



## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

# MEDIA ADVISORY

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[www.sfwmd.gov/news](http://www.sfwmd.gov/news)

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### **Kissimmee River Locks and Boat Ramps Back in Service**

*Extreme Flows Keep Southernmost Navigation Lock Closed*

**WHAT:** Water flows have slowed on the northern portion of the Kissimmee River. The section of the river from S-65E – located about 8 miles north of Lake Okeechobee – north to Lake Kissimmee is open. The southern portion of the river remains closed at this time and will be reopened when conditions are safe. Updates can be found at [www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov).

#### **Lake Okeechobee**

Tropical Storm Isaac produced enough rain to raise Lake Okeechobee more than 1.5 feet, making it possible to reopen four navigation locks on the north shore of the lake. The lake level on Friday was 13.81 feet NGVD, or more than a foot higher than the elevation needed to reopen the locks.

The reopened locks are:

- 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 S-193 lock at Taylor Creek remains closed for renovation, which is expected to be complete in late fall.

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](http://www.sfwmd.gov).

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.*