

Heading into the upcoming rainy season, water managers operate the system so that key water bodies are positioned at lower water levels to provide capacity to store wet season and tropical system rainfall.

At the same time, the timing and distribution of water is being cautiously managed because large or rapid fluctuations can impact nesting wading birds and other wildlife.

The variable start of the annual sea-breeze cycle, which brings the characteristic South Florida afternoon rainstorms, and the release of the National Weather Service’s wet season forecast in mid-May are the next significant indicators for water managers as they plan operations for the regional system.

District meteorologists are forecasting a wet start to May, with significant rainfall expected during the next five days. Some areas could receive up to 4 inches of rain in a 24-hour period.

Lake Okeechobee Levels

Today	13.40 feet
Historical Average for Today	13.63 feet
This Date One Year Ago	11.68 feet
One Month Ago	13.79 feet
One Week Ago	13.57 feet

For more information:

- [SFWMD Weather/Rainfall Data](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Forecast](#)
- [U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

#

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.