in the Land Assessment. As a taxpayer I support keeping the KICCO lands in public ownership and not transferring a portion over to a private company who will develop the lands.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32751	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This comment includes all of the following tracts: Kicco and Blanket Bay; Kissimmee Prairie; Kissimmee River Restoration. Audubon Florida believes that these properties fulfill all of the Core Missions of the South Florida Water Management District, including flood control, water quality protection/improvement, water supply, natural resource protection and restoration. These lands are all located on water bodies which will experience raised water levels and changed water management as a result of the Kissimmee Restoration Project. Public ownership of these tracts is essential to this major Federal/State restoration project. Further, all of these lands have extremely high natural resource value. Scoring from the GIS layers provided by SFWMD staff show intense locations of priority 1-4 Rare Species Habitat Priority lands, priorities 1-3 in the Strategic Habitat Conservation rankings; potential habitat richness in the 5 to 13 species range, and numerous showings of very rare/vulnerable to critically imperiled priority natural communities rankings. These properties are important habitat for an important suite of species including the Bald Eagle, Florida Sandhill Crane, Audubon's Crested Caracara, Burrowing Owl, Mottled Duck, Everglade Snail Kite, Woodstork, and Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. Audubon Florida believes that all of these lands should be retained by the district. Audubon is particularly familiar with the Kissimmee Prairie tract because it was originally purchased by Audubon and managed as Audubon's Kissimmee Prairie Sanctuary. This property was sold to the state at the state's request in 2001.	In general, no. There may be more restoration opportunities as funds become available or as mitigation circumstances arise.	In general, no. There may be additional recreation access and visitor use development opportunities which could be pursued if funds become available.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Lake Okeechobee	North of Lake	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	While these properties were acquired for a conceptual water storage project which does not appear to have ongoing viability, the lands have significant value associated with the District's Core missions of Flood Control, Water Quality Protection and Natural Resource Protection and Restoration. GIS mapping of the pastureland involved discloses relatively high rankings in the Priority 2 level of Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas, Priorities 3 and 4, Rare Species Habitat Priorities, 2-4 and 5-6 Species rankings in the Potential Habitat Richness rankings. This habitat value is associated with the fact that pastureland mimics many of the habitat features of the old Kissimmee Prairie ecosystem and attracts many of the same species.	If the district is not going to utilize these tracts for a water storage/STA type facility, it is possible that a creative land exchange could be initiated using these tracts with the objective of completing acquisition of the Paradise Run project area immediately to the east of these parcels. Such a land exchange would require retention of a conservation easement on the properties to be traded away, as these properties have considerable conservation value and it would be difficult to justify a claim that these properties are "no longer needed for conservation".	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Lake Okeechobee	Lemkin Creek	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This tract is an active pilot project involving nutrient removal through algal turf scrubbers and similar technological innovations. It may also serve as the site to deploy and evaluate other technological means of water cleanup. It clearly serves the core mission of Water Quality protection/Improvement and should be retained for this reason.	The acquisition of the property immediately to the south for the purpose of expanding the project and intercepting further stormwater flows from the City of Okeechobee should be expedited.	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Lake Okeechobee	Grassy Island / Taylor Creek	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This tract fulfills District Core Missions of Water Quality Protection/Improvement and Natural Resource Protection and Restoration. The STA facility which is proposed for eventual expansion is an important water quality improvement feature north of Lake Okeechobee. It could be more effective if expanded. Further, the site shows both existing and potential ecological value on a high order. The current GIS evaluation with most of the tract in a pasture-like condition displays Strategic Habitat Conservation Area values at Priority 2, Potential Habitat Richness in the 5-6 species through 8-13 species habitat ranges, and rankings at Priority 3 in the Rare Species Habitat Priorities index. This tract should clearly be retained.	Expansion of the current STA facility would be desirable.	As currently managed, this tract provides a superior public recreation facility (jogging trail) and nature appreciation and interpretation opportunities very close to the City of Okeechobee. Consideration should be given to the expansion of these opportunities in conjunction with STA expansion.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Lake Okeechobee	Nubbin Slough	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This tract is clearly providing benefits to the District Core Mission areas of Water Quality Protection/Improvement, and Natural Resource Protection and Restoration. The completion of the proposed STA will enhance these benefits. The GIS evaluation shows a Priority 2 in the Strategic Habitat Conservation Area analysis, Potential Habitat Richness in the 2-4 species through 7 Species range, and Priorities 4 and 3 in the Rare Species Habitat Priorities. This tract should be retained by the District. The triangle shaped area outside the impoundment boundary has little environmental value; however it is adjacent to a public road and may be a useful site for the development of a visitor entrance and parking area similar to the facility at Grassy Island/Taylor Creek.	No. Recommend continued progress on completion of the STA.	Visitor access similar to Grassy Island/Taylor Creek should be added.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

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32751	Lake Okeechobee	Nubbin Slough - Triangle Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The triangle shaped area outside the impoundment boundary has little environmental value; however it is adjacent to a public road and may be a useful site for the development of a visitor entrance and parking area similar to the facility at Grassy Island/Taylor Creek	No. Potential visitor use parking area.	No. Potential visitor use parking area.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Lake Okeechobee	Lake Okeechobee Islands	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The original purpose of acquisition of these islands was to allow the District maximum flexibility in the potential operating range of Lake Okeechobee. That purpose remains valid today. Therefore, the District's Core Missions of Flood Control, Water Quality protection/improvement, Water Supply, and Natural Resource Protection and restoration are all well served by retaining District ownership of the islands. The Islands rank in Priority 2 On the Strategic Habitat Conservation Area GIS index.	Environmental restoration efforts on these islands should be intensified. Working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, the District could significantly improve the value of the islands for wildlife.	Visitor Access to these islands, and both day use and overnight camping could be developed as improved public uses.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32080	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Water Supply	Other Conservation Assessments and Field Research	These parcels are indispensable for the SFWMD to conduct its business and complete its core mission. The District acquired the parcels to obtain rights necessary to increase water stages in and around the lakes to make the Kissimmee River restoration possible – an endeavor that is absolutely central to this District's core mission. As well, numerous species of imperiled wildlife such as whooping cranes, sandhill cranes, wood storks, snail kites, ospreys, and many other species utilize the shoreline communities within the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes. Perhaps no lands owned by the SFWMD are more important to Everglades restoration and the South Florida economy – through water quantity and quality protection – than the suite of lands herein considered for potential surplus since they form an integral portion of the headwaters of the Everglades ecosystem. Many, if not most, of these lands were sought for protection and restoration by the District beginning in 1990 through the Save Our Rivers program when scientists and engineers from the District and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers working on the Kissimmee River Restoration Project determined that not enough water would be available in the upper Chain of Lakes to provide year round base flow for the restored river. It was estimated that an additional 100,000 acre-feet of water storage was required to provide longer durations and seasonal variability of flow to restored river in the lower basin. The recommended solution was to raise the existing lake regulation schedule from 52.5' to 54.0'. It was necessary to acquire real estate interests on land around lakes Kissimmee, Cypress, Tiger, and Hatchineha in eastern Polk and southwestern Osceola counties to complete these vital restoration efforts, efforts crucial to the water supply of the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, the Everglades and the residents and agricultural interest of South Florida. Additionally, most of	No. As stated above, many of the lands – or interests therein – were acquired because they fell below the 54.0' contour and they were necessary to be in public ownership in order to raise the water levels to supply water essential for the restoration of the Kissimmee River. Many of the sites are either floodplain swamps (e.g., Lake Marion Creek, London Creek where they flow into Lake Hatchineha) and were acquired to support the higher water stages in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes to provide adequate flow to the restored sections of the Kissimmee River or were regulatory acquisitions as mitigation for wetland impacts by nearby land development. The Rolling Meadow tract, for example, supports the natural systems management function of the District by being a large-scale mitigation funded restoration project. This site supports water supply by allowing for higher stages in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, and by restoring the hydrology and removing the drainage to a large marsh system. The site also supports water quality concerns by removing a nutrient heavy use (a former sod farm with intensive fertilizer requirements) from the upper Kissimmee/Okeechobee watershed. As a general rule that should be considered as part of this exercise, any large, contiguous and connected system of lands in the region should be retained not only for the conservation of habitat and wildlife but for the hydrological benefits they provide to South Florida and an economy dependent upon a steady and reliable supply of clean, freshwater. Frankly, it is completely unwarranted to even consider the potential surplus of 99% of the lands owned by the District in this region, with only a few small, scattered parcels even remotely appropriate for such consideration and/or disposition. For example, the District acquired a flowage easement around most of Tiger Lake to support raising water stages for the benefit	No. Most of the lands have been used for years as improved cattle pasture, but the SFWMD has been gradually restoring these areas to marsh/wet prairie. These natural grasslands are well suited to cattle, wildlife, and the recreating public. Consequently, the district has been able to maintain much of the area in agricultural production, while simultaneously improving thousands of acres of lakeshore habitat, and increasing the area available for public recreation. FWC has established hunting and public use regulations over the area. The District has built 2 shelters, 15 campsites, 2 airboat crossings and a large boat ramp facility to accommodate public use in the area. These investments and the infrastructure must be retained for the good of the public in terms of water quality and supply, enormous contributions to the economy through water protection and agricultural productivity and recreational benefits, including tourism and eco-tourism. The District staff has done an outstanding job of evaluating these lands, restoring many of them and leasing others out, where appropriate, for cattle leases that also assist with overall management. These lands for	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
	Kissimmee River	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating				
33606	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Boating	The Kissimmee River properties provide essential protection of the Everglades Headwaters, important habitat connectivity for wildlife, effective buffering of the watershed, key landscape linkages with regional state parks and Avon Park Airforce Range, military base buffering and land for agricultural activities such as raising cattle.	I would support cattle leases in sustainable densities on most of these properties. Otherwise, their use is excellent for the District's core missions.	I may be useful to develop more connections for the Florida National Scenic Trail and develop more ecotourism opportunities, such as working outfitters to offer horseback trail rides including overnight excursions. There would a lot of demand for these types of activities in Orlando throughout the country.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33960	Lake Okeechobee	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Fishing	The current use of the properties in this assessment unit are consistent with the district's core mission of flood control, water quality improvement and protection, water supply, and natural resource protection/restoration.	There is not a better use of the properties in this assessment unit than for conservation and restoration of natural ecological processes.	There are not better uses of the properties in this assessment unit.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
34446	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Water Quality	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	It's been a few years, I don't know. I know that Florida in general is losing more and more water every day to bottling companies, farm runoff and leaking sewage, not to mention overdevelopment/ consumption, so we must do everything we can to reverse that trend, not continue it. Sinkholes and slime and dried-up lakes need to decrease, not increase. Undeveloped land needs to remain undeveloped. Native animal species' roaming territories have already been carved by development and roads; they need to be able to survive as well, keep the ecosystems going.	Selling the lands off to be used by private companies, individuals and developers will not help the District's core missions of Flood Control, Water Quality protection/ improvements, Water Supply, Natural Resource protection and restoration. One tract is vital habitat for the endangered Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. It would be tragic if any of these prime conservation properties were lost to development or inappropriate uses.	The property should stay as it is or with even more scientifically informed and experienced management to preserve continuity in endangered (and non-threatened) species' land/ ecosystem, as well as the water quality and supply that serves so many people. Water must be protected and conserved above all-- we're thinking of taking water from north of Atlanta but can't even manage what we've got? Clean up the chemicals, prevent them from reaching our waters in such dangerously high concentrations, and preserve undeveloped land for the health of our air and water, animals and citizens. Think long-term not short-term, personal / corporate responsibility and *health returns* not free permits and financial returns!	
33471	Lake Okeechobee	All	Growth Management and Land Use	Other economic development	You seem to be acquiring a lot of land and doing very little to increase the water supply; you're potentially protecting natural resources and water quality but only by preventing them from being developed, not in any proactive way, and to the detriment of the tax base and development potential in Glades County, where, because so much land is already privately held, there's a small footprint available for development in the first place.	Develop water storage/water treatment facilities in such a way that they can be used compatibly for recreational purposes; then allow unused land around those facilities to be developed for residential, tourism or other uses that have economic development potential to offset the loss in tax base caused by taking the land off the tax rolls.	Any properties that aren't being used directly for water/storage/treatment should be deeded back to the counties, beginning with the 90 acres or so SFWMD owns in Moore Haven near Lake Hicpochee, the developable strip along SR 80 that was part of the BOMA purchase, etc.	Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This comment reflects a review inclusive of the following parcels: Lake Cypress NE Shore, London Creek & Lower Marion Creek, KCOL Marshes, Catfish Creek, and Lake Kissimmee properties. In sum, Audubon Florida believes that these properties fulfill all of the Core Missions of the South Florida Water Management District, including flood control, water quality protection/improvement, water supply, natural resource protection and restoration. These lands are all located on water bodies which will experience raised water levels and changed water management as a result of the Kissimmee Restoration Project. Public ownership of these tracts is essential to this major Federal/State restoration project. Further, all of these lands have extremely high natural resource value. Scoring from the GIS layers provided by SFWMD staff show intense locations of priority 1-4 Rare Species Habitat Priority lands, priorities 1-3 in the Strategic Habitat Conservation rankings; potential habitat richness in the 5 to 13 species range, and numerous showings of very rare/vulnerable to critically imperiled priority natural communities rankings. These properties are important habitat for an important suite of species including the Bald Eagle, Florida Sandhill Crane, Audubon's Crested Caracara, Burrowing Owl, Mottled Duck, Everglade Snail Kite, Woodstork, and Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. Audubon Florida believes that all of these lands should be retained by the district.	In general, no, but as funds become available, various portions of these tracts present environmental restoration opportunities. There may additional opportunity to plug ditches or canals to slow the flow of water toward the SFWMD drainage system. This kind of restoration work could have similar benefits to the mitigation work done by the Nature Conservancy on the Disney Wilderness Preserve property, and the work the District itself has done in the KCOL marshes area.	In general, no, but as funds become available, additional opportunities for public access and facilities for appropriate recreation activities may be developed by the district or partner agencies.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32751	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	London Creek and Lower Lake Marion Creek - Pasture Parcels	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Because, as the staff assessment of this parcel notes, "...the area is likely to be seasonally inundated following the implementation of higher managed water stages in Lake Hatchineha...", these lands should be retained by SFWMD as an important ownership component for completion of the Kissimmee Restoration Project and the revised operating schedule for Kissimmee Chain of Lakes structures. For this reason, this tract is important to the following elements of the District's Core Mission: Flood Control, Water Supply, Natural Resource Protection and Restoration. Further, while the staff description of this property states it "...does not share the same natural character as the rest of the site... (and is) "... are degraded improved pastures..." GIS data show that the property is of significant value for wildlife. The pasture tracts score in priority 2 of the Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas ranking, and rank on the upper end of the scale, between 5 and 13 species, in potential habitat richness. Much of the property is priority 4 in the rare species habitat index. This pasture property which is reverting toward prairie like habitat is susceptible to high usage by species such as the Florida Sandhill Crane, Audubon's Crested Caracara, Bald Eagle, and at times following high water events by a plethora of wading birds including woodstork. There is high wildlife value on this tract regardless of the prior disturbances.	Generally, no, but there could be opportunities for additional restoration activities or wildlife management enhancements on this site as funds become available.	Generally, no, but as public funds become available, access improvements for public use could be considered.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Rolling Meadows	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This site contains all of the values and meets all of the core mission components of the District, and could have been incorporated in our primary comments on other properties in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes group such as the Lake Cypress NE Shore, London Creek & Lower Marion Creek, KCOL Marshes, Catfish Creek, and Lake Kissimmee properties. However, we break it out for discussion here to note that regardless of the highly disturbed area of the large former sod farm on this tract, environmental restoration is underway to achieve outstanding habitat and water management values. The sod farm portion of this tract has reverted to a deeper hydroperiod because of a break in the former farming levee allowing water levels to equalize with Lake Hatchineha. Other similar disturbed lands associated with tracts owned by the district should be considered for similar restoration as funds become available, or as opportunities for innovative mitigation projects become apparent. Much of this site scores high on the GIS indexes, particularly the strategic habitat conservation area measure, and rare species habitat priorities.	No. Restoration as currently underway should continue.	In general, no. Additional opportunities for public use should be explored after restoration success in accomplished.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
32751	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Tiger Lake	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This tract serves Flood Control and Natural Resource Restoration District Core missions due to its importance to the ability to raise water level in the chain of lakes to facilitate the Kissimmee Restoration project. The staff comment "...it is likely that the acquisition of a flowage easement, consistent with the rest of Tiger Lake, would have been adequate as well..." fails to recognize that this particular tract has some significant natural resource values present that could not be adequately protected by a flowage easement alone. The mixed pine, cypress, hardwood community that occupies the northern portion of the tract scores high on at priority two on the strategic habitat conservation areas index, and moderately high on the rare species habitat priority and potential habitat richness indexes. We believe that this tract should be retained by the District.	Some restoration of disturbed areas on the property would be beneficial, perhaps through mitigation requirements arising from offsite permit requirements.	This property seems ideal for joint use with the county, or a non profit natural resources organization for passive public park or nature center purposes.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32751	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Lake Kissimmee - Oasis Marsh Parcel, outside of the floodplain	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The portion of this tract above the 54 foot contour may be outside of the required acquisition area for the Kissimmee Restoration project from a hydrologic point of view. However, the boundary of the 54 foot contour cuts a serpentine path across the entire parcel and there is no "clean" break point to segregate a marketable parcel of significant size from the remainder. Further, while parts of the western side of the property may be above the 54 foot contour, the entire tract shows high ecological value on the GIS indexes. The entire property, including the part above the 54 foot contour ranks at priority 2 in the strategic habitat conservation area index, and as priority 3 in the rare species habitat priority index. Because of the complex serpentine boundary of the 54 foot contour on the site, we believe the entire site is important to the Flood Control, Water Quality protection/improvements Core Mission areas of the district, as well as the Natural Resource Protection and Restoration components of the District's Core Mission. The high habitat values, likely reflecting significant use by Bald Eagle, Florida Sandhill Crane, Woodstork, and Audubon's Crested Caracara are indicative of a tract that should be retained by the District. We recommend its retention.	In general, no. There may be some "dispersed water management" project possibilities for this tract.	In general, no. If a "dispersed water management" project were established on this tract it might provide recreational opportunities.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33306	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	By continuing to protect the habitat of threatened, endangered and critically endangered species, SFWMD is remaining close to its core missions.	The protection of the ecosystems in these properties is supporting the core missions of the district; there is no better use of these properties than that protection. These sacred lands are too rapidly disappearing, and once they are gone, they cannot ever be brought back.	Assessing the use of the land where the critically endangered species lives, the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow, seems unnecessary, unless there is more that can be done to protect its habitat. The land that contains the natural habitat of this critically endangered sparrow is currently being used, by its very existence, in the most respectful and responsible manner: protection of the habitat. Two other species, the Burrowing Owl (a species of special concern) and the Crested Caracara ( a threatened species) occupy the same habitat as the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. They are also victims of habitat loss due to land development. The Burrowing Owl was once a common site on the campus of my alma mater, Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. It has sadly now become more of a symbol than a reality. To consider using this land for sale to be open to development would be to act without integrity. SFWMD should continue to protect its reputation as guardians and restorers of Florida's precious ecosystems. To be in any way connected to the extinction of such a critically endangered species that is endemic to only this region	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33880	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Other	These properties are all associated with the Kissimmee River Restoration Project and all current uses of these lands further the District's core missions as stated above. All of these lands should be retained by the District. As Conservation Chair of Sierra Club Florida, I can tell you that Club members are very distressed that these properties are even being considered for surplus. These lands are vital to the regions water quality and quantity, flood control and natural resource protection and restoration. District data shows that the lands are also highly valuable habitats for many species in addition to providing wildlife corridors and linkages at a landscape level.	No, however as funding becomes available additional restoration should be done on some portions of the tracts.	Development and/or enhancement of appropriate nature based public recreation opportunities and facilities would be highly desirable.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33881	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Kissimmee Chain: all land located on these water bodies will experience raised water levels and is therefore essential to restoration project.	No.	No - but would like to see improved public access.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
33957	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Water Supply	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	These properties are critical for providing water storage in the Kissimmee watershed to attenuate flows to Lake Okeechobee and to help meet the Kissimmee MFL. They also provide essential storage to reduce high flow discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries. If these lands were to be developed, not only would they not provide the existing storage, but they would likely become water users and would be afforded flood control, increasing the demand on existing water supplies and resulting in impacts on water quality in Lake Okeechobee and the east and west coast estuaries.	These lands could be used to store even more water than they currently do. Storage should be maximized on these lands to reduce impacts on Lake Okeechobee and the east and west coast estuaries. Increased water storage, flood control, and water quality benefits would occur from increased storage on the lands.	These lands should be retained by the District and additional infrastructure should be installed, schedules changed, or BMPs implemented to increase water storage on these lands. Impacts on wildlife habit and protected species should be considered when increasing water storage on these lands.	Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34987	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	We need to leave as much as possible of FL's remaining natural lands just as they are. This is vital to the protection of native threatened or endangered species and vegetation, and respects the interdependency of all life in our environment. You just can't tinker with part of it and not expect the other parts to be affected. In a day when so much of FL is being paved over or commercially/industrially exploited, we simply can't afford to lose ANY more natural areas. PLEASE KEEP THEM AS THEY ARE!	No.	We should leave these lands undeveloped forever. That includes not allowing grazing, mining, residential construction. Only the barest minimum of facilities to accommodate visitors should be allowed. We need to protect what little natural land we have left.	Lake Okeechobee,
34972	Unassociated Parcels	Okeechobee Boat ramp Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Other Have not visited unassociated parcels	The District should maintain its mandate to provide for recreational facilities for public access to lands and waters it manages in South and Central Florida. This access provides a venue for the growth and development of recreational, esthetic and conservation values. Only with public support can the District maintain support for its core missions.			
33960	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Other	Other	These sites meet the core missions of Flood Control, Water Quality protection/improvements, Water Supply, Natural Resource protection and restoration. They should not be under consideration for potential surplus. There should at least be a clear scientific process conducted by the SFWMD for public review before any such considerations are made. Please see separate email attachments sent to sfrankli@sfwmd.gov			Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33705	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species Defenders members use water supply, wildlife conservation/study, recreation	Other Defenders members utilize these areas for water supply, wildlife conservation/study, recreation,	Two areas did not meet our higher thresholds for conservation value, one of which is Rita Island which are pleased to note is now undergoing restoration activities., we are further investigating the other properties. We refer you to an analysis provided by Audubon of other areas around the Lake. Defenders of Wildlife finds that the value of the parcels within the project area lies not only in their individual attributes but very importantly in their role as part of a landscape level water resources, conservation and recreation land and water network. All parcels within the project area make a conservation contribution that helps fulfill the mandate of the South Florida Water Management District mission. All properties are included in an analysis based on review of the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWCC) Integrated Wildlife habitat Ranking Suystem data at level 2 and level 5, Florida Imperiled Species Habitat maps, and the University of Florida/Florida Natural Areas Inventory/FWCC Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project 2.0 (CLIP) Priority 1 and 2 data.	Recognition of the interdependency and need for connectivity of upland and wetland systems is important to the longterm health of water resources, wildlife and adaptation to climate change. Thus a robust monitoring, management and *restoration* program should be conducted throughout the project area.	See above. Maintaining our investment in the District's holdings and adding to the network of conservation areas with buffers of natural or low intensity use working lands will give Florida a valuable foundation for water supply, recreation areas, wildlife habitat and mitigating climate change.	Lake Okeechobee,
33705	Unassociated Parcels	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Boating Assure protection of endangered and threatened species	Potential surplus, due to conversion of many public boat ramps to private holdings which puts pressure on other natural systems and prevents access for recreation, the area should remain open to general citizen use.	Potential surplus, see above. Maintain public access.	Potential surplus, see above. Maintain public access.	Unassociated Parcels,
34974	Lake Okeechobee	Nubbin Slough	Cost savings / Management Efficiency	Other	As local cattle ranchers, we see that there are parcels that are not being used for the District's mission.	Yes. We believe that this surplus land that is not contributing to the District's mission, should be made available and sold to the public. From the proceeds of these sales, the District can fund the current ongoing projects. As the public turn these parcels into productive land, the District will benefit from this extra tax revenue. Furthermore, the community will benefit from the increasing economic activity.	As mentioned above, by selling surplus land to the public, the District can use this extra revenue to invest in its current ongoing projects, improving the environment and natural resources in general.	Lake Okeechobee,
34601	Kissimmee River	Pool A - KICCO and Blanket Bay	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	None of the individual parcels in this assessment area should be considered surplus. All parcels should be retained to further the goals of Kissimmee River Restoration, to accommodate public recreational use, and to protect the floodplain.	No.	No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
33460	Lake Okeechobee	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	I believe that the current property is providing the necessary protection and restoration is was intended to provide. I believe that these properties were properly purchased and remain important to protecting Lake Okeechobee.	No.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
33460	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	London Creek and Lower Lake Marion Creek	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area is ideally suited for bird watching. It was purchased to hold water, they are also mitigation purchases. These areas are ideally suited for the role they are currently providing. They were purchased as preservation land. I recommend that this land be retained in its current use. Many species that are protected reside in this area.	No.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
33460	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Catfish Creek	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area is ideal wildlife habitat. It is providing the function for which it was purchased. It provides an area to hold storm water runoff. It would not be ideal for any other purpose. While it is difficult to access by some it is providing access for wildlife viewing. One may reach it by kayak, canoe or boat. It also acts as a wildlife corridor.	No.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
33460	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Rolling Meadows	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area is ideally suited as a wetlands mitigation site. It is providing water retention for the Kissimmee River restoration project. It is being returned to its original wetland state. It is also serving as a wildlife corridor. It is providing water quality by removing nutrients by permitting them to settle during flood periods. It provides a direct link to the Lake Kissimmee State Park and should remain in this capacity.	No. It should be retained to hold flood waters.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
32080	Lake Okeechobee	All	Water Quality	Other Conservation Assessments and Field Research	Although we realize that this name is likely just for record-keeping and organizational purposes, it is a misnomer since many more of the lands north of Lake Okeechobee also constitute a significant portion of the watershed for the lake. Passed in 2000, the Lake Okeechobee Protection Act (Section 373.4595, Florida Statutes) established a restoration and protection program for the lake. This program addresses the reduction of phosphorus loading to the lake from both internal and external sources. The strategy has involved regulatory controls, voluntary public/private partnerships, and the construction of large storm water treatment areas on SFWMD-owned lands. These tracts have varied uses revolving around water treatment, retention/storage and research and technology development and on methodologies for reducing nutrient loads to Lake Okeechobee. The vast majority of these properties are vital to the core mission of the SFWMD and those portions of various parcels that are not directly necessary for such vital work are already leased out for cattle grazing and other light forms of agriculture. As a good example, the Lakeside Ranches tracts lie along the east side of Lake Okeechobee. They were acquired to provide treatment for water coming off of nearby agricultural lands to reduce the amount of excess nutrients entering the lake. The first storm water treatment cell has now been completed. Wetland treatment cells often attract a wide variety of wildlife. Additionally, there are portions of the site that are forested and will be left outside of the footprint of the treatment cells. These include small stands of cypress, oak hammock, and pine flatwoods that will be important roosting and nesting areas for wildlife utilizing the treatment cells. The forested wetlands are being restored as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with the construction of the storm water treatment project. These statements show there is a lot	Not really. For example, the Lake Okeechobee Islands were acquired by the District in the 1950s and 1960s after the completion of the Herbert Hoover dike and the Central and South Florida Project for flood control and protection. The land was necessary to obtain the rights necessary to maintain the water within the lake in accordance with the approved regulation schedule. As such, the surplusing of any of these tracts - and/or any other lands like them - seems most unwise and unwarranted. These lands for the most part (approximately 99% of them) well meet the SFWMD's core mission of balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. There should be no surplusing of any lands acquired and managed by the SFWMD (or its partners) that are needed for water quality enhancement, including retention/storage and treatment and that contribute to reducing nutrient loads to Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades system. As well, lands that comprise large, contiguous holdings "C i.e., landscape-scale, watershed and headwater wetlands "C and that contribute to connectivity in this important region of the District, should not (and cannot) be seriously considered for any kind of surplus action. The District staff should be commended for the thorough information, excellent resource descriptions and significance of the tracts, reasons for acquiring the land or interests therein and current restoration, management and public use activities/facilities (including many excellent site condition photographs and pertinent maps) that were made available for this review. These materials provide a very sound basis for reviewing the status and appropriateness of any surplus consideration for these lands and well-demonstrate the importance of these properties and their compliance with the District's core mission. Frankly, it is completely unwarranted to even consider the potential	Possibly, but only in a limited number of circumstances. For example, a few small areas might be surplused contingent upon perpetual conservation easements in place that allow the District to maintain its ongoing programs and activities and allow only compatible uses of the adjacent lands. A pertinent example might be the small triangular outparcel of land bounded by SR 710, SE 58th St., and SE 48th St within the Nubbin Slough project area. This land is vacant and degraded improved pasture that fell outside of the designed footprint of a water quality treatment cell. It is possible after further review, input and consideration that an isolated parcel such as this might actually be suitable for outright surplusing "C unless needed as a staging area, buffer, equipment storage or facilities development. In general, however, lands that may be seriously considered for any kind of surplus action should be viewed through a lens of retained conservation easements, transfer to government partners, and/or appropriateness for cattle grazing leases. It is apparent that the District is already forward looking in its responsibilities and is duly considering	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
34974	Lake Okeechobee	North of Lake	Natural Systems Restoration	Other Ecological restoration, fish & wildlife management			Paradise Run, 8.5 miles, is the southernmost remnant of the Kissimmee River. Paradise Run restoration was an original component of the USACE Central and Southern Florida Project, Environmental Restoration of the Kissimmee River, Florida, Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement, December 1991. Much of the original channel and oxbow footprint remains intact in the Paradise Run segment of the Kissimmee River. SFWMD acquired lands in Paradise Run for restoration activities; however, restoration was never undertaken. Several historical, and ongoing, fish and wildlife community assessments by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission documented the ecological importance of Paradise Run. Paradise Run supports a high abundance of wintering waterfowl and wading bird foraging activity. Paradise Run supports a significant portion of available foraging habitat for wading birds in the northern Lake Okeechobee area when high lake levels result in a water depth that is not suitable for wading bird foraging. Much of the land in Paradise Run is in SFWMD ownership;	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33898	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	SFWMD IS DOING AN VERY GOOD JOB OF THE CURRENT USE OF PROPERTIES WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS IN THE ABOVE AREAS.	ACCESS TO SEVERAL PROPERTIES THAT CURRENTLY HAVE NO ACCESS. 1) ROLLING MEADOWS UNIT MARSH 2) KISSIMMEE RIVER PARIRIE STATE PESERVE MARSH.	100% OF SFWMD PROPERTIES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE UNLESS THERE IS A PROVEN SCIENTIFIC REASON TO DO OTHERWISE.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34987	Lake Okeechobee	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	We need to leave as much as possible of FL's remaining natural lands just as they are. This is vital to the protection of native threatened or endangered species and vegetation, and respects the interdependency of all life in our environment. You just can't tinker with part of it and not expect the other parts to be affected. In a day when so much of FL is being paved over or commercially/industrially exploited, we simply can't afford to lose ANY more natural areas. PLEASE KEEP THEM AS THEY ARE!	no.	It would be OK to install minimal accommodations for visitors, including toilets, drinking water, and shade. Nothing else.	Unassociated Parcels,
34974	Lake Okeechobee	Lemkin Creek	Flood Control	Other	The core mission, as it relates to flood control, might not be adequately addressed with the implementation of the Lemkin Creek project. The City of Okeechobee shares SFWMD's water quality concerns and applauds their efforts to direct resources to that end, understanding federal and State water quality mandate compliance. However, the City is in dire need of flood control initiatives. It's the City's belief that the Lemkin Creek project will provide minimal flood control relief and SFWMD should explore alternate methods to address same. In order to expand the project to include a flood control component, it would be necessary to substantively increase the land area, or footprint involved for water retention...making a real difference in the amount of storm event, flood water retention that is diverted from the primary effluent ditches of the City.	The use of the property to address water quality improvements may be the highest and best, unfortunately the City of Okeechobee feels that the most pressing issue facing our residents is the chronic flooding problem. The City has reservation that this project will advance much corrective measures in flood control, or at least to the level that was proposed in prior feasibility reports. Without increasing the area of the project and to some extent modifying the scope to include additional water retention, the effectiveness for flood control will be compromised.		Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33705	Unassociated Parcels	Okeechobee Boat ramp Parcel	Threatened and Endangered Species	Boating Assure protection of endangered and threatened species	Potential surplus, due to conversion of many public boat ramps to private holdings which puts pressure on other natural systems and prevents access for recreation, the area should remain open to general citizen use.	Potential surplus, see above. Maintain public access.	Potential surplus, see above. Maintain public access.	Unassociated Parcels,
34601	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee Prairie	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park is one of the most significant natural areas in the entire state of Florida and the District should not contemplate surplussing a single acre of this property.	Absolutely not. Its highest and best use is as a Preserve.	No better use than as a state Preserve.	Kissimmee River,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
34601	Kissimmee River	Istokpoga Floodplain	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	Although much of the Istokpoga Floodplain parcel has been converted to improved pasture and is not need to support restoration of the Kissimmee River, it has important value as a corridor/connector linking the Lake Wales Ridge and Kissimmee River Valley systems. Ownership of the entire parcel must be retained to maintain long-term connectivity across this landscape.	No; it is appropriate that it continue to be grazed by cattle until such time as active habitat restoration is contemplated.	No.	Kissimmee River,
34601	Kissimmee River	Kissimmee River Restoration Area	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	The only parcels that should be considered further for potential surplusage at the Pool D Floodplain Parcel and the portions of the CR-68 Residential parcel that are located between the protected swamp and the CR-68 right-of-way. All the other parcels should be retained, despite the altered condition of some of the parcels and limited need in support of Kissimmee River restoration. They have habitat and public uses values that merit retention in public ownership for conservation purposes.	No.	No.	Kissimmee River,
33460	Lake Okeechobee	Nubbin Slough	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	I recommend that this area be retained as it is being used to catch water off of adjoining lands to be clean runoff. It is operating as it was originally intended.	Not at this time. In the future there may be an opportunity for public access for wild life viewing.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
33460	Lake Okeechobee	Lakeside Ranches	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area was purchased to provide treatment of water coming off adjoining properties to clean it. This provides a benefit to protecting and reducing nutrient loading into larger water bodies.	No.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
33460	Kissimmee River	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	These properties were purchased to improve the Kissimmee River and it surrounding flood plain. These areas provide flood relief by holding runoff and provide habitat to endangered species.	No.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
33460	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	Lake Cypress NE Shore	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area is providing habitat for a number of species. It is also providing the primary use which was the ability to raise water levels.	It is wetlands and being used for flood protection. I don't see any other use.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
33460	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	North KCOL Marshes	Threatened and Endangered Species	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area functions as a diverse habitat for wildlife. It is ideally being managed and is providing the role of water catchment and water quality enhancement it was intended to provide. I would recommend that it be retained and that the district continue to remove the agricultural structures and continue to restore it as wetlands habitat. It provides an excellent facility for bird watching and should continue in this use. It provides some camp sites for recreational use.	No, I would continue to move forward with restoring this property as a fully functioning wetland.	No.	Lake Okeechobee,
32080	Kissimmee River	All	Water Supply	Other Conservation Assessments and Field Research	The Kissimmee River Restoration Act passed in 1976 allowed for the initial studies and planning for the restoration of the river. The Save Our Rivers program, created in 1981, was infused with dedicated funds from the documentary stamp tax in 1985 and from Preservation 2000 in 1990. A plan was developed and recommended, and The Kissimmee River Restoration Project was authorized by Congress in the 1992 Water Resources Development Act as a joint partnership between the District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project was designed to restore over 40 square miles of river/floodplain ecosystem including 43 miles of meandering river channel and 27,000 acres of wetlands. To complete the restoration – consistent with laws and the District's core mission – it was necessary to acquire sufficient rights in the land within the 100-year floodplain. The restoration of the Kissimmee River has been a central feature of the District's core mission since the District was created in 1973. This restoration project soundly encompasses all of the District's core mission functions with significant contributions to flood control, natural systems restoration, water quality, and water supply. It is absolutely imperative to retain all of the lands whose acquisition was so carefully thought out for many years after the careless destruction of the Kissimmee River ecosystem and before its importance to South Florida's water balance was generally known or appreciated. To date, the restoration has been a huge success, is a nation-wide ecologically imperative, and provides massive public recreational benefits. As well, the project and these lands are critical for Lake Okeechobee and Everglades restoration, including South Florida's water supply, quality and the economic engine of the entire region. It would be sheer folly for Florida's future to surplus any of these core holdings of contiguous lands.	No. As an example, an early demonstration project to support the feasibility of the river restoration occurred over a portion of the Kicco site. While much of Kicco lies outside of the portion of the river floodplain that will be backfilled, it was necessary to acquire it because of the upstream impact from increased flows from the Chain of Lakes to the restored river. The over-drained marshes in Blanket Bay Slough and Kicco have significant restoration potential that could support water quality, water supply, flood control, and natural systems restoration. As part of the Kissimmee River's watershed, Kicco contains a large area of flatwoods on the south end, many scattered oak hammocks, several cypress sloughs, marshes, wet prairie, and dry prairie. The site shares a border with the Avon Park Air Force Range and helps to buffer this important military installation and its vital war-fighting training mission from encroachment of incompatible uses. Endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers are found in the flatwoods and the dry prairie could support the endangered grasshopper sparrow if they become more widely established within Avon Park. As well, the District acquired the portion of the Kissimmee Prairie Preserve (and State Park) within the floodplain as the northernmost stretch of the Kissimmee River restoration. The District and the State jointly acquired, and share title to, the vast native prairie system (designated as globally imperiled) east of the floodplain that serves as the watershed for this significant stretch of the Kissimmee River. The expansive landscape of sloughs and prairies serves a significant water supply function, and the portion that lies within the floodplain supports the Kissimmee River restoration. The Kissimmee Prairie contains major expanses of important wet and dry prairie. The site supports a plant biodiversity that is among the highest found in North America. The endangered grasshopper sparrow's core	Not really, but it is possible that some of the scattered individual parcels could be surplused or sold with a retained conservation easement for non-destructive, non-row crop, agricultural practices (e.g., cattle grazing). Even if outside of the floodplain of the Kissimmee River, most of these properties support varied public access and recreation usage that is important to the region's economy and public enjoyment. For example, Lamb Island Dairy and a few of the CR 68 Residential Lots might actually be surplused but with more study required depending on the funding source utilized to acquire them. As well, part of the Istokpoga floodplain tract (i.e., that area outside of the actual floodplain) might also be surplused, but only for continued agricultural usage for cattle grazing with a retained conservation easement. Because these lands could be part of an important wildlife corridor and could have increased public access and usage, at the very least a conservation easement restricting activity to agricultural usage should be in place prior to any such surplus. The same may be said for Pool E and Paradise Run parcels, but they should	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
33880	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Other	Re: Kissimmee River Restoration, Kicco and Blanket Bay and Kissimmee Prairie, all current uses of these lands further the District's core missions as stated above. All of these lands should be retained by the District. As Conservation Chair of Sierra Club Florida, I can tell you that Club members are very distressed that these properties are even being considered for surplus. These lands are vital to the regions water quality and quantity, flood control and natural resource protection and restoration. District data shows that the lands are also highly valuable habitats for many species in addition to providing wildlife corridors and linkages at a landscape level.	No, except that there may be more restoration opportunities as funding/partnerships/mitigation allow.	No, except that additional opportunities/amenities for appropriate nature based recreational access could be provided as funding allows.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33830	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Other Management Observations	This project definitely meets the District's core mission concerning flood control, water quality enhancement, water supply and protection of natural resources. The floodplain provides water storage opportunities, and the associated marshes assist with treatment of the water, while providing wildlife habitat. The Rolling Meadows tract allows for great opportunities for wetland restoration and alternative water storage areas. Overall the project restoration to marsh and wet prairie is showing success in creating valuable water resources with the associated wildlife.	In my opinion these is not a better use of the properties, but would encourage to continue the natural resources restoration projects.	The project allows for boating access to beautiful natural areas. The opportunities for camping, hunting, wildlife viewing and fishing is a great public use asset.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,
34987	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	We need to leave as much as possible of FL's remaining natural lands just as they are. This is vital to the protection of native threatened or endangered species and vegetation, and respects the interdependency of all life in our environment. You just can't tinker with part of it and not expect the other parts to be affected. In a day when so much of FL is being paved over or commercially/industrially exploited, we simply can't afford to lose ANY more natural areas. PLEASE KEEP THEM AS THEY ARE!	No.	You should forever forbid commercial/industrial use, including grazing, mining, and residential building.	Kissimmee River,
32948	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Hunting				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33705	Kissimmee River	All	Threatened and Endangered Species Defenders members use water supply, wildlife conservation/study, recreation	Other Defenders members use the area for water supply, wildlife conservation/study, recreation	All parcels with one samll exception lie within our analysis; that parcel is surrounded by District water resource lands and thus its placement in the landscape signifies it should be maintained so as not to complicate the management or cause fragmentation of the surrounding area. Defenders of Wildlife finds that the value of the parcels within the project area lies not only in their individual attributes but very importantly in their role as part of a landscape level water resources, conservation and recreation land and water network. All parcels within the project area make a conservation contribution that helps fulfill the mandate of the South Florida Water Management District mission. All properties are included in an analysis based on review of the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWCC) Integrated Wildlife habitat Ranking Suystem data at level 2 and level 5, Florida Imperiled Species Habitat maps, and the University of Florida/Florida Natural Areas Inventory/FWCC Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project 2.0 (CLIP) Priority 1 and 2 data.	Recognition of the interdependency and need for connectivity of upland and wetland systems is important to the longterm health of water resources, wildlife and adaptation to climate change. Thus a robust monitoring, management and *restoration* program should be conducted throughout the project area.	See above. Maintaining our investment in the District's holdings and adding to the network of conservation areas with buffers of natural or low intensity use working lands will give Florida a valuable foundation for water supply, recreation areas, wildlife habitat and mitigating climate change.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33460	Lake Okeechobee	Grassy Island / Taylor Creek	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area looks ideal for protecting wild life. It is ideally wet and seems to hold many areas that would benefit wild life. Some areas are listed as having 8 to 13 species.	I would recommend keeping it as wild life habitat. I would continue to permit public access.	Not at this time. I would have to see a recommendation from the district on how this would be done and what could improve public access.	Lake Okeechobee,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
32080	Unassociated Parcels	St. Cloud Field Station Parcel	Recreation and Public Use	Canoeing and Kayaking	The second round of lands being made available by the SFWMD for review for possible surplus includes a suite of extremely hydrologically and ecologically significant lands in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, along the Kissimmee River and extending south to Lake Okeechobee. These lands are grouped under the general heading of Kissimmee/Okeechobee Assessment Region. The Nature Conservancy appreciates the opportunity to comment on the possible surplus of these important lands, lands that for the most part (approximately 99% of them) well meet the SFWMD's core mission of balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. There should be no surplus of any lands acquired and managed by the SFWMD (or its partners) that are needed for water quality enhancement, including retention/storage and treatment or that contribute to reducing nutrient loads to Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades system. Lands that comprise large, contiguous holdings – i.e., landscape-scale, watershed and headwater wetlands – and that contribute to connectivity in this important region of the District, should not (and cannot) be seriously considered for any kind of surplus action. As well, those lands that primarily provide recreational access for the citizens of Florida should likewise be retained by the SFWMD or its partners. The Nature Conservancy was instrumental in bringing forth many of these lands for conservation and restoration efforts and we are intimately familiar with the natural resources and ecological attributes of this suite of properties having conducted de novo field investigations over the past 20+ years to document their overall significance.	No. Most of these properties provided much needed recreational access and are important to the region's [tourism and hunting] economy and to the citizens of the State of Florida.	Not particularly. It appears as if the majority of these often smaller and scattered/disjunct tracts are managed in conjunction with another public/governmental entity to provide public access (i.e., boat ramps) to other District or state-owned lands. As such, they should be retained as providing an important public service and contributing to the District's core mission. Only one, the St. Cloud Field Station parcel may be suitable for surplus, but, again, with a retained conservation easement in place because of a bald eagle nest on site. It is also of note that the entire Kissimmee/Okeechobee region (as herein defined by the SFWMD and the subject of this round of surplus reviews) is highly significant for bald eagles as the area fledge more young eagles than any other area within lower 48 states. As such, lands supporting these kinds of habitats – even margin – if supporting eagle's nests or even potential foraging lands should be conserved as they fit well with the District's core mission. Additionally, the District staff should be commended for the thorough information, excellent resource descriptions and	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33881	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	1. Kissimmee Chain: all land located on these water bodies will experience raised water levels and is therefore essential to restoration project. 2. London - Pasture: Needed for completion of restoration project - significant for wildlife. 3. Rolling Meadow: Meets all core mission components. 4. Oasis: Entire tract shows high ecological value.	1. No but restoration work needed. 2. No. 3. No - continue restoration especially of sod farm area. 4. No.	1. No - but would like to see improved public access. 2. No - improve public access when funds available. 3. No. 4. No.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34974	Lake Okeechobee	Lake Okeechobee Islands	Natural Systems Restoration	Other			There is limited quality emergent marsh in the southern area of Lake Okeechobee. Degradation of perimeter and internal levees, backfilling of internal ditches, and removal of derelict water control structures on Ritta, Torry, and Kreamer Islands would allow connection of these lands with the lake proper. Current plant communities on these islands are typified by species, native and exotic, with low fish and wildlife habitat value. Removal of impediments to water flow across these islands will result in improved water quality and development of conditions conducive to establishment of desirable native plant species. Ritta Island external levees were degraded into the borrow ditch in 2004; however, internal ditches remain.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33460	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	This area is ideal for all these activities. The Kissimmee River area provides headwaters to the Everglades Ecosystem.	No. These properties were purchased to provide natural habitat, flood protection and water quality. If these are lost this will negatively impact restoration of the Everglades and improvement of Lake Okeechobee		Kissimmee River,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
34974	Kissimmee River	Poole E / Paradise Run	Natural Systems Restoration Ecological restoration, Fish & Wildlife Management	Other Ecological restoration, fish & wildlife management			Paradise Run, 8.5 miles, is the southernmost remnant of the Kissimmee River. Paradise Run restoration was an original component of the USACE Central and Southern Florida Project, Environmental Restoration of the Kissimmee River, Florida, Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement, December 1991. Much of the original channel and oxbow footprint remains intact in the Paradise Run segment of the Kissimmee River. SFWMD acquired lands in Paradise Run for restoration activities; however, restoration was never undertaken. Several historical, and ongoing, fish and wildlife community assessments by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission documented the ecological importance of Paradise Run. Paradise Run supports a high abundance of wintering waterfowl and wading bird foraging activity. Paradise Run supports a significant portion of available foraging habitat for wading birds in the northern Lake Okeechobee area when high lake levels result in a water depth that is not suitable for wading bird foraging. Much of the land in Paradise Run is in SFWMD ownership;	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
33830	Kissimmee River	Pool A - KICCO and Blanket Bay	Other Management Interests	Other Management Observations	This project definitely meets the District's core mission concerning flood control, water quality enhancement, water supply and protection of natural resources. The floodplain provides water storage opportunities, and the associated marshes assist with treatment of the water, while providing wildlife habitat. The KICCO tract allows has important natural areas. Overall the project restoration is showing success in creating valuable water resources with the associated wildlife.	In my opinion these is not a better use of the property, but would encourage continuation of the natural resources restoration projects.	The project allows for boating access to beautiful natural areas. The KICCO tract allows for camping, hunting, wildlife viewing and fishing. The historical aspect with the old town just adds a component highlighting the natural and cultural heritage.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,
33830	Unassociated Parcels	Camp Mack Triangle Parcel	Other Management Interests	Other Management Observations	The Camp Mack Triangle adds to the District's mission for protection of natural resources. It rates mainly as strategic habitat priority two. While the site is small it plays a part in the overall protection of water, wildlife and wilderness.	In my opinion there is not a better use of the property.		Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,
34987	Unassociated Parcels	Okeechobee Boat ramp Parcel	Natural Systems Restoration	Hiking, Walking, Jogging	We need to leave as much as possible of FL's remaining natural lands just as they are. This is vital to the protection of native threatened or endangered species and vegetation, and respects the interdependency of all life in our environment. You just can't tinker with part of it and not expect the other parts to be affected. In a day when so much of FL is being paved over or commercially/industrially exploited, we simply can't afford to lose ANY more natural areas. PLEASE KEEP THEM AS THEY ARE!	No.	I think we should outlaw gas-powered boat motors on our protected waters, too.	Kissimmee River,
34461	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating	We need to protect as much land as possible to insure future generations are able to not only use the lands for fishing hunting and other recreational uses but I do think water restoration is a top priority.	No I do not think there are better uses than that of recreational puposes.		Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Unassociated Parcels,
33527	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Recreation and Public Use	Boating				Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,
34972	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	District lands are key to successful implementation of its core mission to provide for flood protection, ecosystem restoration and aquifer recharge for water supply.	The properties are vital to core missions of watershed restoration and rehydration. Only better use would be the expansion of public/private agreements to expand storage and emergency management of storm events.	The properties are vital to core missions of watershed restoration and rehydration. Only better use would be the expansion of public/private agreements to expand protection of habitat and wildlife corridors.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,

Zip Code	Project Name	Units/Parcels	Interests	Activity	Opinion Current Use	Opinion Effective Support	Opinion Other Public Issues	Sites Visited
34972	Kissimmee River	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	District lands are key to successful implementation of its core mission to provide for flood protection, ecosystem restoration and aquifer recharge for water supply.	The properties are vital to core missions of watershed restoration and rehydration. Only better use would be the expansion of public/private agreements to expand storage and emergency management of storm events.	The properties are vital to core missions of watershed restoration and rehydration. Only better use would be the expansion of public/private agreements to expand protection of habitat and wildlife corridors.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
34972	Lake Okeechobee	All	Natural Systems Restoration	Bird Watching, Wildlife Viewing	District lands are key to successful implementation of its core mission to provide for flood protection, ecosystem restoration and aquifer recharge for water supply.	The properties are vital to core missions of watershed restoration and rehydration. Only better use would be the expansion of public/private agreements to expand storage and emergency management of storm events.	The properties are vital to core missions of watershed restoration and rehydration. Only better use would be the expansion of public/private agreements to expand protection of habitat and wildlife corridors.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee,
33705	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes	All	Threatened and Endangered Species	Other Defenders members uses the water supply, wildlife conservation/study, recreation	Defenders of Wildlife finds that the value of the parcels within the project area lies not only in their individual attributes but very importantly in their role as part of a landscape level water resources, conservation and recreation land and water network. All parcels within the project area make a conservation contribution that helps fulfill the mandate of the South Florida Water Management District mission. All properties are included in an analysis based on review of the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWCC) Integrated Wildlife habitat Ranking System data at level 2 and level 5, Florida Imperiled Species Habitat maps, and the University of Florida/Florida Natural Areas Inventory/FWCC Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project 2.0 (CLIP) Priority 1 and 2 data.	Recognition of the interdependency and need for connectivity of upland and wetland systems is important to the longterm health of water resources, wildlife and adaptation to climate change. Thus a robust monitoring, management and *restoration* program should be conducted throughout the project area.	See above. Maintaining our investment in the District's holdings and adding to the network of conservation areas with buffers of natural or low intensity use working lands will give Florida a valuable foundation for water supply, recreation areas, wildlife habitat and mitigating climate change.	Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Unassociated Parcels,