Adaptive Protocols for Lake Okeechobee Operations – Status Update

Water Resources Advisory Commission

Lake Okeechobee Committee

September 30, 2009

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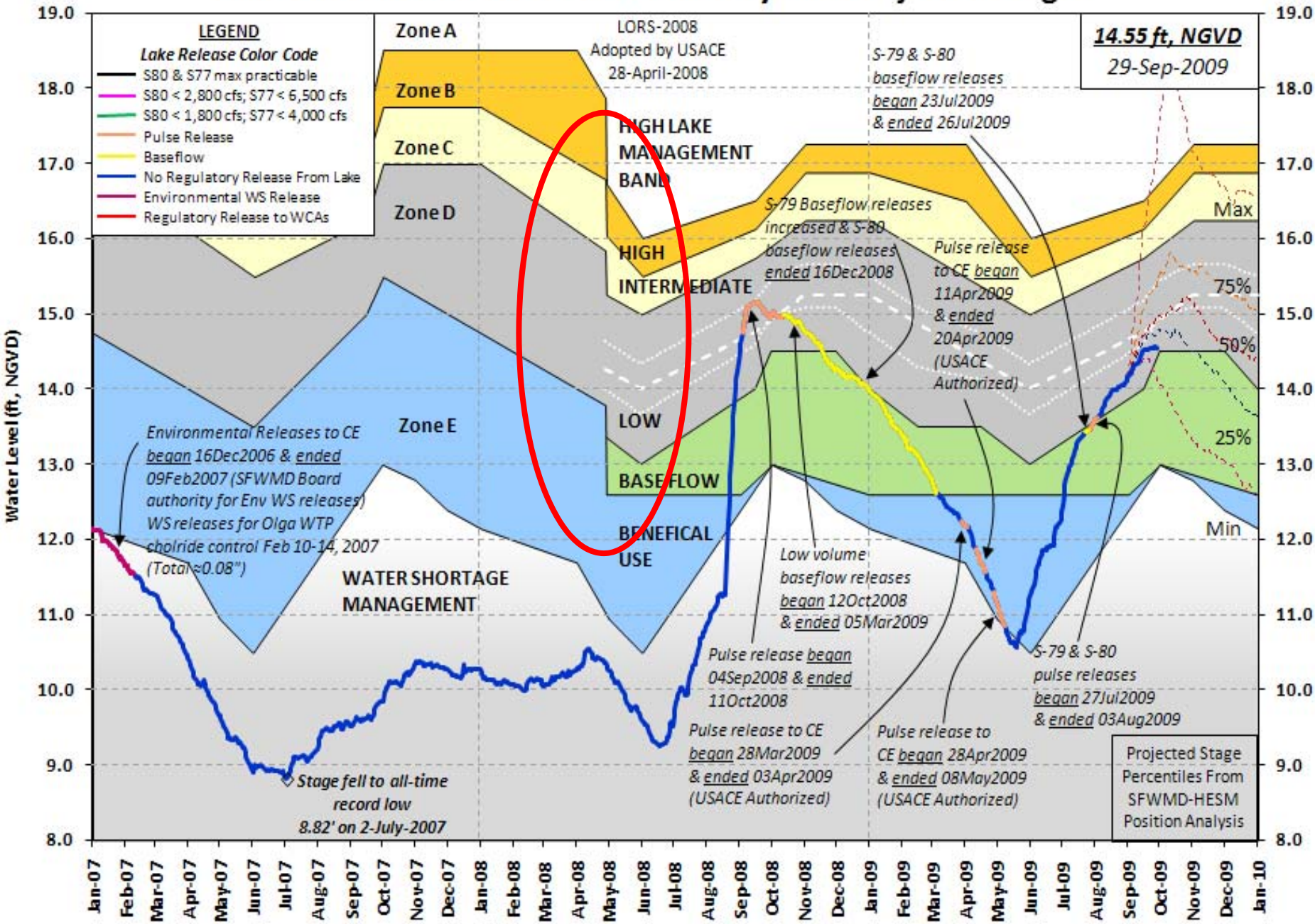
Lake Okeechobee Water Level History and Projected Stages



Adaptive Protocols Status Update

- Held two meetings on August 27th and September 17th
- Reviewed assumptions in LORS 2008 modeling
- Reviewed modeling with inclusion of releases up to 650 cfs in the beneficial use band
- Reviewed performance measures

Adaptive Protocols Status Update

Areas of discussion:

- Define advisory role for SFWMD
- Release volumes early and late in the dry season
- Release volumes in base flow and beneficial use bands
- Refinements to real-time performance measures

Draft Guiding Principles – Key Components

- Balance water supply, flood protection, and environmental protection
- Provide guidance where releases are expressed as a range of volumes, i.e. “up to 2000 cfs”
- Provide guidance where the schedule allows “additional operational flexibility”
- Identify opportunities for “win-win” or “win-neutral” improvements
- Provide guidance on environmental deliveries to the estuaries in the base flow and beneficial use zones

Adaptive Protocols Status Update

- Next meeting will examine events and results of releases from the beneficial use zone last spring (March 6th – May 8th)
- Identify areas of agreement and revisions
- Meeting schedule:
  - October 22nd – West Palm Beach
  - November 19th – West Palm Beach
  - December 16th – Ft. Myers
  - January 21, 2010 – West Palm Beach