



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Jacksonville District

# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
TO BEGIN NEW LAKE OKEECHOBEE RELEASES TUESDAY, SEPT. 16.**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will begin a new 14-day pulse release from Lake Okeechobee on Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 7 a.m. The releases will continue through Monday, Sept. 29.

The average target release flow over the 14-day period will be 3,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to the Caloosahatchee River, measured at the Moore Haven Lock. The average target release flow to the St. Lucie Canal will be 1,500 cfs, measured at the St. Lucie Lock and Dam. This release is lower than the previous release and lower than the Corps' 2008 Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule, which allows for releases up to 4,000 cfs and 1,800 cfs to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie respectively.

Pulse releases are designed to mimic a natural rain event with discharges from the lake to the St. Lucie Canal to the east and the Caloosahatchee River to the west. The current 11-day pulse release will end Sept. 14.

Today, the lake stage is 15.12 feet NGVD (National Geodetic Vertical Datum) and is at the upper end of the Corps' desired operating range of 12.5 to 15.5 feet. As inflows to Lake Okeechobee continue at a rate of 6,062 cfs, releases will help to maintain the lake in the desired



operating range to reduce pressure on the Herbert Hoover Dike. The first 11-day period of pulse releases was successful in slowing the rate of rise on the lake.

“We are in normal operations for this time of year, and a lake level that is average for the middle of the hurricane season,” said Sean Smith, Chief of the Water Resources Engineering Branch. “Making low-level releases now will minimize the possibility that we may have to make higher-level releases at a later time.”

For further information, please call the Jacksonville District Corporate Communication Office at 904-232-2236 or (cell) 904-614-4976.

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