

BIG SUGAR BLOCKS THE TRUTH

**THE ONLY FIX IS
"RESTORE THE RIVER OF GRASS FLOW"**

Citizens:

When will we ever stop the damaging discharges that send dangerous quantities of polluted water to both our coasts? The sad truth is that none of the projects now in the works will stop the Lake Okeechobee dumps.

In order to keep Big Sugar land perfect for sugar cane and other crops, billions of gallons of water from Lake Okeechobee are shunted into the St. Lucie Canal to the east and the Caloosahatchee to the west. Our communities cry for real answers instead of more fast talk and empty promises.

Brainstorm:

Why don't we turn to independent scientists and hydrology experts?

We did!

207 scientists signed a petition calling for increasing the storage, treatment, and flow of Lake Okeechobee water south to the Everglades and Florida Bay where it is needed. This can be done on a small percentage of Big Sugar land. Every credible scientist and engineer agreed. As usual, Big Sugar and their friends in office ignored the experts.

Mother Nature's meandering Kissimmee with all its oxbows was far, far better than our manmade high speed canal north of the lake, and we're restoring that flow. It's obvious Mother Nature was also right about the "River of Grass" south of the lake to the Everglades.

It's time to restore that flow.

Sixty years ago, the Army Corps of Engineers promised us a "Third Outlet" from the lake to stop the damaging discharges. Twenty years ago the Army Corps of Engineers offered the "Plan Six" flowway to stop the damaging discharges. Big Sugar and their friends in office snuffed it out.

Ten years ago a federal court called the discharges a "travesty", commended the river advocates "tireless" efforts, and sent us to Congress for a solution. Again, the power of Big Sugar prevailed and dumping pollution to the coasts continued.

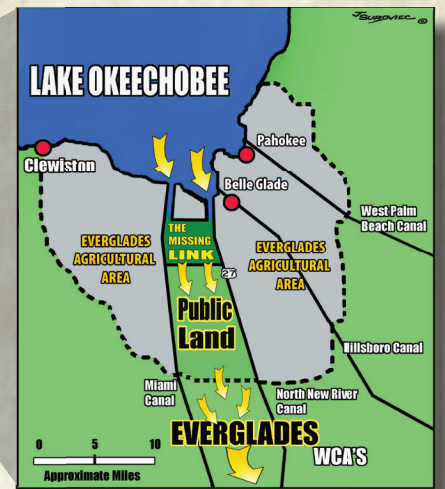
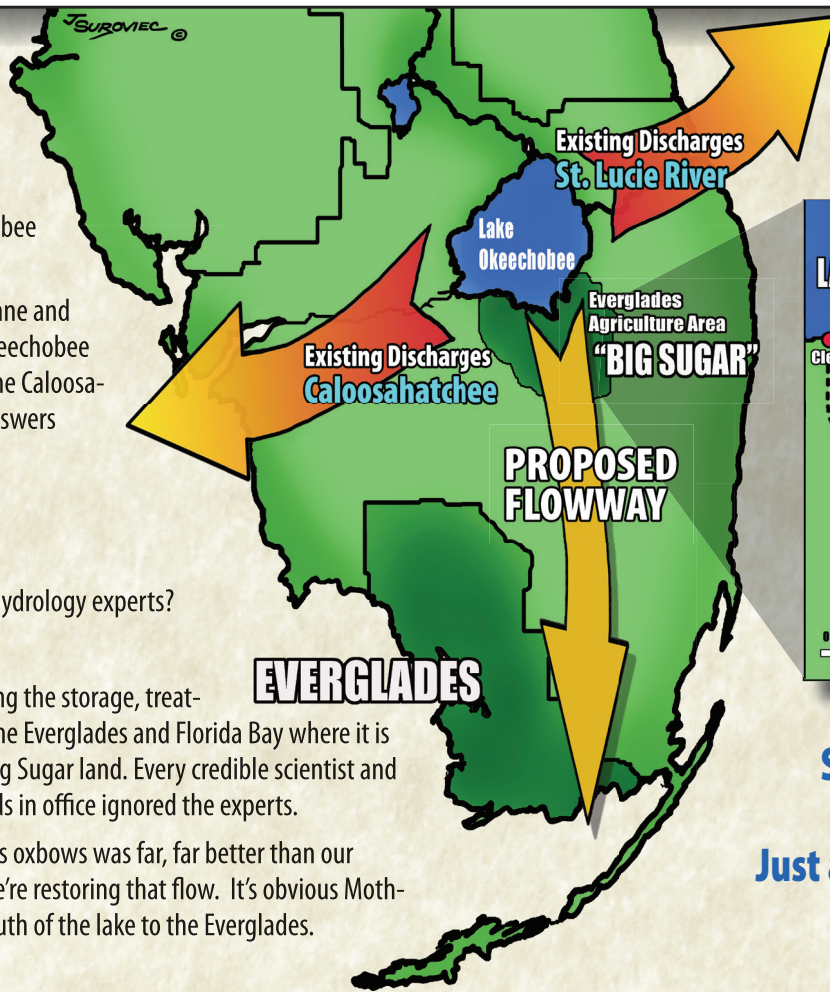
The long distressing story of how Big Sugar subverted our democratic process can't be told in a flash, but you can read more about it at riverscoalition.org and other sources.

The only good news from this latest round of nasty, damaging discharges may be that the public will no longer stand for it.

Enough already. Enough. Enough.

RIVER OF GRASS, THE MISSING LINK

- Stops polluted discharges from Lake Okeechobee to the coastal estuaries
- Requires less than 15 percent of sugarcane-growing land
- Simpler and cheaper than current plans
- Brings back estuary wildlife and plant life
- Restores crucial, natural sheetflow to the Everglades
- Prevents Lake discharges that contain toxins that threaten human health
- Takes no residential, commercial or industrial land
- Impacts no towns or villages and creates local jobs



**Store, Clean and Convey
Lake Water South,
Just as Mother Nature Intended.**

**AMENDMENT ONE
MONEY WOULD
PROVIDE THE FUNDS
TO COMPLETE
THE PROJECT**

The Plan is there, the Army Corps developed it, the money is there, Floridians voted for it!

**BUY
THE LAND**



Damaging discharges from Lake O result in an estimated \$488 million reduction in Martin County's aggregate property value alone.

The Economic Council of Martin County claims the local waterways provide \$640 million in total economic benefit and support 3,750 jobs.

Lake O discharges are adversely impacting human health through toxic blue-green algal blooms making waterways untouchable and dangerous.

Massive Lake O discharges have caused devastating impacts to the living ecosystems of the St. Lucie River and Indian River Lagoon. They have killed oysters and seagrass beds and damage nearshore hard bottom and coral reefs. Fish suffer lesions and other abnormalities.

Failure to secure flowway land south of Lake O is the single biggest obstacle to long-term protection of the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries, and providing the Everglades and Florida Bay with much-needed fresh water and drinking supplies.

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