



SITUATION REPORT #1
2009 WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY

Published April 3, 2009 at 1700 Hours

CURRENT SITUATION:

Residents and businesses of the District are limited to a two-day-per-week landscape irrigation schedule with the option of two "watering windows." Due to continued concerns about local water resource availability, one-day-a-week watering remains in place for the utilities of Dania Beach, Hallandale Beach, and Lake Worth. Residents of Orange and Osceola counties should adhere to any water restrictions set by the St. Johns River Water Management District. Residents of Polk, Charlotte and Highlands counties should adhere to the water restrictions set by the Southwest Florida Water Management District.; however, residents and other entities located within the Indian Prairie Region, portions of the Kissimmee River Valley Water Use basin, and portions of the Lakeshore Perimeter Water Use Basin remain subject to Water Shortage Order 2007-684-DAO-WS. Golf courses, nurseries and agricultural users District-wide should follow SFWMD water use restrictions.

OPERATIONAL STATUS:

The District's Emergency Operations Center remains at a level 2 (partial) activation. The Citizen Information Line is maintaining a voice mail system, returning calls during normal business hours (0800 hours to 1700 hours).

WEATHER CONDITIONS:

The District received an average of 0.495 inches of rain over the past week and 1.478 inches over the last 30 days. District-wide rainfall for March 2009 was 1.39 inches; the historical District-wide rainfall for March, based on a 30-year average (1976-2005), is 3.01 inches. Since November 1, 2008, District-wide rainfall totaled 3.83 inches, which is the third (3rd) driest for the period historically.

Short Term Forecast:

Saturday: partly cloudy north and partly sunny south with a few showers; highs in the mid 80s and lows 63-71. Scattered showers and a few strong storms east through north of the Lake
Sunday; mostly cloudy with widely scattered showers and isolated storms on Monday; sunny, breezy and cooler on Tuesday; highs 87->73 and lows 70->50.

Long Term Forecast:

Continued below average rainfall associated with La Nina conditions.

WATER LEVELS:

Water levels in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes are all below their regulation schedules. Lake Istokpoga stage is below its regulation schedule. Upper East Coast canals (C-23, C-24 and C-25) are above the 14-foot water supply cutoff stage. Lake Okeechobee's water level is 0.52 feet above the water shortage schedule. The current water level in the lake is 12.17 feet above sea level, which is 1.89 feet higher than on this date last year but still 2.10 feet below the period-of-record average of 14.27 feet for this time of the year (1965–2007).



Water levels at key locations throughout the District as of April 1, 2009 are noted in the table below; all values are reported in feet above sea level relative to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929.

LOCATION	WATER LEVEL (ft)
LAKE OKEECHOBEE	12.17
LAKE ISTOKPOGA	38.42
WCA-1	15.35
WCA-2A	10.39
WCA-3A	8.79
CANAL C-23	17.38
CANAL C-24	14.88
CANAL C-25	18.33

DISTRICT RESPONSE ACTIVITIES:

Enforcement and Compliance - District

Twelve (12) Warning Notices were issued in the last two (2) weeks.

Indian Prairie Basin

The Indian Prairie Basin is currently not under a water shortage order. Conditions are generally dry and staff is continuing to monitor the situation.

Modeling Support and Hydraulic Analysis

Estimates of April and May expected supplemental irrigation demands for the three major EAA basins (Miami, North New River/Hillsboro and West Palm Beach) provided to Operations.

Navigation

Channel depths in Route 1 and Route 2 of the Okeechobee Waterway within Lake Okeechobee have decreased during the dry season. As of March 31, 2009, the water depth in Route 1 is 6.12 feet and 3.52 feet in Route 2 (Rim Canal). Conditions for navigation will continue to decline as the lake level falls. The Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District has posted a Notice to Navigation Interests about conditions in the Okeechobee Waterway on their web site.

The US Coast Guard has issued a Local Notice to Mariners and posted information on their web site about the restricted channel depths in Route 1 and Route 2 of the Okeechobee Waterway.

Navigation locks operated by the SFWMD on the north shore and west shore of Lake Okeechobee are closed to all boat traffic due to safety concerns resulting from low lake levels and to maintain water levels in canals north of the lake for navigation and water supply. The affected locks are:

- The S-193 navigation lock at Taylor Creek
- The G-36 navigation lock at Henry Creek
- The S-135 navigation lock at J&S Fish Camp
- The S-131 navigation lock at Lakeport
- The S-127 navigation lock at Buckhead Ridge

The locks will remain secured until the lake level has increased enough to resume safe normal lock operations while maintaining canal levels upstream of the lock structures. Access to Lake Okeechobee is available from public boat ramps. As water levels decline, continued access may become a problem.

Navigation locks operated by the Corps of Engineers South Florida Operations Office on the Okeechobee Waterway continue to operate daily between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:30 pm.

Water Conditions Analysis

The water conditions analysis team met on March 25th to discuss the current conditions and the results of the one-time sampling request made to utilities on March 9th. Recommendations were made for increased reporting of chlorides and water levels at some utilities and golf courses, and for all reporting to be posted to the web portal for ease of future analysis. The team will meet every two weeks to evaluate conditions across the District.

Public Water Supply Utilities

Met with utility directors and city management from Lake Worth, Dania Beach and Hallandale Beach, the utilities at risk, to discuss current conditions, monitoring data, education and public awareness, compliance with emergency orders and strategies to meet demands for the remainder of the dry season; conducted follow-up contacts with utilities that were late in posting sampling results. Received results from West Palm Beach's three (3) day test of Boyd Street structure.

Stormwater Treatment Areas

Stages monitored in all cells of the Stormwater Treatment Areas and cells prioritized for receiving inflow; supplemental water was provided to STA-5.

Public Information - Media Relations

Water conservation radio ads in English, Spanish and Creole began running throughout District.

Weekly electronic water conditions briefing was issued to reporters.

On Monday, March 30th, water restrictions ads began airing on National Public Radio outlets throughout the District.

On Friday, April 3rd, water conservation ads began running on 400 movie theatre screens throughout the District.

Public Information - Creative Services

Distributed 1 million+ copies of *WaterMatters* as Sunday newspaper insert. Received special requests for additional copies and fielded many positive comments from the public. Other materials distributed:

- Broward - 2000 Xeriscape Splash Sheets and 200 aerators.
- Lower West Coast - 500 copies of *50 Ways to be Water Smart*, 100 aerators, 3 boxes of rain gauges.
- Miami-Dade - 250 (1 box) water conservation coloring books.
- Orlando - 54 (1 box) WaterWise Landscaping booklets.
- Palm Beach - 250 (1 box) aerators.

Worked with Orlando Service Center in developing two posters and a large water conservation display to showcase April as "Water Conservation Month."

"WaterChamp" conservation materials are being developed for distribution to hospitality industry.

Distributed updated code enforcement contact list to Service Centers and posted it online.

Liaison / Intergovernmental Coordination

The 2009 Water Shortage Compliance matrix is now up and running to count the number of violations and warnings given throughout each municipality in the district.

A water shortage team has been established to conduct “Cop Shops” for Code Enforcement officers for District Service Centers who request them.

Each District Service Center is participating in the weekly water shortage meeting through either teleconferencing or videoconferencing to be briefed on the latest conditions.

Water Shortage and Water Restriction information has being distributed to the public by each Service Center.

Service Center staff from Palm Beach County and Broward County accompanied water supply staff to meet with representatives of Lake Worth, Dania Beach and Hallandale regarding their water supply issues.

Legal

A Governing Board Order concurring with order 2009-069-DAO-WS, Emergency Order was drafted for the purpose of immediate water supply relief for the City of West Palm Beach.

Current SFWMD Water Restrictions are displayed in the attached map.

AUTHORIZATION:

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Incident Commander

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Executive in Charge

DISTRIBUTION:

Situation Report Mailing List

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

