Disclaimer: Information contained in the report addresses environmental conditions only and is not the official South Florida Water Management District operations recommendation or decision.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: John Mitnik, Assistant Executive Director, Executive Office Staff

FROM: SFWMD Staff Environmental Advisory Team

DATE: June 24, 2026

SUBJECT: Weekly Environmental Conditions for Systems Operations

Summary

Weather Conditions and Forecast

Steering wind flow is expected to become west-northwesterly to northwesterly on Wednesday interacting with the east-coast sea breeze and supporting a broad area of afternoon rainfall across the southeastern and south-central interior. The Kissimmee Valley should also experience enhanced rainfall coverage. While scattered rainfall will develop across portions of the western interior, the westerly component of the steering flow should keep the greatest coverage inland from the far west/west coast. Total area-averaged rainfall across the SFWMD may approach or exceed the daily climatological average. By Thursday, the east-coast sea breeze should advance inland, leaving much of the east coast dry after any overnight or morning rainfall. The focus for afternoon rainfall is then expected to shift toward the central and western interior, generally displaced away from the immediate west coast. Heaviest rains could occur from the farming areas into the Caloosahatchee and parts of the Kissimmee Valley. From Friday into Saturday, afternoon rainfall development across the western half of the SFWMD is expected. Rainfall distribution should become more typical for late June, with the heaviest rainfall concentrated from the western interior toward the west coast while the east coast remains comparatively dry following the rapid inland progression of the east-coast sea breeze. A similar pattern is expected to continue later in the weekend, continuing to favor limited overnight and morning rainfall near the east coast while concentrating the greatest afternoon rainfall from the central interior westward. By early next week, a weak concentration of Saharan dust and its associated Saharan Air Layer could be nearby. Forecast guidance remains inconsistent regarding how far west this air mass may extend and whether it will overspread the SFWMD. While confidence remains low in this regard, its potential presence could influence rainfall coverage and intensity. Should the Saharan Air Layer become more influential, area-averaged rainfall could trend lower than currently forecast, with easterly steering flow continuing to favor the central and western portions of the SFWMD while keeping the greatest rainfall away from the east coast and eastern interior. For the week ending next Tuesday morning, total area-averaged rainfall across the SFWMD is forecast to finish below the long-term average.

Kissimmee

Water levels in East Lake Toho and Lake Toho are being allowed to rise as rainfall permits. Releases from Lakes Kissimmee-Cypress-Hatchineha followed the Headwaters Revitalization Schedule Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan. Weekly average discharge on June 21, 2026, was 250 cfs at S-65 and 190 cfs at S-65A. Mean weekly water depth on the Kissimmee River floodplain remained at 0.32 feet. The weekly average concentration of dissolved oxygen in the Kissimmee River decreased from 7.5 mg/L the previous week to 7.1 mg/L, which is above both the potentially lethal level of 1.0 mg/L and the stressful level of 2.0 mg/L for Florida bass and other species.

Lake Okeechobee

Lake Okeechobee stage was 9.70 feet NAVD88 (11.01 feet NGVD29) on June 21, 2026, which was 0.04 feet lower than the previous week and 0.23 feet lower than a month ago. Average daily inflows (excluding rainfall) decreased from 250 cfs the previous week to 170 cfs. Average daily outflows (excluding evapotranspiration) decreased from 1,800 cfs the previous week to 1,100 cfs. The most recent non-obscured satellite image from June 20, 2026, NOAA's Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring System suggests moderate to high cyanobacteria potential in Fisheating Bay and in large portions of the central and northern areas of the lake.

Estuaries

Total inflow to the St. Lucie Estuary averaged 579 cfs over the past week with no flow coming from Lake Okeechobee. Mean salinities increased at all sites in the estuary. Salinity in the middle estuary was in the optimal range (10–25) for adult eastern oysters.

Total inflow to the Caloosahatchee River Estuary averaged 564 cfs over the past week with 242 cfs coming from Lake Okeechobee. Over the past week, salinities decreased at S-79, Val I-75, and Ft. Myers, and increased at the remaining sites in the estuary. Salinities were in the optimal range (0-10) for tape grass at S-79, in the stressful range (10-15) at Val I-75, and in the damaging range (>15) at Ft. Myers. Salinities were in the optimal range (10-25) for adult eastern oysters at Cape Coral, and in the upper stressed range (>25) at Shell Point and Sanibel.

Stormwater Treatment Areas

For the week ending Sunday, June 21, 2026, 1,900 acre-feet of Lake Okeechobee water was delivered to the FEBs/STAs. The total amount of Lake releases sent to the FEBs/STAs in WY2027 is approximately 7,800 acre-feet. The total amount of inflows to the STAs in WY2027 is approximately 29,000 acre-feet. Most online STA treatment cells are at or near target stage. STA-1E Central Flow-way is offline for post-construction activities. STA-1W Eastern Flow-way is offline for vegetation management activities. Operational restrictions are in effect in STA-1E Western Flow-way, STA-2 Flow-way 2, and STA-3/4 Eastern Flow-way for vegetation management activities. STA-1E Central Flow-way, STA-1W Eastern Flow-way, and STA-2 Flow-ways 1 and 4 contain nests of Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected species. This week, if LOSOM recommends Lake releases to the WCAs and conditions allow, releases will be sent to STA-2, STA-3/4 and STA-5/6.

Everglades

Below-average rainfall started the week with an increase over the weekend. WCA-3A and -3B received 1.5 inches of rain, almost an inch more than Everglades National Park. The rainfall resulted in an ascension in water depths across most of the Everglades, with the exception of WCA-2B and southern WCA-3A. Conditions remain very dry with active wildfires present in the southern system, the largest of which are currently contained. These dry conditions can have ecological consequences both system wide and within the central Everglades, including delaying the production of already limited prey populations, increasing the risk of damaging wildfires, enhanced peat oxidation, and potential ridge and slough degradation. As a result of limited foraging habitat, this wading bird nesting season was the lowest nesting effort observed in the Everglades in the last 30 years. Taylor Slough stages decreased this week and are now below the recent average for this time of year with levels belowground at the headwaters. Average Florida Bay salinity increased last week, but all three regions remain within their respective interquartile range. Bay-wide salinity is above average by 5.2 for this time of year.

Supporting Information

Kissimmee Basin

Upper Kissimmee

On June 21, 2026, mean daily lake stages were 53.9 feet NAVD88 (1.6 feet below schedule) in East Lake Toho, 51.2 feet NAVD88 (1.3 feet below schedule) in Lake Toho, and 47.8 feet NAVD88 (2.5 feet below the Increment 1 Temporary Deviation schedule in Lakes Kissimmee-Cypress-Hatchineha (KCH) (**Table KB-1**, **Figures KB-1-3**).

Lower Kissimmee

For the week ending June 21, 2026, mean weekly discharge was 250 cfs at S-65 and 190 cfs at S-65A. Mean weekly discharge from the Kissimmee River was 230 cfs at S-65D and 160 cfs at S-65E (**Table KB-2**). Mean weekly headwater stages were 45.2 feet NAVD88 at S-65A and 27.7 feet NAVD88 at S-65D. Mean weekly river channel stage decreased by 0.2 feet to 30.1 feet NAVD88 (**Figure KB-4**). Mean weekly water depth on the Kissimmee River floodplain was unchanged at 0.32 feet (**Table KB-2**, **Figure KB-5**). The weekly average concentration of dissolved oxygen in the Kissimmee River decreased from 7.5 mg/L the previous week to 7.1 mg/L (**Table KB-2**, **Figure KB-6**).

Water Management Recommendations

Allow stage in East Lake Toho and Lake Toho to rise with rainfall and to the extent possible, limit the ascension rate to no more than 0.5 feet/14 days. In KCH, follow the Headwaters Revitalization Schedule (HRS) Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan for S-65/S-65A (**Figure KB-7**). With KCH stage at the lower boundary of Zone B4, target flows of 300 cfs if stage increases into Zone B4; if stage declines into Zone B5, target flows of 150 cfs. If stage increases into Zone B3, target flows between 300 and 1,400 cfs at S-65A using the Increment 1 Interpolation Tool to determine discharge relative to stage in KCH.

Table KB-1. Average discharge for the preceding seven days, Sunday's average daily stage and Sunday's average daily departure from Kissimmee Chain of Lakes (KCOL) flood regulation lines or temporary schedules. All data are provisional.

Water Body	Structure	Stage Monitoring Site	Weekly (7-Day) Average Discharge (cfs)	Sunday Lake Stage (feet NAVD88)[a]	Schedule Type[b]	Sunday Schedule Stage (feet NAVD88)	Sunday Departure from Regulation (feet)	
							6/21/26	*6/14/26*
Lakes Hart and Mary Jane	S-62	LKMJ	0	58.4	R	58.9	-0.5	-0.5
Lakes Myrtle, Preston and Joel	S-57	S-57	0	58.7	R	59.9	-1.2	-1.2
Alligator Chain	S-60	ALLI	0	60.7	R	62.1	-1.4	-1.4
Lake Gentry	S-63	LKGT	0	58.5	R	59.9	-1.4	-1.5
East Lake Toho	S-59	TOHOE	0	53.9	R	55.5	-1.6	-1.6
Lake Toho	S-61	TOHOW S-61	0	51.2	R	52.5	-1.3	-1.4
Lakes Kissimmee, Cypress and Hatchineha	S-65	KUB011 LKIS5B	240	47.8	T	50.3	-2.5	-2.5

a. Names of in-lake monitoring sites and structures used to determine lake stage. If more than one site is listed, an average is reported.
b. A: projected recession line; R: USACE regulation schedule; S: temporary recession target line; T: temporary schedule; NA: not applicable or not available.

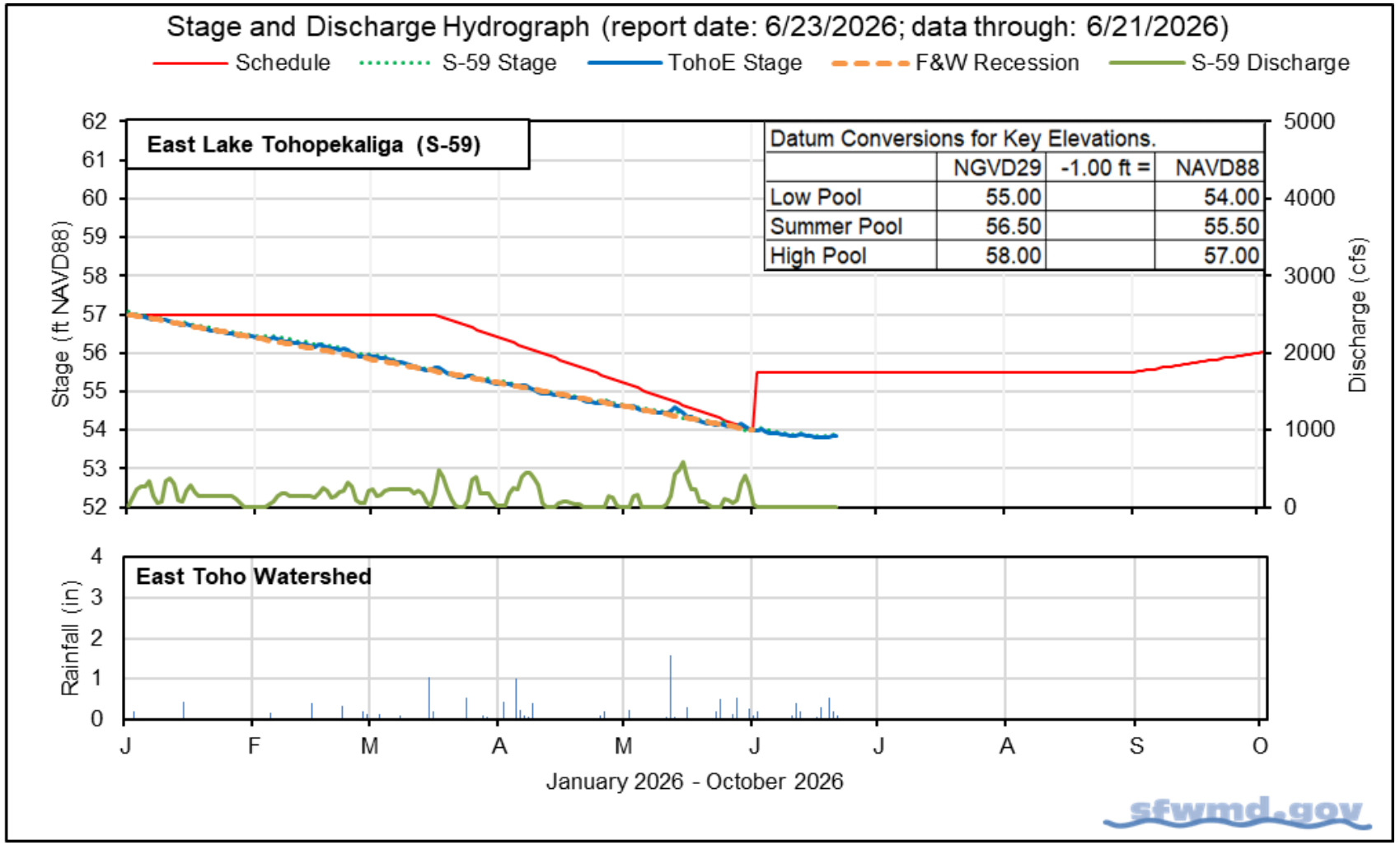


Figure KB-1. East Lake Toho regulation schedule, stage, discharge, and rainfall.

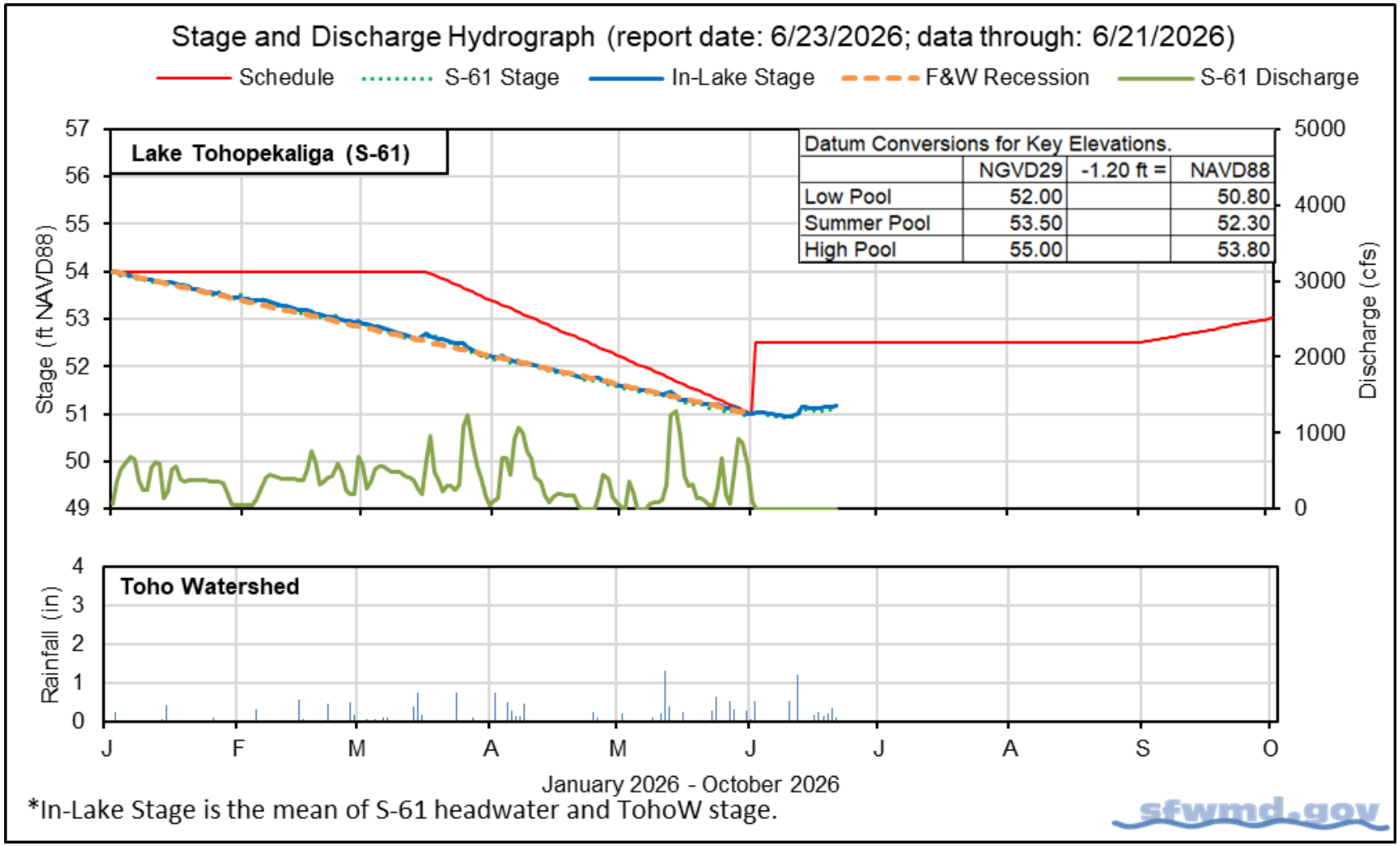


Figure KB-2. Lake Toho regulation schedule, stage, discharge, and rainfall.

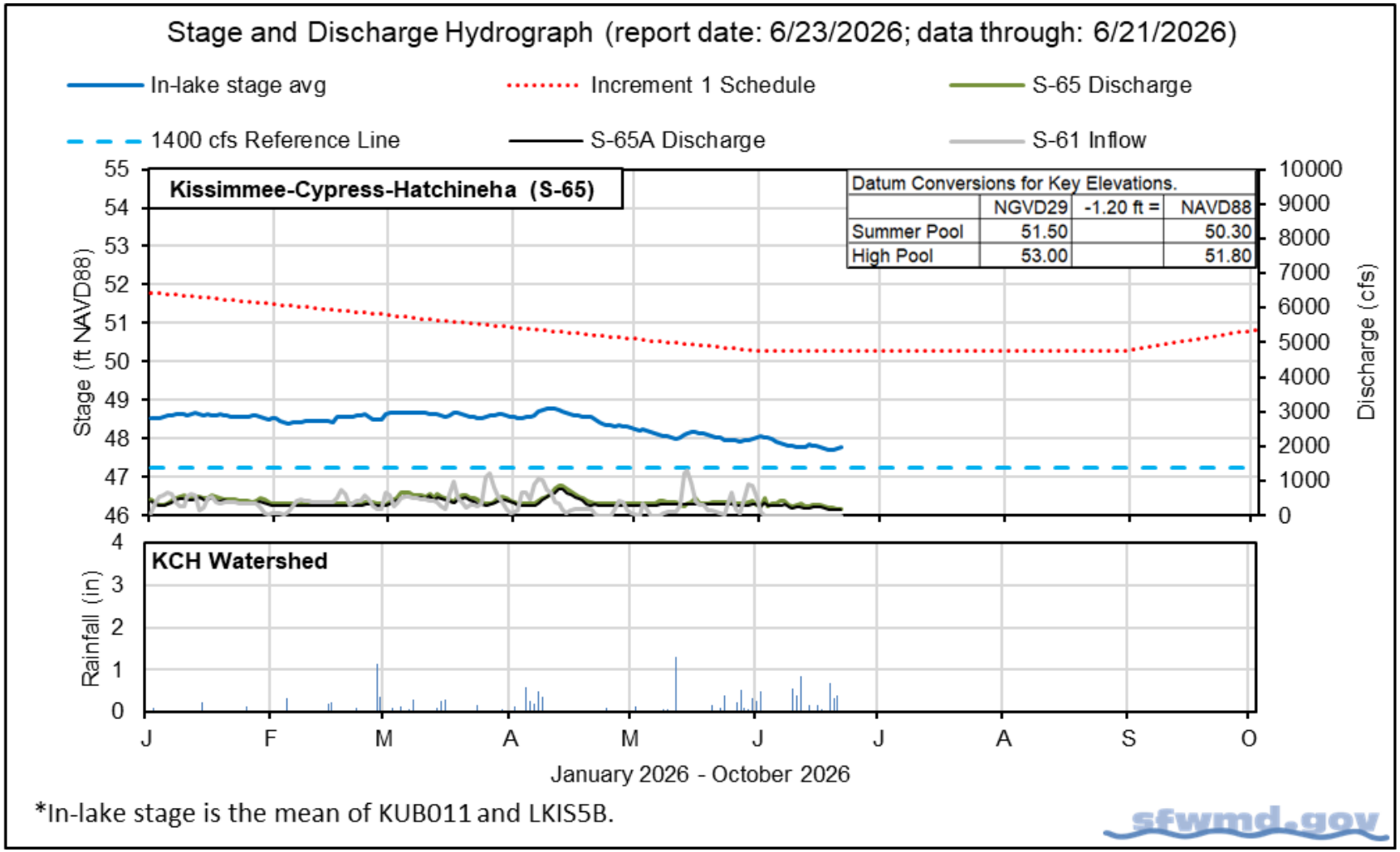


Figure KB-3. Lakes Kissimmee, Cypress and Hatchineha regulation schedule, stage, discharge, and rainfall.

Table KB-2. One- and seven-day average discharge and stage at Lower Kissimmee basin structures, river channel dissolved oxygen concentrations and water depths in the Phase I area floodplain. All data are provisional.

Metric	Location	Sunday Daily Average	Weekly Average for Previous Seven Day Periods			
		6/21/26	6/21/26	6/14/26	6/7/26	5/31/26
Discharge	S-65	170	250	300	380	360
Discharge	S-65A[a]	160	190	240	300	300
Headwater Stage (feet NAVD88)	S-65A	45.2	45.2	45.3	45.2	45.2
Discharge	S-65D[b]	210	230	280	310	340
Headwater Stage (feet NAVD88)	S-65D[c]	24.4	27.7	27.8	28.1	28.2
Discharge (cfs)	S-65E[d]	160	160	220	200	220
Discharge (cfs)	S-67	0	0	0	0	0
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)[e]	Phase I, II/III river channel	6.4	7.1	7.5	7.5	7.1
River channel mean stage (feet NAVD88)[f]	Phase I river channel	30.0	30.1	30.3	30.6	30.7
Mean depth (feet)[g]	Phase I & II/III floodplain	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.33	0.33

a. Combined discharge from main and auxiliary structures.
b. Combined discharge from S-65D, S-65DX1, and S-65DX2.
c. Average stage from S-65D and S-65DX1.
d. Combined discharge from S-65E and S-65EX1.
e. Dissolved oxygen is the average of values from sondes KRBN, PC62, PC33, PD62R, and PD42R.
f. Mean of five river channel stations (PC62, KRDR02, KRBN, PC33, PC11) in the Phase I area.
g. One-day spatial average obtained from the South Florida Water Depth Assessment Tool (SFWDAT).

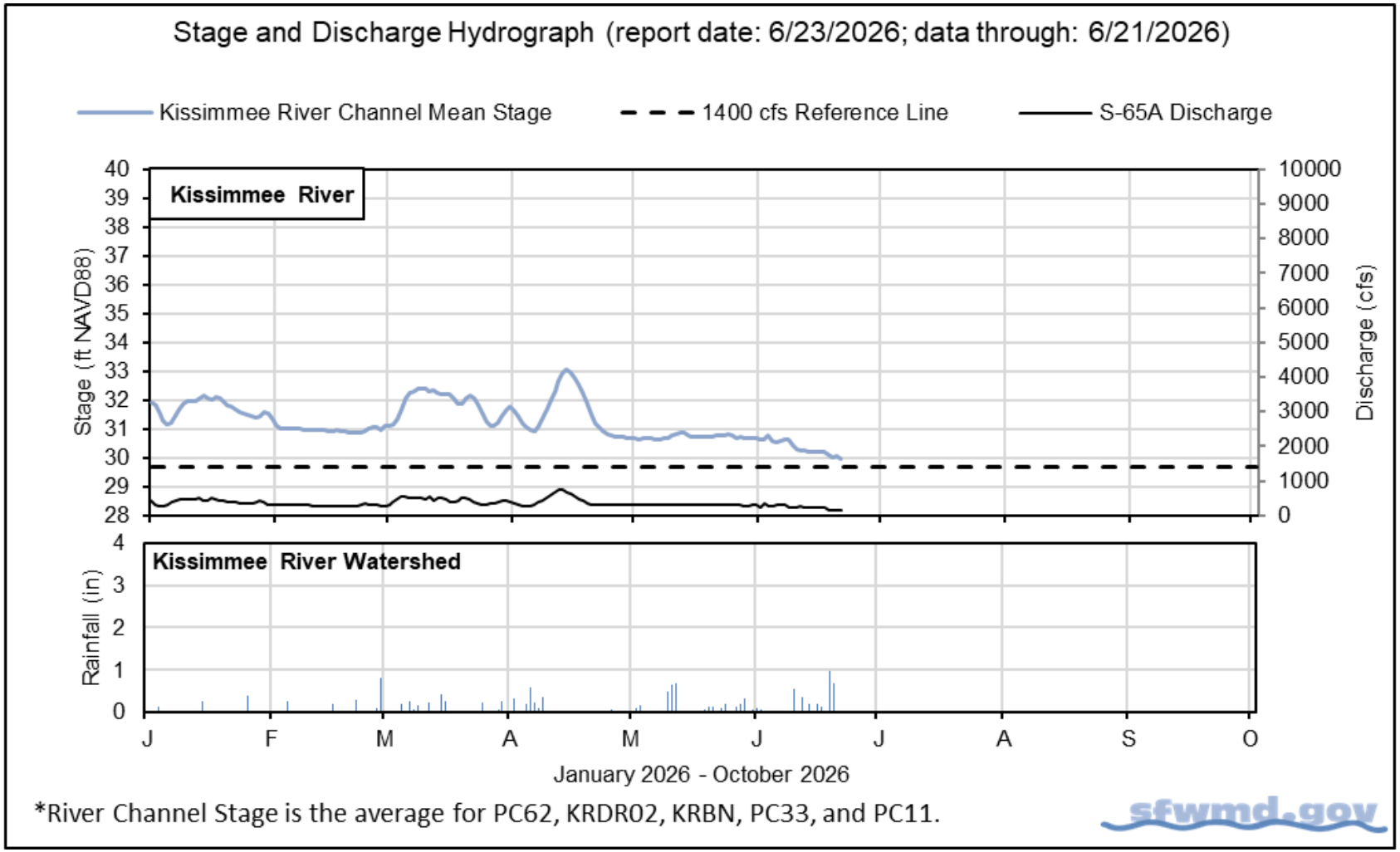


Figure KB-4. Kissimmee River stage, discharge, and rainfall.

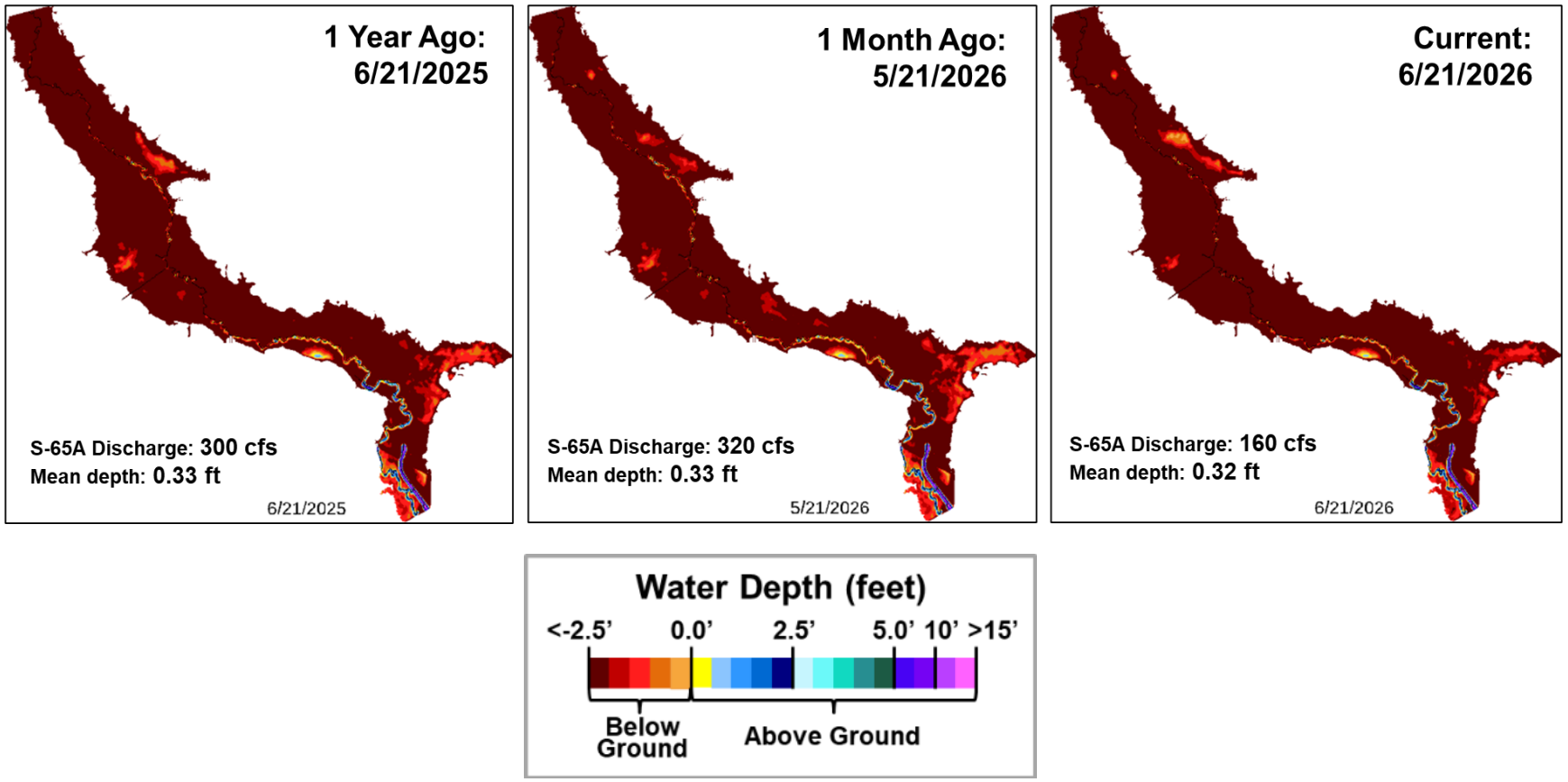


Figure KB-5. Phase I-II-III area Kissimmee River floodplain water depths (from left to right) one year ago, one month ago, and current.

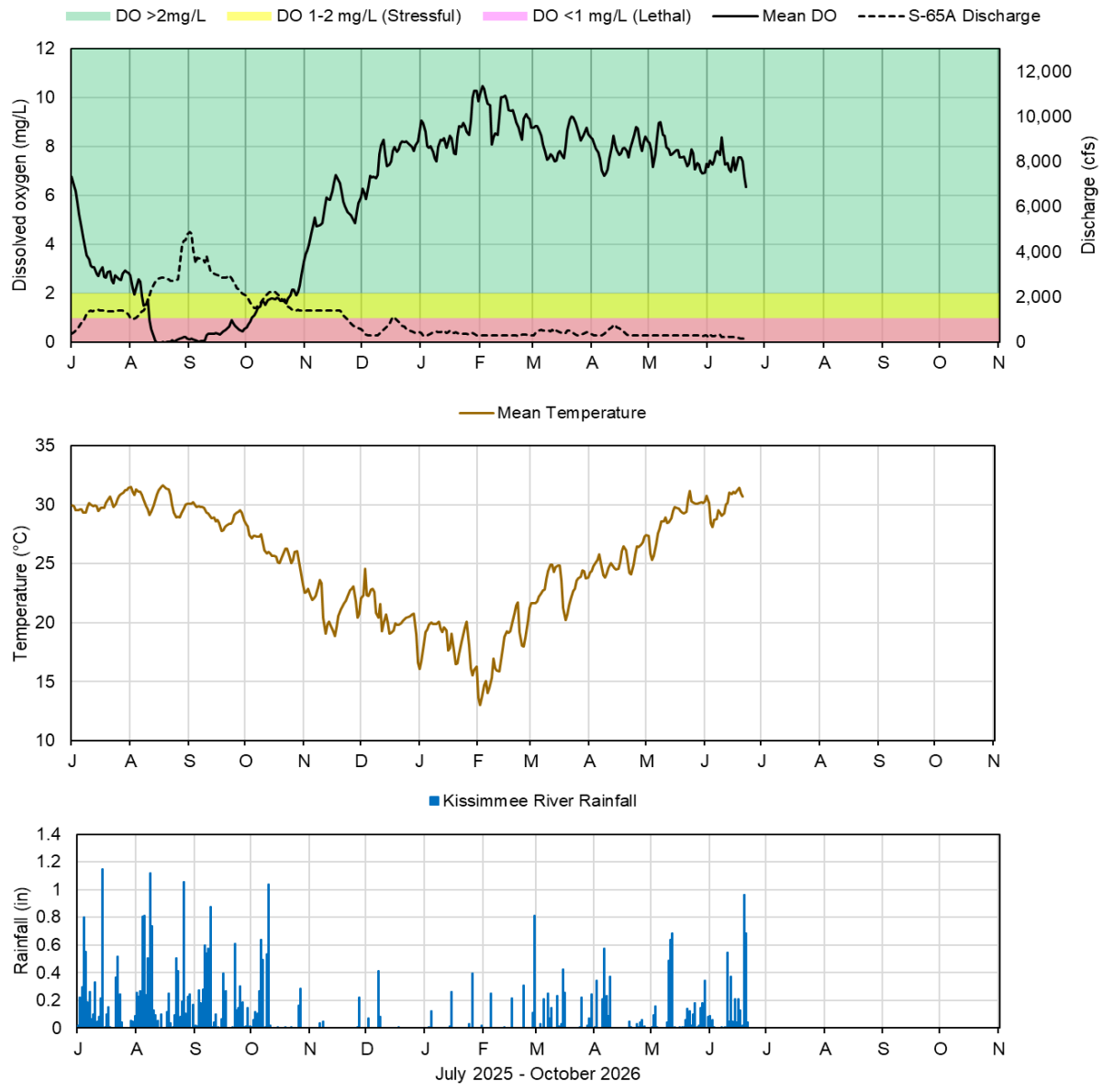


Figure KB-6. Kissimmee River channel mean daily dissolved oxygen concentration (mg/L), S-65A discharge (cfs), temperature (°C) and rainfall (inches). Dissolved oxygen (DO) and temperature are mean daily values averaged for PC62, KRDR02, KRBN, PC33, PC11, PD62R, and PD42R with an average of five stations reporting this week. Rainfall values are daily totals for Kissimmee River (Pool BCD) AHED watershed.

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

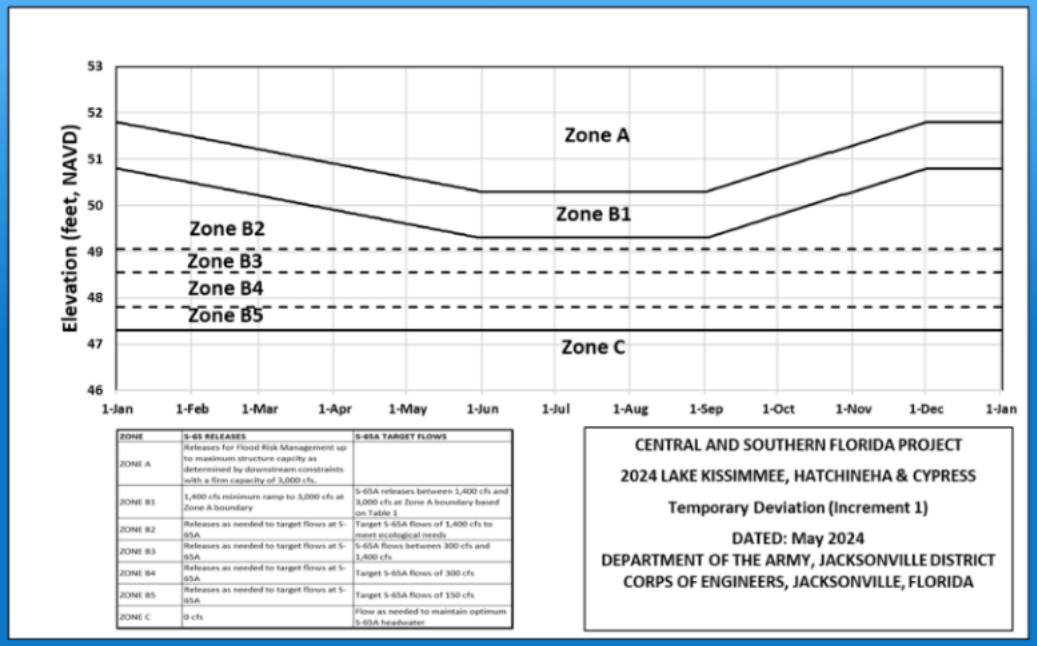
HRS Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan for S-65/S-65A

Discharge Guidance for Increment I Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan		
ZONE	**S-65 RELEASES**	**S-65A TARGET FLOWS**
ZONE A	Releases for Flood Risk Management up to maximum structure capcity as determined by downstream constraints with a firm capacity of 3,000 cfs.	
ZONE B1	1,400 cfs minimum ramp to 3,000 cfs at Zone A boundary	S-65A releases between 1,400 cfs and 3,000 cfs at Zone A boundary based on Table 1
ZONE B2	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	Target S-65A flows of 1,400 cfs to meet ecological needs
ZONE B3	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	S-65A flows between 300 cfs and 1,400 cfs
ZONE B4	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	Target S-65A flows of 300 cfs
ZONE B5	Releases as needed to target flows at S-65A	Target S-65A flows of 150 cfs
ZONE C	0 cfs	Flow as needed to maintain optimum S-65A headwater

Table KB-3. Maximum Rate of Change Limits for S-65A

MAXIMUM Release Rate of Chane Limits for S-65A. **In general recommended rates of change will be slower than shown in this table.**

Q (cfs)	Maximum rate of INCREASE (cfs/day)	Maximum rate of DECREASE (cfs/day)
0-300	50	-50
301-650	75	-75
651-1400	150	-150
1401-3000	300	-600
>3000	1000	-2000



CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA PROJECT
2024 LAKE KISSIMMEE, HATCHINEHA & CYPRESS
Temporary Deviation (Increment 1)
DATED: May 2024
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

Other Considerations

- When possible, limit lake ascension rate in the Jun 1 - Aug 15 window to 0.25 ft per 7 days in Lakes Kissimmee, Cypress, Hatchineha (S-65), East Toho (S-59) and Toho (S-61).
- If outlook is for extreme dry conditions meet with KB staff to discuss modifications to this plan.

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Figure KB-7. Headwaters Revitalization Schedule (HRS) Increment 1 Temporary Deviation Discharge Plan for S-65/S-65A.

Lake Okeechobee

Lake Okeechobee stage was 9.70 feet NAVD88 (11.01 feet NGVD29) on June 21, 2026, which was 0.04 feet lower than the previous week and 0.23 feet lower than a month ago (**Figure LO-1**). Lake stage is in Zone D of the regulation schedule, is 0.10 feet above the water shortage management band (**Figure LO-2**), and 0.49 feet below the ecological envelope (**Figure LO-3**). According to NEXRAD, 1.31 inches (approximately 49,000 acre-feet) of rain fell directly over the Lake during the previous week, and 1.31 inches (approximately 37,300 acre-feet) were lost to evapotranspiration.

Average daily inflows (excluding rainfall) decreased from 250 cfs the previous week to 170 cfs. The most notable inflow came from the Kissimmee River (160 cfs via S-65E(X1)). Average daily outflows (excluding evapotranspiration) decreased from 1,800 cfs the previous week to 1,100 cfs. The largest release was to the south through the S-351 structure (430 cfs). **Figures LO-4 and LO-5** show the combined average daily inflows and outflows for the Lake over the past eight weeks, and the average inflows and outflows last week, respectively.

In the most recent non-obscured satellite image from June 20, 2026, NOAA's Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring System suggests moderate to high cyanobacteria potential in Fisheating Bay and in large portions of the central and northern areas of the Lake (**Figure LO-6**).

Note: All data presented in this report are provisional and are subject to change.

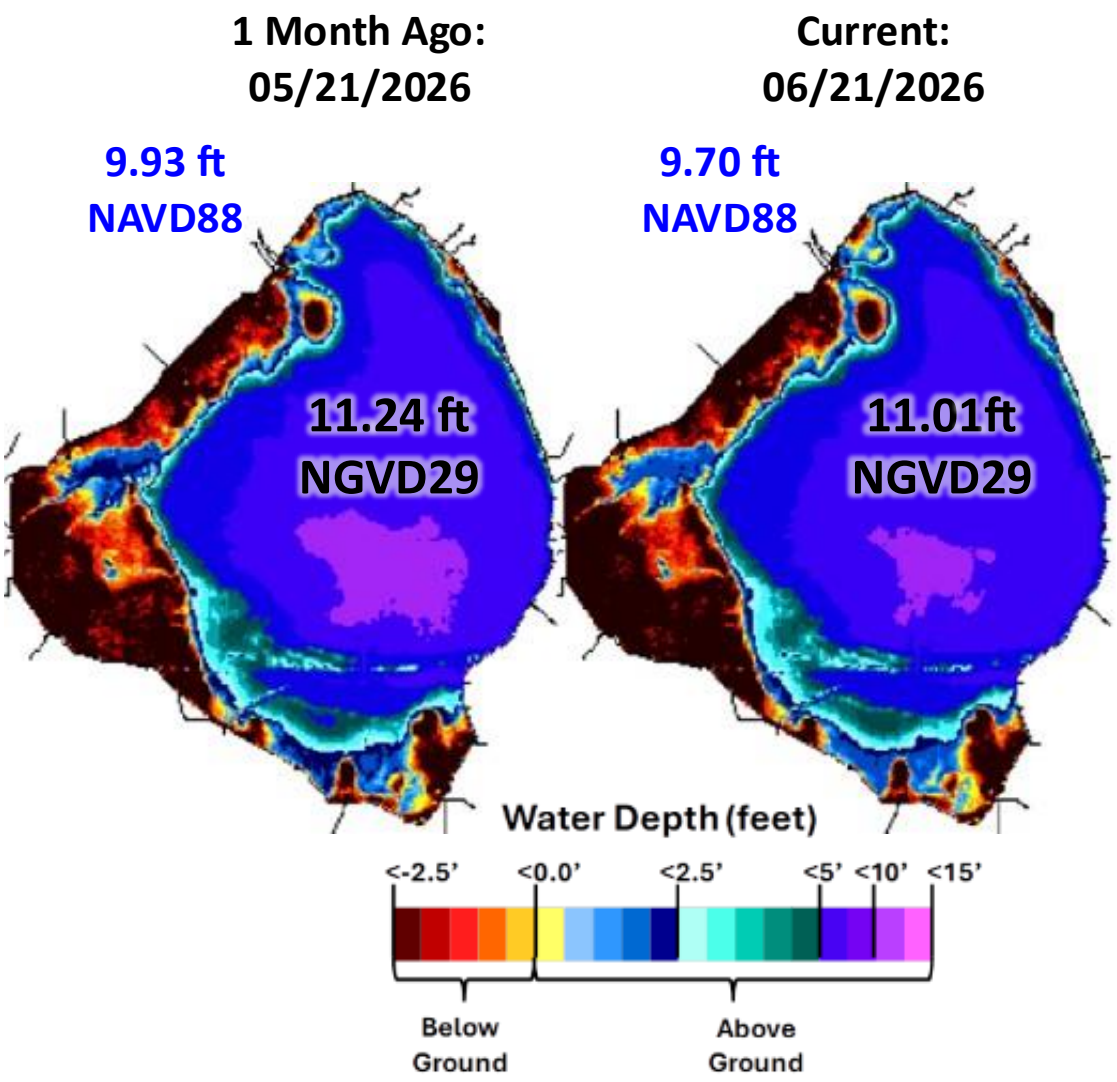

Figure LO-1. Lake Okeechobee water depth estimates based on South Florida Water Depth Assessment Tool (SFWDAT).

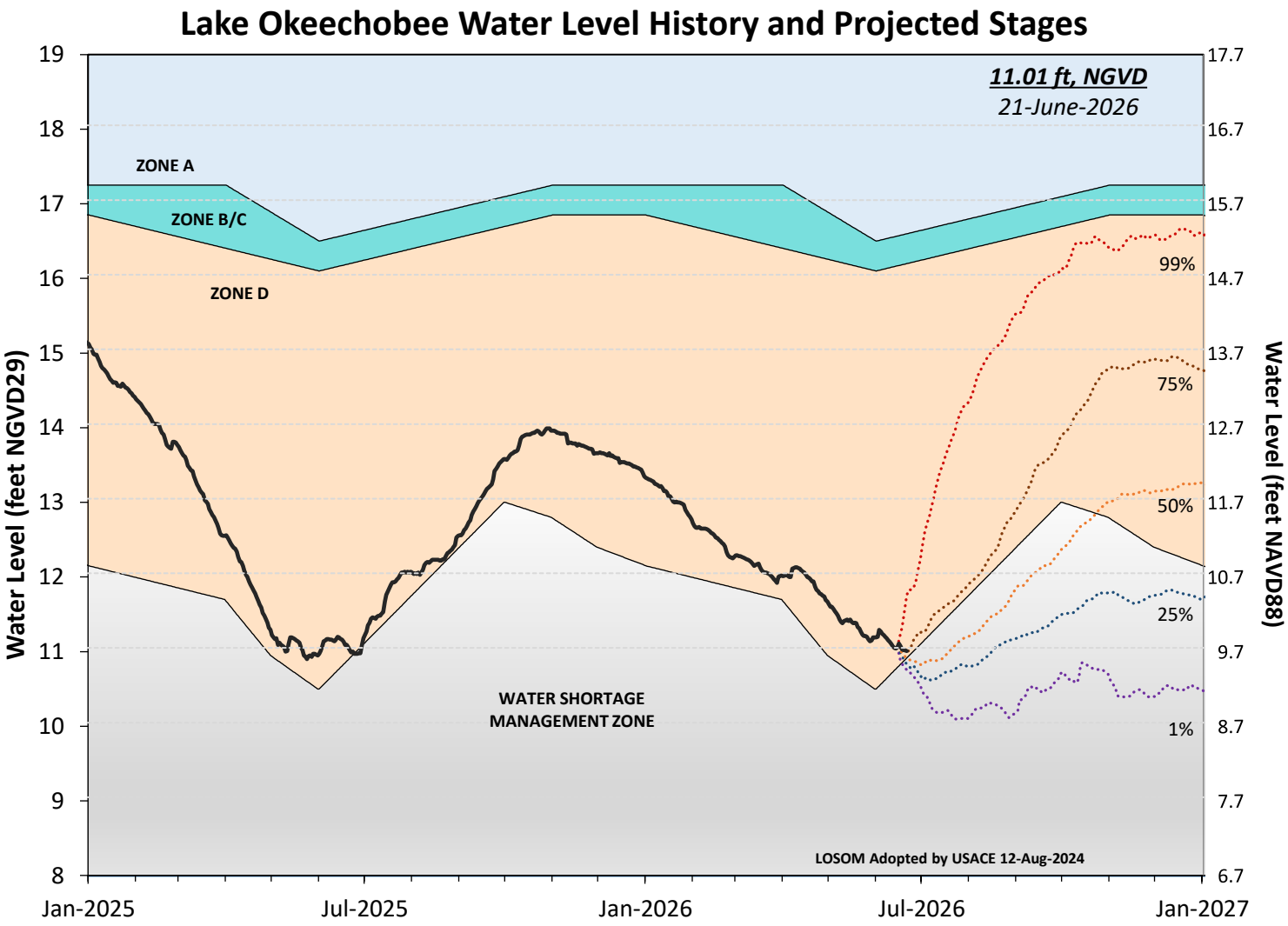

Figure LO-2. Recent Lake Okeechobee stages with projected stages based on a conditional position analysis. Note: stages are in NGVD29, approximate NAVD88 values are shown for reference.

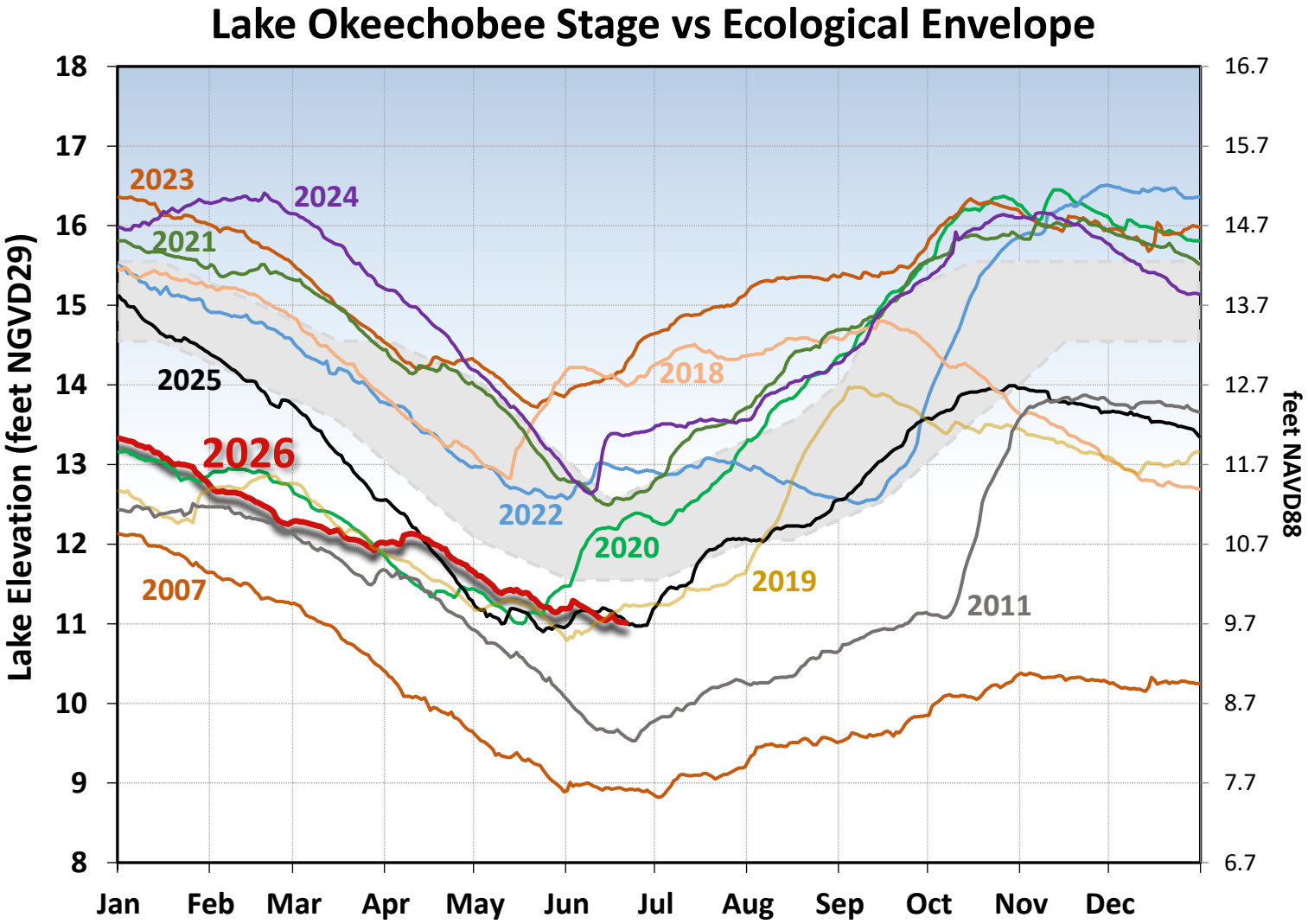

Figure LO-3. The current and select prior year's annual lake stage hydrographs in comparison to the Lake Okeechobee ecological envelope (light grey).

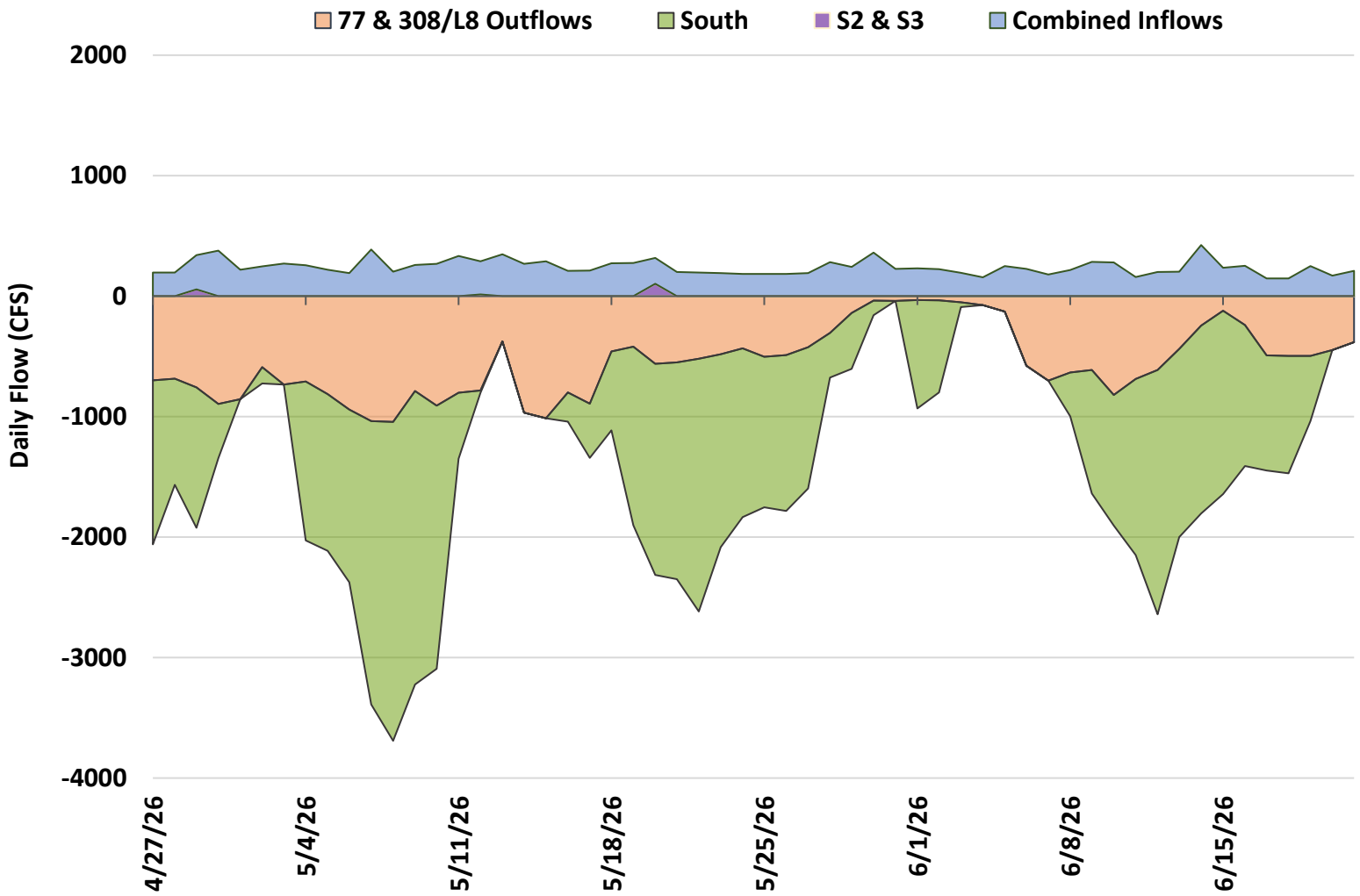

Figure LO-4. Major inflows (orange) to and outflows east and west (blue) from Lake Okeechobee. Outflows south are shown in green. Flows into Lake Okeechobee from the L-8 canal through S-271 (formerly Culvert 10A) or from the C-44 canal through the S-308 are included as inflows. Conversely, flows from Lake Okeechobee into the L-8 or C-44 canals are included with outflows. Inflows are shown as positive values; outflows are negative. Outflows through the S-77 (Caloosahatchee) and S-308 (C-44 Canal) structures are based on downstream gauges to include flows to lock openings for navigation.

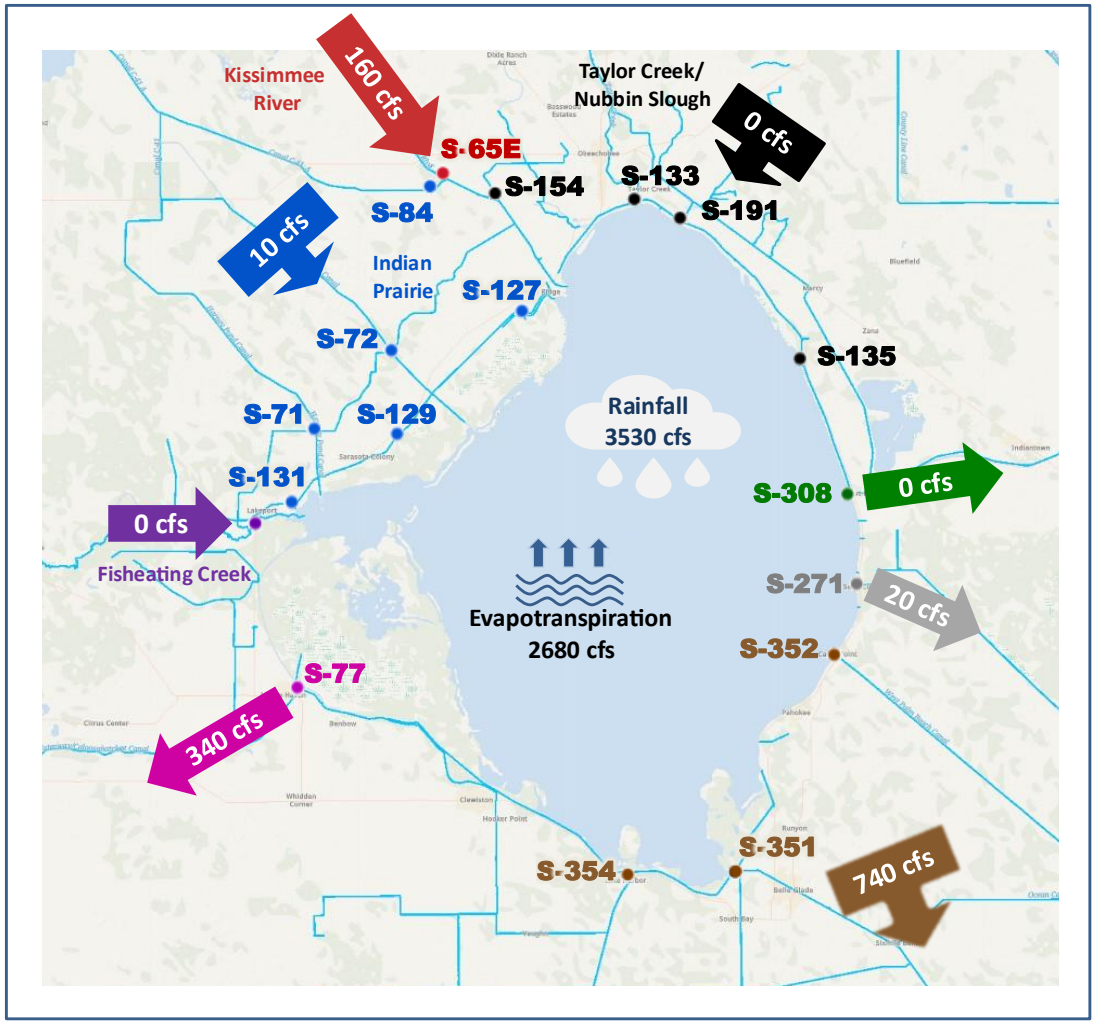

Figure LO-5. Inflows into Lake Okeechobee from Indian Prairie basins, Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough, Kissimmee River and Fisheating Creek (currently no flow data available for FECR), and outflows to the west via S-77, to the east via S-308, to the south via S-351, S-352, S-354, and to southeast via S-271 (formerly Culvert 10A) for the week of June 15 - 21, 2026.

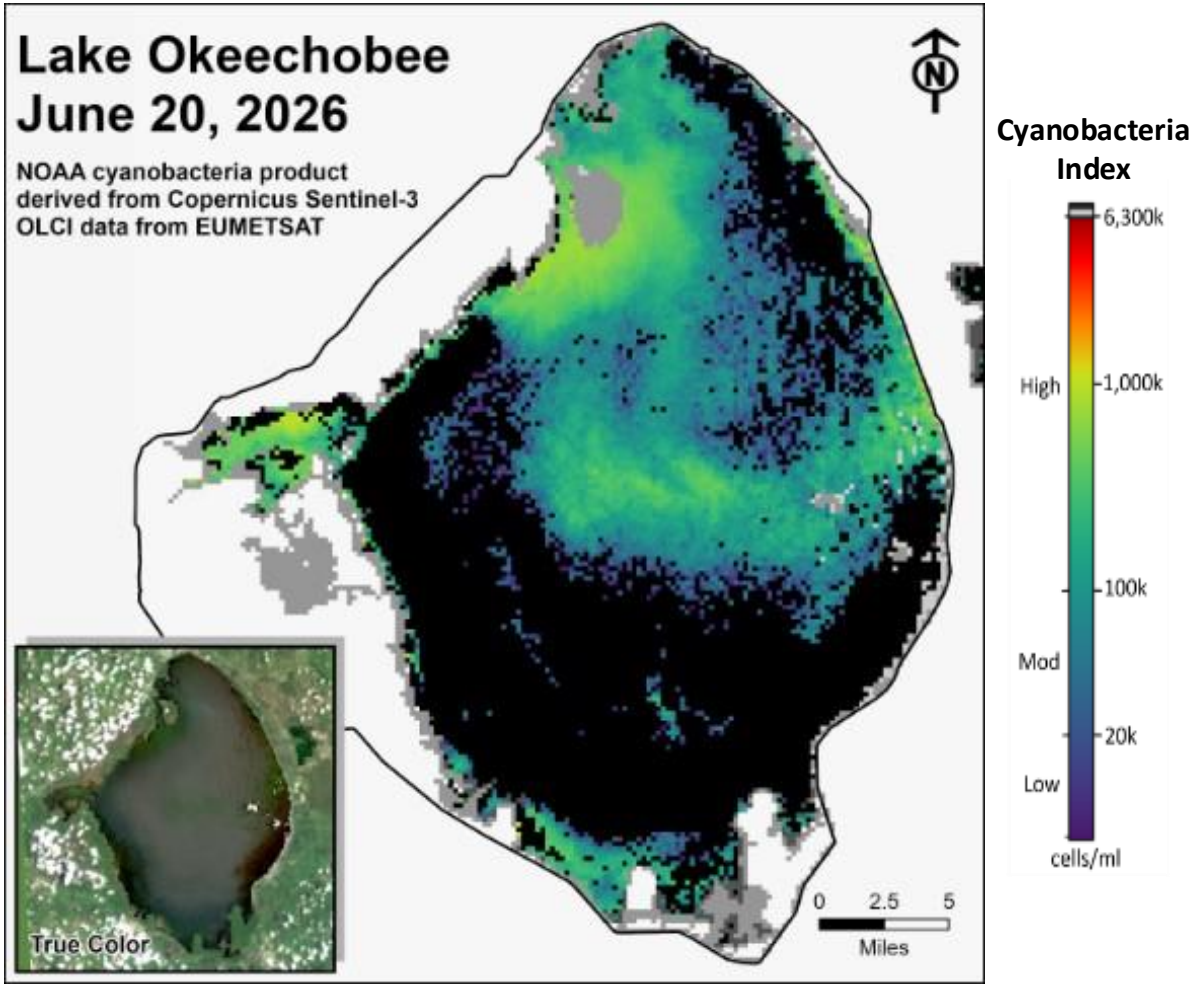

Figure LO-6. Cyanobacteria bloom index level on Lake Okeechobee, based on NOAA's harmful algal bloom monitoring system. Gray color indicates cloud cover. *Provisional NOAA image, subject to change*.

Estuaries

St. Lucie Estuary

Over the past week, mean total inflow to the St. Lucie Estuary was 579 cfs (**Figures ES-1** and **ES-2**), and the previous 30-day mean inflow was 330 cfs. For comparison, the historical provisional mean inflows from contributing areas are shown in **Figure ES-2**.

Over the past week, salinities increased at all sites in the estuary (**Table ES-1** and **Figure ES-3**). The seven-day moving average of the surface and bottom salinities at the US1 Bridge was 22.2. Salinity conditions in the middle estuary were estimated to be within the optimal range for adult eastern oysters (**Figure ES-4**). The mean larval oyster recruitment rate reported by the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) for May was 0.4 spat/shell at Rio, which is a decrease from the previous month (**Figure ES-5**).

Caloosahatchee River Estuary

Over the past week, mean total inflow to the Caloosahatchee River Estuary was 564 cfs (**Figures ES-6** and **ES-7**), and the previous 30-day mean inflow was 512 cfs. For comparison, the historical provisional mean inflows from the contributing areas are shown in **Figure ES-7**.

Over the past week, salinities decreased at S-79, Val I-75 and Ft. Myers, and increased at the remaining sites in the estuary (**Table ES-2** and **Figures ES-8** and **ES-9**). The seven-day mean salinities (**Table ES-2**) in the upper estuary were in the optimal range (0-10) for tape grass at S-79, in the stressful range (10-15) at Val I-75, and in the damaging range at Ft. Myers (>15). The seven-day mean salinity values were within the optimal range (10-25) for adult eastern oysters at Cape Coral, and in the upper stressed range (>25) at Shell Point and Sanibel (**Figure ES-10**). The mean larval oyster recruitment rates reported by the FWRI in May were 1.9 spat/shell at Iona Cove and 5.6 spat/shell at Bird Island, which is an increase and decrease, respectively, from the previous month (**Figures ES-11** and **ES-12**).

Surface salinity at Val I-75 was forecast for the next two weeks using an autoregression model (Qiu and Wan, 2013[1]) coupled with a linear reservoir model for the tidal basin. Model scenarios included pulse releases at S-79 ranging from 450 to 2,000 cfs, with estimated tidal basin inflows of 46 cfs. Model results from all scenarios predict daily salinity to be 10.4 or lower and the 30-day moving average surface salinity to be 9.8 or lower at Val I-75 at the end of the two-week period (**Table ES-3** and **Figure ES-13**). Predicted salinities for the next two weeks remain within the optimal salinity range (0-10) for tape grass in the upper estuary if S-79 flows are above 450 cfs.

[1] Qui, C., and Y. Wan. 2013. Time series modeling and prediction of salinity in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary. *Water Resources Research* 49:5804-5816.

Red Tide

The FWRI reported on June 19, 2026, that *Karenia brevis*, the Florida red tide dinoflagellate, was not observed at bloom concentrations in any samples collected within the District region.

Water Management Recommendations

Lake stage is in Zone D. Current climatological and hydrological conditions are normal. The LOSOM release guidance suggests up to 2,000 cfs release at S-79 to the Caloosahatchee River Estuary and no releases at S-80 to the St. Lucie Estuary.

Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels

The minimum flows and levels (MFL) for the Caloosahatchee River Estuary is a 30-day moving average flow of 457 cfs or greater at S-79. The current 30-day average flow at S-79 is 432 cfs (**Figure ES-14)** which is an exceedance.

The MFL for the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River is a) flows at Lainhart Dam maintained at 35 cfs or greater and b) the 20-day moving average salinity of 2 or less at River Mile (RM) 9.2. An exceedance occurs when flows decline below 35 cfs for more than 20 consecutive days or when the 20-day moving average salinity at River Mile 9.2 exceeds 2. The current daily average flow at Lainhart Dam is 23 cfs and has been below 35 cfs for 29 consecutive days, which is an exceedance **(Figure ES-15).** The 20-day average salinity at RM 9.2 is 1.1 **(Figure ES-16)**.

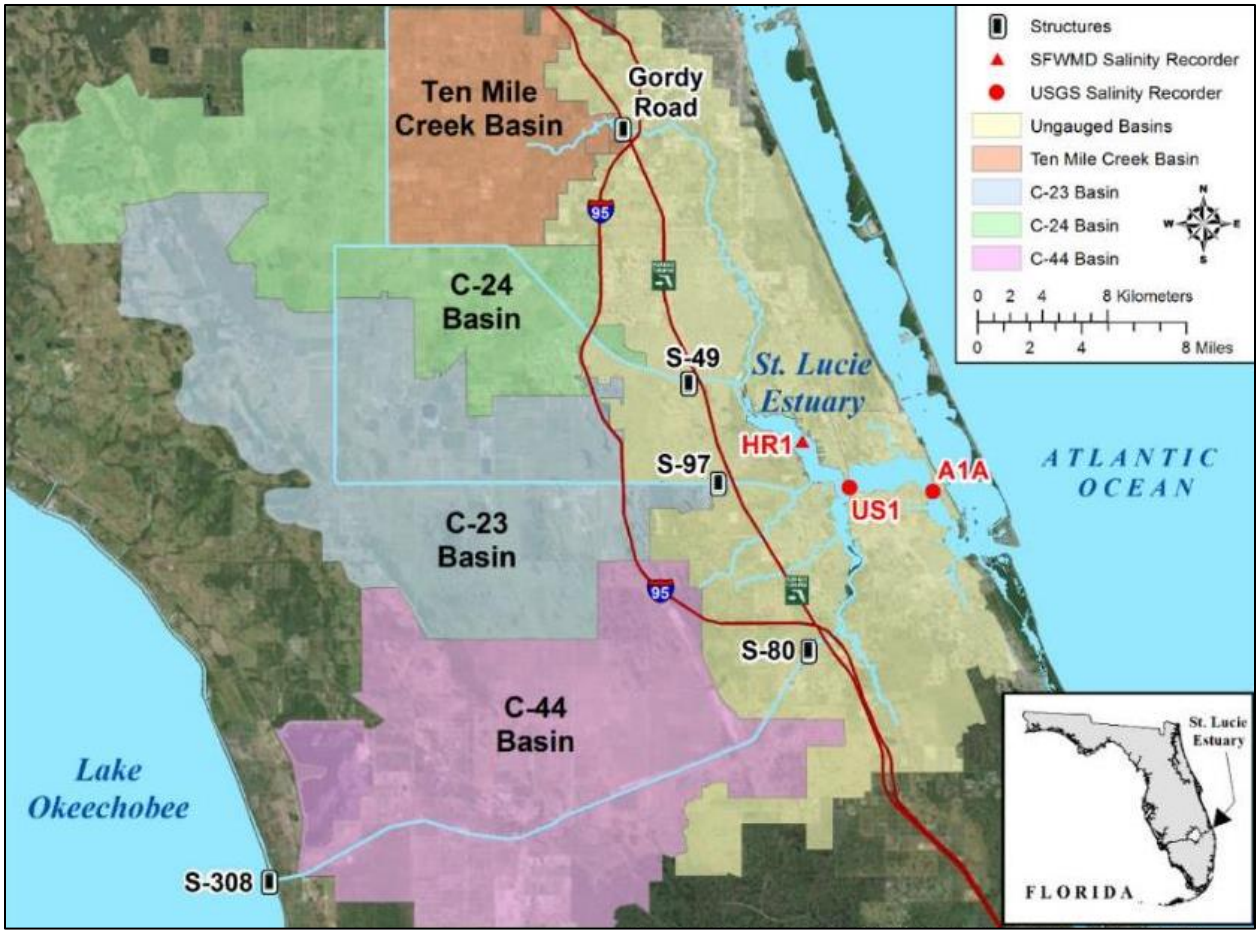

Figure ES-1. Basins, water control structures and salinity monitoring sites in the St. Lucie Estuary.

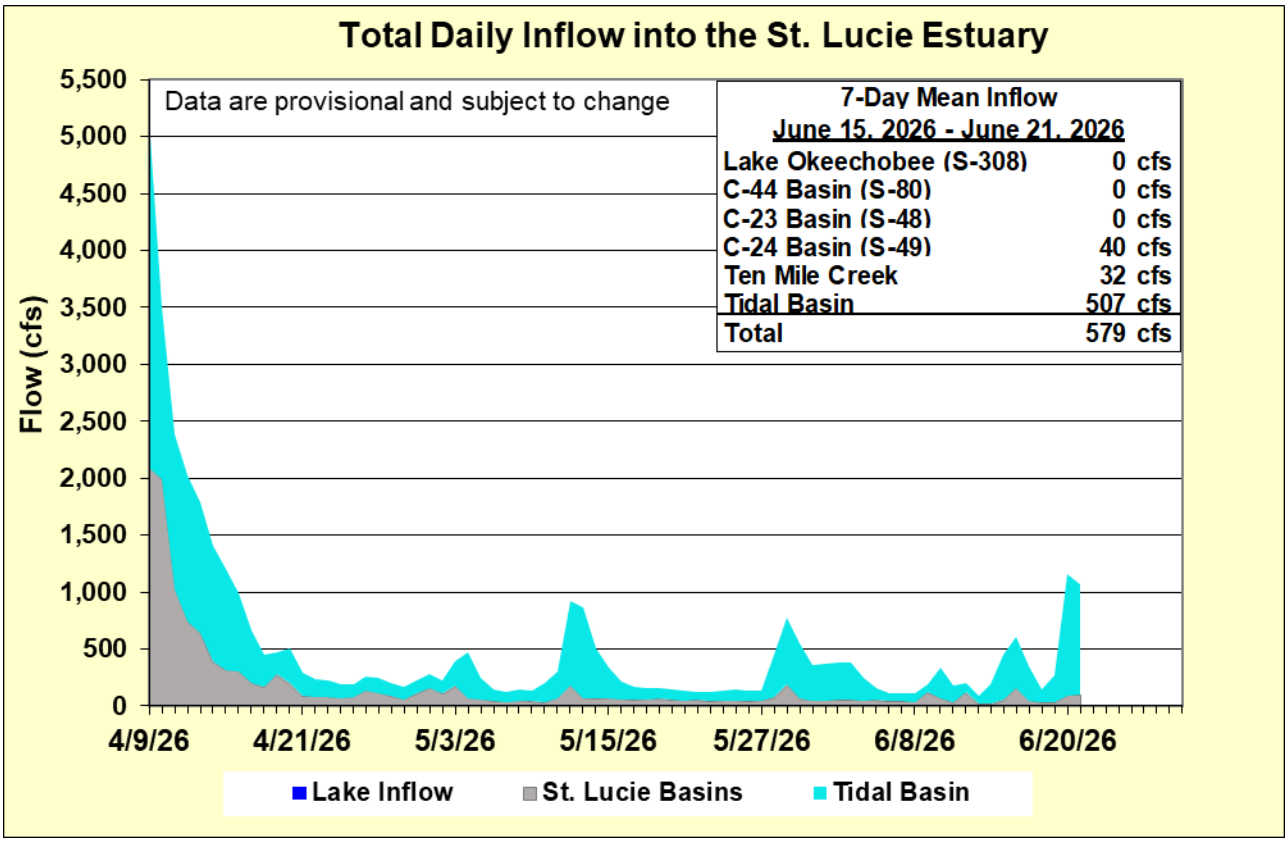

Figure ES-2. Total daily inflows from Lake Okeechobee and runoff from the C-44, C-23, C-24, Ten Mile Creek, and Tidal Basins into the St. Lucie Estuary.

Table ES-1. Seven-day mean salinity at oyster monitoring sites in the St. Lucie Estuary. Current means are in bold font; previous week's means are in parentheses. The envelope reflects the optimum salinity range for adult eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) in the estuary. Data are provisional.

Sampling Site	Surface	Bottom	Optimum Envelope
HR1 (North Fork)	**15.6** (15.5)	**20.0** (18.5)	10.0 – 25.0
US1 Bridge	**21.9** (20.3)	**22.6** (21.6)	10.0 – 25.0
A1A Bridge	**28.4** (27.9)	**29.9** (29.4)	10.0 – 25.0

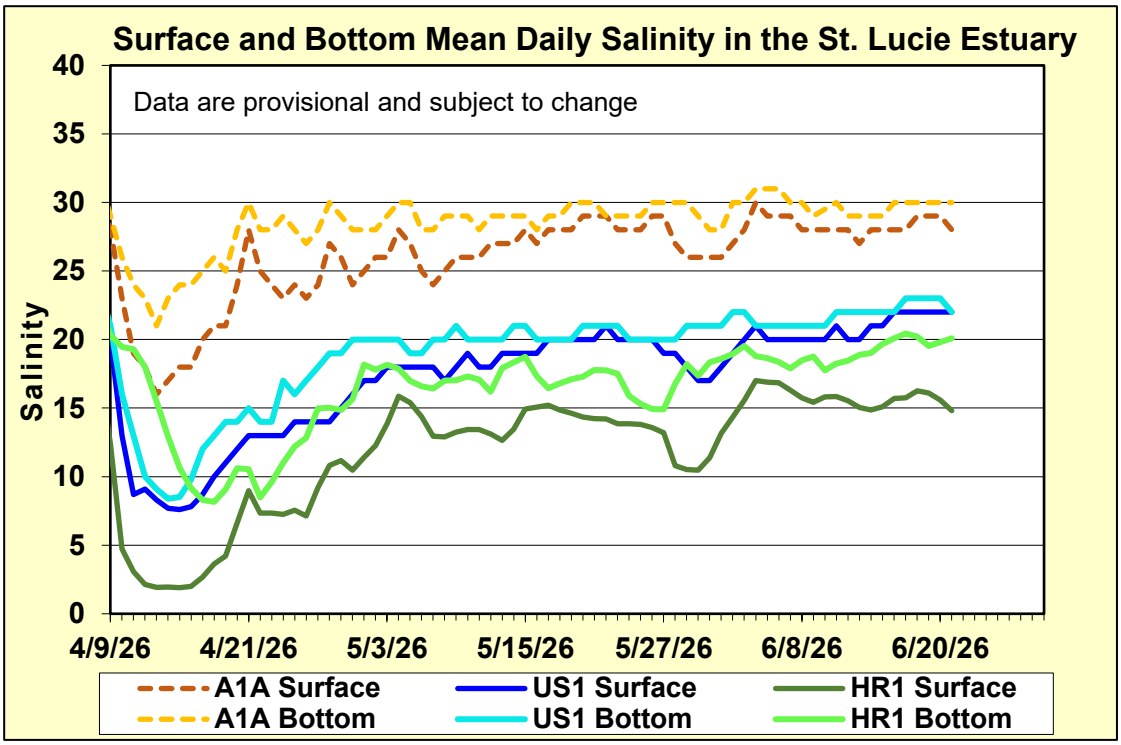

Figure ES-3. Mean daily salinity at the A1A, US1, and HR1 sites in the St. Lucie Estuary.

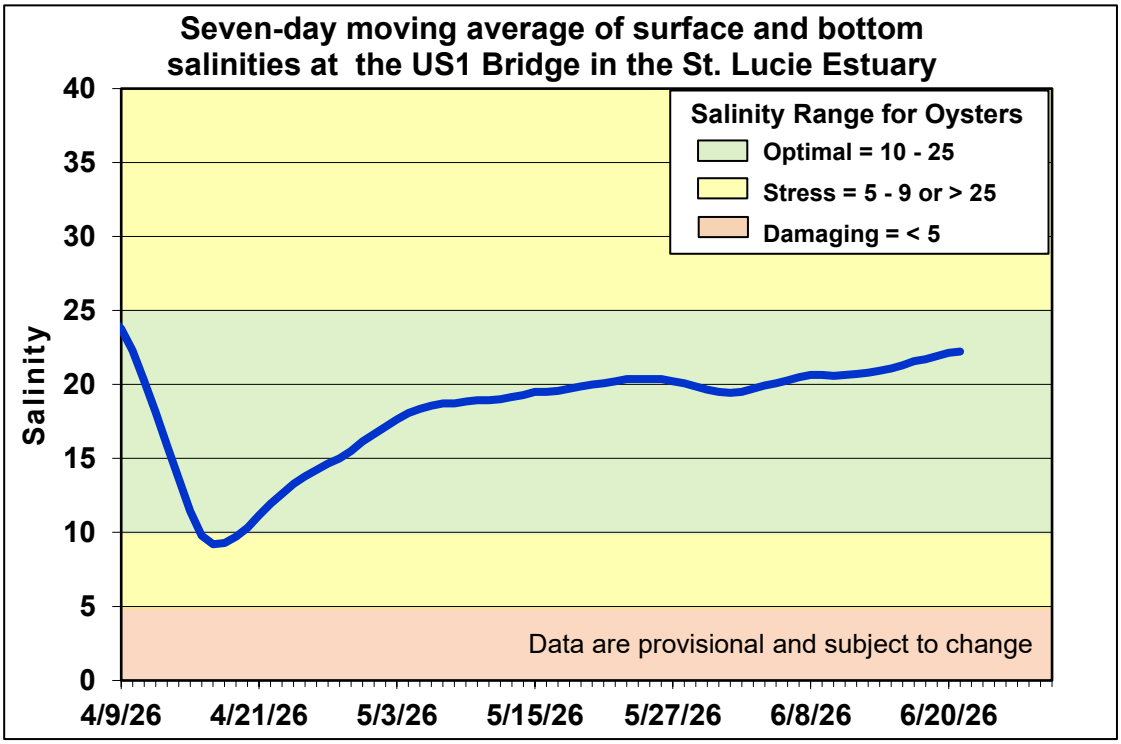

Figure ES-4. Seven-day moving average of the surface and bottom salinities at the US1 Bridge in the St. Lucie Estuary.

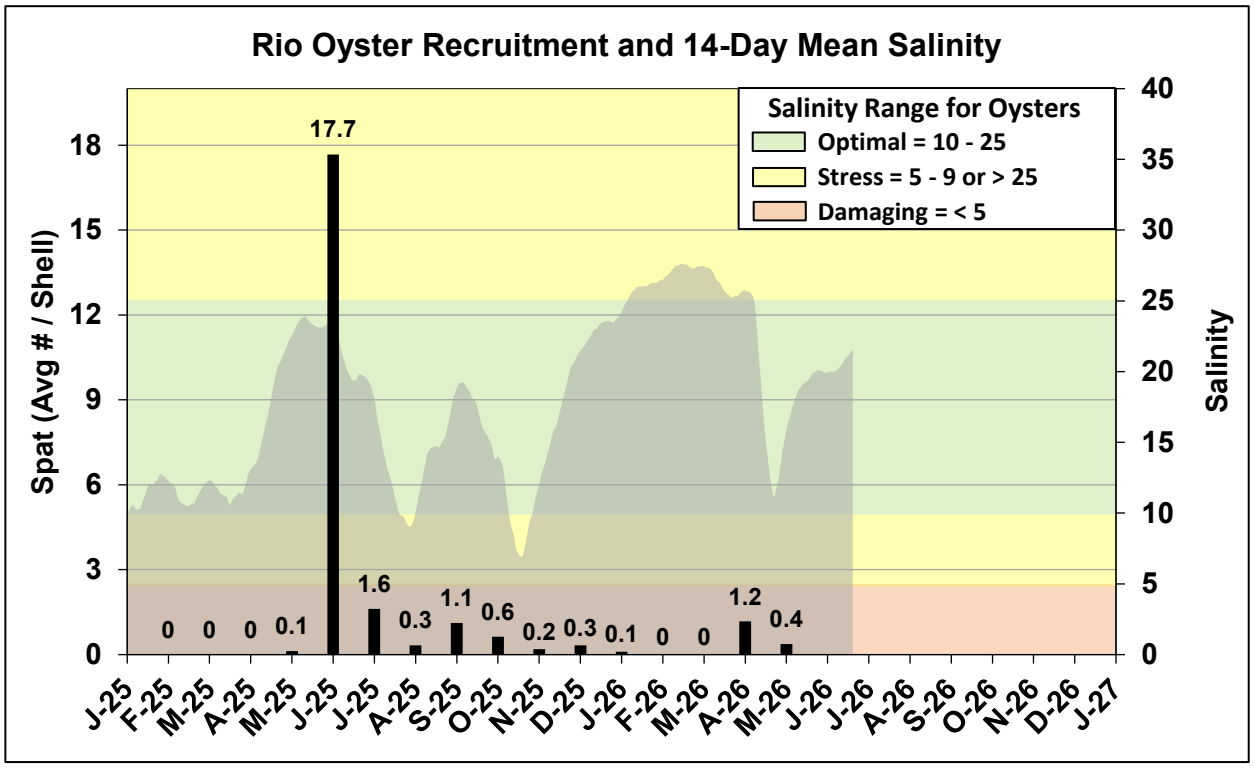

Figure ES-5. Mean oyster recruitment at the Rio oyster monitoring station and 14-day mean salinity at US1 Bridge.

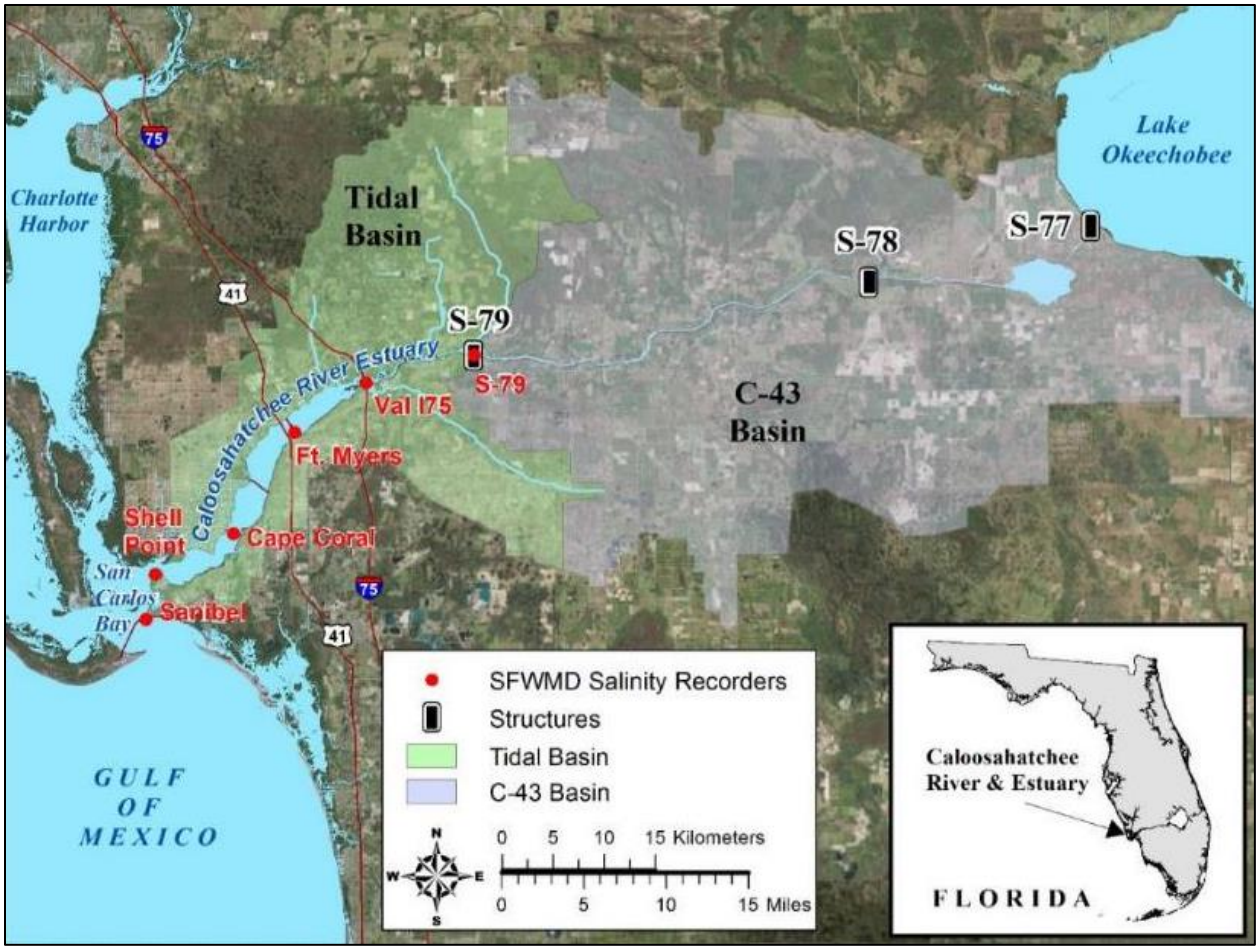

Figure ES-6. Basins, water control structures, and salinity monitoring sites in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary.

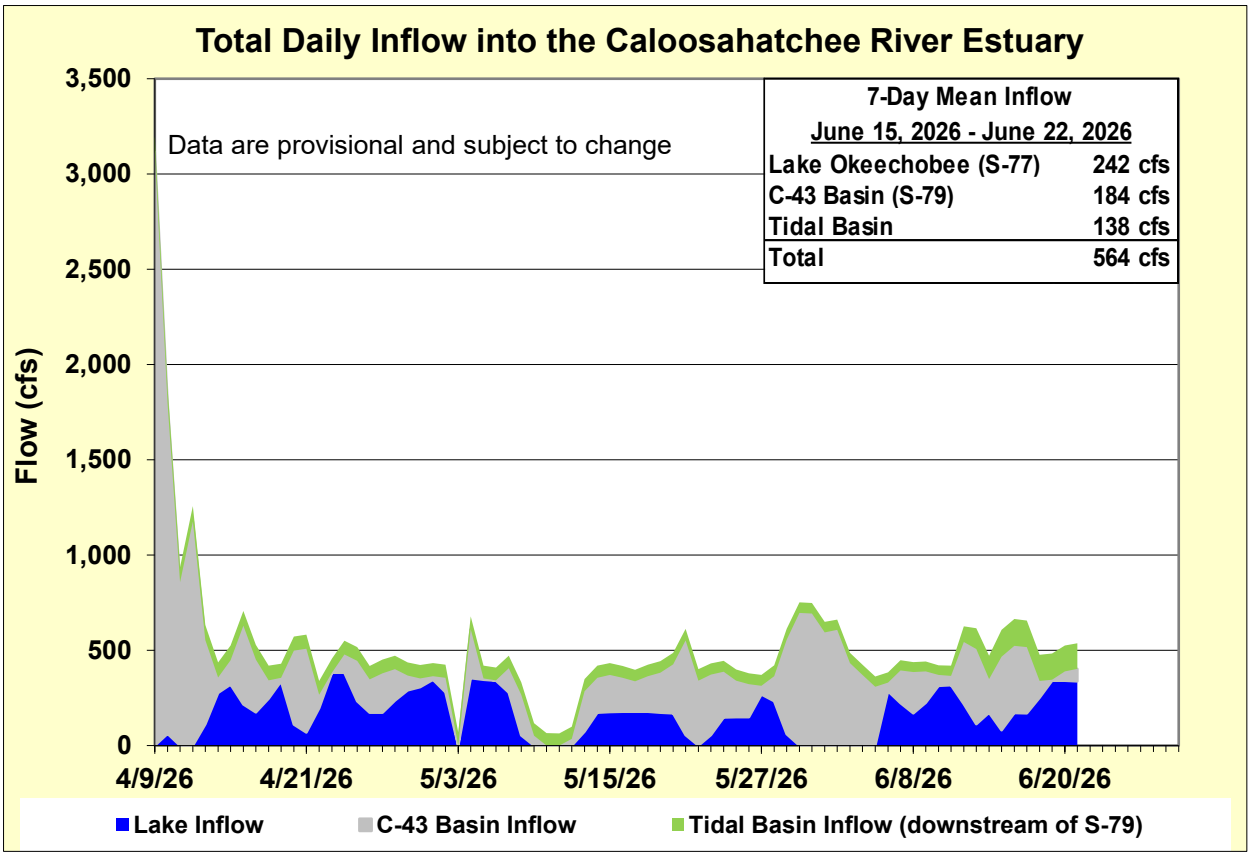

Figure ES-7. Total daily inflows from Lake Okeechobee, and runoff from the C-43 and Tidal basins into the Caloosahatchee River Estuary.

Table ES-2. Seven-day mean salinity at six monitoring sites in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary. Current means are in bold font; previous week's means are in parentheses. The envelope in the upper estuary sites is for the protection of tape grass and the envelope in the lower estuary is the optimum salinity range for adult eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*). Data are provisional.

Sampling Site	Surface	Bottom	Optimum Envelope
S-79 (Franklin Lock)	**7.1** (10.2)	**7.1** (11.1)	0.0 – 10.0
Val I-75	**9.5** (10.9)	**10.8** (14.1)	0.0 – 10.0
Fort Myers Yacht Basin	**17.2** (17.8)	**17.3** (20.2)	0.0 – 10.0
Cape Coral	**24.3** (23.0)	**24.9** (25.0)	10.0 – 25.0
Shell Point	**34.5** (32.9)	**34.7** (33.4)	10.0 – 25.0
Sanibel	**36.3** (35.6)	**37.0** (36.7)	10.0 – 25.0

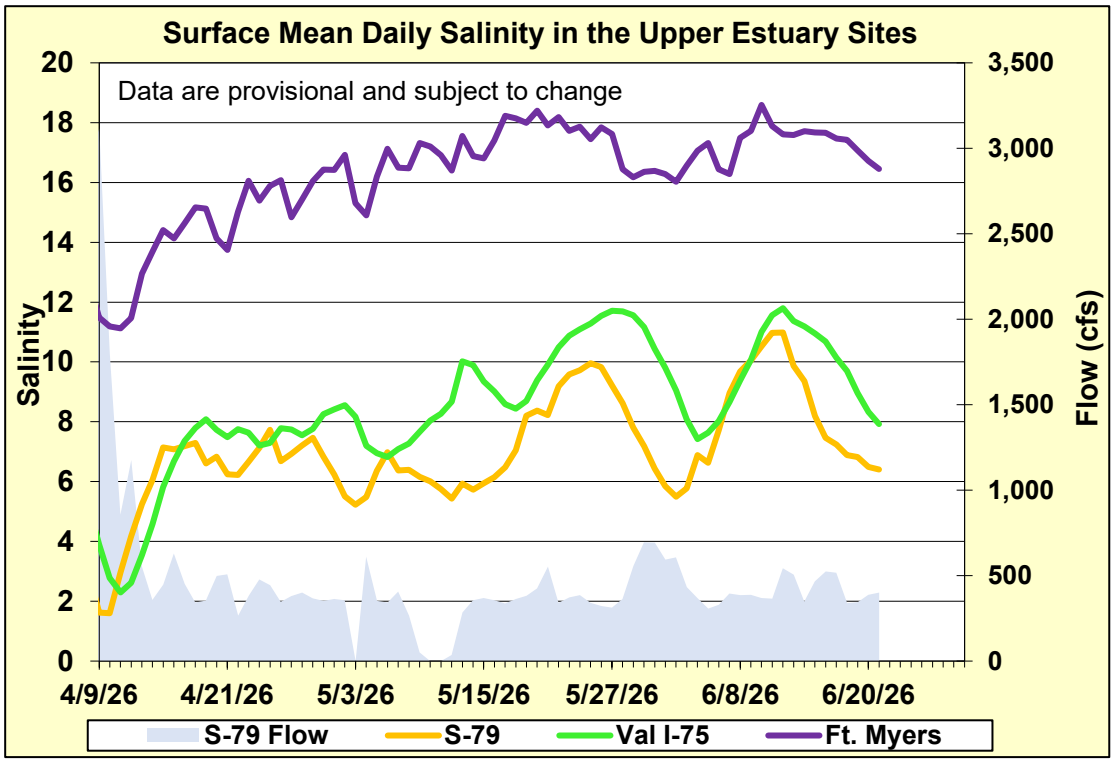

Figure ES-8. Mean daily salinity at upper Caloosahatchee River Estuary monitoring sites and mean daily flow at S-79.

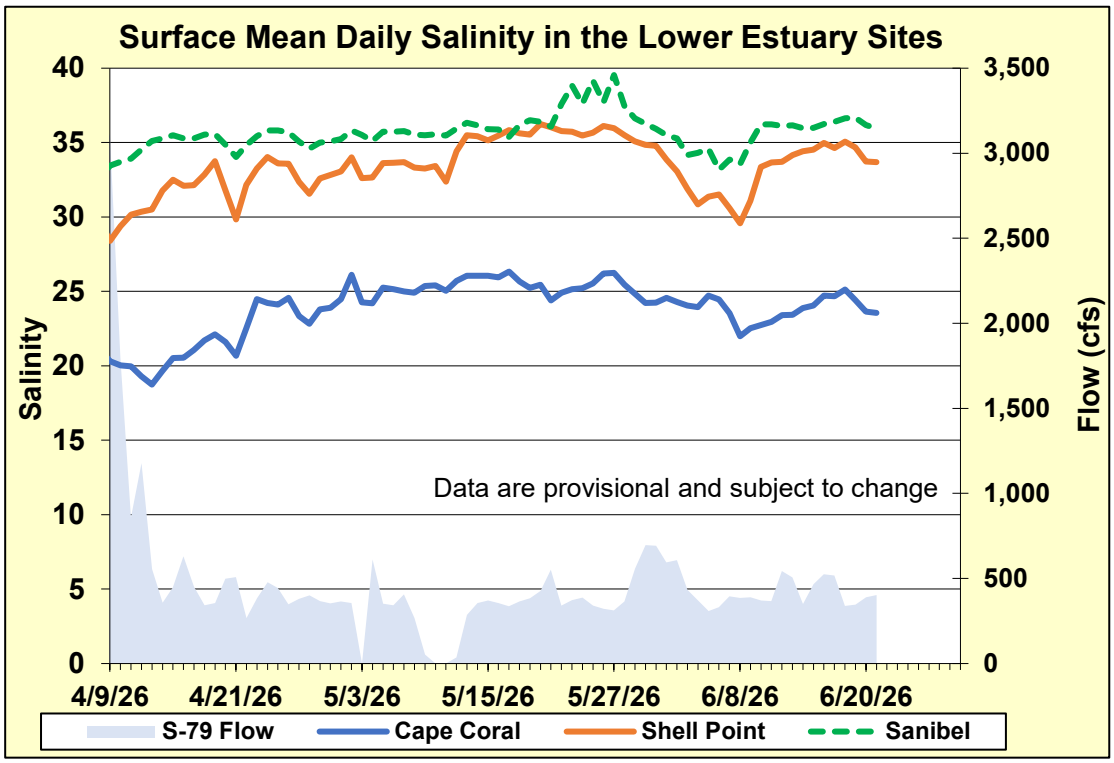

Figure ES-9. Mean daily surface salinity at lower Caloosahatchee River Estuary monitoring sites and mean daily flow at S-79.

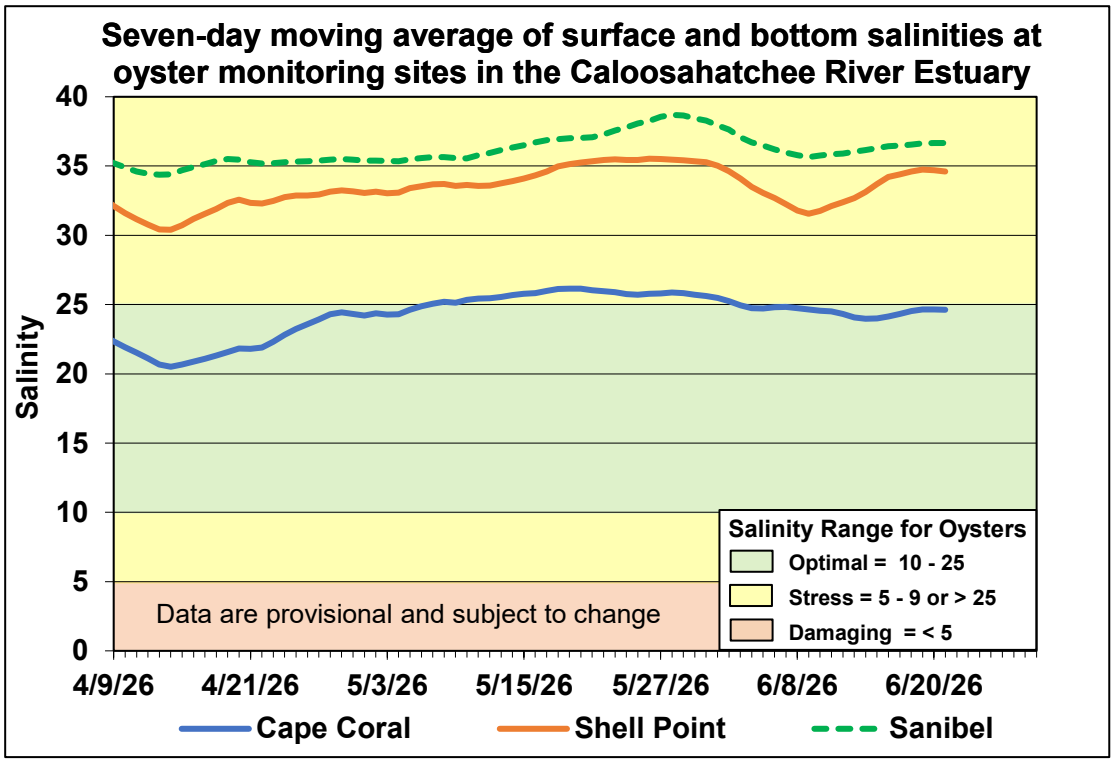

Figure ES-10. Seven-day moving average of surface and bottom salinities at Cape Coral, Shell Point, and Sanibel monitoring sites in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary.

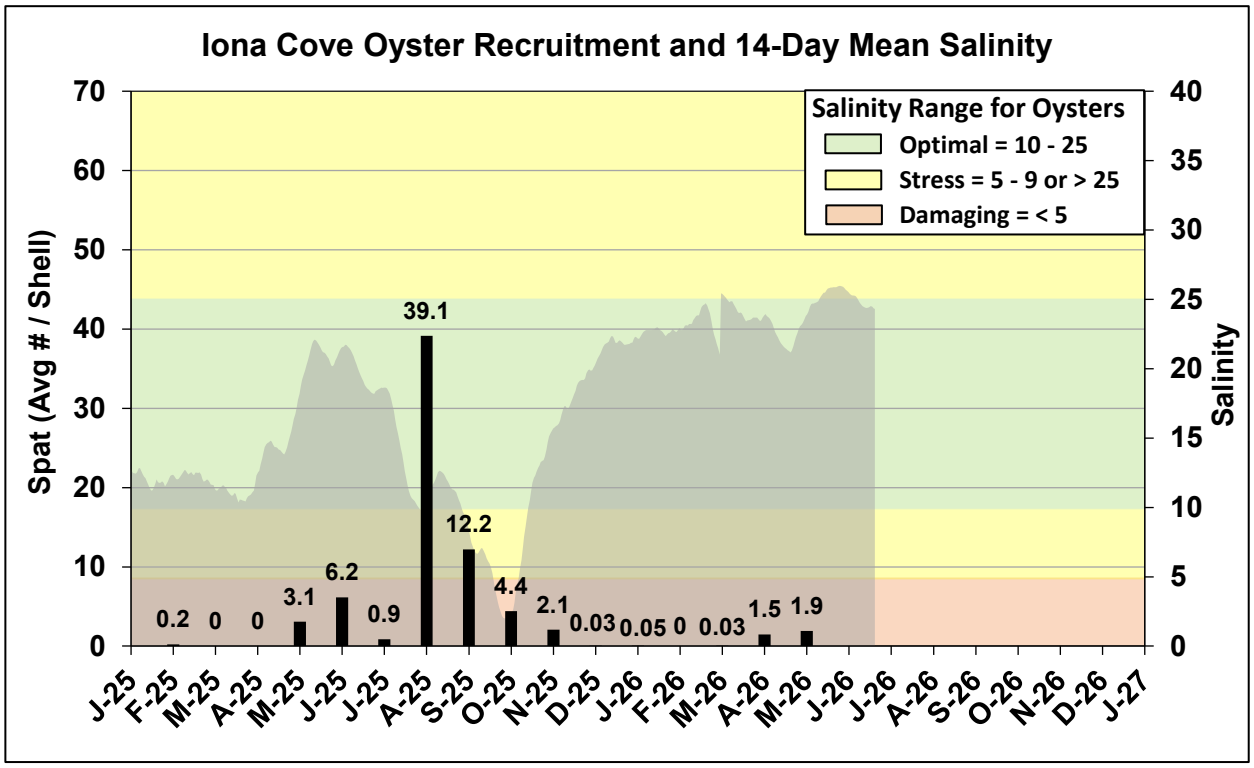

Figure ES-11. Mean oyster recruitment at the Iona Cove oyster monitoring station and 14-day mean salinity at Cape Coral.

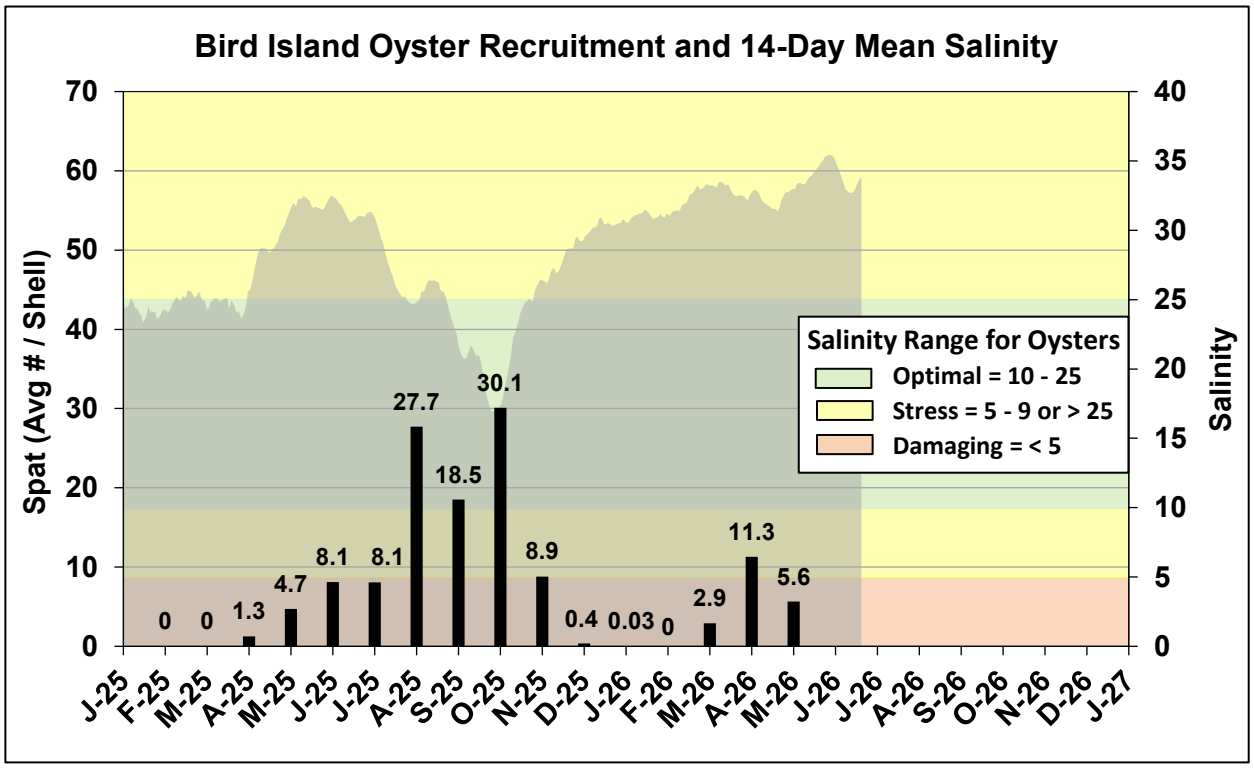

Figure ES-12. Mean oyster recruitment at the Bird Island oyster monitoring station and 14-day mean salinity at Shell Point.

Table ES-3. Predicted salinity at Val I-75 in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary at the end of the forecast period for various S-79 flow release scenarios.

Scenario	Simulated S-79 Flow (cfs)	Tidal Basin Runoff (cfs)	Daily Salinity	30-Day Mean Salinity
A	450	46	10.4	9.8
B	750	46	7.0	8.9
C	1,000	46	5.8	8.3
D	1,500	46	3.4	7.4
F	2,000	46	1.7	6.7

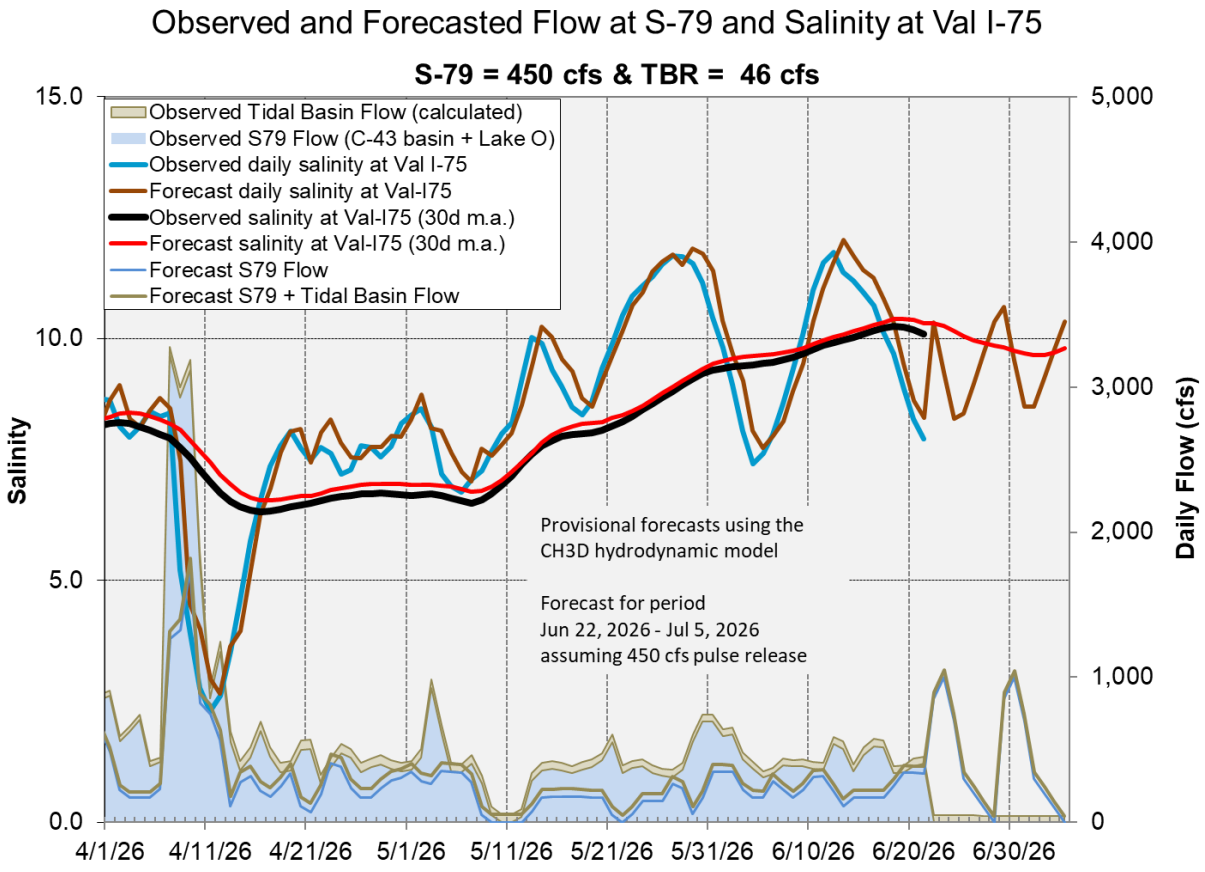

Figure ES-13. Surface salinity forecast at the Val I-75 site assuming a 450 cfs pulse release at S-79.

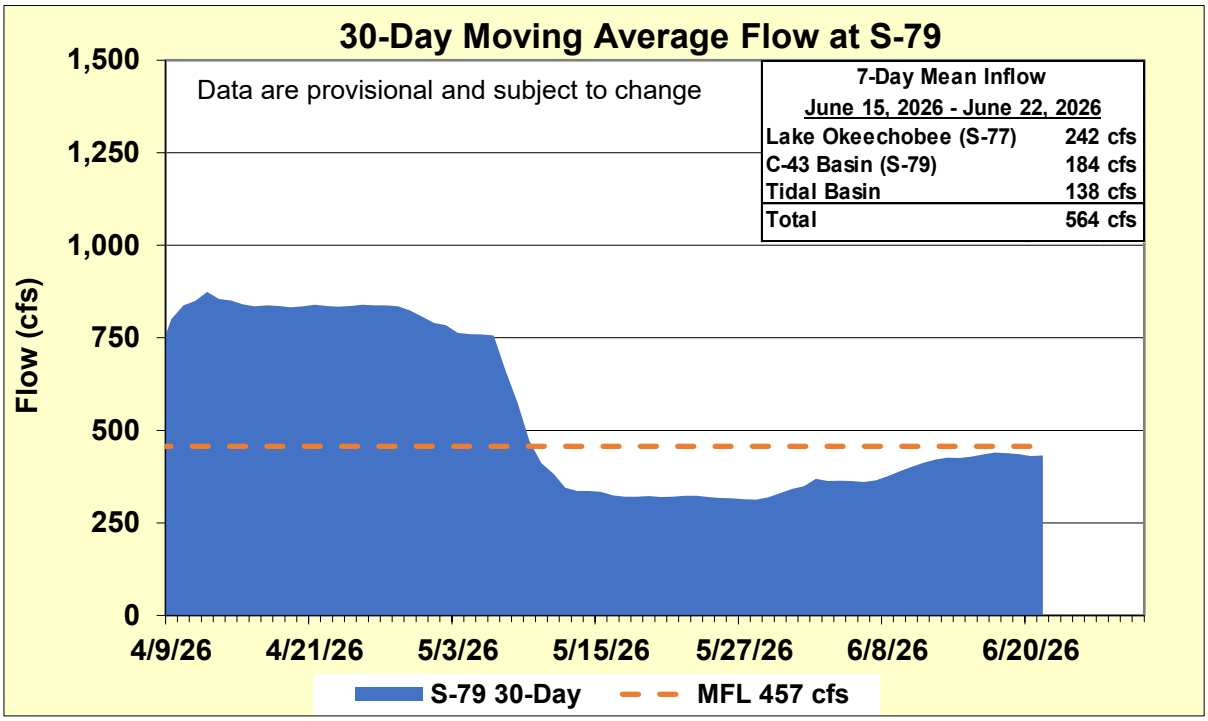

Figure ES-14. 30-day moving average flow at S-79 for the Caloosahatchee River Estuary Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels (MFL).

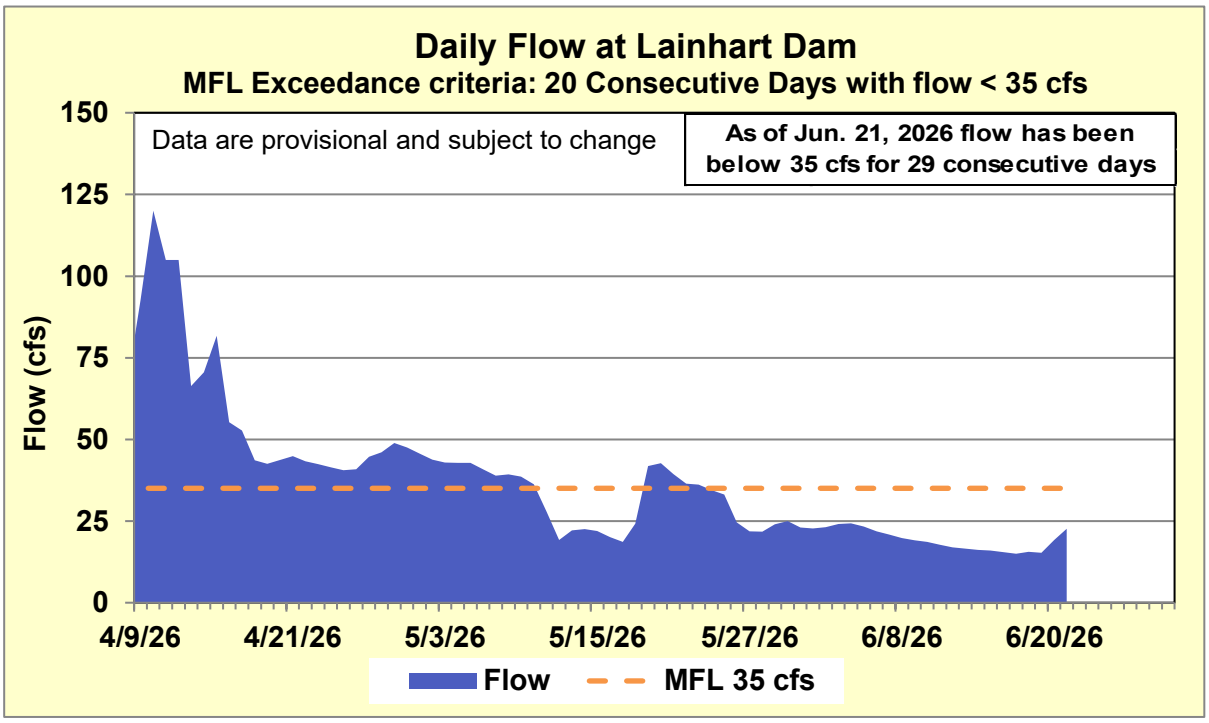

Figure ES-15. Average daily flow (cfs) at Lainhart Dam for the Loxahatchee River Estuary Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels (MFL).

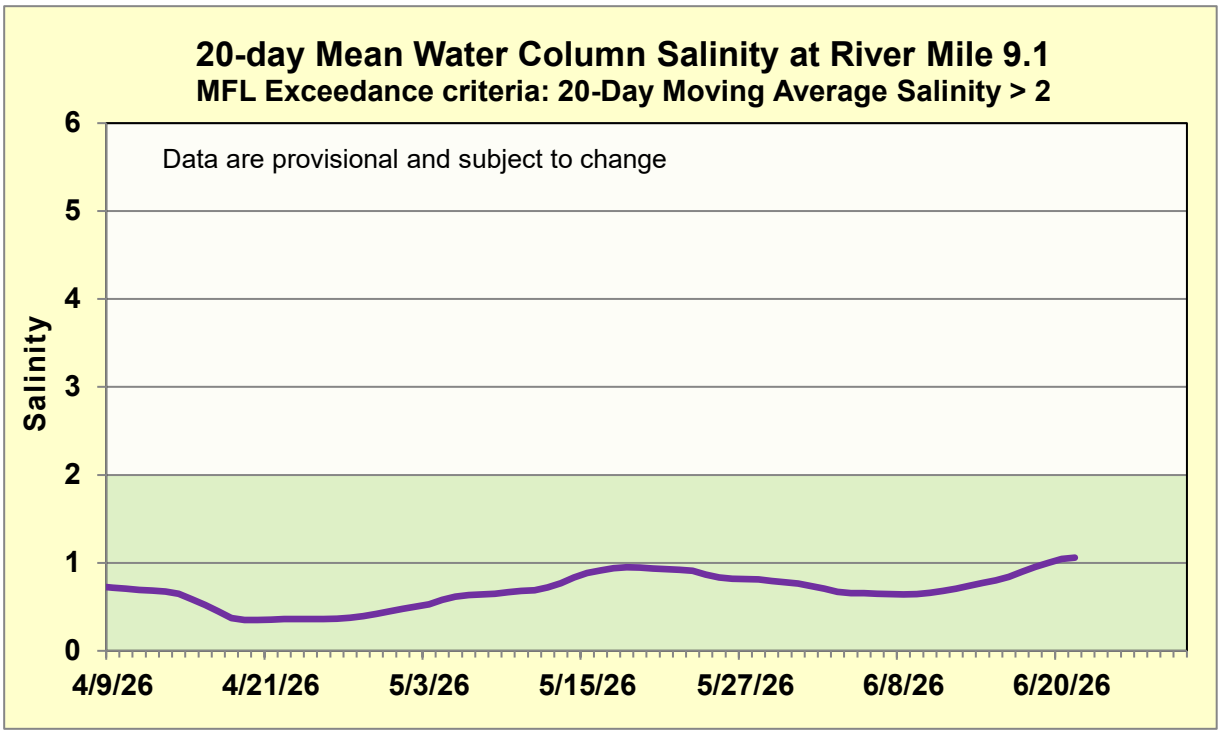

Figure ES-16. 20-day moving average salinity at Lainhart Dam for the Loxahatchee River Estuary Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels (MFL).

Stormwater Treatment Areas

STA-1E: STA-1E Central Flow-way is offline for construction activities. An operational restriction is in place in the Western Flow-way for post-construction vegetation grow-in. STA-1E Central Flow-way contains nests of Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected species. Online treatment cells are at or near target stage. The 365-day PLRs for the Western and Eastern Flow-way are below 1.0 g/m^2/year (**Figure S-2**).

STA-1W: STA-1W Eastern Flow-way is offline for vegetation management activities. Treatment cells are at or slightly above target stage. The Eastern Flow-way contains nests of Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected species. Vegetation in the Western and Eastern Flow-ways is highly stressed. The 365-day PLRs for the Northern and Western Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m^2/year (**Figure S-2**).

STA-2: Treatment cells are at or slightly above target stage. An operational restriction is in place in Flow-way 2 for vegetation management activities. Flow-ways 1 and 4 contain nests of Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected species. The 365-day PLRs for all Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m^2/year (**Figure S-3).**

STA-3/4: An operational restriction is in place in the Eastern Flow-way for vegetation management activities. Most treatment cells are at or slightly above target stage. Vegetation in the Central Flow-way is highly stressed. The 365-day PLRs for the Eastern, Central, and Western Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m^2/year (**Figure S-3**).

STA-5/6: Treatment cells are at or below target stage. All treatment cells have highly stressed vegetation conditions. The 365-day PLRs for all Flow-ways are below 1.0 g/m^2/year. (**Figure S-4**).

For definitions on STA operational language see glossary following figures.

Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas - STAs

- Total WY2027 inflows to STAs (5/1/2026 to 6/21/2026): ~29,000 ac-ft

- Lake Okeechobee releases to FEBs/STAs
  - 6/15/2026 to 6/21/2026: 1,900 ac-ft
  - WY 2027: ~ 7,800 ac-ft

- Extensive vegetation management activities underway to address stressed and highly stressed vegetation in EAV cells
- MBTA protected species nesting in:
  - STA-1E Cells 4N & 4S
  - STA-1W Cells 1A, 1B
  - STA-2 Cells 1 & 6
- All treatment cells are at or near target water depth

Estimated Inflow and Outflow Volumes
Jun. 15th, 2026 - Jun. 21st, 2026 *Includes preliminary data*

	Total Inflow (acre-feet)	Total Outflow (acre-feet)
STA-1E	1,100	150
STA-1W	1,300	250
STA-2	2,300	500
STA-3/4	1,700	100
STA-5/6	0	0

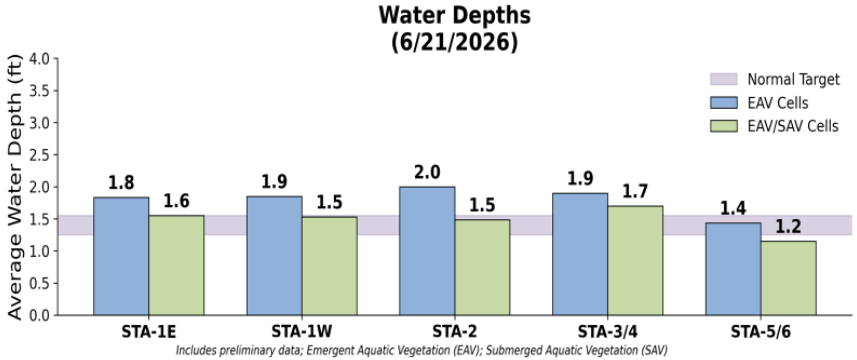

Figure S-1. STA depths and flow volumes

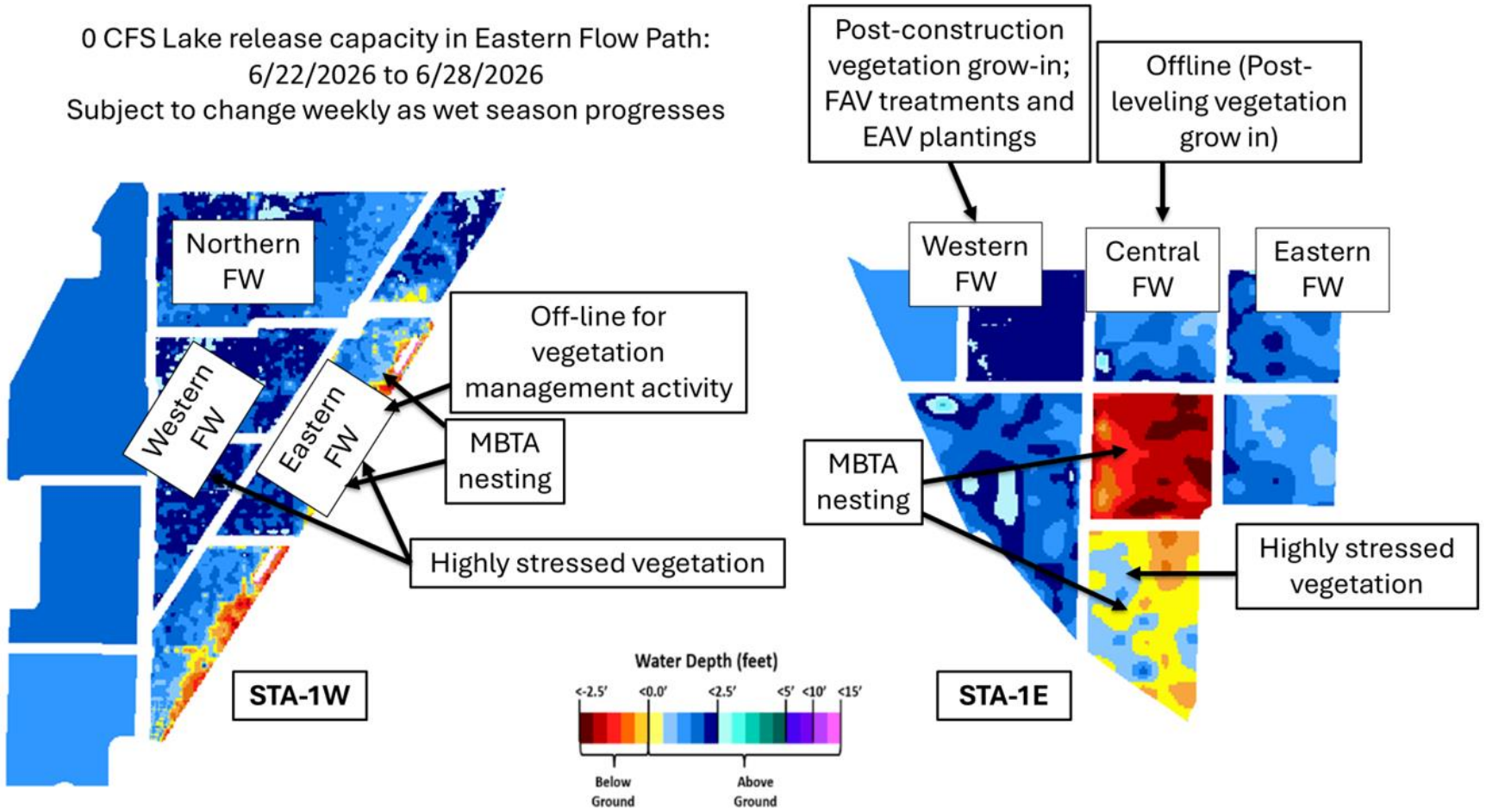

Figure S-2. Eastern Flow Path Weekly Status Report

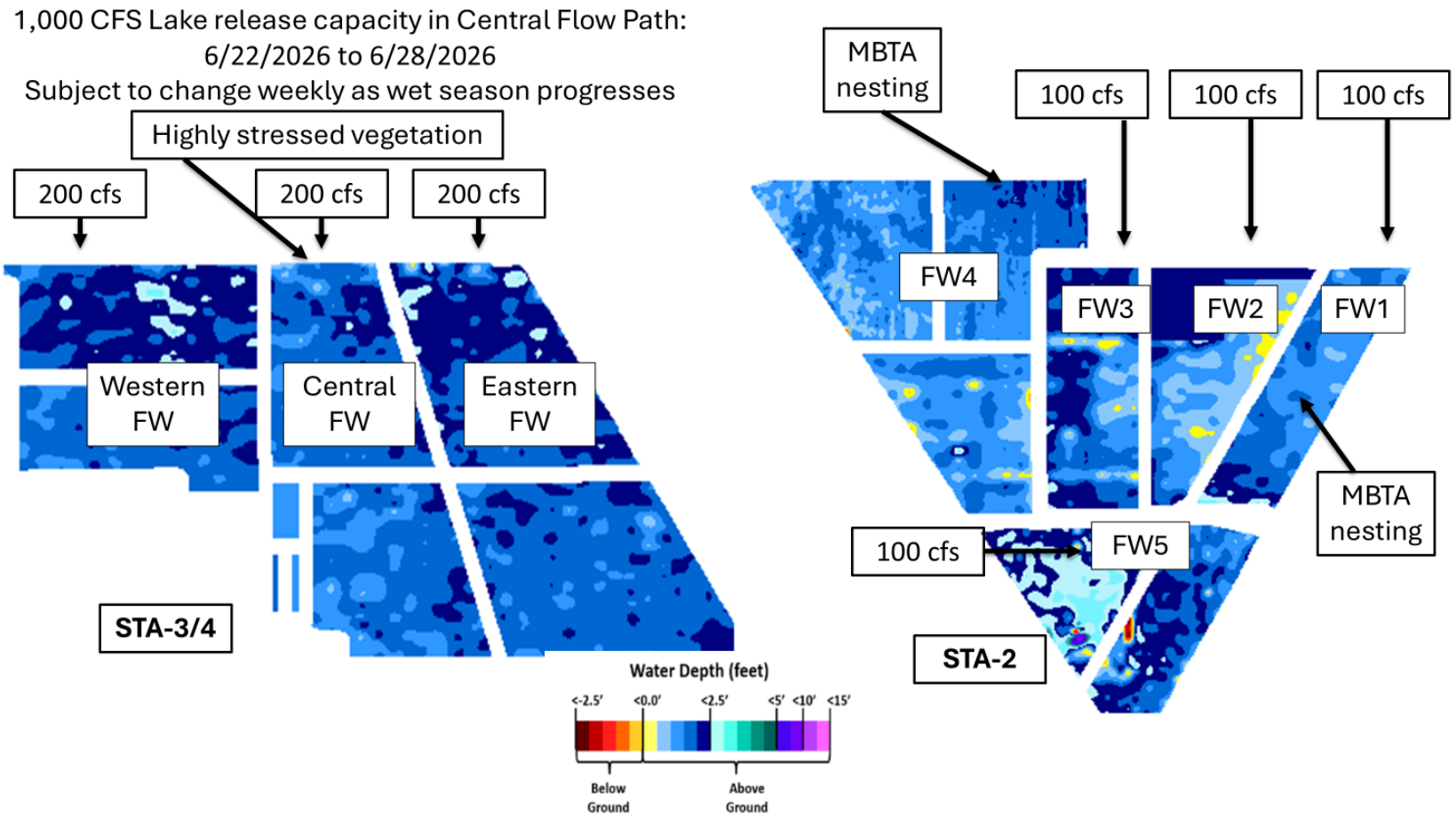

Figure S-3. Central Flow Path Weekly Status Report

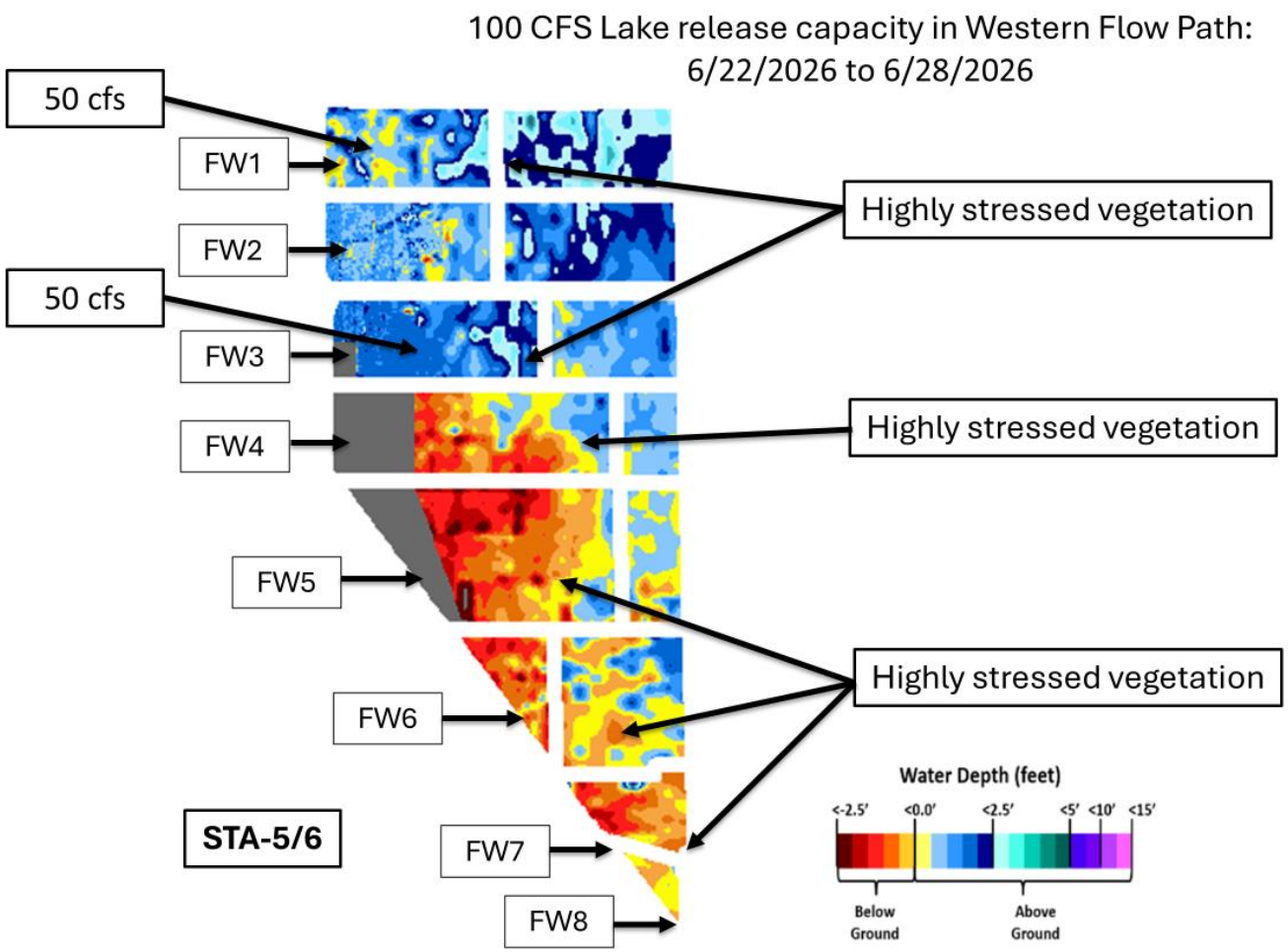

Figure S-4. Western Flow Path Weekly Status Report

Basic Concepts and Definitions for STA Weekly Status Report

- **Inflow**: Sum of flow volume at all inflow structures to an STA.
- **Lake Inflow**: Portion of the STA total inflow volume that originates from Lake Okeechobee.
- **Outflow**: Sum of flow volume at outflow structures from an STA.
- **Total Phosphorus** (TP): Total mass of phosphorus in all its forms; including particulate, dissolved, etc.
- **Inflow Concentration**: TP concentration is the mass of TP in micrograms per liter of water, µg/L or ppb. Inflow concentration refers to the flow-weighted mean TP from all inflow structures over a period of time.
- **Outflow Concentration**: The flow-weighted mean TP from all outflow structures over a period of time. The outflow concentration represents the reduction of inflow TP achieved by STA treatment of the inflow water.
- **WQBEL**: The STA outflow concentration that is required upon completion of the Restoration Strategies projects by December 2025. The outflow concentration shall not exceed 13 ppb as an annual flow weighted mean in more than 3 out of 5 water years on a rolling basis and shall not exceed 19 ppb as an annual flow weighted in any water year.
- **Flow-Way** (FW): One or more treatment cells connected in series. Cells typically have emergent aquatic vegetation (EAV) in the front portion of the flow-way followed by a mix of EAV and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)
- **Vegetation Status**: Healthy means the vegetation condition is good and will allow the STA to perform as designed. Stressed means the vegetation is showing signs of poor health, such as browning or areas of vegetation die-off, or the cell contains undesirable vegetation such as floating exotic vegetation requiring treatment. The TP reduction capability of the STA is affected when the vegetation condition is poor.
- **Phosphorus Loading Rate** (PLR): Mass of inflow TP in grams, divided by total treatment area of STA in square meters, per year. In general, a 365-day value of less than 1.0 is needed for an STA to perform optimally. A PLR of 2.0 is considered very high and a PLR of 3.0 is considered extremely high. The TP reduction capability of the STA is affected when the PLR is high, very high and extremely high.
- **Online**: Online status means the FW can receive and treat inflow.
- **Online with Restriction**: The FW can receive and treat inflow, but the amount of flow or water level may be limited temporarily. For example, a vegetation rehabilitation effort may require reduced flows through an area while the new plants are establishing, or nesting by protected species may require a certain water level not to be exceeded.
- **Offline**: The FW is unable to receive and treat inflow due to repairs, construction, or other prohibitive reasons.
- **Depth**: Difference between the average surface water level in a cell and the average ground elevation in that cell. Target depths, or depths between flow events, are between 1.25 ft to 1.5 ft. As depth approaches or drops below zero, an increasing percentage of the cell is considered dry and STA conditions deteriorate. An increase in depth above target depth is expected with increasing flow. However, as depth increases much above the target depth and is sustained over a period of time, it can be detrimental to vegetation health and overall STA treatment performance.
- **Note**: The data provided in this summary report were developed using a combination of provisional and quality-assured flow and water quality data. In some cases, best professional judgment was used to estimate missing data and revise questionable data. Values provided are not considered final but are appropriate for use in STA operational decision-making.

Everglades

Water Conservation Area

Regulation Schedules

WCA-1: Stage increased at the 1-8C gauge and remained above the regulation line last week by 0.35 feet on Monday, June 22, 2026 (**Figure EV-1**).

WCA-2A: Last week's water depth at the 2-17 gauge increased slightly. Stages at S11BHW gauge increased steadily and was 0.39 feet above the water supply line on Monday (**Figure EV-2**).

WCA-3A: The 3-gauge average remains well within Zone B, increasing over the week. On Monday, stages were approximately 1.5 feet NGVD below the Zone A regulation line. Stage at Gauge 62 (NW corner) increased last week and was below the rising Upper Schedule line by 0.65 feet on Monday (**Figures EV-3** and **EV-4**).

Water Depths

The SFWDAT model output for June 21, 2026, illustrates that WCA-1 and WCA-2A are drier compared to one month ago. A large portion of central WCA-2A is now below ground. Significantly below ground conditions remain across WCA-3. Water depths remain low across Big Cypress National Preserve (BCNP), WCA-3, and are well below average across the majority of WCA-1 and WCA-2A impacting soil, flora, and fauna. WCA-3A and -3B remain very dry, having received the least amount of rainfall in the system in 2026, severely limiting wading bird nesting and foraging. In Everglades National Park (ENP), both Taylor Slough (TS) and Shark River Slough (SRS) show more connection from north to south compared to a month ago. TS shows more connection to the coast while SRS is limited. Comparing current conditions to water depths over the last twenty years, WCA-1 water depths are below average with some ponding occurring in the SE portion of that basin where conditions are above average. WCA-2A water depths are well below average in the central and north and just above average in the extreme southeast where some ponding is still occurring. BCNP water depths continue to be below average in the 10^{th} percentile across most of the preserve, with some deeper conditions in the northeast. Within WCA-3A and -3B, water depths remain below the 10^{th} percentile. Only a small portion of northwestern WCA-3A is near the 30^{th} percentile. Recurring below average water depths in the central Everglades are illustrating the system level importance of maintaining water in the sloughs and low water refugia. Conditions in most of ENP are now below average, with exception in a portion of the southwest coast and the Taylor Slough region, which remain above average. See **Figures EV-5** through **EV-6**.

Taylor Slough and Florida Bay

All stages decreased across TS over the past week, with an average decrease of 0.25 feet for the week. Changes ranged from −0.76 feet at E112 in the northern slough to −0.05 feet at EPSW in the C-111 area (**Figure EV-7** and **Figure EV-8**). Stage at Taylor Slough Bridge (TSB) is negative, indicating a lack of water at the head of the slough. TS water levels are now below the recent average (WY1993-2016) for this time of year by 4.3

inches compared to before the Florida Bay Initiative (starting in 2017), a decrease of 4.8 inches relative to last week. Stages at Craighead Pond (CP) and TSB are below the estimated historical average by 0.82 and 2.42 feet, respectively.

Average salinity in Florida Bay was 37.8, an increase of 1.1 from last week. Salinity changes ranged from −1.0 at Johnson Key (JK) in the western region to +3.5 at Joe Bay (JB) in the eastern nearshore region (**Figure EV-7**). Salinity remains above the estimated historical average and within the WY2001-2016 Interquartile Range (IQR) for all three regions (**Figure EV-9**). Salinities in the central and western regions are near and above the hypersalinity threshold, respectively. Bay-wide salinity is above its recent average (WY1993-2016) for this time of year by 5.2, an increase of 1.6 from last week.

Salinity at the Taylor River (TR) station in the mangrove zone (tracked for the Florida Bay MFL) was 24.0, an increase of 6.7 from last week (**Figure EV-10**). The 365-day moving sum of flow from the five major creeks (McCormick Creek, Taylor River, Mud Creek, Trout Creek, West Highway Creek) was unable to be assessed due to missing data.

Average rainfall across Taylor Slough and Florida Bay was 0.03 inches for the week, based on the 18 gauges used for this report. Rainfall ranged from 0.00 inches at seven stations to 0.16 inches at Duck Key (DK) in the eastern region (**Figure EV-11**). Wind directions and speeds in Florida Bay ranged from 0.9 mph E on June 20th to 14.8 mph NE on June 21st (**Figure EV-11**).

The Taylor River, Mud Creek, and West Highway Creek flow stations are currently offline until further notice, so data from all five major creeks are unable to be assessed. Based on the available data from Trout and McCormick Creeks, average daily flow totaled −94 acre-feet, with net negative flows for the week. Total daily creek flow ranged from −862 acre-feet on June 16th to 1,170 acre-feet on June 20th (**Figure EV-12**). Average daily flow from Alligator Creek was −49 acre-feet, with net negative flows for the week (**Figure EV-12**).

Implications/considerations for water management.

- Due to the current drought, slower recessions and more ascensions would help to protect the wetland ecology of the Everglades from damaging, continuing dry conditions.
    - With continued below average precipitation, conserving water within the WCAs, especially in WCA-3A and -3B, will be ecologically beneficial.
- Freshwater input into Taylor Slough and the C-111 basin could help moderate salinities and support recovery of estuarine conditions in Florida Bay.
- Conserving water in the WCAs while providing freshwater input to the sloughs of ENP requires careful consideration of a balance between the upstream and downstream ecological needs of the system. Individual regional recommendations can be found in **Table EV-2**.

Table EV-1. Previous week's rainfall and water depth changes in Everglades basins.

Everglades Region	Rainfall (inches)	Stage change (feet)
WCA-1	0.95	+0.12
WCA-2A	0.68	+0.03
WCA-2B	0.50	−0.10
WCA-3A	1.58	+0.03
WCA-3B	1.54	+0.12
ENP	0.61	+0.08

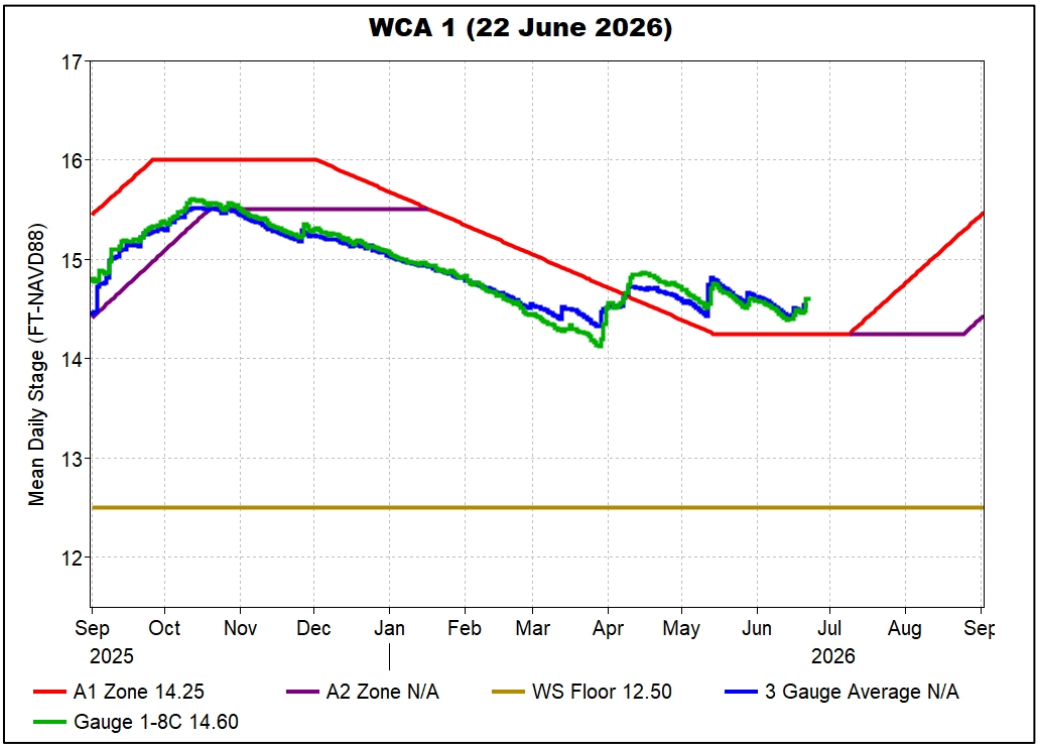

Figure EV-1. WCA-1 stage hydrographs and regulation schedule.

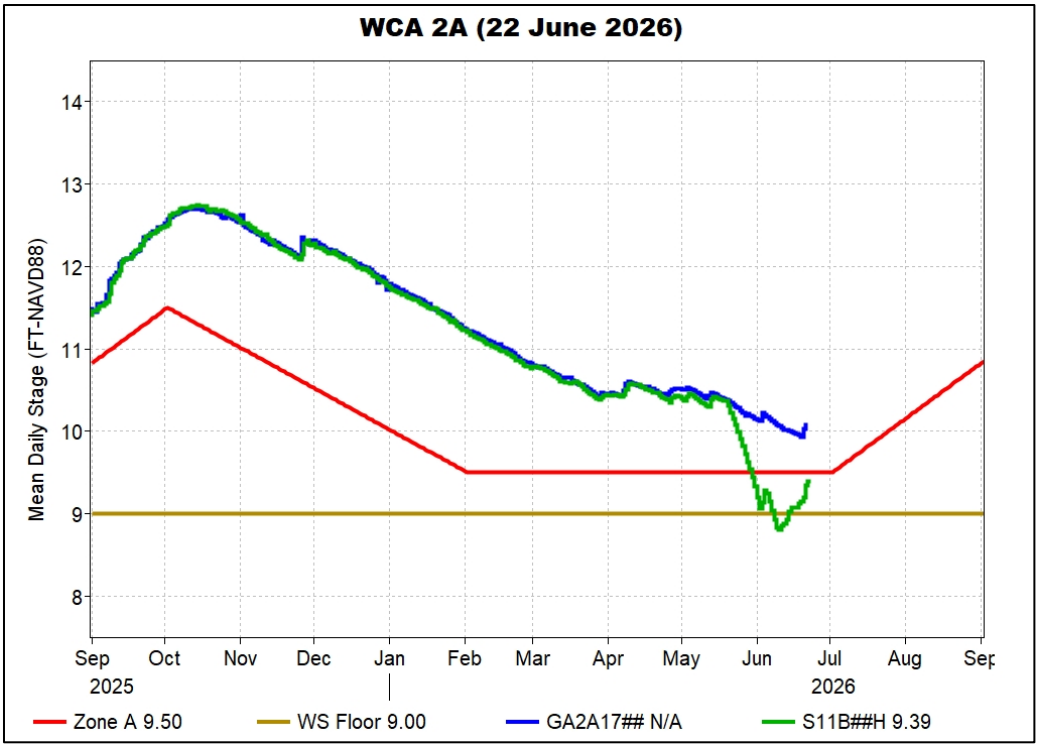

Figure EV-2. WCA-2A stage hydrographs and regulation schedule. 12.04

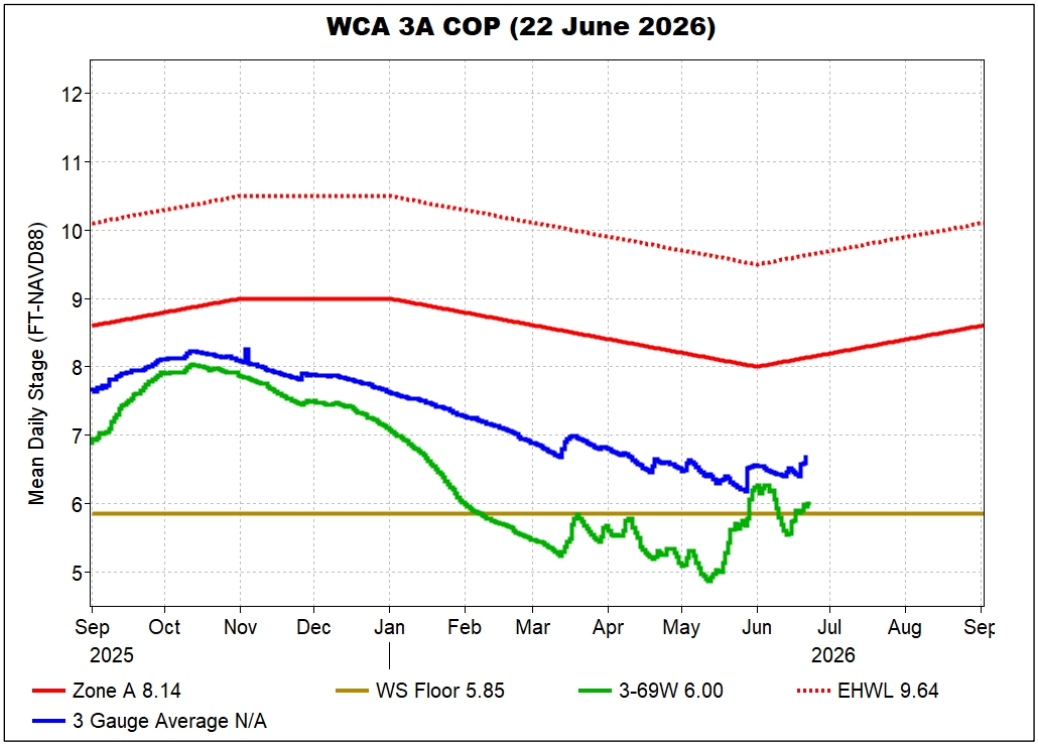

Figure EV-3. WCA-3A stage hydrographs (three-gauge average, 3-69W) and regulation schedule. 8.08

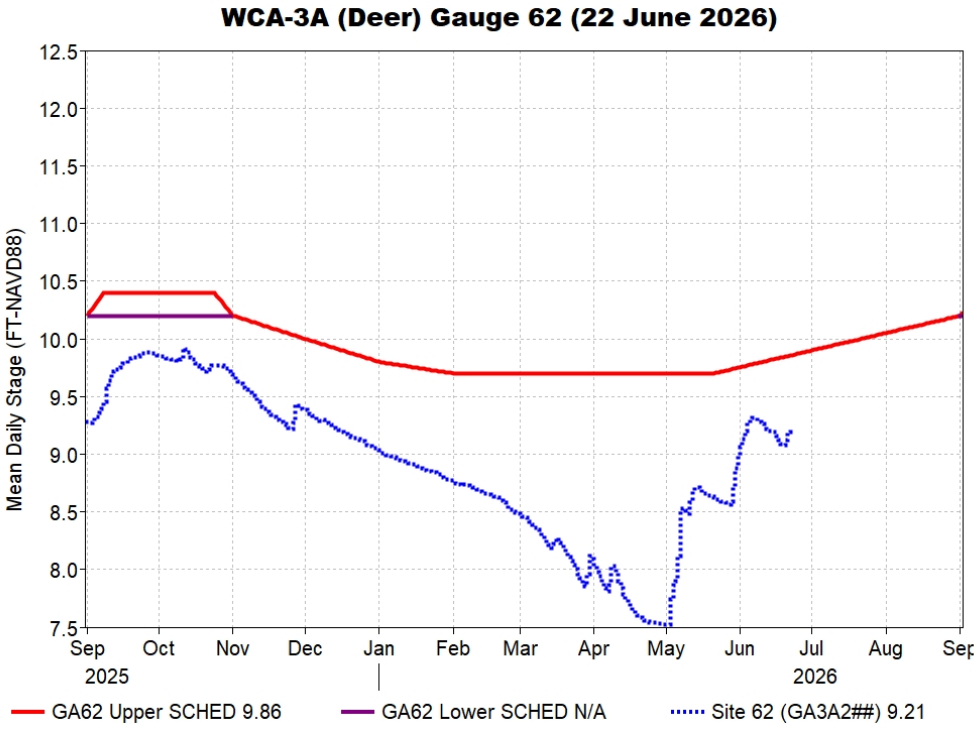

Figure EV-4. WCA-3A stage hydrograph (Deer gauge; Site 62) and regulation schedule.

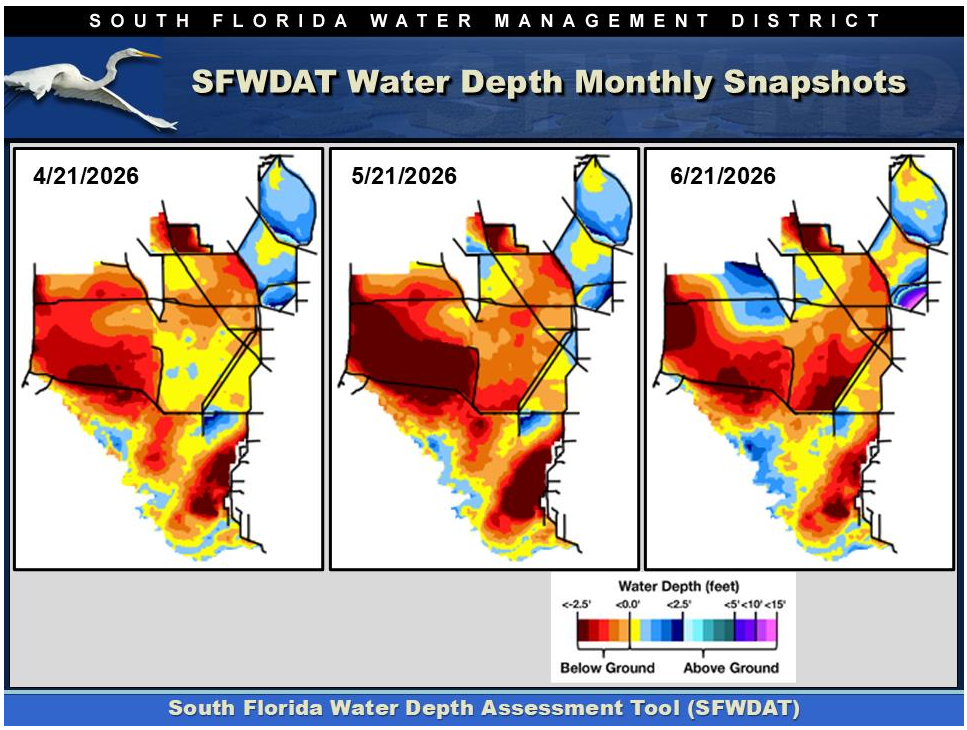

Figure EV-5. Everglades water depths from two months ago (left), one month ago (center) and present (right), based on SFWDAT

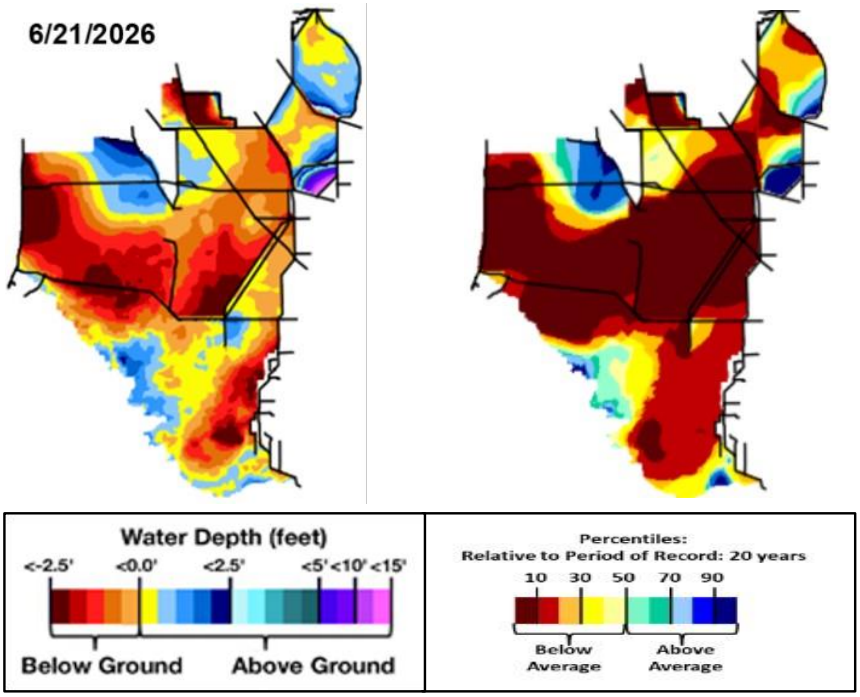

Figure EV-6. Present water depths (June 21, 2026) compared to the day of year relative to average (percentile) over the previous 20 years

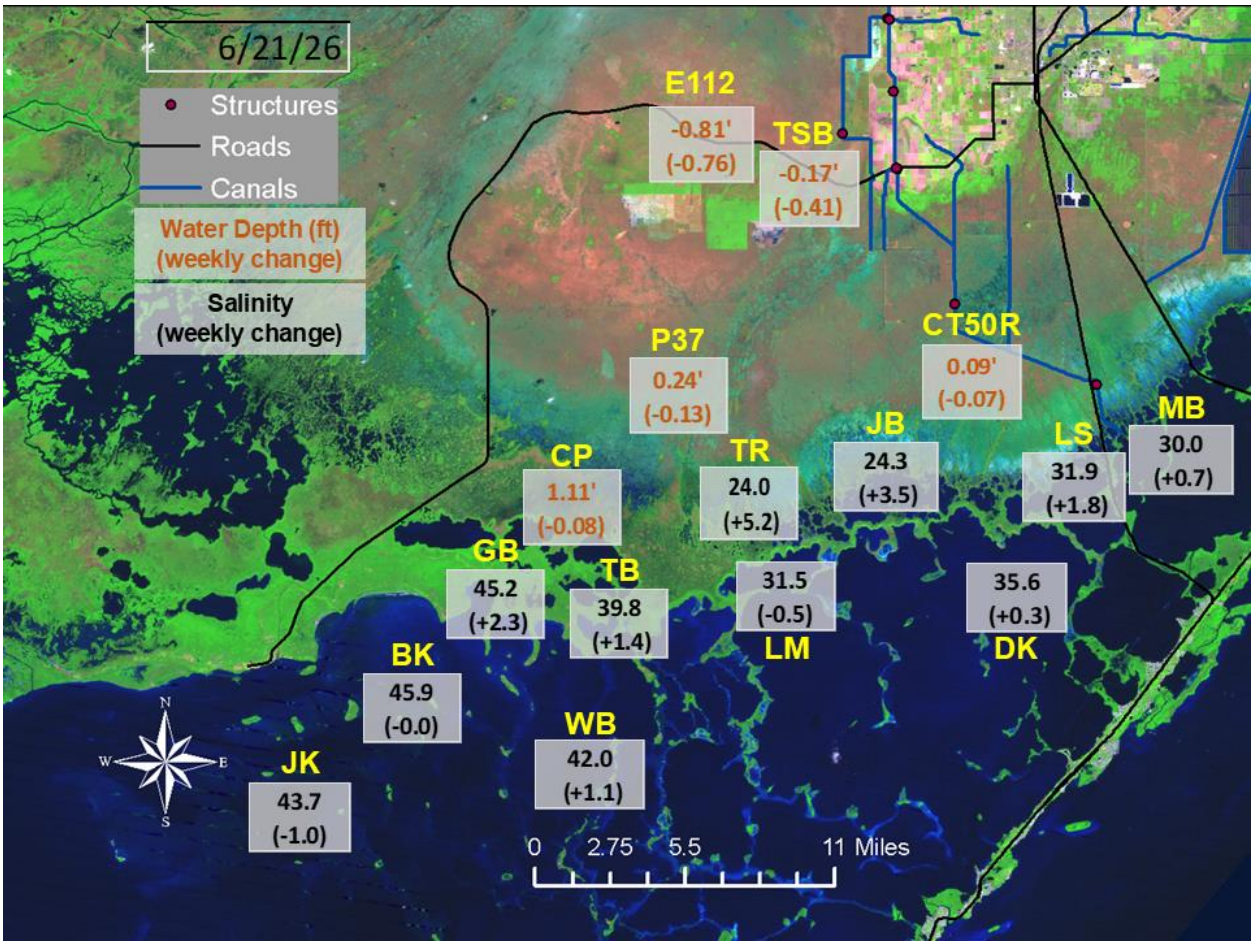

Figure EV-7. Taylor Slough water depths and Florida Bay salinities with changes since a week ago

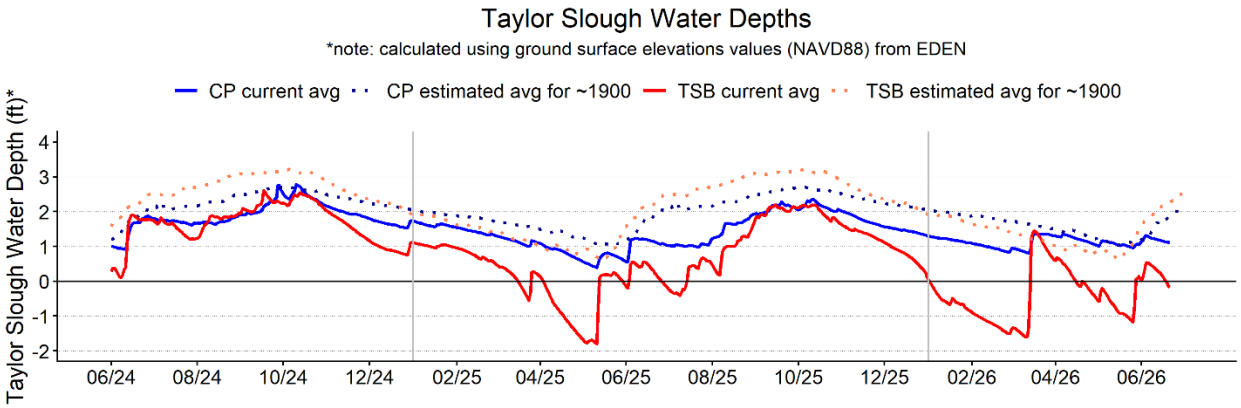

Figure EV-8. Taylor Slough water depth time series for Taylor Slough Bridge (TSB; northern slough) and Craighead Pond (CP; southern slough)

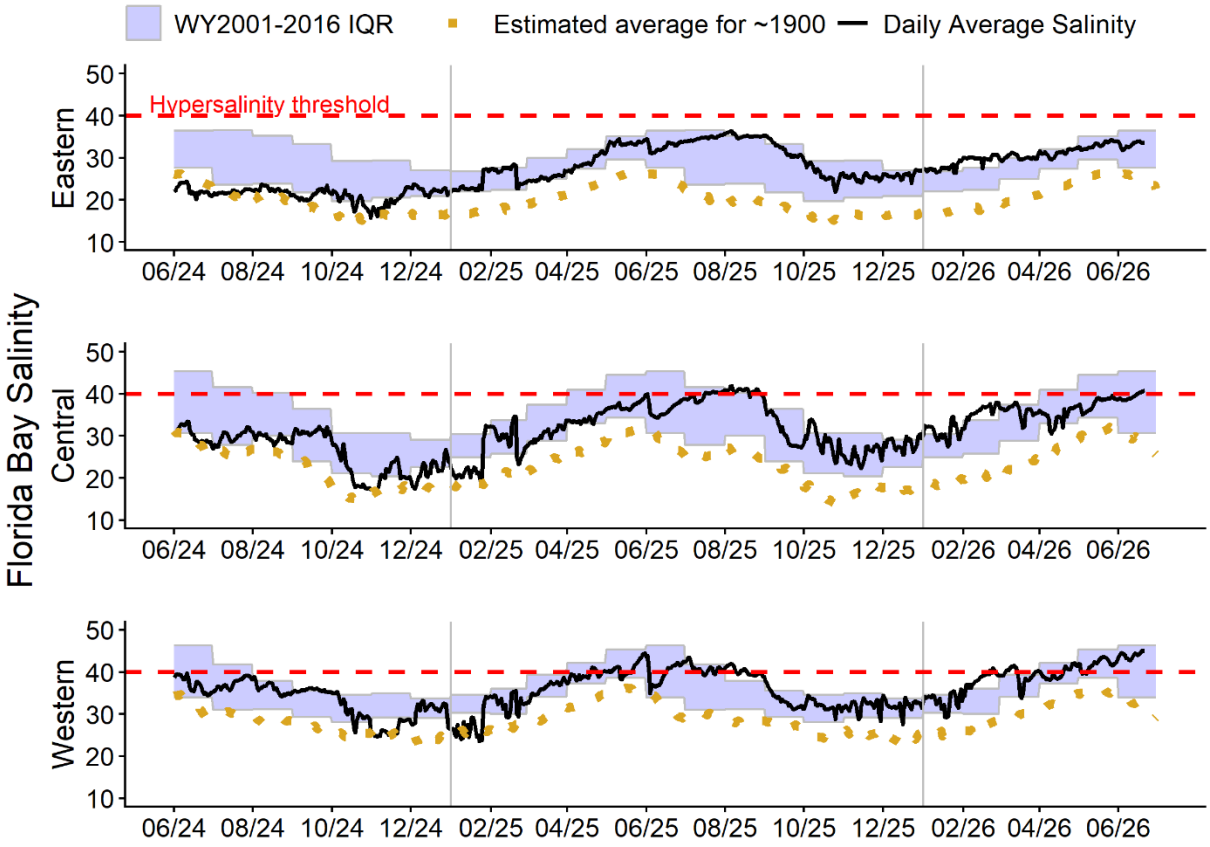

Figure EV-9. Eastern (top panel), Central (middle panel) and Western (bottom panel) Florida Bay daily average salinities with WY2001-2016 interquartile (25-75 percentile) ranges (IQR) and estimated historical daily average salinities. The hypersalinity threshold indicates the level at which salinities start to become harmful to seagrass.

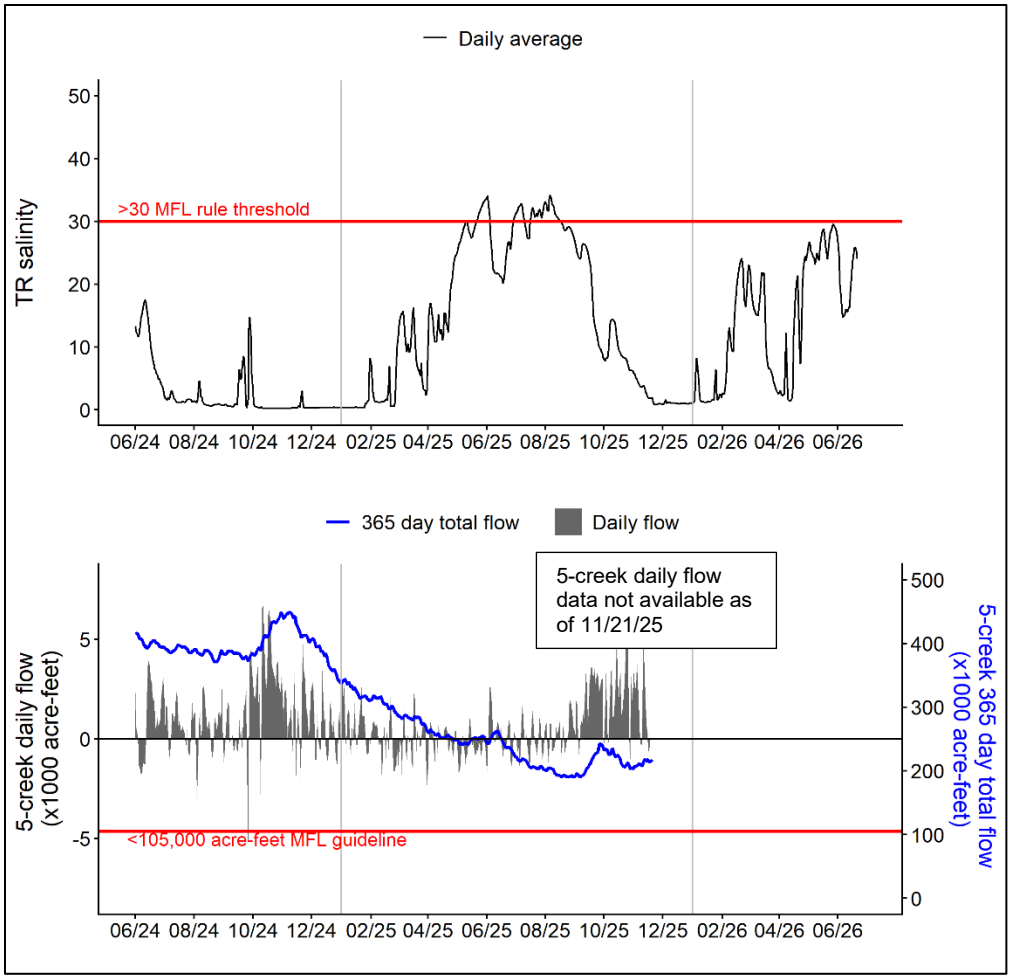

Figure EV-10. Daily average salinity at Taylor River (TR) tracked for the Florida Bay MFL criteria. The 365-day total creek flow MFL metric is not currently available due to missing creek flow data

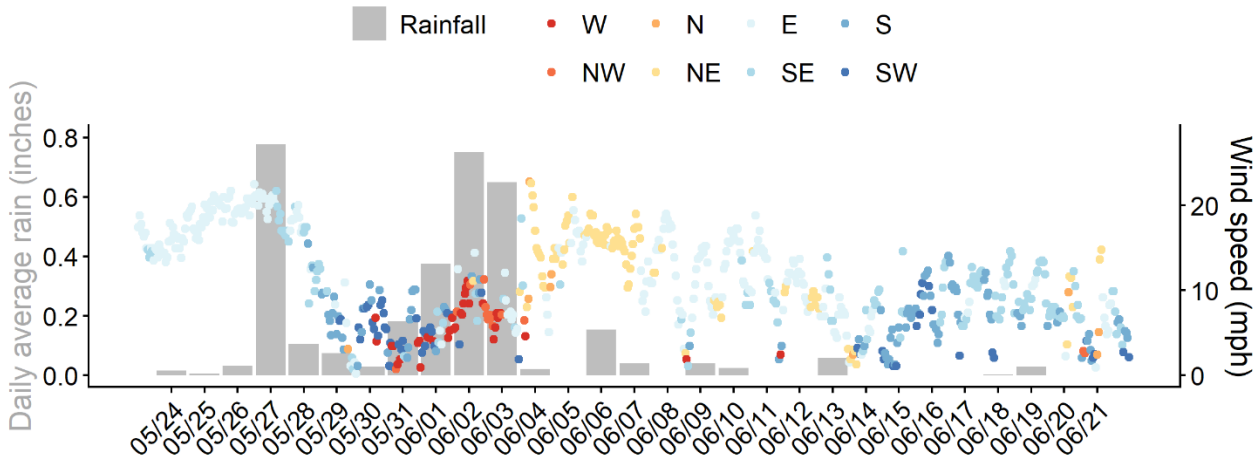

Figure EV-11. Daily average rain across Taylor Slough and Florida Bay, along with hourly average wind speed and direction (measured at Long Key) in Florida Bay over the past four weeks

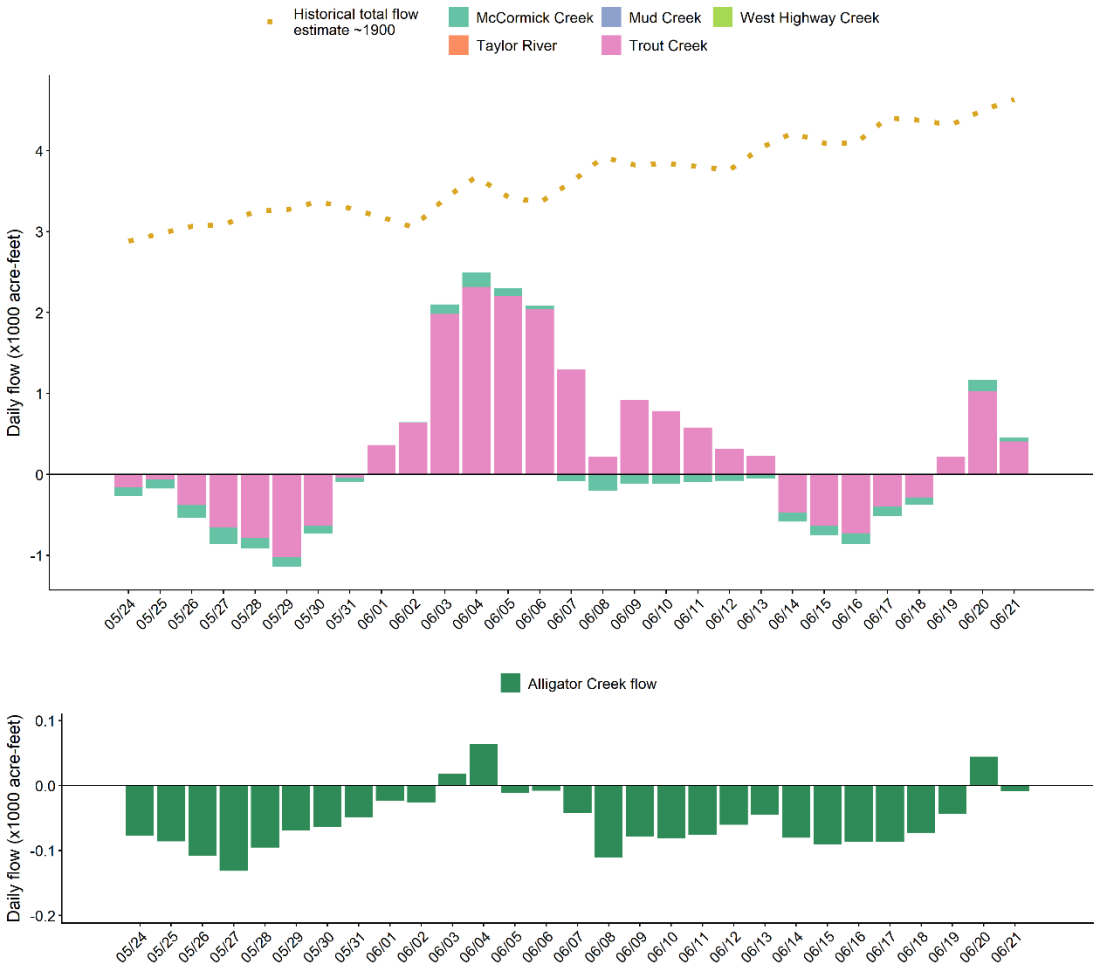

Figure EV-12. Top: daily average creek flow summed between the five major creeks with estimated historical daily flow over the past four weeks (**note**: data from Taylor River, Mud Creek and West Highway Creek are currently unavailable since November 21, 2025). Bottom: Daily average Alligator Creek flow data. N/A indicates missing data.

Table EV-2. Weekly water depth changes and water management recommendations

SFWMD Everglades Ecological Recommendations, June 23, 2026 (red is new)			
	Weekly change	Recommendation	Reasons
WCA-1	Stage increased by 0.12 feet.	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Conserve water, maintain within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife. Maintain maintenance access for vegetation management.
WCA-2A	Stage increased by 0.03 feet	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Maintain within basin (north versus south) and downstream habitat and wildlife.
WCA-2B	Stage decreased by 0.10 feet	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Protect within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife.
WCA-3A NE	Stage data not available	An ascension of less than 0.25 feet per two weeks	Conserve water, maintain within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife. Provide suitable depths for aquatic prey and protect against peat soil loss.
WCA-3A NW	Stage decreased by 0.01 feet	An ascension of less than 0.25 feet per two weeks	
Central WCA-3A S	Stage increased by 0.29 feet	An ascension of less than 0.25 feet per two weeks	Conserve water, maintain within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife. Provide suitable depths for aquatic prey and protect against peat soil loss.
Southern WCA-3A S	Stage decreased by 0.09 feet		
WCA-3B	Stage increased by 0.12 feet	An ascension of less than 0.18 feet per week	Protect within basin and downstream habitat and wildlife.
ENP-SRS	Stage increased by 0.08 feet.	Make discharges to ENP according to COP protocol, considering up/down stream ecological conditions.	Protect within basin and upstream habitat and wildlife.
Taylor Slough	Stage changes ranged from -0.76 feet to -0.05 feet	Move water southward as possible.	When available, provide freshwater to promote water movement.
FB- Salinity	Salinity changes ranged from -1.0 to +3.5	Move water southward as possible.	When available, provide freshwater to promote water movement.