

Piney Point Updates August 2021



CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 31, 2021

The ultimate goal remains closure of the site once and for all. The receiver appointed last week will pave the way to expediting this process.

Day-to-day management and operations of the site will now come from this receiver. This includes safely managing water onsite to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season and exploring other permanent solutions to alleviate the need for any future discharges.

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure the closure of Piney Point.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site did not receive any rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 25.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 8 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 178 trucks have hauled approximately 1,128,980 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 261 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.

- On Aug. 25, 2021, a judge issued an order appointing a receivership to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. Day-to-day management and operations will now come from this receiver.
- On Aug. 5, 2021, DEP filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 30, 2021

The ultimate goal remains closure of the site once and for all. The receiver appointed last week will pave the way to expediting this process.

Day-to-day management and operations of the site will now come from this receiver. This includes safely managing water onsite to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season and exploring other permanent solutions to alleviate the need for any future discharges.

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure the closure of Piney Point.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site received 0.58 inches of rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 25.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 8 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 163 trucks have hauled approximately 1,033,220 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 259 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 25, 2021, a judge issued an order appointing a receivership to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. Day-to-day management and operations will now come from this receiver.
- On Aug. 5, 2021, DEP filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 29, 2021

The ultimate goal remains closure of the site once and for all. The receiver appointed this week will pave the way to expediting this process.

Day-to-day management and operations of the site will now come from this receiver. This includes safely managing water onsite to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season and exploring other permanent solutions to alleviate the need for any future discharges.

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure the closure of Piney Point.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site received no rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.8 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 8 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11.8 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 148 trucks have hauled approximately 939,000 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 256 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 25, 2021, a judge issued an order appointing a receivership to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. Day-to-day management and operations will now come from this receiver.

- On Aug. 5, 2021, DEP filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 28, 2021

The ultimate goal remains closure of the site once and for all. The receiver appointed this week will pave the way to expediting this process.

Day-to-day management and operations of the site will now come from this receiver. This includes safely managing water onsite to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season and exploring other permanent solutions to alleviate the need for any future discharges.

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure the closure of Piney Point.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site received 0.4 inches of rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.8 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 8 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at

the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.

- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 148 trucks have hauled approximately 939,000 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 256 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 25, 2021, a judge issued an order appointing a receivership to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. Day-to-day management and operations will now come from this receiver.
- On Aug. 5, 2021, DEP filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 27, 2021

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure the closure of Piney Point. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site did not receive any rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 9 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 133 trucks have hauled approximately 841,700 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 257 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 25, 2021, a judge issued an order appointing a receivership to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. Day-to-day management and operations will now come from this receiver.
- On Aug. 5, 2021, DEP filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate.

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 26, 2021

Day-to-day management and operations of the site have now been transferred to the receiver appointed by the court yesterday.

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure the closure of Piney Point. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site did not receive any rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 9 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 118 trucks have hauled approximately 744,400 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 258 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 5, 2021, DEP filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.

- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 25, 2021

Today, a judge issued an order appointing a receivership to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. Day-to-day management and operations will now come from this receiver.

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure the closure of Piney Point.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site did not receive any rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 9 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 103 trucks have hauled approximately 620,180 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.

- Approximately 259 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 5, 2021, DEP filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing, enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/bulletins/2ee507c).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 24, 2021

The department continues to oversee HRK's efforts to manage the water onsite. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site received 0.03 inches overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 10 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 87 trucks have hauled approximately 514,340 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 259 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 23, 2021

The department continues to oversee HRK's efforts to manage the water onsite. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site did not receive any rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 10 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 71 trucks have hauled approximately 412,000 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 258 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more

data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).

- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 22, 2021

The department continues to oversee HRK's efforts to manage the water onsite. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site did not receive any rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 10 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Trucking resumed on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, and, to date, 56 trucks have hauled approximately 319,500 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 261 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced.

To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.

- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 21, 2021

The department continues to oversee HRK's efforts to manage the water onsite. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site received 0.4 inches of rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24.4 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 10 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at

the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.

- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Since yesterday, 13 trucks have hauled approximately 83,000 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 262 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 20, 2021

The department continues to oversee HRK's efforts to manage the water onsite. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site did not receive any rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 10 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 10.6 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Since yesterday, 17 trucks have hauled approximately 100,000 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.
- Approximately 264 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available. DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate.

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 19, 2021

The department continues to oversee HRK's efforts to manage the water onsite. As part of these water management efforts, trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. Since yesterday, 26 trucks have hauled approximately 136,500 gallons of process water offsite to the Manatee County Southeast Water Reclamation Facility.

In addition, HRK is managing rainwater runoff through its permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for the remainder of the rainy season.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The site received a half inch of rain overnight. Piney Point has received approximately 24 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 10 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 10.5 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.
- Approximately 266 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management

and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.

- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 18, 2021

DEP continues to carefully monitor weather and site conditions at the Piney Point facility. The site did not receive any rainfall overnight.

Piney Point has received approximately 23 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 11 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.

The department is overseeing HRK's efforts to manage the water onsite. Trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities has resumed. HRK also continues to manage rainwater runoff through its permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for rainfall during the next months.

Key status updates and response activities:

- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 266 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 17, 2021

DEP continues to carefully monitor weather and site conditions at the Piney Point facility. The site received approximately 0.07 inches of rainfall overnight.

Piney Point has received approximately 23 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 11 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 11 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.

The department is overseeing HRK's efforts to manage water onsite by reinstating daily piping and trucking of water to nearby water treatment facilities, and enhancing ongoing water management and treatment efforts at the site. The priority remains to pursue all available water management tools to ensure safe storage capacities for rainfall during the next months to avoid the risk of uncontrolled or untreated discharges from the site.

HRK continues to manage rainwater runoff through its permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

Key status updates and response activities:

- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 266 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- Innovative technology companies have been onsite treating water since April 2021, and this is ongoing. As a result of these innovative water treatment practices, nutrients, including Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN), have been significantly reduced. To date, approximately 200 tons of TN and 150 tons of TP have been removed from ponded wastewater.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).

- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 16, 2021

DEP continues to carefully monitor weather and site conditions at the Piney Point facility. The site received approximately one inch of rainfall overnight.

Piney Point has received approximately 23 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and is expected to receive at least another 11.5 inches by the end of September. The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is 9.2 inches. This capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts as well as adjusted water management activities at the site.

HRK continues to manage rainwater runoff through its permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

The department expects HRK to continue to explore all short-term water management options to remove water from the site, such as piping and trucking water to nearby water treatment facilities, until a receiver is appointed and long-term water management remedies are in place.

Key status updates and response activities:

- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.

- Approximately 266 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 15, 2021

While the track of Tropical Storm Fred has shifted westward, DEP continues to carefully monitor weather and site conditions at the Piney Point facility. The site received 0.4 inches of rainfall overnight.

Although the site is not expected to experience storm conditions or extreme rainfall from this storm, as noted in DEP's filed court motion yesterday, Piney Point has received approximately 22 inches of rain since the beginning of June, and should expect at least another 11.5 inches by the end of September.

HRK continues to manage rainwater runoff through its permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

The department expects HRK to continue to explore all short-term water management options to remove water from the site, such as piping and trucking water to nearby water treatment facilities, until a receiver is appointed and long-term water management remedies are in place.

Key status updates and response activities:

- On Aug. 14, 2021, DEP filed a Motion for Emergency Hearing regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021. Learn more by reviewing DEP's [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#), [enforcement complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 267 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 14, 2021

Today, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) filed a [Motion for Emergency Hearing](#) regarding its request for of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third

party to oversee management and closure of the Piney Point site. This request was included in DEP's enforcement action against HRK and in a motion in an ongoing foreclosure case concerning the site, both of which were filed on Aug. 5, 2021.

The enforcement complaint asserts HRK's failure to safely operate the phosphogypsum stack system at the site and remove the water in the compartments atop the stacks as required by their Consent Order with department. Combined with additional significant rain volumes expected over the coming months as we continue into the rainy season, the potential for overtopping of the compartments into the surrounding areas, including Bishop Harbor (an Outstanding Florida Water), poses an imminent threat to public health and safety, and the environment. Therefore, the department is requesting an expedited hearing to have a receiver appointed and in place as soon as possible.

The request for emergency hearing is another step to ensure the safe operation and ultimately the final closure of wastewater impoundments atop the site's phosphogypsum stack system. The department expects HRK to continue to explore all short-term water management options to remove water from the site, such as piping and trucking water to nearby water treatment facilities, until a receiver is appointed and long-term water management remedies are in place.

Additionally, DEP remains committed to its stringent oversight of HRK's activities at Piney Point as they prepare the site for possible impacts from Tropical Depression Fred. Department inspectors are onsite overseeing site preparations as staff work to secure heavy equipment and water treatment elements, and adjust water management levels in the ponds to ensure the site can endure tropical or hurricane force winds and rain. Additional pumps and generators are also available to safeguard against potential power outages.

The site received approximately 0.2 inches of rain overnight, bringing the rainfall total to approximately seven inches over the last 14 days. Rainwater runoff continues to be conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 267 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of

all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).

- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 13, 2021

DEP remains committed to its stringent oversight of HRK's activities at Piney Point as they prepare the site for possible impacts from Tropical Depression/Storm Fred. Department inspectors are onsite overseeing site preparations as staff work to secure heavy equipment and water treatment elements, and adjust water management levels in the ponds to ensure the site can endure tropical or hurricane force winds and rain. Additional pumps and generators are also available to safeguard against potential power outages.

The site received approximately 0.3 inches of rain overnight, bringing the rainfall total to nearly seven inches over the last 13 days. Rainwater runoff continues to be conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 264 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and

corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.

- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 12, 2021

DEP remains committed to its stringent oversight of HRK's activities at Piney Point as they prepare the site for possible impacts from Tropical Storm Fred. Department inspectors are onsite overseeing site preparations as staff work to secure heavy equipment and water treatment elements, and adjust water management levels in the ponds to ensure the site can endure tropical or hurricane force winds and rain. Additional pumps and generators are also available to safeguard against potential power outages.

The site received approximately 0.8 inches of rain overnight, bringing the rainfall total to approximately 6.5 inches over the last 12 days. Rainwater runoff continues to be conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.

- Approximately 264 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 11, 2021

DEP remains committed to its stringent oversight of HRK's activities at Piney Point as they prepare the site for possible impacts from Tropical Storm Fred. Department inspectors are onsite overseeing site preparations as staff work to secure heavy equipment and water treatment elements, and adjust water management levels in the ponds to ensure the site can endure tropical or hurricane force winds and rain. Additional pumps and generators are also available to safeguard against potential power outages.

The site received approximately 0.6 inches of rain overnight, bringing the rainfall total to approximately six inches over the last 11 days. Rainwater runoff continues to be conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater are collected by HRK daily to ensure it meets the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and water quality standards.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 262 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 10, 2021

DEP continues its oversight of HRK's onsite water management activities to safely control water levels, respond to rainfall events and support water treatment.

The site received approximately 0.6 inches of rain overnight. Rainwater runoff continues to be conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater were collected by HRK again today and they meet the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and meet water quality standards. HRK will continue to collect samples daily.

DEP is monitoring Tropical Cyclone Six, along with current local weather conditions. Site preparations are underway and HRK will continue to adjust water management strategies as needed.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 262 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 9, 2021

DEP continues its oversight of HRK's onsite water management activities to safely control water levels, respond to rainfall events and support water treatment.

The site has not received any additional rainfall in the last 72 hours. Rainwater runoff from the approximately 4.5 inches of rain received last week is still being conveyed through HRK's

permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater were collected by HRK again today and they meet the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and meet water quality standards. HRK will continue to collect samples daily.

DEP will continue to monitor current and future weather conditions and ensure HRK adjusts water management strategies as needed.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 262 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 8, 2021

DEP continues its oversight of HRK's onsite water management activities to safely control water levels, respond to rainfall events and support water treatment.

Over the past week, the site received approximately 4.5 inches of rain. The site did not receive any rainfall overnight.

Rainwater runoff from earlier this week is still being conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater were collected by HRK again today and they meet the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and meet water quality standards. Manatee County also collected samples this weekend. HRK will continue to collect samples daily.

DEP will continue to monitor current and future weather conditions and ensure HRK adjusts water management strategies as needed.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Thursday, Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 267 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 7, 2021

DEP continues its oversight of HRK's onsite water management activities to safely control water levels, respond to rainfall events and support water treatment.

Over the past week, the site received approximately 4.5 inches of rain. The site did not receive any rainfall overnight.

Rainwater runoff from earlier this week is still being conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater were collected by HRK again today and they meet the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and meet water quality standards. Manatee County also collected samples. HRK will continue to collect samples daily.

DEP will continue to monitor current and future weather conditions and ensure HRK adjusts water management strategies as needed.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Thursday, Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 267 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#).

FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov.

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate.

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update – Aug. 6, 2021

DEP continues its oversight of HRK's onsite water management activities to safely control water levels, respond to rainfall events and support water treatment.

Over the past week, the site received approximately 4.5 inches of rain. The site did not receive any rainfall overnight.

Rainwater runoff from earlier this week is still being conveyed through HRK's permitted outfalls to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. Samples of the stormwater have been collected by DEP and HRK and meet the requirements of HRK's discharge permit and meet water quality standards. Manatee County has also been invited to conduct sampling if desired.

DEP will continue to monitor current and future weather conditions and ensure HRK adjusts water management strategies as needed.

Key status updates and response activities:

- The department filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court of Manatee County on Thursday, Aug. 5, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC. Learn more by reviewing [DEP's filed complaint](#) and a [frequently asked questions](#) document.
- Approximately 269 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.

- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update - Aug. 5, 2021

Today, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection filed a complaint in the 12th Judicial Circuit Court in Manatee County, initiating enforcement action against HRK Holdings, LLC.

Statement from DEP Interim Secretary Shawn Hamilton:

“Today, the department took a pivotal step to ensure this is the final chapter for the Piney Point site and fulfill the agency's charge and dedication to holding HRK accountable. This action enforces compliance with the state's environmental laws and all of HRK's existing authorizations, orders and agreements with the department. The department is seeking the maximum allowable penalties and recovery of costs and damages under existing laws and regulations.

“DEP's priority continues to be the protection of human health and safety and the minimization of any potential impacts to the environment. We are committed to maintaining stringent regulatory oversight of activities at the site as we move forward with this enforcement action.

“The ultimate goal remains closure of the site once and for all. We are confident the court appointed receivership requested through this complaint will pave the way to expediting this process.”

Enforcement Actions:

The complaint outlines injunctive relief, cost recovery, attorney fees, damages and civil penalties sought for HRK's failure to comply with the following:

- Requirements of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes, pertaining to the safe operation of phosphogypsum stack systems.
- Requirements of Title 62, Florida Administrative Code, pertaining to surface and groundwater standards.
- Provisions and requirements of the existing Consent Order and Administrative Agreement that HRK entered into with the department requiring them to remove the water from the site by 2019.
- Financial assurance requirements.

In addition, the complaint seeks the appointment of a court-appointed receiver to serve as an independent third party to oversee management and closure of the site and the financial management of these activities.

Learn more by reviewing DEP's filed complaint and a frequently asked questions document.

- [DEP's filed complaint.](#)
- [Frequently asked questions document.](#)

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](https://protectingfloridatogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate).

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CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

Piney Point Update - Aug. 4, 2021

The Piney Point site received nearly four inches of rain yesterday and continues to receive rain today. Rainwater runoff is being conveyed through HRK's permitted outfall to the drainage ditch along Buckeye Road. This is rainwater, not wastewater from the compartment areas onsite. DEP and HRK have collected samples at the permitted outfall to confirm the runoff is rainwater. Manatee County has also been invited to conduct sampling if desired.

To be clear, HRK's prior emergency discharges ceased on April 9, and have not resumed.

DEP continues its oversight of HRK's onsite water management activities to safely control water levels, respond to rainfall events and support water treatment. DEP will continue to monitor

current and future weather conditions and ensure HRK adjusts water management strategies as needed.

Key status updates and response activities:

- Approximately 266 million gallons are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including rainfall, water management activities and wind/associated waves in the pond.
- DEP continues to monitor and sample surrounding waterways following previous discharges. DEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#) details sampling locations and corresponding results to evaluate any environmental impact. Results will continue to be posted as soon as they are available.
- DEP is also working collaboratively with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and local governments to cover more area and collect more data. For a comprehensive view of all sampling in Tampa Bay related to Piney Point, visit TBEP's [interactive water quality dashboard](#).
- DEP continues working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Florida Department of Health to [monitor algal blooms and water quality](#). FWC is the lead agency on red tide and will continue to update conditions on their [website](#). For more information on red tide, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](#).

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site and response activities at [ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate](#).

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No entries for Aug 1-3, 2021