

# WF Observations

Quarterly Newsletter for the South Florida Emergency Management and Spotter Community

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## Heavy June Rain Causes High Lake Level

### Naples Sets New June Record Rain

Heavy rains in June and July have caused Lake Okeechobee to rise past 16 feet, which is very unusual for late July and concerning for the rest of hurricane season. As of July 29, the average lake level for Lake Okeechobee was 16.2 feet, which is over **four feet** higher than last year and about 1.3 feet higher than average. At Naples Regional Airport, the total rainfall for the month of June was 21.28 inches, easily breaking the old record of 17.97 inches in June of 1947. Both Miami and Fort Lauderdale - Hollywood International Airports recorded their ninth wettest Junes ever, with more than 17 inches measured at both locations. At Palm Beach International Airport, almost 12 inches of rain fell.

### Arlene, Dennis Start Active Season

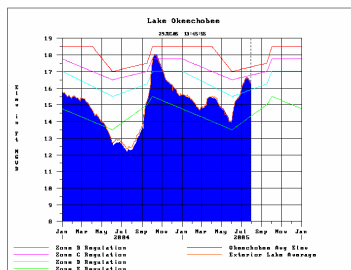
Hurricane Season 2005 has already started with a bang! Tropical Storm Arlene and Hurricane Dennis have already brought tropical storm conditions to South Florida, including wind gusts to hurricane force over the coastal waters during the passage of Dennis southwest of the area, and very heavy rains during Arlene's brush-by in June. The formation of Tropical Storm (soon-to-be Hurricane) Emily on July 11 was the earliest ever that five named storms have developed in the Atlantic basin.

### Jim Lushine Sets the Date for October 1

WFO Miami long time Warning Coordination Meteorologist Jim Lushine will retire on October 1, 2005, with more than 42 years of federal service, 33 in South Florida. Jim is a well-respected institution among South Florida's long list of meteorologist personalities since arriving from his native Maryland back in the 1970s.

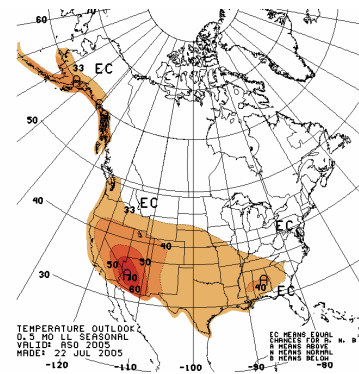
Well-known to South Floridians for his "Lushine-isms", (e.g., in September 2004, as Hurricane Jeanne was moving toward a landfall near Fort Pierce, the second such landfall in 2004 after Frances, Jim quipped: "The Treasure Coast may not be very valuable after this!"), Jim always finds a way to communicate necessary information about weather hazards in an amusing way that people can remember.

Jim's retirement festivities will be held September 30 at the Office Depot Center, beginning at 7 PM. RSVP Rusty Pfof 305-229-4502.

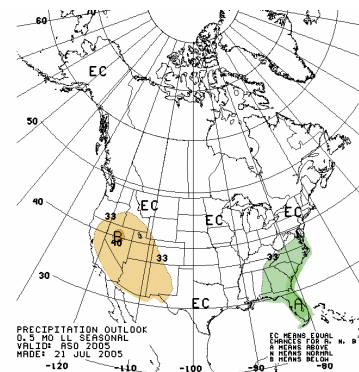


Lake Okeechobee 16.2 ft 7/29/05

### CPC Updated Outlook August through October



### Equal chances Above/Below Normal temps



### Above normal precipitation

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