



FLOOD OBSERVATION TOOLS AND ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS & 298 DISTRICTS



PRESENTED BY:

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External Affairs Director

South Florida Water Management District

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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.

SFWMD.GOV/FLOODINGAPP



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
- A flooding/early concern may refer to water rising nearby, representing early flooding risks to the reported location



Overall Goals

- The goal of the Flood Observation Survey tool is to collect, store, and share data that provides real time information on flood occurrences and supports the documentation of flood events to enhance resilience planning.
- SFWMD has developed and published 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 access the repository data by creating a SFWMD Community Hub account.

Flood Observations & High Water Mark Trainings

- The District provides agency field and EOC staff Flood Observations and High-Water Mark Survey Training each year, in preparation for the wet, hurricane, and king tide seasons.
- For the third year in a row, SFWMD is opening all sessions to local partners. Personnel involved in flood data collection and data review are encouraged to participate and make use of these tools.
 - Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
SFWMD Headquarters, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406
 - Thursday, April 30, 2026, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
SFWMD's Homestead Field Station (FS), 2195 NE 8th Street, Homestead, FL 33033
 - Thursday, May 7, 2026, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
SFWMD's Fort Lauderdale FS, 2535 Davie Road, Davie, FL 33317
 - Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
SFWMD's St. Cloud FS, 3800 Old Canoe Creek Road, St. Cloud, FL 34769
 - Thursday, May 14, 2026, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
SFWMD's Okeechobee FS, 1000 NE 40th Avenue, Okeechobee, FL 34972
 - Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
SFWMD's Fort Myers Service Center, 2301 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL 33901
- The Flood Observation Survey (sfwmd.gov/FloodingApp) enables county, municipal, 298 district, and public works teams to report local flood conditions in real time.
- 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.



Scan the QR code
or use the link provided,
to **register today!**



<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/xsXiD1J6FG>




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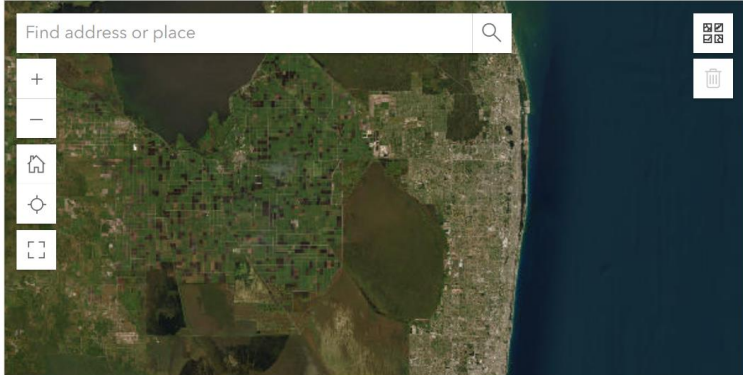
- All required questions are symbolized with a red asterisk “*”
- Pictures can be taken directly from your mobile device by selecting the camera icon or photos can be uploaded by selecting files from your device.

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

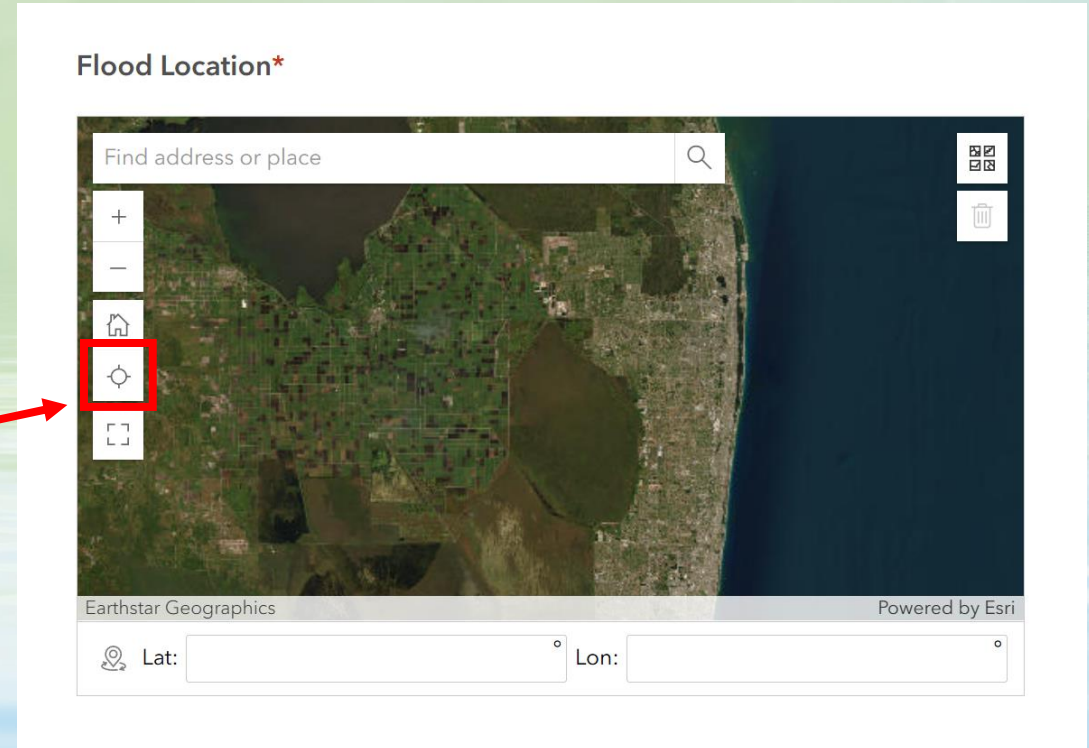
Lat: Lon:

A red box highlights the camera icon in the 'Photos' section, and a red arrow points from it towards the right side of the slide.

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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:

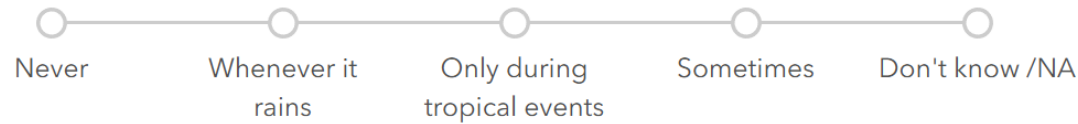
Less than ankle deep Ankle deep Knee deep Greater than knee deep Don't know / NA Other

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?



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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?



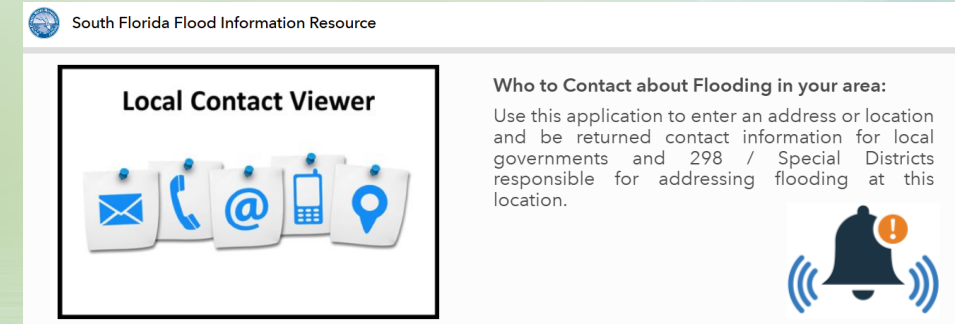
- SFWMD is looking for better ways to know and document where flooding is occurring and how often.
- SFWMD is seeking improved insights into how frequently and under what types of conditions flooding occurs.
- SFWMD wants to continue to improve communication, collaboration and coordination between water 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 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. The repository includes an inventory of the best available information on flood locations dating back to 1991 as well as 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.

Local Contact Notification System

- SFWMD implemented a “Local Contact Notification System” to keep local flood control partners in South Florida informed on local and regional flood conditions.
- Local County, City, and Drainage District contacts will receive an email when a flood report is submitted within their organization’s area of operation.
 - *The notification is shared for informational purposes only.*
- Email notifications will include a URL to the South Florida Flood Information Resource application for report access.
- An SFWMD Community Hub account is required for full access to reports and related information in the South Florida Flood Information Resource.
 - [Account Creation Instructions](#)

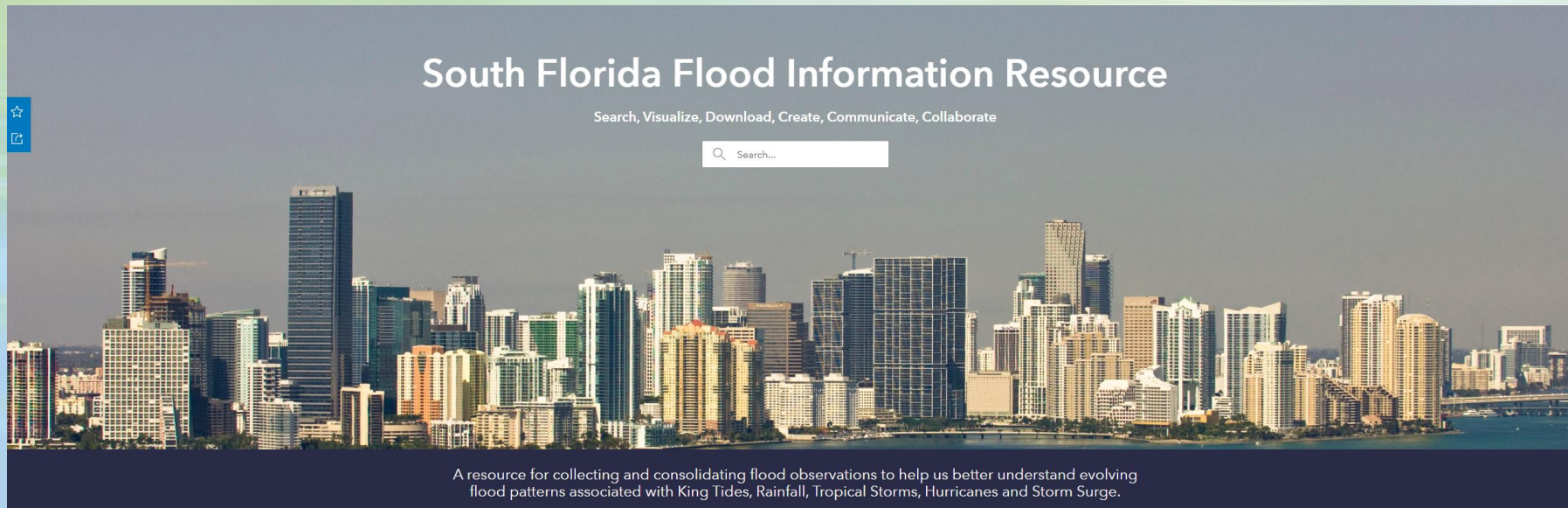


South Florida Flood Information Resource


The South Florida Flood Information Resource (sfwmd.gov/FloodResource) Application (aka Stakeholder Dashboard or repository) enables county, municipal, and 298 district partners to view real time local flood conditions reported in their area of operation and across the SFWMD region.

An SFWMD Community Hub account is required to access the data repository.

➤ [Account Creation Instructions](#)



The screenshot shows the main interface of the South Florida Flood Information Resource. At the top, it says "South Florida Flood Information Resource" with the tagline "Search, Visualize, Download, Create, Communicate, Collaborate". Below this is a search bar with the text "Search...". The background features a city skyline. At the bottom, there is a descriptive text: "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."



WEB APP

South Florida Flood Information Resource Application (aka Stakeholder Dashboard):
Click on the image to the left. This application provides a variety of options to view, filter and download flood observations and high water mark records and photos.

High Water Mark Survey:


Click or scan this QR code to access the SFWMD High Water Mark (HWM) Survey.

This survey is for SFWMD, local government, and 298 / Special District staff to mark, measure, and submit flood extents associated with rainfall, storm surge, tidal, and tropical events. To provide high water marks associated with past events, please contact Resiliency@sfwmd.gov.

Scan the QR Code



Local Contact Viewer



Who to Contact about Flooding in your area:
Use this application to enter an address or location and be returned contact information for local governments and 298 / Special Districts responsible for addressing flooding at this location.

Photos and Flood Observations:

Click or scan this QR code to upload photos or submit information about flooding and/or flooding concerns in your area.

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

Scan the QR Code

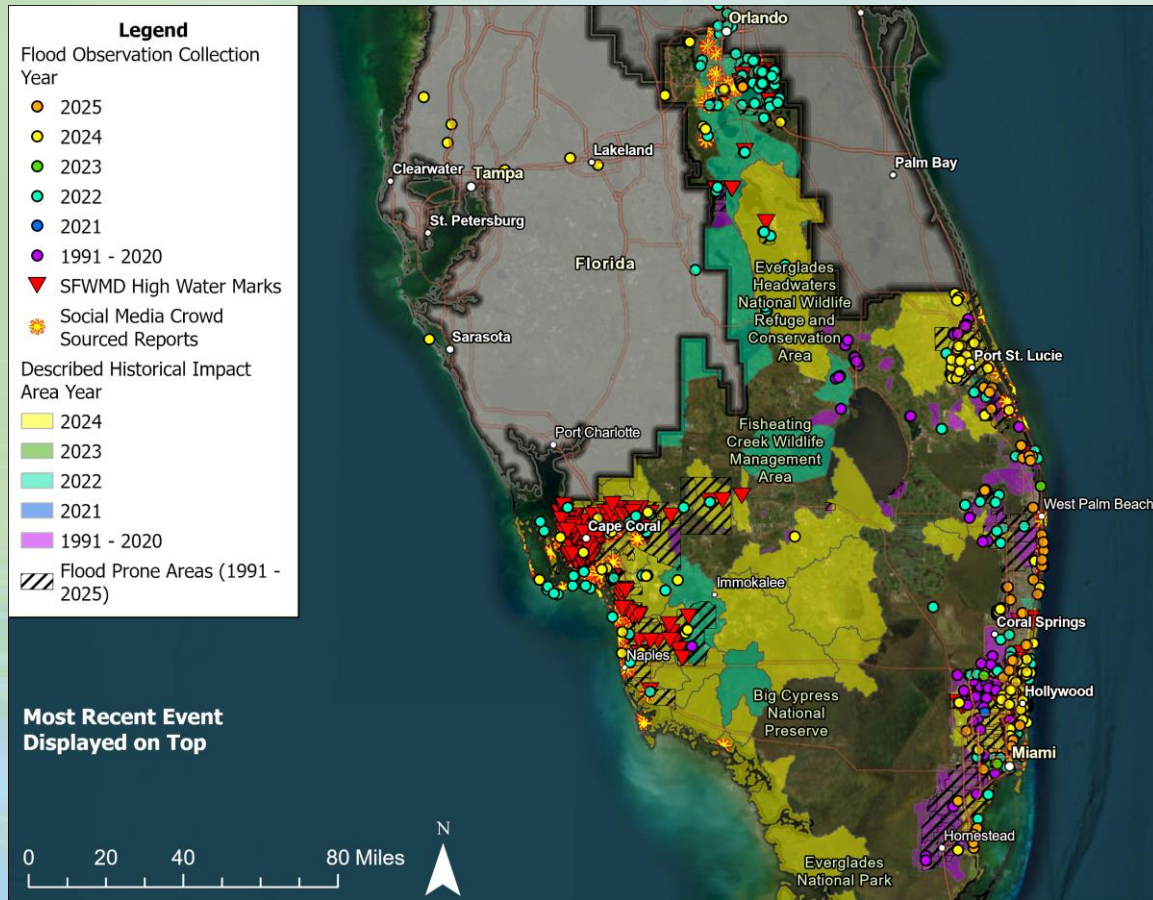


SF Flood Information Viewer

South Florida Flood Information Resource Public Viewer:

To access: Click on the image to the left. This application is designed for exploration of publicly shared Flood Information Repository content. Data for this application was compiled from a variety of sources.

SOUTH FLORIDA FLOOD INFORMATION RESOURCES



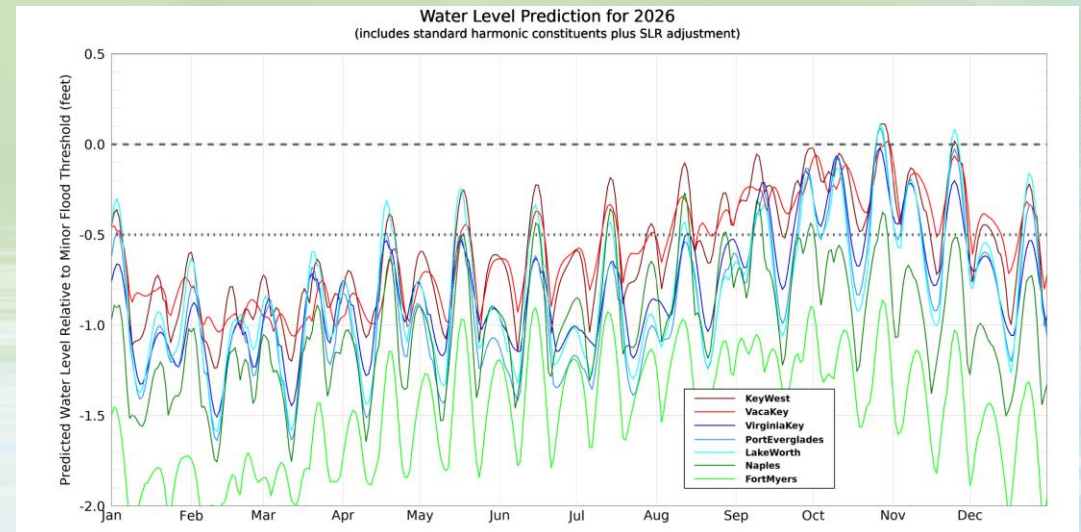
- Flood Data and Information
 - ❖ Inventory of past flood documentation
 - ❖ High Water Marks
 - ❖ Flood Photos and Survey Information
 - ❖ Estimated Flood extents mapped from satellite or other remotely sensed products
- Real-Time Access to Information
 - ❖ Emerging Conditions
 - ❖ Stakeholder submitted 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

2026 King Tide Season

sfwmd.gov/HighTidePredictions

- As the 2026 King Tide Season approaches, SFWMD is continuing efforts for the monitoring, operational response, and documentation of flooding during these events.
- SFWMD staff utilize advanced tools, user-friendly applications, and the latest technology to carry out scientifically established methodologies for collecting data, photos, and high water marks, including documenting high tide flood conditions.

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



Predicted 2026 king tide peaks based on NOAA astronomical and climatological tide forecasts, adjusted for three years of sea-level rise using data from six South Florida tide gauges (Source: Brian McNoldy, University of Miami). During these periods, high tides may exceed one or more National Weather Service (NWS) flood thresholds in parts of the region.



QUESTIONS?