Operations in Response to Recent Heavy Rains



Heavy Rains December 3 to 6, 2015

- Some locations in South Dade experienced up to 15 inches of rain between Wednesday and Sunday
- Initially a 2 to 5 year storm and escalated by Saturday to over a 10 year event





System Preparation

- Monday, Nov. 30: Forecast of substantial rainfall over the next week.
- Coordinated with USACE to secure approval to implement pre-storm drawdown operations
- Tuesday, Dec. 1: Started drawdown for South Dade canals
- Wednesday, Dec. 2: Fully opened several water control structures in South Miami-Dade, Tested C-4 Detention Area inflow pumps, Placed pump stations crews for 24/7 operations
- Thursday, Dec. 3: Removed vegetation from canals and banks at critical locations





Rainfall Event Characteristics

- Most intense rain fell between December 3-5.
- For Miami Dade
 - Wettest 3-day rainfall in the last 15 years (wet or dry season)
 - Wetter than Tropical Storm Gordon (Nov 1994) or Hurricane Katrina (Aug 2005)
- Highest rainfall intensities were experienced on Saturday
- While all basins along the east coast affected, heaviest rains in south Miami-Dade, C-111 and C-103 basins



South Miami-Dade Response

- Friday, Dec. 4:
 - S-177, S-18C fully opened
 - S-197 initially opened
- Saturday, Dec. 5: Based on expanding event, fully opened S-197.
- Structures in the L-31 N and C-111 canals continue operating at their maximum capacity; including S332 pumps, S177, S18C, and S197







Crop flooding adjacent to C-111 and S-177 & S-199



Farm field at SW 124th Ave and SR9336, plastic covered field is underwater



Flooding east of S-178 and north side of SR 9336



Street flooding, Villages of Homestead

Central Miami-Dade Response

- Friday, Dec. 4: Initiated forward pumping at S-25B and S-26
- Saturday, Dec. 5: Initiated pumping into the C-4 Detention basin.





C-4 Impoundment



S-26 Pumping Station

Coastal Miami-Dade Response

- Coastal gated spillways close automatically when high tide exceeds the canal water level
- Coastal gates open automatically when the high tide recedes.
- Water level rises in farm fields as the tail-water rises at tidal structures.



Current Operational Status

- System continues in flood control mode
- In coordination with USACE implementing a gradual transition to normal operations
- Minimizing need for alternating structure open/close cycles as the residual lagging flows exit the system
- Monitoring conditions in ENP to ensure flood control operations do not impact Park Water levels

Questions?

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