



## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

# OPERATIONS UPDATE

March 29, 2016

### MEDIA CONTACT:

**Randy Smith**

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 389-3386

[www.sfwmd.gov/news](http://www.sfwmd.gov/news)

follow us on 

## **SFWMD Adds Another Pump to Relieve Flooding in South Miami-Dade**

To improve flood mitigation for families and businesses in the 8.5 Square Mile Area in South Miami-Dade County, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) began operating a second temporary pump adjacent to its S-357 flood control structure. Water levels in the area had been rising because of higher water levels in Everglades National Park, the result of emergency SFWMD operations to relieve flooding in Water Conservation Area 3 located in Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

Adding the second temporary pump doubles the pumping capacity adjacent to the S-357 structure, now moving water to the east at up to 42,000 gallons per minute. This increases flood mitigation for the 8.5 Square Mile Area while continuing to move clean water out of Water Conservation Area 3 and into Everglades National Park. Record January rainfall had caused major impacts to wildlife in the flooded conservation area.

To install the new pump, SFWMD crews from the Homestead, Clewiston and Okeechobee field stations installed 240 feet of pipe, an earthen bridge over the pipe and are preparing to construct a berm to block water from moving into the impacted area. With increased pumping capacity at the S-357 structure, these actions together will maintain water levels for residents while keeping clean water flowing into the park.

Water managers continue to closely monitor levels in the area and look for engineering options to provide additional flood mitigation if needed.

# # #

*The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages water resources in the southern part of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Our mission is to protect South Florida's water resources by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems.*