



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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www.sfwmd.gov/news

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Lake Okeechobee Locks to Reopen Due to Improved Water Levels

Four navigation locks will be placed back in on-demand service

WHAT: Rainfall from Tropical Storm Debby increased the level of Lake Okeechobee to 12 feet NGVD today, the threshold to reopen four navigation locks. The locks will resume on-demand service on Monday, July 2.

The reopened locks will be:

- S-135 at J&S Fish Camp, Martin County
- G-36 at Henry Creek, Okeechobee County
- S-127 at Buckhead Ridge, Glades County
- S-131 at Lakeport, Glades County

The locks can remain in service as long as the lake remains above 12 feet NGVD. Following is the status of other area navigation locks:

- The S-193 Lock, located on Taylor Creek on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee, is closed due to ongoing renovation work to refurbish the lock and ensure decades of reliable service. It is scheduled to reopen in the fall.
- On the south shore of Lake Okeechobee, the S-310 navigation lock at Clewiston is currently secured in the open position. The navigation lock becomes operational and is staffed by a lock tender when lake levels reach 15.5 feet NGVD and higher.
- Navigation locks operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which includes locks on the Caloosahatchee River and St. Lucie Canal, are also impacted by lower-than-normal water levels. Information for those navigation locks may be obtained by calling the Corps' South Florida Operations Office at 863-983-8101.

For a guide to recreation sites on Lake Okeechobee, including boat ramps and public parks, please visit the District's website at www.sfwmd.gov/recreation. For more information, please call the SFWMD Okeechobee Service Center at 863-462-5260, or the Orlando Service Center at 407-858-6100.

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About the South Florida Water Management District

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.