2022 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REPORT

Suwannee River Water Management District

Table of Contents

Project Team

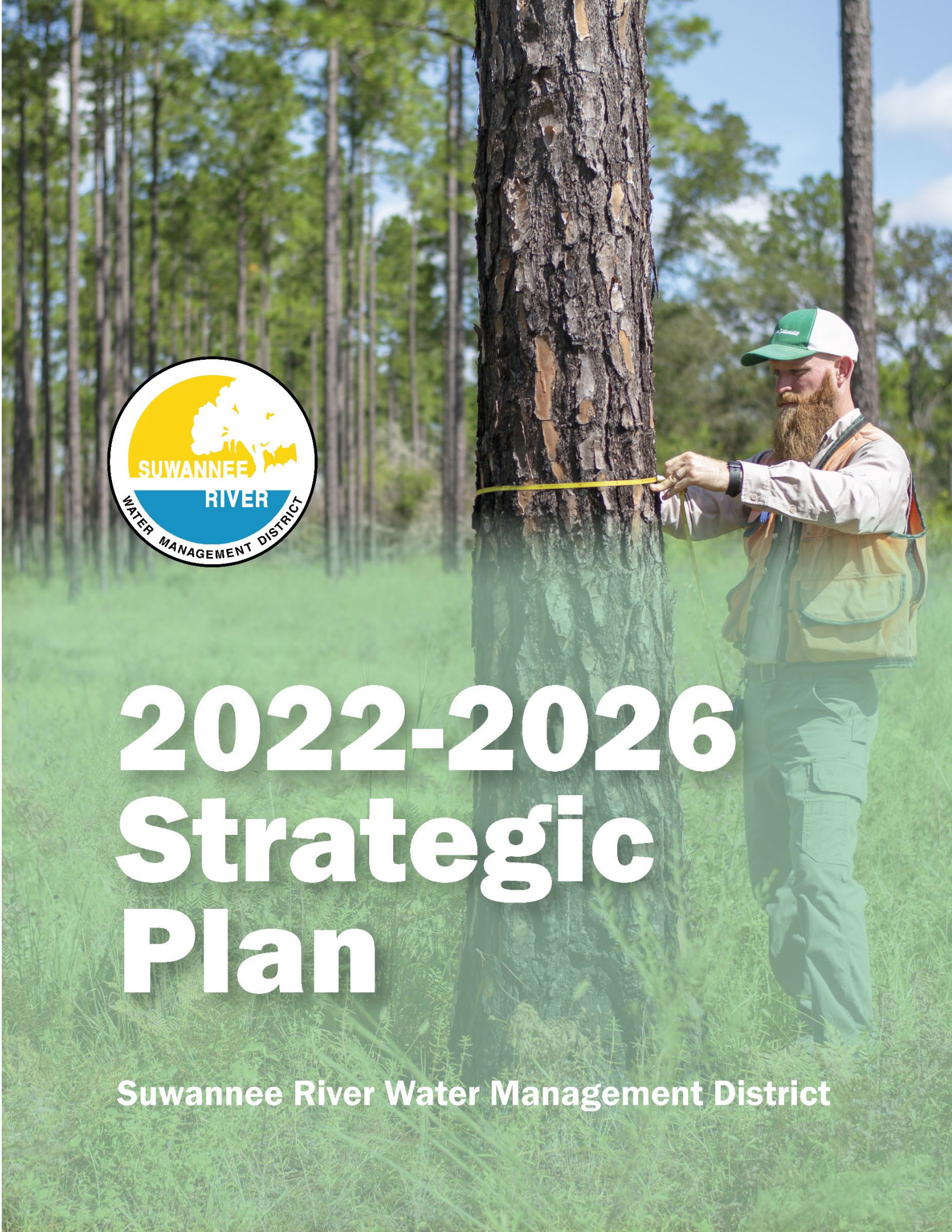
Overall Plan Coordination, Design, and Distribution	Katelyn Potter
Section One: 2022-2026 Strategic Plan and 2021 Annual Work Plan Report	Katelyn Potter
Section Two: Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List	Sean King
Section Three: Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan	Christina Green Steve Schroeder Ashley Spivey
Section Four: Alternative Water Supply Report	Kristine Eskelin
Section Five: Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program	Emily Ducker
Section Six: Waterbody Grades	Kristine Eskelin
Section Seven: Florida Forever Work Plan	Katelyn Potter
Section Eight: Mitigation Donation Annual Report	Warren Zwanka

For More Information

For further information regarding this report, contact the Office of Communications and Organizational Development at 386.362.1001 or planning@srwmd.org. This report is also available on the District's website at: http://www.MySuwanneeRiver.com/.

ADA Statement

Americans with Disabilities Act**:** The District does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions including one's access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the District at 386.362.1001 or 800.226.1066 (Florida only). The District's fax number is 386.362.1056



2022-2026 Strategic Plan

Suwannee River Water Management District

Contents

ADA Statement

Americans with Disabilities Act: The District does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions including one's access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the District at 386.362.1001 or 800.226.1066 (Florida only). The District's fax number is 386.362.1056.

Virginia Johns,
Chair

Governing Board Members

Virginia H. Johns,
Chair

Richard Schwab,
Vice Chair

Charles Keith,
Secretary/Treasurer

Harry Smith

Larry Sessions

Larry Thompson

William Lloyd

Message from the Chair

The Springs Heartland has long been renowned for its unique, breath-taking beauty and abundance of water. For generations, people have flocked to the area to enjoy the bountiful resources that seem infinite. In those days, major water resource challenges were concentrated in areas far away from the Suwannee River Valley. However, today, environmental changes, land use changes, rising temperatures, societal interests, and an ever-growing population, have brought these challenges to our doorstep, increasing the demand for our attention.

The Suwannee River Water Management District's (District) commitment to ensuring an adequate water supply, improving water quality, protecting natural systems, and providing flood protection has grown to meet the increasing challenges, with the help of greater scientific advancements and robust data monitoring.

Through the establishment of the new Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee River minimum flow minimum water levels (MFL), as well as the anticipated Upper Suwannee River MFL, District staff are working through planning, permitting, and projects to ensure the health of our natural systems and protect our water supply.

Expansion of the water quality monitoring network, strategic project prioritization in critical areas, increased project monitoring, and maximizing nutrient load reductions in stormwater systems will help to reduce nitrate levels as we work to achieve numeric nutrient criteria for water quality.

The District will be better able to serve and protect its communities from flooding through hydrologic and wetlands restoration, enhanced flood elevation studies, community education on the importance of land use designations, and increased public awareness and use of flood information tools.

Supporting the mission of the District and accomplishing these goals will rely heavily on the ability of the District to continue to strengthen stakeholder partnerships, maintain institutional knowledge, and reduce risk through information and data management.

Despite the challenges before us, the opportunities to serve the residents of North Florida through protection and restoration of our water resources is ever-present. I am proud to work alongside my fellow Governing Board members and District staff as we work to safeguard the health of our water resources for today and generations to come.

Agency Overview

Vision

Uniting the region in stewardship and awareness using innovative, science-based solutions to protect and restore our water resources.

Mission

To protect and manage water resources using science-based solutions to support natural systems and the needs of the public.

The District is a regional governmental agency responsible for protecting and managing water resources in north-central Florida. The District is one of five water management districts created by the Florida Legislature with the passage of the Water Resources Act in 1972. A governing board consisting of up to nine members, each of whom live in the District, establishes District policies. Governing board members are unpaid volunteers appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate for four-year terms.

While the District is the fifth largest of the five water management districts in geographic area, population served, tax base, and agency staff, it holds many of the most unique and valuable natural resources in Florida. The District encompasses 7,640 square miles in north-central Florida. The District includes all of Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union counties, and parts of Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Jefferson, Levy and Putnam counties. The District contains over 440 documented springs, including the highest concentration of freshwater springs in Florida, and the highest concentration of first-magnitude springs in the United States. Major rivers in the District include the Suwannee, Santa Fe, Withlacoochee, Aucilla, Alapaha, Ichetucknee, Fenholloway, Steinhatchee, Econfina, Waccasassa, and the Wacissa.

The District is charged by the Legislature with the responsibilities of managing water supply, water quality, flood protection, and natural systems. To meet these responsibilities and its mission, the District has developed goals for the next five years and identified the strategies necessary to accomplish these goals.

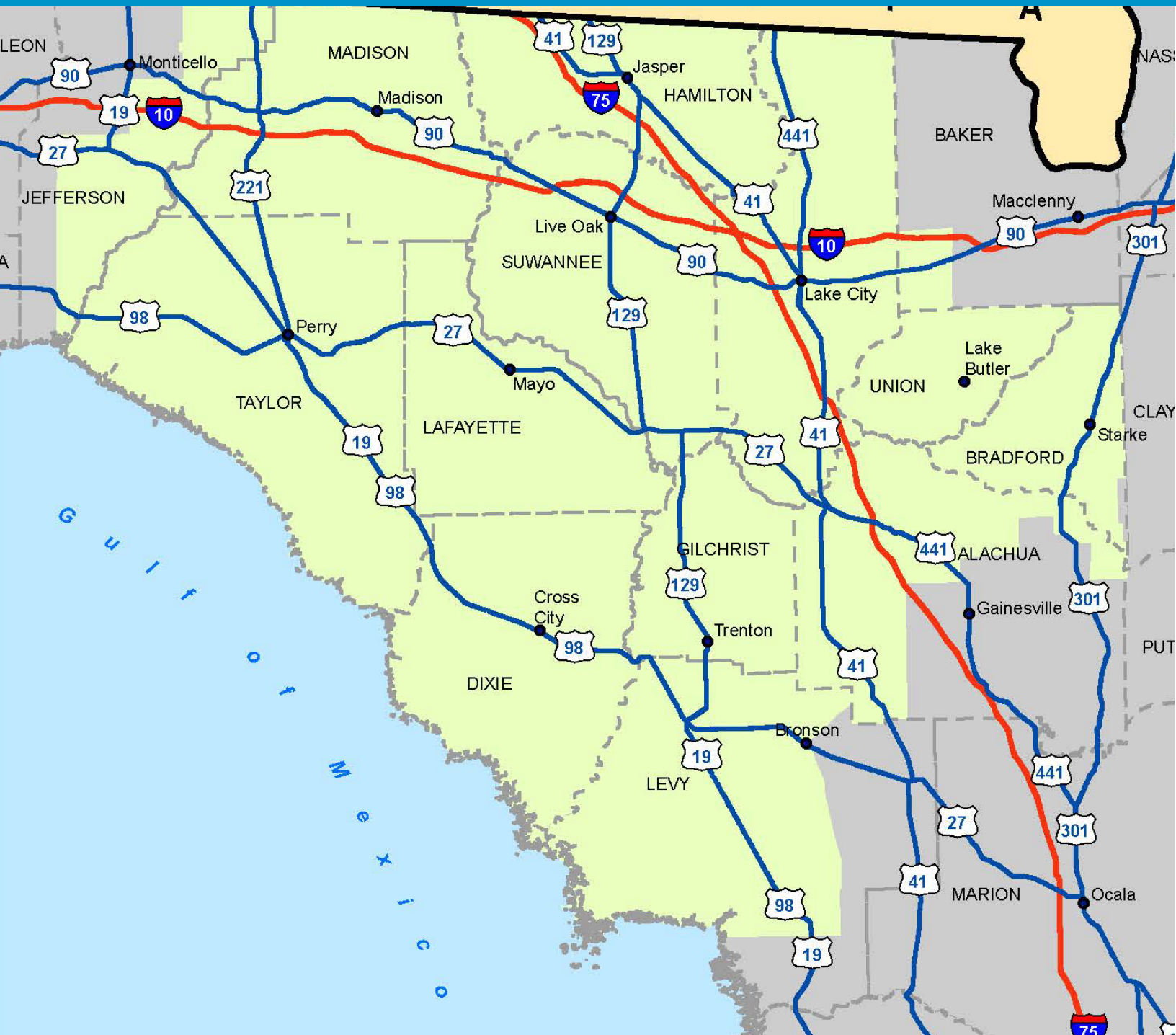
Funding

To carry out the mission and vision of this strategic plan, the District's budget is comprised of several funding sources. With the smallest tax base of the five water management districts, state legislative appropriations and state and federal grants are critical to accomplish our goals and mission. Grants from state and federal agencies, including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the United State Geological Survey, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), support District programs and projects. Strong partnerships with local governments and stakeholders are also key to identifying funding opportunities. The District continues to work with its local, state, and federal partners to leverage the funding necessary to achieve the goals set out in this strategic plan.

Serving

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

Since 1972



Introduction

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District), in accordance with section 373.036(2)(e)(4), Florida Statutes (F. S.), submits an annual strategic plan in lieu of the District Water Management Plan. The strategic plan outlines strategic priorities, goals, strategies, success indicators, funding sources, deliverables, and milestones for District functions. The plan casts a five-year outlook.

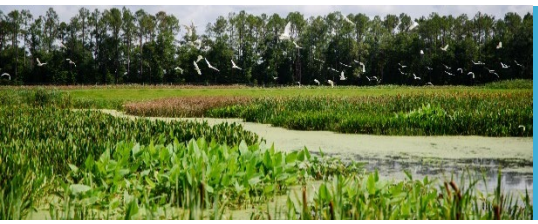
Strategic Priorities

WATER QUALITY

WATER SUPPLY

FLOOD PROTECTION

NATURAL SYSTEMS



MISSION SUPPORT

Water Quality

Preserving and Restoring the Foundation of North Florida's Economy

Water quality refers to the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water. Data shows persistent elevated nutrient levels, primarily nitrate, in rivers and springs throughout the District. Nitrate, in some instances, is the limiting nutrient that can cause imbalances in the ecosystem and impact the health of springs, rivers, and estuaries. Increased nutrient loads not only adversely impact the ecological health of rivers and springs but also the health of Gulf estuaries downstream.

The FDEP has established a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Lower and Middle Suwannee and Santa Fe Rivers of 0.35 mg/L of nitrate as nitrogen (N) in basin management action plans (BMAP). FDEP has established numeric nutrient criteria standards for nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorophyll a. To meet these targets, nitrate loads from non-point pollution sources need to be reduced anywhere from 30-90 percent on the Suwannee River and associated springs, and 35 percent on the Santa Fe River. To assist the FDEP in achieving these targets, the District partners with state agencies, local governments, landowners, and other stakeholders to implement projects to reduce nutrient loading, including implementing agricultural best management practices (BMPs), stormwater treatment, and erosion control and bank restoration. The District actively monitors nitrate concentrations throughout the District in both groundwater and surface water.

GOAL ONE

Support the Reduction of Nitrate Levels

Strategies

1. Expand the monitoring network to include strategic sampling
2. Develop project monitoring strategies to more accurately estimate or measure benefits
3. Implement projects to assist in meeting BMAP nitrate load reduction targets
4. Ensure permit and project authorizations meet statewide water quality criteria for erosion and sediment control
5. Develop rule language requiring nutrient load reductions in stormwater systems

GOAL TWO

Protect Groundwater

Strategies

1. Coordinate permit reviews and projects with FDEP for aquifer recharge
2. Collect and maintain high quality biologic and water quality data
3. Inspect construction of wells for compliance with construction standards

Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Quality

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual and programmatic tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks and strategies. In addition, success will be measured by the percentage of Outstanding Florida Springs that meet the state numeric nutrient criteria and the pounds of nitrate reduced by projects receiving District cost-share.

Water Supply

Ensuring a Sustainable Supply of Water for People and the Environment

The District is responsible for managing water resources to ensure there is an adequate supply to satisfy all existing and projected reasonable and beneficial uses while sustaining water resources and protecting natural systems. In the District, over 90 percent of the water supply demands are met with fresh groundwater, virtually all from the Upper Floridan aquifer system. This region's ability to continue to grow and develop is therefore dependent on sustainably managing a growing demand for groundwater. Coordinated water use permitting, water resource planning, and water resource development projects are key to protecting and managing fresh groundwater supply.

Resource planning efforts include water supply assessments and regional water supply planning. Every five years, the District evaluates current and future water supply needs and water supplies within the District. Water supply assessments help determine whether water supplies will be adequate to satisfy projected demands. Recognizing that water supplies are constrained by demands both within and outside of District boundaries, the District works with regional stakeholders to develop planning and permitting guidelines that help to safeguard water supply across shared regions.

The regulation and monitoring of water use within the District is a critical part of managing the resource. Water use permits protect water resources, ensuring proposed uses are reasonable and beneficial, within the public interest, and do not adversely impact existing legal uses. To ensure proposed uses are reasonable and beneficial, the permit application review includes, among other things, an analysis to prevent environmental harm and ensure consistency with established MFLs and prevention or recovery strategies if warranted.

GOAL

Sustainably Manage District Water Resources

Strategies

1. Develop and update regional water supply assessments and plans
2. Identify and implement feasibility and design studies necessary to evaluate projects
3. Implement proven innovations and conservation for sustainable agriculture
4. Maximize alternative water supply and reuse benefits in permitting and projects
5. Prioritize efforts to achieve 10% or less unaccounted-for water losses for all public supply systems
6. Implement a net benefit approach to water resource impact offsets
7. Engage with public utilities and other stakeholders regarding long-range water supply planning
8. Maintain and enhance existing data-driven processes to assess cumulative withdrawals for the potential of harm to water resources and ability to sustain natural systems

Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Supply

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual and programmatic tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks and strategies. In addition, success will be measured by the amount of estimated water supply demand that can be met with projects identified in District water supply plans; and the year-to-year percentage of impact from groundwater use within the District on the aquifer.

Flood Protection

Capturing Peak Flows of Water to Protect Our Communities and Augment Our Aquifer

The District works with multiple cooperators including the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM), local governments, and landowners to implement regional and local flood protection and flood control projects. Such projects assist local governments to manage, maintain, or expand stormwater infrastructure to better capture runoff, increase stormwater storage, and reduce peak discharge rates.

In addition to flood control projects, the District provides information to the public to reduce and mitigate flood risks. The District partners with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to update floodplain maps to help the public make informed decisions that reduce risk to life and property. Further, the District is the primary source of current flooding information for other agencies and the public, including real-time river levels and rainfall amounts, so that people can make well-informed decisions about flood protection and property at risk.

Through the environmental resource permitting (ERP) Program, the District ensures that development does not result in flooding. Permit reviews are performed to prevent net loss of the 100-year floodplain or increases in flood levels. Permit evaluations also consider specific storm design conditions and potential impacts to upstream and downstream properties.

Goal One

Reduce and Mitigate Flooding Risks

Strategies

1. Prioritize naturally occurring recharge by increasing water storage through hydrologic restoration
2. Identify and study 100-year flood elevations of unstudied parcels/areas which are prone to flooding
3. Identify unmet flood protection needs and projects of local governments
4. Conduct river inspections for unpermitted activities and structures
5. Increase public and stakeholder awareness of flood protection data, tools, permit requirements, and flood risk
6. Encourage non-structural flood plain management approaches
7. Prioritize preservation of land within 100-year floodplain
8. Coordinate with appropriate governmental entities on data sharing and consistency for flood forecasts

Goal Two

Prepare Communities for Sea Level Rise Impacts

1. Support vulnerability and risk assessment studies for coastal communities threatened by sea level rise (SLR)
2. Identify strategic District conservation easement and land acquisition opportunities
3. Incorporate SLR impacts in Water Supply Plans and coastal MFLs
4. Support interdistrict coordination efforts to address SLR
5. Develop SLR data to assist coastal communities in developing projects and planning

Success Indicators and Milestones for Flood Control

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual and programmatic tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks and strategies. In addition, success will be measured by the percent of acreage of riverine floodplain under protection; funding of at least one flood control project each year; the acres of hydrologic restoration implemented and maintained, recharge benefits; the number of compliance cases addressed, and trainings provided.

Natural Systems

Maintaining the Ecosystem Services Provided by the Natural Resources of the District

District projects, regulations, and land acquisition and management activities protect and restore the overall health of the ecological system. As discussed above, hydrologic restoration projects in the District re-establish and improve natural systems such as wetlands, floodplains, native ecological communities, and aquifer recharge areas, which provide valuable water resource functions including water quality treatment, water supply, flood water conveyance and attenuation, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreation.

The District establishes minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs) for priority rivers, springs, and lakes to ensure there is an adequate supply of water to support natural systems. MFLs are established to prevent significant harm to the water resources and ecology of an area resulting from water withdrawals permitted by the District. MFLs define how much water body levels and/or flows may change and still prevent significant harm.

Through land acquisition and conservation easements, the District protects wetlands, floodplains, lakes, rivers, estuaries and related resources. Land management strategies include prescribed fire to restore and enhance habitat and natural communities and, where appropriate, the promotion of sustainable forestry activities. ERP evaluations consider avoidance and minimization of impacts to wetlands and other natural systems. Additionally, permit reviews address erosion and sedimentation control measures, thereby protecting wetlands, Outstanding Florida Waters, and improving water quality to receiving water bodies.

Goal One

Establish Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels for Priority Water Bodies

Strategies

1. Implement the approved MFL priority list
2. Conduct scheduled MFL water body status assessments
3. Maintain the District monitoring network to establish/assess MFLs
4. Evaluate and improve MFL methods and metrics for the evaluation of water resource values
5. Develop recovery and prevention strategies as necessary to protect natural systems

Goal Two

Steward District Lands to Balance the Needs of Natural Resources and People

Strategies

1. Manage District lands to achieve the highest natural resource value possible, leading the region in the quality of public lands
2. Generate sustainable revenue streams while maximizing conservation efforts
3. Implement and support the District Land Management Plan
4. Focus communication and outreach efforts on land management opportunities to maximize exposure and encourage public use
5. Develop operations and maintenance plans for District lands and projects to support the District's core missions

Success Indicators and Milestones for Natural Systems

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual and programmatic tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks and strategies. In addition, success will be measured by the completion of MFLs for all remaining priority water bodies per the District schedule; and the quantity of water (MGD) achieved from conservation and water resource development projects under contract with the District. The success of the District's land acquisition and management goals and strategies will be determined by the number of acres acquired and disposed of; the number of acres acquired by the District that enhance aquifer recharge or flood protection; the number of acres of restored hydrology; and the number of acres of prescribed fire and invasive plant treatment.

Mission Support

Creating a Culture of Excellence, Efficiency, and Passion for the Region's Resources

Investing in and empowering District employees is critical to achieving the goals set out in this strategic plan. As the fifth-largest water management district, District employees often perform multiple tasks, performing the job functions of two or three employees. Engaging employees, providing development opportunities, and leadership support helps to ensure staff have the tools and guidance to achieve District goals. Operational efficiency is also an important focus so employees and District operations can be as effective as possible. Utilization of technology to assist employees to perform their tasks is critical to the quality of service the District is able to provide.

Goal One

Reduce Risks Through the Management of Information and Data

Strategies

1. Implement a District-wide comprehensive data management system including but not limited to hydrologic conditions, water use, water quality, permitting data, flood zones, flood occurrence, land-use changes, land acquisition, surplus properties, projects, and project benefits
2. Collect and manage high-quality data to allow for data-driven, science-based decision making in water resource projects, flood hazard information, and water resource protection
3. Reduce paper and place-bound information access by maximizing technological efficiencies, cloud-based file storage
4. Optimize accessibility in facilities and information
5. Maximize automated and linked systems to share and update information, reducing manual uploads and maintenance, thereby improving efficiency and reducing error

Goal Two

Maintain Institutional Knowledge

Strategies

1. Establish programmatic documentation that captures and identifies necessary steps to complete or implement essential work functions, priority project tasks objectives, and other critical processes to maintain consistent program standards and provide efficient transfer of institutional knowledge
2. Retain employees through succession planning, mentoring, and professional development initiatives

Goal Three

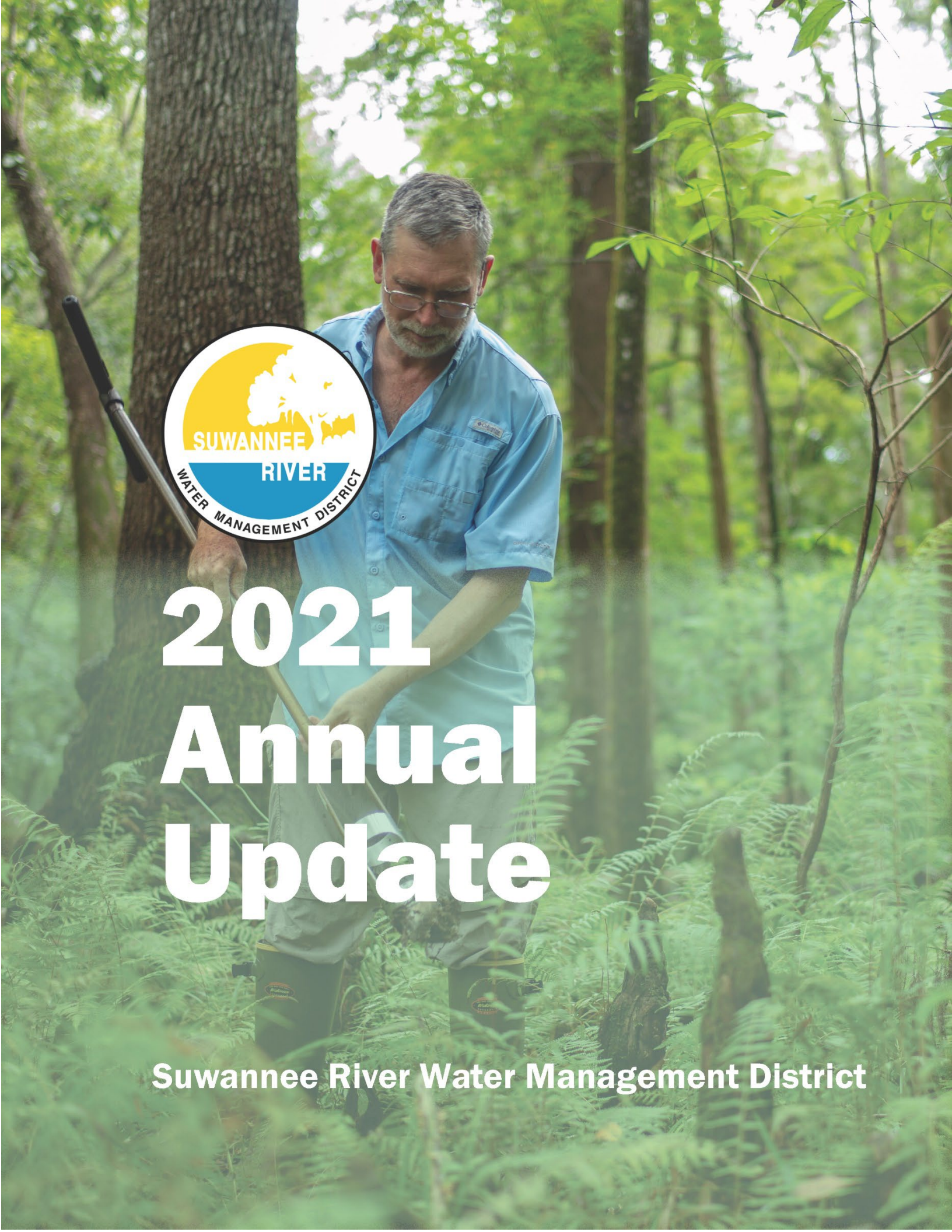
Strengthen Stakeholder Relationships and Partnerships

Strategies

1. Enhance confidence in the District through factual, transparent, and consistent engagements with internal and external stakeholders
2. Increase public awareness of District core missions
3. Educate stakeholders of their role in water resource sustainability

Success Indicators and Milestones for Mission Support

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual and programmatic tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks and strategies. In addition, success will be measured by the number of professional certifications, graduate degrees, and leaderships positions within professional organizations held by its staff; the District's administrative overhead; the percentage of the District's budget utilized for projects that benefit water quality and water quantity; the percentage of the District's budget that is recurring but not funded with recurring revenues; and the percentage of facility repairs identified in the last 10-year facility inspection report that have been addressed.



2021 Annual Update

Suwannee River Water Management District

Contents

ADA Statement

Americans with Disabilities Act: The District does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions including one's access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the District at 386.362.1001 or 800.226.1066 (Florida only). The District's fax number is 386.362.1056.

Introduction

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District), in accordance with paragraph 373.036(2)(e), Florida Statutes (F.S.), submits an annual strategic plan and annual work plan report in lieu of the District Water Management Plan. The annual work plan report describes the implementation of the strategic plan for the previous fiscal year.

The strategic priorities and goals set by the strategic plan evaluated in this report, covering Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (FY 2021), are provided below. This report describes District efforts over the past fiscal year to achieve these goals.

Flood Protection

- Reduce and mitigate the risk of flooding
- Encourage non-structural floodplain management approaches

Natural Systems

- Establish minimum flows and minimum water levels for priority water bodies
- Steward District lands to balance the needs of natural resources and people
- Preserve and protect water resources
- Optimize public use of District lands

Water Quality

- Reduce nitrate levels to achieve water quality criteria

Water Supply

- Sustainably manage District water resources

Mission Support

- Reduce risks through the management of information and data
- Maintain institutional knowledge
- Strengthen stakeholder relationships and District partnerships

Flood Protection

Harnessing Peak Flows of Water to Protect Our Communities and Augment Our Aquifer

The District works with multiple cooperators including the United States Army Corps of Engineers

(USACE), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM), local governments, and landowners to implement regional and local flood protection and flood control projects. Such projects assist local governments to manage, maintain, or expand stormwater infrastructure to better capture runoff, increase stormwater storage, and reduce peak discharge rates.

In addition to flood control projects, the District provides information to the public to reduce and mitigate flood risks. The District partners with FEMA to update floodplain maps to help the public make informed decisions that reduce risk to life and property. Further, the District is the primary source of current flooding information for other agencies and the public, including real-time river levels and rainfall amounts.

Through the Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) and Works of the District program, the District ensures that development does not result in flooding. Permit reviews are performed to prevent net loss of the 100-year floodplain and increases in flood levels. Permit evaluations also consider specific storm design conditions and any associated impacts to upstream and downstream properties.

Goal One

Reduce and Mitigate Flooding Risk

STRATEGIES

- Promote naturally occurring recharge by increasing water storage through hydrologic restoration.
- Identify and study 100-year flood elevations of unstudied parcels/areas which are prone to flooding.
- Identify unmet flood protection needs of local governments.
- Conduct frequent river inspections for unpermitted activities and structures.
- Communicate best available data on flood risk to stakeholders.

Goal Two

Encourage Non-Structural Floodplain Management Approaches

STRATEGIES

- Maximize land acquisition and/or development restrictions of land within 100-year floodplain / Seek opportunities and evaluate all purchases.
- Coordinate with appropriate governmental entities on data sharing and consistency for flood forecasts.
- Increase public awareness of flood protection tools, permit requirements, and flood risk.
- Strategically partner with stakeholders to identify and implement flood projects.
- Coordinate with FDEP to develop a consistent message to evaluate flood risk of single-family homes.

Success Indicators and Milestones for Flood Control

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks. In addition, success will be measured by the percentage of riverine floodplain under protection; whether the District's cost-share programs have

funded at least one flood control project each year; funding opportunities identified for local governmental surface water management projects; the acres of hydrologic restoration planned, implemented and maintained, as well as the associated recharge benefits; and the number of compliance cases addressed, and trainings provided.

- The District awarded four projects for flood protection, totaling $3,620,419 across all funding programs. These projects will protect 129 acres in the floodplain.
- SE Old County Camp Road – The District continues to work with Madison County to identify projects throughout the county that would reduce natural resource and property loss due to flooding. This project is in the Suwannee BMAP.
- Stormwater Runoff Collection – The District initiated an agreement with the Town of Mayo for a flood abatement and water quality project. This project is in the Suwannee BMAP.
- Haines Street Drainage Improvements – The District initiated an agreement with the City of Live Oak to replace a drainage well, improve water quality, and provide beneficial recharge. This project is in the Suwannee BMAP, the Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue and Falmouth PFA, and the Eastern Water Supply Planning Area.
- State Route 247 Regional Pond – The District has partnered with Columbia County and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to construct regional ponds to attenuate and treat runoff from Cannon Creek.
- The District has two ongoing flood protection projects as of November 2021, including Alligator Creek Study and Cross City Flood Management.
- There are 2,735,658 acres within the 100-year floodplain in the District. The District currently has 8.4% (228,844 acres) of the total acreage under ownership or conservation easement.
- The District continues use of its Current River and Lake Levels webpage to maintain flood warning awareness. This page was operated and updated throughout the ongoing 2020/2021 La Niña event, and during river flooding and coastal groundwater flooding events. It is one of the most visited locations on the District webpage.
- In FY 2021, there were 267 ERPs issued of which 169, or approximately 63%, were within the 100-year floodplain.
- New FEMA flood risk maps are in the final stages for the Waccasassa Basin (Levy County).
- The District completed an flood information outreach campaign that resulted in a flood mitigation video; brochures for the general public, realtors, insurance professionals, and local officials; and social media content.

Natural Systems

Maintaining the Ecosystem Services Provided by the Natural Resources of the District

District projects, regulations, and land acquisition and management activities protect and restore the overall health of the ecological system. As discussed above, hydrologic restoration projects in the District re-establish and improve natural systems such as wetlands, floodplains, native ecological communities, and aquifer recharge areas, which provide valuable water resource functions including water quality treatment, water supply, flood water conveyance and attenuation, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreation.

Through land acquisition, the District protects springs, wetlands, floodplains, lakes, rivers, estuaries, and related resources. Land management strategies include prescribed fire to restore and enhance habitat and natural communities and, where appropriate, the promotion of sustainable forestry activities. ERP evaluations consider avoidance and minimization of impacts to wetlands and other natural systems. Additionally, permit review addresses erosion and sedimentation control measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs), thereby helping to protecting Outstanding Florida Springs, Outstanding Florida Waters, and other water bodies; and improving protecting water quality to receiving water bodies.

The District establishes Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels (MFLs) for priority rivers, springs, and lakes to ensure there is an adequate supply of water to support natural systems. MFLs are established to prevent significant harm to the water resources and ecology of an area resulting from consumptive water withdrawals permitted by the District. MFLs define how much water body levels and/or flows may change and still prevent significant harm.

Goal One

Establish Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels for Priority Water Bodies

STRATEGIES

- Implement the approved MFL priority list.
- Conduct scheduled MFL water body status assessments.
- Maintain the District monitoring network to establish/assess MFLs.
- Evaluate existing and develop new water resource value criteria; update and refine MFL methods.

Goal Two

Steward District Lands to Balance the Needs of Natural Resources and People

STRATEGIES

- Manage District lands to achieve the highest natural resource value possible, leading the region in quality of public lands, while still generating sustainable revenue streams from the properties.
- Implement and support the District Land Management Plan.

Goal Three

Preserve and Protect Water Resources

STRATEGIES

- Document permit mitigation and conservation easements in a GIS format.

Goal Four

Optimize Public Use of District Lands

STRATEGIES

- Optimize maintenance and restoration of District land and resources.
- Focus communication and outreach efforts on land management opportunities to maximize exposure and encourage public use.

Success Indicators and Milestones for Natural Systems

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual tasks contained within the

aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks. In addition, success will be measured by the completion of MFLs for all remaining priority water bodies per the District schedule, and the quantity of water achieved from conservation and water resource development projects under contract with the District. The success of the District's land acquisition and management goals and strategies will be determined by the number of acres acquired and disposed of; the number of acres that protect Outstanding Florida Springs and Priority Focus Areas (PFAs), the number of acreages that protect or improve water quality; the number of acres acquired by the District that enhance aquifer recharge or flood protection; the number of acres of restored hydrology; and the number of acres of prescribed fire and invasive plant treatment.

- The District was awarded two natural systems restoration projects, totaling $1,390,436 across all funding programs. These projects are estimated to reduce nutrient loading by 1,126 pounds per year.
    1. Santa Fe Springs Acquisition – The project looks at land use changes to restore natural habitat and protection of two springs along the Santa Fe River and confluence with the Olustee River. This project is within the Santa Fe BMAP.
    2. Sawdust Spring Land Acquisition – This project includes the preservation of a third-magnitude spring and 0.9 miles of shoreline on the Santa Fe River within the Santa Fe BMAP and Devil's Ear PFA.
- The District has six ongoing natural systems restoration projects as of November 2021, including Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge, Edwards Bottomlands, Ruth Springs Restoration, Gilchrist NE 2nd Way Park, Starke Bypass Wetland Mitigation, and Mill Creek Sink.
- As of December 2021, 326.7 riverine miles have an adopted MFL. Tributaries of major rivers not mentioned in a rule are not included in the total mileage. In addition, 43 springs are protected by MFLs.
- In FY 2021, the District adopted its first lake MFL for Lake Butler in Union County. Significant progress was made on MFLs for Lakes Santa Fe, Alto, and Hampton.
- The District continues to work on developing MFLs for all remaining priority water bodies per the District schedule.
- The District completed technical work for the MFL re-evaluation of the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs. An updated recovery and prevention strategy is being developed in coordination with FDEP and SJRWMD.
- FDEP, at the request of the District's Governing Board, agreed to adopt the Upper and Middle Suwannee River and Priority spring MFLs. The District is also conducting technical work pertaining to the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers MFLs in support of FDEP. These MFLs are currently being reassessed as a result of the recent completion of the joint North Florida Southeast Georgia (NFSEG) model.

FOREST RESOURCES

- In FY 2021, the District completed six timber sales totaling 858 acres.
- Final harvests of offsite pine species were conducted on 354 acres. Sites will be reforested with longleaf pines.
- Pine thinnings were conducted on 504 acres to improve forest health and groundcover conditions. Additionally, this will allow the re-introduction of prescribed fire to work toward the natural community restoration goals.

- Forest inventory data was collected on 3,021 plots by contractors and District staff. The data from these plots is used to quantify the acres that have achieved their natural community goals, provides data for areas that could be improved by silvicultural activities, and identifies volumes and other tree species data for restoration project planning.
- In FY 2021, containerized longleaf pine seedlings were planted on 190 acres of sandhill, upland pine, and mesic flatwoods for the purposes of natural community restoration. Bare-root slash pine seedlings were also planted on 15 acres of mesic and wet flatwoods at the Lake City Wellfield.

PRESCRIBED FIRE

- In FY 2021, prescribed burning was conducted on approximately 6,790 acres of District lands.

MECHANICAL VEGETATION CONTROL

- In FY 2021, approximately 254 acres were roller-chopped, and 2,167 acres were mowed to help facilitate the use of prescribed fire and to help meet natural community restoration/management objectives.
- In FY 2021, the District received $20,805 in grant funding from the Florida Forest Service for 73 acres of mowing work on the Sandlin Bay Tract in northern Columbia County. This work was conducted to reduce fuel levels and facilitate the future use of prescribed fire.
- Approximately 101 miles of ditch edges were mechanically treated on various tracts throughout the District in FY 2021. This work was done to increase the width of areas along road edges to provide better fire break capabilities, facilitate the use of prescribed fire, and help protect forest resources from the damaging effects of wildfires.

CHEMICAL VEGETATION CONTROL

- In FY 2021, approximately 884 acres were treated with herbicide to prepare sites for reforestation, to help meet natural community restoration/management objectives, and to help facilitate the use of prescribed fire.

INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL

- In FY 2021, District staff monitored 106 invasive plant infestations and treated 66 of those infestations (87 acres) with herbicides.
- In FY 2021, District contractors treated approximately 36.5 acres of invasive plant infestations throughout the District.

RARE SPECIES SURVEY/MONITORING

- In FY 2021, District staff monitored 172 known rare plant occurrence locations throughout the District. Rare plant species were observed at 73 of these locations and 68 new rare plant occurrences were added through survey work. These occurrences included species listed as state endangered, state threatened, or commercially exploited.

PUBLIC USE

- The trash cans at Goose Pasture Campground were replaced with cans installed on posts and brackets to suspend the cans off the ground. Additional cans were added for the convenience of the campers.
- Recovered approximately 20 miles of roads in the Sandlin Bay Tract to facilitate natural community restoration efforts and improve public use.
- After completion of the Pot Springs Environmental Restoration and Enhancement Project, the District has added Pot Springs to its enhanced law enforcement program. The presence of law enforcement at the spring has reduced vandalism and misbehavior.

- Many District lands contain springs, karst windows, and other geologically significant systems for North Florida. The District issues temporary ingress and egress special use agreements (SUAs) for underwater cave system mapping, water testing, and research to private non-profit research firms. The SUAs are for 12 separate tracts of land. The SUAs are re-issued each year to continue the research. This research data is shared with the District at no cost.
- In FY 2021, 375 Special Use Authorizations (SUAs) were issued for a wide variety of recreation opportunities or needs. Thirty-two SUAs were completed for the Mallory Swamp ATV Trail, 135 SUAs were completed for camping at the Goose Pasture Campground, 49 SUAs were issued for temporary ingress and egress, and 26 non-recreation SUAs were issued as well. A total of 568 SUAs were issued during FY 2020.
- Nearly 97% of District fee-titled lands are open to the public for recreation. Lands which are not open to the public include wellfields, spray fields, and water resource development project sites.
- The District cooperated with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and United States Fish and Wildlife Service to provide public hunting opportunities on approximately 106,146 acres.
- The District partnered with Suwannee River Strutters, Jefferson County King of Springs, and Gator Gobblers Chapters of the National Wildlife Turkey Federation to sponsor women in the outdoors and youth special opportunity hunts. These special opportunity hunts allow additional hunting opportunities on 4,410 acres. Additionally, the 2,030-acre Double Run Creek Tract managed by Camp Blanding is leased for hunting.

FACILITIES PROJECTS

- Approximately 57 miles of road maintenance was completed on the following tracts: Mallory Swamp, Steinhatchee Springs, Seven Bridges, Bay Creek, Rolene, Lamont, Sandlin Bay, Steinhatchee Falls, Little River, Rock Bluff, Little Shoals, Gar Pond, Blue Sink, Swift Creek, Woods Ferry, Matair Springs, Christian, Adams, and Walker. Approximately seven miles of road maintenance was associated with timber harvests.
- Hydrological improvement projects were completed on four District tracts (Steinhatchee Springs, Lamont, Sandlin Bay and Little Shoals) resulting in 31 culvert replacements and two low water crossing installations.
- Approximately 20 gate repair, installation, and improvement projects were completed on the following tracts: Alligator Creek, Little River, Steinhatchee Springs, Jones Mill Creek, Natural Well Branch, Alapahoochee, Matair, Osteen, Cuba Bay, Lake Butler Well Field, and High Springs Well Field.
- Two tract clean-up projects were carried out by removing trash from old dump site locations on Mossy Hammock and Alligator Creek tracts.
- In a cooperative effort between the District, Lafayette County and Four Rivers Timber Company, extensive bridge repairs were made to the District-owned LA Bennett Bridge on the Steinhatchee Springs Tract.
- In cooperation with Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge and the City of Cedar Key, the District made extensive repairs to composting toilet located on the Atsena Otie Key Tract.
- Land management staff continue to work with GIS staff to improve GIS apps for use on smart devices that enable staff and contractors to use and collect real-time data.

Water Quality

Preserving and Restoring the Foundation of North Florida's Economy

Water quality refers to the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water. Data shows persistent elevated nutrient levels, primarily nitrate, in rivers and springs throughout the District. Nitrate, in some instances, is the limiting nutrient that can cause imbalances in the ecosystem and impact the health of springs, rivers, and estuaries. Increased nutrient loads not only adversely impact the ecological health of rivers and springs but also the health of Gulf estuaries downstream.

The FDEP has established a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Lower and Middle Suwannee and Santa Fe Rivers of 0.35 mg/L of nitrate as nitrogen (N). To meet this target, nitrate loads from non-point pollution sources need to be reduced anywhere from 30-90 percent on the Suwannee River and associated springs, and 35 percent on the Santa Fe River. To assist the FDEP in achieving these targets, the District partners with state agencies, local governments, land owners, and other stakeholders to implement projects to reduce nutrient loading, including implementing agricultural best management practices (BMPs), stormwater treatment, and erosion control and bank restoration. The District actively monitors nitrate concentrations throughout the District in both groundwater and surface water.

Goal One

Reduce Nitrate Levels to Achieve Water Quality Criteria

STRATEGIES

- Consolidate existing research for nutrient sourcing and identify gaps for additional research.
- Expand the monitoring network to include strategic sampling and sampling of non-standard parameters.
- Develop project monitoring strategies to measure benefits accurately.
- Develop a collaborative strategy with stakeholders for project prioritization in BMAP Regions.
- Implement projects to assist in meeting BMAP nitrate load reduction targets.
- Ensure permit and project authorizations meet statewide water quality criteria for erosion and sediment control.
- Develop rule language requiring nutrient load reductions in stormwater systems.

Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Quality

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks. In addition, success will be measured by the percentage of Outstanding Florida Springs that meet the state numeric nutrient criteria; the percentage of enrollment for the FDACS BMPs program; and the pounds of nitrate reduced by projects receiving District cost-share.

* Project has both water quality and water supply benefits.

- The District awarded eight water quality projects, plus 27 agricultural cost-share contracts, totaling $24 million across all funding programs. The non-agricultural projects are estimated to provide a potential reduction of 7,416 pounds of total nitrogen, reduce two pounds of phosphorus, and reduce over 62,000 pounds of sediment annually.

- Newberry Ag and Equestrian Center – This project supports the Santa Fe BMAP and is in the Devil's Ear PFA.
- Riverview – The project recorded 360-degree imagery of the Suwannee and Santa Fe rivers to document development for river conditions.
- Haines Street Drainage Improvements* – This project provides stormwater treatment and supports the Suwannee BMAP and is in the Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth PFA.
- Live Oak Reuse* – This project removes existing septic systems and supports the Suwannee BMAP and is in the Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth PFA.
- Lake Crosby Acquisition and Study – The project evaluates property locations for potential nutrient and recharge potential. This project supports the Santa Fe BMAP and the Lower Santa Fe River MFL.
- On-Farm BMP and Nutrient Stewardship Program – This project implements a 5- year pilot project to reduce nutrient applications in on farm practices.
- Quail Heights (SR247) Regional Pond* – This project develops a regional stormwater treatment pond to intercept nutrients in the Cannon Creek system that drains to the Ichetucknee Basin.
- Columbia County Grasslands* – The project reduces nutrient loading based on land use change in the Santa Fe BMAP.
- The District completed two water quality projects in FY 2021.
- Bronson Wastewater – Removal of existing septic systems and conversion to central sewer to reduce nutrients.
- Jasper Wastewater Systems – Repair concrete pond and add lift station to reduce overflows during high water events
- The District has ongoing water quality projects including: Otter Springs OSTDS, Lake Frances Sediment Control, High Springs Phase A2 Gravity Sewer Extension, Lake Butler AWT Upgrade, Southern Street Lift Station Replacement, Lake City PAR upgrade, Gwen Lake Phase II, Mill Creek Sink Land Acquisition Phase II, Fertigation, Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program, Dairy Wastewater Improvements*, Dairy Screen Separators*, Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot*, Precision Agricultural Practices, Hornsby Spring Habitat Restoration, I-75/CR 136 Wastewater Improvement, I-75/SR 47 Cannon Creek Sink Wastewater Improvement, Infiltrative Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment, and Ichetucknee Trace – Clayhole/Alligator Creek.
- Notably, the District issued 94 new agricultural contracts and continues to manage 200 agricultural contracts in FY 2021 with both water supply and water quality benefits.
- Three of the 14 Outstanding Florida Springs meet state numeric nutrient criteria based on current available data – Poe, Ichetucknee Springs Group, and Wacissa Springs group.
- The District continues to engage the Suwannee River Partnership, which works to overcome water quality challenges in the Suwannee River Valley by pooling resources with sister agencies and cooperating stakeholder groups who have similar goals for water quality throughout the District.
- The District was awarded and completed an EPA non-point source education 319 grant for the development of branding and outreach materials for the Suwannee River Partnership. The $95,000 grant developed a website, graphic content, digital flyers, and informational displays.

- The District completed the second year of the EPA non-point source education 319 grant for the Dive In Campaign. A website, informational video, audio spots, social media content, and survey were completed. The grant will be completed in FY 2022.
- The District continued work funded by the FDEP grant for Enhancement and Expansion of Water Quality Monitoring. In FY 2021, $792,460 of these funds were spent on expanding coastal, springs and groundwater monitoring efforts, and projects associated with water supply and water resource values expansion. The FDEP grant was amended in September 2021 to extend the grant for one year and increase funding by $435,000.
- The District was awarded $323,750 in grant funds from the USDA-NRCS to conduct discharge and water quality monitoring over a three-year period, as part of the NRCS Lower Suwannee River Watershed Nutrient Reduction Restoration Project. To date, $35,765 of these funds have been spent on drafting a water quality monitoring plan, and conducting water quality sampling, lab analysis and spring discharge measurements.
- The District expanded water quality monitoring in FY 2021, adding 10 groundwater monitoring stations and 35 surface water monitoring stations to the annual network sampling plan, and enhancing coastal monitoring at 10 stations.

Water Supply

Ensuring a Sustainable Supply of Water for People and the Environment

The District is responsible for managing water resources to ensure there is an adequate supply to satisfy all existing and projected reasonable-beneficial uses while sustaining water resources and protecting natural systems. In the District, over 90 percent of the water supply demands are met with fresh groundwater, virtually all from the Upper Floridan aquifer system. This region's ability to continue to grow and develop is therefore dependent on sustainably managing a growing demand for groundwater. Coordinated water use permitting, water resource planning, and water resource development projects are key to protecting and managing fresh groundwater supply.

Resource planning efforts include water supply assessments and regional water supply planning. Every five years, the District evaluates current and future water supply needs and water supplies within the District. Water supply assessments help determine whether water supplies will be adequate to satisfy projected demands. Recognizing that water supplies are constrained by demands both within and outside of District boundaries, the District, along with the FDEP and SJRWMD, formed the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership (Partnership). The Partnership developed a joint regional water supply plan, the North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan, which established fresh groundwater alone cannot supply the projected increase in demand over the 20-year planning horizon.

The regulation and monitoring of water use within the District is a critical part of managing the resource. Water Use Permits protect water resources, ensuring proposed uses are reasonable-beneficial, within the public interest, and do not adversely impact existing legal uses. To ensure proposed uses are reasonable- beneficial, the permit application review includes, among other things, an analysis to prevent environmental harm and ensure consistency with established MFLs.

Goal One

Sustainably Manage District Water Resources

STRATEGIES

- Implement projects to reduce groundwater withdrawal impacts in all surface water bodies.
- Implement water resource development and alternative water supply projects to ensure an adequate water supply for all reasonable-beneficial uses.
- Identify and implement comprehensive feasibility and design studies necessary to evaluate projects.
- Research and implement innovations for sustainable agriculture.
- Maximize alternative water supply and reuse benefits.
- Achieve 10% or less losses for all public supply systems.
- Implement a net resource benefit program.
- Develop a collaborative strategy for assisting public utilities with long-range water supply planning prior to water use permit renewals.
- Maintain and enhance existing data-driven processes to assess cumulative withdrawals for the potential of harm to water resources and ability to sustain natural systems.

Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Supply

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks. In addition, success will be measured by the amount of estimated water supply demand that can be met with projects identified in District water supply plans; the year-to-year percentage of impact of groundwater use within the District on the aquifer.

* Project has both water quality and water supply benefits.

- The District awarded approximately $7.6 million for 22 projects, plus six agriculture cost-share programs to increase water supply across all funding programs. These projects will conserve or reclaim an estimated 0.5 mgd across all funding programs.
- Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies (AWS) – Feasibility studies to identify AWS potential projects. This project supports the Santa Fe and Suwannee BMAPs, supports the Ichetucknee Springs MFL, and supports the Eastern Water Supply Planning Region to develop new projects.
- University Oaks Phase IV - Extend and replace the water main to reduce water loss by 0.18 mgd. This project supports the Waccasassa MFL.
- Archer Public Supply Efficiencies – Master study to determine and prioritize cost-effective projects to conserve water.
- Haines Street Drainage Improvements – Replacement of Class V injection well with stormwater treatment for recharge in the Eastern Water Supply Planning area.
- Quail Heights Regional Pond – Stormwater pond to treat and attenuate runoff from Cannon Creek in the Ichetucknee Basin.
- Potable Water Improvements Maple Street – Replacement of an aged water line to reduce loss in the Eastern Water Supply Planning area.

- High Springs Water Interconnect – Looping water mains to reduce flushing and water loss benefiting the Lower Santa Fe MFL.
- Starke Public Supply Efficiencies – Replacement of critical water tower components to reduce water loss in the Eastern Water Supply Planning area.
- Columbia County Grasslands Acquisition – Land use preservation in a high recharge area supporting the Ichetucknee MFL.
- Devils' Ear Spring Recharge and Land Acquisition – Land use preservation to in a high recharge area supporting the Lower Santa Fe MFL and Devils' Ear Priority Focus Area.
- Lake City Public Access Reuse – This project is a replacement of the chlorine contract chamber and interface to provide 24-hour remote control for an alternative water supply.
- The District completed two water supply projects in FY 2021:
- Bee Haven at Eagle Lake – This project supports the Lower Suwannee MFL and is in the Eastern WSPA by using an alternative water supply.
- Dixie County Water Main – Transition residential domestic self supply to a community potable water service. This project supports the Lower Suwannee MFL and is in the Western WSPA.
- The District has nine ongoing water supply projects, including Dairy Wastewater Improvements*, Dairy Screen Separators*, Madison Blue Springs Aquifer Recharge*, Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot*, Precision Agricultural Practices*, Upper Suwannee Aquifer Recharge, District Cost-Share, Dixie County Water Main, Soil Moisture Probes, Ag Cost-Share/AWS, Infiltrative Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment*, Ichetucknee Trace - Clayhole/Alligator Lake*.
- Notably, the District issued 94 new agricultural contracts and continues to manage 200 agricultural contracts in FY 2021 with both water supply and water quality benefits.
- The District continues to secure funding for water resource development projects listed in or supporting the North Florida Regional Water Supply Initiative and North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan. These projects have targeted the Suwannee and Santa Fe basins in this District and Region 1 of SJRWMD.
- The District is coordinating with SJRWMD to update the North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan with a planning horizon through 2045.
- District-wide water use estimates and projections have been updated and are out for stakeholder review.
- The District conducted water conservation education and public outreach to local communities and stakeholders through online education, presentations, civic engagement, tours, and demonstrations.
- The District continues to work through the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership and with FDEP and other water management districts on regional concerns through planning, project implementation, and model implementation.
- As of October 29, 2021, the District monitored 93.24% of existing active wells with an agricultural water use permit monitoring conditions. These wells were monitored either by electric consumption or telemetry. Active wells with a monitoring condition make up 60% of total agricultural water use allocations in the District (217.0 mgd/~360 mgd). The remaining 40% of agricultural water use allocations will require the addition of a monitoring condition in the course of a permit modification or permit renewal.

Mission Support

Creating a Culture of Excellence, Efficiency, and Passion for the Region's Resources

Investing in and empowering District employees is critical to achieving the goals set out in this strategic plan. As the smallest water management district, District employees often wear multiple hats and each employee performs a diversity of job functions. Engaging employees, providing development opportunities, and leadership support will ensure staff has the tools and guidance to achieve District goals. Operational efficiency is also an important focus so employees and District operations can be as effective as possible.

Goal One

Reduce Risks Through the Management of Information and Data

STRATEGIES

- Implement a District-wide comprehensive data management system including, but not limited to, hydrologic conditions, water use, water quality, permitting data, flood zones, flood occurrence, land use changes, land acquisition, surplus properties, projects, and project benefits.
- Collect and manage high quality data to allow for data-driven, science-based decision making in water resource projects, flood hazard information, and water resource protection.
- Reduce paper and place-bound information access by maximizing cloud-based file storage and automated authorization.
- Optimize accessibility in facilities and information.

Goal Two

Maintain Institutional Knowledge

STRATEGY

- Establish programmatic documentation that captures and identifies necessary steps to complete or implement essential work functions, priority project tasks objectives, and other critical processes to maintain consistent program standards and provide efficient transfer of institutional knowledge
- Retain employees through succession planning, mentoring, and professional development initiatives

Goal Three

Strengthen Stakeholder Relationships and District Partnerships

STRATEGIES

- Build trust in District messages, staff, and science through factual, transparent, consistent, and standardized engagements with internal and external stakeholders.
- Increase public awareness of District functions in planning, projects, and permitting.
- Sustain water resources through education of challenges and maximization of project opportunities.
- Engage and educate stakeholders who are critical to water resource sustainability.

Success Indicators and Milestones for Mission Support

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual tasks contained within the above goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks. In addition, success will be measured by the number of professional certifications, graduate degrees, and leaderships positions within professional organizations held by its staff; the District's administrative overhead; the percentage of the District's budget utilized for projects that benefit water quality and water quantity; the percentage of the District's budget that is recurring but not funded with recurring revenues; the percentage of facility repairs identified in the last 10-year facility inspection report that have been addressed; and the number of educational activities and Suwannee River Partnership meetings held in the last year.

Professional Development

- District houses 13 professionally licensed staff and 46 professional certifications.
- Collectively, staff hold two associate degrees, 25 undergraduate degrees, 16 graduate degrees and five doctoral degrees.
- Four staff are working toward master's degree programs and one staff is working toward an associate degree using the District's tuition reimbursement program. Twenty-three staff are members of professional development organizations.
- District leadership provided three sessions of human resources and supervisory compliance training.

Finance

- The District's administrative overhead for FY 2021 was 7.44%. The FY 2022 Adopted Budget administrative overhead is 3.21%.
- Based on the FY 2021 Adopted Budget, approximately 75.5% of the budget was allocated for water quality, water supply, and natural systems projects.
- Assuming appropriations and District revenues remain at current levels, the District's recurring budget is projected to be funded by recurring dollars.

Facilities

- Almost 37%, or six of the 16 items, identified on the 2016 Property Condition Report have been completed. For 2021, 62% or 10 of the 16 items listed on the 10-year facility inspection report have been completed.
- The District completed a survey of the HVAC systems and identified systems by age, service area and remaining life expectancy. In FY 2022, the District will implement an HVAC upgrade plan with priority focus being on critical systems relating to IT and records storage.
- In FY 2021, the District completed a relocation/reconfiguration of several HVAC systems, including a new dedicated primary system for the IT server room and consolidation of two condensing units and air-handlers into one system.
- The District is continuing to update facilities to meet ADA compliance, improve interior structures, correct exterior roofing issues, and improving air quality with annual duct cleaning.
- In FY 2021, the District entered into a contract with a consultant for the preliminary evaluation and planning of extensive exterior renovation of the entire District Headquarters facility; to include as built drawings and a complete LiDAR based rendition of the interior and exterior of the facility.
- In FY 2021, the District started renovations to the Kirby building, and plans to relocate

specific personnel offices and storage to that building from the Lab building. The District will develop plans for the renovation/remodeling or other disposition of the existing lab building.

- In FY 2021, the District completed a comprehensive air quality audit within all headquarters facilities and has developed and begun implementation of a plan for addressing the minimal concerns noted.

Communications, Outreach and Customer Service

- The District worked on 16 campaigns in FY 2021. New and notable efforts are listed below.
    - The District expanded it's Who We Are Campaign by developing program-specific informational videos, a survey of educator needs, lesson plans for educators, professional photography of staff working, and an informational graphic demonstrating the work of the District.
    - The District also expanded the Permit to Protect campaign with the development of eight informational graphics for common permitting questions, a timeline of expected permitting activity, and a logic tree for permit jurisdiction.
    - District staff kicked off the Institutional Knowledge project which captures historical and institutional information from separating employees. Staff are interviewed and recorded, providing archived audio of important District information.
    - The District developed the District Lands Web Map to allow for a dynamic, responsive user experience for District lands. The map will launch in Spring 2022.
- Thirty-three press releases were sent during FY 2021.
- For social media, a total of 92 posts were made. Facebook remains a primary outreach tool for our communities and social media engagement. Communications staff look to exponentially grow social media engagement, especially Instagram, in FY 2022.
- Facebook – A total of 50 posts. The top performing post asked followers to complete a natural resource perception study as part of the NPS 319 campaign. It was "liked" 551 times, shared 133 times and included 133 comments.
- Instagram – A total of seven posts. The top performing post highlight November as Manatee Awareness Month. It included over 1,100 impressions.
- Twitter – A total of 35 tweets were sent. The top performing tweet highlighted the Suwannee River Wilderness Trail. It included 1,074 impressions.
- District staff participated in 96 outreach engagements including tours, speaking engagements, outreach meetings, project showcases, demonstrations, school activities, and festivals.
- Regulatory staff provided District stakeholders outstanding customer service in the timely issuance of WUPs and ERPs by meeting or exceeding stretch goals (27 days for WUPs and 25 days for ERPs) 100% of the time in FY 2021, while experiencing a significant increase in ERP applications.

Emergency Response

- The District issued Emergency Order 2021-06 for flooding in Dixie, Lafayette, Levy, and Taylor counties on October 1, 2021. The order expired on December 13, 2021.

Legislative and Community Affairs

- Provided Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) of more than $361,000 to 12 counties within the District in the form of where these counties were updated and informed on activities both District-wide and specific to the individual county,

2021 Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule

Suwannee River Water Management District

Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule

Past Year Accomplishments

- Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs MFL re-evaluation and status assessment were completed. Work on an updated MFL Recovery and Prevention Strategy was initiated in coordination with the St Johns River Water Management District and the Department of Environmental Protection.
- Lake Butler MFL evaluation and status assessment were completed, the MFL rule was adopted on August 9, 2021.

Technical work continues for the water bodies in the table below. Technical work includes data collection activities, MFL evaluations, peer reviews of MFL evaluations, MFL status assessments, and District responses to peer review and stakeholder comments:

Current progress of MFLs in development:

Waterbody Name or System Name	Current Status
Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs	MFL re-evaluation completed; Updated Recovery and Prevention Strategy in progress
Upper Suwannee River and Priority Springs	MFL evaluation updates in progress
Middle Suwannee River and Priority Springs	MFL evaluation updates in progress; Peer review of original evaluation completed
Lake Santa Fe	MFL evaluation updates in progress; Peer review of original evaluation completed
Lake Alto	MFL evaluation updates in progress; Peer review of original evaluation completed
Lake Hampton	MFL evaluation updates in progress; Peer review of original evaluation completed
Cherry Lake	MFL evaluation pending new water use estimates
Withlacoochee River and Priority Springs	Data collection in progress
Alapaha River	Data collection in progress
Waccasassa River and Levy Blue Spring	Data collection partially completed; Hydrologic modeling in progress

Changes to the Priority List and Schedule from 2020 to 2021

- The Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs MFLs have been rescheduled for 2022 due to delays in developing the updated Recovery and Prevention Strategy in coordination with the St Johns River Water Management District and the Department of Environmental Protection.
- The Upper and Middle Suwannee River and Priority Springs MFLs have been rescheduled for

2022 due to delays in obtaining regional groundwater modeling results needed to initiate the MFL evaluations. These model results have been obtained and the MFL evaluation work is scheduled for completion by the end of 2021.

- The Lake Santa Fe, Alto, and Hampton MFLs have been rescheduled for 2022 to allow for incorporation of additional data and improved analytical methods into the MFL evaluations.
- The Withlacoochee River and Priority Springs and the Alapaha River MFLs have been rescheduled for 2023 to allow for additional data collection and for incorporation of new water use estimates when available.
- The Waccasassa River and Levy Blue Spring MFL re-evaluations were added to the priority list for 2024. These MFLs were adopted in 2007. Since then, improved MFL evaluation methods and hydrologic modeling techniques have been developed that will be applied to these waterbodies.
- Bell Spring (Columbia County) on the Upper Suwannee River was removed from the priority list because District staff determined that it should be classified as a third magnitude rather than as a second magnitude spring and did not warrant inclusion as a priority waterbody.
- Waterbodies with adopted MFLs that are not scheduled for re-evaluation in the current planning horizon are not shown in the 2021 Priority List and Schedule.

2021 Priority List and Schedule

Suwannee River Water Management District Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels to be adopted in 2022

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
Re-Evaluation	Santa Fe River near Fort White	Lower Santa Fe	River	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8486	-82.7153	Rule Adopted
New	Santa Fe River at US HWY 441 near High Springs	Lower Santa Fe	River	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8525	-82.6086	
Re-Evaluation	Columbia (Col101974)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8340	-82.6767	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Columbia Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8541	-82.6120	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Devils Ear Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8353	-82.6966	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Hornsby Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8504	-82.5932	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	July Spring	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8362	-82.6964	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Poe Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8257	-82.6490	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Rum Island Spring	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8335	-82.6798	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Santa Fe River Rise	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8739	-82.5916	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Siphon Creek Rise	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8562	-82.7331	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Treehouse Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8549	-82.6029	Rule Adopted
New	Gilchrist Blue Spring	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8299	-82.6829	
Re-Evaluation	Ichetucknee River at Hwy27 near Hildreth	Ichetucknee	River	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9525	-82.7861	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Blue Hole Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9805	-82.7584	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Devils Eye Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8352	-82.6966	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Grassy Hole Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 3)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9678	-82.7597	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Mill Pond Springs (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9667	-82.7600	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Mission Springs (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9762	-82.7579	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Ichetucknee Head Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9842	-82.7619	Rule Adopted
New	Suwannee River at White Springs	Upper Suwannee	River	Columbia	Yes	Yes	30.3256	-82.7383	
New	Suwannee River at Suwannee Springs	Upper Suwannee	River	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3928	-82.9333	
New	White Sulphur Springs	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.3300	-82.7608	

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
New	Blue Sink Spring (Suwannee)	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3357	-82.8084	
New	Hamilton Unnamed Spring (Ham1023971)	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.3861	-82.9064	
New	Suwannee Springs	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3945	-82.9345	
New	Blue Spring at Boys Ranch	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.4223	-83.0138	
New	Holton Creek Rise	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.4379	-83.0576	
New	Alapaha River Rise	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.4394	-83.0893	
New	Stevenson Spring	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.4171	-83.1530	
New	Seven Sisters Spring	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.4177	-83.1553	
New	Suwannee River at Ellaville	Middle Suwannee	River	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3844	-82.8281	
New	Suwannee River at Branford	Middle Suwannee	River	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9556	-82.9278	
New	Allen Mill Pond Springs	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	30.1628	-83.2431	
New	Anderson Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3534	-83.1897	
New	Bell Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 3)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.5974	-82.9412	
New	Bonnet Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.1243	-83.1382	
New	Branford Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9549	-82.9284	
New	Charles Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.1674	-83.2304	
New	Guaranto Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Dixie	Yes	Yes	29.7798	-82.9400	
New	Hart Springs	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.6750	-82.9512	
New	Lime Sink Rise	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3878	-83.1611	
New	Little River Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9969	-82.9663	
New	Otter Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.6448	-82.9428	
New	Pothole Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Dixie	Yes	Yes	29.8107	-82.9359	
New	Rock Bluff Springs	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.7991	-82.9186	
New	Rock Sink Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Dixie	Yes	Yes	29.7279	-82.9493	
New	Royal Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 3)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.0837	-83.0748	
New	Ruth Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	29.9958	-82.9768	

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
New	Suwanacoochee Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Madison	Yes	Yes	30.3867	-83.1718	
New	Turtle Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	29.8474	-82.8903	
New	Lime Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3912	-83.1687	
New*	Falmouth Spring (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3612	-83.1350	Emergency rule*
New*	Lafayette Blue Spring (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	30.1258	-83.2261	Emergency rule*
New*	Peacock Springs Group (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.1232	-83.1332	Emergency rule*
New*	Troy Spring (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	30.0060	-82.9975	Emergency rule*
New	Lake Alto	Lake Alto	Lake	Alachua	Yes	Under evaluation	29.7886	-81.8386	
New	Lake Santa Fe	Lake Santa Fe	Lake	Alachua	Yes	Under evaluation	29.7450	-81.9014	
New	Lake Hampton	Lake Hampton	Lake	Bradford	Yes	Under evaluation	29.8644	-81.8386	
New	Cherry Lake	Cherry Lake	Lake	Madison	Yes	Under evaluation	30.6183	-82.5778	

* Emergency MFL rule 40BER 17-01 effective July 1, 2017.

Suwannee River Water Management District Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels to be adopted in 2023

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be	Cross-Boundary Impacts from	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
New	Alapaha River near Jennings	Alapaha	River	Hamilton	Yes	Under evaluation	30.5981	-82.9267	
New	Withlacoochee River near Pinetta	Withlacoochee	River	Madison	Yes	Under evaluation	30.5953	-82.7403	
Re-Evaluation	Madison Blue Spring (OFS)	Withlacoochee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Madison	Yes	Under evaluation	30.4804	-83.2444	Rule Adopted
New	Pot Spring	Withlacoochee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Under evaluation	30.4708	-83.2344	
New	Hardee (Rossiter) Spring	Withlacoochee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Under evaluation	30.5447	-83.2501	
New	Lake Palestine	Lake Palestine	Lake	Union	Yes	Under evaluation	30.1294	-81.5906	
New	Ocean Pond	Ocean Pond	Lake	Baker	Yes	Under evaluation	30.2153	-81.5581	

Suwannee River Water Management District Minimum Flows and Minimum Levels to be adopted in 2024

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be	Cross-Boundary Impacts from	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
Re-Evaluation	Waccasassa River near Gulf Hammock	Waccasassa	River	Levy	Yes	Under evaluation	29.2038	-82.7689	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Levy Blue Spring	Waccasassa	Spring (Mag. 3)	Levy	Yes	Under evaluation	29.4507	-82.6990	Rule Adopted

Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan

Suwannee River Water Management District

FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

I. Introduction

The Suwannee River Water Management District's (District's) Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) is submitted in compliance with the reporting requirements of subsection 373.536(6)(a)3, Florida Statutes (F.S). The format for this report has been developed jointly by the Executive Office of the Governor, the Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), and the water management districts (WMDs). The CIP includes projected revenues and expenditures for capital improvements from Fiscal Years 2021-2022 (FY 2022) through 2025-2026. As directed by subsection 373.536(6)(a)3, F.S., the CIP has been prepared in a manner comparable to the fixed capital outlay format set forth in section 216.043, F.S. 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 and Major Renovations

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

- 2.1 Land Acquisition

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

- 3.1 Land Management, and
- 3.3 Facilities.

The purpose of the CIP is to project future needs and anticipated future funding requirements to meet those needs. The District uses a pay-as-you-go approach and does not incur bonded debt. The CIP contains only those projects that will be owned and capitalized as fixed assets by the District.

The CIP includes expenditures for basic construction costs (permits, inspections, site development,

etc.) and other related capital project costs (land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, etc.). The CIP does not include expenditures for changes in program costs (including salaries and benefits), changes in maintenance costs, or changes in utility costs.

Standard definitions for these programs and activities used by the water management districts are:

2.0 Acquisition, Restoration, and Public Works

This program includes the development and construction of all capital projects (except 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 (including Save Our Rivers / Preservation 2000 / Florida Forever / Springs Restoration Grants); and the restoration of lands and water bodies.

2.1 Land Acquisition

This activity includes District acquisition of lands for flood protection; water storage; water management, conservation and protection of water resources; aquifer recharge; and preservation of wetlands, streams and lakes. Funds from the Florida Forever program, Springs Restoration Grants and Military Base Protection Funds are used for land acquisitions.

2.2 Water Source Development

Water resource development projects and regional or local water supply development assistance projects designed to increase the availability of water supplies for consumptive use; also, other water resource development activities not necessarily contained in regional water supply plans but which provide water supply benefits.

2.2.1 Water Resource Development Projects

Regional projects designed to create, from traditional or alternative sources, an identifiable, quantifiable supply of water for existing and/or future reasonable-beneficial uses. These projects do not include the construction of facilities for water supply development, as defined in subsection 373.019(21), F.S. Such projects may include the construction, operation, and maintenance of major public works facilities that provide for the augmentation of available surface and ground water supply or that create alternative sources of supply. Water resource development projects are to be identified in water management district regional water supply plans or district water management plans, as applicable, and the water resource development work program.

2.2.2 Water Supply Development Assistance

This activity includes financial assistance for regional or local water-supply development projects. Such projects may include the construction of facilities included in the term “water supply development” as defined in subsection 373.019(21), F.S.

2.3 Surface Water Projects

Projects that restore or protect surface water quality, related resources, or provide flood protection 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, F.S

3.1 Land Management

Maintenance, custodial, public-use improvements, and restoration efforts for lands acquired through Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000, Florida Forever, or other land acquisition programs.

3.3 Facilities

This activity includes the operation and maintenance of District support and administrative facilities.

II. FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

Capital improvements involve the District's headquarters facility and lands acquired for water management purposes. District Governing Board policy has historically been to take a nonstructural water management approach where possible. This policy recognizes both the environmental benefits of a nonstructural approach and the fiscal reality of the District's limited funding ability.

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

- The District's Florida Forever Work Plan describes the District's land acquisition and management, water resource development, and restoration efforts.
- The annual Preliminary Budget and Tentative Budget Submission Report provide proposed revenues and expenditures for each fiscal year.
- The Annual Budget, adopted by the Governing Board in September of each year, provides the strategies and budgets of each District program.
- The District's Strategic Plan provides the long-range water resource management issues and strategies for water quality, water supply, flood protection, and natural systems management.
- The District's Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program provides implementation strategies relating to water resource development and water supply development efforts.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2026

2.0 ACQUISITION, RESTORATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

2.1 LAND ACQUISITION

REVENUES	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Fund Balance	2,500,000	2,250,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
State Revenue	2,000,000	2,000,000	-	-	-
Total	4,500,000	4,250,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
EXPENDITURES	**FY 2022**	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**
Total	4,500,000	4,250,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

3.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS AND WORKS

3.1 LAND MANAGEMENT

REVENUES	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Fund Balance	365,000	215,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	365,000	215,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
EXPENDITURES	**FY 2022**	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**
Total	365,000	215,000	100,000	100,000	100,000

3.3 FACILITIES

REVENUES	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Fund Balance	386,000	386,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Total	386,000	386,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
EXPENDITURES	**FY 2022**	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**
Total	386,000	386,000	500,000	500,000	500,000

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 2020 Florida Forever Work Plan.

Physical Location: Activities are conducted at District headquarters near Live Oak, FL. Acquisitions are located within the District boundaries as identified in the 2022 Florida Forever Work Plan.

Square Footage/Physical Description: N/A

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

Historical Background/Need for Project: Land acquisition is a key mechanism for the District to achieve its statutory responsibilities. The District's land acquisition program implements provisions of section 373.139, F.S.

The implementation of this program, along with the cumulative efforts under the Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000, Florida Forever programs, Springs Restoration Grants and Military Base Protection Funds have resulted in the protection of over 287,088 acres of fee title and conservation easement water resource lands. Approximately 159,974 acres of river floodplains, freshwater springs, headwater wetlands, bottomland hardwood, and buffering upland forests are protected in full-fee ownership. Conservation easements, access easements, and deed restricted from less-than fee purchases have protected nearly 127,114 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.

The District continues to explore potential acquisitions with public and private partners to maximize available funding for conservation acquisitions.

Plan Linkages: Florida Forever Work Plan 2022, Five-Year Strategic Plan 2022-2026, FY 2022 Budget, FY 2023 Preliminary Budget, 5-Year Water Resource Development Work Program

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

Alternative(s): Planned acquisitions could be deferred to future year(s), but acquisition opportunities may be lost.

Other Project Costs (includes land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, other): FY 2022 - $4,500,000; FY 2023 - $4,250,000

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: 159,974 acres

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: Florida Forever Work Plan 2022, Five-Year Strategic Plan 2022-2026, FY 2022 Budget, FY 2023 Preliminary Budget

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

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.

Other Project Costs (includes land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, other): FY 2022 - $250,000; FY 2023 - $300,000

Program: 3.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS AND WORKS

Activity: 3.3 Facilities

Project Title: Facility Management

Type: Operation and maintenance of administrative facilities.

Physical Location: District headquarters

Square Footage/Physical Description: 35,000 square feet

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

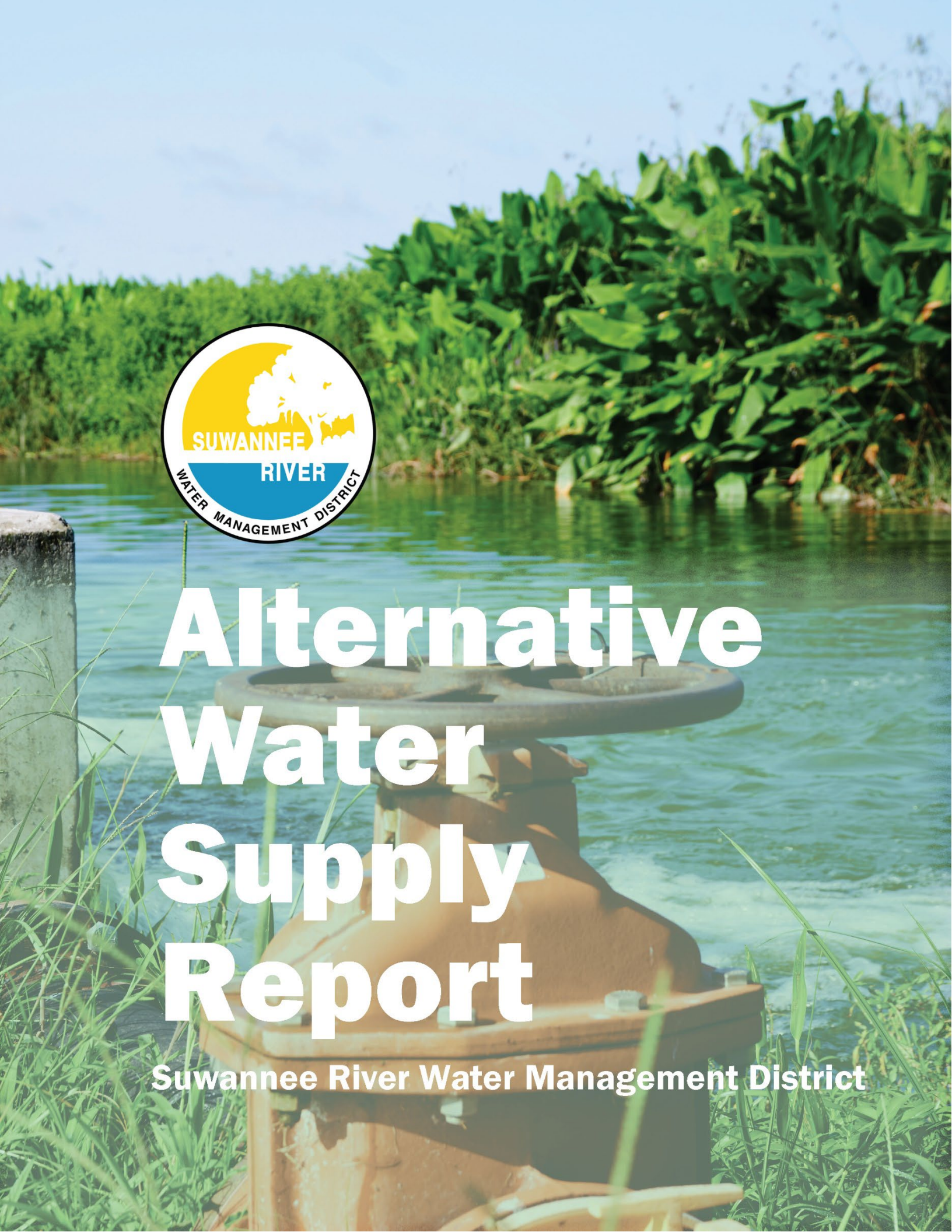
Historical Background/Need for Project: The District facilities consist of a 35,000 square-foot headquarter building, a laboratory/storage building, a garage/storage facility, and a parking lot on 12 acres.

Plan Linkages: FY 2022 Budget, FY 2023 Preliminary Budget.

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

Alternative(s): Facility management improvements could be deferred to future year(s) or foregone but would result in increased future costs and potentially have adverse effects on District operations.

Basic Construction Costs (includes permits, inspections, communications requirements, utilities, outside building, site development, other): FY2022 – $386,000; FY2023 - $386,000



Alternative Water Supply Report

Suwannee River Water Management District

Introduction:

In 2005, the Florida Legislature created the Water Protection and Sustainability Program, section 373.707, Florida Statutes (F.S.). As part of this program, the Legislature made State funds available through the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund to water management districts for the development of the alternate water supply and conservation projects. Funds could also be used for water resource development projects if a regional water supply plan had not been completed including, but not limited to, springs protection. Each water management district is required by section 373.707 (8)(n), F.S. to submit an alternative water supply report that provides details on all funded alternative water supply, conservation, and water resource development projects. This Alternative Water Supply Report includes information on funding under the Water Protection and Sustainability Program and the District's continued efforts to protect and enhance water resources. In 2017 the Board adopted the NFRWSP (North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan). The plan includes fourteen counties, of which all or portions of the following are within the SRWMD District – Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Putnam, Suwannee, and Union.

Water Protection and Sustainability Program

During the initial four years of the Water Protection and Sustainability program (WPSP), the District received over $21 million dollars from the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund (WPSTF). With this funding, the District formed collaborative partnerships with the cities of Lake City, Live Oak, Monticello, and Alachua to provide funding assistance for establishing reclaimed water programs. These projects are listed in Table 1 and described in the following narrative. Consistent with subsection 373.707(8)(c), Florida Statutes, the District has also used funding from the WPSTF for water resource development projects, consisting of implementing its Minimum Flows and Levels program. Beginning in fiscal year 2019-2020 funds have been made available for Water Supply Development projects to conserve water and reduce losses.

Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund - Funding Distribution

Fiscal Year	Distribution Amount
2005-2006	$10,000,000
2006-2007	$6,000,000
2007-2008	$5,200,000
2008-2009	$270,000
2019-2020	$100,000
2020-2021	$180,000

Table 1

District Project Number	Project Name	Project Type	Status	Water Produced (mgd)	WPSP Fiscal Year	WPSP Funding	DEP funds	Cooperator match	District funds	Total Project cost
153	City of Alachua Reclaimed Water Program	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	3	2006-2007	$1,000,000	$0	$250,000	$0	$1,250,000
151	City of Lake City Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	1	2005-2006	$3,000,000	$0	$1,735,526	$0	$4,735,526
154	City of Live Oak Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	1.5	2005-2006	$2,000,000	$0	$500,000	$0	$2,500,000
155	City of Live Oak Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1 expansion	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0	2006-2007	$1,000,000	$0	$250,000	$0	$1,250,000
152	City of Monticello Reclaimed Water Program	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0.5	2005-2006	$1,500,000	$500,000	$50,000	$0	$2,050,000
331	Ft. White Water Main Loop	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.0002	2019-2020	$100,000	$29,000	$0	$0	$129,000
331	Ft. White Water Main Loop	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.0002	2020-2021	$16,355	$0	$0	$0	$16,355
344	High Springs Interconnect	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.015	2020-2021	$85,160	$0	$62,000	$100,840	$248,000
345	Potable Water Improvements - Maple St.	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.00001	2020-2021	$78,485	$0	$15,224	$0	$93,709

City of Alachua Reclaimed Water Program #153
This project was for the implementation of a 0.4 MGD reuse project to offset groundwater withdrawals. Initial construction was for filtration, disinfection, transmission lines, pumping, controls and storage. Potential offset for 1 to 3 MGD for commercial and residential offset.

City of Lake City Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1 #151
This project was for the implementation of a 1 MGD reuse project with expansion capabilities. Initial construction was for water treatment, transmission.

City of Live Oak Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1 #154
Ph 1 expansion is to implement a 1.5 MGD treatment facility. The goal is the offset of 0.8 MGD of groundwater withdrawals.

City of Monticello Reclaimed Water Program #152
This project was for the implementation of a 0.5 MGD reuse project to offset groundwater withdrawals at the Simpson Nursery. Initial construction was to upgrade the water treatment facility, transmission mains, pumping, storage, supervisory control and data acquisition.

Ft. White Water Main Loop #331
A portion of this project has been funded through the WPSP to construct water main loops.

High Springs Interconnect #344
A portion of this project has been funded through the WPSP to construct water main loops.

Potable Water Improvements – Maple St. #345
A portion of this project has been funded through the WPSP to construct water main loops.

Summary of Continuing Efforts
The District works with its local and state partners to identify, develop and fund alternative water supply, conservation, and water resource development projects. The Districts Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources (RIVER) cost-share program provides local governments with funding for projects including alternative water supply and water conservation projects. Since the inception of the RIVER program in 2013, the District has partnered with local governments to implement twenty-eight alternative water supply projects and water conservation projects with a total estimated benefit of 1.04 MGD.

Through agricultural cost-share programs, the District and FDEP partner with agricultural producers to increase water savings by implementing irrigation retrofits, new water saving technologies, and other water conservation projects. The FDEP has awarded state springs grants for cost share programs for irrigation and nutrient management retrofits for agricultural and dairy operations. The Suwannee River Partnership (SRP) has been instrumental in implementing conservation partnerships with the agricultural community in the Suwannee River Basin. From 2014 through 2021 the estimated benefit at completion will be 28.05 MGD.

The District also invests money into water resource development projects. These projects include aquifer recharge and hydrologic restoration projects. The continuing support for springs protection and restoration from Governor DeSantis, the Florida Legislature, and the FDEP has enabled the District to increase efforts, through partnerships, to protect and enhance water supply and resources throughout the District. From 2014 to 2021, the District with the FDEP and local

partners implemented 30 water resource development projects with an estimated benefit of 39.2 MGD at completion.

Details on alternative water supply, water conservation, and water resource development projects funded through these various programs is provided in Table 2 and described in the following narratives.

District Project Number	Project Name	WRD or WSD project type	Status	Water Produced	Initial FY funded	DEP Amount	Other state Amount	District Amount	Cooperator match	Total Project cost	Program
5	2014 Springs Projects: Task 2 WC Through Pivots	Agricultural Conservation	Complete	5.26	FY2014-15	$885,000.00	$0.00	$1,235,000.00	$308,975.00	$2,428,975.00	Springs
6	2014 Springs Projects: Task 3 Dairy Lagoon Expansion	Other Non-Traditional Source	Complete	0.3	FY2014-15	$920,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$300,000.00	$1,220,000.00	Springs
7	2015 S0905 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators	Agricultural Conservation	Active	0.32	FY2015-16	$2,120,000.00	$0.00	$20,000.00	$530,000.00	$2,670,000.00	Springs
8	2016 Springs Projects LP6103C: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements	Other Non-Traditional Source	Active	0.14	FY2016-17	$1,500,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$300,000.00	$1,800,000.00	Springs
228	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Agricultural Conservation	Active	3.03	FY2019-20	$1,878,736.00	$0.00	$0.00	$500,000.00	$2,378,736.00	Springs
157	Agriculture Water Conservation (2013 Ag Cost Share Funds)	Agricultural Conservation	Complete	5.2	FY2012-13	$0.00	$0.00	$1,200,550.00	$308,975.00	$1,509,525.00	District
300	AWS Pivot Retrofits WS002	Agricultural Conservation	Active	1.1	FY2019-20	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$55,600.00	$556,000.00	AWS
230	Bee Haven Bay WRD	Surface Water Storage (e.g., reservoirs)	Complete	0.7	FY2019-20	$370,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$370,000.00	Springs
240	Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Groundwater Recharge	Active	3	FY2019-20	$2,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,000,000.00	Springs
15	Brooks Sink Phase 1	Groundwater Recharge	Complete	0.12	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$35,000.00	$0.00	$35,000.00	Florida Forever
136	Cedar Key WSD Reuse project	Distribution/Transmission Capacity	Complete	0.18	FY2007-08	$0.00	$0.00	$25,000.00	$8,333.00	$33,333.00	Florida Forever
17	City of Alachua Water Conservation Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.05	FY2012-13	$0.00	$0.00	$31,220.00	$31,220.00	$62,440.00	River
19	City of Hampton Water Supply Improvement and Conservation	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.00006	FY2015-16	$0.00	$0.00	$105,530.00	$8,000.00	$113,530.00	River
20	City of High Springs Water Conservation Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.02	FY2012-13	$0.00	$0.00	$28,628.00	$28,628.00	$57,256.00	River
21	City of Jasper Water Conservation Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.04	FY2012-13	$0.00	$0.00	$97,200.00	$10,000.00	$107,200.00	River
23	City of Madison Water Conservation Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.04	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$7,675.00	$443.75	$8,118.75	River
24	City of Newberry Water Conservation Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.04	FY2012-13	$0.00	$0.00	$28,550.00	$28,550.00	$57,100.00	River
27	Columbia County Water Main & Conservation Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.03	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$201,256.00	$249,552.00	$450,808.00	River
28	Cow Pond Drainage Basin Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Complete	1.69	FY2016-17	$313,382.08	$0.00	$50,000.00	$50,000.00	$413,382.08	Springs
32	Cross City Hydrant and Water Main Replacement	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0014	FY2016-17	$0.00	$0.00	$36,310.29	$0.00	$36,310.29	River
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Agricultural Conservation	Active	6	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$7,000,000.00	$1,750,000.00	$8,750,000.00	District
291	Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Active	1.1	FY2019-20	$2,993,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$150,000.00	$3,143,000.00	Springs

District Project Number	Project Name	WRD or WSD project type	Status	Water Produced	Initial FY funded	DEP Amount	Other state Amount	District Amount	Cooperator match	Total Project cost	Program
208	Dixie County Water Main	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0015	FY2017-18	$0.00	$0.00	$176,500.00	$240,000.00	$416,500.00	River
124	Eagle Lake	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	10	FY2014-15	$3,070,000.00	$0.00	$300,000.00	$230,000.00	$3,600,000.00	Springs
293	Groundwater Recharge Wetland	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Active	1.5	FY2019-20	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,500,000.00	$3,000,000.00	AWS
2444	Haines Street Drainage Improvements	Groundwater Recharge	Active	0.02	FY2021-22	$0.00	$0.00	$247,314.00	$54,410.00	$301,724.00	River
255	Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells and Water Quality Improvement	Groundwater Recharge	Active	2	FY2019-20	$0.00	$0.00	$700,000.00	$0.00	$700,000.00	District
47	Hampton Water Tank Revitalization Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.01	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$25,000.00	$5,000.00	$30,000.00	River
51	High Springs Water Main Replacements	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.01	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$50,000.00	$833,033.00	$883,033.00	River
53	Hilltop to Alliance Wastewater Project	Other Non-Traditional Source	Complete	0.34	FY2014-15	$0.00	$0.00	$181,000.00	$210,990.81	$391,990.81	District
58	Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Complete	1.19	FY2013-14	$3,900,000.00	$0.00	$283,815.00	$100,000.00	$4,283,815.00	Springs
140	Lake City Municipal Airport	Stormwater	Complete	1.9		$0.00	$0.00	$5,950.00	$0.00	$5,950.00	Other
63	Lake City Public and Staff Restroom Retrofit	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.02	FY2016-17	$98,850.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$98,850.00	Springs
137	Lake Harris	Groundwater Recharge	Complete	1.12	FY2014-15	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$120,000.00	$120,000.00	Other
2090	Lancaster Correctional Facility expansion	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Active	0.028	FY2021-22	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,900,000.00	Federal WW
66	Lawtey Water System Improvements	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.049	FY2013-14	$0.00	$693,257.36	$25,000.00	$0.00	$718,257.36	River
67	Leaky Fire Hydrants and Water Main Replacements	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.011	FY2016-17	$0.00	$0.00	$85,250.91	$15,000.00	$100,250.91	River
1729	Live Oak Reuse	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Active	0.01	FY2021-22	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$3,240,000.00	Federal WW
74	Lower Suwannee Drainage Basin Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Complete	3.26	FY2016-17	$587,404.49	$0.00	$0.00	$63,359.00	$650,763.49	Springs
78	Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Active	2	FY2013-14	$1,548,000.00	$0.00	$277,000.00	$30,000.00	$1,855,000.00	Springs
2101	North Florida Mega Industrial Park	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Active	0.25	FY2021-22	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$60,000.00	$3,020,000.00	Federal WW
83	Oakmont Reclaimed Water Main Extension (Ph 2)	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0.05	FY2015-16	$0.00	$0.00	$113,142.75	$113,142.75	$226,285.50	River
88	Potable Water and Central Wastewater System Improvements (Newberry)	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0003	FY2015-16	$0.00	$0.00	$38,434.50	$88,698.00	$127,132.50	River

District Project Number	Project Name	WRD or WSD project type	Status	Water Produced	Initial FY funded	DEP Amount	Other state Amount	District Amount	Cooperator match	Total Project cost	Program
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	Agricultural Conservation	Active	2	FY2017-18	$5,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,250,000.00	$6,250,000.00	Springs
303	Public Supply Efficiency Improvements	PS and CII Conservation	Active	1.4	FY2019-20	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,000,000.00	AWS
1738	Quail Heights Regional Pond	Stormwater	Active	0.033	FY2020-21	$2,510,000.00	$0.00	$651,105.00	$0.00	$9,664,300.00	River and Coastal Springs
199	Repair/replace leaking infrastructure (Madison, City of)	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.01	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$2,500.00	$0.00	$2,500.00	River
94	Scriven Avenue Drainage Improvements	Flood Control Works	Complete	0.03	FY2016-17	$0.00	$0.00	$88,027.27	$18,029.69	$106,056.96	River
96	SR-6 /I-75 Hamilton County Water System Improvements	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.04	FY2012-13	$0.00	$0.00	$31,523.43	$0.00	$31,523.43	River
98	Starke Fire Hydrant Replacement Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0056	FY2015-16	$0.00	$0.00	$119,040.00	$24,733.31	$143,773.31	River
103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Agricultural Conservation	Active	5.1	FY2016-17	$4,219,439.90	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$4,219,439.90	Springs
105	Suwannee Country Club Reuse Connection	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0.1	FY2014-15	$0.00	$0.00	$119,520.38	$4,893.00	$124,413.38	River
123	Suwannee Valley Ag Extension Center Surface Water	Surface Water	Complete	0.05	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$40,200.00	$80,400.00	$120,600.00	Other
1811	TCWSD Public Supply Efficiencies	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.002	FY2020-21	$0.00	$0.00	$100,000.00	$0.00	$100,000.00	River
282	University Oaks Phase IV	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.436	FY2021-22	$0.00	$0.00	$311,670.00	$5,000.00	$316,670.00	River
109	University Oaks Water System Improvement	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.003	FY2014-15	$0.00	$0.00	$151,390.00	$53,257.67	$204,647.67	River
110	University Oaks Water System Improvement - Phase 3	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.019	FY2016-17	$0.00	$0.00	$122,250.00	$8,292.00	$130,542.00	River
111	Upper Suwannee River Regional Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Active	1	FY2017-18	$2,500,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,500,000.00	Springs
114	Waldo Water Conservation Project	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.01	FY2012-13	$0.00	$0.00	$76,836.00	$76,836.00	$153,672.00	River
115	Waldo Well & Water System Improvements	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.01	FY2013-14	$0.00	$0.00	$87,000.00	$627,137.00	$714,137.00	River
117	Water Supply Booster Pump Station Replacement	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0006	FY2016-17	$0.00	$0.00	$65,963.58	$5,000.00	$70,963.58	River
Projects below this line are contracted directly with DEP and the Cooperator											
34	Drainage Well and Conveyance Replacement (TAP funding)	Groundwater Recharge	Active	6.8	FY2019-20	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,300,000.00	FDOT tap
290	Fanning Springs WW system Expansion, Ph VI, WWTF	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Active	0.4	FY2019-20	$9,350,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$4,000.00	$9,354,000.00	Springs
56	I-75/CR-136 Wastewater Improvement, Septic Elimination (Phase I)	Other Project Type	Active	0.1	FY2017-18	$2,780,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$550,000.00	$3,330,000.00	Springs

District Project Number	Project Name	WRD or WSD project type	Status	Water Produced	Initial FY funded	DEP Amount	Other state Amount	District Amount	Cooperator match	Total Project cost	Program
231	Ichetucknee Springs Quality & Quantity Enhancement	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Active	0.625	FY2019-20	$1,800,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$50,000.00	$1,850,000.00	Springs
59	Infiltrative Wetlands for WWTF Effluent Treatment Disposal Phase I	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Active	0.24	FY2017-18	$1,708,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,708,500.00	Springs
229	Oakmont Reclaimed Water Ph 3 and 4	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Active	0.05	FY2019-20	$352,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$352,500.00	$705,000.00	Springs
2087	Rembert Property Conservation Easement	Agricultural Conservation	Active	0.0445	FY2021-22	$1,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,000,000.00	$2,000,000.00	Springs
1732	Sawdust Spring Land Acquisition Project	Surface Water	Active	0.001	FY2020-21	$634,395.00	$0.00	$0.00	$300,000.00	$934,395.00	Springs

2014 Springs Projects: Task 2 WC Through Pivots (S0796) #5
14 active contracts; 115 pivots, retrofit center pivots to increase spray efficiency.

2014 Springs Projects: Task 3 Dairy Lagoon Expansion (S0796) #6
5 active projects increase pond storage to better manage wastewater & irrigation.

2015 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators #7
9 active projects; 18 screens and 37 irrigation retrofits (Improved Nutrient Application in Dairy operations).

2016 Springs Projects: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements #8
Ranking on-going - 4 contracts, use of new technology to improve wastewater systems to reduce nutrient impacts and reduce ground water usage. This cost share program is for the use of new technology to improve wastewater systems to reduce nutrient impacts.

Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management #228
Incentivize silviculture and rural land conservation to reduce groundwater pumping and nitrogen loading in the Ichetucknee and Middle Suwannee springshed.

Ag Cost Share - SRWMD soil moisture probes #130
Cost share to provide producers with soil moisture probes to improve irrigation efficiency. Water savings of 40-60% depending on crop type.

Agriculture Water Conservation (2013 Ag Cost Share Funds) #157
Assess and implement water conservation BMPs as part of agricultural cost-share program. The cost and savings are the total for the following counties: Alachua, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, and Suwannee.

Alachua County Turf Swap #277
The Turf SWAP (Save water, add plants) rebate program will transition from irrigated turf to Florida Friendly Landscapes and hire Florida Water Star Accredited Professionals to improve irrigation systems by fixing leaks and other improvements. This is a subproject to the Public Supply Efficiencies (#303).

AWS Pivot Retrofits #300
Retrofit pivot systems with a need determined by a mobile irrigation lab evaluation

Bee Haven Bay WRD #230
Construction of an alternative discharge line from Eagle Lake Phase I to provide additional reuse capacity to the mining operations. This alternative water supply reduces the reliance on fresh groundwater from the UFA.

Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project #240
The Project will take place in Bradford County and enhance opportunities for aquifer recharge for the silvicultural lands and areas with surplus surface waters.

Brooks Sink Phase 1 #15
Restore natural hydrologic connection to Brooks sink.

Cedar Key WSD Reuse project #136
WWTP improvements and extension of reclaimed water lines.

City of Alachua Water Conservation Project #17
Reduce leakage in water resource caution area.

City of Hampton Water Supply Improvement and Conservation #19
Improve fire protection, increase water conservation, and improve water service quality and reliability. Includes water meter replacements, installation of isolation valves, water storage tank repair, and potentially water main relocation.

City of High Springs Water Conservation Project #20
Reduce leakage in water resource caution area.

City of Jasper Water Conservation Project #21
Replace 26 leaking hydrants and install isolation valves in a WRCA.

City of Madison Water Conservation Project #23
Reduce water losses by improvements at the Barrsfield Well and Chason Well.

City of Newberry Water Conservation Project #24
Replacement of aging pipes and equipment to reduce water loss.

Columbia County Water Main & Conservation Project (October Rd) #27
Water main extension to reduce flushing at the Ellisville water treatment plant.

Cow Pond Drainage Basin Aquifer Recharge #28
The project will restore approximately 300 acres of sand ponds and rehydrate approximately 1,750 acres of wetlands while recharging approximately 1.69 million gallons per day of water.

Cross City Hydrant and Water Main Replacement #32
Replacement of seven hydrants and 10 isolation valves within Town's distribution network; installation of a 450 feet 6-inch water main and 1,000 feet segment of 6-inch water main - replacing lines that have had breaks in recent history.

District Cost Share # 33
District cost share to reduce agricultural groundwater pumping and nutrient applications.

Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge #291
Design and construct a wetland restoration system to re-establish natural drainage patterns using culverts and flashboards. Project will funnel excess surface water to new and existing recharge features.

Dixie County Water Main #208
Transition an unincorporated residential area from well water usage to Community Potable Water service.

Drainage Well and Conveyance Replacement (TAP funding) #34
The project will construct a replacement drainage well similar to the original well at the site with stormwater treatment. Estimated treatment is 210.51 impervious acres.

Eagle Lake #124
Public Private partnership to reduce groundwater withdrawals.

Fanning Springs WW system Expansion, Ph VI, WWTF #290
Design phase for the construction of a new 0.4 MGD Regional AWT WWTF with a constructed wetland aquifer recharge system having an overall budget Est of $15 Million. It is planned to be funded with three consecutive funding cycles.

Fort White Water Main Loop #331
Water conservation and reduction of groundwater pumping by looping of water main lines to reduce flushing. This is a subproject to the Public Supply Efficiencies.

Groundwater Recharge Wetland #293
GRU proposes to construct a groundwater recharge wetland using reclaimed water from the Kanapaha Water Reclamation facility. Estimated 3-5 MGD water recharge at final completion.

Haines Street Drainage Improvements #2444
Drainage well replacement with storm water management.

Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells and Water Quality Improvement #255
This project concept is to replace two 12-inch drainage wells to provide aquifer recharge and flood protection in the Alapaha Basin.

Hampton Water Main Loop #276
Loop water mains to improve water conservation, remove dead ends to improve water quality, and reduce flushing. Install isolation valves to aid in line break repairs. Develop water infrastructure map in ESRI to document water system location and record of repairs. Conserve estimated 200,000 gallons per year in reduced flushing. This is a subproject to the Public Supply Efficiencies.

Hampton Water Tank Revitalization Project #47
Repair water storage tank and reduce flushing losses.

High Springs Water Main Replacements #51
Water line replacements of old leaking main lines.

Hilltop to Alliance Wastewater Project #53
Wastewater pipeline connecting Hilltop Dairy to Alliance Dairy for wastewater reuse.

I-75 / CR-136 Wastewater Improvement, Septic Elimination (Phase I) #56
Construct a new WWTP plant with wetland treatment/aquifer recharge for effluent disposal, eliminating 32 existing commercial septic tanks.

I-75 / SR 247 Regional Pond #1738
Construction of regional stormwater ponds to treat and attenuate runoff from Cannon Creek.

Ichetucknee Springs Quality & Quantity Enhancement #231
Increase the wetland polishing from 1 MGD to 3 MGD with estimated recharge of 2 MGD and additional nutrient reduction.

Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement (ISQWIP) #58
Convert existing sprayfield to treatment wetland.

Ichetucknee Trace - Clayhole Creek/Alligator Lake Recharge and Stormwater Mitigation #134

This project will better manage up to 14.8 million gallons per day of stormwater and surface water. Swales, canals, and stormwater control structures will be constructed to direct water to Alligator Lake.

Ichetucknee Trace-Cannon Creek #133

Funding direct between Columbia Co and DEP. Project to mitigate flooding, water quality and pretreatment for aquifer recharge.

Infiltrative Wetlands for WWTF Effluent Treatment Disposal Phase I #59

Project will convert the City's existing effluent sprayfield into infiltration wetlands. Only 10 acres would be constructed in Phase 1 which would provide sufficient capacity for the City's current wastewater treatment capacity of 0.24 MGD.

Lake City Municipal Airport #140

Stormwater Improvements increase soil percolation.

Lake City Public and Staff Restroom Retrofit (task 1 LP61032) #63

The Lake City Public and Staff Restrooms Retrofit Project will upgrade 51 toilets from 1.6 gallons per flush (GPF) systems to 0.8 GPF systems and upgrade 103 - 2.2 gallons per minute (GPM) manual faucets to 1.0 GPM motion detection faucets.

Lake Harris #137

Replacement of existing 6-inch or 8-inch drainage wells that became plugged and were nonfunctional leading to flooding during high storm events.

Lancaster Correctional Facility expansion #2090

Extend a force main and route the effluent to Fanning Springs WWTF for beneficial reuse.

Lawtey Water System Improvements #66

Project will construct new public water supply well to serve the City of Lawtey's existing water treatment plant and distribution system. Also includes other plant upgrades.

Leaky Fire Hydrants and Water Main Replacements #67

The City of Jasper currently has old and non-operational fire hydrants. Each fire hydrant leaks approx. 1,440 g/day / 525,600 g/annually. We have identified 10 hydrants with this condition. That calculates over 5.2 million gallons of water per year.

Live Oak Reuse #1729

Construct extensions to the Live Oak wastewater collection infrastructure which will provide additional reuse.

Lower Suwannee Drainage Basin Aquifer Recharge #74

The project will restore approximately 500 acres of sand ponds and rehydrate approximately 1,250 acres of wetlands by re-establishing natural flow through natural recharge features and an aquifer recharge well.

Madison Blue Springs Aquifer Recharge #75
Rehabilitation or replacement of up to six existing drainage wells to improve recharge rates. This may include the installation of biosorptive activated media (BAM) or the construction of treatment wetlands.

Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge #78
Hydrologic restoration activities on the property to rehydrate roughly 1,500 acres of ponds, 4,000 acres of wetlands, and recharge the aquifer up to an estimated 10 million gallons per day.

North Florida Mega Industrial Park #2101
Upgrade the facility to advanced treatment for public access reuse.

Oakmont GRU Phase II (Recharge Wetland) #82
District is partnering with Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) to construct a recharge wetland in western Alachua County at the Oakmont subdivision, treating both reclaimed water and stormwater.

Oakmont Reclaimed Water Main Extension (Ph 2) #83
Installing of additional reclaimed water mains.

Oakmont Reclaimed Water Ph 3 #229
Expansion of reclaimed water distribution system pipelines in Oakmont subdivision to offset use of potable water for irrigation.

Pivot Retrofits #300
Retrofit pivot systems with a need determined by a mobile irrigation lab evaluation in existing and proposed water resource planning areas.

Potable Water and Central Wastewater System Improvements (Newberry) #88
Replace existing water and wastewater lines to a community within close proximity to the City of Newberry's historic district.

Precision Agricultural Practices #89
The project will provide cost share funds to agricultural producers in the BMAP areas to implement precision management technology. Priority will be given to producers within both the BMAP and Florida Outstanding Springs areas.

Public Supply Efficiency Improvements #303
Infrastructure and conservation improvements to reduce water loss based on water audit information or conservation measures.

Repair/replace leaking infrastructure (Madison, City of) #199
The City of Madison (Solenoid) water conservation project is to install two solenoid valves which will reduce Madison’s water loss by 0.01 MGD.

Sawdust Spring Land Acquisition #1732
Fee simple acquisition of approximately 163 acres within the Devil's Ear Spring (Outstanding Florida Spring) Priority Focus Area with third magnitude Sawdust Spring.

Scriven Avenue Drainage Improvements #94
Replacement in kind of a Class V injection well in the City of Live Oak in the adjacent stormwater management facility. A new well of the same diameter, casing depth, and total depth will be drilled in the southwest corner of the facility.

SR-6 / I-75 Hamilton County Water System Improvements #96
Reduce water usage by installing variable frequency drives to control water flow and reduce flushing requirements. Improve water quality by improved disinfection processes.

Starke Fire Hydrant Replacement Project #98
Reduce unaccounted for water loss throughout the City of Starke. Includes installation of at least 60 fire hydrants, including associated water mains and connections.

Starke Public Supply Efficiencies #1883
The project includes replacing the altitude valve and other critical water valves and equipment on the water tower that are currently inoperable. This is a subproject to the Public Supply Efficiencies.

Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input #103
Pilot program for agricultural operations, landowners, counties and cities, private companies, and other entities within specific geographical areas to submit proposals to reduce water use and improve water quality by reducing and removing nutrients.

Suwannee Country Club Reuse Connection #105
Connect the Suwannee County Club golf course to the City of Live Oak reuse line; install pump station.

Suwannee Valley Ag Extension Center Surface Water #123
Partnership with UF IFAS for variable rate irrigation using surface water.

TCWSD Public Supply Efficiencies #1811
Install 4 neighborhood master meters to monitor for system losses and identify leaks within the TCWSD water system.

University Oaks Phase III-A #284
University Oaks Phase III-A is for the construction of the remaining 2,200 LF of 6" watermain serving 14 customers. This is a subproject to the Public Supply Efficiencies.

University Oaks Water System Improvement #109
Replacement of 5,230 LF of 6-inch water main and 35 service connections to reduce water loss (estimated 105,800 gallons per month) Phase I and II combined.

University Oaks Water System Improvement - Phase 3 #110
The project includes the replacement of approximately 2,350 linear feet of 6-inch watermain that will provide service to 15 customers.

University Oaks Phase IV #282
This is the final phase of watermain to reduce water loss.

Upper Suwannee River Regional Aquifer Recharge #111

Installation of up to four recharge wells in the Upper Suwannee River basin in locations where wetlands were historically ditched and drained into the river. This project intends to capture water during high flow conditions that occur after large rainfall events.

Waldo Water Conservation Project #114

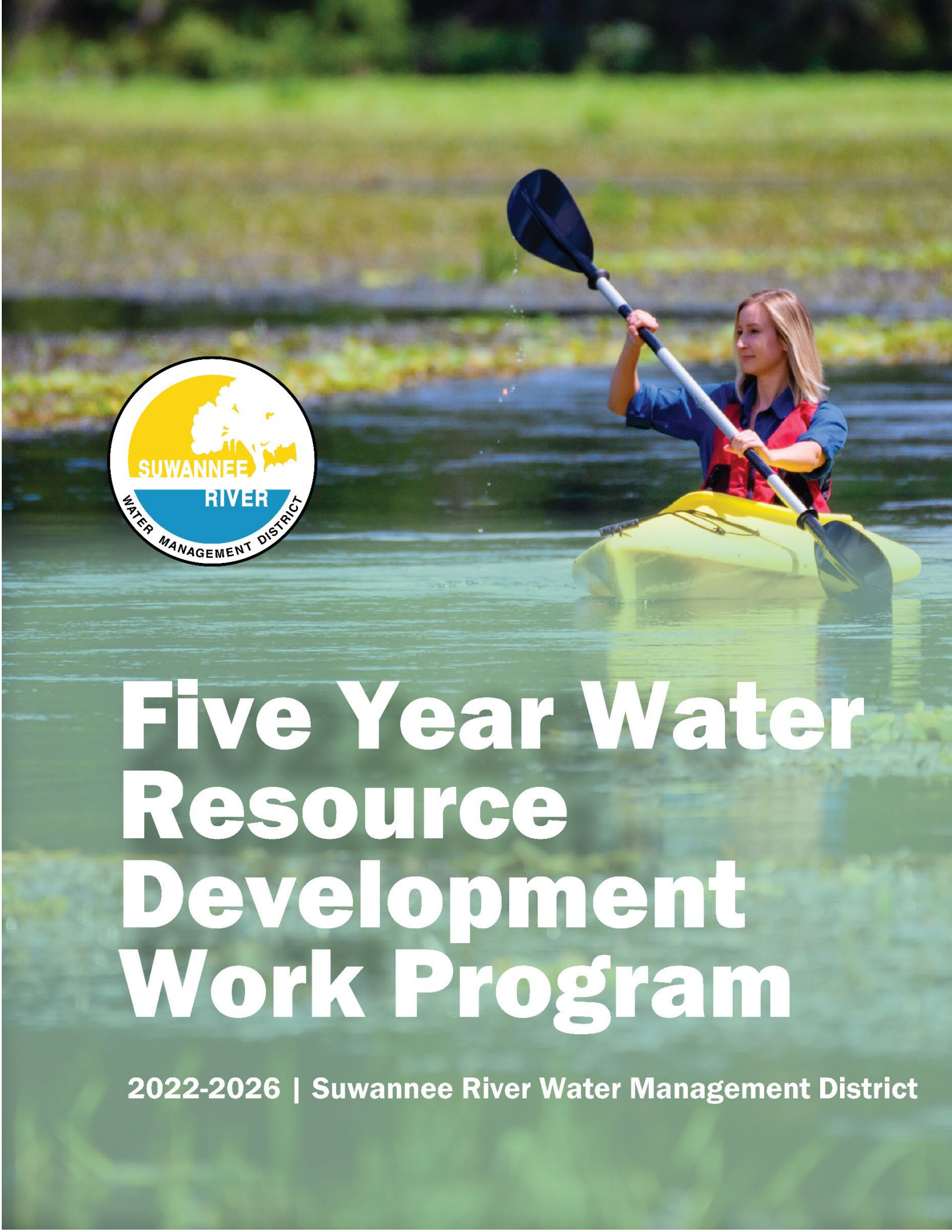
Replacement of 543 lead free water meters to improve accuracy and water quality. Meters have a 30-day rolling data log for enhanced customer information.

Waldo Well & Water System Improvements #115

Construct a new 12 inch well to provide 500 gpm capacity for adequate supply and fire protection.

Water Supply Booster Pump Station Replacement #117

The City of Hampton, Florida requires upgrades to its potable water booster pumping station that delivers water through their potable water distribution system to its customers.



Five Year Water Resource Development Work Program

2022-2026 | Suwannee River Water Management District

Introduction

Water Management Districts are required by section 373.709, Florida Statutes (F.S.), to evaluate their water resources to ensure that existing sources of water are adequate to supply water for all existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses and to sustain the water resources and related natural systems for a 20-year planning period. A Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP) is developed when a District determines that there are not enough traditional water supplies to provide water for all existing and future reasonable/beneficial uses and to sustain water resources and related natural systems for the planning period. RWSPs include a technical analysis of the current and future demands, evaluation of available water sources, and identification of water resource development and water supply development project options that could be used to meet future water demands.

The District is also required to prepare a Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program (Work Program) as a part of its annual budget reporting process, pursuant to subsection 373.536(6)(a)4., F.S. The Work Program must describe the District's implementation strategy relating to its water resource development and water supply development (including alternative water supply development) components over the next five years. Further, the Work Program must:

- Address all the elements of the water resource development component in the District's approved RWSPs, as well as the water supply projects proposed for District funding and assistance;
- Identify both anticipated available District funding and additional funding needs for the second through fifth years of the funding plan;
- Identify projects in the Work Program which will provide water;
- Explain how each water resource and water supply project will produce additional water available for consumptive uses;
- Estimate the quantity of water to be produced by each project;
- Provide an assessment of the contribution of the District's RWSPs in supporting the implementation of minimum flows and minimum water levels and water reservations; and
- Ensure sufficient water is available to timely meet the water supply needs of existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses for a 1-in-10-year drought event and to avoid the adverse effects of competition for water supplies.

This Work Program covers the period from Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022 through FY 2025-2026 and is consistent with the planning strategies of the District's North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan, (NFRWSP), a regional water supply plan produced and implemented jointly between this District and the SJRWMD (see Figure 1). The NFRWSP was approved by both Districts in 2017 and covers the 2015-2035 planning horizon. The next plan update is scheduled for 2022. The planning region includes all of Hamilton, Columbia, Baker, Suwannee, Union, Bradford, Gilchrist, Putnam, and Alachua Counties, as well as the remaining counties in Region 1 of the SJRWMD. For additional information about the NFRWSP, please see the Water Supply Plan located on the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership website.

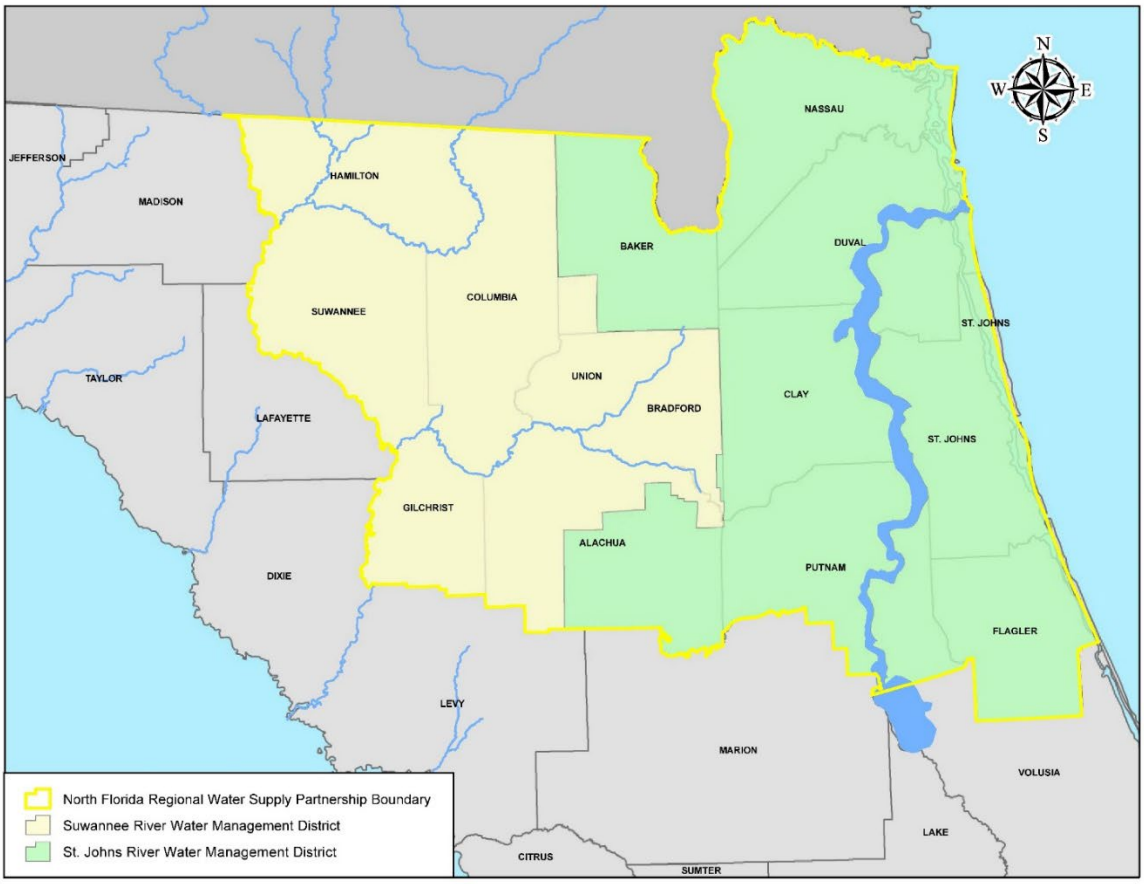


Figure 1: North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan Partnership Area

Work Program Summary

The projects listed in the Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program demonstrate progress in implementing projects which are listed in the NFRWSP and projects which support the NFRWSP's objectives. Implementation of projects listed in the NFRWSP supports the recovery strategy for the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Associated Priority Springs (LSFI). The District believes that this work program is adequate to further the recovery of LSFI, to ensure water is available to timely meet the water supply needs of existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses for a 1-in-10 year drought event, and to avoid the adverse effects of competition for water supplies based on the District's established minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs).

Over the next five years, the District will continue to implement projects and support regional water management programs, including water supply planning, water resource data collection and monitoring, and establishment of MFLs to ensure the availability of adequate water supplies for all reasonable-beneficial uses and to maintain the function of natural systems. This work program illustrates the contributions of the District in support of MFLs. Establishment of MFLs will proceed according to the District's MFL Priority List. The most current version of the District's MFL priority list, and an overview of the District's MFL program is available on the District's Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels page of the website.

In total, this Work Program outlines projects that, upon completion, would make available 28.14 million gallons per day (mgd) of water, including reuse and non-reuse water across the District. These projects are detailed in Appendix A. These benefits are associated with approximately $9,411,670 budgeted for FY 2021-2022. The proposed funding for projects identified in the 5-year Work Program is approximately $30,563,670 through FY 2025-26. The District also funds Water Resource Development Activities that are regional in nature and are therefore primarily the responsibility of the District. These activities are described in Table 1 and 2. They are also associated with approximately $6,230,102 budgeted in FY 2021-2022.

In addition, these projects set forth a commitment to develop projects associated with implementation of MFLs. The projects benefitting MFLs are anticipated to make available 27.7 mgd of reuse and non-reuse water upon completion. Of that, up to 17.45 mgd of reuse and non-reuse water will benefit MFLs in recovery.

Water Resource and Water Supply Development Project Funding

The District funds projects that support water resource development and water supply development. Water resource development components are those that involve the "formulation and implementation of regional water resource management strategies, including the collection and evaluation of surface water and groundwater data; structural and nonstructural programs to protect and manage water resources; the development of regional water resource implementation programs; the construction, operation, and maintenance of major public works facilities to provide for flood control, surface and underground water storage, and groundwater recharge augmentation; and related technical assistance to local governments, government-owned and privately owned water utilities, and self-suppliers to the extent assistance to self-suppliers promotes the policies as set forth in section 373.016, F.S." [1] Water supply development components are those that involve "planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of public or private facilities for water collection, production, treatment, transmission, or distribution for sale, resale, or end use." [2] A list of all projects meeting these statutory definitions is provided in Appendix A. The District provides funding assistance to public supply, agriculture, and other water use permittees, including industrial and commercial users, for projects that are consistent with the District's RWSP and meet the District's directive and procedures pertaining to cost-share funding.

[1] Section 373.019(24), F.S.
[2] Section 373.019(26), F.S.

Water Resource Development Activity Funding

The District also funds Water Resource Development Activities that are regional in nature and are therefore primarily the responsibility of the District. These Water Resource Development Activities are listed in Table 1 below; and the projected expenditures for these ongoing programs are listed in Table 2. The District has identified the need for additional Regional Water Supply Planning. These planning efforts will be ongoing for FY 2021-2022 through 2025-2026 and are reflected in the projected expenditures in Table 2.

Table 1: District water resource development activities and descriptions

Water Resource Development Activity	**Activity Description**
Water Supply Planning (1.1.1)	Long-term planning to assess and quantify existing and reasonably anticipated water supply needs and sources, and to maximize the beneficial use of those sources, for humans and natural systems. This includes water supply assessments developed pursuant to section 373.036, F.S., and regional water supply plans developed pursuant to section 373.709 F.S.
Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels (MFL, 1.1.2)	The establishment of minimum surface and ground water levels and surface water flow conditions required to protect water resources from significant harm, as determined by the district governing board.
Research, Data Collection, Analysis and Monitoring (1.2)	Activities that support district water management planning, restoration, and preservation efforts, including water quality monitoring, data collection and evaluation, and research. Data collection and analysis activities are a critical part of the water resource development component implemented by the District. This activity supports the District's MFL program.
Water Resource Development Projects (2.2.1)	Regional projects designed to create, from traditional or alternative sources, an identifiable, quantifiable supply of water for existing and/or future reasonable-beneficial uses. These projects do not include the construction of facilities for water supply development, as defined in section 373.019(21), F.S. Such projects may include the construction, operation, and maintenance of major public works facilities that provide for the augmentation of available surface and ground water supply or that create alternative sources of supply. Water resource development projects are to be identified in water management district regional water supply plans or district water management plans, as applicable.
Water Supply Development Assistance (2.2.2)	Financial assistance for regional or local water supply development projects. Such projects may include the construction of facilities included in the term "water supply development" as defined in section 373.019(26), F.S.
Other Cooperative Projects (2.4)	Any non-water source development cooperative effort under this program area between a water management district and another organization. This activity includes the District's Agricultural Conservation Cost-Share Program.

Table 2: Fiscal year 2021-2022 through Fiscal Year 2025-2026 projected expenditures (including salaries, benefits, and operating expenses) for ongoing water resource development activities. This table does not include items listed in Appendix A or B of this work program. Except as noted below, the table estimates future year expenditures based on recurring expenses.

Regional Water Activity	Fiscal Year 2021-2022	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	Fiscal Year 2023-2024	Fiscal Year 2024-2025	Fiscal Year 2025-2026	Total
Water Supply Planning (1.1.1)	$645,234	$645,234	$645,234	$645,234	$645,234	$3,226,170
Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels (MFL, 1.1.2)	$2,125,664	$2,125,664	$2,125,664	$2,125,664	$2,125,664	$10,628,320
Research, Data Collection, Analysis and Monitoring (1.2)	$2,736,152	$2,736,152	$2,736,152	$2,736,152	$2,736,152	$13,682,260
Water Resource Development Projects (2.2.1)	$394,441	$394,441	$394,441	$394,441	$394,441	$1,972,205
Water Supply Development Assistance (2.2.2)	$90,524	$90,524	$90,524	$90,524	$90,524	$452,620
Other Cooperative Projects (2.4)	$237,787	$237,787	$237,787	$237,787	$237,787	$1,188,945
Total	**$6,230,102**	**$6,230,102**	**$6,230,102**	**$6,230,102**	**$6,230,102**	**$31,150,520**

Basin Management Action Plan Appendix

Basin Management Action Plans are the “blueprint” for restoring impaired waters by reducing pollutant loadings to meet the allowable loadings established in a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). In 2016, the Florida Legislature amended section 373.036, F.S., to require the identification of all specific projects that implement a Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) or a recovery or prevention strategy in the Work Program. The District’s Work Program has historically identified water resource development projects that support MFL recovery and prevention but has not included specific descriptions of projects primarily intended to implement BMAPs. Consistent with section 373.036, F.S., and in a manner that has been coordinated with DEP and all five water management Districts, the District makes available as part of this Work Program a five-year funding outlook for projects specifically identified in an adopted BMAP in Appendix B.

Appendix A

DEP ID	Type	District Project Number	Project Name	Short Description	Project Status	Project End Date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water Available upon Completion (MGD)	Reuse upon Completion (MGD)	FY2021-22	Total Project Cost
	Other Project Type	251	RIVER Water Resource Development Projects TBD (Regional Projects)	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative RIVER Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold	9/30/2022	SR NFRWSP				$200,000.00	$200,000.00
	PS and CII Conservation	282	University Oaks Phase IV	Design, permitting, and construction of approximately 5,250 LF of 6" watermain to replace deteriorated existing infrastructure and conserve water.	Design	12/1/2022	SR District outside NFRWSP		0.44		$311,670.00	$316,670.00
	Stormwater	287	Cross City Flood Management	Stormwater improvements to increase flood protection in the vicinity of Ruth Raines Middle School.	Design	4/30/2023	SR District outside NFRWSP				$200,000.00	$446,665.00
	Data Collection and Evaluation	311	Mallory Swamp	Conduct data collection and model existing surface water structures in Mallory Swamp tract to develop a management plan	Construction/Underway	12/31/2024	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River			$170,000.00	$295,947.12
	Other Project Type	313	Water Sustainability Trust Fund - TBD	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Water Protection and Sustainability Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding	Construction/Underway	9/15/2022	SR NFRWSP				$180,000.00	$280,000.00
	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	314	AWS Grants - 2201 TBD	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Alternative Water Supply Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR NFRWSP				$1,350,000.00	$1,350,000.00
	Surface Water	315	Special Projects 2300	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Water Resource development and Alternative Water Supply Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding	On Hold		SR District-wide				$200,000.00	$400,000.00
	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	318	AWS Grants - 2300 TBD	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Alternative Water Supply Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR District-wide				$1,500,000.00	$1,500,000.00
	Data Collection and Evaluation	328	Lake Crosby / Roberts Property Acquisition and Study	Implement a study to evaluate and purchase property near Lake Crosby for potential	Complete	1/1/2023	SR NFRWSP	Upper Santa Fe River			$500,000.00	$500,000.00

DEP ID	Type	District Project Number	Project Name	Short Description	Project Status	Project End Date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water Available upon Completion (MGD)	Reuse upon Completion (MGD)	FY2021-22	Total Project Cost
				nutrient and recharge project potential.								
	Data Collection and Evaluation	339	Ag Team Activities/District Cost Share - SRP Shared Positions	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative budget to provide for shared positions.	Construction/Underway						$217,000.00	$157,000.00
	Stormwater	1878	Stormwater Runoff Collection in Mayo	Construct a stormwater pond to reduce flooding impacts and overflow into the sanitary sewer system.	Construction/Underway	3/28/2023					$50,000.00	$112,000.00
	Stormwater	1880	SE Old County Camp Road Madison Co	Obtain easements to increase storage capacity during high water events and reduce flood impacts.	Complete	7/1/2021					$100,000.00	$100,000.00
SROT00141B	Flood Control Works	97	Starke Bypass Wetland Mitigation $4 M	Provide mitigation offsets for the Starke truck bypass route to mitigate construction wetland impacts.	Construction/Underway	9/16/2021					$300,000.00	$2,980,000.00
SROT00145A	Flood Control Works	52	Hill Dam Breach analysis and permanent breach design (aka County Club Rd)	Evaluate options for an existing dam in Lake City to provide a permanent beach design.	Construction/Underway	10/28/2021					$240,000.00	$82,500.00
SROT00162A	Surface Water	211	RIVER Cost Share 2300 Budget	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative RIVER Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR District-wide				$300,000.00	$500,000.00
SROT00163A	Other Project Type	214	RIVER Cost Share 2400 Budget	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative RIVER Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR District-wide				$300,000.00	$300,000.00
SROT00164A	Data Collection and Evaluation	257	Alligator Creek Study - Bradford County Flood Protection	Implement a feasibility study in Bradford County to provide flood protection and storage near Alligator Creek during peak flows.	Construction/Underway	4/24/2023	SR NFRWSP	Upper Santa Fe River			$1,000,000.00	$350,000.00
SROT00165A	Data Collection and Evaluation	258	Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge	Hydrologic Restoration using RESTORE funding to protect the Lower Suwannee National Refuge.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2022	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River			$100,000.00	$100,000.00

DEP ID	Type	District Project Number	Project Name	Short Description	Project Status	Project End Date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water Available upon Completion (MGD)	Reuse upon Completion (MGD)	FY2021-22	Total Project Cost
SRWQ00007A	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	1729	Live Oak Reuse	Construct extensions to the Live Oak wastewater collection infrastructure and remove septics tanks which will provide additional reuse and reduce nutrient impacts.	Design	11/30/2022		Middle Suwannee River		0.01	$2,015,000.00	$3,240,000.00
SRWQ00146A	Groundwater Recharge	80	Mill Creek Sink (RIVER Agreement with City of Alachua)	Purchase land adjacent to Mill Creek Sink to implement a stormwater treatment system to reduce nutrient impacts.	Construction/Underway	6/1/2022	SR NFRWSP				$650,000.00	$2,045,898.61
SRWQ00152A	Agricultural Conservation	102	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Advanced Technology 06-2586-7-2400-06-02 LP6103D	Implement a pilot program for agricultural operations in Basin Management Action Plan areas to improve water quality by removing and reducing nutrients.	Construction/Underway	3/30/2022	SR District-wide				$250,000.00	$1,234,625.00
SRWQ00160A	Other Project Type	256	Acquisition DEP Grants - Springs Restoration	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative Springs Grants for fiscal year land acquisition pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR District-wide				$2,000,000.00	$2,200,000.00
SRWS00018B	Other Non-Traditional Source	8	2016 Springs Projects LP6103C: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements 06-2586-7-2400-06-05	Contract with local producers throughout SRWMD to implement new technology to improve wastewater systems, reduce nutrient impacts, and reduce ground water usage.	Construction/Underway	10/31/2023	SR NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	0.14		$500,000.00	$1,800,000.00
SRWS00031C	Agricultural Conservation	7	2015 S0905 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators 06-2586-7-2400-06-06	Retrofit 18 screens and irrigation systems (Improved Nutrient Application in Dairy operations) with 9 local producers.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2022	SR NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	0.32		$150,000.00	$2,670,000.00
SRWS00031E	Agricultural Conservation	300	AWS Pivot Retrofits WS002 03-2586-7-2201-37-00	Retrofit pivot systems with a need determined by a mobile irrigation lab evaluation in existing and proposed water resource planning areas.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2022	SR District-wide	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	1.10		$250,000.00	$556,000.00
SRWS00032A	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	82	Oakmont GRU Phase II (Recharge Wetland)	Construct a recharge wetland in western Alachua County at the Oakmont subdivision, treating both reclaimed water and stormwater.	On Hold		SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers			$180,000.00	$260,000.00

DEP ID	Type	District Project Number	Project Name	Short Description	Project Status	Project End Date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water Available upon Completion (MGD)	Reuse upon Completion (MGD)	FY2021-22	Total Project Cost
SRWS00058A	Agricultural Conservation	89	Precision Agricultural Practices 06-2586-7-2400-18-01 LP6013K	Implement precision management technology through cost-share programs with priority given to producers within both the BMAP and Outstanding Florida Springs areas.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	2.00		$1,000,000.00	$6,250,000.00
SRWS00074A	Agricultural Conservation	33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share 51-2586-7-2400-06-07	Implement conservation water conservation and nutrient reduction cost-share projects to reduce groundwater pumping and nutrient loads.	Construction/Underway	9/30/2024	SR District-wide	Middle Suwannee River	6.00		$1,500,000.00	$2,000,000.00
SRWS00082A	Agricultural Conservation	103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Implement a pilot program for agricultural operations, landowners, counties and cities, private companies, and other entities to submit proposals to reduce water use and improve water quality by reducing and removing nutrients.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2026	SR District-wide	Lower Suwannee River	5.10	0.00	$300,000.00	$4,219,439.90
SRWS00084A	Groundwater Recharge	111	Upper Suwannee River Regional Aquifer Recharge	Install up to four recharge wells in the Upper Suwannee River basin in locations where wetlands were historically ditched and drained into the river to capture water during high flow conditions that occur after large rainfall.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2023	SR NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	1.00		$750,000.00	$2,500,000.00
SRWS00108B	Agricultural Conservation	228	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Incentivize silviculture and rural land conservation to reduce groundwater pumping and nitrogen loading in the Santa Fe and Suwannee River Basin Management Action Plan areas.	Construction/Underway	9/30/2025	SR NFRWSP	Ichetucknee Springs	3.03		$750,000.00	$2,378,736.00
SRWS00124A	Stormwater	206	Gwen Lake	Address stormwater, flooding, erosion, and sedimentation concerns that impair the water quality and water storage capacity of Gwen Lake and adjacent waterways within the City of Lake City.	Construction/Underway	9/28/2021	SR Portion of NFRWSP	Ichetucknee Springs			$30,000.00	$450,000.00
SRWS00126A	Other Project Type	210	Springs Projects 2400 (See actual projects)	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Spring Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR District-wide				$1,000,000.00	$4,580,000.00

DEP ID	Type	District Project Number	Project Name	Short Description	Project Status	Project End Date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water Available upon Completion (MGD)	Reuse upon Completion (MGD)	FY2021-22	Total Project Cost
SRWS00127A	Surface Water	212	Springs Projects 2300 (see actual projects) Surface Water Projects TBD	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Spring Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR District-wide				$5,000,000.00	$5,000,000.00
SRWS00128A	Other Project Type	213	Springs Projects 2201 (see actual projects)	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Spring Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR NFRWSP				$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00
SRWS00129B	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	293	Groundwater Recharge Wetland	Construct a groundwater recharge wetland using reclaimed water from the Kanapaha Water Reclamation facility.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	1.50		$500,000.00	$3,000,000.00
SRWS00140A	PS and CII Conservation	303	Public Supply Efficiency Improvements	Implement infrastructure and conservation improvements in SRWMD to reduce water loss based on water audit information.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2023	SR District-wide	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	1.40		$500,000.00	$1,000,000.00
SRWS00141A	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	296	Lake Butler AWT Upgrade Ph 1 and Ph 2	Completing a feasibility study, design, and permitting for construction of an advanced water treatment facility, storage surge tank, and wetland that will ultimately be used to construct a new 1.0 MGD facility for City of Lake Butler.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2025	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe River			$1,420,000.00	$3,400,000.00
SRWS00142A	Groundwater Recharge	291	Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Design and construct a wetland restoration system in Dixie County to re-establish natural drainage patterns and funnel excess surface water to new and existing recharge features.	Design	2/1/2024	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	1.10		$1,000,000.00	$3,143,000.00
SRWS00145A	Groundwater Recharge	240	Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Enhance opportunities for aquifer recharge for silvicultural lands and areas with surplus surface waters, and replace two drainage wells near Lake Sampson will also be pursued as an opportunity for additional recharge in Bradford County.	Design	6/30/2023	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe River	3.00		$1,400,000.00	$2,000,000.00
SRWS00159A	Groundwater Recharge	255	Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells	Replace two 12-inch drainage wells to provide aquifer recharge and flood protection in the Alapaha Basin.	On Hold		SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	2.00		$500,000.00	$700,000.00

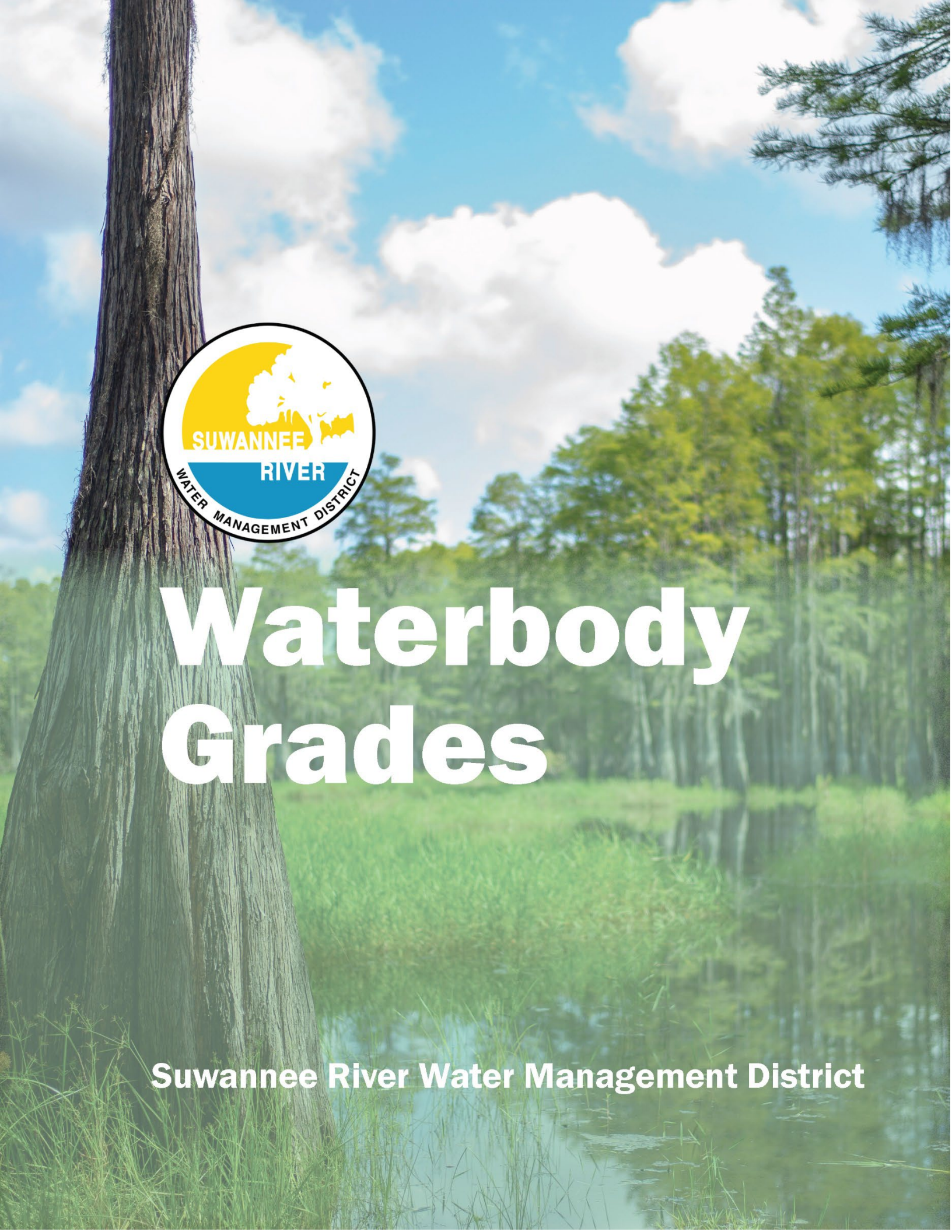
DEP ID	Type	District Project Number	Project Name	Short Description	Project Status	Project End Date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water Available upon Completion (MGD)	Reuse upon Completion (MGD)	FY2021-22	Total Project Cost
			and Water Quality Improvement									
SRWS00161A	PS and CII Conservation	253	RIVER Cost Share 2202 Budget	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative RIVER Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	On Hold		SR District-wide				$200,000.00	$200,000.00
SRWS00162A	Data Collection and Evaluation (e.g., funding spent on specific feasibility studies, etc.)	304	Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies	Conduct AWTF analysis and feasibility studies including treatment wetlands and reclaimed water alternatives.	Construction/Underway	6/30/2024	SR District-wide	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee			$500,000.00	$700,000.00

Appendix B Basin Management Action Plan

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	Partners	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
5784	SAFE	ACEPD	City of Gainesville/ FDOT District 2/ SRWMD/SJRWMD	Turf Swap	Rebates to property owners that convert irrigated turf to FFL or implement water saving irrigation retrofits.	303	Underway	N/A	$1,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,000,000.00
2129	SAFE	City of Alachua	DEP/ SRWMD	Mill Creek Sink Water Quality Improvement Project	Purchase property to install water quality BMPs to reduce pollutant loads discharging directly into the sink. Nutrient loading should be reduced by 66 % and benefit Hornsby Spring.	80	Underway	TBD	$1,645,898.61	$400,000.00	$0.00	$2,045,898.61
5470	SAFE	City of Newberry	SRWMD	Canterbury Fairgrounds Wastewater Extension Project	Extend central wastewater lines to Canterbury Fairgrounds site and decommission the existing OSTDS.	1877	Complete	354	$0.00	$200,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00
2101	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP/ Dairy Producers	Improved Nutrient Application Practices in Dairy Operations - Phase 2	To date, 9 agreements with dairies to install screen separators to reduce wastewater solids. 1 agreement with a dairy in the Santa Fe Basin. DEP has allocated $2,120,000 for districtwide program. Load reduction to land estimate of 1,485 lb-N/yr.	7	Underway	200	$2,120,000.00	$20,000.00	$530,000.00	$2,670,000.00
2102	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP/ Dairy Producers	Dairy Wastewater System Improvement	Cost-share projects with dairies to invest in advanced treatment technologies (bioreactors), additional wastewater storage, and advanced manure solid separation. Canceled because project location was determined to be outside the basin.	8	Underway	N/A	$1,500,000.00	$0.00	$300,000.00	$1,800,000.00
2103	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP/ Agricultural Producers/ Local Governments/ Landowners/ Private Companies	Sustainable Suwannee Springs Agriculture Pilot Program - Low Input Agriculture	Operators submit proposals for less intensive cropping, changing the type, or changing fallow or native landscape land use for a certain amount of time or a permanent conservation easement. Load reduction to land estimate of 187,500 lb-N/yr.	103	Underway	33,750	$4,219,439.90	$0.00	$0.00	$4,219,439.90
2092	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP/ Agricultural Producers/ Local Governments/ Landowners/ Private Companies	Sustainable Suwannee Springs Agriculture Pilot Program - Advanced Water Quality Improvement Technologies	Agriculture operators, landowners, local governments, private companies, other entities may submit proposals for advanced technologies that can cost-effectively reduce nitrogen in groundwater that contributes to spring flow.	102	Underway	1,832	$999,998.25	$0.00	$234,626.75	$1,234,625.00

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	Partners	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
2107	SAFE	SRWMD	Agricultural Producers	Precision Agricultural Practices	Provide cost-share funds to agricultural producers to implement precision nutrient and irrigation management technology. Districtwide program benefits split between Santa Fe and Suwannee BMAPs. Load reduction to land estimate of 312,500 lb-N/yr.	89	Underway	56,250	$5,000,000.00	$0.00	$1,250,000.00	$6,250,000.00
4565	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP/ Agricultural Producers	Precision Ag 2	Provide cost share funds to agricultural producers within the PFA and BMAP to reduce nutrients and conserve water.	89	Underway	TBD	$5,000,000.00	$0.00	$1,250,000.00	$6,250,000.00
4566	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP/ Agricultural Producers	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Incentivize silviculture and rural land conservation to reduce groundwater pumping and nitrogen loading in the Middle Suwannee springshed and Ichetucknee River.	228	Underway	TBD	$1,878,736.00	$0.00	$500,000.00	$2,378,736.00
4568	SAFE	SRWMD	City of Lake City/ Columbia County	Gwen Lake	The project addresses stormwater, flooding, erosion, and sedimentation concerns that impair the water quality and water storage capacity of Gwen Lake and adjacent waterways.	206	Complete	N/A	$0.00	$200,000.00	$250,000.00	$450,000.00
5460	SAFE	SRWMD	City of Lake City	Gwen Lake Phase 2	Installation of a drop structure behind the Parkview Baptist Church stormwater pond, regrade the conveyance, install stabilization to slow the water velocity and reduce the erosion and sedimentation contributing to the infill of Gwen Lake.	272	Planned	TBD	$0.00	$220,000.00	$75,000.00	$295,000.00
5472	SAFE	SRWMD	Gilchrist County	Gilchrist NE 2nd Way Park	Stormwater improvements and bank stabilization.	273	Underway	TBD	$167,974.00	$143,970.00	$4,500.00	$316,444.00
5475	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP	Lake Butler AWT Upgrade Phases 1-3	Advanced wastewater treatment facility and created wetland to be constructed in three phases.	296	Underway	2,988	$3,400,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$3,400,000.00
5797	SAFE	SRWMD	Alachua Conservation Trust/ DEP	Santa Fe Springs	Land acquisition with conservation easement will ensure less intensive land use.	256	Underway	N/A	$2,200,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,200,000.00
5798	SAFE	SRWMD	DEP/ Municipalities	Wastewater Feasibility Studies	Conduct analysis for using reclaimed water including treatment wetlands.	304	Underway	TBD	$700,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$700,000.00
5449	WACI	SRWMD	Local Producers	Dairy Screen Separators	Connect two pivots to the Jeffco Dairy's wastewater system and retrofit three irrigation systems to low-pressure drop nozzle sprinklers. The project will offset groundwater use with a lower quality water source and allow for better use of nutrients.	7	Underway	TBD	$2,120,000.00	$20,000.00	$530,000.00	$2,670,000.00

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	Partners	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
5450	WACI	SRWMD	Local Producers	Fertigation	Fertigating allows the producer to split up the application of fertilizer needed to grow a crop over the entire length of a growing season.	4	Underway	4,115	$915,000.00	$33,150.00	$242,550.00	$1,190,700.00
5451	WACI	SRWMD	DEP/ Local Governments	Suwannee Valley Springs Initiative	The District is developing a multi-media campaign that will focus on springs awareness and education to increase knowledge, engagement, and passion for water resources among residents and visitors.	260	Underway	N/A	$300,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$300,000.00
5452	WACI	SRWMD	Local Producers	Precision Ag	Implementation of soil type mapping, soil and tissue sampling, and aerial imagery to reduce fertilizer and lime application on two farms.	89	Underway	3,276	$5,000,000.00	$0.00	$1,250,000.00	$6,250,000.00



Waterbody Grades

Suwannee River Water Management District

Introduction

Section 373.036(7)(b)9., F.S., provides that the Consolidated Annual Report shall contain a "grade for each watershed, water body, or water segment in which a project listed under subparagraph 8. is located representing the level of impairment and violations of adopted minimum flow or minimum water levels. The grading system must reflect the severity of the impairment of the watershed, water body, or water segment."

Table 1 lists the projects contained within the Five-year Water Resource Development Work Plan, the watershed, water body, or water segment the project impacts, and a grade for two items: 1) the water quality level of impairment and 2) the level of violation of a minimum flow or minimum water level.

Level of Impairment Grade

The Level of Impairment grade is represented as follows:

Impaired—High: This grade is assigned if the waterbody is impaired for one or more parameters other than mercury and based on a consideration of other factors, including the number of impairments, the presence of Outstanding Florida Waters, the proximity to ongoing or planned restoration activities, the ecological priority of the water for endangered and threatened species, environmental justice concerns, the amount of anthropogenic land use, and local aquifer vulnerability.

Impaired: This grade is assigned if the waterbody is impaired for one or more parameters other than mercury.

Not impaired: This grade is assigned if the waterbody is not impaired for any parameters other than mercury.

The FDEP provided the impairment grades based upon Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) based Water Body IDs (WBIDs). Projects that impact a specific WBID were identified in Table 1 for that WBID. As an example, a project that replaced disposal of treated wastewater in a spray field or Rapid Infiltration Basin (RIB) with beneficial use of reclaimed water utilized the impairment grade associated with the WBID where the spray field or RIB were originally located. It is important to note that projects contained within a Water Resource Development Work Program are focused on water use/conservation with the exception of the projects contained in appendix B – District Projects for Implementing Basin Management Action Plans.

The Level of Violation of Adopted MFL is represented as follows:

The waterbody was evaluated based on the relative magnitude of the MFL violation and rated as close, moderately close, or not close to meeting the MFL. In evaluating this element, the Districts considered the magnitude of the variance from the MFL, the magnitude of the ecological impact, the timeframe for recovery, and the timeframe for completion of the projects.

The waterbody was also evaluated based on the regional significance of the water body and rated as Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3 with Tier 1 being the highest rating for regional significance and Tier 3 being the lowest rating. In evaluating this element, the Districts considered the waterbody's size and geographical extent, ecological importance, recreational uses, navigation, threatened/endangered species, wildlife utilization, aesthetics, and historical and archeological significance.

Meeting: This grade is assigned for any MFL that was determined to be meeting its MFL at the time of its adoption or during its last status evaluation.

Level 0: This grade is assigned if the waterbody is meeting the MFL but is projected to not meet the MFL within 20 years (that is, the waterbody is in prevention).

Level I: This grade is assigned if the waterbody is close to meeting the MFL and the waterbody is rated as a Tier 3 or Tier 2 for regional significance; or the waterbody is moderately close to meeting the MFL and the waterbody is rated a Tier 3 for regional significance

Level II: This grade is assigned if the waterbody is close to meeting the MFL and the waterbody is rated a Tier 1 for regional significance; or the waterbody is moderately close to meeting the MFL and the waterbody is rated a Tier 2 for regional significance; or the waterbody is not close to meeting the MFL and the waterbody is rated a Tier 3 for regional significance.

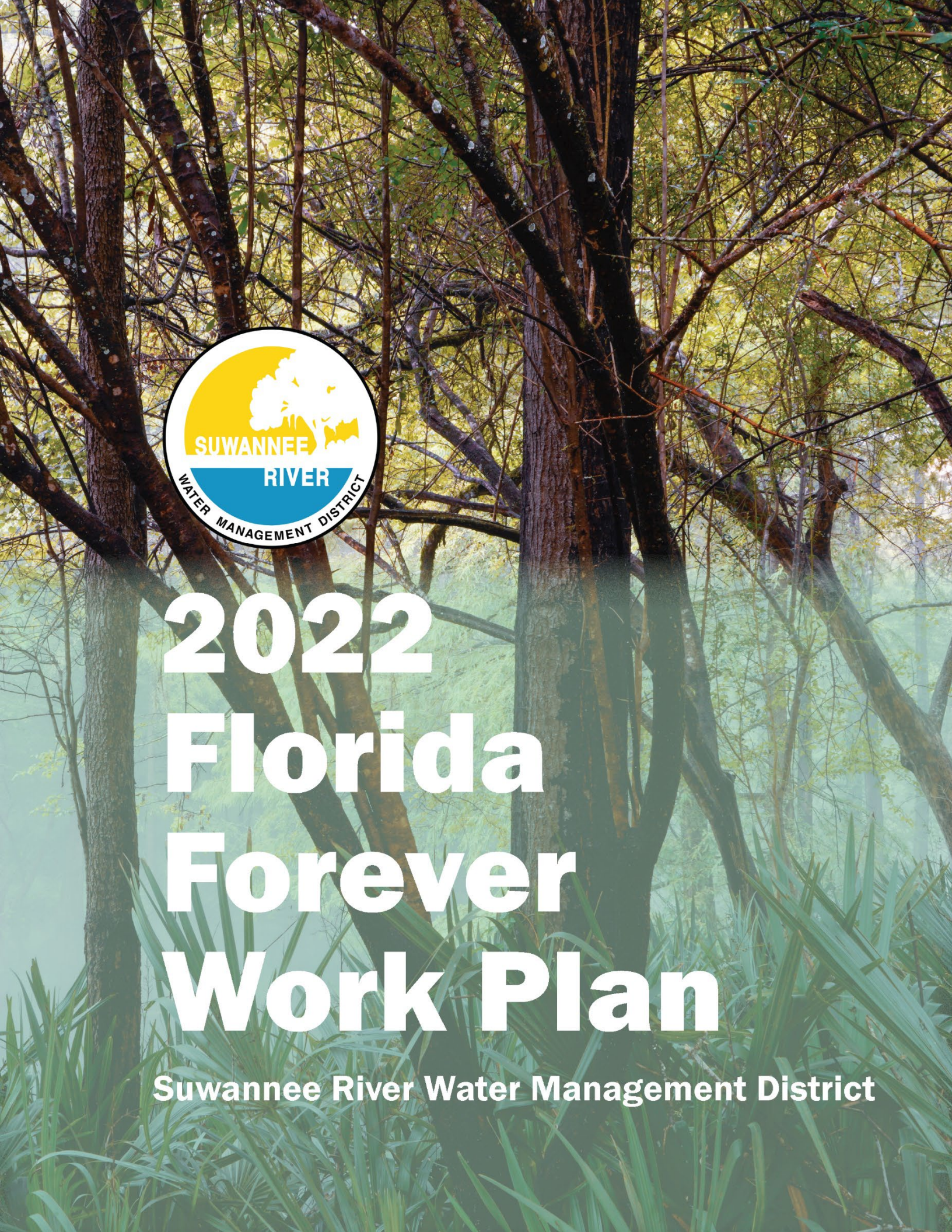
Level III: This grade is assigned if the waterbody is moderately close to meeting the MFL and the waterbody is rated a Tier 1 for regional significance; or the waterbody is not close to meeting the MFL and the waterbody is rated a Tier 2 or Tier 1 for regional significance

.

District Project Number	Project Name	Primary MFL Supported	Quantity Grade	Waterbody Benefited	WBID	Quality Grade
4	2014 Springs Projects: Task 1 Fertigation	NA	NA	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422B	Impaired - High
7	2015 S0905 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment), Santa Fe River	3422	Impaired - High
7	2015 S0905 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment), Santa Fe River	3469	Not Impaired
8	2016 Springs Projects LP6103C: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3341	Not Impaired
8	2016 Springs Projects LP6103C: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422	Impaired - High
8	2016 Springs Projects LP6103C: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422B	Impaired - High
228	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Ichetucknee River	3519	Not Impaired
277	Alachua County Turf Swap	Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA	2710	Impaired
277	Alachua County Turf Swap	Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA	2711-2698-3671A-3644	Impaired - High
277	Alachua County Turf Swap	Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA	2717B-2694-3675-2692	Not Impaired
300	AWS Pivot Retrofits WS002	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Ten Mile Hollow	3438	Not Impaired
300	AWS Pivot Retrofits WS002	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Blue Springs (Lafayette) Drain	3528	Not Impaired
300	AWS Pivot Retrofits WS002	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Unnamed Slough	3710	Not Impaired
240	Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA	3593- 3598D-3598	Not Impaired
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee	3422	Impaired - High
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Unnamed Branch, Santa Fe River, Hornsby Spring	3609	Not Impaired
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Sevenmile Lake Outlet	3652	Not Impaired
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Devils Ear Spring	3675	Not Impaired
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Unnamed Slough	3679	Not Impaired
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Fanning Manatee	3710	Not Impaired
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Little Wacassassa River	3747	Impaired
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Fanning Spring	3422A	Impaired - High
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Troy Falmouth Peacock Lafayette Blue	3422B	Impaired - High
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Devils Ear Spring	3504A	Impaired - High
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Santa FE	3605A	Impaired - High

District Project Number	Project Name	Primary MFL Supported	Quantity Grade	Waterbody Benefited	WBID	Quality Grade
33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Santa Fe, Hornsby Spring	3605D	Impaired
291	Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	UFA	3422	Impaired - High
291	Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	UFA	3684- 3668	Not Impaired
293	Groundwater Recharge Wetland	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	UFA	2692	Not Impaired
2444	Haines Street Drainage Improvements	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	UFA, Tenmile Hollow	3438	Not Impaired
255	Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells and Water Quality Improvement	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	UFA, Tiger Creek	3358	Not Impaired
276	Hampton Water Main Loop	Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA	3633	Not Impaired
271	Lake Frances Sediment Control	NA	NA	Lake Frances	3366A	Impaired
2090	Lancaster Correctional Facility expansion	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Fanning Spring	3422A	Impaired - High
1729	Live Oak Reuse	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Tenmile Hollow	3438	Not Impaired
1877	Newberry Ag and Equestrian Center	NA	NA	Devils Comlex	3675	Not Impaired
2101	North Florida Mega Industrial Park	Ichetucknee River	Level III	Santa Fe, Ichetucknee Rivers	3598C	Impaired - High
310	Otter Springs OSTDS Improvement	NA	NA	Otter Springs, Unnamed Slough	3693	Not Impaired
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	NA	NA	Deep Creek	3388	Impaired - High
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	NA	NA	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422	Impaired High
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	NA	NA	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3693	Not Impaired
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	NA	NA	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3693	Not Impaired
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422B	Impaired High
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Santa Fe River	3605A	Impaired High
209	Ruth Springs Restoration	NA	NA	Ruth Spring, Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422L- 3422B	Impaired - High
1726	Santa Fe Springs Acquisition Project	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Upper Santa Fe	3605C- 3504A	Impaired - High
1726	Santa Fe Springs Acquisition Project	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Upper Santa Fe	3605U	Not Impaired
102	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Advanced Technology	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422A, 3422B	Impaired High
103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Ichetucknee River	Level III	Alligator Lake Outlet	3516	Not Impaired
103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Ichetucknee River	Level III	Cannon Creek	3520	Impaired High
103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422B	Impaired High

District Project Number	Project Name	Primary MFL Supported	Quantity Grade	Waterbody Benefited	WBID	Quality Grade
1811	TCWSD Public Supply Efficiencies	NA	NA	UFA, Direct Runoff to Gulf	3640	Not Impaired
284	University Oaks Phase III a	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Unnamed Slough	3712	Not Impaired
282	University Oaks Phase IV	Waccasassa River	Meeting	UFA, Unnamed Slough	3712	Not Impaired
111	Upper Suwannee River Regional Aquifer Recharge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422B	Impaired - High



2022 Florida Forever Work Plan

Suwannee River Water Management District

Contents

ADA Statement

Americans with Disabilities Act: The District does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions including one's access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the District at 386.362.1001 or 800.226.1066 (Florida only). The District's fax number is 386.362.1056.

Introduction

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) is required by section 373.199(7), Florida Statutes (F.S.), to update the Florida Forever Work Plan annually. This annual update is presented as a separate chapter in the Consolidated Annual Report pursuant to section 373.036(7), F.S.

The Florida Forever Act also provides funding opportunities for land acquisition projects and water resource development and restoration projects. Florida Forever funding must be used to achieve the following goals, as set out in section 259.105, F.S.:

- Enhance the coordination and completion of land acquisition projects.
- Increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels.
- Protect, restore, and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems of the state.
- Ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of natural systems and the citizens of the state.
- Increase natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities.
- Preserve significant archaeological or historic sites.
- Increase the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources.
- Increase the amount of open space available in urban areas.

The Florida Forever Work Plan annual update presents projects the District has identified as eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act and reports on District land acquisition and management activities. Table 1 lists Florida Forever expenditures for each fiscal year (FY). Table 2 outlines projected expenditures for the next five years.

Table 1. Actual Florida Forever Expenditures

Fiscal Year	Fee Acquisition Expenditures [1]	Fee Acres Acquired	Conservation Easement Expenditures	Conservation Easement Acres Acquired	Water Resource Development	Restoration
2000-2001	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001-2002	$4,117,869	30,477	$5,643,127	12,960	-	-
2002-2003	$1,158,661	564	$3,382,632	5,026	-	-
2003-2004	$3,565,225	1,761	$1,517,048	2,023	-	-
2004-2005	$3,792,645	2,661	-	-	-	-
2005-2006	$648,440	123	-	-	-	-
2006-2007	$13,082,288	4246	-	-	-	-
2007-2008	$4,041,930	493	$6,379,514	3,294	-	$210,510
2008-2009	$10,965,200	2,171	-	-	-	-
2009-2010	$494,000	84	$1,789,725	786	$23,500	$309,080
2010-2011	$5,426,437	1,201	$1,557,593	682	$400,000	-
2011-2012	-	-	$250,710	167	-	-
2012-2013	-	-	-	-	$20,825	-
2013-2014	-	-	-	-	-	-
2014-2015	$628,145	85	$707,850 [1]	35	$97,918	-
2015-2016	$7,160	-	-	-	$26,398	-
2016-2017	$20,073	-	-	-	-	-
2017-2018	$1,760,918	329	$8,045	199	-	-
2018-2019	$12,828	5.41	$1,795 [1,2]	-	-	-
2019-2020	-	9.8 [3]	$25,000 [2]	-	-	-
2020-2021	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	44,200	$21,263,039	25,172	$568,641	$519,590

Table 2. Projected Florida Forever Expenditures

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Conservation Land Acquisition	$18,500	$66,350	-	-	
Water Resource Development and Restoration Projects	-	-	-	-	
Total Projected	$18,500	$66,350	-	-	

Water Resource Development

The District is responsible for managing water resources to ensure there is an adequate supply to satisfy all existing and projected reasonable and beneficial uses while sustaining water resources and protecting natural systems. Potential water resource development projects eligible for Florida Forever funding are detailed below. As the District continues to work with its various partners to further develop these projects, the District will look to leverage multiple funding sources including Florida Forever funding.

Upper Suwannee River Basin Water Storage and Aquifer Recharge Projects

Columbia and Hamilton Counties

These projects propose the identification of areas within the Upper Suwannee River Basin where surface water storage and aquifer recharge can be implemented to attenuate flooding, maintain baseflows in surface streams, and restore the Floridan aquifer system. In some areas, it may be feasible to use surface water as an alternative water supply to reduce reliance on groundwater. The District is looking for suitable public and private lands to site water storage and recharge wells within these counties. The project cost is being determined.

UPPER SUWANNEE RIVER REGIONAL AQUIFER RECHARGE

This project is currently in the permitting stage. It may include the installation of up to four recharge wells in the Upper Suwannee River Basin in locations where wetlands were historically ditched and drained into the river. This project intends to capture water during high flow conditions that occur after large rainfall events. The estimated capital cost is $2,500,000.

HAMILTON COUNTY AQUIFER RECHARGE

This project will evaluate and enhance the quantity and quality of aquifer recharge in Hamilton County. This project includes the replacement of two, 12-inch drainage wells to provide aquifer recharge and flood protection in the Alapaha Basin. The wells would allow up to two million gallons per day (MGD) of aquifer recharge to the upper Floridan aquifer (UFA). Positive flows into the wells will provide a benefit to springs along the Upper Suwannee River. The project cost is estimated at $700,000.

Suwannee County

PILGRIM'S PRIDE WASTEWATER REUSE FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

This project is located in western Suwannee County and is to investigate, and potentially implement, the reuse of the wastewater stream from the Pilgrim's Pride poultry processing facility along U.S. Highway 90 near Falmouth Spring. Reuse of the wastewater eliminates a permitted discharge into

the Suwannee River and provides an alternate source of up to 1.5 MGD of groundwater to a potential user(s) currently using Floridan aquifer water, thereby helping maintain base flows to nearby springs as well as to the Suwannee River. The project is to assess reuse potential within at least a five-mile radius from the facility, and includes local agricultural irrigation, dairy pasture irrigation, and a sawmill as possible end-users. The project cost has not been determined.

Upper Santa Fe Basin Flood Mitigation and Aquifer Recharge Projects

Alachua and Bradford Counties

These projects propose the identification of areas within the Upper Santa Fe Basin where surface water storage and aquifer recharge can be implemented to attenuate flooding, maintain baseflows in surface streams, and restore the Floridan aquifer system. The District is looking for suitable public and private lands to site water storage and recharge wells.

Bradford County

WEST RIDGE WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AREA

The West Ridge Water Resource Development Area project includes nearly 667 acres of District-owned land adjacent to the Florida National Guard's (Guard) Camp Blanding. The purchase was funded by a grant from the Guard through the Department of Defense (DOD) as part of a program designed to secure buffers around military installations. This project provides an opportunity for natural resource enhancement and restoration (particularly wetlands), flood protection, potential aquifer recharge to the UFA, and to augment flows to the Upper Santa Fe River. The project cost and benefits have not been determined.

DOUBLE RUN CREEK WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AREA

The Double Run Creek Water Resource Development Area project is in eastern Bradford County and includes 1,910 acres of District-owned land adjacent to the Guard's Camp Blanding. The purchase was funded by a grant from the Guard through the DOD as part of a program designed to secure buffers around military installations. This project presents an opportunity for flood protection, natural resource enhancement and restoration (particularly wetlands), potential aquifer recharge to the UFA, and to augment flows to the Upper Santa Fe River. The project cost and benefits have not been determined.

INTER-DISTRICT WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

This Inter-District Water Resource Development Project is in southeastern Bradford County and will utilize lands adjacent to the Guard's Camp Blanding. This project presents an excellent opportunity for natural resource enhancement and restoration (particularly wetlands), aquifer recharge to the UFA, and to augment flows to the upper Santa Fe River. Aquifer recharge associated with this project will have regional cross-boundary benefits for stressed water resources in both the District and St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) due to its proximity to the Keystone Heights potentiometric high, which is a regional recharge area for the UFA. The project cost and benefits have not been determined.

BROOKS SINK PHASE 2

Brooks Sink, located in Bradford County, is known as one of the largest cover collapse sink holes in Florida and directly connects to the UFA. In the 1960s, previous landowners excavated a series of ditches to drain the wetlands and divert the natural flow of water away from Brooks Sink. In 2015, the District, partnering with Rayonier Operating Company, LLC, completed the first phase of the Brooks Sink Project, which involved installing a flashboard riser in the main ditch to divert the water back to the sinkhole. The first phase has resulted in 244.2 million gallons of recharge from March 1,

2015 through February 2021. Phase 2 proposes to include an additional 1,020 acres, for a total project area of 2,020 acres, on which flows would be redirected to the natural sink for additional recharge. Phase 2 is in the conceptual design phase and the project cost is being determined. Estimated additional recharge benefits of 0.2 MGD are anticipated. The project cost has not been determined.

LAKE SAMPSON DRAINAGE WELLS

This project proposes to replace an abandoned drainage well to provide aquifer recharge and flood protection in the Lake Sampson Basin. Flow into the well(s) will be monitored with telemetry using a flume and water level instrumentation. Positive flows into the well will provide a benefit to springs in the Lower Santa Fe River Basin as well as to related Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels (MFLs) set for the river, which are currently in recovery. Recharge benefits are estimated up to 1.0 MGD. The District is actively seeking additional funding sources for this project. The project cost is estimated to be $1,200,000.

LAKE SAMPSON, LAKE ROWELL, AND CROSBY LAKE

This project is being reviewed for the potential to store and treat floodwaters. It is also a potential site for aquifer recharge using treated wastewater. The project is currently in a feasibility status and discussion with a local landowner is underway for potential project siting. The project cost and benefits have not been determined.

Alachua County

INTER-DISTRICT WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

This Inter-District Water Resource Development Project is located in central Alachua County and will target flood storage and aquifer recharge potential in the Prairie Creek and Paynes Prairie sub basins. This project presents an excellent opportunity for aquifer recharge to the UFA in a critical area providing groundwater flow to Santa Fe River Springs and thereby augment flows to the Lower Santa Fe River. Aquifer recharge associated with this project will have regional cross-boundary benefits for stressed water resources in both the District and SJRWMD due to its relative potentiometric high and large recharge feature in the Prairie. The project is in the initial phases of feasibility and is dependent upon a significant degree of interagency cooperation. The project cost and benefits are being determined.

Outstanding Springs and Priority Focus Area Projects

Sustainable Suwannee – Forestry Cost-Share Pilot Project

This cost-share project would benefit springs by encouraging land uses that use less water and reduce potential nutrient inputs into surface or groundwaters. Three Outstanding Florida Springs - Ichetucknee, Madison Blue, and Troy Springs, as well as Primary or Priority Focus Areas (PFAs) within those respective springsheds will be addressed for potential opportunities. Approximately 3,000 acres may be enrolled.

Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management

This cost-share project will incentivize silviculture and land conservation to reduce groundwater pumping and nitrogen loading with preference given to the PFAs throughout the Suwannee and Santa Fe River Basins.

Dispersed Water Storage Initiative

Several decades ago, industrial landowners excavated ditches to drain land for commercial purposes, including pine tree production. This draining had detrimental impacts to the environment

including: increased risk of downstream flooding due to an increase in peak stormwater discharge; loss of natural wetland systems and reduced aquifer discharge due to lowering the water table and shortening the wetland hydro-period; and adverse impacts to the fishery resources due to an increase in freshwater discharge to estuaries.

This project will enhance water resources and restore natural systems by dispersing water over wetland areas. To expand this concept, the District plans to partner with private landowners to gain additional water resource benefits. The District will establish project budgets as individual projects are identified and developed.

Drainage Well Replacement/Rehabilitation and Enhancement of Natural Recharge Features

The District's karst landscape is characterized by frequent interaction between groundwater and surface water through sinkholes and other natural recharge features that promote rapid recharge to the Floridan aquifer. In the past, local governments used this phenomena to their advantage by accelerating rainfall drainage and reducing flooding impacts using drainage wells. Over time, most of the wells have fallen into disrepair or have been plugged entirely. Drainage well replacement and rehabilitation projects would accelerate aquifer recharge and provide increased flood protection, while incorporating modern flow conveyances to provide a greater level of control and implement water quality improvements. The District has identified existing and/or abandoned drainage wells within the Northern Highland geographic region for replacement/rehabilitation. In addition, the District will identify natural recharge features that may provide recharge projects on an opportunistic basis.

Engineering for Regional Water Resource Development

Preliminary engineering feasibility and scope-identification analyses are typically required to leverage regional water resource development projects to derive enhanced benefits related to water supply or water quality improvement goals. Within the District, the vast majority of municipalities and counties are economically distressed and are not fiscally able to implement this type of effort. This project would serve to identify and define 'shovel-ready' projects that can be initiated upon securing of other funding avenues.

Conservation and Alternative Water Supply Projects

Develop and implement alternative water supplies throughout the Suwannee River Basin to offset groundwater demands and enhance water supply. Projects include pivot retrofits for reducing groundwater pumping, upgrades of wastewater treatment facilities to Advanced Treatment (AWT) for reuse, public supply efficiency improvements, feasibility studies targeting Wastewater Treatment Faculties in PFA and basin management action plan (BMAP) areas, construction of AWT facilities as determined by the feasibility studies, and groundwater recharge wetlands.

Aquifer Recharge Projects

Develop and implement aquifer recharge projects throughout the Suwannee River Basin to offset groundwater demands and enhance water supply. The source could be surface, stormwater, or reclaimed water from an AWT facility.

Restoration Projects

The District, together with state and local partners, has devoted significant funding to projects that focus on restoring water quality and quantity to protect natural systems, especially springs, rivers, and wetlands. Descriptions of water resource restoration projects identified as eligible for Florida Forever funding are provided below. The District continues to work with its state and local partners to identify additional project needs. As projects are developed, the District will look to leverage various funding sources including Florida Forever.

San Pedro Bay, Mallory Swamp, and Waccasassa Flats

HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION

The District contains extensive 'pocosin swamps' that were historically ditched and drained to reduce groundwater saturation of the pocosin soils to allow more intensive plantings of pine species. The largest of these swamps are known as San Pedro Bay in Madison, Taylor, and Lafayette counties, Mallory Swamp in Lafayette and Dixie counties, and the Waccasassa Flats in central Gilchrist County. While successful in increasing plantation densities, derivative impacts included declines in the UFA underlying the swamps, periodic drying of sand-bottom lakes at the perimeter of the swamps, and increased suspended solids in the canals and riverine systems leading to the Gulf of Mexico.

The goal of future projects in these critical areas is to restore natural hydrology and thereby improve wetland conditions and enhance aquifer recharge at the swamp perimeters to aid in perimeter lake level recovery, as well as, to provide increased springflows to major river systems. These hydrologic restoration projects will also reduce the discharge of suspended solids through the extensive remaining canal networks to natural receiving water bodies and eventually the Gulf of Mexico.

Hydrologic restoration projects in these areas can be accomplished through the acquisition of large conservation easements within the swamp boundaries and along man-made drainage features to permit construction of and perpetual maintenance access for control structures (culverts, ditch blocks, controlled gates), recharge wells and related conveyances, and other restoration activities. An estimated minimum practicable project size would be 4,000 acres, with an estimate cost of $4.0 million. Total acreage within the three swamps is more than 600,000 acres. Currently, 59,697 acres are conserved in these regions - 52,428 acres in fee simple and 6,269 acres in conservation easements.

Lafayette County

MIDDLE SUWANNEE RIVER AND SPRINGS RESTORATION PROJECT: PHASE II

The proposed Phase II of the Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project is anticipated to be a private-public partnership between a timber company and the District. The Phase II property is adjacent to Mallory Swamp and adjacent to the existing boundary of the Middle Suwannee Project. The Phase II property is in excess of 6,000 acres, and the District is investigating conservation easement acquisition opportunities to optimize the water resources development potential of the Middle Suwannee Project. Phase II will rehydrate natural systems along and adjacent to the southeastern margin of Mallory Swamp; thereby, increasing available surface water for wetland hydration and groundwater recharge, which will enhance springs restoration. The District's approach includes re-establishment of natural drainage patterns by modifying and constructing hydraulic structures (such as culverts and flashboard risers) adjacent to Mallory Swamp, and using natural recharge features and potentially one or more aquifer recharge wells at strategic locations. Phase II is in the initial stages of investigation with potential benefits being determined. The project cost and benefits are being determined.

District-wide

SPRING WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY RESTORATION

Since 2012, the District's Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources (RIVER) program has contributed over $8.8 million along with state contributions over $12.1 million for projects generating water quantity and quality improvements, which focus on springs protection and restoration activities. These projects increase springflow, improve erosion and sediment control, reduce nutrient (Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorous, Suspended Solids) loading, improve recreational opportunities, support economic growth and development within our communities, and provide natural systems restoration and protection. Projects focused on springs restoration may include: construction of stormwater management systems, parking lot paving, bank repair and stabilization, sediment and debris removal from spring boils/pool/run, construction of distinct access entrance points to protect bank (i.e. steps, ramp, diving platform, canoe launch, etc.), invasive vegetation removal, and/or native aquatic plant installation. These types of springs restoration projects cost approximately $100,000 – $300,000 depending on scope.

WASTEWATER SEPTIC TO SEWER UPGRADES

Efforts to reduce wastewater pollution may include the elimination of small wastewater package plants and septic tanks that have low levels of treatment and redirect the wastewater to larger regional plants with higher treatment levels. Eliminating septic tanks and package plants can be accomplished by installing service connections to existing sanitary sewer collection systems which directly connect to regional wastewater treatment plants (WWTP). Costs vary greatly depending on the existence of a collection system and the capacity of the WWTP. If the plant can handle the additional wastewater and the collection system is close by, the scope simply involves pumping out the wastewater, crushing the septic tank, and adding a sanitary sewer service connection line. If grinder pumps are needed, project costs will increase. The District will continue to work with local governments to develop wastewater infrastructure upgrades and septic to sewer conversion projects. Additionally, the District is working with SJRWMD and the University of Florida Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) to evaluate the effectiveness of enhances to septic systems at an UF/IFAS facility. Project costs will be determined as individual projects are identified.

STORMWATER TREATMENT

Agricultural and urban runoff has been identified as significant sources of nutrient, bacterial, and potential toxic contaminant pollution. The goal of stormwater treatment projects is to collect and treat stormwater runoff before it is discharged to surface waters and groundwater. This can be accomplished using hydrodynamic separators or screening devices as a pretreatment method and then using best management practices such as retention and detention systems to filter and/or dilute storm waters. Benefits include preventing trash, debris, suspended solids, oils, and other pollutants from entering surface waters and groundwater, reducing flow rates to match predevelopment rates, reducing erosion, reducing nutrient loading, and maximizing storage capacity and property usage. Stormwater treatment projects cost vary depending on type of treatment and if land is needed. Project costs average approximately $50,000 per acre of impervious area for treatment.

Land Acquisition and Land Management

Land acquisition and management activities protect water resources and the overall ecological health of communities within the District. The Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000, federal, District and Florida Forever programs have preserved approximately 287,938 acres to protect the region's

river systems and groundwater resources. The following table summarizes fee and less than fee acres owned by the District as of October 2021.

*Table 3. Protected Lands by River Basins**

Basin	Fee Acres	Less Than Fee Acres	Potential Acquisition Project Acres
Alapaha	2,875	1,544	2,902
Aucilla/Wacissa	15,750	12,033	4,880
Coastal River/Econfina/Steinhatchee	48,281	52,666	3,115
Santa Fe/Ichetucknee	15,535	8,176	39,298
Suwannee	65,846	28,520	30,866
Waccasassa	5,266	24,159	5,810
Withlacoochee	6,421	16	6,257
Total	159,974	127,114	93,128

*Acreage updated to reflect best data available via GIS and land database

Land Acquisition Planning

The District's land acquisition efforts focus on areas for springs protection and to support potential water resource development projects. Water resource development project areas are located in two broad zones:

- Areas of high recharge adjacent to the Cody Escarpment: These areas provide the highest potential for identifying and/or locating natural recharge features in the vicinity of possible upgradient recharge water sources, with the intent of minimizing eventual water resource development project transmission and treatment costs.

- Areas of potentiometric high groundwater: These areas constitute the greatest relative benefit with respect to the duration of time that recharged or otherwise retained waters remain in the UFA, as well as maximizing groundwater gradients in springsheds.

The land acquisition program is strictly voluntary — all land acquisition projects are negotiated with willing sellers within the constraints of appraised market value. Lands offered for sale are evaluated by District staff and contractors, who then make recommendations to the Governing Board Lands Committee for review and approval to send the proposed acquisition to the full Governing Board for consideration. The following objectives guide the District's evaluation of potential acquisition areas:

- Preserving floodplain to maintain storage capacity, attenuate floodwaters, and mitigate flood risk;

- Protecting groundwater quality by maintaining low intensity land uses;

- Preserving natural buffers along water bodies where adjacent uses have a high potential to degrade surface water quality;

- Preserving and protecting springs and surrounding areas to protect and improve surface and groundwater; and

- Increasing recharge to the UFA via water resource development projects restoring natural hydrology in headwater swamps and increasing water retention for recharge enhancement.

Approved Land Acquisition Projects

The Governing Board has directed staff to use a watershed approach to conduct detailed assessments of potential acquisitions and water resource development projects within the Aucilla, Coastal Rivers, Lower Suwannee, and Waccasassa River basins. This allows staff to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities and leverage District resources on potential projects with RESTORE funds and other funding sources. The Governing Board also approved District staff to work with local partners to identify potential acquisition and water resource development projects in the Santa Fe and Ichetucknee basins that benefit the Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Associated Springs MFLs and the Santa Fe BMAP. If benefits for acquisition are identified, staff will make a recommendation to the Lands Committee for review and then forward to the Governing Board for consideration.

Table 4. Acquisition Projects Approved for Detailed Assessment

Seller	Project	Acres	County
Michael and Freda Shaw	Shaw Conservation Easement Exchange	1,099	Lafayette
Hickman	Alapaha Point	39.8	Hamilton
Bearden	Alapaha Point CE (Donation)	430	Hamilton
Pflieger	Riverbend Estates (exchange for District Surplus property	1.1	Dixie
Crosby Lake	Crosby Lake	1,380	Bradford
Camp and Abel	Camp and Abel	366	Hamilton
Harpo Holdings	Rio Lindo Conservation Easement	313	Gilchrist
McB-Pinehatchee	Steinhatchee North/ RO Ranch West-Equestrian	2950/ 1,277	Lafayette
Alachua Conservation Trust	Santa Fe Springs	282	Columbia
Florida Department of Transportation	Quail Heights	40.63	Columbia
Lasky	Lasky	351.74	Gilchrist
R.L. Henderson	Telford Springs	94	Suwannee
Adams	Adams Tract	231.1	Madison
Rayonier	Lake Sampson (Rayonier)	30	Bradford

Table 5. Acquisitions Closed in FY 2021

Seller	**Acres**	**County**	**Date**	**Transaction**	**Funding Source**
Jean T. Drufner	10	Hamilton	12.8.2020	Fee Acquisition	Save Our Rivers

Surplus Lands

The District reviews its land holdings to identify any areas that may not be critical for floodplain management, aquifer recharge, and the protection of surface waters, wetlands, and springs. Such lands are declared surplus and either sold or exchanged on the private market or conveyed to other units of government. The proceeds of any sales and exchanges are dedicated to the acquisition of lands with higher water resource and conservation values. Table 6 lists lands declared no longer needed for conservation and to be surplused during FY 2021. Table 7 lists lands surplused in FY 2020.

Table 6. Lands Approved for Surplus FY 2021

Tract	**Acres**	**County**	**Acquired Date**	**Funding**
Branford Bend	50	Suwannee	06.30.2004	Florida Forever
Country Club Road	80	Columbia	07.01.2015	Enforcement Action
Forest Woodlands	11	Gilchrist	10.11.1996	Save Our Rivers
Santa Fe Oasis	1	Gilchrist	04.28.1998	Save Our Rivers
Suwannee Run Shores	1.175	Dixie	12.30.1997	Save Our Rivers
Three Rivers Estates	1	Columbia	12.30.1997	Save Our Rivers
Turtle Spring Surplus Tract	32	Lafayette	05.13.2015	Florida Forever
Newberry Wellfield	58.66	Alachua	1.11.2000	P-2000

Table 7. Surplus Lands and Easement Activity FY 2021

Surplus/Easement Parcels	**Acres**	**County**	**Disposition Date**	**Transaction**	**Proceeds**
-	-	-	-	-	-

Land Management

- The June 2021 Land Management Review Team (LMRT) meeting and field tour was in the Upper Suwannee River basin (Suwannee and Columbia counties). The reviews focused on activities conducted during FY 2019 and 2020. The areas of the review included water resources, natural resource management, public use, and facilities in representative areas. The LMRT participants were asked to score whether the District was achieving its objectives using the following scores:

  - 0 – not meeting objectives;
  - 1 – meeting objectives; and
  - 2 – exceeding objectives.
- The LMRT participants scored the District in the ten management strategies from the District Land Management Plan (DLMP) and two core statuary requirements.
- For the activities conducted in FY 2019 the scores ranged from a low of 1.19 for Rare Species management to a high score of 1.81 for Soils, Topography and Natural Community management. Water resource management obtained a 1.62. The overall average score of the ten management strategies was 1.59. The scores for "managed for purposes acquired" was 1.76 and the score for "in accordance with Management Plan" was 1.67; these scores are required statutorily.
- For activities conducted in FY 2020 the scores ranged from a low of 1.24 for Rare Species management to a high score of 1.81 for Forest Resource management. Water resource management obtained a 1.62. The overall average score of the ten management strategies was 1.58. The scores for "managed for purposes acquired" was 1.76 and the score for "in accordance with Management Plan" was 1.71; these scores are required statutorily.
- The participant scores indicate substantial acceptance with the programmatic achievement of the management strategies set by the Governing Board and Florida Statutes. Overall, the participants approve the planning and methods used by District staff in managing the District's fee owned lands in FY 2019 and 2020.
- The Annual Land Management Report addresses social and economic management goals and management activities which are key components of the land management program and include resource protection, public use, communications, and fiscal responsibility.
- The following summarizes significant natural community resource projects during FY 2021. Once completed, a complete listing of activities and accomplishments will be found in the FY 2021 Annual Land Management Report and will be made available on the District's website.

Natural Resource Management

FOREST RESOURCES

- In FY 2021, the District completed six timber sales totaling 858 acres.
- Final harvests of offsite pine species were conducted on 354 acres. Sites will be reforested with longleaf pines.
- Pine thinnings were conducted on 504 acres to improve forest health and groundcover conditions. Additionally, this will allow the re-introduction of prescribed fire to work towards the natural community restoration goals.
- Forest inventory data was collected on 3,021 plots by contractors and District staff. The data from these plots is used to quantify the acres that have achieved their natural community goals, provides data for areas that could be improved by silvicultural activities, and identifies volumes and other tree species data for restoration project planning.
- In FY 2021, containerized longleaf pine seedlings were planted on 190 acres of sandhill, upland pine, and mesic flatwoods for the purposes of natural community restoration. Bare-root slash pine seedlings were also planted on 15 acres of mesic and wet flatwoods at the Lake City Wellfield.

PRESCRIBED FIRE

- In FY 2021, prescribed burning was conducted on approximately 6,790 acres of District

lands.

MECHANICAL VEGETATION CONTROL

- In FY 2021, approximately 254 acres were roller-chopped, and 2,167 acres were mowed to help facilitate the use of prescribed fire and to help meet natural community restoration/management objectives.
- In FY 2021, the District received $20,805 in grant funding from the Florida Forest Service for 73 acres of mowing work on the Sandlin Bay tract in northern Columbia County. This work was conducted to reduce fuel levels and facilitate the future use of prescribed fire.
- Approximately 101 miles of ditch edges were mechanically treated on various tracts throughout the District in FY 2021. This work was done to increase the width of areas along road edges to provide better fire break capabilities, facilitate the use of prescribed fire and help protect forest resources from the damaging effects of wildfires.

CHEMICAL VEGETATION CONTROL

- In FY 2021, approximately 884 acres were treated with herbicide to prepare sites for reforestation, to help meet natural community restoration/management objectives and to help facilitate the use of prescribed fire.

INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL

- In FY 2021, District staff monitored 106 invasive plant infestations and treated 66 of those infestations (87 acres) with herbicides.
- In FY 2021, District contractors treated approximately 36.5 acres of invasive plant infestations throughout the District.

RARE SPECIES SURVEY/MONITORING

- In FY 2021, District staff monitored 172 known rare plant occurrence locations throughout the District. Rare plant species were observed at 73 of these locations and 68 new rare plant occurrences were added through survey work. These occurrences included species listed as state endangered, state threatened, or commercially exploited.

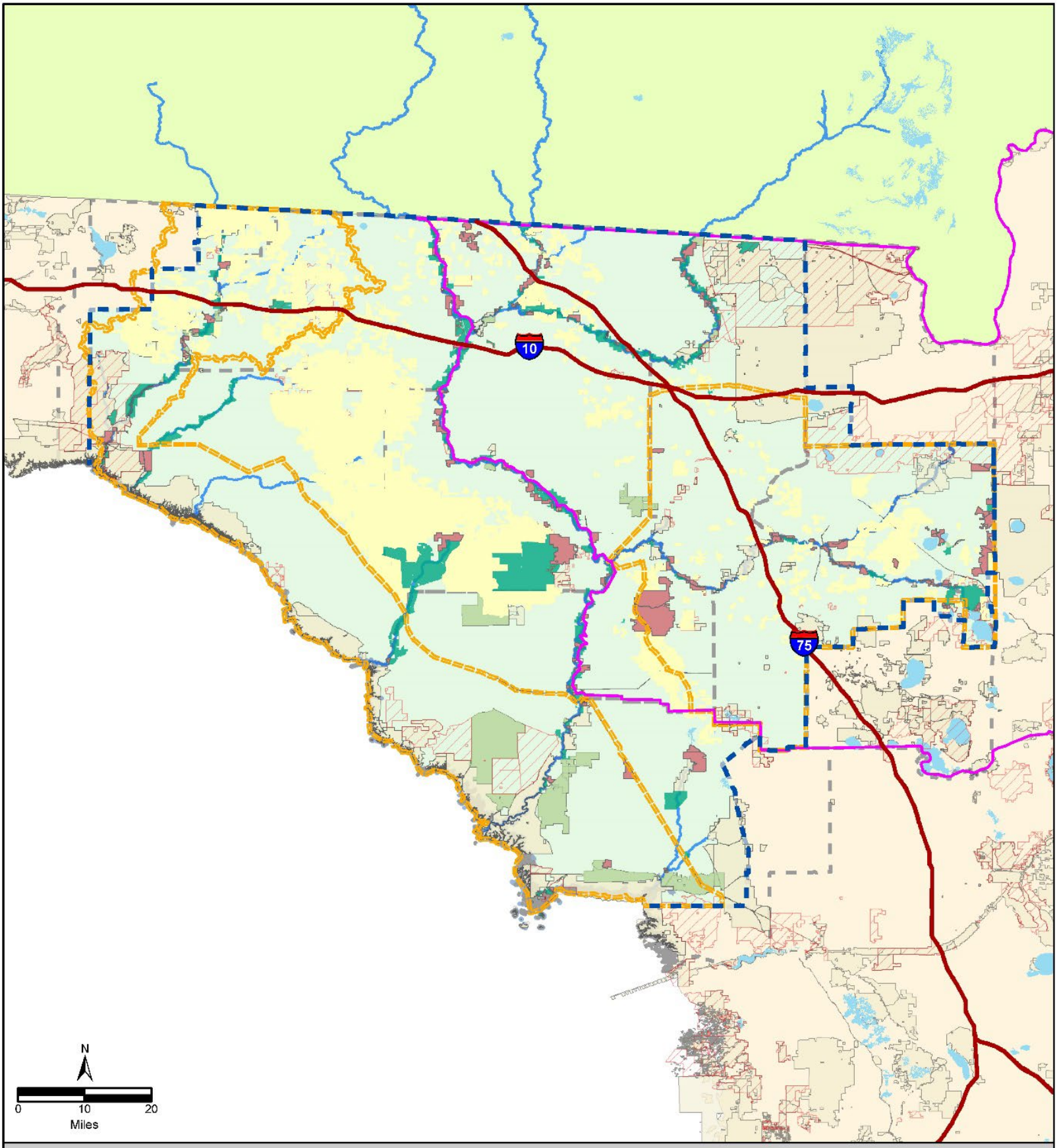
PUBLIC USE

- The trash cans at Goose Pasture Campground were replaced with cans installed on posts and brackets to suspend the cans off the ground. Additional cans were added for the convenience of the campers.
- Recovered approximately 20 miles of roads in the Sandlin Bay Tract to facilitate natural community restoration efforts and improve public use.
- After completion of the Pot Springs Environmental Restoration and Enhancement Project, the District has added Pot Springs to its enhanced law enforcement program. The presence of law enforcement at the springs has reduced vandalism and misbehavior.
- Many District lands contain springs, karst windows, and other geologically significant systems for North Florida. The District issues temporary ingress and egress special use agreements (SUAs) for underwater cave system mapping, water testing, and research to private non-profit research firms. The SUAs are for 12 separate tracts of land. The SUAs are re-issued each year to continue the research. This research data is shared with the District at no cost.
- In FY 2021, 375 Special Use Authorizations (SUAs) were issued for a wide variety of recreation opportunities or needs. Thirty-two SUAs were completed for the Mallory Swamp ATV Trail, 135 SUAs were completed for camping at the Goose Pasture Campground, 49 SUAs were issued for temporary ingress and egress and 26 non-recreation SUAs were issued as well. A total of 568 SUAs were issued during FY 2020.

- Nearly 97% of District fee-titled lands are open to the public for recreation. Lands which are not open to the public include wellfields, spray fields, and water resource development project sites.
- The District cooperated with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and United States Fish and Wildlife Service to provide public hunting opportunities on approximately 106,146 acres.
- The District partnered with Suwannee River Strutters, Jefferson County King of Springs, and Gator Gobblers Chapters of the National Wildlife Turkey Federation to sponsor women in the outdoors and youth special opportunity hunts. These special opportunity hunts allow additional hunting opportunities on 4,410 acres. Additionally, the 2,030-acre Double Run Creek Tract managed by Camp Blanding is leased for hunting.

FACILITIES PROJECTS

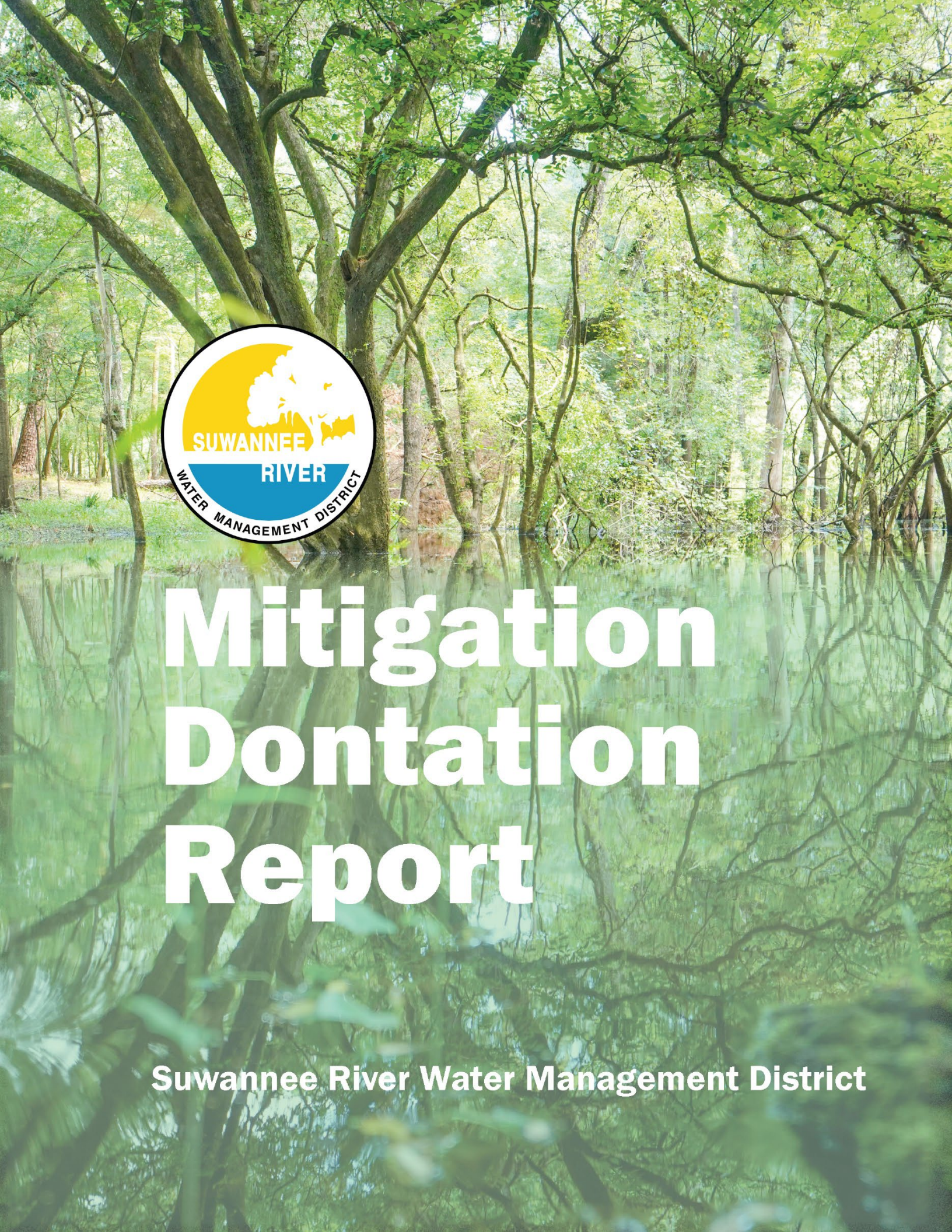
- Approximately 57 miles of road maintenance was completed on the following tracts: Mallory Swamp, Steinhatchee Springs, Seven Bridges, Bay Creek, Rolene, Lamont, Sandlin Bay, Steinhatchee Falls, Little River, Rock Bluff, Little Shoals, Gar Pond, Blue Sink, Swift Creek, Woods Ferry, Matair Springs, Christian, Adams, and Walker. Approximately seven miles of road maintenance was associated with timber harvests.
- Hydrological improvement projects were completed on four District tracts (Steinhatchee Springs, Lamont, Sandlin Bay, and Little Shoals), resulting in 31 culvert replacements and 2 low-water crossing installations.
- Approximately 20 gate repair, installation, and improvement projects were completed on the following tracts: Alligator Creek, little River, Steinhatchee Springs, Jones Mill Creek, Natural Well Branch, Alapahoochee, Matair, Osteen, Cuba Bay, Lake Butler Well Field, and High Springs Well Field.
- Two tract clean-up projects were carried out by removing trash from old dump site locations on Mossy Hammock and Alligator Creek tracts.
- In a cooperative effort between The Suwannee River Water Management District, Lafayette County, and Four Rivers Timber Company, extensive bridge repairs were made to the District owned LA Bennett Bridge on the Steinhatchee Springs Tract.
- In cooperation with Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge and the City of Cedar Key, the District made extensive repairs to composting toilet located on the Atsena Otie Key Tract.
- Land management staff continue to work with GIS staff to improve GIS apps for use on smart devices that enable staff and contractors to use and collect real-time data.



2022 Florida Forever Work Plan

- SRWMD Fee Ownership
- SRWMD Conservation Easement
- Public Conservation Lands
- Potential Acquisition Area
- Potential Project Area
- Basin Project Areas
- North Florida Regonal Water Supply Planning Area
- Board of Trustees Florida Forever Project
- Hydrography
- County Boundary
- Interstate Highway
- District Boundary
- Rivers

Note: This map was created by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to be used for planning purposes only. SRWMD shall not be held liable for any injury or damage caused by the use of data distributed as a public records request regardless of their use or application. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of these data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. For more information please contact the SRWMD at 386-362-1001.
Map Created on



Mitigation Dontation Report

Suwannee River Water Management District

Executive Summary

Subsection 373.414(1)(b)2, Florida Statutes (F.S.) requires that "…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 statute also requires the report to include a description of the endorsed mitigation projects and, except for projects governed by s.373.4135(6), address success criteria, project implementation status and time frame, monitoring, long-term management, provisions for preservation, and full cost accounting.

Cash Donations Received in FY 2021

No cash donations were received for wetland mitigation purposes in FY 2021.