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SFWMD Announces Navigation Lock Schedule, Recreation Closures for Hurricane Matthew

West Palm Beach, FL - In anticipation of Hurricane Matthew, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is adjusting hours for navigation locks and closing three recreation sites.

Navigation locks on Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee River will operate during normal hours on Wednesday. Operating hours Thursday will depend on the track of the storm. To ensure safety, lock operations will be suspended when lightning is in the area or when winds exceed 35 mph. Lock operations will resume when practical and safe following the storm.

The SFWMD's DuPuis, Allapattah and Hungryland (including Nine Gems) management areas in Martin and Palm Beach counties are temporarily closed under an executive order from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Information on when they will be reopened will be posted on the District's website as soon as possible after the storm.

For more information on navigation and recreation closures, visit www.sfwmd.gov/recreation. For updates on the District's response to Hurricane Matthew, follow @SFWMD_EM on Twitter or visit www.sfwmd.gov.

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The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern part of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Our mission is to protect South Florida's water resources by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems.

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