# south Florida water MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2013 WATER WATCH Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

## District-Wide Conditions for November 18, 2013

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is issuing the following briefing:

Following several weeks of below-average rainfall, water levels across South Florida continue dry season declines. The water supply at this time remains adequate because of above-average rainfall during the most recent wet season.

The District continues to operate the water management system to maximize water storage for the remainder of the dry season.

| Water Levels in Key Locations (November 18) |               |                      |
|---|---------------|----------------------|
| Location                                    | Today's level | Target for this date |
| East Lake Tohopekaliga                      | 56.97 feet    | 58.00 feet           |
| WCA-2                                       | 12.73 feet    | 12.22 feet           |
| WCA-3                                       | 10.29 feet    | 10.50 feet           |

#### **Coastal Estuaries**

- The SFWMD is working with local, state and federal partners on <u>strategies</u> to improve the health of the St. Lucie Estuary. Visit <u>www.sfwmd.gov/stlucie</u>.
- The SFWMD is working with local, state and federal partners on <u>strategies</u> to improve the health of the Caloosahatchee Estuary. Visit <u>www.sfwmd.gov/caloosahatchee</u>.

#### Lake Okeechobee Operations

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages Lake Okeechobee water levels with the goal of balancing flood control, public safety, navigation, water supply and ecological health. The Corps bases operational decisions — whether to retain or release water in the lake — on its regulation schedule and the best available science and data provided by its staff and a variety of partners, including SFWMD.

| Lake Okeechobee Levels          |            |  |
|---------------------------------|------------|--|
| Today (Nov. 18)                 | 14.84 feet |  |
| Historical Average<br>for Today | 14.94 feet |  |
| This Date One Year<br>Ago       | 15.41 feet |  |

 SFWMD makes an operational recommendation each week based on conditions. The most recent Operational Position Statement is available at <u>www.sfwmd.gov/opsreports</u>.

#### Navigation

• Information on navigational locks in the region can be found at <u>www.sfwmd.gov/recreation</u>.

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