

December 2, 2013

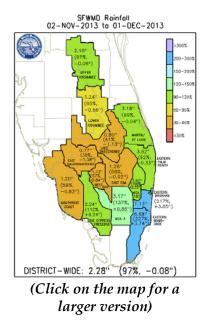
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Broward, Miami See November Deluge, Southwest Coast Remains Drier

Water supply continues to be adequate for this time of year



West Palm Beach, FL – Periods of heavy rain during the last 10 days of November saturated eastern Broward and Miami-Dade counties; the Southwest Coast experienced drier conditions; and interior sections of South Florida saw near-average rainfall for the month, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) meteorologists reported today.

District-wide, a total of 2.28 inches of rain fell in November, representing 97 percent of average, or 0.08 inches below average for the month.

A wet week of Nov. 20-27 pushed eastern Broward County up to 7.13 inches of rain for the month, representing 217 percent of average, or 3.85 inches above average. Eastern Miami-Dade County saw 6.68 inches of rain, representing 227 percent of average, or 3.74 inches above average.

Coastal areas of Martin, St. Lucie and Palm Beach counties also saw significant rainfall during November. However, the interior portions of these areas were drier, leading to county-wide rainfall totals that were near-average.

The East Caloosahatchee and Southwest Coast regions each saw below-average rainfall, ranging from 36 percent to 59 percent of average.

"Recent rainfall helped east coast water levels stabilize in some areas from the rapid decline experienced in October," said Susan Sylvester, SFWMD Chief of the Water Control Operations Bureau. "Water managers continue working to balance storage for the dry season with flood control during times of heavy rainfall."

Lake Okeechobee stood at 14.65 NGVD today, about half a foot lower than this time last year and 0.18 inches below its historic average for this date. The lake received 0.80 inches of direct rainfall in November, representing 41 percent of average, or 1.13 inches below average.

November Stats from the National Weather Service:

- 4th wettest November on record in Fort Lauderdale (10.92 inches)
- 4th wettest November on record for Redland in southwest Miami-Dade County (6.76 inches)
- 3rd wettest November in Hialeah (8.55 inches)
- Wettest November on record in Homestead since 1990 (6.24 inches)
- 6th driest November in Ortona (.40 inches)
- 23rd driest November in Moore Haven (0.42 inches)
- 27th driest November in Naples (0.78 inches)

Dry Season Forecast

Highlights of the 2013-2014 South Florida dry season forecast from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center include:

- Below-normal precipitation
- A possibility of near to slightly above-normal temperatures
- For reference, precipitation in an average dry season: 12 to 15 inches in the interior/west to 15 to 21 inches in the east

South Florida's Dry Season

- November May
- About 18 inches of rain is the average
- May and October are important transition months
- March, April and May are the driest months because evaporation is highest

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About the South Florida Water Management District

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage

and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.