

SAVE OUR LAKES



FEBRUARY 2019/Volume 19, Issue 2

THE VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE - FEBRUARY 4, 2019



Photo taken by Glenda Harper

According information on the SJRWMD website, Lake Brooklyn is currently at 107.4ft. What we are shooting for in our Minimum Flow Level (MFL) efforts is for Lake Brooklyn's current level to be near its LOWEST!

SOLO Board members and Keystone Heights City Manager Scott Kornegay met with the SJRWMD recently to discuss the progress of the MFL re-evaluations for both Lake Brooklyn and Lake Geneva. As part of the re-evaluation process, the Water District must send their proposed MFL plan out for peer review. As of our meeting, the Water District had received the peer review comments/suggestions and was in the process of addressing each of those. This process must be completed before the new MFLs can go before the Governing Board for approval.

The presentation and discussion brought out some interesting information...

SAVE OUR LAKES ORGANIZATION, INC.
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President: Vivian Katz James, **Vice President:** Chandler Rozear, **Secretary:** Susan Welsh, **Treasurer:** Carol Rozear
Board Members: Webb Farber, Glenda Harper, Sue Plaster, Robert Thomas, Dr. Pat Welsh

Minimum Flow Level (MFL) Discussion...

To be clear, the MFL re-evaluation for both Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva is in process, NOT complete as of our recent meeting with the Water District. They must address all peer reviewer comments as well as those presented by SOLO and the North Florida Utilities group. That said, here are some take aways from our meeting:

1. The level being considered as "minimum" is approximately 105.6ft. for Lake Brooklyn and 98.5 ft. for Lake Geneva.
2. A new concept being considered by the Water District in this re-evaluation process is an "open water" metric. "Open water" means that boats would be able to travel the entire lake. Lake lobes would be connected. The lake would be "open water", not various small ponds.
3. The Water District studied lake levels/conditions during both dry seasons and wet seasons. They studied "pumps on" vs "pumps off" impacts on the lakes. The "pumps" analysis involves the big water users (i.e. the utilities).

The SJRWMD staff seems to be working very hard to make sure they have the "science" right and these MFLs will be "defensible" should they be challenged in court. They have definitely broadened their scope of analysis from past years.

Solid, scientifically-based MFLs will actually give the SJRWMD a better ability to keep over-pumping from happening in the future. That IS what the MFLs were designed to do.

BLACK CREEK WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - UPDATE

The second topic at our recent meeting with SJRWMD was the Black Creek Project. The statistics are as follows:

Pipeline Engineering -100% complete

Intake and Distribution Engineering - 90% complete

Permitting - Applications have been submitted and review is in process.

The permitting progress is not easily given as a percent complete, but we did get some information. DEP, FWC and Corp of Engineers review the permit applications and submit questions/concerns that the Water District must answer. The District is working on the second round of questions now. The Corp of Engineers permit is going to take some time. The phrase "several months" was used. The overall consensus of the staff was while it will take some time, they saw the project moving forward to completion.

NOTE - SOLO MEETING - MARCH 12th, 7p.m., FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF K.H.

WATER FLOW!



GET INVOLVED IN 2019!!
FEBRUARY 2019 - Calendar

Please join us in our efforts to Save Our Lakes - Save The Aquifer!

- *SJRWMD BOARD MEETING-FEBRUARY 12th, 11am-at UCF (Orlando)
- *CLAY COUNTY COM. MTG-FEB.12th - 4pm (time change) - Green Cove Springs
- *S.O.L.O. MEETING- MARCH 12th, 7pm-1st Baptist Church of K.H

*******IF YOU'RE NOT A SOLO MEMBER, JOIN TODAY!*******
SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TODAY!!

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR ANNUAL DUES CHECK FOR \$25.00 PAYABLE TO: SAVE OUR LAKES ORG., P.O. BOX 185, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL32656. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF K.H. (Hwy. 100, east of Hwy. 21),

PLEASE SELECT ONE: SEND MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY (US MAIL OR EMAIL)?

Save Our Lakes Organization, Inc.
P.O. Box 185
Keystone Heights, FL 32656



Logo by: Graham E. Kestner

NEXT SOLO MEETING: MARCH 12th 7p.m. - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF K.H.

S.O.L.O. NEWSLETTER PRINTING BY FABCO-AIR. THANK YOU FABCO-AIR!



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SOLO MEETING!!!

MARCH 12th

7 P.M.

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ON THE MOVE

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