



Flooding in Southwest Central Florida

Fact Sheet

Event date: June 19 - 22, 2003



Summary of event: Heavy rain flooded 40 homes with 9 – 17 inches in southwest Central Florida, and 6 – 12 inches of water in the residential areas of Punta Gorda. Also, 10,000 feet of a sea wall worth \$2 million collapsed in Punta Gorda Isles and road erosion closed two areas along County Road 74 near Westminster Road and Grove Blvd. Rainfall totals over the past three days totaled 9.49 inches in Point Lonesome and 8.35 inches 8 miles southeast of Punta Gorda. On June 19th Tarpon Springs received 8.01 inches in only 24 hours. On June 20th Floral City received 10.53 inches in just 24 hours. This excessive rain for days left much of the state flooded and many rivers overflowed their banks. The Little Manatee River at Wimauma crested at 17.67 feet on June 22nd, well above its flood stage of 11 feet. Myakka River recorded a record high crest of 12.46 feet on June 24th; its flood stage is only 7 feet. Storm damage exceeded \$17 million in Florida alone.

Links for more information: <http://soundwaves.usgs.gov/2003/08/fieldwork.html>.

Acknowledgements: National Climatic Data Center Storm Events.