

February 2013



just the FACTs

This fact sheet is provided as a reference to encourage a greater understanding of the various issues related to managing water in South Florida.



For more information on this subject, scan this QR code using a barcode reader app on your smartphone.



sfwmd.gov
South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
561-686-8800 or 1-800-432-2045 in Florida
www.sfwmd.gov

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 24680
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680

SFWMD Land Assessment Process

Over six decades, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has acquired land to support flood control infrastructure, protect South Florida's water resources and restore the region's impaired ecosystems. As part of a broad effort to improve its land resources management, the District is conducting a comprehensive land assessment to ensure that each parcel is being put to its most effective use.

Connecting Public Land to SFWMD's Core Mission

- The first phase of the District's land assessment process is a review of fee-owned lands – properties in which the agency has full or shared ownership rights.
- Fee-owned lands account for approximately 750,000 acres of the District's nearly 1.5 million acres (see map on page 2).
- The purpose of the land assessment is to thoroughly analyze District lands to determine how each parcel's current use contributes to the agency's core mission of balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply.
- To provide the most benefit to South Florida taxpayers, lands that do not directly support the District's core mission may be considered for alternative uses or recommended for surplus.

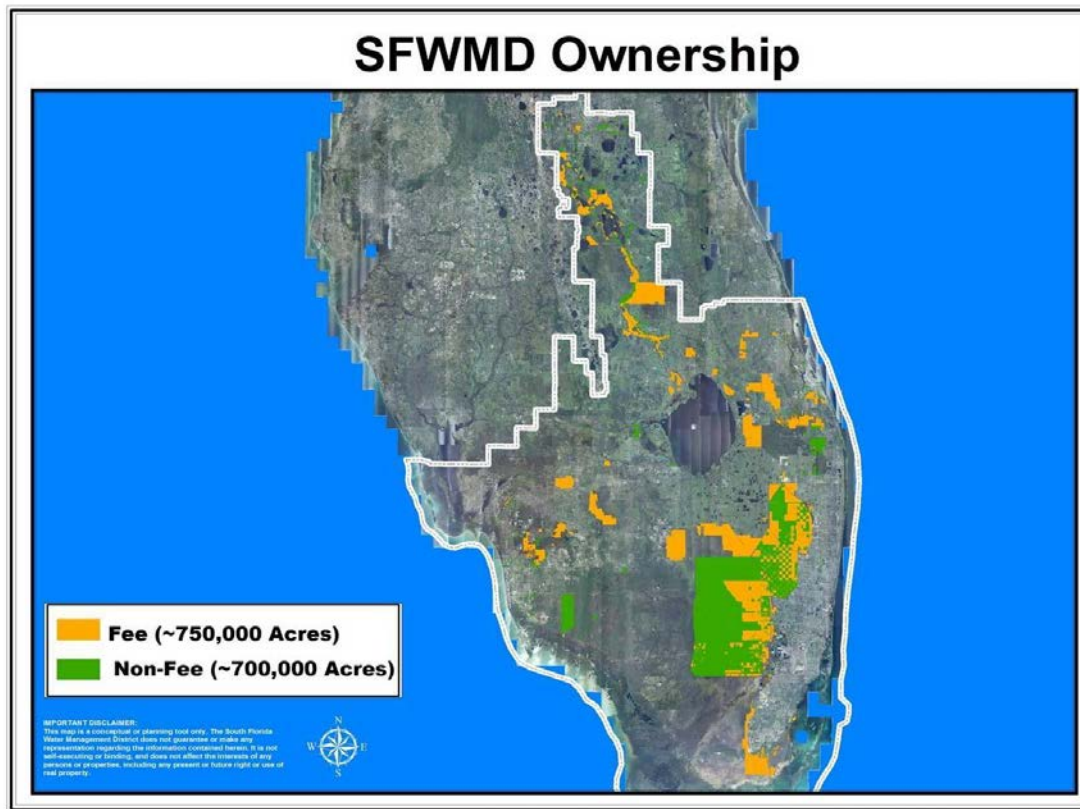
Evaluation Criteria and Public Participation

- The comprehensive SFWMD land assessment process will include:
 - Analyzing statewide and SFWMD-specific geographic information system (GIS) mapping layers to identify each parcel's environmental value and its value related to water resource management
 - Examining the intended uses of the parcels when they were acquired
 - Soliciting input from SFWMD subject matter experts with direct knowledge of individual lands
 - Receiving feedback and recommendations from stakeholders, nearby landowners, local governments and members of the public
- **The District is committed to transparency and receiving public input:**
 - Members of the public can visit www.sfwmd.gov/landassessment to review detailed land portfolios and comment on specific properties.
 - Regional public workshops will also be held to gather public input on the assessment process and specific parcels.
 - Staff recommendations will be presented at public meetings of the Water Resources Advisory Commission, the SFWMD Governing Board's Projects and Lands Committee and the full Governing Board.

Timetable and Next Steps

- Results from each of five assessment regions in the 16-county District (see map on page 2) will be submitted for Governing Board approval, beginning with the Upper Lakes region. The entire assessment of fee-owned lands is scheduled for completion by September 2013.
- A review of non-fee-owned lands is planned to begin in late 2013.
- Reassessments of District lands will be conducted as needed, likely every 3 to 5 years.

Fee and Non-Fee SFWMD Lands



Geographic Regions for SFWMD Land Assessment

