

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** John Mitnik, Assistant Executive Director

**THROUGH:** Peter Kwiatkowski, Section Administrator, Resource Evaluation

**FROM:** SFWMD Staff Water Supply Advisory Team

**DATE:** September 19, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Water Supply Report

### **District-wide Conditions**

About 60 percent the United States Geological Survey (USGS) real-time wells in the Kissimmee Basin (KB) are in the median and upper percentile ranges for this time of year. The wells in the Upper KB are mostly completed in the Floridan aquifer and the wells in the Lower KB are surficial aquifer system wells. Surface and groundwater water levels increased in the KB stations over the last seven days.

Upper East Coast (UEC) surface water levels decreased and groundwater levels showed mixed trends during the last week. Stages in UEC canals C-23, C-24, and C-25 are 20.80, 18.53, and 19.22 feet, all above the fourteen feet agricultural cut-off. About two-thirds of the UEC wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year.

Approximately 75 percent of the surface and groundwater stations in the Lower East Coast recorded increases over the past seven days. Almost 90 percent of the LEC surficial aquifer system stations are in the median and upper percentile ranges for this time of year.

Groundwater levels decreased in approximately 65 percent the Lower West Coast (LWC) stations over the last week. About half of the surficial aquifer system wells are in the median and upper percentile ranges for this time of year. Approximately 60 percent of the Lower Tamiami aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year. All but one of the Sandstone aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges. About 70 percent of the Mid-Hawthorn aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year.

**Figure 1** shows a statistical comparison between current groundwater levels and long-term historical monthly average groundwater levels at representative wells throughout the District.

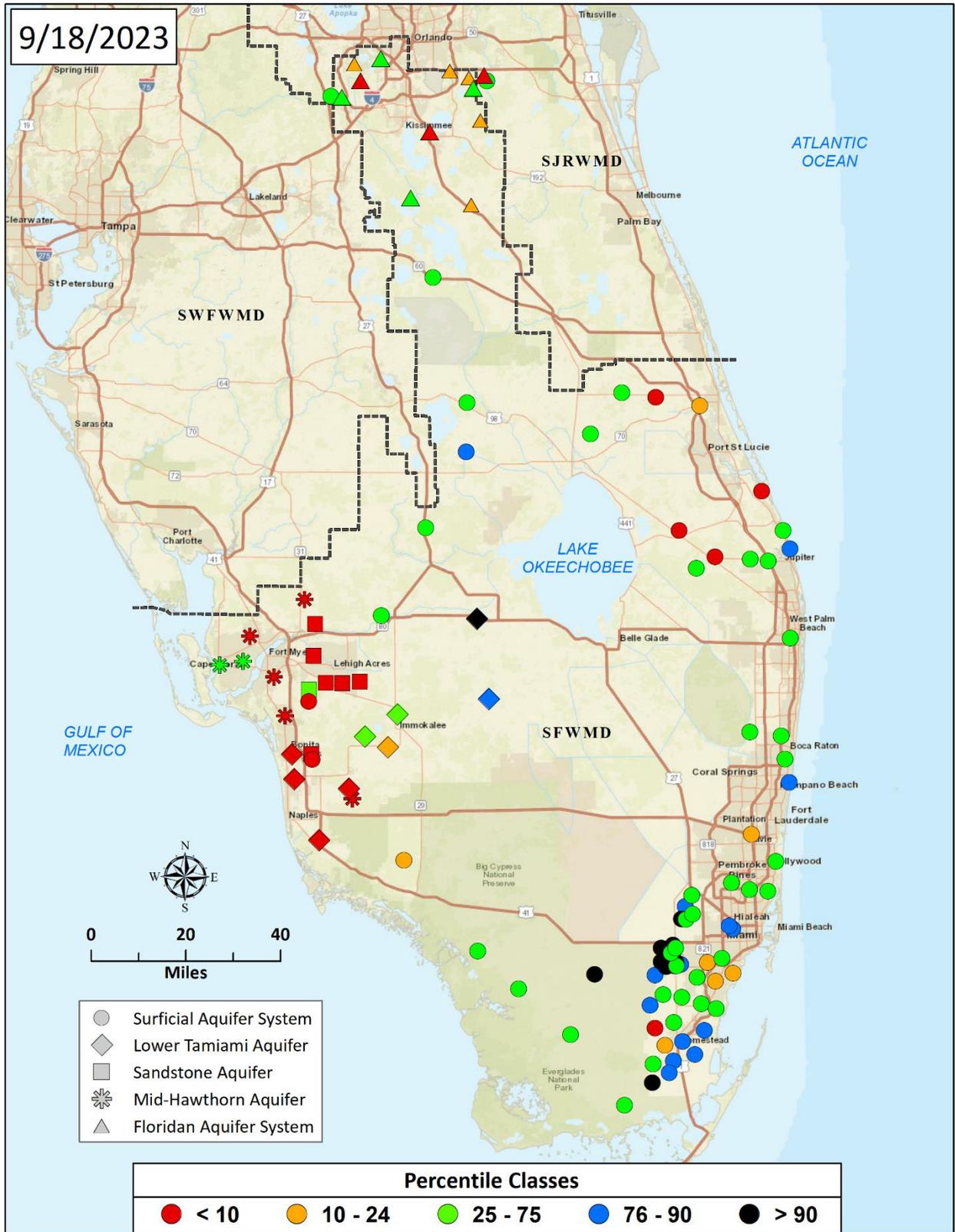


Figure 1. Current Groundwater Level Conditions

**Water Supply Technical Input to LORS2008**

The projected LOK stage for the next two months is Low Sub-Band, and the risk to water supply is categorized as “low”. The Palmer Drought Index for Lake Okeechobee (LOK) Tributary Conditions was -2.89 which is classified as “Extremely Dry” and is in the “high” risk category for water supply. The Climate Prediction Center’s (CPC) Precipitation Outlook is projected as “equal chances” for the one month and “above normal” for the three months, leaving both in the “low” risk category. The LOK Seasonal Net Inflow Outlook is “normal to extremely wet” and is in the “low” risk for water supply. The LOK Multi-Seasonal Net Inflow Outlook is in the “normal” range with “moderate” risk to water supply. The stages in WCA 1, WCA-2, and WCA-3 are all above line 1 and are in the “low” risk category. The Year-Round Irrigation Rule is in effect for the three LEC Service Areas. All three LEC Service Areas are in the “low” risk category for water supply. **Figure 2** summarizes the water supply risk indicators.

**LORS2008 Implementation on 09/18/2023 (ENSO Condition- El Niño):**  
**Status for week ending 09/18/2023\*:**

**Water Supply Risk Evaluation**

Area	Indicator	Value	Color Coded Scoring Scheme
LOK	Projected LOK Stage for the next two months	Low Sub-band	L
	Palmer Drought Index for LOK Tributary Conditions	-2.89 (Extremely Dry)	H
	CPC Precipitation Outlook	1 month: Equal Chances	L
		3 months: Above Normal	L
	LOK Seasonal Net Inflow Outlook	2.10 ft	L
	ENSO Forecast	Normal to Extremely Wet	M
	LOK Multi-Seasonal Net Inflow Outlook	2.61 ft	
ENSO Forecast	Normal		
WCAs	WCA 1: 3 Station Average (Sites 1-7, 1-8T, and 1-9)	Above Line 1 (16.86 ft)	L
	WCA 2A: Site 2-17	Above Line 1 (12.87 ft)	L
	WCA-3A: 3 Station Average (Sites 63, 64, and 65)	Above Line 1 (10.95 ft)	L
LEC	Service Area 1	Year-Round Irrigation Rule in effect	L
	Service Area 2	Year-Round Irrigation Rule in effect	L
	Service Area 3	Year-Round Irrigation Rule in effect	L

Note: The water supply risk classification based on the Palmer index, as well as the LOK seasonal and multi-seasonal net inflow outlooks use slightly different classification intervals than those used by the 2008-LORS.

\*- L-8 at Canal Point flow data for September 12 is not available from USACE Daily Reports and was assumed to be 0.

**Figure 2. Water Supply Risk Indicators**