Brief Lake Okeechobee Update

Lake O Recovery Criteria

Lowering of Lake O for vegetation recovery has two stage based criteria. Meeting either criteria is consider a successful recovery operation

- Below 12 feet NGVD for 90 days. This criteron has met on Monday (07/14).
- Below 11.5 feet NGVD for 60 days. This criterion was met for 77 days ending on Friday (07/11).



Lake Okeechobee

Lake Okeechobee (Lake O) stage was 11.49 feet NGVD on July 11, 2025 which is 1.98 feet lower than a year ago and 3.39 feet lower than two years ago.

The current stage is near the lower decile for the 1931 through 2020 historical period.

As can be seen in the following figure Lake O stage is typically between 12.8 and 14.8 feet NGVD on May 1st (just before the wet season)

Lake Okeechobee Compared to 1931-2020 Exceedance Statistics





(See assumptions on the Position Analysis Results website)

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(See assumptions on the Position Analysis Results website)

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Lake Okeechobee

From the previous figures:

- It will take upper quartile conditions to achieve a Lake O stage above the historical lower quartil value of 12.8 feet NGVD
- over a 25 percent likelihood of Lake O entering the Water Shortage Management Zone (WSMZ)
 - over a 25 percent likelihood of Lake O staying in the WSMZ through the wet season

Lake Okeechobee

- Wet Season Capacity From the previous figures:
- It will take upper quartile conditions to achieve a Lake O stage above the historical lower quartil value of 12.8 feet NGVD
- over a 25 percent likelihood of Lake O entering the Water Shortage Management Zone (WSMZ)
 - over a 25 percent likelihood of Lake O staying in the WSMZ through the wet season

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Discussion