



Public Use on SFWMD Stormwater Treatment Areas

Long-Term Plan
Quarterly Communications Meeting
March 3, 2017

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Public Use On STAs

Public Use on District Lands

- Why have Public Use?
- Policy and Rules
- Recreation Partnerships
- STA Activities



Public Use Program Background Information

Why Have Public Use?

- 373.4592 “the district shall allow these areas to be used by the public for recreational purposes... unless such uses are incompatible with the restoration goals of the Everglades Construction Project..”

- SFWMD created

- Public Use Policy
- Public Use Rules



Public Use Program Background Information

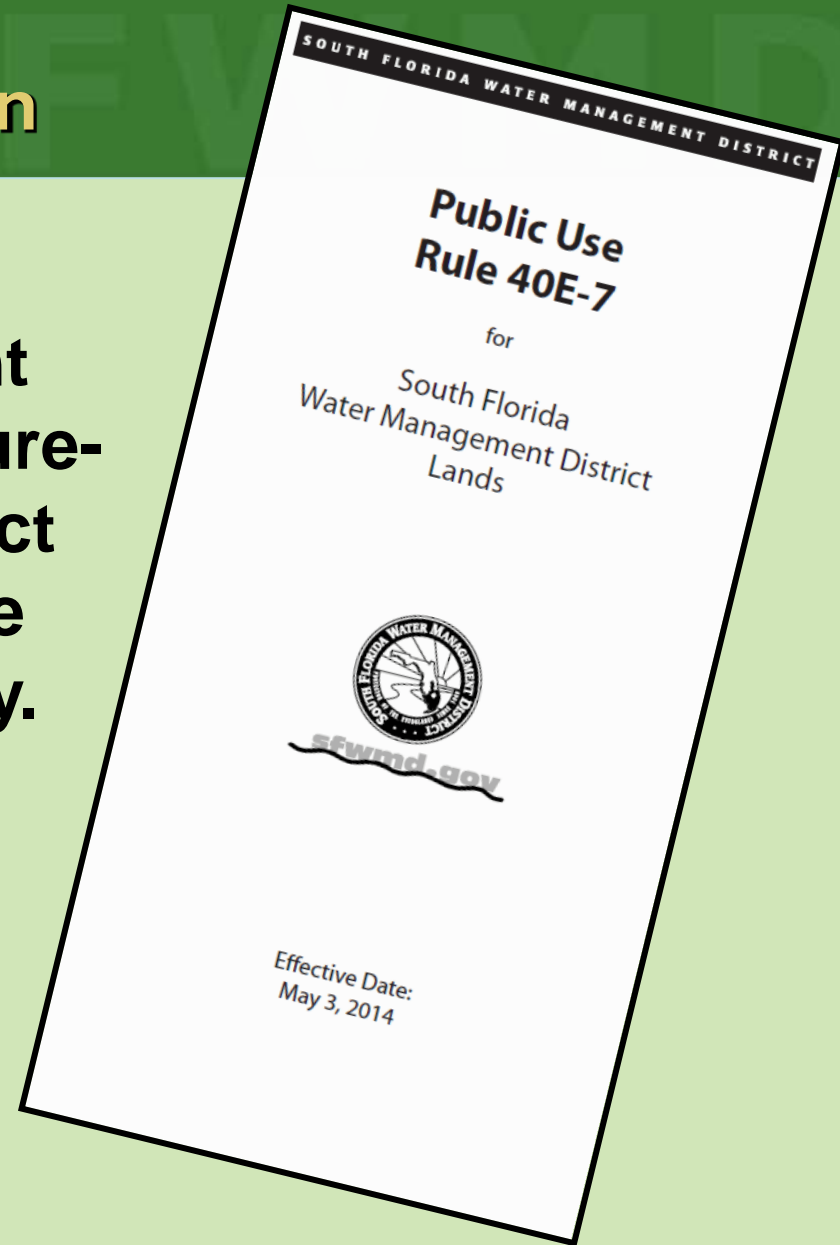
Public Use Policy

- Public Participation
 - WRAC Recreation Issues Meetings
- Project Purposes First
 - Different rules for different types of lands
- Project Planning and Construction
 - Incorporate recreation facilities



Public Use Program Background Information

- **Public Use Rule 40E-7**
 - Rules provide commitment for public access and nature-based recreation on District lands consistent with state statutes and District policy.
 - Types of Land include:
 - Conservation
 - Interim
 - Right of Way
 - Project Lands



Public Use on STAs

➤ Project / Constructed Wetlands Stormwater Treatment Areas



STA 1W



STA 3/4

Public Use Program Partnerships

- **Audubon Society- Cooperative guided bird-watching tours on the STAs.**

- 1st Audubon tour in 2005 at STA 5, now 3 Chapters leading over 65 tours with 1,600+ participants at 3 STAs, 1E, 2, and 5,

- **Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission**

- Manage waterfowl & alligator hunting and enforce public use rules



Public Use Program Partnerships

- Waterfowl Hunting for Disabled hunters



STA 5



STA 5

Public Use Program Partnerships

- FWC and Wounded Warrior Outdoors



STA 2



STA 2



STA 2

Public Use Program Partnerships

- Florida Trail Association
- STA 5



STA 1E – Palm Beach County

- Public access, open on “extended weekends” Fri. – Mon.
- Daylight hours
- Fishing in public use area
- Audubon bird watching tours



STA 1W – Palm Beach County

- Public access, open on “extended weekends” Fri. - Mon.
- Daylight hours
- FWC waterfowl and alligator hunting
- Fishing in public use area



STA 1W



STA 1W

STA 2 – Palm Beach County

- FWC waterfowl and alligator hunting
- Youth & wounded warrior alligator Hunting
- Audubon bird watching tours
- Access to WCA 2A



STA 3/4 – Palm Beach County

- Public access, open on “extended weekends” Fri. – Mon.
- Daylight hours
- Boat Ramp 7 days, daylight hours
- Fishing exterior canals & SE public use area
- FWC waterfowl and alligator hunting



STA 5 – Hendry County

- Public access, open on “extended weekends” Fri. – Mon.
- daylight hours
- FWC waterfowl and alligator hunting
- Audubon bird watching tours



STA 5 Boardwalk



STA 5 Trail Head

Thank You



Loxahatchee River