



FLOOD OBSERVATION TOOLS AND ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS & 298 DISTRICTS



PRESENTED BY:

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Welcome Partners

Today we will be:

- Going through the “**Report Flooding and Early Concerns**” survey step-by-step.
- Discussing the importance of this tool and why we are looking for collaboration.
- Discussing what we will do with this data.

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Defining Flooding

- Flooding is water in areas that are not designed to hold it or where it is not normal for it to occur
- *Not* water in swales, wetlands, or retention ponds, unless it is rising quickly or there is cause for other concern



Overall Goals

- The goal of the Flood Observation Tool is to collect and share data that provides real time information on flood occurrences and supports the documentation of flood events to enhance resilience planning.
- SFWMD has implemented a data repository tool to compile and store relevant flood information.

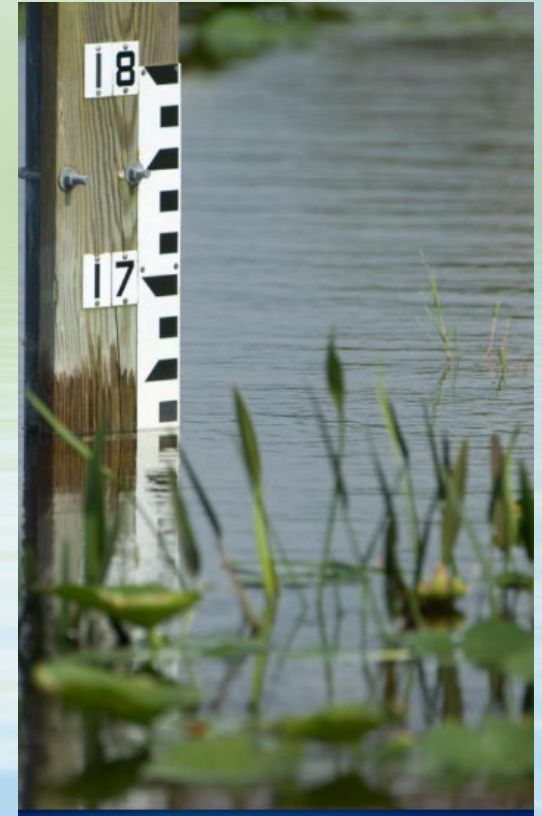
Status

- Currently, SFWMD is conducting training and outreach with external partners and District staff to help collect flood occurrence data.
- We have also invited local partners to create an account and access the repository data.

Flood Observations and High-Water Mark Trainings

- SFWMD hosted 7 training sessions at various locations across the region throughout the month of April.
- Trainings were open to local government staff and SFWMD field staff.
 - Total of 93 participants from across the region:
 - 45 from SFWMD field stations
 - 13 from 6 counties
 - 31 from 12 municipalities

We welcome your feedback and any suggestions on how we can further support your local staff. Email us at resiliency@sfwmd.gov or reach out directly.



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- All required questions are symbolized with a red asterisk “*”
- Select the reporting category:
 - “Flooding”
 - “Flooding Concern”
- Enter the “Date of Flooding”

Note: *this is the date flooding or flooding concern was observed, not the date the flood observation is being entered (if entering later)*

Report Flooding and Early Concerns



The information collected in this survey is used by agencies to better understand flooding conditions in Central and Southern Florida. This survey does not replace the need to contact your local drainage operator.

All flooding that poses a risk to your home or property should be reported to your local drainage operator. Life-threatening flooding should always be reported to 9-1-1.

To learn who to contact, go to [_SFWMD.gov/FloodControl](https://www.sfwmd.gov/FloodControl) and enter your address.

Questions with a red * are required.

Reporting Category:*

☐ Flooding

☐ Flooding Concern

Date of Flooding:

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- All required questions are symbolized with a red asterisk “*”
- Pictures can be taken directly from your mobile device by selecting the camera icon or photos can be uploaded by selecting files from your device or camera roll.

Photos (1 required)*
Submit up to 3 photos.

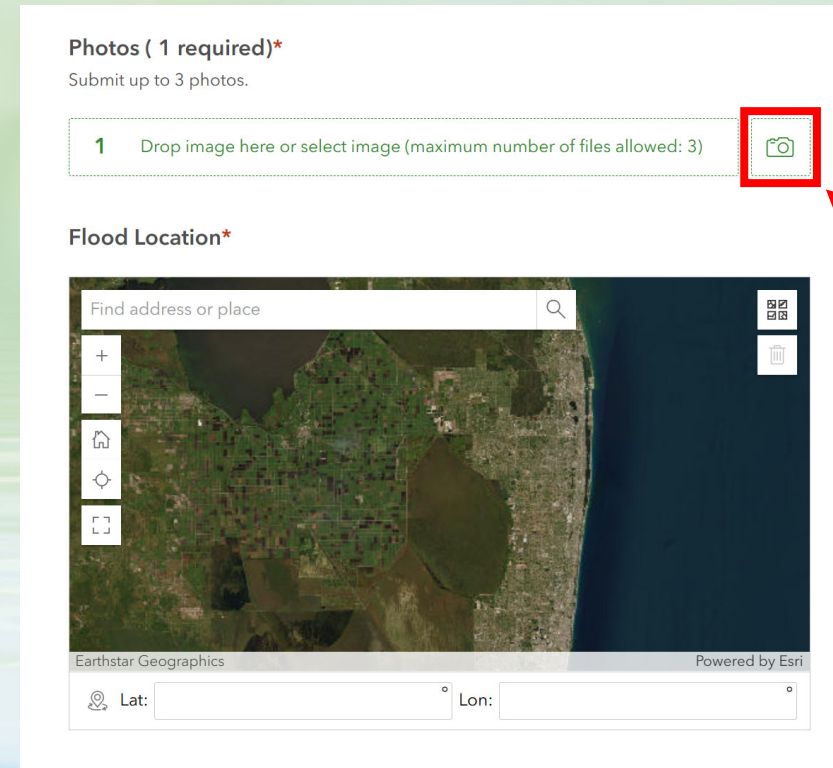
1 Drop image here or select image (maximum number of files allowed: 3)

Flood Location*

Find address or place

Earthstar Geographics Powered by Esri

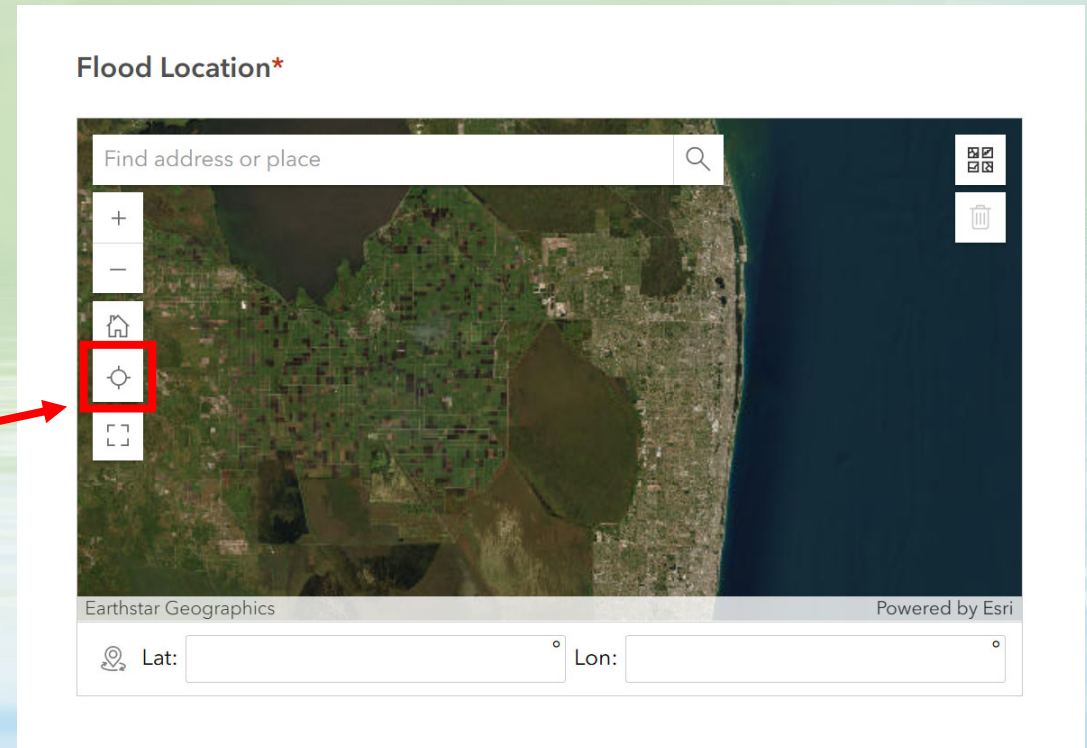
Lat: ° Lon: °



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Identify the Flood Location

- Use the camera icon to take a picture. If location services are on for the camera device, the location will automatically be uploaded.
- Use the "Find My Location" icon then accept or adjust pin location.
- Enter an address or street crossroads then place a pin once location is verified.
- Use navigation tools to zoom in and out to identify the flooding location.



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- Select one of the corresponding options based on how deep the water is.
- If you aren't sure of either of these answers, select "Don't Know / N/A".
- If none of the available options seem to fit, please select 'Other' and provide additional details when the text box appears.



Flood Depth:

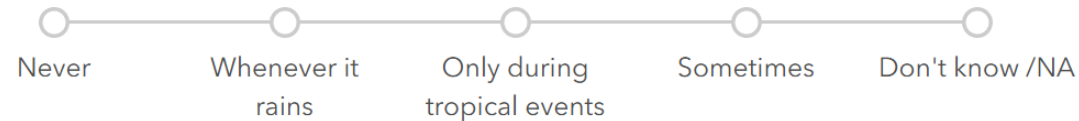
☐ Less than ankle deep ☐ Ankle deep ☐ Knee deep ☐ Greater than knee deep ☐ Don't know / NA ☒ Other

Other Information About Flood Depth:

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- Select one of the corresponding options based on your knowledge of this location.
- If you aren't sure of either of these answers, select "Don't Know / N/A".

Has this location flooded before?



Never Whenever it rains Only during tropical events Sometimes Don't know /NA

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- Select the option that best identifies the “Property Type”.

Property Type:

☐

Agriculture

☐

Airport

☐

Commercial

☐

Governmental

☐

Industrial

☐

Mixed Use

☐

Natural Area / Open Land / Recreational

☐

Residential

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- Select the option that best identifies the “Affected Area”.
- If none of the available options seem to fit, please select ‘Other’ and provide additional details when the text box appears.

Affected Areas:

<input type="radio"/> Building / Structure	<input type="radio"/> Driveway / Garage	<input type="radio"/> Parking Lot	
<input type="radio"/> Road / Street	<input type="radio"/> Seawall	<input type="radio"/> Storm Drain	<input type="radio"/> Swale
<input type="radio"/> Yard	<input type="radio"/> Field / Open / Natural Area	<input type="radio"/> Don't know	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Other			
<input type="text"/>			

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- We are interested in other information you can provide about flooding that was not provided in the survey questions above. Please use the Comments box to convey this information and provide your email if you would like it associated with your survey submittal.

General Observations (Optional):

Name

Email

Phone Number

Submit

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?



- SFWMD is looking for better ways to know and document where flooding is occurring and how often.
- SFWMD is seeking improved insights into how frequently and under what types of conditions flooding occurs.
- SFWMD wants to continue to improve communication, collaboration and coordination between water managers, county and city governments and local drainage districts on reported conditions.
- SFWMD wants to provide resources to assist stakeholder agencies in the evaluation of conditions and the collection of information to assist with mitigation project planning and documentation.

HOW WILL SUBMITTED FLOOD OBSERVATION INFORMATION BE USED?



- This information will be used as an additional data point to assess overall system performance and flood conditions
- Location information will be used in the Flood Protection Level of Service (FPLOS) modeling to calibrate and validate model simulated overland flood levels and in remote sensing analyses to validate estimated flood extent.
- Location information will be used in planning to identify areas most vulnerable to recurrent flooding.
- This information is incorporated into the South Florida Flood Information Resources. This repository includes an inventory of the best available information on flood locations dating back to 1991 as well as the newly acquired information.
- Flood Repository information is made available to support grant applications and other initiatives that require documentation of past flood occurrences.
- To access the flood repository, users can register to create an account.

NEW in 2025: Local Contact Notification System



- SFWMD is implementing a “Local Contact Notification System” to inform flood control partners in South Florida.
- System will automatically notify County, City, and Local Drainage District contacts via email when a report is received from their area.
- The notification is shared for informational purposes only.
- Notifications will include a URL to the South Florida Flood Information Resource application for report access.
- Local contacts must have a South Florida Flood Information Resource account to have full access to reports and relevant information.
- Look for an email soon regarding training on account creation and application use.

South Florida Flood Information Resource

Search, Visualize, Download, Create, Communicate, Collaborate

Search...

Who to Contact about Flooding in your area: Please select the "Local Contact Viewer" text on the right side of the panel below to launch the contact viewer application. Once the application launches, use the panel on the right side of the application to enter an address or location to be returned contact information.

Local Contact Viewer



Local Contact Viewer

Web application to access contact information for drainage districts, municipalities, counties and other organizations responsible for secondary drainage systems.

Share this card

Photos and Flood Observations:

The Document the Floods survey is for stakeholders to capture or upload photos and information about flooding at a location.

To provide information and photos for past events, please contact Resiliency@sfwmd.gov.

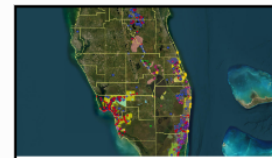


Document the Floods

Public survey to document flood events. Also available at sfwmd.gov/FloodingApp.

Submit / Capture Photo

Flood Documentation: Please select the "South Florida Flood Information Viewer" text on the right side of the panel below to launch the viewer application.



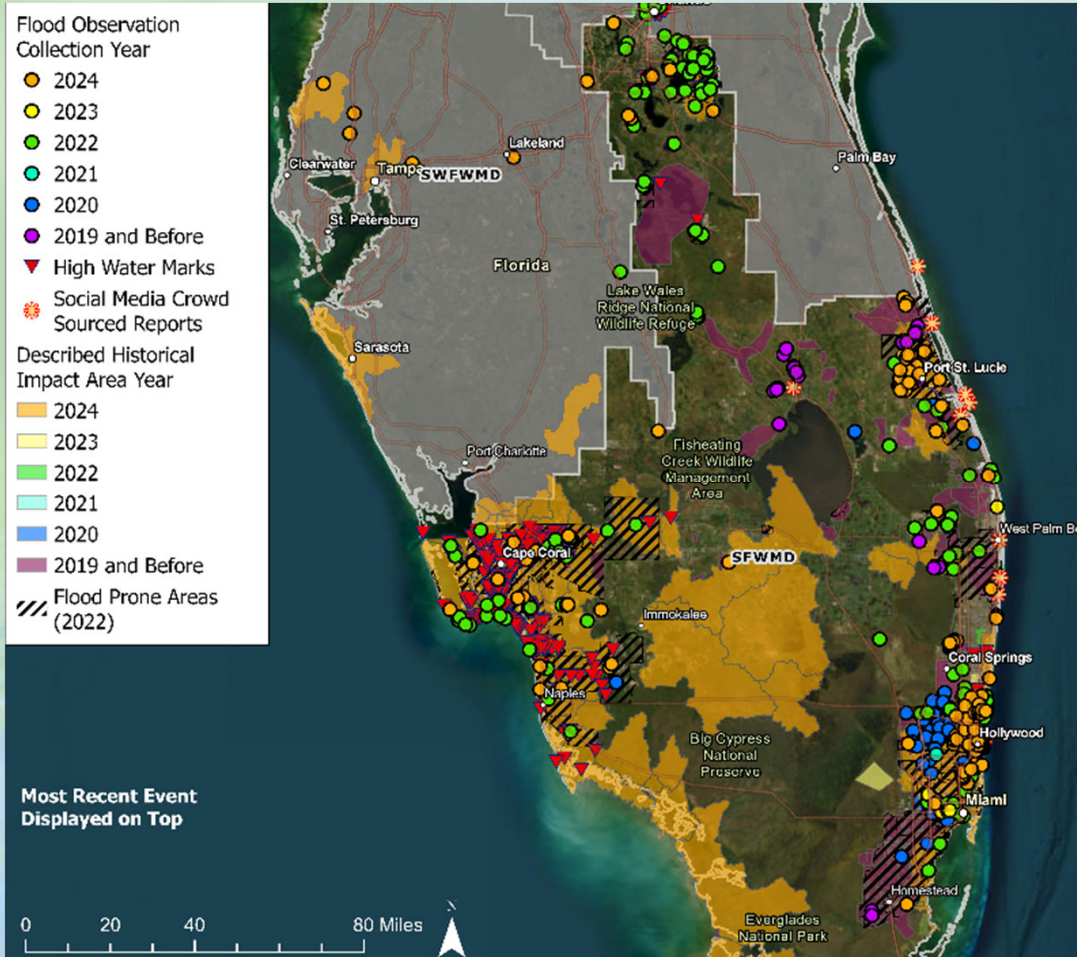
Flood Information Viewer

South Florida Flood Information Viewer

Web Application to provide access to the first version of flood documentation compiled as part of the SFWMD Water and Climate Resilience Flood Matrix.

A resource for collecting and consolidating flood observations to help us better understand evolving flood patterns associated with King Tides, Rainfall, Tropical Storms, Hurricanes and Storm Surge.

SOUTH FLORIDA FLOOD INFORMATION RESOURCES



Flood Data and Information

- Inventory of past flood documentation
- High Water Marks
- Flood Photos and Survey Information
- Estimated Flood extents mapped from satellite or other remotely sensed products

Real-Time Access to Information

- Emerging Conditions
- Stakeholder submitted flood observations

Provide Regional Insights

- Flood Occurrence and Recurrence
- Communities most vulnerable to flooding

Provide Documentation

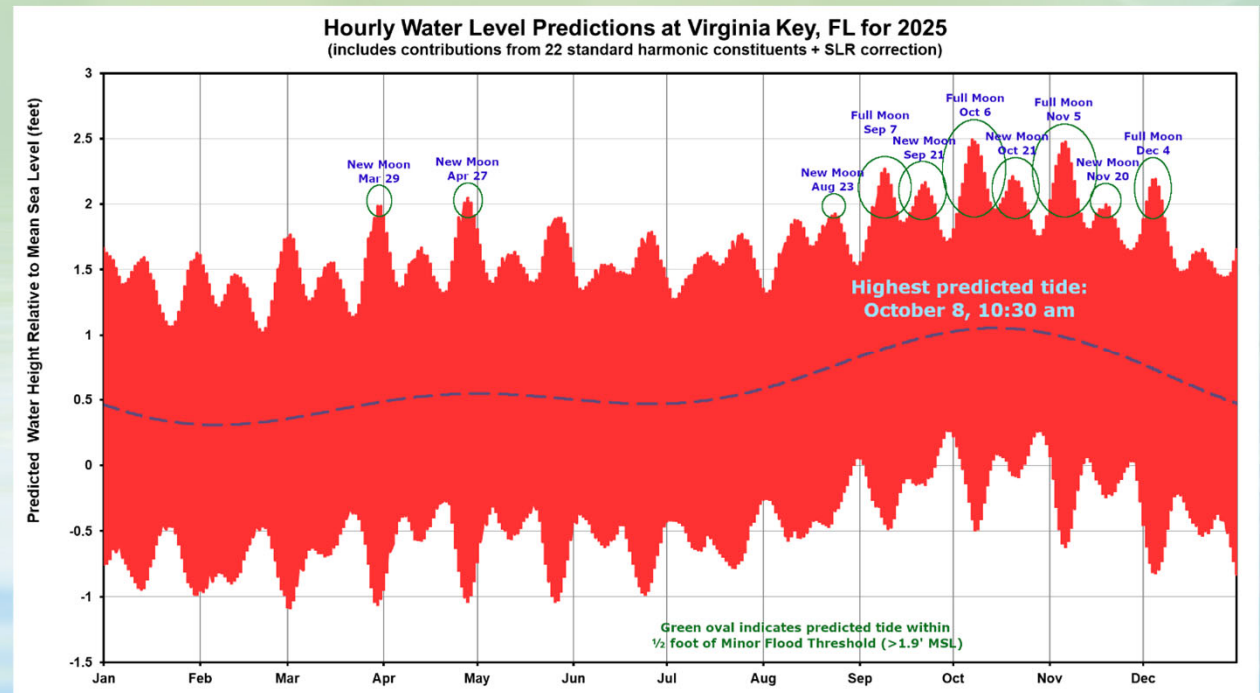
- Mitigation Grants
- Model Calibration and Validation
- Mitigation Project Planning

2025 King Tide Season

➤ sfwmd.gov/HighTidePredictions

- As the 2025 King Tide Season approaches (from September through December), SFWMD is continuing efforts for the monitoring, operational response, and documentation of these events.
- SFWMD staff employs advanced tools, user-friendly apps, latest technology, and traditional methodologies to collect data, photos, and high-water marks to also document high tide flood conditions.

The Flood Observation Survey can be used to document any flood event, including King Tide



Astronomical and climatological tide predictions plus a sea level rise adjustment at the Virginia Key, FL NOAA Tide Gauge showing predicted 2025 king tide season peaks.
Source: Brian McNoldy, University of Miami.

New in 2025: Local EOC Coordination Call



Leading up to EOC Activation / Extreme Events:

- District will provide water management system update
- Targeting Emergency Managers and Local Government Officials

Throughout the Event / EOC Response and Recovery:

- Ongoing coordination and information update on system status
- EOC County Liaison making information available to impacted EM/County Officials
- Follow up meetings with more severely impacted Counties (as relevant, and upon request)



QUESTIONS?