EXTENDED HYDROLOGIC OUTLOOK
FEBRUARY 9, 2021
Summary

- The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is forecasting below normal rainfall from February through April.
- La Niña is expected to continue through the winter 2020-21 (~95% chance during January-March), with a potential transition to ENSO-neutral during the spring 2021 (55% chance during April-June).
- El Niño increases the chances of a wetter-than-normal dry season and decreased tropical activity, La Niña increases the chances of a drier-than-normal dry season and increased tropical activity (both have most influence November through March).
- Monitoring Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO) which is currently in the warm phase:
  - Average annual inflow to Lake Okeechobee is nearly 50% greater during the warm phase compared to the cold phase.
The seasonal outlooks combine the effects of long-term trends, soil moisture, and, when appropriate, ENSO.
Teleconnections to South Florida

Climate anomalies being related to each other at large distances:

**El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)**

South Florida dry season (November through May) rainfall is positively correlated with El Niño which has a frequency that ranges between 3 to 7 years while rainfall is negatively correlated with La Niña November through March with a potential increase in tropical rainfall during La Niña

**Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO)**

Average annual inflow to Lake Okeechobee is nearly 50% greater during the warm phase compared to the cold phase of the AMO, easterly flow toward south Florida affected by phase

**Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)**

Increases variations of south Florida dry season rainfall
Current Global Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies

Global sea surface anomaly and snow cover
09 Feb 2021

Anomalie de la température de la mer et épaisseur de la neige
09 Fév 2021

Sea surface temperature anomaly / Anomalie de la température de la mer (°C)

Uncovered sea ice
Glace marine à découvert

Climatologie 1995-2009 Climatology

CMC Environnement Canada
Niño Region SST Departures (°C) Recent Evolution

The latest weekly SST departures are:

- Niño 4: -1.1°C
- Niño 3.4: -0.7°C
- Niño 3: -0.3°C
- Niño 1+2: -0.1°C
Weekly Heat Content Evolution in the Equatorial Pacific

Significant equatorial oceanic Kelvin wave activity (dashed and dotted lines) has been present throughout the period shown.

During April-June and August-September 2020, negative subsurface temperature anomalies were associated with upwelling Kelvin waves.

Since August 2020, negative subsurface temperature anomalies have persisted in the eastern half of the Pacific Ocean.

Since early December 2020, negative anomalies have weakened in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Equatorial oceanic Kelvin waves have alternating warm and cold phases. The warm phase is indicated by dashed lines. Downwelling and warming occur in the leading portion of a Kelvin wave, and upwelling and cooling occur in the trailing portion.
Warm Water Volume (5°N–5°S, 120°E–80°W) and NINO 3.4 SST Anomaly

Global Tropical Moored Buoy Array Program Office, NOAA/PMEL

[Graph showing the warm water volume and SST anomaly over time]
MEI.v2 Evolution of Historical ENSO Events

(a) El Niño

(b) La Niña
CFSv2 forecast Nino3.4 SST anomalies (K)

Latest 8 forecast members
Earliest 8 forecast members
Other forecast members
Forecast ensemble mean
NCEP NSST daily analysis

The model averages predict La Niña to continue into the Northern Hemisphere spring 2021, returning to ENSO-neutral during summer and fall 2021.
Historical El Niño and La Niña Episodes Based on the ONI computed using ERSST.v5

Recent Pacific warm (red) and cold (blue) periods based on a threshold of +/- 0.5 °C for the Oceanic Nino Index (ONI) [3 month running mean of ERSST.v5 SST anomalies in the Nino 3.4 region (5N-5S, 120-170W)]. For historical purposes, periods of below and above normal SSTs are colored in blue and red when the threshold is met for a minimum of 5 consecutive over-lapping seasons.

The ONI is one measure of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, and other indices can confirm whether features consistent with a coupled ocean-atmosphere phenomenon accompanied these periods. The complete table going back to DJF 1950 can be found [here](#).

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The chances of La Niña are greater than 95% through January-March 2021, with a 55% chance of a transition to ENSO-neutral in April-June 2021.
El Niño & La Niña Events (1950-2018), and Lake Okeechobee Watershed Rainfall & Net Inflow
Dynamic Position Analysis

- Based on historical climatic conditions spanning the period 1965-2005
- Each year the model resets the initial stages for Lake Okeechobee (LOK) and the Water Conservation Areas (WCAs) to value on the 1\textsuperscript{st} of the previous month and conditions the simulation using real time data during the previous month to achieve real time stage on the 1\textsuperscript{st} or 15\textsuperscript{th} of the current month for both Lake Okeechobee and the Water Conservation Areas
- Dynamic Position Analysis
  - Each 1-year simulation starts with current hydrologic conditions (e.g., 1-February-2021)
  - 41 1-year simulations of system response to historical rainfall conditions
  - Statistical summaries used to display projections
Lake Okeechobee SFWMM Feb 2021 Position Analysis

Percentiles PA_SIM1

High Lake Management Band

Water Shortage Management Band

(See assumptions on the Position Analysis Results website)
Lake Okeechobee SFWMM Feb 2021 Position Analysis

All La Nina Years Plot PA_SIM1

High Lake Management Band

Water Shortage Management Band

(See assumptions on the Position Analysis Results website)