



# *Storm Water Treatment Areas Public Access and Recreational Use*

*Jerry Krenz, AICP  
South Florida Water Management District  
November 15, 2004*

# STORMWATER TREATMENT AREAS

- SFWMD policy on Recreation
- What are STAs?
- Compatible and incompatible activities
- Public comments on activities in the STAs



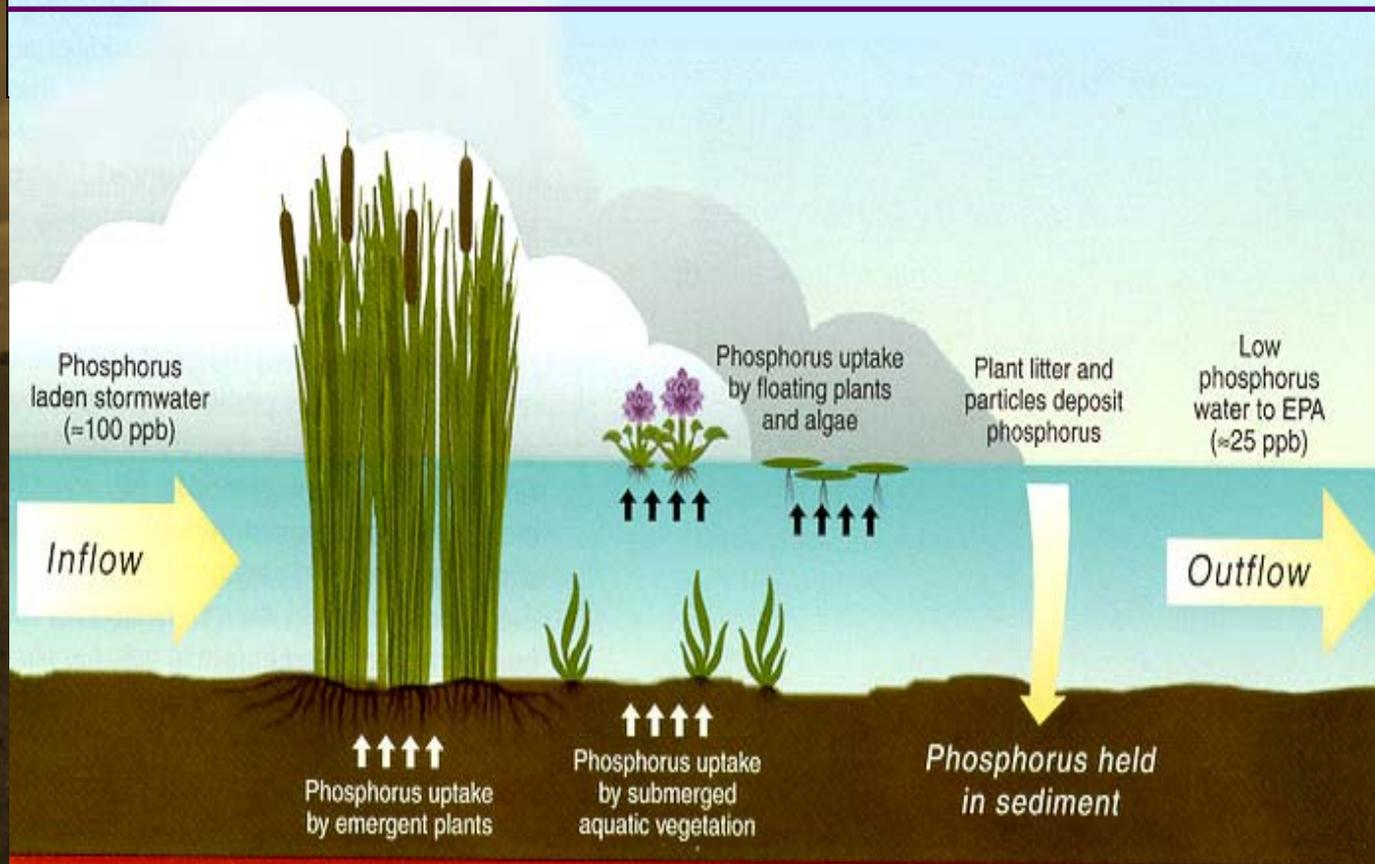
## SFWMD RECREATION POLICY

- Public access is part of construction planning
  - budget for FY06
- Activities are compatible with the projects purpose
- Public Process
- Recreational Use Plans



## Stormwater Treatment Areas

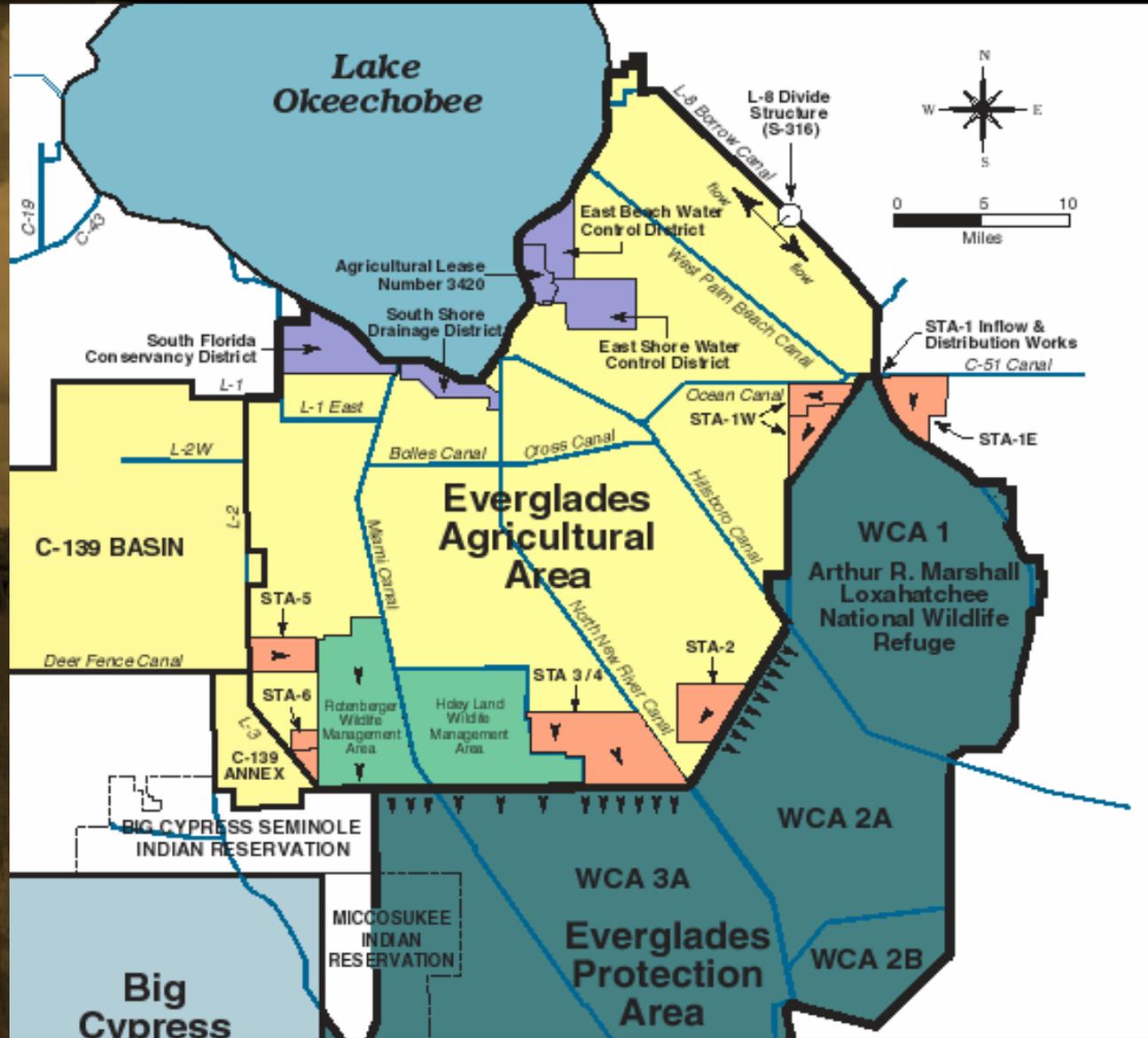
STAs are constructed wetlands that remove and store nutrients through plant growth and the accumulation of dead plant material in a layer of peat.



# STORMWATER TREATMENT AREAS



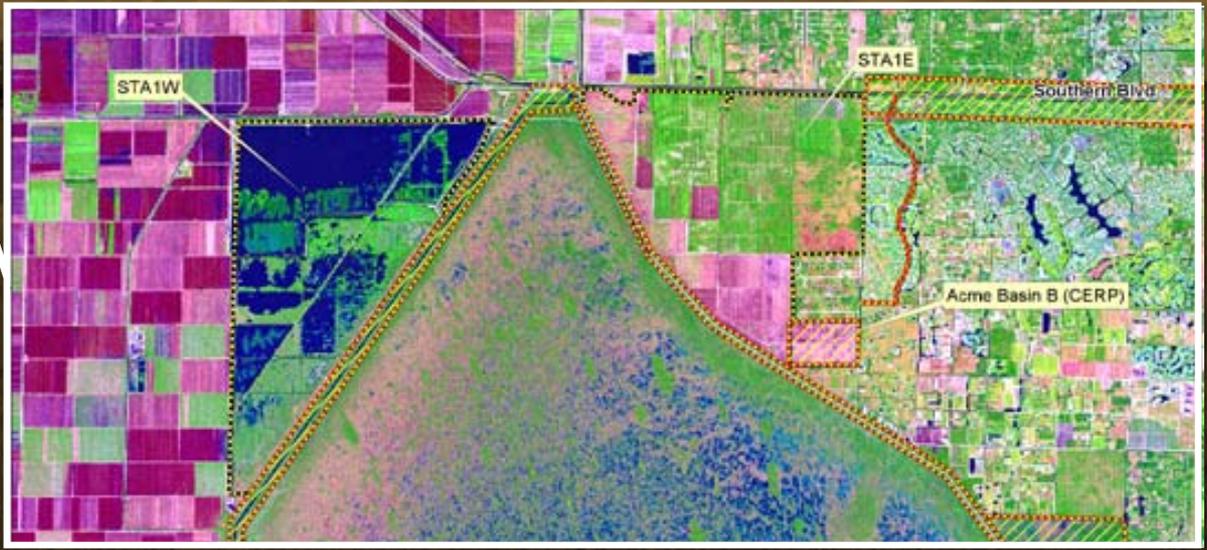
■ Where are the STAs?



# STORMWATER TREATMENT AREAS



- Potential public access sites



# CREATING the RECREATIONAL USE and PUBLIC ACCESS PLAN

## Where are we in the process?

- Prepared for FY06 budget cycle
- Public process
- Defining compatible activities
  - Staff and Public
- Design and build FY 05, 06, 07, 08



## **PUBLIC ACCESS FACILITIES**

**Part of FY06 budget requests**

- **Shade shelters**
- **Information kiosks and signs**
- **Toilets, composting type**
- **Boardwalks**
- **Viewing platforms**
- **Footbridges**



## COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES

- **Water Quality Improvement**
  - **Settling of sediments**
  - **Vegetation and “short circuiting”**



## COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES

- **Ability to operate and maintain the STAs**
  - **Time - weekends & daylight hours**
  - **Public areas**
    - **Optimize recreation**
    - **Minimize contact with automated equipment**



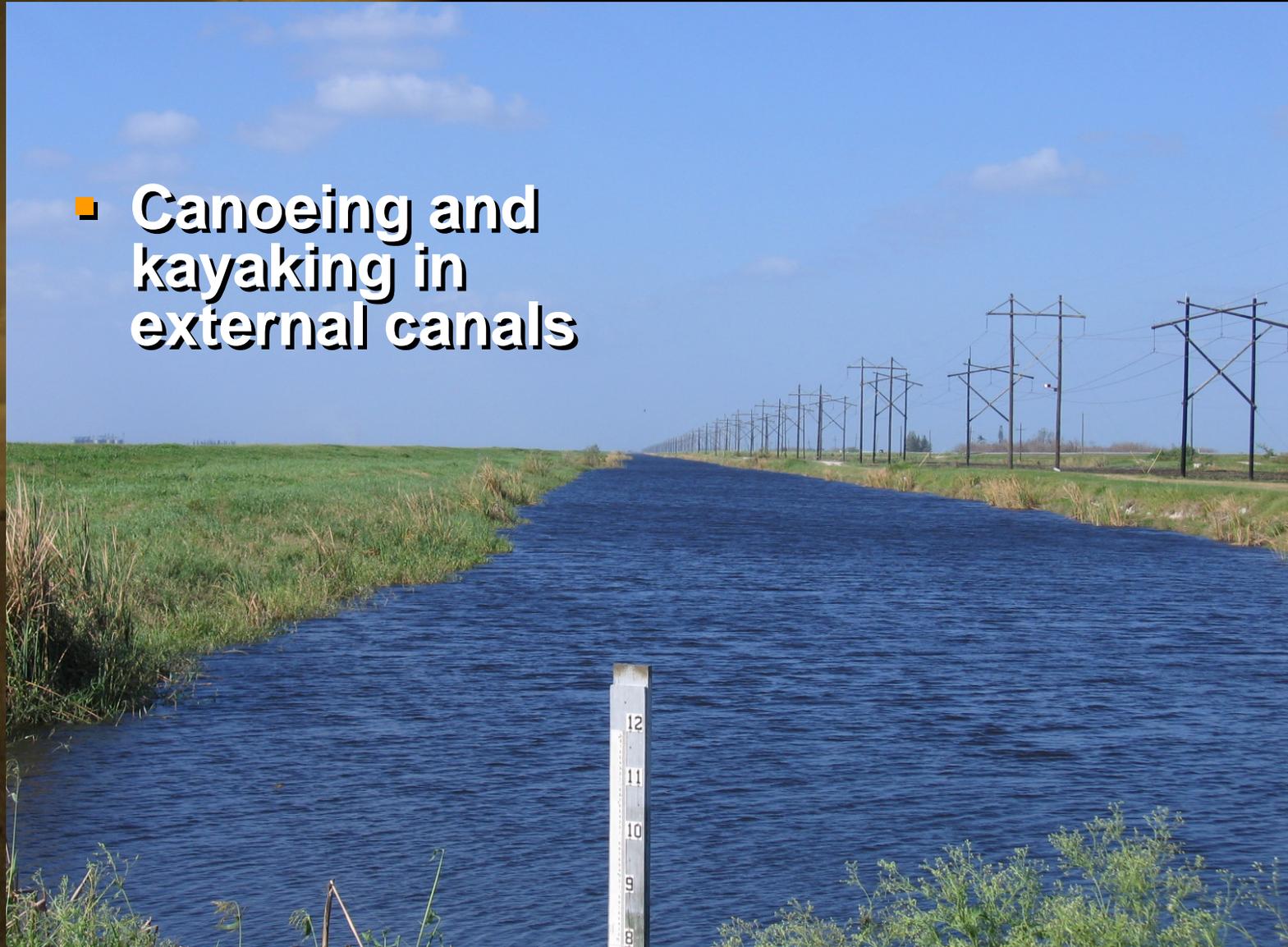
# COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Hiking, biking and wildlife viewing



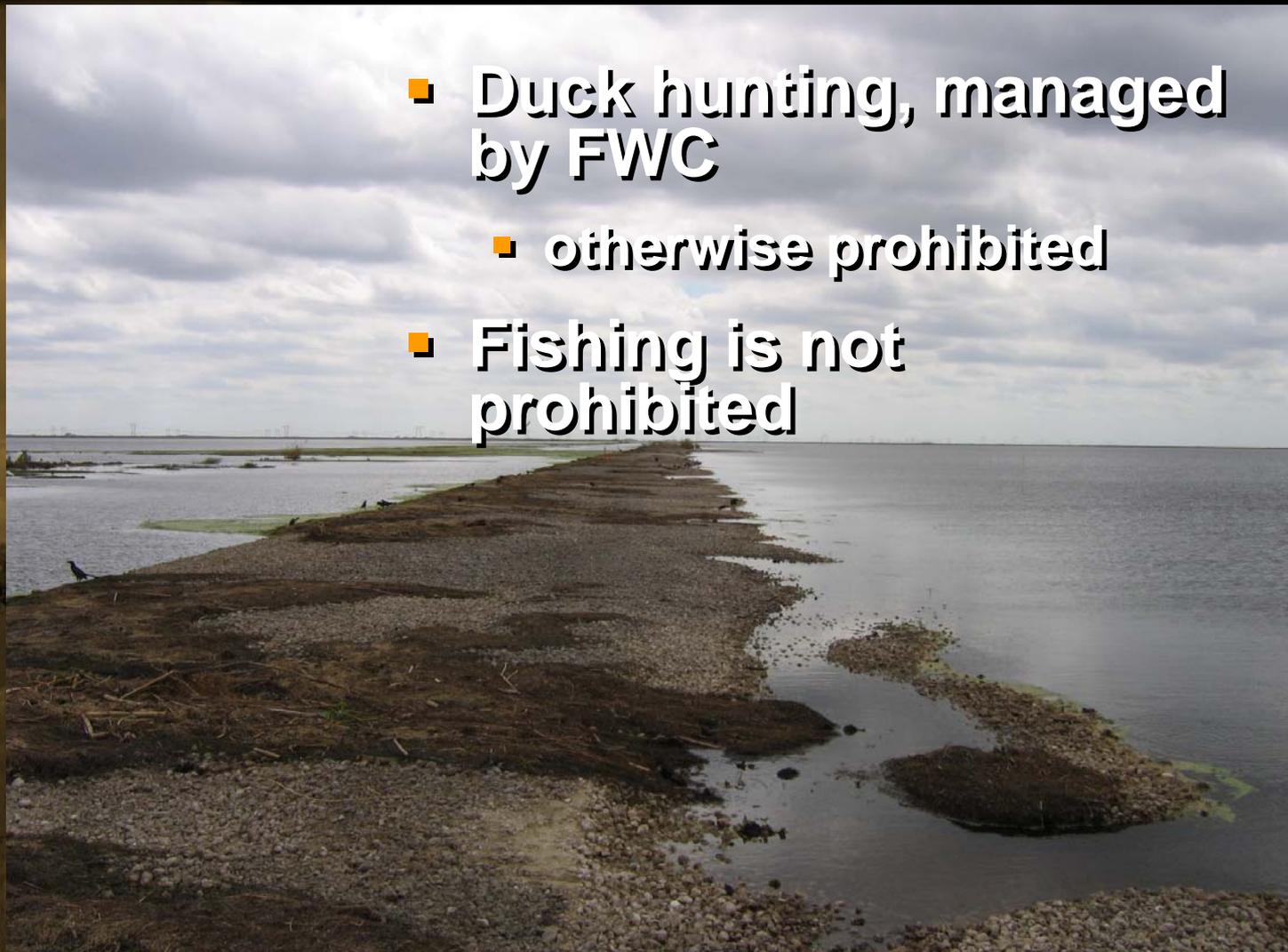
## COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Canoeing and kayaking in external canals



## COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Duck hunting, managed by FWC
  - otherwise prohibited
- Fishing is not prohibited



## “GRAY AREA” ACTIVITIES

### ■ EQUESTRIAN

#### ■ Concerns needing resolution

- Water quality impacts of horse manure
  - Equipment and horses sharing levees
  - Additional maintenance to levees
- #### ■ Horses must stay out of water and off levee slopes



## “GRAY AREA” ACTIVITIES



- **Boats for duck hunting**
  - Disturbance of sediments
  - Short circuiting
- **Current test hunt**

## ***INCOMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES***

- **Disturbing Sediments or Damaging Levees**
- **Short circuiting in cells**
  - **Motorized activities**
    - Power boats, ATVs
    - Driving on levees
  - **Activities in treatment cells**



**FINAL**

**Questions  
and  
Additional Public Comments**

*Jerry Krenz, AICP  
Everglades Recreation Plan Manager*

*jkrenz@sfwmd.gov  
(561) 682-6746*

