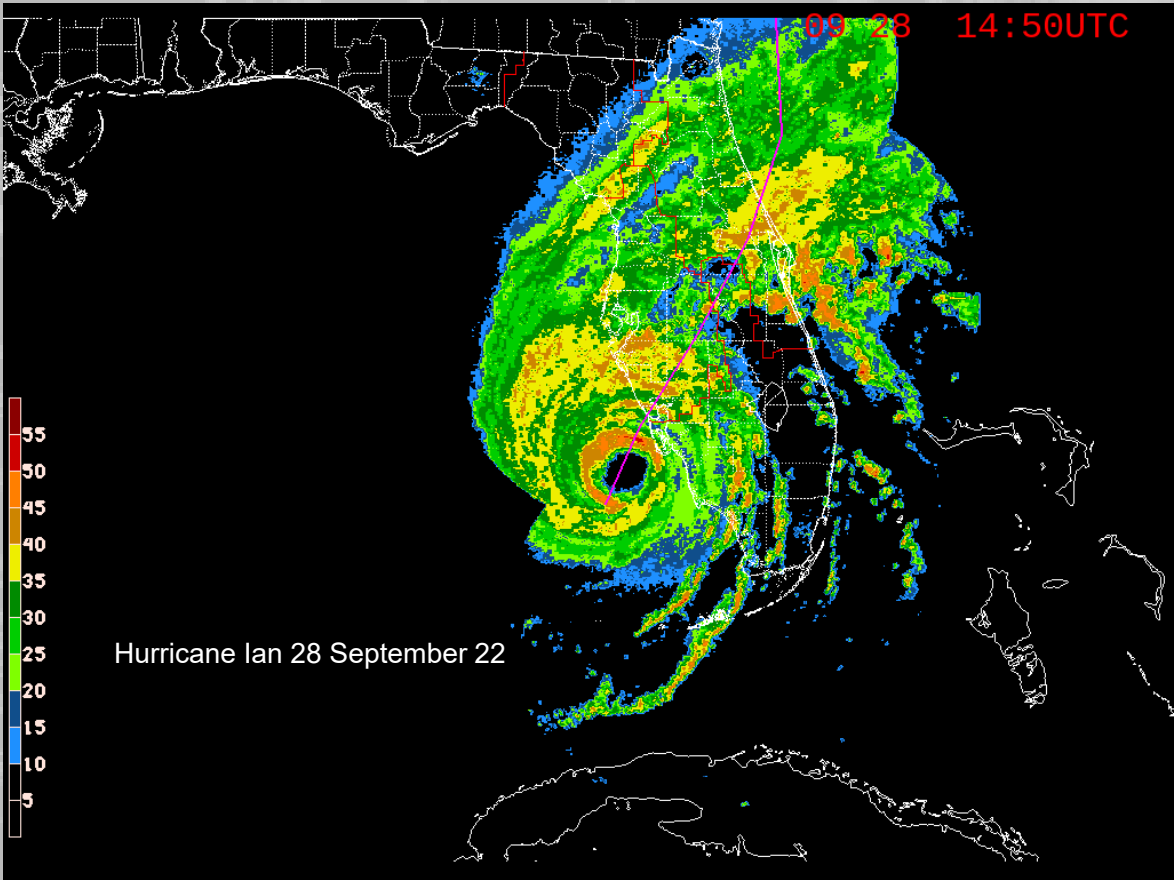


# HOW THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PREPARES FOR, WEATHERS, AND RECOVERS FROM HURRICANES ON LAKE OKEECHOBEE – HURRICANE IAN

Savannah Lacy, P.E.  
Chief, Operations Unit  
Water Management  
USACE Jacksonville  
27 October 2022



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®





# AGENDA

- ☐ Introduction
- ☐ Preparation
- ☐ Weathering
- ☐ Recovering
- ☐ Summary

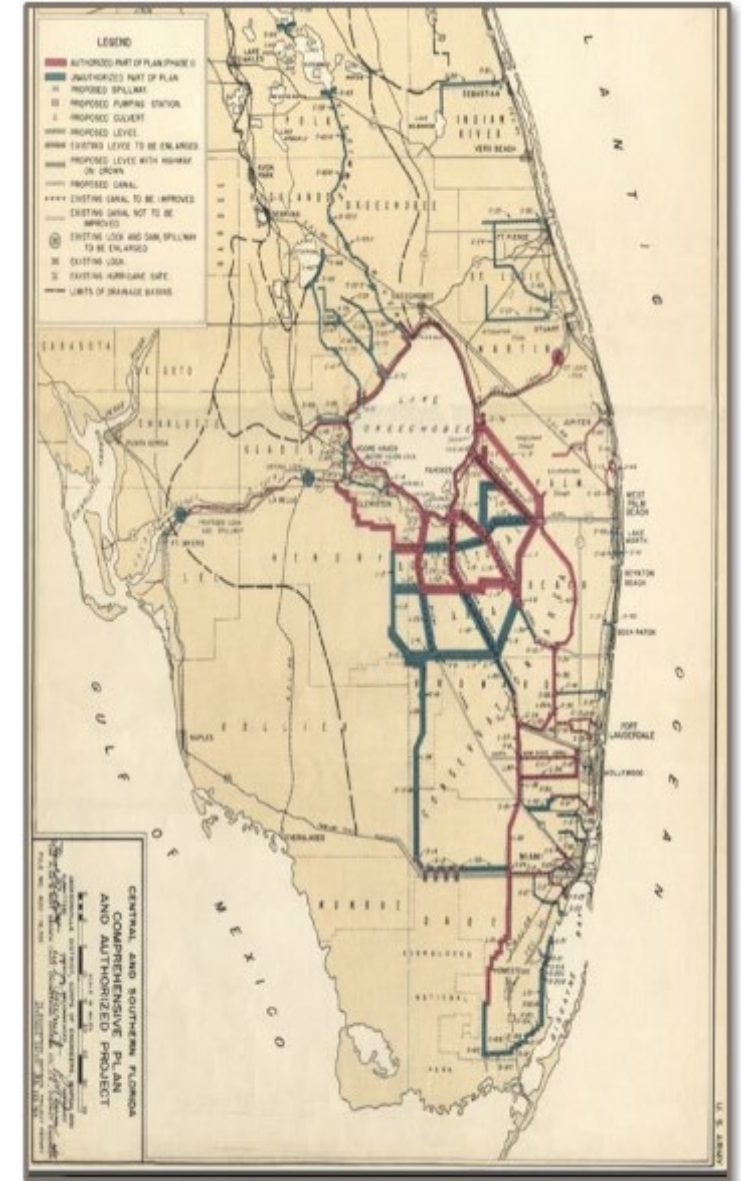




# INTRODUCTION



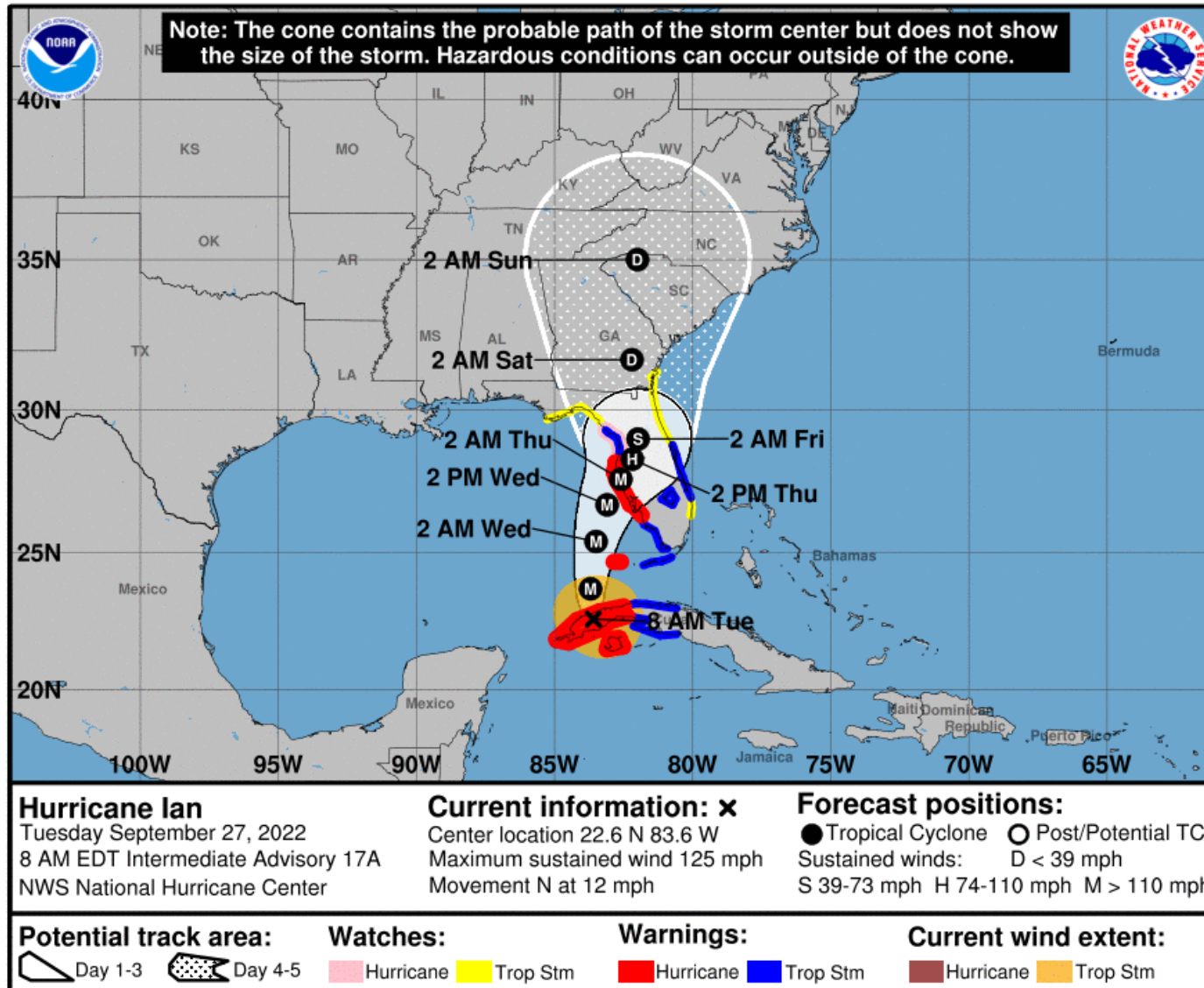
- Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project
  - Flood control
  - Navigation
  - Enhancement of fish and wildlife
  - Recreation
  - Water supply for
    - Agriculture
    - Municipalities
    - Industry
    - Everglades National Park
    - Regional groundwater control
    - Salinity control
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operate Lake Okeechobee as a part of the C&SF Project
- Water Managers operate the lake according to a water control plan which have seasonally varying guidance on releases and water levels and on storm preparations and operations





# PREPARING FOR IAN

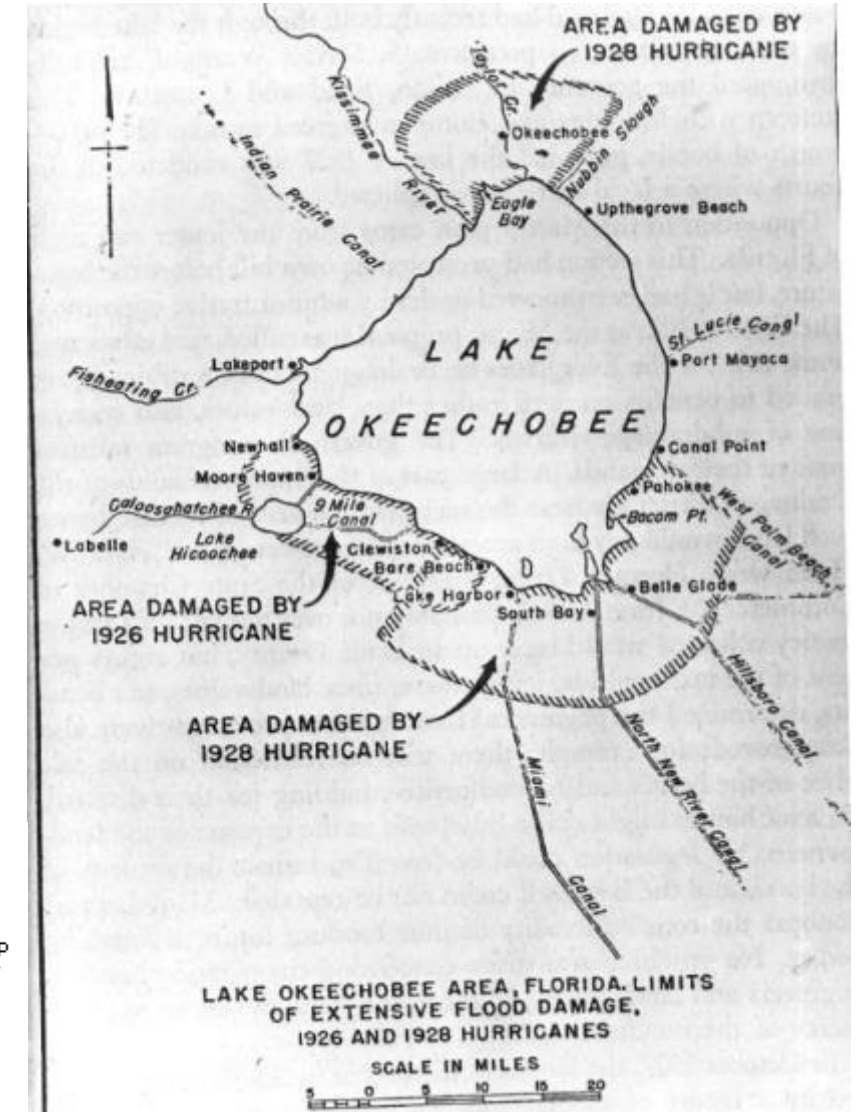
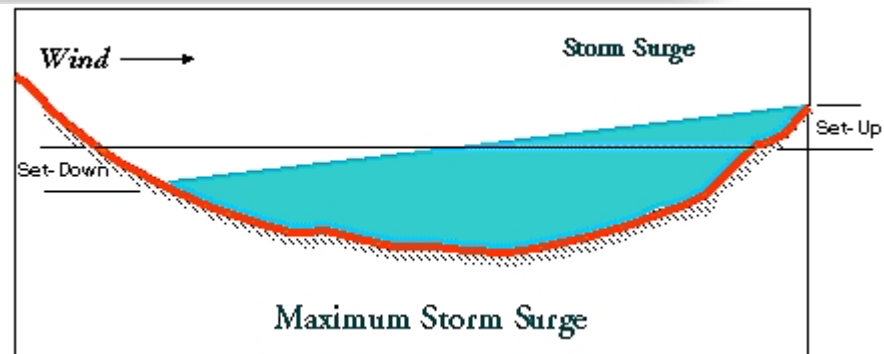
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27 September 2022

- Tropical Storm Warning Issued for Lake Okeechobee
- USACE and SFWMD begin preparations
  - Begin closing all structures on lake along the Herbert Hoover Dike
  - Lower canals in Okeechobee Waterway and throughout the system to make room for flood waters and improve conveyance

# PREPARING FOR IAN



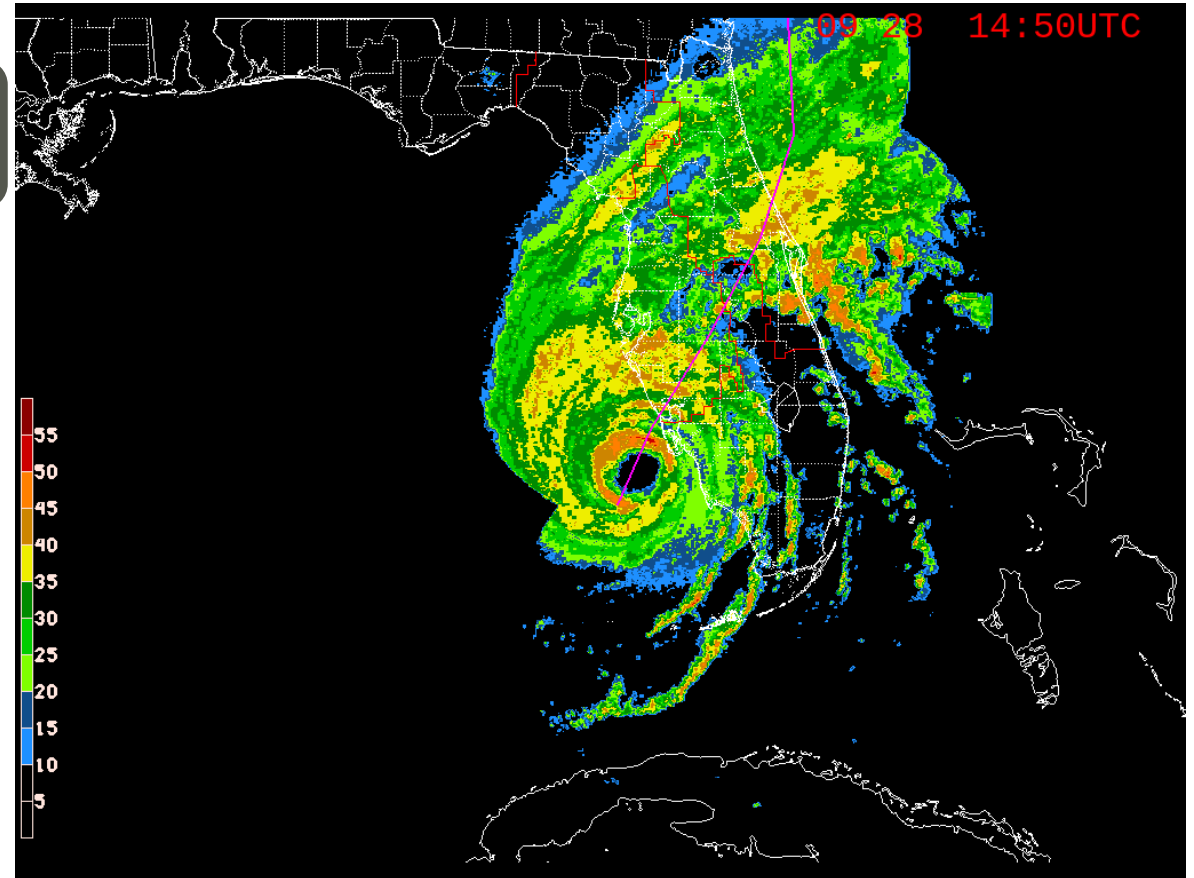
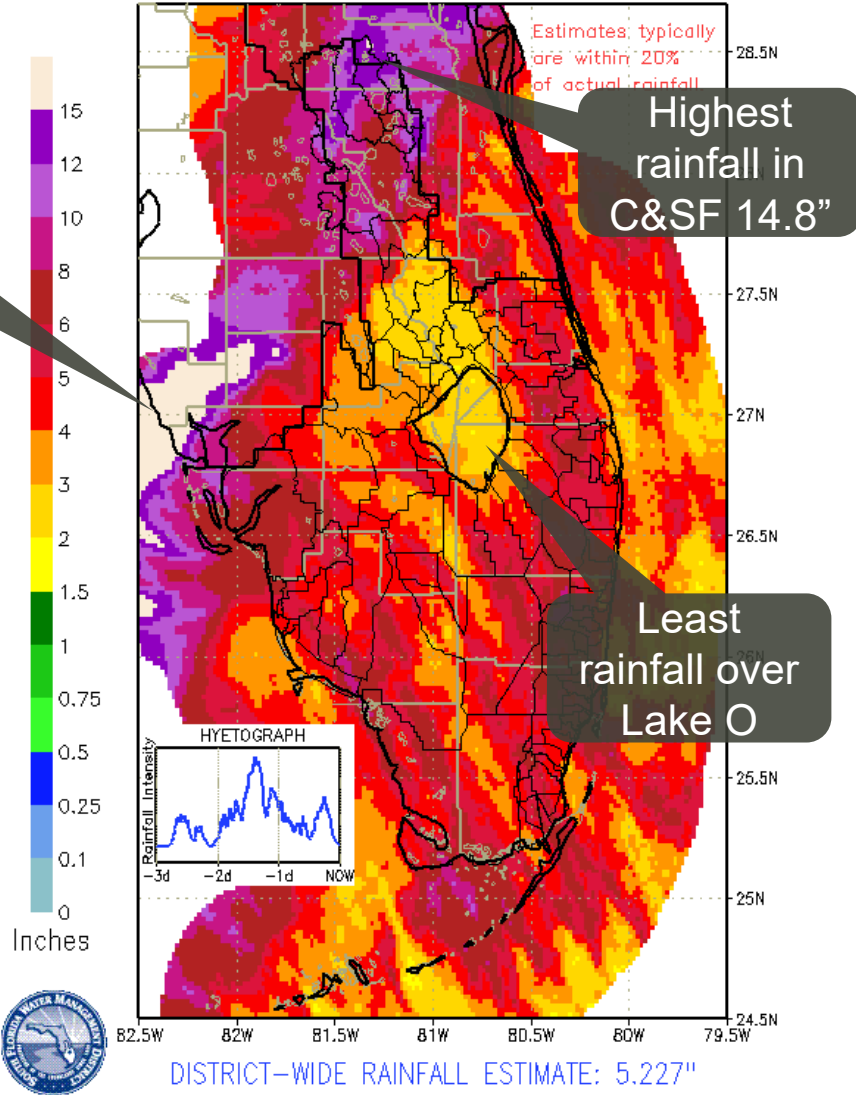


# WEATHERING IAN

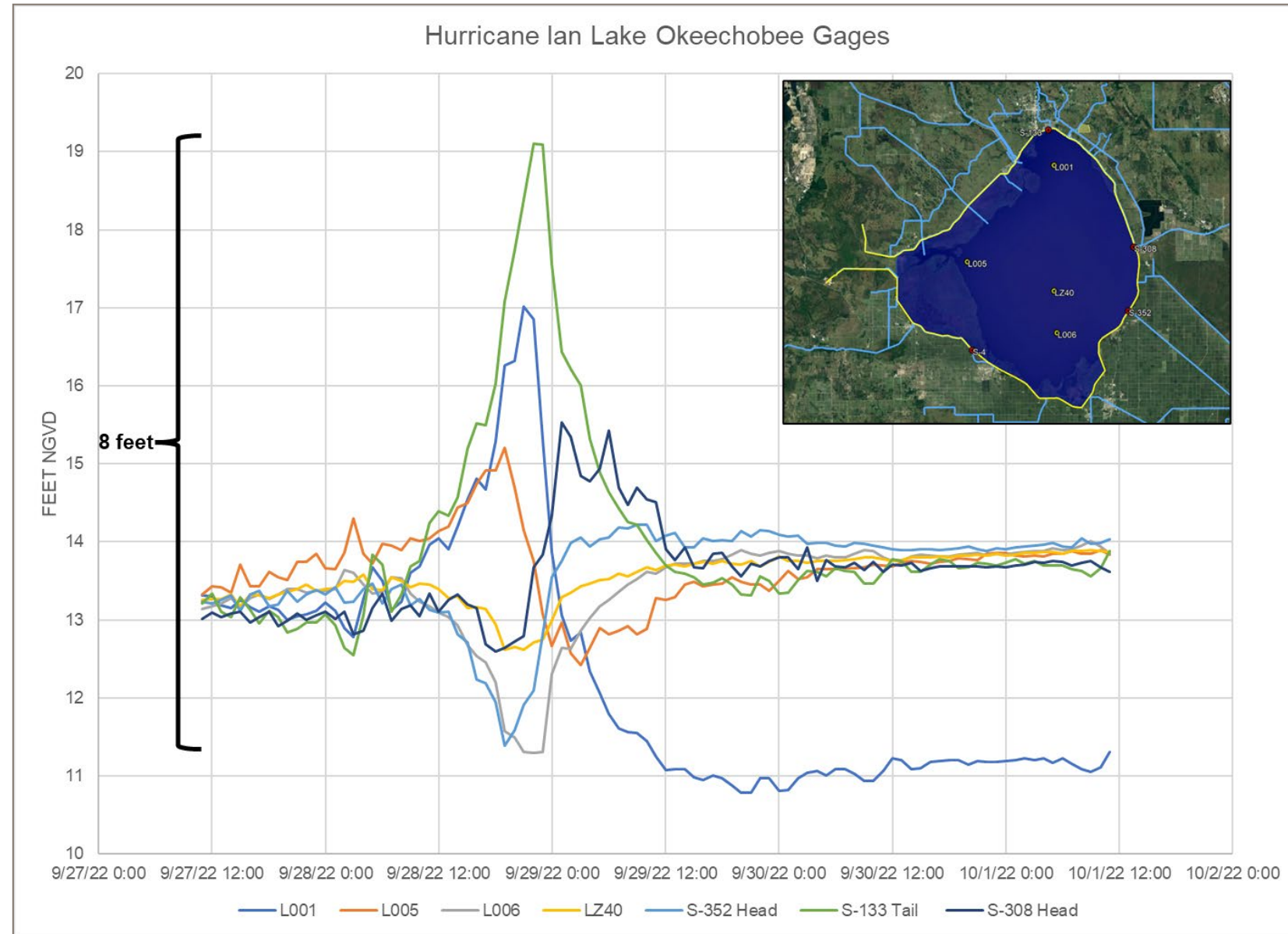
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SFWMD PROVISIONAL RAINDAR 3-DAY RAINFALL ESTIMATES  
FROM: 0530 EST, 09/26/2022 THROUGH: 0530 EST, 09/29/2022



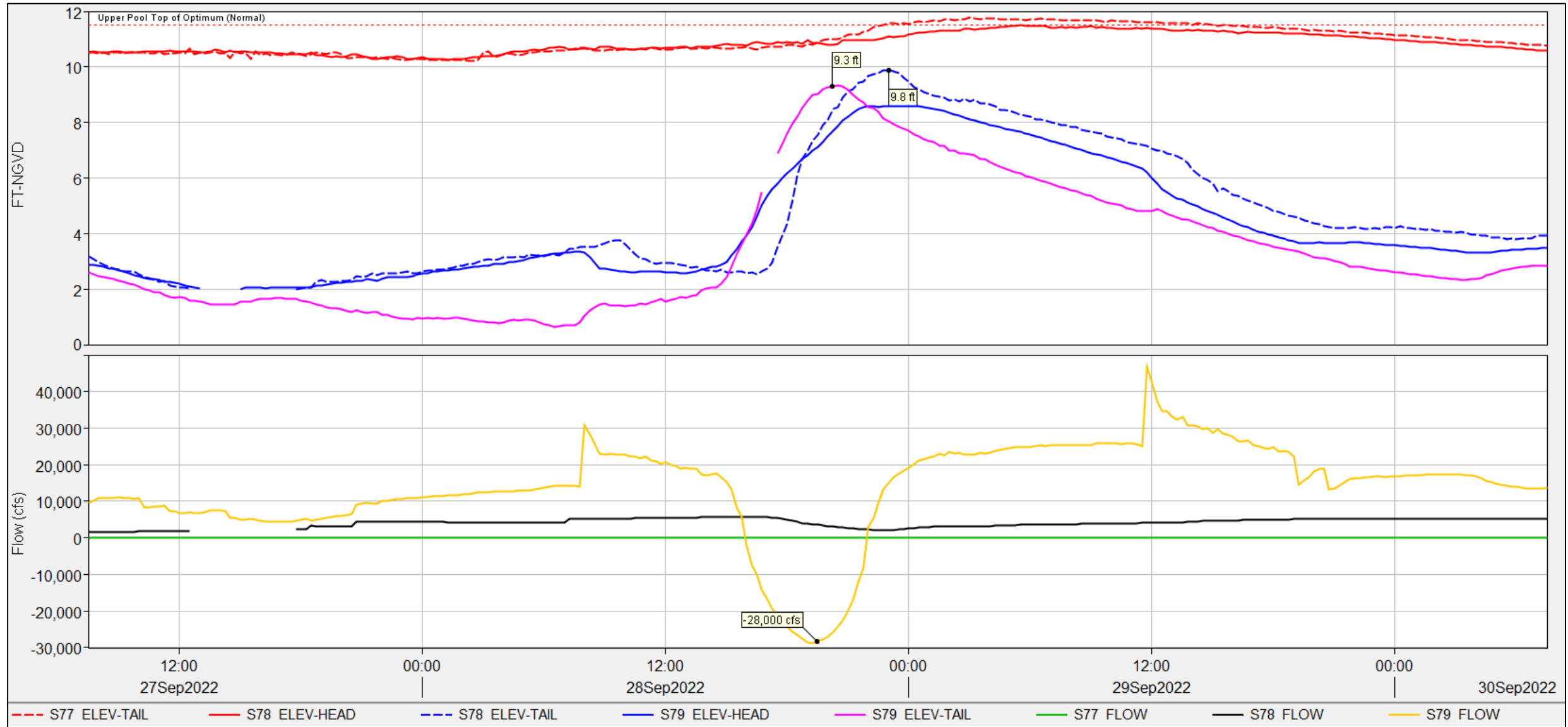
# WEATHERING IAN IN LAKE OKEECHOBEE



Water was pulled to the north while storm passed north of Lake O. Winds were recorded peaking about 55 mph

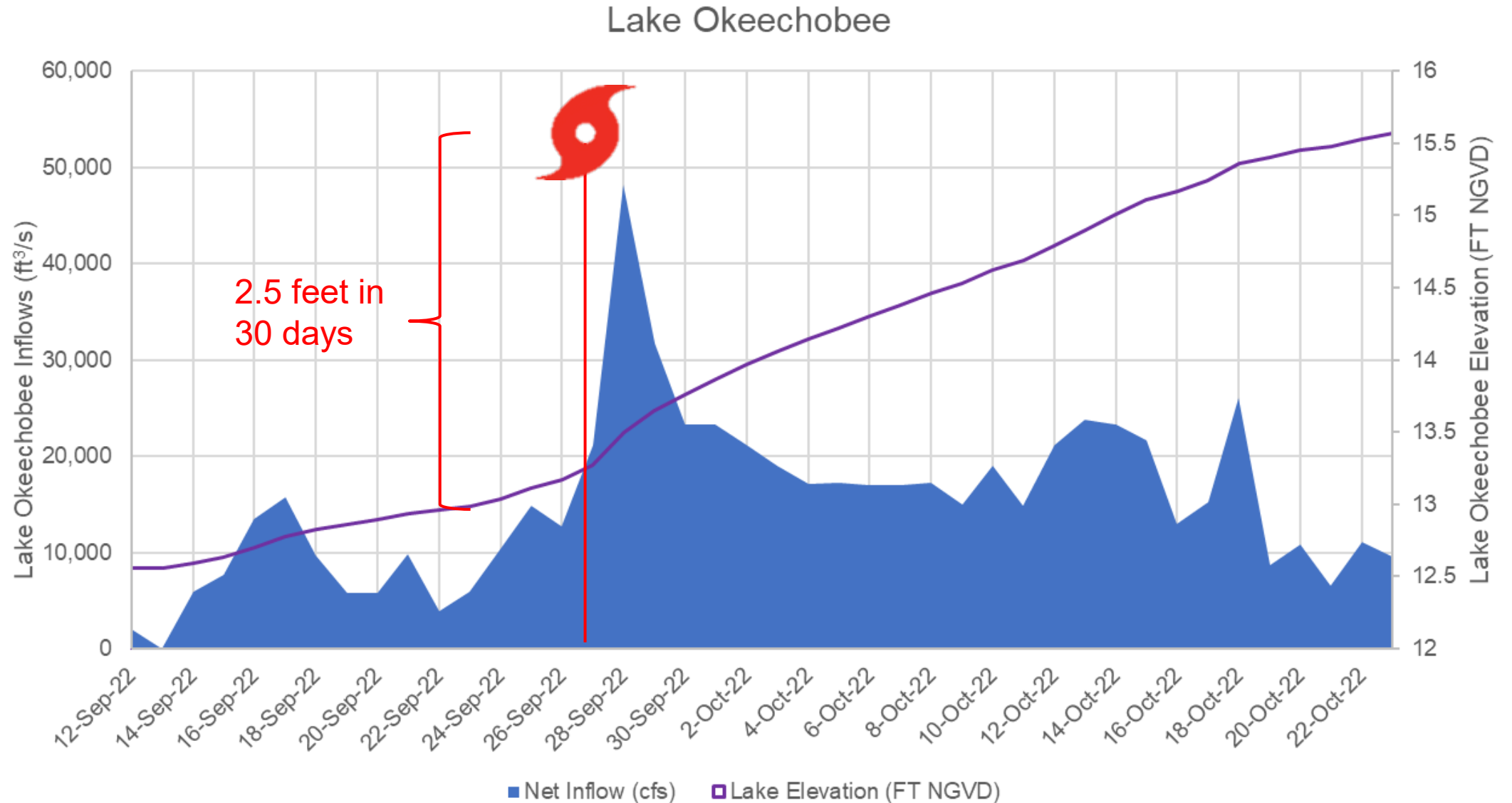


# WEATHERING IAN IN C-43 CANAL





# RECOVERING FROM IAN





# KEY TAKEAWAYS



- USACE prepared the system for the storm by inspecting and securing HHD and lowering canals
- Lower antecedent lake levels going into the storm meant there was capacity
- Heavy rainfall began over the OWW and Lake Okeechobee first
- Storm surge was historic on the west coast
- Lake Okeechobee experienced high winds and wind runup on the dike
- Inflows just now coming back to pre-storm levels
- Still have not peaked on Lake Okeechobee as of 24 October almost a month later



# Questions

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