

MONITORING, PROJECTS, AND PRIORITIES FOR COASTAL RESOURCES

DARLENE VELEZ WATER RESOURCES CHIEF Horseshoe Beach

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District at a Glance





- Smallest of 5 water management districts
- Population 340,000
- 7,640 square miles
- 15 counties
- 13 river basins
- 641 river miles
- Over 450 Springs
- 1,075 miles of coastline

District Core Missions





Water Quality and Hydrologic Monitoring Networks



Water Quality Network



Photo Credit: Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions Inc.

2021 Stations

- 78 Groundwater
- 69 Springs
- 72 Surface Water

Varying frequencies for total of 664 Water Chemistry Samples

Hydrology Network (Level and Discharge)





2021 Stations

- 262 Groundwater
- 81 Springs
- 74 Surface Water

Partnership with USGS for major river gages

Real-Time Conductivity River Gages





2 New Gages

- Econfina at State Park
- Fenholloway at Fish Camp

6 Enhanced Gages

- Aucilla at Nutall Rise
- Steinhatchee at Steinhatchee
- Suwannee at Ellaville
- Suwannee at Luraville
- Suwannee at Bell
- Suwannee above Gopher River

Partial funding from RESTORE and FDEP Improved Water Quality Monitoring Grant

Coastal Salinity Network





10 Wells

- Quarterly Water
 Chemistry with
 Conductivity profile
- Real-Time Level and Conductivity sensors installed

Future plans:

- filling in spatial gaps
- additional conductivity sensors
- Partial funding from FDEP Improved Water Quality Monitoring Grant



Planning and Projects



Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels





Adopted:

- All Coastal Rivers
- Lower Suwannee River
- Upper Santa Fe River

Re-evaluated:

- Lower Santa Fe River in Prevention
- Ichetucknee in Recovery
- Working on new prevention and recovery plan with SJRWMD and FDEP
- FL legislature approval needed before replacing existing MFL

USDA-NRCS Lower Suwannee River Watershed Nutrient Reduction Project





Natural Resource Conservation Service

- Deepwater Horizon Funds
- Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan
- Approving and implementing nutrient reduction projects

Suwannee River WMD

- Developing sampling plan
- Managing Water Quality and Discharge Data Collection
- Data analysis and reporting

Lower Suwannee Refuge Hydrologic Restoration





AGEME

Hydrologic restoration of legacy logging roads and ditches no longer in use by the National Wildlife Refuge

Deepwater Horizon Funds

Coastal Zone Mapping Imaging Lidar (CZMIL)



Florida Coastal Mapping Program: initiative between Federal and Florida State agencies facilitate mapping

Opportunity this year to expand SWFWMD Lidar collection to fly Lone Cabbage Reef area (yellow)

Letter of interest sent for potential NOAA 2022 and 2023 funding for expanding efforts along District coast





Coastal Priorities

Enhance and Expand Coastal Monitoring

Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Plan Update Sea Level Rise and Saltwater Intrusion Assessment and Implications

Water Quality Improvement and Hydrologic Restoration Projects

Climate Change and Implications of Tropicalization

Water Supply Planning and Improvement Projects

Coastal Resiliency for Flood Protection and Flood Control