MEMORANDUM

TO: John Mitnik, Assistant Executive Director
THROUGH: Peter Kwiatkowski, Section Administrator, Resource Evaluation
FROM: SFWMD Staff Water Supply Advisory Team
DATE: February 15th, 2022
SUBJECT: Water Supply Report

District-wide Conditions

Surface and groundwater levels showed mixed trends throughout the District over the last week. The majority of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) real-time wells in the Kissimmee Basin (KB) within the District boundaries are at median levels for this time of year. The wells in the northern portion of the KB are mostly completed in the Floridan aquifer and the wells in southern KB in the surficial aquifer system. About 75% of the Kissimmee Basin surface water stations and one-third of the Floridan stations decreased since last week. The surficial aquifer levels decreased by 0.04 ft at P-49 (near Frostproof).

Stages in the Upper East Coast (UEC) canals C-23, C-24, and C-25 are 22.43, 20.02, and 21.97 feet, all above the fourteen feet agricultural cut-off. The majority of UEC surficial aquifer stations are at median levels for this time of year. Groundwater levels are on the low side in the Fort Pierce area of St. Lucie County. Water levels increased in about three quarters of the Lower East Coast stations. The majority of surface and groundwater stations are at median levels and higher for this time of year. Groundwater levels are on the low side in the C-111 Basin and Everglades National Park.

Groundwater levels increased in about 60% of the Lower West Coast (LWC) stations since last week. All the surficial aquifer wells are at median levels. About eighty-five percent of the Lower Tamiami wells are at median levels for this time of year, with the remainder in the lower percentile ranges. Approximately sixty percent of the Sandstone aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges. About sixty percent of the Mid-Hawthorn aquifer monitor wells are in the lower percentile ranges, with the remainder at median levels and higher. Figure 1 summarizes current conditions.
Figure 1. Real-Time Groundwater Level Map
The Palmer Index for Lake Okeechobee (LOK) Tributary Conditions was -2.37 on February 14, 2022 and is classified as “extremely dry,” and is in the “high” risk category for water supply. The LOK stage for the next two months is projected to be in the Low Sub-band, and the risk to water supply is categorized as “moderate.” The Climate Prediction Center’s (CPC) Precipitation Outlook is projected as “below normal” for one month and “below normal” for three months, leaving the one-month outlook in the “moderate” risk category and three-month outlook in the “high” risk category. The LOK Seasonal Net Inflow Forecast is in the “dry” category and is in the “moderate” risk category. The LOK Multi-Seasonal Net Inflow Forecast is in the “normal” range with “moderate” risk to water supply. The stages in WCA 1, WCA 2A and WCA 3A are above line 1 and are in the “low” risk category. Year-Round Irrigation Rule is in effect for the LEC Service Areas. All Service Areas are in the “low” risk category for water supply. Figure 2 summarizes the water supply risk indicators.

Figure 2. Water Supply Risk Indicators