



Florida Forever Work Plan 2015 Annual Update



January 2015

Florida Forever Work Plan

2015 Annual Update



Suwannee River Water Management District

9225 CR 49, Live Oak, FL 32060

386.362.1001

www.mysuwanneeriver.com

January 2015

Governing Board

Donald J. Quincey, Jr., Chairman

Alphonas Alexander, Vice Chairman

Donald R. "Ray" Curtis III, Secretary/Treasurer

Kevin W. Brown

George M. Cole

Virginia H. Johns

Gary F. Jones

Virginia Sanchez

Guy N. Williams

Executive Director

Ann B. Shortelle, Ph.D.

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Water Resource Development Projects	3
	Upper Suwannee River Springs Enhancement (Eagle Lake) Project.....	3
	Santa Fe River Rise Water Quality Enhancement - Starke Reuse Project.....	3
	Oakmont Recharge Wetland	3
	Bass Farms- Conjunctive Use Project	4
	Falling Creek Aquifer Recharge Project	4
	Santa Fe Basin Flood Mitigation and Aquifer Recharge Projects.....	4
	Dispersed Water Storage Initiative	5
3.0	Restoration Projects.....	7
	Hornsby Springs Water Quality Improvement Project.....	7
	Guaranto Springs Restoration	7
	Ginnie & Gilchrist Blue Springs Enhancement - Newberry Reuse Project	7
	Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project	8
	Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration Project: Phase II.....	8
	Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement Project.....	9
	Holly Factory Denitrification Bioreactor.....	9
	Edwards Bottomlands- Alligator Creek Project	9
	Brooks Sink Hydrologic Restoration	10
	Hart Springs Restoration	10
	Otter Springs Restoration	10
	Pot Spring Restoration	11
	Levy Blue Spring Water Quality Improvement Project	11
	Wacissa Springs Restoration	11
	Charles Spring Restoration	11
	Little River Spring Restoration.....	12
	Northern Waccasassa Flats Conservation Easement Project.....	12
	Springshed Protection using Low Impact Agricultural Practices	12
	Spring Creek Restoration Project	12
4.0	Land Acquisition.....	14
4.1	Goals and Performance Measures Summary.....	14
4.2	Land Acquisition Strategies	14
4.3	Program Implementation	15
4.4	Land Acquisition Priority Projects	17
4.5	Surplus Lands	17
5.0	District Land Management Program	20
5.1	Resource Protection.....	20
5.1.1	Water Resource Management	20
5.1.2	Land Resource Management.....	21
5.1.3	Resource Monitoring.....	24
5.1.4	Land Resource Projects.....	25
5.2	Public Use.....	26
5.2.1	Facility Management.....	26
5.2.2	Facility Construction	26
5.2.3	Special Use Authorizations	27
5.2.4	Hunting and Fishing.....	27
5.2.5	Emergency Closings.....	27
5.3	Communications	28

Table of Contents (continued)

5.3.1	District Land Management Plan	28
5.3.2	Land Management Review Team	28
5.3.3	Regional Resource Groups.....	29
5.4	Fiscal Responsibility.....	29
5.4.1	Revenues and Expenditures.....	29
5.4.2	Cooperative Agreements	30

List of Tables

Table 1.	Actual and Projected Florida Forever Expenditures	2
Table 2.	Water Resource Development Projects	6
Table 3.	Restoration Projects.....	13
Table 4.	Water Resource Objectives Acquisition Program.....	15
Table 5.	Protected Lands and Potential Acquisition Project Areas.....	16
Table 6.	Acquisition Projects Approved for Detailed Assessment	17
Table 7.	Acquisitions Completed: October 2013-December 2014.....	17
Table 8.	Surplus Lands.....	18
Table 9.	Disposition of Surplus Lands.....	19
Table 10.	Site Preparation Operations.....	21
Table 11.	Reforestation of Pine Seedlings	22
Table 12.	Acres of Timber Sales and Revenue.....	22
Table 13.	Acres of Fire Maintained Natural Communities by Classification.....	24
Table 14.	Natural Fire Return Interval and Burn Acreages on District lands.....	24
Table 15.	Status of Significant Cultural Resources Sites.	25
Table 16.	Public Use Facilities.....	26
Table 17.	Special Use Authorizations Issued	27
Table 18.	SRWMD Hunting and Fishing Access	27
Table 19.	LMRT Meeting Questionnaire Responses.....	28
Table 20.	Land Resources Expenditures	30
Table 21.	Agencies Managing District Lands	30

List of Figures

Figure 1.	Acreage Trends of Active Non-Native, Invasive Weed Infestations.....	23
-----------	--	----

Appendices

- Appendix A — Florida Forever Land Acquisition Summary
- Appendix B — 2015 Florida Forever Acquisition Plan

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report is the annual update of the original 2001 Florida Forever Work Plan as required by Section 373.199(7), Florida Statutes (F.S.). Section 373.036(7), F.S., requires this annual update be presented as a separate chapter in the Consolidated Annual Report.

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

The 2015 Florida Forever Work Plan update marks 13 years of land and water resource protection at the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD, the District) using Florida Forever funding. This has culminated in the fee purchase of 43,781 acres and 24,938 acres of conservation easements. Florida Forever funding has also been used for completion of three water resource development projects and five restoration projects.

Since inception of the Florida Forever Act, the District has expended \$67.8 million for land acquisition (98.6% of total expenditure) and \$0.52 million for restoration projects and \$0.44 million for water resource development projects (1.4% of total expenditure).

This update emphasizes the District's strategies to implement water resource development and restoration projects and acquire and manage land interests to achieve the District's water resource objectives. This update provides a summary overview of water resource development and restoration projects, a summary of lands purchased, land acquisition strategies, a summary of surplus lands disposition and land management activities as well as expenditure information for Florida Forever and Water Management Lands Trust funds on District lands.

In order to implement the District's strategic priorities of sustainable water supply, minimum flows and levels, Heartland Springs Initiative, and water management lands, the District intends to use up to \$2,062,630 of prior years' unspent Florida Forever appropriated balance during the Fiscal Year 2015 through Fiscal Year 2019 planning period towards water resource development projects. In addition, the District will implement these strategic priorities through the use of District fund balance, consisting of Florida Forever and Preservation 2000 funds, and proceeds from the sale of surplus lands, for water resource development, restoration, and priority land acquisition projects.

Table 1 illustrates actual Florida Forever expenditures and projected expenditure of unspent appropriated balance.

Table 1. Actual and Projected 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	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	\$ 47,292,695	43,781	\$ 20,520,348	24,938	\$ 444,325	\$ 519,590
Projected						
2015-2019	-	-	-	-	\$ 2,062,630	-

2.0 WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

This section provides a brief summary of the current and projected water resource development projects that the SRWMD is pursuing. These projects focus on enhancing the water resources of the District to ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet current and future needs of natural systems and water users. Some projects are proposed for Florida Forever funding, while other projects may be funded through a variety of sources, potentially including Florida Forever funds.

Upper Suwannee River Springs Enhancement (Eagle Lake) Project

Hamilton County

The Upper Suwannee River Springs Enhancement Project (previously the Eagle Lake Project) is a Private-Public Partnership with PotashCorp and the Suwannee River Water Management District. The goals of the Project are to: 1) reduce the nutrient loading to the Upper Suwannee River, and 2) reduce withdrawals from the Upper Floridan aquifer (UFA) by up to 20 million gallons per day, thereby benefitting spring flows. The Project will facilitate the recovery of a portion of the water from Eagle Lake that would otherwise be discharged to Swift Creek and the Upper Suwannee River. This reduction in flow from Eagle Lake will reduce total nutrient loading to the river reach between the White Springs and Ellaville gages. The recovered water will be redirected to either the PotashCorp Suwannee River Mine or Swift Creek Mine operations and therefore reduce the amount of makeup-water required for mining operations (the makeup water would otherwise be pumped from the UFA). Total project cost is estimated at \$3,600,000, and the project is being funded through a state springs restoration grant, SRWMD funding, and cooperator match.

Santa Fe River Rise Water Quality Enhancement - Starke Reuse Project

Bradford County

The Santa Fe River Rise Water Quality Enhancement Project (Starke Reuse Project) involves the City of Starke initiating a reclaimed water service network and reuse for public access irrigation at local schools, parks, and an industrial park. Each of these locations currently irrigates with potable water supplied by the City and therefore reuse will offset potable demand and withdrawals by a similar volume. The nutrient load reduction benefits of the project come from reduced disposal of wastewater effluent on the City's sprayfield and disposal directly into Alligator Creek. Both of these disposal routes result in nutrient loading to Lake Rowell, Lake Sampson, the Sampson River and the Santa Fe River and ultimately to Santa Fe River Rise Spring. In addition, there will be a nutrient load reduction associated with the offset of fertilizer usage on the areas to be irrigated with reclaimed water. This reduced fertilizer usage will result in less nutrient runoff to the environment. The project involves three phases, each involving a different reclaimed water line route and reuse destination area. Phase I will supply reuse to the Edwards Recreation Area Park. Phase 2 will provide reclaimed water to three public schools and the Vocational Technology Center and Phase 3 will supply reclaimed water to the Enterprise Industrial Park. The installation of these reclaimed water lines will facilitate further reuse expansion along their routes. The total estimated project cost is \$835,700. This planning level cost estimate is currently being reevaluated.

Oakmont Recharge Wetland

Alachua County

The project will be to construct a recharge wetland in an existing storm water retention basin in the Oakmont Subdivision in Alachua County. The subdivision lies in western Alachua County and is

located within the Poe Springs springshed. This project will provide recharge to the Upper Floridan Aquifer (UFA) with reclaimed water at very low nutrient levels using a recharge wetland. Aquifer recharge is beneficial in supporting spring flows. Recharge wetlands are constructed wetlands that are designed to biologically reduce nutrients to low levels using natural wetland processes while simultaneously recharging the aquifer.

The project will include extension of reclaimed water piping to the wetland basin. This piping will be connected to existing reclaimed water piping system installed by the City of Gainesville doing business as Gainesville Regional Utilities. The project will also include a control valve, level sensor and other instrumentation and controls. The basin will be planted with wetland vegetation. The project may include additional excavation and grading of the existing basin if needed. The estimated project cost is \$1,156,700.

Bass Farms- Conjunctive Water Use Project

Gilchrist County

The District proposes to construct an aquaculture reuse project to offset groundwater withdrawals within the lower Santa Fe River basin. The site is located within the Santa Fe River Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) area and within the Resource Focus Area (RFA) of the Ginnie and Gilchrist Blue springsheds. Funds for this project will be used to integrate the excess water into the farm's existing irrigation system. This will allow Bass Farms to move the water within the farming operation and offset existing groundwater demands. It is estimated that this project will offset approximately 47 million gallons of groundwater pumpage annually, or approximately 0.13 mgd. The estimated project cost is \$60,000.

Falling Creek Aquifer Recharge Project

Columbia County

In September 2013, the District completed a regional study (Study) of potential regionally-beneficial aquifer recharge concepts in a cooperative effort with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD). The Falling Creek Aquifer Recharge Project (Project) is a concept that was developed from that Study. The Project involves pumping up to a maximum daily capacity of 40 million gallons per day from the Upper Suwannee River to District-owned land in Falling Creek Falls Park, where it will discharge to Falling Creek, eventually recharging the Upper Floridan aquifer (UFA) through Falling Creek Sink (Sink). During high stages in the Upper Suwannee River, water will be diverted to an intake structure and pump station (consisting of intake screens, intake piping, and a pump station) and pumped to Falling Creek through an approximate 48-inch diameter, 11-mile pipeline. The pipeline will be constructed in existing roadway easements. Falling Creek naturally recharges the UFA via the Sink without treatment; therefore, it is anticipated that the surface water from the Upper Suwannee River will also not require treatment due to the high water quality at the intake location (near White Springs, Florida). However, the preliminary design will include surface-water quality testing and analysis. Groundwater modeling analysis conducted during the Study indicated that the Project will benefit aquifer levels and spring flows in the Lower Santa Fe River. The estimated capital cost is \$48,000,000 (construction and engineering).

Santa Fe Basin Flood Mitigation and Aquifer Recharge Projects

By resolution number 2013-01, the SRWMD Governing Board encumbered the remaining unspent Florida Forever appropriation of \$2,083,454 for this initiative. The District is proposing the following projects for implementation:

WEST RIDGE WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AREA

Bradford County

The West Ridge Water Resource Development Project (Project) is located in eastern Bradford County and provides an excellent opportunity to: 1) provide flood protection, 2) natural resource enhancement and restoration (particularly wetlands), 3) augment flows to the Upper Santa Fe River, and 4) potentially provide aquifer recharge to the Upper Floridan aquifer. A portion of the Project was previously mined. The District is working closely with the mining business in order to develop a project that will benefit the water resources of the District while allowing the mining business to optimize their mining reclamation plan. The Project includes nearly 667 acres of District-owned land adjacent to the Florida National Guard's (Guard) Camp Blanding. The purchase was funded by a grant from the Guard through the Department of Defense as part of a program designed to secure buffers around military installations. The Project is currently in the conceptual engineering phase. The objective of this phase is to evaluate potential project concepts and eventually identify a concept that maximizes water resource development benefits based on flexibility and technical, environmental, and economic feasibility. This project is in the early conceptual design phase, and the project cost is still being determined.

INTER-DISTRICT WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Bradford County

The Interdistrict Water Resource Development Project (Project) is located in southeastern Bradford County and provides an excellent opportunity to: 1) provide natural resource enhancement and restoration (particularly wetlands), 2) augment flows to the Upper Santa Fe River, and 3) provide aquifer recharge to the Upper Floridan aquifer (UFA). The Project includes utilization of lands adjacent to the Florida National Guard's Camp Blanding. The Project is currently in the initial phases of feasibility and is dependent upon successful acquisition of property by the District. This potential Project is of particular value since the potential for aquifer recharge will have regional cross-boundary benefits for stressed water resources in both the SRWMD and SJRWMD due to its proximity to the Keystone Heights potentiometric high, which is a regional recharge area for the UFA. The project cost is still being determined.

Dispersed Water Storage Initiative

Several decades ago, industrial land owners excavated ditches to drain land for pine tree production. While draining the land may have increased pine production, it had several detrimental impacts to the environment including:

- Increased risk of downstream flooding due to an increase in peak stormwater discharge,
- Loss of natural wetland systems and reduced aquifer discharge due to lowering the water table and shortening the wetland hydro-period, and
- Adverse impacts to the fishery resources due to an increase in freshwater discharge to estuaries.

The District proposes to enhance water resources and restore natural systems by installing ditch blocks and low water crossings on District lands. These structures will allow water to overflow ditch banks and disperse over wetland areas. In order to expand this concept, the District plans to partner with private land owners to gain additional water resource benefits. The District will establish project budgets as individual projects are identified and developed.

Table 2. Water Resource Development Projects

Project Name	Cost Estimate
Upper Suwannee River Springs Enhancement (Eagle Lake) Project	\$3,600,000
Santa Fe River Rise Water Quality Enhancement - Starke Reuse Project	\$835,700
Oakmont Recharge Wetland	\$1,156,700
Bass Farms- Conjunctive Use Project	\$60,000
Falling Creek Aquifer Recharge Project	\$48,000,000
Santa Fe Basin Flood Mitigation and Aquifer Recharge Projects- West Ridge Water Resource Development Area	In Development
Santa Fe Basin Flood Mitigation and Aquifer Recharge Projects- Inter-District Water Resource Development Project	In Development
Dispersed Water Storage Initiative	In Development

3.0 RESTORATION PROJECTS

This section provides a brief summary of the current and projected environmental restoration projects that the SRWMD is pursuing. These projects focus on restoring or enhancing the water resources of the District to protect natural systems, especially the springs, streams, rivers, and wetlands. Some projects are proposed for Florida Forever funding, while other projects may be funded through a variety of sources, potentially including Florida Forever funds.

Hornsby Springs Water Quality Improvement Project

Alachua County

Nutrient loads to Hornsby Spring will be reduced by decommissioning Camp Kulaqua's package wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and transferring effluent to the City of High Springs wastewater treatment plant. High Springs has plans to expand its municipal wastewater service area, to connect portions of the town, and to reduce the loading from septic tanks. In addition, High Springs would like to expand its WWTP, and increase its treatment effectiveness, perhaps by replacing its sprayfield with a constructed treatment wetland. The High Springs plans will potentially reduce loading to Poe Springs over the long-term (although there may be some temporary increases in nitrate loading as infrastructure is brought online). Portions of High Springs are also within the Rum Island Springshed so the expansion of municipal wastewater service and removal of septic tanks has the potential to benefit Rum Island Spring. The estimated project cost is \$500,000.

Guaranto Springs Restoration

Dixie County

Guaranto Springs is located in eastern Dixie County along the Suwannee River. The spring has been used by local residents for a swimming for decades and Dixie County owns and maintains a recreational park around the spring. Erosion of the banks surrounding the spring and spring run cause a continuous influx of sediment into the springhead as well as the spring run to the Suwannee River. This will continue unabated unless improvements are made to stabilize the banks around the spring. The Guaranto Springs Restoration Project (Project) includes the construction of approximately 300 feet of retaining wall, removal of sediment within the spring run, and removal of a man-made earthen dam and culvert. The Project will achieve multiple core mission values of the District, including water quality improvement and natural systems restoration and enhancement. The Project will be cooperatively-funded by the SRWMD through the Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources (RIVER) Grant Program. The estimated project cost is \$110,000.

Ginnie & Gilchrist Blue Springs Enhancement - Newberry Reuse Project

Alachua County

The City of Newberry is located within the springshed for Ginnie and Gilchrist Blue Springs, located on the Lower Santa Fe River. Ginnie Springs is a complex of springs which are part of the privately-owned Ginnie Springs Resort. The springs are heavily used for swimming and scuba diving and is a hotspot for cave diving. Gilchrist Blue Spring is located within Blue Springs Park and Campground, a privately run facility.

For Newberry, this project will begin the process of converting municipal wastewater from effluent to reclaimed water and initiate beneficial reuse. To produce public access reclaimed water, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) requires the addition of tertiary treatment and high-level disinfection. The proposed wastewater improvements needed for the initial phase of this project

to produce public access reclaimed water are expected to include adding a 0.5-MG ground storage tank, a filtration system, a side stream pump station, a transfer pump station, and a high-service pump station. The project also includes the installation of reclaimed water lines to school ball fields, the Newberry Sports Complex and a cement batch plant. All of these facilities currently utilize Newberry's municipal potable water supply.

The Lower Santa Fe River and its associated springs are the focus of efforts by the SRWMD and FDEP to set minimum flows and levels (MFLs). The proposed MFLs determined the system was not meeting the proposed minimum flows and a Recovery Plan for the Lower Santa Fe Basin has been proposed. The Santa Fe River was also identified as impaired by the FDEP in 2008 for nitrate, therefore actions are needed to reduce nutrient loading within their springsheds. Specifically, the Ginnie-Gilchrist Blue springshed was designated in 2013 by FDEP as a spring restoration focus area (RFA) within the Department's Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP). This project supports the FDEP, FDACS and SRWMD efforts to reduce nitrate loadings to these springs, as well as providing an alternative water source in support of the SRWMD's proposed MFL Recovery Strategy.

The estimated reuse volume for this project ranges from 0.052 to 0.163 MGD and would represent a reduction in groundwater withdrawals that would support recovery of spring and river flows. In addition, by reducing the use of fertilizers on ball fields and the sports complex, a nitrogen reduction ranging from 2,197 to 6,888 pounds N/year and a phosphorus reduction of 476 to 1,491 pounds P/year is anticipated. This reduction should be expressed as a reduction in Ginnie and Gilchrist Blue springs; both impaired by excess nitrate and support the ongoing efforts in the RFA and BMAP in general. The estimated project cost is \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000.

Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project

Dixie and Lafayette Counties

The ongoing Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project (Project) will rehydrate natural systems along and adjacent to the southeastern margin of Mallory Swamp; thereby optimizing available surface water for wetland hydration and groundwater recharge, which will enhance springs restoration. A primary objective of the Project is to increase groundwater discharge (as diffuse leakage and spring flows) to the middle Suwannee River, and augment groundwater supplies in Lafayette and Dixie Counties, which also benefits springs and agricultural users. To achieve the objective of increased spring and diffuse groundwater flow, the District's approach includes reestablishment of natural drainage patterns by modifying and constructing hydraulic structures (such as ditch blocks, culverts, and flashboard risers) adjacent to Mallory Swamp, and using natural recharge features and an aquifer recharge well at strategic locations. The Project is in the final stages of permitting, and construction is scheduled to begin in early 2015. The estimated project cost is \$1,900,000, and is funded through a state springs grant, with contributions by Dixie County and the District.

Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration Project: Phase II

Lafayette County

This proposed Phase II element (Phase II Project) of the Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project (Middle Suwannee Project) is a Private-Public Partnership between a timber company and the District. The Phase II Project property is east and adjacent to Mallory Swamp and north and adjacent to the existing boundary of the Middle Suwannee Project. The property is in excess of 6,000 acres, and the District is investigating conservation easement acquisition opportunities in order to optimize the water resources development potential of the Middle Suwannee

Project. The Phase II Project will rehydrate natural systems along and adjacent to the southeastern margin of Mallory Swamp; thereby optimizing available surface water for wetland hydration and groundwater recharge, which will enhance springs restoration. The District's approach includes reestablishment of natural drainage patterns by modifying and constructing hydraulic structures (such as ditch blocks, culverts, and flashboard risers) adjacent to Mallory Swamp, and using natural recharge features and potentially one or more aquifer recharge wells at strategic locations. The Project is in the initial stages of investigation.

Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement Project

Columbia County

The Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement Project is a partnership between the District, City of Lake City, and Columbia County. The City's sprayfield is located on the Ichetucknee Trace, and water recharging the aquifer in this area has been shown to reach the springs in a matter of days. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has developed a Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) to restore water quality in the Santa Fe River Basin, including the Ichetucknee River.

The Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement Project will convert the City of Lake City's wastewater effluent disposal sprayfields into constructed treatment wetlands. This is projected to reduce the facility's nitrogen loading to 1 mg/L or less. The anticipated benefits of this project include improve water quality in the Ichetucknee Springs by reducing Lake City's wastewater nutrient loadings to the Ichetucknee River by an estimated 85 percent, and providing beneficial recharge to the Upper Floridan aquifer.

This project is funded by a \$3.9 million springs grant from the FDEP; \$400,000 from the SRWMD; \$200,000 from the City of Lake City; and \$100,000 from Columbia County.

Holly Factory Denitrification Bioreactor

Alachua County

The District proposes to construct an extension to an existing denitrification bioreactor located at a container nursery in Alachua County. The original project was funded through a DEP 319 grant, which showed significant nitrate reduction. Nitrate reductions at the existing bioreactor reduced loading by 6,100 pounds per year. The extension of the bioreactor will help capture and treat any water that is by passing the existing bioreactor. This project is also located within the watershed for the Santa Fe River BMAP. The estimated project cost is \$50,000.

Edwards Bottomlands- Alligator Creek Project

Bradford County

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

Over many decades, Alligator Creek was dredged several times prior to environmental regulation to improve the drainage within the City of Starke. These dredging events have caused hydrologic impacts to the floodplain wetlands and destabilized the stream in many locations causing continued erosion and water quality problems. Stream restoration is needed to improve wetland functions within the Alligator Creek floodplain and protect this system from continued erosion and degradation, but the funding of such a restoration has been cost prohibitive.

In order to improve hydrologic conditions within the floodplain and reduce some of the sediment load from going to Lake Rowell down Alligator Creek, the District, in cooperation with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), plans to conduct a floodplain restoration project which will re-establish the flow connection from the a portion of the altered creek to a 47-acre floodplain parcel known as the Edwards Bottomlands. The restoration project will improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and the hydrology within the altered wetlands. The District is also evaluating the potential acquisition of a 14 acre tract of historic floodplain, adjacent to the 47 acre parcel, as part of this project.

The District has previously committed \$363,000 in Florida Forever Funding to implement a restoration project on Alligator Creek. The project is undergoing a redesign to accommodate the project's restoration and flood mitigation objectives and stakeholders needs. The current estimated project budget is now approximately \$900,000. Current cooperating partners include the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and FWC.

Brooks Sink Hydrologic Restoration

Bradford County

The District has identified a partnership opportunity with a timber company to recharge the Upper Floridan Aquifer by restoring a natural hydrologic connection to Brooks Sink. Brooks Sink, located in Bradford County, is known as one of the largest cover collapse sink holes in the state of Florida and is directly connected to the Upper Floridan Aquifer. In the 1970's, the previous landowners excavated a series of ditches to drain the wetlands and divert the natural flow of water away from Brooks Sink. A flashboard riser will be installed in the main ditch to divert the water back to the sinkhole for a total cost of approximately \$37,000. The project has the potential to yield 220 million gallons of recharge per year. The District may also consider acquisition of land around the sink and a portion of its contributing watershed.

Hart Springs Restoration

Gilchrist County

The Hart Springs Restoration Project is a partnership between the District and Gilchrist County. Sediments, sand, and broken portions of the retaining wall have washed into the spring vents for years, altering the magnitude of flow from the springs. Over the last few years, Gilchrist County has replaced deteriorating retaining walls, constructed access points to the spring and spring run, and stabilized erosion issues around the springs. The current project will build upon these efforts.

The anticipated benefits of the project include the removal of sediments, and debris from the spring vents and spring runs, as well as improvement of spring flows and water quality. The anticipated budget for the project is \$76,700 of SRWMD funds; Gilchrist County will provide in-kind services for the project.

Otter Springs Restoration

Gilchrist County

The Otter Springs Restoration Project is a partnership between the District and Gilchrist County. High volumes of sediment, sand, and debris have washed into the spring run and vents, altering the magnitude of flow from the springs. Over the years the original head spring has become almost completely blocked with debris.

The goals of this restoration project are to replace or fix deteriorating retaining walls, stabilize the springs banks to control further erosion, construct access points to the spring and spring run.

Additionally it is anticipated that this project will benefit the spring by removing nutrients, sediments, and debris from the spring vents and spring runs, and restoring the flow of the original head spring to historic levels. The District is funding the \$140,000 project. Gilchrist County will be providing project management oversight.

Pot Spring Restoration

Hamilton County

The District is currently working to develop a project with the Florida Forest Service to restore Pot Spring in Hamilton County. The main goals of this project are to stabilize the shoreline along the spring run to prevent sediment from entering the Withlacoochee River. Current project plans also include the reconstruction of an existing boardwalk near the spring to improve public access and safety. The planning level cost estimate to complete construction is \$400,000. This project is currently in the planning phase.

Levy Blue Spring Water Quality Improvement Project

Levy County

This project will expand Bronson's existing wastewater collection and transmission system. The Town currently has a very limited gravity sewer collection system. Within the Town's core commercial corridor, the majority of the county buildings, businesses and churches are currently without municipal sewer service and must utilize either holding tanks or septic tanks. Many of the existing septic tanks are aged and were installed in the 1970s and 1980s. The Town has developed a multi-phase plan to expand municipal sewer service throughout the Town and reduce nitrogen loading to groundwater as septic tanks are removed from service and wastewater is routed for treatment at the Town's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The Town currently has Phase I, a \$2,400,000 sewer extension project, under construction. This grant funding will allow the Town to provide service to an existing park (Bronson Park) that serves multiple functions for the Town. There are no connection fees associated with extension of the sewer transmission line to the existing Town Park, and the existing septic tank will be properly abandoned.

Total project costs are shared between the Town of Bronson, a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development Assistance (USDA-RD), the District and a springs project appropriation through FDEP.

Wacissa Springs Restoration

Jefferson County

The District is helping fund a project with Jefferson County to restore the Wacissa Springs Park. The main goals of this project are to improve bank stabilization and increase the safety of the park. Jefferson County's plan will improve the spring banks and spring run by: removing concrete rubble and debris; removing sediments and algae from the spring bed and spring run; removing exotic vegetation; reshape, stabilize and vegetate the banks of spring bed and spring run; installing fencing and other measures to control human traffic; and installing stairs into springs to stabilize pedestrian access to the swimming area. The District will be funding \$140,000 of the total \$234,000 project cost. This project is currently in the permitting and design phase.

Charles Spring Restoration

Suwannee County

The District is helping to fund a project with Suwannee County to restore the Charles Spring Park. The main goal of this project is to improve bank stabilization and to control sediment entering the spring. Suwannee County's Plan will remove the existing retaining wall and stairs, replace them with a vinyl sheet pile wall, and stabilize the toe of the wall with rock and vegetation. A new stormwater facility will be created as well as a new swim access area. The District will be funding up to \$105,000 of the total \$112,378 project cost. This project is currently in the pre-permitting phase.

Little River Spring Restoration

Suwannee County

The District is helping fund a project with Suwannee County to conduct additional restoration work at Little River Spring. This project will be in addition to the previous restoration work conducted with Suwannee County in 2003. The main goals of this project are to stabilize the shoreline along the spring run to prevent sediment from entering the Suwannee River. Suwannee County's Plan is to remove rocks and fabric from the spring run shoreline, stabilize the slope of the run with an engineered system of boulders and vegetation, and to replace existing boardwalk impacted by shoreline erosion. The District will be funding up to \$90,000 of the total \$104,587 project cost. This project is currently in the pre-permitting phase.

Northern Waccasassa Flats Conservation Easement Project

Gilchrist County

The purpose of this project is to protect surface and groundwater in a portion of the Lower Santa Fe River and associated springs by purchasing conservation easements on approximately 34,000 acres of the northern portion of Waccasassa Flats. Fee interests may be pursued for sites with outstanding water resource values or small acreage parcels, that possess high water values, and fee purchase would be considered more cost effective. Emphasis will be placed on purchasing less than fees interests from large parcels that would have a significant impact on water resources while reducing long-term complexities in monitoring multiple ownerships in the area. If present, artificial drainage features within the system that may be restored with dispersed water storage techniques to increase water holding capacity within onsite wetlands.

Springshed Protection using Low Impact Agricultural Practices

Levy, Gilchrist, Columbia and Suwannee Counties

The District and its partners propose to work with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide incentives and easements to private agricultural operations/landowners to maintain and increase low impact agricultural and silvicultural practices. The focus areas will include vulnerable high recharge karst landscapes in the Ichetucknee, Fanning and Manatee springsheds in these portions of Levy, Gilchrist, Columbia and Suwannee Counties.

Spring Creek Restoration Project

Taylor County

The Spring Creek Restoration Project is a partnership project with the City of Perry under the District's RIVER grant program. The goals of the project are to improve water quality, provide flood protection and improve natural systems including wetlands. The project will accomplish these goals by removing the channelized banks and reshaping the Spring Creek from a channelized ditch into a meandering creek. The floodplain will be reconnected and wetlands will be restored or created. Storm water interceptors will be installed and a new retention pond constructed to clean the water before it enters

the creek. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$589,000 with the District providing cost share assistance of \$350,000.

Table 3. Restoration Projects

Project Name	Cost Estimate
Hornsby Springs Water Quality Improvement Project	\$500,000
Guaranto Springs Restoration	\$110,000
Ginnie & Gilchrist Blue Springs Enhancement - Newberry Reuse Project	\$3,000,000- \$4,000,000
Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project	\$1,900,000
Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration Project: Phase II	In Development
Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement Project	\$4,600,000
Holly Factory Denitrification Bioreactor	\$50,000
Edwards Bottomlands- Alligator Creek Project	\$900,000
Brooks Sink Hydrologic Restoration	\$37,000
Hart Springs Restoration	\$76,700
Otter Springs Restoration	\$140,000
Pot Spring Restoration	\$400,000
Levy Blue Spring Water Quality Improvement Project	\$2,400,000
Wacissa Springs Restoration	\$234,000
Charles Spring Restoration	\$105,000
Little River Spring Restoration	\$90,000
Northern Waccasassa Flats Conservation Easement Project	In Development
Springshed Protection using Low Impact Agricultural Practices	In Development
Spring Creek Restoration Project	\$589,000

4.0 LAND ACQUISITION

The acquisition and management of land interests encompasses a set of tools to achieve the District's water resource objectives. This section provides an overview of the District's land acquisition strategies and activities.

4.1 GOALS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES SUMMARY

Acquisitions under the Florida Forever program must satisfy Florida Forever Goals & Measures found in F.S. 259.105 (4). There were no Florida Forever acquisitions during 2014.

The majority of District-owned fee and conservation easement lands are located along rivers and streams, headwaters, and water recharge areas. Public ownership of these lands and conservation easements provides a host of benefits including:

- Preserving and restoring springs and surrounding areas to protect and improve surface and groundwater;
- Preserving floodplain areas to maintain storage capacity, attenuate floodwaters, and mitigate flood risk;
- Preserving natural buffers along water bodies where adjacent uses have a high potential to degrade surface water quality;
- Protecting groundwater quality by maintaining low intensity land uses;
- Providing land for dispersed water storage, restoration, and water resource development projects; and
- Preserving and/or restoring natural communities to support or enhance populations of native species.

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, reviewed by the Governing Board Lands Committee, considered by the Governing Board, and included in the District's land acquisition process if approved by the Board.

4.2 LAND ACQUISITION STRATEGIES

Project Design and Evaluation Criteria

The Save Our Rivers, Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever programs have protected over 349,000 acres and 384 miles of river corridor lands protect the region's river systems and public water supply. Potential acquisition project areas shown in this plan were developed with Geographic Information System (GIS) modeling to complement the region's base of protected natural resources. Available geographic databases were correlated as to their relative importance to these water resource protection benefits. Resulting lands with area within two or more themes are classified as highest acquisition candidates. The model essentially predicts parcels with high water resource, groundwater protection and surface water protection features.

The four major water resource objectives in the water resources protection model are consistent with the District’s Strategic Plan, and are shown below:

Table 4. Water Resource Objectives Acquisition Program

Water Resource Objectives	Criteria
Preserve floodplain to maintain storage capacity, attenuate floodwaters, and mitigate flood risk	Federal Emergency Management Agency 100-year (1% Annual Chance) Flood Zone
Protecting groundwater quality by maintaining low intensity land uses	Areas of High Recharge
Preserve natural buffers along water bodies where adjacent uses have a high potential to degrade surface water quality	Wetlands and 200’ buffers on streams
Preserving and restoring springs and surrounding areas to protect and improve surface and groundwater	1-mile, ½-mile, and ¼-mile buffers on magnitude 1, 2, and 3 springs respectively

The District will enhance the criteria and modify the water resources protection model as better data becomes available.

District-wide water resources were evaluated to complete a project design for 13 river basin planning areas. Discrete potential acquisition projects were developed by filtering high-scoring candidate lands identified by the model with data on property ownership, management considerations and connection to public lands.

In addition to acquiring lands for conservation, the District is partnering with Camp Blanding and FDEP to acquire lands for military base buffering. These acquisitions provide a dual benefit of expanding military base buffering while allowing the District to implement water resource development projects, and are included as potential acquisition areas.

Acquisition of land interests will play a key role in supporting the District’s initiative of monitor well network expansion. Many of the new monitor wells will need permanent access to enable drilling of wells and operation and maintenance of monitoring equipment.

4.3 PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

The District will target the use of fund balance, consisting of Florida Forever and Preservation 2000 funds, and proceeds from the sale of surplus lands, for priority land acquisition projects in Fiscal Year 2015 through 2019.

For any given acquisition, the District will consider the use of alternative acquisition techniques as a cost-effective means of protection. Alternatives to fee simple acquisition include but are not limited to: purchase of development rights; conservation easements; flowage easements; purchase of timber rights, mineral rights or hunting rights; purchase of agricultural or silvicultural interests; land-protection agreements; fee simple acquisitions with reservations and other techniques. Many project areas identified in this update are suited for less than fee purchase, and the District will pursue this option with willing landowners.

The Florida Forever Work Plan 2015 Acquisition Plan map is illustrated in **Appendix B**.

Table 5 summarizes protected lands and potential project areas by basin planning area. This is compiled with all acquisition activity to date under the Save Our Rivers (SOR), Preservation 2000 (P2000), Military Base Buffering, and Florida Forever programs to portray the SRWMD’s protected resource base.

Table 5. Protected Lands and Potential Acquisition Project Areas

Planning Area	Fee Acres Acquired	Fee River Mileage Acquired	Less than Fee Acres Acquired	Less than Fee River Mileage Acquired	Total Miles of Frontage	Total River Mileage Acquired	Potential Acquisition Project Acreage
Alapaha	2,989	15	1,503	4	46	19	2,889
Aucilla	14,985	47	10,914	14	118	61	6,738
Coastal Creeks	1,282	0	32,134	0	0	0	0
Econfina	8,490	40	0	0	70	40	2,492
Fenholloway	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Suwannee(1)	19,451	31	24,935	0	114	31	4,213
Middle Suwannee	17,514	31	1	200	32	7,694	15,196
Santa Fe	13,254	27	4,990	6	162	32	9,920
Steinhatchee(2)	59,331	38	46,852	0	56	38	152
Upper Suwannee(4)	34,582	73	19,128	12	112	85	4,507
Waccasassa	5,340	9	22,404	0	58	9	4,832
Wacissa	1,082	2	0	0	24	2	0
Withlacoochee	7,264	20	0	0	48	20	8,562
Floodplain Lots(3)	889	14	0	0	0	14	0
Total	186,453	347	162,860	37	1,008	384	59,501

(1) 11,716 acres were conveyed to the USFWS and are part of the Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge.

(2) Mallory Swamp Fee Interest, principal watershed benefits to the Steinhatchee River Basin.

(3) River frontage is estimated.

(4) 11,743 acres in Sandlin Bay were conveyed to the USDA Forest Service.

4.4 LAND ACQUISITION PRIORITY PROJECTS

The projects listed below which may use Florida Forever Funds or involve exchanges involving Florida Forever lands have been approved for detailed assessment by the Governing Board.

Table 6. Acquisition Projects Approved for Detailed Assessment

Seller	Project	Acres	County	Date Approved
George & Sharon Nyman	Suwannee River Oaks	305	Gilchrist	4/10/2012
Bridges/Azure Properties	McAlpin Landing	200	Hamilton	4/10/2012
Milton C. Hitson	Holton Creek In-holding	10	Hamilton	5/16/2013
Rock Bluff Spring Co., LLC	Rock Bluff Springs	173	Gilchrist	3/11/2014
Winston Lovelace	Turtle Spring	91	Lafayette	7/8/2014
River Error Farms	Hardee Springs	304.5	Hamilton	10/16/2014
John and Deborah Steffen	Steffen Property	14	Bradford	11/11/2014
Michael and Freda Shaw	Shaw Conservation Easement Exchange	1,027	Lafayette	12/10/2013
Rayonier Forest Resources, L. P.	Camp Blanding Buffers	1,920	Bradford	11/12/2013
SRWMD	Sandlin Bay Sale/Exchange to U.S. Forest Service	2,023	Columbia	5/13/2014
Chris Mericle	Mericle Property/Holly Point Subdivision Exchange	3.917	Hamilton	10/16/2014

Table 7. Acquisitions Completed: October 2013-December 2014

Seller	Acres	County	Date	Transaction	Value
Bradford Timberlands	344.58	Bradford	4/9/2014	Purchase- Fee	\$364,936.22
Aucilla Land Partners	189.00	Madison and Jefferson	11/5/2013	Exchange (Conservation Easement)	\$268,700.00
Doug and Lisa Anderson	206.49	Dixie	7/8/2014	Exchange (Conservation Easement)	\$194,000.00
El Trigal Farms	349.00	Jefferson	10/31/2014	Exchange (Conservation Easement)	\$668,850
Rayonier Atlantic Timber Company	321.95	Bradford	12/8/2014	Purchase Fee	\$586,914.85
Total	1,411.02				\$2,083,401.07

4.5 SURPLUS LANDS

In order to increase the water resource benefits of its lands holdings, the District has reviewed its holdings to identify any areas that may not be needed for conservation purposes. 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 value.

In May 2011, the District Governing Board adopted Program Directive 2011-03 to provide updated guidelines and procedures for consistency in identification and disposition of surplus lands. District-owned lands were analyzed to determine which areas that did not have significant water resource values and would not negatively impact land management strategies if sold.

Table 8 lists the parcels that have been designated as surplus by the District Governing Board.

Table 8. Surplus Lands

Tract Name	Acres	County	Acquired Date	Funding Source	Surplus Date
Bay Creek North	24	Columbia	2/1988	WMLTF	7/14/2009
Bay Creek South	46	Columbia	9/1990	WMLTF	7/14/2009
Blue Sink	79	Suwannee	12/1988	WMLTF	7/14/2009
Ellaville	670	Madison	12/1998	WMLTF	10/12/2012
Levings	69	Columbia	2/1988	WMLTF	7/14/2009
Owens Spring	77	Lafayette	3/1999	WMLTF	7/14/2009
Adams South	60	Lafayette	5/1990	WMLTF	5/13/2010
Jennings Bluff	70	Hamilton	2/1989	WMLTF	5/13/2010
Falmouth North (8 tracts)	6	Suwannee	4/1998	WMLTF	6/8/2010
Hunter Creek	120	Hamilton	9/2002	P2000	6/8/2010
Steinhatchee Rise	42	Dixie	2/1996	P2000	6/8/2010
Timber River	1	Madison	3/1998	WMLTF	6/8/2010
Wolf Creek	30	Jefferson	5/2009	FFTF	5/19/2011
Woods Ferry	29	Suwannee	12/1988	WMLTF	5/19/2011
Withlacochee Quail Farm	65	Madison	9/2006	FFTF	5/19/2011
Cuba Bay	22	Madison	2/1996	P2000	6/14/2011
Chitty Bend East	20	Hamilton	12/1988	WMLTF	7/12/2011
Chitty Bend West	121	Madison	12/1988	WMLTF	7/12/2011
Perry Sprayfield	248	Taylor	9/2001	WMLTF	7/12/2011
Cabbage Grove	30	Taylor	2/1996	P2000	3/13/2012
Buck Bay	60	Alachua	12/1999	P2000	3/6/2013
Jasper Wellfield	30	Hamilton	04/2005	FFTF	5/20/2013
Hunter Creek	0.4	Hamilton	09/2002	P2000	9/24/2013
Florida Gateway College	16.25	Columbia	5/2001	P2000	9/9/2014
Barnett Surplus Tract	102	Hamilton	6/2001	P2000	8/12/2014
White Springs Wellfield	76	Hamilton	2/2000	P2000	8/12/2014

WMLTF = Water Management Lands Trust Fund; FFTF = Florida Forever; P2000 = Preservation 2000 Funds

Any recommendation for the disposition of land is presented for Governing Board consideration in accordance with Sections 373.056 and 373.089, Florida Statutes. **Table 9** lists the surplus lands that have been sold or conveyed to units of local government since the surplus lands program was initiated in 2009.

Table 9. Disposition of Surplus Lands

Surplus Parcels	Acres	County	Disposition Date	Transaction	Proceeds
Chiefland Wellfield	9	Levy	10/11/2011	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Cross City Wellfield	67	Dixie	10/11/2011	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Cross City Sprayfield	443	Dixie	1/12/2011	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Westwood West Surplus.	316	Madison	4/8/2011	Sold	\$636,777.00
Poe Springs	37	Alachua	10/11/2011	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Suwannee Sprayfield	285	Dixie	10/11/2011	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Otter Springs Access Easement	4	Gilchrist	10/17/2011	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Bay Creek South	46	Columbia	3/16/2012	Sold	\$91,940.00
USDA F.S. Sandlin Bay *	712	Columbia	3/22/2012	Conveyed to USDA F.S.	\$0.00*
Withlacochee Quail Farm	65	Madison	3/29/2012	Sold	\$142,524.80
Brantley Exchange	3	Suwannee	6/15/2012	Exchange	\$0.00
Taylor Coastal Wellfield	44	Taylor	6/15/2012	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Black Tract Surplus	50	Madison	6/19/2012	Sold	\$88,907.00
Wolf Creek Surplus	32	Jefferson	7/6/2012	Sold	\$63,340.00
Adams South Surplus	61	Lafayette	8/3/2012	Sold	\$85,540.00
Owens Spring Surplus	76	Lafayette	8/3/2012	Sold	\$136,368.00
Woods Ferry	29	Suwannee	12/12/2012	Sold	\$69,840.00
Bay Creek North	24	Columbia	3/6/2013	Sold	\$55,258.00
Cabbage Grove	29	Taylor	11/6/2013	Sold	\$56,614.25
Blue Sink Surplus East Tract	40.67	Suwannee	5/12/2014	Sold	\$83,519.99
Steinhatchee Rise Surplus tract	43	Dixie	12/27/2013	Sold	\$117,552.00
Hunter Creek Bridge Road Conveyance	0.41	Hamilton	9/24/2013	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Levings Surplus Tract	64.84	Columbia	5/12/2014	Sold	\$111,919.46
Anderson Exchange	122	Dixie	9/9/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Otter Springs Conveyance	122.6	Gilchrist	4/8/2014	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Cuba Bay Surplus Parcel	22	Madison	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Chitty Bend West Surplus Parcel	121	Madison	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Chitty Bend East Surplus Parcel	20	Hamilton	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Jennings Bluff Surplus Parcel	23.35	Hamilton	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Hunter Creek Surplus Parcel 1	36	Hamilton	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Hunter Creek Surplus Parcel 2	60	Hamilton	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Hunter Creek Surplus Parcel 3	23	Hamilton	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Blue Sink West Surplus Parcel	39	Suwannee	10/31/2014	Exchange	\$0.00
Lake City Wellfield	16.25	Columbia	11/8/2014	Conveyed to Fla. Gateway College	\$0.00
Hampton Springs/Perry Sprayfield Surplus Parcel	248.5	Taylor	11/26/2014	Conveyed to Local Government	\$0.00
Total	3,334.25				\$1,740,100.50

* Sale resulted in a transfer of \$498,092.00 within SRWMD accounts from the White Springs Agricultural Chemical Contribution Account.

5.0 DISTRICT LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Proper management of District lands ensures that these public lands continue to provide important water resource functions to maintain natural systems and for the benefit of the public.

The following information summarizes implementation of the District Land Management Plan (DLMP) on fee simple lands owned by the District during FY 2013. District activities implemented to achieve the four goals of the DLMP, Resource Protection, Public Use, Communications, and Fiscal Responsibility are addressed.

5.1 RESOURCE PROTECTION

Goal – to protect, enhance and/or restore natural, archaeological, and historical resources on lands owned by the District.

5.1.1 Water Resource Management

District lands provide unique opportunities because of their proximity to major rivers and their tributaries. At the site level, many facilities such as river access points and roads require additional review and construction standards to withstand flood impacts. The objective of facilities design is to make them transparent to high- flow and low-flow conditions within the floodplain. At the tract level, there are opportunities to impact altered water flows and water retention capacities to allow more natural buffering characteristics of the floodplain, such as flood attenuation, to be enhanced and provide protection to the receiving water body.

Land management natural community projects are implemented using silviculture BMPs as a minimum standard for implementation. Silvicultural practices and road maintenance operations are planned to protect or enhance water resources. Road improvements and culvert maintenance activities occurred on four tracts in FY 2013. These consisted of installation of one new culvert in Jones Mill Creek tract, replacement of two culverts in RO Ranch and Lamont tracts, and clean out of three culverts in the Steinhatchee Springs tract and one culvert in the Santa Fe River Ranch tract.

Water Projects

Water Projects completed in FY 2013 include:

- **Lukens Tract Water Access Project.** A plastic erosion control mat was permitted and constructed in an existing scar on a tidal creek. The area is under a management agreement with USFWS to be managed as part of Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuge.
- **Steinhatchee Rise Dispersed Water Storage Project.** This project placed rock barriers in an existing canal that flows into the Steinhatchee River. The intent is twofold: first, to slow down the water in the canal and allow it to percolate into the surficial aquifer; and second, to rehydrate wetlands to create conditions more similar to their natural hydroperiod.
- **Bell Springs Restoration Project.** This project removed earthen berms and dewatered the associated ponds that were constructed in the spring run of Bell Springs. This is a cooperative project with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which provided funding for construction. The project was permitted and contracts were awarded. Construction activities are complete. Planting natural tree and herbaceous species was completed summer 2014.

Water Projects in Planning and Design include:

- **Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project.** This project is occurring on District and private lands near Mallory Swamp. The objectives are to rehydrate wetlands and ponds and encourage recharge to the aquifer.
- **Otter Springs Restoration.** Work is being planned to remove some of the sediment in the spring and reduce erosion by installing access stairs and other public use improvements to protect the spring.
- **Pot Springs Restoration.** Plans are focusing on stabilizing the public use facilities and preventing further bank erosion.
- **Silviculture Water Yield Research Project.** This project is part of a statewide effort to advance the understanding of the impact of forest management activities on water yield and aquifer recharge rates.

5.1.2 Land Resource Management

The District plans and implements land management operations in order to protect and/or enhance natural resources. Plant and animal distribution and abundance are dictated by the availability of resources. A set of desired future conditions (DFC) detail plant community structure, representative plant species, average hydrological regime, and the frequency that fire is required to maintain the plant community.

The District uses the DFC to determine if management activities are needed to “restore or maintain the natural condition” as directed by statute. District lands that meet the DFC structural standards are maintained by activities that mimic natural processes (fire and natural flooding events) or “passive” management. Communities that do not meet standards, however, may receive more “active” management to move the community towards the community standards.

5.1.2.1 REFORESTATION

Site Preparation

Site preparation activities were completed to facilitate tree planting in FY 2013. One thousand three hundred seventy-one acres were planted in FY 2013. Four hundred sixty-five acres were augmented with additional seedlings due to survival problems from past reforestation operations. A large portion of this planting failure was attributed to flooding by Tropical Storm Debbie.

Table 10. Site Preparation Operations.

Management Objective	Management Action	Tract	Acres
Reforestation - Site Preparation	Chop	Lake City Wellfield	61
Reforestation - Site Preparation	Scalp	Branford Bend	100
Total			161

Tree Planting

Reforestation of cutover lands was conducted on 1,371 acres during FY 2013 (Table 3). Both slash and longleaf pine were planted by hand or using a Whitfield type planter pulled behind a V-blade mounted on a bulldozer or farm tractor. All the pine seedlings were planted in 12-foot rows. Planting was monitored to ensure that seedlings were planted to District standards and that the seedlings per acre were within 10% of the prescribed rate. Prescribed rates are 605 trees per acre for slash pine and 726 trees per acre for longleaf pine.

**Table 11. Reforestation of Pine Seedlings
(December 2012 – January 2013)**

Tract	Dominant Natural Communities Planted	Pine Seedlings	Compliance Seedlings /acre	Acres
Shady Grove	Mesic flatwoods	Bare Root Slash	613	31
Steinhatchee Springs	Mesic & wet flatwoods		719	123
Steinhatchee Springs			667	39
Bay Creek	Wet flatwoods		692	20
Lake City Well Field	Wet flatwoods		710	61
			TOTAL	626
 				
Cabbage Creek	Mesic flatwoods	Container & Bare Root Longleaf	691	185
Holton Creek	Sandhill & upland mixed forest		650	28
Mattair Springs	Sandhill		685	71
Shady Grove	Wet flatwoods		538	30
Mallory Swamp	Mesic & wet flatwoods		743	83
Mount Gilead	Mesic flatwoods		728	48
Mallory Swamp	Mesic flatwoods		728	81
Branford Bend	Upland pine forest & mesic flatwoods		719	101
Steinhatchee Springs	Mesic & wet flatwoods		720	118
			TOTAL	745

Timber Harvest

The District harvests timber resources to promote forest health and alter the tree density. Last year, the District indicated they had begun a formal process of tracking management decisions in the form of operational prescriptions. Currently, the prescriptions are not being used due to time constraints. Instead, management activities are being thoroughly reviewed through memorandums and meetings with the Executive Office and during Land Resources meetings. Timber sale objectives were to reduce overstocked conditions and remove undesirable species. Tracking is being completed using GIS. A summary of District timber sales is provided in **Table 12**.

Table 12. Acres of Timber Sales and Revenue

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
# Acres Timber Sold for DFC	267	1,074	1,096	1,314	1,079
Total Value as a Percent of Published Regional Market Rate	117%	114%	98%	102%	104%

*Values given as a percent of reported sources.

5.1.2.2 NATURAL COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT USING HERBICIDES

Herbicides are applied to create conditions consistent with the natural community standards.

Site Preparation

No herbicides were applied for site preparation.

Pine Seedling Release

No herbicides were applied for pine seedling release.

Non-native, Invasive Weed Control

A total of 440 weed infestations were monitored during FY 2013. Of those active infestations, 21 were treated with herbicides or pulled by hand; no living weed material was observed at 118 of the monitored infestations.

Efforts to control non-native, invasive weeds are showing a reduction of the total acreage of infestations (Figure 1). A total of 79 infestations were reclassified as “Inactive.” Active infestations are reclassified Inactive when no weed material is observed at or within close proximity of the infestation for 3 consecutive years.

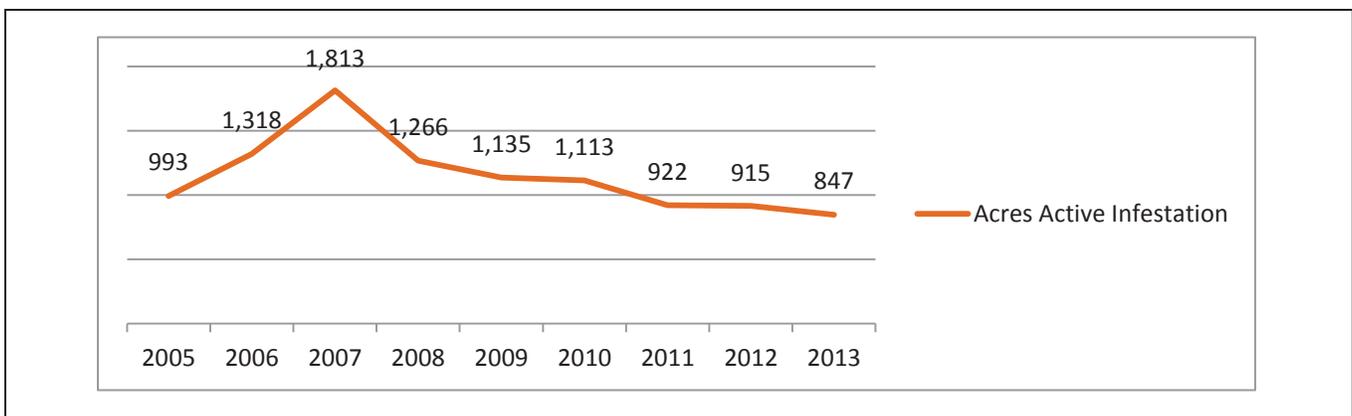


Figure 1. Acreage Trends of Active Non-Native, Invasive Weed Infestations.

5.1.2.3 NATURAL COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT USING PRESCRIBED FIRE

Many of Florida’s natural communities were historically influenced by lightning-ignited fires. Of those fire-adapted natural communities, the District’s prescribed fire program targets the following six community types for maintenance and restoration purposes: sandhills, upland pine, scrubby, mesic, wet flatwoods and shrub bogs. Combined, these targeted communities make up approximately 76% of the total acres that were historically influenced by fire. Within these targeted natural communities, the District focuses most of its efforts on designated core areas. Factors that distinguish many of these core areas include: 1) areas often contain acreage that has a consistent burn history, 2) vegetation within these areas can easily be burned without other inputs such as mechanical or chemical pre-treatments, and 3) areas may contain acreage that has undergone other management activities that requires the use of prescribed fire for continued maintenance or restoration (Table 5).

The remaining 24% of fire influenced communities on District land consists of wetland natural communities such as basin, depression, and tidal marshes and dome and basin swamps. These

communities are not actively targeted for prescribed burning. Instead, fire is allowed to carry into these areas from adjacent communities that are prescribed burned. Fire is allowed to carry into these areas only when the risk is minimal for issues such as smoke management, mortality to wetland trees and prolonged organic soil consumption. Containment fire lines are installed in such a way as to avoid impacts to wetlands and water resources.

Table 13. Acres of Fire Maintained Natural Communities by Classification.

SRWMD Fire Maintained Communities	Acres
Targeted Communities	76,508
Targeted Community Core Areas	50,002
Non-Targeted Communities	23,989

The District uses information from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) to establish the Natural Fire Return Interval (NFRI) for each natural community. The District's goal is to increase the acres of Targeted Community Core Areas within their NFRI (**Table 14**).

Table 14. Natural Fire Return Interval and Burn Acreages on District lands

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
% Targeted Community Core Areas within Natural Fire Return Interval	66%	47%	36%	26%	15%
Acres Prescribed Burned	12,136	7,670	11,742	15,765	7,659
Acres Burned That Met Objective	11,715	6,976	11,692	13,189	7,229
Wildfire Acres	11	457	5,535	2	1

5.1.3 Resource Monitoring

Groundcover Resource

No groundcover data plots were collected in FY 2013.

Timber Resource Monitoring

The DFC specifies tree species stocking and species goals. Data were collected on 1,276 timber plots in FY 2013. The data from these plots quantify the acres that achieve the community goals and also provide for data for areas that may be improved using timber sales. Staff is developing an ongoing inventory plan to keep this data current.

Rare Species Monitoring

The District has procedures for identifying and avoiding detrimental impacts to imperiled species on its lands. Rare species are documented on District lands by surveys and opportunistic observations. Species locations and rare species BMP information are maintained within a geodatabase. To lower the potential for negative impacts on existing species occurrences, District staff consults the rare species GIS layer file and rare species BMPs before planning and conducting management activities. If potential impacts are identified, staff will delineate occurrence areas or adjust management activities to avoid potential conflicts.

In FY 2013, staff conducted gopher tortoise surveys on approximately 670 acres of the Ellaville Tract in Madison County. Within the sample area, over 700 transects were surveyed yielding a density estimate of approximately 2.8 tortoises/acre.

Cultural and Historical Resource Monitoring

District lands have been reviewed for historical resources and 169 known sites were found in the Florida Master Site Files; 26 sites have been classified as significant cultural sites. In addition to these sites, the most likely areas, based on the known sites, are classified “High Probability Zones” (HPZ) and the District follows the “Protocol for Managing Cultural and Historical Resources on Suwannee River Water Management District Lands 2011” to avoid damaging these resources.

The District inspects the significant cultural resource sites, while working on other projects in the vicinity, in order to document whether they are being impacted.

Table 15. Status of Significant Cultural Resources Sites.

Measures	2013
No. sites monitored for significant cultural resources	0
Number and percent known previously damaged cultural sites	2 and 8%

5.1.4 Land Resource Projects

Completed Land Resource Projects:

Withlacoochee Quail Farm Tract: The District entered into cost-share agreement with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in July 2011 to restore the native upland pine community at the Withlacoochee Quail Farm Tract. Of the 620 acres of upland pine forest on this tract, only 57% contains groundcover resources and fine fuels sufficient to manage the community with prescribed fire. The site was previously an old field, thus explaining the lack of native groundcover.

This project is expected to benefit the natural community by reestablishing native groundcovers, which are vital components to biodiversity and natural community management, and reintroducing fire to the community. As part of that agreement, the District monitored groundcover restoration, paid for by the USFWS, on approximately 145 acres.

In FY 2013, the cooperative sowed 12 lbs. of native, upland groundcover seed per acre. This activity was funded by the USFWS. The next planned restoration actions for FY2014 include planting containerized longleaf pine at 726 trees per acre (completed). Planned in-kind services include continued monitoring and control of invasive weeds and the continued use of prescribed fire. The project will be completed in 2015.

Land Resource Projects in Planning and Design:

Little River Tract Upland Pine Restoration Project. This is a joint project with the FWC and the National Wild Turkey Federation. The District received multi-year grant funding to reduce mesic oak proliferation on about 470 acres of upland pines. The first operation will be a timber sale to reduce the number of oaks present on the property. This area will also be used for the silviculture water yield project. Soil moisture probes will be set to determine water use by various densities of trees and species.

5.2 PUBLIC USE

Goal – to provide opportunities for high quality, compatible resource-based recreation and education programs to meet the public’s needs.

District lands provide an extensive set of resource-based recreational opportunities. Of the approximately 158,000 acres owned by the District, over 99% are open to the public for recreation. The District’s Public Use Guide lists allowable recreational uses approved by the Governing Board by tract, including uses that require a Special Use Authorization (SUA).

Planning for public uses takes into account the sensitivity of the site, the proximity of similar recreational opportunities, the time and financial requirements to provide the use, and public demand for the particular use.

5.2.1 Facility Management

The District facility standards detail recreational facility, road and trail, sign and kiosk, and fence construction and maintenance procedures. These standards ensure that facilities provide a safe, aesthetically pleasing, outdoor environment for the public that can be effectively maintained. District staff inspects public use facilities and schedules any maintenance required to ensure the longevity and continued safe use.

District public use facilities data remained nearly constant in FY 2013 with one exception, as shown in **Table 16**. The existing trails in Twin Rivers State Forest were updated.

Table 16. Public Use Facilities.

Facility	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
# Trailheads	30	26	26	22	18
# Docks & Boat Ramps	11	10	10	8	10
# Hand & Canoe Launch Sites*	19	27	27	26	70
# Picnic Areas	17	16	16	16	15
# Interpretive Sites	11	9	9	8	6
# Restrooms	18	18	18	14	14
# Miles Trails	242	203	190	183	183
# Miles Driving Trails	310	310	345	302	302

*Large fluctuations in the number of hand and canoe launch sites are due to the reclassification of certain facilities. Prior to 2010, river access was classified as a launch site; river access points are now classified as river access, hand and canoe launch sites, or boat ramps.

5.2.2 Facility Construction

A plastic mat launch for kayaks and canoes was designed, permitted and constructed for the Lukens Tract near Cedar Key. The area was previously used to launch small boats but lacked any erosion control. This parcel is now managed by USFWS as part of the Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuge at no cost to the District.

5.2.3 Special Use Authorizations

In order to protect sensitive resources, it is necessary to restrict some uses of District lands. Members of the public may apply for a Special Use Authorization (SUA) to engage in those recreational opportunities requiring special authorization as listed in the public use guide. Examples include ATV use and night-time access. An SUA may also be issued for opportunities not listed in the Public Use Guide; examples include research and data collection, placement of bee hives, and nuisance hog removal.

An SUA serves as an agreement between the District and a user; it details terms, conditions, liability protection and time frame of the proposed use. The District issues SUAs and reserves the right to refuse anyone an SUA if the proposed use threatens water resources, public safety or other natural resources on District lands. A total of 497 SUAs were issued in FY 2013 (Table 17).

Table 17. Special Use Authorizations Issued

Recreation	Temporary Ingress and Egress	Mallory Swamp ATV Trail	Commercial*	Goose Pasture Camping	Total
349	54	NA	7	87	497

*Commercial SUAs issued during the fiscal year include research and data collection, cemetery restoration, cattle lease and an apiary lease on 5 sites.

5.2.4 Hunting and Fishing

The District's goal for public hunting is to provide high-quality hunting opportunities. Public hunting on District lands is offered through management agreements with the FWC and the USFWS. Fishing is allowed on District tracts subject to FWC fishing regulations.

Table 18. SRWMD Hunting and Fishing Access

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Areas open to public hunting (acres)	105,131	105,016	96,444*	97,160	97,160
Total fishing access locations	101	130	102	99	94

*The number of acres of land open to hunting decreased due to the District conveying a portion of the Sandlin Bay Tract to the U.S. Forest Service. These acres remain open to hunting as part of the Osceola National Forest WMA, but the District no longer holds title to the land.

5.2.5 Emergency Closings

Tracts were closed due to partial flooding on the following dates: March 4, 2013, 6 tracts; March 7, 2013, 2 tracts; July 22, 2013, 1 tract; July 31, 2013, 2 tracts; August 21, 2013, 1 tract; and August 23, 2013, 1 tract. All tracts were reopened as soon as conditions warranted.

5.3 COMMUNICATIONS

Goal – to coordinate with public and private stakeholders in the management of District lands.

The District must seek and include participation from outside agencies, organizations and private citizens when developing management plans for the lands under its stewardship. However, District lands and facilities and other communication opportunities likely provide greater visibility of land management activities to the general public. Public inquiries are addressed by visiting the District or contacting District staff by phone, mail, email, or the website. All boundary and informational signs include District phone numbers and email addresses for this purpose.

5.3.1 District Land Management Plan

The DLMP articulates the Governing Board goals and objectives that guide the management of all fee lands held by the District. The Board approved the DLMP in May 2011.

No revisions were made to the DLMP in 2013.

5.3.2 Land Management Review Team

The Land Management Review Team (LMRT) scores District land management and their report is provided to the Board for its review. Statutorily, the LMRT must evaluate:

1. Whether District lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and;
2. If the management practices, including public access, are in compliance with the management plan.

On May 30, 2013, staff led a field tour of lands in the Alapaha River basin and a portion of the Upper Suwannee River basin around the Holton Creek Tract. This review area totals about 5,900 acres of fee and 1,800 acres of Conservation Easement lands. The main area of emphasis on the tour was protection of the extensive surfacewater/groundwater interface in this region and how District management activities protected these resources. Ten individuals representing private landowners, interests groups and agencies participated in the tour. The LMRT found the District to be in compliance or exceeding compliance with the DLMP and in managing lands for the purpose for which they were required.

Table 19. LMRT Meeting Questionnaire Responses

Question 1: No. of Responses	Are District lands being managed in a manner consistent with the purpose for which they were acquired, including public access?
0	The SRWMD is not in compliance.
3	SRWMD compliance is adequate and acceptable.
5	SRWMD exceeds compliance regularly.
Question 2: No. of Responses	Does SRWMD land management implement the goals identified in the District Land Management Plan?
0	The SRWMD is not in compliance.
4	SRWMD compliance is adequate and acceptable.
4	SRWMD exceeds compliance regularly.

5.3.3 Regional Resource Groups

District staff participates in regional groups such as:

- North Florida Prescribed Fire Council
- San Pedro Bay Landowners Association
- 1st Coast Invasive Species Working Group
- North Central Florida Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area
- FWC, Invasive Plant Management Section's Weed Control Project
- Suwannee River Wilderness Trail
- Florida Trail Association
- Suwannee Bicycle Association
- Florida Greenways and Trails Council
- Conserved Forest Ecosystem: Outreach and Research Cooperative
- FWC Wildlife Management Areas – Annual meeting to review hunting opportunities

This participation is key to facilitating communication and coordination among stakeholders.

5.4 FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Goal – to protect resources and manage District lands in an efficient manner within the District's annual budget.

District staff minimizes the costs associated with land management by contracting with the private sector, partnering with other land management agencies and organizations, and submitting proposals for additional land management grant funding.

5.4.1 Revenues and Expenditures

The District has opportunities to generate revenues while implementing its management activities. Timber sales generate the most revenue. In FY 2013, the District sold an estimated 16,507 tons of timber in 2 sales on 267 acres. These sales were thinnings of pine plantations. Total gross revenues are estimated to be \$222,910.

A cattle grazing authorization and apiary authorization generated an additional \$2,250.

Expenditures in the land management program are divided into categories for budgeting as follows:

- **Prescribed Fire** – includes FFS and private contractor costs for prescribed burning and fire line establishment and maintenance.
- **Administration and Planning** - includes expenses for planning, GIS, training, real estate activities, management plans and reviews, interagency coordination and Payment in Lieu of Taxes.
- **Facility Management** – includes costs for maintaining roads, boundaries and gates.
- **Natural Resource Management** – includes water resource projects, reforestation, timber sales, exotic plant control, and protected species management.
- **Public Use** – includes expenses for maintaining site-based and dispersed recreation activities, developing new sites, signs, maps, brochures, and sanitation.

Table 20. Land Resources Expenditures

Category	FY 2013
Prescribed Fire	\$421,876
Administration and Planning*	\$644,448
Facility Mgt.	\$215,044
Natural Resource Mgt.	\$657,539
Public Use	\$190,258
Total	\$2,129,165

*Payments in Lieu of Taxes in the amount of \$342,909 were paid to eligible counties.

5.4.2 Cooperative Agreements

The District enters into cooperative management agreements and/or leases with government agencies to reduce the cost of management to the District (Table 13).

Table 21. Agencies Managing District Lands

Managing Agency	Tracts	Acres
Alachua County	1	120
Columbia County	2	139
Department of Environmental Protection	9	1,980
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	2	869
Hamilton County	3	16
Jefferson County	1	22
University of Florida	2	738
US Fish and Wildlife Service	4	1,655
Sub-Total: Acres Without Cost Sharing Agreements		5,539
Managing Agency	Tracts	Acres
Florida Forest Service	13	12,963
Gilchrist County	1	634
Sub-Total: Acres with Shared Revenue Agreements		13,597
Total		19,136

The Twin Rivers State Forest is managed by the Florida Forest Service (FFS). In FY 2013, there were state expenses of \$150,900 and there were no contracts.

Public use and recreational services at the Otter Springs Park and Campground are managed by Gilchrist County under a lease signed in 2008. Operational costs and public use revenues are shared by the County and the District equally. The expense to the District was \$13,977 in FY 2013.

The non-profit R.O. Ranch, Inc. is responsible for all recreational uses on the District's R.O Ranch Tract and all the facilities that support those activities; this includes an equestrian oriented park and campground. The Management Agreement was updated in FY 2012 and the endowment funds were transferred to RO Ranch Inc. Trustees allow RO Ranch to function more as a separate financial and management entity.

The District also has a Cooperative Agreement with the Florida Forest Service for lands not under lease. This agreement is used primarily to allow the FFS to manage and conduct fire line installation and prescribe fires on District lands. This agreement should save money since the FFS rate is less than the private contractor burn rates. During FY 2013, no acres were burned under this agreement.

The District also has agreements with the USFS for the Florida National Scenic Trail, the Florida Trail Association and the Suwannee Bicycle Association to manage trails on District lands. These trails are maintained at no cost to the District and available for use by the general public.

Appendix A: Florida Forever Acquisition Summary

Florida Forever Work Plan

2015 Annual Update



Suwannee River Water Management District

9225 CR 49, Live Oak, FL 32060

386.362.1001

www.mysuwanneeriver.com

January 2015

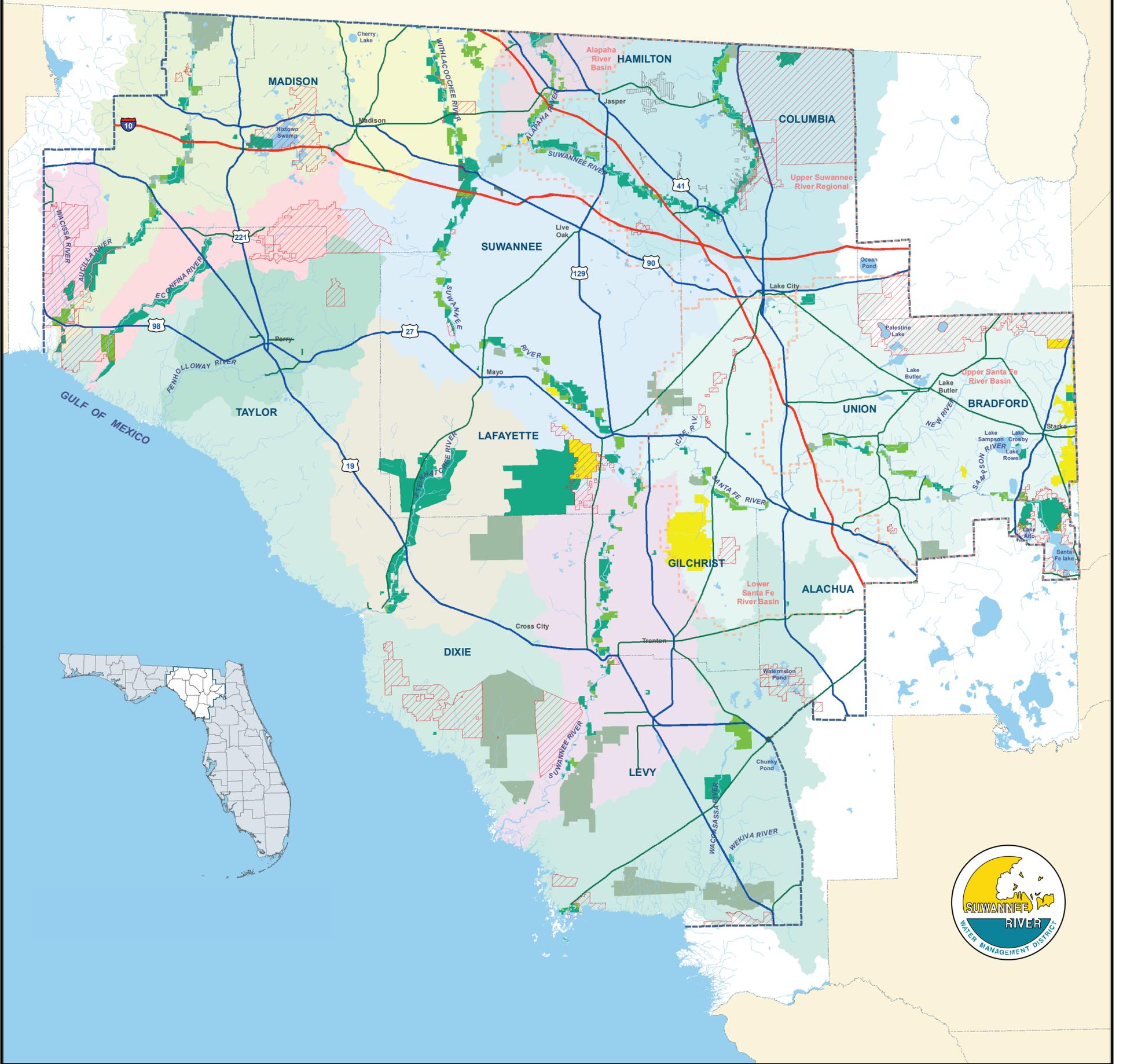
Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Williams, Fred M. Jr.	Walker/Aucilla Tract	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	Fee	112	\$220,318	11/8/2001
Ward, Cleatus	Lake Butler Wellfield	New River	Union	Fee	148	\$310,023	12/28/2001
Levy Wade Inc.	Peacock Slough Levy Wade	Peacock Springs	Suwannee	Fee	569	\$625,768	12/31/2001
Van Hook, C.A.	Falmouth Addition	Falmouth	Suwannee	Fee	18	\$40,000	1/8/2002
Chesson, Maywood	Waldron's Landing	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	124	\$329,016	1/9/2002
Red Hills Land Company	Foster CE	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	Conservation Easement	163	\$140,000	3/25/2002
Plum Creek Timberlands	Manatee Springs Addn. Suwannee Swamp	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Conservation Easement	12,797	\$5,503,127	3/28/2002
Sam Shine Foundation, Inc.	Mallory Swamp	Upper Steinhatchee	Lafayette	Fee	29,463	\$2,592,744	4/30/2002
Florida Depart. of Trans.	Santa Fe River FDOT Mitigation	Ichetucknee	Gilchrist	Fee	42	\$0	5/15/2002
Mura, Michael	Suw. River Campsites Lots 260, 261, 302, 303	State Park	Hamilton	Fee	1	\$0	6/30/2002
Crevassee Alton & Charlotte	Atsena Otie Key Inholding	Lower Waccasassa	Levy	Fee	1	\$48,000	7/30/2002
Plum Creek Timberlands	Manatee Springs Addn. Oak Hammock	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Conservation Easement	4,588	\$3,005,225	8/31/2002
Evans, Barbara & Donald	Fanning Springs Greenway	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	46	\$115,700	11/27/2002
Gause, Thomas & Patricia	Fanning Springs Greenway	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	64	\$160,325	11/27/2002
Skinner Development Co.	Bell Springs Addn.	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	25	\$0	12/19/2002
Moore, Madeline	Moore CE	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	Conservation Easement	115	\$54,000	12/23/2002
The Conservation Fund	Fletchers Landing	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Fee	178	\$436,000	4/12/2003
Drummond, Graham Luther	Manatee Springs Addn.	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Conservation Easement	323	\$323,406	5/29/2003
Sigvartsen Trust, Marty Royo, Trustee	Lot 12 Suwannee Bluff Ranchettes	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	10	\$34,500	6/20/2003
Maxwell Foods, Inc.	Horseshoe Beach Wellhead Protection Area	Coastal Creeks	Dixie	Fee	100	\$200,000	6/30/2003
Union Land & Timber Corp.	Allen Mill Pond Addition	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	140	\$164,136	6/30/2003
Davis M.C.	Withlacoochee East Addn.	Withlacoochee East	Hamilton	Fee	57	\$0	10/1/2003
Curtis John M. Sr.	Withlacoochee East Addn.	Withlacoochee East	Hamilton	Fee	89	\$208,868	10/1/2003
Rayonier Forest Resources L.P.	Lake Rowell/Alligator Creek	Graham	Bradford	Fee	593	\$1,060,000	5/5/2004
Beckerleg, William	Charles Spring River Estates Unit 1, Lot 40	Charles Spring	Suwannee	Fee	2	\$13,000	5/7/2004

Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Faris, William & Sophia	Faris Ranch	Little River	Suwannee	Fee	1,020	\$2,283,357	6/30/2004
Usher, E.T. ind. and as trustee of Usher Family trust	Manatee Springs Addn.	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Conservation Easement	2,023	\$1,517,047	8/17/2004
Land, Jack & Todd	Land Tract	Yellow Jacket	Dixie	Fee	536	\$964,674	10/15/2004
Dugger, Edward & Green, Donald	Mud Swamp	Monteocha	Alachua	Fee	326	\$485,190	12/13/2004
Dugger, Edward & Green, Donald	Mud Swamp	Graham	Bradford	Fee	510	\$757,873	12/13/2004
Luther Drummond Investments, Ltd.	Chiefland Wellfield	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Fee	155	\$621,640	2/21/2005
Young, Paul & Frances	Lot 10 Suwannee Bluff Ranchettes	Wanee	Gilchrist	Fee	10	\$34,000	2/25/2005
Bem, Jan & Yana	Yana Springs	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	14	\$154,000	3/15/2005
DeVaney, Robert & Deborah	Mallory Swamp Devaney Addition	Lower Steinhatchee	Lafayette	Fee	1,038	\$448,381	4/8/2005
Tanner, Hillard	City of Jasper Wellhead Protection	Upper Alapaha	Hamilton	Fee	30	\$72,240	4/28/2005
McEwen, Donald	Wacissa Head Spring	Wacissa	Jefferson	Fee	22	\$225,000	4/28/2005
Torode, John A. Revocable Living Trust	Lake Rowell Addition	Graham	Bradford	Fee	20	\$29,646	6/17/2005
Lamb, et al.	Allen Mill Pond Addition	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	29	\$60,040	3/1/2006
Pepper Land Company Inc.	Suwannee River Wilderness Camp @ Dowling Park	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	9	\$84,000	3/30/2006
Nunez, Luis M	Anderson Springs Addition	Anderson Springs	Suwannee	Fee	10	\$80,000	5/19/2006
Hutchings, William & Patricia	Branford Bend Addition	Little River	Suwannee	Fee	28	\$300,000	5/30/2006
Roland, Charles & Joann	Greenville Wellfield Properties	Upper Aucilla	Madison	Fee	13	\$34,398	6/10/2006
Roland, Shane & Lisa	Greenville Wellfield Properties	Upper Aucilla	Madison	Fee	33	\$78,000	6/10/2006
Hatch, Leon	Devil's Elbow Addition	Stuart's Landing	Lafayette	Fee	1	\$12,000	6/30/2006
R. O. Ranch Inc. and Schulte, Frank E. & Olive	R. O. Ranch	Upper Steinhatchee	Lafayette	Fee	2,485	\$6,500,000	7/27/2006
Herndon, Walter & Helen	Withlacoochee Quail Farms	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	408	\$1,835,130	9/29/2006
Johnson, Jack & Dorothy	Withlacoochee Quail Farms	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	353	\$1,589,310	10/13/2006
Riggs, Joseph & Jennie	Purvis Landing Addition	Log Landing	Dixie	Fee	77	\$267,123	10/31/2006
Hauber, Marty & Peggy	Suwannee Forest Lot 7	Stuart's Landing	Suwannee	Fee	10	\$98,000	2/28/2007

Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Land Timber & Cattle L.L.C.	Mallory Swamp Addition	Grady	Lafayette	Fee	820	\$1,312,224	3/20/2007
Advent Christian Village, Inc.	Suwannee River Wilderness Camp @ Dowling Park	Allen Mill Pond	Lafayette	Fee	39	\$385,500	4/5/2007
White, Diane Bishop	Bell Springs Riverfront	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	8	\$310,000	5/18/2007
Morrell, Monroe	Bell Springs	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	46	\$785,000	5/18/2007
Feagin, Robert & Marjorie	Middle Aucilla Addition	Middle Aucilla	Taylor	Fee	80	\$339,000	7/20/2007
Hale, Martha C. and McDaniel, Virginia Gail	Russell Carter CE	Benton	Columbia	Conservation Easement	1,232	\$3,566,987	9/28/2007
Jones, Mike & Kim	Jasper Stormwater	Holton Creek	Hamilton	Fee	1	\$16,700	10/5/2007
Sganga, Brian	Little Shoals Addition	Deep Creek	Columbia	Fee	1	\$60,000	11/15/2007
McEnany, Michael & Leanne	McEnany CE	Lower Waccasassa	Levy	Conservation Easement	1,104	\$1,490,224	11/16/2007
Tisdale, Robert	Manatee Springs Addition	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Conservation Easement	83	\$141,925	11/16/2007
Smith, B. Larry & Christine M.	Suwannee Gardens Addition	Yellow Jacket	Dixie	Fee	49	\$462,460	11/21/2007
Levings, Albert	Town of Fort White Wellfield	Santa Fe Springs	Columbia	Fee	102	\$1,536,546	12/15/2007
Ragans, Hoyt & Betty Jo	Ragans CE	Middle Aucilla	Madison	Conservation Easement	586	\$748,614	12/28/2007
Ragans, Hoyt & Betty Jo	Ragans CE	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	Conservation Easement	169	\$216,826	12/28/2007
Moses Investments, L.L.C.	Troy Springs Addition	Troy Springs	Lafayette	Fee	106	\$1,014,054	1/30/2008
Lake Alto LLC	Lake Alto Addition	Santa Fe Swamp	Alachua	Fee	120	\$210,209	2/7/2008
Sheppard, Derwood & Susan	Manatee Springs Addition	Fowlers Bluff	Levy	Conservation Easement	120	\$214,938	2/8/2008
Mozak, Deborah & Danny and Vasko, Victor & Betty	Swift Creek Addition	Swift Creek	Hamilton	Fee	5	\$250,000	3/14/2008
Gullett, David & Michele	Lake Alto Swamp Addition	Santa Fe Swamp	Alachua	Fee	29	\$152,961	5/15/2008
Adams, John Anthony	Adams on Alapaha	Lower Alapaha	Hamilton	Fee	267	\$1,068,800	7/11/2008
Big Otter L.P., Faith, Hope, Charity Place, Inc.	Otter Springs	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	636	\$6,800,000	9/30/2008
Suwannee Land & Timber Inc.	Willow Bend Subdivision Lot 21	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	1	\$17,000	11/17/2008
Suwannee Land & Timber Inc.	Willow Bend Subdivision	Withlacoochee West	Madison	Fee	1	\$0	11/17/2008
Carter, Gerald & Diane	Suwannee Woods Subdiv. Lot 48	Camp Branch	Hamilton	Fee	1	\$0	12/26/2008

Seller	Project	Conservation Area	County	Interest	Acreage	Price	Closing Date
Fairweather, Celia and Parchment, Evelyn	Lake Alto Addition	Santa Fe Swamp	Alachua	Fee	41	\$30,000	2/16/2009
Madison/Taylor Timberlands LLC	Aucilla Corridor Addition	Upper Aucilla	Madison	Fee	172	\$429,916	5/12/2009
Madison/Taylor Timberlands LLC	Aucilla Corridor Addition	Upper Aucilla	Jefferson	Fee	1,056	\$2,619,484	5/12/2009
Wooten, Albert W. Jr. & Jessie	Lower Alapaha Addition	Lower Alapaha	Hamilton	Fee	63	\$380,000	7/1/2009
Champion, Roger & Donna	Mount Gilead CE	Middle Aucilla	Madison	Conservation Easement	181	\$361,940	8/19/2009
Feagle, Ronald A. & Dorothy	Bonnet Lake CE	Olustee Creek	Columbia	Conservation Easement	434	\$1,083,925	1/27/2010
Dixie County Board of County Commissioners	Guaranto Addition	Log Landing	Dixie	Fee	1	\$14,000	4/22/2010
Dixie County Board of County Commissioners	Log Landing Inholding	Log Landing	Dixie	Fee	20	\$100,000	4/22/2010
Jackson, Kevin & Patrice	Jackson CE	Troy Springs	Lafayette	Conservation Easement	172	\$343,860	6/23/2010
Osceola Land & Timber, Corp.	Santa Fe River Ranch Addition	Paroners Branch	Alachua	Fee	463	\$1,873,048	8/5/2010
N.G. Wade Investment Company	Gilchrist Regional Wellfield	Wannee	Gilchrist	Fee	106	\$395,000	8/12/2010
Suwannee River Development LLC	Ace Ranch	Peacock Springs	Lafayette	Conservation Easement	682	\$1,557,593	9/16/2010
Andrews, Dennis & Roberta	Cedar Key Addition	Lower Waccasassa	Levy	Fee	242	\$1,208,650	6/16/2011
Andrews, Dennis, Kelby, Miles	Andrews Cedar Key	Lower Waccasassa	Levy	Fee	390	\$1,949,738	9/1/2011
Layman Law Firm, P.I.	Walker Springs CE	Middle Aucilla	Jefferson	Conservation Easement	167	\$250,710	12/30/2011
Total					68,719	\$67,813,043	

2015 Florida Forever Acquisition Plan



PROPERTY OWNERSHIPS

-  SRWMD Fee Ownership
-  SRWMD Conservation Easement
-  SRWMD Mineral Rights
-  Potential Acquisition Area
-  Potential Acquisition Area Added 2015
-  Public Conservation Lands
-  Public Conservation Lands With Conservation Easement
-  Board of Trustees Projects

PLANNING AREAS

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

PLANNING AREAS

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

PHYSICAL/POLITICAL FEATURES

-  Hydrography
-  County Boundary
-  District Boundary
-  Water Resource Caution Area



NOTE: This map was prepared by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD), Department of Land Acquisition (LA), for informational purposes only and does not conform to National Map Accuracy Standards. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of this data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. In no event will the SRWMD, its staff or the contributing agencies be held liable for any direct or indirect, special, consequential or damages including loss of profit, arising from the use of this data, even if the District has been advised of the possibility of such damage. Users of this data should therefore do so at their own risk. More information regarding the data portrayed on this map can be found in the 2014 Florida Forever Work Plan.