

## SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Robbie McKinney, Hydrologic Program Manager, Office of Water Resources

THRU: Hugh Thomas, Executive Director

DATE: November 30, 2025

RE: November 2025 Hydrologic Conditions Report

#### **RAINFALL**

- Districtwide average rainfall for the month was 0.13", which was about 94 percent lower than the 1932-2024 average of 2.34" (Table 1, Figure 1). This rainfall amount represents the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest value in the 1932-2024 long-term record for November, with the period-of-record low being 0.09" in 1936. The 12-month period ending November 30 reflected a Districtwide rainfall deficit of 12.94", which was an increase to the 11.82" deficit seen at the end of October. District counties ranged from <0.1" to almost 0.5" of rainfall on average, with parts of Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, and Columbia counties receiving more than 1" of rainfall (Figure 2).
- Overall, a 12-month rainfall deficit was present in all river basins, with each increasing in deficit by the end of November (Figure 3). An area of 12-month surplus greater than 3" was represented in the Waccasassa Basin. Sections with deficits greater than 21" were observed in 4 of the 5 basins. Four of the river basins also increased their 3-month rainfall deficits, with the Aucilla showing slight improvement at the end of November (Figure 4). While no surpluses were seen over the past 3 months, the Waccasassa Basin had a small area with neutral (-1" to 1") rainfall conditions. Large portions with greater than 7" of rainfall deficit were located throughout each of the 5 basins.

#### **SURFACE WATER**

- **Rivers:** Most of the river gages in Figure 5 finished the month in the below normal (10<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> percentile) flow ranges, with the Steinhatchee and Aucilla rivers showing extremely low (<10<sup>th</sup> percentile) flows. Only the Alapaha near Alapaha and Suwannee at Fargo gages remained in the normal flow range (25<sup>th</sup> – 75<sup>th</sup> percentile) throughout November (Figure 6). Other river gages on the Alapaha (Statenville and Jennings), Fenholloway (Perry), and Suwannee (Ellaville) rivers fell from normal to below normal flow ranges during the month.
- **Lakes:** Water levels decreased at the monitored District lakes this month (Figure 7). Water levels at both Sneads Smokehouse and Alligator Lake were below the equipment sensor this month due to low rainfall. The median decrease in stage across all measured lakes was about 0.3', and each of the monitored lakes ended November below their respective long-term average.
- **Springs:** Flow measurements were made at 28 springs in November by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), District staff, and contractors. Manatee Springs saw flows mostly in the normal flow range this month (Figure 8). Fanning Springs, on the other hand, began November with normal flows but fell into the extremely low flow range by the end of the month (Figure 9).