



AGENDA
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/@SRWMD>

Open to Public

February 11, 2025
9:00 a.m.

District Headquarters
Live Oak, FL

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Announcement of any Amendments to the Agenda by the Chair
Amendments Recommended by Staff: None
4. Public Comment
5. Consideration of the following Items Collectively by Consent:
 - Agenda Item No. 6 - January 14, 2025 Governing Board Meeting Minutes
 - Agenda Item No. 10 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Beaver Lake, LLC, Suwannee and Madison Counties
 - Agenda Item No. 11 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Grazing Group, LLP, Levy and Gilchrist Counties
 - Agenda Item No. 12 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Beach Farms, Inc., Gilchrist County
 - Agenda Item No.13 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Michael Wilkerson, Levy and Gilchrist Counties
 - Agenda Item No. 15 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties
 - Agenda Item No. 16 - December 2024 Financial Report
 - Agenda Item No. 19 - Task Work Assignment with AtkinsRealis, Inc. for Federal Emergency Management Agency Fiscal Year 2024 Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning Program Services
 - Agenda Item No. 24 - 2025 Florida Forever Work Plan

Page 5

6. January 14, 2025 Governing Board Meeting Minutes - **Recommend Consent**
7. Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations
 - A. Hydrologic Conditions Report
 - B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL
Tom Reeves

8. Update on Legal Activities

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director

Administration

9. Facilities Update

Agriculture Projects

- BCS Page 1 10. Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Beaver Lake, LLC, Suwannee and Madison Counties – **Recommend Consent**
- BCS Page 11 11. Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Grazing Group, LLP, Levy and Gilchrist Counties – **Recommend Consent**
- BCS Page 18 12. Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Beach Farms, Inc., Gilchrist County – **Recommend Consent**
- BCS Page 22 13. Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Michael Wilkerson, Levy and Gilchrist Counties – **Recommend Consent**
- BCS Page 27 14. Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Shenandoah Dairy, Inc., Suwannee County
- BCS Page 32 15. Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties – **Recommend Consent**

Finance

- BCS Page 36 16. December 2024 Financial Report – **Recommend Consent**

Resource Management

- BCS Page 41 17. Permitting Summary Report

Environmental Projects

- BCS Page 44 18. Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report
- BCS Page 46 19. Task Work Assignment with AtkinsRealis, Inc. for Federal Emergency Management Agency Fiscal Year 2024 Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning Program Services – **Recommend Consent**
- BCS Page 47 20. Agreement with the Waccasassa Water and Wastewater Cooperative
- BCS Page 48 21. Amendment to Agreement with the Town of Brooker

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS
Katelyn Potter, Division Director

Communications and Outreach

- OPS Page 1 22. Outreach and Communications Activity Summary
- OPS Page 3 23. Consolidated Annual Report
- OPS Page 24. 2025 Florida Forever Work Plan – **Recommend Consent**

Land Acquisition

- OPS Page 4 25. Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report
- OPS Page16 26. Resolution 2025-01, Conveyance of District-Owned LA Bennett Road to Lafayette County

Land Management

- OPS Page 22 27. Land Management Update Report

WATER RESOURCES
Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director

28. Water Resources Division Updates

Minimum Flows and Levels

- WR Page 1 29. Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
Hugh Thomas, Executive Director

30. Announcements
31. Governing Board Comments

NOTE:

March 11, 2025 9:00 a.m. Off-Site Board Meeting
UF/IFAS NFREC-Suwannee Valley (Farm)
8202 CR 417
Live Oak, FL 32060

Workshops and/or Committee Meetings may begin following the Board Meeting unless otherwise noted.

32. Adjournment

Any member of the public, who wishes to address the Board on any agenda item, or any other topic, must sign up (including the completion of the required speaker forms) with the Executive Director or designee before the time designated for Public Comment. During Public Comment, the Chair shall recognize those persons signed up to speak on agenda items first. To the extent time permits, the Chair shall thereafter recognize those persons signed up to speak on non-agenda items. Unless, leave is given by the Chair, (1) all speakers will be limited to three minutes per topic, (2) any identifiable group of three persons or more shall be required to choose a representative, who shall be limited to five minutes per topic. When recognized by the Chair during Public Comment, a speaker may request to be allowed to make his or her comments at the time the Board considers an agenda item. The Chair may grant or deny such request in the Chair's sole discretion.

Definitions:

- "Lobbies" is defined as seeking to influence a district policy or procurement decision or an attempt to obtain the goodwill of a district official or employee. (112.3261(1)(b), Florida Statutes [F.S.]
- "Lobbyist" is a person who is employed and receives payment, or who contracts for economic consideration, for the purpose of lobbying, or a person who is principally employed for governmental affairs by another person or governmental entity to lobby on behalf of that other person or governmental entity. (112.3215(1)(h), F.S.)

The Board may act upon (including reconsideration) any agenda item at any time during the meeting. The agenda may be changed only for good cause as determined by the Chair and stated in the record. If, after the regular time for Public Comment, the agenda is amended to add an item for consideration, the Chair shall allow public comment on the added agenda item prior to the Board taking action thereon.

All decisions of the Chair concerning parliamentary procedures, decorum, and rules of order will be final, unless they are overcome by a majority of the members of the Board in attendance.

If any person decides to appeal any decision with respect to any action considered at the above referenced meeting and hearing, such person may need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceeding is made to include testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made.



**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/@SRWMD>

Open to Public

Note: A digital recording system was used to record these proceedings and is on file in the permanent files of the District. A copy of the materials and handouts are a part of the record as set out in full herein and are filed in the permanent files of the District.

January 14, 2025
9:00 a.m.

District Headquarters
Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Item No 2 – Roll Call

Governing Board

Seat	Name	Office	Present	Not Present
Aucilla Basin	George Wheeler		X	
Coastal River Basin	Richard Schwab	Vice Chair	X*	
Lower Suwannee Basin	Larry K. Thompson		X	
Santa Fe & Wacc. Basins	William Lloyd		X	
Upper Suwannee Basin	Larry Sessions		X	
At Large	Virginia H. Johns	Chair		X
At Large	Charles Keith	Sec./Treas.	X	
At Large	Harry Smith			
At Large	Vacant		-	-

***Vice Chair Schwab conducted the Board meeting with the absence of Chair Johns.**

Governing Board Legal Counsel

Name	Firm	Present	Not Present
George T. Reeves	Davis, Schnitker, Reeves & Browning, P.A.	X	

Leadership Team

Position	Name	Present	Not Present
Executive Director	Hugh Thomas	X	
Assistant Executive Director	Tim Alexander	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Amy Brown	X	
Executive Office & Board Coordinator	Robin Lamm	X	

Agenda Item No. 3 - Announcement of any Amendments to the Agenda by the Chair:

Deletion

- Resource Management - Agenda Item No. 14 - Water Well Permitting Interagency Agreement between Suwannee River Water Management District and St. Johns River Water Management District for Bradford County

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY LLOYD TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Public Comment:

- Bryan Buescher, Florida Karst Conservation Task Force - Concerns regarding Mill Creek Sink Project in Alachua County

Agenda Item No. 5- Consideration of the Following Items Collectively by Consent:

- Agenda Item No. 6 - December 10, 2024 Governing Board Meeting, Workshop, and Lands Committee Meeting Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 11 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties
- Agenda Item No. 12 - November 2024 Financial Report
- ~~Agenda Item No. 14 - Water Well Permitting Interagency Agreement between Suwannee River Water Management District and St. Johns River Water Management District for Bradford County - Deleted~~
- Agenda Item No. 19 - Declaration of Surplus and Authorize Negotiations with Kurt and Karen Ardaman, Suwannee County

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY THOMPSON TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 REMOVED.

Agenda Item No. 6 - December 10, 2024 Governing Board Meeting, Workshop, and Lands Committee Meeting Minutes. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 7 - Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations.

- A. Robbie McKinney, Chief, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation of hydrologic conditions of the District.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. Christ Wynn, Florida Wildlife Commission and Mikayla Rogers, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association.
- C. Service Recognition – Scott Gregor was recognized for 20 years of service.

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

Agenda Item No. 8 – Legal Activities Update. No updates.

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Administration

Agenda Item No. 9 – Facilities Update. Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration, provided this update to the Board.

Agriculture Projects

Agenda Item No. 10 – Governing Board Directive Number 25-0001, Agricultural Cost-Share Program - Revised. Mr. Glass presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SMITH, SECONDED BY SESSIONS TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties. Approved on Consent

Finance

Agenda Item No. 12 – November 2024 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

Resource Management

Agenda Item No. 13 – Permitting Summary Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 14 – Water Well Permitting Interagency Agreement between Suwannee River Water Management District and St. Johns River Water Management District for Bradford County. Approved on Consent. ~~Deleted~~

Environmental Projects

Agenda Item No. 15 – Environmental and Agriculture Projects Monthly Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Task Work Assignment for Contract 24/25-044.001 with WSP USA. Leroy Marshall, Director, Resource Management/Projects Division, presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY LLOYD TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS

Communications and Outreach

Agenda Item No. 17 – Outreach and Communications Activity Summary. This summary was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Land Acquisition

Agenda Item No. 18 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 19 – Declaration of Surplus and Authorize Negotiations with Kurt and Karen Ardaman, Suwannee County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 20 – Five-Year Land Acquisition Workplan. Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations Division, presented this item to the Board,

MOTION WAS MADE BY THOMPSON, SECONDED BY SMITH TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 21 – Governing Board Directive 25-0002, Land Acquisition and Surplus Guidelines – Revised. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY SESSIONS TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Land Management

Agenda Item No. 22 – Land Management Update Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 23 – Use of District Lands for Apiary Lease. Lorna Ratliff, Chief, Office of Land Management, presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THOMPSON, SECONDED BY KEITH TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 24 – Governing Board Directive 25-0003, District Lands Use and Lease – Revised. Mrs. Ratliff presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THOMPSON, SECONDED BY LLOYD TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

WATER RESOURCES

Agenda Item No. 25 – Water Resources Division Updates. Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates to the Board.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Agenda Item No. 26 - Announcements. Mr. Thomas updated the Board on District activities.

Agenda Item No. 27 - Governing Board Comments. None

Agenda Item No. 28 - Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Chair

ATTEST:

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Beaver Lake, LLC, Suwannee and Madison Counties

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract and a Task Work Assignment with Beaver Lake, LLC to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$135,982.10.

BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has provided agricultural cost-share funds along with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as part of the Suwannee River Partnership to help agricultural producers implement best management practices. Best management practices help farmers conserve water and improve water quality in the District.

Beaver Lake, LLC has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program to implement grid soil sampling, variable rate nutrient application, and soil moisture probe service agreements for use across 4,125 acres of corn, peanuts, potatoes, and carrots in Suwannee, and Madison counties. There are two funding sources that will be used to execute this contract. The amount allocated by each funding source will not exceed \$300,000.

This project is located in the Suwannee Basin Management Action Plan Area, Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth Priority Focus Area, and the Western Water Supply Planning Areas. The associated nutrient reduction estimate for this contract is 206,250 lbs. of nitrogen at land surface and a 37,125 lb. reduction of nitrogen to groundwater and the associated water savings estimate is 0.1083 million gallons per day.

Attachment A lists the cost share items and funding breakdown. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget.

SA/tm
Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

PRODUCER Beaver Lake, LLC.
 WATER USE PERMIT 216959, 215995, 221357, 216067, 221702,
 215766, 218777, 220202, 217768
 BMAP SUWA
 PFA Troy Peacock LafayetteBlue Falmouth
 COUNTY Suwannee
 COUNTY Madison

Reimbursable Rates for Cost-Share Equipment and Precision Agriculture Practices

Item	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Cost-Share per Unit	Producer quote per Unit if provided	No. of Units	Estimated Cost-Share Total	Producer Share	Completion Due Date
LPS0087 Program Agricultural Springs Protection					\$26,000.00		
LPS Soil Moisture Probes 2nd and 3rd year service agreements	75%	\$650.00		40	\$26,000.00	\$8,666.67	1 years from effective date
LP6103K Program Precision Ag					\$109,982.10		
Grid Soil Sampling with VRNA	80%	\$7.46		4125	\$30,772.50	\$7,693.13	1 year from effective date
GBD Variable Rate Nutrient Application	80%	\$9.60		8251	\$79,209.60	\$19,802.40	1 year from effective date

ATTACHMENT A

FUNDING

Estimated PRODUCER Funds \$36,162.20

DEP Funding \$135,982.10

Contract Amount **\$135,982.10**

ATTACHMENT A

District Specifications

The PRODUCER shall not purchase, install, implement or complete the above authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER shall complete the purchase, installation and/or implementation of the authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES in accordance with the above schedule.

The PRODUCER shall be actively participating in the DISTRICT'S AUTOMATED WATER USE MONITORING PROGRAM prior to reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall maintain compliance with the associated Water Use Permit(s) for the duration of the contract.

All invoices and payments shall have dates showing when they were invoiced and paid. The dates for all financial transactions must coincide within the contract term to be eligible for reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall own or have control of the property where the EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES are located for the duration of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER has executed and maintains a current FDACS Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with Best Management Practices.

District Terms and Conditions

Grid Soil Sampling

Grid soil sampling allows growers to manage nutrient application in as small a unit as 2.5 acres by having a soil nutrient analysis taken on 2.5-acre grids. Grid sampling can be conducted in straight grids, or alternatively to scientifically delineated zones. Grid-based soil analysis assists growers with applying the needed nutrient in the right amount, at the right time, in the right place, and the right source. Cost-share is limited to 75% up to \$7/acre/year. Straight grids shall be no larger than 10 acres and no smaller than 2.5 acres. When cost-sharing this item, the applicant must variable rate apply nutrients (see below: Variable Rate Nutrient Application) at least once in the season if the sample analysis recommends a variable rate application. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the sampling map, lab report for the sampling event, the paid invoice, and canceled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor providing the service. For this item one unit is one acre.

Soil Moisture probe service agreement

Soil moisture probes (or sensors) measure the soil moisture and electrical conductivity at varying depths within the soil profile, providing real-time data that allows the producer to make informed decisions on when to irrigate and how much irrigation water is needed. This technology when applied properly results in a more efficient and effective use of irrigation water in responding to the crops moisture needs. Probe installation should provide a remote access data platform and a service agreement to help the producer implement the technology. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice, cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor, installation locations, proof of data reporting, and pictures of the installed probe on an annual basis. For this item one unit is one probe.

ATTACHMENT A

Variable Rate Nutrient Application

Variable rate nutrient application allows growers to have nutrients applied to their fields at a variable rate based upon the results and recommendations of a grid soil sample analysis (see above: Grid Soil Sampling). Variable rate nutrient application allows growers to put the right source and amount at the right time and place, thus eliminating unnecessary nutrient application, and optimizing plant growth efficiency. Cost-share is limited to 75% up to \$9/acre/application, 2 applications/year. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the prescription map, the paid invoice, and canceled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor providing the service. For this item one unit is one acre.

ATTACHMENT A

PRODUCER Beaver Lake, LLC.
 WATER USE PERMIT 216959, 215995, 221357, 216067, 221702,
 215766, 218777, 220202, 217768
 BMAP SUWA
 PFA Troy Peacock LafayetteBlue Falmouth
 COUNTY Suwannee
 COUNTY Madison
 APPLICATION NO.

Reimbursable Rates for Cost-Share Equipment and Precision Agriculture Practices

Item	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Cost-Share per Unit	Producer quote per Unit if provided	No. of Units	Estimated Cost-Share Total	Producer Share	Completion Due Date
LPS0087 Program Agricultural Springs Protection					\$26,000.00		
LPS Soil Moisture Probes 2nd and 3rd year service agreements	75%	\$650.00		40	\$26,000.00	\$8,666.67	3 years from effective da
LP6103K Program Precision Ag					\$103,134.00		
Grid Soil Sampling with VRNA	75%	\$7.00		4125	\$28,875.00	\$9,624.86	1 year from effective da
GBD Variable Rate Nutrient Application	75%	\$9.00		8251	\$74,259.00	\$24,753.00	1 year from effective

ATTACHMENT A

FUNDING

Estimated PRODUCER Funds \$43,044.53

DEP Funding \$129,134.00

Contract Amount **\$129,134.00**

ATTACHMENT A

District Specifications

The PRODUCER shall not purchase, install, implement or complete the above authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER shall complete the purchase, installation and/or implementation of the authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES in accordance with the above schedule.

The PRODUCER shall be actively participating in the DISTRICT'S AUTOMATED WATER USE MONITORING PROGRAM prior to reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall maintain compliance with the associated Water Use Permit(s) for the duration of the contract.

All invoices and payments shall have dates showing when they were invoiced and paid. The dates for all financial transactions must coincide within the contract term to be eligible for reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall own or have control of the property where the EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES are located for the duration of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER has executed and maintains a current FDACS Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with Best Management Practices.

District Terms and Conditions

Grid Soil Sampling

Grid soil sampling allows growers to manage nutrient application in as small a unit as 2.5 acres by having a soil nutrient analysis taken on 2.5-acre grids. Grid sampling can be conducted in straight grids, or alternatively to scientifically delineated zones. Grid-based soil analysis assists growers with applying the needed nutrient in the right amount, at the right time, in the right place, and the right source. Cost-share is limited to 75% up to \$7/acre/year. Straight grids shall be no larger than 10 acres and no smaller than 2.5 acres. When cost-sharing this item, the applicant must variable rate apply nutrients (see below: Variable Rate Nutrient Application) at least once in the season if the sample analysis recommends a variable rate application. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the sampling map, lab report for the sampling event, the paid invoice, and canceled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor providing the service. For this item one unit is one acre.

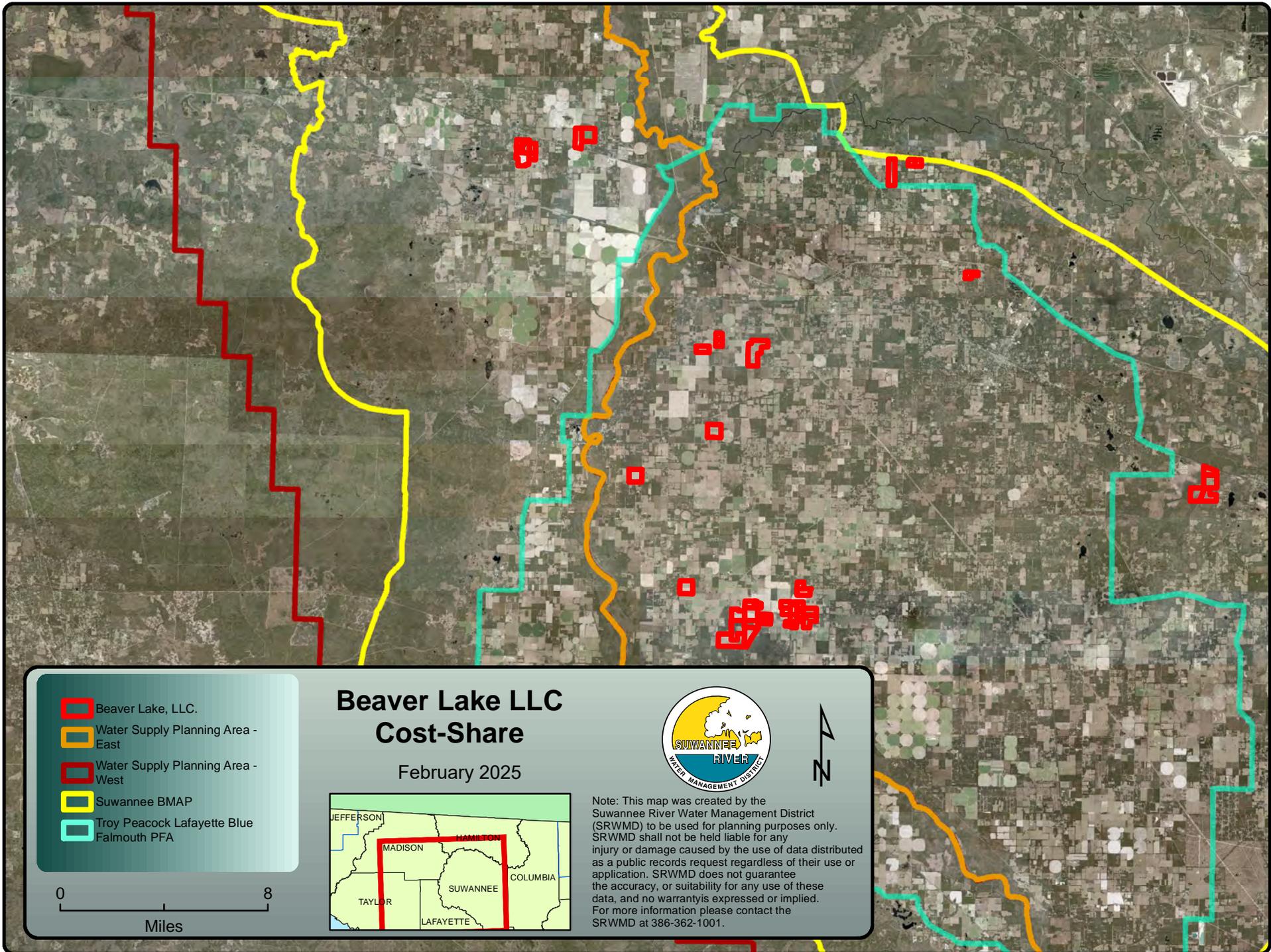
Soil Moisture probe service agreement

Soil moisture probes (or sensors) measure the soil moisture and electrical conductivity at varying depths within the soil profile, providing real-time data that allows the producer to make informed decisions on when to irrigate and how much irrigation water is needed. This technology when applied properly results in a more efficient and effective use of irrigation water in responding to the crops moisture needs. Probe installation should provide a remote access data platform and a service agreement to help the producer implement the technology. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice, cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor, installation locations, proof of data reporting, and pictures of the installed probe on an annual basis. For this item one unit is one probe.

ATTACHMENT A

Variable Rate Nutrient Application

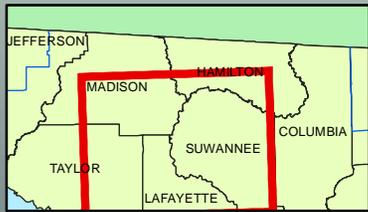
Variable rate nutrient application allows growers to have nutrients applied to their fields at a variable rate based upon the results and recommendations of a grid soil sample analysis (see above: Grid Soil Sampling). Variable rate nutrient application allows growers to put the right source and amount at the right time and place, thus eliminating unnecessary nutrient application, and optimizing plant growth efficiency. Cost-share is limited to 75% up to \$9/acre/application, 2 applications/year. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the prescription map, the paid invoice, and canceled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor providing the service. For this item one unit is one acre.



-  Beaver Lake, LLC.
-  Water Supply Planning Area - East
-  Water Supply Planning Area - West
-  Suwannee BMAP
-  Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth PFA

Beaver Lake LLC Cost-Share

February 2025



Note: This map was created by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to be used for planning purposes only. SRWMD shall not be held liable for any injury or damage caused by the use of data distributed as a public records request regardless of their use or application. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of these data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. For more information please contact the SRWMD at 386-362-1001.



SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Grazing Group, LLP, Levy and Gilchrist Counties

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Task Work Assignment with Alliance Grazing Group, LLP to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$93,000 and a combined contract total not to exceed \$184,139.90.

BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has provided agricultural cost-share funds along with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as part of the Suwannee River Partnership to help agricultural producers implement best management practices. Best management practices help farmers conserve water and improve water quality in the District.

Alliance Grazing Group, LLP has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Gilchrist, and Levy Counties. The original contract and Task Work Assignment was approved by the Executive director on January 2, 2025, and contained tissue sampling, grid soil sampling, and variable rate nutrient application. This new Task Work Assignment contains soil moisture probes, weather stations, GPS end-gun shutoffs, control panels, and center pivot retrofits for use across 4,902 acres of corn and peanuts in Levy and Gilchrist counties. There are two funding sources that will be used to execute this contract. The amount allocated by the funding source will not exceed \$300,000.

This project is located in the Suwannee and Santa Fe River Basin Management Action Plan Area, Fanning Manatee and Devils Ear Priority Focus Area, and the Eastern and Western Water Supply Planning Areas. The associated water savings estimate is 0.095 million gallons per day.

Attachment A lists the cost share items and funding breakdown. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget.

SA/tm
Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

PRODUCER ALLIANCE GRAZING GROUP
 WATER USE PERMIT 218311, 220607, 221905, 220606
 BMAP SUWA
 PFA Fanning Manatee
 COUNTY Levy
 COUNTY Gilchrist

Reimbursable Rates for Cost-Share Equipment and Precision Agriculture Practices

Item	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Cost-Share per Unit	Producer quote per Unit if provided	No. of Units	Estimated Cost-Share Total	Producer Share	Completion Due Date
LPS0087 Program Agricultural Springs Protection					\$33,000.00		
LPS Weather Station with ET Measurement	85%	\$2,833.00		2	\$5,666.00	\$999.88	1 year from effective date
LPS GPS end-gun shut-offs	85%	\$1,700.00		2	\$3,400.00	\$600.00	1 year from effective date
GBD Soil Moisture Probe Purchase	90%	\$2,100.00		6	\$12,600.00	\$1,400.00	1 year from effective date
GBD Control Panel Upgrade	85%	\$5,667.00		2	\$11,334.00	\$2,000.12	1 year from effective date
WS002 Program SRWMD AWS Pivot Retrofits					\$60,000.00		
GBD Center Pivot Retrofit	90%	\$12,000.00		5	\$60,000.00	\$6,666.67	1 year from effective date

ATTACHMENT A

FUNDING

Estimated PRODUCER Funds \$11,666.67

DEP Funding \$93,000.00

Contract Amount	\$93,000.00
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ATTACHMENT A CONT.

***IF INVOICES FOR THESE ITEMS ARE SUBMITTED TOGETHER, AT THE SAME TIME, THE MAXIMUM PRECENTAGES AND DOLLAR AMOUNTS WILL BE REIMBURSED. OTHERWISE, REIMBURSEMENT WILL BEBASED ON THE SCHEDULE BELOW.**

BMP Irrigation Items	Precision Ag Practices
Centralized Remote Control	Grid Soil Sampling
Control Panel Upgrade	Tissue Sampling
GPS Endgun Shutoff	Variable Rate Nutrient Application
Portable Fertigation System	Any 1 - 75%
Pump Upgrade (High to Low Pressure	Any 2 - 80%
Remote Control (Radios)	All 3 - 85%
Stationary Fertigation System	
Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)	
Weather Station w/ ET Measurement	
Any 1 - 75%	
Any 2 - 80%	
Any 3 - 85%	
Any 4 - 90%	

ATTACHMENT A

District Specifications

The PRODUCER shall not purchase, install, implement or complete the above authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER shall complete the purchase, installation and/or implementation of the authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES in accordance with the above schedule.

The PRODUCER shall be actively participating in the DISTRICT'S AUTOMATED WATER USE MONITORING PROGRAM prior to reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall maintain compliance with the associated Water Use Permit(s) for the duration of the contract.

All invoices and payments shall have dates showing when they were invoiced and paid. The dates for all financial transactions must coincide within the contract term to be eligible for reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall own or have control of the property where the EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES are located for the duration of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER has executed and maintains a current FDACS Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with Best Management Practices.

District Terms and Conditions

Agricultural BMP Irrigation Cost-Share

Maximum cost-share per applicant is capped at \$300,000 over five (5) years per funding source. Equipment may include weather stations, pump upgrades, centralized remote control panels. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice and cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to vendor providing the equipment. District staff must also verify and photo document the equipment.

Center Pivot Retrofits

The producer must first select a Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) vendor to test the irrigation system. The MIL selected must follow the latest version of the MIL Handbook as developed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Office of Agricultural Water Policy. Deliverables should include at a minimum: A uniformity score (Weighted Distribution and Christiansen's), recommendations to improve irrigation uniformity, and a laminated sprinkler chart with center pivot information. The selected MIL must also update the State of Florida MIL program website in accordance with FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy guidelines. The District will only reimburse for equipment recommended by the MIL and only for equipment considered newer technology. The District will not reimburse for equipment considered maintenance. Equipment eligible for reimbursement includes more efficient nozzle packages, such as Senninger IWOBs or Nelson Rotators, pressure regulators, drop down hoses, adjusting end guns and other associated water savings features. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice, cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment, copies of the pre- and post-MIL evaluations, and pictures of the pivot before, during and after the retrofit.

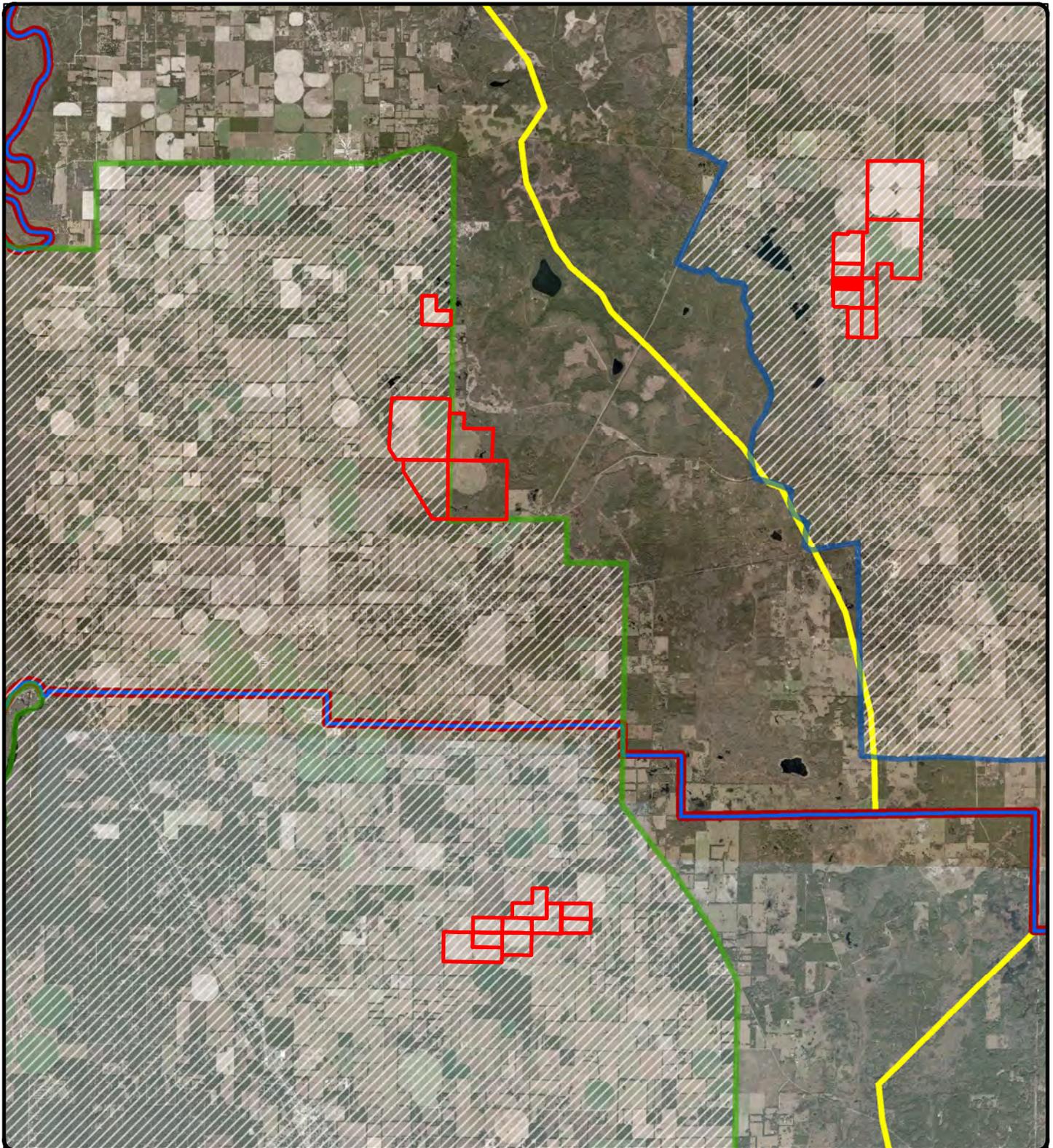
ATTACHMENT A

GPS End-Gun Shut off

GPS End-gun shut off can reduce water loss by precisely controlling the end-gun operation. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice and cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to vendor providing the equipment. District staff must also verify and photo document the equipment.

Soil Moisture Probes Purchase

Soil moisture probes (or sensors) measure the soil moisture and electrical conductivity at varying depths within the soil profile, providing real-time data that allows the producer to make informed decisions on when to irrigate and how much irrigation water is needed. This technology when applied properly results in a more efficient and effective use of irrigation water in responding to the crops moisture needs. Probe installation should provide a remote access data platform and a service agreement to help the producer implement the technology. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice, cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor, installation locations, proof of data reporting, and pictures of the installed probe. For this item one unit is one probe.

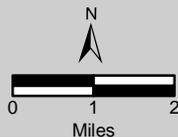


- Alliance Grazing Group, LLP
- Fanning Manatee PFA
- Devils Ear PFA
- Water Supply Planning Area - East
- Water Supply Planning Area - West
- Suwannee BMAP

Alliance Grazing Group, LLP February 2025



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Map Created on 5/30/2024



SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Beach Farms, Inc.,
Gilchrist County

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract and a Task Work Assignment with Beach Farms, Inc. to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$175,476.

BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has provided agricultural cost-share funds along with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as part of the Suwannee River Partnership to help agricultural producers implement best management practices. Best management practices help farmers conserve water and improve water quality in the District.

Beach Farms, Inc. has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program to implement portable fertigation systems and centralized remote controls for use across 446 acres of corn, peanuts, and watermelons in Gilchrist County. There is one funding source that will be used to execute this contract. The amount allocated by the funding source will not exceed \$300,000.

This project is located in the Suwannee Basin Management Action Plan Area, Fanning Manatee Priority Focus Area, and the Eastern Water Supply Planning Areas. The associated nutrient reduction estimate for this contract is 22,300 lbs. of nitrogen at land surface and a 4,014 lb. reduction of nitrogen to groundwater and the associated water savings estimate is 0.0531 million gallons per day.

Attachment A lists the cost share items and funding breakdown. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget.

SA/tm
Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

PRODUCER BEACH FARMS, INC
WATER USE PERMIT 250186, 226524, 215829, 220570, 219610,
 220972, 216430
BMAP SUWA
PFA Fanning Manatee
COUNTY Gilchrist

Reimbursable Rates for Cost-Share Equipment and Precision Agriculture Practices

Item	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Cost-Share per Unit	Producer quote per Unit if provided	No. of Units	Estimated Cost-Share Total	Producer Share	Completion Due Date
LPS0087 Program Agricultural Springs Protection					\$175,476.00		
GBD Portable Fertigation System	80%	\$12,800.00		7	\$89,600.00	\$22,400.00	1 year from effective date
GBD Centralized Remote-Control System	80%	\$12,268.00		7	\$85,876.00	\$21,469.00	1 year from effective date

FUNDING

Estimated PRODUCER Funds \$43,869.00

DEP Funding \$175,476.00

Contract Amount \$175,476.00

ATTACHMENT A

District Specifications

The PRODUCER shall not purchase, install, implement or complete the above authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER shall complete the purchase, installation and/or implementation of the authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES in accordance with the above schedule.

The PRODUCER shall be actively participating in the DISTRICT'S AUTOMATED WATER USE MONITORING PROGRAM prior to reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall maintain compliance with the associated Water Use Permit(s) for the duration of the contract.

All invoices and payments shall have dates showing when they were invoiced and paid. The dates for all financial transactions must coincide within the contract term to be eligible for reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall own or have control of the property where the EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES are located for the duration of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER has executed and maintains a current FDACS Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with Best Management Practices.

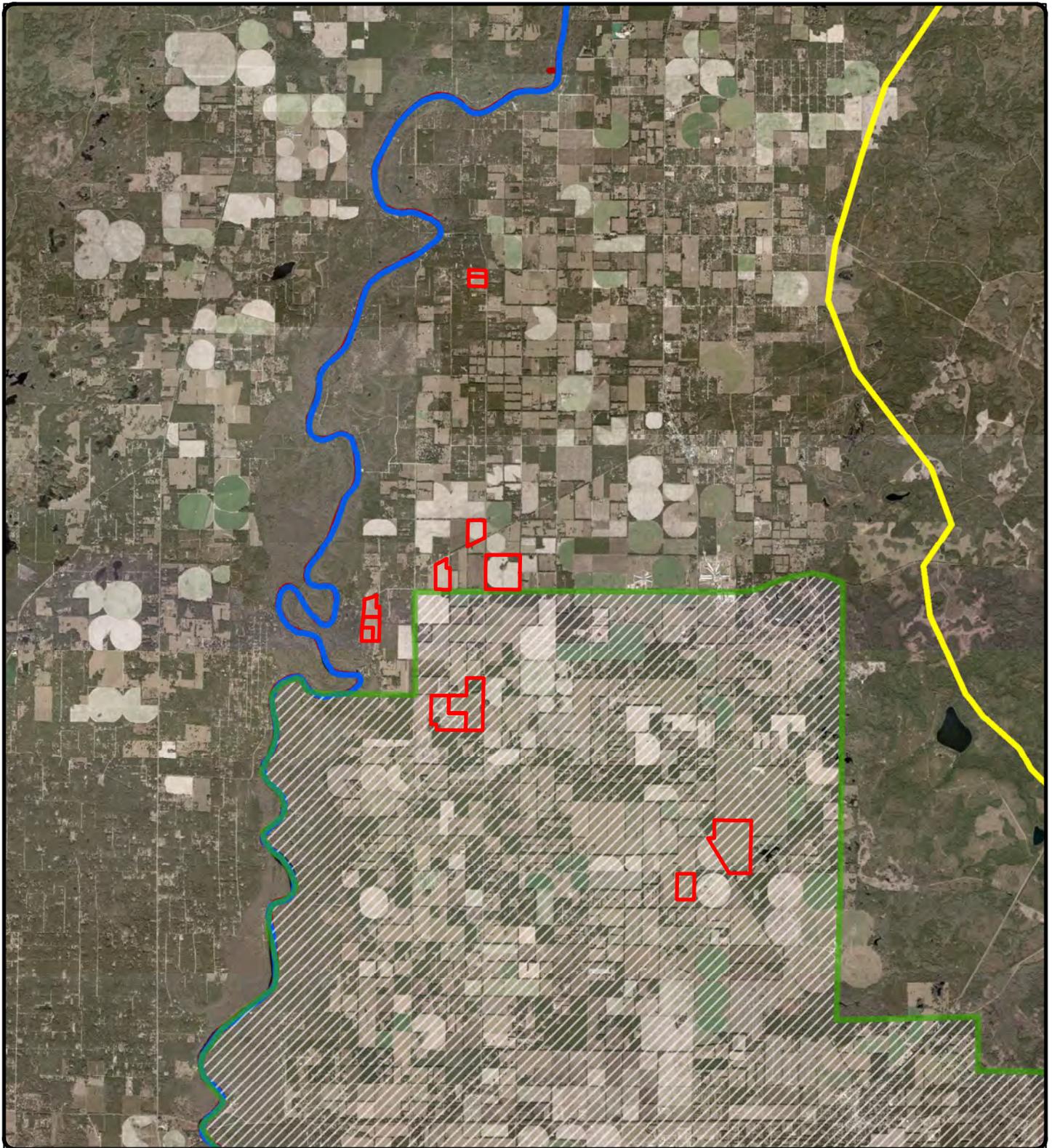
District Terms and Conditions

Centralized and Remote Monitoring/Controlling of Equipment:

Remote monitoring and controlling of irrigation equipment is used to assist producers with advanced monitoring and scheduling of irrigation events. This equipment provides the producer with real-time remote irrigation/weather information which alerts the producer of issues and allows for improved visibility on water usage and efficiency resulting in an overall water savings. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice and cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to vendor providing the equipment. District staff must also verify and photo document the equipment.

Fertigation Tank System

A fertigation tank system allows the producer to apply fertilizer through their existing irrigation infrastructure. The fertigation system should include a chemical storage tank, injector pump, safety valves, backflow prevention, trailer (for portable units) and associated plumbing. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice and cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to vendor providing the equipment. District staff must also verify and photo document the equipment.



- Beach Farms
- ▨ Fanning Manatee PFA
- Water Supply Planning Area - East
- Suwannee BMAP

Beach Farms, Inc. February 2025



Note: This map was created by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to be used for planning purposes only. SRWMD shall not be held liable for any injury or damage caused by the use of data distributed as a public records request regardless of their use or application. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of these data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. For more information please contact the SRWMD at 386-362-1001.
Map Created on 5/30/2024

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Michael Wilkerson, Levy and Gilchrist Counties

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Task Work Assignment with Michael Wilkerson to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$96,450 and a combined contract total not to exceed \$185,974.

BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has provided agricultural cost-share funds along with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as part of the Suwannee River Partnership to help agricultural producers implement best management practices. Best management practices help farmers conserve water and improve water quality in the District.

Michael Wilkerson has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Gilchrist, and Levy Counties. The original contract and Task Work Assignment was approved by the Executive director on January 27, 2025, and contained tissue sampling, grid soil sampling, and variable rate nutrient application. This new Task Work Assignment contains soil moisture probes service agreements and centralized remote controls for use across 300 acres of corn, melons, beans and peanuts in Levy and Gilchrist counties. There is two funding sources that will be used to execute this contract. The amount allocated by the funding source will not exceed \$300,000.

This project is located in the Suwannee Basin Management Action Plan Area, Fanning Manatee Priority Focus Area, and the Eastern and Western Water Supply Planning Areas. The associated water savings estimate is 0.0357 million gallons per day.

Attachment A lists the cost share items and funding breakdown. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget.

SA/tm
Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

PRODUCER MICHAEL J WILKERSON
 WATER USE PERMIT 218226, 218226
 BMAP SUWA
 PFA Fanning Manatee
 COUNTY Levy
 COUNTY Gilchrist

Reimbursable Rates for Cost-Share Equipment and Precision Agriculture Practices

Item	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Cost-Share per Unit	Producer quote per Unit if provided	No. of Units	Estimated Cost-Share Total	Producer Share	Completion Due Date
LPS0087 Program Agricultural Springs Protection					\$36,450.00		
LPS Soil Moisture Probes 2nd and 3rd year service agreements	75%	\$650.00		3	\$1,950.00	\$650.00	1 year from effective date
GBD Centralized Remote-Control System	75%	\$11,500.00		3	\$34,500.00	\$11,500.00	1 year from effective date
WS002 Program SRWMD AWS Pivot Retrofits					\$60,000.00		
GBD Center Pivot Retrofit	90%	\$12,000.00		5	\$60,000.00	\$6,666.67	1 year from effective date

FUNDING

Estimated PRODUCER Funds \$18,816.67

DEP Funding \$96,450.00

Contract Amount \$96,450.00

ATTACHMENT A

District Specifications

The PRODUCER shall not purchase, install, implement or complete the above authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER shall complete the purchase, installation and/or implementation of the authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES in accordance with the above schedule.

The PRODUCER shall be actively participating in the DISTRICT'S AUTOMATED WATER USE MONITORING PROGRAM prior to reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall maintain compliance with the associated Water Use Permit(s) for the duration of the contract.

All invoices and payments shall have dates showing when they were invoiced and paid. The dates for all financial transactions must coincide within the contract term to be eligible for reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall own or have control of the property where the EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES are located for the duration of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER has executed and maintains a current FDACS Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with Best Management Practices.

District Terms and Conditions

Center Pivot Retrofits

The producer must first select a Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) vendor to test the irrigation system. The MIL selected must follow the latest version of the MIL Handbook as developed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Office of Agricultural Water Policy. Deliverables should include at a minimum: A uniformity score (Weighted Distribution and Christiansen's), recommendations to improve irrigation uniformity, and a laminated sprinkler chart with center pivot information. The selected MIL must also update the State of Florida MIL program website in accordance with FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy guidelines. The District will only reimburse for equipment recommended by the MIL and only for equipment considered newer technology. The District will not reimburse for equipment considered maintenance. Equipment eligible for reimbursement includes more efficient nozzle packages, such as Senninger IWOBs or Nelson Rotators, pressure regulators, drop down hoses, adjusting end guns and other associated water savings features. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice, cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment, copies of the pre- and post-MIL evaluations, and pictures of the pivot before, during and after the retrofit.

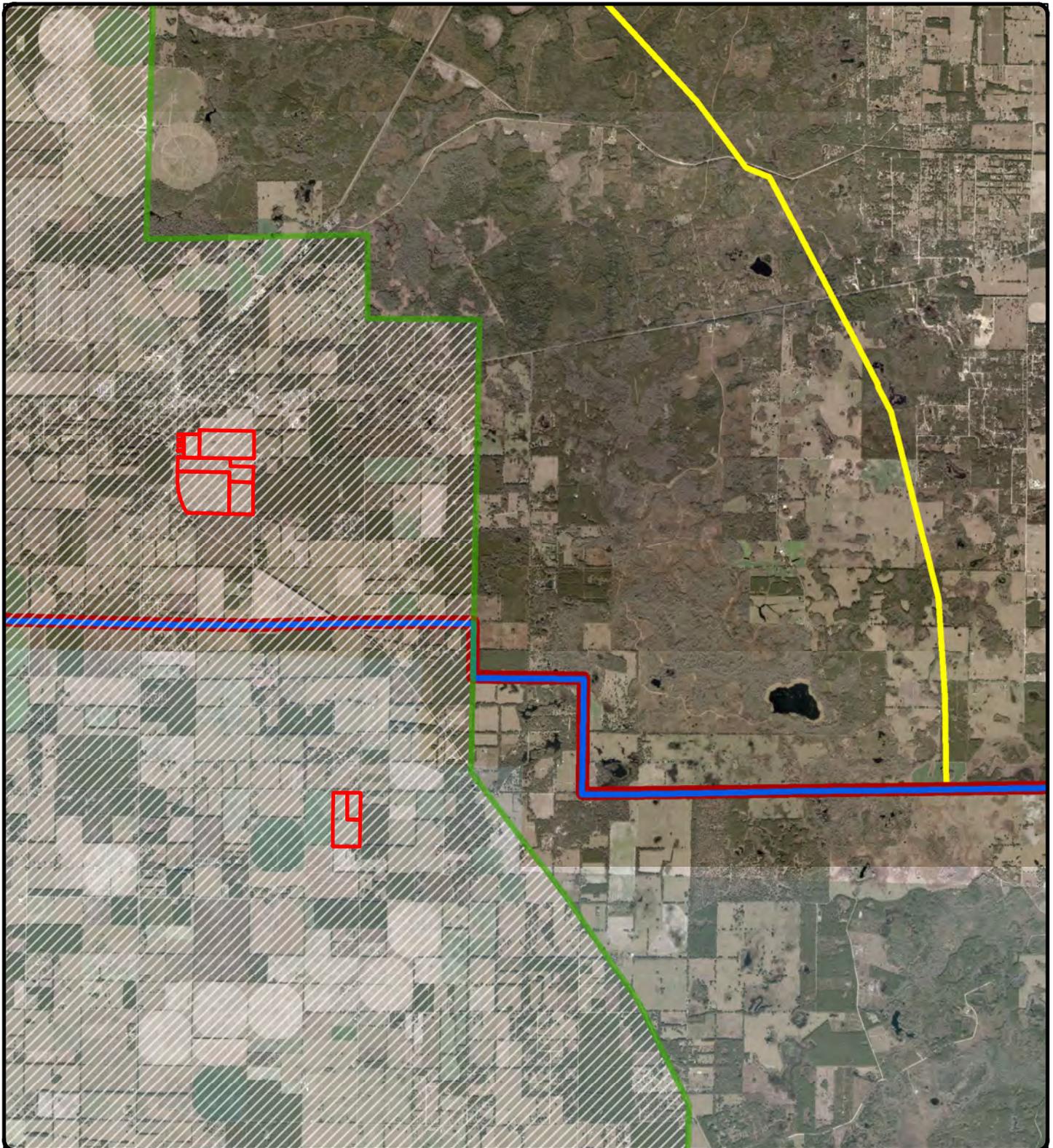
Centralized and Remote Monitoring/Controlling of Equipment:

Remote monitoring and controlling of irrigation equipment is used to assist producers with advanced monitoring and scheduling of irrigation events. This equipment provides the producer with real-time remote irrigation/weather information which alerts the producer of issues and allows for improved visibility on water usage and efficiency resulting in an overall water savings. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice and cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to vendor providing the equipment. District staff must also verify and photo document the equipment.

ATTACHMENT A

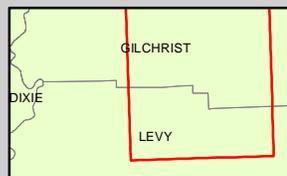
Soil Moisture probe service agreement

Soil moisture probes (or sensors) measure the soil moisture and electrical conductivity at varying depths within the soil profile, providing real-time data that allows the producer to make informed decisions on when to irrigate and how much irrigation water is needed. This technology when applied properly results in a more efficient and effective use of irrigation water in responding to the crops moisture needs. Probe installation should provide a remote access data platform and a service agreement to help the producer implement the technology. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice, cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor, installation locations, proof of data reporting, and pictures of the installed probe on an annual basis. For this item one unit is one probe.



- Michael Wilkerson
- Fanning Manatee PFA
- Water Supply Planning Area - East
- Suwannee BMAP
- Water Supply Planning Area - West

Michael Wilkerson February 2025



Note: This map was created by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to be used for planning purposes only. SRWMD shall not be held liable for any injury or damage caused by the use of data distributed as a public records request regardless of their use or application. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of these data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. For more information please contact the SRWMD at 386-362-1001.
Map Created on 5/30/2024

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Shenandoah Dairy, Inc., Suwannee County

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Task Work Assignment with Shenandoah Dairy, Inc to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$384,000 and a combined contract total not to exceed \$457,788.

BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has provided agricultural cost-share funds along with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as part of the Suwannee River Partnership to help agricultural producers implement best management practices. Best management practices help farmers conserve water and improve water quality in the District.

Shenandoah Dairy, Inc has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Suwannee County. The original contract and Task Work Assignment was approved by the Executive Director on January 24, 2025, and contained soil moisture probes, grid soil sampling, and variable rate nutrient application. This new Task Work Assignment contains a self-propelled nitrogen applicator, portable and stationary fertigation systems for use across 1,800 acres of corn, peanuts, and winter grains in Suwannee County. There are two funding sources that will be used to execute this contract. The amount allocated by one funding source, LP6103K, will exceed the \$300,000 threshold by \$19,188. The second funding source, LPS0087 will not exceed the threshold.

This project is located in the Suwannee Basin Management Action Plan Area, Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth Priority Focus Area, and the Eastern Water Supply Planning Areas. The associated nutrient reduction estimate for this contract is 90,000 lbs. of nitrogen at land surface and a 16,200 lb. reduction of nitrogen to groundwater.

Attachment A lists the cost share items and funding breakdown. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget.

SA/tm
Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

PRODUCER SHENANDOAH DAIRY, INC
WATER USE PERMIT 217514
BMAP SUWA
PFA Troy Peacock LafayetteBlue Falmouth
COUNTY Suwannee

Reimbursable Rates for Cost-Share Equipment and Precision Agriculture Practices

Item	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Cost-Share per Unit	Producer quote per Unit if provided	No. of Units	Estimated Cost-Share Total	Producer Share	Completion Due Date
LPS0087 Program Agricultural Springs Protection					\$84,000.00		
GBD Stationary Fertigation System	75%	\$9,000.00		8	\$72,000.00	\$24,000.00	1 year from effective date
GBD Portable Fertigation System	75%	\$12,000.00		1	\$12,000.00	\$4,000.00	1 year from effective date
LP6103K Program Precision Ag					\$300,000.00		
Self Propelled Nitrogen Applicator	75%	\$300,000.00		1	\$300,000.00	\$100,000.00	1 year from effective date

FUNDING

Estimated PRODUCER Funds \$128,000.00

DEP Funding \$384,000.00

Contract Amount \$384,000.00

ATTACHMENT A CONT.

***IF INVOICES FOR THESE ITEMS ARE SUBMITTED TOGETHER, AT THE SAME TIME, THE MAXIMUM PRECENTAGES AND DOLLAR AMOUNTS WILL BE REIMBURSED. OTHERWISE, REIMBURSEMENT WILL BEBASED ON THE SCHEDULE BELOW.**

BMP Irrigation Items	Precision Ag Practices
Centralized Remote Control	Grid Soil Sampling
Control Panel Upgrade	Tissue Sampling
GPS Endgun Shutoff	Variable Rate Nutrient Application
Portable Fertigation System	Any 1 - 75%
Pump Upgrade (High to Low Pressure	Any 2 - 80%
Remote Control (Radios)	All 3 - 85%
Stationary Fertigation System	
Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)	
Weather Station w/ ET Measurement	
Any 1 - 75%	
Any 2 - 80%	
Any 3 - 85%	
Any 4 - 90%	

ATTACHMENT A

District Specifications

The PRODUCER shall not purchase, install, implement or complete the above authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER shall complete the purchase, installation and/or implementation of the authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES in accordance with the above schedule.

The PRODUCER shall be actively participating in the DISTRICT'S AUTOMATED WATER USE MONITORING PROGRAM prior to reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall maintain compliance with the associated Water Use Permit(s) for the duration of the contract.

All invoices and payments shall have dates showing when they were invoiced and paid. The dates for all financial transactions must coincide within the contract term to be eligible for reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall own or have control of the property where the EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES are located for the duration of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER has executed and maintains a current FDACS Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with Best Management Practices.

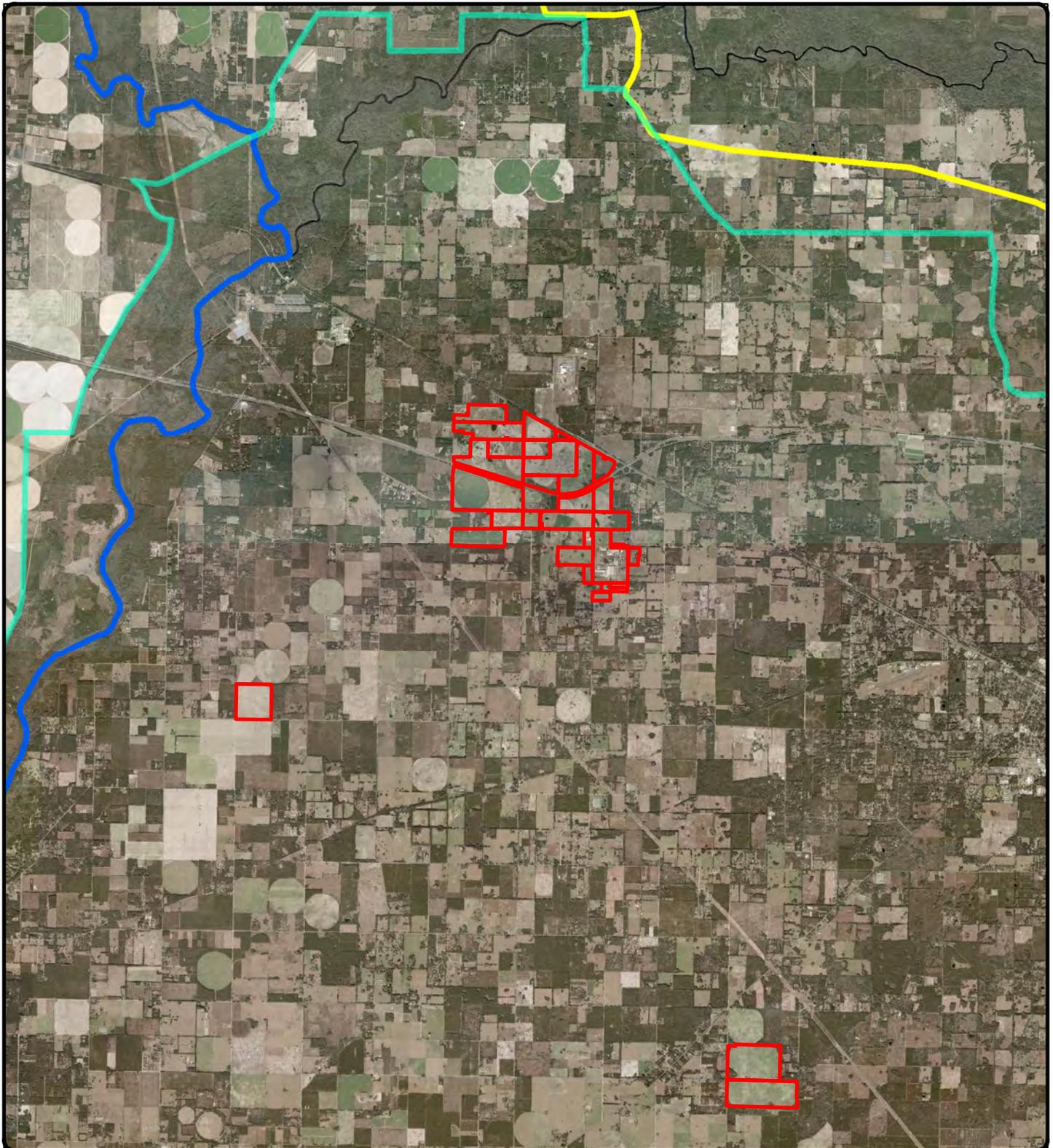
District Terms and Conditions

Fertigation Tank System

A fertigation tank system allows the producer to apply fertilizer through their existing irrigation infrastructure. The fertigation system should include a chemical storage tank, injector pump, safety valves, backflow prevention, trailer (for portable units) and associated plumbing. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice and cancelled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to vendor providing the equipment. District staff must also verify and photo document the equipment.

Side Dressing Equipment

Side dressing equipment allows growers to apply nutrients at an optimum placement in the field, either directly in the crop row or banded alongside the crop row, resulting in an overall reduction in nutrient application. This practice assists growers in placing the right source and amount at the right time and place. Cost-share is limited to 75% up to \$50,000 per implement unless otherwise agreed to by the District. The District must pre-approve equipment to be purchased. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the paid invoice and canceled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor providing the equipment. District staff must also verify and photo document equipment. For this item, one unit is one piece of side dressing equipment. The \$100,000 per year maximum is waived in the event an implement exceeds that cost.



Shenandoah Dairy, Inc.

February 2025



- Shenandoah_Dairy_Inc_UID454_FY25
- Water Supply Planning Area - East
- Suwannee BMAP
- Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth PFA



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Map Created on 5/30/2024

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC.,
Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$57,582 and a combined contract total not to exceed \$178,111.74.

BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has provided agricultural cost-share funds along with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as part of the Suwannee River Partnership to help agricultural producers implement best management practices. Best management practices help farmers conserve water and improve water quality in the District.

Sanchez Farms, LLC has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties. The original contract and Task Work Assignment (TWA) was approved by the Executive Director on January 30, 2025, and contained tissue sampling, grid soil sampling, and variable rate nutrient application for use across 6,389 acres of corn, peanuts, potatoes, watermelons, and grass. This new TWA contains variable rate nutrient application for use across 6,389 acres of corn, peanuts, potatoes, watermelons, and grass in Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties. There is one funding source that will be used to execute this contract. The amount allocated by the funding source will not exceed \$300,000.

This project is located in the Suwannee and Santa Fe River Basin Management Action Plan Areas, Fanning Manatee and Devils Ear Priority Focus Areas, and the Eastern and Western Water Supply Planning Areas. The associated nutrient reduction estimate for this contract is 319,900 lbs. of nitrogen at land surface and a 57,582 lb. reduction of nitrogen to groundwater.

Attachment A lists the cost share items and funding breakdown. Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget.

SA/tm
Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

PRODUCER SANCHEZ FARMS, LLC
 WATER USE PERMIT 220397, 216272, 220505, 216070, 220506,
 215986, 220780, 220840, 220609, 215826,
 221422, 218083, 220843, 220842, 216093,
 218405, 218606, 221880, 218388, 220558,
 220807, 221218, 220591, 221879
 BMAP SUWA, SAFE
 PFA Fanning Manatee, Devils Ear
 COUNTY Suwannee
 COUNTY Levy
 COUNTY Lafayette
 COUNTY Gilchrist
 COUNTY Dixie

Reimbursable Rates for Cost-Share Equipment and Precision Agriculture Practices

Item	Percent Cost-Share	Maximum Cost-Share per Unit	Producer quote per Unit if provided	No. of Units	Estimated Cost-Share Total	Producer Share	Completion Due Date
LP6103K Program	Precision Ag				\$57,582.00		
GBD Variable Rate Nutrient Application	75%	\$9.00		6398	\$57,582.00	\$19,194.00	1 year from effective date

FUNDING

Estimated PRODUCER Funds \$19,194.00

DEP Funding \$57,582.00

Contract Amount	\$57,582.00
------------------------	--------------------

ATTACHMENT A

District Specifications

The PRODUCER shall not purchase, install, implement or complete the above authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER shall complete the purchase, installation and/or implementation of the authorized EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURE PRACTICES in accordance with the above schedule.

The PRODUCER shall be actively participating in the DISTRICT'S AUTOMATED WATER USE MONITORING PROGRAM prior to reimbursement.

The PRODUCER shall maintain compliance with the associated Water Use Permit(s) for the duration of the contract.

All invoices and payments shall have dates showing when they were invoiced and paid. The dates for all financial transactions must coincide within the contract term to be eligible for reimbursement.

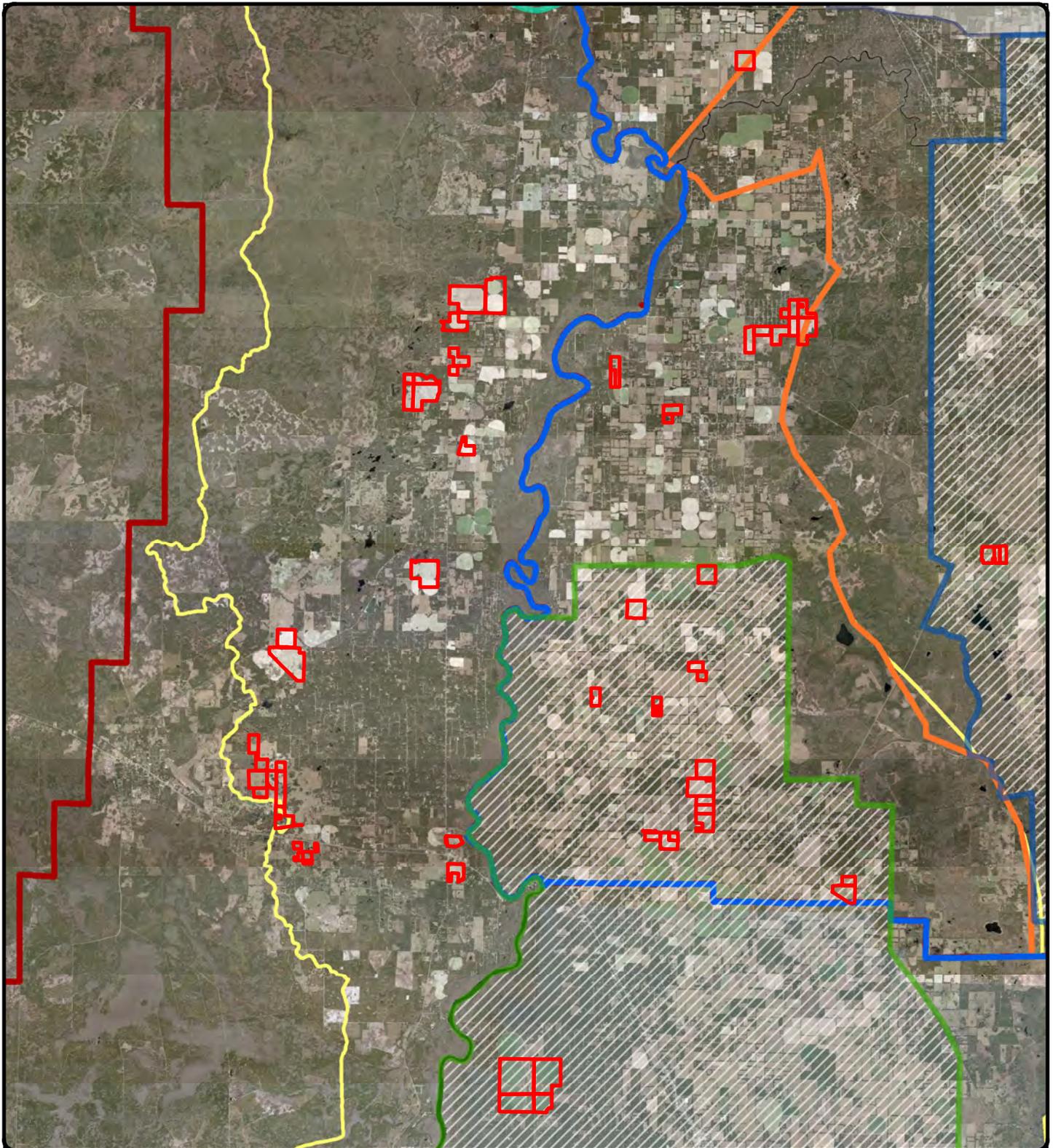
The PRODUCER shall own or have control of the property where the EQUIPMENT and/or PRECISION AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES are located for the duration of the CONTRACT.

The PRODUCER has executed and maintains a current FDACS Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with Best Management Practices.

District Terms and Conditions

Variable Rate Nutrient Application

Variable rate nutrient application allows growers to have nutrients applied to their fields at a variable rate based upon the results and recommendations of a grid soil sample analysis (see above: Grid Soil Sampling). Variable rate nutrient application allows growers to put the right source and amount at the right time and place, thus eliminating unnecessary nutrient application, and optimizing plant growth efficiency. Cost-share is limited to 75% up to \$9/acre/application, 2 applications/year. For reimbursement, the producer must provide a copy of the prescription map, the paid invoice, and canceled check (front and back) or some verifiable form of payment to the vendor providing the service. For this item one unit is one acre.



- Sanchez Farms, LLC
- Fanning Manatee PFA
- Devils Ear PFA
- Water Supply Planning Area - East
- Water Supply Planning Area - West
- Santa_Fe_BMAP
- Suwannee BMAP

Sanchez Farms, LLC

February 2025



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Map Created on 5/30/2024

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Pam Shaw, Chief, Office of Finance
THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services
DATE: January 31, 2025
RE: December 2024 Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the December 2024 Financial Report and confirm the expenditures of the District.

BACKGROUND

Section 373.553(1), Florida Statutes (F.S.), authorizes the delegation of authority by the Governing Board to the Executive Director to disburse District funds, providing certification is made to the Board at the next regular meeting that such disbursement is proper, in order, and within budgetary limits. In compliance with the statutory provisions in Chapter 373, F.S., the Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District has directed staff to prepare a financial report as attached.

PS/tm
Attachments

**Suwannee River Water Management District
Cash Report
December 2024**

Financial Institution/Account	Monthly Interest	Closing Balance
First Federal Permit Fee	\$33.89	\$37,082.60
First Federal Accounts Payable	\$54.35	\$35,000.00
First Federal EFT Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00
First Federal Depository	\$1,480.52	\$842,498.99
Florida PRIME (SBA LGIA)	\$19,992.19	\$5,027,329.37
First Federal ICS Custodian Account	\$58,089.87	\$18,168,195.61
Special Purpose Investment Account (SPIA)*	\$65,234.81	\$19,128,485.57
TOTAL	<u>\$144,885.63</u>	<u>\$43,238,592.14</u>

*SPIA is part of the Treasury Investment Pool administered by Florida Department of Financial Services.

**Suwannee River Water Management District
Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds
For the Month ending December 31, 2024
(Unaudited)**

	Current Budget	Actuals Through 12/31/2024	Variance (Under)/Over Budget	Actuals As A % of Budget
Sources				
Ad Valorem Property Taxes	\$ 7,094,781	\$ 4,883,596	\$ (2,211,185)	68.8%
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$ 59,799,239	\$ 350,975	\$ (59,448,264)	0.6%
Interest on Invested Funds	\$ 130,000	\$ 321,332	\$ 191,332	247.2%
License and Permit Fees	\$ 223,000	\$ 68,455	\$ (154,545)	30.7%
Other	\$ 1,410,288	\$ 674,144	\$ (736,144)	47.8%
Fund Balance ¹	\$ 11,309,970	\$ 36,148	\$ (11,273,822)	0.3%
Total Sources	\$ 79,967,278	\$ 6,334,651	\$ (73,632,627)	7.9%

	Current Budget	Expenditures	Encumbrances ²	Available Budget	%Expended	%Obligated ³
Uses						
Water Resources Planning and Monitoring	\$ 11,586,257	\$ 631,296	\$ 8,690,974	\$ 2,263,987	5%	80%
Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works	\$ 53,303,940	\$ 1,396,049	\$ 34,290,806	\$ 17,617,085	3%	67%
Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works	\$ 10,391,632	\$ 1,085,351	\$ 3,087,734	\$ 6,218,547	10%	40%
Regulation	\$ 2,335,426	\$ 306,194	\$ 49,600	\$ 1,979,633	13%	15%
Outreach	\$ 211,283	\$ 47,427	\$ 4,000	\$ 159,856	22%	24%
Management and Administration	\$ 2,138,740	\$ 415,643	\$ 95,095	\$ 1,628,002	19%	24%
Total Uses	\$ 79,967,278	\$ 3,881,960	\$ 46,218,209	\$ 29,867,110	5%	63%

¹ Actual Fund Balance used is recorded at the end of the fiscal year. This amount represents Fund Balance used for the Agricultural and RIVER Cost-Share, Regional Water Resource Development, and Project Effectiveness Metrics Programs.

² Encumbrances represent unexpended balances of open purchase orders, contracts, and task work assignments.

³ Represents the sum of expenditures and encumbrances as a percentage of the available budget.

This financial statement is prepared as of December 31, 2024 and covers the interim period since the most recent audited financial statements.

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - REVENUE AND EXPENSE ROLLUP (UNAUDITED)
FOR 12/31/2024**

	Y-T-D ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<u>Report Recap -</u>			
REVENUES			
DISTRICT REVENUES	5,947,527	0	8,858,069
LOCAL REVENUES	0	0	0
STATE REVENUES	319,858	0	52,326,239
FEDERAL REVENUES	31,118	0	7,473,000
FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION	36,148	0	11,309,970
TOTAL REVENUES	6,334,651	0	79,967,278
EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	1,506,167	0	8,987,702
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	1,189,651	22,300,271	26,484,784
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	517,852	140,573	2,588,248
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	79,792	53,736	288,044
FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY	69,720	58,451	10,551,000
INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES	518,778	23,665,178	31,067,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,881,960	46,218,209	79,967,278
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	2,452,691	(46,218,209)	0
<u>General Fund -</u>			
REVENUES			
DISTRICT REVENUES	5,203,013	0	6,528,787
LOCAL REVENUES	0	0	0
STATE REVENUES	14,135	0	4,632,000
FEDERAL REVENUES	0	0	0
FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION	0	0	2,862,739
TOTAL REVENUES	5,217,148	0	14,023,526
EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	1,282,703	0	7,816,845
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	54,047	1,252,535	2,952,675
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	293,439	58,154	1,683,792
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	53,736	149,714
FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	0
INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES	0	957,200	1,420,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,630,189	2,321,625	14,023,526
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	3,586,959	(2,321,625)	0
<u>Land Management Operations -</u>			
REVENUES			
DISTRICT REVENUES	674,144	0	2,329,282
LOCAL REVENUES	0	0	0
STATE REVENUES	69,323	0	5,660,119
FEDERAL REVENUES	0	0	30,000
FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION	0	0	2,667,231
TOTAL REVENUES	743,467	0	10,686,632
EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	223,404	0	1,165,305
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	488,167	2,506,819	4,031,489
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	224,413	82,419	855,508
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	79,792	0	113,330
FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY	69,720	58,451	3,551,000
INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES	0	440,000	970,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,085,496	3,087,689	10,686,632
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(342,029) *	(3,087,689)	0
<i>*To be reimbursed by State Appropriations</i>			

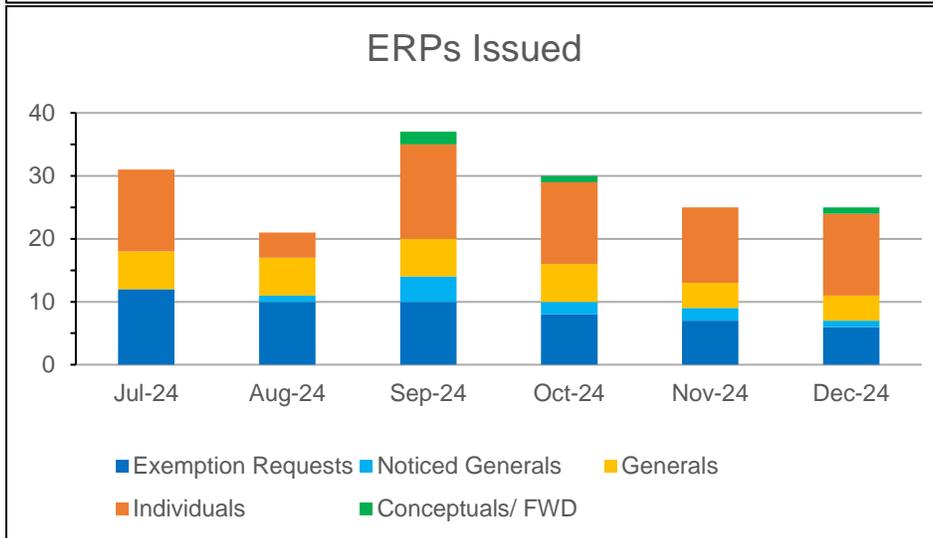
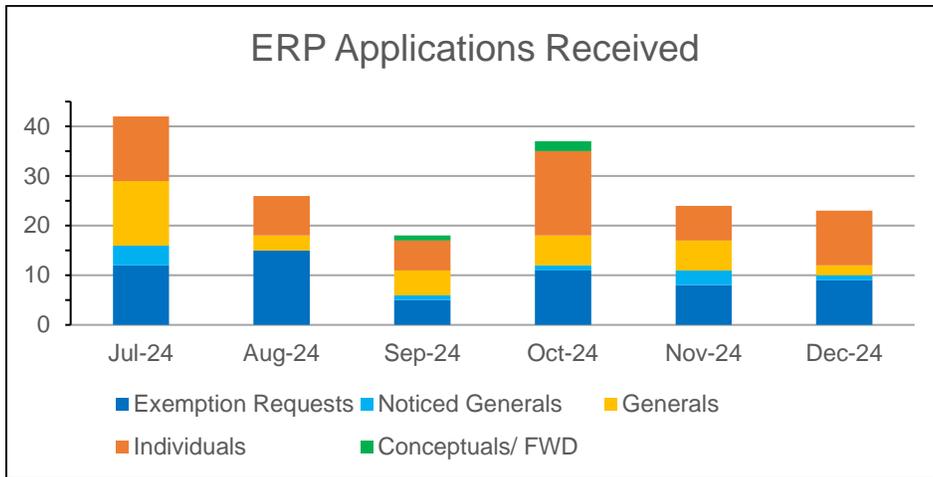
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - REVENUE AND EXPENSE ROLLUP (UNAUDITED)
FOR 12/31/2024

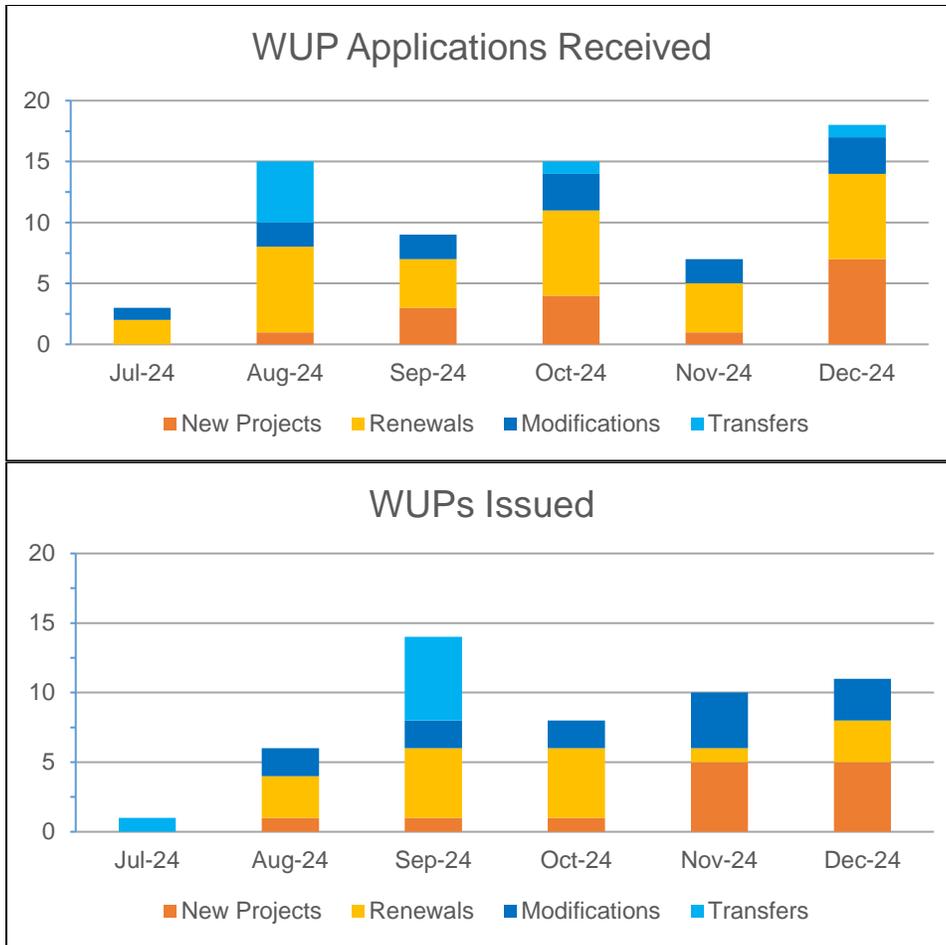
	Y-T-D ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<u>District Special Revenue -</u>			
REVENUES			
DISTRICT REVENUES	0	0	0
LOCAL REVENUES	0	0	0
STATE REVENUES	0	0	0
FEDERAL REVENUES	0	0	0
FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION	17,521	0	3,340,000
TOTAL REVENUES	17,521	0	3,340,000
EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	8,758	736,228	1,150,000
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	0	0	30,000
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	25,000
FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	0
INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES	8,764	1,193,501	2,135,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	17,522	1,929,729	3,340,000
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(1)	(1,929,729)	0
<u>State Special Revenue -</u>			
REVENUES			
DISTRICT REVENUES	70,370	0	0
LOCAL REVENUES	0	0	0
STATE REVENUES	236,400	0	42,034,120
FEDERAL REVENUES	0	0	0
FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION	18,627	0	2,440,000
TOTAL REVENUES	325,397	0	44,474,120
EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	0	0	5,552
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	607,561	10,831,135	13,915,620
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	0	0	10,948
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	0
FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	7,000,000
INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES	494,794	13,340,917	23,542,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,102,355	24,172,052	44,474,120
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(776,958) *	(24,172,052)	0
	<i>*To be reimbursed by State Grants</i>		
<u>Federal Special Revenue -</u>			
REVENUES			
DISTRICT REVENUES	0	0	0
LOCAL REVENUES	0	0	0
STATE REVENUES	0	0	0
FEDERAL REVENUES	31,118	0	7,443,000
FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION	0	0	0
TOTAL REVENUES	31,118	0	7,443,000
EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	59	0	0
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	31,118	6,973,554	4,435,000
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	0	0	8,000
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	0
FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	0
INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES	15,220	7,733,560	3,000,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	46,397	14,707,114	7,443,000
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(15,279) *	(14,707,114)	0
	<i>*To be reimbursed by Federal Grants</i>		

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

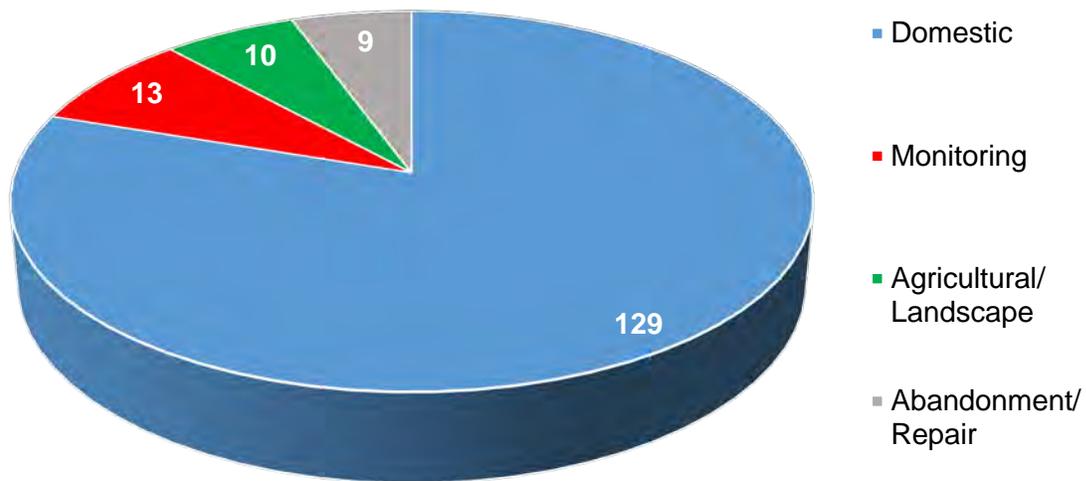
MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Leroy Marshall, Director, Resource Management/ Projects Division
THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services
DATE: January 31, 2025
RE: Permitting Summary Report





Water Well Permits Issued - December 2024



40B-0 Point of Entry into Proceedings

GB Authorized Rulemaking	TBD
Notice of Rule Development	
Public Workshop	
Notice of Proposed Rule	
Notice of Correction/ Change	
File with DOS	
Effective Date	

GB Authorized Rulemaking	
Notice of Rule Development	
Public Workshop	
Notice of Proposed Rule	
Notice of Correction/ Change	
File with DOS	
Effective Date	

GB Authorized Rulemaking	
Notice of Rule Development	
Public Workshop	
Notice of Proposed Rule	
Notice of Correction/ Change	
File with DOS	
Effective Date	

GB Authorized Rulemaking	
Notice of Rule Development	
Public Workshop	
Notice of Proposed Rule	
Notice of Correction/ Change	
File with DOS	
Effective Date	

ERP/ WUP Compliance Agreements:

None to report

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Leroy Marshall, Director, Resource Management/Projects Division

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report

Attached for your information is the Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report.

LMII/tm
Attachment

Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report

Period ending December 31, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS PROGRAM		
	Number of Contracts	Amount under contract
Active Contracts	27	\$ 28,556,122
Completed within the last 6 months	78	\$ 6,304,264
Totals	105	\$ 34,860,386

AGRICULTURAL COST-SHARE PROGRAM		
	Number of Contracts	Amount under contract
Active Contracts	117	\$ 9,918,913
Completed within the last 6 months	14	\$ 374,391
Totals	131	\$ 10,293,304

FLOOD RISK OUTREACH AND MAPPING PROGRAM		
	Number of Contracts	Amount under contract
Number of Contracts (TWAs)	12	\$ 6,880,106
Completed within the last 6 months	1	\$ 790,500
Totals	13	\$ 7,670,606
TOTAL CONTRACTS / TWAs	249	\$ 52,824,296

AEP APPLICATIONS	
	Number of Projects
Agriculture Applications under review	52
AWS and Springs	7
Conceptual Projects under review	16
Projects in Queue	3
TOTAL	78

AEP FUNDING SOURCES		
	Number of Grants	Grant amount provided
District	3	\$ 10,461,592
FDEP	36	\$ 58,683,926
Federal through FDEP	5	\$ 14,600,000
Federal (CTP Program)	7	\$ 11,359,417
Cooperator Match	-	\$ 12,666,986
TOTAL	51	\$ 107,771,921

FDEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
CTP	Cooperating Technical Partner (FEMA)
AEP	Agriculture and Environmental Projects
TWA	Task Work Order
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Leroy Marshall, Division Director, Resource Management/Projects

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Task Work Assignment with AtkinsRealis, Inc. for Federal Emergency Management Agency Fiscal Year 2024 Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning Program Services

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to execute a Task Work Assignment with AtkinsRealis for Federal Emergency Management Agency Fiscal Year 2024 Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning Program Project Management Consulting Services, for an amount not to exceed \$288,000.

BACKGROUND

The District has been a Cooperative Technical Partner (CTP) with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for over 20 years. As a CTP, the District receives funding annually from FEMA through the Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) Program to hire engineering firms who help local governments update and improve their floodplain maps and help increase the public's flood hazard awareness. In August 2024, the District was awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,043,000 to implement the Fiscal Year (FY 24) Risk MAP Mapping Activity Statement, Project Management and Community Outreach and Mitigation Strategies Scopes of Work. \$288,000 of the funding was allocated to AtkinsRealis, Inc. for Project Management Consultant (PMC) services in all District Basins.

In January 2020, the Governing Board approved Atkins as a qualified engineering firm to provide PMC services for FEMA FY 19 through FY 24 Risk MAP projects. The PMC firm helps the District manage all ongoing FEMA projects and is responsible for staying abreast of FEMA's changing rules and standards. They provide quality assurance and quality control for the data submitted by the product production consultants, coordinate public education and outreach for all FEMA related projects, and maintain the District's Flood Report Website. This Task Work Assignment will increase the total amount of the contract from \$1,823,371 to \$2,107,371.

The CTP program directly supports the District's core mission of reducing flood vulnerability. Firms invoice the District as they complete the work, and FEMA reimburses the District by direct deposit within days of submitting the invoices. Funds are included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Final Budget.

LM/tm

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Leroy Marshall, Division Director, Resource Management/Projects

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: January 31, 2025

RE: Agreement with the Waccasassa Water and Wastewater Cooperative

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into agreement with the Waccasassa Water and Wastewater Cooperative to implement the project.

BACKGROUND

A feasibility study was completed that identified an opportunity to regionalize water and wastewater infrastructure in Levy County. As a result of that study a special district was formed as the Waccasassa Water and Wastewater Cooperative (W3C). Benefits include providing a high-quality source of water from Bronson to Otter Creek, Cedar Key, and unincorporated areas of Levy County. The W3C will also allow wastewater from these communities to flow back to Bronson to be treated and returned to the aquifer reducing impacts associated with pumping as well as nutrient levels in the coastal aquaculture waters. Implementation of this project provides resilient infrastructure for the coastal and near-coastal communities.

The W3C has requested funding assistance for constructing a test well to assess the location's suitability to supply water for the W3C members. The well can be used as a production well for the final project. Analysis of the water will be used to determine the treatment level requirements for the proposed water treatment plant. This information is necessary to secure appropriate funding to design components needed for the final project.

The W3C has submitted a Request for Inclusion for a State Revolving Planning Grant to complete the facility plan. Funding for the test well in this agreement may be used as a not-to-exceed match of \$200,000 toward loan forgiveness.

KE/tm

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Leroy Marshall, Division Director, Resource Management/Projects
THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services
DATE: January 31, 2025
RE: Amendment to Agreement with the Town of Brooker

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to amend the contract agreement with the Town of Brooker. This amendment will extend the agreement end date and increase the contract to a not to exceed amount of \$209,128.32.

BACKGROUND

The Governing Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into agreement with the Town of Brooker in June 2024 to replace the town's aged water meters. Accurate water meters can identify customer leaks and reduce water loss as well as provide accurate billing. Funds for the project were from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's "Public Supply Efficiencies" grant and the District Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources (RIVER) grant.

The Town of Brooker ordered the residential meters and began installation. The town has installed 97 percent of the meters as of January 2025. The standard residential meter is 3/4-inch. During the installation, the town identified five existing meters that were 1-inch. The Town has requested to extend the contract by two months and an additional \$3,883.53 for the valves and associated materials to install the one-inch valves. The Town of Brooker is a REDI community.

Funds are available in the RIVER program.

KE/tm
Contract # 23/24-117

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Troy Roberts, Office Chief, Communications and Outreach
THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations
DATE: January 17, 2025
RE: Outreach and Communications Activity Summary

The following information summarizes Outreach and Communications activities for the month of December 2024:

Facebook	Twitter	Instagram
Total Posts: 12 Total Views: 33,759 Content Interactions: 413	Total Posts: 13 Total Impressions:	Total Posts: 7 Total Views: 999 Total Engagement: 75

Press Releases
<ul style="list-style-type: none">December 3 – Governing Board meetingDecember 10 – Hydrologic Conditions Report

Media Inquiries / Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">December 11 – Troy Roberts met with the Florida Specifier to discuss an article for its upcoming issue.

Meetings with Vendors / Consultants / Public
<ul style="list-style-type: none">December 2 – Troy Roberts met with Moore Communications Group to provide feedback for the 2025 District calendar.December 3 – Troy Roberts and staff met with BowStern for updates on the North Florida Water Resource Symposium.December 4 – Troy Roberts met with representatives from Florida Gateway College regarding hosting of the North Florida Water Resource Symposium.December 10 – Troy Roberts and staff met with BowStern for updates on the North Florida Water Resource Symposium.December 13 – Troy Roberts visited Florida Gateway College in Lake City and met with BowStern to tour the venue.December 18 – Troy Roberts and staff met with BowStern for updates on the North Florida Water Resource Symposium.

December Photo Highlight:

The SRWMD 2025 Calendar is now available! The full-color calendar highlights the beauty of our District, featuring amazing photographs taken by local photographers, as well as information about the District, local activities, conservation efforts, and more!



SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Troy Roberts, Chief, Office of Communications and Outreach
THUR: Katelyn Potter, Director, Division of Outreach and Operations
DATE: January 24, 2025
RE: 2025 Consolidated Annual Report

FOR INFORMATION

Transmittal of the 2025 Consolidated Annual Report.

BACKGROUND

Every year by March 1, the water management districts are required to submit the Consolidated Annual Report pursuant to Section 373.036, Florida Statutes.

The report is submitted to the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, state and county legislators, and the public.

The report includes the following plans, several of which require prior board approval (as indicated with an asterisk).

1. Strategic Plan* and Annual Work Plan Report
2. Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule*
3. Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan
4. Alternative Water Supply
5. Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program*
6. Waterbody Grades
7. Florida Forever Five-Year Work Plan*
8. Mitigation Donation Annual Report

The plan is available for reference on the District's website at and can also be found in the <https://www.mysuwanneeriver.com/15/The-District> District's records.

This memorandum serves to notify the Governing Board of the plan's transmittal to the required recipients and its posting to the District website.

TER/ao

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Troy Roberts, Chief, Office of Communications and Outreach
THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Office of Outreach and Operations
DATE: January 18, 2025
RE: 2025 Florida Forever Work Plan

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the 2025 Florida Forever Work Plan.

BACKGROUND

An annual update of the Florida Forever Work Plan is required by subsection 373.199(7), Florida Statutes (F.S.). The Florida Forever Act provides funding for land acquisition projects and water resource development and restoration projects. The update also reports on District land acquisition, land management, restoration projects, and water quality improvement projects.

Each year, the Florida Forever Work Plan Update is included in the District's Consolidated Annual Report due March 1, for submission to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Department of Environmental Protection, as required by subsection 373.036(7), F.S.

Specific actions and expenditures are considered and approved separately from, but in support of, the plan. Updates are made to the plan in draft form throughout the year and accepted annually by the Governing Board.

TER/ao
Attachment



2025 Florida Forever Work Plan

Suwannee River Water Management District

Contents

ADA Statement.....	2
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Progress of Funding, Staffing and Land Management.....	9

ADA Statement

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

Introduction

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

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

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

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

Proposed Florida Forever Funding

This annual update has been prepared with the assumption that there will be no new FF fund allocations through the planning period from FY2024-2025 to FY2028-2029.

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

Table 1. Actual Florida Forever Expenditures

Fiscal Year	Fee Acquisition Expenditures	Fee Acres Acquired	Conservation Easement Expenditures	Conservation Easement Acres Acquired	Water Resource Development	Restoration
2000-2001	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001-2002	\$4,117,869	30,477	\$5,643,127	12,960	-	-
2002-2003	\$1,158,661	564	\$3,382,632	5,026	-	-
2003-2004	\$3,565,225	1,761	\$1,517,048	2,023	-	-
2004-2005	\$3,792,645	2,661	-	-	-	-
2005-2006	\$648,440	123	-	-	-	-
2006-2007	\$13,082,288	4246	-	-	-	-
2007-2008	\$4,041,930	493	\$6,379,514	3,294	-	\$210,510
2008-2009	\$10,965,200	2,171	-	-	-	-
2009-2010	\$494,000	84	\$1,789,725	786	\$23,500	\$309,080
2010-2011	\$5,426,437	1,201	\$1,557,593	682	\$400,000	-
2011-2012	-	-	\$250,710	167	-	-
2012-2013	-	-	-	-	\$20,825	-
2013-2014	-	-	-	-	-	-
2014-2015	\$628,145	85	\$707,850	35	\$97,918	-
2015-2016	\$7,160	-	-	-	\$26,398	-
2016-2017	\$20,073	-	-	-	-	-
2017-2018	\$1,760,918	329	\$8,045	199	-	-
2018-2019	\$12,828	5.41	\$1,795	-	-	-
2019-2020	-	9.8	\$25,000	-	-	-
2020-2021	-	-	-	-	-	-
2021-2022	-	-	\$66,779	313	-	-
2022-2023	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$49,721,819	44,210	\$21,329,818	25,485	\$568,641	\$519,590

Modifications and Additions to the 2001 Florida Forever Work Plan

Water Resource Development

The District does not plan to use any new Florida Forever funds for water resource development projects during the planning period from FY2024-2025 to FY2028-2029. Past program expenditures for water resources development projects total \$568,641.

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

Restoration Projects

The District does not plan to use any new Florida Forever funds for restoration projects during the planning period from FY2024-2025 to FY2028-2029. Past program expenditures for water resources development projects totals \$519,590.

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

Land Acquisition and Land Management

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

The District does not plan to use any new Florida Forever funding for land acquisition-related expenses during the plan period from FY2024-2025 to FY2028-2029 as the funds have been exhausted. Program expenditures total \$71,051,637 for land acquisition.

The District coordinates with the state's Florida Forever program to evaluate projects within the District's boundary. The state's Florida Forever Priority List of projects is developed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) and approved by the Governor and Cabinet. The 2024 Florida Forever Project list is available at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/45c08483ceca4124946ef842225be06f>.

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

Table 3 summarizes fee and less than fee acres owned by the District as of December 2024.

*Table 3. Protected Lands by River Basins**

Basin	Fee Acres	Less Than Fee Acres	Potential Florida Forever Acquisition Project Acres
Alapaha	2,875	1,544	7,569
Aucilla/Wacissa	15,750	12,036	29,163
Coastal River/Econfina/Steinhatchee	49,974	52,675	38,533
Santa Fe/Ichetucknee	15,475	8,423	56,774
Suwannee	66,644	29,625	78,809
Waccasassa	5,267	24,160	13,608
Withlacoochee	6,420	16	13,379
Total	162,405	128,479	237,835

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

Land Acquisitions Completed

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

- Areas of high recharge adjacent to the Cody Escarpment: These areas provide the highest potential for identifying and/or locating natural recharge features in the vicinity of possible upgradient recharge water sources, with the intent of minimizing eventual water resource development project transmission and treatment costs.
- Areas of potentiometric high groundwater: These areas constitute the greatest relative benefit with respect to the duration of time that recharged or otherwise retained waters remain in the UFA, as well as maximizing groundwater gradients in springsheds.

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

- Preserving floodplain to maintain storage capacity, attenuate floodwaters, and mitigate flood risk;
- Protecting groundwater quality by maintaining low intensity land uses;
- Preserving natural buffers along water bodies where adjacent uses have a high potential to degrade surface water quality;
- Preserving and protecting springs and surrounding areas to protect and improve surface and

groundwater;

- and increasing recharge to the UFA via water resource development projects restoring natural hydrology in headwater swamps and increasing water retention for recharge enhancement.

Table 4. Acquisitions Closed in FY2024

Seller	Project	Acre	County	Date	Funding Source
Waldo Tree Farms	Fee Acquisition	44.5	Alachua	03.29.2024	Save Our Rivers

Land Acquisition Planned

The following table summarizes land acquisition transactions approved for detailed assessment in FY2024-2025 to FY2028-2029.

Table 5. Acquisition Projects Approved for Detailed Assessment

Seller	Project	Acres	County
Hodges	Conservation Easement	753	Levy
Dixon	Conservation Easement	40	Hamilton
Williams Family Investments, LLC	Conservation Easement	947	Levy
Taylor	Conservation Easement	941	Gilchrist

Surplus Lands

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

Table 6. Lands Approved for Surplus

Tract	Acres	County	Acquired Date	Funding	Surplus Approval Date
Falmouth North (8 lots)	6.51	Suwannee	04.24.1998	WMLTF	06.08.2010
Turtle Spring Surplus Tract	32	Lafayette	05.13.2015	Florida Forever	03.10.2015
Country Club Road	80	Columbia	07.01.2015	Enforcement Action	07.09.2019
Suwannee Run Shores	1.175	Dixie	12.30.1997	Save Our Rivers	08.13.2019

Three Rivers Estates	1	Columbia	12.30.1997	Save Our Rivers	08.13.2019
Forest Woodlands	11	Gilchrist	10.11.1996	Save Our Rivers	11.12.2019
Santa Fe Oasis	1	Gilchrist	04.28.1998	Save Our Rivers	05.12.2020
Newberry Wellfield	58.66	Alachua	01.11.2000	P-2000	04.14.2021
Santa Fe Springs	13	Suwannee	07.01.1998	Save Our Rivers	12.10.2024

Table 7. Surplus Lands and Easement Activity FY 2024					
Surplus/Easement Parcels	Acres	County	Disposition Date	Transaction	Proceeds
No surplus activity in FY2024					

Land Management Activities

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

A summary of annual land management activities is available in the Strategic Plan Annual Update within the Consolidated Annual Report on www.mysuwanneeriver.com.

Special Use Authorizations

As authorized in 40B-9.1411 F.A.C., District staff may issue special use authorizations (SUA) which are meant to provide individuals or groups to use District lands on a temporary basis for compatible activities that are either not covered in District’s Land Management Plan (DLMP) or which require special access. Governing Board Program Directives 25-0003 and 24-0004 provides guidance on how the public can apply for an SUA and enables District staff to respond to requests received from the public in a fair, consistent and timely manner.

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

A total of 592 SUAs were issued during FY 2024.

Recreation SUA	Temporary Ingress/Egress	Non-Recreational	Goose Pasture Camping	Mallory Swamp ATV Trail
258	39	17	177	101

Progress of Funding, Staffing and Land Management

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

Budget Area	FY2021 Budget	FY2022 Budget	FY2023 Budget	FY2024 Budget	FY25 Budget
FTEs	7	7	7	7	7
Land Management	\$4,547,449	\$4,681,665	\$4,617,181	\$5,583,052	\$5,899,438

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations
THRU: Hugh Thomas, Executive Director
DATE: February 3, 2025
RE: Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report

Attached for your information is the Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report.

KP/ao
Attachment

Land Acquisition and Disposition Report

Authorized for Surplus									
Tract	Acres	County	Acquired Date	Funding	Lands Committee Date	Governing Board Date	Price	Appraisal Date	Comments
Falmouth North (8 lots)	6.51	Suwannee	04.24.1998	WMLTF	--	06.08.2010	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Turtle Spring Surplus Tract	32	Lafayette	05.13.2015	Florida Forever	--	03.10.2015	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Country Club Road	80.69	Columbia	07.01.2015	N/A	--	07.09.2019	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Suwannee Run Shores	1.175	Dixie	12.30.1997	Save Our Rivers	07.09.2019	08.13.2019	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Three Rivers Estates	1	Columbia	12.30.1997	Save Our Rivers	07.09.2019	08.13.2019	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Forest Woodlands	11	Gilchrist	10.11.1996	Save Our Rivers	10.11.2019	11.12.2019	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Santa Fe Oasis	1	Gilchrist	04.28.1998	Save Our Rivers	09.21.2020	05.12.2020	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Newberry Wellfield	58.66	Alachua	01.11.2000	P-2000	03.09.2021	04.14.2021	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Pending final review with legal and City of Newberry.
Santa Fe Springs Tract	13	Suwannee	07.01.1998	Save Our Rivers	12.10.2024	01.14.2025	TBD by appraisal update.	TBD	Available for purchase.
Approved for Detailed Assessment									
Project Name	Acres	County	Submittal Date	Asking Price	Acquisition Type	Lands Committee Date	Governing Board Date	Comments	
1. Johnny Taylor	941	Gilchrist	07.2023	TBD based on appraisal	Conservation Easement	09.25.23	10.10.23	Appraisals received, offer made, undergoing negotiations.	
2. Lena Dixon	40	Hamilton	01.2023	TBD based on appraisal	Conservation Easement	05.09.23	06.13.23	Appraisals received, offer made, undergoing negotiations.	
3. Williams Family Investments, LLC.	947	Levy	06.2023	TBD based on appraisal	Conservation Easement	09.25.23	10.10.23	Project pending funding.	
4. Hodges	753	Levy	03.2023	TBD based on appraisal	Conservation Easement	05.09.23	06.13.23	Project pending funding.	
5. Leland Wright	149	Gilchrist	05.2024	Donation	Conservation Easement	07.09.24	08.13.24	Easement terms sent to landowner, pending return. Once complete, will begin due diligence.	

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Katelyn Potter, Director, Division of Outreach and Operations

THRU: Hugh Thomas, Executive Director

DATE: January 23, 2025

RE: Resolution 2025-01, Conveyance of District-Owned LA Bennett Road to Lafayette County

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Resolution 2025-01, conveying the portion of LA Bennett Road owned by the District within the Steinhatchee Springs Tract to Lafayette County.

BACKGROUND

In 1991, the District purchased a portion of the Steinhatchee Springs Tract that includes a portion of LA Bennett Road (also known as South Canal Road) from Foley Land and Timber Company (Foley). At the time of purchase, Foley retained an access easement over the portion of road with ownership transferring to the District.

Foley Land and Timber, now Four Rivers Land & Timber Company LLC (Four Rivers) maintained ownership of the remaining portion of LA Bennett Road.

The road has primarily been maintained by Lafayette County and is used frequently by local residents.

The portion of road owned by the District includes a bridge, known as the LA Bennett Bridge. The Florida Department of Transportation is repairing several bridges in the area, including the LA Bennett Road Bridge.

Four Rivers has been working to convey its ownership of LA Bennett Road to Lafayette County who has agreed to take ownership.

Conveyance of the District-owned portion of the road to Lafayette County is needed to proceed with the permitting associated with bridge repair and grant full road ownership to the county.

The District will retain an access easement over its current ownership to ensure accessibility to the Steinhatchee Springs Tract.

The conveyance is consistent with 373.056, Florida Statutes which authorizes transfers of District land to other public agencies where it is found to be in the public interest.

A map of the road to be conveyed is attached.

KCP/ao
Attachments

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-01

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONVEYANCE OF LAND LOCATED IN
LAFAYETTE COUNTY OWNED BY THE SUWANNEE RIVER WATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT TO LAFAYETTE COUNTY**

WHEREAS the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) owns a portion of road identified as LA Bennett Road (also known as South Canal Road) within its Steinhatchee Springs Tract, located in Lafayette County, Florida as described in Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS the road has been maintained by Lafayette County; and

WHEREAS in January 2025, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection requested ownership of the road be conveyed to Lafayette County to allow for bridge repairs; and

WHEREAS Lafayette County has agreed to take ownership of the portion of road owned by the District; and

WHEREAS it is mutually beneficial to the District and Lafayette County that fee ownership of the road be transferred to Lafayette County; and

WHEREAS the District will be granted an ingress and egress easement over the portion being conveyed by the District to manage and maintain the surrounding property; and

WHEREAS said conveyance is consistent with sections 373.056, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS said conveyance is in the public interest and for the public benefit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the District, that:

1. The above statements are hereby certified and declared to be true and correct, and the conveyance of said lands are hereby further certified to be consistent with Section 373.056, Florida Statutes.
2. The Chair and Secretary of the Governing Board, the Executive Director, the Governing Board attorney and all other officers and employees of the District are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to close and complete the acquisition.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
BY ITS GOVERNING BOARD**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

**VIRGINIA H. JOHNS, CHAIR
RICHARD SCHWAB, VICE CHAIR
CHARLES KEITH, SECRETARY/TREASURER
WILLIAM LLOYD
LARRY SESSIONS
HARRY SMITH
LARRY THOMPSON
GEORGE WHEELER**

ATTEST:

ATTACHMENT A

DISTRICT PROPERTY LEGAL DESCRIPTION

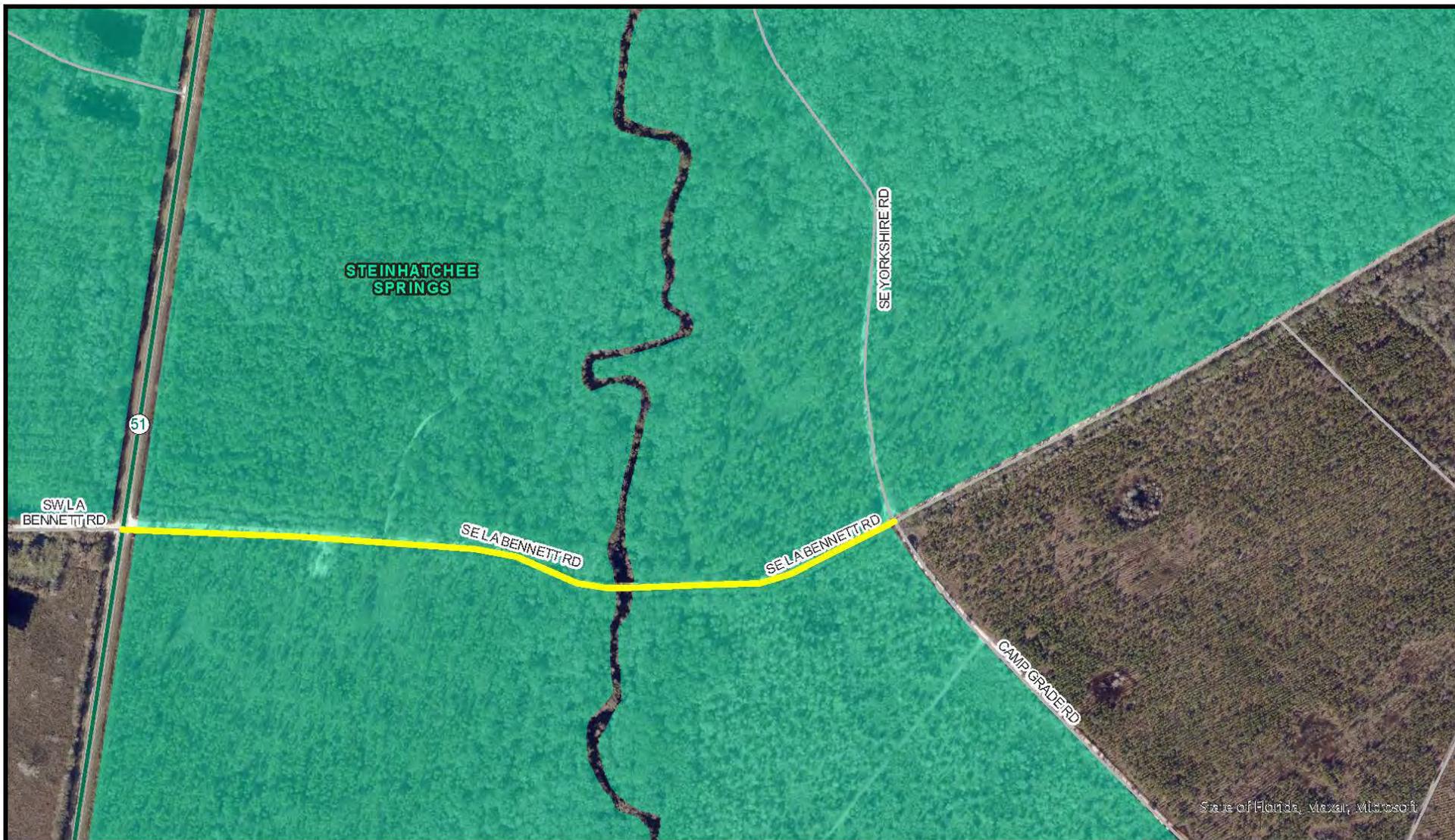
The Land referred to herein below is situated in the County of Lafayette, State of Florida, and is described as follows:

PARCEL 2 (40' WIDE STRIP OF LAND)

THAT PORTION OF A ROAD KNOWN AS L.A. BENNETT ROAD FROM THE POINT WHERE IT INTERSECTS WITH STATE ROAD NO. 51 IN THE WEST ONE-HALF OF SECTION 34 AND CONTINUES IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION INTO THE EAST ONE-HALF OF SECTION 34 WHERE IT INTERSECTS WITH JONES GRADE CUT-OFF, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 10 EAST, LAFAYETTE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

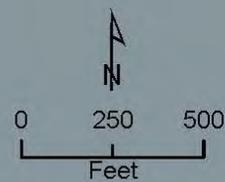
LESS AND EXCEPT: LAND CONVEYED TO THE NATURE CONSERVANCY AS DESCRIBED IN O.R. 85, PAGES 438-442 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY, FL; LAND CONVEYED TO SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED IN O.R. 114, PAGES 229-255, O.R. 122, PAGES 88-99, AND O.R. 127, PAGES 249-264 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY, FL.

FURTHER LESS AND EXCEPT: ALL SOVEREIGNTY LANDS.



LA Bennett Road Conveyance to Lafayette County with Retained Access Easement

-  SRWMD Ownership
-  SW LA Bennett Rd (SRWMD-Owned to be conveyed)



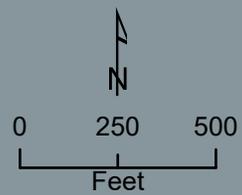
Note: This map was created by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to be used for planning purposes only. SRWMD shall not be held liable for any injury or damage caused by the use of data distributed as a public records request regardless of their use or application. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of these data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. For more information please contact the SRWMD at 386-362-1001. Map Created 1/23/2025



State of Florida, Maxar, Microsoft

LA Bennett Road Conveyance to Lafayette County with Retained Access Easement

-  SRWMD Ownership
-  SW LA Bennett Rd (SRWMD-Owned to be conveyed)



Note: This map was created by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to be used for planning purposes only. SRWMD shall not be held liable for any injury or damage caused by the use of data distributed as a public records request regardless of their use or application. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of these data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. For more information please contact the SRWMD at 386-362-1001. Map Created 1/23/2025

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Lorna Radcliff, Chief, Office of Land Management

THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations

DATE: January 23, 2025

RE: Land Management Update Report

BACKGROUND

The following information summarizes land management activities cumulative as of December 31, 2024.

Natural Communities Management: The following tables represent activities that support overall natural community restoration and management across District lands.

Vegetative Management (acres)	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Herbicide Treatments	117	0	0.0%
Mechanical Treatments	3,214	460	14%
Mallory Swamp Mechanical Treatments	894	0	0.0%

Prescribed Fire (acres)	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
SRWMD	10,650	145	1%
FFS - Twin Rivers State Forest	700	0	0.0%

Invasive Plant Treatment	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Edwards Bottomland (acres)	7.11	0	0%
Contractors (acres)	145.83	0	0%
Starke Bypass (acres)	100	0	0%

Ecological Services Monitoring	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Rare Plants Monitoring (acres)	2,269	0	0%
Wading Bird Rookeries (sites)	13	0	0%
Natural Community Mapping (acres)	313	0	0%
Gopher Tortoise Surveys (acres)	160	26	16%

Timber Harvests	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Acreage Sold	1,764	2,462	139%
Revenue (estimated)	\$1,064,000	\$476,221.56	44%

Current Timber Sales	County	Acreage	Type	Status or Revenue
Sandlin Bay #9	Columbia	374	Thinning	Inactive
Woods Ferry #7	Suwannee	155	Thinning	Inactive
Cuba Bay #4	Madison	51	Thinning	Inactive
Steinhatchee Springs #24	Lafayette	192	Thinning	Inactive
Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 1	Lafayette	128	Salvage Clearcut	Inactive
Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 2	Lafayette	419	Salvage Clearcut	Active
Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 3	Lafayette	117	Salvage Clearcut	Active
Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 4	Taylor	102	Salvage Clearcut	\$81,103.50
Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 5	Dixie	204	Salvage Clearcut	Active
Hurricane Helene TRSF Salvage 1	Madison	154	Salvage Clearcut	Inactive
Hurricane Helene TRSF Salvage 2	Madison	124	Salvage Clearcut	\$86,008.62
Hurricane Helene TRSF Salvage 3	Hamilton	114	Salvage Clearcut	Active
Hurricane Helene TRSF Selective Salvage Withlacoochee	Hamilton	210	Salvage Damaged Wood Only	Harvesting Complete
Hurricane Helene TRSF Selective Salvage Ellaville	Madison	592	Salvage Damaged Wood Only	Contract Pending
Hurricane Helene TRSF Selective Salvage Anderson Springs	Suwannee	219	Salvage Damaged Wood Only	Contract Pending

Restoration	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Reforestation (acres)	293	0	0%

Land Management: The following tables represent tract and land management activities on the District's fee and less-than-fee owned properties.

Conservation Easements	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Monitor Current Easements	13	0	0%

Hydrologic & Road Maintenance	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Culvert Replacements	3	0	0%
Road maintenance (miles)	144	23.00	16%

Tract Maintenance	FY 2025 Planned	Reporting Period Completed	Percent Complete
Mowing (total miles)	1,710	150.47	9%
Site Maintenance (total visits)	2,736	296	11%
Enhanced Patrols (hours)	800	188	24%
Sign Replacements	51	0	0%
Boundary Line Painting (miles)	115.4	0	0%

Special Projects

The following information provides a status update on special projects within the Office of Land Management.

Mount Gilead Tract: EUTAW, Inc provided an estimate for design to update and fortify the boat ramp. Project is on hold pending hurricane repairs at other sites.

Owen Springs Tract: The project is to improve public accessibility and reduce impacts to the natural system is underway. The heavy daylighting of main roads is completed. Reconfiguration of the parking area to increase parking spaces and improved access to the spring to reduce erosion are both planned.

Rock Bluff: Gray Construction Services, Inc replaced an aged septic system with an enhanced septic system, updated the water system, and upgraded the electrical system. The final walk-thru with Gray Construction was conducted on January 13. The project is complete.

Starke Bypass Mitigation Area: The final version of the annual monitoring report generated by FLDOT contractors was submitted. The report shows a continued overall trend towards success in meeting objectives listed in the wetland restoration plan. The 2025 work plan has also been submitted by the District's contractor and is currently under review.

Steinhatchee Falls: Topographic surveys and geotechnical investigations for the boat ramp reconstruction are complete. Preliminary site plans have been developed. Site design and engineering is 90 percent complete. FDEP and ACOE permits were submitted in August.

Telford Spring: In July, the District opened Telford Spring to the public. EUTAW, Inc has completed a conceptual plan to improve parking and public access. The initial phase to develop the parking lot is planned.

Storm Facility Repairs: Hurricane Debby and Hurricane Helene have damaged public use areas to varying degrees. Eight sites are currently undergoing plans for assessment and construction costs to repair. The sites under assessment are Suwannee Springs, Falmouth Springs, Owen Springs, Steinhatchee Falls, Blue Sink, Atsena Otie Key, and Lukens. FEMA is scheduling a site inspection for each facility damaged. Falmouth Springs remains closed due to damage to the boardwalk.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Sean King, Chief, Office of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels

THRU: Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, Division of Water Resources

DATE: January 13, 2025

RE: Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the United State Geological Survey to conduct a four-year Gulf sturgeon study for an amount not to exceed \$599,986.

BACKGROUND

The District is in the process of establishing minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs) for the Upper and Middle Suwannee River reaches. These river reaches are inhabited by the Gulf sturgeon, which is federally listed as a threatened species. Gulf sturgeon are a large anadromous fish that migrate from the Gulf of Mexico into the upper reaches of freshwater rivers for spawning. Gulf sturgeon require sufficient water depths to pass over shoals to access spawning areas, and their flow requirements for passage have been identified as a limiting factor in the draft MFL technical work for the Upper and Middle Suwannee River.

District staff have collaborated with United States Geological Survey (USGS) fish biologists from the Wetland and Aquatic Research Center in Gainesville, Florida to use the best available information to conduct MFL analyses for Gulf sturgeon passage. These USGS biologists have spent decades studying Gulf sturgeon, particularly in the Suwannee River where they have been using acoustic tags to track their movement since 2007. This dataset was used to estimate the critical flows required for Gulf sturgeon passage over shoals in the Upper and Middle Suwannee River, and the duration and frequency that these flows are needed for sufficient access to spawning areas.

The USGS biologists have proposed a four-year study that will focus on collecting and analyzing data to further refine the draft MFL analyses for Gulf sturgeon passage. The proposed study would build on previous work by augmenting the acoustic array to focus on specific shoals that periodically limit Gulf sturgeon passage to upstream spawning areas. This work will also include a three-year mark-recapture study for juvenile Gulf sturgeon and a population viability analysis that will provide comprehensive information about how river flows affect Gulf sturgeon populations. The results of this four-year study will be used to develop robust and defensible MFL analyses that District staff will incorporate into future MFL reports.

Funding for the first year of this contract is included in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Final Budget. Subsequent years of funding will be contingent upon Board approval of the budget each fiscal year. The USGS will be contributing approximately \$28,800 of equipment as an in-kind match.

SK/ao