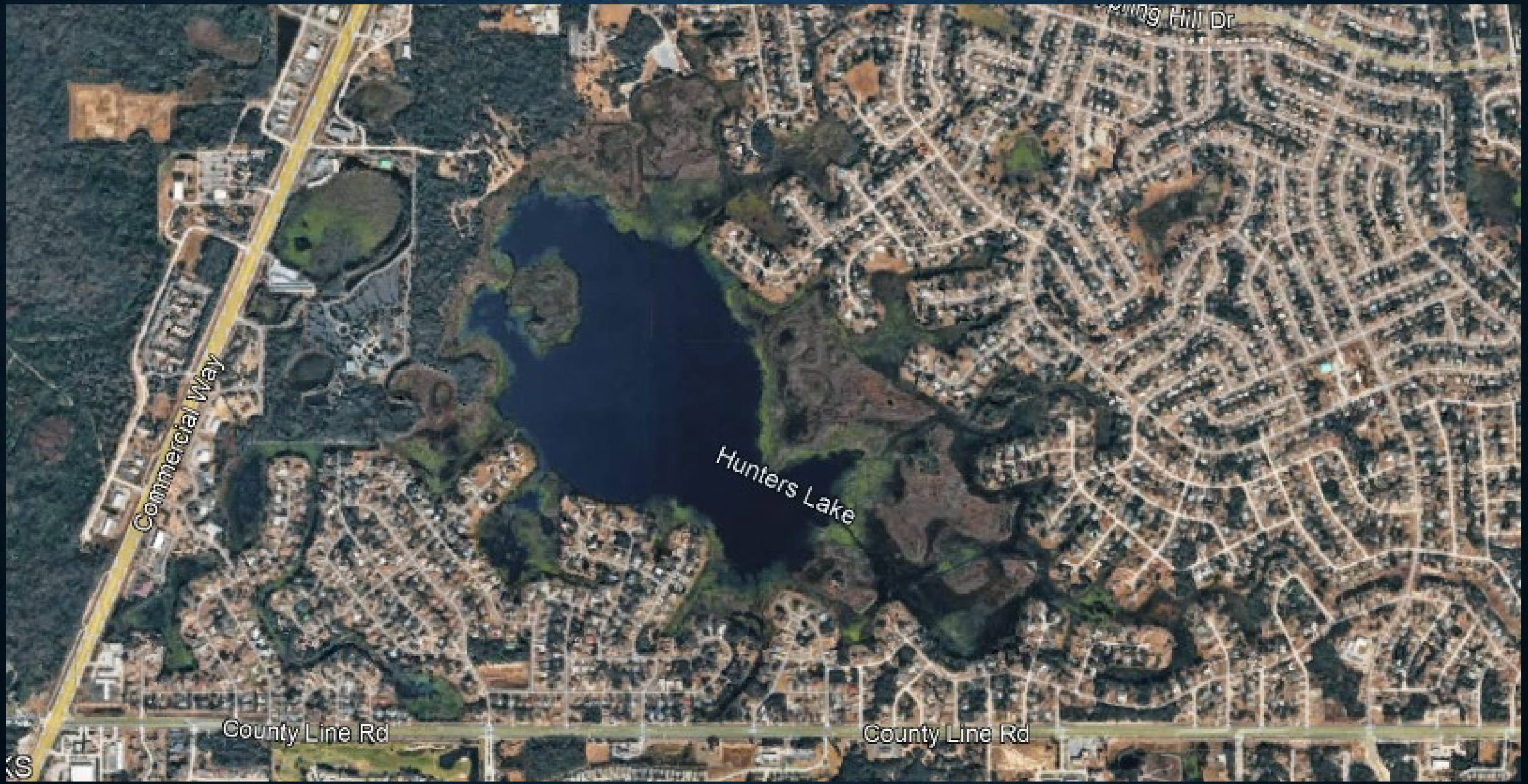
HUNTER'S LAKE MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION

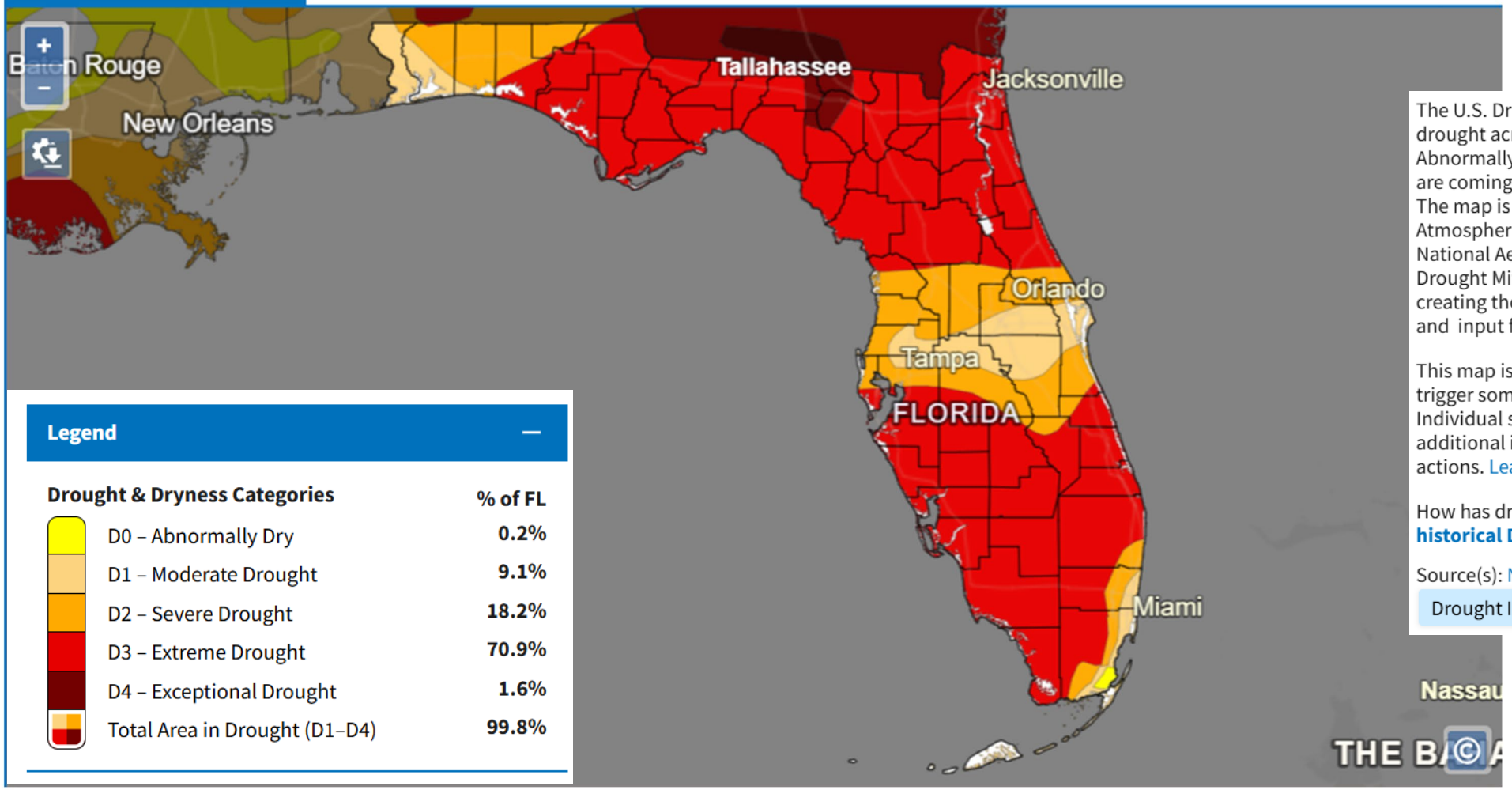
(LS 17145)

Carla Burrmann

Natural Resources Manager


Hunters Lake
Commercial Way
County Line Rd
County Line Rd

U.S. Drought Monitor | USDM 1-Week Change | Short-Term MIDI | Long-Term MIDI



Legend

Drought & Dryness Categories	% of FL
D0 – Abnormally Dry	0.2%
D1 – Moderate Drought	9.1%
D2 – Severe Drought	18.2%
D3 – Extreme Drought	70.9%
D4 – Exceptional Drought	1.6%
Total Area in Drought (D1–D4)	99.8%

The U.S. Drought Monitor depicts the location and intensity of drought across the country. The map uses 5 classifications: Abnormally Dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought (D1–D4). The map is jointly produced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and National Drought Mitigation Center. Authors from these agencies rotate creating the map each week, using both physical indicators and input from local observers.

This map is used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to trigger some disaster declarations and loan eligibility. Individual states and water supply planning may use additional information to inform their declarations and actions. Learn more.

How has drought impacted this state in the past? Explore **historical Drought Monitor maps**.

Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA

Drought Index | Water Supply | Agriculture

February Water Resource Monthly Update

Aquifer* Levels (percentile)

Regions **	Feb. 28 percentile***	Previous week percentile	Same date last year percentile	Normal range percentile****
North	18	16	67	25-75
Central	27	25	66	25-75
South	14	12	47	25-75

* Aquifers are underground layers of rock and sand that hold water. In southwest Florida, more than 80 percent of the water supply comes from aquifers.

** **North** (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties)
Central (Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties)
South (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee and Sarasota counties)

*** The **percentile** compares current aquifer levels to historical levels during the same time of year on a scale of 0-100. For example, if the groundwater level is at the 50th percentile, it means that half of the historical levels for this time of year were higher and half were lower than the current level.

**** Any level that falls between the 25th and the 75th percentile is considered **normal**. Less than the 25th would be considered below normal and above the 75th percentile is above normal.

2026 Rainfall (in inches) *

	Feb. 28	January - February		Year to date	February	
	Actual **	Historic Avg.***	Normal Range***	Actual**	Historic Avg.***	Normal Range***
North	1.76	2.95	1.49 – 4.04	2.70	5.68	3.36 – 7.22
Central	0.82	2.78	1.39 – 4.05	1.70	5.24	3.25 – 6.69
South	0.72	2.49	1.15 – 3.55	1.58	4.71	2.49 – 6.19

Historic Rainfall (January - December in inches)

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	Jan. through Dec.	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Historic Avg.***	Normal Range***
North	39.09	58.57	48.00	51.78	60.87	47.77	57.02	66.66	53.67	48.55 – 58.09
Central	41.06	61.49	42.23	55.14	50.15	52.10	56.03	59.62	52.51	46.77 – 56.55
South	37.67	55.68	40.82	60.49	45.70	52.23	48.56	56.53	52.45	46.87 – 56.94

* The rainfall values for the current month and year are considered provisional and subject to revision. The other annual figures are final.

** Actual rainfall for the time frame referenced at the top of the column.

*** Historical average rainfall for the time frame referenced at the top of the column. The District's historical rainfall records date back to 1914. The "normal range" is defined as rainfall totals that fall on or between the 25th to 75th percentile values derived from the historical data for each month.

SUMMARY OF LAKE ELEVATIONS OF REGIONAL LAKES (feet)

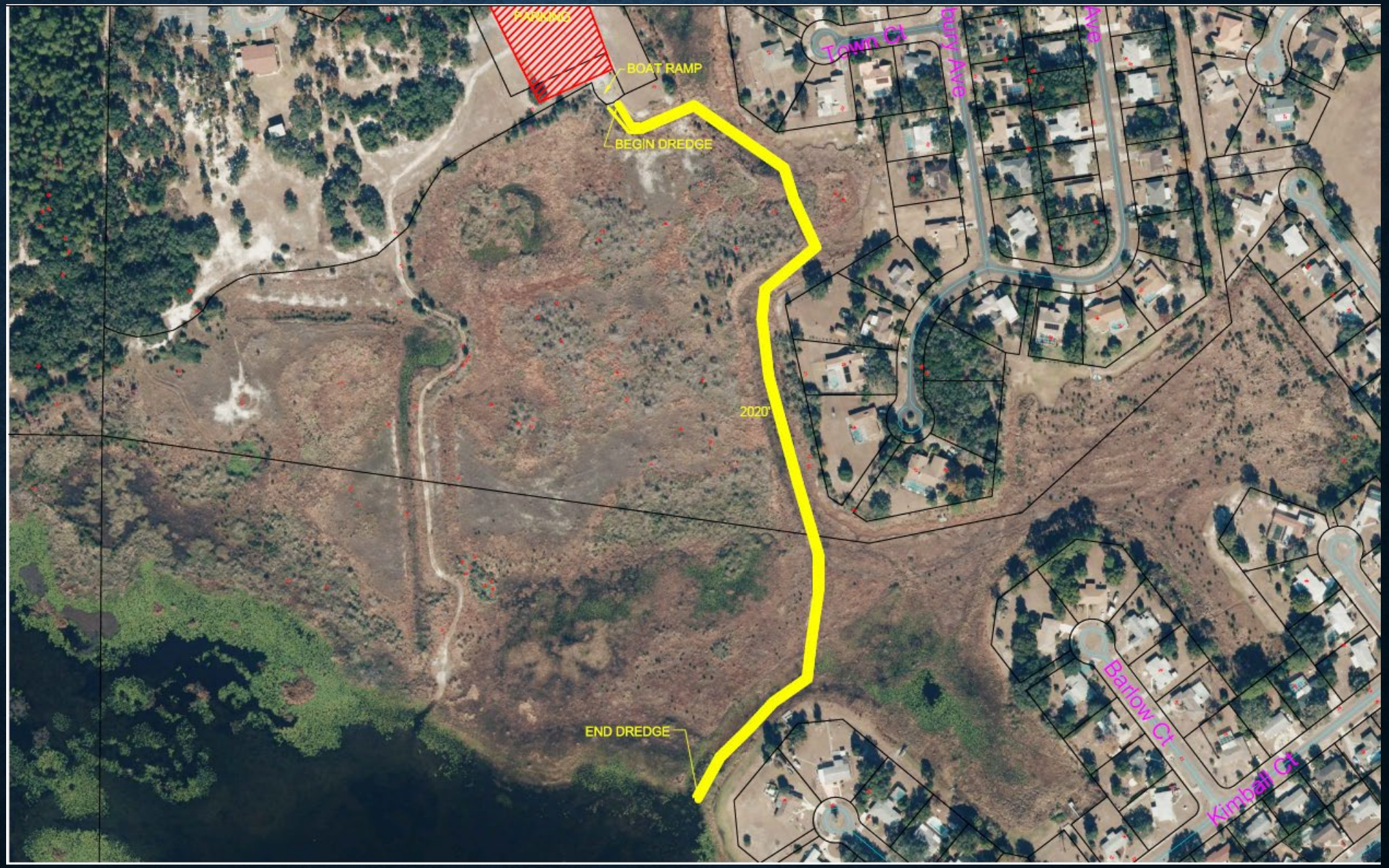
All elevations are referenced to the NGVD29 datum. "M" indicates missing or undetermined value.

NORTHERN LAKES

Lake Name	*County*	*Beginning of Record*	*JAN 2026*	*FEB 2026*	*FEB 2025*	*Change from JAN 2026*	*Change from FEB 2025*	*Diff from MELM*	*(MELM) Drought Year Low*	*(MLM) Normal Year Low*	*(MF) Normal Year High*	*Period of Record Low*	*Record Low Date*	*Period of Record High*	*Record High Date*
Crews Lake	Pasco	1986	46.04	44.56	50.86	-1.48	-6.30	-5.44	50.00	52.00	55.00	42.63	APR 2001	54.92	MAR 1998
Floral City Pool	Citrus	1981	38.83	38.90	40.60	0.07	-1.70	0.65	38.25	40.25	42.50	30.35	JUN 2001	42.66	SEP 2004
Hancock Lake	Pasco	1978	96.90	96.51	102.72	-0.39	-6.21	-5.49	102.00	104.00	106.50	90.00	MAR 2009	108.90	MAR 1998
Hernando Pool	Citrus	1985	35.95	35.91	38.34	-0.04	-2.43	1.16	34.75	36.75	39.00	31.08	JUL 2001	40.17	FEB 1998
Hunters Lake	Hernando	1967	14.13	13.85	16.77	-0.28	-2.92	-2.15	16.00	17.50	20.50	11.70	JUN 2001	20.50	MAR 1970
Inverness Pool	Citrus	1985	37.22	37.12	39.38	-0.10	-2.26	0.87	36.25	38.25	40.50	31.45	MAY 2001	40.89	OCT 2004
Lake Iola	Pasco	1984	140.73	140.33	143.35	-0.40	-3.02	-2.17	142.50	145.00	147.50	128.96	MAY 2012	148.70	JAN 1989
Lake Lindsey	Hernando	1982	65.26	65.13	67.11	-0.13	-1.98	0.63	64.50	66.00	69.00	59.38	MAY 2012	69.47	MAR 1998
Little Lake (Consuella)	Citrus	1985	30.63	30.83	38.30	0.20	-7.47	-6.42	37.25	39.00	41.50	30.29	FEB 2026	42.84	SEP 2004
Lake Miona	Sumter	1985	53.25	52.89	55.13	-0.36	-2.24	1.89	51.00	53.00	55.00	47.88	MAY 2002	55.62	OCT 2024
Moon Lake	Pasco	1990	38.28	37.90	38.88	-0.38	-0.98	2.40	35.50	37.50	40.50	32.98	APR 2009	41.26	SEP 2004
Lake Panasoffkee	Sumter	1962	39.20	39.32	39.77	0.12	-0.45	0.82	38.50	39.50	42.50	36.87	JUN 2007	43.08	OCT 2024
Lake Pasadena	Pasco	1984	89.77	89.45	91.07	-0.32	-1.62	-0.55	90.00	91.50	94.50	81.56	MAY 2001	94.86	OCT 2004
Spring Lake	Hernando	1965	178.91	178.59	180.73	-0.32	-2.14	0.34	178.25	181.25	184.25	174.85	JUN 1965	183.57	OCT 1984

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

- Option 1: move Hunter's Lake boat ramp dredge CIP project to FY27.
  - FWC grant



- Option 2: Vegetation Management
  - A: Establish contractual means to harvest tussocks (as needed) on Hunter's Lake.
  - B: Waterfront property owners may contact FWC to secure a permit to manage aquatic vegetation along their shoreline.
  - C: Addition of grass carp to Hunter's Lake.

- Option 3: Maintain current activities

THANK YOU