



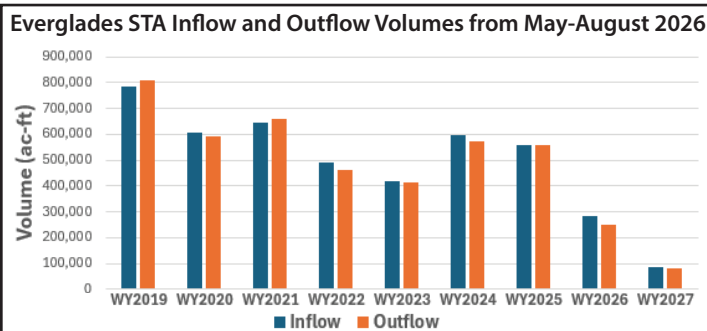
Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas Quarterly Performance Update

The South Florida Water Management District (District) is committed to delivering clean water to the Everglades and is complying with all regulatory limits and requirements. The State of Florida operates Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) to improve water quality and reduce nutrient pollution.

Drier Than Normal Wet Season for Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas

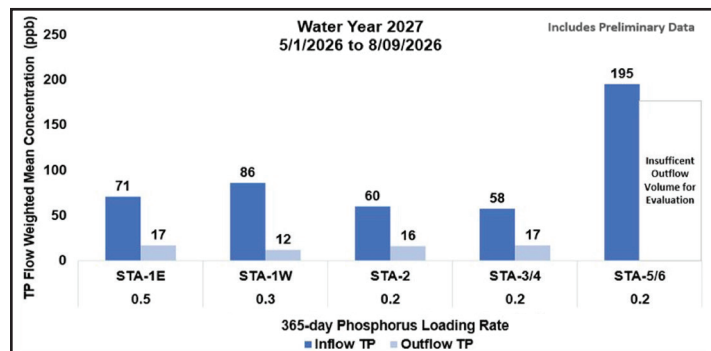
The chart below shows the Everglades STA inflow and outflow volumes from May-August 2026 for WY2019 through WY2027. While variability is expected, the inflow and outflow volumes associated with the current water year are exceptionally low compared to previous water years through this same point.

Through operational strategies, including the use of the Flow Equalization Basins (FEBs), the STA treatment cells have been maintained at or near target stage during this time of extremely low STA inflows.



Performance of the Everglades STAs

The figure below shows the flow weighted mean inflow and outflow total phosphorus (TP) concentrations, in parts per billion, for each STA. Currently, four of the five STAs are below 19 ppb. STA 5/6 has insufficient outflow volume for evaluation.



Water Quality Based Effluent Limit (WQBEL)

The annual flow weighted mean concentration for the total outflow of each Everglades STA:

- ▶ Shall not exceed 19 parts per billion in any water year; and
- ▶ Shall not exceed 13 parts per billion in more than 3 out of 5 water years on a rolling basis.

Wet Season SAV Surveys are Underway

Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) plays a critical role in nutrient treatment in the STAs. Found within the water column, SAV may be rooted or floating. It provides hydraulic resistance to allow nutrients and particulates to settle out. It also provides a surface area for periphyton and microbes to grow and take up nutrients.

Scientists at the South Florida Water Management District survey the STAs twice a year; once in the wet season and once in the dry season. They collect information on the species including the health and coverage of the SAV. This helps the District keep track of how the vegetation is doing and identifies areas that could be improved.



Wet season SAV Survey in STA-1E, Cell 2.



Dry season SAV Survey in STA-1E, Cell 2.



The survey in STA-3/4, Cell 3B shows good SAV coverage on the rake and in the water.



Survey in STA-2, Cell 4.