

# **Orlo Vista Water Yield Analysis:**

## ***Enhancing Flood Resilience while Developing an Alternative Reuse Supply***

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**Florida Stormwater Association**  
**June 12, 2025**



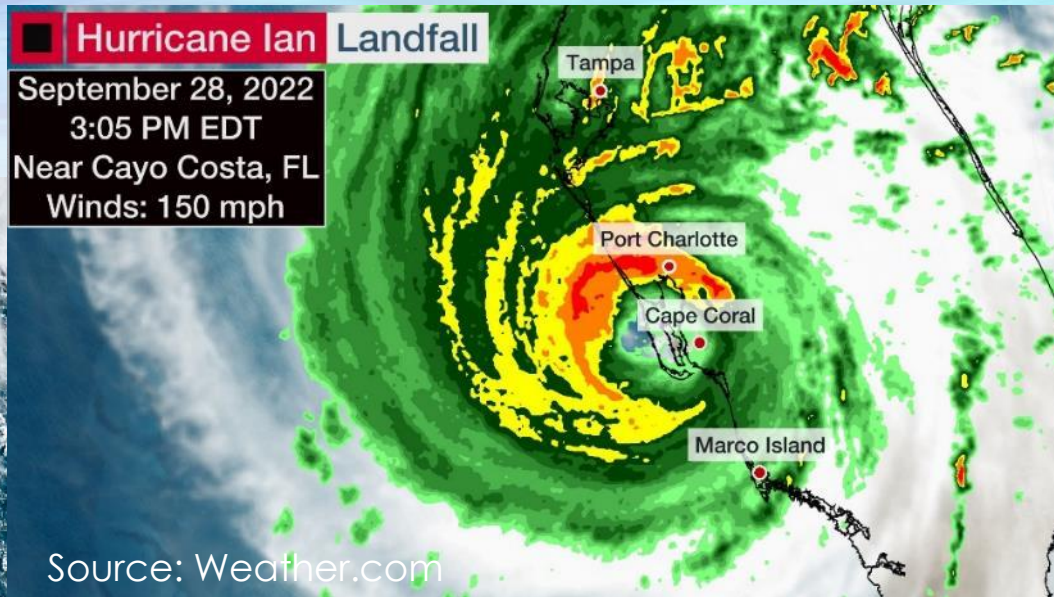
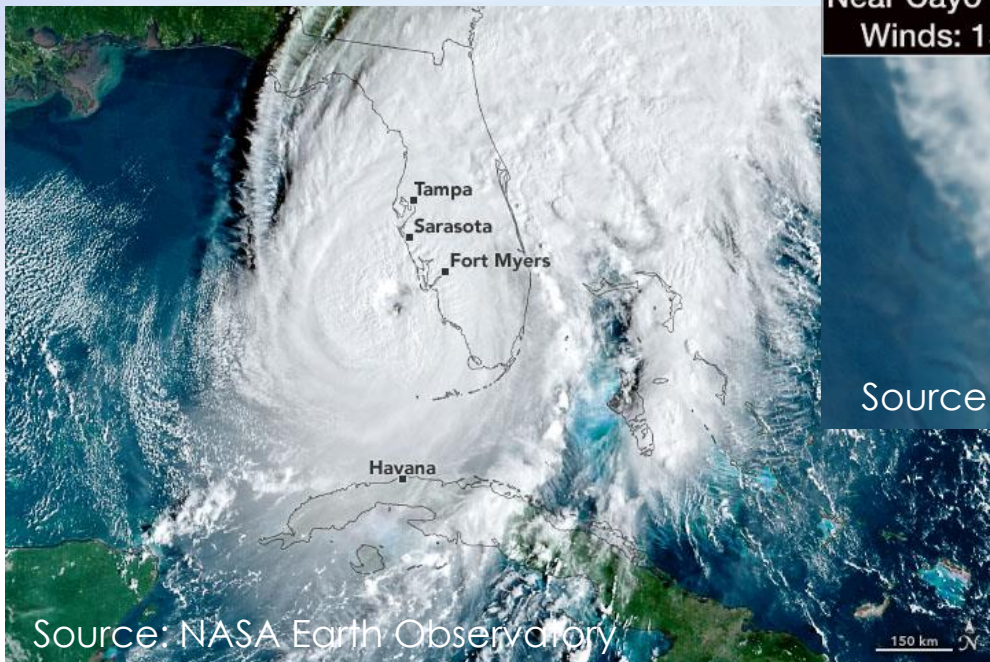
## Orlo Vista neighborhood

- Homes built in 1950s and 1960s
- Closed hydrologic unit at the northern extent of the Shingle Creek basin – no natural discharge
- Many homes within floodplain
- Community subject to repeated flooding
- Orlo Vista is located within Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) where water supply is constrained



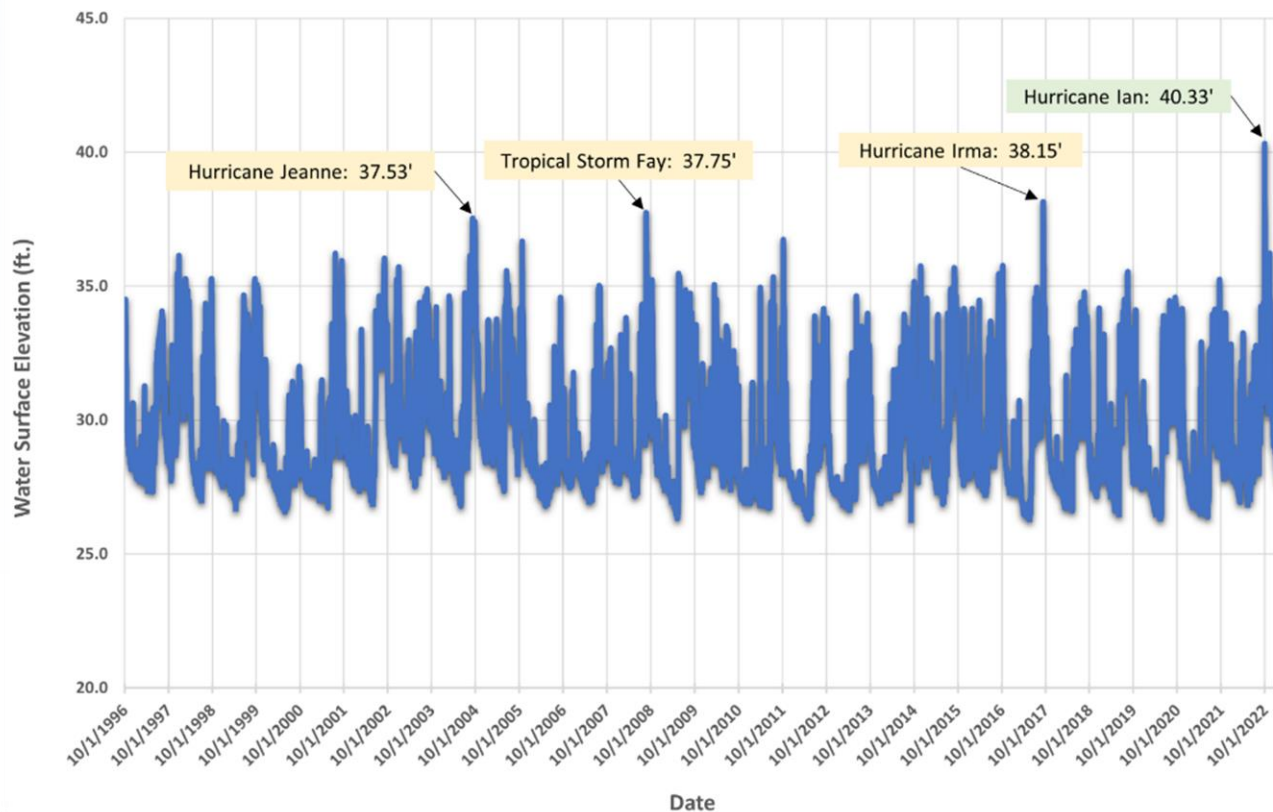


## Hurricane Ian, September 2022, Cat 4





USGS Gage Little Econlockhatchee (at S.R. 434)

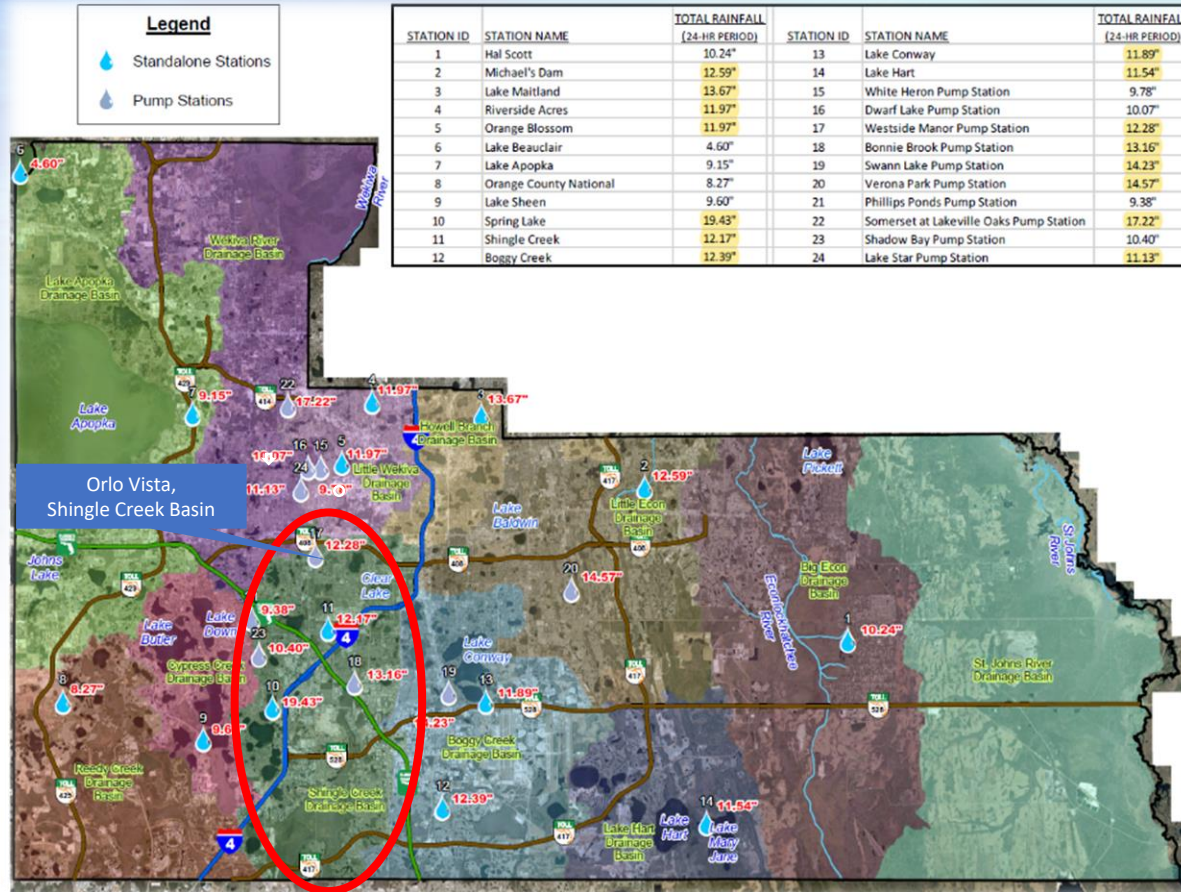




# Background

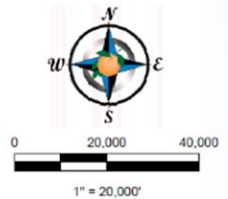
## Hurricane Ian

- Almost 20" rainfall in 24-hour period in parts of Orange County
- 4.6" in other parts
- Flooding in areas outside the floodplain
- Not your uniform design storm!



## Orange County Rainfall Stations Hurricane Ian 24-Hour Period

September 23, 2022



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Produced by:  
Orange County Public Works  
Stormwater Management Division

January 10, 2023





**During Hurricane Ian  
148 homes in Orlo Vista  
flooded despite early  
pumping to Shingle Creek**

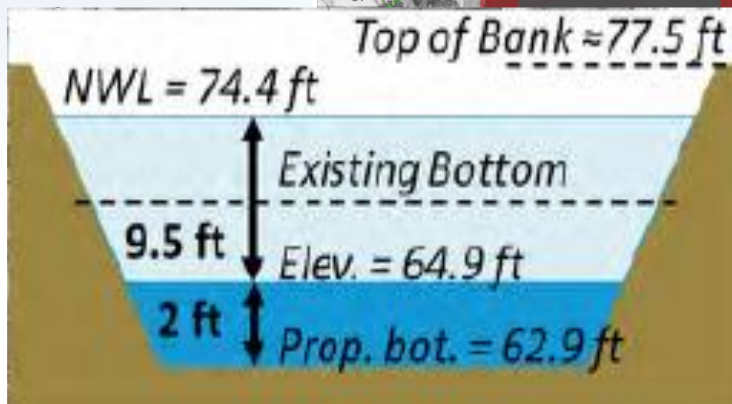




# Background

## Flood Attenuation Project

- Excavation and slope armoring of existing stormwater ponds, installation of new pump station with force main to Shingle Creek
- Provides a higher level of flood protection (100yr/72hr)
- Pumping schedule creates attenuation volume by lowering water elevation by 11.5'. It takes 4 days to lower water level prior to storm event
- No downstream impact



**Can we do more?**



## Using excess surface waters to provide flood control AND alternative reuse supply

- Slightly lowering surface water body throughout the year, creating more flood attenuation volume
- Surface water withdrawn is used to supplement the reclaimed water system or to recharge the aquifer elsewhere
- Similar project (A-FIRST) implemented before for I-4 Ultimate and closed basin in Altamonte Springs
- Successful operations for over 6 years, including Hurricanes Matthew, Irma, and Ian





## Conserv II Aquifer Recharge

- Largest aquifer recharge facility in the State
- Major component for addressing regional water supply and MFLs
- Serving two RWRFs:
  - Orange County Utilities SWRF, 56 MGD
  - City of Orlando (Conserv II 25 MGD)
- 5,000 acres for irrigation and RIBS
- 158 acres existing RIBS
- Permitted for 80.6 MGD, with 43.3 MGD RIBS



Image Landsat / Copernicus



# Integrated Water Resources

## Orlo Vista IWR Concept

- Slightly lowering normal water level in ponds by pumping a baseflow throughout the year
- Provides additional flood attenuation volume in ponds
- Pumped baseflow is discharged to Shingle Creek headwaters, but instead of being discarded, flows are recovered 7 miles downstream at the South Water Reclamation Facility (SWRF – largest WRF in Central Florida)
- Flows are recovered prior to reaching Osceola County, eliminating downstream flood concerns
- Flows treated at SWRF to meet reclaimed water standards and beneficially used for irrigation and aquifer recharge
- Win-win solution with added sustainability and resiliency!

## Can it work?

Orlo Vista

SWRF



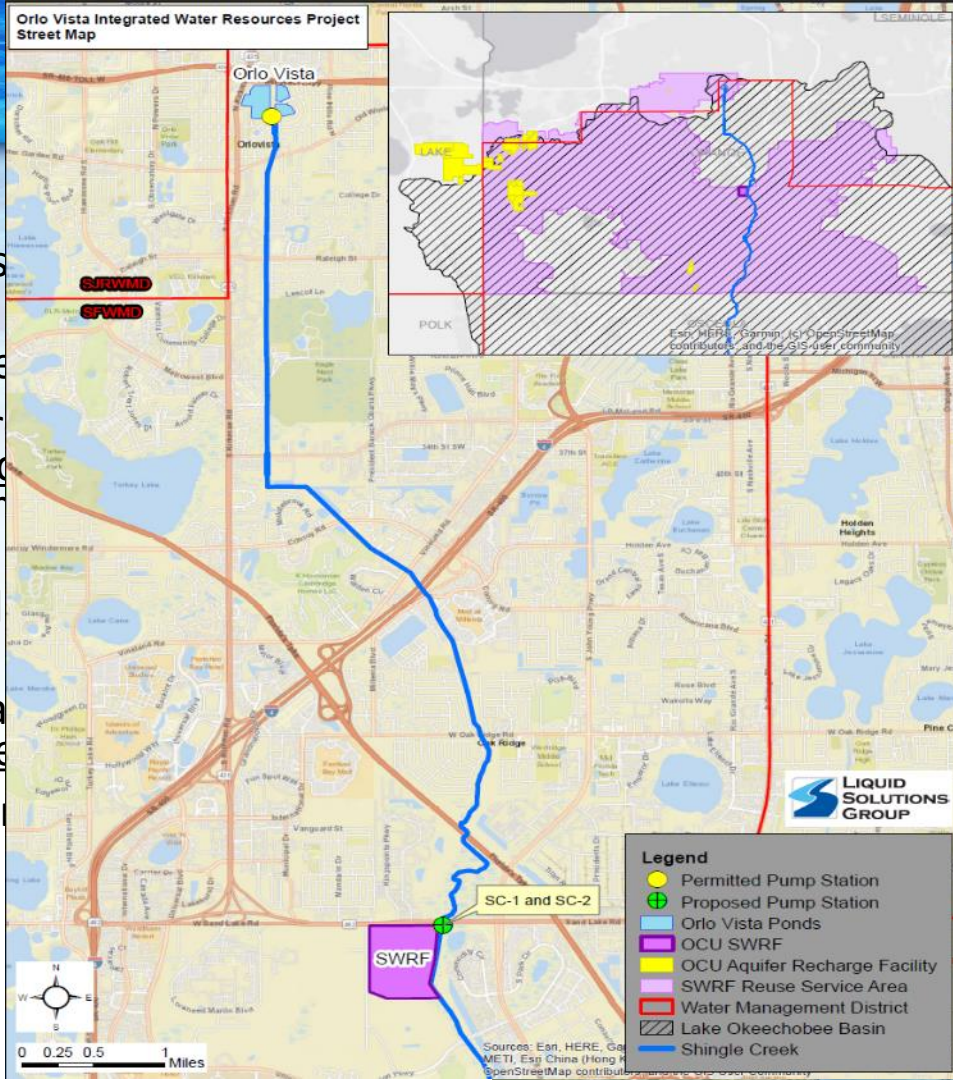


# Integrated Water Resources

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# Overview – Water Budget Analysis

## Orlo Vista Stormwater Pond System

An Ongoing Flood Control Project



## Feasibility Analysis

Pump 2.5 MGD into Shingle Creek (Orlo Vista PS)



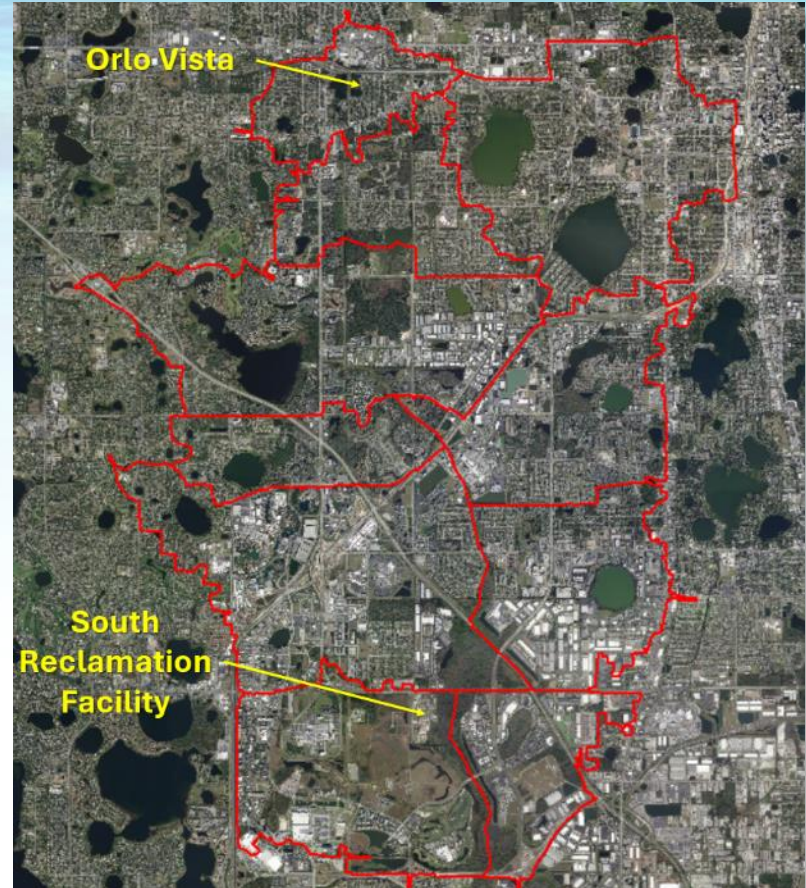
Withdraw/Treat 2.5 MGD baseflow from Shingle Creek  
(7 miles downstream)

South Water Reclamation Facility (SWRF)

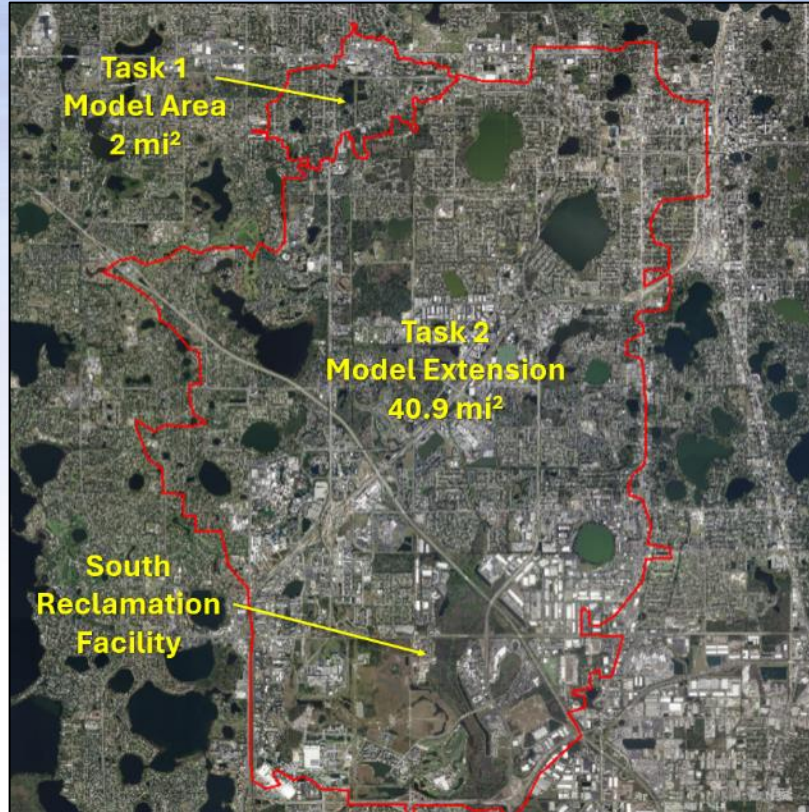


Excess water removed

Irrigation / Stored / Aquifer Recharge







## Objectives

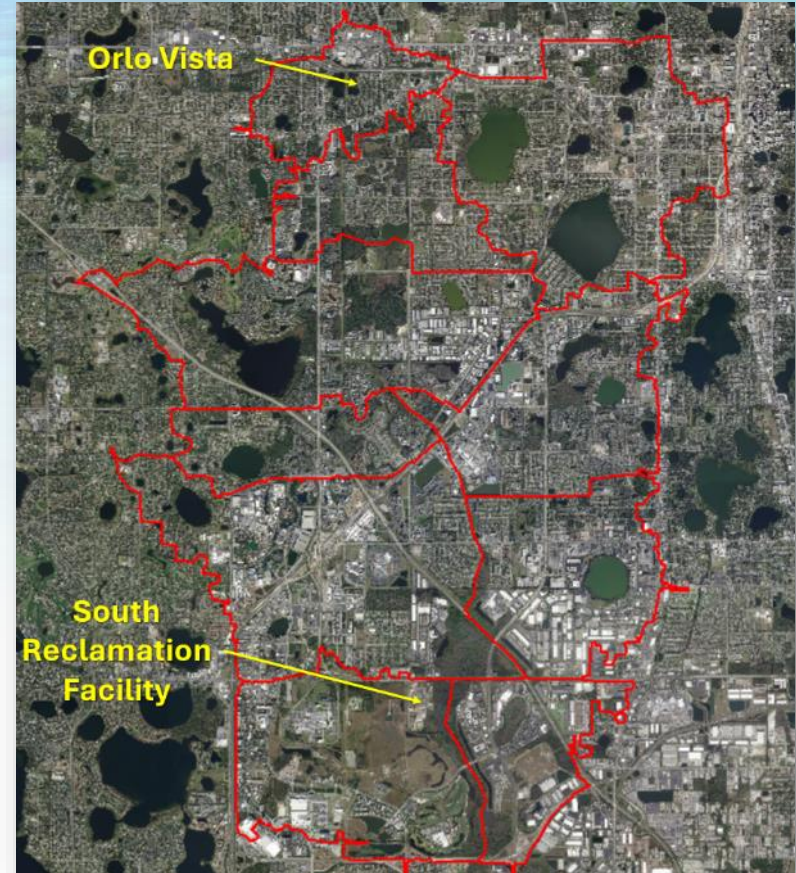
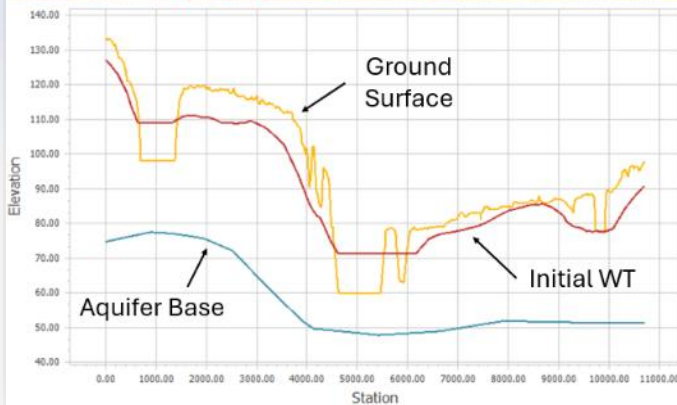
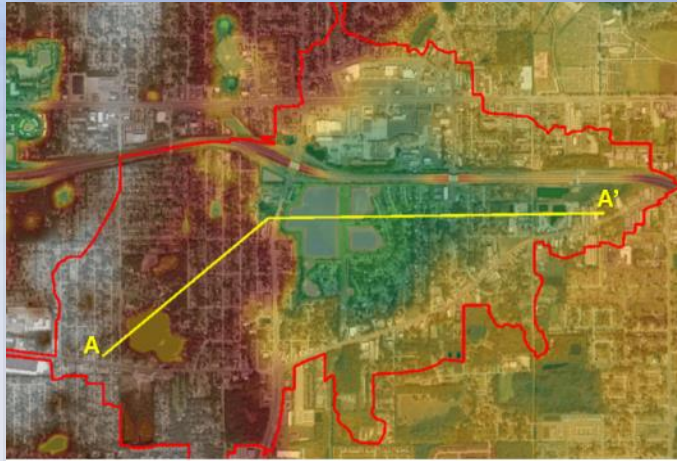
- Feasibility of withdrawing 2.5 mgd from Orlo Vista pond system
- Water gains and losses between pump discharge point and SWRF

## Simplify Interim Geosyntec Model

- Reduce number of channel links by combining shorter channels
- Eliminate storm sewer systems
- Remove small stormwater ponds
- Remove areas that do not drain to Shingle Creek



# Groundwater Integration





# Model Domain

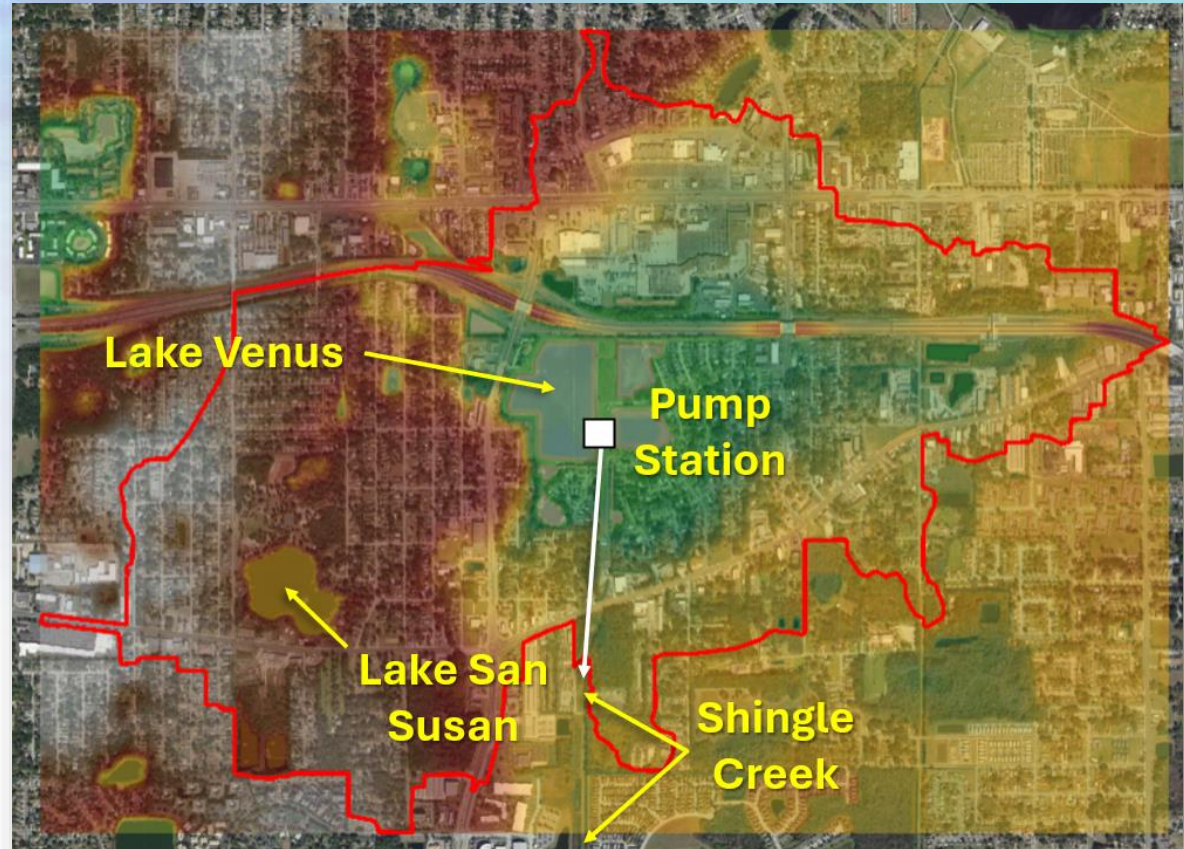
## Orlo Vista Area



### 20-Year Simulation

**Sim 1:** Permitted triplex pump station operations without 2.5 mgd utility pump (lowest control elev **74.4'**)

**Sim 2:** Permitted triplex pump station operations with 2.5 mgd utility pump (lowest control elev **71.0'**)





# Hydrologic Water Balance

## 20-Year Simulation



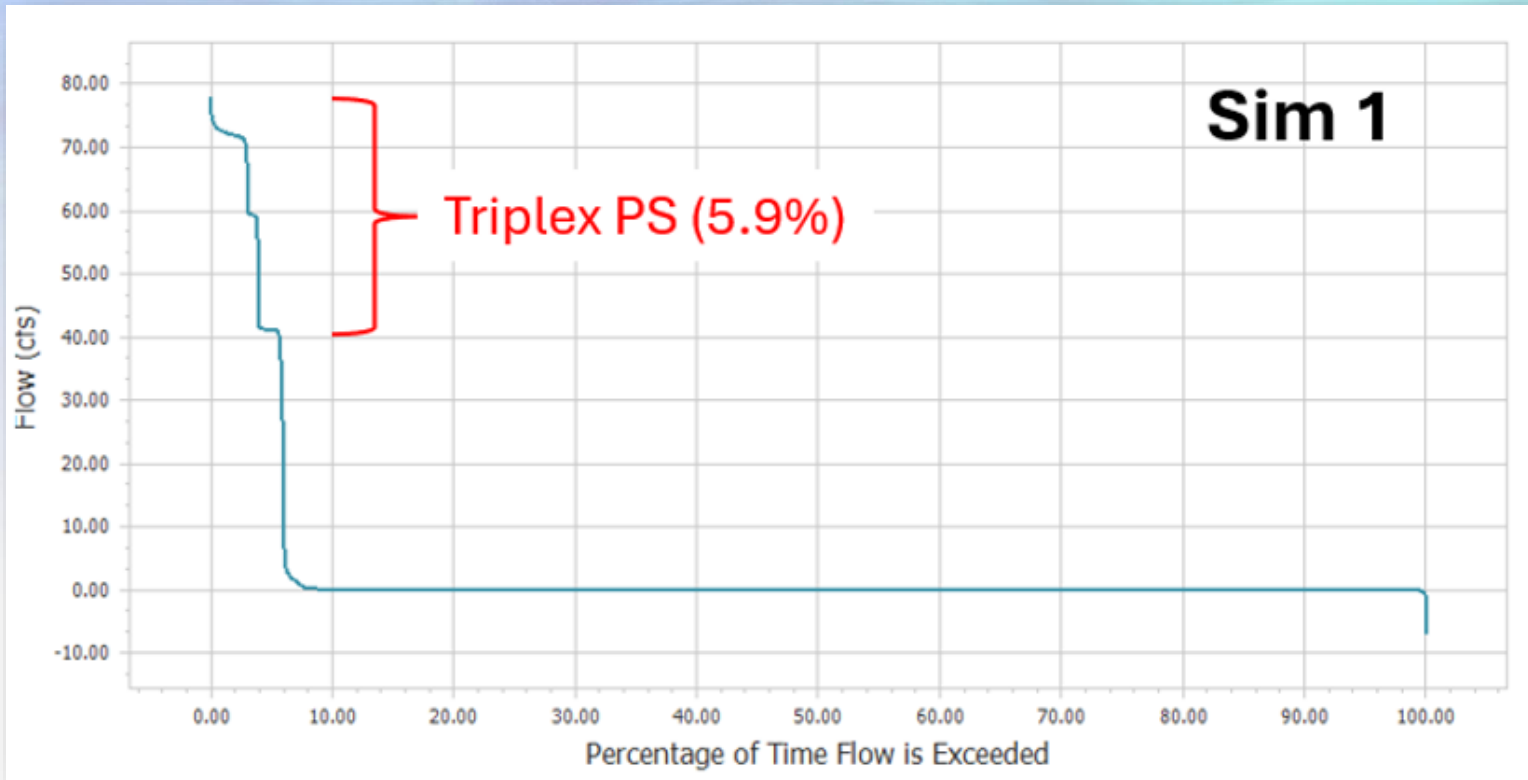
Parameter	Volume (in)	Avg Annual (in)
Rainfall	997.25	49.86
Surface Runoff	529.25	26.46
ET	426.94	21.35
GW Recharge	55.71	2.79
Stored Volume	-14.64	-0.73

**Mass Balance Error:** 0.12% for the 20-year simulation (negligible)



# Discharge Reliability

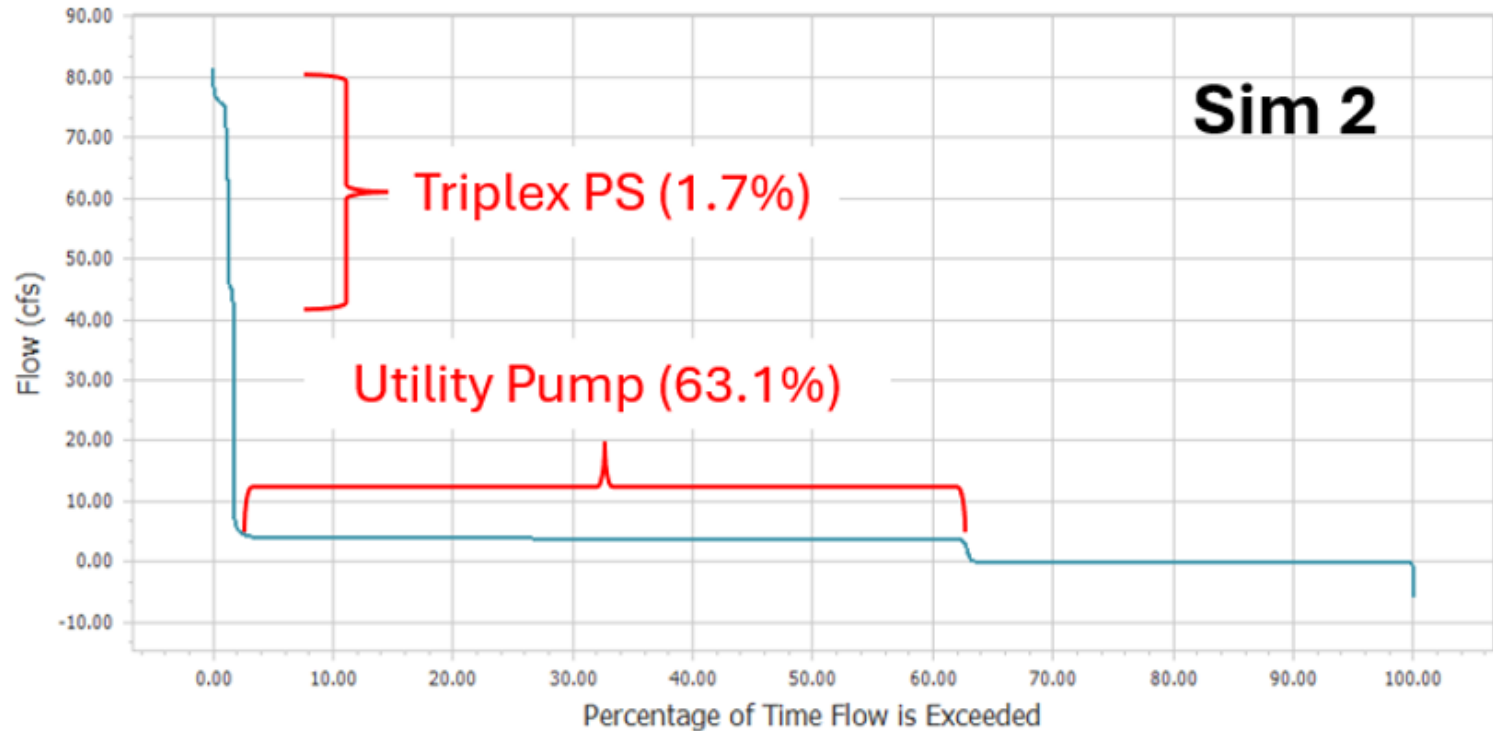
## Orlo Vista Pump Station





# Discharge Reliability

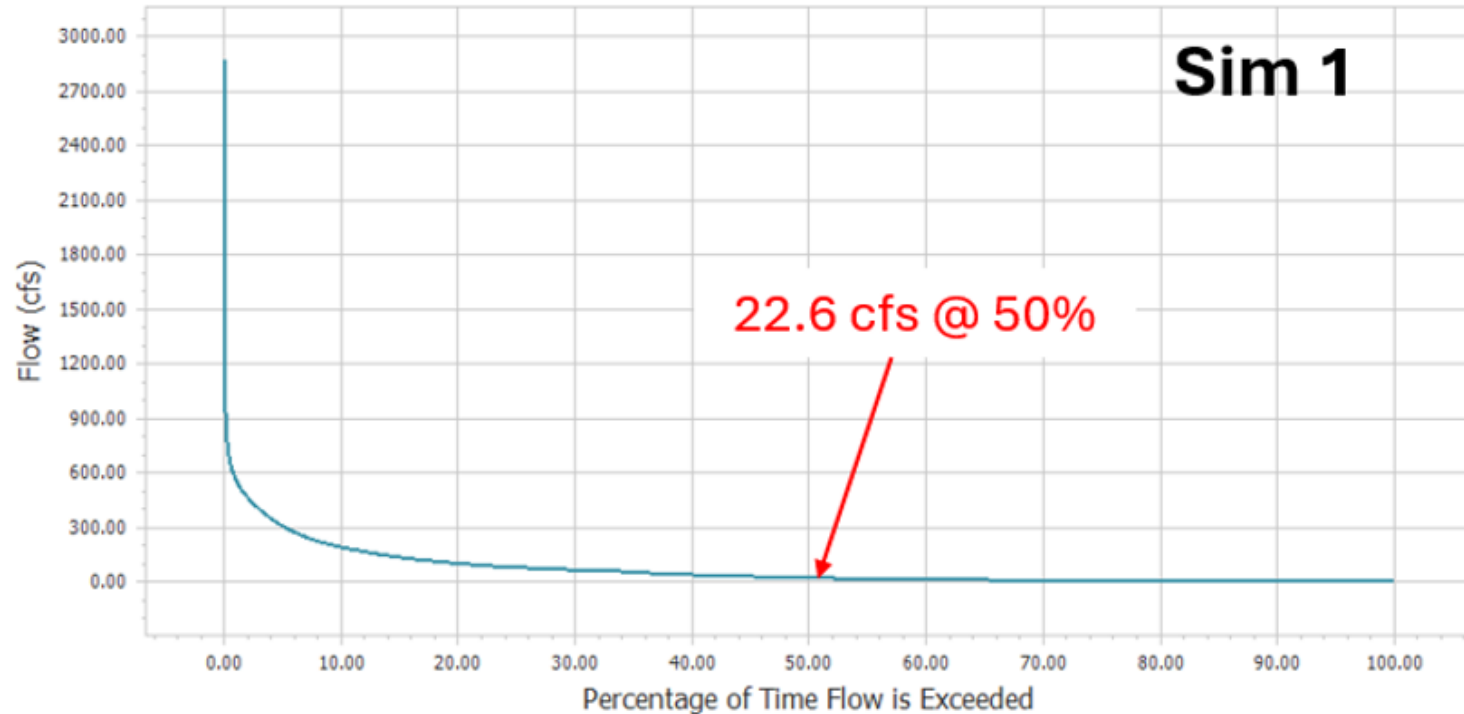
## Orlo Vista Pump Station





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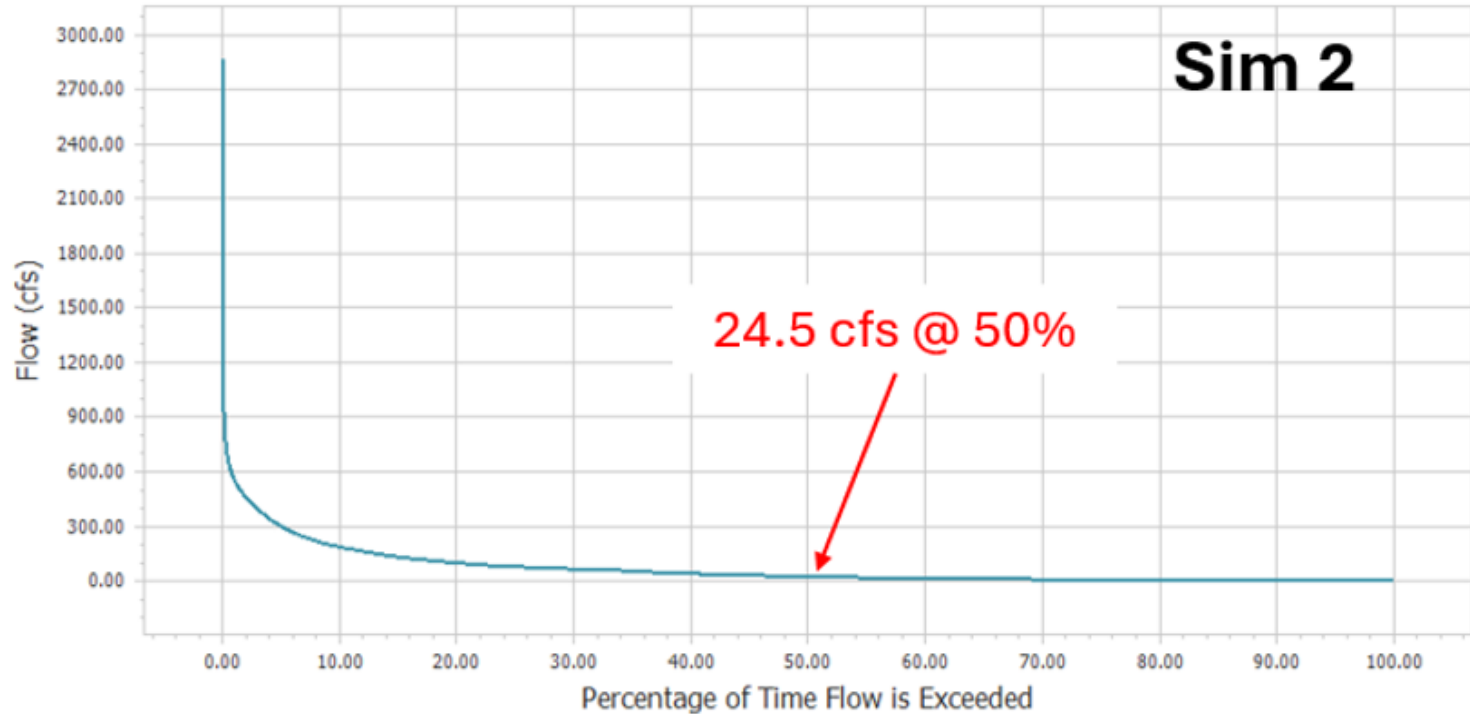
## South Water Reclamation Facility





# Discharge Reliability

## Orlo Vista Pump Station





# Discharge Reliability

## South Water Reclamation Facility

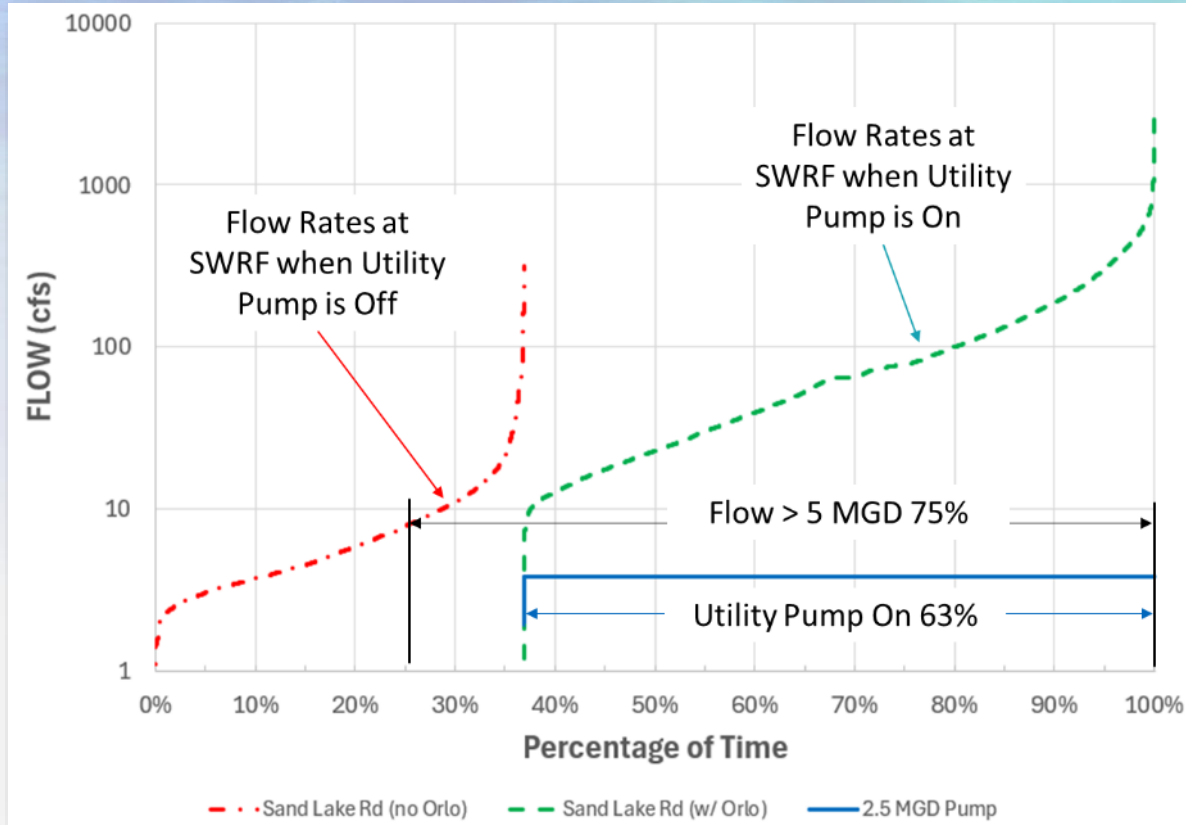
Exceedance Probability (%)	Sim 1 (cfs)	Sim2 (cfs)
10	191.8	188.1
25	79.0	78.8
50	22.6	24.5
75	6.9	7.8
90	3.7	3.7

~ 5 MGD  
F.O.S. = 2.0



# Discharge Reliability

## South Water Reclamation Facility



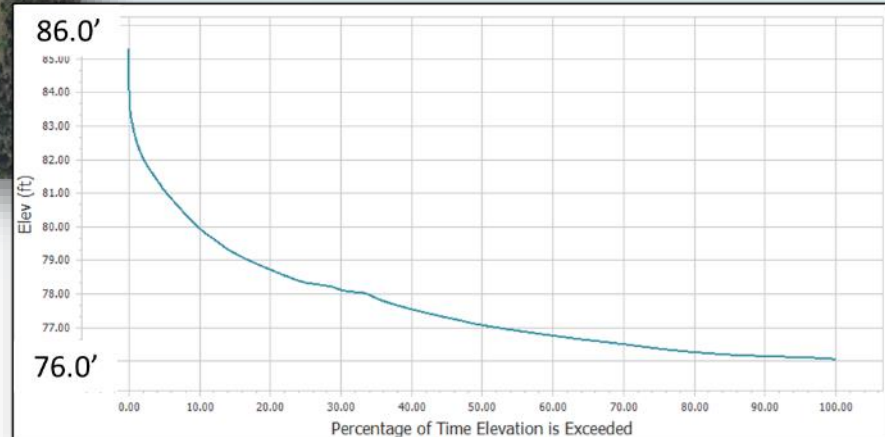


# Water Depths

## South Water Reclamation Facility



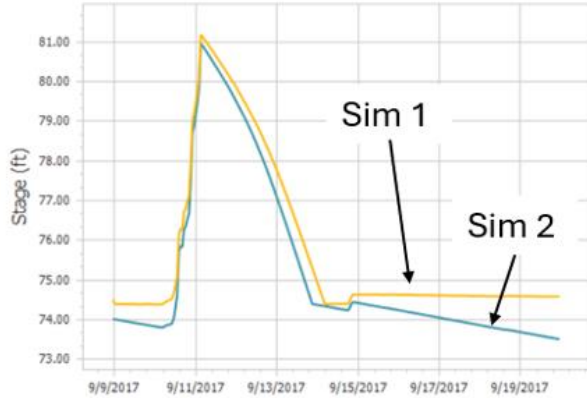
Water depths are expected to be 1.0 to 1.5 feet or more most of the time



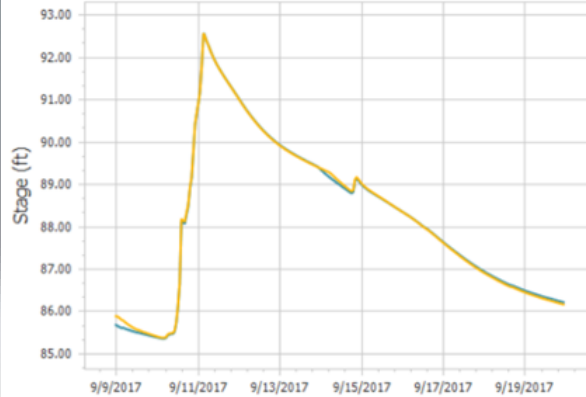


# Flooding Impact

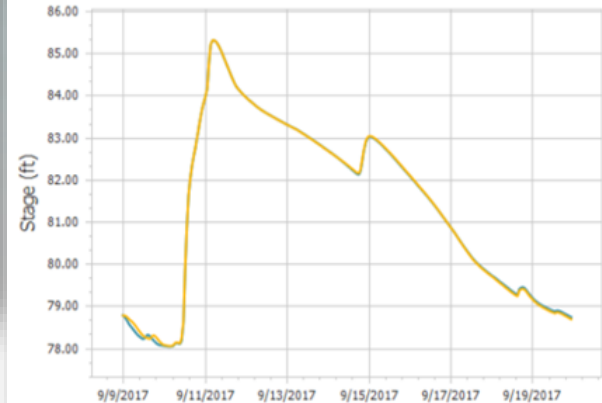
Lake Venus, Orlo Vista



Shingle Creek at Conroy Rd



Shingle Creek at W. Sand Lake Rd

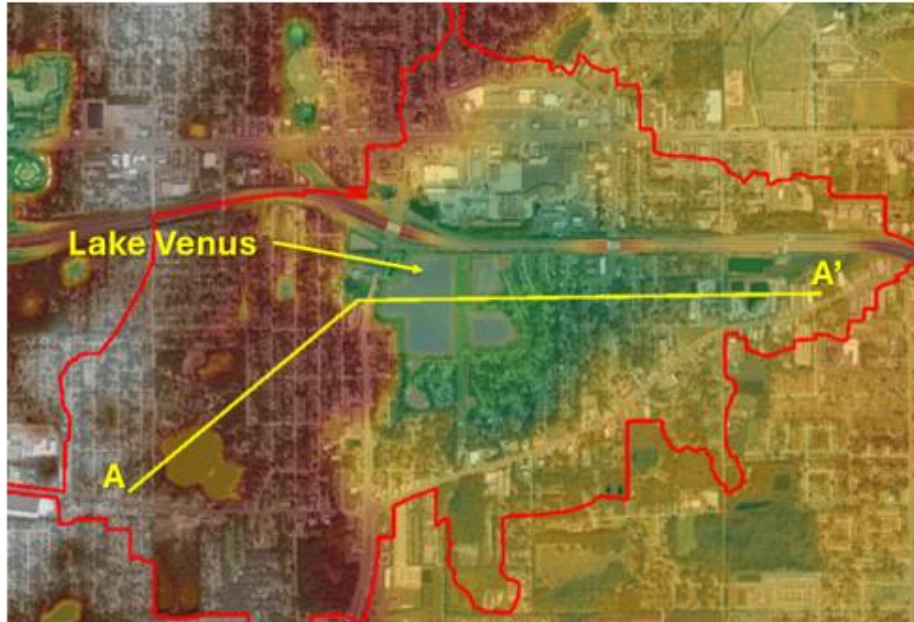


Hurricane Irma

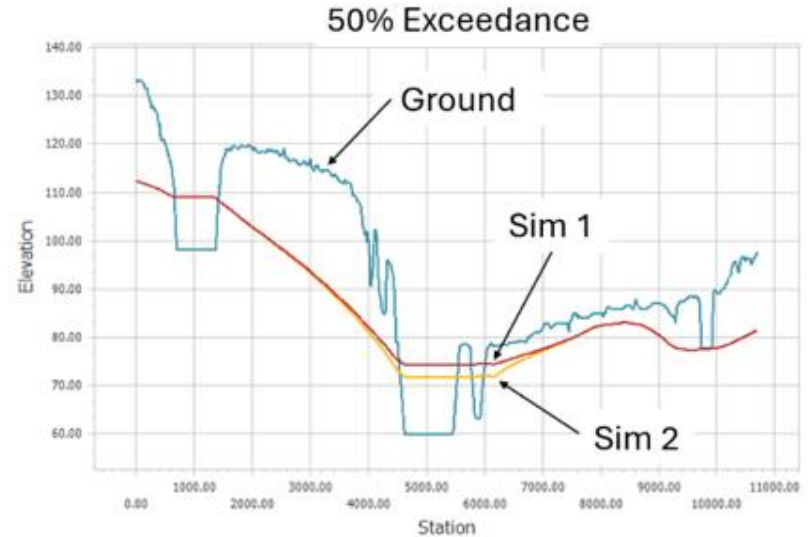


# Groundwater Impact

Orlo Vista



The zone of influence is approximately 1,000 feet from the edge of the lake.





1. Sim 2 – Reliable base flow
  - Utility pump operates approximately 63% (Sim 2)
  - Triplex pump station operates only 5.9% of the time (Sim 1)
  - Adequate flow at the South Reclamation Plant for 2.5 mgd withdrawal ~ 75% of the time on average (Sim 2)
2. Sim 2 – Flood Protection
  - Increases flood protection in the Orlo Vista neighborhood
  - Adds “buffer” storage for short-duration, high-intensity storms
  - Shortens drawdown time of the ponds by 24 hrs for major storm systems
3. Sim 2 – No additional flood risk along Shingle Creek



## Fiscal Perspective

- Alternative Water Supply Options ~ \$26.5M per 1 MGD
  - Brackish groundwater
  - Surface water
  - Potable reuse
- Orlo Vista IWR ~ \$5M per 1 MGD

## Grants

- FDEP AWS and CDBG-DR grants for 100% of estimated construction costs ~ \$12.5M

## Load Reduction

- TSS 27,549 lbs/yr
- TN 5,790 lbs/yr
- TP 631 lbs/yr

## Tripple Bottom Line

- Improved Flood Protection
- Water Quality Improvements
- Alternative Water Supply

# Can we do more?