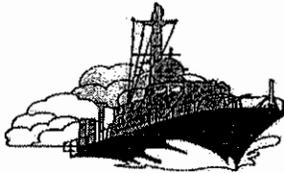




**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Jacksonville District

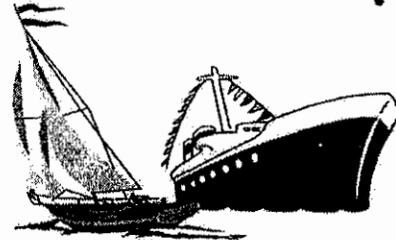


904-232-1978

NOTICE TO NAVIGATION INTERESTS



In reply refer to:
CESAJ-CO-OM
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019



CESAJ-CO-OP (1130)

May 28, 2004

NOTICE TO NAVIGATION INTERESTS

RESTRICTED NAVIGATION DEPTHS

OKEECHOBEE WATERWAY, FLORIDA

1. Water levels in Lake Okeechobee continue to decline. Navigation interests are advised that restricted navigation depths are being encountered in the Okeechobee Waterway.

2. Drought conditions have restricted depths along Lake Okeechobee Route 1 near Port Mayaca Lock to 6.9 feet at a lake water elevation of 12.9 feet, NGVD.

3. It is recommended that Route 2 (the Rim Canal) be avoided due to extremely shallow water. Although there is shallow water throughout, the worst case is just West of Port Mayaca Lock, between LT-2 and DEN-12; the depth in this location is 4.3 feet at a lake water elevation of 12.9 feet, NGVD.

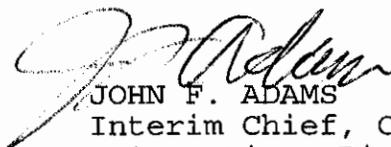
4. Lake levels continue to drop approximately 0.02 foot per day and the outlook for rain is below normal. The table below gives Lake Conditions at a glance for Route 1:

Lake Level (ft., NGVD)	Available Depth (ft.)	Max Draft (ft.)
12.9	* 6.9	5.8
12.4	* 6.4	5.3
11.9	* 5.9	4.8

*Available depth may be temporarily impacted up to 1.1 feet by strong winds. Prudent boating should be exercised according to prevailing weather.

5. Additional information concerning Lake Okeechobee and the adjoining waterway may be obtained by accessing the Jacksonville District web site at <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil> and pulling up the NAVIGATION and/or WATER MANAGEMENT selections from the Menu. Army Corps of Engineers Point of Contact is Gene Campa at (904) 232-1978.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



JOHN F. ADAMS
Interim Chief, Construction-
Operations Division