



NEWS RELEASE

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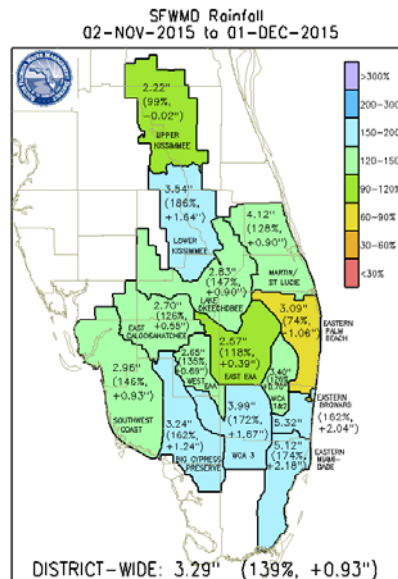
South Florida Water Management District

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South Florida Sees Wettest November Since 1998 *Basins across the region experienced above-average rainfall*



(Click on map for larger version)

West Palm Beach, FL — Particularly strong upper level winds brought extensive rainfall across South Florida, leading to the wettest November since 1998.

Almost all basins from Orlando to the Florida Keys experienced above-average rainfall for the month, with 3.29 inches of rain across the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). This represents 139 percent of average, or 0.93 inches above average.

“Even with the dry season underway, we are operating the regional flood control system to move excess stormwater,” said Jeff Kivett, SFWMD Division Director of Operations, Engineering and Construction. “This work includes utilizing new infrastructure designed to help move water south while also improving water quality.”

Preparations include operation of the new A-1 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB), a 15,000-acre shallow water storage area in southern Palm Beach County that will help capture

peak stormwater flows. The FEB allows excess water to be delivered in a manner that helps optimize a network of Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs), which clean phosphorus from water before it reaches the Everglades.

The STAs are also being operated to accommodate and clean excess stormwater.

November Rainfall

All but two basins in South Florida received above-average rainfall in November.

The Lower Kissimmee Basin, just north of Lake Okeechobee, was one of the wettest portions of the District. A total of 3.54 inches of rain fell, representing 186 percent of average, or 1.64 inches above average.

Miami-Dade County also saw significant rainfall with 5.12 inches of rain, representing 174 percent of average, or 2.18 inches above average.

The Southwest Coast, East Caloosahatchee and Big Cypress Preserve all received significantly above-average rainfall for the month.

Palm Beach County was the lone basin that had below-average rainfall, with 3.09 inches representing 74 percent of average, or 1.06 inches below average. The Upper Kissimmee Basin was only 0.02 inches of rain below average.

Dry Season Forecast

Among the forecast highlights for the 2015-2016 South Florida dry season:

- Above-normal rainfall associated with El Niño
- Above-normal storminess/severe weather
- Below-normal temperatures and below-normal freeze of at least one this dry season
- Average of 5-10 more days with measurable precipitation

More information is available at:

- [SFWMD Weather/Rainfall Data](#)
- [U.S. Drought Monitor Florida](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Forecast](#)

| <i>South Florida's Dry Season</i> |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>November – May</i>• <i>About 18 inches of rain is the average</i>• <i>May and October are important transition months</i>• <i>March, April and May have the highest evaporation rates and lowest rainfall</i> |

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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 flood control, water quality, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.