



SITUATION REPORT #3
2009 WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY

Published May 1, 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 the Lehigh Acres area of Lee, Collier and Hendry Counties are under Modified Phase II restrictions. 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 South Florida Water Management District (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 0.344 inches of rain over the past two (2) weeks and 1.025 inches over the last 30 days. Since November 1, 2008, District-wide rainfall totaled 4.47 inches, which is now the driest dry season on record.

Short Term Forecast:

Saturday-Monday: Isolated afternoon seabreeze showers possible southwest Saturday; otherwise, quite warm and dry through the period (.0"). Highs 85-90. Lows 66->74.

1-10 Day Precip Outlook: Forecast: Below Average

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, with the exception of Lake Tohopekaliga and East Tohopekaliga. 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 0.19 feet above the water shortage management zone of the regulation schedule. The current water level in the lake is 11.14 feet above sea level, which is 0.89 feet higher than on this date last year but approximately 2.5 feet below the period-of-record average of approximately 13.6 feet for this time of the year (1965-2007).



Water levels at key locations throughout the District as of April 29, 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	CURRENT WATER LEVEL (ft)	CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS 2 WEEKS (ft)	CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS 4 WEEKS (ft)
LAKE OKEECHOBEE	11.14	-0.52	-1.03
LAKE ISTOKPOGA	38.00	-0.48	-0.42
WCA-1	14.44	-0.57	-0.9
WCA-2A	9.52	-0.48	-0.87
WCA-3A (3-Gauge Average)	8.68	-0.21	-0.11
WCA 3A (S-333)	7.58	-0.66	-1.32
CANAL C-23	15.27	-0.72	-2.25
CANAL C-24	14.52	-1.32	-1.19
CANAL C-25	14.26	-1.82	-1.41

DISTRICT RESPONSE ACTIVITIES:

Enforcement and Compliance - District

Surveillance activities continued. Fifty seven (57) Warning Notices and one (1) Notice of Violation have been issued for 2009.

Indian Prairie Basin

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Indian Prairie Basin is currently not under restrictions but staff is monitoring the area and staying in touch with the Seminole Tribe of Florida (STOF). Conditions continue as generally dry. Staff checked and reported on the conditions along the L-59 and L-60 as requested by Ops/Control Room.

Modeling Support and Hydraulic Analysis

Historic urban demands on the regional system are currently under analysis.

Navigation

Channel depths in Route 1 and Route 2 of the Okeechobee Waterway within Lake Okeechobee have decreased during this reporting period. As of April 30, 2009, the water depth in Route 1 is 5.08 feet and 2.48 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.

The navigation locks operated by the Corps of Engineers South Florida Operations Office on the Okeechobee Waterway are operating daily between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:30 pm. On April 20th lockage restrictions were implemented at the W.P. Franklin (S-79) and St. Lucie (S-80) Locks only. The current restrictions are every two hours between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Triggers for additional lockage restrictions have been established by the Corps of Engineers and are keyed to declining lake levels.

Although a pulse release from Lake Okeechobee was initiated by the Corps of Engineers earlier this week, chloride concentrations have continued to increase at the Lee County Olga Water Treatment Plant. If chloride concentrations do not decline as a result of the pulse release, the Corps will restrict lockages to three per day.

Water Conditions Analysis

The water conditions analysis team met on April 22nd to discuss the current conditions. Team members reported on data received from permittees required to report twice monthly and followed up post-meeting with reporting on monthly submittals.

Developed a procedure for following up on delinquent portal reporting.

Provided input for the draft water shortage orders for Lehigh Acres and South Dade.

The team will continue meeting every two weeks to evaluate conditions across the District.

Public Water Supply Utilities

Selected utilities initiated increased reporting and all utilities of concern/risk initiated posting water level and chloride data on water shortage utility portal on a monthly basis.

Provided support in development of emergency orders for the City of Lake Worth and Lehigh Acres. Continued to coordinate with the Lee County Health Department and Lee County Utilities on salinity levels at the Olga water treatment plant.

FDEP issued emergency order for drinking water treatment plants establishing alternate standards for some drinking water parameters similar to order authorized in 2007.

Golf Course Compliance

Team met with Water Shortage Operations Coordinator and Information Technology applications support to determine the compliance strategy for this event. Emergency order will cover three (3) golf courses in Lehigh Acres and three (3) golf courses in Miami-Dade County. Team anticipates accepting reports manually and calculating compliance for these six (6) golf courses.

Assistant Team leader provided courtesy introduction call to Lehigh Acres Golf Courses

Coordinated with Ft. Myers Service center for local support for Golf Course compliance and Toby Schwetje assigned.

Requested maps of restricted areas including golf courses from Jerry Hyink.

Met with Tom Kosier, Phil Flood and others via teleconference.

Placed courtesy call to Executive Director Florida Golf Course Superintendents Assoc.

Operations/Agriculture-Nurseries

This week, District staff forwarded the emergency order affecting nurseries in Lehigh Acres directly to the statewide leaders of the Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association (FNGLA), which then shared the order with numerous local nursery owners. The Lehigh Acres order includes some of the language suggested by FNGLA members at the organization's in-person meeting with District staff on April 16; and as of noon on April 30, no specific issues have been raised by the FNGLA as a result of the recent order.

SFWMD staff met with Mr. Charles Shinn of the Florida Farm Bureau to discuss the potential for water usage restrictions being imposed on agricultural operations in the Lehigh Acres general area and in the South Miami-Dade County area. Contacted the Fort Myers Service Center and Miami-Dade Service staff to coordinate our responses to the then current situation in the Lehigh Acres and South Miami-Dade County areas.

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

SFWMD staff met with the Miami-Dade County Farm Bureau staff and several growers and Nursery operators to discuss the potential for water usage restrictions.

Contacted four individual (4/24) farm owners in the Lehigh Acres area to inform them of the potential for water use restrictions in that area. Once water usage restrictions were made "official" (4/29), contacted the same four growers. Of the four growers contacted, one was a potato grower who had already harvested his crop and would not be using any more water. The other three growers have Citrus under "microjet irrigation" and will not be adversely affected by the current order. Two of the Citrus growers have some access to Lower Tamiami aquifer water and will look into using that as a primary source of water thus relieving some usage on the sandstone aquifer.

Coordinated relocation and usage of the District's pump at the FRESP West Waterhole Pasture project to the S-75 structure to enable water supply deliveries.

Operations Coordination

Provided input regarding the new water shortage orders for Lehigh Acres (executed) and the South Dade (pending) regions.

Worked with Diversion and Impoundments Team to continue communication with the D&I's regarding current conditions and potential plans.

Participated in the Miami-Dade Cop Shop.

Made presentation to the Variance Team and provided individual guidance to team members as needed.

Worked with the golf course team leader to ensure golf courses affected by the new orders were contacted and to get the new allocation formula ready for use.

Temporary pumps configuration and installation

1. Lake Okeechobee South (S-351, S-352 and S-354):

On April 8th District staff attended a pump test at MWI; the test was successful.

Lucas Marine Construction's contract Change Order No. 7 was executed. This will be for the installation and removal of the pumps.

District staff prepared and presented electrical plan to the contractor. Electrical changes are necessary for the operation of the MWI pumps at the sites.

2. Lake Okeechobee North (S-72 TWW):

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The District recently purchased and received 3 pump assemblies including piping and diesel engines.

Okeechobee Field Station staff assembled piping, pumps and fuel tanks for operation. Onsite pumps start occurred and pumps are operational.

3. C-51 Basin (S-155A):

During the 2007 and 2008 water shortage the District rented four (4) pumps (30 inch) that delivered 200 cfs of water from the eastern C-51 basin through S-155A into the western basin. No pumps are planned to be obtained for this site this year.

Stormwater Treatment Areas

Stages were monitored in all cells of the Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) and cells have been prioritized for receiving inflow to avoid impacts to ground-nesting migratory birds.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has been notified that the following STA cells are in dryout condition: STA-1E Cells 1, 2 and 3; STA-2 Cell 1, STA-5 Cells 2A, 3A and 3B; STA-6 Cells 2, 3 and 5. Supplemental water was provided to STA-5.

Public Information - Media Relations

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

Weekly electronic water conditions briefing was issued to reporters.

Press release on emergency water shortage orders for Lake Worth, Lehigh Acres and South Dade was prepared.

Issued response to National Weather Service predictions for normal to above-normal wet season condition. We said that it will likely be weeks before persistent wet season rains arrive and it therefore was critical to continue conserving water.

Public Information - Creative Services

Developed and distributed Lehigh Acres water restriction fact sheets and FAQs; also posted to web site and made available to media

Developed and recorded phone script, including Lehigh Acres modified restrictions, for Citizen Information Line

Distributed notice to staff that Lake Okeechobee is nearing water shortage status

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Responded to 58 calls to the Citizen Information Line

Materials distributed to Service Centers:

- Big Cypress Basin - water coloring books and Horse Sense brochures
- Martin/St. Lucie - magnets, 50 Ways to be Water Smart fact sheets
- Okeechobee - water coloring books, aerators
- Palm Beach - rain gauges, aerators
- Florida Keys - aerators
- Lower West Coast - restriction door hangers, violation citations
- Miami-Dade - restriction door hangers

Liaison / Intergovernmental Coordination

The Water Shortage Team held a Water Shortage Workshop for City and County Officials and Code Enforcement officers in Miami Dade at the District's field station, April 30, 2009. The Workshop was held to encourage renewed enforcement of the water restriction orders.

Service Center Staffs in Miami Dade and the Lower West Coast have been meeting with officials in their respective areas on the severe dry conditions that are plaguing the region.

Each of the District Service Centers is reporting the number of citations and warnings being issued in their areas by Code Enforcement and Police Officers.

Water Shortage and water conservation materials were distributed across the District by Service Center staff at a number of Earth Day events.

Service Centers participated at the Friday morning water shortage briefings through video conferencing and teleconferencing

Legal

Drafted declaration of emergency modified phase 2 water shortage restrictions for specified uses withdrawing from surface and groundwaters within the Portion of the South Dade Water Use basin located within Miami-Dade County.

Executive Director executed declaration of Emergency Modified Phase II Water Shortage Restrictions for Specified Uses Withdrawing Groundwater from the Surficial and Sandstone Aquifers within Portions of the Caloosahatchee River Watershed-South Water Use Basin.

Executive Director executed Emergency Order limiting wellfield withdrawals to 5.27 mgd at Lake Worth Utilities.

Attended code/law enforcement workshops in Okeechobee and Miami-Dade counties.

Current SFWMD Water Restrictions are displayed in the attached maps.

AUTHORIZATION:

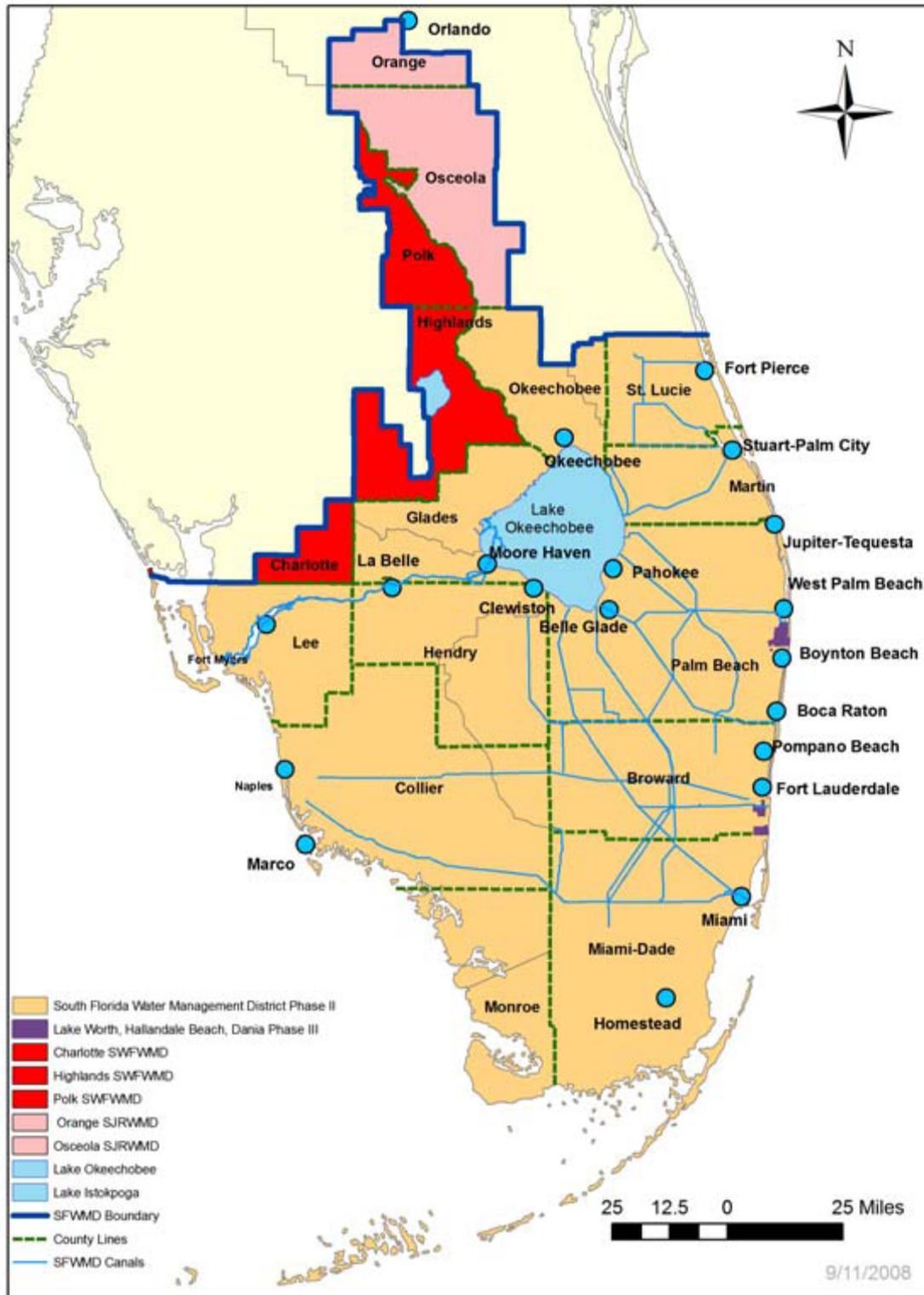
Peter Kwiatkowski
Incident Commander

Chip Merriam
Executive in Charge

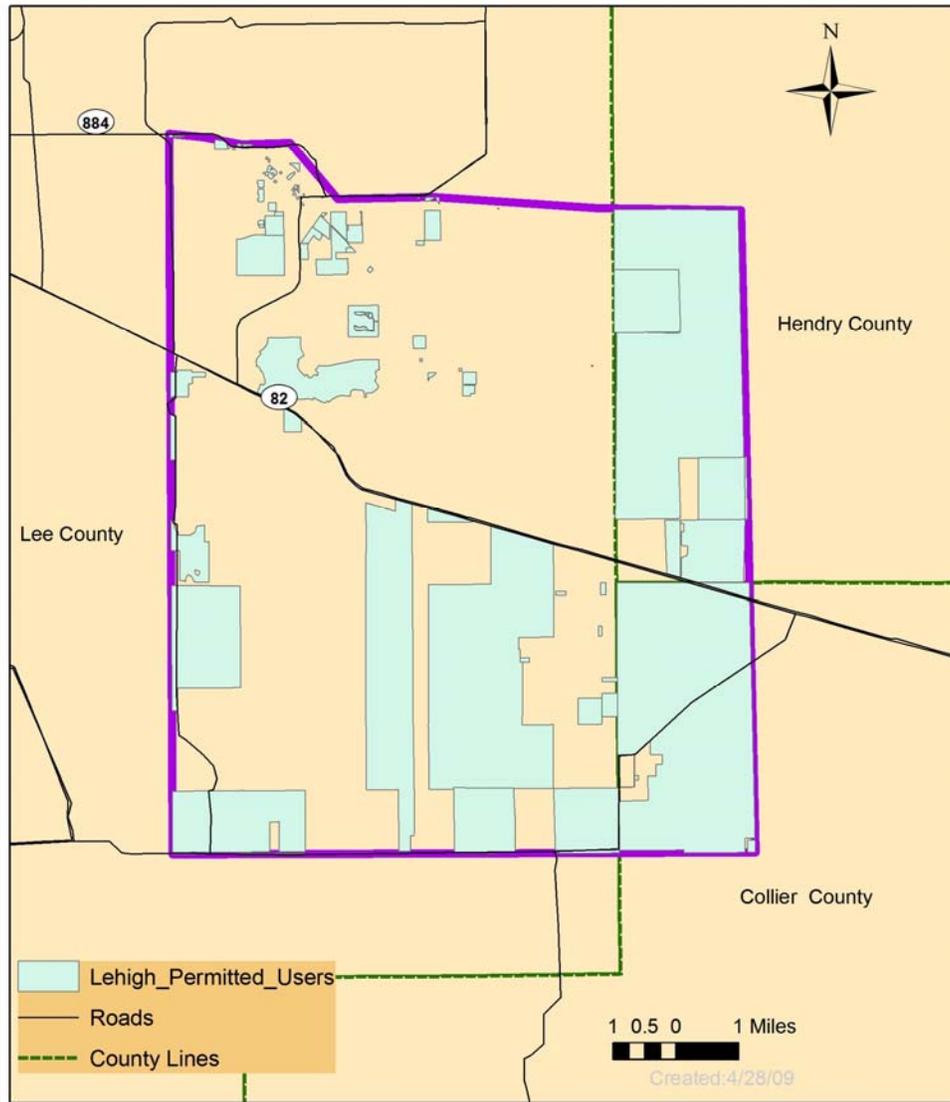
DISTRIBUTION:

Situation Report Mailing List

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 26, 2008



Lehigh Acres Area



NOTE: Area is roughly bounded by Lee Boulevard (SR884) to the North, Green Meadows Road to the West, Corkscrew Road to the South and Church Road to the East.