

Consolidated Annual Report

March 1, 2011



9225 CR 49
Live Oak, Florida 32060
386-362-1001
386-362-1056 Fax

Suwannee River Water Management District

David Still
Executive Director

Other Leadership Members:

Jon Dinges
Department Director
Water Supply & Resource Management

Joe Flanagan
Department Director
Land Acquisition & Management

Charles Houder, III
Assistant Executive Director
Executive Office

Steve Minnis
Governmental Affairs Director
Executive Office

Melanie Roberts
Department Director
Mission Support

For additional information, please contact:

Melanie Roberts
Director of Mission Support
9225 C.R. 49
Live Oak, FL 32060
386-362-1001
386-362-1056 Fax
www.mysuwanneeriver.com

Table of Contents

<u>Section Name</u>	<u>Section</u>
Strategic Plan 2011-2020	A
Minimum Flows and Levels	B
Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan	C
Alternative Water Supply Report	D
Five Year Water Resource Development Work Program	E
Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan	F
Mitigation Donation Report	G

Section A

Strategic Plan 2011-2020

(District Water Management Plan)

WATER FOR NATURE...WATER FOR PEOPLE

2011-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN



Suwannee River Water
Management District





A MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN

The District Governing Board is determined to successfully fulfill its mission to protect and manage water resources to support natural systems and the needs of the public.

Over the past couple of years, I have travelled the State to see firsthand how other areas are responding to water supply demands and have noted the costs that these areas have incurred. The costs associated with restoration and recovery of natural systems are enormous.

The District must take a proactive approach to meet our future challenges. We have seen and made note of the lessons learned elsewhere. We intend to leverage that knowledge to propel forward in avoiding the same oversights.

The District has finalized its 2010 District-wide Water Supply Assessment (Assessment). The Assessment evaluates the availability of water supplies over the next 20 years and presents a sobering reality of our fragile water supplies and the importance for all users to embrace conservation.

Decline in groundwater levels in the northeastern portion District is suspected to have impacted a number of rivers and springs to the degree that they are currently not meeting their established Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) or interim

flow constraints, or they are predicted to fall below them over the next 20 years.

Four areas of concern have been identified in the water supply assessment: the Upper Santa Fe River Basin, the Upper Suwannee River Basin, the Lower Santa Fe Basin, and the Alapaha Basin.

Regional water supply plans will be developed for areas where the Assessment determined supplies will not be sufficient within the 20-year planning horizon. The Assessment and subsequent regional water supply plans will be re-evaluated every five years or sooner if needed.

Also, modeling and science used in developing MFLs for our major rivers and springs have confirmed that our water supplies are limited and we are faced with significant resource constraints. Thus, efforts must focus on protecting springs and natural systems, developing alternative water supplies that offset groundwater withdrawals, and promoting regional water supply development. This must be accomplished by balancing the water needs of our communities and natural systems.

The Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund established by the Legislature provided the necessary fiscal resources for establishing MFLs, protecting springs and natural systems, and developing alternative water supplies. State funding for the program was significantly reduced in FY 2009 and eliminated in FY 2010 and FY 2011. It is essential for funding levels to be restored to ensure a long-term adequate and reliable water supply and to protect our natural systems.

When preparing the budget for this fiscal year, the Governing Board took a rare position of proposing to increase the District's millage rate to pay for the MFL program. However, with backing from the Governor's Office, other funding sources were identified so that the District did not have to take this last resort measure. This extraordinary step proposed by the Governing Board exemplifies the importance of developing and establishing MFLs for our priority water bodies.

Protecting our water resources while maintaining and enhancing our economy is a balancing act.

Establishing and implementing MFLs will be the key in preserving our natural systems, which is our economic lifeline.

Without MFLs our springs, rivers, lakes, and ground water are in jeopardy. Once lost, these resources will be extremely difficult and expensive to restore. Losing these resources will have profound impacts on agriculture and tourism that will in turn have resounding economic impacts to the State.

Partnerships with our communities, other water management districts, and the State of Georgia are more essential than ever to ensure an adequate water supply and protection of our water resources. The District will continue its partnerships and outreach efforts to assure there is an adequate water supply for all users while protecting our natural systems.

The Nature Coast Regional Water Authority (Authority) is a prime example of a community partnership that provides the required leadership to collaboratively address regional water supply issues. The District is committed to supporting the Authority and encouraging the formation of similar regional water supply authorities.

Conservation among all water users is crucial in meeting existing and future demands. Conservation is the most cost effective means to reduce demands and help make certain that future generations enjoy our unique resources. Our partnership with the City of Cedar Key has yielded noteworthy demand reductions that are resulting in substantial savings to the City's taxpayers.

The District revised its water use permitting program in 2010. These revisions will go a long way in preserving and protecting our water resources while ensuring that supply allocation is based upon documented need.

The District has the highest concentration of first magnitude springs in the United States and the highest concentration of freshwater springs in the State of Florida. The District is working to protect and preserve the water quality and quantity of our springs and rivers through the Heartland Springs Initiative.

The foundation of the District water resource programs is data. Data is used to develop

plans to manage water supply, provide flood protection and protect water quality and natural systems. The District also collects and analyzes rainfall data and flood levels. This information is provided to the public through our website.

Caring for our resources involves an all-inclusive approach that encompasses the District's areas of responsibilities for water supply, water quality, natural systems, flood protection, and mission support. We must approach these areas of responsibilities in a comprehensive manner rather than individually to make certain that our resources are protected and preserved for future generations.

We are encouraged by the efforts our community has made to protect and preserve our most precious resource.



Don J. Quincey, Jr.
 Chair
 Chiefland
 Lower Suwannee Basin

N. David Flagg
 Vice-Chair
 Alachua County
 Santa Fe, Waccasassa
 Basins

Carl E. Meece
 Secretary/Treasurer
 O'Brien
 At Large

Alphonas Alexander
 Madison
 Upper Suwannee River
 Basin

Donald R. "Ray" Curtis III
 Perry
 Coastal Rivers Basin

Dr. C. Linden Davidson
 Lamont
 Aucilla River Basin

Heath M. Davis
 Cedar Key
 At Large

James L. Fraleigh
 Madison
 At Large

Guy N. Williams
 Lake City
 At Large

David A. Still
 Executive Director
 Lake City

TABLE OF CONTENTS

District Overview	1
Water Supply Strategic Priority	6
Regional Water Supply Planning	6
Heartland Springs Initiative	10
Alternative Water Supplies	14
Conservation	15
Water Quality	18
Water Quality Monitoring	18
Water Quality Improvement	19
Natural Systems	21
Minimum Flows and Levels	21
Land Acquisition	25
Land Stewardship	28
Flood Protection	30
Community-Based Flood Protection	30
Mission Support	32
Data Management	32
Highly Trained and Service Oriented Employees	33
Accomplishments	35

CHARTS AND MAPS

Water Supply Deliverables and Milestones	17
Water Quality Deliverables and Milestones	20
Natural Systems Deliverables and Milestones	29
Flood Protection Deliverables and Milestones	31
Mission Support Deliverables and Milestones	34
Strategic Plan Program Summary	36
Map of District	5
General Springs Location Map	12
Map of District Land Ownership	27

DISTRICT OVERVIEW

A Governing Board of nine members, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate, sets policy and direction for the District. Board members serve four-year terms. The Board holds meetings and workshops monthly, usually at the headquarters in Live Oak.

Under the direction of its Governing Board, the District's organization is structured by the Executive Office, the Mission Support Department, the Water Supply and Resource Management Department, and the Land Acquisition and Management Department.

The District has a population of about 320,000 people, representing roughly 2% of the State's population. According to the 2010 Water Supply Assessment the District's population is projected to grow to over 730,000 by the year 2030.

The District covers approximately 7,640 square miles which is nearly 12% of the State's land area. The District is the smallest of Florida's water management districts and covers all or part of 15 counties in north central Florida.

The region includes the highest concentration of first magnitude freshwater springs in the United States and the highest concentration of freshwater springs in the State. Additionally, some of State's most scenic and least-developed rivers, streams, lakes, and landscapes are located in the District.

The District covers 13 river basins, which include the following major rivers: Suwannee, Santa Fe, Withlacoochee, Aucilla, Alapaha, Ichetucknee, Fenholloway, Steinhatchee, Econfinia, Waccasassa, and Wacissa. Over 50% of the Aucilla, Alapaha, Withlacoochee, and Suwannee river basins are located in Georgia.

The District is currently experiencing water supply problems in the Upper Santa Fe and Upper Suwannee river basins. Additionally, in the northeastern portion of the District, there is a declining trend in the Upper Floridan Aquifer.

Water quality problems related to nutrient loading are also a resource management issue. The District employs voluntary, locally-based,

incentive programs like the Suwannee River Partnership and The Ichetucknee Partnership to address these issues.

The District's budget is derived from a combination of local property tax revenues, state grants, and federal funds. Locally-generated tax revenues are approximately 11% of the District's total budget—indicative of the lowest tax base of any Florida water management district. Such a low tax base makes it difficult for the District to achieve its statutory requirements without funding from the legislature. Federal, state, and other sources make up 89% of our funding.

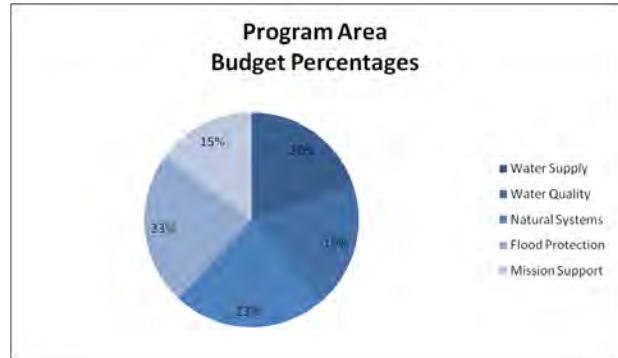
The District faces challenges in managing the water and related resources as the region continues to grow and develop. Moreover, the District's water resources are affected by groundwater withdrawals outside of its boundaries including Georgia. According to the Georgia water plan, groundwater withdrawals from the upper Floridan aquifer system are expected to significantly increase in the future.

These challenges are related to the District's limited financial and staff resources and reliance on state and federal funding. The District's responsibilities have grown considerably due to legislative mandates and program delegation during the last two decades. Coupled with the projected regional growth and impacts to the District's water resources from groundwater withdrawals outside of the District, the agency must be strategic and prioritize if the challenges are to be successfully met.

The District's mission is to implement the programs described in Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, in order to manage water and related natural resources for the present and future residents of the region and the state. The essential elements of this mission are:

- ★ To provide for the availability of water of sufficient quantity and quality to maintain natural systems and meet the full range of water needs.
- ★ To create and implement a land acquisition and management program that will ensure preservation, conservation, and appropriate public uses of water and related natural resources.

- ★ To encourage nonstructural surface water management techniques.
- ★ To develop and implement regulatory programs that will ensure preservation and reasonable uses of water and related natural resources.
- ★ To use public funds in an efficient and effective manner.
- ★ To promote public awareness of water resource issues through a program of public information and education.



OUR MISSION

The Suwannee River Water Management District works to protect and manage water resources to support natural systems and the needs of the public.

OUR VALUES

Teamwork: Working together to meet the needs of the organization, the public, and the natural resources.

Respect: Dealing fairly, embracing diversity, and considering the opinions of others.

Integrity: Being honest always, maintaining public trust, and being good stewards.

Professionalism: Displaying courtesy, respect, and expertise in all that we do.

Public Service: Providing prompt, courteous, and reliable responses to our customers.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The District Strategic Plan addresses our four areas of responsibility under Chapter 373, Florida Statutes (F.S.): water supply, flood protection, water quality, and natural systems. These responsibilities are implemented through the District's resource management and regulatory programs. Additionally, the District considers Mission Support a vital and integral component to accomplish these four areas of responsibility. Therefore, the Plan also addresses Mission Support as a strategic priority.

District programs cannot be accomplished solely with funding from the District's ad valorem tax base. To achieve the District's Priorities, funding from the federal and state governments as well as from partnerships with public and private organizations are needed. Historically, there has been success in receiving funding from the federal and state governments and in developing partnerships with citizen groups, industry, and local, state, and federal agencies. However, over the past several years the District has experienced a significant decline in funding from the state legislature, a situation expected to continue in future years.

The District has identified twelve strategic priorities that will guide its activities for 2011 – 2020. The strategic priorities will be implemented through five major program areas.

Water Supply

★ Regional Water Supply Planning

Goal: Ensure an adequate and sustainable water supply for all reasonable-beneficial users while preserving and protection springs and natural systems

★ Heartland Springs Initiative

Goal: Ensure springs throughout the District are protected and preserved

★ Alternative Water Supplies

Goal: Develop and implement alternative water supply projects that offset groundwater demands

★ Conservation

Goal: Maximize conservation among all users throughout the District

Water Quality

★ Water Quality Monitoring

Goal: Monitor and report on the status of the District's water resources

★ Water Quality Improvement

Goal: Develop and implement projects to protect and improve water quality

Natural Systems

★ MFLs

Goal: Ensure District priority water bodies are protected from significant harm for current and future generations

★ Land Acquisition

Goal: Implement the Florida Forever Work Plan to acquire interests in lands for water resource protection

★ **Land Stewardship**

Goal: Manage District-owned lands in accordance with the Excellence in Land Management standards and guidelines

Flood Protection

★ **Community-Based Flood Protection**

Goal: Enhance flood risk information and increase public awareness of flooding potential

Mission Support

★ **Data Management**

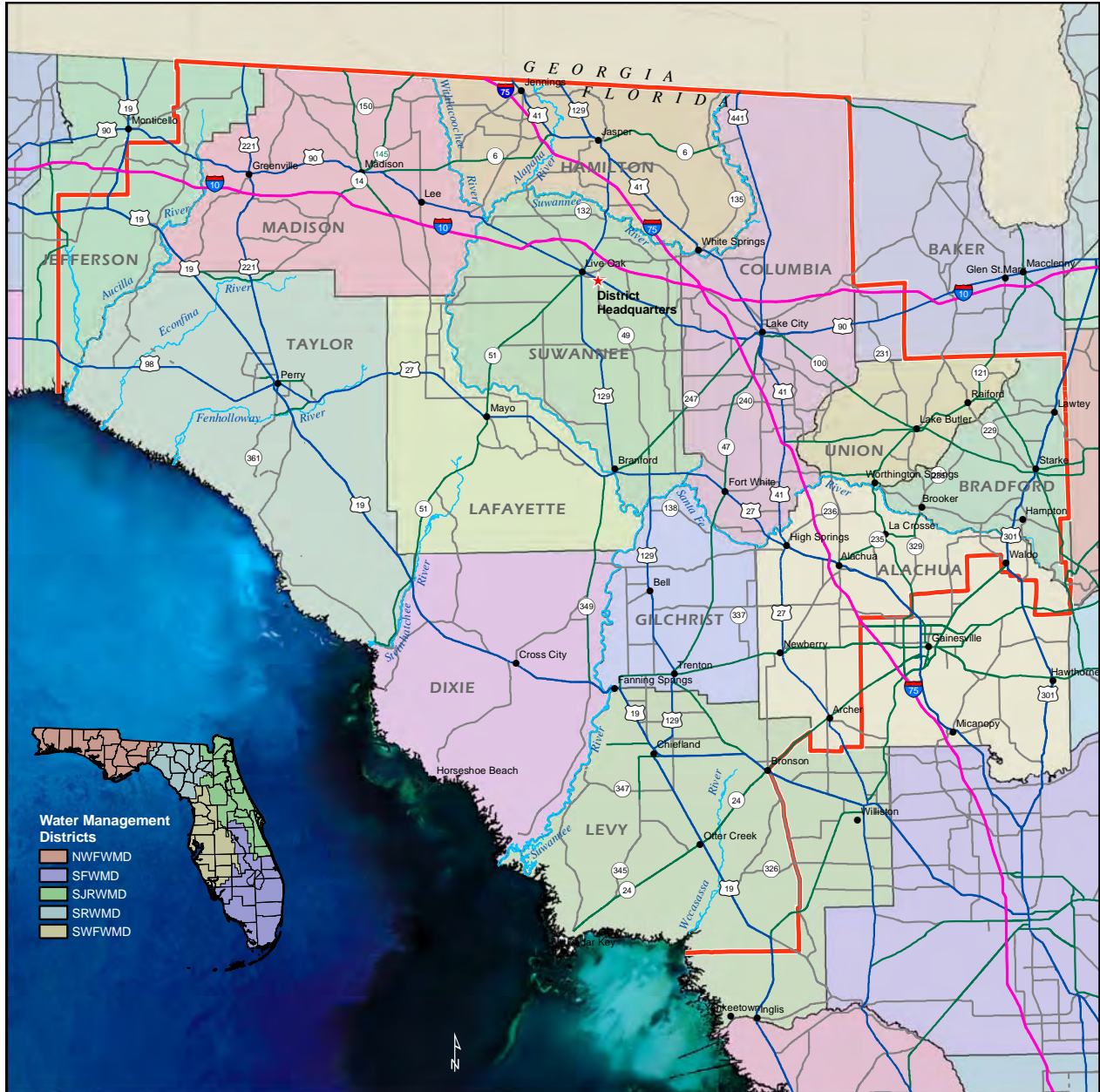
Goal: Develop an integrated data management system for efficient and effective analysis and timely delivery of information

★ **Trained and Service Oriented Employees**

Goal: Ensure that District operations and activities support and facilitate fulfillment of the District's mission and statutory responsibilities



DISTRICT MAP



WATER SUPPLY

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

Goal: Ensure an adequate and sustainable water supply for all reasonable-beneficial users while preserving and protecting springs and natural systems.

Not too long ago in the Suwannee River Water Management District was deemed to have abundant water supplies that would be around forever. The District's 2010 Water Supply Assessment along with the science developed through the District's minimum flows and levels (MFLs) program demonstrate that long held perception is no longer valid.

Like other areas in the State, the District is faced with water supply constraints. This realization requires the District to re-evaluate its short and long-term priorities to meet the challenge of ensuring an adequate water supply for all reasonable-beneficial users. Simultaneously, we must protect our springs and natural systems.

The District collaborates with adjacent water management districts, local governments, State of Georgia, and other partners to help meet the water needs for all users. With increases in population growth, water demands, and impacts occurring outside of the District, these relationships are more important than ever. Regular and frequent coordination has been instituted with adjacent water management districts and the State of Georgia to understand existing and potential future impacts.

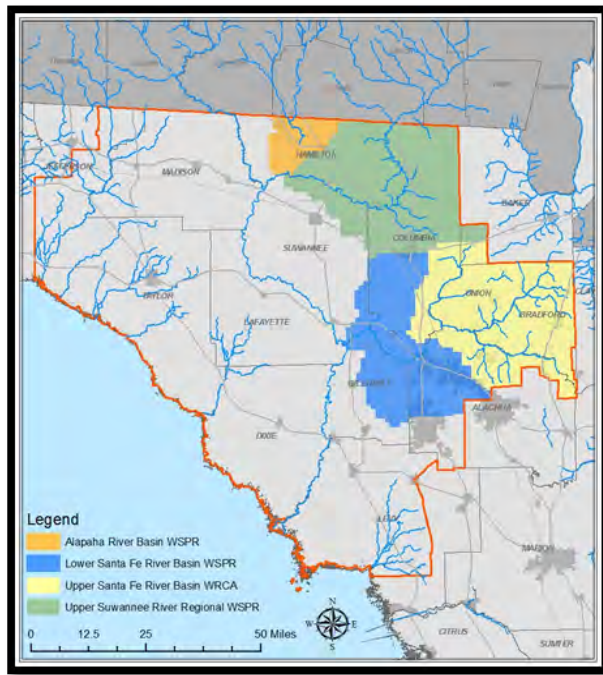
District boundaries are based on surface drainage areas called watersheds or water basins. However, groundwater aquifers, the primary source of most water used in north Florida, do not necessarily follow those boundaries.

The decline in groundwater levels in the northeastern District is suspected to have impacted a number of rivers and springs to the degree that they are not meeting their established MFL or interim flow constraints, or they are predicted to fall below them over the next 20 years.

The District's 2010 Water Supply Assessment has revealed that resources in the northeastern portion of the District are under severe stress. The Assessment identifies two areas that currently have resource constraints and two areas that are projected to have inadequate resources to meet future demands within the 20-year planning horizon.

The four areas of concern that are in need of water supply planning. These four areas are the Upper Santa Fe River Basin (USFRB), the Upper Suwannee River Basin (USRB), the Lower Santa Fe Basin, and the Alapaha Basin.

Water Supply Planning Regions



REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

The Water Supply Planning Region designation requires the development of water supply plans that will identify strategies to use alternative sources and conservation rather than groundwater to meet projected demands. In addition, the water supply plans must contain a recovery strategy for water resources that currently do not meet their established MFLs. Within one year of designating these areas as Water Supply Planning Regions, they must also be designated as Water Resource Caution Areas. A Water Resource Caution Area is where existing sources of water will not be adequate to satisfy future water demands and sustain water resources.

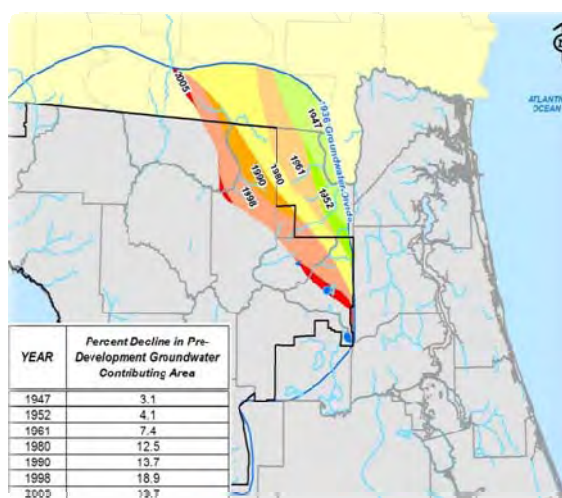
Currently, the District is developing a regional water supply plan for the USFRB. The USFRB includes portions of Baker, Columbia, Bradford, Union and Alachua counties. It has been determined by the District that there will not be sufficient water to meet future needs in the USFRB. This determination is based on minimum flows developed for the Upper Santa Fe River. This is also an issue for the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) because the preliminary SJRWMD water supply assessment shows that many water bodies in the SJRWMD will trip MFLs over a 20-year planning horizon.

The groundwater basin divide in the northeastern District has migrated southwestward more than 35 miles in 70 years as a result of the potentiometric surface decline that occurred from pre-development through 2005. As a consequence of this migration, the size of the groundwater contributing area to the eastern District has decreased by more than 20 percent or 1,900 square miles. The decrease is apparently a result of groundwater withdrawals originating within the District, the SJRWMD, and the State of Georgia. The decline in the potentiometric surface in the northeastern District is suspected to have impacted a number of rivers, lakes, and springs to the degree that they are not currently meeting their established minimum flows and levels or interim flow constraints or they will not meet them at some point during the 20-year planning period.

Regional groundwater use patterns in the District and the SJRWMD will influence the water supply plan for the USFRB. For this reason the two districts are closely coordinating in the development of their respective water supply plans. This will ensure that the plans reflect the regional nature of groundwater levels and withdrawals. Additionally, groundwater withdrawals in the State of Georgia also influence the District's water resources.

The extent of the groundwater basin decline is graphically shown below.

Migration of Groundwater Flow Divide



Groundwater demand throughout the District, portions of three adjacent water management districts, and southern Georgia, is projected to increase by up to 24 percent during the next 20 years. The magnitude of groundwater withdrawals that are projected to occur by 2030 in the SJRWMD northern-most nine counties will be significantly larger than the withdrawals in the our District.

MFLs for our major rivers and springs have revealed that our water supplies are limited. Thus, management efforts must focus on protecting springs and natural systems, developing alternative water supplies that offset

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

groundwater withdrawals, and encouraging regional water supply development. This must be accomplished by balancing the water needs of our communities and natural systems.

Developing and maintaining cooperative partnerships allows the District to facilitate effective approaches to eliminate or reduce existing resource impacts and prevent future adverse impacts.

The District recently facilitated the establishment of the Nature Coast Regional Water Authority (Authority). The Authority is a prime example of community partnerships that provide collaboratively address regional water supply issues. The District has worked with the Authority to acquire wellfield protection areas to ensure a high quality water supply source remains viable for existing citizens and for future generations.

Conservation partnerships with agriculture producers have improved over 325 irrigation systems and saved an estimated one billion gallons of ground water per year. Public supply conservation coordination with local governments has also been successful in reducing groundwater withdrawals.

Monitoring and data collection by the District is also used in water supply planning, water supply development, water conservation management, water use permitting, and environmental protection and restoration projects.

Prior to the passage of Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF), public access reuse water to offset existing ground water withdrawals was unavailable in the District. With the advent of the WPSTF, the District formed collaborative partnerships with the cities of Live Oak, Lake City, Monticello, and Cedar Key to establish reclaimed water programs.

Approximately 3.5 million gallons per day of reuse water has been made available to offset existing groundwater withdrawals within the District. Other alternative water supply projects have been identified that have the potential to

offset an estimated additional 5 million gallons per day. However, the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund must be funded if the groundwater offset potential and resource sustainability are to be realized.

Development of alternative water supplies is vital to the District. Alternative water supplies are essential to ensure adequate water supplies for all reasonable-beneficial users and to protect our ecology. Alternative water supplies offset dependency on groundwater, expand available sources to assist in maintaining sustainable resources, and help make water sources resistant to drought.

Monitoring and data collection by the District is also used in water supply planning, water supply development, water conservation management, water use permitting, and environmental protection and restoration projects.

Conservation partnerships with all water users are essential in meeting existing and future demands. Also, the District collaborates with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to improve agricultural water use efficiency. Irrigation systems are assessed for water use efficiency and retrofitted with water-saving equipment through cost-sharing agreements with farmers. The District also partners with farmers to collect irrigation water use data.

The District's water use permitting program helps ensure that adverse impacts to our water supplies and natural systems do not occur and existing legal users are protected.

Program Strategies

- ★ Develop Regional Water Supply Plans
- ★ Encourage creation of regional water supply authorities
- ★ Support the Nature Coast Regional Water Authority
- ★ Enhance monitoring programs

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

- ★ Partner with communities to develop alternative water supply projects
 - ★ Partner with communities to develop conservation projects
 - ★ Communicate the value of water resource partnerships to the public and landowners
 - ★ Encourage low impact development
 - ★ Continue resource regulatory programs
 - ★ Coordinate with all users in protecting and managing water supplies
 - ★ Coordinate with the adjacent water management districts in protecting our natural resources
 - ★ Coordinate with the State of Georgia in protecting our natural resources
 - ★ Provide regional water supply and facility planning assistance to local governments
 - ★ Develop partnerships to implement alternative water supply projects that offset groundwater withdrawals as legislative funds become available
 - ★ Promote water conservation through cost share, public outreach, and technical assistance projects
 - ★ Establish and implement MFLs
 - ★ Ensure water uses are sustainable through adoption and implementation of MFLs
 - ★ Conduct workshops with the regulated community
- ★ Participation of local governments in regional water supply efforts
 - ★ Participation by the State of Georgia and the adjacent water management districts in developing the water supply assessment and regional water supply plans
 - ★ Water conservation measures established
 - ★ Amount of groundwater withdrawals offset
 - ★ MFLs established by rule on schedule
 - ★ MFLs technical reports completed
 - ★ Number of water use permits in compliance

Program Funding

Funding sources include the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF), Water Management Lands Trust Fund (WMLTF), state legislative appropriations, federal appropriations, permit fees, and ad valorem taxes. There insufficient WMLTF and no WPSTF, state or federal funding for FY 2011.



Success Indicators

- ★ Number of water conservation projects implemented
- ★ Number of farmers sharing water use data
- ★ Number of alternative water supply projects implemented

WATER SUPPLY

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

HEARTLAND SPRINGS INITIATIVE

Goal: Ensure springs throughout the District are protected and preserved.

Springs are among the most visible and prized natural and recreational resources of the District.

The District has the highest concentration of first magnitude springs in the United States. Additionally, the highest concentration of springs in the State is within the District.

Moreover, there are 197 known springs solely within the Suwannee River Basin. During low flow periods the Suwannee River, Santa Fe River, and Withlacoochee River essentially become a spring run.

Other rivers such as the Ichetucknee and Wacissa are primarily spring-fed.

This extremely unique environmental condition truly makes the District the springs heartland of the State. The Heartland Springs Initiative was implemented by the District in 2009. It is a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach involving every aspect of the District's resource management and regulatory programs.

The highly interactive character of ground water and surface water in the District makes springs much like the proverbial "canary in the coal mine" when it comes to water resources. If our springs flow freely and are of good quality, we know that our aquifers and rivers are also doing well.

Therefore, preserving the flows and water quality of our springs will best reflect our ultimate success in protecting the water resources of the region and the State.

Setting and achieving a high standard for protecting and managing our publicly-owned springs requires monitoring of our natural systems, establishing of minimum flows and levels, implementing alternative water sources,

maintaining and improving water quality, and cooperating and coordinating with partners and permittees.

Only through a concerted focus of technical, political, and economic resources can North Florida's springs be preserved for future generations.

Effective springshed management depends on comprehensive partnerships for managing water quality and quantity. Landowners, citizens, and local, state, and federal agencies must share the responsibility to preserve our springs for future generations. Springshed management is achieved through research, technical assistance, cost-share funding, interagency coordination, regulation, and education programs.

A model for springshed management is establishing partnerships. Within the District there are two successful partnership examples.

One such example is The Ichetucknee Partnership (TIP). TIP is based on the development of a locally led effort to protect the Ichetucknee River and its springs. Participating groups include the City of Lake City, Columbia County, the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), the District, and others. TIP has been successful in developing and implementing education and outreach tools. Additionally, TIP has achieved widespread implementation of urban and agricultural best management practices.

The Suwannee River Partnership (SRP) is another example of a successful springshed private-public partnership management program. SRP brings landowners and agencies together to implement BMPs to reduce nutrient inputs and implement water conservation measures. SRP has 63 member agencies and organizations. SRP farmer participation is significant with over 146 farms that are comprised of roughly 123,000 acres and involves 90% of dairy, 99% of poultry, and 75% of crop farmers throughout the District. Estimated nitrogen reduction is 2,589 tons per

HEARTLAND SPRINGS INITIATIVE

year. Estimated water saving is 1 billion of gallons of water per year.

The District supports TIP and SRP by planning, funding, and implementing BMPs; providing water quality data; and administering outreach and educational programs.

Monitoring is a fundamental element of the District's Heartland Springs Initiative. Resource monitoring of water resources linked to springs provides the only assessment tools available to gage the health of springs throughout the District.

Due to budgetary cutbacks, the Florida Department of Environment Protection eliminated numerous spring monitoring sites in the District. In effort to make sure that continual data collection and analysis was maintained at Fanning Springs, Manatee Springs, priority sites in the Ichetucknee Basin the District revised its monitoring plan to continue monitoring several of the priority sites.

Data is used to identify long-term trends and identify management challenges. The District monitors 22 springs to assess the quality and quantity of conditions of the priority springs.

Another facet of the District's springs protection initiative involves water quantity and water quality restoration projects. Stormwater, water quality restoration, and reuse projects have been developed and implemented in priority springshed basins to reduce groundwater, protect or improve water quality, and offset existing groundwater withdrawals.

Land acquisition is another method that the District uses to protect and preserve our springs. Benefits to springs associated with land acquisition include protection of water quality, water supply, recharge areas within springsheds, and the ecology.

One of the District's key criteria in fee and less-than-fee acquisitions is springs protection. Recently, the District acquired a 6,300 acre conservation easement in Suwannee and Columbia counties that provided an additional 3,000 acres of protection in the Ichetucknee

springshed. Altogether, the District has acquired 13,300 acres within primary spring buffers to protect springs.

Establishing minimum flows and levels (MFLs) for priority springs is imperative to ensure long-term protection. To-date, the District has developed and implemented MFLs for the following springs: Little Fanning Spring, Fanning Spring, Madison Blue Spring, Manatee Spring, and Levy Blue Spring.

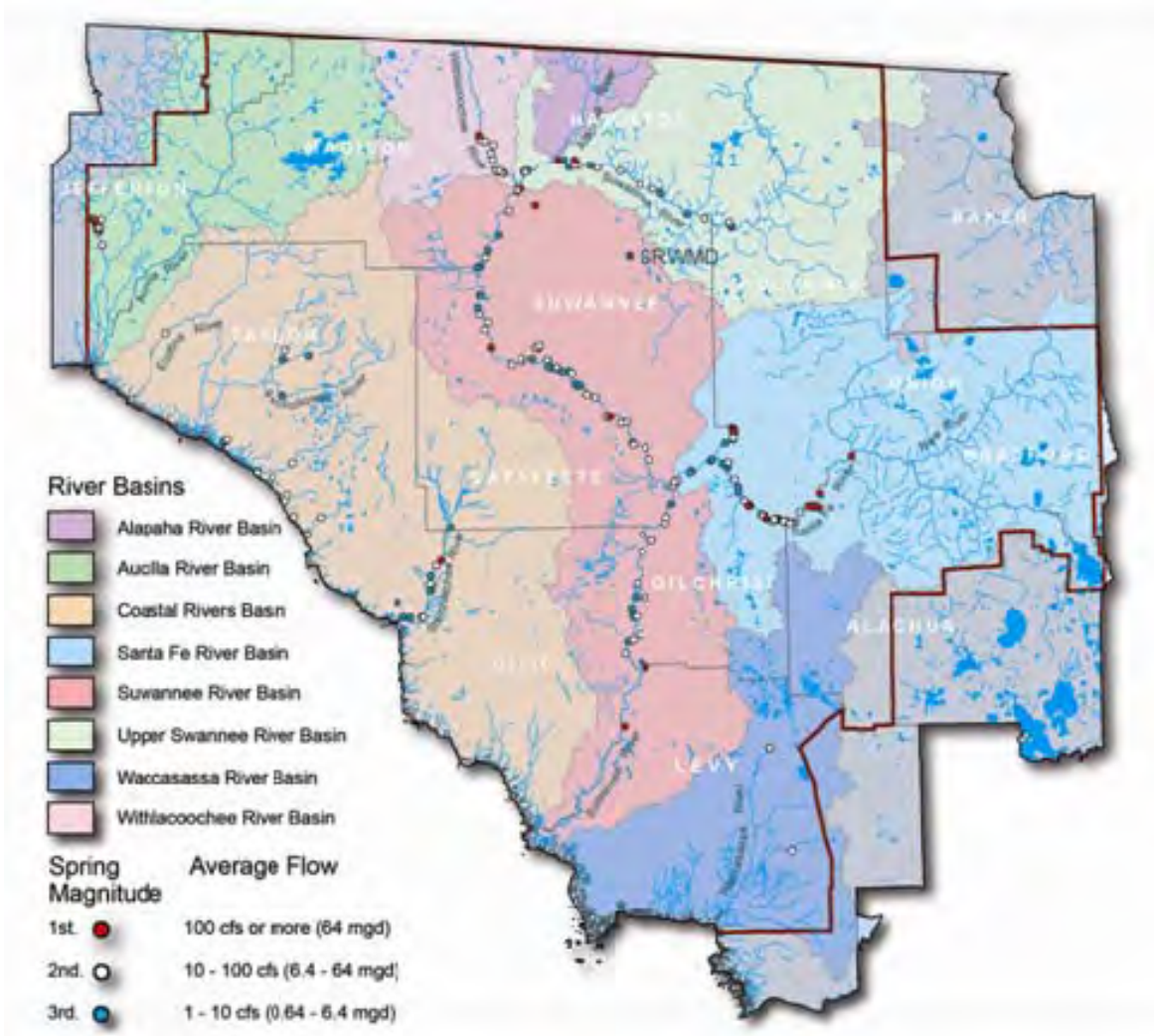
White Sulfur Springs, springs of the Lower Santa Fe River Basin, and springs of the Ichetucknee River Basin are scheduled for MFL development during 2011.

The District's resource regulatory programs also assists in ensuring that development activities do not cause adverse impacts to spring flow and quality. Evaluation of proposed activities requiring permits helps to make sure that regulatory criteria are met.

In 2010, the District revised its water use permitting rule to help ensure that water use in the District will not adversely impact springs. This was the first time in over 25 years that the District's water use regulations were amended.



General Springs Location Map



HEARTLAND SPRINGS INITIATIVE

Program Strategies

- ★ Encourage springshed management based on locally initiated projects, including the Suwannee River Partnership and The Ichetucknee Partnership
- ★ Assist farmers in implementing BMPs to improve water quality in springs and rivers
- ★ Partner with the Florida Springs Initiative for improved springs protection
- ★ Maintain spring monitoring sites
- ★ Continue land acquisition activities in springsheds
- ★ Seek state and federal funding for Heartland Springs Initiative
- ★ Establish MFLs

Success Indicators

- ★ Number of projects implemented to protect springs
- ★ Amount of nitrogen reduced
- ★ Number of farmers implementing nutrient management BMPs
- ★ Quantity of water saved
- ★ MFLs established on schedule
- ★ Number of springshed acres preserved

Program Funding

Funding sources include the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF), legislative appropriations, federal appropriations, and ad valorem taxes. There was neither WPSTF nor state or federal funding for FY 2011.



WATER SUPPLY

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLIES

Goal: Develop and implement alternative water supply projects that offset groundwater demands.

Development of alternative water supplies is vital to ensure that the District has adequate water supplies to meet future demands and protect the region's ecology. Alternative water supplies offset dependency on ground water and expand available resources to assist in maintaining sustainable resources.

Alternative water supplies are an effective source to expand available sources to meet demands. Alternative water sources also help in reducing impacts associated with drought. Potential alternative water supply development in the District includes reclaimed waste water, surface water, brackish ground water, and stormwater reuse.

With the advent of the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund, the District formed collaborative reclaimed water partnerships with the cities of Live Oak, Lake City, Monticello, and Cedar Key. Approximately 3.5 million gallons per day of reuse water has been made available to offset existing groundwater withdrawals within the District. Other alternative water supply projects have been identified that have the potential to offset an estimated

additional 5 million gallons per day. However, the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF) must continue to be funded if the groundwater offset potential and resource sustainability will be realized.

Program Strategies

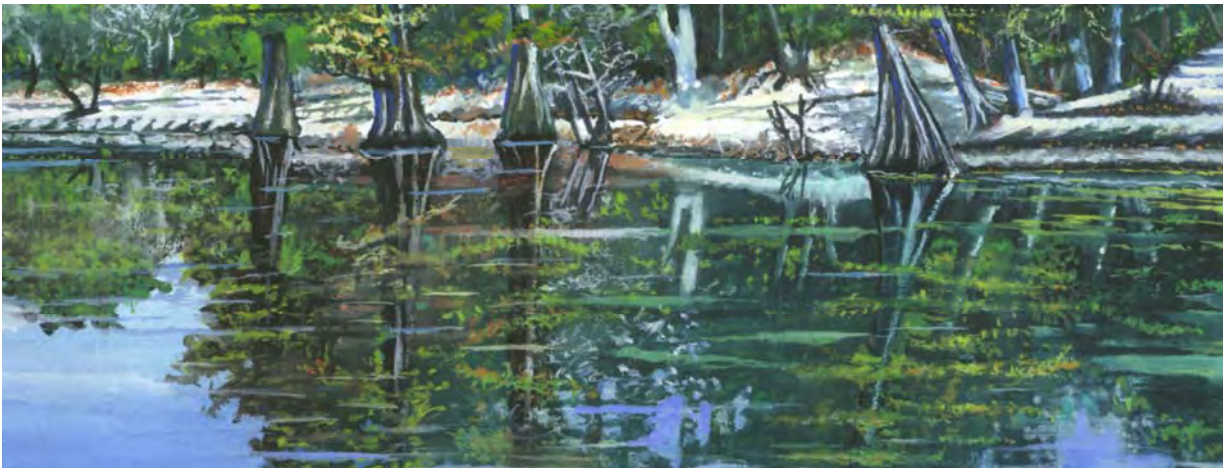
- ★ Develop partnerships to implement alternative water supply projects that offset groundwater withdrawals as legislative funds become available
- ★ Seek funding

Success Indicators

- ★ Alternative water supply projects implemented
- ★ Quantity of groundwater offset
- ★ Funding for projects

Program Funding

The District's water supply and management programs are funded by ad valorem taxes, state grants, state and federal legislative appropriations, interagency revenues, permit fees, license fees, and the WPSTF. There is neither funding for the WPSTF nor state or federal appropriations for FY 2011.



WATER SUPPLY

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

CONSERVATION

Goal: Maximize conservation among all users throughout the District.

The District continues to increase its water conservation efforts among all users. Significant progress has been achieved with a number of public supply systems, agricultural users, and industrial/commercial facilities in the implementation of conservation practices. Conservation measures will be encouraged through management incentives and regulatory mechanisms.

The Suwannee River Partnership (SRP) has been instrumental in implementing conservation partnerships with the agriculture community in the Suwannee River Basin. To date, it is estimated that one billion gallons annually have been saved through the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Conservation partnerships with agriculture have improved over 325 irrigation systems and saved an estimated one billion gallons of ground water per year. Public supply conservation coordination with local governments has also been successful in reducing groundwater withdrawals.

The Ichetucknee Partnership (TIP) is based on the development of a locally led effort to protect the Ichetucknee River and its springs. Additionally, TIP has achieved widespread implementation of urban conservation practices such Florida-Friendly™ landscaping. Also, TIP has provided assistance in establishing agricultural BMPs throughout the Ichetucknee River Basin.

Conservation is an efficient and effective means to reduce demands on our water supplies. It is estimated that roughly over half of residential use is for lawn and landscape irrigation. Installation of Florida-Friendly™ landscaping will account for significant savings to our water sources.

Mandatory lawn and landscaping watering rules are in effect throughout the District. The rule applies to residential landscaping, public or commercial recreation areas, and public and commercial businesses that are not regulated by a District water use permit.

This past year, the District partnered with the City of Cedar Key to install no-flow and highly efficient restroom fixtures at an elementary school, City Hall, and a city park. Significant demand reductions were realized at each retrofit location.

As increasing demands are placed upon our water resources, we all must make conservation a way of life. We all play a role in conservation and in being a good steward of our most precious resource.

Program Strategies

- ★ Retrofit irrigation systems to achieve water savings
- ★ Develop a cost-share plumbing fixture retrofit program
- ★ Monitor water use
- ★ Communicate the value of water resources partnerships with the public
- ★ Encourage low impact development
- ★ Continue resource regulatory programs



CONSERVATION

Success Indicators

- ★ Number of irrigation systems retrofitted
- ★ Number of plumbing fixtures retrofitted
- ★ Number of non-agriculture conservation projects implemented
- ★ Percentage of farmers reporting water use

Program Funding

Funding sources include the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF), legislative appropriations, and ad valorem taxes. There was neither funding to the WPSTF nor legislative appropriation funding for FY 2011.



WATER SUPPLY DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

Categories	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016-2020
Suwannee River Partnership	Provide Technical Assistance to Farmers For Nutrient Management and Water Conservation					➔
Springs Protection and Management	Provide Funding and Technical Assistance For Ichetucknee Partnership Obtain Heartland Springs Funding					➔
Water Use Monitoring	Evaluate Water Use Data Install Monitoring Equipment					➔
Water Supply Planning	Develop Upper Santa Fe River Basin Water Supply Plan	Develop Upper Suwannee River Basin Water Supply Plan	Develop Alapaha River Water Supply Plan	Develop Lower Santa Fe River Basin Water Supply Plan	➔	Update District Wide Water Supply Assessment
Wellfield Supply Planning and Development	Provide Technical Assistance to Communities					➔
Alternative Water Supply Projects	Develop Projects In Water Supply Planning Areas Coordinate with All User Groups to Develop Projects					➔
Water Conservation	Develop Water Conservation Program Assist Communities In Establishing Water Conservation Programs Implement Regulatory Strategies					➔
Water Use Program	Implement 40B-2 Refine Water Use Compliance					➔
Surface Water Level Monitoring	➔	Annual Monitoring Atlas & Data Report				➔
	Complete Network Assessment			Complete Network Assessment		
Groundwater Level Monitoring	➔	Annual Monitoring Atlas & Data Report				➔
	Complete Network Assessment			Complete Network Assessment		

WATER QUALITY

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Goal: Monitor and report on the status of the District's water resources.

Effective water management requires accurate information on the status of water and related natural resources. Collecting and analyzing data from monitoring networks allows the District to understand how natural resources change over time and how to protect their ecological integrity.

Monitoring of rainfall, ground water, rivers, springs, and lakes provides the only assessment tools available to gage the health of our water resources throughout the District. The District summarizes this data monthly in its hydrologic conditions report.

The groundwater quality network is made up of 90 groundwater sampling points which are sampled quarterly. Surfacewater quality is measured at 68 river, spring, and lake sites throughout the District. Aquatic biology is also collected at 19 river, spring, and lake sites. These networks enable the determination of water quality trends. Rainfall is monitored at 39 real-time gage sites throughout the District.

The procurement of laboratory analysis services, quality assurance, and quality control; database management; and development of data reports and interpretation are also associated with data collection efforts.

Program Strategies

- ★ Maintain a website with online resources
- ★ Monitor surfacewater and groundwater quality, aquatic biology, surfacewater levels and flows, groundwater levels, and rainfall to determine short-term and long-term changes
- ★ Improve public access to data resources

- ★ Routinely evaluate monitoring networks and data to ensure adequate coverage and quality

Success Indicators

- ★ Number and continuity of data collection points
- ★ Updated annual water resources report
- ★ Publication of monthly hydrological conditions reports
- ★ Continued public use of monitoring data on the web and automated river level phone line

Program Funding

The District's water quality improvement program is funded by general revenue, Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund, and the state legislative appropriations. For FY 2011 the only funding available was from general revenue.



WATER QUALITY

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Goal: Develop and implement projects to protect and improve water quality.

Water quality projects are developed and implemented through collaborative efforts with our communities. These efforts focus on retrofitting and creating water quality systems in areas that preceded current regulatory requirements.

Water quality problems related to excess nutrient loading from agricultural, residential, and urban land uses are increasing and are presently a significant resource management issue. The District is using voluntary, locally-based, incentive programs like the Suwannee River Partnership (SRP) and The Ichetucknee Partnership (TIP) to address these issues.

District programs such as SRP and TIP are central components to help protect the quality of our water resources. SRP and TIP are community based partnership programs that among many things develop and implement water quality projects based on best management practices.

TIP has been successful in developing and implementing education and outreach tools. These tools form the structural foundation elements in protecting and improving water quality.

The SRP is another example of a successful springshred private-public partnership management program. SRP brings landowners and agencies together to implement best management practices to reduce nutrient contamination and implement water conservation measures. SRP has 63 member agencies and organizations. SRP farmer participation is significant with over 146 farms that comprise of rough 123,000 acres and involves 90% dairy, 99% poultry, and 75% crop farmers throughout the District. Estimated nitrogen reduction is 2,589 tons per year.

District environmental resource permitting, water use permitting, and water well construction regulations are also vital components in protecting water quality.

Environmental resource permitting regulates stormwater discharges generated by development and activities that affect surface waters, wetlands, and related natural systems as authorized in Part IV of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes (F.S.). Water use permitting regulates the withdraw and use of water supplies to protect existing legal users, to ensure the withdraw is a reasonable-beneficial use, and to ensure the use is in the public interest as authorized by Part II of Chapter 373, F.S. Water well construction and contractor licensing regulations ensure the integrity of ground water by establishing standards for well construction and ensuring that well contractors meet minimum basic qualifications as authorized by Part III of Chapter 373, F.S.

Program Strategies

- ★ Partner with communities to implement water quality improvement projects
- ★ Continue regulatory initiatives to ensure water quality is maintained
- ★ Continue education and outreach programs

Success Indicators

- ★ Number of water quality improvement projects implemented
- ★ Continuation of regulatory programs
- ★ Continuation of education and outreach efforts

Program Funding

The District's water quality improvement program is funded by general revenue, the Florida Forever Program and legislative appropriations. There is no funding available from these sources for FY 2011.

WATER QUALITY DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

Categories	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016-2020
Surfacewater Quality and Biological Monitoring	←		Annual Monitoring and Data Report	Complete network Assessment	→	
Groundwater Quality Monitoring	←		Annual Monitoring and Data Report	Complete Network Assessment	→	
Regulatory Compliance Verification	Enhance Inspection and As-built Programs Enhance Water Use compliance	→				
Water Quality Restoration	Develop Projects in the Ichetucknee River Basin	→	Implement Projects in the Ichetucknee River Basin	→		



NATURAL SYSTEMS

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

MINIMUM FLOWS AND LEVELS

Goal: Ensure District priority water bodies are protected for current and future generations.

Through establishing minimum flows and levels (MFLs), the District is working to protect our water resources. Establishing MFLs help ensure that future demands for water will not cause significant harm to our water resources and related natural systems.

Establishment of MFLs is a key and critical mechanism to ensure protection of our springs, rivers, lakes, and ground water. MFLs are necessary to help determine sustainable flows for the various water bodies and their associated ecologies.

MFLs determine the amount of water needed to sustain the benefits and functions of natural systems from water withdrawals, diversions, or other alterations. MFLs are the minimum water levels and/or flows adopted by the District Governing Board as necessary to prevent significant harm to the water resources or ecology of an area.

Development of MFLs is required by Chapter 373.042, Florida Statutes (F.S.).

The District's MFLs Program is a science-based process from which MFLs are established by the Governing Board of the District. This process uses the best information available to determine the recommended MFLs.

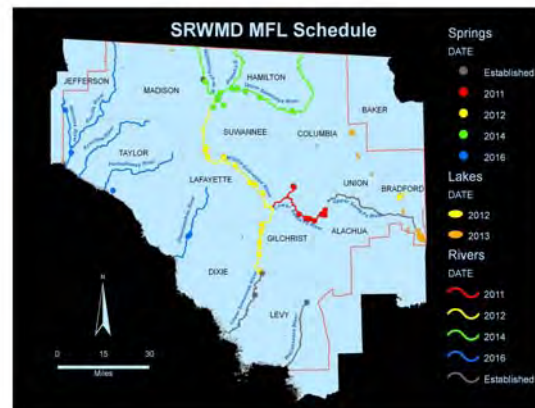


Before adoption by the board in the District rules Chapter 40B-8, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) the science supporting the MFLs is subject to a peer review process initiated by the District.

To-date, the District has developed and implemented MFLs for the Lower Suwannee River, Upper Santa Fe River, and Waccasassa River. MFLs have also been developed for the following springs: Little Fanning Spring, Fanning Spring, Madison Blue Spring, Manatee Spring, and Levy Blue Spring.

Annually, the District publishes a priority list of MFL water bodies with an anticipated completion schedule. This list is reviewed annually and submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for review and approval. A map of the current MFL water bodies is shown below.

Minimum Flows and Levels Schedule



The MFLs program provides technical support for water supply planning and permitting criteria for the consumptive use permitting program (Chapter 40B-2, F.A.C.) and the environmental resource permitting (ERP) program (Chapter 40B-400, F.A.C.).

MFLs identify a range of water levels and/or flows above which water may be permitted for consumptive use. In addition, MFLs protect nonconsumptive uses of water. Nonconsumptive uses include the water

MINIMUM FLOWS AND LEVELS

necessary for navigation and recreation, for fish and wildlife habitat and other natural resources (Chapter 62-40, F.A.C.).

Florida law states that the District’s Governing Board shall calculate MFLs using the best information available. MFLs are developed using available meteorological, hydrological, and ecological data. These data typically include an historical range of drought and flood conditions.

MFLs take into account the ability of water resource-dependent communities to adjust to changes in hydrologic conditions. MFLs allow for an acceptable level of change to occur.

When use of water resources shifts the hydrologic conditions below levels defined by MFLs, significant harm can occur.

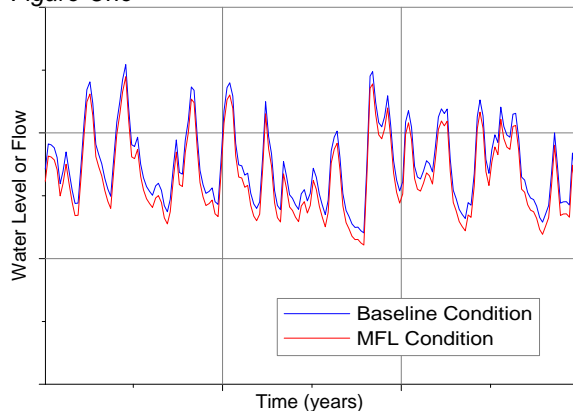
Adoption is a four- to six-month process that involves public workshops, review by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and publication in the Florida Administrative Weekly. MFLs are to be reviewed periodically and revised as necessary under Subsection 373.0421(3), F.S.

Figure 1 represents two hydrographs depicting the fluctuation of water levels or flows in a typical stream or lake over a long time period.

The upper line represents the existing hydrologic conditions (baseline) and the lower line represents the hydrologic conditions defined by the MFLs. The hydrologic conditions defined by the MFLs are similar to, but are usually lower than, the existing hydrologic conditions.

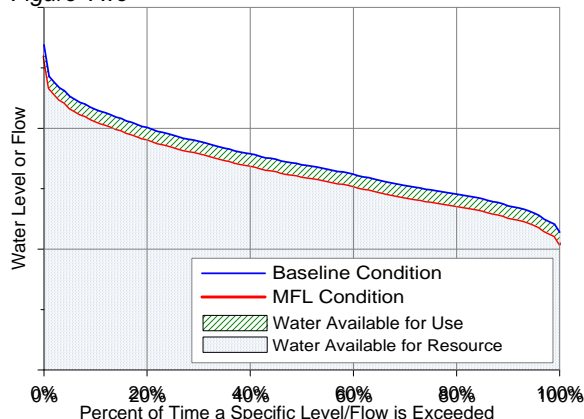


Figure One



The two curves in Figure 2 show the percentage of time each water level or flow is equaled or exceeded; this is called a water level or flow duration curve.

Figure Two



The area below the MFLs curve (the light blue shaded area in Figure 2) represents the water available for protection of fish and wildlife or public health and safety. If use of water resources shifts the water flows and/or levels below that defined by the MFLs, significant harm is expected to occur.

The distance between the baseline condition and the MFL condition (the blue hatched area in Figure 2) represents the water available for “reasonable-beneficial uses” that will not result in significant harm to the water resources.

State law defines reasonable-beneficial use as

MINIMUM FLOWS AND LEVELS

State law defines reasonable-beneficial use as the use of water in such quantity as is necessary for economic and efficient use for a purpose and manner which is both reasonable and consistent with the public interest.

MFLs apply to decisions affecting permit applications, declarations of water shortages and assessments of water supply sources.

Computer simulation models for surface and ground waters are used to evaluate the effects of existing and/or proposed consumptive uses and the likelihood they might cause significant harm.

The District's Governing Board is required to develop recovery or prevention strategies in those cases where a water body currently does not or will not meet an established MFL. Water uses cannot be permitted that cause any MFL to be violated.

The science established through setting MFLs has determined that water resources in the north and northeastern regions of the District are being adversely impacted. White Sulfur Springs no longer flows; flow from Worthington Springs only occurs during periods of extreme rainfall events; Upper Santa Fe River is at or near its MFL limit; and the groundwater basin divide in the northeastern District has migrated more than 35 miles in the past 70 years.

Rivers that will not meet their established minimum flows or interim flow constraints during the next 20 years include 1) the Alapaha at Jennings, 2) the Upper Santa Fe at Worthington Springs, 3) the Lower Santa Fe at Ft. White, 4) the Upper Suwannee at White Springs, 5) the Aucilla at Lamont, and 6) the Waccasassa at Gulf Hammock.

Currently, the District is in the process of developing MFLs for White Sulfur Springs, the Upper Suwannee River and associated springs, the Middle Suwannee River and associated springs, and the Lower Santa Fe River and associated springs. It is the intent of the District to continue developing MFLs for the remaining priority rivers, springs, and lakes.

The Lower Santa Fe River Basin, Ichetucknee Springs, and White Sulfur Spring are scheduled for MFL development in FY 2011.

The District is committed to continue to develop and establish MFLs for the remaining priority rivers, springs, and lakes. Committing to develop MFLs for priority rivers, springs, and lakes will mandate extraordinary measures by the District.

MFLs also enable the District to help ensure that there are adequate water supplies for all beneficial users. Understanding the scientific limits of water sources will assist the region in developing alternative resources at the right time to prevent significant harm.

Scientific data established through development of MFLs has illuminated the precarious and fragile nature of our resources.

Data and modeling also indicate that groundwater withdrawals from outside the District's boundaries are causing adverse impacts to the Upper Santa Fe River Basin MFL. Discussions with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and with the State of Georgia have been initiated to address this issue.

The head waters of the Suwannee, Alapaha, Withlacoochee, and Aucilla rivers are located in Georgia. Also, ground water expands across state and water management district boundaries.

Therefore, established MFLs are influenced by areas outside of the District's jurisdiction. Groundwater withdrawals from northeast Florida and southeast and south-central Georgia affect the District's springs, groundwater, and surface-water resources.

Thus, developing and implementing MFLs requires close coordination with Georgia and adjoining water management districts.

The District has made noteworthy strides in cultivating collaborative relationships with the SJRWMD and Georgia. These efforts must continue for the District to be successful in protecting our resources from significant harm.

MINIMUM FLOWS AND LEVELS

The Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund established by the Legislature provided the necessary fiscal resources for establishing MFLs, protecting springs and natural systems, and developing alternative water supplies.

State funding for the program was significantly reduced in FY 2009 and eliminated in FY 2010 and FY 2011. It is essential for funding levels to be restored to ensure a long-term adequate and reliable water supply and to protect our natural systems.

Elimination of state funding for the District's MFLs program requires the District to take difficult steps to fund the establishment of MFLs. The District must continue to make difficult budget choices to compensate for the loss of state funding.

Program Strategies

- ★ Develop and establish MFLs for priority water bodies
- ★ Obtain statutory authorization for MFL recognition across district boundaries
- ★ Seek state and federal funding for MFLs program

- ★ Coordinate Water Use Permitting and regional water supply planning with St. Johns River Water Management District
Coordinate with the State of Georgia

Success Indicators

- ★ Number of priority water bodies with established MFLs
- ★ Number of priority water bodies with implemented MFLs
- ★ Statutory authorization to protect MFLs across district boundaries

Program Funding

Funding sources include the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF), Water Management Lands Trust Fund (WMLTF), legislative appropriations, and ad valorem taxes. There was limited funding to the WMLTF, no funding to the WPSTF, and no legislative funding FY 2011.



NATURAL SYSTEMS

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

LAND ACQUISITION

Goal: *Implement the Florida Forever Work Plan to acquire interests in lands for water resource protection.*

The District has been acquiring water management lands since 1984 under a succession of acquisition programs—Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000, and Florida Forever. Together, these programs have achieved the protection of more than 320,000 acres of land in north-central Florida. A District priority is the acquisition of lands within the 100-year floodplain of the Suwannee River, its tributaries, and other rivers. The District now owns or controls roughly 344 miles of riverfront property.

Ninety-eight percent of all District lands are open to the public.

Where appropriate, conservation easements and other less-than-fee purchases can provide adequate protection at a lower cost to the public. Management costs are reduced and the property remains in the hands of the private owner. Over 40 percent of land acquisitions have been achieved using less-than-fee ownership.

The public benefits of the District's acquisition program include nonstructural flood protection, water quality and water recharge protection, open space, passive recreation and access to District lands, habitat for fish and wildlife, and land for water supply protection.

The land acquisition program is strictly voluntary—all land acquisition projects are negotiated with willing sellers at appraised market value. Lands available for sale are evaluated by District staff, reviewed by the Governing Board, and included in the District's land acquisition planning process.

Lands acquired by the District are managed for many uses including water resource benefits, fish and wildlife habitat, public use and recreation, and timber production.

The District participates in the Excellence in Land Management Program. This Program is a means for establishing and maintaining high standards in land management. At times, restoration projects are warranted on District lands.

The District has recently embarked on a surplus lands initiative that will enable the District to shed lands that do not meet the criteria for acquisition. Revenue generated from the District's surplus lands program will be used to acquire properties that have greater environmental benefits.

The strategy of the District Governing Board today is the same as when the program began. Then and now the goal is "to acquire as much of the 100-year floodplain of the Suwannee River and its tributaries by way of voluntary sale by owners of large river parcels."

The District's acquisition plan reflects its commitment to preserve and enhance the water resources within its jurisdiction. It outlines the near-term strategy and process for acquiring those remaining lands most important to the protection of our rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs and aquifers.

The management of rivers is a key part of the District's overall mission. The primary benefits associated with the acquisition and management of riverine lands include minimizing flood impacts, protection of water quality, and preservation of natural communities. On a practical level, the 100-year floodplain represents identifiable land area to which specific water resource benefits can be attributed. Large headwater wetlands provide similar benefits and have a large impact on the health of the rivers and streams they feed.

The groundwater aquifers are an especially valuable resource since they supply almost all of the potable water for the District. The ground water is also vulnerable to contamination over much of the District. In many areas, the Floridan Aquifer is unconfined and readily receives inputs through infiltration. In addition, the porous nature of the limestone that holds the Floridan Aquifer allows for innumerable

LAND ACQUISITION

points of interchange between surface water and ground water. The District's acquisition program focuses on those areas where the aquifer is most likely to be affected by conditions or activities on the surface. These include springs, stream-to-sink systems, and municipal wellheads.

There are a number of areas where local governments may need assistance to protect their drinking water supply, complete other water resource development projects, or restore the water resource values to altered hydrologic systems. Acquisitions for these purposes may be considered upon request by a municipal, county, or regional governmental agency.

The District is a leader in the use of conservation easements. These easements are binding agreements that leave the basic ownership of the land with a private party, but permanently restrict development and other management activities on the property.

Where appropriate, conservation easements and other less-than-fee purchases can provide adequate protection at a lower cost to the public. Management costs are reduced and the property remains on the tax roll because the title is still held by the private owner.

Program Strategies

- ★ Protect the 100-year floodplain, headwater wetlands, and freshwater spring systems of the District's major rivers
- ★ Preserve natural floodplain function areas on the major river systems in this region
- ★ Conserve the District's water recharge areas
- ★ Assist local governments in the acquisition of lands for regional wellhead protection
- ★ Continue to use a resource-based selection process to target the most important and sensitive remaining lands available
- ★ Emphasize the use of voluntary sale by willing sellers of large ownerships of reasonably priced resource lands

- ★ Encourage the use of alternative acquisition techniques such as conservation easements as a cost-effective means of protection

Success Indicators

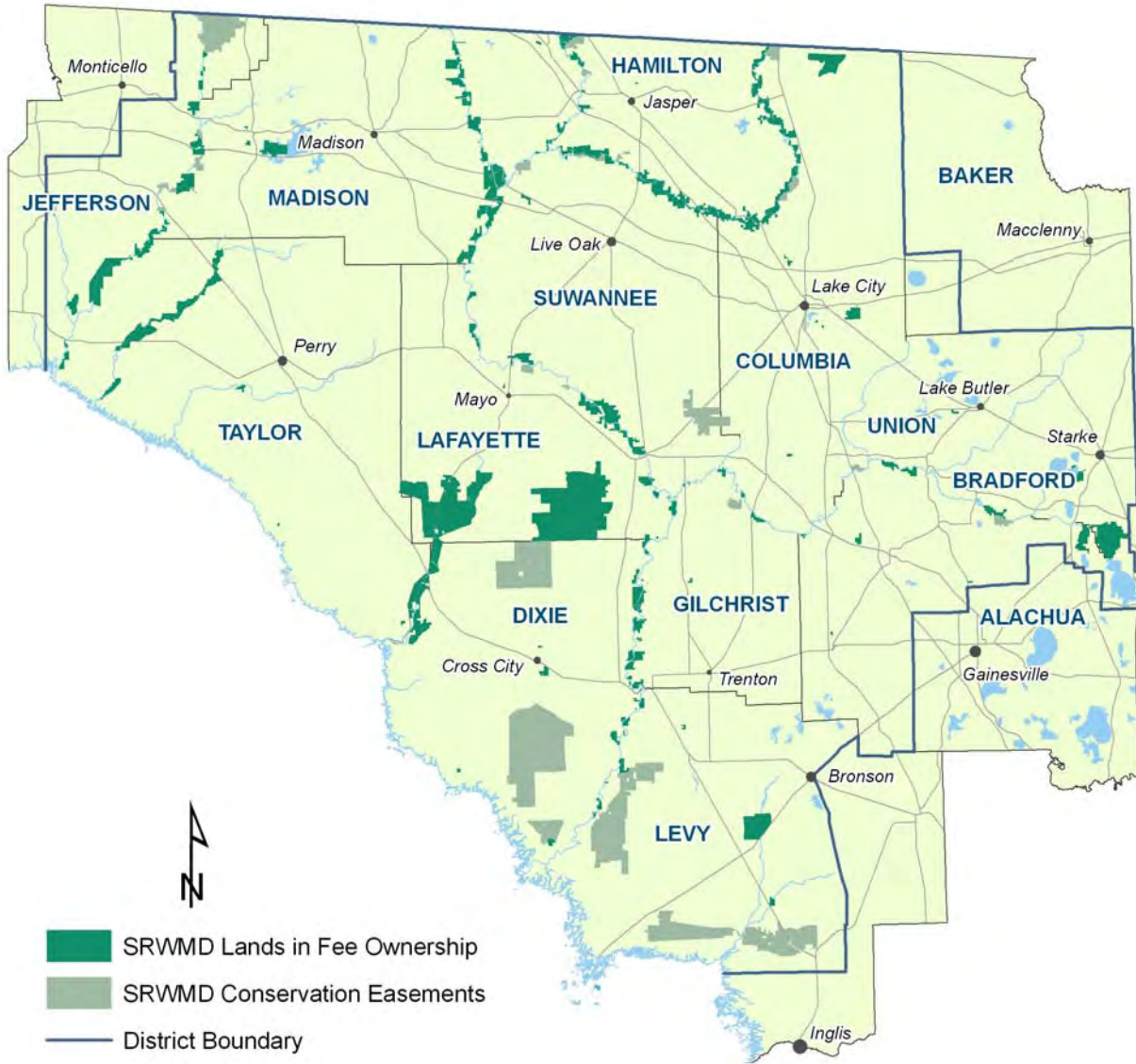
- ★ Acres of land acquired consistent with the District's Florida Forever Plan
- ★ Acres acquired for wellfield protection
- ★ Percentage of Florida Forever goals achieved
- ★ Percentage of Florida Forever acquisition projects acquired versus projects approved

Program Funding

Lands are acquired with funds from the Florida Forever Trust Fund, funds from the sale of surplus lands, and revenues generated from activities on District lands (e.g., timber sales).



LAND ACQUISITION MAP



NATURAL SYSTEMS

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

LAND STEWARDSHIP

Goal: Manage District-owned lands in accordance with the Excellence in Land Management standards and guidelines.

Acquiring land for water management purposes is just the beginning of the District's commitment to resource protection. Caring for the public's investment is an ongoing responsibility.

The Excellence in Land Management (ELM) Program encompasses a wide range of responsibilities—water management and nonstructural flood protection, public access and use, habitat management, and hydrologic restoration.

The ELM Program objectives fall in four categories:

- 1) Resource Protection - Protect, enhance, and/or restore natural and cultural resources
- 2) Public Use - Provide opportunities for high quality, compatible recreation
- 2) Communications - Coordinate with public and private stakeholders
- 4) Fiscal Responsibility - Manage District lands in an efficient manner

Program Strategies

- ★ Develop, update, and implement land management plans for all properties
- ★ Provide opportunities for public input and review of management plans
- ★ Guide public use of District lands to the most suitable areas and provide appropriate public use facilities to reduce impacts to land and water resources
- ★ Restore natural hydrology and native vegetation

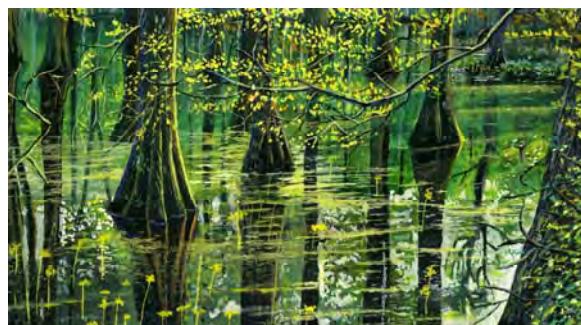
- ★ Use prescribed fire to restore and enhance habitat and natural communities
- ★ Promote sustainable forestry in appropriate areas to provide alternate sources of revenue for land management
- ★ Engage in cooperative land management programs where feasible to maximize public benefit

Success Indicators

- ★ Increasing scores reported in ELM Program annual reports
- ★ Percent of facilities and recreation sites that meet standards
- ★ Percent of Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) indicators that are found to be "in compliance" or "exceeds requirements" by third party auditors
- ★ Percent of natural communities, maintained by fire, that are burned within their natural fire return interval
- ★ Number of acres of non-native invasive plants treated

Program Funding

Land management funds are from the Water Management Lands Trust Fund, revenues generated from timber sales, and other fees from District lands. Funding from this Trust Fund was reduced by more than 50 percent in FY 2011.



NATURAL SYSTEMS DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

Categories	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016-2020
Suwannee River, Tributaries and Springs	Pursue Acquisition Stream Buffers, Wetlands, Springsheds, and High Recharge Areas					
Coastal Rivers	Pursue Acquisition in 100-Year Floodplains and Springsheds					
Wellhead Protection	Acquire Regional Wellfields					
Water Resource Development	Develop Projects in Water Supply Planning Areas					
Excellence in Land Management	Conduct SFI Audit Report ELM Performance Trends					
Land Management Planning	Revise District Land Management Plan					
Public Use and Recreation	Continue High Rate of Access				Conduct Public Satisfaction Survey	
Prescribed Fire	Conduct Burns on 8,000 Acres					
Suwannee River Wilderness Trail	Monitor Public Use	Design Fletcher Landing River Camp	Complete Fletcher Landing River Camp			
Timber Management	Implement Planned Harvests Reforest 1,000 acres					
Minimum Flows and Levels	White Sulphur Springs MFL/Lower Santa Fe River Basin and Associated Springs/Ichetucknee	Middle Suwannee River Basin and Associated Springs	Upper Suwannee River Basin and Associated Springs			Sampson Lake Econfina River 3 Lakes Aucilla River Wacissa River & Springs Steinhatchee River

FLOOD PROTECTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD PROTECTION

Goal: Enhance flood risk information and increase public awareness of flooding potential.

Flooding is a natural and common occurrence in many areas throughout the District. The District uses a non-structural approach to address flood issues.

The District's non-structural approaches consists of educating the public, assisting communities with the best available data, making data electronically available, acquiring floodplains, and regulating development in floodplains.

The District is continuing its partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to improve flood risk assessment and enhance public access to flood risk information.

The District is in the final stages of working with FEMA and our communities on the Map Modernization Program. The goal of the program is to digitize the Flood Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) to make them readily accessible to the public.

Additionally, in many instances federal funding was also available to conduct detailed flood studies.

The FIRM maps and FIS provide data for local development regulations and help communities avoid flood hazards from new development. Also, these maps provide useful information in the regulatory process and in the District's land acquisition criteria assessments.

The District intends on continuing its partnership with FEMA and our communities to develop accessible and accurate floodplain data.

FEMA has recently initiated a multi-year Risk Map Program that involves mapping, assessment and planning. The purpose of the Risk Map Program is to provide reliable data by watershed areas that increases public awareness to reduce the loss of life and property.

Another component of the District's environmental resource permitting program is to help ensure that development does not increase flooding. Permit reviews are performed to ensure that there is no net loss of the 100-year floodplain and no increase in flood levels. Also, permit evaluations consider specific storm design conditions and any associated impacts to upstream and downstream properties.

Groundwater and surfacewater levels and rainfall data are collected at numerous sites around the District. River levels and rainfall data are provided to the National Weather Service for use in flood forecasting. During flood events, the District is the primary source of flooding information for other agencies and the public. The public also uses the District's real-time river level webpage as a source of information.

Land acquisition within the 100-year floodplain also helps protect against the destructive effects of flooding. One of the District's land acquisition criteria is to protect areas that have flood storage and conveyance systems.

Program Strategies

- ★ Provide accessible and timely flood information
- ★ Enhance distribution of flooding information
- ★ Protect the 100-year floodplain of the District's major rivers
- ★ Preserve natural floodplain function areas on the major river systems in this region
- ★ Ensure no net loss of the 100-year floodplain

COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD PROTECTION

Success Indicators

- ★ Number of permits preserving and protecting the 100-year floodplain
- ★ Number of community outreach workshops and meetings
- ★ 100-year floodplain acreage preserved
- ★ Implementation of District floodway outreach program



Program Funding

The District's flood protection program is funded by general revenue, permit fees, and federal grants.

FLOOD PROTECTION DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

Categories	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016-2020
District Floodways Outreach	Coordination with Building Departments and Property Owners					➔
FEMA Mapping	Complete Flood Mapping for Bradford and Levy Counties Implement Risk Map for Gilchrist, Lafayette, and Suwannee Counties	Initiate Risk Map for Columbia and Bradford Counties	Initiate Risk Map for Levy and Taylor Counties			➔
Rainfall Data and Surfacewater Level Monitoring	Flood Assessment and Forecasting					➔

MISSION SUPPORT

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

DATA MANAGEMENT

Goal: Develop an integrated data management system for efficient and effective analysis.

Effective analysis depends on accurate and quality data collection. Effective resource management relies upon data and the ability to easily access the data in both tabular and spatial formats.

For years, the District has had various tabular databases for individual programs. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) has greatly improved the ability to analyze and display data. Integrating these databases will vastly enhance the District's ability to effectively analyze data.

Recent technological advances enable the District to refine the tabular systems to improve quality control for spatial data entry. This will allow tools such as spatially-aware databases, GIS web services, and quality assurance auditing to help improve the accuracy of the data. By improving the quality of spatial data, the District will enhance its ability to protect our resources.

The District is in its third year of integrating database systems to improve data analysis and reporting. Data management that integrates the District's inventory databases with the District's GIS will enhance staff's ability to analyze and display data.

The District's GIS database was developed to support the District's planning, environmental, resource management, natural systems, flood protection, and regulatory activities. This database includes a considerable amount of information that is potentially of value to federal, state, regional, and local governmental agencies, as well as to private businesses and citizens.

Wise use of web-based information will continue to be practiced. Providing data that is easily accessible, such as hydrological data and digital floodplain maps, gives the public the tools to help make knowledgeable resource decisions.

Program Strategies

- ★ Integrate databases
- ★ Update computer technology on a rotating three-year cycle to prevent obsolescence
- ★ Provide GIS support to District staff
- ★ Provide technical GIS development assistance to local governments

Success Indicators

- ★ Database integration
- ★ Number of local governments assisted
- ★ Number of times assistance provided to staff

Program Funding

Data Management is funded by general revenue, federal grants, and state grants.



MISSION SUPPORT

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

HIGHLY TRAINED AND SERVICE ORIENTED EMPLOYEES

Goal: *Ensure that District operations and activities support and facilitate fulfillment of the District's mission and statutory responsibilities.*

The District successfully operates with a small, well-trained workforce that has the tools and knowledge to get the job done. Based on ongoing surveys conducted by the District, the staff typically exceeds external and internal customer expectations. This is an outcome of our commitment to the values of the District and of providing staff with the training and technology needed to operate in an increasingly complex and demanding service environment.

The Governing Board's application of process improvement changes since 2000 has yielded numerous benefits in program and project planning, tracking, and reporting. A structured, team-based program planning and management process provides accountability and process efficiency. All projects are required to have a Project Execution Plan that shows, task by task, how a project will be done. Each project team also uses an action register database to keep programs, projects, and activities on schedule and consistent with District priorities.

Successful implementation of the District's strategic priorities requires effective management leadership. It is incumbent upon District staff to diligently pursue efficient and cost-effective approaches to accomplish all District programs and projects.

Diligent oversight of public funds is essential in executing all initiatives. The District approves only the fiscal and staffing resources that are absolutely necessary. Additionally, the District remains committed to a pay-as-you-go approach in implementing our mission.

The District also evaluates ongoing programs and seeks to outsource activities that can be performed more cost effectively by the private sector.

In addition to specific program deliverables and milestones, there are many recurring support activities. These include:

- ★ Information Technology (IT) support, database management, and services
- ★ Daily IT backups and security procedures
- ★ Clearing all invoiced accounts payable within two weeks
- ★ Records automation, filing, and retrieval services
- ★ Comprehensive program budgeting and expenditure tracking services
- ★ Contracts facilitation and tracking
- ★ Staff training and development assistance, support, and tracking
- ★ Budget and work plan development, review, and approval services
- ★ Maintaining and refining project planning and management tools
- ★ Communication and outreach services

Program Strategies

- ★ Update computer technology on a rotating three-year cycle to prevent obsolescence
- ★ Develop and communicate annual work plan priorities through process management
- ★ Implement leadership development for program and project staff
- ★ Closely monitor contract development and execution
- ★ Maintain emergency preparedness and continuity of operation plans

HIGHLY TRAINED AND SERVICE ORIENTED EMPLOYEES

- ★ Provide efficient and timely procurement services, ensuring the highest value for taxpayer dollars
- ★ Provide incentive and motivation for District staff's continued excellent performance
- ★ Provide technical Geographic Information Systems (GIS) development assistance to local governments

Success Indicators

- ★ Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Certification
- ★ Number of employee training courses and sessions per year (or average hours of training per year per employee)

Program Funding

Employees and training are funded by general revenue, federal grants, and state grants.

MISSION SUPPORT DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

Categories	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016-2020
Human Resource	Develop Online Employment Application Process	Implement Enterprise-Wide Position Application Review & Evaluation System				
Information Technology	Fully Implement SDE/GIS Functionality Revise Webpage Structure	Complete GIS Water Information System Provide Portal-Base Access To All District Tabular Data	Develop Inter-District Web-Based Information Exchange Protocols	Fully Integrate Voice, Data, and GIS Information Protocols		
	← Provide GIS Technical Assistance →					
Data Management	Integrate Tabular and Spatial Data	Automate Field Collection of Data	Develop New Data Entry Protocols	Develop New Data Retrieval Protocols	Provide Portal-Base Access to All Data	Provide Web-Base Access to Relevant Data
Data Base Development	Develop Water Use Data Management System					
Finance	Zero-Base Budget		Evaluate Project Expenditure Projection			

2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Water Supply:

- ★ Adopted revisions to the District's Water Use Permitting Rule
- ★ Completed District-wide water supply assessment
- ★ Initiated a Water Supply Plan for the Upper Santa Fe River Basin
- ★ Continued cooperative water supply planning project with the St. Johns River Water Management District
- ★ Initiated water resource coordination with the State of Georgia
- ★ Acquired a wellfield protection area for the Nature Coast Regional Water Supply Authority
- ★ Continued to improve format and expand content of hydrological conditions report
- ★ Continued coordination and outreach efforts

Water Quality:

- ★ Expanded assistance to farmers in applying crop management tools for reducing fertilizer use and water consumption in springsheds
- ★ Provided input to the Environmental Protection Agency on numeric nutrient criteria
- ★ Provided funding for Florida Yards and Neighborhoods programs in Columbia and Suwannee counties
- ★ Established the Algal Turf Scrubber Pilot Project
- ★ Continued coordination and outreach efforts

Natural Systems:

- ★ Reinstated the minimum flows and levels program
- ★ Acquired conservation easements over 7,637 acres

- ★ Completed the Adams Tract native habitat restoration on 150 acres
- ★ Completed the Lake Rowell invasive weed control project involving 194 acres
- ★ Conducted prescribed burning on 15,225 acres
- ★ Planted longleaf and slash pine seedlings on 13 tracts involving 1,561 acres

Flood Protection:

- ★ Continued outreach program for District regulated floodways
- ★ Developed FEMA digital flood insurance rate maps for Bradford and Levy Counties
- ★ Enhanced the internet outreach FEMA flood insurance rate map website
- ★ Completed Light Detection and Ranging mapping for Jefferson County
- ★ Initiated the FEMA Risk Map Program for Gilchrist, Lafayette, and Suwannee counties

Mission Support:

- ★ Centralized communication efforts
- ★ Enhanced website
- ★ Continued database upgrades
- ★ Initiated conversion of water use permits to digital files
- ★ Updated aerial photography database for 5 counties
- ★ Developed electronically assessable financial data
- ★ Improved long-term document storage

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRAM SUMMARY BY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Programs	Responsibilities			
	Water Supply	Flood Protection	Water Quality	Natural System
Regional Water Supply Planning	Continue Regional Water Supply Planning, Local Planning Assistance, Conservation Projects, Alternative Water Supply Projects	Protect Properties and Natural Systems	Ensure Water Quality Protection	Conduct Minimum Flows and Levels Research and Development
Resource Monitoring	Provide Data for Regional Water Supply Planning	Provide Accurate Water Levels, Flows, and Rainfall Data for Flood Forecasting	Identify Status and Trends In Water Quality and Aquatic Biology	Provide Data for Establishing Minimum Flows and Levels
Land Acquisition	Acquire Land for Regional Wellfield Protection and Water Resource Development	Acquire Land for Nonstructural Flood Protection	Protect Stream Buffers and Wetlands	Protect Natural Communities and Provide Habitat for Fish and Wildlife
Land Stewardship	Protect Groundwater Supplies and Recharge Areas Protect Areas of High Recharge	Provide Floodwater Storage and Conveyance Maintain Nonstructural Management	Manage Conservation Lands for Water Quality Protection	Conserve, Restore, and Protect Habitat and Natural Hydrologic Regimes
Heartland Springs Initiative	Protect and Preserve Spring Flows	Restore and Protect Springs in Riverine Floodplains	Improve Water Quality and Provide Groundwater Recharge Protection	Protect and Restore Springs and Springsheds
Regulations	Provide Water Supplies for Reasonable-Beneficial Uses Protect Water Sources and Supplies	Ensure Environmental Resource Permitting meets Level of Service	Protect Water Quality	Ensure Compliance with Regulatory Requirements
Mission Support	Supports All Areas of Responsibilities by Providing Human Resource, Technical, Financial, Budgeting, and Outreach Services/Data Management			



Section B

Minimum Flows and Levels

Minimum Flows and Levels

Pursuant to Section 373.042, Florida Statutes, the District is required to identify priority water bodies for the establishment of minimum flows and levels (MFLs).

In much of the Suwannee River Water Management District, the springs, rivers, lakes and aquifer are highly interconnected. Due to this connection, groundwater, via springs, provides a significant portion of river flow. In all but a few cases, the setting of a spring MFL is linked to setting the MFL for the “receiving” body of water – usually a river.

The District intends to develop MFLs for most rivers and springs and the following schedule reflects this objective. For Fiscal Year 2011 the District is working on MFLs for the Lower Santa Fe River and Springs, including the Ichetucknee River, and also White Spring at the Stephen Foster State Park. Additionally, the District is revising the groundwater modeling tool that enables implementation of established MFLs in the water use permitting program. The successful development of other MFLs on the approved schedule, however, is highly uncertain without additional funding.

**Suwannee River Water Management District
Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) Priority Listing for 2011**

Basin	River Reach	Schedule
Santa Fe	Lower Santa Fe River	2011
Suwannee	Middle Suwannee River	2012
Suwannee	Upper Suwannee River	2014
Suwannee	Withlacoochee River	2014
Suwannee	Alapaha River	2014
Aucilla	Aucilla River	2016
Aucilla	Wacissa	2016
Coastal	Steinhatchee River	2016
Coastal	Econfina River	2016
Coastal	Fenholloway	2016
Santa Fe	Upper Santa Fe River	Established
Suwannee	Lower Suwannee River	Established
Waccasassa	Waccasassa River	Established

Magnitude	Basin	Spring System	Schedule
1	Santa Fe	Blue Hole	2011
1	Santa Fe	GIL1012973 (Siphon Creek Rise)	2011
1	Santa Fe	Ichetucknee group	2011
1	Santa Fe	July	2011
1	Santa Fe	Devil's Ear (Ginnie group)	2011
2	Santa Fe	Rum Island	2011
2	Santa Fe	COL101974 - Unnamed	2011
2	Santa Fe	Poe	2011
1	Santa Fe	Columbia	2011
1	Santa Fe	ALA112971 (Treehouse)	2011
1	Santa Fe	Hornsby	2011
1	Santa Fe	Santa Fe Rise	2011
2	Suwannee	White	2011
3	Suwannee	Bell	2012
2	Suwannee	Otter	2012
2	Suwannee	Hart	2012
2	Suwannee	Rock Sink	2012
2	Suwannee	Guaranto	2012
2	Suwannee	Pothole	2012
2	Suwannee	Branford	2012
2	Suwannee	Little River	2012
2	Suwannee	Ruth/Little Sulfur	2012
1	Suwannee	Troy	2012
3	Suwannee	Royal	2012
2	Suwannee	Peacock	2012

Magnitude	Basin	Spring System	Schedule
2	Suwannee	Bonnet	2012
1	Suwannee	Lafayette Blue	2012
2	Suwannee	Allen Mill Pond	2012
2	Suwannee	Charles	2012
2	Suwannee	Anderson	2014
1	Suwannee	Falmouth	2014
1	Suwannee	Lime Run Sink	2014
2	Suwannee	Lime	2014
2	Suwannee	SUW923973 (Stevenson)	2014
1	Suwannee	Alapaha Rise	2014
1	Suwannee	Holton Creek Rise	2014
2	Suwannee	SUW1017972 - Unnamed	2014
2	Suwannee	Suwannee	2014
2	Withlacoochee	Suwanacoochee	2014
2	Withlacoochee	Pot	2014
1	Aucilla	Nutall Rise	2016
1	Aucilla	Wacissa group	2016
2	Coastal	Big	2016
1	Coastal	Steinhatchee Rise	2016
2	Coastal	TAY76992 - Unnamed	2016
1	Suwannee	Fanning	Established
1	Suwannee	Manatee	Established
3	Waccasassa	Bronson Blue	Established
1	Withlacoochee	Madison Blue	Established

Basin	Lakes	Schedule
Aucilla	Snead's Smokehouse	2015
Coastal	Andrews	2015
Coastal	Governor Hill	2015
Santa Fe	Alligator	2015
Santa Fe	Altho	2015
Santa Fe	Butler	2015
Santa Fe	Ocean Pond	2015
Santa Fe	Crosby	2015
Santa Fe	Hampton	2015
Santa Fe	Palestine	2015
Santa Fe	Sampson	2015
Santa Fe	Santa Fe	2015
Suwannee	Low	2015
Withlacoochee	Cherry	2015

Section C

Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan

FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

As required by Section 373.536(6)(a)3, Florida Statutes

I. INTRODUCTION

The Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) is submitted in compliance with the reporting requirements of Section 373.536(6)(a)3, Florida Statutes. The format for this report has been developed jointly by the Executive Office of the Governor, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the water management districts (WMDs). As specified in statute, this report is being distributed to the Governor, President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, chairs of all legislative committees and subcommittees with substantive or fiscal jurisdiction over districts (as determined by the President or Speaker as applicable), the secretary of the department, and the governing body of each county in which the district has jurisdiction or derives any funds for the operations of the district.

The five-year capital improvements plan (CIP) includes projected revenues and expenditures for capital improvements from fiscal years 2010-2011 through 2014-2015. As directed by Section 373.536(6)(a)3, Florida Statutes, the CIP has been prepared in a manner comparable to the fixed capital outlay format set forth in Section 216.043, Florida Statutes. The format for this plan is drawn from the standard budget reporting format prescribed by the Executive Office of the Governor. Capital improvement projects may be budgeted in two of the six standard program categories. Those two programs and their activities and sub-activities are:

2.0 Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works

- 2.1 Land Acquisition
- 2.2 Water Source Development
 - 2.2.1 Water Resource Development Projects
 - 2.2.2 Water Supply Development Assistance
 - 2.2.3 Other Water Source Development Activities
- 2.3 Surface Water Projects
- 2.4 Other Cooperative Projects
- 2.5 Facilities Construction & Major Renovations
- 2.6 Other Acquisition and Restoration Activities

3.0 Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works

- 3.1 Land Management
- 3.2 Works
- 3.3 Facilities
- 3.4 Invasive Plant Control
- 3.5 Other Operation and Maintenance Activities

The only activities and sub-activities under program 2.0 Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works that may include capital improvement projects are:

- 2.1 Land Acquisition,
- 2.2.1 Water Resource Development Projects,
- 2.2.3 Other Water Source Development Activities,
- 2.3 Surface Water Projects, and
- 2.5 Facilities Construction and Major Renovations.

The only activities under program 3.0 Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works that may include capital improvement projects are:

- 3.1 Land Management, and
- 3.2 Works.

The CIP includes expenditures for basic construction costs (permits, inspections, site development, etc.) and other project costs (land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, etc.).

A district's CIP contains only those projects that will be owned and capitalized as fixed assets by the district.

II. FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

The Suwannee River Water Management District's capital improvements consist of the District headquarters facility and lands acquired for water management purposes. District Governing Board policy has historically been to use nonstructural water management means. This policy recognizes both the environmental benefits of a nonstructural approach and the fiscal reality of the District's limited funding ability.

The implementation of this policy, along with the cumulative efforts under the Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000, and Florida Forever programs, have resulted in the protection of over 300,000 acres of water resource lands and 324 miles of river frontage along the Suwannee and other rivers of the District. Over 160,000 acres of river floodplains, freshwater springs, headwater wetlands, pristine bottomland hardwood and buffering upland forests are protected in full fee ownership. Conservation easements and less-than fee purchases have protected an additional 120,000 acres of water resource lands. These lands are managed primarily for nonstructural flood protection including floodwater conveyance, storage, and attenuating floodwaters. Ancillary benefits include water quality and habitat protection, and passive public recreation areas.

This report describes anticipated revenues and expenditures for capital improvements needed to implement District programs to fulfill the requirements of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. Related documents provide additional detail and information as follows:

- The District's Florida Forever Work Plan describes the Land Acquisition and Management program.
- The annual Tentative Budget Report prepared for the Executive Office of the Governor August 1 of each year provides the proposed revenues and expenditures for each fiscal year.
- The Annual Work Plan and Budget adopted by the Governing Board in September of each year provides the strategies and budgets of each District program.
- The District Water Management Plan included in Section 1 provides the long range water resource management issues and strategies for water quality, water supply, flood protection, and natural systems management.

**FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN
FISCAL YEARS 2011-2015**

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2.0 ACQUISITION, RESTORATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

2.1 LAND ACQUISITION

REVENUES	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
Florida Forever	2,650,000	2,000,000	-	-	-
Preservation 2000 Funds	7,000,000	-	-	-	-
Sale of Surplus Lands	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	-
TOTAL	9,650,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	-	-

EXPENDITURES	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
Land Acquisition	9,650,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	-	-
TOTAL	9,650,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	-	-

2.3 SURFACE WATER PROJECTS

REVENUES	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
Florida Forever Trust Fund	250,000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	250,000	-	-	-	-

EXPENDITURES	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
Streambank Restoration	250,000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	250,000	-	-	-	-

3.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS AND WORKS

3.1 LAND MANAGEMENT

REVENUES	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
Water Management Lands Trust Fund	630,375	-	-	-	-
Timber Sales	200,000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	830,375	-	-	-	-

EXPENDITURES	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
Facility Upgrades	20,000	-	-	-	-
Otter Springs	40,000	-	-	-	-
Blue Sink Canoe Launch	200,000	-	-	-	-
R. O. Ranch (no paving)	570,375	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	830,375	-	-	-	-

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	10,730,375	3,000,000	1,000,000	-	-
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Note: Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Years 2012 through 2015 are projected estimates.

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

PROGRAM: 2.0 ACQUISITION, RESTORATION, AND PUBLIC WORKS

ACTIVITY: 2.1 Land Acquisition

Project Title: Water Management Lands Acquisition

Type: Fee title purchase of lands within the Land Acquisition and Management Plan and/or the SRWMD Florida Forever Work Plan.

Physical Location: Activities are conducted at District headquarters near Live Oak. Acquisitions are located within the District boundaries as identified in the SRWMD Florida Forever Work Plan.

Square Footage/Physical Description: N/A

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing.

Historical Background/Need for Project: Ongoing program since inception in 1981; implements provisions of Chapter 373, Part V, Florida Statutes.

Plan Linkages: SRWMD Florida Forever Work Plan 2011, SRWMD Strategic Plan 2011-2020, FY 2011 District Work Plan and Budget

Area(s) of Responsibility: All

Alternative(s): Planned acquisitions could be deferred to future year(s).

Basic Construction Costs (includes permits, inspections, communications requirements, utilities outside building, site development, other): \$500 for permits.

Other Project Costs (includes land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, other): Pre-acquisition costs are estimated for FY2011 to be \$260,000 and include legal services, surveying, appraisals, environmental audits, title insurance, and baseline surveys. Total acquisition costs are estimated at \$9,650,000 for Fiscal Year 2011 with \$2,650,000 of that being Florida Forever funding.

Anticipated Additional Operating Costs/Initial (includes salaries, benefits, equipment, furniture, expenses): Approximately \$468,784 for FY2011.

Anticipated Additional Operating Costs/Continuing: None.

PROGRAM: 2.0 ACQUISITION, RESTORATION, AND PUBLIC WORKS

ACTIVITY: 2.3 Surfacewater Projects

Project Title: Restoration – Streambank

Type: Restoration on public lands to preserve the natural resources, streambanks, and river banks.

Physical Location: Activities are conducted at District headquarters near Live Oak. Acquisitions are located within the District boundaries. Restoration activities are continuing on the Edwards Bottomlands in Bradford County.

Square Footage/Physical Description: N/A

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing.

Historical Background/Need for Project: Implements District water resource project assistance provisions of Chapter 373, F.S.

Plan Linkages: SRWMD Strategic Plan 2011-2020, FY 2011 District Work Plan and Budget

Area(s) of Responsibility: Flood Protection, Water Quality, Natural Systems

Alternative(s): This activity could be deferred but will result in a continued loss of stream/river bank.

Basic Construction Costs (includes permits, inspections, communications requirements, utilities outside building, site development, other): None.

Other Project Costs (includes land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, other): \$250,000 for construction on the Edwards Bottomlands.

Anticipated Additional Operating Costs/Initial (includes salaries, benefits, equipment, furniture, expenses): Oversight of projects handled through in-kind services with District staff.

Anticipated Additional Operating Costs/Continuing: None.

PROGRAM: 3.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS AND WORKS

ACTIVITY: 3.1 Land Management

Project Title: Land Management

Type: Construction, reconstruction, or development of capital improvements and/or facilities necessary for managing water resource lands.

Physical Location: Various locations on District-owned lands.

Square Footage/Physical Description: N/A

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing.

Historical Background/Need for Project: Lands acquired for water resource management purposes often require capital improvements associated with hydrologic or other restoration to eliminate or reduce adverse water resource impacts, allow for public use, and for ongoing District land management activities.

Plan Linkages: SRWMD Florida Forever Work Plan 2011, SRWMD Strategic Plan 2011-2020, FY 2011 District Work Plan and Budget.

Area(s) of Responsibility: All

Alternative(s): Land management capital improvements could be deferred to future year(s) or foregone, but would result in increased future costs and/or adverse water resource impacts resulting from decreased land management capabilities.

Basic Construction Costs (includes permits, inspections, communications requirements, utilities, outside building, site development, other): \$780,375 for construction costs.

Other Project Costs (includes land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, other): \$50,000 for professional services (surveying, engineering, etc.) for R. O. Ranch.

Anticipated Additional Operating Costs/Initial (includes salaries, benefits, equipment, furniture, expenses): None. Operating Costs are incorporated into the District's Land Management program.

Anticipated Additional Operating Costs/Continuing: None. Operating Costs are incorporated into the District's Land Management program.

APPENDIX

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT STANDARD FORMAT PROGRAM DEFINITIONS FOR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES FOUND IN THE SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

2.0 Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works

This program includes the development and construction of all capital projects (except for those contained in Program 3.0), including water resource development projects/water supply development assistance, water control projects, and support and administrative facilities construction; cooperative projects; land acquisition (Florida Forever) and the restoration of lands and water bodies.

2.1 Land Acquisition

The acquisition of land and facilities for the protection and management of water resources. This activity category does not include land acquisition components of "water resource development projects," "surface water projects," or "other cooperative projects."

2.3 Surface Water Projects

Those projects that restore or protect surface water quality, flood protection, or surface-water related resources through the acquisition and improvement of land, construction of public works, and other activities.

3.0 Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works

This program includes all operation and maintenance of facilities, flood control and water supply structures, lands, and other works authorized by Chapter 373, Florida Statutes.

3.1 Land Management (Water Management Lands Trust Fund and Florida Forever)

Maintenance, custodial, public use improvements, and restoration efforts for lands acquired through Florida Forever or other land acquisition programs.

Section D

Alternative Water Supply Report

2010

Introduction:

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) with the cooperation of the local communities undertook an assessment of alternative water supply needs and opportunities throughout the District. Project selection was determined by potential groundwater demand offset, project readiness, environmental benefits, and ability to cost-share.

Initially, funding for the District's alternative water supply program was provided from the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF). Although funding from the WPSTF during the past two years has not been available, the District has strived to continue alternative water supply efforts.

Project selection emphasis is determined by potential demand offsets, project readiness, environmental benefits, and ability to cost-share.

Conservation projects are being added to this report as a result of recent legislation authorizing funding conservation projects from the WPSTF.

Alternative Water Supply Development:

The District is committed to developing alternative water supply programs with both public and private partners. Project development focus will balance the needs of our communities and natural systems. Alternative water supply funding is directed to partnerships that foster collaborative efforts in addressing resource issues.

Cost-share funding is made available to communities and other water users that have identified needs and have provided appropriate assurances the project will be implemented where fiscally practicable.

Description and funding information for each approved alternative water supply project for 2010 follows:

Monticello Reclaimed Water Program Phase II:

The City of Monticello operates a 1.0 million gallons per day (mgd) wastewater treatment facility. The goal of this project is to develop a reclaimed water system to initially offset approximately 0.5 mgd of existing groundwater withdrawals at the Simpson Nursery. Project construction costs involve distribution and storage facilities.

Lake City Reclaimed Water Program Phase II:

The City of Lake City operates a 3 mgd wastewater treatment facility that uses a restricted public access spray field for disposal. The goal is to implement an agricultural reuse project to offset existing groundwater withdrawals with the ability to expand in the future. Project construction activities involve pumping facilities, transmission mains, distribution lines, and reclaimed water storage.

Suwannee River Partnership:

The Suwannee River Partnership’s mission is to provide researched based solutions that protect and conserve water resources. Projects include agriculture irrigation management and Florida Yards and Neighborhoods.

Cedar Key Water & Sewer District Reuse Project:

This reuse project improved the efficiency of the Cedar Key Water and Sewer District’s existing reuse program. Project funding was applied to construction costs relating to storage and transmission distribution lines.

Cedar Key Plumbing Retrofit Pilot:

The City of Cedar Key installed water saving plumbing fixtures for facilities in City Hall, the City Community Center, and their Elementary School. The water saving fixtures consisted of ultra low flow toilets, waterless urinals, and ultra low flow lavatory faucets. This water conservation pilot project was to assess the effectiveness of the fixtures. Based upon the results the District will be implementing a water conservation cost share program.

ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Project	Total Project Cost	District Match	Local Match
Monticello Agricultural Reclaimed Water Program	\$1,155,200	\$705,200	\$450,000
Lake City Reclaimed Water Program Phase II	\$1,119,700	\$419,435	\$700,265
Suwannee River Partnership	\$249,157	\$173,537	\$75,620
Cedar Key Water & Sewer District Reuse Project	\$33,340	\$25,000	\$8,340
Cedar Key Plumbing Retrofit Pilot	\$18,225	\$15,580	\$3,645

Section E

Five Year Water Resource Development
Work Program

Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program

Pursuant to Section 373.536(6)(a)4, Florida Statutes, the Water Management Districts are required to submit the following:

“A 5-year water resource development work program to be furnished within 30 days after the adoption of the final budget. The program must describe the district’s implementation strategy for the water resource development component of each approved regional water supply plan developed or revised under s. 373.709.”

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) currently does not have an approved regional water supply plan.

In 2010, the District completed a District-wide water supply assessment to evaluate the availability of water supplies over the next 20 years. Members of the District’s Governing Board accepted the 2010 Water Supply Assessment report at the District’s December 2010 Governing Board meeting.

Regional water supply plans will be developed for areas where the assessment determines supplies will not be sufficient within the 20-year planning period (2010 to 2030). The 2010 Water Supply Assessment identifies four regions within the District where groundwater supplies will not be adequate to meet projected demands. These proposed water supply planning regions include the:

- Upper Santa Fe River Basin,
- Lower Santa Fe River Basin,
- Upper Suwannee River Basin, and
- Alapaha River Basin.

Water supply plans identify programs and projects to meet future water needs, such as water conservation strategies and alternative water supply projects. All five of Florida’s water management districts are statutorily

required to complete water supply plans for areas where water supplies aren't sufficient to meet future demands without causing unacceptable impacts to the water resources and related natural systems.

Currently, the District is developing a regional water supply plan for the Upper Santa Fe River Basin (USFRB). The USFRB includes portions of Baker, Columbia, Bradford, Union and Alachua counties. Once the USFRB plan is adopted, local governments will have 18 months to incorporate water supply options listed in the District's plan into their 10-year work plan or develop options of their own.

The District-wide water supply assessment and subsequent water supply plans will be re-evaluated every five years or sooner if needed.

Section F

Florida Forever
Water Management District Work Plan

A barred owl is perched on a tree branch, looking directly at the camera. The owl has brown and white mottled feathers and large, dark eyes. The background is a soft-focus green forest.

***Florida Forever Work Plan
2011 Annual Update***

***Suwannee River Water Management District
Approved by the Governing Board
February 8, 2011***

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Table of Contents

FLORIDA FOREVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNUAL UPDATE..... 3

INTRODUCTION..... 2

LAND ACQUISITION..... 4

GOALS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES SUMMARY 4

REVISIONS TO FLORIDA FOREVER ACQUISITION PROJECT AREAS 5

 Project Design and Selection Criteria 5

LAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM STRATEGIES 6

 Watershed Planning 7

LAND ACQUISITION PRIORITY PROJECTS 8

ALTERNATIVES TO FEE SIMPLE ACQUISITION – CONSERVATION EASEMENTS.. 8

SURPLUS LANDS 8

RESTORATION AND WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT..... 10

ICHETUCKNEE SPRING SHED – CITY OF LAKE CITY & COLUMBIA COUNTY 10

UPPER SANTA FE RIVER BASIN – CITY OF STARKE, BRADFORD COUNTY 10

 Edwards Bottomlands Restoration Project 10

 Lower Santa Fe River – City of High Springs, Alachua County 11

 Upper Santa Fe River Basin – City of Alachua, Alachua County 11

 Waccasassa River Basin – City of Newberry, Alachua County 11

 Upper Santa Fe River Basin – City of Lawtey, Bradford County..... 11

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Actual and Projected Florida Forever Expenditures 3

Table 2 Completed Acquisitions - Florida Forever Goals and Measures..... 4

Table 3 Protected Lands and Proposed Project Areas..... 6

Table 4 Priority Land Acquisition Projects for FY 2011 Funding 8

Table 5 Surplus Lands 9

Table 6 Potential Restoration and Water Resource Development Projects 11

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Distribution of Florida Forever Past Expenditures 3
Figure 2 Refined Florida Forever Project Areas 5
Figure 3 SRWMD Basin Planning Areas 7

LIST OF APPENDIXES

Appendix A Florida Forever Acquisition Summary 13
Appendix B Project Plans 19
Appendix C SRWMD Excellence in Land Management 24
Appendix D Florida Forever Work Plan Projects Map Enclosure

Florida Forever Water Management District Annual Update

This is the tenth annual update of the original 2001 Florida Forever Work Plan. The purpose of the annual update is to present projects eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act Section 259.105, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and to report on progress and changes since the original 2001 submittal.

This update marks ten years of land preservation using Florida Forever funding which has culminated in the fee purchase of 43,117 preservation acres and 24,771 acres of protected conservation easements.

This report summarizes funding and completed projects during the planning period and presents modifications and additions to the original work plan. This update is organized into two sections; Land Acquisition, and Restoration and Water Resource Development. A summary of land management activities and the progress of funding and staffing are included as well as budget and expenditure information for Florida Forever and Water Management Lands Trust funds on District lands.

The District projects the use of \$4.9 million of Florida Forever funding for various land acquisition projects during FY 10/11. An additional \$400,000 will be used for Water Resource Development. Since inception of Florida Forever, the District has expended \$64.2 million for land acquisition and \$.54 million for restoration and water resource development. During FY 2011, the District is projected to use its total \$4.9 million appropriation balance of Florida Forever funding.

INTRODUCTION

The Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan was created in Section 373.199, F.S. In order to further the goals of the Florida Forever Act the District initially developed a work plan to protect the most pressing water resource needs in this region. As required by Section 373.199 (7) The Suwannee River Water Management District has completed its tenth annual update of the 2001 Florida Forever Work Plan. This update presents projects eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act and reports on progress and changes made since the initial plan. New legislation Section 373.036 (7), F.S. now requires this annual update be presented as a separate chapter in the Consolidated Annual Report.

The Florida Forever Act provides that:

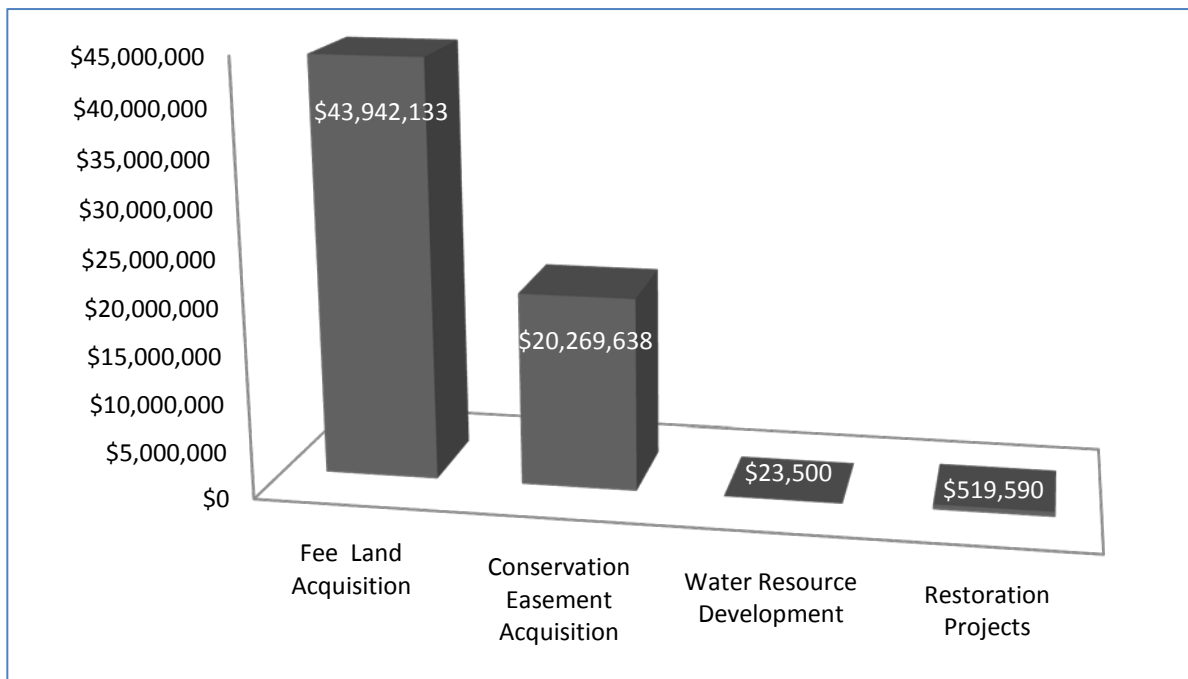
- Thirty percent of the funds are distributed to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the acquisition of land and capital improvement projects necessary to implement the five water management districts' priority lists.
- All lands acquired pursuant to this section are to be used for "multiple-use" purposes. Multiple-use includes outdoor recreational activities pursuant to Sections 253.034 and 259.032(9)(b), F.S., water resource development projects, and sustainable forestry management.
- A minimum of 50% of this funding coming to SRWMD must be spent on land acquisition over the 10-year life of the program.

The District intends to use \$4.9 million of prior years' unspent appropriated balance during the planning period FY 10/11. To date over 99% of Florida Forever funding has been spent on acquisition of full fee and less than fee interests in conservation lands. This trend is expected to continue into the near term future. Table 1 illustrates past and projected Florida Forever expenditures. Figure 1 depicts the distribution of all Florida Forever expenditures to date.

Table 1 Actual and Projected Florida Forever Expenditures

Expenditures	Fiscal Year	Fee Acquisition Expenditures	Fee Acres Acquired	Conservation Easement Expenditures	Conservation Easement Acres Acquired	Water Resource Development Expenditures	Restoration Project Expenditures
Actual							
Past 10 Years	2000-2001	\$ -	-	0	-		0
	2001-2002	\$ 4,117,869	30,477	\$5,643,127	12,960.00		0
	2002-2003	\$ 1,158,661	564	\$3,382,632	5,026.00		0
	2003-2004	\$ 3,565,225	1,761	\$1,517,048	2,023.00		0
	2004-2005	\$ 3,792,645	2,661	\$0	-		0
	2005-2006	\$ 648,440	121	\$0	-		0
	2006-2007	\$ 13,082,288	4,246				0
	2007-2008	\$ 4,041,930	493	\$6,379,514	3,294.00		\$210,510
	2008-2009	\$ 10,773,027	2,142	\$0	0		\$162,000
	2009-2010	\$ 2,762,048	652	\$3,347,318	1468	23,500	\$147,080
TOTAL		\$ 43,942,133	43,117	\$20,269,638	24,771	23,500	519,590
Projected Current Budget	2010-2011	\$2,940,000		\$1,960,000		\$400,000	

Figure 1 Distribution of Florida Forever Past Expenditures



Land Acquisition

GOALS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES SUMMARY

The Florida Forever program provided funding during FY 09/10 to address land acquisition, restoration and water resource development projects that accomplish priority needs for water management. Florida Forever purchases completed during the 09/10 reporting period are examples of natural resource projects that individually satisfy Florida Forever Goals & Measures found in F.S. 259.105 (4).

Table 2 Completed Acquisitions - Florida Forever Goals and Measures

Seller	Tract	Conservation Area	County	Acres	Price	Date
Feagle, Ronald A. and Dorothy Florida Forever Performance Measure A2, C4-6	Bonnet Lake Conservation Easement	Olustee Creek	Columbia	434	\$1,083,925	1/27/2010
Dixie County Board of Commissioners Florida Forever Performance Measure C4-6	Guaranto Addition	Log Landing	Dixie	1	\$14,000	4/22/2010
Dixie County Board of Commissioners Florida Forever Performance Measure C4-6	Log Landing Inholding	Log Landing	Dixie	20	\$100,000	4/22/2010
Jackson, Kevin and Patrice Florida Forever Performance Measure A2, C4-5	Jackson Conservation Easement	Troy Springs	Lafayette	172	\$343,860	6/23/2010
Osceola Land and Timber Corp. Florida Forever Performance Measure A1, C4-6, E1	Santa Fe River Ranch Addition	Pareners Branch	Alachua	463	\$1,873,048	8/05/2010
N.G. Wade Investment Company Florida Forever Performance Measure D3	Gilchrist Regional Wellfield	Wannee	Gilchrist	106	\$395,000	8/12/2010
Suwannee River Development LLC Florida Forever Performance Measure A2, C4-6	Ace Ranch Conservation Easement	Peacock Springs	Lafayette	682	\$1,557,593	9/16/2010

REVISIONS TO FLORIDA FOREVER ACQUISITION PROJECT AREAS

Project Design and Selection Criteria

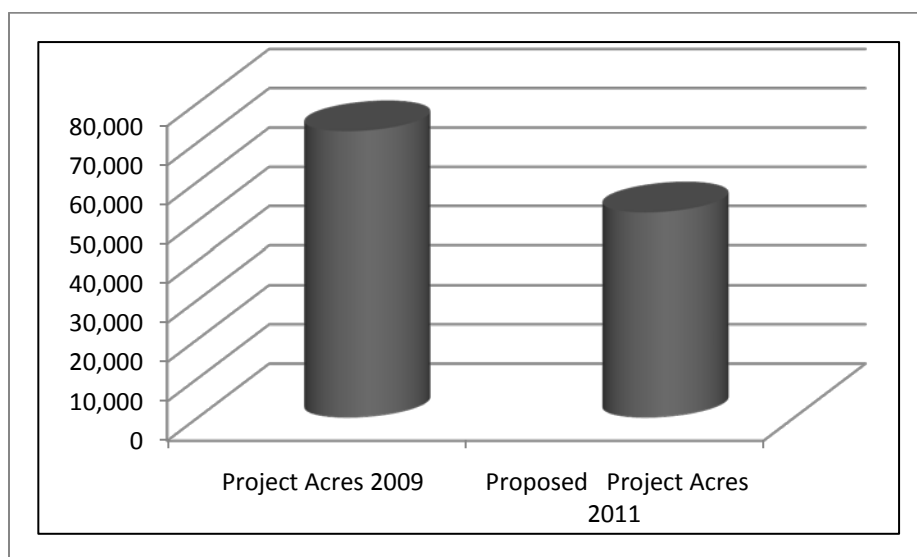
The 2009 annual update significantly revised project areas with the application of Geographic Information (GIS) modeling. Available geographic databases were correlated as to their relative importance to these water resource protection benefits. Resulting lands with area within two or more themes are classified as highest acquisition candidates. The model essentially predicts parcels with high water resource, groundwater protection, and surface water protection features.

Four major water resource themes were developed in the 2009 water resources protection model:

<u>Water Resource Objectives</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
Floodplain Protection	FEMA 100-year Flood Zone
Recharge Protection	Areas of High Recharge
Surface Water Protection	Rivers, Creeks, Lakes Wetlands
Spring Protection	Magnitude 1 - 3 Springs - Buffered

This evaluation has resulted in the selection of the most important lands that should be targeted for land acquisition. The 2009 Florida Forever Work Plan projected 73,000 acres of fee purchases. Selection of project areas by resource criteria continues in FY 2011 to propose 52,000 acres of potential fee or less than fee purchases in ten watersheds.

Figure 2 Refined Florida Forever Project Areas



The location of proposed acquisition areas is illustrated in Appendix D, 2011 Florida Forever Work Plan Projects Map.

Discrete acquisition projects were developed by filtering high-scoring candidate lands identified by the model with data on property ownership, management considerations and connection to public lands. Property ownership and management considerations were evaluated to complete a project design for ten river basin planning areas.

The update proposes to preserve and protect water resources by acquiring an additional 52,000 acres of land primarily within the floodplain of the major rivers of the District. Table 3 illustrates the new FY 11 proposed project areas by basin planning area. This is compiled with all acquisition activity to date under the Save Our Rivers (SOR), Preservation 2000 (P2000) and Florida Forever programs.

Table 3 Protected Lands and Proposed Project Areas

Planning Area	Fee Acres Acquired	Fee River Mileage Acquired	Less than Fee Acres Acquired	Less than Fee River Mileage Acquired	Proposed Project Acres 2011
Alapaha	2,989	15	1,503	4	2,889
Aucilla	14,985	47	10,914	13	6,506
Coastal Creeks	1,282	0	32,134	0	0
Econfina	8,490	40	0	0	2,153
Fenholloway	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Suwannee ⁽¹⁾	19,403	31	24,935	0	4,088
Middle Suwannee	17,409	31		1	7,918
Santa Fe	12,498	27	4,990	6	10,714
Steinhatchee ⁽²⁾	59,331	38	46,852	0	152
Upper Suwannee	34,583	73	19,128	12	4,510
Waccasassa	4,678	9	22,404	0	4,586
Wacissa	1,082	2	0	0	0
Withlacoochee	7,263	20	0	0	8,562
Floodplain Lots ⁽³⁾	889	14	0	0	0
Total	184,882	347	162,860	36	52,077

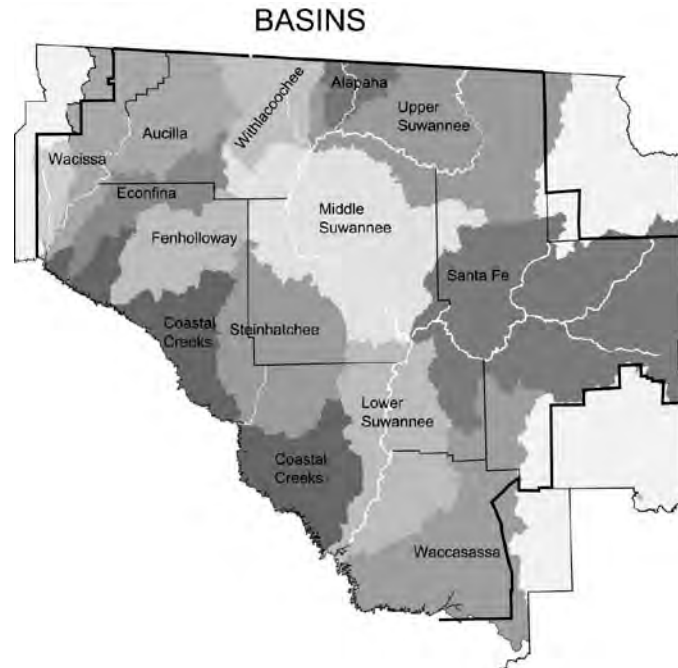
LAND ACQUISITION PROGRAM STRATEGIES

- Protect the 100-year floodplain, headwater wetlands, and freshwater spring systems of the District’s major river systems in this region.
- Assist local governments in the acquisition of lands for regional wellhead protection.
- Continue to use a resource-based selection process to target the most important and sensitive remaining lands available.
- Emphasize the use of voluntary sale by willing sellers of large ownerships of reasonably-priced resource lands.
- Encourage the use of alternative acquisition techniques such as conservation easements as a cost-effective means of protection.

Watershed Planning

The geographical area of the Suwannee River Water Management District has been divided into 13 planning areas that correspond with major surfacewater drainage basins. The District owns or proposes to acquire land in 12 of these planning areas. To most effectively protect these water resources and natural systems, the District considers the entire watershed and immediate factors that influence it when selecting and prioritizing lands for acquisition.

Figure 3 SRWMD Basin Planning Areas



The update proposes to preserve and protect water resources by acquiring an additional 52,000 acres of land primarily within the floodplain of the major rivers of the District (Table 3). The acquisition of lands not specifically named in the plan should not be precluded if the Governing Board determines they are necessary for water management purposes. The plan is subject to review and possible modification at least annually. A review may result in the addition or deletion of areas targeted for acquisition. As mandated by law, a public hearing will be conducted prior to any amendment to the plan. An annual report of acquisition activity, together with modifications or additions to the plan, is presented as part of the District's Consolidated Annual Report.

This update identifies sufficient lands to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will be related to such considerations as:

- Governing Board policy,
- Threats to the resource,
- Availability of willing sellers,
- Tract size,
- General market conditions,
- Available staff resources, and
- Availability of funds.

LAND ACQUISITION PRIORITY PROJECTS

The projects on the following list are deemed to be the District's highest land acquisition priorities. Active acquisitions identified as Quality Communities Projects and Priority Projects in previous Florida Forever annual updates are expressly considered a part of the current plan. These transactions will be closed as expeditiously as possible using funds previously appropriated.

Table 4 Priority Land Acquisition Projects for FY 2011 Funding

Seller	Project Name	County	Acres
Andrews Family	Andrews Cedar Key	Levy	897
Cooley, Bradley and Linda	Cooley Conservation Easement	Jefferson	130
Floyd, William and Susan	Floyd Conservation Easement	Jefferson	570
Hartzog, Grady and Honor	Stuarts Landing	Suwannee	82
Layman, Chris and Christine	Walker Spring Conservation Easement	Jefferson	172
Nyman, George and Sharon	Suwannee River Oaks	Gilchrist	312
Rock Bluff Springs Co. LLC	Rock Bluff Spring	Gilchrist	178
Santa Fe Springs, LLC	Sawdust Spring	Columbia	234
Shaw, Robert	Santa Fe Swamp Addition	Alachua & Bradford	60

ALTERNATIVES TO FEE SIMPLE ACQUISITION – CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Under the amended statute 259.101 (9) “alternatives to fee simple acquisition include but are not limited to: purchase of development rights; conservation easements; flowage easements; purchase of timber rights, mineral rights or hunting rights; purchase of agricultural or silvicultural interests; land-protection agreements; fee simple acquisitions with reservations and other techniques....”

All project areas identified in this update are suited for less than fee purchase, and District staff will pursue this option with willing landowners.

Using alternatives to fee simple acquisition provides a cost-effective method to protect water resources. The District has made a commitment to use less than fee techniques and to discuss their application with landowners during each new purchase opportunity.

SURPLUS LANDS

In May 2009 the District Governing Board adopted Program Directive 2009-01 to identify surplus lands. Surplus lands are defined as those District-owned parcels that do not contribute significantly to the achievement of a project's acquisition objectives. These objectives include not only the protection or enhancement of water resource benefits, but also effective and efficient land management.

District-owned lands were analyzed to determine areas outside of the 100-year floodplain that did not have significant water resource values and would not negatively impact land management strategies if sold. The following parcels have been designated as surplus by the District Governing Board.

Table 5 Surplus Lands

Tract Name	Acres	County	Surplus Date	Funding Source
Bay Creek North	24	Columbia	7/14/2009	WMLTF
Bay Creek South	46	Columbia	7/14/2009	WMLTF
Blue Sink	79	Suwannee	7/14/2009	WMLTF
Levings	69	Columbia	7/14/2009	WMLTF
Owens Spring	77	Lafayette	7/14/2009	WMLTF
Westwood West	320	Madison	7/14/2009	WMLTF
Adams South	60	Lafayette	5/13/2010	WMLTF
Jennings Bluff	70	Hamilton	5/13/2010	WMLTF
Falmouth North (8 tracts)	6	Suwannee	6/8/2010	WMLTF
Hunter Creek	120	Hamilton	6/8/2010	P2000
Santa Fe Oasis	110	Gilchrist	6/8/2010	P2000
Steinhatchee Rise	42	Dixie	6/8/2010	P2000
Timber River	1	Madison	6/8/2010	WMLTF

On June 15, 2010 the District sold the 10-acre Wooten surplus tract and home site on the lower Alapaha River in Hamilton County. Proceeds from the sale (\$75,000) will be used for Florida Forever land purchases. Any recommendation for the disposition of land will be presented for Governing Board consideration in accordance with Sections 373.056 and 373.089, F. S.

RESTORATION AND WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

ICHETUCKNEE SPRINGSHED – CITY OF LAKE CITY & COLUMBIA COUNTY

The District and Columbia County have identified the need to implement regional stormwater management systems within the Ichetucknee Springshed to protect and restore water quality for waters recharging the Floridan aquifer, which in turn feeds regionally significant springs, such as the Ichetucknee group.

The District and Columbia County have entered into an interlocal agreement for \$10 million in project costs for fiscal year 2006 through 2011. The agreement contemplates construction of regional stormwater treatment systems by acquiring the appropriate lands and building stormwater treatment and attenuation areas.

Lake City and the District are planning a reclaimed water project to offset groundwater withdrawals. The project will consist of a storage facility and transmission lines. Estimated project cost is \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000. Funding in the amount of \$400,000 was encumbered by Resolution 2010-14 for the Lake City Reclaimed Waste Water project. Funding is not being proposed for fiscal year 2011.

UPPER SANTA FE RIVER BASIN – CITY OF STARKE, BRADFORD COUNTY

Edwards Bottomlands Restoration Project

The City of Starke depends upon Alligator Creek for drainage of most of its incorporated area. Alligator Creek drains into Lake Rowell and, ultimately, into the Santa Fe River via the Sampson River.

Alligator Creek was dredged several times prior to environmental regulation and again in 2005 to improve the drainage within the City of Starke. However, this dredging has destabilized the stream in many locations and caused continued erosion and water quality problems. Stream restoration is needed to protect this system from continued erosion and degradation but the funding of such a restoration has been cost prohibitive.

In order to prevent some of the sediment load from going to Lake Rowell down Alligator Creek, the District, in cooperation with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, plans to capture some of the sediment load via a sedimentation basin and re-establish the historic floodplain along a portion of the creek within the 47-acre parcel known as the Edwards Bottomlands. The restoration project will improve water quality by capturing and treating sediment-laden storm water and will improve habitat for fish and wildlife.

The District proposed a budget of \$250,000 for fiscal year 2010 to implement a restoration project on Alligator Creek. Due to project delays, no expenditures have been spent on this project to date. The project is expected to be underway in fiscal year 2011 with a projected completion date of September 30, 2011.

Lower Santa Fe River – City of High Springs, Alachua County

The City of High Springs is located in the Santa Fe River Basin in northwestern Alachua County. The City’s secondary treated wastewater effluent is discharged to a sprayfield.

The District and City plan to develop a reclaimed water project to offset 240,000 gallons per day of groundwater withdrawals. Groundwater recharge will also occur with the project. Project components consist constructing a storage facility and installing transmission lines. Estimated project cost is \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Funding is not being proposed for fiscal year 2011.

Upper Santa Fe River Basin – City of Alachua, Alachua County

The City of Alachua is located in the Upper Santa Fe River Basin. The City’s existing wastewater treatment facility can produce public access reuse water. However, the City has limited infrastructure to store and distribute the reuse water.

Based on initial estimates, it is believed that approximately 1.0 to 4.0 MGD of groundwater withdrawals could be offset with the implementation of this water resource development project. Project components consist of a storage facility and installing transmission lines. Estimate project cost is \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000. Funding is not being proposed for fiscal year 2011.

Waccasassa River Basin – City of Newberry, Alachua County

The City of Newberry is located in the Waccasassa River Basin. The District and City have been collaborating to develop and implement a reuse program to offset groundwater withdrawals. The project will consist of storage and transmission lines. Estimated project cost is \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000. No funding is proposed for fiscal year 2010 for this project.

Upper Santa Fe River Basin – City of Lawtey, Bradford County

The City of Lawtey is located in the Upper Santa Fe River Basin. The City has an existing potable water storage tank that is exhibiting signs of deterioration and needs to be replaced. Estimated project cost is \$750,000 to \$1,250,000. No funding is proposed for fiscal year 2011.

Table 6 Potential Restoration and Water Resource Development Projects

PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT NAME	COST RANGE ESTIMATE
Stormwater Restoration	Ichetucknee Springshed	\$12,000,000 - \$13,000,000
Water Resource Development	Lake City	\$2,000,000 - \$3,000,000
Stormwater Restoration	Edwards Bottomlands/Alligator Creek	\$200,000 - \$300,000
Water Resource Development	High Springs	\$4,000,000 - \$5,000,000
Water Resource Development	Alachua	\$3,000,000 - \$4,000,000
Water Resource Development	Newberry	\$3,000,000 - \$4,000,000
Water Resource Development	Lawtey	\$750,000 - \$1,250,000

Appendix A Florida Forever Acquisition Summary

<i>Seller</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Conservation Area</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Interest</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Closing Date</i>
Williams, Fred M. Jr.	Walker/Aucilla Tract	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	Fee	112	\$220,318.00	11/8/2001
Ward, Cleatus	Lake Butler Wellfield	New River	Union	Fee	148	\$310,023.00	12/28/2001
Levy Wade Inc.	Peacock Slough Levy Wade	Peacock Springs	Suwannee	Fee	569	\$625,768.00	12/31/2001
Van Hook, C.A.	Falmouth Addition	Falmouth	Suwannee	Fee	18	\$40,000.00	1/8/2002
Chesson, Maywood	Waldron's Landing	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	124	\$329,016.00	1/9/2002
Red Hills Land Company	Foster Conservation Easement	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	CE	163	\$140,000.00	3/25/2002
Plum Creek Timberlands	Manatee Springs Addit. Suwannee Swamp	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	CE	12,797	\$5,503,127.10	3/28/2002
Sam Shine	Mallory Swamp	Upper Steinhatchee	Lafayette	Fee	29,463	\$2,592,744.00	4/30/2002
Florida Depart. of Trans.	Santa Fe River FDOT Mitigation	Ichetucknee	Gilchrist	Fee	42	\$0.00	5/15/2002
Mura Family	Lots 260, 261, 302, 303 Suwannee River Campsites	State Park	Hamilton	Fee	1	\$0.00	6/30/2002
Crevassee Alton & Charlotte	Atsena Otie Key Inholding	Lower Waccasassa	Levy	Fee	1	\$48,000.00	7/30/2002
Plum Creek Timberlands	Manatee Springs Addit. Oak Hammock	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	CE	4,588	\$3,005,225.15	8/31/2002
Evans, Barbara & Donald	Fanning Springs Greenway	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	46	\$115,700.00	11/27/2002
Gause Thomas & Patricia	Fanning Springs Greenway	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	64	\$160,325.00	11/27/2002
Skinner Development Co.	Bell Springs Addit.	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	25	\$0.00	12/19/2002
Moore, Madeline	Moore Conservation Easement	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	CE	115	\$54,000.00	12/23/2002
The Conservation Fund	Fletchers Landing	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Fee	178	\$436,000.00	4/12/2003
Drummond, Graham Luther	Manatee Springs Addit.	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	CE	323	\$323,406.70	5/29/2003
Sigvartsen Trust, Marty Royo, Trustee	Lot 12 Suwannee Bluff Ranchettes	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	10	\$34,500.00	6/20/2003

Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Maxwell Foods, Inc.	Horseshoe Beach Wellhead Protection Area	Coastal Creeks	Dixie	Fee	100	\$200,000.00	6/30/2003
Union Land and Timber Corp	Allen Mill Pond Addition	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	140	\$164,136.00	6/30/2003
Davis M.C.	Withlacoochee East Addit.	Withlacoochee East	Hamilton	Fee	57	\$0.00	10/1/2003
Curtis John M. Sr.	Withlacoochee East Addit.	Withlacoochee East	Hamilton	Fee	89	\$208,868.00	10/1/2003
Rayonier Forest Resources L.P.	Lake Rowell/Alligator Creek	Graham	Bradford	Fee	593	\$1,060,000.00	5/5/2004
Beckerleg, William	Charles Spring River Estates Unit 1, Lot 40		Suwannee	Fee	2	\$13,000.00	5/7/2004
Faris, William & Sophia	Faris Ranch	Little River	Suwannee	Fee	1,020	\$2,283,357.60	6/30/2004
Usher Trust	Manatee Springs Addit.	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	CE	2,023	\$1,517,047.50	8/17/2004
Land, Jack & Todd	Land Tract	Yellow Jacket	Dixie	Fee	536	\$964,674.00	10/15/2004
Dugger, Edward & Green, Donald	Mud Swamp	Monteocha	Alachua	Fee	326	\$485,190.27	12/13/2004
Dugger, Edward & Green, Donald	Mud Swamp	Graham	Bradford	Fee	510	\$757,873.68	12/13/2004
Luther Drummond Investments, Ltd.	Chiefland Wellfield	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Fee	155	\$621,640.00	2/21/2005
Young Paul & Frances	Lot 10 Suwannee Bluff Ranchettes	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	10	\$34,000.00	2/25/2005
Bem, Jan & Yana	Yana Springs	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	14	\$154,000.00	3/15/2005
DeVaney, Robert & Deborah	Mallory Swamp Devaney Addition	Lower Steinhatchee	Lafayette	Fee	1,038	\$448,381.44	4/8/2005
Tanner, Hillard	City of Jasper Wellhead Protection	Upper Alapaha	Hamilton	Fee	30	\$72,240.00	4/28/2005
McEwen, Donald	Wacissa Head Spring	Wacissa	Jefferson	Fee	22	\$225,000.00	4/28/2005
Torode, John A. Revocable Living Trust	Lake Rowell Addition	Graham	Bradford	Fee	20	\$29,646.00	6/17/2005
Lamb, et al.	Allen Mill Pond Addition	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	29	\$60,040.00	3/1/2006
Pepper Land Company Inc.	Suwannee River Wilderness Camp @ Dowling Park	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	9	\$84,000.00	3/30/2006

Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Nunez, Luis M	Anderson Springs Addition	Anderson Springs	Suwannee	Fee	10	\$80,000.00	5/19/2006
Hutchings, William & Patricia	Branford Bend Addition	Little River	Suwannee	Fee	28	\$300,000.00	5/30/2006
Roland, Charles & Joann	Greenville Wellfield Properties	Upper Aucilla	Madison	Fee	13	\$34,398.00	6/10/2006
Roland, Shane & Lisa	Greenville Wellfield Properties	Upper Aucilla	Madison	Fee	33	\$78,000.00	6/10/2006
Hatch, Leon	Devils Elbow Addition	Stuart's Landing	Lafayette	Fee	1	\$12,000.00	6/30/2006
R O Ranch Inc & Schulte CRUT	R-O Ranch	Upper Steinhatchee	Lafayette	Fee	2,485	\$6,500,000.00	7/27/2006
Herndon, Walter and Helen	Withlacoochee Quail Farms	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	408	\$1,835,130.00	9/29/2006
Johnson, Jack and Dorothy	Withlacoochee Quail Farms	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	353	\$1,589,310.00	10/13/2006
Riggs, Joseph and Jennie	Purvis Landing Addition	Log Landing	Dixie	Fee	77	\$267,123.25	10/31/2006
Hauber, Marty and Peggy	Suwannee Forest Lot 7	Stuart's Landing	Suwannee	Fee	10	\$98,000.00	2/28/2007
Land Timber and Cattle L.L.C.	Mallory Swamp Addition	Grady	Lafayette	Fee	820	\$1,312,224.00	3/20/2007
Advent Christian Village, Inc.	Suwannee River Wilderness Camp @ Dowling Park	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	39	\$385,500.00	4/5/2007
White, Diane Bishop	Bell Springs Riverfront	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	8	\$310,000.00	5/18/2007
Morrell, Monroe	Bell Springs	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	46	\$785,000.00	5/18/2007
Feagin, Robert & Marjorie	Middle Aucilla Addition	Middle Aucilla	Taylor	Fee	80	\$339,000.00	7/20/2007
Hale, Martha C. & McDaniel, Virginia Gail	Russell Carter Conservation Easement	Benton	Columbia	CE	1,232	\$3,566,987.40	9/28/2007
Jones, Mike and Kim	Jasper Stormwater	Holton Creek	Hamilton	Fee	1	\$16,700.00	10/5/2007
Sganga, Brian	Little Shoals Addition	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	1	\$60,000.00	11/15/2007
McEnany, Michael and Leanne	McEnany Conservation Easement	Lower Waccasassa	Levy	CE	1,104	\$1,490,224.00	11/16/2007
Tisdale, Robert	Manatee Springs Addition	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	CE	83	\$141,925.00	11/16/2007

Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Smith, B. Larry and Christine M.	Suwannee Gardens Addition	Yellow Jacket	Dixie	Fee	49	\$462,460.00	11/21/2007
Levings, Albert	Town of Fort White Wellfield	Santa Fe Springs	Columbia	Fee	102	\$1,536,546.42	12/15/2007
Ragans, Hoyt and Betty Jo	Ragans Conservation Easement	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	CE	169	\$216,825.52	12/28/2007
Ragans, Hoyt and Betty Jo	Ragans Conservation Easement	Middle Aucilla	Madison	CE	586	\$748,613.96	12/28/2007
Moses Investments, L.L.C.	Troy Springs Addition	Troy Springs	Lafayette	Fee	106	\$1,014,054.00	1/30/2008
Lake Alto LLC	Lake Alto Addition	Sante Fe Swamp	Alachua	Fee	120	\$210,209.38	2/7/2008
Sheppard, Derwood and Susan	Manatee Springs Addition	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	CE	120	\$214,938.00	2/8/2008
Mozak, Deborah & Danny and Vasko, Victor & Betty	Swift Creek Addition	Swift Creek	Hamilton	Fee	5	\$250,000.00	3/14/2008
Gullett, David & Michele	Lake Alto Swamp Addition	Sante Fe Swamp	Alachua	Fee	29	\$152,961.41	5/15/2008
Adams, John Anthony	Adams on Alapaha	Lower Alapaha	Hamilton	Fee	267	\$1,068,800.00	7/11/2008
Big Otter L.P., Faith, Hope, Charity Place, Inc.	Otter Springs	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	636	\$6,800,000.00	9/30/2008
Suwannee Land & Timber Inc.	Willow Bend Subdivision Lot 21	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	1	\$17,000.00	11/17/2008
Suwannee Land & Timber Inc.	Willow Bend Subdiv. Park Lot	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	1	\$0.00	11/17/2008
Carter, Gerald and Diane	Suwannee Woods Subdiv. Lot 48	Camp Branch	Hamilton	Fee	1	\$0.00	12/26/2008
SRWMD to City of Chiefland	Chiefland Wellfield	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Fee	(33)	(\$189,278.00)	2/1/2009
Fairweather, Celia & Parchment, Evelyn	Lake Alto Addition	Sante Fe Swamp	Alachua	Fee	41	\$30,000.00	2/16/2009
Madison/Taylor Timberlands, L.L.C.	Aucilla Corridor Addition	Upper Aucilla	Madison	Fee	172	\$429,916.00	5/12/2009
Madison/Taylor Timberlands, L.L.C.	Aucilla Corridor Addition	Upper Aucilla	Jefferson	Fee	1,056	\$2,619,484.00	5/12/2009
Wooten, Albert & Jessie	Lower Alapaha Addition	Lower Alapaha	Hamilton	Fee	63	\$380,000.00	7/1/2009
Champion, Roger & Donna	Mount Gilead Conservation Easement	Middle Aucilla	<<multiple>>	CE	181	\$361,940.00	8/19/2009

Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Feagle, Ronald A. & Dorothy	Bonnet Lake Conservation Easement	Olustee Creek	Columbia	CE	434	\$1,083,925.00	1/27/2010
Dixie County Board of County Commissioners	Guaranto Addition	Log Landing	Dixie	Fee	1	\$14,000.00	4/22/2010
Dixie County Board of County Commissioners	Log Landing Inholding	Log Landing	Dixie	Fee	20	\$100,000.00	4/22/2010
Jackson, Kevin and Patrice	Jackson Conservation Easement	Troy Springs	Lafayette	CE	172	\$343,860.00	6/23/2010
Osceola Land & Timber, Corp. Addition	Santa Fe River Ranch	Pareners Branch	Alachua	Fee	463	\$1,873,048.00	8/5/2010
N.G. Wade Investment Company	Gilchrist Regional Wellfield	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	106	\$395,000.00	8/12/2010
Suwannee River Development, L.L.C.	Ace Ranch	Peacock Springs	Lafayette	CE	682	\$1,557,593.00	9/16/2010
					67,886	\$64,211,771.00	

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Appendix B Project Plans
Progress of funding, Staffing and Resource Management

Program Name: LAND ACQUISITION

Revenue Source Description	Operational FY 10/11 Budget
Florida Forever Trust Fund	4,650,000
P2000 Resale – USFS, PCS	6,920,000
Water Management Lands Trust Fund	735,284
Total Revenues	\$12,305,284

GLA	Project	Operational FY 10/11 Budget
516	Salaries and Benefits	\$467,784
580	Legal Services	80,000
586	Contractual Services	
	<i>Appraisals and Review</i>	75,000
	<i>Surveys</i>	65,000
	<i>Environmental Assessments</i>	20,000
	<i>Baseline Inventories</i>	15,000
	<i>Title Examinations</i>	5,000
605	Printing	500
622	Registrations and Training	3,500
626	Travel Expenses	2,000
809	Fees and Permits	500
903	Office Equipment	1,000
920	Acquisition	
	<i>Conservation Lands</i>	10,570,000
	<i>Stormwater Restoration</i>	1,000,000
Total Expenditures		\$12,305,284

Project Title *Program Administration - Land Acquisition*
Objective Support & coordinate activities of the Land Acquisition program.
Completion 9/30/2011
Deliverables Florida Forever Database and Map Updates
 Florida Forever Work Plan Draft
 Florida Forever Work Plan Complete
 Final Governing Board Approval of Florida Forever Plan
 Closure on approved property acquisitions

Program Name: LAND MANAGEMENT

Revenue Source Description	Operational FY 10/11 Budget
Water Management Lands Trust Fund	1,494,090
Land Management Funds Carried Forward	3,347,930
Timber Sales-Twin Rivers State Forest	100,000
Florida Forever	0
Total Revenues	\$4,942,020

GLA	Project	Operational FY 10/11 Budget
516	Salaries and Benefits	\$545,620
580	Legal Services	35,000
586	Contractual Services	
	<i>Road Work</i>	200,000
	<i>Boundary Line Maintenance</i>	30,000
	<i>Facility Maintenance</i>	10,000
	<i>Road Mowing</i>	50,000
	<i>Gates and Fencing</i>	20,000
	<i>GIS Support</i>	150,000
	<i>SFI Audit</i>	10,000
	<i>Forest Inventory</i>	100,000
	<i>Surveys & Monitoring</i>	20,000
	<i>Prescribed Fire</i>	560,000
	<i>Fireline Establishment</i>	40,000
	<i>Herbicide Application</i>	110,000
	<i>Mechanical Treatments</i>	80,000
	<i>Invasive Weed Management</i>	95,000
	<i>Tree Seedlings</i>	66,000
	<i>Tree Planting</i>	130,000
	<i>Timber Sale Administration</i>	125,000
	<i>Forestry Consulting</i>	40,000
	<i>Featured Site Maintenance</i>	113,500
	<i>Landscape Maintenance</i>	160,000
	<i>Site Cleanup</i>	10,000
	<i>Sanitation</i>	32,000
	<i>Signs</i>	7,500
	<i>Facilities Upgrades</i>	20,000
	<i>Cultural Resources</i>	5,000
	<i>Otter Springs</i>	40,000

590	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	360,000
605	Printing	400
606	Publication of Notices	1,000
621	Meetings	500
622	Registrations and Training	3,000
626	Travel Expenses	2,000
627	Utilities	3,000
631	Equipment Maintenance	3,000
701	Field Supplies	
	<i>Facilities Management</i>	100,000
	<i>Program Administration - Land Management</i>	25,000
	<i>Public Recreation Services</i>	32,500
703	Computer Supplies	4,500
706	Books and Documents	500
740	Office Support Equipment	1,000
790	Other Commodities	1,000
809	Fees and Permits	8,000
903	Office Equipment	1,500
924	Land Improvements	1,150,000
930	Interagency Expenditures	
	<i>FSU-FNAI Rare Species Program</i>	40,000
	<i>DOF Prescribed Fire</i>	60,000
	<i>DOF Twin Rivers State Forest Lease</i>	235,000
	<i>UF-Forest Resources & Conservation</i>	20,000
	<i>Public Recreation Services</i>	81,500
	<i>Natural Areas Training Academy</i>	4,000
Total Expenditures		\$4,942,020

Project Title *Program Administration - Land Management*
Objective Provide support, training, planning and monitoring, and real estate services related to owning District lands.
Completion 9/30/2011
Deliverables Excellence in Land Management and SFI Reports
Land Management Information System
Land Surveys
Payment in Lieu of Taxes
Conservation Easement Monitoring

Monthly Governing Board Report
Administration of Land Management Contracts
Fiscal Year 2012 Work Plan and Budget Draft

Project Title **Public Recreation Services**

Objective Plan and maintain infrastructure for public use on District lands.
Completion 9/30/2011
Deliverables Maintenance of Public Use Facilities to District Standards
Management of Otter Springs Park
Development of visitor information products
Development of public information

Project Title **Natural Resource Management**

Objective Manage the District's lands to restore their natural state and
condition to the extent possible.
Completion 9/30/2011
Deliverables Reforestation on District properties
Completion of prescribed fire activities
Completion exotic plant treatments
Administration of Timber Sale Contracts
Completion of 2011 site prep operations

Project Title **Facility Management**

Objective Maintain District roads, gates, boundaries, fencing and buildings
consistent with their planned use.
Completion 9/30/2011
Deliverables Maintenance on 100 miles of boundary lines
Maintenance on roads for public use and land management
Maintenance of signage
Maintenance of facilities for public use

Program Name: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PERMITTING

Revenue Source Description	Operational FY 10/11 Budget
Florida Forever Trust Fund	\$250,000
Total Revenues	\$250,000

GLA	Project	Operational FY 10/11 Budget
586	Contractual Services	
	<i>Construction Contract</i>	\$250,000
Total Expenditures		\$250,000

Project Title *Edwards Bottomland Wetland Restoration*
Objective Assist the City of Starke with the Restoration of Alligator Creek.
Completion 9/30/2011
Deliverables Continuation of Construction Contract
 Completion of Construction
 Planning Meetings with Contractor
 Review of Contract and Project

Appendix C SRWMD Excellence in Land Management Report for Fiscal Year 2009

Introduction

The District has completed its fifth year of implementing its Excellence in Land Management program. Although the program is, and will remain, a work in progress, the data collection and reporting procedures are beginning to stabilize. In addition, with five years of data for most measures, the program is beginning to generate trends that can assist the Governing Board, staff and public in evaluating the strengths and weaknesses in the District's land management.

The following report summarizes the data that has been collected as evidence of the District's conformance with the four major performance measures adopted by the Governing Board in 2005.

Resource Protection

1.1 The District shall increase public ownership and/or control of land within the Florida Forever (FF) Boundary and 100 year floodplain of Suwannee River and tributaries.

The District acquired 1,488 acres within the areas of acquisition interest delineated in the Florida Forever Work Plan. This accounts for 99% of all lands acquired during the year. This compares with 3,097 acres, 92% within plan-delineated areas, in FY 08. Less than fee purchases accounted for 181 acres or 12% of acres acquired, only 8% of the less than fee acres acquired in FY 08.

These numbers will vary significantly from year to year based on the type of projects submitted by landowners (e.g., fee vs. conservation easement), the success of negotiations, and the relative price for acreage purchased.

The percentage of acquired lands that meet two or more of the statutorily-mandated Florida Forever goals and measures remained high at 100% for FY 09.

Cumulatively, the District owns or has less than fee interests in 59,107 acres within the mapped floodplains of the Suwannee River and its tributaries. This is an increase of 88 acres over the previous fiscal year. Staff will review the new FEMA data to determine if an ownership-wide analysis of lands in 100-year floodplain can be developed for 2011 evidence.

1.2 The District's Acquisition Program will be consistent with the Florida Forever Goals and Performance Measures.

The analysis for this performance measure is based on an overlay of the map of lands acquired and a set of state-wide maps developed by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). This is the same method used by FNAI to analyze the effectiveness of all agencies implementing the Florida Forever program for the Legislature.

District acquisitions contribute to the complete range of targeted resources. Most acquired lands provide protection for surface waters (1,506 acres) and groundwater recharge or springs protection (1,507 acres). This score shows that a large percentage of acres acquired have multiple water resource benefits.

1.3 The District shall increase the "quality" of resources under its management.

The evidence in this section addresses the degree to which District activities improve the condition of the hydrological, ecological, or historical/archeological resources on its lands. To that end, District staff treated 12,021 acres, somewhat higher than the previous fiscal year (11,618 acres).

The most extensive activity was prescribed burning. District staff and contractors conducted successful burns on 7,431 acres. The acres of burning are on a downward trend related to ongoing drought conditions, high fuel loads and budget constraints. This measure will require better weather conditions and funding to move back to the desired upward trend.

The percentage of burns that were conducted within the planned fire return interval increased from 24% in FY 08 to 48% in FY 09. This is primarily a result of being able to burn areas where fuel loading was reduced by previous District prescribed fires.

With input from the 2009 Land Management Review Team, a change is being recommended that scores the percentage of fire dependent communities, District-wide, whose fire frequency is within the natural fire return interval listed in the management plan. The previous measure only scored those acres burned that year, so it didn't provide an accurate measure of project success over all District-owned lands. The first year measure is 43%.

Hydrologic enhancements have decreased with the completion of the Mallory Swamp Project this year and no Department of Transportation wetland mitigation activity in FY 09.

The acres and percent treatment of exotic species reported are static this year. This is the second year of a new analysis. Since some plants require multiple

treatments to eradicate, there is now a multiyear monitoring protocol to confirm mortality before a population is classified as eradicated. The reduction of areas impacted is anticipated in the FY 2010 report.

Each of the District's 37 conservation easements, encompassing 118,000 acres, was inspected during the fiscal year and 100% were found to be in compliance with the terms of the easement.

A third-party Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certification audit of District lands was completed in FY 07. Follow-up surveillance audits were completed in FY 08 and FY 09. The Audit firm found the District to be in conformance with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard 2005-2009 in FY 09. The scorecard reflects 96% of all measures either Exceed Requirements or are in Conformance with the Standard for the certification audit. For FY 08, 89% of the surveillance measures (20% of the total) were in Conformance or Exceed Requirements. For the FY 09 surveillance audit, 91% of the audit performance measures met or exceeded the standards. Three Opportunity for Improvement were noted by the auditor: periodic updates of timber inventories, improve the program to ensure efficient utilization of timber products and more accurate reporting in clearcut acres in the audit report.

Public Use

2.1 The District shall increase access and the number of recreation facilities consistent with Management Plans.

The quantity of recreational facilities has generally increased as the District acquires new lands and completes improvements to them. Hunting opportunities have increased by approximately 3,000 acres in FY 2009.

Multi-use and equestrian trails totaling 38 miles were added in FY 2009, raising the total trail miles to 196 miles.

2.2 The District shall increase the quality and appearance of access and education/recreation facilities, and compliance with facility maintenance standards (including ADA requirements).

The percentage of sites meeting or exceeding standards is based on whether a tract meets the development standard for its public use classification (i.e., featured, general recreation, or primitive). District staff has been renovating existing facilities and constructing new ones to the new DRAFT standards in the District Land Management Plan. The impact of ongoing improvements is expected to show up with a large increase in FY 10.

2.3 The District shall maintain or increase the public's satisfaction with recreation/education experiences on District-owned lands.

The University of Florida Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sports Management completed the third and final phase of the "Customer Satisfaction Surveys" by polling particular user groups at two events this year. Participants at the Suwannee Bicycle Festival were polled regarding the bike trails on SRWMD lands and their satisfaction with their experience. 89% responded that they were satisfied with trails and their use of SRWMD lands. The survey of mobility-impaired hunters at the District's Holton Creek Tract shows 89% were satisfied with the hunting opportunity and their use of the lands for hunting opportunities.

Communication

3.1 The District shall prepare a District Land Management Plan for all District-owned sites.

The District Land Management Plan (DLMP) covering all lands was approved by the Governing Board in June 2003. Staff is concentrating on refinement of the geographic information system for land management and the development of standards to apply to all facets of District lands. These data processing and document updates will provide the basis for revision of the DLMP and development of the annual work plan.

Work on the update was not completed in FY 09. Meetings were held with the Land Management Review Team in 2009 and spring 2010 to review the DRAFT plan. Submittal to the Governing Board is planned for the first quarter of FY 2011.

3.2 The District shall maintain or increase the annual level of stakeholder involvement (web site hits, meeting participation, number of meetings and workshops, etc.), including review team meetings.

This is one of the measures that have been difficult for staff to track. More is occurring than is being recorded because a consistent mechanism for reporting has not been developed. Staff participated in 29 meetings or developed articles for press release six times. 24 members of the public participated in the 2009 Land Management Review Team process and provided comments to the District.

3.3 The District shall maintain or increase the public's satisfaction with public outreach.

Staff is recommending discontinuing this measure until the revised DLMP is approved. The new DLMP will specify the Outreach program and recommend suitable metrics to measure the District efforts to educate the public on land purchases and management.

Fiscal Responsibility

4.1 The District shall manage its lands within the range of management costs of other similar agencies in Florida.

Management costs reported by the other water management districts ranged from \$9.02 to \$20.24 per acre. The District's actual land management expenditures for FY 2009 were \$14.98 per acre. This was 2% above the average value of \$14.74. Budget cuts related to lack of Water Management Trust Fund funding contributed to expenditures lower than FY2008.

4.2 The District shall maximize revenues from its timber sales.

Staff has compiled timber sales data and compared the average price per ton for all planned timber sales sold to the average market prices reported for the region from Timber Mart South. Revenues from District timber sales have consistently exceeded expected values reported from the market and did so by 4% last year.

4.3 The District shall maximize revenues from alternative funding sources.

Grants from both federal and state sources and non-cash contributions by management cooperators were summed to arrive at a measure of alternate funding. Federal Wetlands Reserve grants have been the single biggest source in recent years, totaling \$124,000 last year. The services that cooperating agencies contributed is estimated at \$343,000. DOF sold approximately \$293,000 of SRWMD timber from Twin Rivers State Forest and billed for \$41,000 of services. Along with several smaller grants, the total from alternative sources for FY 09 was \$343,296. This was down substantially from previous years (related to the winding down of Mallory Swamp funding) and amounted to 8% of all land management expenditures.

4.4 The District shall provide and maintain adequate human resources and physical infrastructure to effectively and safely manage its lands.

This performance measure is designed to gauge the extent to which the District is taking proactive action to maintain the underlying support system for land management. The human dimension is measured in terms of staff training. The number of courses attended was down for the third straight year. Staff attended 19 courses in FY 2009 compared to 54 courses in FY 06. This issue is being monitored more closely as a result of the SFI audit findings. A list of required courses by job description was developed in 2009. In 2010, a new method that reflects staff training levels consistent with their responsibilities and the percentage of staff that are fully trained will be developed.

The maintenance of key records has been identified as an important measure, but a protocol for its application has yet to be developed. It is recommended that this measure be deleted until the list of required records is developed in 2010.

Staff is conducting quarterly safety inspections of public use facilities. Potential problems are being noted and addressed on a regular basis. Development of a complete set of safety standards and a procedure for auditing conformance are not yet complete.

Conclusions

District land acquisition and management is achieving its core mission of natural resource protection. Examples of evidence for this statement include:

- The District is acquiring land that is highly consistent with the Florida Forever Work Plan and with 100% of the acquisitions meeting two or more Florida Forever goals and measures.
- Over 12,000 acres were treated to enhance natural community conditions on SRWMD lands despite budget shortfalls.
- The District's prescribed fire program increased the percentage of repeat burns occurring at a frequency consistent with natural cycles. New measures to better reflect progress have been proposed.
- Third party audits of the program for conformance with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard 2005-2009 show high levels of conformance and evidence Exceeding Requirements of the Standard in the rare species management program.
- Recreational users of SRWMD lands report a high degree of satisfaction, (9 out of 10) with natural experience provided by SRWMD lands.

Areas to monitor based on information tracked through this process include:

- Downward trend in areas treated to enhance natural communities. Prescribed fire is highly correlated with weather and adversely affected by the ongoing drought and lost funding, but there were decreases in timber sales acreage, acres replanted and exotic plant treatment.
- The District Land Management Plan update must be completed within the FY 2010-11 or there exists the potential to lose direction and lose public confidence and accountability.
- A consistent measure of adequate staff training must be developed to understand the status of desired training. Focusing on courses and hours may

reflect training opportunities and not “adequately trained” staff. A training outline was developed and will be integrated into the Management Plan.

Recommended Revisions for FY 09 Score Card (Shown in red on Scorecard)

Add new Evidence:

Measure 1.1.B.a – Percentage of District-owned lands in the 100-year floodplain based on District-wide FEMA data sets.

Measure 1.3B.a – Percentage of all fire dependent natural communities that are treated with prescribed fire within the reported range of natural fires.

Restate Evidence:

(Delete strikethrough; add underlined text)

Measure 1.3.E - # Acres ~~harvested~~ sold for timber to reach Desired Stocking Conditions.

Measure 1.3.H - %Acres ~~surveyed for cultural resources~~ assessed for cultural resources high probability zones.

Measure 1.3.L - ~~# of Known populations of listed species monitored.~~ % of listed species monitoring plan implemented.

Discontinue tracking until completion of new District Land Management Plan.

Measure 1.3D – % acres restored in identified upland restoration layer.

Measure 3.3 – % satisfaction with Public Outreach program.

Measure 4.4B – % of records up to date.

Measure 4.4C – % of facilities that meet standards.

2009 ELM Scorecard

Resource Protection	Performance Measure	Evidence	FY 09 Score	FY 08 Score	FY 07 Score	FY 06 Score	FY 05 Score
1.1.A	The District shall increase public ownership and/or control of land within the Florida Forever (FF) Boundary and 100 year floodplain of Suwannee River and tributaries.	Total acres of lands acquired within FF boundary. (Annual FF and cumulative within mapped 100-year floodplain)	1,488 acres 59,107 acres	3,097 acres 59,019 acres	2,635 acres 58,062 acres	3,217 acres 57,369 acres	2,639 acres 58,937 acres
1.1.B		% of all lands acquired that fall within FF boundary. (Annual FF and cumulative within 100-year floodplain)	99% 59%	92% 59%	99% 58%	88% 58%	99% 45%
1.1.C		% of annual acquired lands that meet two or more FF Goals and performance measures.	100%	97%	98%	99%	99%
1.2.A	The District's Acquisition Program will be consistent with the Florida Forever Goals and Performance Measures.	% of land acquired annually containing targeted resources. (summary)	100%	100%	99%	99%	99%
1.2.B		# of acres protected through the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition.	181	2,158	1,232	568	0
1.2.C		# of acres acquired within "significant strategic habitat conservation area".	875	2,253	204	518	426
1.2.D		# of acres acquired that protect natural floodplain functions.	433	708	333	1,314	1,018
1.2.E		# of acres acquired that protect surface waters.	1,506	3,371	2,639	3,634	2,665
1.2.F		# of acres of functional wetland systems protected.	713	1,961	1,061	1,356	1,994
1.2.G		# of acres acquired of groundwater recharge areas critical to springs, sinks, aquifers, other natural systems or water supply.	1,507	202	25	152	178

1.2.H		# of acres acquired that are available for natural resource-based recreation or education.	253	1,424	144	734	0
1.2.I		# of acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management.	573	379	1,175	1,447	531
1.2.J		# of acres acquired of forestland that will serve to maintain natural groundwater recharge functions.	574	358	898	1,084	151
1.2.K		# of acres acquired of habitat deemed highest priority conservation areas for Florida's rarest species.	59	2,108	763	646	983
1.3.A	The District shall increase the "quality" of resources under its management.	# Acres burned that met objective.	7,229	7,014	10,971	11,972	10,681
1.3.B		% Acres burned within natural fire return interval.	48%	24%	26%	30%	44%
1.3.B.a		% Acres within natural fire return interval	43%	43%	36%	43%	40%
1.3.C		# Acres replanted for Desired Future Conditions (DFCs).	1,458	812	1,147	1,201	1,689
1.3.D		% Acres restored to historical natural communities and identified upland restoration layer.	na	na	na	na	na
1.3.E		# Acres harvested sold for timber to reach Desired Stocking conditions.	1,079	981	1,259	1,231	880
1.3.F		# Hydrologic Structures installed / # Acres wetlands mitigated.	53 / 0 acres	50 / 0 acres	160 / 236 acres	85 / 11.3 acres	3,800
1.3.G		% Acres treated / # Acres impacted by exotic species.	22% / 1,135	22% / 1266	40% / 1,813	1,318	993
1.3.H		% Acres surveyed for cultural resources assessed for cultural resources high probability zones.	95%	0%	0%	0%	99%
1.3.I		# Sites monitored for cultural resources.	5	3	0	na	0

1.3.J		#/% Known cultural sites damaged.	9/5%	9 / 5%	9 / 5%	5%	na
1.3.K		% Acres baseline surveyed for listed species.	98%	97%	95%	94%	92%
1.3.L		# of Known populations of listed species monitored. % of listed species monitoring plan implemented.	102	153	179	47	0
1.3.M		% of Easements in compliance.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
1.3.N		Total acres burned, planted, harvested, sprayed.	12,021	11,618	14,741	14,908	13,858
1.4	The District shall conform with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard (2005-2009).	% of Indicators that Exceed Requirements or are in Full Conformance. <i>FY07, 08, 09 scores are third party audit. FY 08, 09 is 20% surveillance audit.</i>	91%	89%	96%	na	62%
Public Use	Performance Measure	Evidence	FY 09 Score	FY 08 Score	FY 07 Score	FY 06 Score	FY 05 score
2.1.A	The District shall increase access and the number of recreation facilities consistent with Management Plans.	# Trailheads	18	18	15	13	13
2.1.B		# Boat Ramps	10	10	10	7	6
2.1.C		# Canoe Launches	70	70	61	38	38
2.1.D		# Acres Open to Hunting	98,646	95,675	96,210	95,331	95,796
2.1.E		# Picnic Areas	15	15	12	12	12
2.1.F		# Interpretive Sites	6	6	5	4	2
2.1.G		# Restrooms	14	14	10	7	7
2.1.H		# Fishing Access (Parking, Bank Access)	94	94	87	82	77
2.1.I		# Miles Trails	196	158	158	108	87
2.1.J		# Miles Driving Trails	302	302	286	285	312

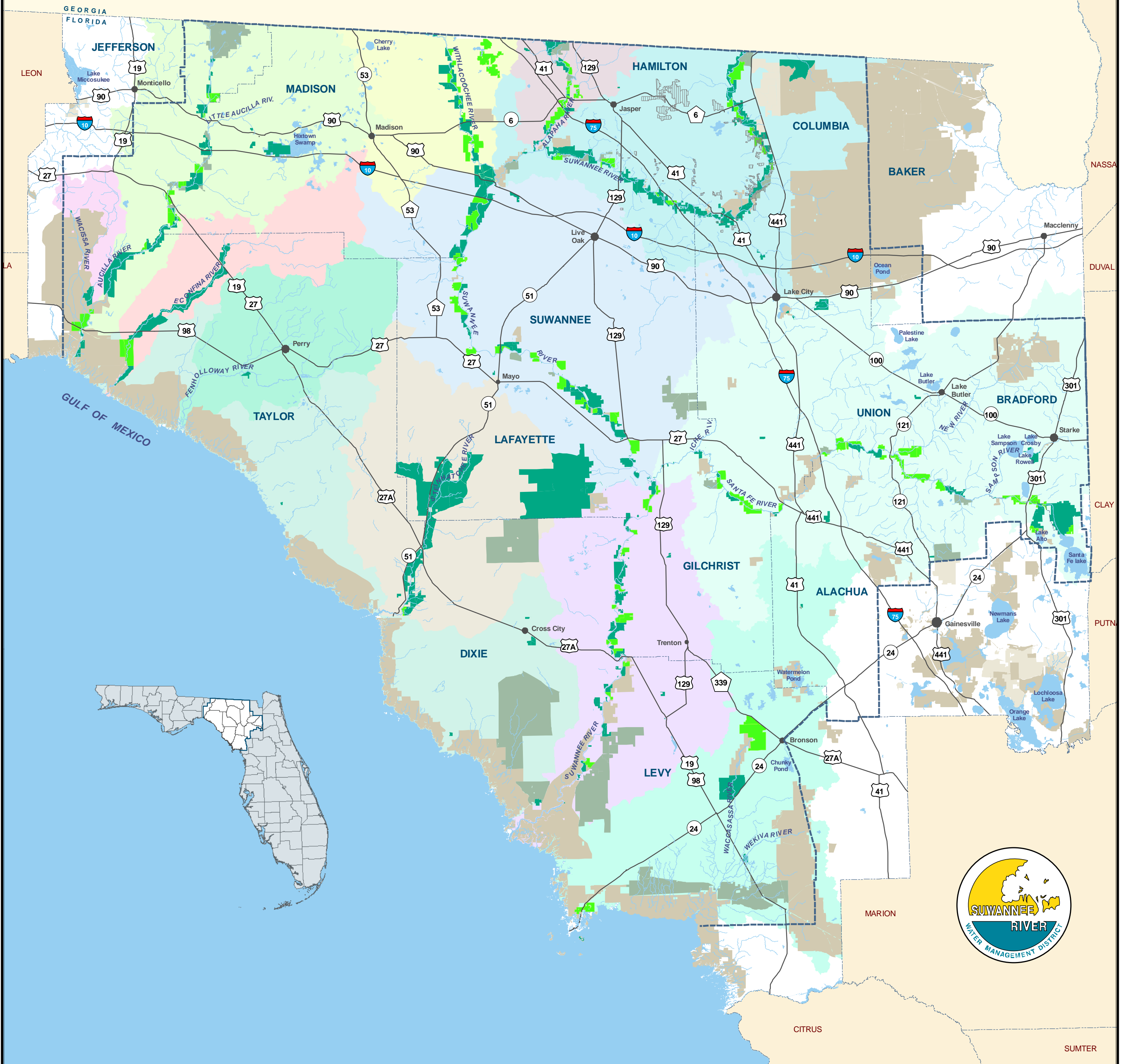
2.2	The District shall increase the quality and appearance of access and education/ recreation facilities, and compliance with facility maintenance standards (including ADA requirements).	% Sites that Meet or Exceed Standards.	76%	75%	74%	70%	49%
2.3	The District shall maintain or increase the public's satisfaction with recreation/education experiences on District-owned lands.	% Public Satisfaction	89% Bicycling Festival Survey 89% Hunting at Holton Creek WMA	90%	83%/48%	na	na
Communication	Performance Measure	Evidence	FY 09 Score	FY 08 Score	FY 07 Score	FY 06 Score	FY 05 score
3.1	The District shall prepare a District Land Management Plan for all District-owned sites.	# acres / % Current Management Plans	0 acres 0%	0 acres 0%	158,080 acres 92.6%	159,092 acres 95.5%	116,307 acres 72%
3.2.A	The District shall maintain or increase the annual level of stakeholder involvement (web site hits, meeting participation, number of meetings and workshops, etc.), including review team meetings.	# of Articles in District Newsletter, Public Workshops, Review Team Meetings, Presentations, etc.	36	78	58	na	76
3.2.B		# Participants (Review Team)	24	13	21	10	19
3.3	The District shall maintain or increase the public's satisfaction with public outreach.	% Public Satisfaction	na	na	na	na	na

Fiscal Responsibility	Performance Measure	Evidence	FY 09 Score	FY 08 Score	FY 07 Score	FY 06 Score	FY 05 score
4.1	The District shall manage its lands within the range of management costs of other similar agencies in Florida.	% Variation between District, other WMD costs	102%	134%	130%	116%	96%
4.2	The District shall maximize revenues from its planned timber sales.	% Of Market Rate	Pulpwood = 109% Chip & Saw = 97% Sawtimber = 87% Total Value = 104%	Pulpwood = 113% Chip & Saw = 109% Total Value = 113%	Pulpwood = 114% Chip & Saw = 95% Sawtimber = 94% Total Value = 109%	Pulpwood = 104% Chip & Saw = 104% Sawtimber = 100% Pole = 90% HW ST = 116% Total Value = 103%	Pulpwood = 98% Chip & Saw = 112% Sawtimber = 94% Total Value = 104%
4.3.A	The District shall maximize revenues from alternative funding sources.	\$ From External Sources	\$343,296	\$583,753	\$1,961,728	\$675,400	\$617,063
4.3.B		% of Expenses from External Sources	8%	9%	30%	12%	14%
4.4.A	The District shall provide and maintain adequate human resources and physical infrastructure to effectively and safely manage its lands.	# of Training Courses and Hours Completed by Staff	19 Training Courses 249 hours	29 Training Courses 312 hours	53 Training Courses 454 hours	54 Training Courses 401 hours	45 Training Courses na Hours
4.4.B		% of records up to date	na	na	na	na	na
4.4.C		% Facilities that Meet or Exceed Standards	na	na	na	na	na



Suwannee River Water Management District
9225 CR 49
Live Oak, Florida 32060
386.362.1001
www.mysuwanneeriver.com

2011 Florida Forever Acquisition Plan



PROPERTY OWNERSHIPS

- SRWMD Fee Ownership
- SRWMD Conservation Easement
- SRWMD Mineral Rights
- Potential Acquisition Area
- Public Conservation Lands
- Public Conservation Lands With Conservation Easement

PLANNING AREAS

- Upper Suwannee River Basin
- Middle Suwannee River Basin
- Lower Suwannee River Basin
- Alapaha River Basin
- Withlacoochee River Basin
- Santa Fe River Basin
- Aucilla River Basin

PLANNING AREAS

- Wacissa River Basin
- Waccasassa River Basin
- Steinhatchee River Basin
- Econfina River Basin
- Coastal Creeks Basin
- Fenholloway River Basin

PHYSICAL/POLITICAL FEATURES

- Hydrography
- County Boundary
- General Roads
- District Boundary

NOTE: This map was prepared by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD), Department of Land Acquisition (LA), for informational purposes only and does not conform to National Map Accuracy Standards. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of this data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. In no event will the SRWMD, its staff or the contributing agencies be held liable for any direct or indirect, special, consequential or damages including loss of profit, arising from the use of this data, even if the District has been advised of the possibility of such damage. Users of this data should therefore do so at their own risk. More information regarding the data portrayed on this map can be found in the 2011 Florida Forever Work Plan.



02/08/2011

Section G

Mitigation Donation Report

Mitigation Donation

This section of the Consolidated Annual Report is pursuant to Section 373.414(1)(b)2 which states the following:

The department and each water management district shall report by March 1 of each year, as part of the consolidated annual report required by s. [373.036\(7\)](#), all cash donations accepted under subparagraph 1. during the preceding water management district fiscal year for wetland mitigation purposes. The report shall exclude those contributions pursuant to s. [373.4137...](#)

The Suwannee River Water Management District has received no cash donations for mitigation during the last fiscal year and to date this current fiscal year.