

WATER WATCH

Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

District-Wide Conditions for February 17, 2015

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

The South Florida Water Management District recorded virtually no rainfall during the past 7 days, providing a respite from significantly above-average dry season rainfall in the Kissimmee region. Earlier this month, heavy rainfall in the Kissimmee contributed to flows into Lake Okeechobee, which remains nearly a foot higher than this time last year.

The dry period this past week also benefited nesting wading birds and wildlife, which require a dry season recession of water levels for successful nesting.

South Florida's dry season typically runs from mid-October to mid-May, with about 18 inches of rain on average.

Water Levels in Key Locations (February 17)		
Location	Today's level	Water Supply Floor
WCA-1	16.64 feet	14.00 feet
WCA-2A	12.04 feet	10.50 feet
WCA-3A	9.82 feet	7.50 feet

Water Conservation

- South Florida is under the District's Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule, which limits residential and business landscape irrigation to two or three days per week.
 - To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days.
- Permitted water users such as nurseries, agriculture, golf courses and utilities can find water use conditions in their permits online at www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting.
- For tips and information about water conservation, visit www.savewaterfl.com.

Lake Okeechobee Operations

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages Lake Okeechobee water levels based on its regulation schedule and the best available science and data provided by its staff and a variety of partners, including SFWMD.
 - SFWMD makes an operational recommendation each week based on conditions. The most recent Operational Position Statement is available at www.sfwmd.gov/opsreports.

Lake Okeechobee Levels	
Today (Feb. 17)	14.77 feet
Historical Average for Today	14.56 feet
This Date One Year Ago	14.01 feet

Moving Water South

- For an interactive map with weekly updates on the volumes of water being moved south by SFWMD operations, visit www.sfwmd.gov/movingwatersouth.

#

Media inquiries can be directed to:

Gabe Margasak

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cell: (561) 670-1245