



# NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

35  
YEARS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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2	Expanding Responsibilities	33	Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson and Liberty Counties
4	Governing Board	35	Jefferson, Leon and Wakulla Counties
6	35 Years of Accomplishments	37	Combined Balance Sheet
20	Districtwide Activities	38	Financial Statement
28	Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties	40	District Addresses and Contact Information
30	Bay, Holmes, Okaloosa, Walton and Washington Counties		

# EXPANDING RESPONSIBILITIES

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The year 2007 took the Northwest Florida Water Management District in a markedly new direction. For the first time, the District began implementing the Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) program, a permitting program that has been in existence in the other four water management districts since 1995.

Approval of ERP for the northwest area by the Florida Legislature in 2006 was accompanied by a special Legislative appropriation of \$2.74 million and another \$3.84 million in 2007 for full implementation of the program. During 2007, the District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection cooperated on drafting rules for Phase I of the ERP program, the stormwater portion. These rules were in effect October 1. An online permitting process is under development and will have an external portal that will be used by the public to complete, submit and track applications online. An internal database will allow staff to process applications and monitor processing times. Public users also will be able to query the database directly. Phase II of the program, the wetland portion, is expected to be implemented in 2008. Rules for Phase II are currently being drafted. For the convenience of the public and ease of access, ERP offices were established in both Tallahassee and Crestview.

In preparation for a full Sunset Review, the Florida Legislature directed various state agencies and water management districts to submit reports addressing 16 specific accountability issues (2006 Florida Government Accountability Act) by January 1, 2007. Various District activities and programs were reviewed and reports prepared for the committee throughout the year. The Sunset Review process for the District will conclude by July 1, 2008. The Auditor General's Office and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) are assisting the Joint Legislative Sunset Committee.

While new programs were begun and existing responsibilities were reviewed, the District continued to implement the Region II Water Supply Plan for Santa Rosa, Walton and Okaloosa counties as well as the newly approved Region V Water Supply Plan for Franklin and Gulf counties. Additionally, the District oversees several interrelated programs that address water resource challenges based on the specific needs and characteristics of each watershed or region. These include the comprehensive District Water Management Plan and Surface Water Improvement and Management program.

In 2007, funding totaling \$6 million was earmarked for alternative water supply development and water resource development projects in the northwest region through the Florida Legislature's Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund. During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, funding was awarded to the City of Port St. Joe to construct a water treatment plant, City of Chipley to initiate water reuse improvements, South Walton Utility Company, Inc. to expand a reclaimed water system and Bay County to assess ground water availability and to develop a Floridan Aquifer inland water supply. In October, some funding was redirected to support construction of a public access water reuse system in Wakulla County and to implement water resource development priorities in Escambia County.

The Florida Forever capital improvement grants also continued in 2007. In January, 15 new grants for 14 local governments, totaling nearly \$5.9 million were approved. The fifth cycle of Florida Forever capital improvement grants opened during the summer of 2007 and applications were reviewed in the fall. At least 10 percent of the available grant funding will be allocated to projects from financially disadvantaged small local governments. Recommendations for grant recipients are expected to be presented to the Governing Board in January of 2008. Since the grant program began in 2003, 47 grants have been awarded totaling more than \$20 million. These grants benefit local communities across the District, helping them meet local water resource needs while also addressing regional priorities identified in District plans.

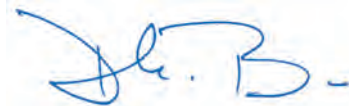
At the conclusion of 2007, District land acquisitions totaled more than 216,000 acres. Rising land values continue to impact the District's acquisition programs. Since 2000, the District has emphasized acquiring less-than-fee-simple titles (or conservation easements). Because conservation easements are less costly than fee simple (all rights), more land can be acquired and protected. Conservation easements allow the District to stretch its limited acquisition funds and land ownership remains with the original owner. Only specified rights (such as development, land use conversion, construction, etc.) that help preserve and protect the land are acquired. Currently the District holds conservation easements on 9,285 acres.

With the approval of the District's Fiscal Year 2007-2008 budget, the ad valorem tax rate was lowered. It was first rolled back to the amount collected in the 2006-2007 fiscal year and then further reduced to .045 for a total reduction of 10 percent. Ad valorem tax revenues collected each year may increase as a result of increased property valuations, new construction or an increase in the millage rate within the District's 16-county area. A rolled back rate equates the 2007-2008 ad valorem tax revenue to the same amount collected in 2006-2007. Instead of collecting five cents (.05 mill) for every \$1,000 of taxable property value (minus the homestead and other qualified exemptions), only four-and-a-half cents (.045 mill) per \$1,000 of property value will be collected. In the upcoming fiscal year, it is anticipated that ad valorem taxes will only account for 6.5 percent of total District revenues.

As in previous years, the District will continue to rely on nontraditional sources of funding for its water resources management and protection programs.



George Roberts  
Chair, Governing Board



Douglas E. Barr  
Executive Director

# GOVERNING BOARD



**George Roberts**  
*Chair*  
Panama City  
Represents Basin III  
Appointed: March 3, 2006  
Term Expires: March 1, 2010



**Philip McMillan**  
*Vice Chair*  
Blountstown  
Represents Basin IV  
Appointed: March 3, 2006  
Reappointed: April 27, 2007  
Term Expires: March 1, 2011



**Sharon Pinkerton**  
*Secretary/Treasurer*  
Pensacola  
Represents Basin I  
Appointed: March 15, 2005  
Term Expires: March 1, 2009



**Douglas E. Barr**  
*Executive Director*  
Northwest Florida  
Water Management District  
Appointed: February 1992

## 2008 GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS

January 24  
February 28  
March 27  
April 24  
May 22\*  
June 26  
July 24  
August 28  
September 11\*  
September 25\*  
October 23  
November 20  
December 11

Governing Board meetings will be held at the District's headquarters office on U.S. Highway 90, except for those with an asterisk (\*). The May meeting will be held at the District's Crestview office as will the September 11 public hearing on the proposed 2008-2009 budget. The September 25 meeting will be held in Marianna with a public hearing on the proposed 2008-2009 budget to follow. This schedule of meetings is tentative and subject to change.



**Peter Antonacci**  
Tallahassee  
Represents Basin V  
Appointed: March 31, 2006  
Term Expires: March 1, 2008



**Stephanie Bloyd**  
Panama City Beach  
Serves at Large  
Appointed: March 2, 2001  
Reappointed: March 2, 2002  
Reappointed: March 3, 2006  
Term Expires: March 1, 2010



**Sharon T. Gaskin**  
Wewahitchka  
Serves at Large  
Appointed: March 5, 1999  
Reappointed: March 2, 2000  
Reappointed: March 17, 2004  
Term Expires: March 1, 2008



**Steve Ghazvini**  
Tallahassee  
Serves at Large  
Appointed: April 27, 2007  
Term Expires: March 1, 2011



**Tim Norris**  
Santa Rosa Beach  
Represents Basin II  
Appointed: April 27, 2007  
Term Expires: March 1, 2011



**Jerry Pate**  
Pensacola  
Serves at Large  
Appointed: November 14, 2006  
Appointed: May 5, 2007  
Term Expires: March 1, 2009

- Basin I:** Perdido and Escambia rivers
- Basin II:** Blackwater and Yellow rivers
- Basin III:** Choctawhatchee River and St. Andrew Bay Coast
- Basin IV:** Apalachicola and Chipola rivers
- Basin V:** Ochlockonee, Wakulla and St. Marks rivers

# 35 YEARS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

35  
YEARS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## *NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT*

With the passage of the Water Resources Act of 1972 by the Florida Legislature, the Northwest Florida Water Management District and four other water management districts were created. Underlying the formation of the water management districts was a concern that the long-term water supply be sustained. Since its establishment, the District has undertaken a series of measures to protect northwest Florida's water resources by implementing regulatory programs, purchasing lands along major rivers and streams, assessing the availability of ground and surface water supplies, undertaking many restoration efforts and initiating a number of water resource research projects. Many of these research efforts addressed surface waters that needed preservation or protection or those that had been impacted by nonpoint source pollution (surface water runoff) and needed restoration. Presented here are the Northwest Florida Water Management District's accomplishments over a 35-year span.

### Implemented regulatory programs to preserve northwest Florida's water resources

Regulatory programs are initiated to safeguard the region's ground water and surface water resources. Since the District's creation, several significant programs and their accompanying rules were adopted (and later updated):

- *Regulation of Wells, 1976*
- *Works of the District, 1978*
- *Management and Storage of Surface Waters, 1979*
- *General and Procedural, 1980*
- *Consumptive Uses, 1982*
- *Regulation of Agricultural and Forestry Surface Water Management, 1984*
- *Water Shortage Plan, 1984*
- *Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) (Implemented by District in two phases – stormwater rules in October 2007 and wetland rules in 2008.)*

Regulatory initiatives also have included the Abandoned Well Plugging program, first begun in 1988 in Okaloosa County. In August of 1989, the District established its first Water Resource Caution Area (coastal areas of Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton counties) and its second (Telogia Creek in Gadsden County) in May of 1992. In 1991, the District joined with the Department of Environmental Regulation to plug abandoned wells located in the highly sensitive coastal areas of Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Bay and Franklin counties. In 2001, strict standards for potable wells were initiated in southern Escambia County due to an area of potential ground water contamination. Similar standards had already been in effect for portions of Jackson, Leon and Santa Rosa counties. In 2005, new rules for the permitting of bottled water operations became effective. All bottled water operations are required to obtain an Individual Water Use Permit, which provides timely, noticed opportunity for the public to review and comment on every request to withdraw water for bottling purposes.



Deep Edge Pond

## Preserved more than 216,000 acres along rivers, creeks, bays, lakes and springs to protect the region's finite water resources

In the 1980s, buying environmentally sensitive land to protect water resources began receiving increased attention. Land acquisition programs were characterized as the most effective way to invest in Florida's future. Acquiring land to protect our natural systems, floodplains, ground water, surface water and varied habitats was emphasized with the legislatively adopted, Save Our Rivers land acquisition program (1981-1991). The documentary tax-based program was to raise more than \$300 million a year for ten years (\$3 billion). In 1990, the Florida Legislature adopted the Preservation 2000 land acquisition program, also a 10-year \$300 million a year program, and then, in 1999, its successor program, Florida Forever. District acquisitions have included both fee simple (all rights) and less-than-fee (specific acquisition rights) purchases. All lands obtained through fee simple are made available to the public for

natural, resourced-based recreational activities as long as the resource is not negatively impacted. Only specific rights, however, are acquired with conservation easements and these lands are not made available to the public since they are still under private ownership. Significant land acquisitions have included:

- *In 1984, the District purchased 9,700 acres of floodplains along the Escambia River, its first acquisition under Save Our Rivers.*
- *35,500 acres within the Apalachicola River basin and 35,198 acres within the Choctawhatchee River basin were purchased in 1985.*
- *In 1986, the District and The Nature Conservancy purchased the 2,888-acre Wakulla Spring tract. The Department of Natural Resources then bought the tract in 1987 and began managing it as a state park.*
- *The southern and eastern portions of Garcon Point in Santa Rosa County, totaling 1,864 acres, were purchased in 1991.*





Apalachicola River

- 38 miles of river and stream corridors and watershed areas, totaling 15,820 acres (Walton, Holmes, Washington and Jackson counties), were purchased in 1992.
- A unique, natural park (Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park) resulted when the District and the City of Tallahassee jointly purchased 672 acres bordering the eastern shore of Lake Jackson in 1993. The District portion (the natural park) totals 516 acres and the City's portion (ball fields), the remainder.
- A 28,009-acre tract in Tate's Hell State Forest was jointly purchased by the District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission in 1993. The District contributed \$3.5 million toward the purchase but did not retain title to the land.
- Three tracts, totaling 30,790 acres and containing more than 50 miles of river and stream corridors within the Escambia, Yellow and Choctawhatchee river basins, were purchased by the District in 1994.
- In 1994, two tracts of land in the Econfina Creek basin were purchased: 1,401 and 3,751 acres. Econfina Creek flows into Deer Point Lake Reservoir, Bay County's drinking water supply.
- A 928-acre tract within the Econfina Creek watershed was purchased in 1996.
- 1,046 acres on Garcon Point in Santa Rosa County were purchased in 1996. Swamps on the tract form the headwaters of the Indian Bayou estuarine system and flow into Escambia Bay.
- A geologically and hydrologically significant area adjacent to Econfina Creek, 28,954 acres known as the Sand Hill Lakes, was purchased in 1997. This was the largest acquisition of a "recharge" area known to have occurred in the state. The area has a ground water recharge potential of approximately 40 inches a year.
- 7,968 acres along the middle Yellow and lower Shoal river corridors were purchased in 1999.
- In 2001, two tracts within the Holmes Creek watershed were purchased: 1,111 (conservation easement) and 1,076 (fee simple) acres.
- The 1,034-acre Hobbs Pasture tract was acquired within the Econfina Creek watershed in 2001.
- A 1,177-acre tract on Grassy Point in Santa Rosa County was acquired in 2001.

- *The 2,649-acre Devils Swamp tract in the Choctawhatchee River watershed was also acquired in 2001.*
- *A 1,173-acre conservation easement in the heart of the Econfina Recharge Area in Washington County was purchased in 2003.*
- *In 2003, the District's 2,155-acre Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank in Washington County was purchased.*
- *Acquired 3,160 acres along Lafayette Creek in south Walton County in 2005, protecting over 40 percent of the water resources of the creek, which empty into LaGrange Bayou and the upper Choctawhatchee Bay.*
- *5,456 acres were purchased along the Perdido River in 2006, which included 15 miles of riverfront.*
- *In 2007, a 1,551-acre tract along the Apalachicola River and a 1,526-acre tract along the Ochlockonee were acquired as conservation easements.*

The first management policies were developed for lands owned by the District in 1988. These policies provided a broad spectrum of public uses while maintaining and restoring varied environments and habitats at the same time. Subsequent additions and revisions have emphasized involving the public, recreational users of the land.

A Payments in Lieu of Taxes program, adopted by the Florida Legislature in 1993, allowed the District to reimburse qualifying counties for taxes lost when lands

were purchased by the District. Lands under public ownership are removed from the tax rolls.

In 1999, acquisitions of land through conservation easements (less-than-fee) began gaining interest. Traditional, “fee simple” purchases involve acquiring all rights where “less-than-fee” purchases involve acquiring certain specified rights, usually development and land use conversion. Conservation easements allow the District to stretch its limited funding since lands are typically acquired at about 50 percent of their fee simple values. The District made its first conservation easement purchase in 2000 with the acquisition of a 120-acre conservation easement along Black Creek, a tributary of the St. Marks River. By 2007, conservation easement (less-than-fee) purchases totaled 9,285 acres.

**Provided Florida Forever capital improvement grants to local governments for water resource protection and improvement projects**

Unlike previous land acquisition programs, the Florida Forever program gave water management districts the option of using up to half of the funds made available each year for capital improvement projects that met Florida Forever goals. Examples of such capital improvement projects include habitat restoration, stormwater treatment, sedimentation abatement and water resource development projects that promote reclamation, storage or recovery of water.

#### DISTRICT LANDS ACQUIRED

<b>Watershed</b>	<b>Fee Simple</b>	<b>Less-than-Fee</b>	<b>Acres Preserved</b>
Choctawhatchee River and Bay	60,636	1,443	62,079
Pensacola Bay System	56,286	19	56,305
Apalachicola River and Bay	42,883	2,368	45,251
Econfina Creek/St. Andrew Bay	41,167	2,433	43,600
Perdido River and Bay	5,456	0	5,456
Ochlockonee River and Bay	516	1,841	2,357
St. Marks River/Apalachee Bay	0	1,181	1,181
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>206,944</b>	<b>9,285</b>	<b>216,229</b>

The first year of the Florida Forever capital improvement grant program was 2003-2004. About \$3.6 million in grants were approved for 11 local government recipients who proposed projects to protect and improve water resources. In the second year (2004-2005), nearly \$3.7 million were allocated for eight local government capital improvement grants. In the third year (2005-2006), approximately \$7.3 million in funding were made available for 14 local government projects. In the fourth year (2006-2007), \$5.8 million were awarded to 15 recipients. In the fifth year (2007-2008), approximately \$4 million are anticipated to be awarded to qualifying applicants.



Estuarine Marsh

## Implemented watershed management and restoration plans for surface waters of regional significance

In 1987, the Florida Legislature passed the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Act. This program was initiated to preserve water bodies of regional significance and to restore those that had been impacted or degraded by nonpoint source pollution. The first step was to compile a listing of water bodies, rank them and develop management plans for those highest ranked. Management plans have been developed for: Apalachicola River and Bay, Lake Jackson (Leon County), Pensacola Bay system, Deer Point Lake Reservoir, St. Andrew Bay watershed, Choctawhatchee River and Bay and the St. Marks River-Apalachee Bay watershed.

In 1977, years before the SWIM program was established, the District began working on ways to improve water quality in Lake Jackson. Of particular concern was the Meginniss Arm area, the southern portion of the lake. In 1983, the Lake Jackson Meginniss Arm Stormwater Treatment Facility and artificial marsh were completed. Undertaken in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation, it was considered an innovative demonstration project. Subsequent efforts to restore Lake Jackson followed:

- *In 1989, an expansion of the capacity of the detention/filtration system was begun.*
- *In 1990, a project to remove over 20 years worth of degraded sediment from Meginniss Arm was initiated, concluding in 1992 with the removal of 112,000 cubic yards.*
- *In 1993, an adjacent Interstate 10 Meginniss Creek Pond Stormwater Treatment Facility was added.*
- *In 1999, the southern portion of Lake Jackson drained through Porter Hole Sink launching a large-scale, muck removal restoration project. In May of 2000, the northern portion of Lake Jackson drained through Lime Sink. Two million cubic yards of accumulated sediment were removed from the bottom of the lake during this natural drydown.*
- *In 2005, preliminary designs were completed for a 330-acre Okeeheepkee Regional Stormwater Treatment Facility at Lake Jackson. The District and Leon County agreed to partner in this project.*
- *In 2007, approximately 32,600 cubic yards of sediment were removed from the Lake Jackson Meginniss Arm Stormwater Treatment Facility pond.*

Additionally, in 1986, a five-year stormwater drainage evaluation of the Lake Lafayette, Lake Munson, Lake Jackson and Fred George Sink basins in Leon County was begun. Its purpose was to determine the most cost effective approach for resolving current and anticipated problems related to stormwater flooding and water quality impacts. The four Leon County drainage basin plans were finished in 1991.

The detrimental effects of stormwater runoff on the Pensacola Bay system were recognized as early as 1978

when the District initiated a study of Bayou Texar and provided recommendations for its restoration. This study was followed by an evaluation of the nature and extent of water and sediment quality problems affecting Bayou Chico as well as further stormwater evaluations of Bayou Texar. In 2001, the District provided funds to Escambia County to acquire lands needed for a stormwater treatment facility for Bayou Chico. The “L” Street Pond Alum Injection Stormwater pilot project, a cooperative effort between the District and Escambia County, is expected to be completed in early 2008. In 2004, funding was approved to assist with the 19th Street stormwater retrofit, which is currently underway. The 17th Avenue stormwater pond within the Bayou Texar watershed was completed in July 2007.

Lake Jackson and the Pensacola Bay system were high on the SWIM priority list of water bodies in need of restoration due to the effects of stormwater runoff but the Apalachicola River and Bay were highest in terms of those needing preservation. The District undertook several projects and research efforts for the Apalachicola River and Bay. One was the Freshwater Needs Assessment, begun in the early 1990s, which also became a study element of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin Comprehensive Study and focus of subsequent interstate negotiations. This assessment determined freshwater inflows needed for the optimum functioning of the bay. Others included:

- *In 1994, the District received a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to begin the hydrologic restoration of the Glawson tract, located in Tates Hell Swamp. This area had been ditched and drained for timber harvesting disrupting the natural flow of fresh water into the Apalachicola Bay.*
- *Also in 1994, a demonstration project was completed to remove sand spoil sites along the river, resulting from navigation channel dredging activities.*
- *A hydrologic restoration of the Apalachicola River floodplain near Pig and Coon Island was completed in 1996. Through this project, a large area of wetlands was restored that had been impacted by old logging roads, collapsed culverts and bridges.*
- *In 1997, the Apalachicola River was approved as a*

*priority water body for establishing minimum flows and levels.*

- *The first phase of a planned hydrologic restoration of 4,200 acres within Tate’s Hell State Forest began in 2002.*
- *In 2006, through a partnership with Gulf County, the District provided \$1 million to begin removing dredged spoil from about 15 acres of floodplain along the Apalachicola River, known as site 39.*
- *In February 2006, the District’s Governing Board declared a reservation on the water resources of the Apalachicola River (including the Chipola River) to preserve the flow regime, as described in section 40A-2.223, Florida Administrative Code.*

Other surface water projects included circulation studies of Old Pass Lagoon in Destin, part of the Choctawhatchee River and Bay system. In 1983, the District began collecting and analyzing hydrologic data to determine the cause of a series of massive fish kills in the lagoon. To improve water quality, it was recommended that large underground pipes be installed to facilitate the circulation of seawater between the lagoon and Gulf of Mexico. In 1987, the Legislature



Choctawhatchee River

appropriated funds for the first construction phase, completed in 1989. Later, the District and several other governmental entities agreed to help Destin finish the construction project, which was completed and tested in

late 1992. The Choctawhatchee River and Bay were the focus of several other research efforts.

In 2002, the District completed a multi-year investigation into sources of nitrogen applied to the landscape in Leon and Wakulla counties. The study examined the effect and relationship of nitrogen to an increase in invasive plant growth in the first magnitude Wakulla Spring. Further research is currently being undertaken by local governments.

In the summer of 2005, the Big Escambia Creek restoration project was completed. A \$7.7 million intergovernmental effort to return the creek to its original channel, the project involved Florida, Alabama, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Three Rivers/Gulf Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council.

## Recognized need to coordinate management of shared water resources with neighboring states

Several river systems within the District originate in Georgia or Alabama. The Apalachicola River, the state's largest in terms of flow, is formed at Florida's northern border by the convergence of the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers. Its watershed is shared with Georgia and Alabama. The Ochlockonee and St. Marks rivers watersheds are shared with Georgia, and the Perdido River, Pensacola Bay and Choctawhatchee River and Bay watersheds are shared with Alabama.

Attention has been focused on the Apalachicola River which has a long history of interstate management efforts. In 1980, the District and the Department of Environmental Regulation designed a major water resource study of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint



*Abandoned River Channel Lake*

(ACF) river basin. In 1983, governors Bob Graham (Florida), George Wallace (Alabama) and Joe Frank Harris (Georgia) signed the first official memorandum of agreement to participate in the interstate management of the ACF river system.

Ten years later, Alabama filed litigation in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama on June 28, 1990. It challenged the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' plan to reallocate water from Lake Lanier to meet Atlanta's growing water supply needs, which could affect downstream needs and users. The State of Florida filed a motion to intervene on behalf of Alabama on August 15, 1990, and Georgia later filed on behalf of the Corps. A stay was granted and the three states and the Corps began negotiations to establish a memorandum of agreement and developed a conceptual plan to resolve the lawsuit.

On January 3, 1992, the governors of Florida (Lawton Chiles), Alabama (Guy Hunt) and Georgia (Zell Miller) and the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) signed a memorandum of agreement committing to work together through the Comprehensive Study process. The final plan for a Comprehensive Study of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) river basin system was comprised of 15 study elements and included the District's Freshwater Needs Assessment of the Apalachicola River and Bay. The 1990 lawsuit was then placed on an inactive docket while the four partners attempted to resolve differences.

In 1997, the ACF river basin Compact Agreement for the management of these shared water resources was approved by each of the three state legislatures, ratified by the United States Congress and signed into law by United States President William Clinton on November 20, 1997. The Compact Agreement established a commission whose members were the governors and a federal commissioner. Governors Lawton Chiles (Florida), Zell Miller (Georgia) and Fob James, Jr. (Alabama) convened the Commission on February 18, 1998, to sign the agreement.

After numerous extensions (some 17 times) to the Compact Agreement, the states opted to pursue resolution of an equitable water sharing agreement



through the court system. On August 31, 2003, the states elected not to extend the Compact Agreement and discontinued these negotiations.

**Developed districtwide and regional water management plans to ensure sustainability of northwest Florida's water resources and to identify future alternative water supply sources**

Evident early in the District's history was the need for assessments or evaluations of the area's water resources. While the area's water resources are used for the public good, they must be preserved for the long term. One of the District's first water planning documents was its Water Use Plan, completed in 1978. Even at that time, it was not considered to be a "one time" document. That same philosophy – ongoing evaluation and planning for future water needs – exists today.

In 1977, the District began collecting data for a Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP). While this plan included general goals and objectives, it also provided a detailed, quantitative description of all water resources and water uses in the northwest. This plan was adopted in 1979.

In 1980, a Regional Water Supply Development Plan for the coastal areas of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton and Bay counties was initiated. Its goal was to provide alternatives for managing these water resources,

ensuring the long-term availability of water. Completed in 1982, it included an evaluation of water supply alternatives, selection of preferred alternatives and recommendations for future program activities. An addendum to this plan was prepared in 1988.

In 1994, the District Water Management Plan (DWMP) was developed and was expected to guide water management decisions for the next 20 years. It has been updated periodically since then. In 1998, the District undertook a water supply assessment of its entire 16-county area. It delineated seven water supply planning regions. This assessment projected the demand for water for a 20-year period, assessed the availability of current water supplies and ascertained whether they were sufficient for anticipated future demand. It was determined that only Region II (Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton counties) would not have sufficient water supply to meet future demand. A *Regional Water Supply Plan for Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton Counties* was completed in 2001 that identified water resource development projects and preferred alternative water supply sources. This plan was updated in 2006. In 2007, a Region V Water Supply Plan for Franklin and Gulf counties was approved. Coastal water supply wells in those areas are not able to meet projected demand. The District began investigating possible inland water supply

sources and assisted in the conversion of an existing canal to a freshwater supply source for the City of Port St. Joe.

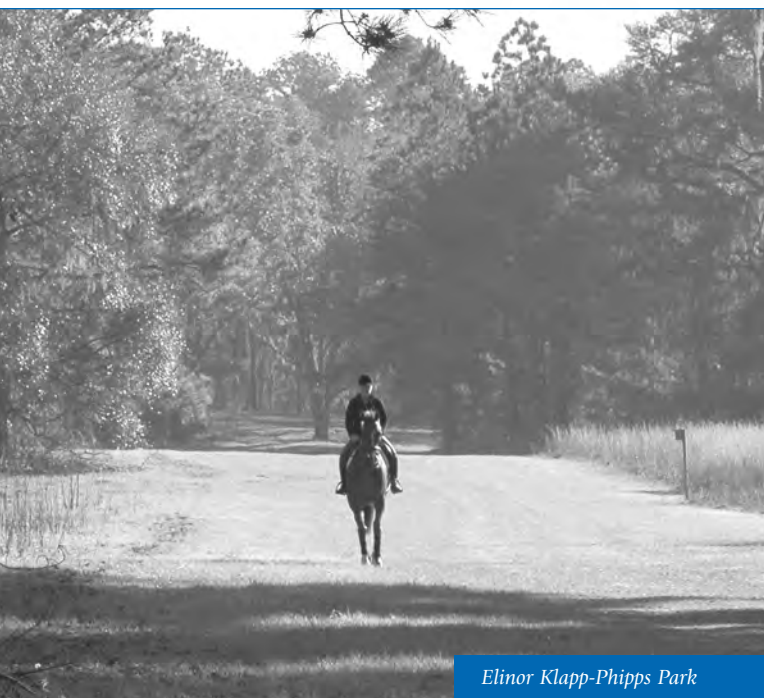
### Assisted local governments to identify and develop alternative water supply sources

The District has played a significant role in obtaining funding assistance for local governments to help with water supply and reuse/reclaim water systems. The costs associated with these various projects are high and frequently require cost-sharing among several partners. Several sources of funding have been used for these cooperative projects. The Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund was first established by the Florida Legislature in 2005. This trust fund created a new source of funding for alternative water supply development, for constructing reuse/reclaim water systems and for implementing priority water resource development projects. Several significant projects funded through this program were:

- *\$6.5 million were used for about 40 percent of the cost of an inland wellfield expansion to supply water to south Walton County.*
- *\$1 million were granted to the City of Tallahassee (Leon County) to construct a facility that will reclaim water and treat it to standards high enough to irrigate public areas, which will help conserve potable water for the area.*
- *Another \$2 million were provided to improve the Bob Sikes Water Reclamation Facility near Crestview in Okaloosa County. This expansion is expected to triple to one million gallons a day the amount of wastewater reclaimed for landscape irrigation.*
- *Port St. Joe received \$4 million for the construction of a water treatment facility.*
- *\$1.5 million were made available for water reuse projects in south Walton County, Wakulla County and for the City of Chipley.*

Other cooperative efforts included:

- *In 1999, the District obtained federal funding (\$3 million) to help with the planning and final design*



Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park



Dykes Mill Pond

*of an inland wellfield (Sand and Gravel Aquifer). The Fairpoint Regional Utility System now supplies water to coastal Santa Rosa County.*

- *In 2001, the City of Port St. Joe was awarded a \$350,000 grant by the District to assist in the acquisition of a freshwater canal to supply water for municipal and industrial use for coastal Gulf County. As mentioned previously, \$4 million were granted to the City of Port St. Joe from the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund to construct a water treatment plant, enabling the city to transfer its water supply source from ground water to surface water via this canal from the Chipola River.*
- *In 2002, \$750,000 were provided to the City of Crestview to assist with the repairs of a water supply well and the construction of a new one.*
- *In 2004, an evaluation of potential inland water*

*supply sources for Franklin County began. Concern over “upconing” (the process by which saline water underlying fresh water in an aquifer rises into the freshwater zone as a result of pumping) in coastal water supply wells prompted the evaluation. This investigation continues today.*

- *In 2007, the City of Freeport received \$3 million for a reuse system to help reduce ground water withdrawals.*

**Undertook numerous water resource monitoring and research programs to ensure quality and quantity of ground water and surface waters**

Long-term monitoring programs provide the building blocks for some of the District’s larger, more visible programs and projects. Monitoring programs enable the





The Pipes

District to assess the health of ground water and surface water resources in the northwest.

The Ambient Ground Water Monitoring program, begun in 1984, resulted from the passage of the Florida Legislature's Water Quality Assurance Act of 1983. An extensive network of wells was identified and sampled. This program was later combined with the surface water monitoring program and continues today. The Ambient Monitoring of Surface Water Quality program has been in place for some 17 years. Special cooperative monitoring programs also were initiated with the City of Pensacola and Bay and Leon counties. In recent years, springs throughout northwest Florida have been monitored and cataloged.

Several ground water modeling projects also have been undertaken for the Sand and Gravel and Floridan aquifer systems. These helped identify placement of inland wellfields and supported several ground water research investigations.

### Participated in recovery efforts and implemented measures to address impacts of hurricanes, floods and droughts

The years 1999 through 2001 are considered the drought of record. Severe drought conditions of the late 1990s

and early 2000s necessitated several actions by the District. From April to September 1998, Walton County was under a temporary water supply emergency order. The order was prompted by the closure of three water supply wells due to saline contamination. In June of 1999, the Governing Board declared a Water Shortage Warning for the District's entire 16-county area, calling for voluntary water conservation measures. In August of 2001, the Water Shortage Warning was rescinded after rainfall returned to normal. On June 5, 2007, a Districtwide Water Shortage Warning was again issued for all 16 counties within the District, calling for voluntary water conservation measures, and was still in effect at the conclusion of 2007.

Since the District was formed in 1972, several hurricanes have made landfall in the Panhandle, or nearby, affecting the northwest area. Notable were hurricanes Agnes (landfall near Mexico Beach, category one, in 1972); Eloise (landfall near Grayton Beach, category two, in 1975); Fredrick (landfall near Mobile, Alabama, category four, in 1979); Kate (landfall near Mexico Beach, category two, in 1985); Erin (landfall near Pensacola, category one, in 1995); Opal (landfall near Navarre, category two, in 1995); Earl (landfall near Panama City, category one, in 1998); Ivan (landfall near Gulf Shores, Alabama, impacting Pensacola, category three, in 2004); and Dennis (landfall between Navarre Beach and Gulf Breeze, category four, in 2005).

In 2005, the District began helping with the debris cleanup of Pensacola Bay due to concerns about water quality and public safety. The cleanup of debris occurred along five, one-square mile stretches. Impacted by hurricanes Ivan and Dennis in 2004 and 2005, the area subsequently was affected by others (Katrina and Rita) that did not make a direct landfall in Florida. Approximately 2,165 cubic yards of wreckage and hazardous waste were collected.

Flooding is often associated with these tropical systems. In 1994, some of the worst flooding occurred in the Panhandle since the floods of 1929. It was the result of Tropical Storm Alberto, which moved slowly across Florida, Alabama and Georgia and then stalled and backtracked through the area. Some Florida counties and parts of Alabama reported 15 inches of rainfall and

parts of Georgia reported 20 inches. At the time, the Northwest Florida Water Management District was the “first response” for all the water management districts in Florida because the state’s Emergency Operations Center was located in Tallahassee.

In 2002, Region IV of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the District agreed to cooperate on floodplain map modernization for northwest Florida. The first counties to have completed modern Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps were Escambia, Santa Rosa and Gulf. Updates for the District’s remaining counties are underway or planned and are expected to be completed by 2010. These updated maps will benefit local governments since they will have more current, accurate information and local governments will be better able to anticipate the effects of storm events and plan for them.

### Developed a Regional Mitigation Plan to offset wetland impacts and opened the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank, the District’s first

The District’s first Regional Mitigation Plan, developed in 1996, contained plans to offset wetland impacts associated with eligible Department of Transportation (DOT) projects. Several years later, the District entered into an innovative web-based regional mitigation agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that makes the process of mitigating for DOT wetland impacts more efficient and effective.

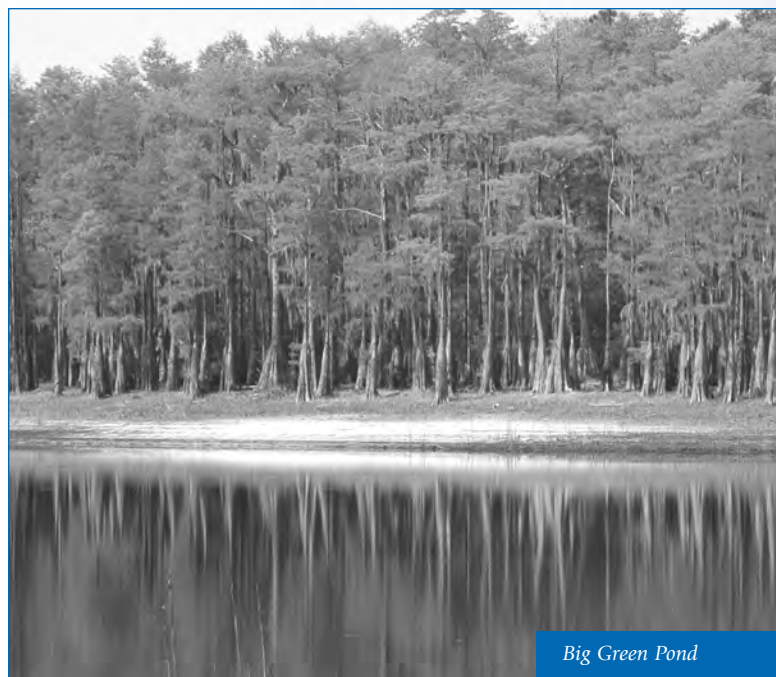
In 2003, approximately 2,155 acres in south-central Washington County were acquired as the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank, the District’s first. Located along the headwaters of Pine Log Creek, a tributary of the Choctawhatchee River, the Mitigation Bank will help offset wetland impacts associated with state road construction projects. The Sand Hill Lakes area is an important recharge area for Econfinia Creek and it supports rare and sensitive ecological resources. In 2005, the District entered into a three-year cooperative land management agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to assist in restoring, protecting and managing the Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation

Bank. The goal was to develop the property into a low impact public recreational area for residents of northwest Florida. This recreational area officially opened in May of 2007.

### Computerized many functions within the District, including permitting

A Geographic Information System (GIS) was initiated in 1988, which was predicted to revolutionize the District’s mapping, research and regulatory capabilities. These maps are prevalent in District publications and are essential planning tools for all District projects today.

In 1996, the District’s external web site was made available to the public for the first time. New publications and current research investigations are posted on the web site for easy access by the public. Additionally, hydrologic conditions such as rainfall, river and stream levels, etc. can be found on the web site. With the adoption of Phase I of the Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) program in the northwest in 2007, implementation of an e-permitting processing system has become a focus. The web site has made many kinds of information about water management immediately available and accessible to the public.



*Big Green Pond*



Backwater Slough

## Maintained a flow of information about water management to the public through publications and educational outreach programs

A responsibility inherent in water management is keeping the public informed about the activities of the Northwest Florida Water Management District and the current status of water resources in its 16-county area. In addition to information provided on the web site, several printed items are made available to the public:

- Numerous brochures and educational posters for significant water bodies have been made available to the public such as the *Big Picture brochure series* (Lake Jackson, St. Marks River, Choctawhatchee River and Bay, Pensacola Bay, St. Andrew Bay and Econfina Creek); *educational poster series* (Apalachicola River and Econfina Creek); and *several water conservation brochures*.
- An *Annual Report* has been published every year since 1976.
- A *Water Resources Atlas of Florida* was written, first printed in 1984 and revised in 1998.
- A public middle school educational program, *WaterWays: Exploring Northwest Florida's Water Resources*, was first introduced in the mid-1980's with the final segment completed in 1991. It is still popular with middle schools today.
- In 2006, a book, *Voices of the Apalachicola*, a collection of transcribed oral histories of those who lived and worked along the Apalachicola River and Bay, was printed by the University Press of Florida on behalf of the District. In 2007, the book received the Sam Proctor Oral History Award.

Additionally, annual conferences on water management have been held since 1976. The first 14 conferences were coordinated by the Northwest Florida Water Management District. Beginning in 1990, the conferences were held at various locations throughout the state.

**Established regional water management offices for ease of public access and for land management activities**

The District's headquarters office was completed in 1978. The District recognized the need to have satellite or field offices within its 16-county area. The Pensacola Field Office was opened in 1979, Marianna Field Office in 1981 and Econfina Creek (Youngstown) Land Management

Office (for land management activities only) in 1997. With the adoption of the Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) program in 2006, additional offices were established in Crestview and in Tallahassee, opening in August 2007. It is anticipated that the permitting functions of the Pensacola Field Office will be merged into the new Crestview Office by mid-2008 and a new location will be established for land management activities for the western water management areas.



*Lily Pads*

# DISTRICTWIDE ACTIVITIES

## Water Shortage Warning Issued

The Northwest Florida Water Management District issued a water shortage warning on June 5, 2007, for all users across the District's 16-county area calling for voluntary reductions in water use and the employment of water conservation practices. Fifteen months of below normal rainfall resulted in low surface water levels throughout the District with a number of monitored sites at or near record daily low flows. Ground water levels also declined and moderate to extreme drought conditions existed across the northwest area. This was the second water shortage warning to be declared by the District in its history. One was issued in June 2000 and was later rescinded in August 2001 when conditions returned to normal.

## ERP Program Begins

Phase I (stormwater) of the Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) program officially began October 1, 2007, and offices were opened in Tallahassee and Crestview. With the first phase, the District began



ERP Workshop

implementing stormwater permitting to address water quality and flooding from construction and development. Phase II (wetland permitting) is expected to begin mid to late 2008. Phase II will enhance protection for wetlands connected to other surface waters as well as isolated wetlands not previously protected by state law in northwest Florida. This portion of the program will regulate dredging of navigation channels, filling wetlands, other urban and residential development activities, highway construction and installation of docks and seawalls.

In 2006, the Florida Legislature approved the ERP program for northwest Florida. It was already in place in the other water management districts. Implementation of the program is divided between the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the District with DEP having responsibility for rule making. The Legislature appropriated \$2,740,000 in 2006 for Phase I and \$3,840,000 in 2007 for full implementation of the program.

Permit applications will be available online in 2008. Workshops on how to complete e-permits were held in



ERP Staff Prepare For Workshop

September for the public. Training tutorials are available on the District's web site and CDs also can be requested.

## Water Supply/Resource Projects

During 2006-2007, \$6 million were made available through the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund to implement priority alternative water supply and water resource development projects. Funding provides local governments and utilities with needed assistance to meet long-term water resource challenges.

Grants awarded were: City of Port St. Joe, \$4 million for construction of a water treatment plant; City of Chipley, \$500,000 for reuse improvements; Wakulla County, \$500,000 for a reclaimed water system; Bay County, \$150,000 for water resource development; South Walton Utility Co., Inc., \$500,000 for a reclaimed water system expansion; and City of Tallahassee, \$350,000 for the Tram Road public access reuse facility.

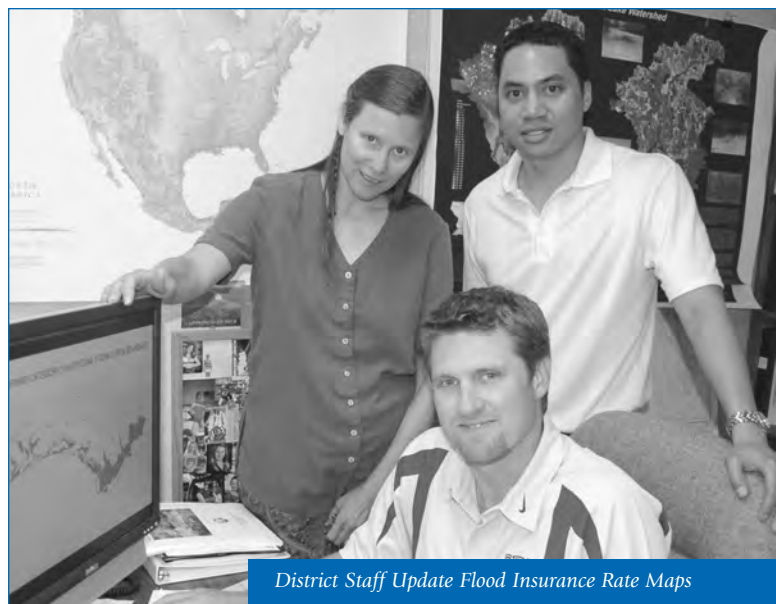
## LiDAR Sizes Up Flood Risk

Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data will soon allow northwest Florida residents to go online to size up neighborhood flood zones and find their best evacuation routes. Residents will be able to pinpoint their location and access maps that predict storm surges and flooding. LiDAR technology is being used to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). The elevation data being used are ten times more accurate than the old topographic maps.

Data collected have many other uses, including stormwater basin planning and watershed and springshed delineation. Detailed topographic information may be used to locate important historic sites, such as ceremonial mounds. The data can be used to design floodplain restoration, to identify potential wetland mitigation sites and to assist with various permitting and planning activities.

## Updating Flood Maps

The District has been designated a Cooperating Technical Partner with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to update these FIRMs and make them available online as Digital FIRMs (DFIRMs). Called Map Modernization, this program will provide local governments, homeowners, appraisers, mortgage lenders and decision makers with updated information



that delineates areas that flood. In April, approval was obtained to begin floodplain maps for Calhoun, Holmes and Washington counties. In September approval also was given for scoping Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson and Liberty county studies. Maps have now been completed for Escambia, Santa Rosa and Gulf counties and updated maps are expected to be completed for all counties by 2010.

## Florida Forever Grant Requests Double

Florida Forever capital improvement grant applications received for the fourth cycle of grants were double the amount received in the previous year. Of the 28 applications received, 15 projects across the District were awarded \$5,888,994:

Bay County: City of Springfield, \$500,000 to improve stormwater treatment and management in the Robindale subdivision; Panama City, \$81,000 to improve stormwater quality from the St. Andrew Bay Yacht Club area.

Calhoun County: \$793,109 to stabilize John Redd Road and reduce sedimentation to the Apalachicola River.

Gulf County: City of Port St. Joe, \$300,000 to construct a stormwater treatment pond.

Escambia County: \$500,000 to implement a wetland and floodplain restoration project within the Jones Swamp Preserve.

Leon County: \$600,000 to BluePrint 2000 for stormwater treatment, habitat restoration and flood control as part of the Capital Cascades Park project; City of Tallahassee,



Williford Spring

\$500,000 to improve stormwater management and treatment within the Sharer Road drainage basin, discharging into Lake Jackson.

Okaloosa County: Fort Walton Beach, \$306,435 to improve treatment of stormwater discharging to Choctawhatchee Bay and Santa Rosa Sound; Destin, \$201,950 to improve stormwater quality affecting Destin Harbor; Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, \$199,000 for a wetland restoration and stormwater treatment project for Santa Rosa Sound.

Walton County: \$500,000 to enhance stormwater treatment, habitat protection and compatible public access at Morrison Spring.

Washington County: \$262,500 and \$450,000, respectively, for stabilization and sediment control projects at Chain Lake Road and River Road; City of Vernon, \$200,000 to retrofit an existing stormwater discharge and improve water quality entering Holmes Creek.

Jackson, Holmes and Washington counties: \$495,000 for a cooperative effort to implement sediment control projects at road crossings in these three counties.

## Florida Springs Initiative Continued

Through the Florida Springs Initiative and an agreement approved in September with DEP, the District will continue monitoring discharge from Wakulla Spring, monitoring water quality at Merritt's Mill Pond and sampling six springs in Jackson County to estimate ground water age and to define the recharge areas for these springs. The agreement also included design of restoration work near the spring vent and shoreline adjacent to Gainer Spring Number Two in Bay County. The Gainer Spring restoration work is planned as a public/private partnership undertaken to protect a unique and valuable resource within the District.

## Springsheds Delineated

The District will better define ground water contribution areas for Jackson Blue, Wakulla and Morrison springs, through the Florida Springs Initiative. This agreement with DEP uses LiDAR elevation data available for Walton,

Leon, Wakulla and Jefferson counties. In February, the Governing Board approved additional funding to obtain LiDAR for approximately 183 square miles in Jackson County to complete this project.

## Water Resources Monitoring

In June, the District and DEP renewed an ongoing agreement to participate in the Integrated Water Resources Monitoring program. This program provides ground and surface water sampling at a network of sites around the District but will focus on the Perdido River basin for the 2007-2008 contract year. Through the statewide monitoring program, water quality data from confined and unconfined aquifers, rivers, streams and lakes will be collected and interpreted.

## Ambient Monitoring of Surface Water

A participant in the Ambient Surface Water Quality Assessment program for the past 16 years, the District renewed its agreement with DEP to continue this activity. This program will provide long-term water

quality trends for major streams and rivers within the District's 16 counties. Data obtained are used by DEP and the District to develop management strategies to improve surface water quality and to characterize the quality of our surface water resources. Water quality samples are collected at 24 surface water sites monthly. Funding is provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through DEP.

## Consolidated Annual Report

Required by Florida Statutes, the District's Consolidated Annual Report was compiled and presented to the Governing Board in February. The report provides across-the-board accomplishments each year. The District's consolidated report includes annual reports for: Water Management Plan, Minimum Flows and Levels Schedule and Priority List, 5-year Capital Improvement Plan, 5-year Water Resource Development Work Program, Alternative Water Supplies, Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan and Mitigation Donation Annual Report.



*Sylvan Spring*



## Independent Auditor's Report

The audit report for October 2005 through September 2006 was presented to the Governing Board in February and again in March for final approval. Once again, the District received a "clean audit" as it has for the past 13 years. This is the highest level of assurance that can be received.

## Inspector General's Audit Report

The District's Inspector General submitted an audit report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007. Internal auditing procedures were undertaken for timber sales, contracting/project management and implementation of Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP). The Governing Board received and accepted the audit report at its October meeting .

## Bridges Replaced on District Lands

Plans to replace four critical public and land management access bridges on District property (Apalachicola River, Econfina Creek, Choctawhatchee River and Yellow River) were initially made in 2000. The Walsingham bridge within the Econfina Creek Water Management Area (WMA) and the Deadfall Creek bridge within the Yellow River WMA were replaced. In May of 2007, approval was given to replace the Florida River Island bridge. This bridge is crucial for both public and land management access to Florida River Island, a 6,000-acre tract within the Apalachicola River WMA. The area is used extensively for fishing, hunting, hiking and other recreational activities.

## Conserved Forest Ecosystems

For the past two years, the University of Florida's School of Forest Resources and Conservation has been working with land management agencies and organizations to form a cooperative for research and extension. In May, the District became a member of the cooperative for Conserved Forest Ecosystems Outreach and Research (CFEOR). Founding members of the CFEOR cooperative are the three northern water management districts, state land management agencies, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and The Nature Conservancy. Participation will provide the District with critical land management and habitat restoration information.

## Land Acquisition Five-Year Plan

Florida Statutes require the District to adopt a five-year work plan for land acquisitions, which certifies that each property being purchased is consistent with the District's adopted five-year work plan. The 2007 plan varies slightly from 2006. In the new plan, 637 acres linking several Perdido River tracts acquired in 2006 have been designated as priority acquisitions. Their acquisition would form one continuous water resource protection corridor. The plan also targets a tract along the Apalachicola River and areas along the St. Marks River.

## Payments in Lieu of Taxes

Payments to six qualifying counties to reimburse them for ad valorem taxes lost when the District purchased lands totaled \$73,050.44. The payment amount was approved in January 2007. These six counties are: Bay, \$6,495.50; Holmes, \$1,997.13; Okaloosa, \$916.80; Santa Rosa, \$17,951.33; Walton, \$18,658.98; and Washington, \$27,030.70. District lands are public lands and they are not on the tax rolls. When the District acquires sensitive environmental lands to protect them, the county incurs a loss of tax revenue. The Legislature adopted this program several years ago to restore the loss of funding.

## Restoration of District Lands

In November, reforestation and habitat restoration activities were approved. About 1,658 acres throughout



*Planting Wiregrass Plugs*

the District are slated for these activities in December 2007 and January 2008. Longleaf pine, slash pine, cypress and wiregrass will be planted in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Walton, Washington, Liberty, Franklin and Leon counties. The specific areas include the Perdido River, Garcon Point, Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek, Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park, Econfina Creek and Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank.

## Construction, Maintenance and Security on District Lands

An agreement with the Washington County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement and security services for District lands also was approved in September. These services will be provided for the Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek and Econfina Creek water management areas.

For a number of years, the District has contracted with the Bay County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement and security services for the Pitt Spring day use recreational area, the Econfina Creek Land Management field office and the Econfina Creek canoe launch. The Governing Board approved the continuation of this agreement in March.

Several agreements for services were approved by the Board in September. Approval was given to renew the District's agreement with Orange Hill Soil and Water Conservation District to provide an inmate supervisor and crew to perform land management construction, maintenance, installation and repair services for Econfina Creek and the Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek water management areas. Additionally, this agreement can be used for a number of special projects on other District-owned lands such as the Upper Chipola River, Apalachicola River and Phipps Park. Two agreements also were approved with a private entity to provide cleanup and maintenance services for recreation sites located in the western land management region. This area includes the Escambia River, Garcon Point, Blackwater River and Yellow River water management areas. The second agreement provided these same services for the central land management area (Econfina Creek and Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek).

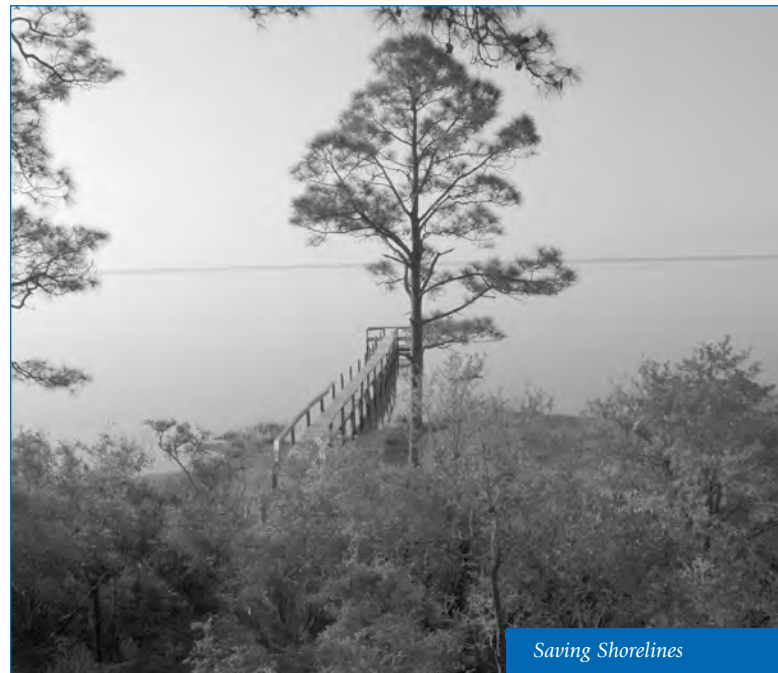
## Archaeological/Historical Survey

A grant of \$20,198 from the state's Division of Historical Resources was awarded to Panamerican Consultants, Inc.

who applied for the grant on behalf of the District. Panamerican will conduct a reconnaissance level archaeological survey for the Perdido River Water Management Area and for the Grassy Point and Lafayette Creek tracts, which are part of the Yellow River and Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek water management areas. Several similar surveys have been conducted for District lands in the past. Knowledge of prehistoric archaeology and early settlement history will help the District with its restoration plans and protect these sensitive sites.

## Saving Shorelines

Saving Our Shorelines, one of the District's newest brochures, was completed this past year. The brochure stresses the importance of our natural shorelines – how they support wildlife and protect water quality. Florida has 2,276 miles of tidal shorelines, more than 11,000 miles of rivers, streams and waterways, more than 7,700 lakes greater than 10 acres and 27 first magnitude



*Saving Shorelines*

springs. Many of these shorelines have been negatively impacted over the years. The benefits of natural shorelines and detriments of altered shorelines are illustrated. The brochure opens to listings of recommended trees, shrubs and plants for various kinds of shorelines. Saving Our Shorelines can be accessed on

the District's web site ([www.nwfwmd.state.fl.us](http://www.nwfwmd.state.fl.us)) or printed copies can be obtained through the Office of Public Information.

## Mobile Irrigation Lab

For the past three years, the District has supported the operation of a Mobile Irrigation Lab in northwest Florida. Agricultural irrigation systems are evaluated and recommendations made to increase water use efficiency. The agreement is with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Community Services, the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the West Florida Resource and Conservation Development Council. The District contributes \$50,000 a year to operate the lab.

## Potable Well Construction

An agreement with DEP to implement the well permitting requirements of Chapter 62-524, Florida Administrative Code, has been in place since 1991 and has continued each subsequent year. The program addresses potable well construction in specific delineated areas including portions of Escambia, Jackson, Leon and Santa Rosa counties and will be effective through June 2011. Well location data are now being added to the database. There is such a high level of accuracy for well location data that nearly 100 percent of the wells currently being permitted can be included in the District's GIS (Geographic Information Systems) maps. Water well contractors, other agencies and the public are provided with reliable data and information.

### PERMITS ISSUED BY COUNTY (OCTOBER 2006 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2007)

County	Well Construction Repair and Abandonment	Consumptive Use (new/renewal/modifications)	Surface Water Management (general/individual)	Agricultural and Forestry Surface Water Management (general/individual)
Bay	1,265	9	1	1
Calhoun	198	2	-	-
Escambia	1,319	11	2	-
Franklin	95	3	-	-
Gadsden	234	30	-	2
Gulf	199	5	-	-
Holmes	339	1	-	3
Jackson	761	22	1	-
Jefferson	184	2	-	-
Leon	833	4	4	-
Liberty	64	2	1	-
Okaloosa	1,209	10	6	3
Santa Rosa	1,462	10	2	2
Wakulla	174	-	1	-
Walton	939	8	-	4
Washington	512	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,787</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>

## Employee Service Awards and Recognitions

Those employees who have achieved 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 or more years of service are recognized each year by the Governing Board. The first award ever given for 30 years of service was presented in 2007. Those receiving awards included:

For 30 years of service: Gary Miller, GIS/CAD Analyst

For 25 years of service: David L. Barton, Chief, Bureau of Information Systems

For 20 years of service: Terrall A. Peterson, Staff Assistant I; Nicholas Wooten, Chief, Bureau of Surface Water

For 15 years of service: Larry R. Wright, Deputy Executive Director and Director, Division of Administration

For 10 years of service: Roger A. Countryman, II, Senior Hydrogeologist; Mark Herndon, Associate Lands Manager; Michael S. Lane, Assistant Field Representative;

Robert F. Lide, Environmental Scientist; Grady Lee Marchman, Chief, Bureau of Environmental Resource Regulation; Jerrick W. Saquibal, Hydrologist

For 5 years of service: Kristopher Barrios, Director, Field Services Section; Thomas E. Brown, Hydrogeologist; John B. Crowe, Associate Hydrologist; Kevin DeFosset, Hydrogeologist; Maria Jordan, Assistant Permitting Specialist

Special resolutions and plaques were prepared to recognize the retirements of J. Earl Bright, Associate Field Representative, with 26 years of service and Richmond Donald King, Associate Lands Manager, with over 26 years of service.

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### In Memoriam

Marvin E. Raulston, Senior Water Resource Planner, died March 21, 2007. He was employed by the District for one-and-a-half years. He previously served with the Suwannee River Water Management District for 17 years.

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*Gary Miller (left) presented with 30 year service award by George Roberts, Governing Board Chair*

# ESCAMBIA AND SANTA ROSA COUNTIES



*Sand Landing, Perdido River*

## Improving Circulation in Little Sabine Bay

A \$375,000 capital improvement grant was awarded to the Santa Rosa Island Authority in May. The project will improve circulation and water quality in Little Sabine Bay. An additional \$1 million were given by the Florida Legislature and another \$1 million in local in-kind funding are expected. Grant funds will be used to design and construct intake and discharge structures and for pumps and piping to improve circulation. Little Sabine Bay is part of Santa Rosa Sound and the larger Pensacola Bay system.

## Clark Sand Pit Monitoring

The District is assisting Escambia County, the sponsor of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredging project to remove accumulated sediment from Bayou Chico to improve its water quality. Dredged material will be placed on county property (originally purchased with District funds) and the project permit requires baseline monitoring before, during and after the dredging operation. Ground water quality will be sampled at 12 monitoring wells. The project is funded through the Pensacola Bay Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) program.

## Perdido River Tract Plans

In 2006, the District acquired four tracts along the Perdido River totaling 5,456 acres. Since then, a public workshop was held to obtain suggestions on the proposed recreational uses of the property and representatives from recreational user groups were selected to serve on a stakeholder committee. After several meetings, consensus was reached on the recreational uses, which were presented in another public workshop in March.

District staff has begun meeting with equestrian users to evaluate and develop horse trails. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission provided expertise and labor to rebuild the Sand Landing boat ramp. The District provided materials, fencing and parking lot/road improvements. The Pipes landing picnic area/canoe launch was improved and opened. Also preliminary

improvements were undertaken to open the Fillingim Landing canoe launch in 2008. Several years will be needed before the recreational elements can be fully developed.

## Archaeological/Historical Surveys

A reconnaissance level archaeological survey for the Perdido River Water Management Area will be conducted by Panamerican Consultants, Inc. during 2007-2008. A grant of \$20,198 from the state's Division of Historical Resources was awarded to Panamerican Consultants, Inc. who applied for the grant on behalf of the District. The group also will conduct a survey for the Grassy Point and Lafayette Creek tracts, which are part of the Yellow River and Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek water management areas.



Perdido River

# BAY, HOLMES, OKALOOSA, WALTON AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES

## Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank Opens

On May 17, the District's Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank in Washington County officially opened to the public for limited fishing. The District purchased the 2,155-acre tract in 2003 to offset wetland impacts from road construction. This purchase protects wetland areas and allows the District to restore the upland portions to longleaf pine and wiregrass habitat. Three ponds (Dry, Black and Deep Edge) are now available for limited fishing from Friday through Monday. In June, eight



*Smoothbark St. John's Wort, State Listed Species*

boats were placed at three locations. Some boats are available on a first come, first served basis and reservations can be made for a number of them as well. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is cooperating with the District on management and oversight of the tract.

## Freeport to Develop Reuse

In January, the Governing Board approved a grant of \$3 million to the City of Freeport to develop a water reuse

system. The upgrade of the city's wastewater treatment plant will help reduce ground water withdrawals in an area experiencing rapid growth and declining ground water levels. It will treat wastewater to a standard high enough to irrigate public access areas, such as roadside landscaping and golf courses, reducing the impact of wastewater on ground water and the Choctawhatchee Bay. About 10 miles of reclaimed water distribution lines and a 750,000 gallon storage tank will be part of the upgrade.

## Water Reuse System for Chipley

A \$500,000 grant was approved for Chipley in April. These funds, provided through the state's Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund, will help Chipley construct a distribution system to provide reclaimed/reuse water for irrigating an industrial park, golf course and agricultural lands. Transferring to a reuse system will reduce ground water used for these purposes and reduce or eliminate treated wastewater discharge to Holmes Creek. The project calls for Chipley to upgrade its existing treatment plant to an advanced waste treatment facility, replacing sewer collection lines and developing a spray field. The reuse portion of the project is expected to be completed in early 2008 and the facility upgrade by the end of 2009. Holmes Creek is a unique, spring-fed ecosystem that supports several rare and endemic species within the larger Choctawhatchee River and Bay system.

## Ground Water Modeling

Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund Program funds were allocated in 2007 to assist Bay County. Initially, \$200,000 were awarded to conduct aquifer testing and to develop a ground water model to support the long-term development of ground water resources in northwest Bay County. County-wide water use is projected to increase 43 percent by 2025. Currently, a surface water source, Deer Point Lake Reservoir, supplies

the majority of fresh water used within the county. In November, the District provided another grant to the county for an additional \$150,000 to develop a third aquifer test site.

## Friends of St. Andrew Bay

The water quality of St. Andrew Bay will receive more protection with a \$500,000 grant approved in April. The three-year grant will be used by the Friends of St. Andrew Bay/BEST to develop a stormwater management plan and to educate the public about preventing pollution. A stormwater database will be developed, water quality problems identified and prospective improvement strategies evaluated. Data to be collected include rainfall, evaporation, topography, hydrology, soil, land use, stream flow, water quality, treated wastewater flow, septic tank coverage, stormwater outfalls, flooding and erosion.

## Okaloosa County Receives \$750,000

Okaloosa County received a \$750,000 grant from the District to provide safe drinking water to the residents of Seminole Community Center, Inc. The Community Center provides drinking water to about 300 homes in eastern Okaloosa County, southeast of Niceville. Additionally, these funds will be used to improve the limited pumping, storage and transmission facilities currently available for fire protection service. This coastal area has been designated a Water Resource Caution Area by the District and has been an Area of Special Concern for long-term water supply. The agreement extends the Okaloosa County Water and Sewer service and helps design, engineer and install new water mains and fire hydrants.

## Gap Creek Water Quality to Be Improved

Long-term flooding and water quality problems in the Fort Walton Beach area will be addressed through an agreement between the District and Okaloosa County. The District is providing \$58,350 or about half the cost to investigate, analyze and design a stormwater retrofit and treatment plan for the Gap Creek watershed. Gap Creek is a primary tributary of Cinco Bayou, a major embayment in western Choctawhatchee Bay.

The creek drains portions of Fort Walton Beach and Hurlburt Field, as well as other unincorporated areas, before discharging to the bayou. This project is essential for improving stream and estuarine habitats, as well as

water resources, for the surrounding community and the larger bay environment. This is one of the older urban areas with stormwater conveyances to the bay with no treatment to runoff before discharge to open water.

## Monitoring Deer Point Watershed

Bay County and the District agreed to continue operating a streamflow and rainfall monitoring program for the Deer Point Lake Reservoir watershed. This monitoring program has been in place since 1998. It includes six discharge and three rainfall stations. These stations measure continuous discharge, rainfall and stage levels within the Deer Point Lake Reservoir watershed. Major stream flows into the lake are identified through the program and data are used to manage water resources and evaluate freshwater needs. Deer Point Lake Reservoir is the primary drinking water supply for the area and also feeds North Bay of the St. Andrew Bay system.

## Public Workshop Held at Pitt Spring

A public workshop was held in May at Pitt Spring to provide an overview of the Econfina Springs Complex spring restoration and protection plan. District staff and District consultants presented designs and the public could take walking tours of Pitt, Sylvan and Williford springs. Proposed changes include replacing the retaining wall at Pitt Spring with natural lime rock and vegetation, enhancing the canoe dock with ladders, adding a tube launch dock with ladders, constructing



Restoration Plans Presented at Workshop





Little Spring Lake

© James Valentine

decks to overlook spring pools, extending boardwalks over sensitive natural areas, building an elevated observation deck at Williford and more. In September, the Governing Board approved moving forward to prepare final designs for Phase I – Pitt and Sylvan springs.

## Ivory-billed Woodpecker Search Concludes

The 2006-07 search for the ivory-billed woodpecker within the Choctawhatchee River Water Management Area concluded in the late spring of 2007 with no definitive proof of its existence. In 2005, a team from Auburn University claimed to have sighted the ivory-billed and obtained sound recordings of its call but was unable to photograph or film the bird. Tentative plans have been made to continue the search in late 2007 and early 2008, but on a smaller scale.

## Econfina Creek Big Picture Brochure

Another addition was made to the District's Looking at the Big Picture brochure series in 2007 – Econfina

Creek. The brochure provides information on the creek's springs. The District has identified 11 springs or spring groups, comprised of 39 individual vents. These flows preserve and maintain the natural beauty and resources of this unique system. More than 41,000 acres have been purchased by the District to protect this drinking water supply source for Bay County. The brochure can be found on the District's web site or printed copies can be requested through the Office of Public Information.

## Land Acquisitions

The acquisition of 17.7 acres in Okaloosa County was approved in February. The property is located on the west side of the Yellow River and primarily consists of floodplain habitat. It is bordered by existing District lands on three sides.

Eight acres in Washington County within the Econfina Creek area also were approved for acquisition in February. This tract is located southeast of Sparkleberry Lake and consists mostly of xeric sandhill uplands.

# CALHOUN, FRANKLIN, GADSDEN, GULF, JACKSON AND LIBERTY COUNTIES

## Region V Water Supply Plan Adopted

In January, the Governing Board approved the Region V Water Supply Plan for Franklin and Gulf counties. The plan identifies alternative water supply sources to meet projected future needs and helps sustain existing water resources and natural systems. Preferred alternative supplies include surface water via the Gulf County Freshwater Canal and developing alternative source areas to access the Floridan Aquifer in Franklin County. The plan identifies up to nine million gallons a day of alternative supplies, while protecting coastal wells from saltwater intrusion.

## Inland Wellfield Investigations

In 2006, the Tate's Hell State Forest drilling and aquifer testing program was conducted. These potential

alternative water supply sources are being investigated due to the threat of saltwater intrusion into coastal wells and to support future public water supply needs. Approved in January was a ground water modeling assessment to determine the feasibility of the inland wellfield and its long-term viability. The ground water modeling project ascertained the potential yield from inland wells and quantified the effects from associated drawdowns to the Floridan and surficial aquifers, including the potential for saltwater intrusion.

## Wewahitchka Granted \$300,000

The City of Wewahitchka was granted \$300,000 in January to implement water supply improvements for this growing area. With these funds, two 10-inch municipal water supply wells and associated infrastructure will be added. After evaluating a number of alternatives, it was concluded that adding municipal wells near the distribution systems would best serve the public interest. The city's plan ultimately calls for constructing a total of four wells.

## Elevation Data Collected

In February, the Governing Board approved a contract to allow the collection of Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data for the Apalachicola River floodplain. The elevation data will be obtained in areas of Franklin, Gulf, Calhoun, Liberty, Jackson and Gadsden counties. This is part of an ongoing effort to obtain watershed data for major river basins and water bodies.

## Monitoring the Apalachicola

The District has cooperated in a water resource investigation program with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for the past 31 years. In August the joint agreement was renewed. It involves operating



Franklin Test Drilling

continuous discharge and stage stations on Telogia Creek near Bristol and the Apalachicola River at Chattahoochee and Sumatra. These stations provide valuable data used for regulating water consumption, flood management and resource management. Participation in the program gives the District cooperating agency status with USGS, which allows access to maps, records, reports and computer databases maintained by USGS.

## Merritt's Mill Pond

Merritt's Mill Pond forms the headwaters of Spring Creek, a tributary to the Chipola River. Spring Creek's flow results from the discharge of numerous Floridan Aquifer springs and seeps, including one first magnitude spring, Jackson Blue. The District undertook a resource investigation, published in October, which called for identifying and monitoring all of the springs discharging to Merritt's Mill Pond. The water quality of the second magnitude and smaller springs were compared to Jackson Blue. At least eight springs are located within Merritt's Mill Pond: Jackson Blue, Shangri La, Indian Washtub, Twin Caves, Heidi Hole, Hole-in-the-Wall, Lamar's Landing and Gator Hole.

## Apalachicola River and Bay Oral History

*Voices of the Apalachicola* received the 2007 Samuel Proctor Oral History Award and was issued in paperback this past year. The award was presented by the Florida Historical Society. The book was published by the University Press of Florida on behalf of the District. In its pages, one of Florida's most endangered river systems comes alive through personal accounts of livelihoods and experiences. This book is available on the District's web site free of charge and a printed copy can be purchased through the University Press of Florida.

## Land Donation

In September, the Governing Board approved the donation of a 150-acre conservation easement along the Ochlockonee River in Gadsden County from Coastal Plywood Company. Before the donation can be finalized, it must be approved by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. Portions of the property are encumbered by a 1943 mosquito control (malaria) easement held by the Board of Trustees. This tract is a narrow strip along the western

riverbank that is 260 feet wide and over three miles in length. It consists mainly of mixed bottomland hardwood habitats and is interspersed with some upland pine plantations.

## Land Acquisitions

In July, the Governing Board approved the purchase of a conservation easement of 1,544 acres along the Apalachicola River. This tract, located six miles north of Blountstown in Calhoun County, will protect significant backwater slough systems and two miles of river frontage. The total acreage owned by the District in the Apalachicola/Chipola River Water Management Area is now 45,251 acres.

Also approved in July was the purchase of a conservation easement of 1,528.9 acres along the Ochlockonee River in Liberty County. The Ochlockonee is highly susceptible to pollution from land use activities before entering Florida and from private landowners in the western floodplain within Florida. Located between Highway 67 and the Apalachicola National Forest, the tract includes one mile of river frontage and important mixed bottomland hardwood forest habitat.

# JEFFERSON, LEON AND WAKULLA COUNTIES



*St. Marks Rise*

## Tallahassee Reclaimed Water Facility

In November, the District amended an existing agreement with the City of Tallahassee to provide an additional \$350,000 for the Tram Road Public Access Reuse Facility, bringing the total grant amount to \$1,350,000. The facility, which is currently under construction, is expected to include over nine miles of reclaimed water distribution lines. These additional lines will further reduce the use of potable water resources for landscape irrigation and help reduce nutrients discharged to ground water within the Wakulla Spring basin via the Southeast Farm spray field facility.

## Reclaimed Water for Wakulla County

A grant of \$500,000 was awarded to Wakulla County in November through the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund to construct a reclaimed water system. The County will construct public access reuse facilities that will provide approximately 350,000 gallons per day of reclaimed water for irrigation of an existing golf course in southern Wakulla County. As these facilities come on-line, reclaimed water will be applied to other needs including irrigation of public school grounds, a recreation facility, a local nursery and an industrial park. The reuse facilities will help reduce pumping from the Floridan



*Enjoying District Lands*

Aquifer and will contribute to the long-term sustainability of regionally significant water resources.

## Sediment Removed from Stormwater Facility

A private contractor working for the Florida Department of Transportation agreed to remove accumulated sediment in the Lake Jackson Meginniss Arm Regional Stormwater Facility, owned by the District. These restoration activities were undertaken in exchange for use of the area for construction activities during the widening of Interstate 10. About 20,000 cubic yards of sediment were removed at no cost to the District. Later, the District entered into an agreement in May for an added amount to be removed, bringing the total to 32,600 cubic yards.

## Stormwater Flow Monitoring

In September, the City of Tallahassee and Leon County renewed their agreement with the District to continue a stormwater flow monitoring program that involves 52 surface water and rainfall data collection stations. This network has been operating for the past 16 years providing storm event and base flow discharge data for the major drainage basins in the area. Data include

continuous records of rainfall and surface water discharges which are used to design and implement improvements in the stormwater drainage system. These improvements help reduce flooding and improve water quality.

Also included in the agreement is the operation of a real-time radio telemetry flood warning network for Leon County. This network consists of 14 stream and rainfall stations, which provide real-time rainfall and water level data to help identify developing flood conditions and enhance response time. The network is a cooperative program between the District, county and the National Weather Service.

## Acquisition Agreement

An agreement with The Conservation Fund (Fund) to provide assistance with negotiations for a 192-acre tract in Leon County along the St. Marks River was approved by the Governing Board in January. The parcel lies between McCracken Road and the Black Creek Swamp. Its acquisition will offer significant water resource protection to the St. Marks River/Black Creek basin. The Fund is to negotiate the transaction on behalf of the District and the District will acquire the conservation easement. A similar agreement was in effect with the acquisition of the Perdido River tracts in 2006. Per an agreement with Tallahassee-Leon County's BluePrint 2000 Intergovernmental Agency, the District's share of acquisition cost will be 50 percent.

# COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## Assets

### Current Assets:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	453,856
Investments		59,249,405
Accounts Receivable		1,403
Due from Other Governments		9,678,190
Due from Other Funds		10,976,884
Deposits		7,713
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>80,367,451</b>

### General Capital Assets (Net of Applicable Depreciation):

Land and Improvements	\$	148,575,696
Buildings and Improvements		684,412
Machinery and Equipment		1,376,717
<b>Total General Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>150,636,825</b>

### Other Debits:

Amount to Be Provided for Retirement of General Long-Term Debt	\$	519,778
<b>Total Other Debits</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>519,778</b>

**Total Assets and Other Debits** **\$ 231,524,054**

## Liabilities and Fund Equity

### Liabilities:

Refundable Deposits	\$	68,026
Accounts Payable and Accruals		2,864,205
Deferred Revenue		25,349,084
Due to Other Funds		10,976,884
Liability for Compensated Absences		519,778
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>39,777,977</b>

### Fund Equity:

Investment in General Capital Assets	\$	150,636,825
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### Fund Balances:

#### Reserved:

Land Acquisition	\$	3,787,790
Land Management/Acquisition		5,748,362
Mitigation		955,424
<b>Total Reserved</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,491,576</b>

#### Unreserved:

Undesignated	\$	584,898
Designated		30,032,778
<b>Total Unreserved</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>30,617,676</b>

**Total Fund Balance** **\$ 41,109,252**

**Total Liabilities and Fund Equity** **\$ 231,524,054**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

## **Revenue and Other Receipts**

### Federal Sources:

US DOT/FDOT-Efficient Transportation Decision Making	\$	111,961
DEP/EPA Surface Water Sampling Grant Awards		116,825
DEP-Ambient Monitoring		219,335
FEMA-Map Modernization		1,210,762
<b>Total Federal Sources</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,658,883</b>

### State and Local Government Sources:

DEP-Statewide Surface Water Restoration Projects	\$	3,988,775
DEP-Chapter 62-524 F.A.C. Program Implementation		75,000
DEP-General Appropriations		1,044,926
DEP-Florida Forever Trust Fund		4,164,716
DEP-Water Management Lands Trust Fund		5,460,294
DEP-Payment in Lieu of Taxes (WMLTF)		73,050
DEP-Surface Water Management Permitting Program (Wetlands)		300,000
DEP-Florida Springs Initiative		173,102
DEP-Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund		12,564,341
DEP-Environmental Resource Permitting		1,373,183
DOT-Mitigation Plan and Restoration Projects		1,031,974
Leon County Stormwater Monitoring		133,925
Bay County Stormwater Monitoring		4,850
Bay County Deer Point Watershed Monitoring		32,042
SRWMD - Jefferson County LiDAR		99,018
Bay County - Bay County LiDAR		100,000
Okaloosa County - Okaloosa County LiDAR		25,000
County Tax Collectors-Excess Fees		22,528
<b>Total State and Local Government Sources</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>30,666,724</b>

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NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Agency Sources:

Ad Valorem Taxes (.05 mill)	\$	4,897,751
Permit and Inspection Fees		461,419
Regulatory Penalties		27,050
Interest		2,428,331
Timber Sales		368,575
Miscellaneous		106,603
<b>Total Agency Sources</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,289,729</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>40,615,336</b>

Other Sources:

Sale of General Fixed Assets	\$	7,535
<b>Total Other Sources</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,535</b>
<b>Balance Brought Forward from Prior Fiscal Year</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>35,740,755</b>
<b>Total Revenue, Other Sources and Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>76,363,626</b>

**Expenditures**

Salaries and Benefits	\$	6,480,408
Contractual Services-Consultants		5,683,079
Operating Expenses		2,892,311
Grants and Aids		19,196,398
Operating Capital Outlay		1,002,178
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>35,254,374</b>

**Fund Balance**

Reserved:		
Land Acquisition	\$	3,787,790
Land Management/Acquisition		5,748,362
Mitigation		955,424
<b>Total Reserved</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,491,576</b>
Unreserved:		
Undesignated	\$	584,898
Designated		30,032,778
<b>Total Unreserved</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>30,617,676</b>
<b>Total Expenditures and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>76,363,626</b>



# NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



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## ANNUAL REPORT 2007

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