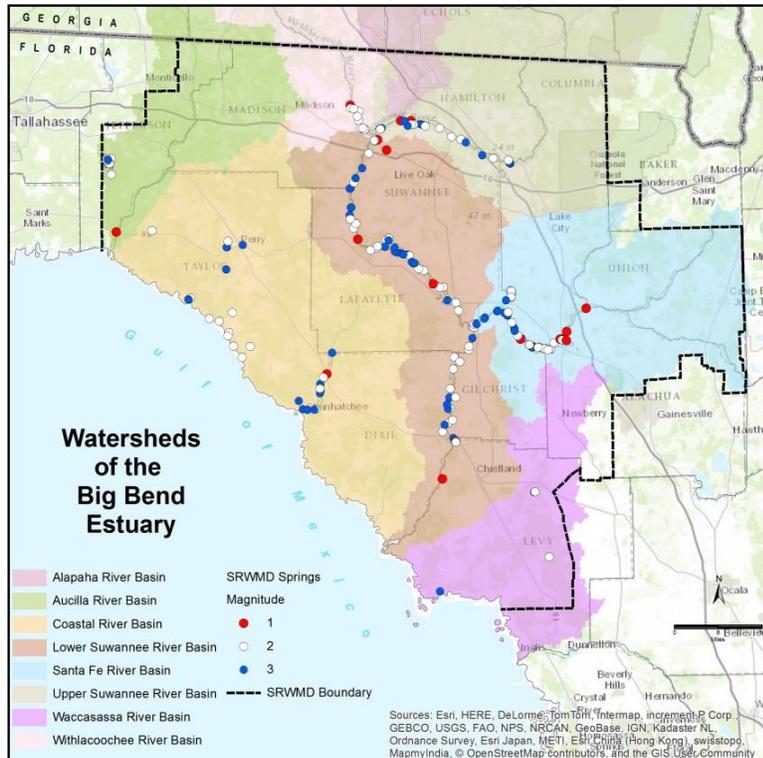


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Save the Date! District seeks public input for SWIM Plans**



**SRWMD is in the Big Bend planning area.**

Live Oak, FL, May 3, 2016 – The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) is seeking public input and collaboration to update the District’s Surface Water and Improvement and Management (SWIM) Plans.

With a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), through the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF), the District is updating its existing SWIM plans and developing two comprehensive plans for the Suwannee River Basin and the Coastal Rivers Basin. The Suwannee River Basin includes the Santa Fe, Alapaha, and Withlacoochee Rivers. The Coastal Rivers Basin includes the Aucilla, Wacissa, Econfina, Fenholloway, Steinhatchee, and Waccasassa Rivers.

Each SWIM Plan will address a broad range of issues including: water quantity, water quality, habitat and ecosystems, listed species, land acquisition and conservation, restoration opportunities and future restoration needs and research and monitoring needs.

During the month of May, the District staff will be presenting SWIM updates to all counties in the District. The District will hold public meetings on June 8 and June 22 to solicit input on priority issues, needs, and projects to restore and protect the water and natural resources in each basin. Participation and input from all stakeholders, including residents, businesses, local government officials, and interested persons and groups is highly encouraged. The Suwannee River Basin will be addressed on June 8 from 1:30

to 3:30 at District Headquarters, 9225 CR 49, Live Oak, FL. On June 22, the Coastal River Basin will be addressed from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Perry Administrative Complex, 201 East Green Street Perry, Florida 32347.

The Florida legislature created the SWIM Act in 1987 for the purpose of restoring and maintaining highly threatened surface water bodies. The SWIM Act authorizes five water management districts to prioritize water bodies and implement plans to improve them.

For more information please contact Leslie Ames by phone (386) 362-1001 or email [Laa@srwmd.org](mailto:Laa@srwmd.org).

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