

# 2024 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REPORT



**Suwannee River Water Management District**

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Section Six: Waterbody Grades	Kristine Eskelin
Section Seven: Florida Forever Work Plan	Katelyn Potter
Section Eight: Mitigation Donation Annual Report	Warren Zwanka

## For More Information

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

## ADA Statement

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



# 2024-2028 Strategic Plan

Suwannee River Water Management District

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Virginia Johns,  
Chair

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## Governing Board Members

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Virginia H. Johns,  
Chair

Richard Schwab,  
Vice Chair

Charles Keith,  
Secretary/Treasurer

Harry Smith

Larry Sessions

Larry Thompson

William Lloyd

## Message from the Chair

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Agency Overview

### Vision

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

### Mission

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

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

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

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

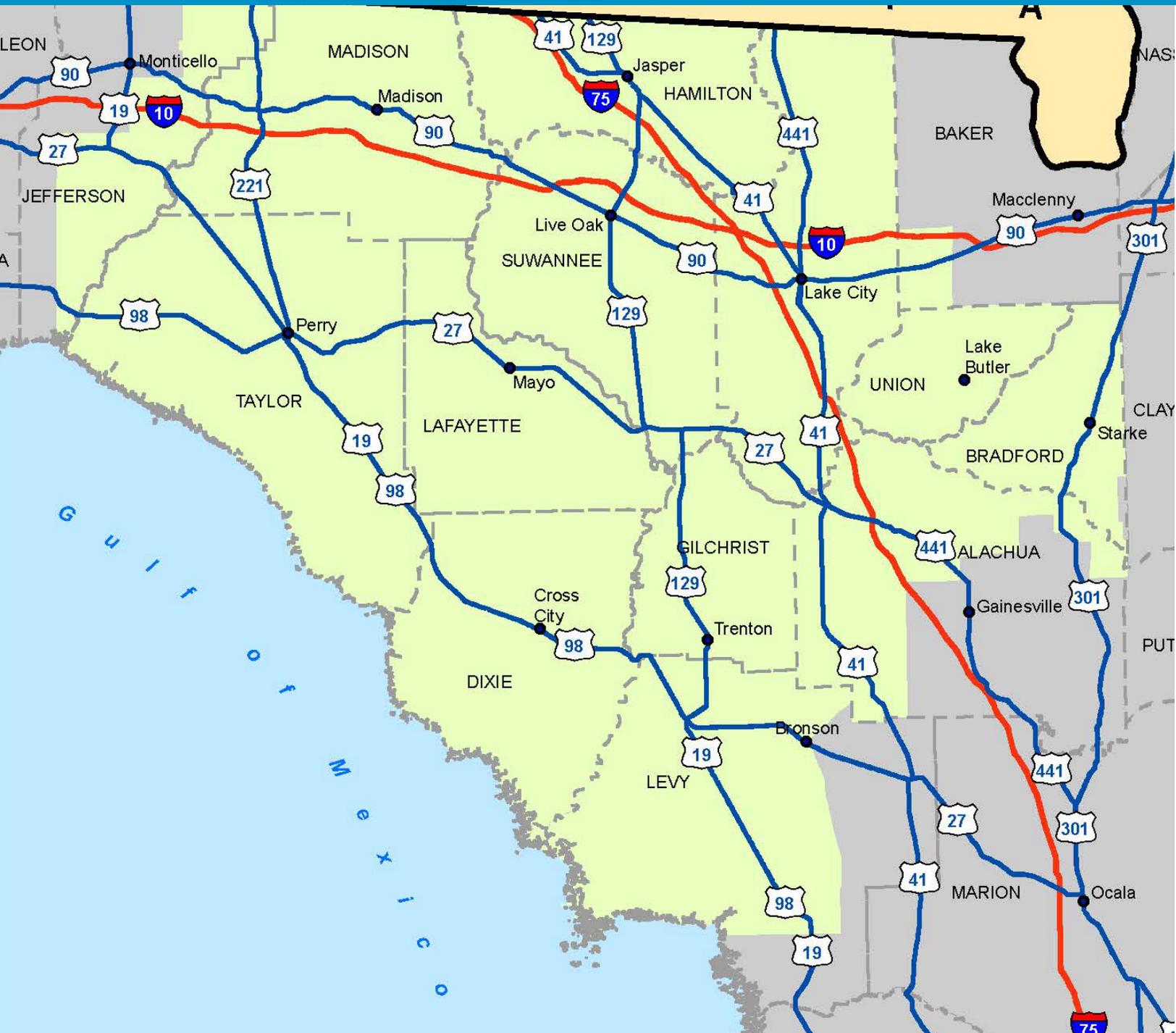
### Funding

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

Serving

# NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

Since 1972



## Introduction

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

## Strategic Priorities



# WATER QUALITY



# WATER SUPPLY



# FLOOD PROTECTION



# NATURAL SYSTEMS



# MISSION SUPPORT



## Water Quality

### Preserving and Restoring the Foundation of North Florida's Economy

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

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

## GOAL ONE

### Support the Reduction of Nitrate Levels

#### Strategies

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

## GOAL TWO

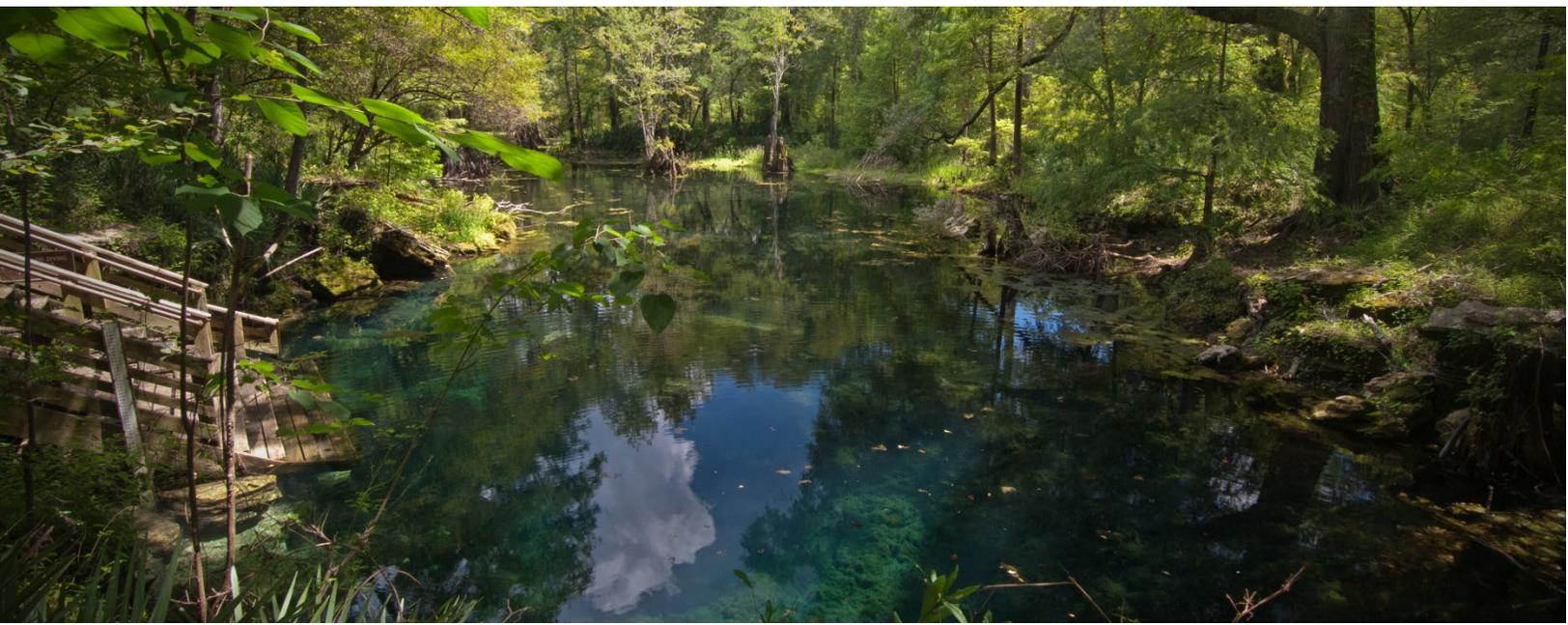
### Protect Groundwater

#### Strategies

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

### Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Quality

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





## Water Supply

### Ensuring a Sustainable Supply of Water for People and the Environment

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

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

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

## GOAL

### Sustainably Manage District Water Resources

#### Strategies

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

#### Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Supply

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





## Flood Protection

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

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

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

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

## Goal One

### Reduce and Mitigate Flooding Risks

#### Strategies

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

## Goal Two

### Prepare Communities for Sea Level Rise Impacts

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

### Success Indicators and Milestones for Flood Control

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



## Natural Systems

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

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

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

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

## Goal One

### Establish Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels for Priority Water Bodies

#### Strategies

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

## Goal Two

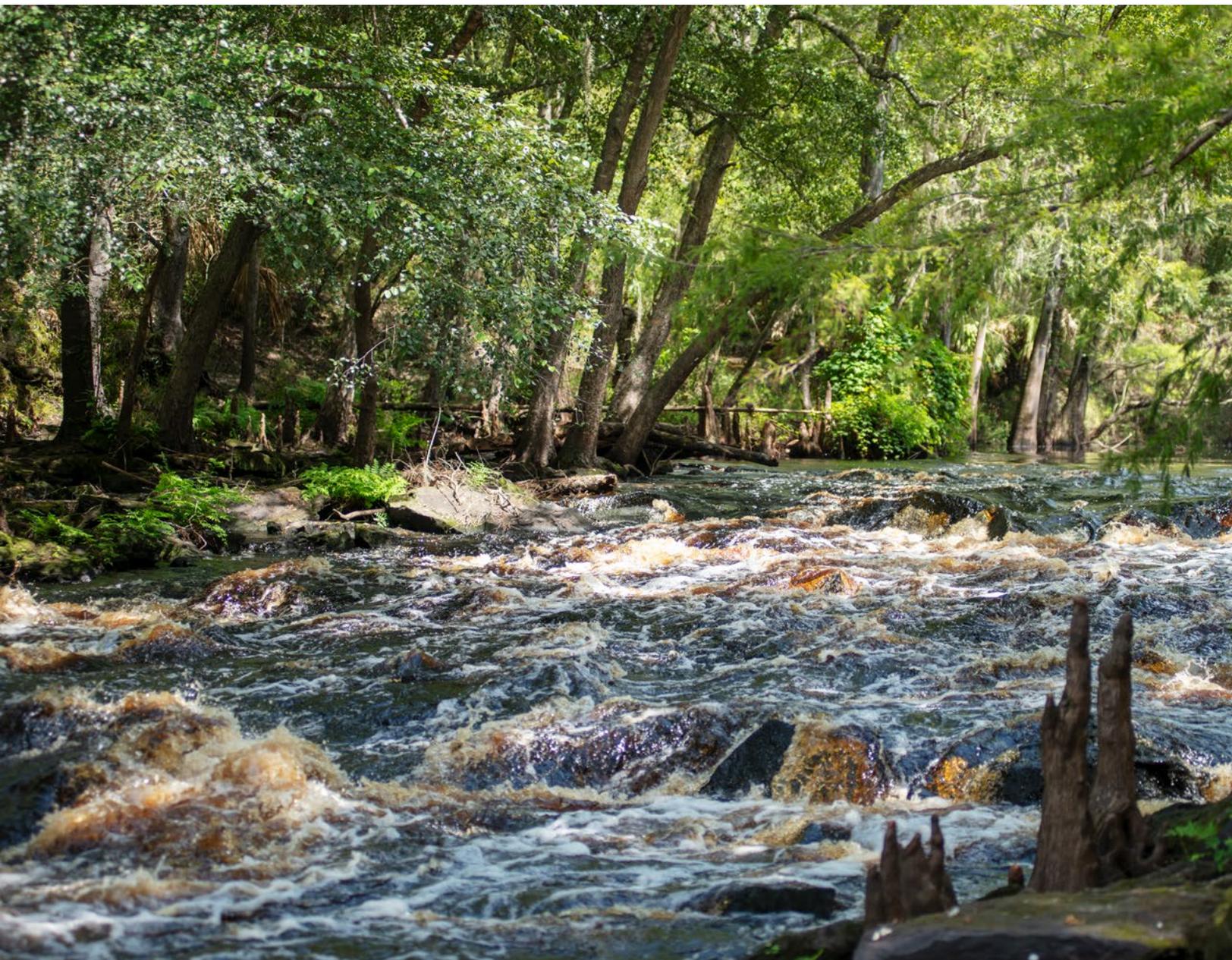
### Steward District Lands to Balance the Needs of Natural Resources and People

#### Strategies

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

## Success Indicators and Milestones for Natural Systems

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





## **Mission Support**

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

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

## Goal One

### Reduce Risks Through the Management of Information and Data

#### Strategies

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

## Goal Two

### Maintain Institutional Knowledge

#### Strategies

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

## Goal Three

### Strengthen Stakeholder Relationships and Partnerships

#### Strategies

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

## Success Indicators and Milestones for Mission Support

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



## Critical Wetlands Inventory Analysis

On April 27, 2022, Senate Bill 882 was signed into law which requires water management districts to include a critical wetlands inventory analysis list (CWIA) in its strategic plan. The list must be approved by the Governing Board and consider a list of criteria outlined in 373.036, Florida Statutes. Additionally, prior to inclusion on the list, landowners must be notified and given the option to be removed from the list.

*Each governing board, in cooperation with local governments, shall develop a list of critical wetlands to be acquired using funds from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund.*

- *The governing boards shall consider all of the following criteria in designating a wetland for inclusion on the list:*
  - *The ecological value of the wetland, as determined by the physical and biological components of the environmental system.*
  - *The effect of the wetland on water quality and flood mitigation.*
  - *The ecosystem restoration value of the wetland.*
  - *The inherent susceptibility of the wetland to development due to its geographical location or natural aesthetics*

*Before adopting or amending its list of critical wetlands, each governing board must notify the owner of any property that the district contemplates including on the list. At any time, an owner who wishes to have his or her property removed from the list must submit by certified mail to the district a letter requesting such removal. The letter must indicate that the owner wishes for his or her property to be removed from the list and must sufficiently identify such property to the governing board. The governing board shall approve a removal request that meets the requirements of this subparagraph at its next regularly scheduled meeting.*

To implement the new requirement, the District assigned staff to various roles for the CWIA process. This working group includes staff with substantial wetland backgrounds, GIS program managers, acquisition specialist, environmental project engineers, minimum flows and levels scientists, and communication specialist. This group was tasked with creating the initial framework for the analysis process and recommending inclusion of some of the known critical wetlands within the confines of this District.

On August 08, 2023, the Governing Board directed staff to develop a project-based workplan for the designation of critical wetlands to be included in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Strategic Plan. The District does not plan to seek funding for critical wetlands from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund in Fiscal Year 2024 and therefore, did not include a list of critical wetlands in the FY 2024 Strategic Plan.



# 2023 Annual Update

**Suwannee River Water Management District**

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## Introduction

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

The strategic priorities and goals set by the strategic plan evaluated in this report, covering Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 2023), are provided below. This report describes District efforts over the past fiscal year to achieve these goals.

### Flood Protection

Reduce and mitigate the risk of flooding

Encourage non-structural floodplain management approaches

### Natural Systems

Establish minimum flows and minimum water levels for priority water bodies

Steward District lands to balance the needs of natural resources and people

Preserve and protect water resources

Optimize public use of District lands

### Water Quality

Reduce nitrate levels to achieve water quality criteria

### Water Supply

Sustainably manage District water resources

### Mission Support

Reduce risks through the management of information and data

Maintain institutional knowledge

Strengthen stakeholder relationships and District partnerships

## Flood Protection

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

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

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

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

### Goal One

#### Reduce and Mitigate Flooding Risk

##### **STRATEGIES**

Promote naturally occurring recharge by increasing water storage through hydrologic restoration.

Identify and study 100-year flood elevations of unstudied parcels/areas which are prone to flooding.

Identify unmet flood protection needs of local governments.

Conduct frequent river inspections for unpermitted activities and structures.

Communicate best available data on flood risk to stakeholders.

### Goal Two

#### Encourage Non-Structural Floodplain Management Approaches

##### **STRATEGIES**

Maximize land acquisition and/or development restrictions of land within 100-year floodplain / Seek opportunities and evaluate all purchases.

Coordinate with appropriate governmental entities on data sharing and consistency for flood forecasts.

Increase public awareness of flood protection tools, permit requirements, and flood risk.

Strategically partner with stakeholders to identify and implement flood projects.

Coordinate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to develop a consistent message to evaluate flood risk of single-family homes.

## Success Indicators and Milestones for Flood Control

The District will measure progress toward the completion of individual tasks contained within the aforementioned goals and strategies by tracking the completion of the planning, funding, construction, or implementation phases of the tasks. In addition, success will be measured by the percentage of riverine floodplain under protection; whether the District's cost-share programs have funded at least one flood control project each year; funding opportunities identified for local governmental surface water management projects; the acres of hydrologic restoration planned, implemented and maintained, as well as the associated recharge benefits; and the number of compliance cases addressed, and trainings provided.

The District funded a Starke-Bradford County Master Plan study to address stormwater, floodplain storage, treated wastewater and alternative water use in the City of Starke and Bradford County.

The District completed three projects for flood protection in FY 2023:

1. Alligator Creek Study – Bradford County – This project worked with the US Army Corps of Engineers to provide a feasibility study for flood protection and storage near Alligator Creek during peak flows.
2. Cross City Flood Management – This project provided stormwater improvements to increase flood protection for 1325 acres in the vicinity of Ruth Raines Middle School.
3. Stormwater Runoff Collection in Mayo – This project constructed a stormwater pond to reduce flooding impacts and overflow into the adjacent sanitary sewer system manhole in the Town of Mayo.

The District has ongoing flood protection and surface water management projects, including Gilchrist NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Way Park, State Route 247 Regional Pond, and SE Old County Camp Road.

There are 2,739,483 acres within the 100-year floodplain in the District. The District currently has 8.4% (230,508 acres) of the total acreage under ownership or conservation easement.

The District continues use of its Current River and Lake Levels webpage to maintain flood warning awareness. It is one of the most visited locations on the District webpage. The highest visitation was during the month of June, with 23,736 visits to the site. The highest number of visits per day for the year was 2,892 on August 30, 2023. June 22, 2023, was the year's second highest visitation day with a total of 1,887 visits.

In FY 2023, there were 277 ERPs and Works of the District permits issued of which 178, or approximately 64%, were within the 100-year floodplain.

New FEMA flood risk maps have been evaluated for the Santa Fe River Basin.

## Natural Systems

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

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

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

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

### Goal One

#### Establish Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels for Priority Water Bodies

##### **STRATEGIES**

Implement the approved MFL priority list.

Conduct scheduled MFL water body status assessments.

Maintain the District monitoring network to establish/assess MFLs.

Evaluate existing and develop new water resource value criteria; update and refine MFL methods.

Develop recovery and prevention strategies as necessary to protect natural systems.

### Goal Two

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

##### **STRATEGIES**

Manage District lands to achieve the highest natural resource value possible, leading the region in quality of public lands, while still generating sustainable revenue streams from the properties.

Implement and support the District Land Management Plan.

## Goal Three

### Preserve and Protect Water Resources

#### **STRATEGIES**

Document permit mitigation and conservation easements in a GIS format.

## Goal Four

### Optimize Public Use of District Lands

#### **STRATEGIES**

Optimize maintenance and restoration of District land and resources.

Focus communication and outreach efforts on land management opportunities to maximize exposure and encourage public use.

## Success Indicators and Milestones for Natural Systems

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

\* Project has multiple benefits and is listed in each applicable area.

The District has five ongoing natural systems restoration projects as of October 2023, including Edwards Bottomlands, Gilchrist NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Way Park\*, Starke Bypass Wetland Mitigation, Graham Farm Conservation Easement\*, and Santa Fe Springs Restoration.

As of November 2023, 326.7 riverine miles have an adopted MFL. Tributaries of major rivers not mentioned in a rule are not included in the total mileage. In addition, 43 springs and three lakes are protected by MFLs.

The District completed MFL rule adoption for Santa Fe and Hampton lakes.

The District also completed the peer review process for the Upper and Middle Suwannee River draft MFL evaluations and is currently responding to comments and revising the MFL technical work accordingly. DEP, at the request of the District's Governing Board, agreed to adopt the Upper and Middle Suwannee River and Priority spring MFLs.

The District continues to work on developing MFLs for all remaining priority water bodies per the District schedule.

The District advanced updates for the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs recovery strategy in coordination with DEP and the St. Johns River Water Management District

(SJRWMD).

## FOREST RESOURCES

### **NATURAL COMMUNITIES**

In FY 2023, the District completed 16 timber sales totaling 2,765 acres and generated \$2,528,012.54 in revenue.

Final harvests of offsite pine species were conducted on 203 acres. These sites will be reforested with longleaf pines.

Pine thinning and/or hardwood chipping was conducted on 2,562 acres to improve forest health and groundcover conditions. Additionally, this will allow the introduction of prescribed fire to work towards the natural community restoration goals.

Forest inventory data was collected on 372 plots by District staff. The data from these plots is used to quantify the acres that have achieved their natural community goals, provides data for areas that could be or have been improved by silvicultural activities, and identifies volumes and other tree species data for restoration project planning.

In FY 2023, the District reforested 254 acres with containerized longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) and two acres with containerized pond pine (*Pinus serotina*). The longleaf pine was planted on the RO Ranch, High Springs Wellfield, Gar Pond, and Mattair Springs tracts while the pond pine was planted on the Mud Swamp Tract.

The District received \$268,108 in grants from various organizations and collaborators. The funds were primarily used to improve or restore upland pine habitat.

### **PRESCRIBED FIRE**

In FY 2023, prescribed burning was conducted on approximately 5,183 acres of District lands to help meet natural community restoration/management objectives.

### **MECHANICAL VEGETATION CONTROL**

In FY 2023, approximately 1,719 acres were roller-chopped, and 2,494 acres were mowed to help facilitate the use of prescribed fire and to help meet natural community restoration/management objectives.

In FY 2023, approximately 6.8 miles of ditch edges were mechanically treated on the Sugar Creek Tract in Hamilton County. This work was done to increase the width of areas along road edges to provide better fire break capabilities, facilitate the use of prescribed fire and help protect forest resources from the damaging effects of wildfires.

### **CHEMICAL VEGETATION CONTROL**

In FY 2023, approximately 312 acres were treated with herbicide to prepare sites for reforestation, to help meet natural community restoration/management objectives, and to help facilitate the use of prescribed fire.

### **INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL**

In FY 2023, District staff monitored 133 invasive plant infestations and treated 73 of those infestations (37 acres) with herbicides. District contractors also treated approximately 123.4 acres of invasive plant infestations throughout the District.

**RARE SPECIES**

In FY 2023, The Florida Natural Area Inventory (FNAI) monitored 21 known rare plant occurrence points on the Natural Well Branch and Devil’s Hammock tracts. FNAI also conducted natural community mapping services on the 2,990-acre Pinehatchee addition to the Steinhatchee Springs Tract.

In FY 2023, District staff conducted gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) surveys on four tracts throughout the District. This survey work included establishing and surveying 118 transects in areas that were most likely to support this species. Estimated population densities within these survey areas are still being calculated. District staff also conducted wading bird surveys on 10 rookeries located throughout the District.

**PUBLIC USE**

The District issued eleven special use authorizations (SUA) for research on District lands. There were three SUAs issued for underwater cave system mapping, water testing, and research to private non-profit research firms. This research data is shared with the District at no cost. In addition, three SUAs were issued to organizations for large group recreation activities.

A total of 734 SUAs were issued during FY 2023.

Recreation SUA	Temporary Ingress/Egress	Non-Recreational	Goose Pasture Camping	Mallory Swamp ATV Trail
305	44	25	280	80

Nearly 95% of District fee-titled lands are open to the public for recreation. Lands which are not open to the public include wellfields, spray fields, and water resource development project sites. There are 3,343 acres recently purchased that require improvements before it can be opened to the public.

The District cooperated with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and United States Fish and Wildlife Service to provide public hunting opportunities on approximately 106,146 acres.

The District partnered with Suwannee River Strutters, Jefferson County King of Springs, and Gator Gobblers, all chapters of the National Wildlife Turkey Federation to sponsor women in the outdoors and youth specialty opportunity hunts. These special opportunity hunts allow additional hunting opportunities on 4,410 acres. Additionally, the 2,030-acre Double Run Creek Tract managed by Camp Blanding is leased for hunting.

Suwannee Bicycle Association sponsored three bicycle events using District lands in the White Springs area, one organization sponsored a 36-hour adventure race, and Florida Trail Association held their annual Ididahike and Florida Wildrun on the Florida National Scenic Trail on District Lands.

**FACILITIES PROJECTS**

Approximately 136 miles of road maintenance was completed on the following tracts in FY 2023: Wolf Creek, Cuba Bay, Lamont, Mount Gilead, Cabbage Grove, Jones Mill Creek, Cabage Grove, Goose Pasture, Scanlon, Cabbage Creek, Natural Well Branch, Peacock Slough, Holton Creek, Suwannee Springs, Mattair Springs, Woods Ferry, Swift Creek, Little Shoals, Gar Pond, Cypress Creek, Hunter Creek, Devil’s Hammock, Lukens, Mallory Swamp, Steinhatchee Springs, Steinhatchee Falls, and Steinhatchee Rise.

Hydrological improvement projects were completed on six District tracts (Steinhatchee Springs, Devil's Hammock, Lukens, Steinhatchee Falls, Wolf Creek and Natural Well Branch) resulting in 28 hydrological repairs or replacements.

Construction was completed on two river access improvement projects on the Mt. Gilead and Cabbage Gove tracts. The two recreation sites located at Mt. Gilead and Cabbage Gove are popular river access points for fishing, swimming, and launching canoes. The planned projects consist of installing concrete steps, constructing soil cement pathways at the Cabbage Gove site, and shaping the grounds at both locations to prevent erosion. The projects are two-fold in purpose. First, reduce riverbank impacts from pedestrian traffic. Second, the newly constructed concrete steps will provide safer river access for the public.

## Water Quality

### Preserving and Restoring the Foundation of North Florida's Economy

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

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

### Goal One

#### Reduce Nitrate Levels to Achieve Water Quality Criteria

##### **STRATEGIES**

Consolidate existing research for nutrient sourcing and identify gaps for additional research.

Expand the monitoring network to include strategic sampling and sampling of non-standard parameters.

Develop project monitoring strategies to measure benefits accurately.

Develop a collaborative strategy with stakeholders for project prioritization in BMAP Regions.

Implement projects to assist in meeting BMAP nitrate load reduction targets.

Ensure permit and project authorizations meet statewide water quality criteria for erosion and sediment control.

Develop rule language requiring nutrient load reductions in stormwater systems.

## Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Quality

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

\* Project has multiple benefits and is listed in each applicable area.

The District awarded five water quality projects, including three agricultural cost-share contracts, totaling \$8.9 million across all funding programs. The agricultural projects are estimated to provide a potential reduction of 138,000 pounds of total nitrogen annually.

1. Sustainable Suwannee Nutrient Efficiency Demonstration – This Task 5 was added with a \$50,000 Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) match to demonstrate control release fertilizer on watermelon and corn crops in Priority Focus Areas.
2. Piedmont Dairy Conversion\* – This project converts grazing to free-stall barns to reduce nutrients and water pumping in the Suwannee BMAP.
3. Agricultural Springs Protection\* – This is a Districtwide cost-share program to reduce nutrient load and water usage in BMAP areas and water supply planning areas,
4. Reducing Impacts from Urban Landscapes\* - A rebate program in cooperation with Alachua County to incentivize water conservation and reduction of fertilizer usage in urban areas.
5. Houston Avenue Drainage Well Replacement\* - Replace a 50-year-old well to reduce flooding, provide beneficial recharge and reduce nutrients entering the aquifer.

The District completed four water quality projects and two studies in FY 2023.

1. Lake Santa Fe Enhanced OSTDS\* – The project relocated restrooms away from the lake and provided an enhanced nutrient reduction system and drain field in the Santa Fe BMAP.
2. Otter Springs OSTDS Improvement – This project removed 50 equivalent residential septic systems, relocated the drain field, and provided a distributed waste treatment system to support the Suwannee BMAP by reducing nutrient impacts from entering the spring.
3. Southern Street Lift Station Replacement (Jennings) – This project relocated the lift station out of the 100-year floodplain to reduce nutrient impacts in conjunction with other central sewer improvements.
4. Lake Frances Sediment Control – This project installed a stormwater control structure with a nutrient reducing system to treat stormwater entering Lake Frances.
5. LaCrosse Stormwater Storage Pond – A study to evaluate and model diversion of high flow events for stormwater treatment and recharge for the Lower Santa Fe River.

6. Santa Fe Basin Sinkhole Recharge Evaluation, Phase II – A study to evaluate stormwater available above and below sinks and swallets in basins contiguous to the Santa Fe River for recharge and treatment.

The District has ongoing water quality projects including, North Florida Mega Industrial Park\*, Graham Farm\*, Groundwater Recharge Wetlands\*, Lancaster Correctional Facility Expansion\*, Lake Butler AWT Upgrade, Haines Street Drainage Improvements\*, Live Oak Reuse\*, Quail Heights (SR247) Regional Pond\*, On-Farm BMP and Nutrient Stewardship Program, Fertigation, Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program, Dairy Wastewater Improvements\*, Dairy Screen Separators\*, Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot\*, Precision Agricultural Practices, Accelerating Suwannee Restoration and Silviculture Management,

Notably, the District issued 62 new agricultural contracts and continues to manage 132 agricultural contracts in FY 2023 with both water supply and water quality benefits.

Two of the 14 Outstanding Florida Springs located within the District have nitrate concentrations within target numeric nutrient criteria based on current available data – Poe Springs and the Wacissa Springs group.

The District continues to engage the Suwannee River Partnership, which works to overcome water quality challenges in the Suwannee River Valley by pooling resources with sister agencies and cooperating stakeholder groups who have similar goals for water quality throughout the District.

In FY 2023, the District continued to manage work funded by a DEP water quality monitoring enhancement grant. In FY 2023, \$131,350 of DEP grant funds were spent to maintain flow and conductivity monitoring at six coastal river stations.

The District concluded work funded by the USDA-NRCS to conduct discharge and water quality monitoring over a three-year period, as part of the NRCS Lower Suwannee River Watershed Nutrient Reduction Restoration Project. To date, \$280,467 in grant funds have been spent to create a water quality monitoring plan, to conduct monthly water quality sampling, lab analysis and spring discharge measurements, and to analyze and report on the data collected in support of the study.

In FY 2023, the District collected and analyzed 662 water quality samples from within its long-term water quality monitoring network, which includes 79 groundwater and 141 surface water stations. In addition, the District, in partnership with the United States Geological Survey, maintained and collected water quality data from 11 continuous monitoring stations located in priority springs.

## Water Supply

### Ensuring a Sustainable Supply of Water for People and the Environment

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

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

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

## Goal One

### Sustainably Manage District Water Resources

#### **STRATEGIES**

Implement projects to reduce groundwater withdrawal impacts to wetlands and other surface waters.

Implement water resource development and alternative water supply projects to ensure an adequate water supply for all reasonable-beneficial uses.

Identify and implement comprehensive feasibility and design studies necessary to evaluate projects.

Research and implement innovations for sustainable agriculture.

Maximize alternative water supply and reuse benefits.

Achieve 10% or less water losses for all public supply systems.

Implement a net resource benefit program.

Develop a collaborative strategy for assisting public utilities with long-range water supply planning prior to water use permit renewals.

Maintain and enhance existing data-driven processes to assess cumulative withdrawals for the potential of harm to water resources and ability to sustain natural systems.

## Success Indicators and Milestones for Water Supply

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

\* Project has both water quality and water supply benefits.

The District awarded approximately \$6.6 million for ten projects, plus \$8.7 million for three agriculture cost-share programs to increase water supply across all funding programs. These projects will conserve or reclaim an estimated 8.9 mgd at completion across all funding programs.

1. Dispersed Storage for Recharge and Alternative Water Supply – Identify storage areas for recharge and alternative water supply in the NFRWSP area.
2. Ecosystem Services – Identify and incentivize silviculture and land management practices to increase aquifer recharge in the NFRWSP area. It benefits the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers Recovery Strategy.
3. Lawtey Water Main Replacements – Water main replacement to reduce water loss in the NFRWSP area.
4. DH/DHR Water Sharing Project – Reduce groundwater pumping by connecting a shared water system at the GRU power plants to conserve 0.2 mgd.
5. Houston Ave Drainage Well Replacement\* – Replace a 50-year-old well to reduce flooding, provide beneficial recharge and reduce nutrients entering the aquifer.
6. Ellisville/Ft White Meter Replacement Program – Replace aged water meters with AMR meters to reduce water loss and encourage conservation in the NFRWSP area.
7. Reducing Impacts from Urban Landscapes – This project will reduce the use of fertilizer and groundwater pumping for landscape irrigation to conserve water and support the Santa Fe BMAP and Lower Santa Fe River.
8. Oakmont Reclaimed Water Extension Phase 5b – Extend reclaimed water to Phase 5b in Oakmont to reduce groundwater pumping, benefiting the Lower Santa Fe River.
9. Hampton AMR Water Meter Replacement – Installation of AMR water meters to provide accurate readings, incentivize water conservation and reduce water loss in the NFRWSP area.
10. Archer Water Systems Improvement Project – Replacement of aging water mains to reduce water loss in the NFRWSP area.
11. Piedmont Dairy Conversion\* – Agricultural cost-share to convert grazing to free-stall barns to reduce nutrients in the Suwannee BMAP and reduce groundwater pumping used by pivots for cow cooling.
12. Agricultural Springs Protection\* - This is a Districtwide cost-share program to reduce nutrient load and water usage in BMAP areas and water supply planning areas,
13. Commercial Application of Smart Soakers – Conduct a pilot project on a commercial dairy to evaluate water conservation using Smart Soakers and conventional cooling to reduce groundwater pumping.

The District completed five water supply projects in FY 2023:

1. Alachua County TurfSWAP – This project provided rebates to Alachua County residents that transition from irrigated turf to Florida Friendly Landscapes and/or hire professionals to improve irrigation systems by fixing leaks, adjusting controllers, and reducing irrigated areas.

2. High Springs Water System Interconnect – This project looped the water main dead ends to reduce flushing in the NFRWSP area.
3. Ellisville / Ft White meter Replacement Program – Replace aged water meters with AMR meters to reduce water loss and encourage conservation in the NFRWSP area.
4. Potable Water Improvements, Maple Street – This project replaced an aged and undersized water main and provided fire hydrants for protection.
5. Hampton Water Main Loop Phase 2 – Installation of loops in the water main reduce flushing losses and therefore groundwater pumping and treatment.

The District has ongoing water supply projects, including Dairy Wastewater Improvements\*, Dairy Screen Separators\*, Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot\*, Precision Agricultural Practices\*, District Cost-Share, Soil Moisture Probes, Alternative Water Supply Pivot retrofits, Groundwater Recharge Wetland\*, University Oaks Ph IV, Live Oak Reuse\*, Cooperative Aquifer Recharge, Graham Farm\*, North Florida Mega Industrial Park\*, Haines St Drainage Improvements\*,

The District continues to initiate studies to evaluate water supply storage options and aquifer recharge for the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers.

Notably, the District issued 62 new agricultural contracts and continues to manage 132 agricultural contracts in FY 2023 with both water supply and water quality benefits.

The District continues to secure funding for water resource development projects listed in or supporting the North Florida Regional Water Supply Initiative and NFRWSP. These projects have targeted the Suwannee and Santa Fe basins in this District and Region 1 of SJRWMD.

The District is conducting regional planning to ensure sufficient water supplies through 2045. The regional water supply plans contain updated water use estimates and projected future water demands through 2045, evaluate constraints based on projected growth, and identifies project options to meet future demands while sustaining natural systems. Planning for the eastern portion of the District, in coordination with the SJRWMD, is under way. Public workshops for the Draft 2023 NFRWSP were held in September 2023 and updates to the Draft NFRWSP were made based on the comments received. The anticipated completion of the 2023 NFRWSP is December 2023. Workshops for the Western Water Supply Plan (WWSP) are also under way. A constraints assessment public workshop was held in July 2023, and completion of the WWSP is anticipated in 2024.

The District continues to work through the Partnership and with DEP and other water management districts on regional concerns through planning, project implementation, and model implementation.

The District made progress on recalibrating the North Florida Southeast Georgia Regional Groundwater Model in collaboration with the SJRWMD.

As of October 16, 2023, the District monitored 94.47% of existing active wells with an agricultural water use permit monitoring condition. These wells were monitored either by electric consumption or telemetry. Active wells with a monitoring condition make up ~77% of total agricultural water use allocations in the District (248.7 mgd/~321.4 mgd). The remaining ~23% of agricultural water use allocations will require the addition of a monitoring condition as a permit modification or permit renewal takes place.

As of October 16, 2023, the District is monitoring 1,606 (238.0 MGD) of a total 1,700 active permitted wells (248.7 MGD). The remaining 94 active wells not yet monitored are scheduled for site visits to determine the type of monitoring that will be implemented. An additional 256 proposed wells have yet to be drilled.

The District offers three options for monitoring: electric provided by the power company, telemetry on diesel systems, and self-reporting. To date, farmer electric agreements from cooperatives are in effect on 843 (151.7 MGD) monitoring points. The District currently employs telemetry on 312 (51.5 MGD) diesel-powered systems. There are currently 18 (1.4 MGD) self-monitored points.

Additionally, there are currently 433 (33.4 MGD) sites for which monitoring is currently not feasible. Staff visit these sites on a rotation to reevaluate the feasibility of monitoring.

Agricultural flow measurements have been collected at 610 sites by either HDS staff or an assigned contractor. An additional 1057 flow data points were sourced from the Mobile Irrigation Labs (MIL), covering 835 unique well points.

The District monitored 53 surface water sites, 256 groundwater sites, and 47 rain gauges in its monitoring network. Additionally, streamflow was collected at 83 monitoring sites.

## Mission Support

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

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

#### Goal One

##### Reduce Risks Through the Management of Information and Data

###### **STRATEGIES**

Implement a District-wide comprehensive data management system including, but not limited to, hydrologic conditions, water use, water quality, permitting data, flood zones, flood occurrence, land use changes, land acquisition, surplus properties, projects, and project benefits.

Collect and manage high quality data to allow for data-driven, science-based decision making in water resource projects, flood hazard information, and water resource protection.

Reduce paper and place-bound information access by maximizing cloud-based file storage and automated authorization.

Optimize accessibility in facilities and information.

## Goal Two

### Maintain Institutional Knowledge

#### **STRATEGY**

Establish programmatic documentation that captures and identifies necessary steps to complete or implement essential work functions, priority project tasks objectives, and other critical processes to maintain consistent program standards and provide efficient transfer of institutional knowledge.

Retain employees through succession planning, mentoring, and professional development initiatives.

## Goal Three

### Strengthen Stakeholder Relationships and District Partnerships

#### **STRATEGIES**

Build trust in District messages, staff, and science through factual, transparent, consistent, and standardized engagements with internal and external stakeholders.

Increase public awareness of District functions in planning, projects, and permitting.

Sustain water resources through education of challenges and maximization of project opportunities.

Engage and educate stakeholders who are critical to water resource sustainability.

## Success Indicators and Milestones for Mission Support

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

### Professional Development

District houses 11 professionally licensed staff and 61 professional certifications.

Collectively, staff hold five associate degrees, 24 undergraduate degrees, 20 graduate degrees, and four doctoral degrees.

One staff is working toward a Ph.D., three staff are working toward master's degrees, and two staff are working toward a bachelor's degree using the District's tuition reimbursement program. Twenty-six staff are members of professional development organizations.

District leadership provided two sessions of human resources and supervisory compliance training.

The District has provided training on public records recognition, retention, and production and maintains an updated video on the subject for new employees to view during orientation. Incumbent staff are able to review the video as well to remain informed on the subject.

## Finance

The District's administrative overhead for FY 2023 was 7.28%. The FY 2024 Adopted Budget administrative overhead is 3.04%.

Based on the FY 2023 Adopted Budget, approximately 75.7% of the budget was allocated for water quality, water supply, and natural systems projects.

Assuming appropriations and District revenues remain at current levels, the District's recurring budget is projected to be funded by recurring dollars and fund balance.

## Facilities

The District completed a survey of the HVAC systems and identified systems by age, service area and remaining life expectancy. In FY 2023, the District replaced the primary HVAC system for the IT Server room; installed a new mini-split system HVAC system for the Executive Director's office and conference room, and replaced one HVAC system in the main building. The District has ordered and is awaiting delivery and installation of another replacement HVAC system for the Main Building.

The District is continuing to update facilities to meet ADA compliance, improve interior structures, correct exterior roofing issues, and improving air quality with annual duct cleaning.

In FY 2023, the District constructed a lab facility within the existing Kirby Building to eliminate the need for temporary, borrowed lab space in Alachua County. The new lab space will allow staff to work on-site and will increase efficiency within the Office of Water Resources.

In FY 2023, the District completed renovation of the IT support suite in the Suwannee Room. The District entered into contracts with Gateway Contracting to remodel the executive wing lobby to address water intrusion issues and to remove the earthen berms between the wings of the main building with work expected to be completed by December 2023 and for the installation of an emergency exit for the IT Support Suite in the Suwannee Room.

## IT/GIS

The IT Department implemented a Disaster Recovery as a Service (DraaS) solution that allows an organization to back up its data and information technology (IT) infrastructure in a third-party cloud computing environment and provide all the disaster recovery orchestration through a software as a service (SaaS) solution to regain access and functionality to IT infrastructure after a disaster. All mission critical virtual machines have been replicated to DraaS providers datacenter.

The District IT Department enhanced user account security by implementing multifactor authentication on all District employee user accounts. This adds another layer of security for account protection.

In partnership with other water management districts, FDEM, DEP and the USGS completed the acquisition and quality control of new LIDAR data covering not only the SRWMD but the entire Florida peninsular.

Working with partners at DEP and FDACS, the District acquired updated GIS data for landcover/land use, and agricultural irrigation lands.

## Communications, Outreach and Customer Service

The District worked on various projects throughout FY 2023. New and notable efforts are listed below.

The District launched its new [District Lands Web Map](#) in Summer 2022 to provide easy access to information about District Lands to residents and visitors. In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, District staff completed and launched an enhancement that focuses on the region's priority springs that includes specific information, location, and photos of these natural resources. Additionally, as a secondary component, the District has completed a physical pocket guide, providing a handy resource to residents and visitors looking for quick information about the District and its springs. The booklet is expected to be printed in FY 24.

The District completed several videography projects to highlight the works of the District. These included [algae and SAV monitoring](#) and [water quality monitoring](#). Two additional videos will be completed in FY 2024.

The District updated eight brochures to provide information about the District to visitors and residents. These brochures focus on [Permitting](#), [Water Use Monitoring](#), [Career and Employment Opportunities](#), and more.

The District developed four new feature stories that highlight District activities and important efforts of employees. These will be published in FY 2024.

The District disseminated 58 press releases in FY 2023, highlighting District activities.

Produced three advertorials, highlighting the roles of [Permitting](#), [MFLs](#), and [Water Supply Planning](#), which ran in Family Magazine and Currents Magazine.

For social media, a total of 476 posts were made. Facebook remains a primary outreach tool for our communities and social media engagement. Communications staff look to continue to grow its engagement in FY2024.

- [Facebook](#) – A total of 175 posts, for a reach of more than 180,000. The top performing post was in April and served as a warning for residents walking through District lands to be aware of snakes. The District's Facebook page had a reach of more than 175,000, received more than 328 likes, 63 comments, and 67 shares. Facebook annual visits were up by more than 115 percent, at 23,519 unique visitors.
- [Instagram](#) – A total of 107 posts and had a reach of 4,569.
- [Twitter](#) / X – A total of 194 tweets were sent and reached approximately 19,000 visitors.

District staff participated in 31 outreach engagements including tours, speaking engagements, outreach meetings, demonstrations, and school activities.

Regulatory staff provided District stakeholders outstanding customer service in the timely issuance of WUPs and ERPs by meeting or exceeding stretch goals for permit process time, applications in house, cost to process permits, and permit-to-staff ratio 88% of the time in FY 2023, while continuing to experience a significant increase in ERP applications.

### Emergency Response

The District issued Emergency Order 2022-01 in response to Hurricane Ian on September 27, 2022, and Emergency Order 2023-01 in response to Hurricane Idalia on August 28, 2023. The Hurricane Ian Order expired on October 4, 2022, and the Hurricane Idalia Order is still in effect.

### Legislative and Community Affairs

District staff met with county economic development departments, community redevelopment agencies, chambers of commerce, etc. to discuss their role in water conservation and how the District is available to them as a resource.



# Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule

Suwannee River Water Management District

## Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule

### FY 2022-2023 Accomplishments

- Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs MFL Recovery Strategy updates were advanced in coordination with the St Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).
- Upper and Middle Suwannee River MFL evaluations are in progress.
- Lake Hampton and Lake Santa Fe MFL rules were adopted.
- Cherry Lake draft MFL evaluation was completed and posted for public review.
- Withlacoochee River and priority springs data collection is in progress.

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

*Current progress of MFLs in development:*

Waterbody Name or System Name	Current Status
Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs	MFL re-evaluation completed; Updated recovery strategy in progress
Upper Suwannee River and Priority Springs	MFL evaluation peer reviewed for river gages; MFL evaluations in progress for priority springs
Middle Suwannee River and Priority Springs	MFL evaluation peer reviewed for river gages; MFL evaluations in progress for priority springs
Lake Hampton	MFL rule adoption completed
Lake Santa Fe	MFL rule adoption completed
Cherry Lake	Draft MFL evaluation completed; Public review in progress
Withlacoochee River and Priority Springs	Data collection in progress
Waccasassa River and Levy Blue Spring	Data collection partially completed; Hydrologic modeling pending

### Changes to the Priority List and Schedule from 2022 to 2023

- The Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Priority Springs MFLs have been rescheduled for 2024 to allow for continued development of the updated Recovery Strategy in coordination with SJRWMD and FDEP.

## Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule | Suwannee River Water Management District

- The Cherry Lake MFLs have been rescheduled for 2024, to allow for public review and comment on the MFL and hydrologic modeling reports.
- The Upper and Middle Suwannee River MFLs (excluding priority springs) have been rescheduled for 2024, to make necessary revisions to the MFL evaluations in response to peer review and public comments in coordination with SJRWMD and FDEP. Rule adoption is anticipated in 2024.
- The Middle Suwannee River Outstanding Florida Springs MFLs have been rescheduled for 2024, to incorporate additional data collection and analysis into the MFL evaluations in coordination with SJRWMD and FDEP. Peer review and rule adoption are anticipated in 2024.
- The Middle Suwannee River Priority Springs MFLs (excluding the Outstanding Florida Springs) have been rescheduled for 2025 to incorporate additional data collection and analysis into the MFL evaluations.
- The Upper Suwannee River Priority Springs MFLs with minimal data availability have been rescheduled for 2025 for further development of MFL evaluations. The Upper Suwannee River Priority Springs MFLs with more data availability have been rescheduled for 2026, to allow for development of MFL evaluations specific to each spring.
- The Withlacoochee River and Priority Springs (excluding Madison Blue Spring) MFLs have been rescheduled for 2026 to allow for additional data collection and MFL evaluation.
- The Waccasassa River and Levy Blue Spring MFL re-evaluations have been rescheduled for 2026 to allow for additional data collection, hydrologic modeling, and MFL evaluation.
- The Alapaha River was removed from the priority list because District staff determined that potential adverse impacts from withdrawals would best be assessed at Alapaha River Rise and Holton Creek Rise which are on the priority list for 2026.
- Water bodies with adopted MFLs that are not scheduled for re-evaluation in the current planning horizon are not shown in the 2023 Priority List and Schedule.

## 2023 Priority List and Schedule

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

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
Re-Evaluation	Santa Fe River near Fort White	Lower Santa Fe	River	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8486	-82.7153	Rule Adopted
New	Santa Fe River at US HWY 441 near High Springs	Lower Santa Fe	River	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8525	-82.6086	
Re-Evaluation	Columbia (Col101974)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8340	-82.6767	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Columbia Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8541	-82.6120	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Devils Ear Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8353	-82.6966	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Hornsby Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8504	-82.5932	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	July Spring	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8362	-82.6964	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Poe Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8257	-82.6490	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Rum Island Spring	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.8335	-82.6798	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Santa Fe River Rise	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8739	-82.5916	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Siphon Creek Rise	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8562	-82.7331	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Treehouse Spring (OFS)	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 1)	Alachua	Yes	Yes	29.8549	-82.6029	Rule Adopted
New	Gilchrist Blue Spring	Lower Santa Fe	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8299	-82.6829	
Re-Evaluation	Ichetucknee River at Hwy27 near Hildreth	Ichetucknee	River	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9525	-82.7861	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Blue Hole Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9805	-82.7584	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Devils Eye Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.8352	-82.6966	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Grassy Hole Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 3)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9678	-82.7597	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Ichetucknee Head Spring (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9842	-82.7619	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Mill Pond Springs (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9667	-82.7600	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Mission Springs (OFS Group)	Ichetucknee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Columbia	Yes	Yes	29.9762	-82.7579	Rule Adopted
New	Suwannee River at White Springs	Upper Suwannee	River	Columbia	Yes	Yes	30.3256	-82.7383	
New	Suwannee River at Suwannee Springs	Upper Suwannee	River	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3928	-82.9333	
New	Suwannee River at Ellaville	Middle Suwannee	River	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3844	-82.8281	
New	Suwannee River at Branford	Middle Suwannee	River	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9556	-82.9278	
New*	Falmouth Spring (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3612	-83.1350	Emergency rule*

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
New*	Lafayette Blue Spring (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	30.1258	-83.2261	Emergency rule*
New*	Peacock Springs Group (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.1232	-83.1332	Emergency rule*
New*	Troy Spring (OFS)	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	30.0060	-82.9975	Emergency rule*
Re-Evaluation	Madison Blue Spring (OFS)	Withlacoochee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Madison	Yes	Under evaluation	30.4804	-83.2444	Rule Adopted
New	Cherry Lake	Cherry Lake	Lake	Madison	Yes	Under evaluation	30.6183	-82.5778	

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

### Suwannee River Water Management District Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels to be adopted in 2025

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
New	Allen Mill Pond Springs	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	30.1628	-83.2431	
New	Anderson Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3534	-83.1897	
New	Bell Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 3)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.5974	-82.9412	
New	Bonnet Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.1243	-83.1382	
New	Branford Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9549	-82.9284	
New	Charles Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.1674	-83.2304	
New	Guaranto Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Dixie	Yes	Yes	29.7798	-82.9400	
New	Hart Springs	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.6750	-82.9512	
New	Lime Sink Rise	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3878	-83.1611	
New	Little River Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	29.9969	-82.9663	
New	Otter Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.6448	-82.9428	
New	Pothole Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Dixie	Yes	Yes	29.8107	-82.9359	
New	Rock Bluff Springs	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Gilchrist	Yes	Yes	29.7991	-82.9186	
New	Rock Sink Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Dixie	Yes	Yes	29.7279	-82.9493	
New	Royal Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 3)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.0837	-83.0748	
New	Ruth Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	29.9958	-82.9768	
New	Suwanacoochee Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Madison	Yes	Yes	30.3867	-83.1718	
New	Telford Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.1070	-83.1657	

Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule | Suwannee River Water Management District

New	Turtle Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Lafayette	Yes	Yes	29.8474	-82.8903	
New	Lime Spring	Middle Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3912	-83.1687	
New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
New	Blue Sink Spring (Suwannee)	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3357	-82.8084	
New	Hamilton Unnamed Spring (Ham1023971)	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.3861	-82.9064	
New	Blue Spring at Boys Ranch	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.4223	-83.0138	
New	Stevenson Spring	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.4171	-83.1530	
New	Seven Sisters Spring	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.4177	-83.1553	

Suwannee River Water Management District Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels to be adopted in 2026

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name	Waterbody Type	County	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status
New	Alapaha River Rise	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.4394	-83.0893	
New	Holton Creek Rise	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 1)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.4379	-83.0576	
New	Suwannee Springs	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Suwannee	Yes	Yes	30.3945	-82.9345	
New	White Sulphur Springs	Upper Suwannee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Yes	30.3300	-82.7608	
New	Withlacoochee River near Pinetta	Withlacoochee	River	Madison	Yes	Under evaluation	30.5953	-82.7403	
New	Withlacoochee River near Lee	Withlacoochee	River	Madison	Yes	Under evaluation	30.4104	-83.1801	
New	Hardee (Rossiter) Spring	Withlacoochee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Under evaluation	30.5447	-83.2501	
New	Pot Spring	Withlacoochee	Spring (Mag. 2)	Hamilton	Yes	Under evaluation	30.4708	-83.2344	
Re-Evaluation	Waccasassa River near Gulf Hammock	Waccasassa	River	Levy	Yes	Under evaluation	29.2038	-82.7689	Rule Adopted
Re-Evaluation	Levy Blue Spring	Waccasassa	Spring (Mag. 3)	Levy	Yes	Under evaluation	29.4507	-82.6990	Rule Adopted



# Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan

Suwannee River Water Management District

# FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

## I. Introduction

The Suwannee River Water Management District's (District's) Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) is submitted in compliance with the reporting requirements of subsection 373.536(6)(a)3, Florida Statutes (F.S). The format for this report has been developed jointly by the Executive Office of the Governor, the Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), and the water management districts (WMDs). The CIP includes projected revenues and expenditures for capital improvements from Fiscal Years 2024-2028. As directed by subsection 373.536(6)(a)3, F.S., the CIP has been prepared in a manner comparable to the fixed capital outlay format set forth in section 216.043, F.S. Those two programs and their activities and sub-activities are

### 2.0 Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works

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

### 3.0 Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works

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

The activities and sub-activities under program 2.0 Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works that include capital improvement projects are 2.1 Land Acquisition.

The activities under program 3.0 Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works that include capital improvement projects are 3.1 Land Management and 3.3 Facilities.

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

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

### 2.0 Acquisition, Restoration, and Public Works

This program includes the development and construction of all capital projects (except those contained in Program 3.0), including water resource development projects/water supply development assistance, water control projects, and support and administrative facilities construction; cooperative projects; land acquisition (including Save Our Rivers / Preservation 2000 / Florida Forever / Springs Restoration Grants); and the restoration of lands and water bodies.

#### 2.1 Land Acquisition

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

## **2.2 Water Source Development**

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

### **2.2.1 Water Resource Development Projects**

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

### **2.2.2 Water Supply Development Assistance**

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

## **2.3 Surface Water Projects**

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

## **3.0 Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works**

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

### **3.1 Land Management**

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

### **3.3 Facilities**

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

## **II. FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

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

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

- The District’s Florida Forever Work Plan describes the District’s land acquisition and management, water resource development, and restoration efforts.
- The annual Preliminary Budget and Tentative Budget Submission Report provide proposed revenues and expenditures for each fiscal year.

- The Annual Budget, adopted by the Governing Board in September of each year, provides the strategies and budgets of each District program.
- The District’s Strategic Plan provides the long-range water resource management issues and strategies for water quality, water supply, flood protection, and natural systems management.
- The District’s Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program provides implementation strategies relating to water resource development and water supply development efforts.

**FISCAL YEAR 2024 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2028**

<b>2.0 ACQUISITION, RESTORATION AND PUBLIC WORKS</b>					
<b>2.1 LAND ACQUISITION</b>					
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
Fund Balance	2,250,000	2,250,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
State Revenue	2,000,000	2,000,000	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,250,000</b>	<b>4,250,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,250,000</b>	<b>4,250,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
<b>3.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS AND WORKS</b>					
<b>3.1 LAND MANAGEMENT</b>					
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
Fund Balance	180,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>
<b>3.3 FACILITIES</b>					
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
Fund Balance	386,000	386,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
State Revenue	1,000,000	4,500,000			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,386,000</b>	<b>4,886,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,386,000</b>	<b>4,886,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>

### III. PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

#### 2.0 ACQUISITION, RESTORATION, AND PUBLIC WORKS

Activity: 2.1 Land Acquisition

Project Title: Water Management Lands Acquisition

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

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

Square Footage/Physical Description: N/A

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

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

The implementation of this program, along with the cumulative efforts under the Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000, Florida Forever programs, Springs Restoration Grants and Military Base Protection Funds have resulted in the protection of over 287,088 acres of fee title and conservation easement water resource lands. Approximately 159,974 acres of river floodplains, freshwater springs, headwater wetlands, bottomland hardwood, and buffering upland forests are protected in full-fee ownership. Conservation easements, access easements, and deed restricted from less-than fee purchases have protected nearly 127,114 acres of water resource lands. These lands are managed primarily for nonstructural flood protection including floodwater conveyance, storage, and attenuating floodwaters. Ancillary benefits include water quality and habitat protection, and passive public recreation areas. The District continues to explore potential acquisitions with public and private partners to maximize available funding for conservation acquisitions.

Plan Linkages: Florida Forever Work Plan 2024, Five-Year Strategic Plan 2024–2028, FY 2024 Budget, FY 2025 Preliminary Budget, 5-Year Water Resource Development Work Program

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

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

Other Project Costs (includes land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, other):  
FY 2024 - \$4,250,000; FY 2025 - \$4,250,000

#### 3.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS AND WORKS

Activity: 3.1 Land Management

Project Title: Land Management

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

Physical Location: Various locations on District-owned lands.

Square Footage/Physical Description: 159,974 acres

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

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

Plan Linkages: Florida Forever Work Plan 2024, Five-Year Strategic Plan 2024-2028, FY 2024 Budget, FY 2025 Preliminary Budget

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

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

Other Project Costs (includes land, survey, existing facility acquisition, professional services, other): FY 2024 - \$180,000; FY 2025 - \$80,000

### 3.0 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS AND WORKS

Activity: 3.3 Facilities

Project Title: Facility Management

Type: Operation and maintenance of administrative facilities.

Physical Location: District headquarters

Square Footage/Physical Description: 35,000 square feet

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

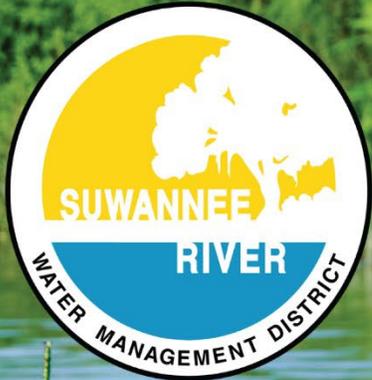
Historical Background/Need for Project: The District facilities consist of a 35,000 square foot headquarter building, a laboratory/storage building, a garage/storage facility, and a parking lot on 12 acres.

Plan Linkages: FY 2024 Budget, FY 2025 Preliminary Budget.

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

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

Basic Construction Costs (includes permits, inspections, communications requirements, utilities, outside building, site development, other): FY2024 - \$1,386,000; FY2025 - \$4,886,000



# Alternative Water Supply Report

**Suwannee River Water Management District**

## Introduction:

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

## Water Protection and Sustainability Program

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

### *Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund - Funding Distribution*

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

District Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	Project Type	Status	Water Produced (mgd)	WSPSP Fiscal Year	WSPSP Funding	DEP funds	Cooperator match	District funds	Total Project cost
153	City of Alachua Reclaimed Water Program	This project was for the implementation of a 0.4 MGD reuse project to offset groundwater withdrawals. Initial construction was for filtration, disinfection, transmission lines, pumping, controls and storage. Potential offset for 1 to 3 MGD for commercial and residential offset.	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	3	2006-2007	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$250,000	-	\$1,250,000
151	City of Lake City Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	This project was for the implementation of a 1 MGD reuse project with expansion capabilities. Initial construction was for water treatment, transmission.	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	1	2005-2006	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$1,735,526	-	\$4,735,526
154	City of Live Oak Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	Ph 1 expansion is to implement a 1.5 MGD treatment facility. The goal is the offset of 0.8 MGD of groundwater withdrawals.	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	1.5	2005-2006	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$500,000	-	\$2,500,000
155	City of Live Oak Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1 expansion	Ph 1 expansion is to implement a 1.5 MGD treatment facility. The goal is the offset of 0.8 MGD of groundwater withdrawals.	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0	2006-2007	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$250,000	-	\$1,250,000
152	City of Monticello Reclaimed Water Program	This project was for the implementation of a 0.5 MGD reuse project to offset groundwater withdrawals at the Simpson Nursery. Initial construction was to upgrade the water treatment facility, transmission mains, pumping, storage, supervisory control and data acquisition.	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0.5	2005-2006	\$1,500,000	\$500,000	\$50,000	-	\$2,050,000
331	Ft. White Water Main Loop	A portion of this project has been funded through the WSPSP to construct water main loops.	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0002	2019-2020	\$100,000	\$29,000	\$0	-	\$129,000
331	Ft. White Water Main Loop	A portion of this project has been funded through the WSPSP to construct water main loops.	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0002	2020-2021	\$16,355	\$0	\$0	-	\$16,355
344	High Springs Interconnect	A portion of this project has been funded through the WSPSP to construct water main loops.	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.015	2020-2021	\$85,160	\$0	\$62,000	\$100,840	\$248,000
345	Potable Water Improvements - Maple St.	A portion of this project has been funded through the WSPSP to construct water main loops.	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.00001	2020-2021	\$78,485	\$0	\$15,224	\$0	\$93,709

## Summary of Continuing Efforts

The District works with its local and state partners to identify, develop and fund alternative water supply, conservation, and water resource development projects. The District's Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources (RIVER) cost-share program provides local governments with funding for projects including alternative water supply and water conservation projects. Since the inception of the RIVER program in 2013, the District has partnered with local governments to implement thirty-two alternative water supply projects and water conservation projects with a total estimated benefit of 0.85 MGD.

Through agricultural cost-share programs, the District and FDEP partner with agricultural producers to increase water savings by implementing irrigation retrofits, new water saving technologies, and other water conservation projects. The FDEP has awarded state springs grants for cost share programs for irrigation and nutrient management retrofits for agricultural and dairy operations. The Suwannee River Partnership (SRP) has been instrumental in implementing conservation partnerships with the agricultural community in the Suwannee River Basin. From 2014 through 2022 the estimated benefit at completion will be 28.05 MGD.

The District also invests money into water resource development projects. These projects include aquifer recharge and hydrologic restoration projects. The continuing support for springs protection and restoration from Governor DeSantis, the Florida Legislature, and the FDEP has enabled the District to increase efforts, through partnerships, to protect and enhance water supply and resources throughout the District. From 2014 to 2022, the District with the FDEP and local partners implemented 43 water resource development projects with an estimated benefit of 45 MGD at completion.

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

District Project Number	Project Name	WRD or WSD project type	Project Status	Water Produced (mgd)	Initial FY funded	DEP Funds	Other State Funds	Federal Funds	District Funds	Cooperator match	Total Project Cost	Program
5	2014 Springs Projects: Task 2 WC Through Pivots	Agricultural Conservation	Complete	5.26	FY2014-15	\$885,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,235,000	\$308,975	\$2,428,975	Springs
6	2014 Springs Projects: Task 3 Dairy Lagoon Expansion	Other Non-Traditional Source	Complete	0.3	FY2014-15	\$920,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$1,220,000	Springs
7	2015 S0905 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators	Agricultural Conservation	Active	0.32	FY2015-16	\$2,120,000	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$530,000	\$2,670,000	Springs
8	2016 Springs Projects: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements	Other Non-Traditional Source	Active	0.14	FY2016-17	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$1,800,000	Springs
228	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Agricultural Conservation	Active	3.03	FY2019-20	\$1,878,736	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$2,378,736	Springs
157	Agriculture Water Conservation (2013 Ag Cost Share Funds)	Agricultural Conservation	Complete	5.2	FY2012-13	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,200,550	\$308,975	\$1,509,525	District
300	AWS Pivot Retrofits	Agricultural Conservation	Active	1.1	FY2019-20	\$1,200,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$55,600	\$1,256,000	AWS
230	Bee Haven Bay WRD	Surface Water Storage (e.g., reservoirs)	Complete	0.7	FY2019-20	\$370,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$370,000	Springs
240	Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Groundwater Recharge	Active	3	FY2019-20	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000	Springs
15	Brooks Sink Phase 1	Groundwater Recharge	Complete	0.12	FY2013-14	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000	Florida Forever
136	Cedar Key WSD Reuse project	Distribution/Transmission Capacity	Complete	0.18	FY2007-08	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$8,333	\$33,333	Florida Forever
153	City of Alachua Reclaimed Water Program	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	3	FY2006-07	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$1,250,000	WPSP
151	City of Lake City Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	1	FY2005-06	\$2,980,354	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,735,526	\$4,715,880	WPSP
154	City of Live Oak Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	1.5	FY2005-06	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$2,500,000	WPSP
152	City of Monticello Reclaimed Water Program	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0.5	FY2005-06	\$1,500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$2,050,000	WPSP
28	Cow Pond Drainage Basin Aquifer Recharge - see Dixie Co MBAR No 291	Groundwater Recharge	Complete	1.69	FY2016-17	\$313,382	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$363,382	Springs
291	Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Groundwater Recharge	Active	1.1	FY2019-20	\$2,993,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$3,143,000	Springs
124	Eagle Lake	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	2	FY2014-15	\$3,070,000	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$230,000	\$3,600,000	Springs
331	Ft. White Water Main Loop	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0002	FY2019-20	\$145,355	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$145,355	AWS
2093	Graham Farm Acquisition WSA06	Other Project Type	Active	0.28994	FY2021-22	\$0	\$0	\$900,000	\$0	\$781,700	\$1,681,700	AWS
293	Groundwater Recharge Wetland	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Active	1.5	FY2019-20	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$4,600,000	\$0	\$6,100,000	\$12,200,000	AWS
2444	Haines Street Drainage Improvements	Groundwater Recharge	Active	0.02	FY2021-22	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$247,314	\$54,410	\$301,724	River
255	Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells and Water Quality Improvement	Groundwater Recharge	Active	2	FY2019-20	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$700,000	District
276	Hampton Water Main Loop	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.000547	FY2019-20	\$200,516	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,250	\$218,766	AWS
354	Hampton Water Main Loop Phase 2	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.003	FY2021-22	\$263,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$263,800	AWS

District Project Number	Project Name	WRD or WSD project type	Project Status	Water Produced (mgd)	Initial FY funded	DEP Funds	Other State Funds	Federal Funds	District Funds	Cooperator match	Total Project Cost	Program
344	High Springs Water System Interconnect	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.015	FY2020-21	\$85,160	\$0	\$0	\$100,840	\$62,000	\$248,000	WPSP
53	Hilltop to Alliance Wastewater Project	Other Non-Traditional Source	Complete	0.34	FY2014-15	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$181,000	\$210,991	\$391,991	District
58	Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement (ISQWIP)	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Complete	1.19	FY2013-14	\$3,900,000	\$0	\$0	\$283,815	\$100,000	\$4,283,815	Springs
2090	Lancaster Correctional Facility expansion	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Active	0.028	FY2021-22	\$0	\$0	\$2,900,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,900,000	Federal WW
1729	Live Oak Reuse	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Active	0.01	FY2021-22	\$0	\$0	\$3,240,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,240,000	Federal WW
78	Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Active	2	FY2013-14	\$1,548,000	\$0	\$0	\$277,000	\$30,000	\$1,855,000	Springs
2101	North Florida Mega Industrial Park	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Active	0.25	FY2021-22	\$0	\$0	\$2,960,000	\$0	\$60,000	\$3,020,000	Federal WW
83	Oakmont Reclaimed Water Main Extension (Ph 2)	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0.05	FY2015-16	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$113,143	\$113,143	\$226,286	River
345	Potable Water Improvements - Maple St.	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.00001	FY2020-21	\$78,485	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,224	\$93,709	WPSP
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	Agricultural Conservation	Active	2	FY2017-18	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,250,000	\$6,250,000	Springs
303	Public Supply Efficiency Improvements	PS and CII Conservation	Active	1.4	FY2019-20	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	AWS
103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Agricultural Conservation	Active	5.1	FY2016-17	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000,000	Springs
105	Suwannee Country Club Reuse Connection	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Complete	0.1	FY2014-15	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$119,520	\$4,893	\$124,413	River
123	Suwannee Valley Ag Extension Center Surface Water	Surface Water	Complete	0.05	FY2013-14	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,200	\$80,400	\$120,600	Other
1811	TCWSD Public Supply Efficiencies	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.002	FY2020-21	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	River
284	University Oaks Phase III a	PS and CII Conservation	Complete	0.0183	FY2019-20	\$95,124	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,610	\$102,734	AWS
282	University Oaks Phase IV	PS and CII Conservation	Active	0.015	FY2021-22	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$311,670	\$5,000	\$316,670	River
111	Upper Suwannee River Regional Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Complete	1	FY2017-18	\$2,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500,000	Springs

District Project Number	Project Name	Description
5	2014 Springs Projects: Task 2 WC Through Pivots	Retrofit center pivots to increase spray efficiency
6	2014 Springs Projects: Task 3 Dairy Lagoon Expansion	Increase pond storage to better manage wastewater & irrigation
7	2015 S0905 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators	Dairy Screens and irrigation retrofits (Improved Nutrient Application in Dairy operations)
8	2016 Springs Projects: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements	Use of new technology to improve wastewater systems to reduce nutrient impacts and reduce ground water usage.
228	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Incentivize silviculture and rural land conservation to reduce groundwater pumping and nitrogen loading in the Santa Fe and Suwannee River Basin Management Action Plan areas.
157	Agriculture Water Conservation (2013 Ag Cost Share Funds)	Assess and implement water conservation BMPs as part of agricultural cost-share program. The cost and savings are the total for the following counties: Alachua, Columbia, Gilchrist, Hamilton, and Suwannee.
300	AWS Pivot Retrofits	Retrofit pivot systems with a need determined by a mobile irrigation lab evaluation in existing and proposed water resource planning areas.
230	Bee Haven Bay WRD	Construction of an alternative discharge line from Eagle Lake Phase I to provide additional reuse capacity to the mining operations. This alternative water supply reduces the reliance on fresh groundwater from the UFA.
240	Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	The Project will take place in Bradford County and enhance opportunities for aquifer recharge for the silvicultural lands and areas with surplus surface waters.
15	Brooks Sink Phase 1	Restore natural hydrologic connection to Brooks sink
136	Cedar Key WSD Reuse project	WWTP improvements and extension of reclaimed water lines.
153	City of Alachua Reclaimed Water Program	This project was for the implementation of a 0.4 MGD reuse project to offset groundwater withdrawals. Initial construction was to for filtration, disinfection, transmission lines, pumping, controls and storage.
151	City of Lake City Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	The City operated a 3 MGD wastewater treatment with a restricted access sprayfield for disposal. This project was for a 1 MGD reuse project with expansion capabilities. Initial construction was for water treatment, transmission.
154	City of Live Oak Reclaimed Water Program Ph 1	The City operated a 1.25 MGD wastewater treatment facility. Ph 1 expansion is to implement a 1.5 MGD treatment facility. The goal is the offset of 0.8 MGD of groundwater withdrawals.
152	City of Monticello Reclaimed Water Program	This project was for the implementation of a 0.5 MGD reuse project to offset groundwater withdrawals at the Simpson Nursery.
28	Cow Pond Drainage Basin Aquifer Recharge - see Dixie Co MBAR No 291	The project will restore approximately 300 acres of sand ponds and rehydrate approximately 1,750 acres of wetlands while recharging approximately 1.69 million gallons per day of water
291	Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Design and construct a wetland restoration system to re-establish natural drainage patterns using culverts and flashboards. Project will funnel excess surface water to new and existing recharge features. Consolidation of LP61039 and LP6103B funds and benefits.
124	Eagle Lake	Public Private partnership to reduce groundwater withdrawals
331	Ft. White Water Main Loop	Water conservation and reduction of groundwater pumping by looping of water main lines to reduce flushing,
2093	Graham Farm Acquisition WSA06	Fee Simple land acquisition of 441 acres to reduce nutrient loading adjacent to Olustee Creek and the Santa Fe River
293	Groundwater Recharge Wetland	GRU proposes to construct a groundwater recharge wetland using reclaimed water from the Kanapaha Water Reclamation facility. Estimated 3-5 MGD water recharge at completion.
2444	Haines Street Drainage Improvements	Replacement of Class V injection well with stormwater management facility for flood relief and beneficial recharge.

District Project Number	Project Name	Description
255	Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells and Water Quality Improvement	This project concept is to replace two 12-inch drainage wells to provide aquifer recharge and flood protection in the Alapaha Basin.
276	Hampton Water Main Loop	Loop water mains to improve water conservation, remove dead ends to improve water quality and reduce flushing. Install isolation valves to aid in line break repairs.
354	Hampton Water Main Loop Phase 2	Loop water mains to improve water conservation, remove dead ends to improve water quality and reduce flushing. Install isolation valves to aid in line break repairs.
344	High Springs Water System Interconnect	Loop water main in the River Run neighborhood to reduce flushing and conserve water in the WRCA
53	Hilltop to Alliance Wastewater Project	Wastewater pipeline connecting Hilltop Dairy to Alliance Dairy for wastewater reuse
58	Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement (ISQWIP)	Convert existing sprayfield to treatment wetland. TN reduction based on 3 year average of monitored levels at inflow and downstream treatment cells. 88% reduction of TN and 98% reduction of Nitrate.
2090	Lancaster Correctional Facility expansion	Extend a force main from Lancaster Correctional to Fanning's WWTF to reduce nutrients and provide recharge. Phase VII of Fanning.
1729	Live Oak Reuse	Construct extensions to the Live Oak wastewater collection infrastructure which will provide additional reuse.
78	Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge	Hydrologic restoration activities on the property to rehydrate roughly 1,500 acres of ponds, 4,000 acres of wetlands and recharge the aquifer up to an estimated 10 million gallons per day.
2101	North Florida Mega Industrial Park	Retrofit proposed WWTF to meet AWT for future Public Access Reuse (PAR)
83	Oakmont Reclaimed Water Main Extension (Ph 2)	Installing of additional reclaimed water mains.
345	Potable Water Improvements - Maple St.	Replace aged water line to reduce water leaks
89	Precision Agricultural Practices	The project will provide cost-share funds to producers to implement precision management technology. Priority will be given to producers within both the BMAP and Florida Outstanding Springs areas.
303	Public Supply Efficiency Improvements	Infrastructure and conservation improvements to reduce water loss based on water audit information or conservation measures.
103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Pilot program for agricultural operations, landowners, counties and cities, private companies, and other entities within specific geographical areas to submit proposals to reduce water use, improve water quality and remove nutrients
105	Suwannee Country Club Reuse Connection	Connect the Suwannee Country Club golf course to the City of Live Oak reuse line; install pump station.
123	Suwannee Valley Ag Extension Center Surface Water	Partnership with UF IFAS for variable rate irrigation using surface water
1811	TCWSD Public Supply Efficiencies	The project proposes to install 4 neighborhood master meters to monitor for system losses and identify leaks within the TCWSD water system.
284	University Oaks Phase III a	This project is for the construction of the remaining 2,200 LF of 6" watermain serving 14 customers. This will continue to reduce the water loss experienced throughout the University Oaks Water System.
282	University Oaks Phase IV	Phase IV will consist of the design, permitting, and construction of approximately 5,250 LF of 6" watermain to provide service to 33 customers. This will continue to reduce the water loss experienced throughout the University Oaks Water System.



# Five Year Water Resource Development Work Program

FY 2024-2028 | Suwannee River Water Management District

## I Introduction

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

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

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

This Work Program covers the period from Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 through FY 2027-2028 and is consistent with the planning strategies of the District's North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan (NFRWSP), a regional water supply plan produced and implemented jointly between the District and the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) (see Figure 1). The NFRWSP was approved by both Districts in 2017 and covers the 2015-2035 planning horizon. The planning region includes all of Hamilton, Columbia, Baker, Suwannee, Union, Bradford, Gilchrist, Putnam, and Alachua counties, as well as the remaining counties in Region 1 of the SJRWMD. Work began in early 2020 to update the NFRWSP. For additional information about the NFRWSP, please see the Water Supply Plan located on the [North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership](#) website.

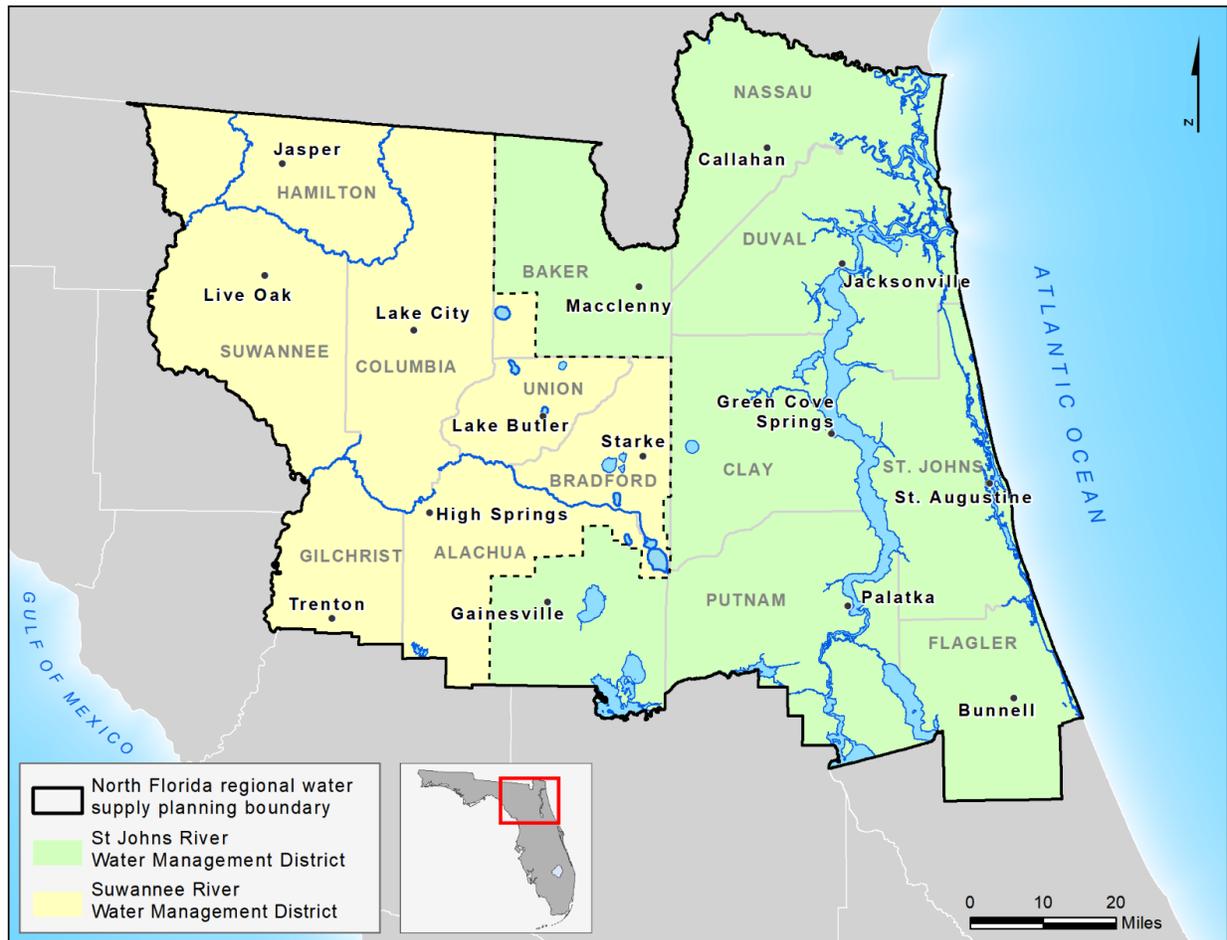


Figure 1: North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan Partnership Area

## Work Program Summary

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

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

and an overview of the District's MFL program is available on the District's [Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels](#) page of the website.

In total, this Work Program outlines projects that, upon completion, would make available 41.2 million gallons per day (mgd) of water, including reuse and non-reuse water across the District. These projects are detailed in Appendix A. These benefits are associated with approximately \$41,739,323 budgeted for FY 2023-2024. The proposed funding for projects identified in the Work Program is approximately \$33,104,915 through FY 2027-28. The District also funds water resource development activities that are regional in nature and are primarily the responsibility of the District. These activities are described in Table 1 and 2. They are also associated with approximately \$6,620,983 budgeted in FY 2023-2024.

In addition, these projects set forth a commitment to develop projects associated with implementation of MFLs. The projects benefitting MFLs are anticipated to make available 38.28 mgd of reuse and non-reuse water upon completion. Of that, up to 21.35 mgd of reuse and non-reuse water will benefit MFLs in recovery.

## Water Resource and Water Supply Development Project Funding

The District funds projects that support water resource development and water supply development. Water resource development components are those that involve the “formulation and implementation of regional water resource management strategies, including the collection and evaluation of surface water and groundwater data; structural and nonstructural programs to protect and manage water resources; the development of regional water resource implementation programs; the construction, operation, and maintenance of major public works facilities to provide for flood control, surface and underground water storage, and groundwater recharge augmentation; and related technical assistance to local governments, government-owned and privately owned water utilities, and self-suppliers to the extent assistance to self-suppliers promotes the policies as set forth in section 373.016, F.S.”<sup>1</sup>

Water supply development components are those that involve “planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of public or private facilities for water collection, production, treatment, transmission, or distribution for sale, resale, or end use.”<sup>2</sup>

A list of all projects meeting these statutory definitions is provided in Appendix A. The District provides funding assistance to public supply, agriculture, and other water use permittees, including industrial and commercial users, for projects that are consistent with the District's RWSP and meet the District's directive and procedures pertaining to cost-share funding.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 373.019(24), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> Section 373.019(26), F.S.

## Water Resource Development Activity Funding

The District also funds water resource development activities that are regional in nature and are therefore primarily the responsibility of the District. These water resource development activities are listed in Table 1 below; and the projected expenditures for these ongoing programs are listed in Table 2. The District has identified the need for additional Regional Water Supply Planning. These planning efforts will be ongoing for FY 2023-2024 through 2027-2028 and are reflected in the projected expenditures in Table 2.

Table 1: District water resource development activities and descriptions

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

Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program | Suwannee River Water Management District

Table 2: Fiscal year 2023-2024 through Fiscal Year 2027-2028 projected expenditures (including salaries, benefits, and operating expenses) for ongoing water resource development activities. This table does not include items listed in Appendix A or B of this work program. Except as noted below, the table estimates future year expenditures based on recurring expenses.

<b>Regional Water Activity</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2027-2028</b>	<b>Total</b>
Water Supply Planning (1.1.1)	\$685,720	\$685,720	\$685,720	\$685,720	\$685,720	\$3,428,600
Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels (MFL, 1.1.2)	\$2,050,682	\$2,050,682	\$2,050,682	\$2,050,682	\$2,050,682	\$10,253,410
Research, Data Collection, Analysis and Monitoring (1.2)	\$3,012,675	\$3,012,675	\$3,012,675	\$3,012,675	\$3,012,675	\$15,063,375
Water Resource Development Projects (2.2.1)	\$417,382	\$417,382	\$417,382	\$417,382	\$417,382	\$2,086,910
Water Supply Development Assistance (2.2.2)	\$133,862	\$133,862	\$133,862	\$133,862	\$133,862	\$669,310
Other Cooperative Projects (2.4)	\$320,662	\$320,662	\$320,662	\$320,662	\$320,662	\$1,603,310
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,620,983</b>	<b>\$6,620,983</b>	<b>\$6,620,983</b>	<b>\$6,620,983</b>	<b>\$6,620,983</b>	<b>\$33,104,915</b>

## Basin Management Action Plan Appendix

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

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Appendix A

DEP ID	District Project Number	Project Name	Type	Short Description	Project Status	Project End date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water available upon completion	Reuse available upon completion	FY2023-24	Total Project Cost
SRWS00031C	7	2015 S0905 Springs Projects: Dairy Screen Separators 06-2586-7-2400-06-06	Agricultural Conservation	Retrofit 18 screens and irrigation systems (Improved Nutrient Application in Dairy operations) with 9 local producers.	Underway	12/31/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	0.32	0.00	\$200,000.00	\$2,670,000.00
SRWS00018B	8	2016 Springs Projects LP6103C: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements 06-2586-7-2400-06-05	Other Non-Traditional Source	Contract with local producers throughout SRWMD to implement new technology to improve wastewater systems, reduce nutrient impacts, and reduce ground water usage.	Underway	12/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	0.14	0.00	\$300,000.00	\$2,670,000.00
SRWS00074A	33	District Cost-Share - Other Cooperative Projects Ag Cost Share 51-2586-7-2400-06-07	Agricultural Conservation	Implement conservation water conservation and nutrient reduction cost-share projects to reduce groundwater pumping and nutrient loads.	Underway	9/30/2026	SR District-wide	Middle Suwannee River	6.00	0.00	\$750,000.00	\$8,750,000.00
OT00145A	52	Hill Dam Breach analysis and permanent breach design (aka County Club Rd)	Flood Control Works	Evaluate options for an existing dam in Lake City to provide a permanent beach design.	Underway	10/28/2024	SR NFRWSP	Ichetucknee River	0.00	0.00	\$240,000.00	\$82,500.00
SRWS00036A	78	Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Complete hydrologic restoration activities to rehydrate approximately 1,500 acres of ponds, 4,000 acres of wetlands and recharge the aquifer up to an estimated 10 million gallons per day.	Design	12/31/2024	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	2.00	0.00	\$425,000.00	\$1,855,000.00
SRWS00032A	82	Oakmont GRU Phase II (Recharge Wetland)	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Construct a recharge wetland in western Alachua County at the Oakmont subdivision, treating both reclaimed water and stormwater.	On Hold		SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.00	0.00	\$180,000.00	\$260,000.00
SRWS00058A	89	Precision Agricultural Practices 06-2586-7-2400-18-01 LP6013K	Agricultural Conservation	Implement precision management technology through cost-share programs with priority given to producers within both the BMAP and Outstanding Florida Springs areas.	Underway	6/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	2.00	0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$6,250,000.00
OT00141B	97	Starke Bypass Wetland Mitigation \$4 M	Flood Control Works	Provide mitigation offsets for the Starke truck bypass route to mitigate construction wetland impacts.	Underway	9/16/2024	SR NFRWSP		0.00	0.00	\$250,000.00	\$2,980,000.00
SRWQ00152A	102	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Advanced Technology 06-2586-7-2400-06-02 LP6103D	Agricultural Conservation	Implement a pilot program for agricultural operations in Basin Management Action Plan areas to improve water quality by removing and reducing nutrients.	Underway	12/31/2024	SR District-wide		0.00	0.00	\$300,000.00	\$1,234,625.00
SRWS00082A	103	Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Agricultural Conservation	Implement a pilot program for agricultural operations, landowners, counties and cities, private companies, and other entities to submit proposals to	Underway	3/24/2029	SR District-wide	Lower Suwannee River	5.10	0.00	\$350,000.00	\$6,000,000.00

DEP ID	District Project Number	Project Name	Type	Short Description	Project Status	Project End date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water available upon completion	Reuse available upon completion	FY2023-24	Total Project Cost
				reduce water use and improve water quality by reducing and removing nutrients.								
SRWS00084A	111	Upper Suwannee River Regional Aquifer Recharge	Groundwater Recharge	Install up to four recharge wells in the Upper Suwannee River basin in locations where wetlands were historically ditched and drained into the river to capture water during high flow conditions that occur after large rainfall.	RWSP or RPS Option Only		SR NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$239,512.11
SRWS00126A	210	Springs Projects 2400 (See actual projects)	Other Project Type	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Spring Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	RWSP or RPS Option Only		SR District-wide				\$1,000,000.00	\$4,580,000.00
OT00162A	211	RIVER Cost Share 2300 Budget	Surface Water	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative RIVER Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	RWSP or RPS Option Only		SR District-wide				\$215,000.00	\$500,000.00
SRWS00127A	212	Springs Projects 2300 (see actual projects) Surface Water Projects TBD	Surface Water	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Spring Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	RWSP or RPS Option Only		SR District-wide				\$2,900,000.00	\$1,000,000.00
SRWS00128A	213	Springs Projects 2201 (see actual projects)	Other Project Type	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Spring Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	RWSP or RPS Option Only		SR NFRWSP				\$2,750,000.00	\$1,000,000.00
OT00163A	214	RIVER Cost Share 2400 Budget	Other Project Type	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative RIVER Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	RWSP or RPS Option Only		SR District-wide				\$400,000.00	\$300,000.00
SRWS00108B	228	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Agricultural Conservation	Incentivize silviculture and rural land conservation to reduce groundwater pumping and nitrogen loading in the Santa Fe and Suwannee River Basin Management Action Plan areas.	Underway	9/30/2025	SR NFRWSP	Ichetucknee Springs	3.03	0.00	\$750,000.00	\$2,378,736.00
SRWS00145A	240	Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Groundwater Recharge	Enhance opportunities for aquifer recharge for silvicultural lands and areas with surplus surface waters. Replacing two drainage wells near Lake Sampson will also be pursued as an opportunity for additional recharge in Bradford County.	Underway	1/31/2026	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe River	3.00	0.00	\$1,250,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
	251	Water Resource Development Projects TBD (Regional Projects)	Other Project Type	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	Underway	10/1/2024	SR NFRWSP		0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
SRWS00155A	253	RIVER Cost Share 2202 Budget	PS and CII Conservation	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative RIVER Grants Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	Underway		SR District-wide		0.00	0.00	\$170,000.00	\$200,000.00
SRWS00147A	255	Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells and Water Quality Improvement	Groundwater Recharge	Replace two 12-inch drainage wells to provide aquifer recharge and flood protection in the Alapaha Basin.	RWSP or RPS Option Only	6/30/2025	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	2.00	0.00	\$500,000.00	\$700,000.00
SRWQ00160A	256	Acquisition DEP Grants - Springs Restoration	Other Project Type	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative Springs Grants for fiscal year land	Underway		SR District-wide			0.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,200,000.00

DEP ID	District Project Number	Project Name	Type	Short Description	Project Status	Project End date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water available upon completion	Reuse available upon completion	FY2023-24	Total Project Cost
				acquisition pending approval of funding.								
OT00165A	258	Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge	Data Collection and Evaluation	Hydrologic Restoration using RESTORE funding to protect the Lower Suwannee National Refuge.	Complete	6/30/2022	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River		0.00	\$200,000.00	\$100,000.00
	259	Special Projects WRD	Other Project Type	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative Water Resource Development Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	RWSP or RPS Option Only		SR District-wide			0.00	\$200,000.00	\$100,000.00
	282	University Oaks Phase IV	PS and CII Conservation	Design, permitting, and construction of approximately 5,250 LF of 6" watermain to replace deteriorated existing infrastructure and conserve water.	Design	6/1/2025	SR District outside NFRWSP	Wacassassa River	0.02	0.00	\$300,000.00	\$316,670.00
	287	Cross City Flood Management	Stormwater	Stormwater improvements to increase flood protection in the vicinity of Ruth Raines Middle School.	Complete	4/1/2023	SR District outside NFRWSP		0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$446,665.00
SRWS00142A	291	Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Groundwater Recharge	Design and construct a wetland restoration system in Dixie County to re-establish natural drainage patterns and funnel excess surface water to new and existing recharge features.	Underway	6/15/2024	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	1.10	0.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$5,942,213.43
SRWS00129B	293	Groundwater Recharge Wetland	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Construct a groundwater recharge wetland using reclaimed water from the Kanapaha Water Reclamation facility.	Underway	6/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.00	1.50	\$50,000.00	\$3,000,000.00
SRWS00141A	296	Lake Butler AWT Upgrade Ph 1 and Ph 2	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Completing a feasibility study, design, and permitting for construction of an advanced water treatment facility, storage surge tank, and wetland that will ultimately be used to construct a new 1.0 MGD facility for City of Lake Butler.	Underway	6/30/2025	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe River	0.00	0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$3,400,000.00
SRWS00031E	300	AWS Pivot Retrofits WS002 03-2586-7-2201-37-00	Agricultural Conservation	Retrofit pivot systems with a need determined by a mobile irrigation lab evaluation in existing and proposed water resource planning areas.	Underway	6/30/2025	SR District-wide	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	1.10	0.00	\$500,000.00	\$1,600,500.00
SRWS00140A	303	Public Supply Efficiency Improvements	PS and CII Conservation	Implement infrastructure and conservation improvements in SRWMD to reduce water loss based on water audit information.	Underway	6/30/2024	SR District-wide	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	1.40	0.00	\$200,000.00	\$1,519,727.75
SRWS00156A	304	Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies	Data Collection and Evaluation (e.g., funding spent on specific feasibility studies, etc.)	Conduct AWTF analysis and feasibility studies including treatment wetlands and reclaimed water alternatives.	Underway	6/30/2024	SR District-wide	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee		0.00	\$450,000.00	\$700,000.00

DEP ID	District Project Number	Project Name	Type	Short Description	Project Status	Project End date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water available upon completion	Reuse available upon completion	FY2023-24	Total Project Cost
	311	Mallory Swamp	Data Collection and Evaluation	Conduct data collection and model existing surface water structures in Mallory Swamp tract to develop a management plan	Underway	12/31/2024	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River		0.00	\$50,000.00	\$295,947.12
	314	AWS Grants - 2201 TBD	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Alternative Water Supply Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	Underway		SR NFRWSP			0.00	\$850,000.00	\$1,350,000.00
	315	Special Projects 2300	Surface Water	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Water Resource development and Alternative Water Supply Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding	Underway		SR District-wide			0.00	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
	318	AWS Grants - 2300 TBD	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	PLACEHOLDER - Cumulative Alternative Water Supply Projects for fiscal year pending approval of funding.	Underway		SR District-wide			0.00	\$2,500,000.00	\$2,500,000.00
	328	AWS Contractual Services - TBD	Data Collection and Evaluation	Implement a study to evaluate and purchase property near Lake Crosby for potential nutrient and recharge project potential.	Underway	1/1/2025	SR NFRWSP	Upper Santa Fe River		0.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$25,000.00
	339	Ag Team Activities/District Cost Share - SRP Shared Positions	Data Collection and Evaluation	PLACEHOLDER -Cumulative budget to provide for shared positions.	Underway		SR District-wide		0.00	0.00	\$212,000.00	\$217,000.00
	344	High Springs Water System Interconnect	PS and CII Conservation	Extend water main to conserve water in a WRCA	Complete	12/1/2022	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.02	0.00	\$0.00	\$248,000.00
	345	Potable Water Improvements - Maple St.	PS and CII Conservation	Replace aged water line to reduce water leaks	Complete	1/30/2023	SR District outside NFRWSP	Middle Suwannee River	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$115,596.00
	354	Hampton Water Main Loop Phase 2	PS and CII Conservation	Construct water main loops and isolation valves in Hampton's water supply to reduce water loss caused by flushing and water main breaks.	Complete	7/30/2023	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.00	0.00	\$150,000.00	\$263,800.00
	365	Dispersed Storage for Recharge and Alternative Water Supply	Stormwater	Identify storage areas for recharge and alternative water supply in the NFRWSP area.	Underway	6/30/2027	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	3.00	0.00	\$200,000.00	\$2,100,000.00
	366	Eco System Services	Agricultural Conservation	Program to identify and incentivize silviculture and Land management practices to increase aquifer recharge in the NFRWSP.	Underway	9/30/2037	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	3.00	0.00	\$200,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
	374	Cooperative Aquifer Recharge	Data Collection and Evaluation	Identify recharge locations based on water quality and quantity in the Upper Suwannee River to support the MFLs .	Underway	10/31/2024	SR District outside NFRWSP	Middle Suwannee River		0.00	\$126,191.00	\$126,191.00
	377	Groundwater Recharge Wetland - Ph III	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Construction of a groundwater recharge wetland using reclaimed water from the Kanapaha Water Reclamation facility.	Underway	6/30/2026	SR NFRWSP		0.00	3.00	\$4,000,000.00	\$9,200,000.00

DEP ID	District Project Number	Project Name	Type	Short Description	Project Status	Project End date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water available upon completion	Reuse available upon completion	FY2023-24	Total Project Cost
SRWQ00007A	1729	Live Oak Reuse	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Construct extensions to the Live Oak wastewater collection infrastructure and remove septic tanks which will provide additional reuse and reduce nutrient impacts.	Underway	11/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Middle Suwannee River	0.00	0.01	\$2,500,000.00	\$3,240,000.00
	1878	Stormwater Runoff Collection in Mayo	Stormwater	Construct a stormwater pond to reduce flooding impacts and overflow into the sanitary sewer system.	Complete	3/28/2023	SR District outside NFRWSP			0.00	\$50,000.00	\$112,000.00
	2090	Lancaster Correctional Facility expansion	Reclaimed Water (for groundwater recharge or natural system)	Extend a force main from Lancaster Correctional to Fanning's WWTF to reduce nutrients and provide recharge.	Design	12/30/2025	SR District outside NFRWSP	Lower Suwannee River	0.00	0.03	\$2,500,000.00	\$2,900,000.00
	2093	Graham Farm Acquisition WSA06	Other Project Type	Fee Simple land acquisition of 441 acres to reduce nutrient loading adjacent to Olustee Creek and the Santa Fe River	Underway	12/31/2026	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe River	0.29	0.00	\$900,000.00	\$2,463,400.00
	2101	North Florida Mega Industrial Park	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Retrofit proposed WWTF to meet AWT for future Public Access Reuse (PAR) to reduce groundwater pumping.	Construction	8/30/2025	SR NFRWSP	Ichetucknee River	0.00	0.25	\$1,500,000.00	\$16,579,615.00
	2444	Haines Street Drainage Improvements	Groundwater Recharge	Replacement of drainage well to include stormwater management and water quality treatment to reduce nutrients.	Design	6/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Middle Suwannee River	0.02	0.00	\$0.00	\$301,724.00
	2668	Lawtey Water Main Replacements	PS and CII Conservation	Water main replacement in Lawtey to reduce water loss in a water resource caution area, contingent upon SRF funding.	Design		SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe River	0.02	0.00	\$100,000.00	\$2,731,000.00
	2669	DH/DHR Water Sharing Project	Reclaimed Water (for potable offset)	Reduce groundwater pumping by connecting a shared water system at the GRU power plants to conserve 0.2 mgd.	Construction	6/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.20	0.00	\$200,000.00	\$925,000.00
	2671	Reducing Impacts from Urban Landscapes (Water-wise)	PS and CII Conservation	Reduction of water use in landscape irrigation in the NFRWSP area.	Design	3/30/2026	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.07	0.00	\$80,000.00	\$440,000.00
	2673	Piedmont Dairy Conversion	Agricultural Conservation	Conversion from grazing to free-stall barns to reduce nutrients and water pumping in the SUWA BMAP.	Construction	9/30/2025	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.45	0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$5,589,500.00
	2680	Archer Water Systems Improvement Project	PS and CII Conservation	Replacement of aging infrastructure to reduce water loss in the NFRWSP area.	Design			Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.00	0.00	\$700,000.00	\$4,828,132.00
	2760	Agricultural Springs Protection	Agricultural Conservation	District wide cost share to reduce nutrient load and water usage in BMAP and WRCA.	Underway		SR District-wide	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	2.00	0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$7,500,000.00
	2772	Houston Avenue Drainage Well Replacement	Stormwater	Replace 50 year old drainage well to reduce flooding and provide	RWSP or RPS Option Only	1/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Middle Suwannee River	0.20	0.00	\$185,000.00	\$219,926.00

DEP ID	District Project Number	Project Name	Type	Short Description	Project Status	Project End date	RWSP Region Supported	Primary MFL Supported	Water available upon completion	Reuse available upon completion	FY2023-24	Total Project Cost
				beneficial recharge with nutrient reduction.								
	2776	Oakmont Reclaimed Water Extension, Phase 5b	PS and CII Conservation	Extend reclaimed water to Phase 5b in Oakmont Subdivision to offset groundwater withdrawals for irrigation.	Construction	1/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.00	0.01	\$40,000.00	\$166,750.00
	2777	Greenville Water System Filter Project	PS and CII Conservation	Replace aged filter system in Greenville's Public Water Supply to ensure potable water meets drinking water standards.	Design	1/30/2025	SR District outside NFRWSP	Aucilla River	0.00	0.00	\$190,000.00	\$752,330.00
	2967	Commercial application of Smart Soakers	Agricultural Conservation	Conduct a study to evaluate water conservation using smart soakers and conventional cooling to reduce water pumping.	Design	1/30/2025	SR District outside NFRWSP			0.00	\$216,132.00	\$489,882.00
	3033	Hampton AMR water meter installation	PS and CII Conservation	Installation of AMR meters to reduce water loss in the NFRWSP area.	Design	6/30/2024	SR NFRWSP	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	0.01	0.00	\$60,000.00	\$175,000.00

Appendix B Basin Management Action Plan

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	DEP Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	Project End Date	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
6567	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-11	Fertigation	Fertigating allows the producer to split up the application of fertilizer needed to grow a crop over the entire length of a growing season.	4	Completed	2019	65	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$12,000.00
5450	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-07	Fertigation	Fertigating allows the producer to split up the application of fertilizer needed to grow a crop over the entire length of a growing season.	4	Completed	2019	4,115	\$25,875.00	\$7,875.00	\$11,250.00	\$45,000.00
6037	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-02	Advanced Nutrient Management Through Center Pivots	Fertigation system installation and center pivot retrofits.	4	Underway	2025	38,310	\$915,000.00	\$33,150.00	\$242,550.00	\$1,190,700.00
2112	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-04	Dairy Wastewater Conservation and Nutrient Optimization Project	Improve the management of dairy wastewater by increasing storage pond sizes to achieve greater nutrient uptake and irrigation efficiencies. Six agreements executed to date. Canceled because project location was determined to be outside the basin.	6	Cancelled		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6040	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-05	Dairy Wastewater Conservation and Nutrient Optimization Project	Improve the management of dairy wastewater by increasing storage pond sizes to achieve greater nutrient uptake and irrigation efficiencies. 5 projects completed.	6	Completed	2019	0	\$920,000.00	\$298,004.00	\$417,586.00	\$1,635,590.00
5449	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-06	Dairy Screen Separators	Connect two pivots to the Jeffco Dairy's wastewater system and retrofit three irrigation systems to low-pressure drop nozzle sprinklers. The project will offset groundwater use with a lower quality water source and allow for better use of nutrients.	7	Completed	2020	575	\$46,520.00	\$0.00	\$15,507.00	\$62,027.00
6038	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-03	Improved Nutrient Application Practices in Dairy Operations - Phase 2	To date, nine agreements with dairies to install screen separators to reduce wastewater solids.	7	Underway	2028	40,520	\$1,582,104.59	\$246,369.49	\$666,392.56	\$2,494,867.00
2101	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-02	Improved Nutrient Application Practices in Dairy Operations - Phase 2	To date, 9 agreements with dairies to install screen separators to reduce wastewater solids. 1 agreement with a dairy in the Santa Fe Basin. DEP has allocated \$2,120,000 for districtwide program. Load reduction to land estimate of 1,485 lb-N/yr. to date	7	Underway	TBD	200	\$309,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,094,528.31	\$1,404,128.00
2102	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-03	Dairy Wastewater System Improvement	Cost-share projects with dairies to invest in advanced treatment technologies (bioreactors), additional wastewater storage, and advanced manure solid separation. Canceled because project location was determined to be outside the basin.	8	Cancelled		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6039	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-04	Dairy Wastewater System Improvement	Cost-share projects with dairies to invest in advanced treatment technologies (bioreactors), additional wastewater storage, and advanced manure solid separation.	8	Underway	2024	4,265	\$1,500,000.00	\$0.00	\$300,000.00	\$1,800,000.00
6014	SUWA	City of Live Oak	LO-03	Live Oak 49/90 Lift Station Improvements	Install a mixer in the lift station to eliminate sewage spills and improve water quality.	9	Completed	2017	0	\$0.00	\$12,690.00	\$2,673.30	\$15,363.30
6005	SUWA	Town of Branford	BRAN-02	Branford Wastewater Effluent Pond Failure Repairs	Replace effluent pond at WWTP with tanks.	12	Completed	2018	0	\$599,433.00	\$231,500.00	\$137,368.00	\$968,301.00

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	DEP Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	Project End Date	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
6006	SUWA	City of Chiefland	CH-01	Biosolids Treatment Unit Replacement	Reconstruct the City's aged biosolids treatment unit (digester). The project includes two new tanks and other equipment to better treat the biosolids.	18	Completed	2018	0	\$376,560.00	\$0.00	\$145,263.00	\$521,823.00
6022	SUWA	Dixie County	DC-02	Cow Pond Drainage Basin Aquifer Recharge Project	Re-establish Natural drainage patterns and use natural recharge features and aquifer recharge wells to restore approx. 300 acres of sand ponds and rehydrate approx. 1,750 acres of wetlands while conserving 1.69 MGD of water and support spring flow.	28	Completed	2018	0	\$313,382.08	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$413,382.08
6608	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-10	District Cost Share	Best Management Practices cost share including but not limited to soil moisture probes, irrigation retrofits or upgrades, alternative water supply, centralized control systems not covered under DEP grants.	33	Underway	2025	913	\$0.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,420.00	\$7,220.00
2127	SAFE	Columbia County	CC-04	Dream Inn Motel WWTP Closure	Remove the noncompliant WWTP that serves the motel and connect to the county's sewer system. This also includes relocating, upgrading, and enlarging the county WWTF to handle flow. Estimated load reduction to land surface of 1,000 lb-N/yr.	35	Completed	2018	49	\$1,000,000.00	\$144,300.00	\$505,700.00	\$1,650,000.00
6007	SUWA	City of Fanning Springs	FS-01	Fanning Springs Water Quality Improvement Project, Phase I	Expansion of wastewater collection and transmission system to convert septic to sewer in Areas 1-4 (65 septic systems).	39	Completed	2015	691	\$792,960.00	\$121,440.00	\$662,000.00	\$1,576,400.00
6008	SUWA	City of Fanning Springs	FS-02	Fanning Springs Water Quality Improvement Project, Phase II	Expansion of wastewater collection and transmission system to convert septic to sewer in Area 10 (60 septic systems).	40	Completed	2018	638	\$2,000,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,120,000.00
6009	SUWA	City of Fanning Springs	FS-03	Fanning Springs Water Quality Improvement Project, Phase III	Expansion of wastewater collection and transmission system to convert 198 septic systems to sewer in Areas 5-9.	41	Completed	2018	2,105	\$3,355,100.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$3,395,100.00
2133	SAFE	City of High Springs	HS-02	Wastewater Collection System Extension - Phase A1	Provide central sewer to remaining areas served by septic systems. Elimination of 132 septic systems. Reduction estimate to land surface of 2,640 lb-N/yr.	50	Completed	2019	1,292	\$2,890,772.26	\$0.00	\$125,000.00	\$3,015,772.26
2130	SAFE	City of Archer	AR-01	Holly Hills Stormwater Improvements	Increase storage within existing stormwater ponds to alleviate flooding and improve water quality.	54	Completed	2018	0	\$0.00	\$83,000.00	\$5,420.00	\$88,420.00
6020	SUWA	City of Trenton	T-02	Trenton Lift Station #7 Rehabilitation	Rehabilitate existing lift station.	69	Completed	2017	0	\$620,135.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$770,135.00
6021	SUWA	Dixie County	DC-01	Lower Suwannee River Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge	Restore ~500 acres of sand ponds and rehydrate ~1,250 acres of wetlands by re-establishing natural flow and an aquifer recharge well. Conserving ~3.26 mgd in water supporting water supply and spring flow of Fanning Springs and the Lower Suwannee River.	74	Completed	2018	0	\$587,404.49	\$106,359.00	\$63,359.00	\$757,122.49
6034	SUWA	City of Madison	MC-01	Madison Blue Spring Aquifer Recharge	Rehabilitate or replace up to six existing drainage wells to improve aquifer recharge rates. Wells will have upgraded pretreatment which may include BAM or constructed wetlands.	75	Completed	2020	0	\$8,287.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,287.00
6045	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-10	Middle Suwannee River Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project	Installation of hydraulic structures in southeast Lafayette and northeast Dixie counties restoring natural water drainage patterns. The project will	78	Underway	2024	0	\$1,548,000.00	\$277,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$1,855,000.00

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	DEP Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	Project End Date	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
					recharge the aquifer with ~ 10 mgd of water over ~ 1,500 acres of ponds and 4,000 acres of wetlands.								
6046	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-11	Middle Suwannee River Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project, Phase II (Mallory Swamp)	Phase II is over 6,000 acres and will rehydrate natural systems along and adjacent to the southeastern margin of Mallory Swamp; increasing available surface water for wetland hydration and groundwater recharge, which will enhance springs restoration.	78	Underway	2024	0	\$295,947.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$295,947.00
2129	SAFE	City of Alachua	AL-01	Mill Creek Sink Water Quality Improvement Project	Purchase property to install water quality BMPs to reduce pollutant loads discharging directly into the sink. Nutrient loading should be reduced by 66 % and benefit Hornsby Spring.	80	Completed	2022	0	\$1,645,898.61	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,045,898.61
2099	SAFE	GRU	GRU-03	Oakmont Recharge Wetland	Construct a recharge wetland in an existing stormwater retention basin that will reduce nutrients while recharging aquifer. Canceled in 2019. Scope has changed - GRU looking into feasibility of new project for a large constructed infiltrating wetland.	82	Cancelled		0	\$180,000.00	\$0.00	\$80,000.00	\$260,000.00
6032	SUWA	Gilchrist County	GC-01	Hart and Otter Springs Water Quality Improvement Project	A three-phase project to decommission septic systems at Otter and Hart Springs and to decommission the wastewater package plant at Hart Springs to connect to Fanning Springs WWTP.	85	Planned	2027	0	\$157,275.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$157,275.00
2118	SAFE	Alachua County	AC-01	Poe Springs Domestic Sewage Infrastructure Upgrade	Install new waterless restrooms with larger holding tanks adjacent to springshed. Replace OSTDS with enhanced passive nitrogen system using biosorption activated media (BAM). Reduction estimate to land surface of 5,776 lb-N/yr.	86	Completed	2020	225	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	\$196,600.00	\$346,600.00
6049	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-14	Pot Spring Restoration Project	Stabilize the shoreline along the spring run to prevent sediment from entering the Withlacoochee River.	87	Completed	2020	0	\$182,471.00	\$90,653.00	\$0.00	\$273,124.00
2094	SAFE	City of Newberry	NEW-01	Potable Water and Central Wastewater Improvements	Replace existing water and wastewater lines in close proximity to historic district, thereby reducing unaccounted water loss and preventing potential sewage spills.	88	Completed	2018	0	\$0.00	\$38,434.50	\$88,698.00	\$127,132.50
6044	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-09	Precision Agricultural Practices	Provide cost-share funds to agricultural producers within the BMAP area to implement precision nutrient and irrigation management technology.	89	Underway	2025	0	\$730,854.36	\$0.00	(\$730,854.36)	\$972,284.14
4565	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-10	Precision Ag 2	Provide cost share funds to agricultural producers within the PFA and BMAP to reduce nutrients and conserve water. Funds are included in 2107.	89	Underway	2025	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5452	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-09	Precision Ag	Implementation of soil type mapping, soil and tissue sampling, aerial imagery and banding equipment to reduce fertilizer and lime application on farms.	89	Underway	2025	6,060	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$11,350.00	\$36,350.00
2107	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-08	Precision Agricultural Practices	Provide cost-share funds to agricultural producers to implement precision nutrient and irrigation management technology. Districtwide program benefits split between Santa Fe and	89	Underway	2025	56,250	\$183,011.00	\$0.00	\$59,970.27	\$242,981.27

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	DEP Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	Project End Date	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
					Suwannee BMAPs. Load reduction to land estimate of 312,500 lb-N/yr.								
2137	SAFE	Columbia County	CC-01	Rum Island Park	Install new public restrooms with lift station and septic system in place of portable toilets. Install BAM to reduce nutrients around septic system. Project also involves bank restoration and dredging.	91	Completed	2019	59	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$19,642.50	\$319,642.50
2124	SAFE	Gilchrist County	GC-01	Santa Fe Park and Boat Ramp	Replace boat ramp, add docks and canoe launch, and remedy drainage to reduce sediment and nutrients.	93	Completed	2019	0	\$339,882.00	\$123,000.00	\$58,381.12	\$882,982.12
6015	SUWA	City of Live Oak	LO-04	9th and Scriven Regional Stormwater Management Facility	Reduce flooding by increasing runoff treatment in stormwater facility.	94	Completed	2018	0	\$0.00	\$88,027.27	\$18,029.69	\$106,056.96
2092	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-06	Sustainable Suwannee Springs Agriculture Pilot Program - Advanced Water Quality Improvement Technologies	Agriculture operators, landowners, local governments, private companies, other entities may submit proposals for advanced technologies that can cost-effectively reduce nitrogen in groundwater that contributes to spring flow. 1 completed.	102	Underway	2025	1,832	\$999,998.25	\$0.00	\$234,626.75	\$1,234,625.00
6041	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-06	Sustainable Suwannee Springs Agriculture Pilot Program - Low Input Agriculture	Agriculture operators are invited to submit proposals to transition to less intensive cropping systems, type of cropping system, or land use to fallow or native landscape for a certain amount of time or a permanent conservation easement.	103	Underway	2028	0	\$287,097.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$287,097.30
2103	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-05	Sustainable Suwannee Springs Agriculture Pilot Program - Low Input Agriculture	Operators submit proposals for less intensive cropping, changing the type, or changing fallow or native landscape land use for a certain amount of time or a permanent conservation easement. Load reduction to land estimate of 187,500 lb-N/yr.	103	Underway	2029	33,750	\$605,098.25	\$0.00	\$270,754.67	\$875,852.92
6013	SUWA	City of Live Oak	LO-02	Suwannee Country Club (SCC) Reuse Connection	Connect the SCC golf course to the City of Live Oak reuse line and install a pump station.	105	Completed	2018	0	\$0.00	\$119,520.38	\$4,893.00	\$124,413.38
5447	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-04	Wacissa Springs Water Quality Improvement	Slope protection; remove sediment at Aucilla Springs and Thomas Springs; replace dirt parking lot with asphalt and stormwater management facility; install 300 ft. boardwalk.	112	Completed	2019	0	\$484,697.75	\$0.00	\$32,000.00	\$516,697.75
5122	WACI	Jefferson County	JC-02	Wacissa Springs Park Improvement Phase II	Provide slope protection in Wacissa Springs. Remove sediment at Aucilla and Thomas springs. Replace dirt parking lot with asphalt and management facility. TN reduction to land surface (42,303 lb-N/yr) adjusted to reflect load to groundwater.	112	Cancelled		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5126	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-03	Walker Springs Road Cross Drains	Improve flood protection and erosion at three unpaved road crossings over Bailey Mill Creek.	116	Completed	2018	0	\$0.00	\$39,420.00	\$106,986.99	\$146,406.99
5448	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-05	Wacissa Springs Phase 1	Bank stabilization to prevent sedimentation and erosion, removal of invasive plants. Water Management Lands Trust Funds/Springs Restoration. One-time sediment removal of 600 cubic yards.	119	Completed	2015	0	\$0.00	\$140,000.00	\$95,600.00	\$235,600.00
6053	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-18	Ravine and Convict Springs Nutrient Capture and Treatment Program	Install interceptor wells to capture high nitrate groundwater. A denitrifying system will be installed at each spring basin that will reduce	121	Completed	2020	1,393	\$600,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$630,000.00

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	DEP Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	Project End Date	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
					nutrient loads and return the groundwater at the two locations.								
6050	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-15	Little River Spring Restoration Project	Stabilize the shoreline along the spring run to prevent sediment from entering the Suwannee River.	125	Completed	2016	0	\$0.00	\$82,384.00	\$14,586.90	\$96,970.90
2108	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-09	Nursery Water Conservation Initiative	Assist nurseries in upgrading from overhead irrigation methods to micro-spray or drip irrigation. Load reduction to land estimate of 45,000 lb-N/yr. Canceled in 2019. In 2022 program has been reinstated.	132	Cancelled		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6051	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-16	Charles Spring Restoration Project	Improve water quality through the replacement of a failing seawall along the bank of the spring which will reduce sediment loads washing into the spring.	135	Completed	2017	0	\$0.00	\$110,000.00	\$7,377.80	\$117,377.80
2116	SAFE	Alchua County	AC-03	Mill Creek Sink Water Quality Improvement Project - Phase II	See AL-01 for the Phase I project info. Phase II is the acquisition of 240 additional acres surrounding and upstream of Mill Creek Swallet.	173	Cancelled		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4568	SAFE	City of Lake City	SRWMD-13	Gwen Lake	The Phase 1 project addresses stormwater, flooding, erosion, and sedimentation concerns that impair the water quality and water storage capacity of Gwen Lake and adjacent waterways. Gwen Lake Phase II Project ID 5460 is still in the planning phase.	206	Completed	2021	0	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	\$266,305.86	\$466,305.86
4566	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-11	Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Incentivize silviculture and rural land conservation to reduce groundwater pumping and nitrogen loading in the Middle Suwannee springshed and Ichetucknee River.	228	Planned	2025	0	\$1,878,736.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00	\$2,378,736.00
5451	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-08	Suwannee Valley Springs Initiative	The District is developing a multi-media campaign that will focus on springs awareness and education to increase knowledge, engagement, and passion for water resources among residents and visitors.	260	Completed	2022	0	\$300,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300,000.00
6018	SUWA	City of Madison	MAD-01	Lake Frances Sediment Control	This project will improve the quality of stormwater discharged to Lake Frances from Priest Street, a 15.32-acre watershed.	271	Completed	2023	0	\$0.00	\$92,920.00	\$7,351.00	\$100,271.00
5460	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-14	Gwen Lake Phase 2	Installation of a drop structure behind the Parkview Baptist Church stormwater pond, regrade the conveyance, install stabilization to slow the water velocity and reduce the erosion and sedimentation contributing to the infill of Gwen Lake.	272	Planned	2026	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$295,000.00
5472	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-15	Gilchrist NE 2nd Way Park	Stormwater improvements and bank stabilization.	273	Underway	2024	0	\$167,974.00	\$143,970.00	\$4,500.00	\$316,444.00
5784	SAFE	Alachua County	AC-33-A	Turf Swap	Rebates to property owners that convert irrigated turf to FFL or implement water saving irrigation retrofits.	277	Completed	2023	0	\$149,468.25	\$0.00	\$435,361.75	\$734,830.00
6300	SAFE	GRU	GRU-04	Parker Rd Groundwater Recharge Wetland	Create a 75-acre groundwater recharge wetland park that will receive 3 MGD of reclaimed water. The wetland will reduce nutrients in the water while simultaneously recharging the aquifer. The recharge will help support flows at the Santa Fe River.	293	Planned	2026	0	\$1,500,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$3,000,000.00

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	DEP Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	Project End Date	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
5475	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-18	Lake Butler AWT Upgrade Phases 1-3	Advanced wastewater treatment facility and created wetland to be constructed in three phases.	296	Underway	2027	2,988	\$3,400,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,400,000.00
2136	SAFE	City of High Springs	HS-05	Wastewater Collection System Extension - Phase A2	Provide central sewer to remaining areas served by septic systems. Elimination of 168 septic systems. Reduction estimate revised in 2018 to reflect estimate NSILT estimate of load to groundwater from Santa Fe OSTDS for 168 OSTDS removed.	298	Completed	2020	1,644	\$954,341.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$954,341.57
6609	WACI	SRWMD	SRWMD-12	AWS Pivot Retrofits	AWS Pivot retrofits	300	Underway	2025	2	\$9,900.00	\$0.00	\$4,155.00	\$14,055.00
5798	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-21	Wastewater Feasibility Studies	Conduct analysis for using reclaimed water including treatment wetlands.	304	Underway	2025	0	\$700,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700,000.00
5797	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-19	Santa Fe Springs	Land acquisition with conservation easement will ensure less intensive land use.	1726	Completed	2023	428	\$617,000.00	\$139,041.00	\$634,340.00	\$1,390,381.00
6645	SUWA	City of Live Oak	LO-07	Live Oak Septic to Sewer & Reuse	The City of Live Oak will construct extensions to a gravity sewer system and pump station to remove approx. 60 residential and 3 commercial existing septic systems. The project will benefit the Suwannee River BMAP and PFA by reduction in nutrients.	1729	Underway	2024	634	\$3,240,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,240,000.00
6017	SUWA	City of Live Oak	LO-06	2nd St. and Evelyn Ave. Wastewater System Extensions, Phase 1	Extend the City's wastewater collection system to serve approximately 30 homes. This has been included in LO-07	1730	Planned	2024	325	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5473	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-16	SR 247 Regional Pond (non-FDOT portion)	Construct regional pond to treat runoff on SR 247 and I-75 benefitting Cannon Creek, a tributary to the Santa Fe River.	1738	Planned	2025	0	\$2,510,000.00	\$651,105.00	\$0.00	\$9,664,300.00
5470	SAFE	City of Newberry	NEW-02	Canterbury Fairgrounds Wastewater Extension Project	Extend central wastewater lines to Canterbury Fairgrounds site and decommission the existing OSTDS.	1877	Completed	2022	354	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	\$59,299.00	\$259,299.00
6011	SUWA	Nature Coast Regional Water Authority	FS-05	Lancaster Prison/ Alliance Dairy/ City of Fanning Springs Wastewater Treatment Improvements and Aquifer Recharge	Convey wastewater from Lancaster Prison and Alliance Dairy (both facilities are secondary treatment) to City's advanced WWTF for treatment and recharge wetlands.	2090	Planned	2025	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6632	SUWA	Nature Coast Regional Water Authority	FS-05-A	WW Sys. Ext., Phase VII, Lancaster Correctional Facility and Aquifer Recharge	FDC Lancaster Correctional Institution operates a package type wastewater treatment plant that does not meet AWT standards. This project would construct 22,000 LF of wastewater force main to convey the facility's wastewater to Fanning Springs' AWT WWTF. This is a phase of FA-05	2090	Underway	2025	0	\$2,900,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,900,000.00
6677	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-23	Graham Farm Land Acquisition	Fee simple acquisition of approximately 441 acres adjacent to 1.3 miles of Olustee Creek. Land use change from grazing (233 Ac) and row crop (172 Ac.) to long leaf pine. Includes 21 Ac wetland.	2093	Planned	2024	0	\$900,000.00	\$0.00	\$781,700.00	\$2,463,400.00
6712	SAFE	Alachua County	AC-47	Lake Santa Fe Park Septic System Upgrade	This project is an upgrade of the septic system in Lake Santa Fe Park to an aerobic treatment unit (ATU). The park bathrooms are being relocated and the old system is being replaced with an ATU.	2098	Completed	2023	22	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$230,000.00

DEP Project ID	BMAP	Lead Entity	DEP Project Number	Project Name	Project Description	District Project Number	Project Status	Project End Date	TN Reduction (lbs/yr)	Total State Funding	Total District Funding	Lead Entity Match	Project Total
6678	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-24	North Florida Mega Industrial Park	Upgrade the WWTF to meet Advanced Waste treatment (AWT) and Public Access Reuse (PAR).	2101	Underway	2025	0	\$6,319,615.00	\$0.00	\$60,000.00	\$23,719,615.00
6281	SAFE	Alachua County	AC-45	Lime Rock Mines	This is a fee simple land conservation acquisition. No increase in surface runoff of pollutants due to land use change, continued aquifer recharge and ecosystem/habitat preservation. Project was changed to DEP direct with Alachua Co.	2672	Planned	2025	0	\$800,000.00	\$0.00	\$800,000.00	\$1,600,000.00
6679	SUWA	SRWMD	SRWMD-19	Piedmont Dairy Freestall Conversion	Construction of freestall barns to collect and process 100% of the manure in the waste management system prior to application on forage crops.	2673	Underway	2025	0	\$2,500,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,089,500.00	\$5,589,500.00
6694	SAFE	SRWMD	SRWMD-25	Agricultural Springs Protection	Cost-share program for producers to implement practices to reduce nutrient impacts and groundwater pumping. Focus on BMAPs, PFA, and water supply planning areas. Treated acres will be updated as work progresses. \$6 M funding is District wide.	2760	Underway	2027	0	\$6,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$7,500,000.00



# Waterbody Grades

**Suwannee River Water Management District**

## Introduction

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

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

## Level of Impairment Grade

The Level of Impairment grade is represented as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Project Name	Primary MFL Supported	Quantity Grade	Waterbody Benefited	WBID	Quality Grade
Springs Projects: Task 1 Fertigation	NA		Lower Suwannee River	3422A	Impaired - High
Springs Projects: Task 1 Fertigation	NA		Upper Suwannee	3341	Impaired
Springs Projects: Task 1 Fertigation	NA		Peacock Springs	3483	Impaired
Springs Projects: Task 1 Fertigation	NA		Little Waccassa River	3747	Impaired
Springs Projects: Task 1 Fertigation	NA		Middle Suwannee	3422B	Impaired - High
Springs Projects: Task 1 Fertigation	NA		Middle Suwannee	3496B	Not Impaired
Dairy Screen Separators	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422	Impaired - High
Dairy Wastewater System Improvements	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422	Impaired - High
District Ag Cost-Share	Aucilla River	Meeting	Aucilla River	3417; 3311; 3329; 3407	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe River	3506;3605A	Impaired - High
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe River	3678A	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee	3422;3422A	Impaired - High
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee	3710;3713;3726;3496B	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Peacock Springs	3483	Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3422B	Impaired - High
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3438;3439;3496;3543;3496B	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Alapaha River	3324; 3357	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Upper Suwannee	3336;3388	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Madison Blue Spring	Meeting	Withlacoochee River	3315;3366	Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Madison Blue Spring	Meeting	Withlacoochee River	3322	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	NA		Upper Suwannee River, Unnamed Slough, Deep Creek	3336;3388	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Orange Creek	2692	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Waccasassa River	3699;3747	Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Waccasassa River, Rocky Run, Otter Creek	1317;3719	Not Impaired
District Ag Cost-Share	Madison Blue Spring	Meeting	Lake Cherry Outlet	3322	Not Impaired
County Club Rd	Ichetucknee River	Level III	Alligator Lake Outlet, Alligator Lake	3516	Not Impaired
Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422B	Impaired - High
Oakmont GRU Phase II (Recharge Wetland)	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA, Orange Creek	2692	Not Impaired
Precision Agricultural Practices	Aucilla River	Meeting	Aucilla River	3311	Not Impaired
Precision Agricultural Practices	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Alapaha River	3324	Not Impaired
Precision Agricultural Practices	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3528	Not Impaired
Precision Agricultural Practices	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Upper Suwannee	3351	Not Impaired
Precision Agricultural Practices	Madison Blue Spring	Meeting	Withlacoochee River	3315;3366	Impaired
Precision Agricultural Practices	NA		Lower Suwannee	3422A	Impaired - High
Precision Agricultural Practices	NA		Middle Suwannee	3483	Impaired
Precision Agricultural Practices	NA		Middle Suwannee	3422B	Impaired - High
Precision Agricultural Practices	NA		Santa Fe River	3605A	Impaired - High
Precision Agricultural Practices	NA		Middle Suwannee	3496B	Impaired - High
Starke Bypass Wetland Mitigation	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Alligator Creek	3598C	Not Impaired
Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Advanced Technology	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422	Impaired - High
Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Alligator Lake Outlet, Alligator Lake	3516	Not Impaired
Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe River	3520	Not Impaired
Sustainable Suwannee Ag Pilot Program - Low Input	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3422B	Impaired - High
Upper Suwannee River Regional Aquifer Recharge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3422B	Impaired - High
Accelerating Suwannee River Restoration and Silviculture Management	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Devils Ear Group	3675	Not Impaired
Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Santa Fe River	3593	Not Impaired
Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Santa Fe River	3598	Not Impaired

Project Name	Primary MFL Supported	Quantity Grade	Waterbody Benefited	WBID	Quality Grade
Bradford County Silviculture Enhancement & Recharge Project	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Santa Fe River	3598D	Not Impaired
Hamilton County Aquifer Recharge Replacement Wells and Water Quality Improvement	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	UFA, Tiger Creek	3358	Not Impaired
Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee	3422A	Impaired - High
Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee	3726	Not Impaired
Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee	3732	Not Impaired
Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Waccasassa River	3729A	Impaired
Lake Frances Sediment Control	NA		Lake Frances	3366A	Impaired
Gwen Lake Phase 2	NA		Lake Lona Drain	3486	Not Impaired
Gilchrist NE 2nd Way Park	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe River	3605B	Impaired - High
University Oaks Phase IV	Waccasassa River	Meeting	UFA, Unnamed Slough	3712	Not Impaired
Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee	3684	Not Impaired
Dixie County Multiple Basin Aquifer Recharge (MBAR)	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Suwannee River (Lower Segment)	3422	Impaired - High
Groundwater Recharge Wetland	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA, Orange Creek	2692	Not Impaired
Lake Butler AWT Upgrade Ph 1 and Ph 2	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Five Mile Creek, Santa Fe	3578	Impaired
AWS Pivot Retrofits	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422A	Impaired - High
AWS Pivot Retrofits	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3496; 3496B	Not Impaired
AWS Pivot Retrofits	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3422B	Impaired - High
AWS Pivot Retrofits	NA		Alapaha River	3323	Not Impaired
Public Supply Efficiency Improvements	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe River	3615	Not Impaired
Public Supply Efficiency Improvements	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe River	3633	Not Impaired
Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA, Santa Fe River	3488; 3601; 3358	Not Impaired
Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Waccasassa River	3729	Impaired
Mallory Swamp	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Mallory Swamp, Suwannee River	3684	Not Impaired
Hampton Water Main Loop Phase 2	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	UFA, Hampton Ditch	3633	Not Impaired
Dispersed Storage for Recharge and Alternative Water Supply	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Lower Santa Fe	3519	Not Impaired
Eco System Services	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Ichetucknee Group	3553	Not Impaired
Cooperative Aquifer Recharge	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Upper Suwannee	3401	Not Impaired
Live Oak Reuse	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Tenmile Hollow	3438	Not Impaired
Stormwater Runoff Collection in Mayo	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee	3422B	Impaired - High
Lancaster Correctional Facility expansion	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Fanning Spring	3422A	Impaired - High
Graham Farm Acquisition WSA06	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Olustee Creek	3504A	Not Impaired
North Florida Mega Industrial Park	Ichetucknee River	Level III	Ichetucknee and Santa Fe River	3513	Not Impaired
Lawtey Water Main Replacements	Lower Santa Fe River	Level III	Upper Santa Fe River	3693	Not Impaired
DH/DHR Water Sharing Project	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe, Ichetucknee Rivers	3671A	Not Impaired
Reducing Impacts from Urban Landscapes (Water-wise	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Santa Fe, Ichetucknee Rivers	3651	Not Impaired
Piedmont Dairy Conversion	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Lower Santa Fe River	3693	Not Impaired
Archer Water Systems Improvement Project	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Lower Santa Fe	2692	Not Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Tenmile Hollow	3438	Not Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Drummond Pond Outlet	3713	Not Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422A	Impaired - High
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee River	3422B	Impaired - High
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee River	3496; 3497	Not Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Madison Blue Spring	Meeting	Lake Francis Outlet	3366	Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	NA		Peacock Springs	3483	Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Rainbow River	Meeting	Withlacoochee River	2750	Not Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Upper Santa Fe River	Meeting	Santa Fe River	3641	Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Waccasassa River	3675	Not Impaired
ASP LPS0087 - Implementation of Ag BMPs	Waccasassa River	Meeting	Waccasassa River	3699	Impaired
Houston Avenue Drainage Well Replacement	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Middle Suwannee River	3438	Not Impaired
Oakmont Reclaimed Water Extension, Phase 5b	Lower Santa Fe Ichetucknee Rivers	Level III	Aquifer	2692	Not Impaired
Greenville Water System Filter Project	Aucilla River	Meeting	Aquifer	3373	Not Impaired

Project Name	Primary MFL Supported	Quantity Grade	Waterbody Benefited	WBID	Quality Grade
Commercial application of Smart Soakers	Lower Suwannee River	Meeting	Lower Suwannee River	3422A	Impaired - High



# 2024 Florida Forever Work Plan

Suwannee River Water Management District

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## ADA Statement

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

## Introduction

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

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

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

The Florida Forever Work Plan annual update presents projects the District has identified as eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act and reports on District land acquisition and management activities.

## Proposed Florida Forever Funding

This annual update has been prepared with the assumption that there will be no new FF fund allocations through the planning period from FY2023-2024 to FY2027-2028.

Table 1 lists Florida Forever expenditures for each fiscal year (FY) since the program's inception. The District fully utilized its total allocation of \$72,139,868 of Florida Forever funding by the end of FY 2022.

Table 1. Actual Florida Forever Expenditures

Fiscal Year	Fee Acquisition Expenditures	Fee Acres Acquired	Conservation Easement Expenditures	Conservation Easement Acres Acquired	Water Resource Development	Restoration
2000-2001	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001-2002	\$4,117,869	30,477	\$5,643,127	12,960	-	-
2002-2003	\$1,158,661	564	\$3,382,632	5,026	-	-
2003-2004	\$3,565,225	1,761	\$1,517,048	2,023	-	-
2004-2005	\$3,792,645	2,661	-	-	-	-
2005-2006	\$648,440	123	-	-	-	-
2006-2007	\$13,082,288	4246	-	-	-	-
2007-2008	\$4,041,930	493	\$6,379,514	3,294	-	\$210,510
2008-2009	\$10,965,200	2,171	-	-	-	-
2009-2010	\$494,000	84	\$1,789,725	786	\$23,500	\$309,080
2010-2011	\$5,426,437	1,201	\$1,557,593	682	\$400,000	-
2011-2012	-	-	\$250,710	167	-	-
2012-2013	-	-	-	-	\$20,825	-
2013-2014	-	-	-	-	-	-
2014-2015	\$628,145	85	\$707,850	35	\$97,918	-
2015-2016	\$7,160	-	-	-	\$26,398	-
2016-2017	\$20,073	-	-	-	-	-
2017-2018	\$1,760,918	329	\$8,045	199	-	-
2018-2019	\$12,828	5.41	\$1,795	-	-	-
2019-2020	-	9.8	\$25,000	-	-	-
2020-2021	-	-	-	-	-	-
2021-2022	-	-	\$66,779	313	-	-
Total	\$49,721,819	44,210	\$21,329,818	25,485	\$568,641	\$519,590

## Modifications and Additions to the 2001 Florida Forever Work Plan

### Water Resource Development

The District does not plan to use any new Florida Forever funds for water resource development projects during the planning period from FY2023-2024 through FY2027-2028. Past program expenditures for water resources development projects total \$568,641.

A comprehensive list of current District water resource development projects is available in the Consolidated Annual Report located on [www.MySuwanneeRiver.com](http://www.MySuwanneeRiver.com). Projects identified for Florida Forever funding will be added to future plans as funding is sought.

### Restoration Projects

The District does not plan to use any new Florida Forever funds for restoration projects during the planning period from FY2023-2024 through FY2027-2028. Past program expenditures for water resources development projects totals \$519,590

A comprehensive list of current District restoration projects is available in the Consolidated Annual Report located on [www.MySuwanneeRiver.com](http://www.MySuwanneeRiver.com). Projects identified for Florida Forever funding will be added to future plans as funding is sought.

### Land Acquisition and Land Management

Land acquisition and management activities protect water resources and the overall ecological health of communities within the District. The Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000, federal, District and Florida Forever programs have preserved approximately 289,343 acres to protect the region's river systems and groundwater resources.

The District does not plan to use any new Florida Forever funding for land acquisition-related expenses during the plan period from FY2023-2024 through FY2027-2028 as the funds have been exhausted. Program expenditures total \$71,051,637 for land acquisition.

The District coordinates with the state's Florida Forever program to evaluate projects within the District's boundary. The state's Florida Forever Priority List of projects is developed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) and approved by the Governor and Cabinet. The 2023 Florida Forever Project list is available at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/9a0295dcce9a4368bb5132c32b60c161>.

The District maintains a land acquisition project map that includes parcels advantageous to the District for fee or less than fee purchase. These parcels are focused on floodplain management, improved ingress/egress, enhanced land management and meet the criteria of the Florida Forever program. View the interactive [2024 Land Acquisition Project map online](#) for District land information or at <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/71ba92f4431f486986934beccdf3321/>.

Lands of interest are added to the map annually and listed as "proposed." Those lands are approved at the planning level by way of approval of the Florida Forever Plan are listed as "Planning Approved." Finally, lands approved for potential acquisition by the Governing Board are listed as "Approved for Detailed Assessment." Other land information, such as current ownership and FDEP Florida Forever Projects, may be included as well for reference.

Table 3 summarizes fee and less than fee acres owned by the District as of November 2023.

*Table 3. Protected Lands by River Basins\**

Basin	Fee Acres	Less Than Fee Acres	Potential Acquisition Project Acres
Alapaha	2,875	1,544	7,331
Aucilla/Wacissa	15,750	12,036	28,013
Coastal River/Econfina/Steinhatchee	49,995	52,675	38,424
Santa Fe/Ichetucknee	15,430	8,418	49,941
Suwannee	66,291	28,839	72,093
Waccasassa	5,267	24,160	12,549
Withlacoochee	6,422	16	12,017
Total	162,030	127,688	220,368

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

## Land Acquisitions Completed

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

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

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

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

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

Protecting groundwater quality by maintaining low intensity land uses;

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

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

and increasing recharge to the UFA via water resource development projects restoring natural

hydrology in headwater swamps and increasing water retention for recharge enhancement.

The following table summarizes land acquisition transactions for FY2023.

*Table 4. Acquisition Projects Approved for Detailed Assessment*

<b>Seller</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>County</b>
Waldo Tree Farms	Fee Acquisition	44.5	Alachua
Pflieger	Riverbend Estates (exchange for District Surplus property)	1.1	Dixie
Camp and Abel	Camp and Abel	366	Hamilton
Florida Department of Transportation	Quail Heights	40.63	Columbia
Hodges	Hodges (C/E)	753	Levy
Dixon	Tanner Springs (C/E)	40	Hamilton
Williams Family Investments, LLC	Long Pond (C/E)	947	Levy
Rawson	Rawson	140	Lafayette
Taylor	Taylor	941	Gilchrist

*Table 5. Acquisitions Closed in FY2023*

<b>Seller</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Transactio</b>	<b>Funding</b>
Lasky	351.74	Gilchrist	9.29.23	Fee	Save Our Rivers
Lukens Tract Exchange	0.49 exchanged for 1.0	Levy	9.29.23	Fee for Fee	N/A

## **Surplus Lands**

The District reviews its land holdings to identify any areas that may not be critical for floodplain management, aquifer recharge, and the protection of surface waters, wetlands, and springs. Such lands are declared surplus and either sold or exchanged on the private market or conveyed to other units of government. The proceeds of any sales and exchanges are dedicated to the acquisition of lands with higher water resource and conservation values. Table 6 lists lands declared no longer needed for conservation and to be surplused during FY 2023. Table 7 lists lands surplused in FY 2023.

*Table 6. Lands Approved for Surplus FY 2023*

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

*Table 7. Surplus Lands and Easement Activity FY 2023*

Surplus/Easement Parcels	Acres	County	Disposition Date	Transaction	Proceeds
No surplus activity in FY2023					

## Land Management Activities

Descriptions of land management activities for each property owned by the District is outlined in the Land Management Plan. The plan is available online at [www.mysuwanneeriver.com/76/Land-Stewardship](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com/76/Land-Stewardship). Management activities are based on desired future conditions specific to each natural community and maximizing public use to the greatest degree possible. A matrix of available public use activities on District lands is also available in the plan.

A summary of annual land management activities is available in the Strategic Plan Annual Update within the Consolidated Annual Report on [www.mysuwanneeriver.com](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com).

## Special Use Authorizations

As authorized in 40B-9.1411 F.A.C., District staff may issue special use authorizations (SUA) which are meant to provide individuals or groups to use District lands on a temporary basis for compatible activities that are either not covered in District’s Land Management Plan (DLMP) or which require special access. Governing Board Program Directives 90-1 and 90-2 provides guidance on how the public can apply for an SUA and enables District staff to respond to requests received from the public in a fair, consistent and timely manner.

District staff must also incorporate the specific criteria for the activity which the public must adhere to when using the SUA. This SUA criteria includes Standard Conditions, Rules for Public Use and Warnings.

A total of 734 SUAs were issued during FY 2023.

<b>Recreation SUA</b>	<b>Temporary Ingress/Egress</b>	<b>Non-Recreational</b>	<b>Goose Pasture Camping</b>	<b>Mallory Swamp ATV Trail</b>
305	44	25	280	80

## **Progress of Funding, Staffing and Land Management**

The following table depicts the District’s budget for funding and staffing for land management and public use.

<b>Budget Area</b>	<b>FY2020 Budget</b>	<b>FY2021 Budget</b>	<b>FY2022 Budget</b>	<b>FY2023 Budget</b>	<b>FY2024 Budget</b>	<b>FY25 Budget</b>
FTEs	7	7	7	7	7	7
Land Management	\$3,796,003	\$4,547,449	\$4,681,665	\$4,617,181	\$5,583,052	\$5,888,037



# Mitigation Donation Report

**Suwannee River Water Management District**

## Executive Summary

Subsection 373.414(1)(b)2, Florida Statutes (F.S.) requires that “...each water management district shall report by March 1 of each year, as part of the consolidated annual report required by s. 373.036(7), all cash donations accepted under subparagraph 1 during the preceding water management District fiscal year for wetland mitigation purposes.” The statute also requires the report to include a description of the endorsed mitigation projects and, except for projects governed by s.373.4135(6), address success criteria, project implementation status and time frame, monitoring, long-term management, provisions for preservation, and full cost accounting.

## Cash Donations Received in FY 2023

No cash donations were received for wetland mitigation purposes in FY 2023.