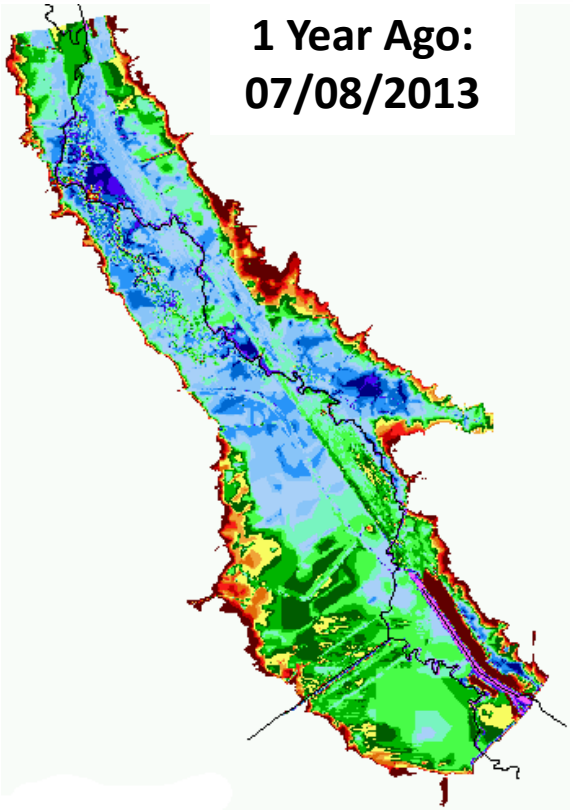
Governing Board Meeting
July 10, 2014

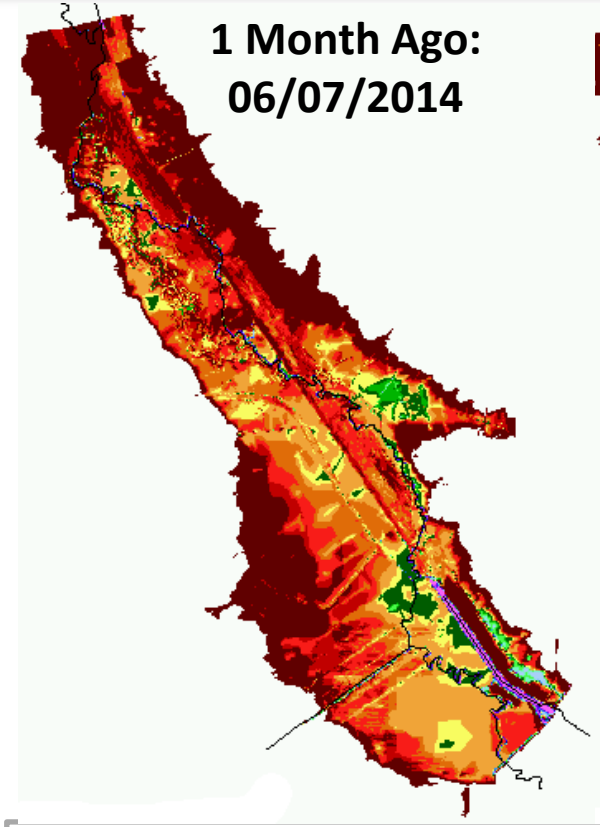
ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS UPDATE

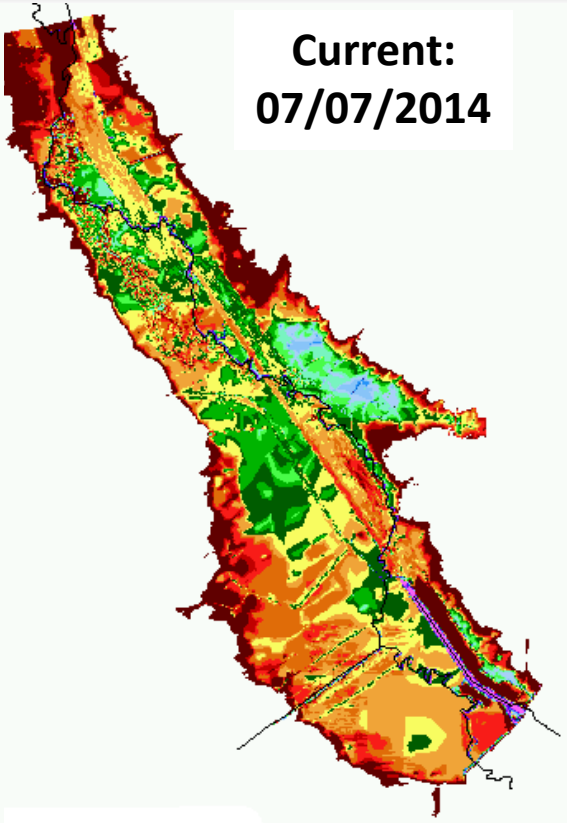
Terrie Bates
Director
Water Resources Division

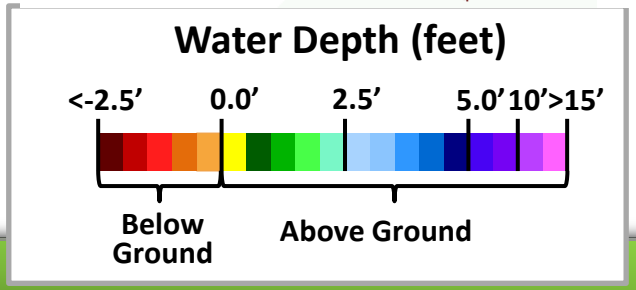
Kissimmee River (Pool C)

Monthly Water Depth Maps



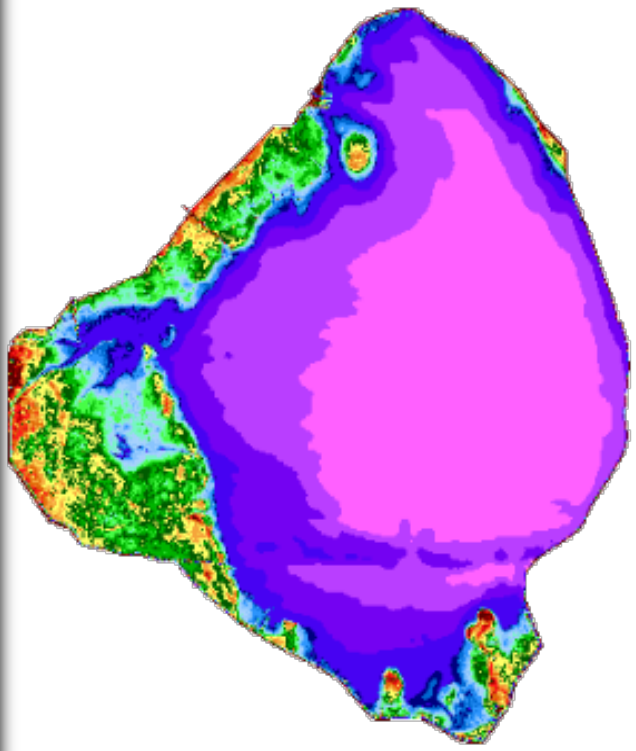






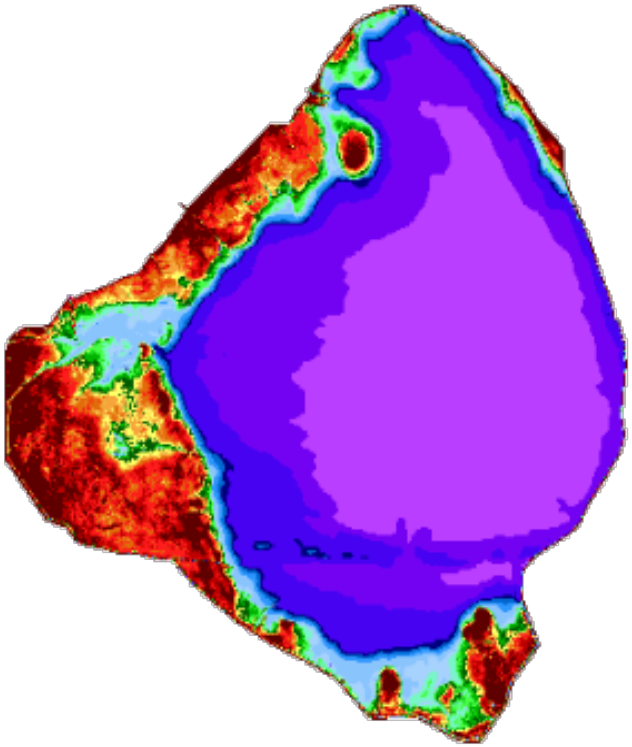
Lake Okeechobee
Water Depth Timeseries Maps

1 Year Ago: 7/7/2013



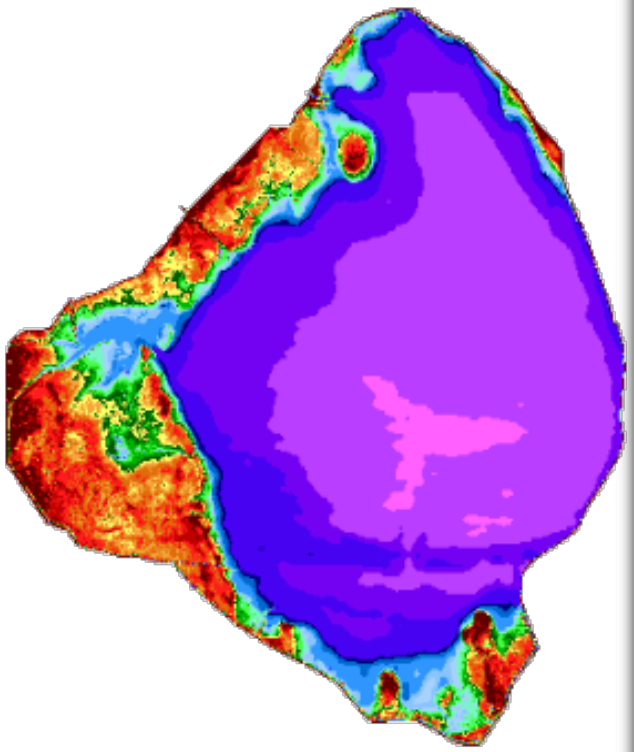
(14.72 ft NGVD29)

1 Month Ago: 6/7/2014



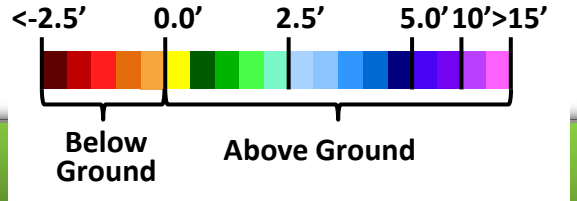
(12.32 ft NGVD29)

Current: 7/7/2014



(13.04 ft NGVD29)

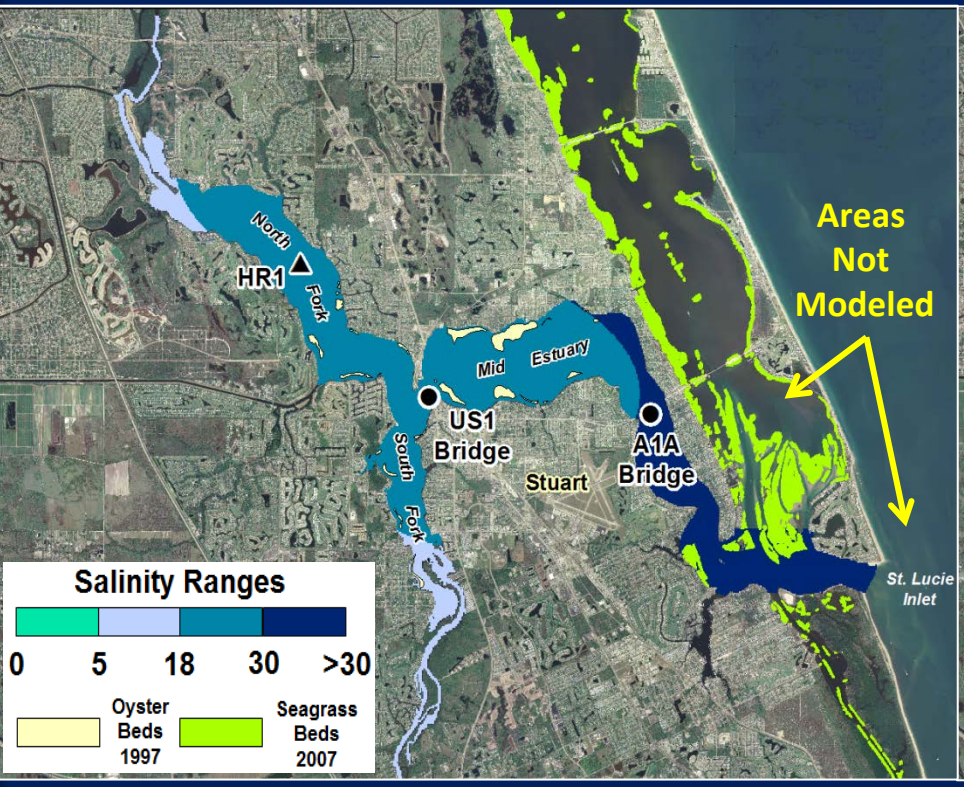
Water Depth (feet)



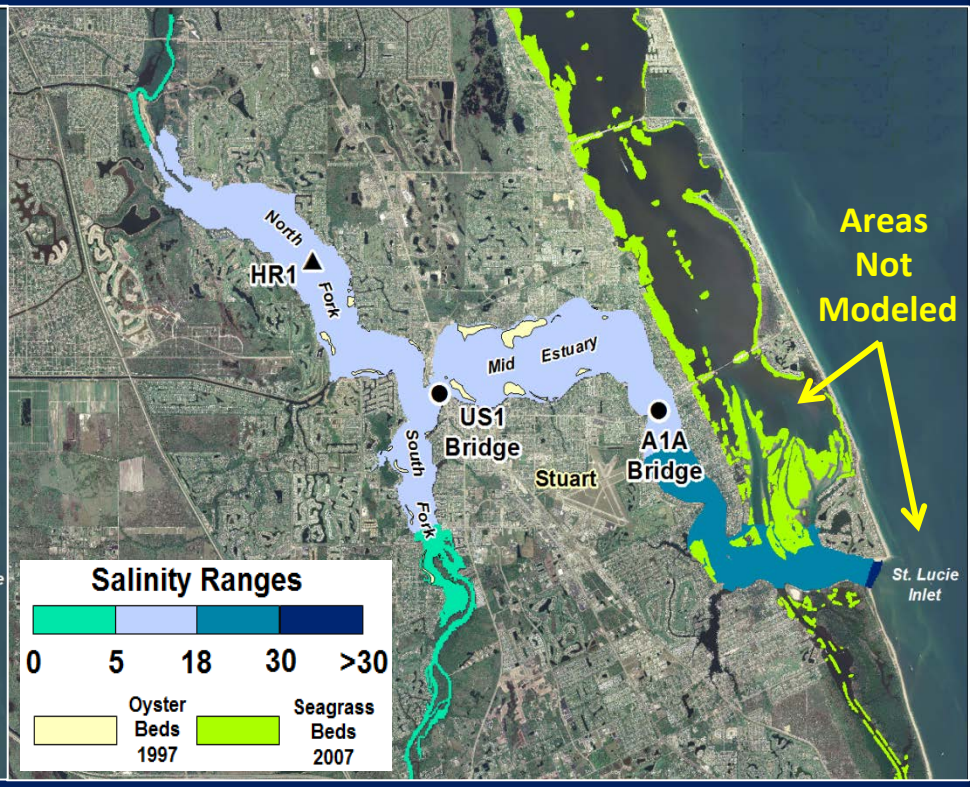
St. Lucie Estuary

Salinity Conditions

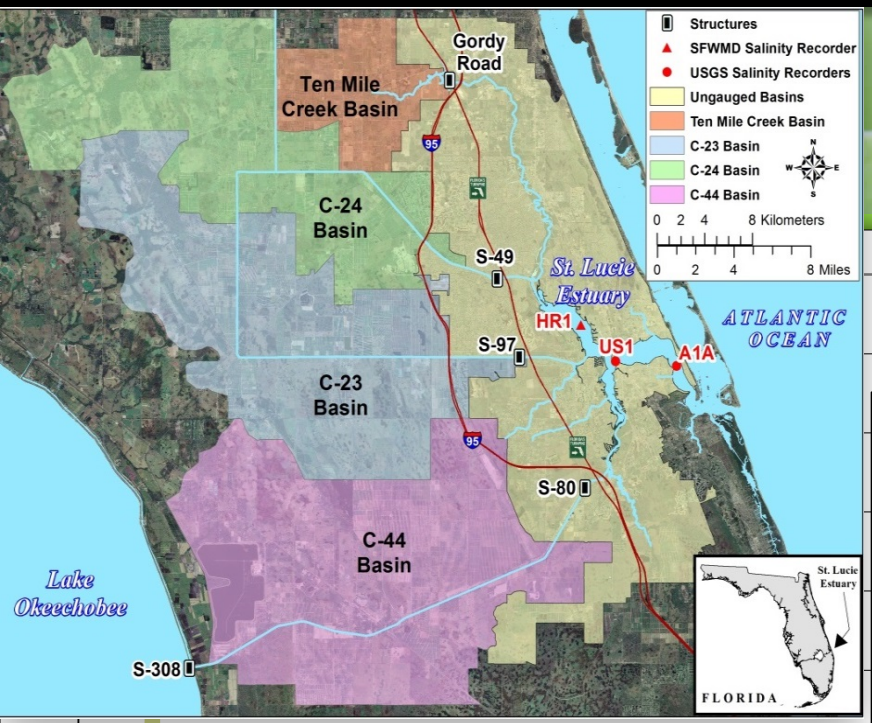
June 8, 2014



July 7, 2014



St. Lucie Estuary



Data provisional and subject to change

Weekly Average Inflow
July 1, 2014 - July 7, 2014

Inflow from Lake	0 cfs
C-44 Basin Inflow	593 cfs
Tenmile Creek	118 cfs
C-23	328 cfs
C-24	247 cfs
Tidal Basin Inflow	547 cfs
Total	1833 cfs

Total Flow (cfs)

6,000
5,500
5,000
4,500
4,000
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0

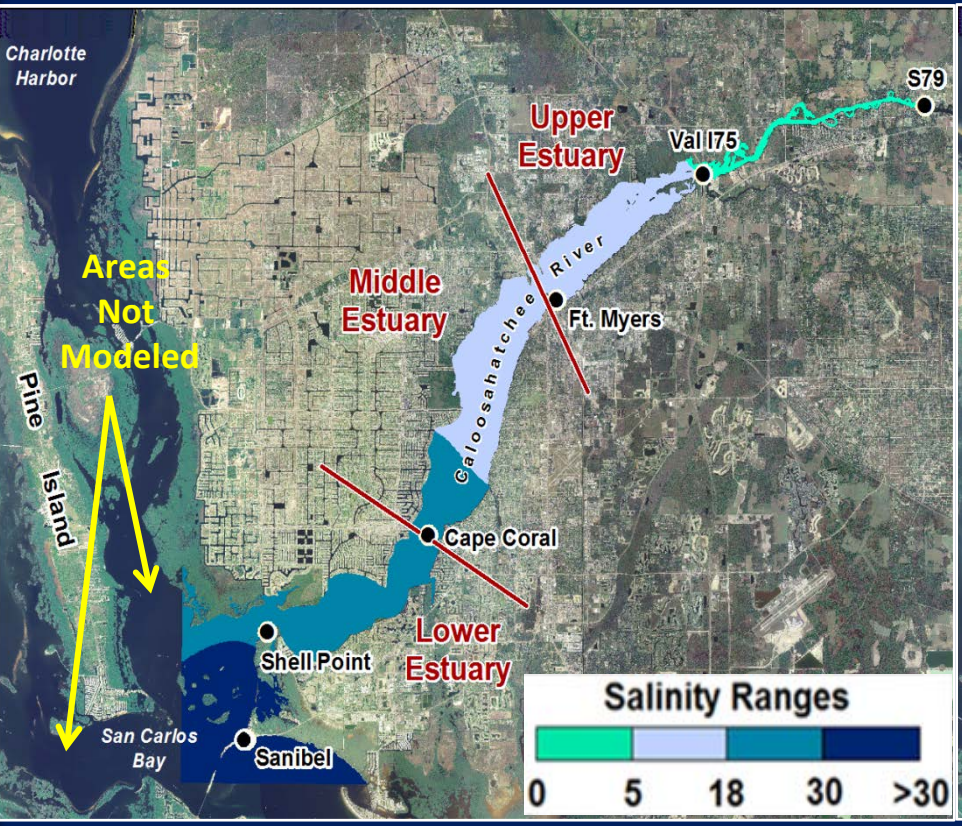
1-Jan 1-Feb 1-Mar 1-Apr 1-May 1-Jun 1-Jul

Inflow from Lake
C-44 Basin Runoff
Inflow from C-24, C23, and Tenmile Creek
Tidal Basin Inflow

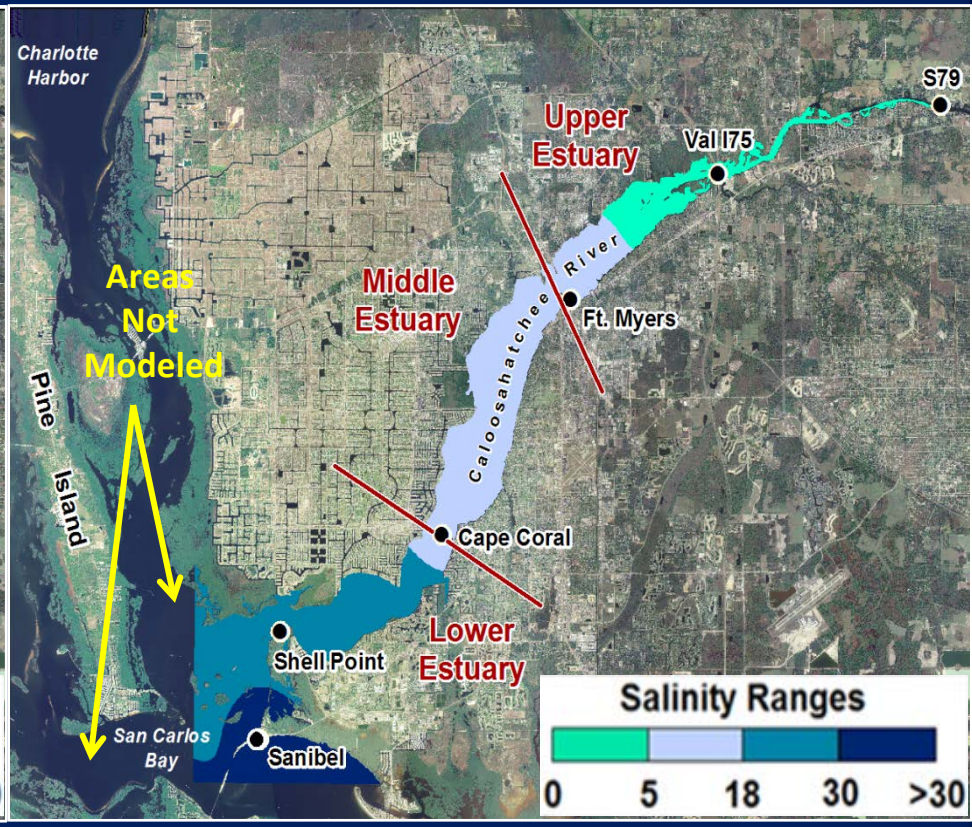
Caloosahatchee Estuary

Salinity Conditions

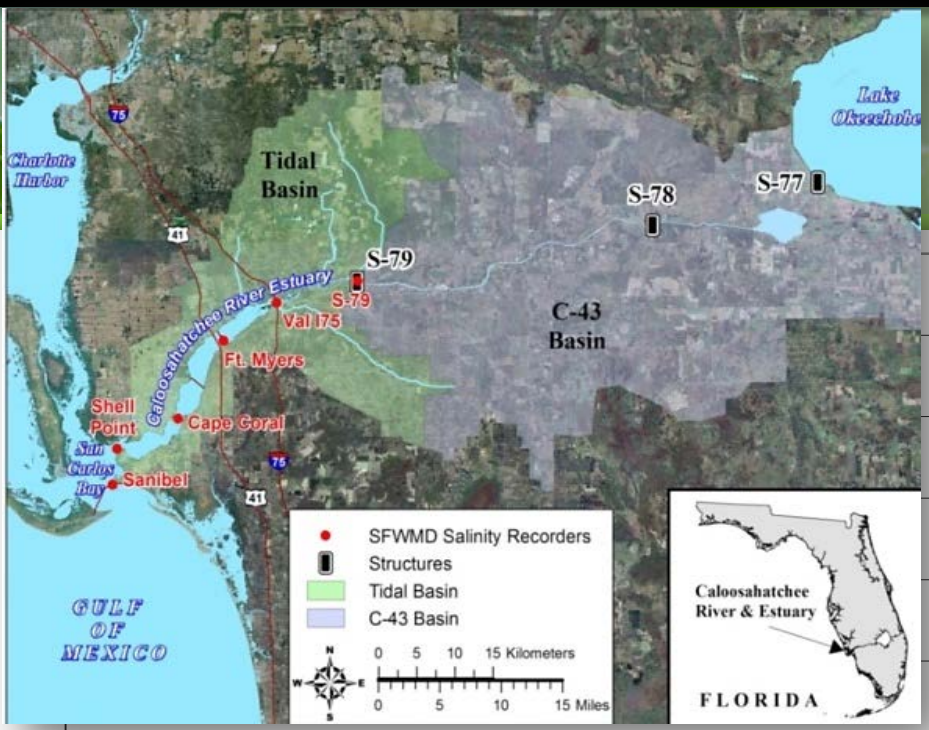
June 8, 2014



July 7, 2014



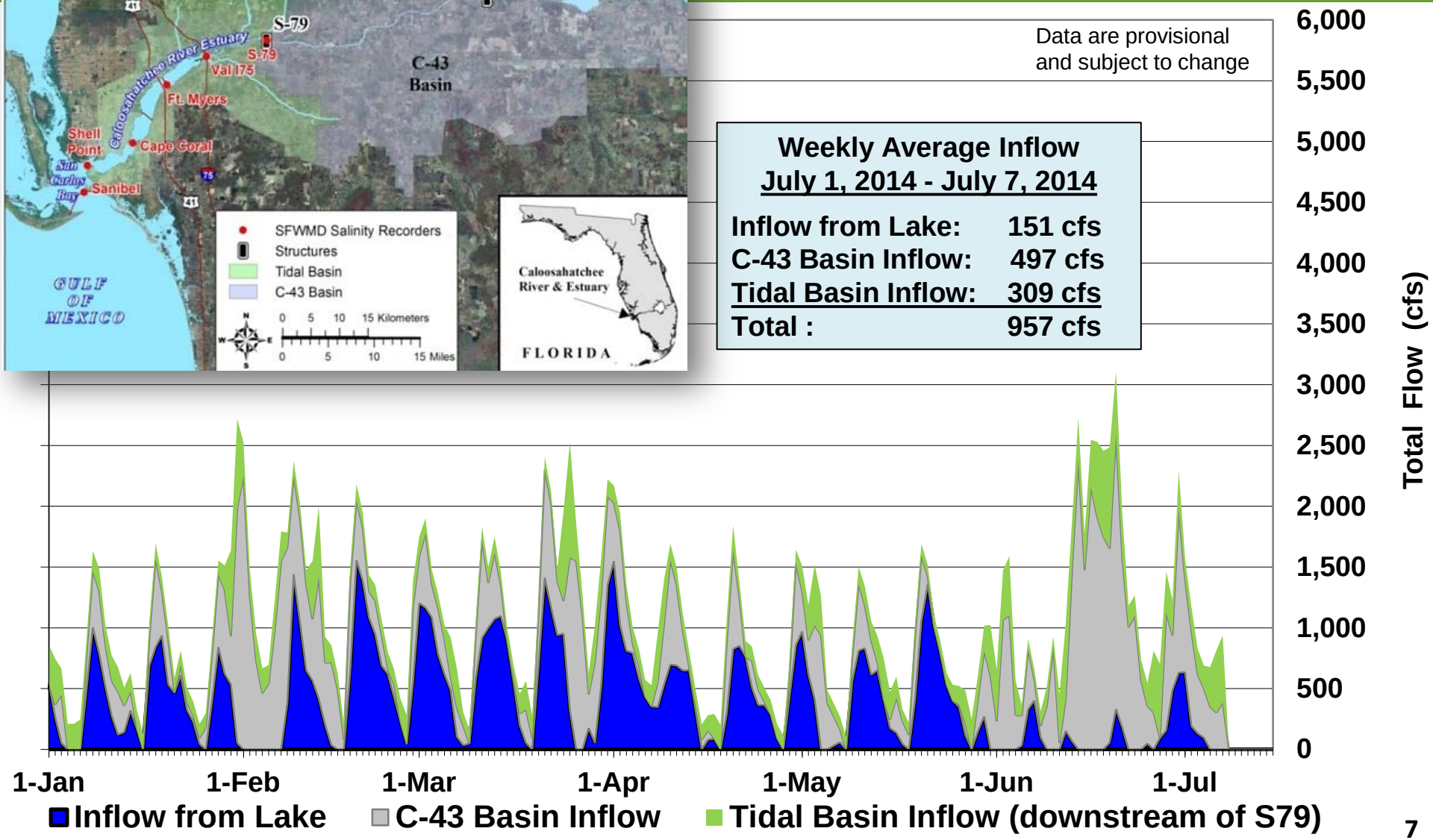
Caloosahatchee Estuary



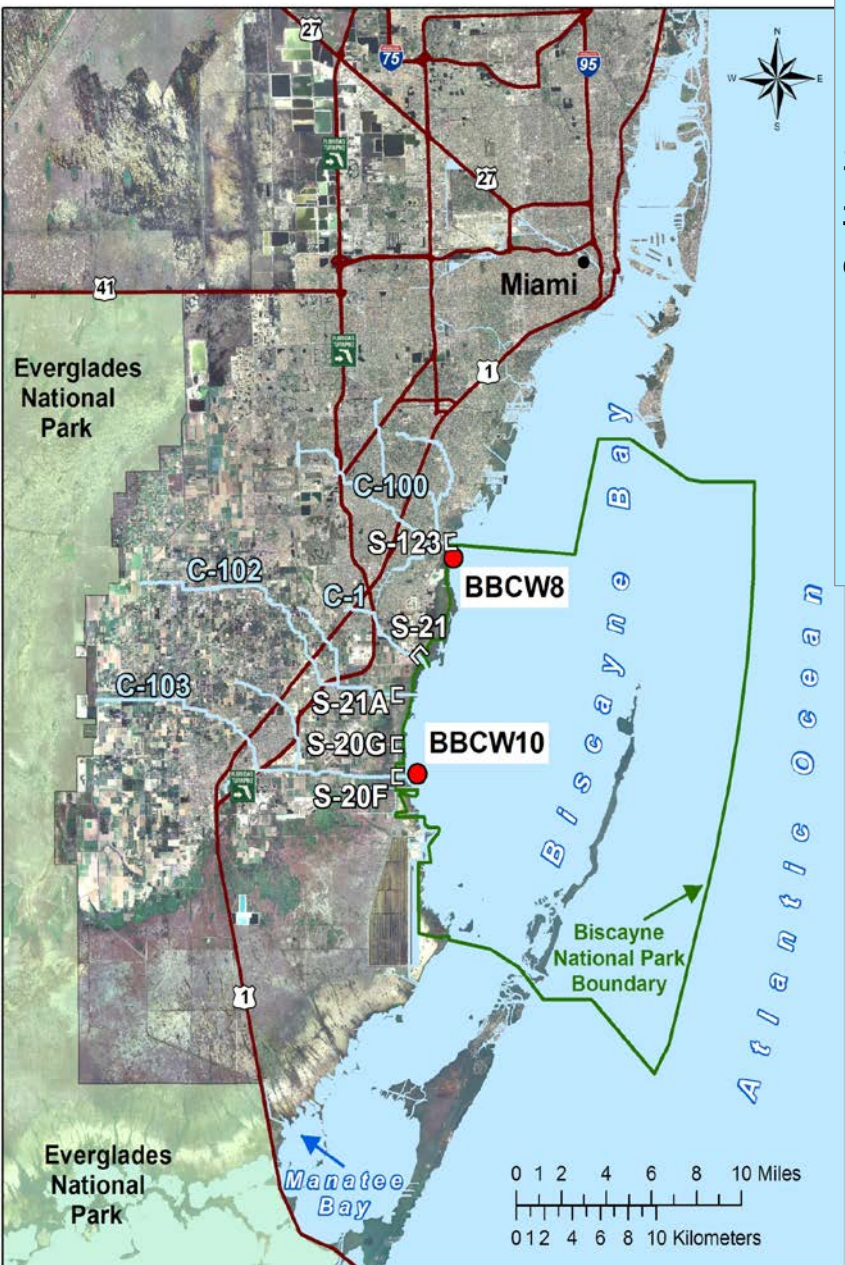
Data are provisional and subject to change

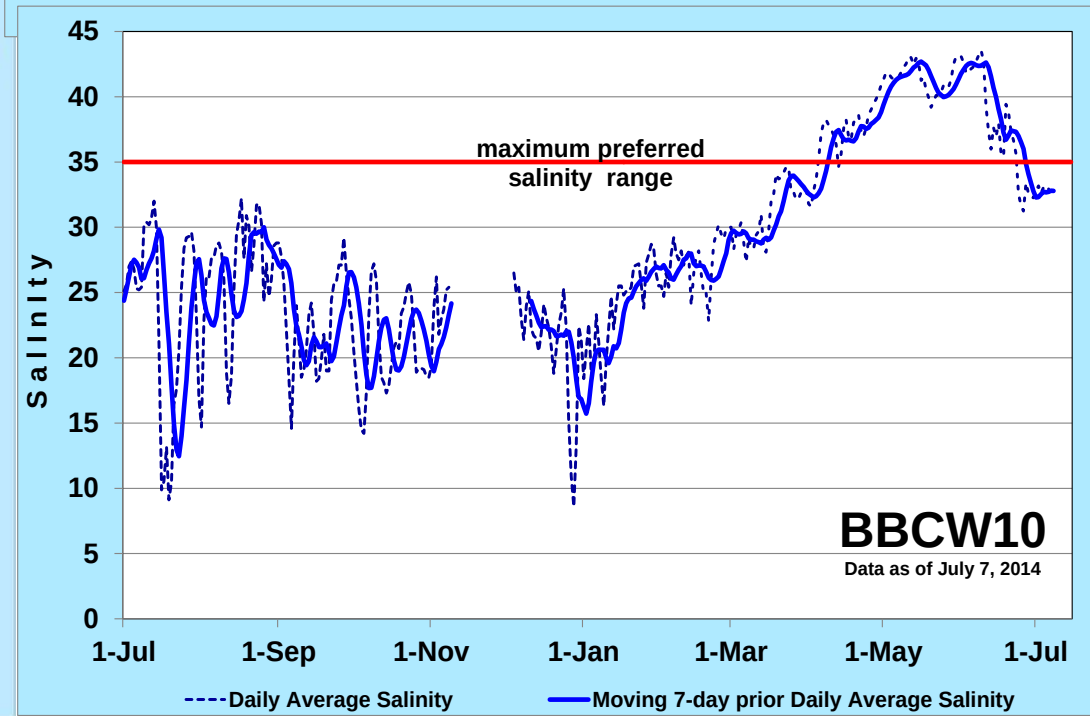
Weekly Average Inflow
July 1, 2014 - July 7, 2014

Inflow from Lake:	151 cfs
C-43 Basin Inflow:	497 cfs
Tidal Basin Inflow:	309 cfs
Total :	957 cfs



Biscayne Bay Salinity

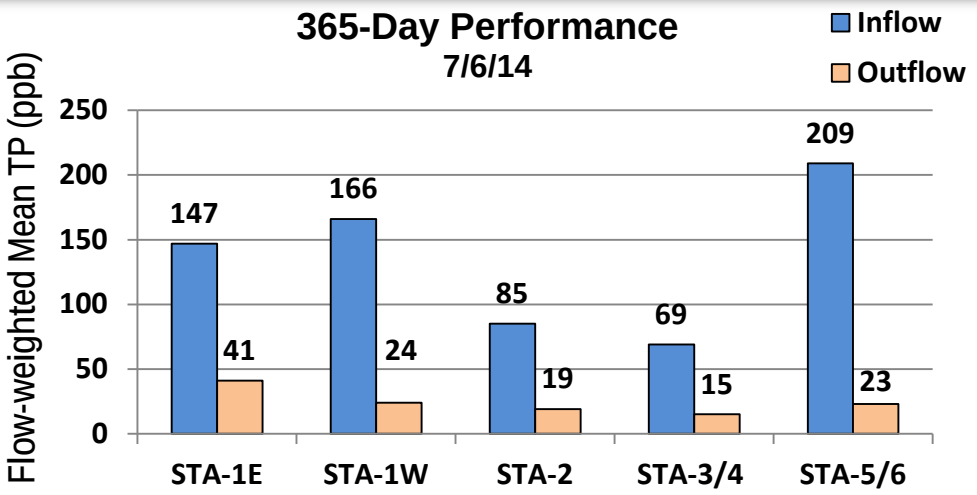


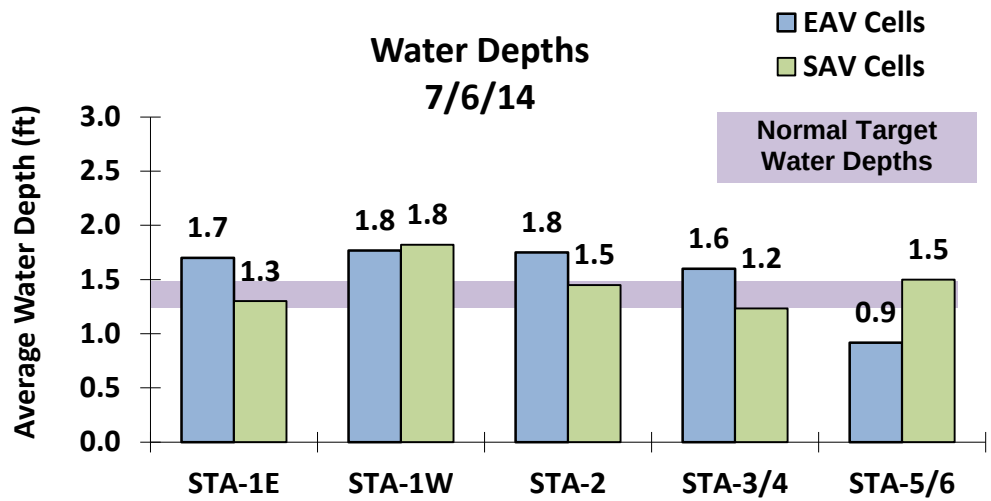


Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs)
Current Conditions

- All cells at or slightly above target water depths *except* for STA-5/6 (stages coming up from dryout conditions)
- Lake Okeechobee regulatory releases resumed
  - Treated ~27,350 ac-ft (May 1 – June 22, 2014)

Preliminary data shown





STA-1E Cells 1 & 2 and STA-2 Cells 7 & 8 were excluded due to off-line status; STA-5/6 Cell 5A excluded due to sensor problems .

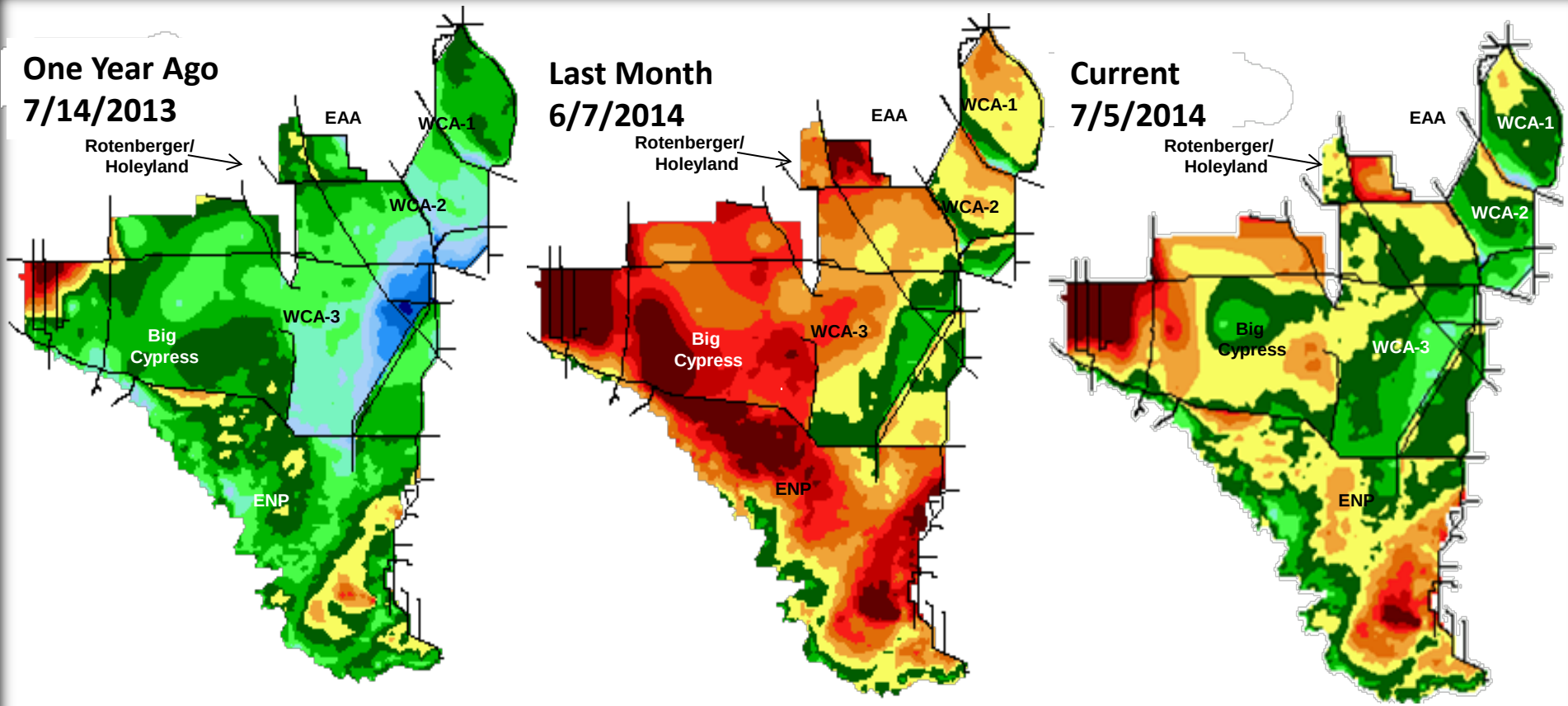
Federal and State Protected Birds Nesting in the STAs

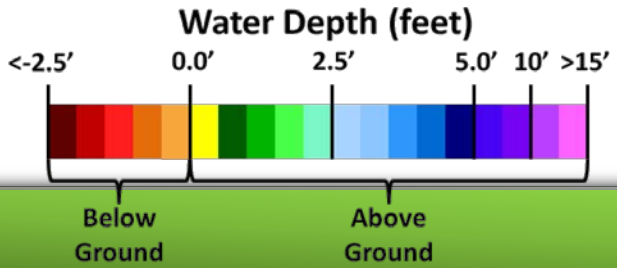
Snail Kite in flight

As of 7/1/14:

- *Record* number of Snail Kite nests in STA-5/6
  - 44 nests (currently the largest grouping of nests in Florida)
  - Levee closures, closed access to structure G-344I, & stage restrictions
  - University of Florida crew is banding chicks

Greater Everglades
Water Depth Monthly Snapshots



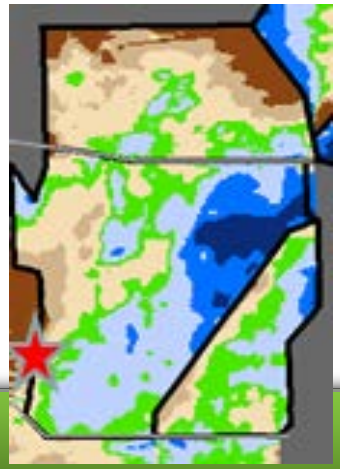


Everglades: Late Nesting Wood Storks Defy the Odds and Now Fledging Chicks

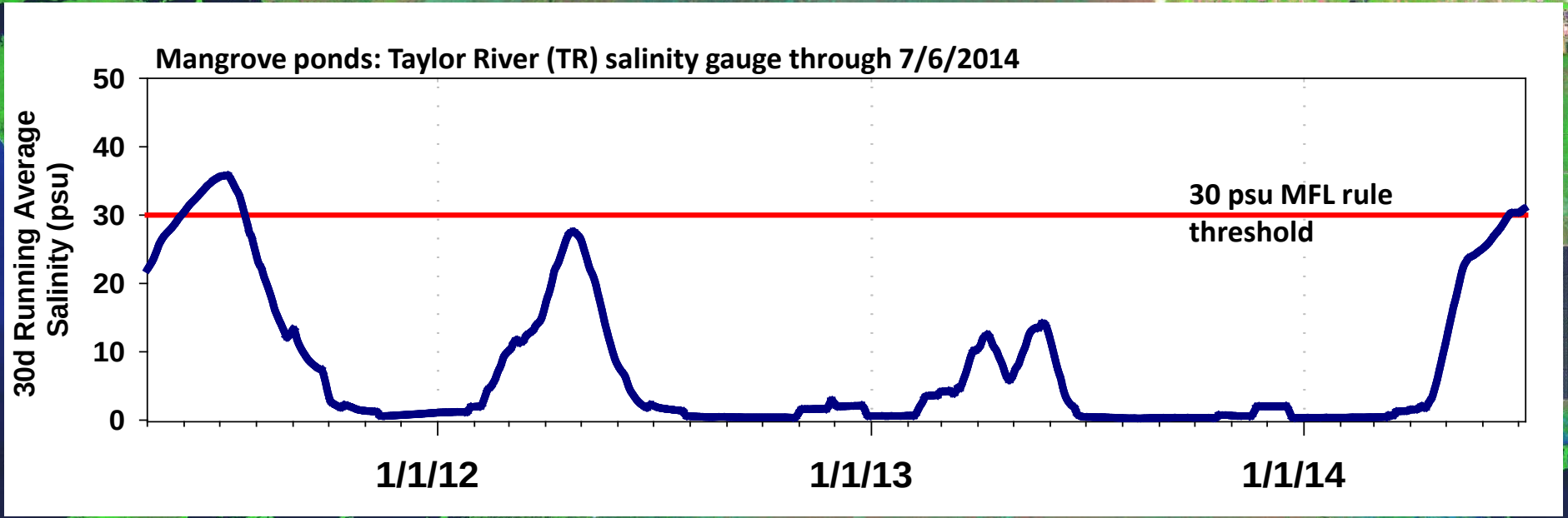
- Wood stork nesting started exceptionally late this year, usually producing major nest failure when the rains start
- However, delayed wet season has allowed hundreds of chicks to fledge
- Many nestlings should become fully independent of the colony in the next week or so

Hundreds of fledgling Wood Storks seen at the Jetport South Colony in western WCA-3A on June 30th

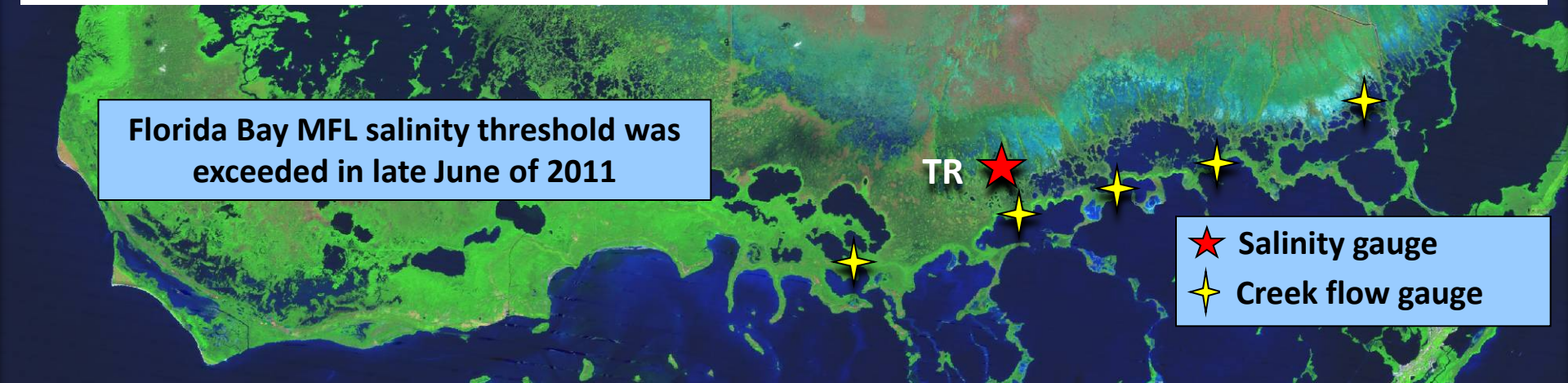
Jetport South Colony



Florida Bay Update

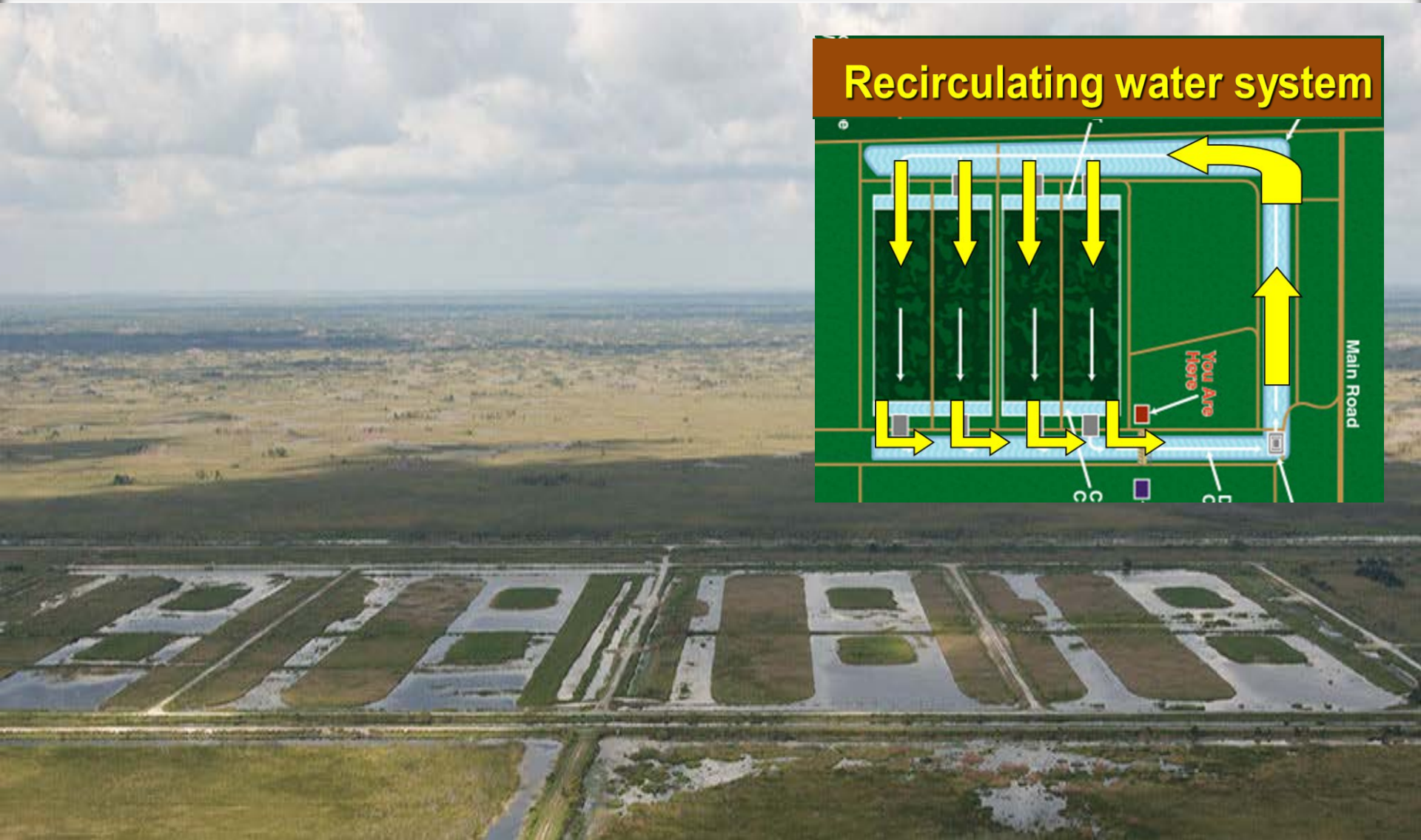


Florida Bay MFL salinity threshold was exceeded in late June of 2011



LILA – Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment Facility

Ecosystem Response to Changes in Flow & Water Depth



Tree Island – 10 years post construction

Tree Island – 10 years post construction

Questions ?