

# N-69



**Title:** Support initiatives and provide financial incentives to restore and preserve wetlands north of Lake Okeechobee to stop discharges to coastal estuaries to protect estuaries and reefs.

**Objective:** The intended outcome of this action is to provide (1) incentives for municipalities, agriculture, and governmental agencies to implement creative and new ways to restore wetlands for better storage and filtration within the Lake Okeechobee and St. Lucie River watersheds and (2) to encourage partnerships between federal, state and local governments and private land owners to develop new surface water management and water quality improvement techniques that will continue to provide flood protection and environmental services while reducing peak flows and pollution loads to Lake Okeechobee and southeast Florida estuaries.

**Background:** This recommended management action is being put forth to address discharges from the Lake Okeechobee watershed which is essential to improving the estuarine conditions in Southeast Florida.

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