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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: John Mitnik, Assistant Executive Director, Executive Office Staff

FROM: SFWMD Staff Environmental Advisory Team

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Weekly Environmental Conditions for Systems Operations

Summary

Weather Conditions and Forecast

A weak frontal boundary currently extending from north Florida into the western Atlantic is forecast to slide southward into central Florida later today. As the boundary approaches, increasing low-level moisture convergence along and just ahead of it will support scattered showers and thunderstorms, with the greatest coverage expected mainly north of Lake Okeechobee. The front will also cause the steering currents to become more northeasterly across much of the region, favoring additional afternoon shower and thunderstorm development over the southwestern interior where interactions with the Gulf sea breeze enhance low-level convergence. Farther south and east, relatively drier mid-level air will limit rainfall along the lower east coast and southeast of Lake Okeechobee.

By Tuesday and Wednesday, the remnant frontal boundary is forecast to settle farther south into the SFWMD. As this occurs, the axis of enhanced low-level convergence and deeper moisture will shift southward as well, favoring greater afternoon shower and thunderstorm coverage around and south of Lake Okeechobee. As a result, the rainfall coverage should become more widespread across the southern half of the region with reduced rainfall over the northern areas.

Later in the week, a weak area of low pressure located along the remnant frontal boundary is forecast to drift westward into the southeastern United States. Although tropical cyclone development is unlikely, the associated cyclonic circulation is forecast to cause the steering currents to become southwesterly by Friday. This shift in the low-level flow should transport additional tropical moisture into the region while maintaining a favorable environment for afternoon thunderstorms. As a result, multiple rounds of scattered to widespread afternoon showers and thunderstorms appear possible beginning Friday and potentially continuing into Sunday before the steering flow gradually becomes more southeasterly again.

This upcoming pattern appears favorable for above-normal total SFWMD weekly rainfall.

Kissimmee

Water levels in East Lake Toho and Lake Toho are being allowed to rise as rainfall permits. Releases from Lakes Kissimmee-Cypress-Hatchineha followed the Headwaters Revitalization Schedule Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan. Weekly average discharge on June 28, 2026, was 220 cfs at S-65 and 160 cfs at S-65A. Mean weekly water depth on the Kissimmee River floodplain remained at 0.32 feet. The weekly average concentration of dissolved oxygen in the Kissimmee River increased from 7.1 mg/L the previous week to 7.6 mg/L, which is well above both the potentially lethal level of 1.0 mg/L and the stressful level of 2.0 mg/L for Florida bass and other species.

Lake Okeechobee

Lake Okeechobee stage was 9.65 feet NAVD88 (10.96 ft NGVD29) on June 28, 2026, which was 0.06 feet lower than the previous week, 0.19 feet lower than a month ago. The lake is now in the water shortage management band. Average daily inflows (excluding rainfall) decreased slightly from 170 cfs the previous week to 160 cfs. Average daily outflows (excluding evapotranspiration) decreased from 1,100 cfs the previous week to 350 cfs. The most recent non-obscured satellite image from June 28, 2026, NOAA's Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring System suggests moderate to high cyanobacteria activity across large portions of the lake. The June 24 wading bird survey counted approximately 5,090 birds across 14 flocks actively foraging around the lake. Provisional results from the June 8-10 water quality sampling showed 5 of the 27 phytoplankton samples collected had detectable levels of cyanotoxin, and 5 of the 27 samples had chlorophyll *a* values > 40 µg/L, indicating bloom level concentrations (3 samples had both).

Estuaries

Total inflow to the St. Lucie Estuary averaged 289 cfs over the past week with no flow coming from Lake Okeechobee. Mean surface salinities decreased at all sites in the estuary. Salinity in the middle estuary was in the optimal range (10–25) for adult eastern oysters.

Total inflow to the Caloosahatchee River Estuary averaged 553 cfs over the past week with 176 cfs coming from Lake Okeechobee. Over the past week, surface salinities decreased at all sites in the estuary. Salinities were in the optimal range (0-10) for tape grass at S-79 and Val I-75, and in the damaging range (>15) at Ft. Myers. Salinities were in the optimal range (10-25) for adult eastern oysters at Cape Coral, and in the upper stressed range (>25) at Shell Point and Sanibel.

Stormwater Treatment Areas

For the week ending Sunday, June 28th, 2026, 400 ac ft of Lake Okeechobee water was delivered to the FEBs/STAs. The total amount of Lake releases sent to the FEBs/STAs in WY2027 is approximately 8,300 ac-feet. The total amount of inflows to the STAs in WY2027 is approximately 33,000 ac-feet. Most online STA treatment cells are at or near target stage. STA-1E Central Flow-way is offline for post-construction activities. STA-1W Eastern Flow-way is offline for vegetation management activities. Operational restrictions are in effect in STA-1E Western Flow-way, STA-2 Flow-way 2, and STA-3/4 Eastern Flow-

way for vegetation management activities. STA-1W Eastern Flow-way and STA-2 Flow-ways 1 & 4 contain nests of Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected species. This week, if LOSOM recommends Lake releases to the WCAs and conditions allow, releases will be sent to STA-2, STA-3/4 & STA-5/6.

Everglades

Last week's rains were very unequally distributed across the Everglades Protection Area (EPA), with WCA-3A receiving a half an inch more rainfall than any other basin. The rainfall resulted in an ascension in water depths across most of the Everglades, with the exception of WCA-2B and central WCA-1. Conditions remain very dry across the EPA with active wildfires in WCA-2. These dry conditions can have ecological consequences both system wide and within the central Everglades, including delaying the production of already limited prey populations, increasing the risk of damaging wildfires, enhanced peat oxidation, and potential ridge and slough degradation. Taylor Slough stages increased this week but remain below the recent average for this time of year with levels approaching the ground surface at the headwaters. Average Florida Bay salinity increased again last week, and salinities in both the central and western regions are now above the hypersalinity threshold. Bay-wide salinity is above average by 7.2 for this time of year.

Supporting Information

Kissimmee Basin

Upper Kissimmee

On June 28, 2026, mean daily lake stages were 53.9 feet NAVD88 (1.6 feet below schedule) in East Lake Toho, 51.3 feet NAVD88 (1.2 feet below schedule) in Lake Toho, and 47.8 feet NAVD88 (2.5 feet below the Increment 1 Temporary Deviation schedule) in Lakes Kissimmee-Cypress-Hatchineha (KCH) (**Table KB-1, Figures KB-1-3**).

Lower Kissimmee

For the week ending June 28, 2026, mean weekly discharge was 220 cfs at S-65 and 160 cfs at S-65A. Mean weekly discharge from the Kissimmee River was 150 cfs at S-65D and 84 cfs at S-65E (**Table KB-2**). Mean weekly headwater stages were 45.3 feet NAVD88 at S-65A and 27.5 feet NAVD88 at S-65D. Mean weekly river channel stage decreased by 0.7 feet to 29.4 feet NAVD88 (**Figure KB-4**). Mean weekly water depth on the Kissimmee River floodplain was unchanged at 0.32 feet (**Table KB-2, Figure KB-5**). The weekly average concentration of dissolved oxygen in the Kissimmee River increased from 7.1 mg/L the previous week to 7.6 mg/L (**Table KB-2, Figure KB-6**).

Water Management Recommendations

Allow stage in East Lake Toho and Lake Toho to rise with rainfall and, to the extent possible, limit the ascension rate to no more than 0.5 ft/14 days. In KCH, follow the Headwaters Revitalization Schedule (HRS) Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan for S-65/S-65A (**Figure KB-7**). With KCH stage at the lower boundary of Zone B4, target flows of 300 cfs if stage increases into Zone B4 and 150 cfs if stage declines into Zone B5.

Table KB-1. Average discharge for the preceding seven days, Sunday's average daily stage and Sunday's average daily departure from Kissimmee Chain of Lakes (KCOL) flood regulation lines or temporary schedules. All data are provisional.

Water Body	Structure	Stage Monitoring Site	Weekly (7-Day) Average Discharge (cfs)	Sunday Lake Stage (feet NAVD88) ^a	Schedule Type ^b	Sunday Schedule Stage (feet NAVD88)	Sunday Departure from Regulation (feet)	
							6/28/26	6/21/26
Lakes Hart and Mary Jane	S-62	LKMJ	0	58.7	R	58.9	-0.2	-0.5
Lakes Myrtle, Preston and Joel	S-57	S-57	0	58.8	R	59.9	-1.1	-1.2
Alligator Chain	S-60	ALLI	0	60.7	R	62.1	-1.4	-1.4
Lake Gentry	S-63	LKGT	0	58.5	R	59.9	-1.4	-1.4
East Lake Toho	S-59	TOHOE	0	53.9	R	55.5	-1.6	-1.7
Lake Toho	S-61	TOHOW S-61	0	51.3	R	52.5	-1.2	-1.3
Lakes Kissimmee, Cypress and Hatchineha	S-65	KUB011 LKIS5B	220	47.8	T	50.3	-2.5	-2.5

a. Names of in-lake monitoring sites and structures used to determine lake stage. If more than one site is listed, an average is reported.

b. A: projected recession line; R: USACE regulation schedule; S: temporary recession target line; T: temporary schedule; NA: not applicable or not available.

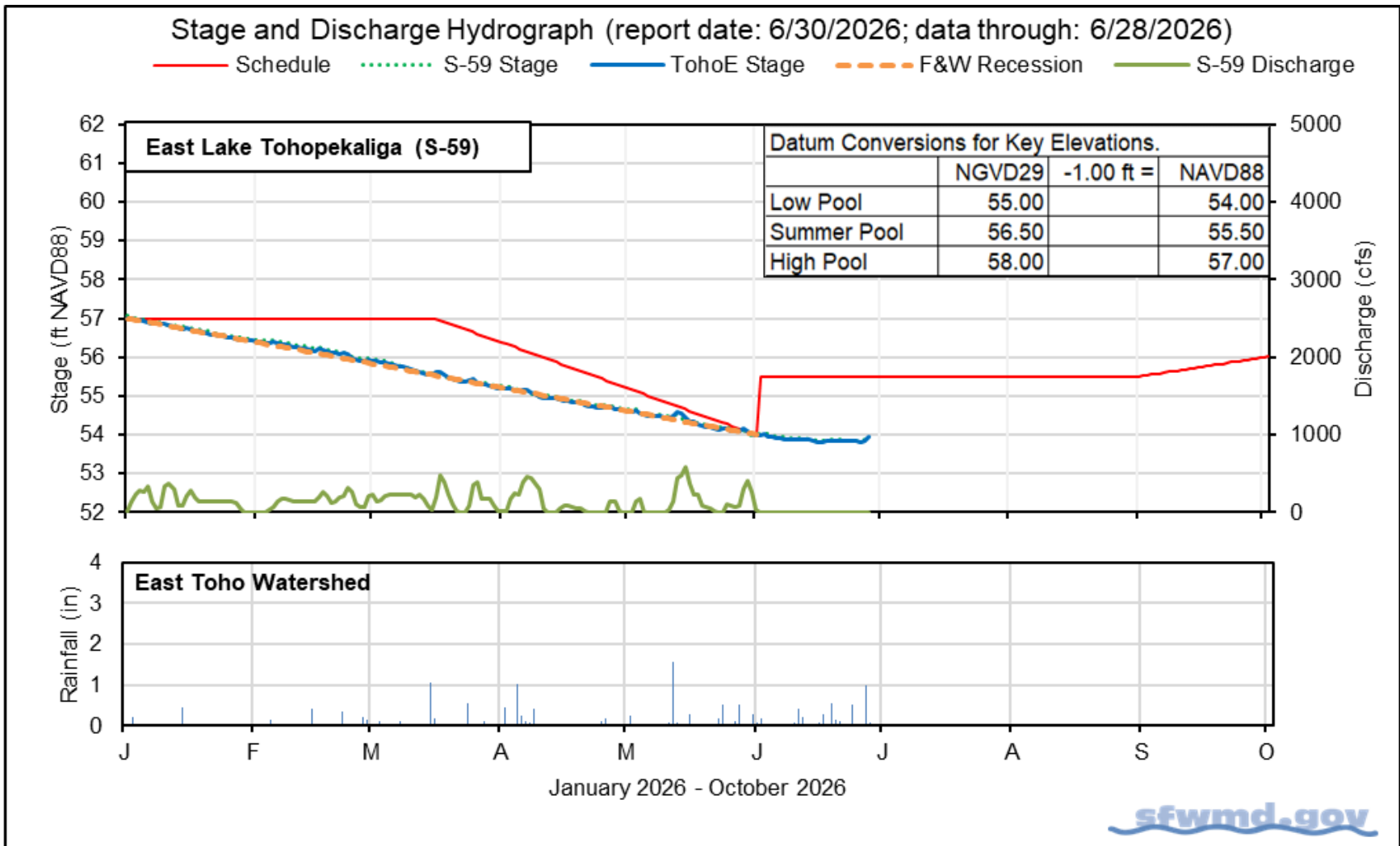


Figure KB-1. East Lake Toho regulation schedule, stage, discharge, and rainfall.

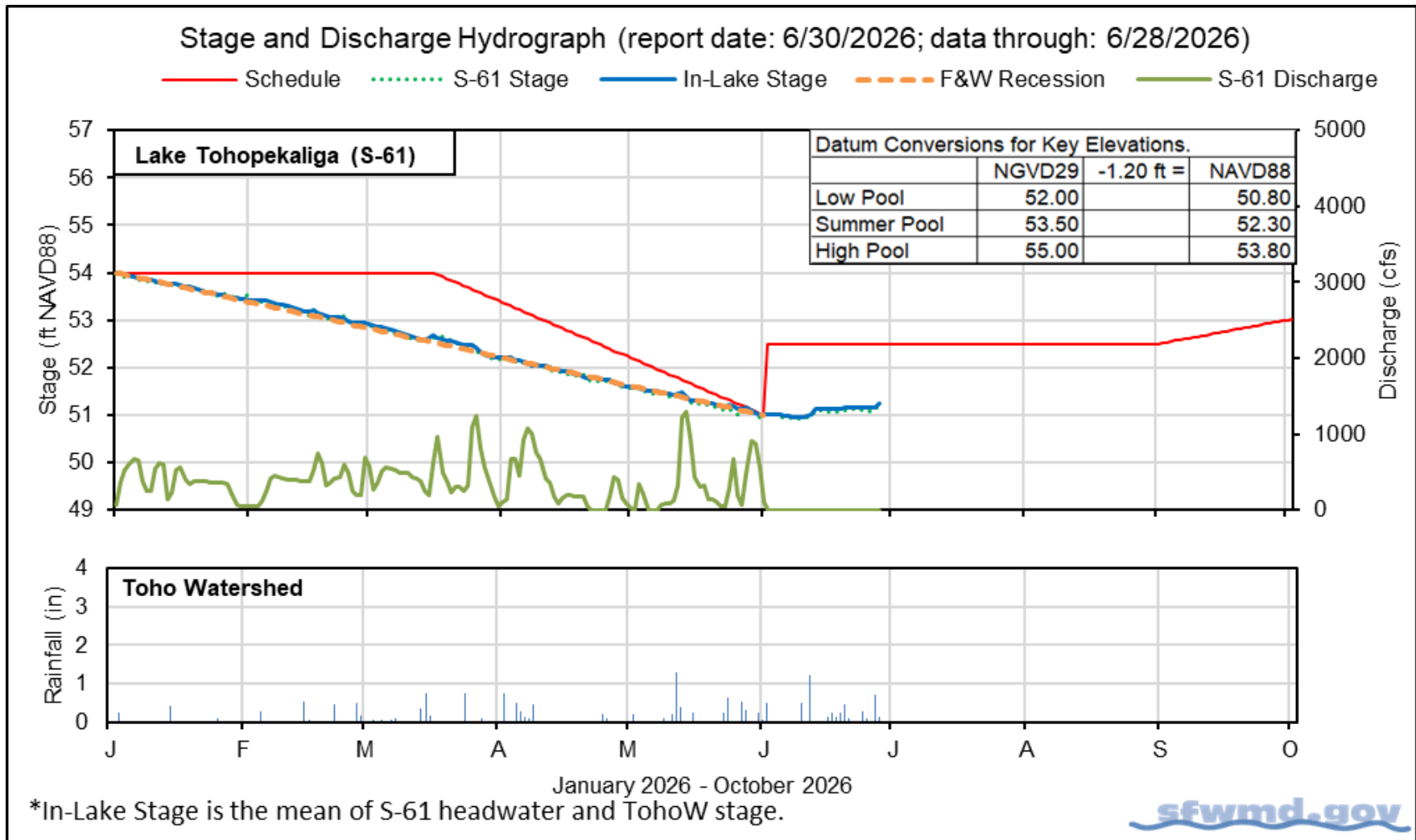


Figure KB-2. Lake Toho regulation schedule, stage, discharge, and rainfall.

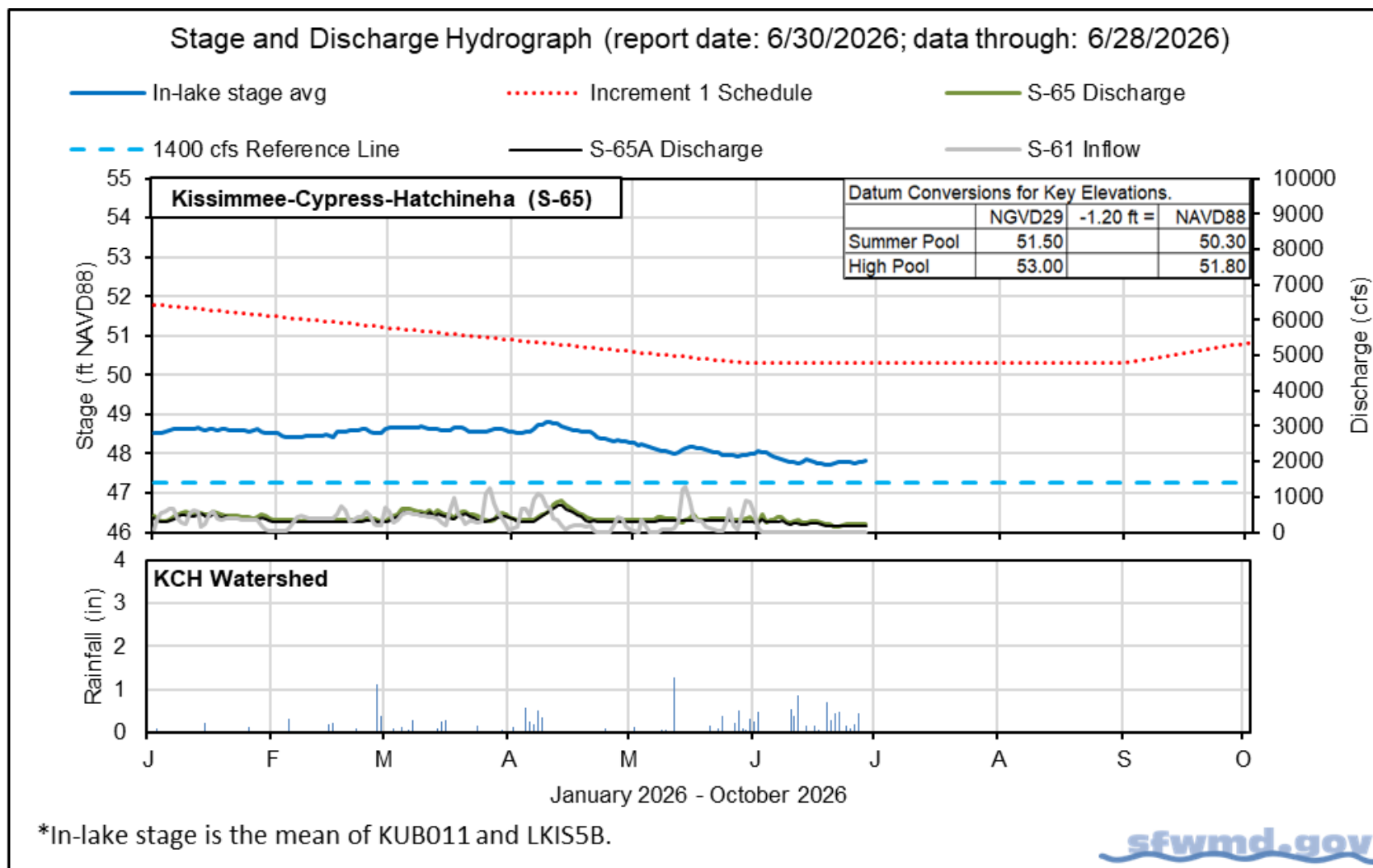


Figure KB-3. Lakes Kissimmee, Cypress and Hatchineha regulation schedule, stage, discharge, and rainfall.

Table KB-2. One- and seven-day average discharge and stage at Lower Kissimmee basin structures, river channel dissolved oxygen concentrations and water depths in the Phase I area floodplain. All data are provisional.

Metric	Location	Sunday Daily Average	Weekly Average for Previous Seven Day Periods			
		6/28/26	6/28/26	6/21/26	6/14/26	6/7/26
Discharge	S-65	220	220	250	300	380
Discharge	S-65A ^a	160	160	190	240	300
Headwater Stage (feet NAVD88)	S-65A	45.4	45.3	45.2	45.3	45.2
Discharge	S-65D ^b	150	150	230	280	310
Headwater Stage (feet NAVD88)	S-65D ^c	24.6	27.5	27.7	27.8	28.1
Discharge (cfs)	S-65E ^d	45	84	160	220	200
Discharge (cfs)	S-67	0	0	0	0	0
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L) ^e	Phase I, II/III river channel	7.0	7.6	7.1	7.5	7.5
River channel mean stage (feet NAVD88) ^f	Phase I river channel	29.4	29.4	30.1	30.3	30.6
Mean depth (feet) ^g	Phase I & II/III floodplain	0.33	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.33

a. Combined discharge from main and auxiliary structures.

b. Combined discharge from S-65D, S-65DX1, and S-65DX2.

c. Average stage from S-65D and S-65DX1.

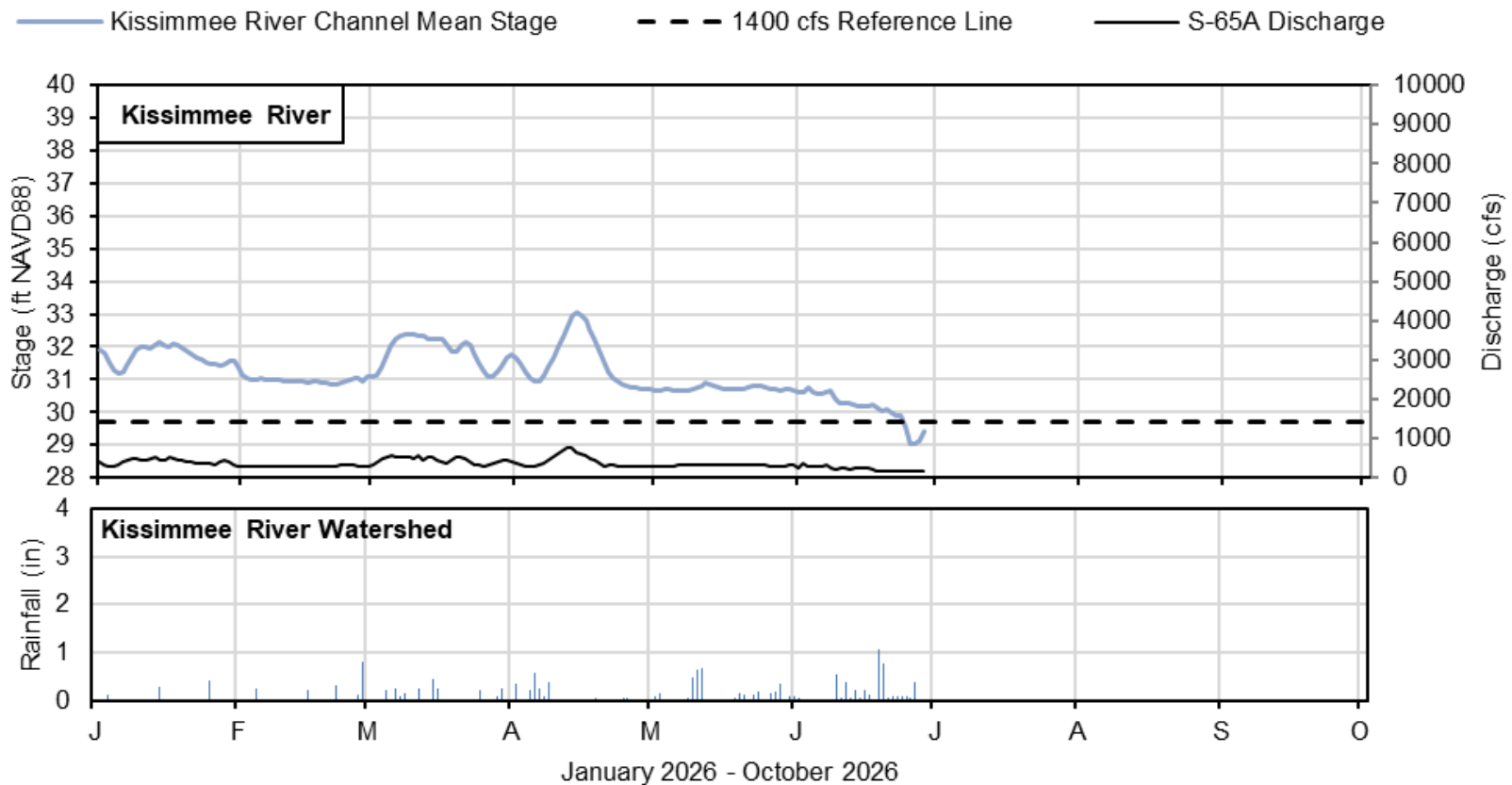
d. Combined discharge from S-65E and S-65EX1.

e. Dissolved oxygen is the average of values from sondes KRBN, PC62, PC33, PD62R, and PD42R.

f. Mean of five river channel stations (PC62, KRDR02, KRBN, PC33, PC11) in the Phase I area.

g. One-day spatial average obtained from the South Florida Water Depth Assessment Tool (SFWDAT).

Stage and Discharge Hydrograph (report date: 6/30/2026; data through: 6/28/2026)



*River Channel Stage is the average for PC62, KRDR02, KRBN, PC33, and PC11.



Figure KB-4. Kissimmee River stage, discharge, and rainfall.

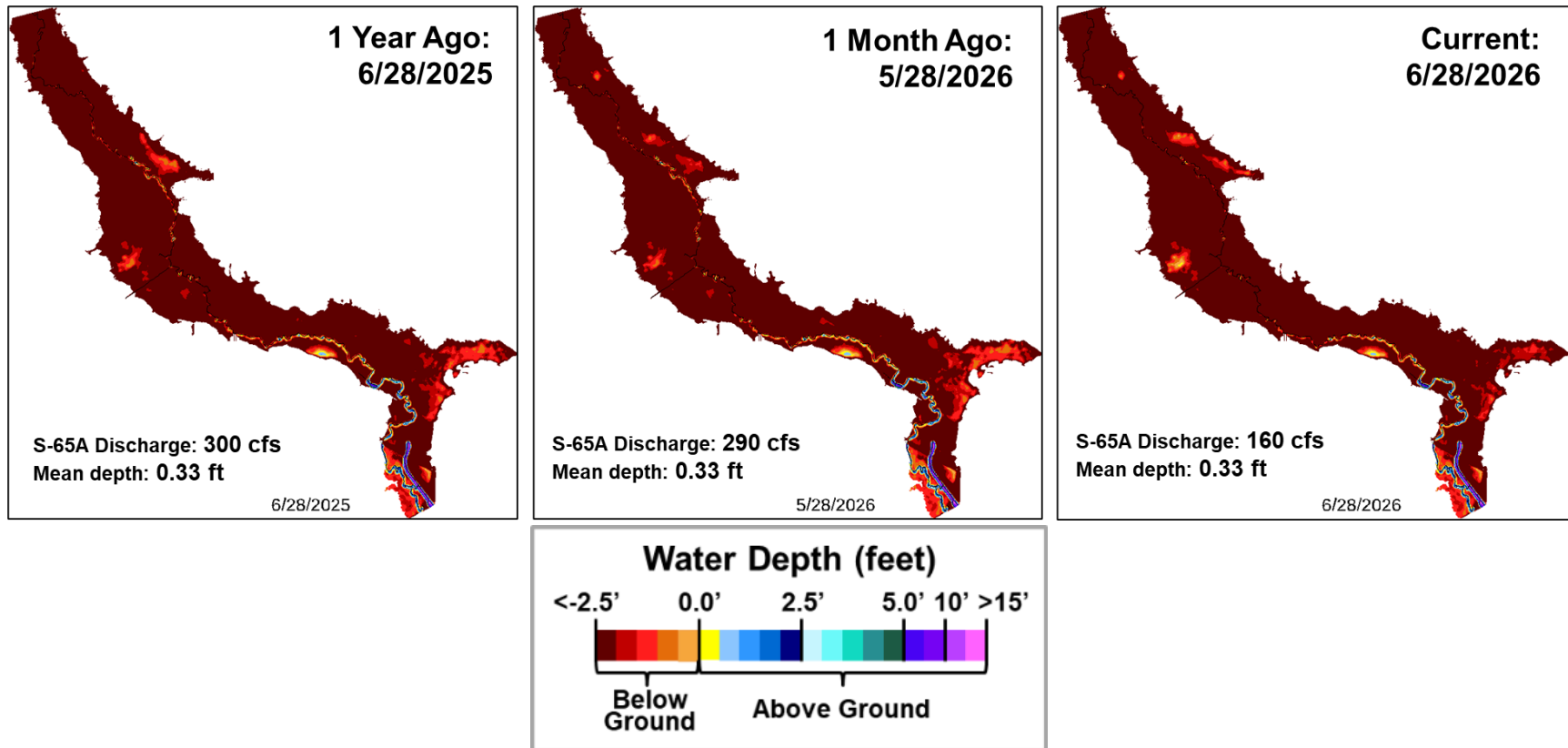
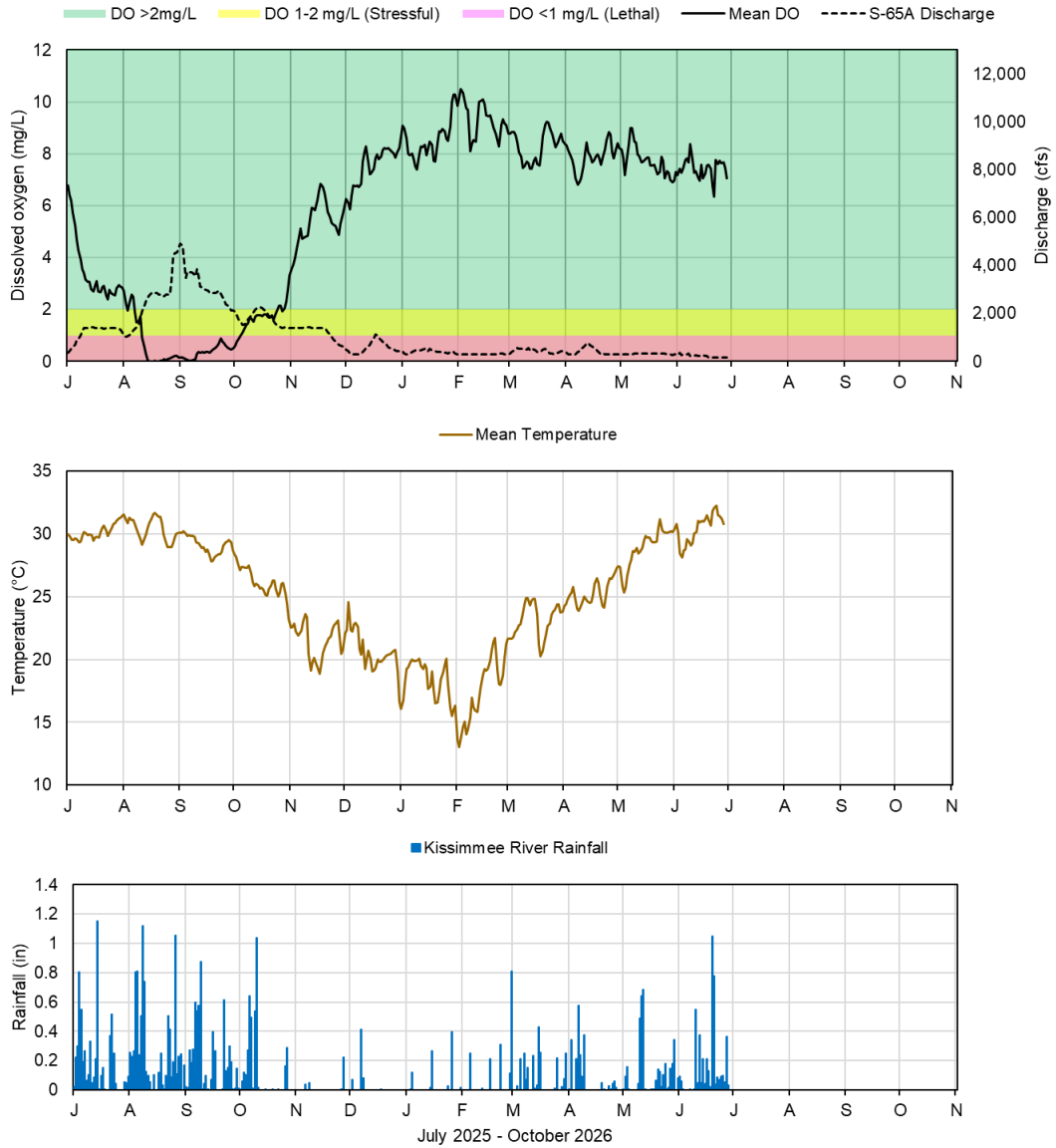


Figure KB-5. Phase I-II-III area Kissimmee River floodplain water depths (from left to right) one year ago, one month ago, and current.



Report Date: 6/30/2026; data are through: 6/28/2026

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Figure KB-6. Kissimmee River channel mean daily dissolved oxygen concentration (mg/L), S-65A discharge (cfs), temperature (°C) and rainfall (inches). Dissolved oxygen (DO) and temperature are mean daily values averaged for PC62, KRDR02, KRBN, PC33, PC11, PD62R, and PD42R with an average of five stations reporting this week. Rainfall values are daily totals for Kissimmee River (Pool BCD) AHED watershed.

HRS Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan for S-65/S-65A

Discharge Guidance for Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan		
ZONE	S-65 RELEASES	S-65A TARGET FLOWS
ZONE A	Releases for Flood Risk Management up to maximum structure capacity as determined by downstream constraints with a firm capacity of 3,000 cfs.	
ZONE B1	1,400 cfs minimum ramp to 3,000 cfs at Zone A boundary	S-65A releases between 1,400 cfs and 3,000 cfs at Zone A boundary based on Table 1
ZONE B2	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	Target S-65A flows of 1,400 cfs to meet ecological needs
ZONE B3	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	S-65A flows between 300 cfs and 1,400 cfs
ZONE B4	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	Target S-65A flows of 300 cfs
ZONE B5	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	Target S-65A flows of 150 cfs
ZONE C	0 cfs	Flow as needed to maintain optimum S-65A headwater

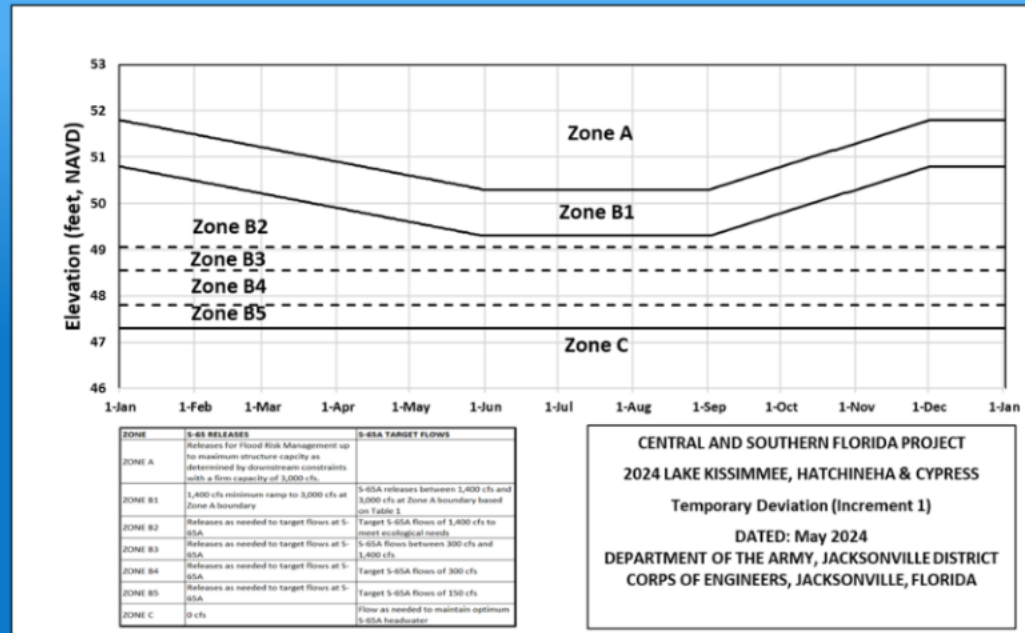


Table KB-3. Maximum Rate of Change Limits for S-65A

MAXIMUM Release Rate of Change Limits for S-65A. In general recommended rates of change will be slower than shown in this table.

Q (cfs)	Maximum rate of INCREASE (cfs/day)	Maximum rate of DECREASE (cfs/day)
0-300	50	-50
301-650	75	-75
651-1400	150	-150
1401-3000	300	-600
>3000	1000	-2000

Other Considerations

- When possible, limit lake ascension rate in the Jun 1 - Aug 15 window to 0.25 ft per 7 days in Lakes Kissimmee, Cypress, Hatchineha (S-65), East Toho (S-59) and Toho (S-61).
- If outlook is for extreme dry conditions meet with KB staff to discuss modifications to this plan.

Figure KB-7. Headwaters Revitalization Schedule (HRS) Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan for S-65/S-65A.

Lake Okeechobee

Lake Okeechobee stage was 9.65 feet NAVD88 (10.96 ft NGVD29) on June 28, 2026, which was 0.06 feet lower than the previous week and 0.19 feet lower than a month ago (**Figure LO-1**). Lake stage is now in the water shortage management band (0.10 feet below, **Figure LO-2**) and is 0.54 feet below the ecological envelope (**Figure LO-3**). According to NEXRAD, 1.34 inches (approximately 49,900 acre-feet) of rain fell directly over the lake during the previous week, and 1.23 inches (approximately 34,900 acre-feet) were lost to evapotranspiration.

Average daily inflows (excluding rainfall) decreased slightly from 170 cfs the previous week to 160 cfs. The largest inflow came from the Kissimmee River (80 cfs via S-65E(X1)). Average daily outflows (excluding evapotranspiration) decreased from 1,100 cfs the previous week to 350 cfs. The largest release was to the west through the S-77 structure (260 cfs). **Figures LO-4 and LO-5** show the combined average daily inflows and outflows for the lake over the past eight weeks, and the average inflows and outflows last week, respectively.

In the most recent non-obscured satellite image from June 28, 2026, NOAA's Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring System suggests moderate to high cyanobacteria activity in most shallow nearshore regions and in large portions of the central and northern areas of the lake. (**Figure LO-6**).

The final wading bird survey of the 2026 season occurred on June 24. Approximately 5,090 birds across 14 flocks were seen actively foraging around the lake (**Figure LO-7**). This continued the above average trend of foraging birds on the lake, as it serves as a deepwater refuge during drought conditions, offering critical foraging areas in an otherwise drying landscape. The latest nesting update from UF is approximately 2,000 total nests for the 2026 season, which is well below average, but more than expected given the low water levels throughout the breeding season.

The routine water quality and phytoplankton monitoring sampling trips are currently on the bloom season (May-Oct) twice per month sampling schedule. Provisional phytoplankton results from the June 8-10 sampling event showed 5 of the 27 phytoplankton samples collected had detectable levels of cyanotoxins; 3 had < 0.2 µg/L cylindrospermopsin, and 2 had 0.6 and 1.7 µg/L microcystins (**Figure LO-8**). Thirteen of the samples were dominated or co-dominated by *Microcystis*. Five of the 27 water quality samples had chlorophyll *a* values > 40 µg/L, indicating bloom level concentrations, while 8 samples had values between 20 and 40 µg/L (**Figure LO-8**).

Note: All data presented in this report are provisional and are subject to change.

1 Month Ago:
05/28/2026

Current:
06/28/2026

9.84 ft
NAVD88

9.65 ft
NAVD88

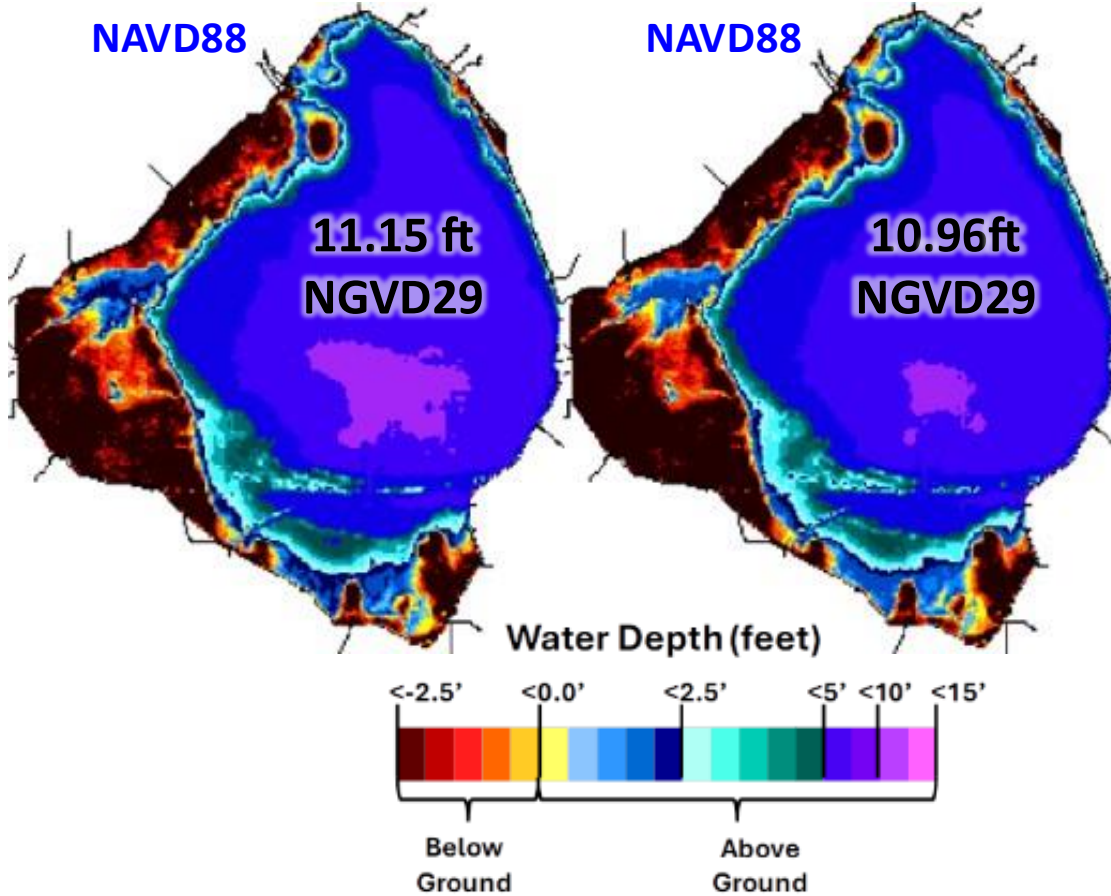


Figure LO-1. Lake Okeechobee water depth estimates based on South Florida Water Depth Assessment Tool (SFWDAT).

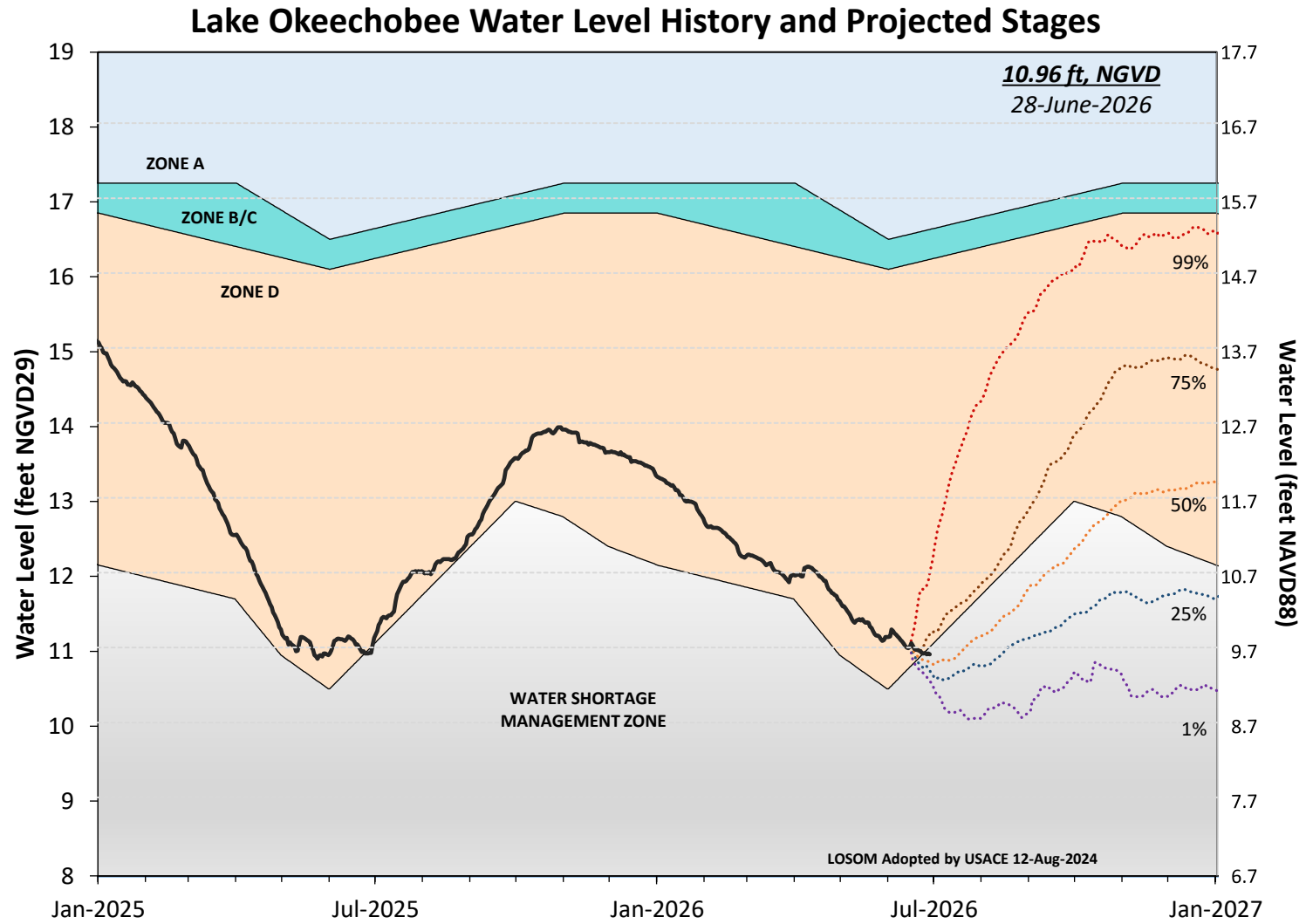


Figure LO-2. Recent Lake Okeechobee stages with projected stages based on a conditional position analysis.
 Note: stages are in NGVD29, approximate NAVD88 values are shown for reference.

Lake Okeechobee Stage vs Ecological Envelope

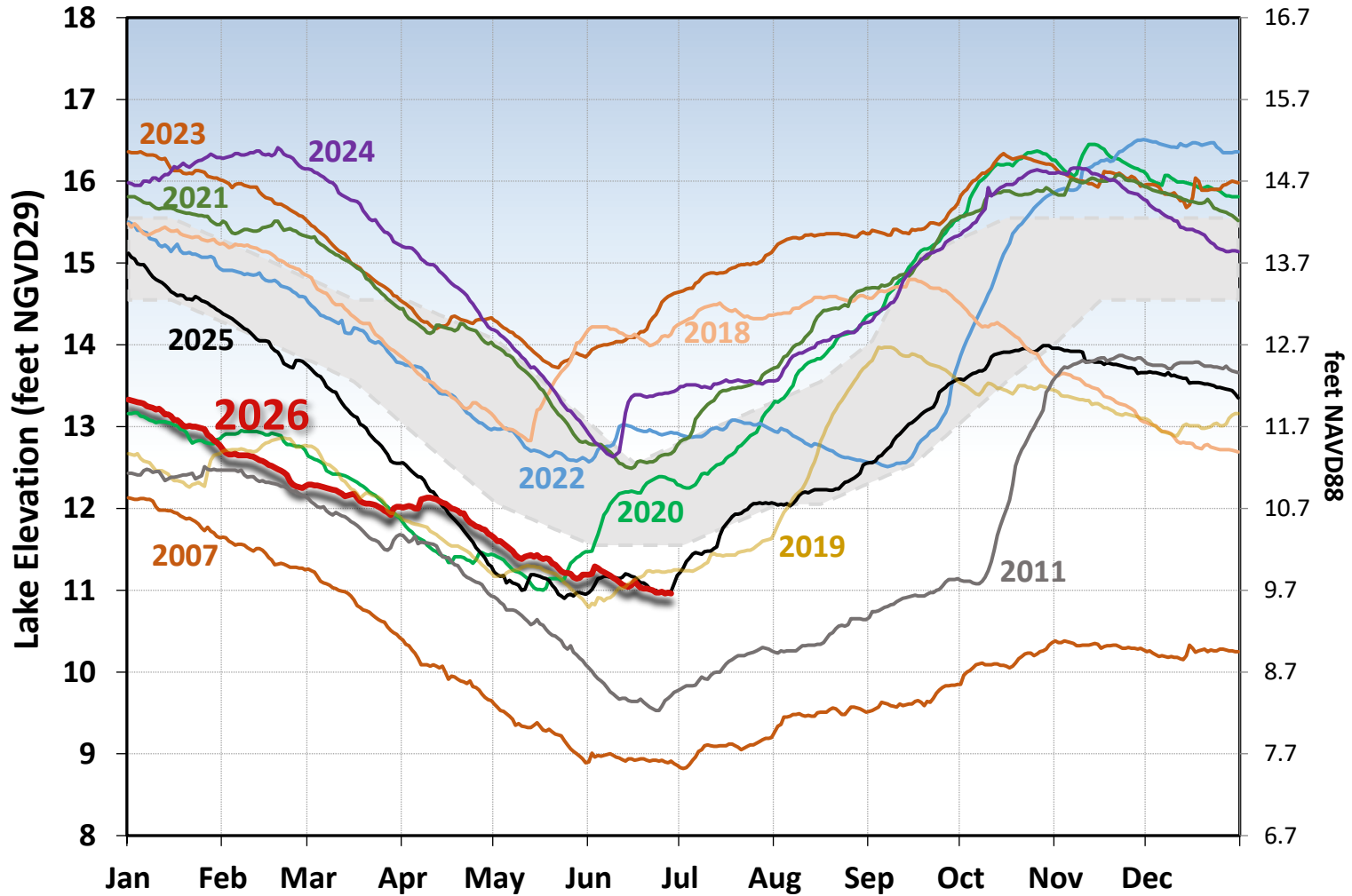


Figure LO-3. The current and select prior year's annual lake stage hydrographs in comparison to the Lake Okeechobee ecological envelope (light grey).

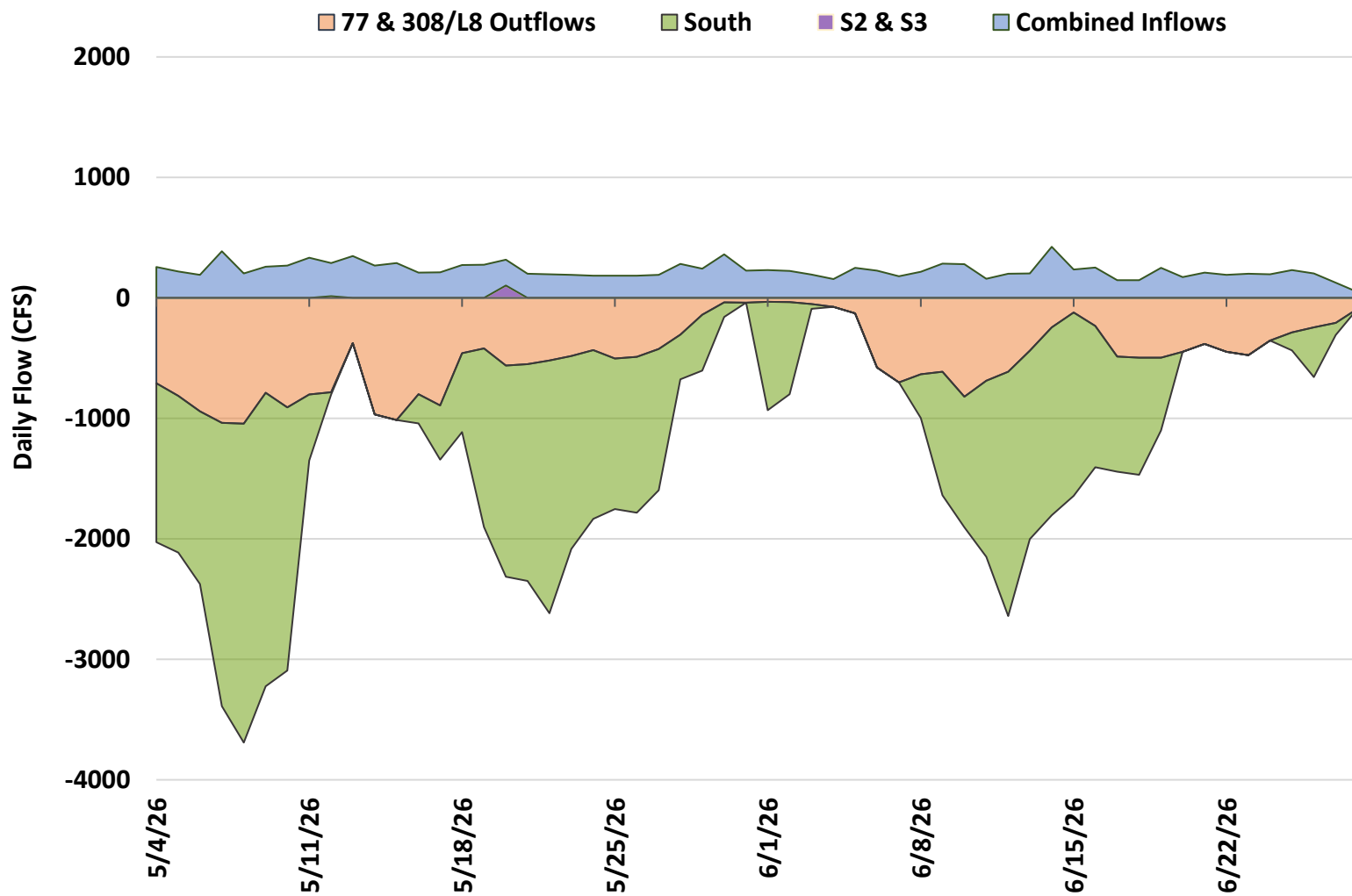


Figure LO-4. Major inflows (orange) to and outflows east and west (blue) from Lake Okeechobee. Outflows south are shown in green. Flows into Lake Okeechobee from the L-8 canal through S-271 (formerly Culvert 10A) or from the C-44 canal through the S-308 are included as inflows. Conversely, flows from Lake Okeechobee into the L-8 or C-44 canals are included with outflows. Inflows are shown as positive values; outflows are negative. Outflows through the S-77 (Caloosahatchee) and S-308 (C-44 Canal) structures are based on downstream gauges to include flows to lock openings for navigation.

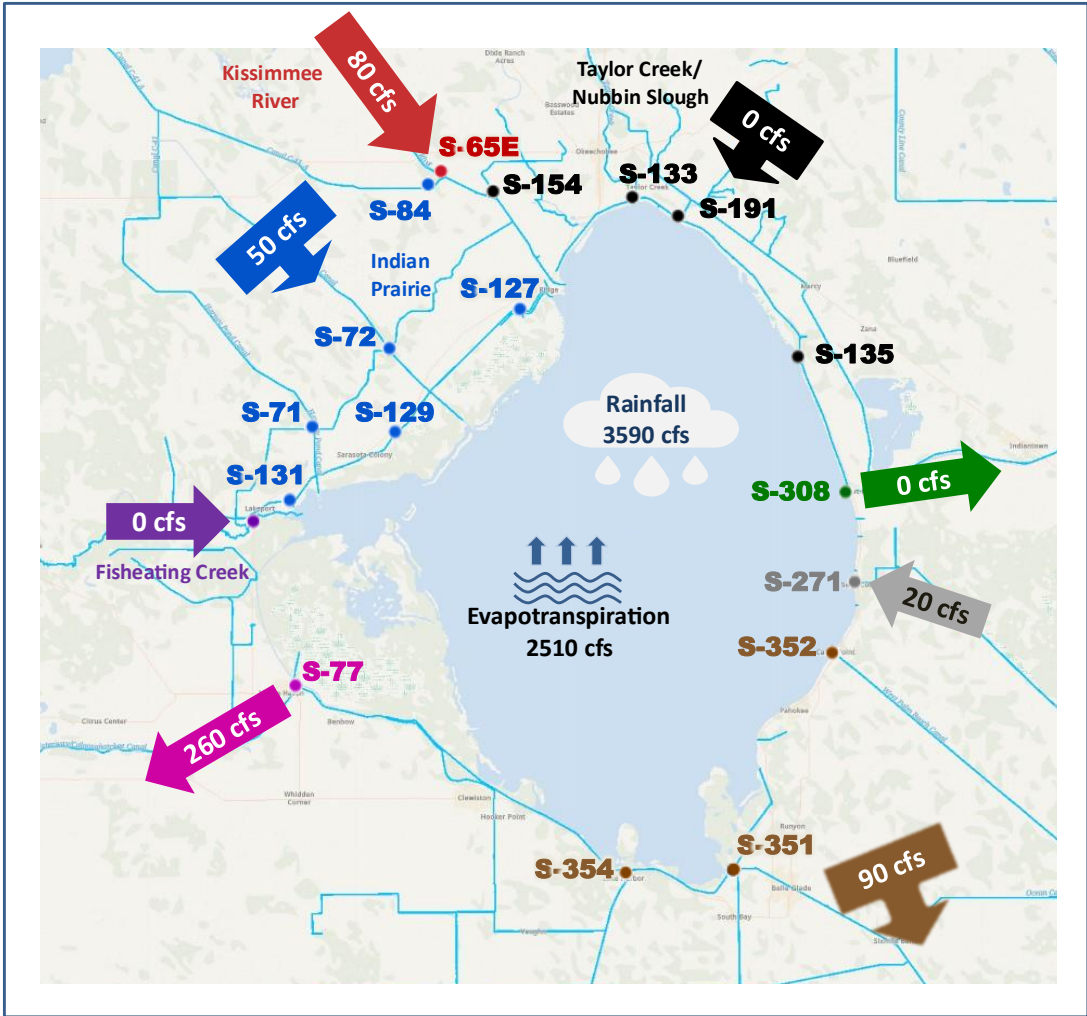


Figure LO-5. Inflows into Lake Okeechobee from Indian Prairie basins, Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough, Kissimmee River and Fisheating Creek (currently no flow data available for FECR), and outflows to the west via S-77, to the east via S-308, to the south via S-351, S-352, S-354, and to southeast via S-271 (formerly Culvert 10A) for the week of June 22 - 28, 2026.

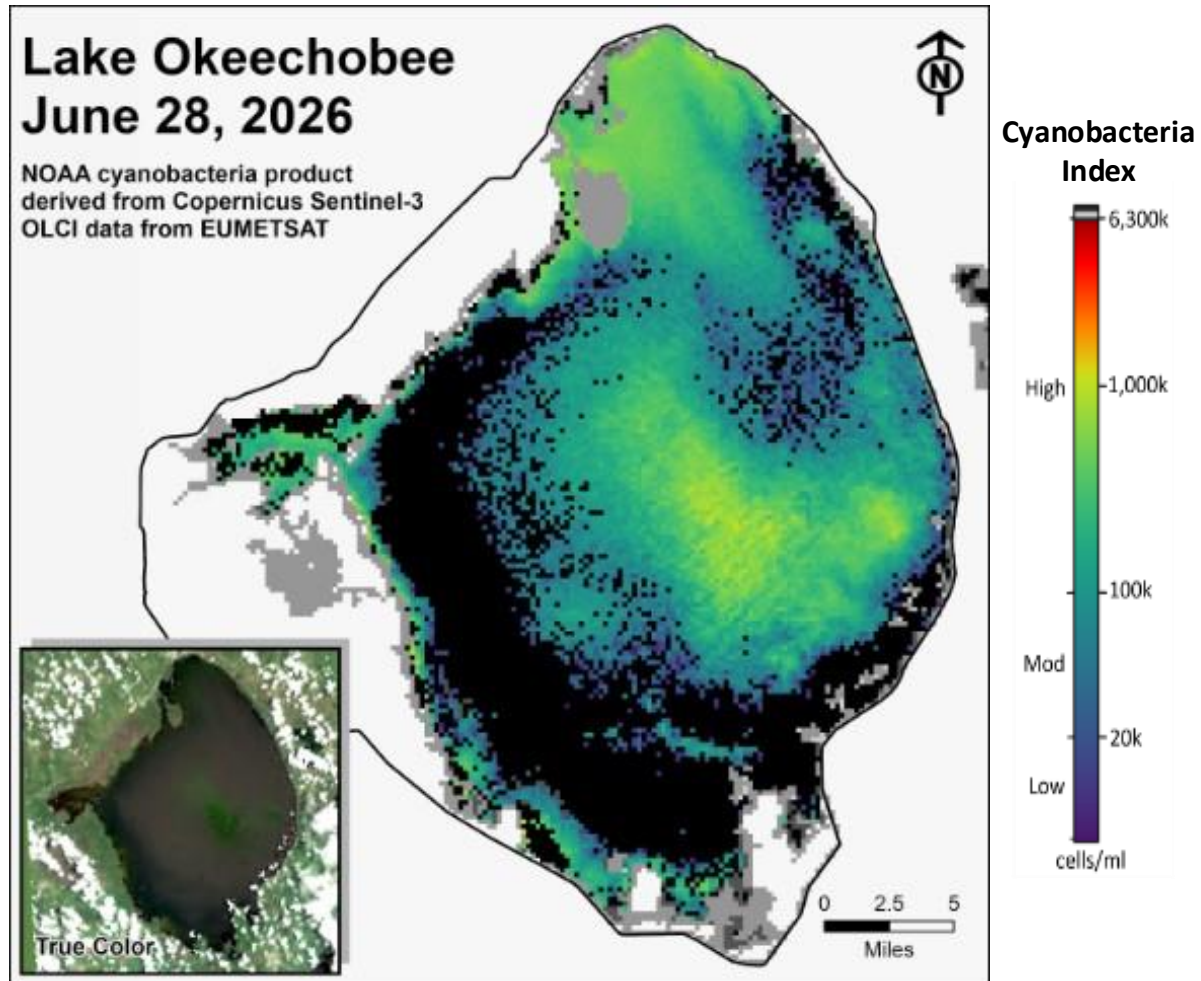


Figure LO-6. Cyanobacteria bloom index level on Lake Okeechobee, based on NOAA's harmful algal bloom monitoring system. Gray color indicates cloud cover. *Provisional NOAA image, subject to change*.

**Wading Bird Foraging Locations
June 24, 2026**

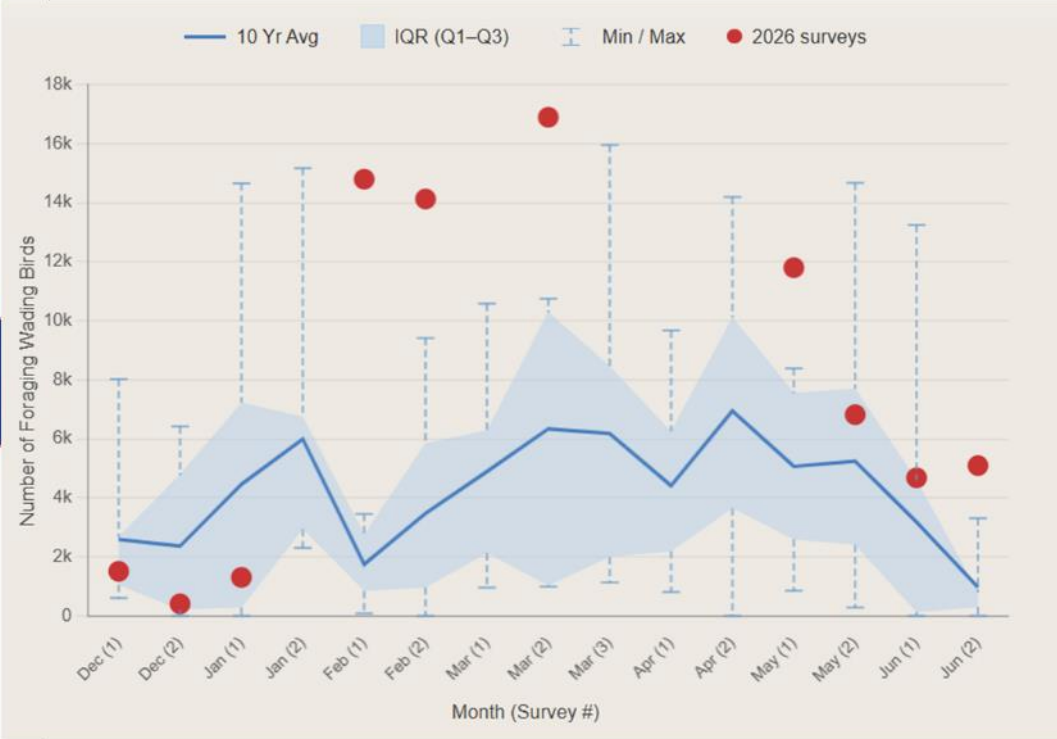
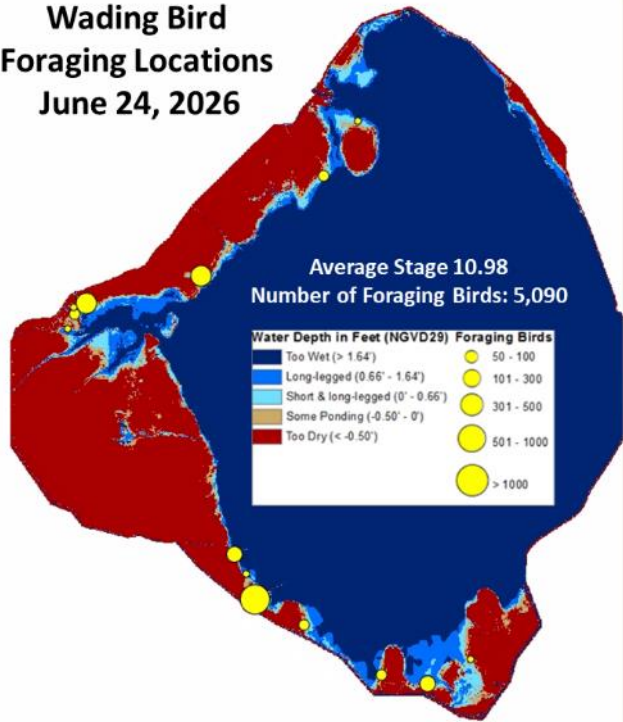


Figure LO-7. Results from the wading bird survey flight conducted on June 24, 2026. Map graphic indicates location of the 14 flocks and approximate abundance of actively foraging wading birds on Lake Okeechobee. Graph compares the current seasons wading bird counts (red dots) to the mean, min, max, and interquartile ranges from the preceding 10 years of surveys.

Collection Date: June 8-10, 2026

Station	CHLa (ug/L)	TOXIN (ug/L)	TAXA	Station	CHLa (ug/L)	TOXIN (ug/L)	TAXA
FEBIN				L001	31.3	BDL	<i>Micro/Plank</i>
FEBOUT	41.5	BDL	<i>Raphi/Plank</i>	L004	16.2	BDL	<i>Microcys</i>
KISSR0.0	34.6	BDL	<i>Micro/Aphan</i>	L006	11.5	BDL	<i>Microcys</i>
L005	71.5	0.1	<i>Raphidio</i>	L007	7.0	0.6	<i>Microcys</i>
LZ2	11.4	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	L008	68.3	0.1	<i>Micro/Raphi</i>
KBARSE	42.8	BDL	<i>Microcys</i>	LZ30	20.6	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
RITTAE2				LZ40	14.4	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
PELBAY3				CLV10A	18.9	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
POLE3S				NCENTER	12.1	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
LZ25A							
PALMOUT	6.3	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	S308C	8.4	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
PALMOUT1	5.6	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	S77	77.3	0.1	<i>Micro/Raphi</i>
PALMOUT2	9.8	1.7	<i>Microcys</i>				
PALMOUT3	24.9	BDL	<i>mixed</i>				
POLESOUT	21.5	BDL	<i>mixed</i>				
POLESOUT1	29.4	BDL	<i>Microcys</i>				
POLESOUT2	31.3	BDL	<i>Microcys</i>				
POLESOUT3	17.7	BDL	<i>Microcys</i>				
EASTSHORE	28.0	BDL	<i>mixed</i>				
NES135	19.0	BDL	<i>Microcys</i>				
NES191	7.9	BDL	<i>mixed</i>				

SFWMD considers >40 µg/L Chlorophyll *a* an algal bloom
 BDL – Below Detectable Limit of 0.2 µg/L (Cyl = 0.1 µg/L)
 ND – No Dominant taxa
 F – Flagged Sample
 Blank – Not sampled
 Station bold font – crew observed possible BGA
 Chlorophyll *a* (CHLa) analyzed by SFWMD
 Toxin & Taxa analyzed by FDEP:
Microcys = *Microcystis*; *Raphi* = *Raphidiopsis*;
Planktol = *Planktolyngbya*; *Dolicho* = *Dolichospermum*;
Pseud = *Pseudanabaena*; *Dinop* = *Dinophyceae*
 Toxins include cylindrospermopsin and/or microcystins

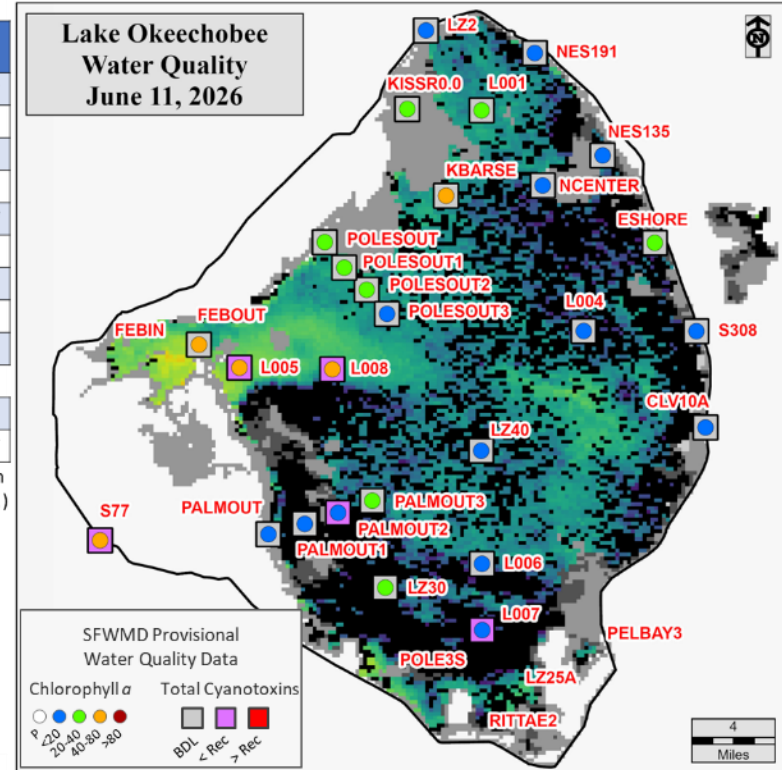


Figure LO-8. Dominant taxa, cyanotoxins (µg/L) and chlorophyll *a* (µg/L) concentration data from June 8-10, 2026. Sampling locations, chlorophyll *a*, and total toxin concentrations are overlaid on the June 11, 2026 image from NOAA’s harmful algal bloom monitoring system. Gray color indicates cloud cover.

Estuaries

St. Lucie Estuary

Over the past week, mean total inflow to the St. Lucie Estuary was 289 cfs (**Figures ES-1 and ES-2**), and the previous 30-day mean inflow was 335 cfs. For comparison, the historical provisional mean inflows from contributing areas are shown in **Figure ES-2**.

Over the past week, surface salinities decreased at the HR1, US1 Bridge, and A1A Bridge sites (**Table ES-1 and Figure ES-3**). The seven-day moving average of the surface and bottom salinities at the US1 Bridge was 21.8. Salinity conditions in the middle estuary were estimated to be within the optimal range (10-25) for adult eastern oysters (**Figure ES-4**). The mean larval oyster recruitment rate reported by the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) for May was 0.4 spat/shell at Rio, which is a decrease from the previous month (**Figure ES-5**).

Caloosahatchee River Estuary

Over the past week, mean total inflow to the Caloosahatchee River Estuary was 553 cfs (**Figures ES-6 and ES-7**), and the previous 30-day mean inflow was 539 cfs. For comparison, the historical provisional mean inflows from the contributing areas are shown in **Figure ES-7**.

Over the past week, surface salinities decreased at all sites in the estuary (**Table ES-2 and Figures ES-8 and ES-9**). The seven-day mean salinities (**Table ES-2**) were in the optimal range (0-10) for tape grass at S-79 and Val I-75, and continued to be in the damaging range (>15) at Ft. Myers in the upper estuary. The seven-day mean salinity values were within the optimal range (10-25) for adult eastern oysters at Cape Coral, and in the stressed range (>25) at Shell Point and Sanibel (**Figure ES-10**). The mean larval oyster recruitment rates reported by the FWRI in May were 1.9 spat/shell at Iona Cove and 5.6 spat/shell at Bird Island, which is an increase and decrease from the previous month, respectively (**Figures ES-11 and ES-12**).

Surface salinity at Val I-75 was forecast for the next two weeks using an autoregression model (Qiu and Wan, 2013¹) coupled with a linear reservoir model for the tidal basin. Model scenarios included pulse releases at S-79 ranging from 450 to 2,000 cfs, with estimated tidal basin inflows of 83 cfs. Model results from all scenarios predict daily salinity to be 8.7 or lower and the 30-day moving average surface salinity to be 9.3 or lower at Val I-75 at the end of the two-week period (**Table ES-3 and Figure ES-13**). This keeps predicted salinities in the upper estuary within the optimal salinity range (0-10) for tape grass.

¹ Qiu, C., and Y. Wan. 2013. Time series modeling and prediction of salinity in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary. *Water Resources Research* 49:5804-5816.

Red Tide

The FWRI reported on June 26, 2026, that *Karenia brevis*, the Florida red tide dinoflagellate, was not observed at bloom concentrations in any samples collected within the District region.

Water Management Recommendations

Lake stage is in the Water Shortage Management Zone. Current climatological and hydrological conditions are normal. The LOSOM release guidance suggests no releases at S-79 to the Caloosahatchee River Estuary and no releases at S-80 to the St. Lucie Estuary.

Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels

The minimum flows and levels (MFL) for the Caloosahatchee River Estuary is a 30-day moving average flow of 457 cfs or greater at S-79. The current 30-day average flow at S-79 is 441 cfs (**Figure ES-14**) which is an exceedance.

The MFL for the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River is a) flows at Lainhart Dam maintained at 35 cfs or greater and b) the 20-day moving average salinity of 2 or less at River Mile (RM) 9.2. An exceedance occurs when flows decline below 35 cfs for more than 20 consecutive days or when the 20-day moving average salinity at River Mile 9.2 exceeds 2. The current daily average flow at Lainhart Dam is 44 cfs which is not an exceedance (**Figure ES-15**). The 20-day average salinity at RM 9.2 is 0.9 (**Figure ES-16**).

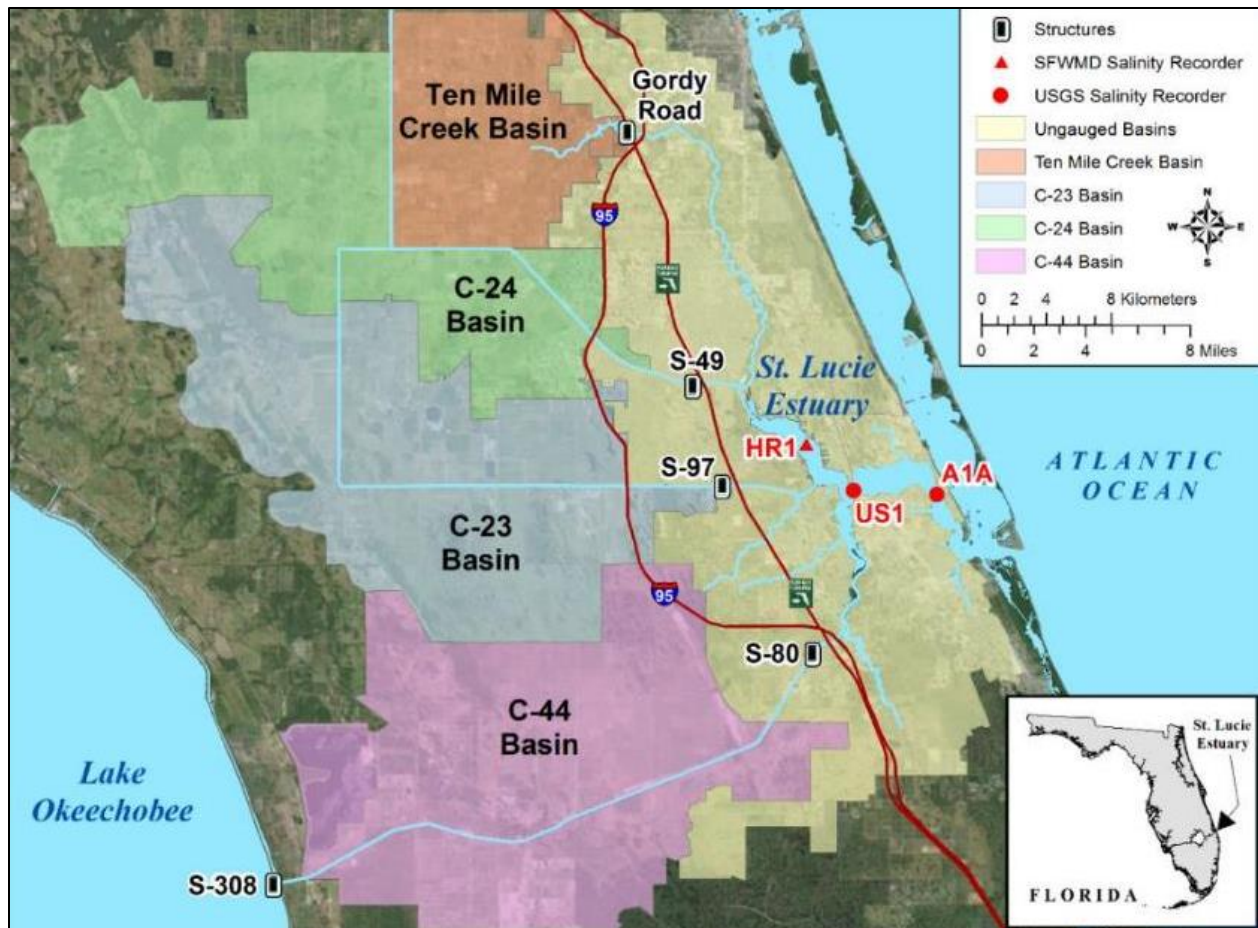


Figure ES-1. Basins, water control structures and salinity monitoring sites in the St. Lucie Estuary.

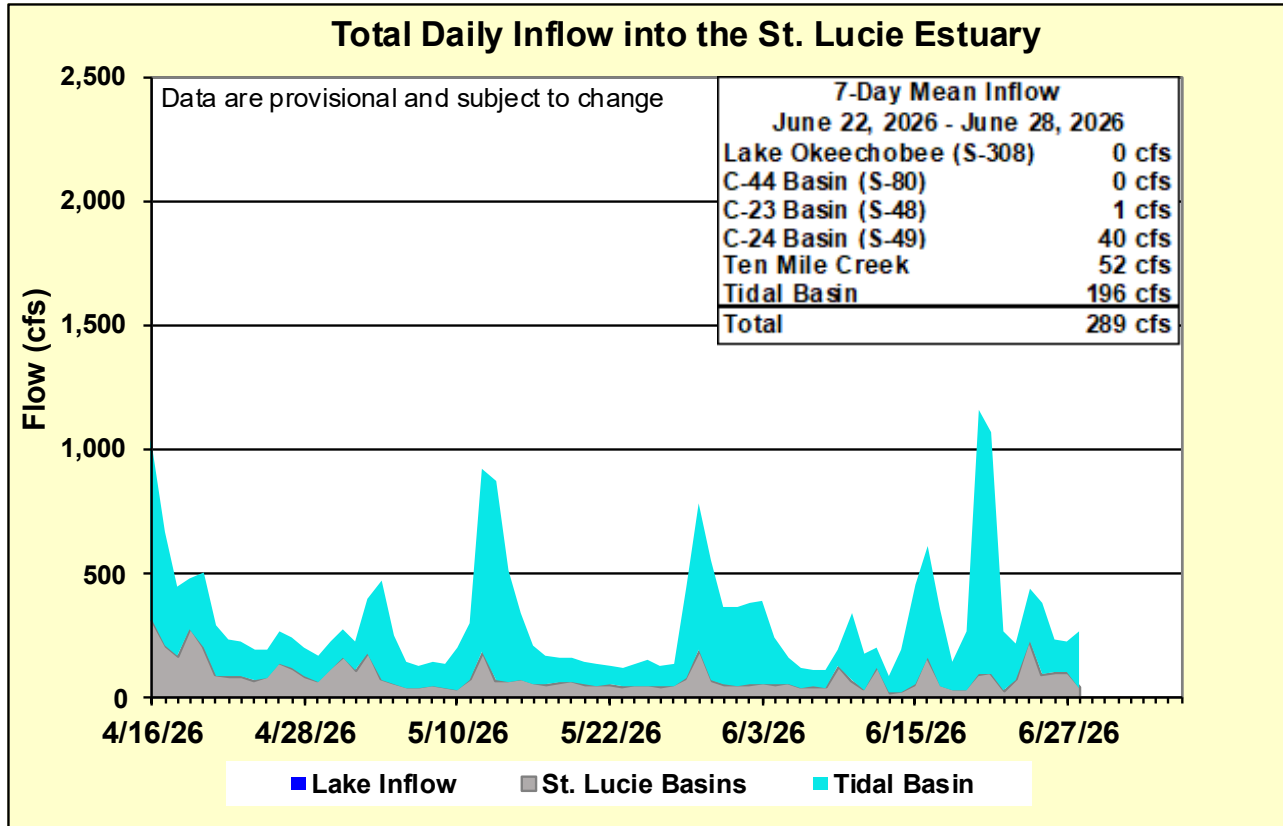


Figure ES-2. Total daily inflows from Lake Okeechobee and runoff from the C-44, C-23, C-24, Ten Mile Creek, and Tidal Basins into the St. Lucie Estuary.

Table ES-1. Seven-day mean salinity at oyster monitoring sites in the St. Lucie Estuary. Current means are in bold font; previous week's means are in parentheses. The envelope reflects the optimum salinity range for adult eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) in the estuary. Data are provisional.

Sampling Site	Surface	Bottom	Optimum Envelope
HR1 (North Fork)	14.9 (15.6)	19.8 (20.0)	10.0 – 25.0
US1 Bridge	21.0 (21.9)	22.6 (22.6)	10.0 – 25.0
A1A Bridge	27.6 (28.4)	29.7 (29.9)	10.0 – 25.0

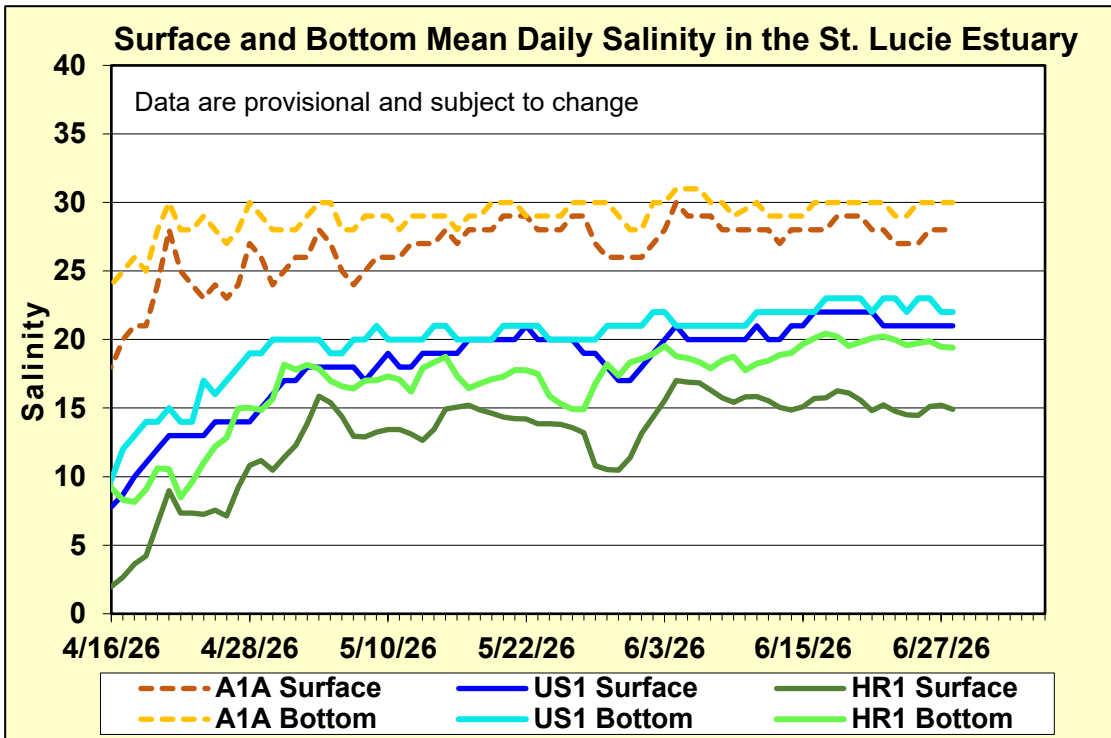


Figure ES-3. Mean daily salinity at the A1A, US1, and HR1 sites in the St. Lucie Estuary.

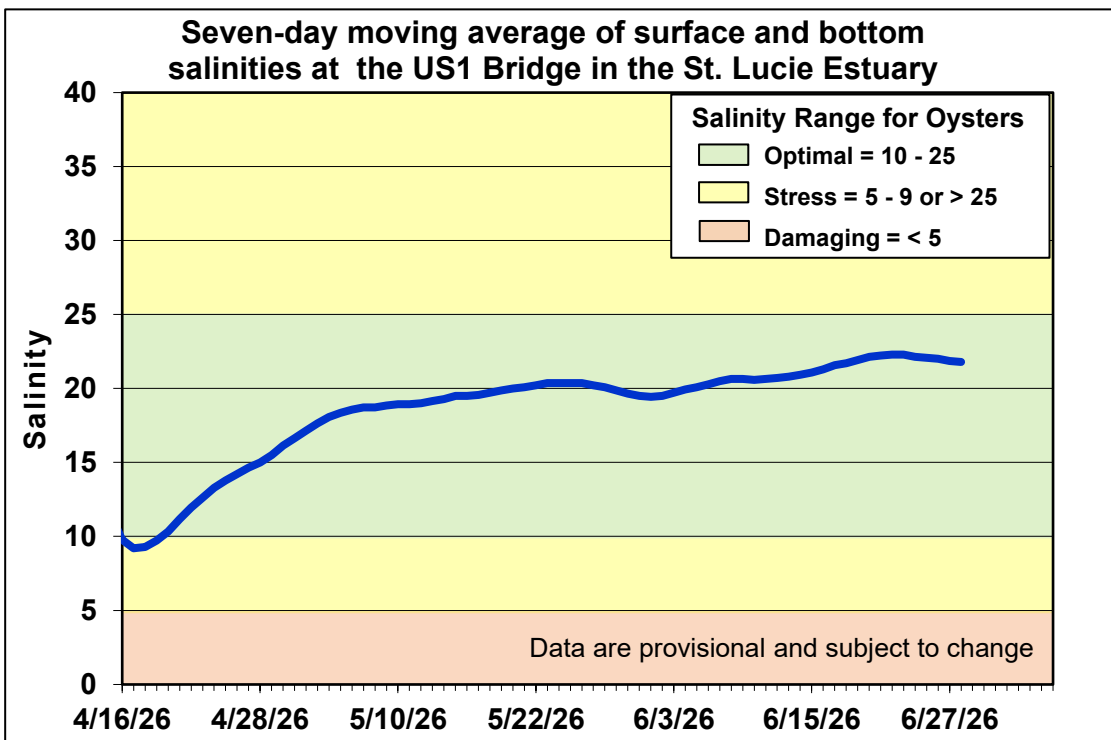


Figure ES-4. Seven-day moving average of the surface and bottom salinities at the US1 Bridge in the St. Lucie Estuary.

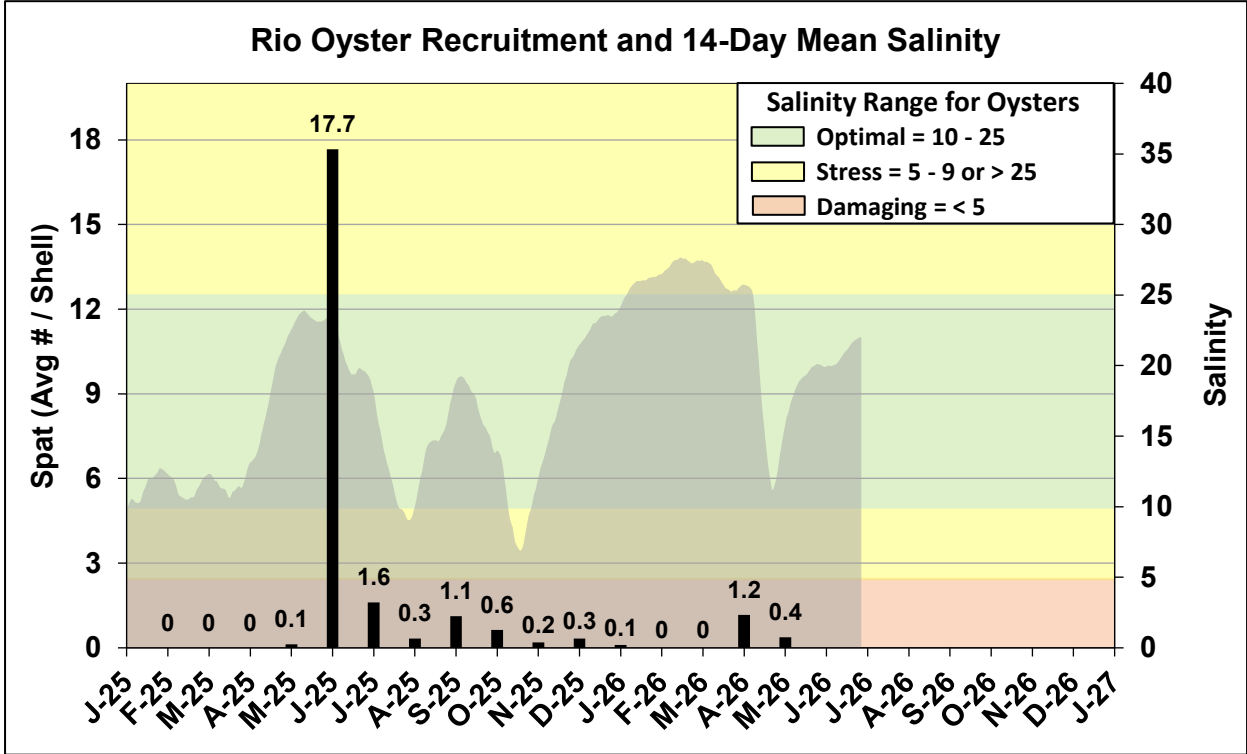


Figure ES-5. Mean oyster recruitment at the Rio oyster monitoring station and 14-day mean salinity at US1 Bridge.

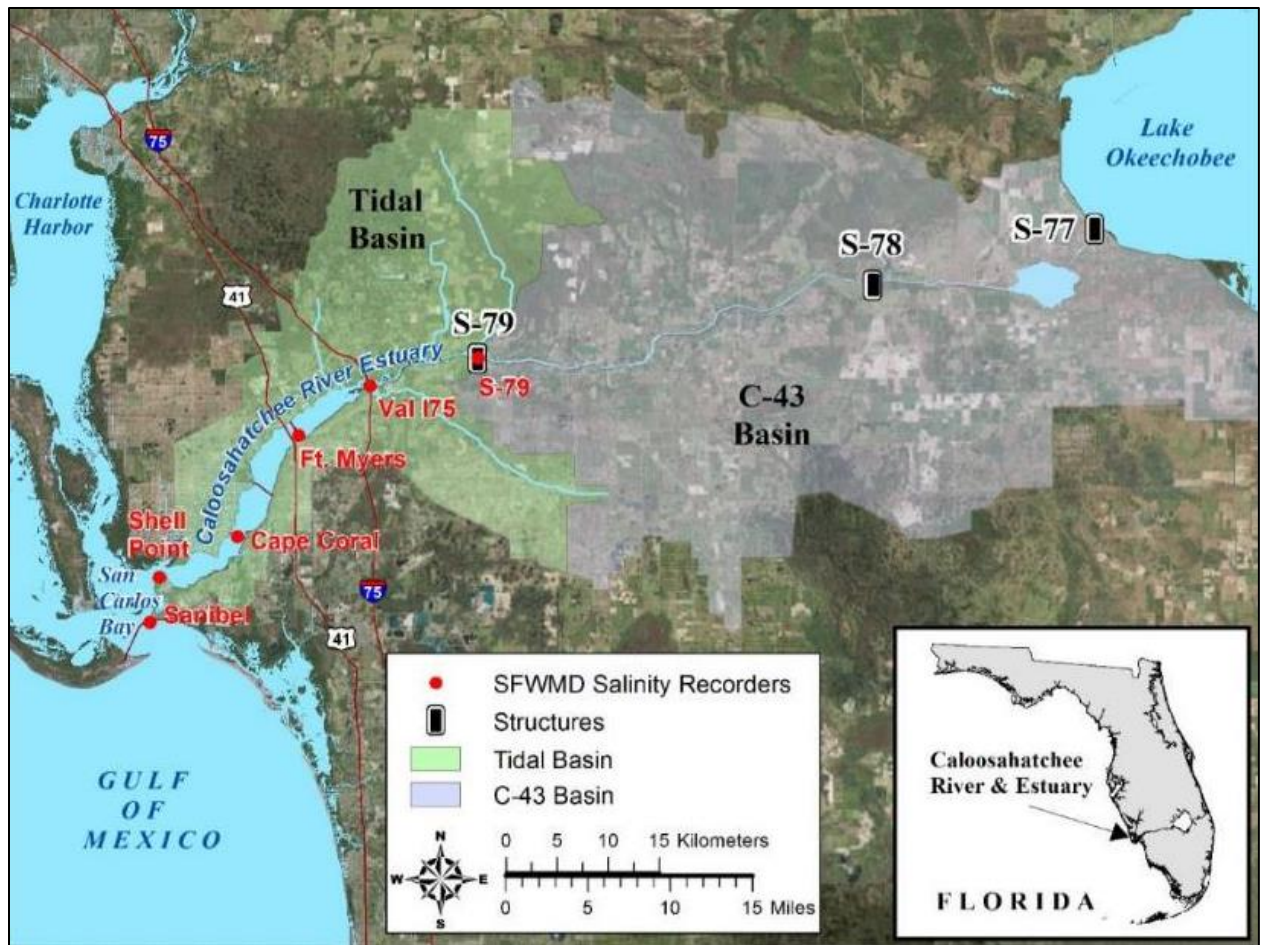


Figure ES-6. Basins, water control structures, and salinity monitoring sites in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary.

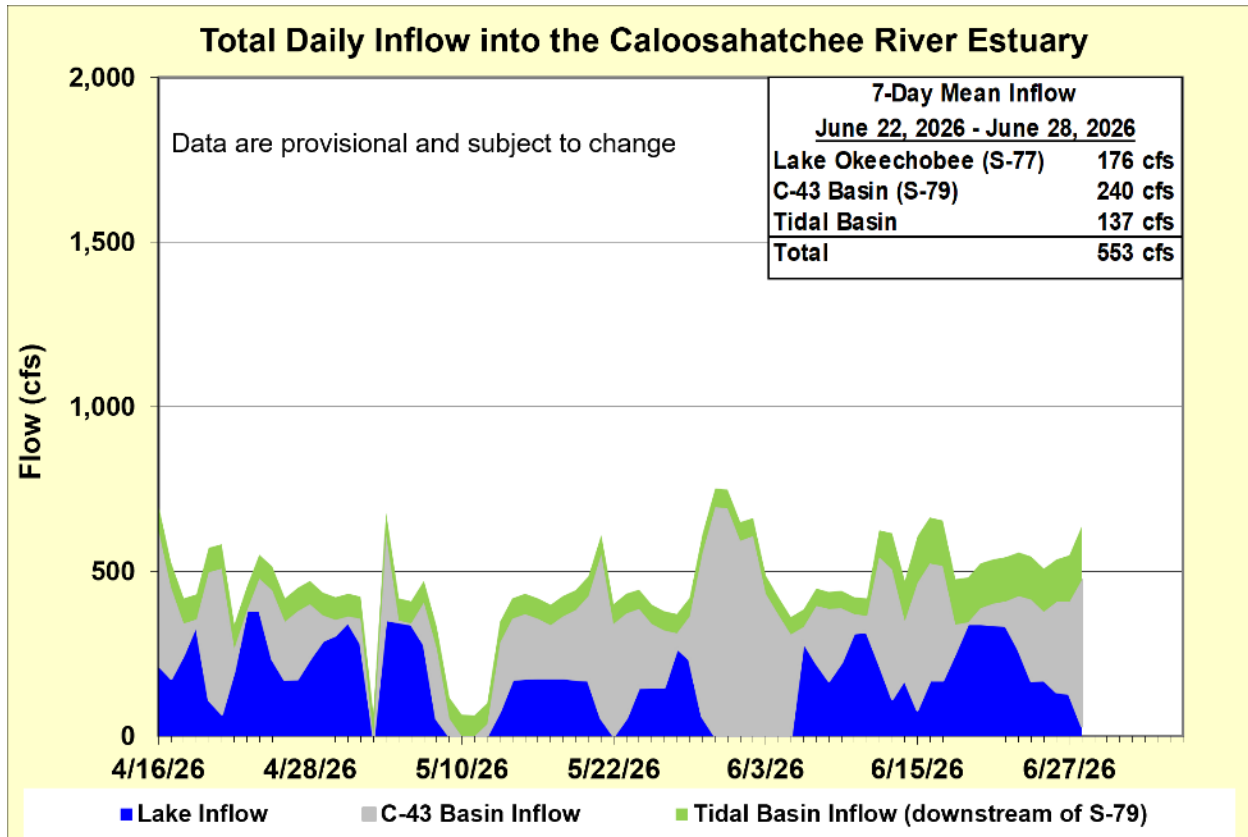


Figure ES-7. Total daily inflows from Lake Okeechobee, and runoff from the C-43 and Tidal basins into the Caloosahatchee River Estuary.

Table ES-2. Seven-day mean salinity at six monitoring sites in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary. Current means are in bold font; previous week's means are in parentheses. The envelope in the upper estuary sites is for the protection of tape grass and the envelope in the lower estuary is the optimum salinity range for adult eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*). Data are provisional.

Sampling Site	Surface	Bottom	Optimum Envelope
S-79 (Franklin Lock)	7.0 (7.1)	6.9 (7.1)	0.0 – 10.0
Val I-75	7.0 (9.5)	9.3 (10.8)	0.0 – 10.0
Fort Myers Yacht Basin	16.0 (17.2)	18.5 (17.3)	0.0 – 10.0
Cape Coral	23.6 (24.3)	25.0 (24.9)	10.0 – 25.0
Shell Point	33.5 (34.5)	33.9 (34.7)	10.0 – 25.0
Sanibel	36.0 (36.3)	37.0 (37.0)	10.0 – 25.0

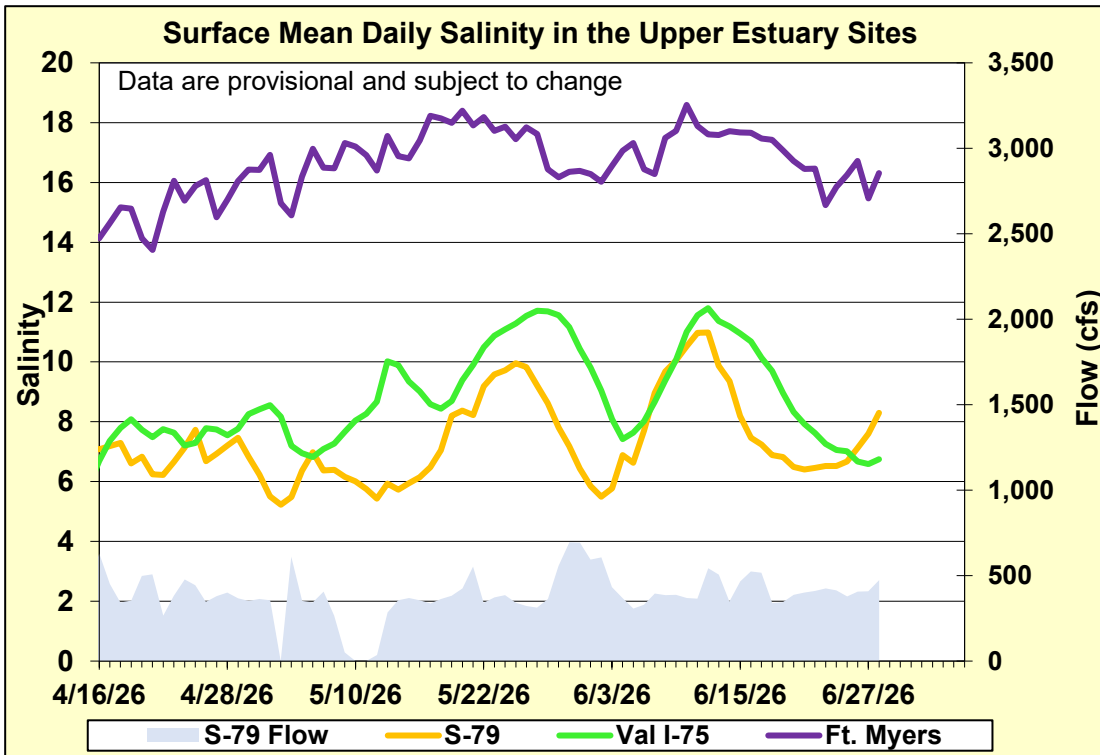


Figure ES-8. Mean daily salinity at upper Caloosahatchee River Estuary monitoring sites and mean daily flow at S-79.

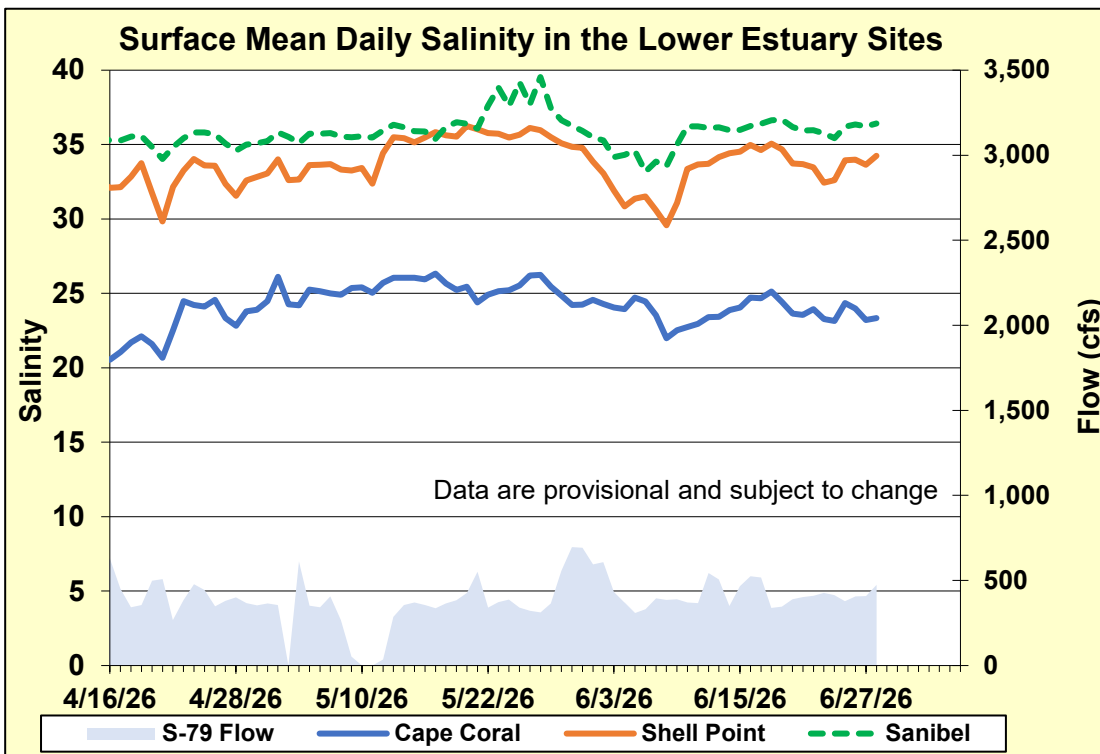


Figure ES-9. Mean daily surface salinity at lower Caloosahatchee River Estuary monitoring sites and mean daily flow at S-79.

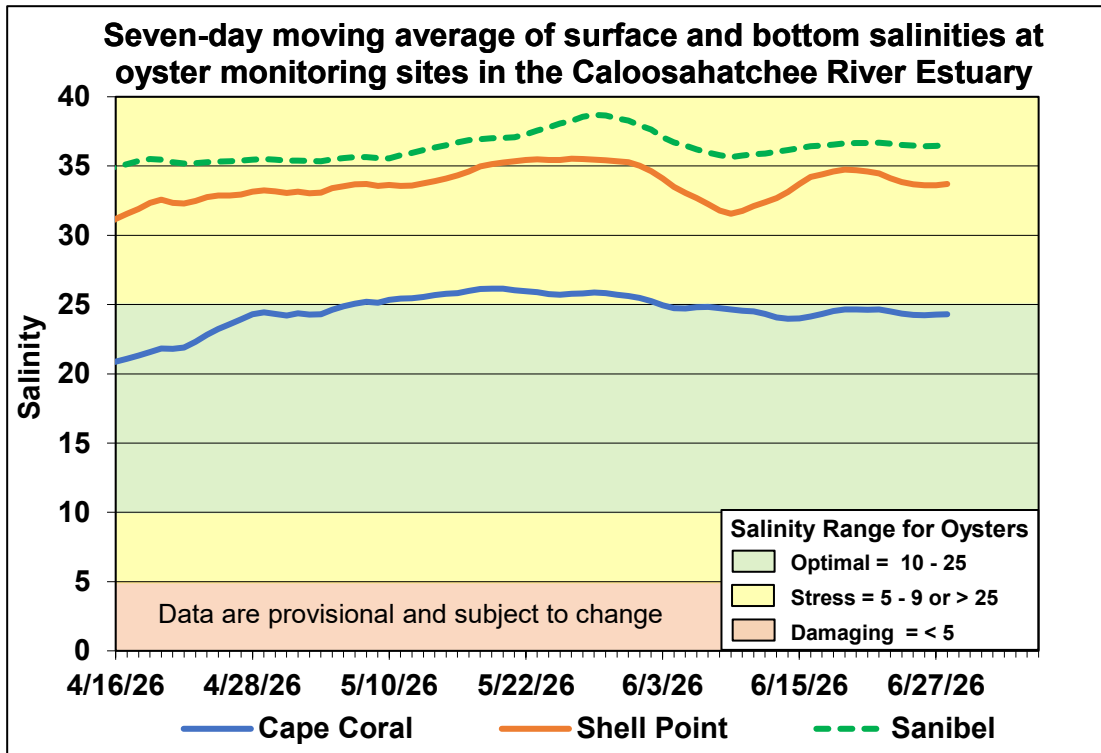


Figure ES-10. Seven-day moving average of surface and bottom salinities at Cape Coral, Shell Point, and Sanibel monitoring sites in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary.

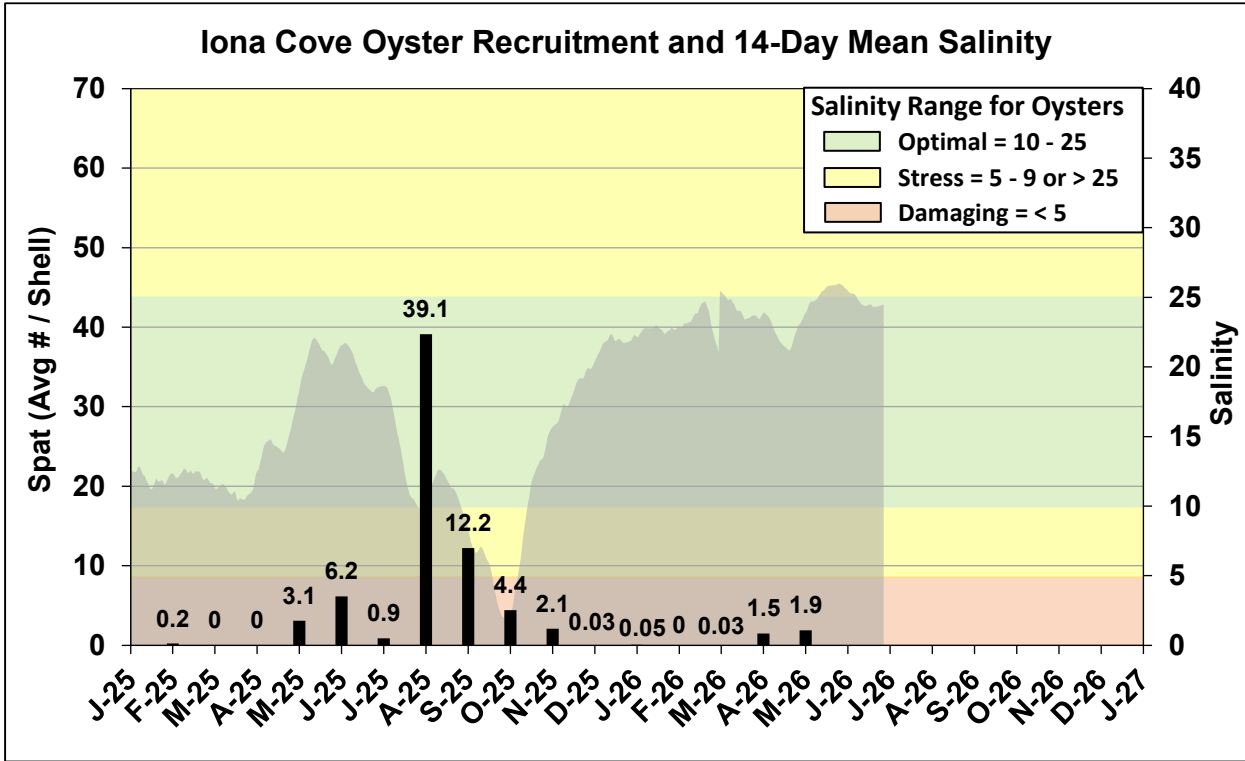


Figure ES-11. Mean oyster recruitment at the Iona Cove oyster monitoring station and 14-day mean salinity at Cape Coral.

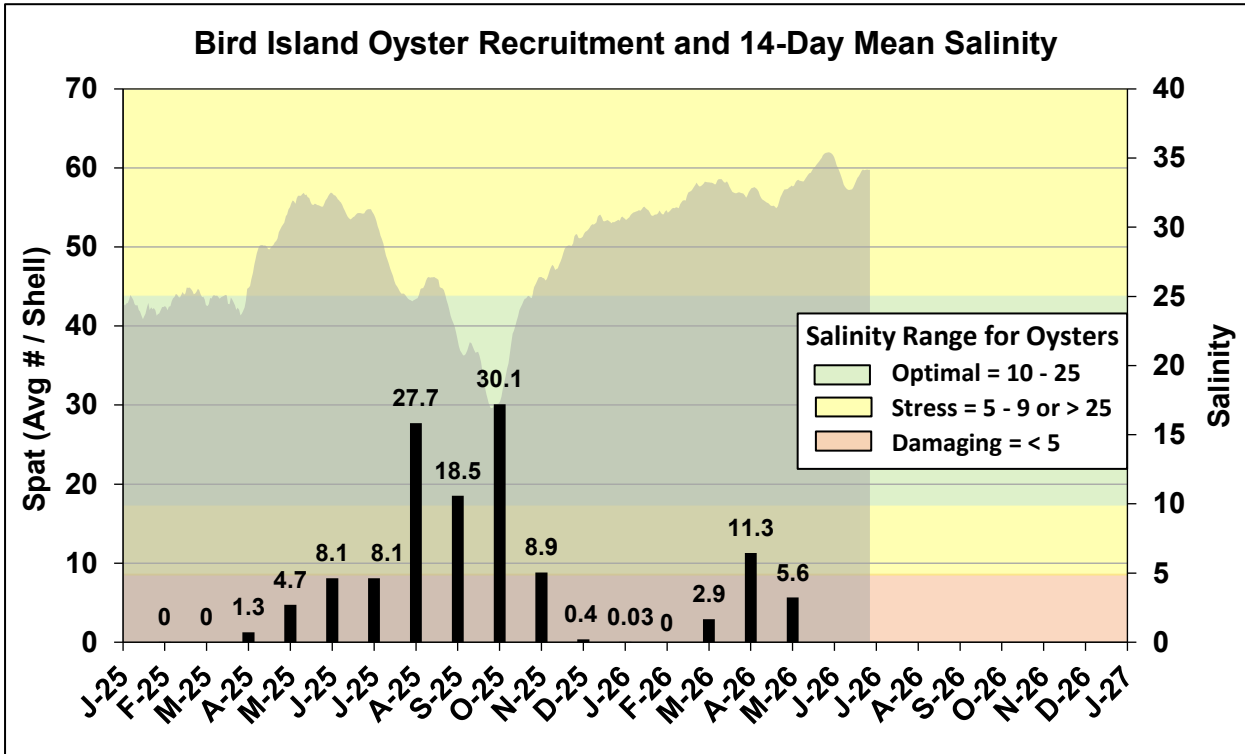


Figure ES-12. Mean oyster recruitment at the Bird Island oyster monitoring station and 14-day mean salinity at Shell Point.

Table ES-3. Predicted salinity at Val I-75 in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary at the end of the forecast period for various S-79 flow release scenarios.

Scenario	Simulated S-79 Flow (cfs)	Tidal Basin Runoff (cfs)	Daily Salinity	30-Day Mean Salinity
A	450	83	8.7	9.3
B	750	83	7.2	8.4
C	1,000	83	5.9	7.8
D	1,500	83	3.6	6.9
E	2,000	83	1.8	6.3

Observed and Forecasted Flow at S-79 and Salinity at Val I-75

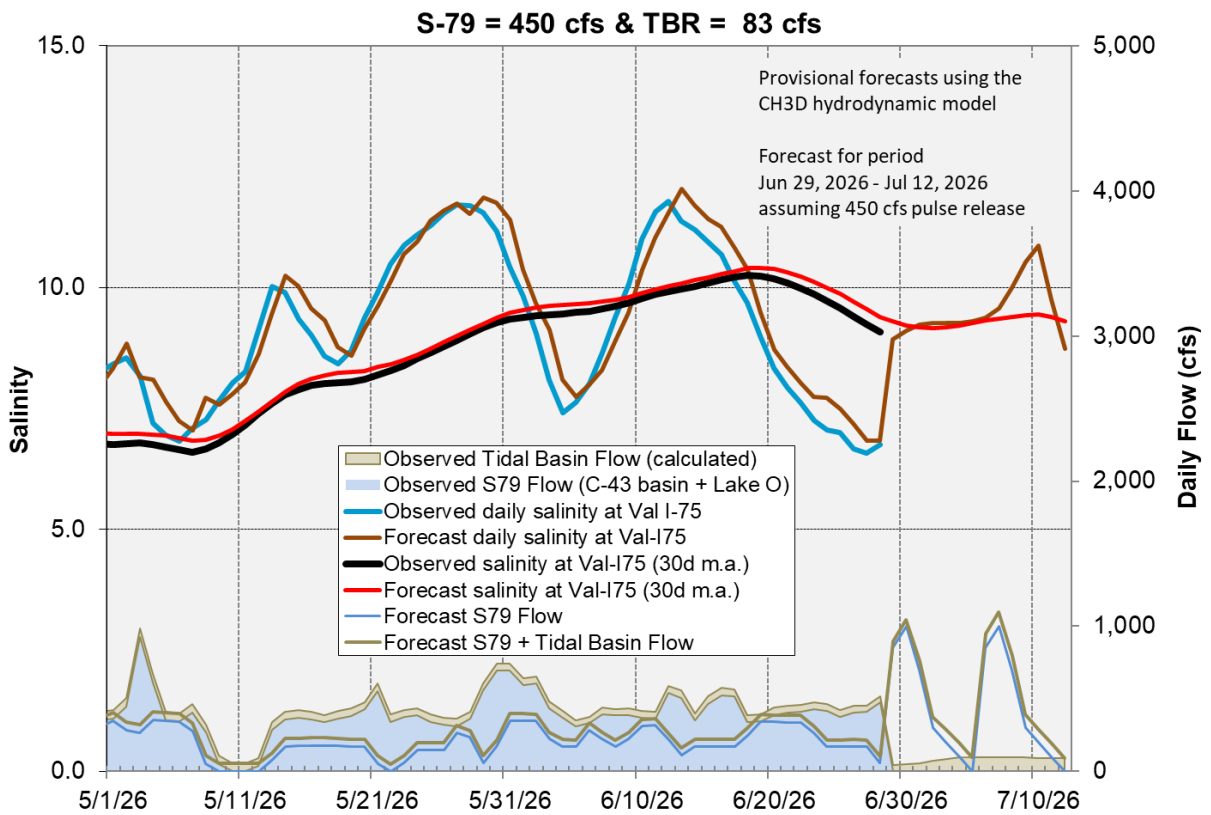


Figure ES-13. Surface salinity forecast at the Val I-75 site assuming a 450 cfs pulse release at S-79.

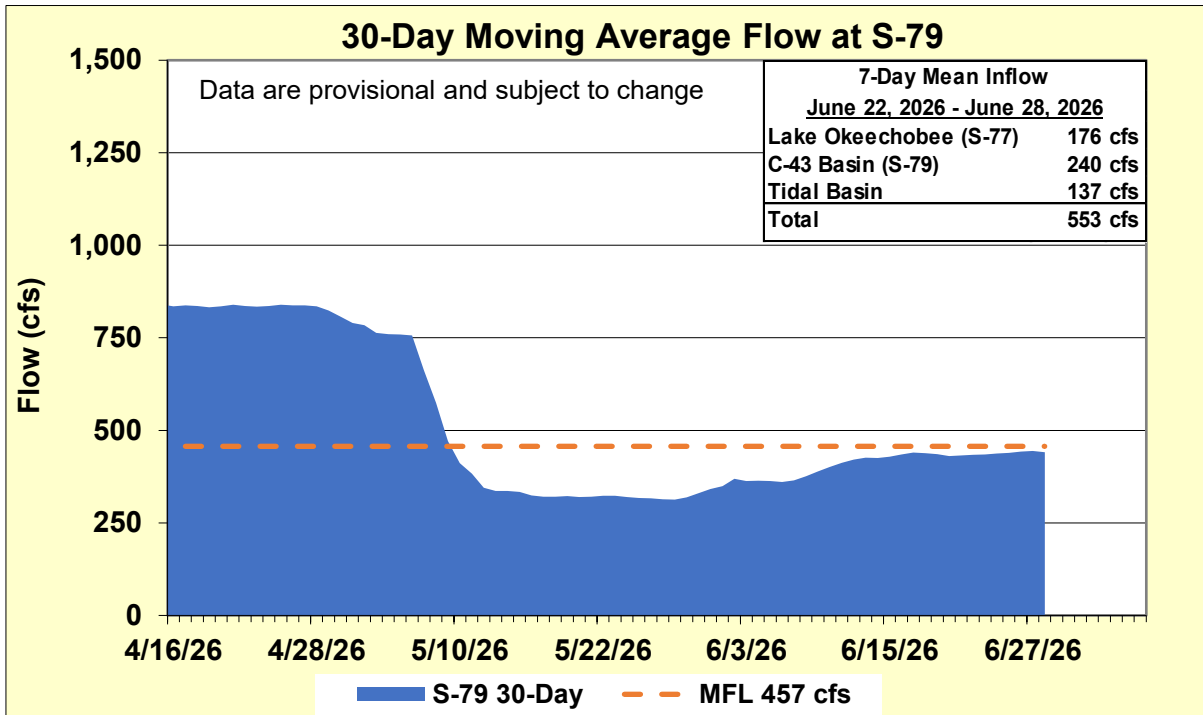


Figure ES-14. 30-day moving average flow at S-79 for the Caloosahatchee River Estuary Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels (MFL).

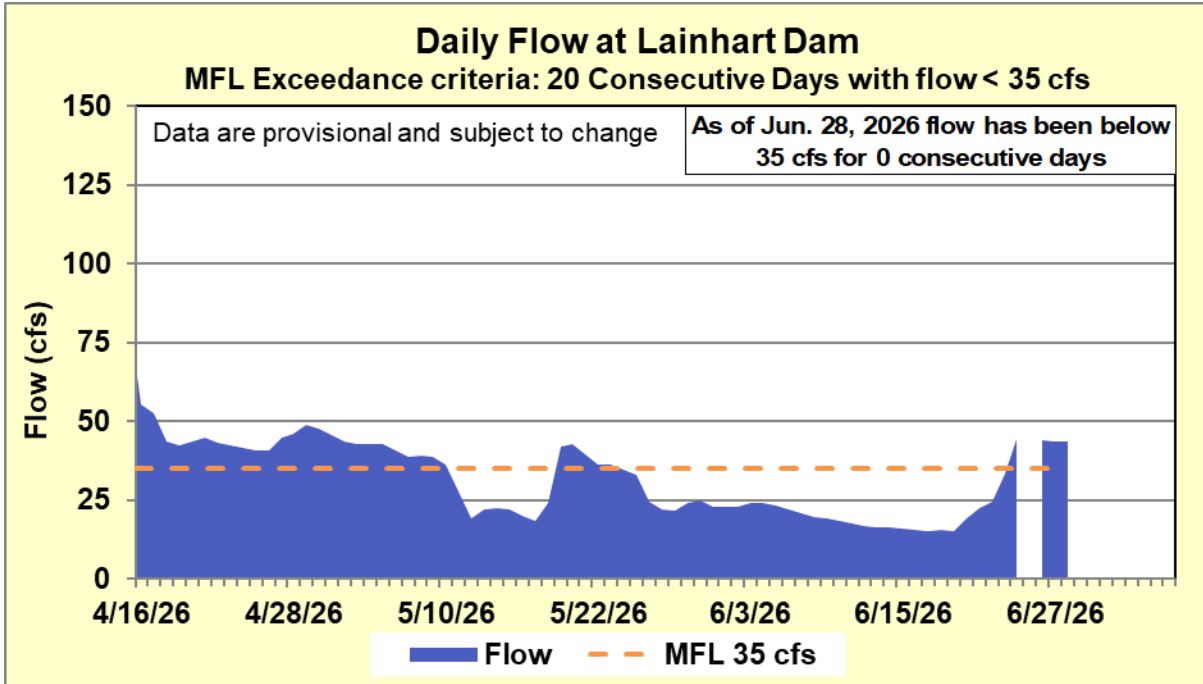


Figure ES-15. Average daily flow (cfs) at Lainhart Dam for the Loxahatchee River Estuary Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels (MFL). Data missing on 6/25/2026.

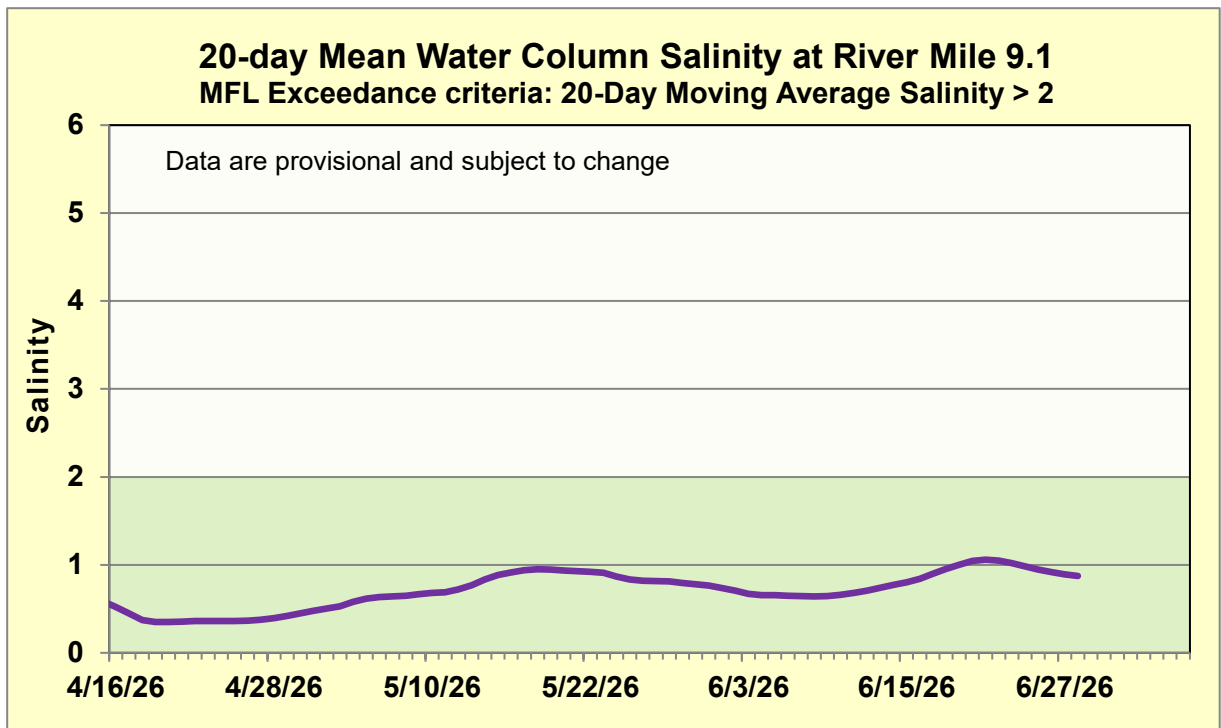


Figure ES-16. 20-day moving average salinity at Lainhart Dam for the Loxahatchee River Estuary Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels (MFL).

Stormwater Treatment Areas

STA-1E: STA-1E Central Flow-way is offline for construction activities. An operational restriction is in place in the Western Flow-way for post-construction vegetation grow-in. Online treatment cells are at or near target stage. The 365-day PLRs for the Western and Eastern Flow-way are below 1.0 g/m²/year (**Figure S-2**).

STA-1W: STA-1W Eastern Flow-way is offline for vegetation management activities. Treatment cells are at or slightly above target stage. The Eastern Flow-way contains nests of Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected species. Vegetation in the Western and Eastern Flow-ways is highly stressed. The 365-day PLRs for the Northern and Western Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m²/year (**Figure S-2**).

STA-2: Treatment cells are at or slightly above target stage. An operational restriction is in place in Flow-way 2 for vegetation management activities. Flow-ways 1 & 4 contain nests of Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected species. The 365-day PLRs for all Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m²/year (**Figure S-3**).

STA-3/4: An operational restriction is in place in the Eastern Flow-way for vegetation management activities. Most treatment cells are at or slightly above target stage. Vegetation in the Central Flow-way is highly stressed. The 365-day PLRs for the Eastern, Central, and Western Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m²/year (**Figure S-3**).

STA-5/6: Treatment cells are at or below target stage. All treatment cells have highly stressed vegetation conditions. The 365-day PLRs for all Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m²/year. (**Figure S-4**).

For definitions on STA operational language see glossary following figures.

Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas - STAs

Estimated Inflow and Outflow Volumes

Jun. 22nd, 2026 - Jun. 28th, 2026 *Includes preliminary data*

	Total Inflow (acre-feet)	Total Outflow (acre-feet)
STA-1E	30	1,000
STA-1W	0	70
STA-2	2,600	3,500
STA-3/4	10	0
STA-5/6	400	0

- Total WY2027 inflows to STAs (5/1/2026 to 6/28/2026): ~33,000 ac-ft
- Lake Okeechobee releases to FEBs/STAs
 - 6/22/2026 to 6/28/2026: 400 ac-ft
 - WY 2027: ~ 8,300 ac-ft
- Extensive vegetation management activities underway to address stressed and highly stressed vegetation in EAV cells
- MBTA protected species nesting in:
 - STA-1W Cell 1B
 - STA-2 Cells 1 & 6
- All treatment cells are at or near target water depth

Water Depths
(6/28/2026)

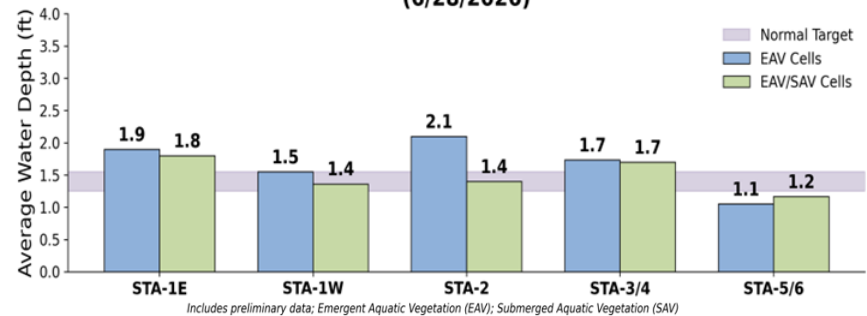


Figure S-1. STA depths and flow volumes

0 CFS Lake release capacity in Eastern Flow Path:
 6/29/2026 to 7/5/2026
 Subject to change weekly as wet season progresses

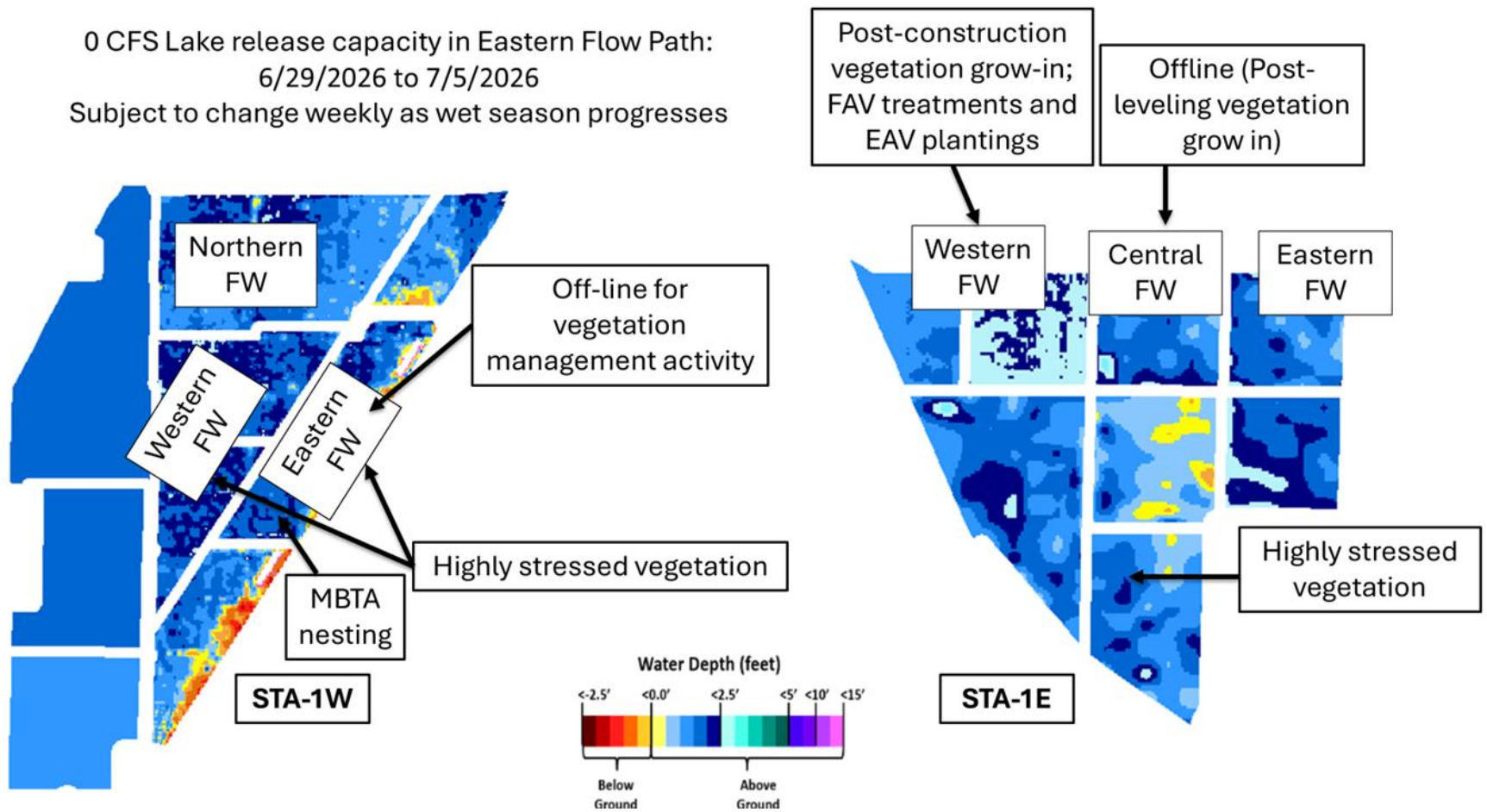


Figure S-2. Eastern Flow Path Weekly Status Report

1,000 CFS Lake release capacity in Central Flow Path:
 6/29/2026 to 7/5/2026
 Subject to change weekly as wet season progresses

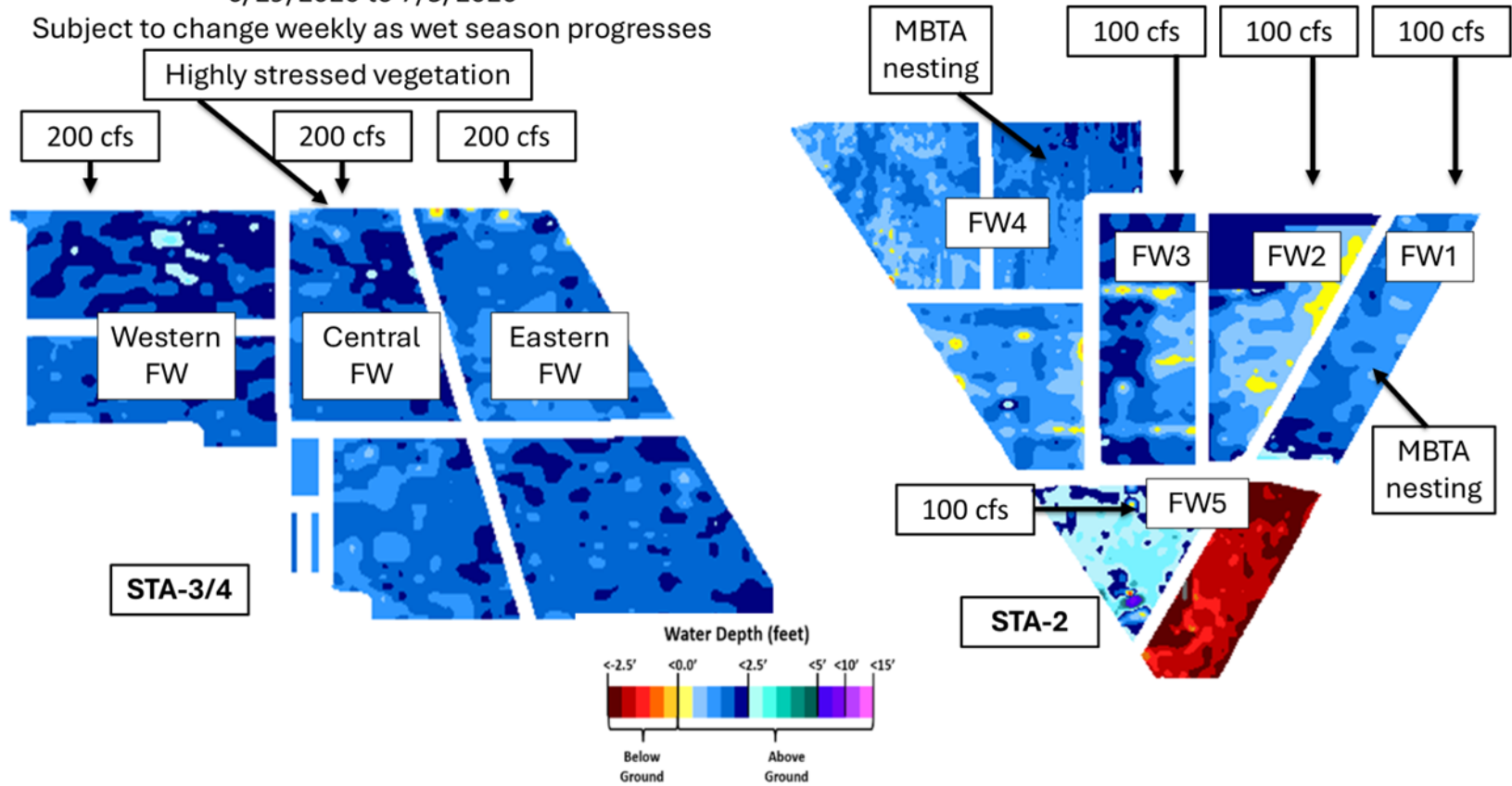


Figure S-3. Central Flow Path Weekly Status Report

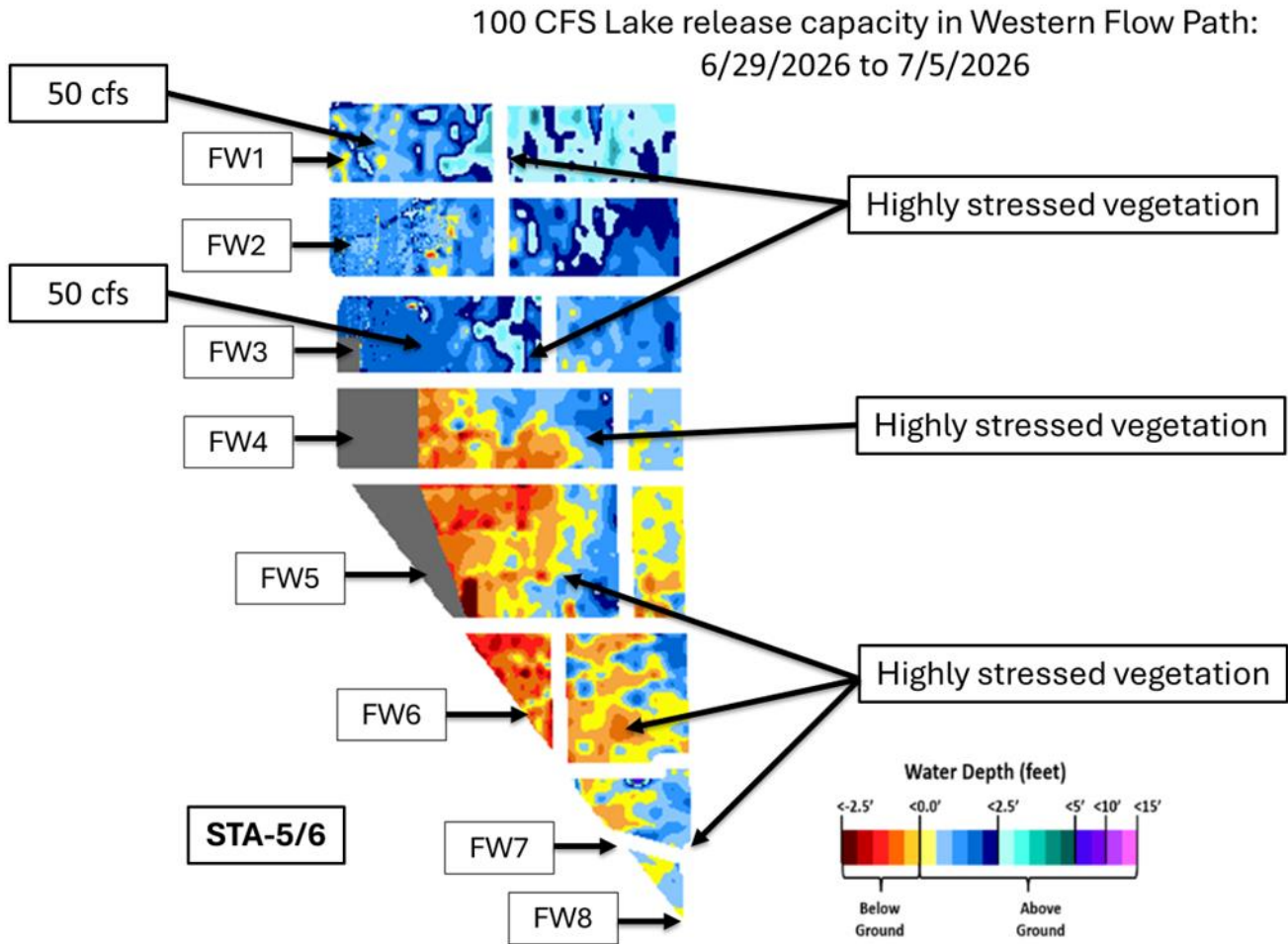


Figure S-4. Western Flow Path Weekly Status Report

Basic Concepts and Definitions for STA Weekly Status Report

- **Inflow:** Sum of flow volume at all inflow structures to an STA.
- **Lake Inflow:** Portion of the STA total inflow volume that originates from Lake Okeechobee.
- **Outflow:** Sum of flow volume at outflow structures from an STA.
- **Total Phosphorus (TP):** Total mass of phosphorus in all its forms; including particulate, dissolved, etc.
- **Inflow Concentration:** TP concentration is the mass of TP in micrograms per liter of water, $\mu\text{g/L}$ or ppb. Inflow concentration refers to the flow-weighted mean TP from all inflow structures over a period of time.
- **Outflow Concentration:** The flow-weighted mean TP from all outflow structures over a period of time. The outflow concentration represents the reduction of inflow TP achieved by STA treatment of the inflow water.
- **WQBEL:** The STA outflow concentration that is required upon completion of the Restoration Strategies projects by December 2025. The outflow concentration shall not exceed 13 ppb as an annual flow weighted mean in more than 3 out of 5 water years on a rolling basis and shall not exceed 19 ppb as an annual flow weighted in any water year.
- **Flow-Way (FW):** One or more treatment cells connected in series. Cells typically have emergent aquatic vegetation (EAV) in the front portion of the flow-way followed by a mix of EAV and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)
- **Vegetation Status:** Healthy means the vegetation condition is good and will allow the STA to perform as designed. Stressed means the vegetation is showing signs of poor health, such as browning or areas of vegetation die-off, or the cell contains undesirable vegetation such as floating exotic vegetation requiring treatment. The TP reduction capability of the STA is affected when the vegetation condition is poor.
- **Phosphorus Loading Rate (PLR):** Mass of inflow TP in grams, divided by total treatment area of STA in square meters, per year. In general, a 365-day value of less than 1.0 is needed for an STA to perform optimally. A PLR of 2.0 is considered very high and a PLR of 3.0 is considered extremely high. The TP reduction capability of the STA is affected when the PLR is high, very high and extremely high.
- **Online:** Online status means the FW can receive and treat inflow.
- **Online with Restriction:** The FW can receive and treat inflow, but the amount of flow or water level may be limited temporarily. For example, a vegetation rehabilitation effort may require reduced flows through an area while the new plants are establishing, or nesting by protected species may require a certain water level not to be exceeded.
- **Offline:** The FW is unable to receive and treat inflow due to repairs, construction, or other prohibitive reasons.
- **Depth:** Difference between the average surface water level in a cell and the average ground elevation in that cell. Target depths, or depths between flow events, are between 1.25 ft to 1.5 ft. As depth approaches or drops below zero, an increasing percentage of the cell is considered dry and STA conditions deteriorate. An increase in depth above target depth is expected with increasing flow. However, as depth increases much above the target depth and is sustained over a period of time, it can be detrimental to vegetation health and overall STA treatment performance.
- **Note:** The data provided in this summary report were developed using a combination of provisional and quality-assured flow and water quality data. In some cases, best professional judgment was used to estimate missing data and revise questionable data. Values provided are not considered final but are appropriate for use in STA operational decision-making.

Everglades

Water Conservation Area

Regulation Schedules

WCA-1: Stage increased at the 1-8C gauge and remained above the regulation line last week by 0.32 feet on Sunday, June 28, 2026 (**Figure EV-1**).

WCA-2A: Last week's water depth at the 2-17 gauge increased quickly. Stage at S11BHW gauge continued to increase steadily and was 0.70 feet above the water supply line on Sunday (**Figure EV-2**).

WCA-3A: The 3-gauge average remains well within Zone B, increasing over the week. On Sunday, stages were approximately 1.3 feet NGVD below the Zone A regulation line. Stage at Gauge 62 (NW corner) increased last week and was below the rising Upper Schedule line by 0.50 feet on Monday (**Figures EV-3 and EV-4**).

Water Depths

The SFWDAT model output for June 28, 2026, illustrates that WCA-1 is drier compared to one month ago, while WCA-2A received some relief from drought conditions as stage went above soil surface in the extreme north. Below ground conditions remain across WCA-3. Water depths remain low across Big Cypress National Preserve (BCNP) but are approaching the soil surface. Depths within WCA-3 remain below the 10th percentile and below the 30th percentile in WCA-1 and WCA-2A impacting soil, flora, and fauna. Recurring below average water depths in the central Everglades are illustrating the system level importance of maintaining water in the sloughs and low water refugia as these conditions are needed to restore depleted aquatic prey production. In Everglades National Park (ENP), both Taylor Slough (TS) and Shark River Slough (SRS) show more connection from north to south compared to a month ago. Conditions in most of ENP are now well below average, with only a portion of the southwest coast and the Taylor Slough region above average. See **Figures EV-5 through EV-6**.

Taylor Slough and Florida Bay

Most stages increased across Taylor Slough over the past week, with an average increase of 0.07 feet for the week. Changes ranged from -0.07 feet at P37 in the southern slough to +0.35 at E112 in the northern slough (**Figure EV-7 and Figure EV-8**). Stage at Taylor Slough Bridge (TSB) has increased to near-ground level. Taylor Slough water levels are below the recent average (WY1993-2016) for this time of year by 5.6 inches compared to before the Florida Bay Initiative (starting in 2017), a decrease of 1.3 inches relative to last week's comparison. Stages at Craighead Pond (CP) and TSB are below the estimated average for 1900 by 1.05 and 2.50 feet, respectively.

Average salinity in Florida Bay was 38.8, an increase of 1.0 from last week. Salinity changes ranged from -2.7 at Joe Bay (JB) in the eastern nearshore region to +4.0 at Garfield Bight (GB) in the western nearshore region (**Figure EV-7**). Salinity remains above the estimated average for 1900 and within the WY2001-2016 Interquartile Range (IQR) for the eastern and central regions but is at the 75th percentile in the western region

(**Figure EV-9**). Salinities in both the central and western regions are above the hypersalinity threshold. Bay-wide salinity is above its recent average (WY1993-2016) for this time of year by 7.2, an increase of 2.0 from last week's comparison.

Salinity at the Taylor River (TR) station in the mangrove zone (tracked for the Florida Bay MFL) was 16.8, a decrease of 7.2 from last week (**Figure EV-10**). The 365-day moving sum of flow from the five major creeks (McCormick Creek, Taylor River, Mud Creek, Trout Creek, West Highway Creek) was unable to be assessed due to missing data.

Average rainfall across Taylor Slough and Florida Bay was 0.52 inches for the week, based on the 18 gauges used for this report. Rainfall ranged from 0.03 inches at Duck Key (DK) in the eastern region and Whipray Basin (WB) in the central region to 1.32 inches at Royal Palm Lake (RPL) in the northern slough (**Figure EV-11**). Wind directions and speeds in Florida Bay ranged from 1.5 mph SE on June 23rd to 16.3 mph N on June 24th (**Figure EV-11**).

The Taylor River, Mud Creek, and West Highway Creek flow stations are currently offline until further notice, so data from all five major creeks are unable to be assessed. Based on the available data from Trout and McCormick Creeks, average daily flow totaled 216 acre-feet, with net positive flows for the week. Total daily creek flow ranged from -123 acre-feet on June 22nd to 807 acre-feet on June 24th (**Figure EV-12**). Average daily flow from Alligator Creek was -27 acre-feet, with net negative flows for the week (**Figure EV-12**).

Implications/considerations for water management.

- Due to the current drought, ascensions in every WCA would help to protect the wetland ecology of the Everglades from damaging, continuing dry conditions.
 - With continued below average precipitation, conserving water within the WCAs, especially in WCA-3A and -3B, will be ecologically beneficial.
- Freshwater input into Taylor Slough and the C-111 basin could help moderate salinities and support recovery of estuarine conditions in Florida Bay.
- Conserving water in the WCAs while providing freshwater input to the sloughs of ENP requires careful consideration of a balance between the upstream and downstream ecological needs of the system. Individual regional recommendations can be found in **Table EV-2**.

Table EV-1. Previous week’s rainfall and water depth changes in Everglades basins.

Everglades Region	Rainfall (inches)	Stage change (feet)
WCA-1	0.90	+0.02
WCA-2A	1.43	+0.35
WCA-2B	0.39	-0.17
WCA-3A	2.31	+0.03
WCA-3B	1.40	+0.16
ENP	1.70	+0.08

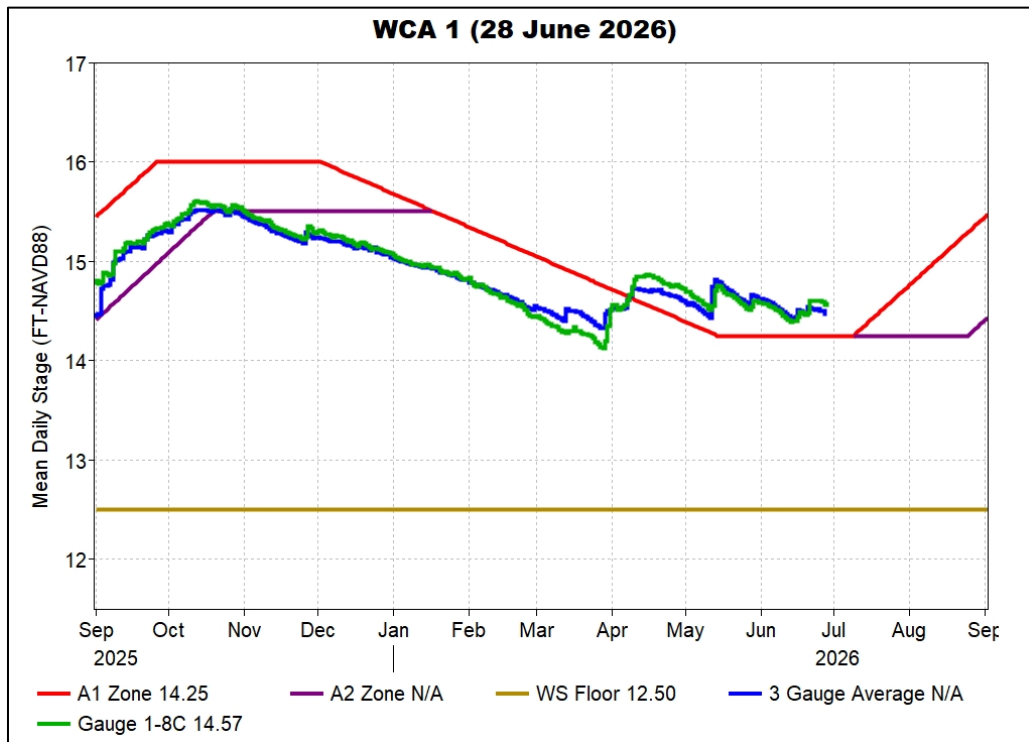


Figure EV-1. WCA-1 stage hydrographs and regulation schedule.

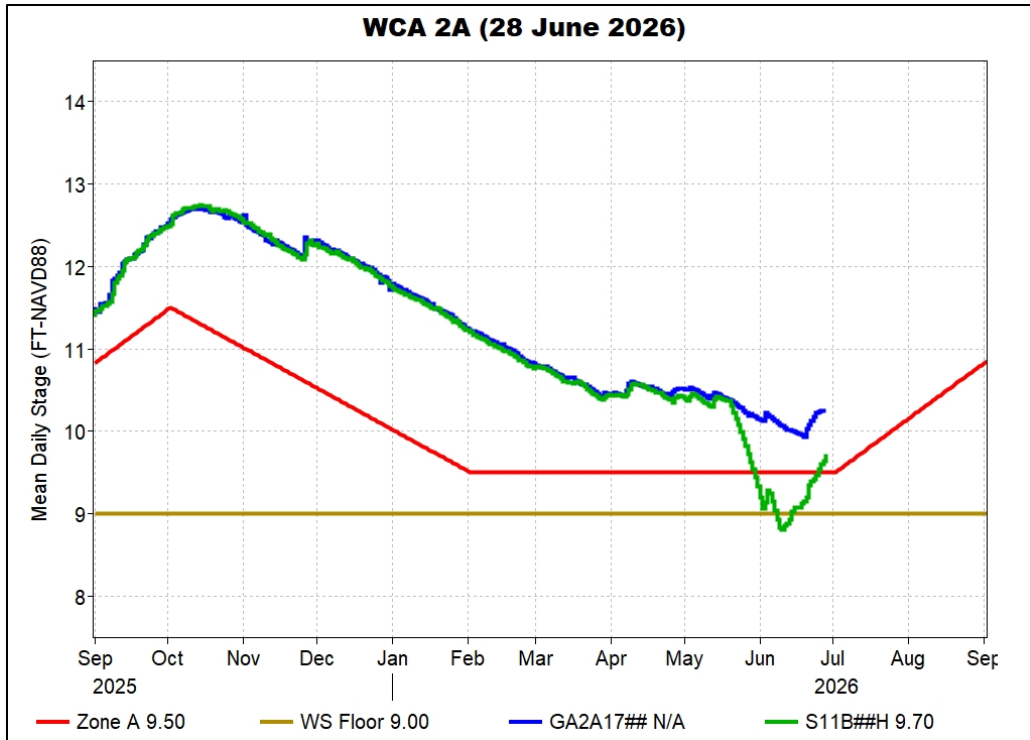


Figure EV-2. WCA-2A stage hydrographs and regulation schedule. 12.04

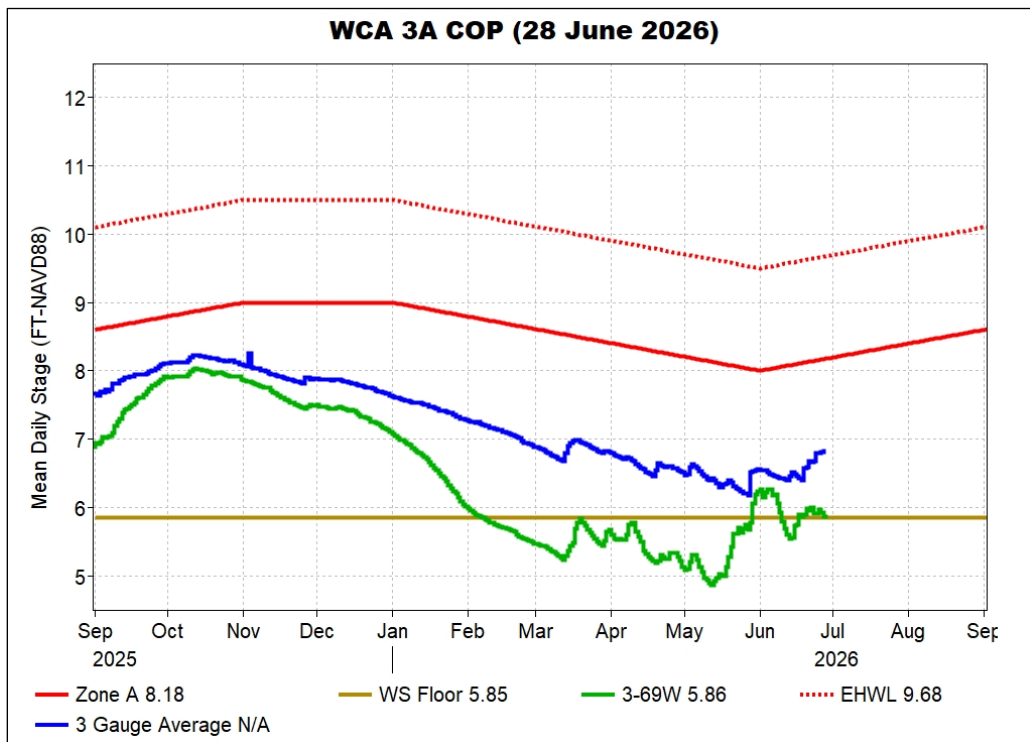


Figure EV-3. WCA-3A stage hydrographs (three-gauge average, 3-69W) and regulation schedule. 8.08

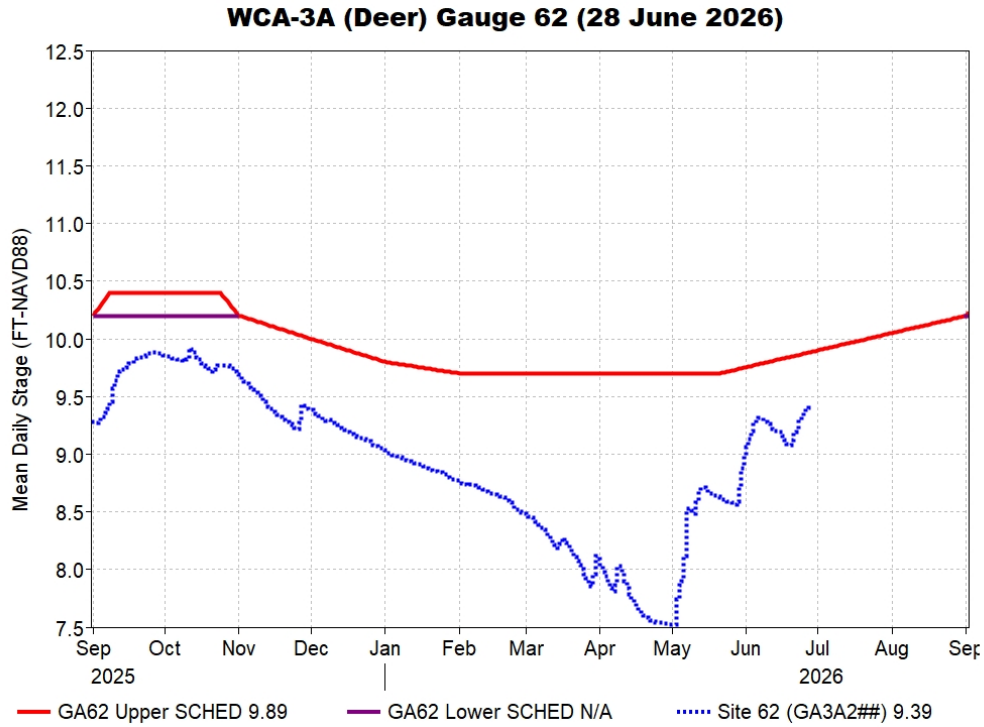


Figure EV-4. WCA-3A stage hydrograph (Deer gauge; Site 62) and regulation schedule.

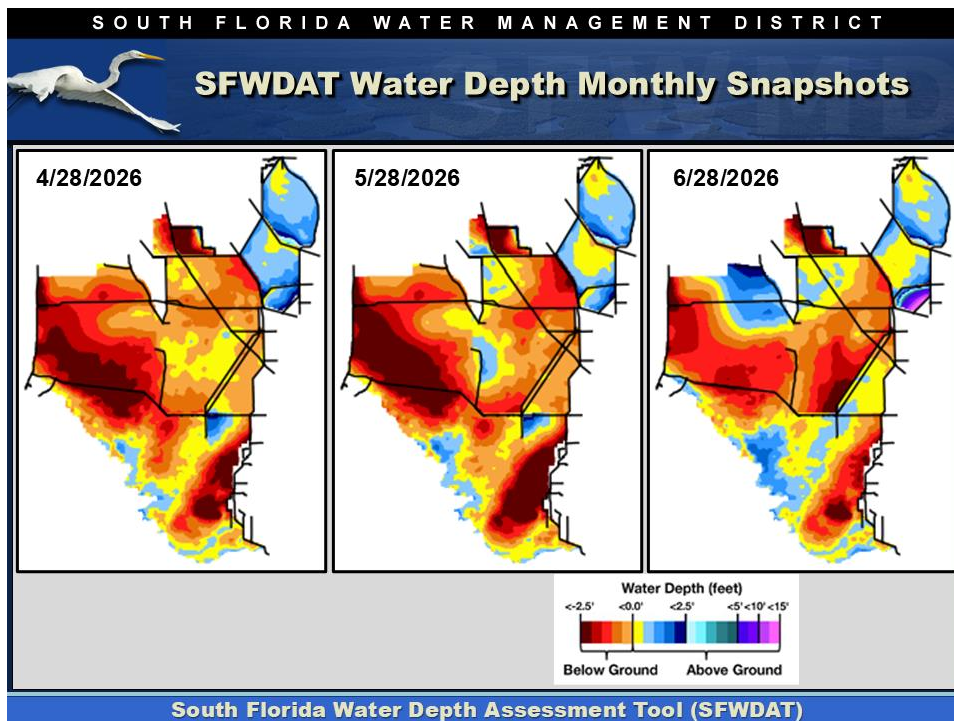


Figure EV-5. Everglades water depths from two months ago (left), one month ago (center) and present (right), based on SFWDAT

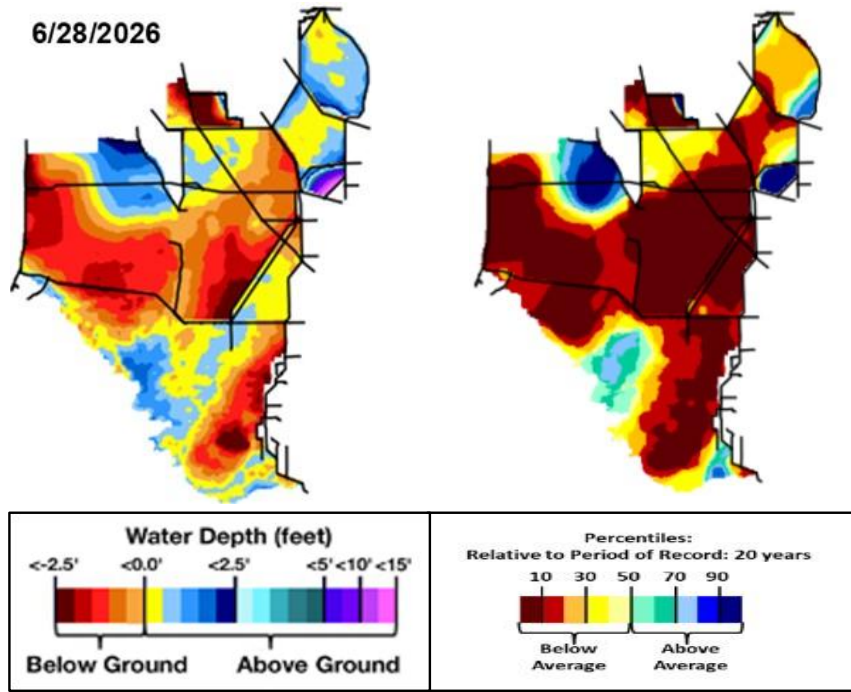


Figure EV-6. Present water depths (June 28, 2026) compared to the day of year relative to average (percentile) over the previous 20 years

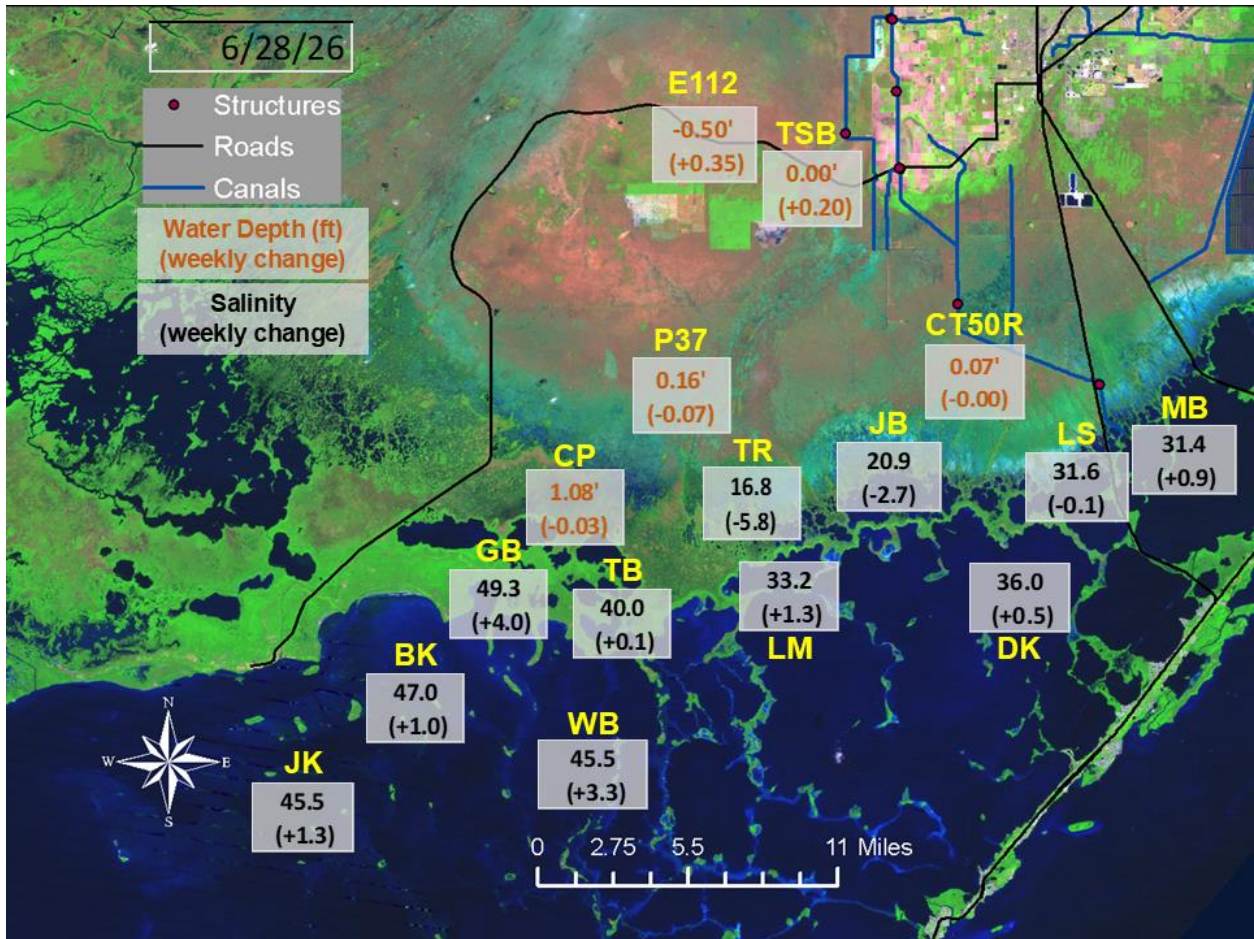


Figure EV-7. Taylor Slough water depths and Florida Bay salinities with changes since a week ago

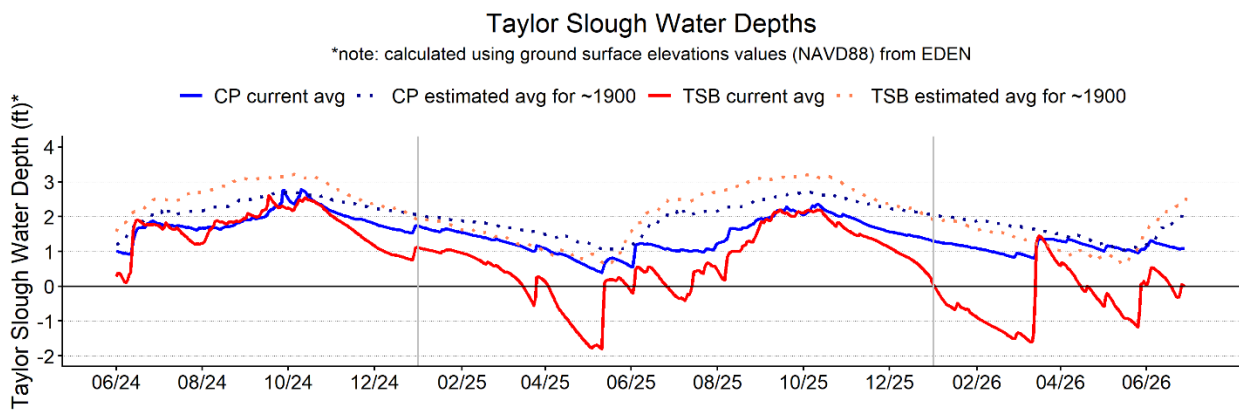


Figure EV-8. Taylor Slough water depth time series for Taylor Slough Bridge (TSB; northern slough) and Craighead Pond (CP; southern slough).

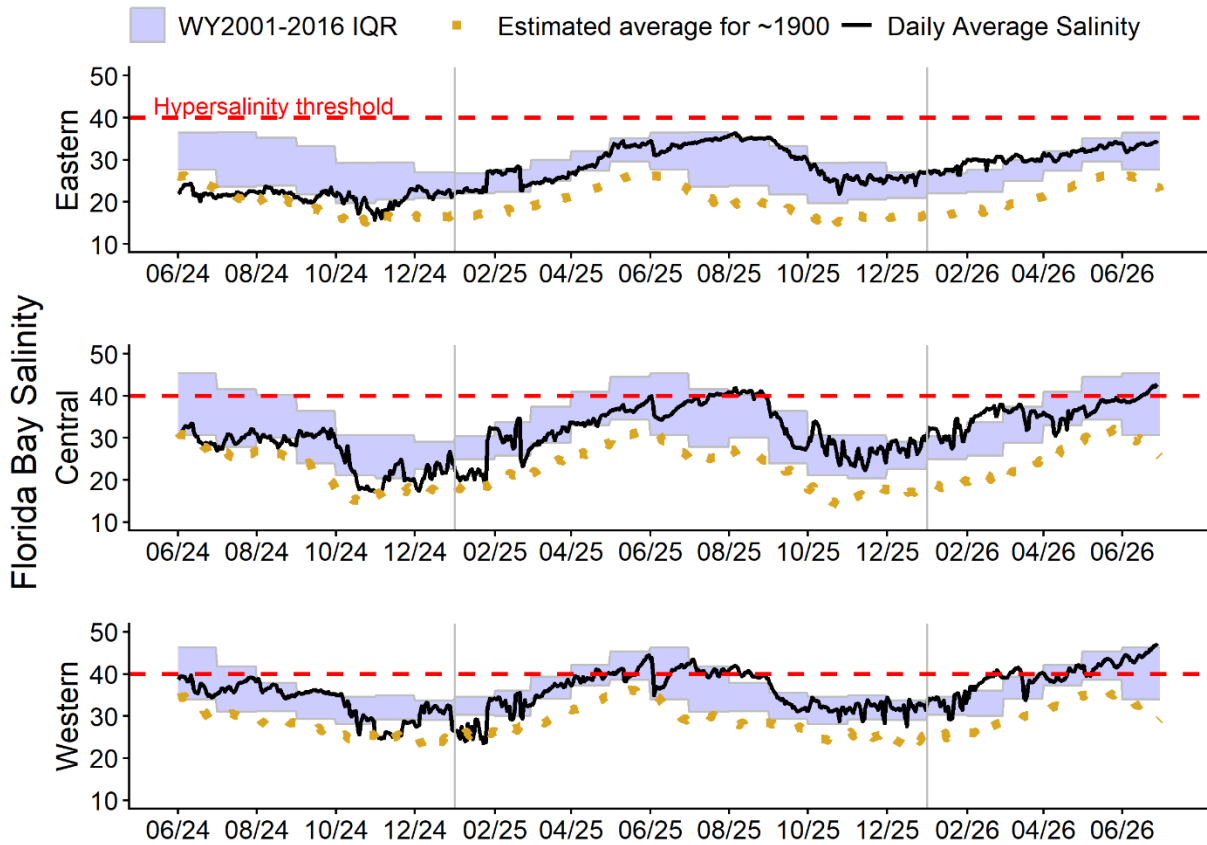


Figure EV-9. Eastern (top panel), Central (middle panel) and Western (bottom panel) Florida Bay daily average salinities with WY2001-2016 interquartile (25-75 percentile) ranges (IQR) and estimated historical daily average salinities. The hypersalinity threshold indicates the level at which salinities start to become harmful to seagrass.

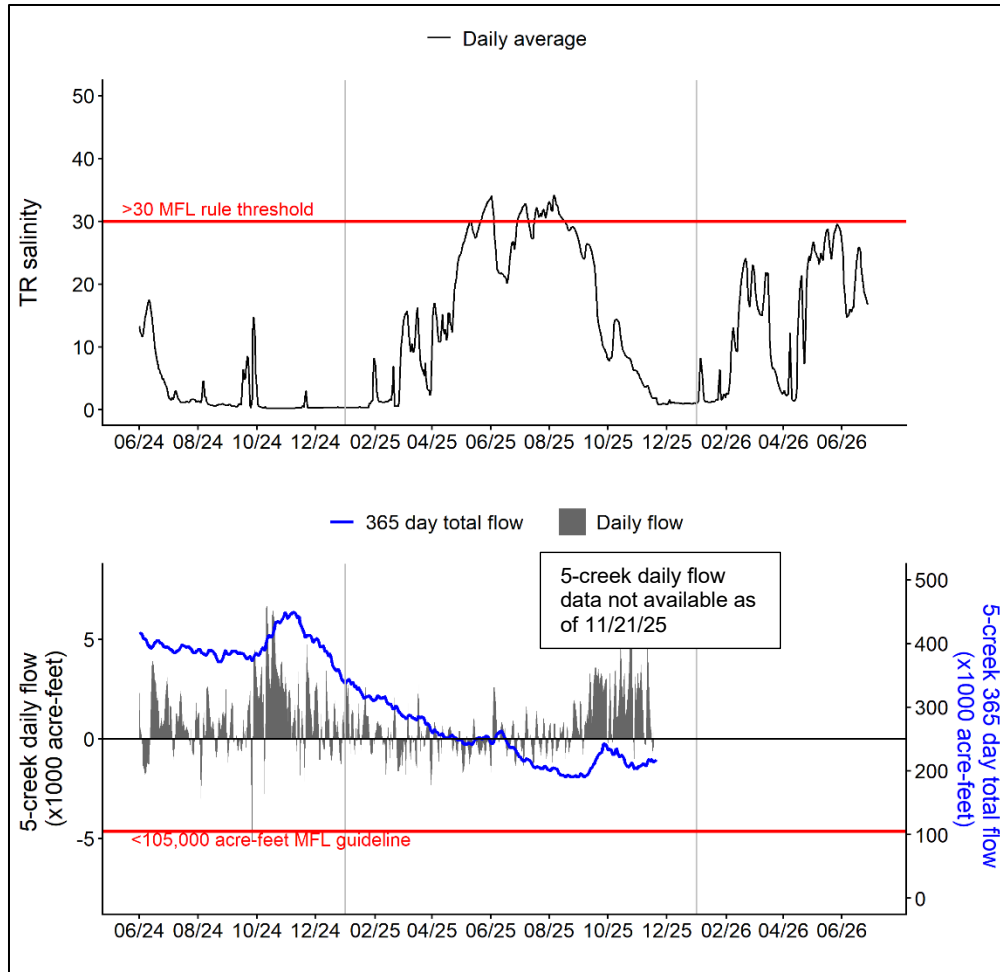


Figure EV-10. Daily average salinity at Taylor River (TR) tracked for the Florida Bay MFL criteria. The 365-day total creek flow MFL metric is not currently available due to missing creek flow data.

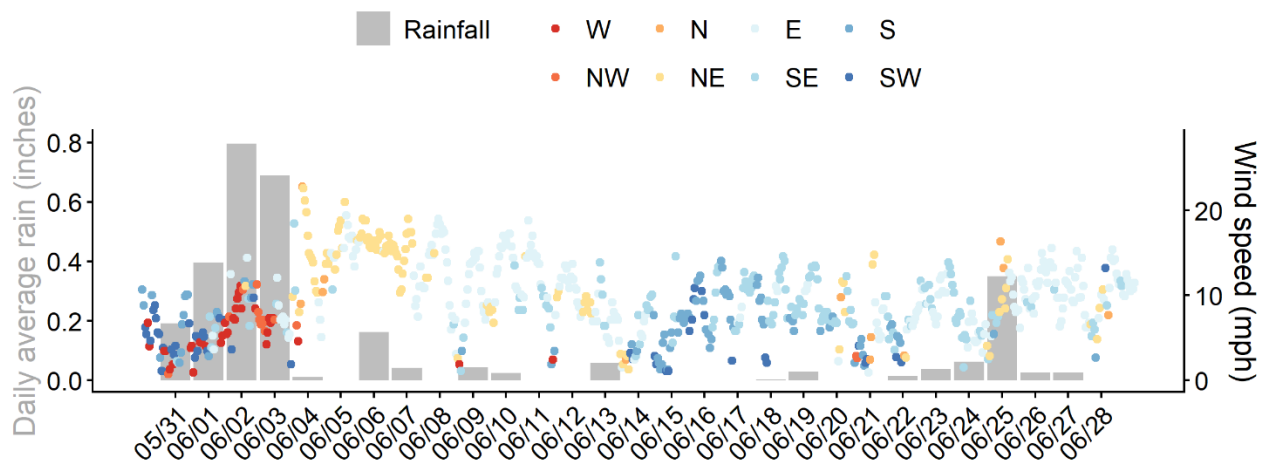


Figure EV-11. Daily average rain across Taylor Slough and Florida Bay, along with hourly average wind speed and direction (measured at Long Key) in Florida Bay over the past four weeks.

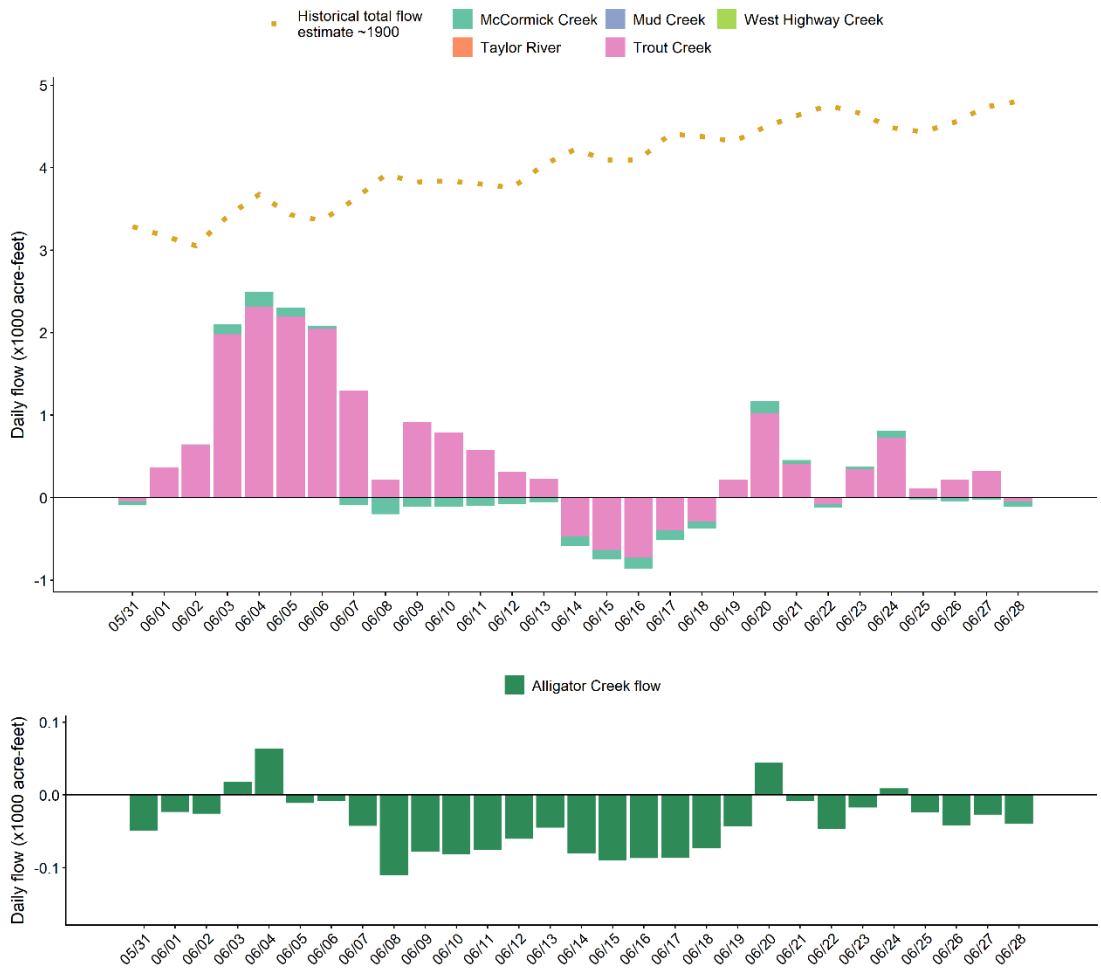


Figure EV-12. Top: daily average creek flow summed between the five major creeks with estimated historical daily flow over the past four weeks (**note:** data from Taylor River, Mud Creek and West Highway Creek are currently unavailable since November 21, 2025). Bottom: Daily average Alligator Creek flow data. N/A indicates missing data.

Table EV-2. Weekly water depth changes and water management recommendations

SFWMD Everglades Ecological Recommendations, June 30, 2026 (red is new)			
	Weekly change	Recommendation	Reasons
WCA-1	Stage increased by 0.02 feet.	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Conserve water, maintain within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife. Maintain maintenance access for vegetation management.
WCA-2A	Stage increased by 0.35 feet	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Maintain within basin (north versus south) and downstream habitat and wildlife.
WCA-2B	Stage decreased by 0.17 feet	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Protect within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife.
WCA-3A NE	Stage data not available	An ascension of less than 0.25 feet per two weeks when surface water is above ground	Conserve water, maintain within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife. Provide suitable depths for aquatic prey and protect against peat soil loss.
WCA-3A NW	Stage increased by 0.19 feet	An ascension of less than 0.25 feet per two weeks when surface water is above ground	
Central WCA-3A S	Stage increased by 0.18 feet	An ascension of less than 0.25 feet per two weeks when surface water is above ground	Conserve water, maintain within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife. Provide suitable depths for aquatic prey and protect against peat soil loss.
Southern WCA-3A S	Stage increased by 0.55 feet		
WCA-3B	Stage increased by 0.12 feet	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Protect within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife.
ENP-SRS	Stage increased by 0.08 feet.	Make discharges to ENP according to COP protocol, considering up/down stream ecological conditions.	Protect within basin and upstream habitat and wildlife.
Taylor Slough	Stage changes ranged from -0.07 feet to +0.35 feet	Move water southward as possible.	When available, provide freshwater to promote water movement.
FB- Salinity	Salinity changes ranged from -2.7 to +4.0	Move water southward as possible.	When available, provide freshwater to promote water movement.