

# Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual

*Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation*

*Conservancy of Southwest Florida*

August 31, 2021

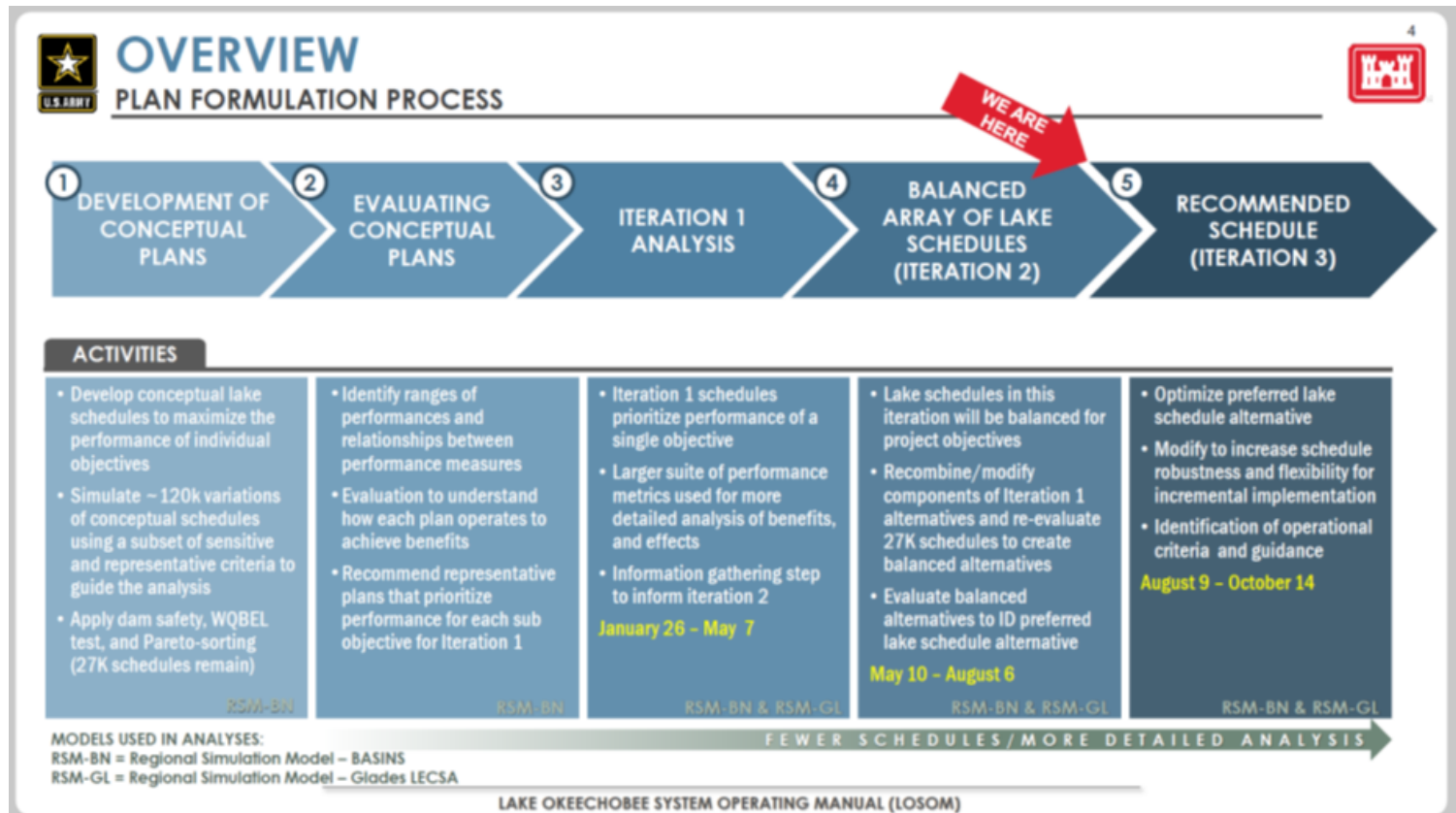


For web version use cursor keys for navigation, press "O" for a slide Overview

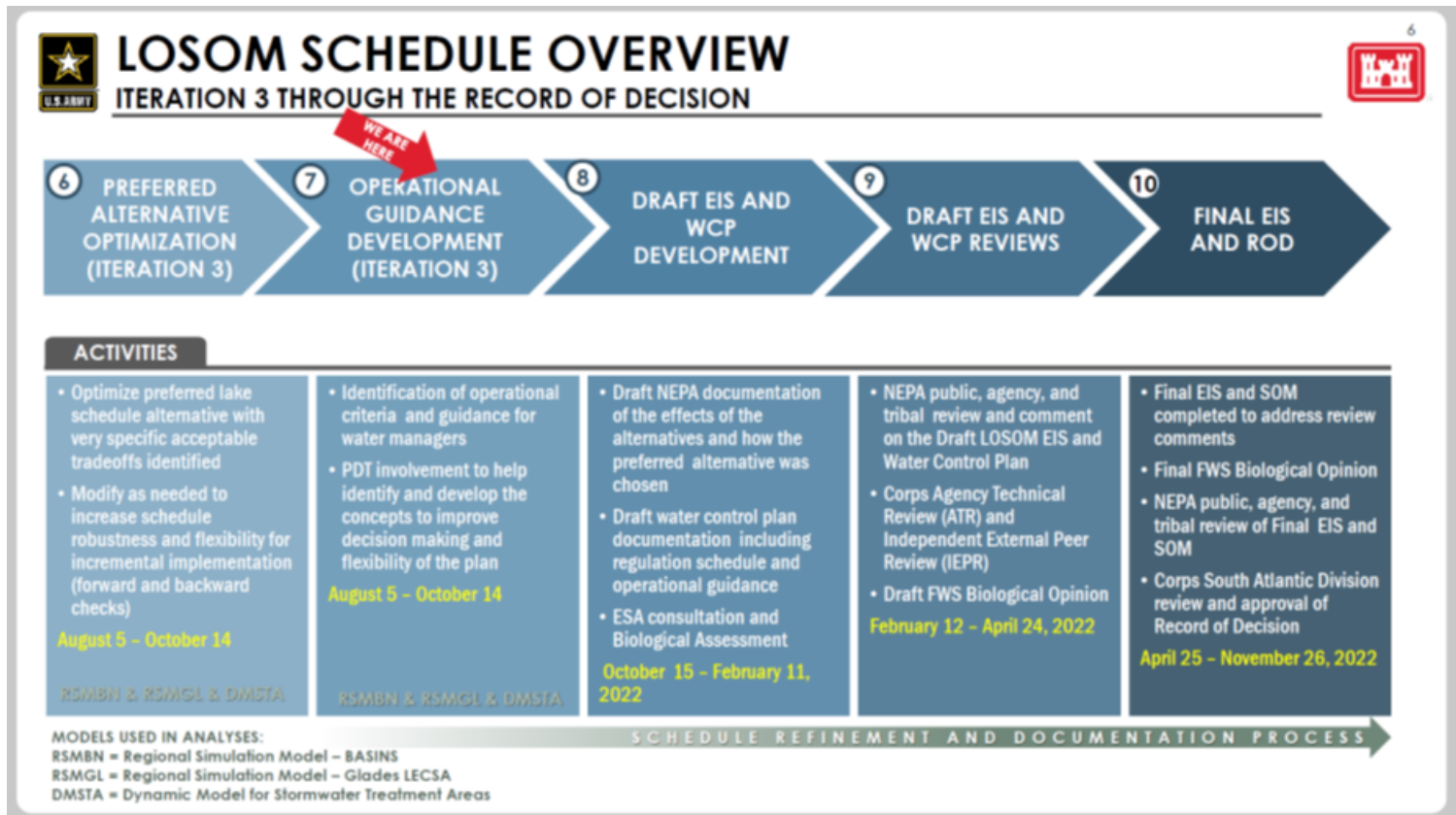
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# LOSOM Process and Timeline

- LOSOM process started with Scoping Meetings - Feb 2019
- LOSOM Public Workshops – Sept 2019

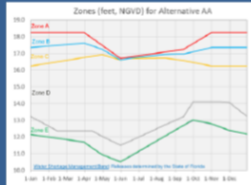


# LOSOM Process and Timeline



# Iteration 2 - Model Alternative

## Alternative AA

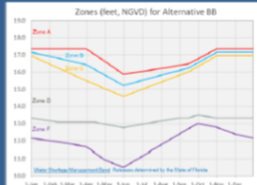


Explores upper and lower lake stages to increase interim storage in the lake to:

- Enhance ecology of St. Lucie Estuary by reducing Lake Okeechobee releases through S-308,
- Improve water supply,
- Enhance Everglades ecology by providing more freshwater south, and
- Enhance Caloosahatchee ecology by providing low and optimal flows.

Favors St Lucie & Flows south with benefits to Water Supply

## Alternative BB

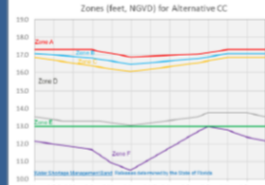


Improves water supply performance to pre-LORS08 as a priority objective and:

- Reduce algal bloom risk
- Increase low and optimal flows to Caloosahatchee Estuary
- Reduce lake releases to St. Lucie Estuary
- Enhancing Everglades ecology by providing more freshwater south.

Favors Recreation & Water Supply

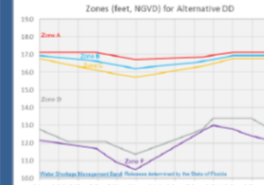
## Alternative CC



- Enhancing Caloosahatchee ecology by providing low and optimal flows and reducing extreme high flows >6500 cfs
- Enhancing ecology of St. Lucie Estuary by reducing Lake O releases
- Enhancing Everglades ecology by providing more freshwater south
- Improving water supply performance as compared to the No Action condition

Favors St Lucie & (to some degree) Caloosahatchee

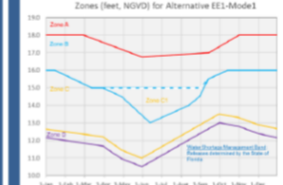
## Alternative DD



Honors the perspective on balance that each of the LOSOM objectives should be incrementally improved over LORS08 performance

Similar to LORS08 Favors Lake

## Alternative EE1 & EE2



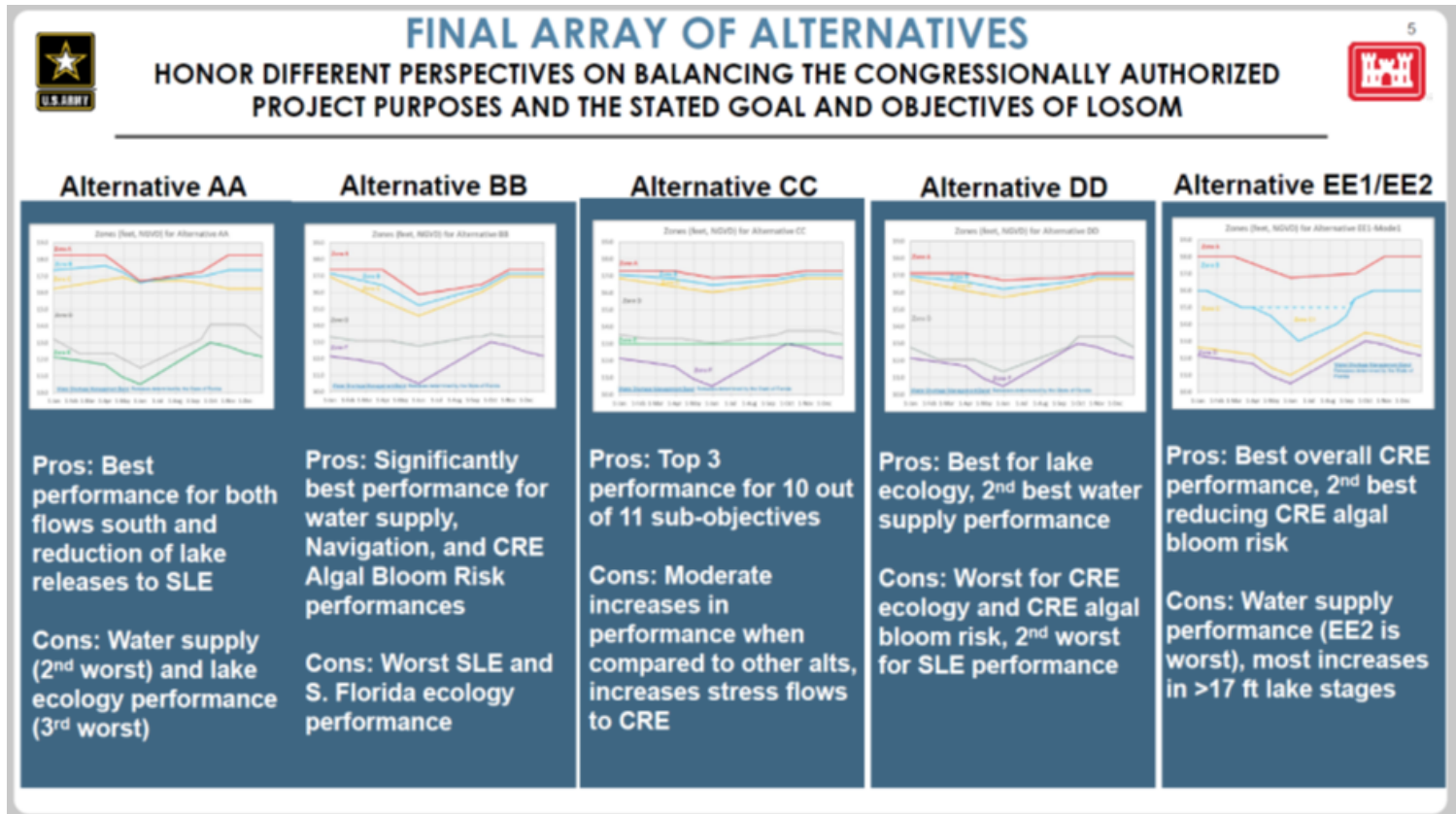
Lake Okeechobee stage target (equation based). Incorporates memory and flexibility by asking key questions at key times to define operational mode:

- Mode 1-Normal
- Mode 2-Conservation
- Mode 3-Recovery

New water management concept – operational flexibility

From SFWMD 08 July 2021 Governing Board meeting presentation

# Iteration 2 - Model Alternative



From USACE PDT 19 July 2021 meeting presentation

# Baselines

## Future Without (FWO) - NA25

- Lake Schedule - LORS08
- Flows South - COP + A-2 STA
- HHD Rehab Complete
- KRR Complete
- C44 & C43 Reservoirs - Operational
- C23/C24 STA - Complete
- CEPP South - Removal of Old TT + CEPP structures
- WCA3A Regulation Schedule - COP

## Existing Condition - ECBR

- Lake Schedule - LORS08
- Flows South - 60k ac-ft (average annual flow to central flowpath)
- Partial HHD Rehab
- KRR as of 2019 (**not** complete)
- C44 & C43 Reservoirs - **Not** Operational
- C23/C24 STA - **Not** Operational
- CEPP South - **Not** Operational
- WCA3A Regulation Schedule - ERTP & L29 Constraint

Average annual regulatory flows (QFC flow tag; CRE: S77; SLE: S308) and stress and damaging events based on RECOVER salinity envelope 14-day event counts for Caloosatchee and St Lucie estuaries.

| Estuary          | Alt               | Summarized Data             |                                     |                                       |                                       |   | Percent Different from FWO  |                                     |                                       |                                       |   |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
|                  |                   | Regulatory Flows (kacft/yr) | Stress Events From LOK <sup>3</sup> | Stress Events From Basin <sup>3</sup> | Damaging Events From LOK <sup>4</sup> | Damaging Events From Basin <sup>4</sup> | Regulatory Flows (kacft/yr) | Stress Events From LOK <sup>3</sup> | Stress Events From Basin <sup>3</sup> | Damaging Events From LOK <sup>4</sup> | Damaging Events From Basin <sup>4</sup> |
| CRE <sup>1</sup> | NA25 <sup>2</sup> | 528                         | 183                                 | 118                                   | 186                                   | 173                                     |                             |                                     |                                       |                                       |   |
|                  | ECBr              | 515                         | 190                                 | 153                                   | 205                                   | 225                                     | -2.5                        | 3.8                                 | 29.7                                  | 10.2                                  | 30.1                                    |
|                  | CC                | 578                         | 289                                 | 89                                    | 156                                   | 174                                     | 9.5                         | 57.9                                | -24.6                                 | -16.1                                 | 0.6                                     |
| SLE <sup>1</sup> | NA25 <sup>2</sup> | 187                         | 148                                 | 210                                   | 142                                   | 428                                     |                             |                                     |                                       |                                       |   |
|                  | ECBr              | 231                         | 162                                 | 186                                   | 160                                   | 432                                     | 23.0                        | 9.5                                 | -11.4                                 | 12.7                                  | 0.9                                     |
|                  | CC                | 72                          | 13                                  | 308                                   | 17                                    | 469                                     | -61.7                       | -91.2                               | 46.7                                  | -88.0                                 | 9.6                                     |

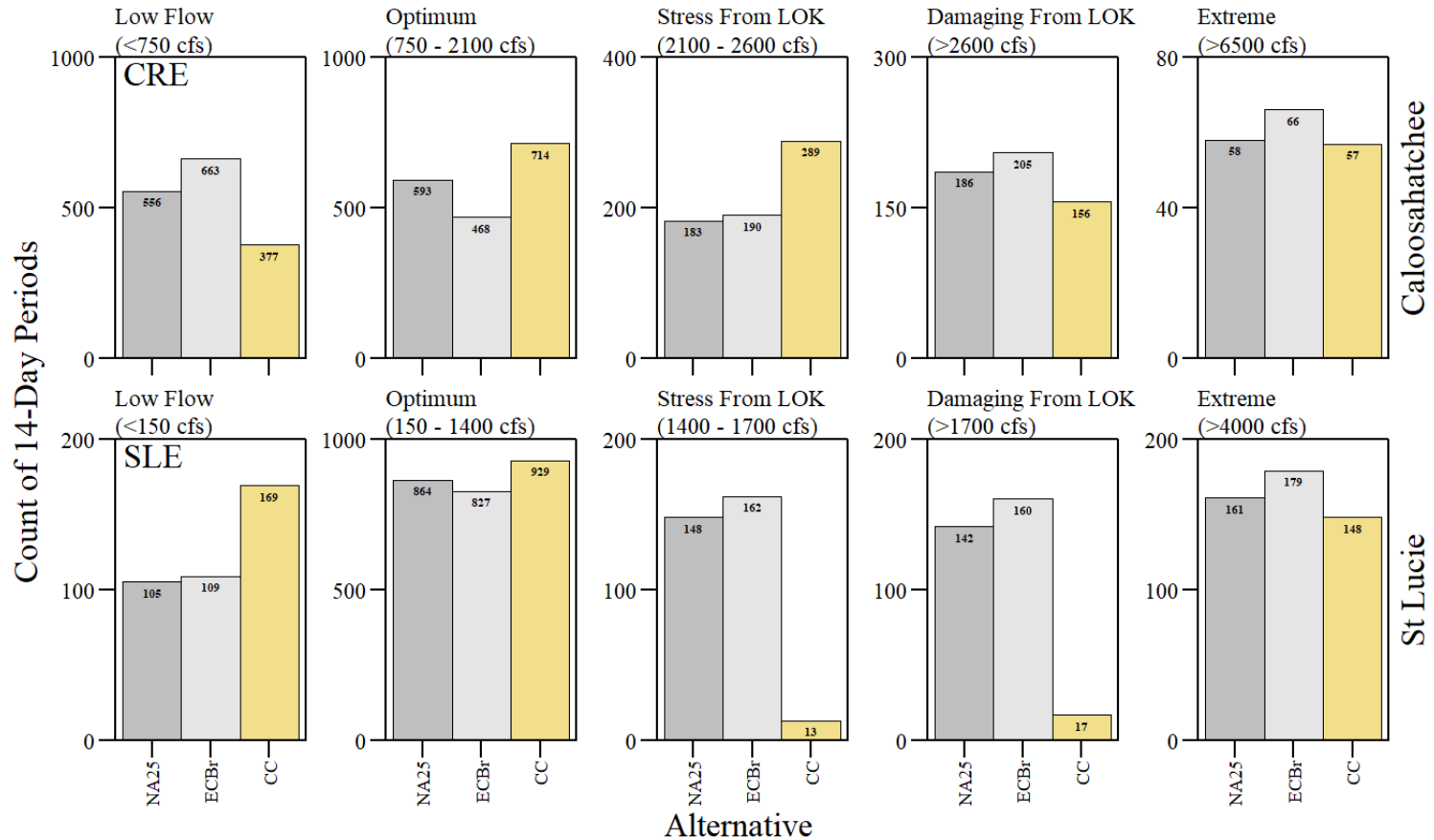
<sup>1</sup> CRE: Caloosahatchee Estuary; SLE: St Lucie Estuary; <sup>2</sup> NA25 = Future without project (FWO)

<sup>3</sup> **Stressful Flows:** CRE:  $\geq 2100$  cfs &  $< 2600$  cfs; SLE:  $\geq 1400$  cfs &  $< 1700$  cfs

<sup>4</sup> **Damaging Flows:** CRE:  $> 2600$  cfs; SLE:  $> 1700$  cfs

**Data Source:** USACE and SFWMD Interagency Modeling Center

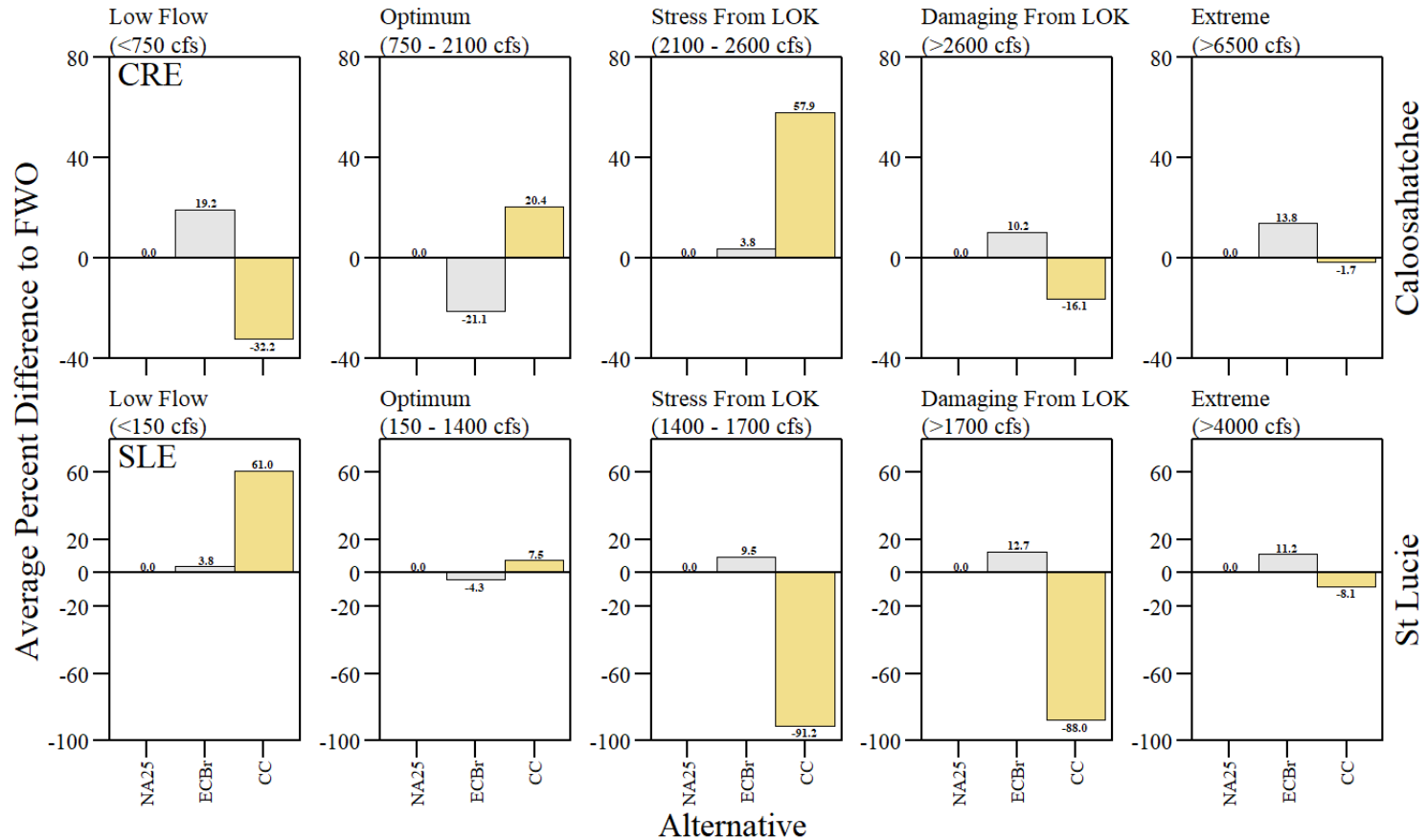
# RECOVER Metric



RECOVER salinity envelope evaluation during the simulation period of record for Caloosahatchee (top) and St Lucie (bottom) estuaries.

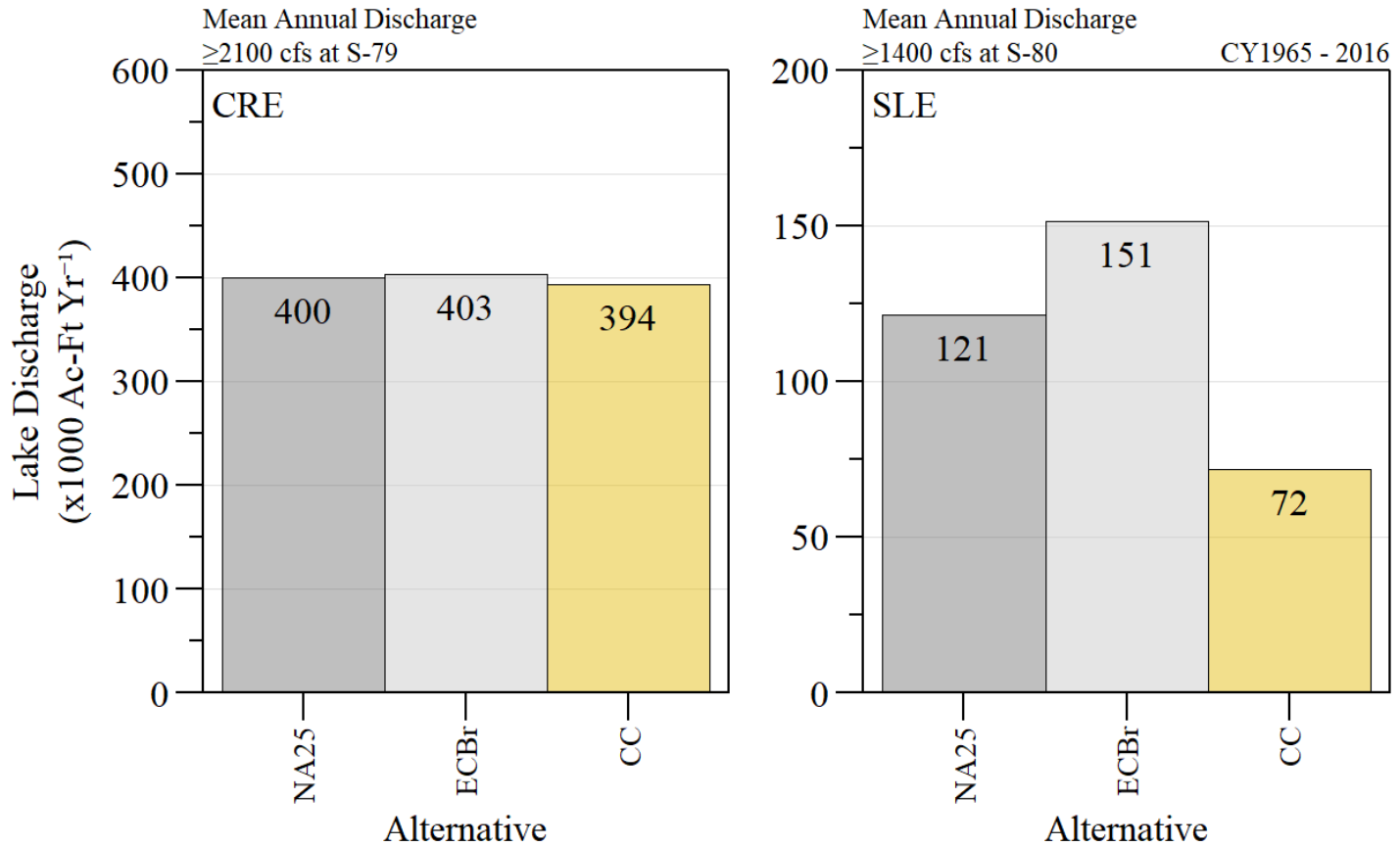


# RECOVER Metric



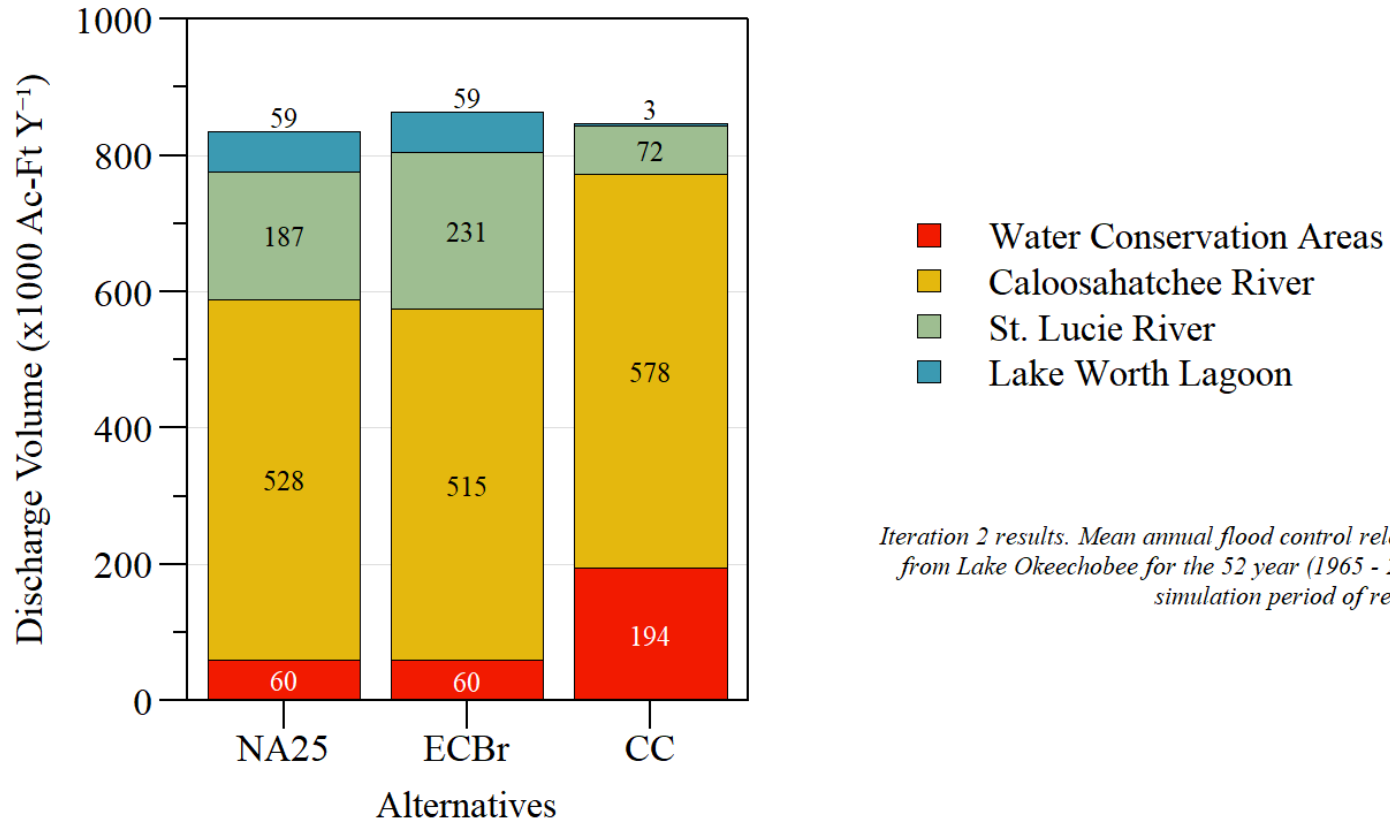
RECOVER salinity envelope evaluation relative to FWO (NA25) during the simulation period of record for Caloosahatchee (top) and St Lucie (bottom) estuaries.

# Lake Discharges



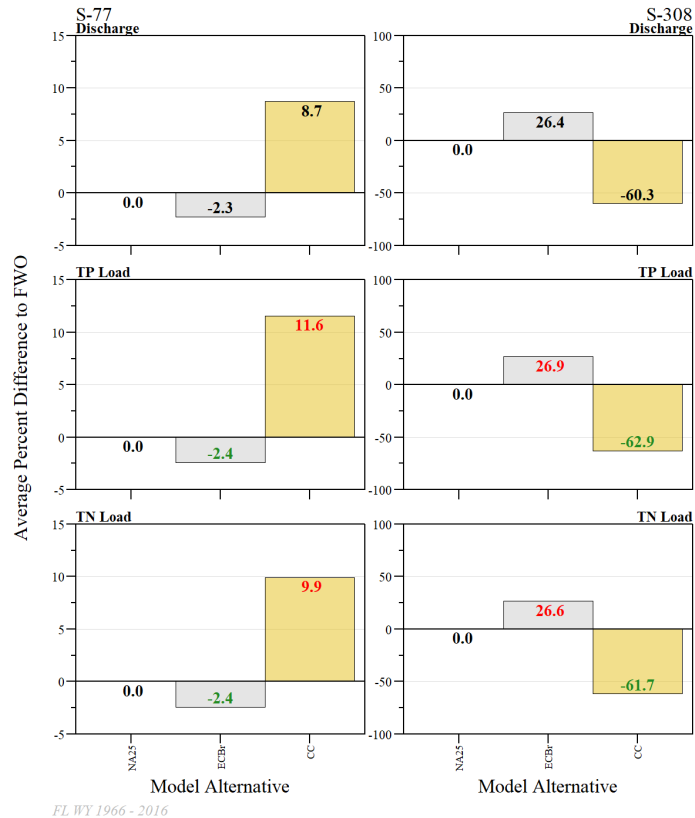
Average annual lake discharge volume over the simulation period of record when stress and damaging discharge at S79 and S80, respectively.

# Flood control discharges



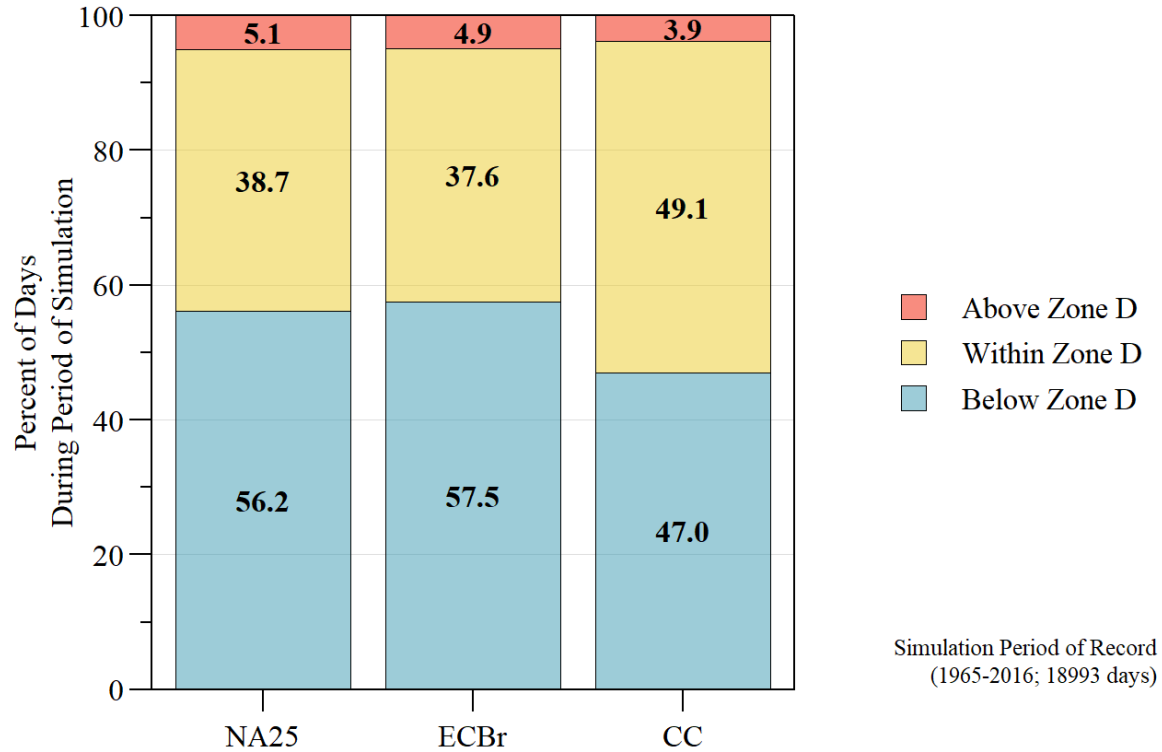
Average annual flood control discharges from Lake Okeechobee to Water Conservation Areas and Northern Estuaries over the simulation period of record.

# Load



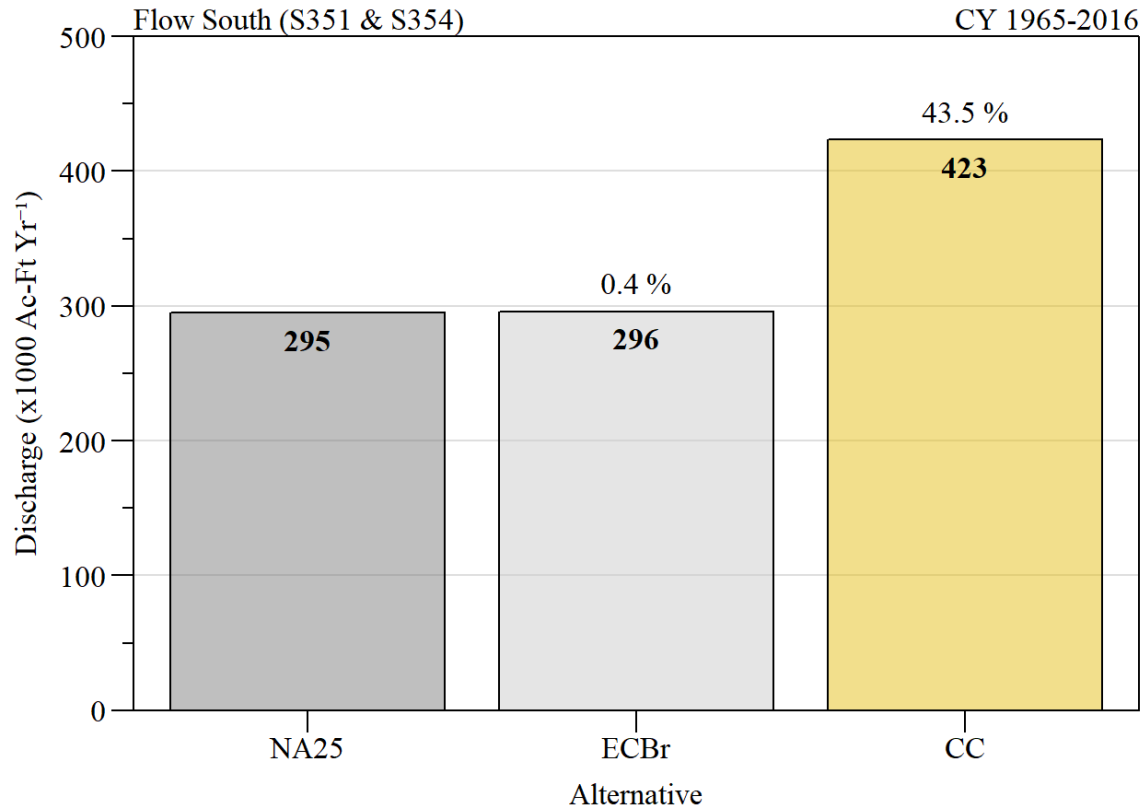
Average percent difference from FWO (NA25) for discharge and estimated nutrient loads over the May 1965 - April 2016 (FL WY 1966 - 2016) period of simulation.

# Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule



Percent of time above, within, and below Zone D of the regulation schedule.

# Flows South



Average annual discharge volume for NA25 (Future Without), ECBR (Existing Condition) and CC (selected alternative) during the simulated period of record.

# Back Flow/Pump

Average annual load and average percent change relative to FWO (NA25) over the simulation period or record between May 1965 and April 2016 for back flow/pumping from S77, S308 and EAA (S2, S3 and S4) to Lake Okeechobee.

| Area | Alt <sup>1</sup> | Average Annual <sup>1</sup>                          |   |                                   |                                   | % Change<br>Compare to FWO |         |         |
|------|------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------|
|      |                  | Percent Total<br>Inflow<br>Water Budget <sup>1</sup> | Discharge<br>(kAcf-Ft WY <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1</sup> | TP Load<br>(kg WY <sup>-1</sup> ) | TN Load<br>(kg WY <sup>-1</sup> ) | Discharge                  | TP Load | TN Load |
| S77  | NA25             | 1.8%   | 34.0  | 5957                              | 70334                             | ---                        | ---     | ---     |
|      | ECBr             | 1.8%   | 35.2  | 6370                              | 74002                             | 3.7                        | 6.9     | 5.2     |
|      | CC               | 1.6%   | 31.5  | 5839                              | 66730                             | -7.3                       | -2.0    | -5.1    |
| S308 | NA25             | 2.1%   | 38.8  | 9894                              | 84024                             | ---                        | ---     | ---     |
|      | ECBr             | 2.4%   | 45.9  | 11421                             | 96162                             | 18.2                       | 15.4    | 14.4    |
|      | CC               | 2.4%   | 45.6  | 11882                             | 101066                            | 17.5                       | 20.1    | 20.3    |
| EAA  | NA25             | 2.5%   | 47.3  | 13790                             | 169512                            | ---                        | ---     | ---     |
|      | ECBr             | 2.7%   | 52.8  | 14516                             | 187490                            | 11.7                       | 5.3     | 10.6    |
|      | CC               | 3.4%   | 64.4  | 15760                             | 228985                            | 36.2                       | 14.3    | 35.1    |

<sup>1</sup>Simulation period of record between Florida Water Year 1966 - 2016 (May 1965 - April 2016)

# Extra Information



## Daily count of low, optimum, stress and damaging flow events for Caloosatchee and St Lucie estuaries.

|                  |                   | Summarized Data |                |        |        |          |            | Percent Different from FWO |                |          |            |          |          |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------|--------|----------|------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------|------------|----------|----------|
| Estuary          | Alt               | Low Events      | Optimum Events | Stress | Stress | Damaging | Damaging   | Low Events                 | Optimum Events | Stress   | Stress     | Damaging | Damaging |
|                  |                   |                 |                | Events | Events | From LOK | From Basin |                            |                | From LOK | From Basin | Events   | Events   |
| CRE <sup>1</sup> | NA25 <sup>2</sup> | 7743            | 6344           | 261    | 488    | 1988     | 2169       | ---                        | ---            | ---      | ---        | ---      | ---      |
|                  | ECBr              | 9354            | 3769           | 246    | 706    | 2015     | 2903       | 20.8                       | -40.6          | -5.7     | 44.7       | 1.4      | 33.8     |
|                  | CC                | 5058            | 8420           | 450    | 519    | 2199     | 2347       | -34.7                      | 32.7           | 72.4     | 6.4        | 10.6     | 8.2      |
| SLE <sup>1</sup> | NA25 <sup>2</sup> | 1943            | 10112          | 388    | 593    | 1444     | 4513       | ---                        | ---            | ---      | ---        | ---      | ---      |
|                  | ECBr              | 2045            | 9725           | 405    | 516    | 1567     | 4735       | 5.2                        | -3.8           | 4.4      | -13.0      | 8.5      | 4.9      |
|                  | CC                | 3110            | 10433          | 0      | 759    | 201      | 4490       | 60.1                       | 3.2            | -100.0   | 28.0       | -86.1    | -0.5     |

<sup>1</sup>CRE: Caloosahatchee Estuary; SLE: St Lucie Estuary; <sup>2</sup>NA25 = Future without project (FWO)

**Low Flows** CRE: < 750 cfs; SLE: < 150 cfs

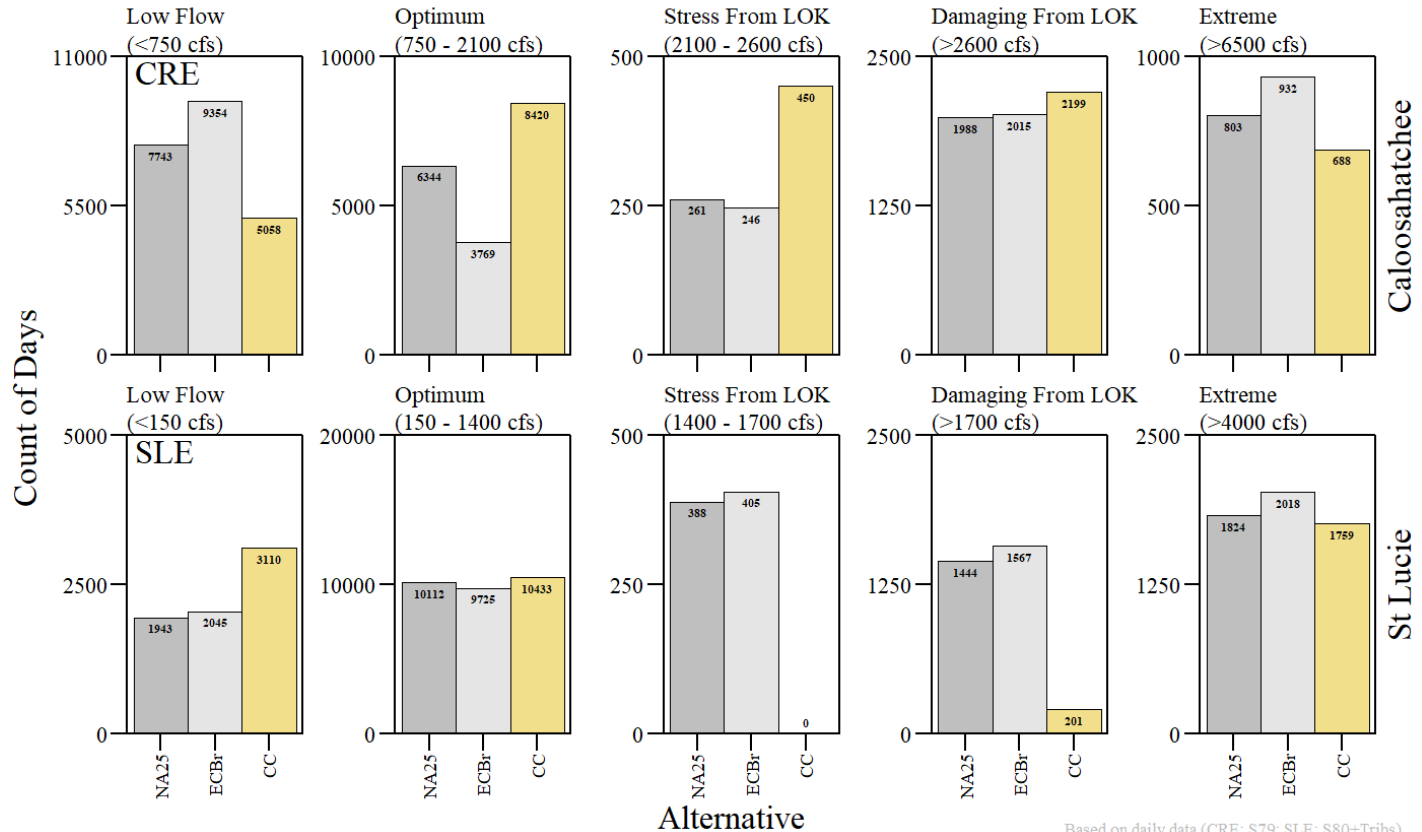
**Optimum Flows** CRE: ≥ 750 cfs & < 2100 cfs; SLE: ≥ 150 cfs & < 1400 cfs

**Stressful Flows** CRE: ≥ 2100 cfs & < 2600 cfs; SLE: ≥ 1400 cfs & < 1700 cfs

**Damaging Flows** CRE: > 2600 cfs; SLE: > 1700 cfs

**Data Source:** USACE and SFWMD Interagency Modeling Center

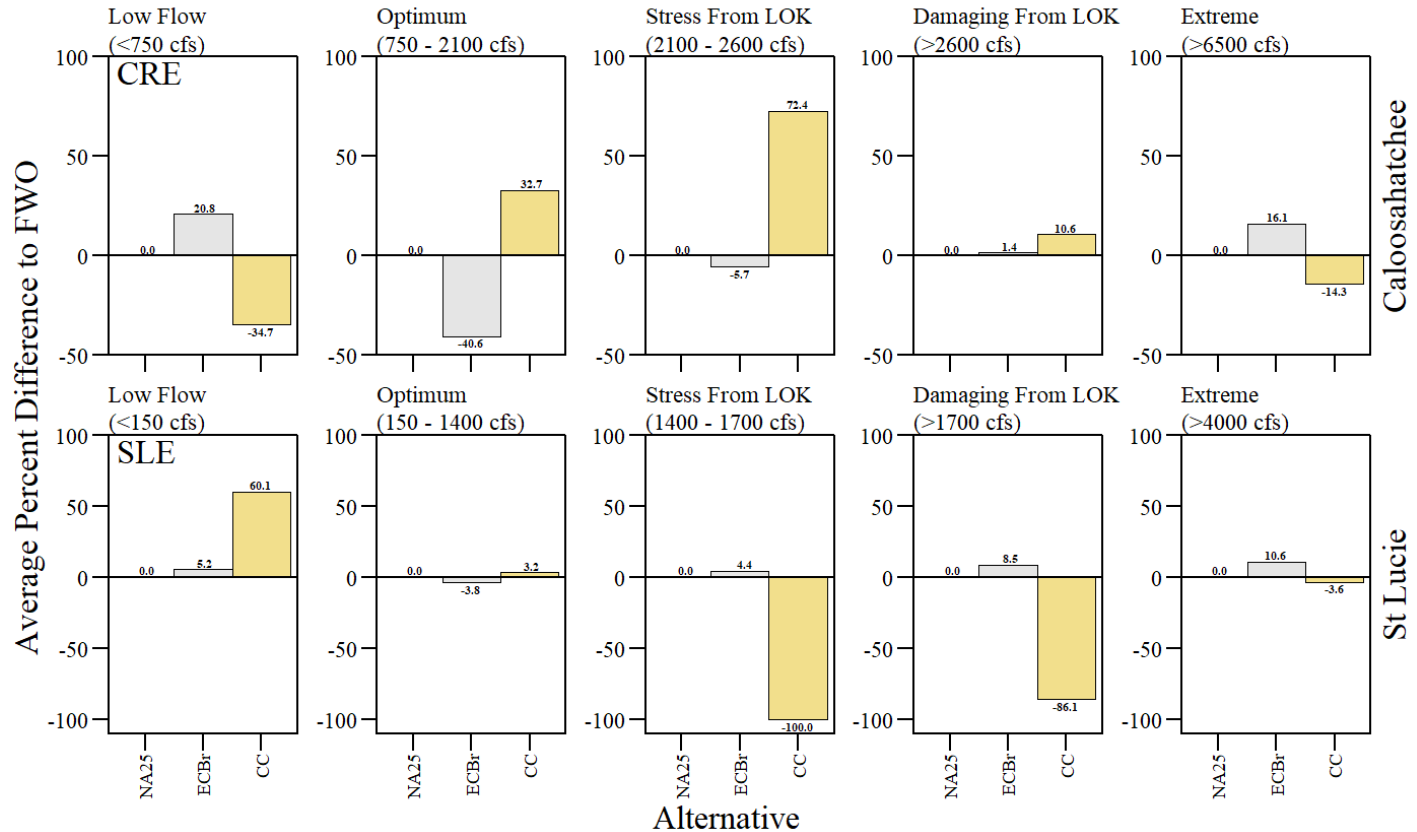
# Daily Metric



Based on daily data (CRE: S79; SLE: S80+Tribes)

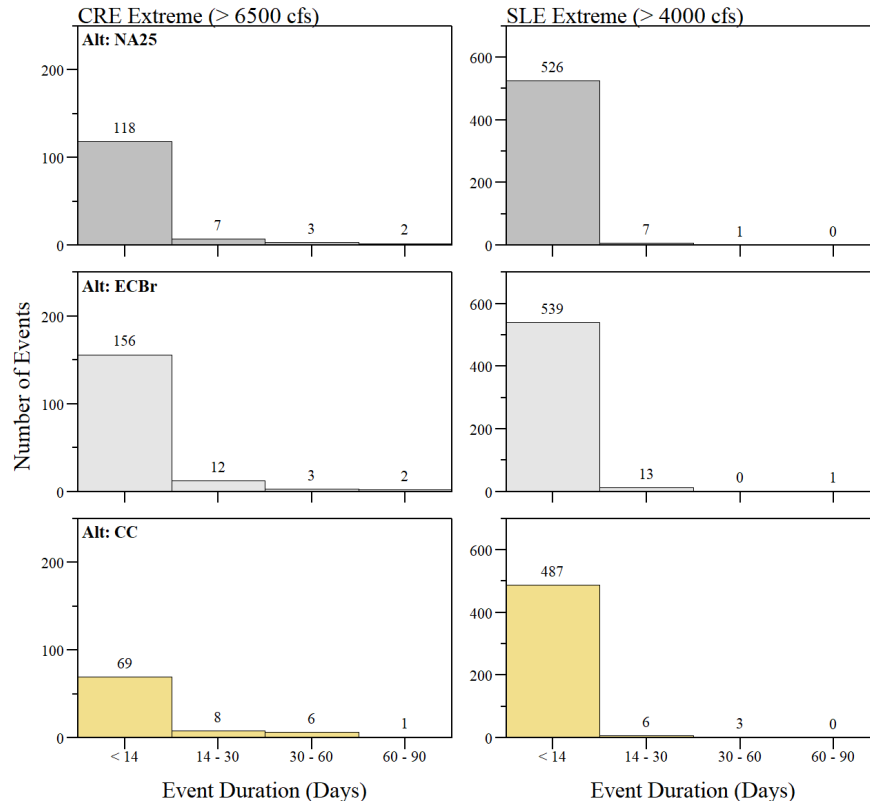
Daily salinity envelope evaluation during the simulation period of record for Caloosahatchee (top) and St Lucie (bottom) estuaries. Low, Optimum and Extreme events are from all sources.

# Daily Metric



Daily salinity envelope evaluation relative to FWO (NA25) during the simulation period of record for Caloosahatchee (top) and St Lucie (bottom) estuaries. Low, Optimum and Extreme events are from all sources.

# Daily Metric - Extreme Events



Number and duration of events where daily discharge for CRE and SLE fall within the extreme (CRE: >6500 cfs; SLE: >4000 cfs).

Monthly count of low, optimum, stress and damaging flow events for Caloosatchee and St Lucie estuaries based on monthly mean discharge data.

| Estuary          | Alt               | Summarized Data |                |                        |                          |                          |                            | Percent Different from FWO |                |                        |                          |                          |                            |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
|                  |                   | Low Events      | Optimum Events | Stress Events From LOK | Stress Events From Basin | Damaging Events From LOK | Damaging Events From Basin | Low Events                 | Optimum Events | Stress Events From LOK | Stress Events From Basin | Damaging Events From LOK | Damaging Events From Basin |
| CRE <sup>1</sup> | NA25 <sup>2</sup> | 212             | 225            | 37                     | 19                       | 70                       | 61                         | ---                        | ---            | ---                    | ---                      | ---                      | ---                        |
|                  | ECBr              | 253             | 153            | 33                     | 25                       | 76                       | 84                         | 19.3                       | -32.0          | -10.8                  | 31.6                     | 8.6                      | 37.7                       |
|                  | CC                | 149             | 243            | 96                     | 15                       | 54                       | 67                         | -29.7                      | 8.0            | 159.5                  | -21.1                    | -22.9                    | 9.8                        |
| SLE <sup>1</sup> | NA25 <sup>2</sup> | 23              | 314            | 31                     | 35                       | 46                       | 175                        | ---                        | ---            | ---                    | ---                      | ---                      | ---                        |
|                  | ECBr              | 23              | 308            | 30                     | 26                       | 47                       | 190                        | 0.0                        | -1.9           | -3.2                   | -25.7                    | 2.2                      | 8.6                        |
|                  | CC                | 30              | 363            | 0                      | 47                       | 8                        | 176                        | 30.4                       | 15.6           | -100.0                 | 34.3                     | -82.6                    | 0.6                        |

<sup>1</sup>CRE: Caloosahatchee Estuary; SLE: St Lucie Estuary; <sup>2</sup>NA25 = Future without project (FWO)

**Low Flows** CRE: < 750 cfs; SLE: < 150 cfs

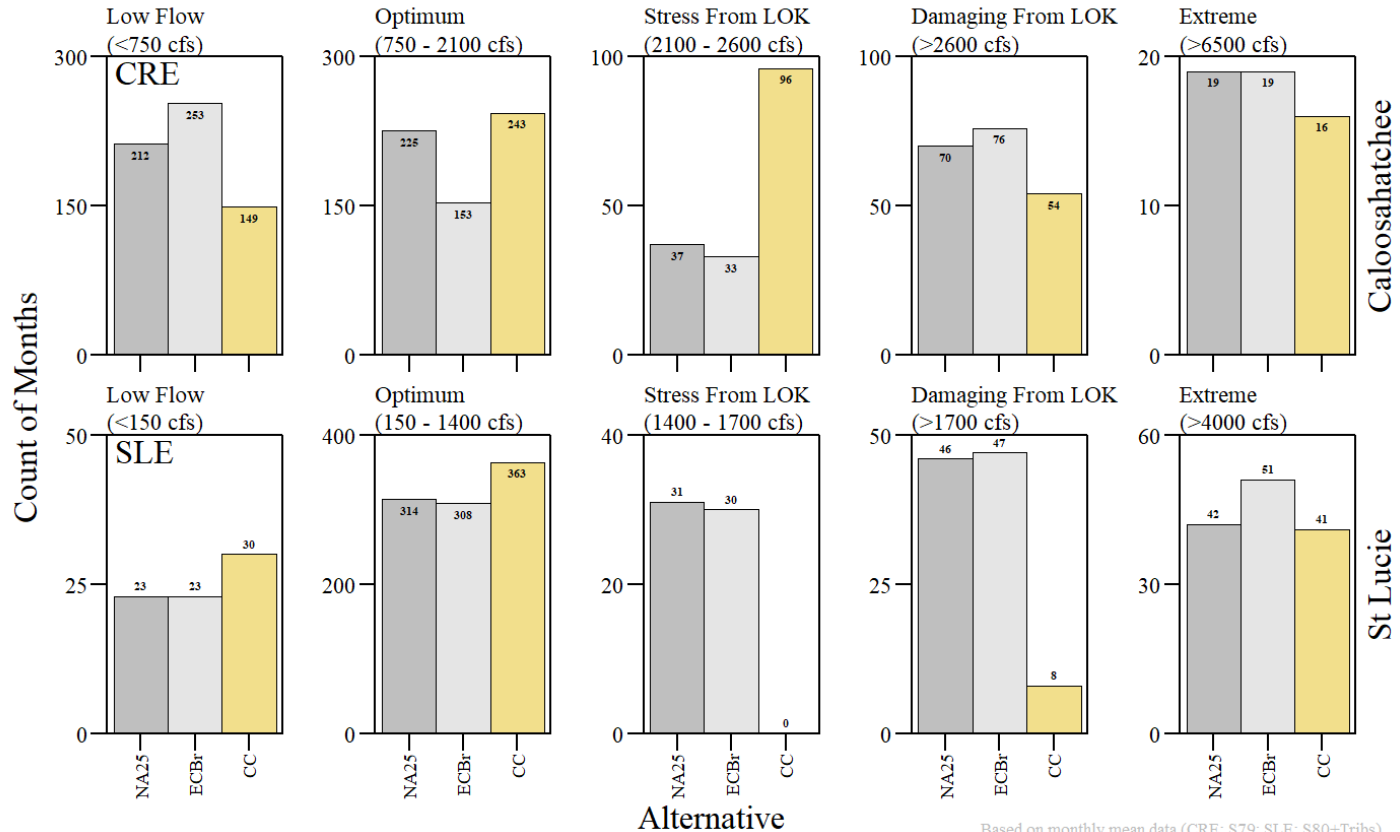
**Optimum Flows** CRE: ≥ 750 cfs & < 2100 cfs; SLE: ≥ 150 cfs & < 1400 cfs

**Stressful Flows** CRE: ≥ 2100 cfs & < 2600 cfs; SLE: ≥ 1400 cfs & < 1700 cfs

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**Data Source:** USACE and SFWMD Interagency Modeling Center

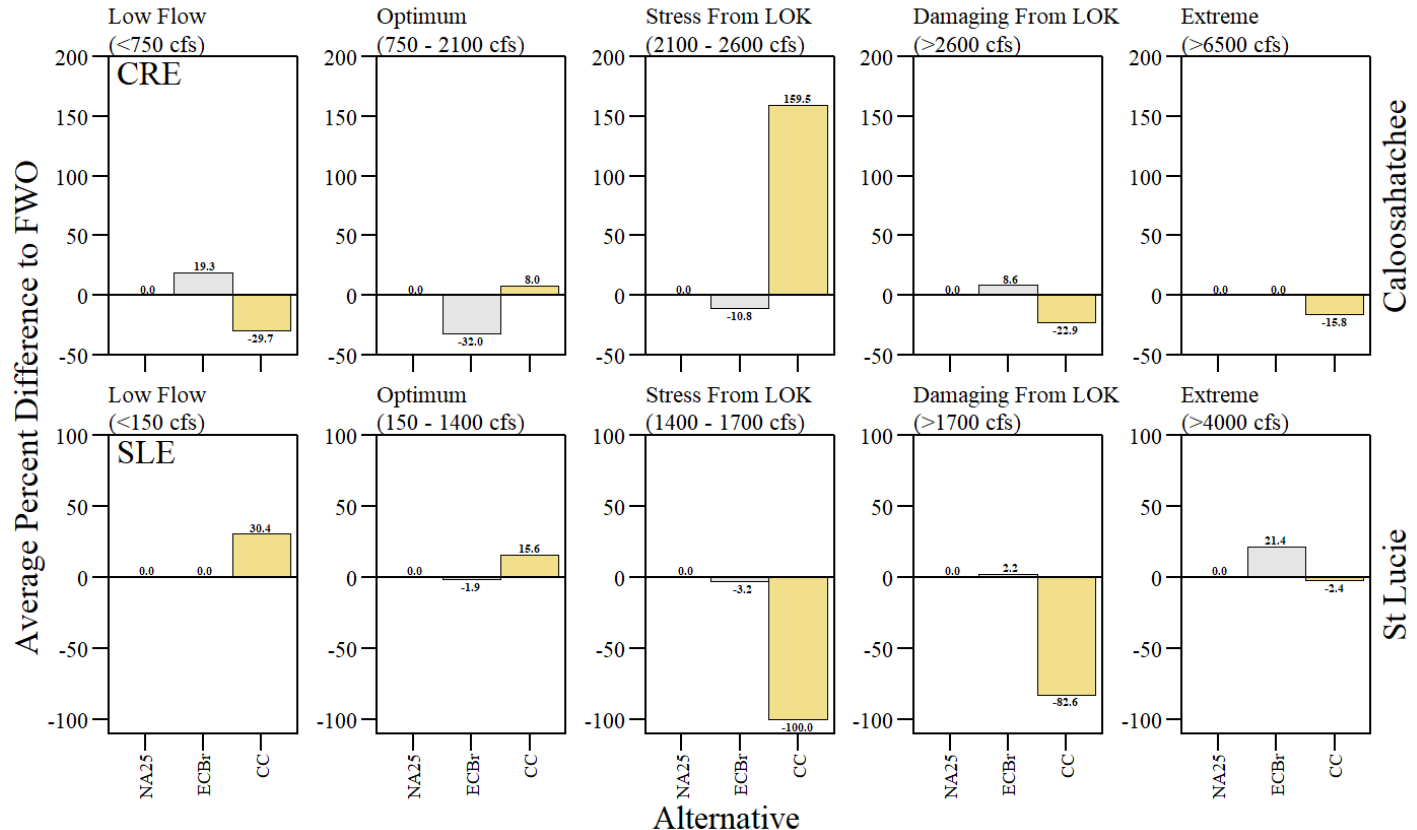
# Monthly Metric



Based on monthly mean data (CRE: S79; SLE: S80+Tribes)

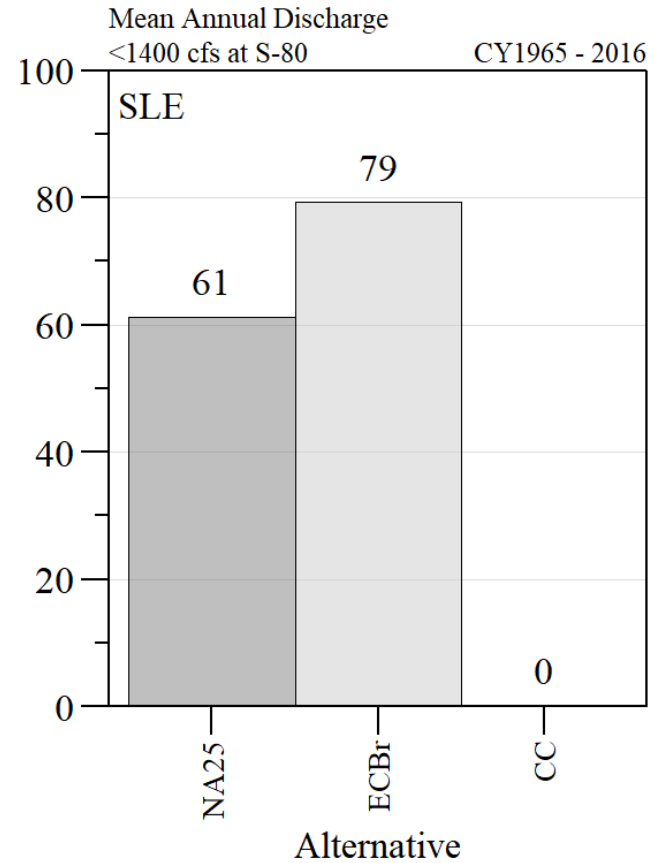
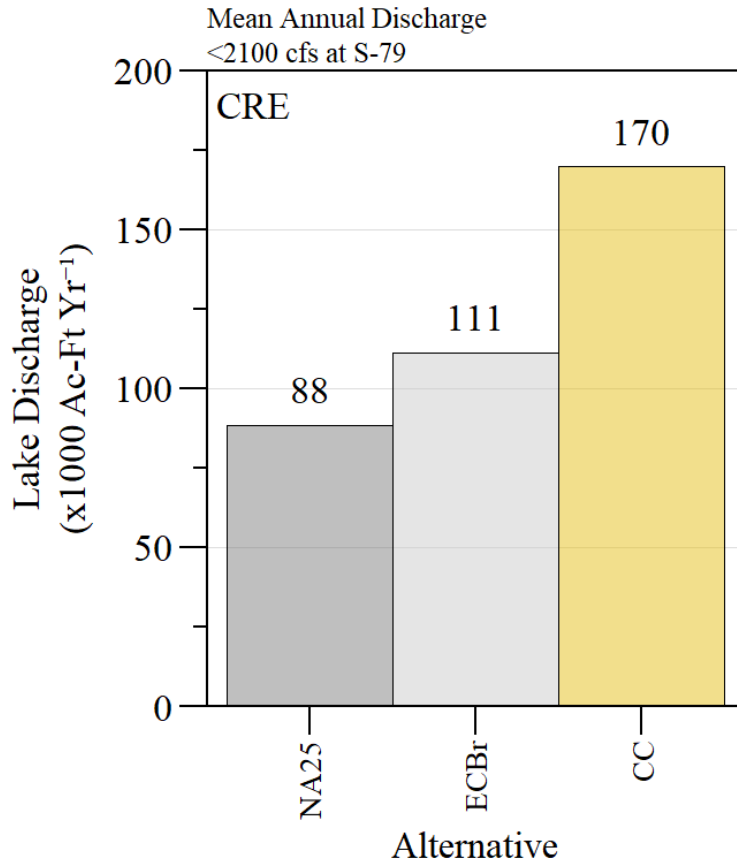
Monthly salinity envelope evaluation during the simulation period of record for Caloosahatchee (top) and St Lucie (bottom) estuaries. Low, Optimum and Extreme events are from all sources.

# Monthly Metric



Monthly salinity envelope evaluation relative to FWO (NA25) during the simulation period of record for Caloosahatchee (top) and St Lucie (bottom) estuaries. Low, Optimum and Extreme events are from all sources.

# Lake Discharges



Average annual lake discharge volume over the simulation period of record when low and optimum discharge at S79 and S80, respectively.