



March 2, 2026

The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor of Florida  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

The Honorable Ben Albritton  
President, Florida Senate  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

The Honorable Daniel Perez  
Speaker, Florida House of Representatives  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Governor DeSantis, President Albritton, and Speaker Perez,

Under the leadership of Governor Ron DeSantis, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) have made incredible progress on Everglades restoration projects including significant advancements building water storage north, south, east, and west of Lake Okeechobee. More than 80 significant restoration milestones have been achieved over the past seven years for the benefit of more than 9 million Floridians and the communities in which we serve.

On behalf of the SFWMD and the DEP, we are pleased to provide you with the 2026 South Florida Environmental Report, a consolidated compilation of reports and information in accordance with Subsection 373.036(7), Florida Statutes.

This peer-reviewed, three-volume report provides the science and data used to drive decisions at the South Florida Water Management District. The report also documents restoration, water quality, scientific and engineering accomplishments in the Kissimmee Basin, Lake Okeechobee, Everglades, and South Florida's coastal areas during the 2025 Water Year (WY).

The full report is available online and covers environmental information of WY 2025 (May 1, 2024-April 30, 2025) and budgetary information for the SFWMD Fiscal Year 2025 (October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025). The report and a summary of highlights as well as previous consolidated reports are available at [SFWMD.gov/SFER](https://www.sfwmd.gov/SFER).

Thank you for your support as we work together toward restoring Florida's Everglades and helping to keep South Florida a great place to live, work, visit and raise families.

The Hon. Ron DeSantis, Hon. Ben Albritton, Hon. Daniel Perez

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Respectfully,



Adam Blalock, Deputy Secretary  
*Florida Department of Environmental Protection*  
3900 Commonwealth Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Respectfully,



Drew Bartlett, Executive Director  
*South Florida Water Management District*  
3301 Gun Club Rd.  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

c: Members, Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives  
Members, SFWMD Governing Board

Attachment: *2026 South Florida Environmental Report Highlights*