

**To:** Marlowe Starling

**Subject Line:** Inside the lab: Everglades research ahead of World Wetlands Day

Hi Marlowe,

I enjoyed your Red-Handed article on Florida's PFAS contamination. Since you report on how these pollutants affect both ecosystems and people, I thought you might be interested in a look inside the work happening in the Everglades as World Wetlands Day (Feb. 2) approaches.

Our Fort Lauderdale lab is conducting one of the few independent studies tracking how PFAS and other emerging contaminants are moving through the Everglades and into Florida's drinking water systems. The stakes are high: the Everglades provides drinking water for **8 million Floridians**, and early indicators—such as endocrine disruption in local wildlife—suggest that human exposure pathways may be widening.

This work is especially timely. Our newest sampling round shows rising detections of PFAS precursors in several sites feeding major municipal water sources—data that has not yet been widely reported but will be central in regulatory discussions this spring.

We'd like to offer you a visit to our Marina Bay lab and an interview with Frank Ramos, our founder and lead scientist, to discuss what the latest findings mean for public health and water security. Would you be interested in scheduling a visit next week?

Best,

Mariana Lema

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