

MIAPNSTBW
Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Tampa Bay Area, FL
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To: Subscribers – Family of Services and NOAA Weather Wire Service and other National Weather Service Partners, Users and Employees

From: Austen Flannery - Senior Service Hydrologist

Subject: Upgrading River Forecast Services from Flood-only to Daily Issuance for the Manatee River near Myakka Head (MKHF1)

Effective May 18, 2026, the National Weather Service (NWS) Tampa Bay office in coordination with the Southeast River Forecast Center (SERFC) will upgrade hydrologic services for the Manatee River near Myakka Head. Services will transition from “flood-only” forecasts to daily routine forecasts.

Previously, this location was designated as a flood-only forecast point, meaning the five-day forecast was only provided by SERFC hydrologists when river levels were expected to rise near or above Minor Flood Stage. Following inquiries from partners and users, the SERFC will now provide daily, year-round forecast information for this site.

This transition provides several benefits:

- Enhanced Situational Awareness: Provides valuable data during drought and/or low flow conditions, not just flood events.
- Public Safety: Supports enhanced services for public safety and recreational interests along the river reach.
- Consistency: Daily modeling of points situated above existing forecast locations ensures a more seamless hydrologic profile across the river system.

The enhanced forecasts will be integrated into the existing SERFC workflow and distributed through the local NWS office to the online National Water Prediction Service (water.noaa.gov).

Note: This is the only NWS Tampa Bay forecast point that will transition to a daily forecast frequency at this time. All other forecast points will remain “flood-only” until further notice.

The following gauge will transition to daily issuance.

Florida Forecast Group

- Manatee River near Myakka Head at SR 64 | [MKHF1](#) | USGS 02299950

For questions regarding these changes, please contact:

Austen Flannery
Senior Service Hydrologist, NWS Tampa Bay
Email: austen.flannery@noaa.gov
Office phone: 813-645-2323