



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

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

Open to Public

August 12, 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 - July 8, 2025, Governing Board Meeting and Workshop Minutes
 - Agenda Item No. 10 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with SanRiver Farms, LLC, Suwannee County
 - Agenda Item No. 11 - Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Dusty Cone Farms, LLC, Hamilton County
 - Agenda Item No. 12 - Extension of Insurance Broker Services
 - Agenda Item No. 13 - Employee Health Care Insurance Coverages for Calendar Year 2026
 - Agenda Item No. 14 - June 2025 Financial Report
 - Agenda Item No. 18 - Denial of Environmental Resource Permit WOD-121-250773-1, Thelen Residence, Suwannee County
 - Agenda Item No. 22 - Intergovernmental Conveyance and Removal from Surplus for the Ellaville Tract, Madison County
 - Agenda Item No. 24 - Task Work Assignment with Lieupo's Maintenance Group, LLC for Recreation Maintenance Services for Fiscal Year 2025-2026
 - Agenda Item No. 25 - Task Work Assignment with 3G Environmental Services, LLC for Ditch Mowing on District Lands for Fiscal Year 2025-2026
 - Agenda Item No. 26 - Task Work Assignment with Sunshine Outdoor Services, LLC for Road and Hydrological Facility Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026
 - Agenda Item No. 27 - District Land Management Plan
 - Agenda Item No. 32 - Task Work Assignment with WSP USA, Inc.
 - Agenda Item No. 33 - Task Work Assignment with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc
6. July 8, 2025 Governing Board Meeting and Workshop Minutes - **Recommend Consent**

7. Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations
 - A. Hydrologic Conditions Report
 - B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations
 - C. Service Recognitions: Louis Mantini (25 Years of Service)
Tilda Musgrove (15 Years of Service)
Vince Robinson (15 Years of Service)
Tyler Jordan (10 Years of Service)
Bo Cameron (5 Years of Service)

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 SanRiver Farms, LLC, Suwannee County – Recommend Consent |
| BCS Page 5 | 11. Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Dusty Cone Farms, LLC, Hamilton County – Recommend Consent |

Human Resources

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| BCS Page 9 | 12. Extension of Insurance Broker Services – Recommend Consent |
| BCS Page 10 | 13. Employee Health Care Insurance Coverages for Calendar Year 2026 – Recommend Consent |

Finance

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| BCS Page 11 | 14. June 2025 Financial Report – Recommend Consent |
| BCS Page 16 | 15. Resolution Number 2025-07, Release of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 State Appropriations |
| BCS Page 19 | 16. Resolution Number 2025-08, Fund Balance Classifications for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 |

Resource Management

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| BCS Page 23 | 17. Permitting Summary Report |
|-------------|-------------------------------|

Environmental Resource Permitting

- BCS Page 26 18. Denial of Environmental Resource Permit WOD-121-250773-1, Thelen Residence, Suwannee County – **Recommend Consent**

Environmental Projects

- BCS Page 30 19. Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS
Katelyn Potter, Division Director

Communications and Outreach

- OPS Page 1 20. Outreach and Communications Activity Summary

Land Acquisition

- OPS Page 3 21. Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report
- OPS Page 7 22. Intergovernmental Conveyance and Removal from Surplus for the Ellaville Tract, Madison County – **Recommend Consent**

Land Management

- OPS Page 9 23. Land Management Update Report
- OPS Page 13 24. Task Work Assignment with Lieupo's Maintenance Group, LLC for Recreation Maintenance Services for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 - **Recommend Consent**
- OPS Page 14 25. Task Work Assignment with 3G Environmental Services, LLC for Ditch Mowing on District Lands for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 – **Recommend Consent**
- OPS Page 15 26. Task Work Assignment with Sunshine Outdoor Services, LLC for Road and Hydrological Facility Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 – **Recommend Consent**
- OPS Page 16 27. District Land Management Plan – **Recommend Consent**

WATER RESOURCES
Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director

28. Water Resources Division Updates
29. Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Update

Water Supply

30. Annual Water Use Update

Water Resources

- WR Page 1 31. Interagency Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey
- WR Page 4 32. Task Work Assignment with WSP USA, Inc. – **Recommend Consent**
- WR Page 5 33. Task Work Assignment with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. – **Recommend Consent**

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Hugh Thomas, Executive Director

34. Announcements
35. Governing Board Comments

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at District Headquarters in Live Oak, Florida

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| August 19, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. | Governing Board Tour Clay County Utility Authority 3176 Old Jennings Road' Middleburg, FL |
| September 9, 2025 | 3:00 p.m. 5:05 p.m. | Board Meeting First Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Millage and Budget |
| September 22, 2025 (MONDAY) | 3:00 p.m. 5:05 p.m. | Workshops and/or Committee Meetings Final Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Millage and Budget |

Workshops and Committee Meetings will begin following the Board Meeting unless otherwise noted.

36. 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.



AGENDA

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD WORKSHOP(S)

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

Open to Public

August 12, 2025
Following Board Meeting

District Headquarters
Live Oak, Florida

- District Springs Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Update



**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.

July 8, 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 | | X | |
| At Large | Vacant | | - | - |

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 – Governing Board Secretary/Treasurer Election. Mr. Lloyd nominated Charles Keith to continue serving as Secretary/Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Governing Board Committee Assignments. No changes to Committee assignments.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY KEITH TO MAINTAIN CURRENT COMMITTEES AS PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Announcement of any Amendments to the Agenda by the Chair:

DELETED:

- Business and Community Services – Agenda Item No. 19 - Resolution Number 2025-07, Release of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 State Appropriations

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

Agenda Item No. 6 – Public Comment.

- Paul Still – Concerns regarding Edwards Bottomland Mitigation Project, Bradford County (received via email and addressed to all Board Members)
- Amy Morie, Bradford Soil & Water Conservation District - Concerns regarding Edwards Bottomland Mitigation Project, Bradford County (received via email and copy given to Board Members)
- Carol Mosley – Rayonier/Chemours Land Purchase and Department of Military Affairs Agreement regarding management of lands (received via email and copy given to Board Members)

Agenda Item No. 7- Consideration of the Following Items Collectively by Consent:

- Agenda Item No. 8 - June 10, 2025, Governing Board Meeting and Executive Director Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 10 - Performance Evaluation Review and Contract Amendment of Executive Director
- Agenda Item No. 15 - Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Jackson Family Farms, LLC., Suwannee County
- Agenda Item No. 16 - Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee, and Lafayette Counties
- Agenda Item No. 17 - May 2025 Financial Report
- Agenda Item No. 21 - Rulemaking to Amend Rules 40B-2.301, 40B-2.321, and 40B-2.331, Florida Administrative Code, for Permitting of Water Use
- Agenda Item No. 29- Lease of District Lands for Apiary Leases
- Agenda Item No. 33 - Memorandum of Agreement with St. Johns River Water Management District for Surface and Groundwater Chemistry Analysis
- Agenda Item No. 34 - Adoption of the 2025 Coastal Rivers Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan Update

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

Agenda Item No. 8 - June 10, 2025, Governing Board Meeting and Executive Director Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes. Approved on Consent.

Returned to Public Comments for late arrival:

- John Quarterman-Manatee Spring River Water Gauge Concerns and Rayonier land concerns.

Agenda Item No. 9 - Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations.

- A. Robbie McKinney, Manager, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation on hydrologic conditions of the District.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. Mr. Thomas recognized Florida Department of Environmental Protection attendees.

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

Agenda Item No. 10 – Performance Evaluation Review and Contract Amendment of Executive Director. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Legal Activities Update. None

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Administration

Agenda Item No. 12 – Facilities Update. Ben Glass, Chief Office of Administration, provided this update to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 13 – Legislative Session Update. Tyler Winburn, Legislative and Government Affairs Coordinator, provided this update to the Board.

Agriculture Projects

Agenda Item No. 14 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract with Milk-A-Way Dairy, Inc., Lafayette County. Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 15 – Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Jackson Family Farms, LLC., Suwannee County. Approved on Consent

Agenda Item No. 16 – Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee, and Lafayette Counties. Approved on Consent.

Finance

Agenda Item No. 17 – May 2025 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 18 – Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tentative Millage and Budget. Kristin Thompson, Manager, Office of Finance, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 19 – Resolution Number 2025-07, Release of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 State Appropriations - Deleted

Resource Management

Agenda Item No. 20 – Permitting Summary Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 21 – Rulemaking to Amend Rules 40B-2.301, 40B-2.321, and 40B-2.331, Florida Administrative Code, for Permitting of Water Use. Approved on Consent.

Environmental Projects

Agenda Item No. 22 – Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS

Communications and Outreach

Agenda Item No. 23 – Outreach and Communications Activity Summary. This summary was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Land Acquisition

Agenda Item No. 24 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 25 – Resolution 2025-06, Sale of a Lot to Brian Keith Barton and Debra Ann Barton within the Turkey Island Tract, Levy County. Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations Division, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 26 – Governing Board Directive Number 25-0004, Land Acquisition and Surplus Guidelines – Revised. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Board. Modified motion to include the 11D-Surplus Guidelines listed on strikethrough copy instead of removing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY SCHWAB TO APPROVE THE MODIFIED RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 27 – Cedar Hammock Conservation Easement Amendment, Levy County. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Board.

Chad Richar, Manulife Forest Management, provided comments to the Board.

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

Land Management

Agenda Item No. 28 – Land Management Update Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 29 – Lease of District Lands for Apiary Leases. Approved on Consent.

WATER RESOURCES

Agenda Item No. 30 – Water Resources Division Updates. Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates to the Board.

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD WORKSHOPS**

The workshop began at 11:00 a.m.

District Land Management Plan Discussion

Lorna Ratliff, Chief, Office of Land Management, provided a powerpoint presentation on the District Land Management Plan.

Workshop adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

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: July 10, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with SanRiver Farms, LLC, Suwannee County

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Task Work Assignment with SanRiver Farms, LLC to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$20,600 and a combined contract total not to exceed \$117,575.99.

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.

SanRiver Farms, LLC has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District's Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Suwannee County. The original contract and Task Work Assignment (TWA) was approved by the Executive Director on February 4, 2025, and contained tissue sampling, grid soil sampling, and variable rate nutrient application for use across 3,103 acres of corn, sweet corn, peanuts, broccoli, carrots, and onions. SanRiver Farms, LLC has subsequently applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Suwannee County. This TWA contains soil moisture probes and soil moisture probe service agreements for use across 3,360 acres of corn, peanuts, and carrots.

This project is located in the Suwannee Basin Management Plan, Eastern Water Supply Planning Area, and Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth Priority Focus Area. The associated water savings estimate for this contract is estimated to be 0.172 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/ak
Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| PRODUCER | SANRIVER FARMS, LLC | Contract |
| WATER USE PERMIT | 218396, 221374, 216465 | TBD |
| BMAP | SUWA | TWA # .02 |
| 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 |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| LP61038 Program Sustainable Suwannee Low Input | | | | | \$20,600.00 | | |
| LPS Soil Moisture Probes 2nd and 3rd year service agreements | 75% | \$650.00 | | 22 | \$14,300.00 | \$4,766.69 | 3 years from effective date |
| GBD Soil Moisture Probe Purchase | 90% | \$2,100.00 | | 3 | \$6,300.00 | \$700.00 | 1 year from effective date |

FUNDING

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Contract Amount | \$20,600.00 | Estimated PRODUCER funds | \$5,466.69 |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|

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.

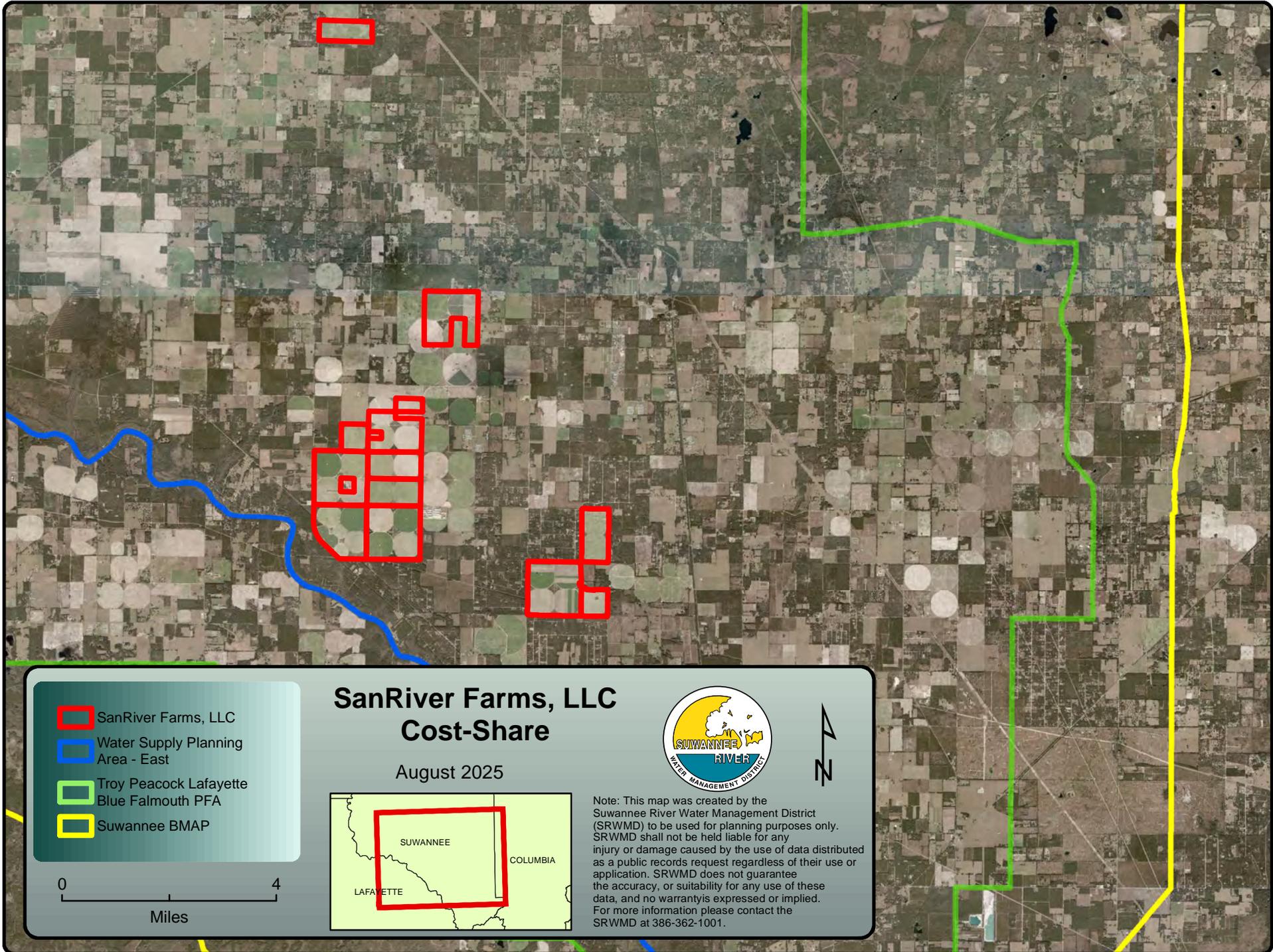
District Terms and Conditions

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.

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.



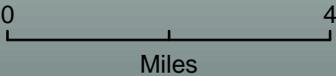
-  SanRiver Farms, LLC
-  Water Supply Planning Area - East
-  Troy Peacock Lafayette Blue Falmouth PFA
-  Suwannee BMAP

SanRiver Farms, LLC Cost-Share

August 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: August 12, 2025

RE: Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Dusty Cone Farms, LLC, Hamilton County

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Task Work Assignment with Dusty Cone Farms, LLC to implement agricultural cost-share practices for an amount not to exceed \$21,328. and a combined contract total not to exceed \$111,316.

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 Dusty Cone Farms, LLC implement best management practices. Best management practices help farmers conserve water and improve water quality in the District.

Dusty Cone Farms, LLC has applied for agricultural cost-share under the District's Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Hamilton County. The original contract and Task Work Assignment (TWA) was approved by the Executive Director on June 24, 2025, and contained soil moisture probes, grid soil sampling, and variable rate nutrient application. Dusty Cone Farms, LLC has subsequently applied for agricultural cost-share under the District Agricultural Cost-Share Program for a project in Hamilton County. This TWA contains grid soil sampling and variable rate nutrient application for use across 800 acres of corn, peanuts, and vegetables. This project is located in the Suwannee Basin Management Action Plan and the Eastern Water Supply Planning Area. The associated nutrient reduction for this contract is estimated to be 40,000 pounds of nitrogen per year.

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 | Dusty Cone Farms LLC. | | |
| WATER USE PERMIT | 220367, 221736, 217192, 220313 | | |
| BMAP | SUWA | Contract | 24/25-127 |
| PFA | NA | TWA # | 2 |
| COUNTY | Hamilton | | |
| APPLICATION | 524 | | |

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 | | | | \$21,328.00 | | |
| Variable Rate Nutrient Application per Ac. | 80% | \$9.60 | | 1600 | \$15,360.00 | \$3,840.00 | 1 year from effective date |
| Grid Soil Sampling with VRNA | 80% | \$7.46 | | 800 | \$5,968.00 | \$1,492.00 | 1 year from effective date |

FUNDING

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Contract Amount | \$21,331.20 | Estimated PRODUCER funds | \$5,332.00 |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|

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.

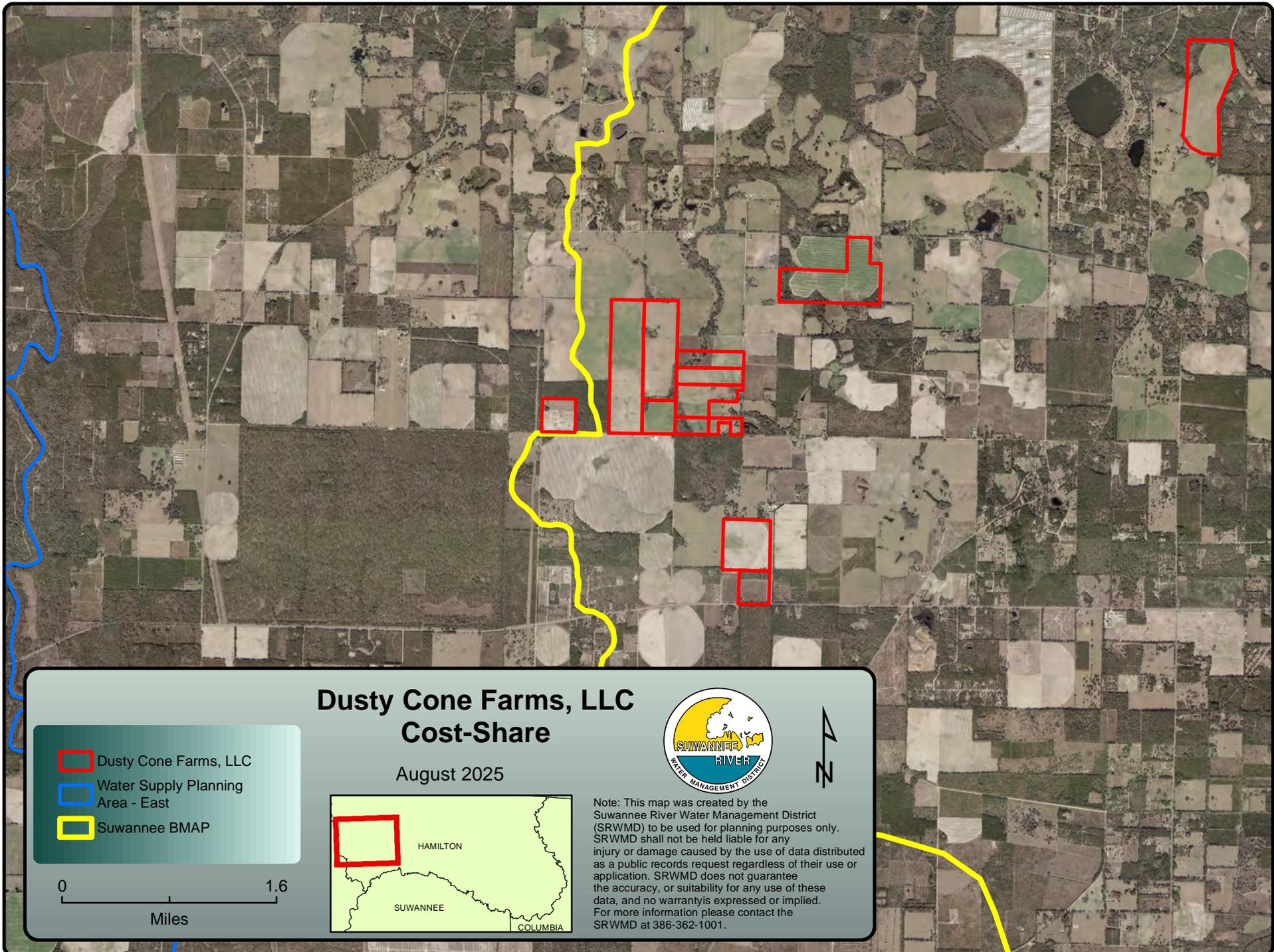
District Terms and Conditions

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.

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.



Dusty Cone Farms, LLC Cost-Share

August 2025



- Dusty Cone Farms, LLC
- Water Supply Planning Area - East
- Suwannee BMAP



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: Kelly Wooley, Human Resources Manager, Office of Human Resources

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

DATE: July 22, 2025

RE: Extension of Insurance Broker Services

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to extend the consulting agreement for broker services with Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. for broker services one year, from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026.

BACKGROUND

To ensure that the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) benefits program is competitive and compliant with Section 112.08, Florida Statutes, the District retains an insurance broker to collaborate with the Office of Human Resources to procure insurance services. The contracted broker seeks to maintain insurance services at or above the current level and at a reasonable and fair price for health, dental, vision, group term life and long-term disability.

Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. does not receive direct compensation for their services from the District. Compensation is provided to Gallagher by the insurance carrier based on a percentage amount of commission that is fully disclosed to the District before acceptance of each renewal package.

This memorandum marks the first one-year renewal since Gallagher was appointed as the broker under RFQ 21/22-027. The initial agreement was for three years with an option for two one-year renewals.

KJW/ao

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Kelly Wooley, Human Resources Manager, Office of Human Resources

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

DATE: July 14, 2025

RE: Employee Health Care Insurance Coverages for Calendar Year 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the renewal of the employee health, dental, vision, group term life, and long-term disability insurance coverage for Calendar Year 2026.

BACKGROUND

The District's current health insurance program is with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida, a fully insured plan offering a package of plan options similar to the structure available to employees of the State of Florida.

The District offers five health plans for employees to choose from:

1. A traditional PPO plan with Health Reimbursement Account;
2. A traditional HMO plan with Health Reimbursement Account;
3. A consumer-driven, high deductible, plan with a Health Savings Account;
4. A consumer-driven, moderate plan with Health Reimbursement Account; and
5. A high deductible HMO plan compatible with a Health Savings Account

The District's broker, Gallagher & Co., negotiated rate holds for the 2026 calendar year.

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, the District is required to hold an annual enrollment. District staff propose to start the annual enrollment period in October 2025 and give employees and retirees at least 30 days to review their options. The annual enrollment allows employees and retirees to discuss coverage details with the company representatives, update insurance options, including the supplemental insurance products offered through the District, and make changes to dependent coverage.

Funding for the District's health care insurance coverages are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Tentative Budget and will be included in the FY 2027 Tentative Budget.

KJW/ak

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: August 1, 2025
RE: June 2025 Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the June 2025 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
June 2025**

| Financial Institution/Account | Monthly Interest | Closing Balance |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|
| First Federal Permit Fee | \$17.38 | \$517.38 |
| First Federal Accounts Payable | \$52.65 | \$35,000.00 |
| First Federal EFT Disbursements | \$58.79 | \$64,292.02 |
| First Federal Depository | \$1,222.19 | \$804,414.53 |
| Florida PRIME (SBA LGIA) | \$18,808.19 | \$5,140,750.21 |
| First Federal ICS Custodian Account | \$59,571.21 | \$16,576,162.98 |
| Special Purpose Investment Account (SPIA)* | \$60,099.12 | \$19,483,705.60 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$139,829.53</u> | <u>\$42,104,842.72</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 June 30, 2025
(Unaudited)**

| | Current Budget | Actuals Through 6/30/2025 | Variance (Under)/Over Budget | Actuals As A % of Budget |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Sources | | | | |
| Ad Valorem Property Taxes | \$ 7,094,781 | \$ 7,016,260 | \$ (78,521) | 98.9% |
| Intergovernmental Revenues | \$ 59,799,239 | \$ 11,270,777 | \$ (48,528,462) | 18.8% |
| Interest on Invested Funds | \$ 130,000 | \$ 1,156,406 | \$ 1,026,406 | 889.5% |
| License and Permit Fees | \$ 223,000 | \$ 211,844 | \$ (11,157) | 95.0% |
| Other | \$ 1,410,288 | \$ 1,708,683 | \$ 298,395 | 121.2% |
| Fund Balance ¹ | \$ 11,309,970 | \$ 1,259,368 | \$ (10,050,602) | 11.1% |
| Total Sources | \$ 79,967,278 | \$ 22,623,337 | \$ (57,343,941) | 28.3% |

| | Current Budget | Expenditures | Encumbrances ² | Available Budget | %Expended | %Obligated ³ |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Uses | | | | | | |
| Water Resources Planning and Monitoring | \$ 11,586,257 | \$ 4,661,636 | \$ 8,076,924 | \$ (1,152,302) | 40% | 110% |
| Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works | \$ 53,303,940 | \$ 10,419,750 | \$ 27,393,913 | \$ 15,490,277 | 20% | 71% |
| Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works | \$ 10,391,632 | \$ 3,856,329 | \$ 3,295,157 | \$ 3,240,146 | 37% | 69% |
| Regulation | \$ 2,335,426 | \$ 1,080,033 | \$ 23,915 | \$ 1,231,478 | 46% | 47% |
| Outreach | \$ 211,283 | \$ 147,763 | \$ 1,602 | \$ 61,918 | 70% | 71% |
| Management and Administration | \$ 2,138,740 | \$ 1,300,433 | \$ 47,469 | \$ 790,838 | 61% | 63% |
| Total Uses | \$ 79,967,278 | \$ 21,465,944 | \$ 38,838,979 | \$ 19,662,355 | 27% | 75% |

¹ Actual Fund Balance used is recorded at the end of the fiscal year. This amount represents Fund Balance used for the District Agricultural and RIVER Cost-Share, Regional Water Resource Development, Project Effectiveness Metrics Programs, FY24 Operational Transfer for Hydro/Ag Monitoring, and SRP Ag Cost-Share.

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 June 30, 2025 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 6/30/2025

| | Y-T-D ACTUAL | ENCUMBRANCE | ANNUAL BUDGET |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| <u>Report Recap -</u> | | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| DISTRICT REVENUES | 10,093,192 | 0 | 8,858,069 |
| LOCAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| STATE REVENUES | 7,423,123 | 0 | 52,326,239 |
| FEDERAL REVENUES | 3,847,654 | 0 | 7,473,000 |
| FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION | 1,259,368 | 0 | 11,309,970 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 22,623,337 | 0 | 79,967,278 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| SALARIES AND BENEFITS | 5,008,959 | 0 | 8,987,702 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES | 6,430,050 | 23,809,428 | 26,484,784 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | 1,510,177 | 85,303 | 2,588,248 |
| OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY | 177,987 | 0 | 288,044 |
| FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY | 105,158 | 2,441,362 | 10,551,000 |
| INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES | 8,233,613 | 12,502,886 | 31,067,500 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 21,465,944 | 38,838,979 | 79,967,278 |
| EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES | 1,157,393 | (38,838,979) | 0 |
| <u>General Fund -</u> | | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| DISTRICT REVENUES | 8,263,077 | 0 | 6,528,787 |
| LOCAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| STATE REVENUES | 3,020,232 | 0 | 4,632,000 |
| FEDERAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION | 65,222 | 0 | 2,862,739 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 11,348,531 | 0 | 14,023,526 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| SALARIES AND BENEFITS | 4,359,125 | 0 | 7,816,845 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES | 950,718 | 644,919 | 2,952,675 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | 1,061,510 | 42,953 | 1,683,792 |
| OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY | 84,307 | 0 | 149,714 |
| FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES | 658,779 | 351,128 | 1,420,500 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 7,114,439 | 1,039,000 | 14,023,526 |
| EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES | 4,234,092 | (1,039,000) | 0 |
| <u>Land Management Operations -</u> | | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| DISTRICT REVENUES | 1,619,468 | 0 | 2,329,282 |
| LOCAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| STATE REVENUES | 1,114,356 | 0 | 5,660,119 |
| FEDERAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 30,000 |
| FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION | 0 | 0 | 2,667,231 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 2,733,824 | 0 | 10,686,632 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| SALARIES AND BENEFITS | 649,485 | 0 | 1,165,305 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES | 1,996,033 | 2,431,902 | 4,031,489 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | 443,237 | 42,350 | 855,508 |
| OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY | 93,681 | 0 | 113,330 |
| FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY | 105,158 | 592,422 | 3,551,000 |
| INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES | 573,604 | 228,483 | 970,000 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 3,861,198 | 3,295,157 | 10,686,632 |
| EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES | (1,127,374) | (3,295,157) | 0 |

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - REVENUE AND EXPENSE ROLLUP (UNAUDITED)
FOR 6/30/2025

| | 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 | 862,335 | 0 | 3,340,000 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 862,335 | 0 | 3,340,000 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| SALARIES AND BENEFITS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES | 105,188 | 1,088,486 | 1,150,000 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | 0 | 0 | 30,000 |
| OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY | 0 | 0 | 25,000 |
| FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES | 757,146 | 1,148,444 | 2,135,000 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 862,334 | 2,236,930 | 3,340,000 |
| EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES | 1 | (2,236,930) | 0 |
| <u>State Special Revenue -</u> | | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| DISTRICT REVENUES | 210,647 | 0 | 0 |
| LOCAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| STATE REVENUES | 3,288,536 | 0 | 42,034,120 |
| FEDERAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION | 331,812 | 0 | 2,440,000 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 3,830,995 | 0 | 44,474,120 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| SALARIES AND BENEFITS | 0 | 0 | 5,552 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES | 2,615,124 | 11,794,322 | 13,915,620 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | 4,910 | 0 | 10,948 |
| OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY | 0 | 1,848,940 | 7,000,000 |
| INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES | 3,095,304 | 10,774,832 | 23,542,000 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 5,715,338 | 24,418,094 | 44,474,120 |
| EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES | (1,884,343) | (24,418,094) | 0 |
| <u>Federal Special Revenue -</u> | | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| DISTRICT REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LOCAL REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| STATE REVENUES | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FEDERAL REVENUES | 3,847,654 | 0 | 7,443,000 |
| FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 3,847,654 | 0 | 7,443,000 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | |
| SALARIES AND BENEFITS | 349 | 0 | 0 |
| CONTRACTUAL SERVICES | 762,988 | 7,849,799 | 4,435,000 |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | 520 | 0 | 8,000 |
| OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FIXED CAPITAL OUTLAY | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| INTERAGENCY EXPENDITURES | 3,148,780 | 0 | 3,000,000 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 3,912,637 | 7,849,799 | 7,443,000 |
| EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES | (64,983) | (7,849,799) | 0 |

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Kristin Thompson, Finance Program Manager, Office of Finance

THRU: Pam Shaw, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance
Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: July 16, 2025

RE: Resolution Number 2025-07, Release of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 State Appropriations

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Resolution Number 2025-07, requesting the release of \$6,505,119 in legislative appropriations from the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

BACKGROUND

The Florida Legislature has included funding for the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) in Laws of Florida Chapter 2025-198, General Appropriations Act as follows:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Line Item 1515 | \$2,287,000 for Operations from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1516 | \$453,000 for Environmental Resource Permitting from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1517 | \$352,909 for Payment in Lieu of Taxes from Internal Improvement Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1518 | \$1,777,210 for Land Management from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1519 | \$1,635,000 for Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |

The Legislature directed that these funds be administered by FDEP and be made available for use by the District. Approval of the recommendation will enable staff to receive funds for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Disbursement of these funds will be made based on a payment schedule agreed upon between the District and the FDEP.

KT/ak
Attachment

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2025-07**

**REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR THE RELEASE
OF STATE APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**

WHEREAS the District requested funds for Operations, Payment in Lieu of Taxes, Land Management, Environmental Resource Permitting, Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels; and

WHEREAS Laws of Florida Chapter 2025-198, General Appropriations Act, Specific Appropriations 1515, 1516, 1517, 1518, and 1519, the Florida Legislature appropriated to the Suwannee River Water Management District two million two hundred eighty-seven thousand dollars (\$2,287,000) for Operations from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund; four hundred fifty-three thousand dollars (\$453,000) for Environmental Resource Permitting from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund; three hundred fifty-two thousand nine hundred and nine dollars (\$352,909) for Payment in Lieu of Taxes from the Internal Improvement Trust Fund; one million seven hundred seventy-seven thousand two hundred ten dollars (\$1,777,210) for Land Management from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund; one million six hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$1,635,000) for the Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels program from Land Acquisition Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS these state appropriations are necessary to implement the District's core missions and statutory requirements; and

WHEREAS section 373.501, Florida Statutes, includes a process for disbursing the funds to the water management districts upon receipt of a resolution adopted by the Governing Board.

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District hereby requests the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to release, in accordance with a payment schedule to be agreed upon between the District and the Department, for expenditures incurred during Fiscal Year 2025-2026, those funds designated by the Legislature pursuant to Senate Bill 2500: GENERAL BILL by Appropriations, as listed below:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Line Item 1515 | \$2,287,000 for Operations from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1516 | \$453,000 for Environmental Resource Permitting from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1517 | \$352,909 for Payment in Lieu of Taxes from Internal Improvement Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1518 | \$1,777,210 for Land Management from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |
| Line Item 1519 | \$1,635,000 for Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels from Land Acquisition Trust Fund |

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2025-07

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these funds shall be subject to the requirements of section 215.97, F.S., the Florida Single Audit Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these funds shall be subject to the requirements of section 216.347, F.S. (Grant and Aids Lobbying Restriction); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Governing Board is authorized to affix their signature to this resolution on behalf of the Board and attested by its Secretary.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 12th DAY of AUGUST 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:

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Pam Shaw, Chief, Office of Finance

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

DATE: July 23, 2025

RE: Resolution Number 2025-08, Fund Balance Classifications for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Resolution Number 2025-08 authorizing the assignment of the Fiscal Year 2024–2025 Fund Balance per the Governmental Accounting Standards Board 54 classifications.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the District's Fund Balance and Reserves Procedure, the District shall set aside reserves in the General Fund to provide sufficient liquidity for operations and emergencies. The funds set aside in the Economic Stabilization Reserve shall be equal to a minimum of two months of the District's tentative recurring operating budget and shall be reported as Committed Fund Balance in the General Fund. The Operating Liquidity Reserves shall be equal to a minimum of three months of the District's tentative recurring operating budget and shall be reported as Assigned Fund Balance in the District's General Fund.

Based on the District's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 tentative recurring operating budget, a transfer of \$1,000,000 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to the Economic Stabilization and Operating Liquidity Reserves is required as shown below.

The District established the Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources (RIVER) and Agricultural Cost-Share programs in 2013. The RIVER Cost-Share program provides local governments with funding for projects including alternative water supply and water conservation projects. The Agricultural Cost-Share program partners with agricultural producers to increase water savings by implementing irrigation retrofits, new water saving technologies, and other water conservation projects.

To continue funding for these cost-share programs in FY 2025-2026 a transfer of \$2,000,000 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to the District Special Revenue Fund is required as shown below.

Approval of Resolution Number 2025-08 will authorize the transfer of \$3,000,000 of General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance as follows:

- General Fund – Committed Fund Balance
 - Economic Stabilization Reserve - \$400,000
- General Fund – Assigned Fund Balance
 - Operating Liquidity Reserve - \$600,000
- District Special Revenue Fund – Committed Fund Balance
 - RIVER Cost-Share Program - \$1,000,000
 - Agricultural Cost-Share Program - \$1,000,000

The Resolution will authorize these transfers to be included in the FY 2025–2026 Budget.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions" to address issues related to how fund balances were being reported by governmental entities. GASB 54 provides for consistent reporting procedures by governmental entities and classification structures to improve the understanding of constraints placed on fund balances being reported. There are five fund balance categories in GASB 54 guidelines including:

Non-spendable – funds that are not in spendable form or funds that are legally or contractually required to be maintained.

Restricted – funds externally restricted or constrained by law.

Committed – funds that are restricted by the highest level of decision-making authority in which the restriction is established by a formal action.

Assigned – funds that are not designated in non-spendable, restricted, or committed categories, but are intended for a specific purpose.

Unassigned – funds that are not designated in non-spendable, restricted, or committed categories but are available for any purpose.

PS/ak
Attachments

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2025-08

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATIONS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

WHEREAS, the Suwannee River Water Management District's (District's) financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has adopted Statement No. 54 (GASB 54), Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions effective for financial statements for periods beginning after June 15, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the District's Fund Balance Classifications, in accordance with GASB 54, be formalized in a resolution approved by the Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board authorizes the transfer of \$1,000,000 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to the General Fund's Economic Stabilization Reserves Committed Fund Balance for \$400,000 and the Operating Liquidity Reserves Assigned Fund Balance for \$600,000.

WHEREAS, the Governing Board authorizes the transfer of \$2,000,000 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to the District Special Revenue Fund to the RIVER Cost-Share Committed Fund Balance for \$1,000,000 and the Agricultural Cost-Share Committed Fund Balance for \$1,000,000.

WHEREAS, the Governing Board approves the transfers from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to the Funds and Programs shown above as a part of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Board of the District, that Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Fund Balance Classification shall be as shown on the Fund Balance Classifications attachment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF AUGUST 2025 A.D.

**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: _____

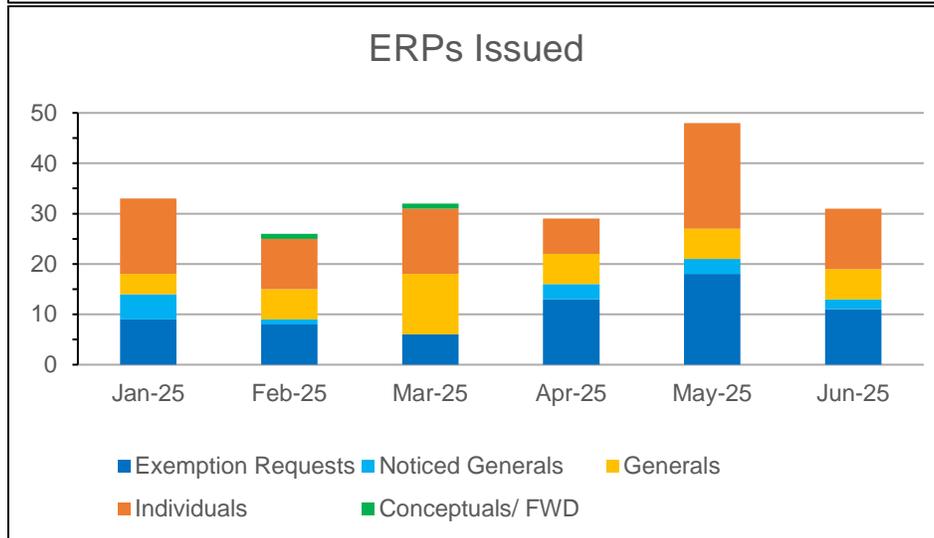
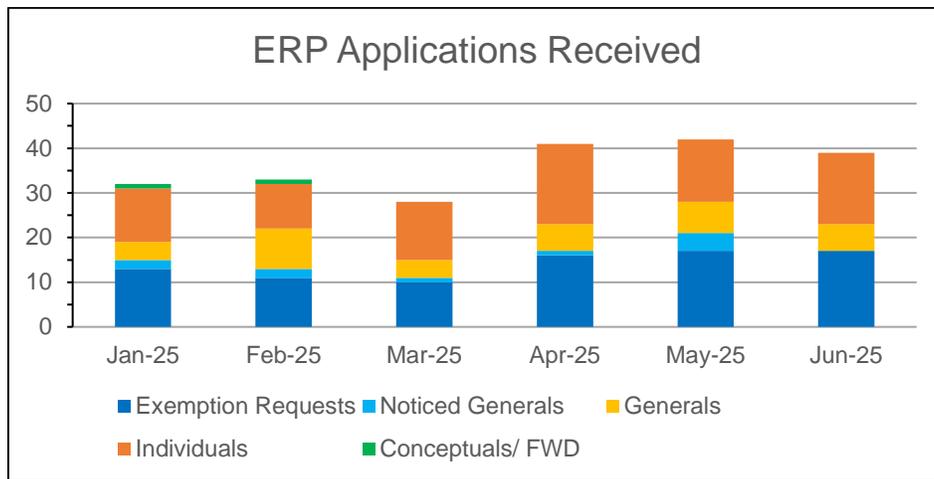
Attachment to Resolution 2025-08
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATIONS - FY 2024-25 (October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025)

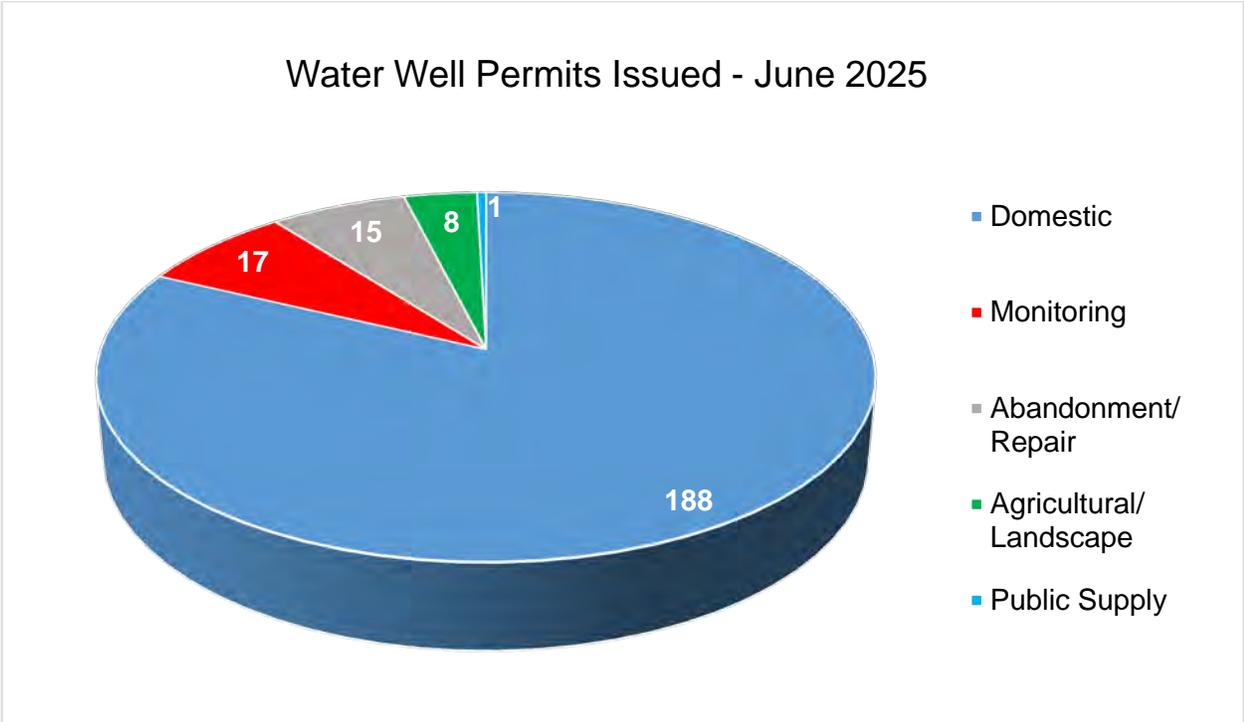
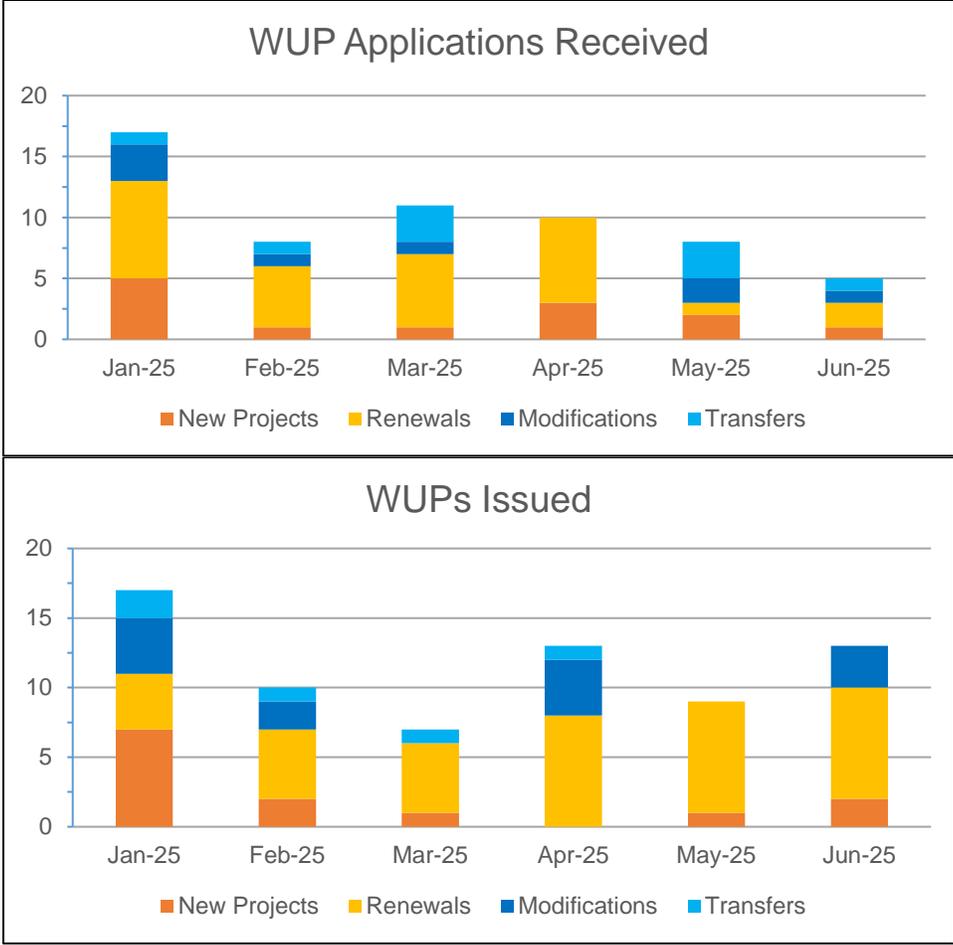
| FUND | CLASSIFICATIONS OF FUND BALANCE | Fund Balance Designations as of September 30, 2024 (per Audit) | Proposed changes requested | Fund Balance Designations for FY 2024-25 | Explanation of Changes |
|--|--|--|----------------------------|--|---|
| NON-SPENDABLE | | | | | |
| GENERAL FUND - 01 | Prepaid Expense | \$ 20,842.68 | \$ - | \$ 20,842.68 | |
| NON-SPENDABLE SUBTOTAL | | \$ 20,842.68 | \$ - | \$ 20,842.68 | |
| RESTRICTED | | | | | |
| LAND MGMT/OPS SRF - 13 | Land Management | \$ 881,798.32 | \$ - | \$ 881,798.32 | |
| LAND MGMT/OPS SRF - 13 | Land Management (Timber) | \$ 4,708,666.60 | \$ - | \$ 4,708,666.60 | |
| LAND MGMT/OPS SRF - 13 | Surplus Land Funds | \$ 314,627.82 | \$ - | \$ 314,627.82 | |
| STATE SRF - 03 | Alternative Water Supply | \$ 152,540.83 | \$ - | \$ 152,540.83 | |
| STATE SRF - 08 | Water Management Lands Trust Fund | \$ 18,223.89 | \$ - | \$ 18,223.89 | |
| STATE SRF - 12 | DOT Environmental Transportation Decision Making (ETDM) | \$ 41,903.68 | \$ - | \$ 41,903.68 | |
| STATE SRF - 19 | DOT Mitigation | \$ 544,728.09 | \$ - | \$ 544,728.09 | |
| STATE SRF - 29 | Suwannee River Partnership Projects | \$ 119,968.85 | \$ - | \$ 119,968.85 | |
| STATE SRF - 33 | PCS Mitigation / Land Acquisition | \$ 4,935,157.77 | \$ - | \$ 4,935,157.77 | |
| RESTRICTED SUBTOTAL | | \$ 11,717,615.85 | \$ - | \$ 11,717,615.85 | |
| COMMITTED | | | | | |
| DISTRICT SRF - 09 | Project Effectiveness Metrics | \$ 366,494.19 | | \$ 366,494.19 | |
| DISTRICT SRF - 51 | Agricultural Cost-Share | \$ 1,315,948.55 | \$ 1,000,000.00 | \$ 2,315,948.55 | Transfer from Unassigned General Fund |
| DISTRICT SRF - 52 | Regional Water Resource Projects | \$ 3,568,619.25 | | \$ 3,568,619.25 | |
| DISTRICT SRF - 53 | RIVER Cost-Share | \$ 2,106,863.14 | \$ 1,000,000.00 | \$ 3,106,863.14 | Transfer from Unassigned General Fund |
| GENERAL FUND - 01 | Economic Stabilization Fund | \$ 2,600,000.00 | \$ 400,000.00 | \$ 3,000,000.00 | Transfer from Unassigned General Fund |
| | | \$ - | | \$ - | |
| COMMITTED SUBTOTAL | | \$ 9,957,925.13 | \$ 2,400,000.00 | \$ 12,357,925.13 | |
| ASSIGNED - General Fund | | | | | |
| GENERAL FUND - 01 | Operating Liquidity Reserve | \$ 3,900,000.00 | \$ 600,000.00 | \$ 4,500,000.00 | Transfer from Unassigned General Fund |
| GENERAL FUND - 01 | Hydrologic and Agriculture Monitoring FY24 Operations Transfer | \$ 885,869.05 | | \$ 885,869.05 | |
| STATE SRF -29 | Agriculture Cost-Share FY24 Operations Transfer | \$ 1,017,011.47 | | \$ 1,017,011.47 | |
| ASSIGNED SUBTOTAL | | \$ 5,802,880.52 | \$ 600,000.00 | \$ 6,402,880.52 | |
| UNASSIGNED - General Fund | | | | | |
| GENERAL FUND - 01 | Available for Future Years Utilization | \$ 13,444,956.87 | \$ (3,000,000.00) | \$ 10,444,956.87 | Transfer to Committed and Assigned Fund Balance |
| UNASSIGNED SUBTOTAL | | \$ 13,444,956.87 | \$ (3,000,000.00) | \$ 10,444,956.87 | |
| Total | | \$ 40,944,221.05 | \$ - | \$ 40,944,221.05 | |
| COMMENTS: Transfers of General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance as shown above will be included in the Fiscal Year 2025 -2026 Budget. | | | | | |
| SRF = Special Revenue Fund GF = General Fund | | | | | |

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: June 2025
RE: Permitting Summary Report





40B-1.1010 Point of Entry into Proceedings

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| GB Authorized Rulemaking | 2/14/2023 |
| Notice of Rule Development | |
| Public Workshop | |
| Notice of Proposed Rule | |
| Notice of Correction/ Change | |
| File with DOS | |
| Effective Date | |

40B-2.011 Policy and Purpose

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| GB Authorized Rulemaking | 7/8/2025 |
| Notice of Rule Development | 7/21/2025 |
| Public Workshop | |
| Notice of Proposed Rule | |
| Notice of Correction/ Change | |
| File with DOS | |
| Effective Date | |

40B-2.3010 Cond for Issuance of Permits

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| GB Authorized Rulemaking | 7/8/2025 |
| Notice of Rule Development | 7/21/2025 |
| Public Workshop | |
| Notice of Proposed Rule | |
| Notice of Correction/ Change | |
| File with DOS | |
| Effective Date | |

40B-2.321 Duration of Permits

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| GB Authorized Rulemaking | 7/8/2025 |
| Notice of Rule Development | 7/21/2025 |
| Public Workshop | |
| Notice of Proposed Rule | |
| Notice of Correction/ Change | |
| File with DOS | |
| Effective Date | |

40B-2.331 Modification of Permits

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| GB Authorized Rulemaking | 7/8/2025 |
| Notice of Rule Development | 7/21/2025 |
| 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, Deputy Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: August 1, 2025

RE: Denial of Works of the District Permit Application Number WOD-121-250773-1, Thelen Residence, Suwannee County

RECOMMENDATION

Deny, without prejudice, Works of the District permit application number WOD-121-250773-1, submitted by Kathie Thelen, for failure to provide a complete permit application within allotted timeframes.

BACKGROUND

This Works of the District permit application is for the construction of an approximately 4,000 square foot residence in the floodway of the Suwannee River located in Suwannee County. The application was received on February 3, 2025. On February 24, 2025, District staff emailed a Request for Additional Information, requesting a number of required items including application fee, signed and sealed plans, a signed and sealed zero-rise, a signed and sealed topographical survey, and a site inspection, with a response due date of May 25, 2025. To date, no response or communication has been received from the applicant.

A summary of staff's follow-up attempts to communicate with the applicant, Kathie Thelen, is provided in the attached staff report.

SF/tm
Attachments

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE PERMIT
TECHNICAL STAFF REPORT
11-June-2025
APPLICATION NO.: WOD-121-250773-1

Applicant: Kathie N Thelen
3507 Ehrck Hill Dr
Hood River, OR 97031-8454

Owner Kathie N Thelen
Mark Grant Thelen
Lot Swannee Belle Estates Unit 2a
Parcel number 3504s12e10807000510
O'Brien, FL 32071

Project Name: Thelen Residence

**Project
Acreage:** 2.2 acres

County: Suwannee

Recommended Agency Action

Denial, without prejudice, for failure to provide a complete permit application within allotted timeframes.

Project Review Staff

Chris Martins, E.I., Engineer I, Louis Mantini, Environmental Scientist III and Sara Zybelle Ferson, P.E., Environmental Permitting Office Chief, reviewed the project.

Project Location

The proposed project is located on parcel number 35-04S-12E-10807-000510 within Township 4 South, Range 12 East, Section 35 of Suwannee County.

Project Description

This works of the District permit application is for the construction of an approximately 4,000 square foot residence in the floodway of the Suwannee River located in Suwannee County and was received on February 3, 2025. On February 24, 2025, District staff emailed a Request for Additional Information (RAI), requesting a number of required items including application fee, signed and sealed plans, a signed and sealed zero-rise, a signed and sealed topographical survey, and a site inspection, with a response due date of May 25, 2025. To date, no response has been received, and a complete application has not been submitted. There has been no communication from the applicant. A summary of staff actions to assist the applicant in completing the permit application are detailed below:

| DATE | ACTION | DESCRIPTION |
|-------------|----------------------|--|
| 02/03/2025 | | Application received |
| 02/24/2025 | Mail Sent | RAI sent |
| 02/24/2025 | Email Correspondence | Email explaining RAI and inviting applicant to call if needed. |
| 05/15/2025 | Mail Sent | 90-day warning notice sent |
| 05/29/2025 | Email Correspondence | District staff sent an email to the applicant saying the deadline is past and we will move to deny. Requested to respond or withdraw. |
| 05/29/2025 | Email Correspondence | An automated alert was received from the applicant's email provider stating the recipient's mailbox is full and can't accept messages now. |
| 06/11/2025 | Phone Call | District staff called the applicant's supplied phone number and left a voicemail. The call went directly to voicemail. |
| 06/13/2025 | Phone Call | District staff called the applicant's supplied phone number again. The call went directly to voicemail. |
| 07/02/2025 | Mail Sent | Denial letter sent to applicant. |
| 07/09/2025 | Mail Sent | Denial letter sent to landowner by certified mail. |

To date, the requested information has not been received.



Thelen Residence

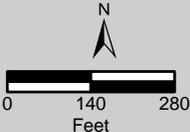
WOD-121-250773-1

August 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 7/2/2025

 Thelen Site Area



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: August 1, 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 June 30, 2025

| ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS PROGRAM | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | Number of Contracts | Amount under contract |
| Active Contracts | 19 | \$ 18,725,750 |
| Completed within the last 6 months | 35 | \$ 16,391,295 |
| Totals | 54 | \$ 35,117,046 |

| AGRICULTURAL COST-SHARE PROGRAM | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | Number of Contracts | Amount under contract |
| Active Contracts | 169 | \$ 13,588,364 |
| Completed within the last 6 months | 72 | \$ 1,916,081 |
| Totals | 241 | \$ 15,504,445 |

| FLOOD RISK OUTREACH AND MAPPING PROGRAM | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | Number of Contracts | Amount under contract |
| Number of Contracts (TWAs) | 21 | \$ 11,113,822 |
| Completed within the last 6 months | 0 | \$ - |
| Totals | 21 | \$ 11,113,822 |
| TOTAL CONTRACTS / TWAs | 316 | \$ 61,735,312 |

| AEP APPLICATIONS | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Number of Projects |
| Agriculture Applications under review | 53 |
| AWS and Springs | 12 |
| Conceptual Projects under review | 9 |
| Projects in Queue | 2 |
| TOTAL | 76 |

| 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: Troy Roberts, Office Chief, Communications and Outreach
THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations
DATE: July 10, 2025
RE: Outreach and Communications Activity Summary

The following information summarizes Outreach and Communications activities for the month of June 2025:

| Facebook | X | Instagram |
|--|---|--|
| Total Posts: 14 Total Views: 133,603 Content Interactions: 3,938 | Total Posts: 25 Total Impressions: 1,050 | Total Posts: 10 Total Views: 3,868 Total Engagement: 293 |

| Press Releases |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• June 2 – Waccasassa Flood Risk Review• June 3 – Governing Board Meeting• June 13 – Hydrologic Conditions Report• June 20 – Land Acquisition Project Portal• June 24 – Waccasassa Flood Risk Review Reminder |

| Media Inquiries / Responses |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• June 30 – Troy Roberts conducted an interview with WCJB TV 20 to discuss the Waccasassa Flood Risk Review. |

| Meetings with Vendors / Consultants / Public |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• June 6 – Troy Roberts met with TREW Media to discuss the final project deliverables for the District lands photography TWA.• June 6 – Troy Roberts met with SDS to discuss the ongoing feature story development project.• June 16 – Troy Roberts met with The Moore Agency to discuss the ongoing development of District lands signage.• June 18 – Troy Roberts and staff made a presentation to children at the Dixie County Library as part of their summer educational program. |

- June 18 – Troy Roberts and staff met with Atkins to discuss “The Flood Zone” newsletter contents and distribution.
- June 18 – Troy Roberts met with The Moore Agency to discuss ongoing TWAs.
- June 19 – Troy Roberts facilitated a District Lunch and Learn on hurricanes at the District Office.
- June 20 – Troy Roberts and Katelyn Potter met with The Moore Agency to discuss work related to the water recharge partnership project.
- June 25 – Troy Roberts attended the monthly meeting between FDEP and water management district communications staffs.

June Photo Highlight:

This photo, taken by the District’s Ron Fox, shows a yellow-crowned night heron at Ruth B. Kirby Gilchrist Blue Springs State Park.



YSUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

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

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

KP/ao
Attachment

| Surplus | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|--|---|--|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tract | Acres | County | Parcel Number(s) | Terms | Status | Acquired Date | Funding | Lands Committee Date | Board Surplus Date |
| Country Club Road (Southern Parcel) | 12.6 | Columbia | 03-04S-17-07486-001 (portion of) | No Restrictions | Multiple offers of interest, will put out for bid sale. | 07.01.2015 | N/A | -- | 07.09.2019 |
| County Club Road (Pond & Northern Parcel) | 47.4 | Columbia | 03-04S-17-07486-001 (portion of) 03-04S-17-07487-000 (portion of) | No Restrictions | Pending legal description, will put out for bid sale. | 07.01.2015 | N/A | -- | 07.09.2019 |
| Three Rivers | 1 | Columbia | 1017000 | Subject to a restrictive deed that no well, no septic, and no permanent development be installed. | Available | 12.30.1997 | Save Our Rivers | 07.09.2019 | 08.13.2019 |
| Suwannee Run Shores* | 1.175 | Dixie | 17-08-14-6877-0000-0100 | Subject to a restrictive deed that no well, no septic, and no permanent development be installed. | Offer received, in negotiations. | 12.30.1997 | Save Our Rivers | 07.09.2019 | 08.13.2019 |
| Forest Woodlands | 11 | Gilchrist | 320814008300000370 320814008300000380 | Subject to a restrictive deed that no well, no septic, and no permanent development be installed. | Available | 10.11.1996 | Save Our Rivers | 10.11.2019 | 11.12.2019 |
| Santa Fe Oasis* | 1 | Gilchrist | 36-06-15-0086-000F-0080 | Subject to a restrictive deed that no well, no septic, and no permanent development be installed. | Offer received, preparing a contract for sale. | 04.28.1998 | Save Our Rivers | 09.21.2020 | 05.12.2020 |
| Hatchbend Uplands (Adjacent to Turtle Spring Surplus Tract) | 32 | Lafayette | 26-07-14-0000-0000-00100 (32-acre portion of) | Subject to conservation. | Available. Multiple offers of interest, will put out for bid sale. | 05.13.2015 | Florida Forever | -- | 03.10.2015 |
| Hatchbend Uplands Lot | 0.3 | Lafayette | 26-07-14-0000-0000-00010 | Subject to conservation. | Available. | 05.13.2023 | Florida Forever | -- | 03.10.2015 |
| Turkey Island Lot* | 0.34 | Levy | 077930010A | Subject to a restrictive deed that no well, no septic, and no permanent development be installed. | Under contract, closing expected by Sept 30, 2025. | 12.10.1997 | Save Our Rivers | 04.08.2025 | -- |
| Falmouth North (8 lots) | 6.51 | Suwannee | 24-01S-11E-10897-030240 24-01S-11E-10897-030310 24-01S-11E-10897-030340 10897020130 | Subject to conservation. | Available | 04.24.1998 | WMLTF | -- | 06.08.2010 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|----------|---|---|--|------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| | | | 10897010010 10897010020 10897010030 10897010040 | | | | | | |
| Santa Fe Spring* | 7.37 | Suwannee | 32-06S-15E-01534-020190 32-06S-15E-01534-020180 32-06S-15E-01534-020160 | Subject to a restrictive deed that no well, no septic, and no permanent development be installed. | Available to adjacent landowners. Closed on July 11, 2025. | 07.01.1998 | Save Our Rivers | 12.10.2024 | 01.14.2025 |
| Santa Fe Spring | 5.91 | Suwannee | 32-06S-15E-1534-020150 32-06S-15E-1534-020140 | Subject to a restrictive deed that no well, no septic, and no permanent development be installed. | Available | 07.01.1998 | Save Our Rivers | 12.10.2024 | 01.14.2025 |

* Indicates properties with a current offer(s) or which are under contract for sale.

Intergovernmental Conveyance

| Tract | Acres | County | Parcel Number(s) | Terms | Status | Acquired Date | Funding | Lands Committee Date | Board Date | Agency |
|---|----------------------|----------|---|---------------------|---|--|--|----------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Falmouth Spring Park Suwannee Spring Park Telford Spring Park | 9.28 14.34 7.8 | Suwannee | 32-01S-12E-097640 17-01S-14E-017510 25-04S-11E-120630 | Under negotiations. | Land Committee authorized negotiations. Ongoing. | March 1993 August 1992 July 2022 | P-2000 Save Our Rivers Springs Funding | 04.08.2025 | -- | Suwannee County |
| Ellaville Tract (Portion of) | 696 | Madison | 15-1S-11-1529-000-000 22-1S-11-1551-000-000 | -- | Seeking Board approval to investigate options for conveyance. | December 01, 1988 | Water Management Land Trust Funds | -- | Pending | Unknown |

Exchange

| Project Name | Acres | County | River Frontage | Floodway | 10-year Floodplain | Springs | Springs Buffer | Priority Focus Area | Adjacency |
|--------------|-------|--------|----------------|----------|--------------------|---------|----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| None | | | | | | | | | |

Acquisition

| Project Name | Acres | County | Submittal Date | Purchase Price | Acquisition Type | Lands Committee Date | Governing Board Date | Acquisition Approval Date | Comments |
|------------------|-------|-----------|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Johnny Taylor | 941 | Gilchrist | 07.2023 | \$1,838,475 or \$2,002.70 per acre | Conservation Easement | 09.25.23 | 10.10.23 | 03.11.2025 | Board approved transaction on 03.11.2025. Contract signed. |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | | | | | Survey and assessments enter final stages. Closing prior to September 30, 2025. |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|

| Detailed Assessment | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Project Name | Acres | County | Submittal Date | Asking Price | Acquisition Type | Lands Committee Date | Governing Board Date | Comments |
| 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 | Followed-up with landowner on interest in program on 03.28.2025. Resent easement terms for consideration. June 2, 2025, received feedback from landowner. Reviewing feedback from landowner on desired terms for easement. June 25 requested meeting with landowner. |

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

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

THRU: Hugh Thomas, Executive Director

DATE: July 10, 2025

RE: Intergovernmental Conveyance and Removal from Surplus for the Ellaville Tract,
Madison County

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize staff to explore an intergovernmental conveyance for the Ellaville Tract, Madison County; and rescind Resolution 2012-069 to remove the tract from surplus.

BACKGROUND

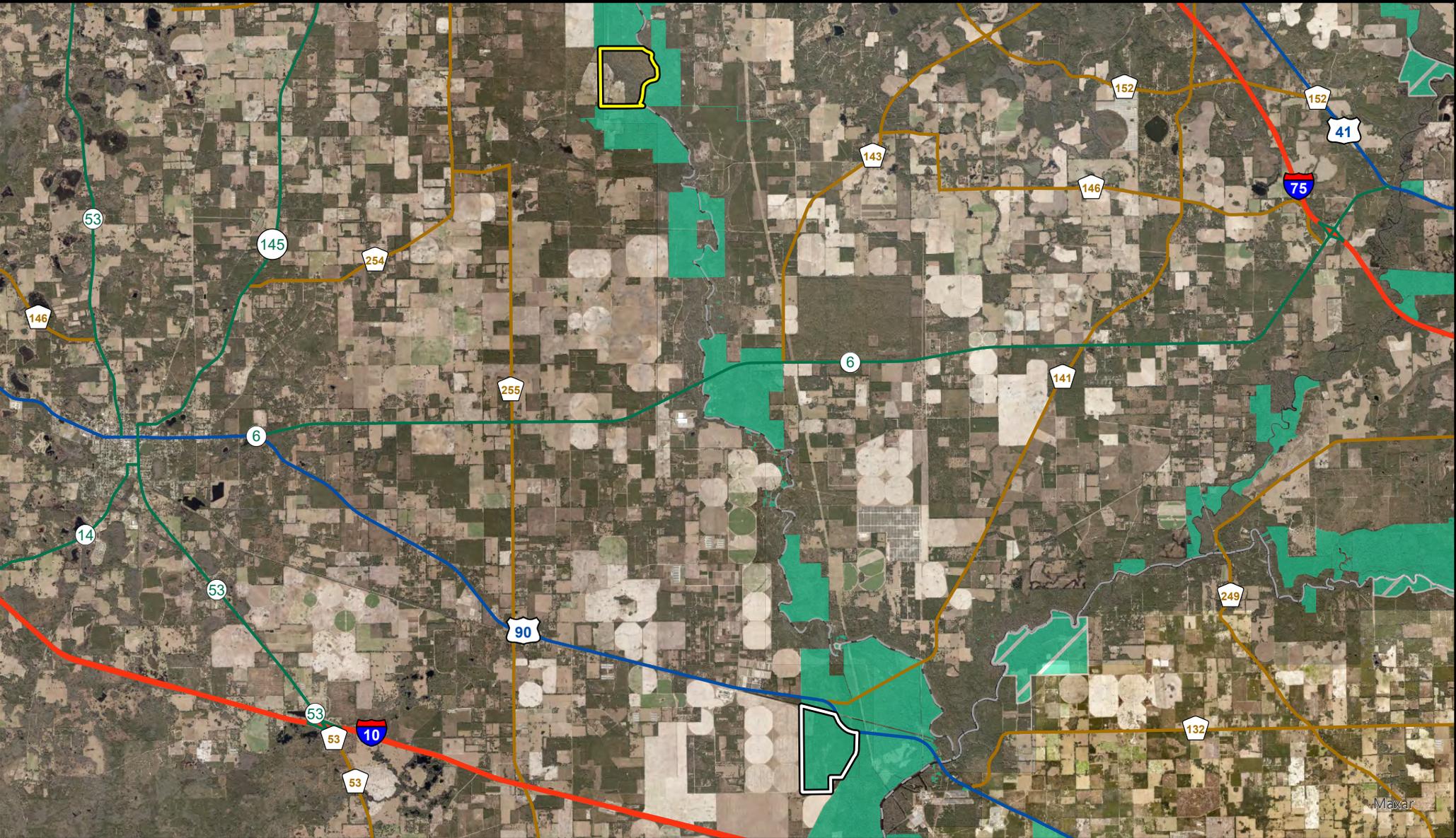
In February 2025, the District received an offer from Lee Peanut Farms, LLC for the exchange of 696 +/- acres of the District's Ellaville Tract in Madison County for 548 +/- acres of Riverview Farms in Madison County. On July 8, 2025, the District received a written statement from the applicant stating that negotiations are ceased, and the exchange is now closed.

The District's Ellaville parcels were purchased on December 01, 1988, using Water Management Land Trust funds. The property is part of Twin Rivers State Forest and managed by the Florida Forest Service. In 2012, the property was identified and declared surplus by the Governing Board in Resolution 2012-69. The property was later removed from monthly reports to the Governing Board but retained its surplus designation.

Staff requests the Governing Board authorize staff to explore options for an intergovernmental conveyance pursuant to section 373.056, Florida Statutes; and rescind Resolution 2012-069 resulting in the removal of the tract from the District's surplus list pursuant to section 373.089, Florida Statutes.

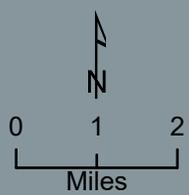
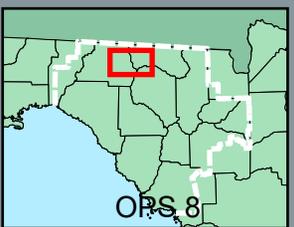
A map of the property is attached.

KCP/ao
Attachments



-  SRWMD Ellaville Boundary
-  Riverview Farms Boundary
-  SRWMD Ownership
-  SRWMD Conservation Easement

Ellaville Exchange Madison County



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 3/6/2025

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: July 23, 2025
 RE: Land Management Update Report

BACKGROUND

The following information summarizes land management activities cumulative as of June 30, 2025.

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 | Start July | 0.0% |
| Mechanical Treatments | 3,214 | 2,403 | 74.7% |
| Mallory Swamp Mechanical Treatments | 894 | 0 | 0.0% |

| Prescribed Fire (acres) | FY 2025 Planned | Reporting Period Completed | Percent Complete |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| SRWMD | 10,650 | 7,643 | 71.7% |
| FFS - Twin Rivers State Forest | 700 | 248 | 35.4% |

| Invasive Plant Treatment | FY 2025 Planned | Reporting Period Completed | Percent Complete |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Edwards Bottomland (acres) | 7.11 | Started June | 0% |
| Contractors (acres) | 145.83 | Started June | 0% |

| Ecological Services Monitoring | FY 2025 Planned | Reporting Period Completed | Percent Complete |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Rare Plants Monitoring (acres) | 2,269 | Started April | 0% |
| Wading Bird Rookeries (sites) | 13 | 13 | 100% |
| Natural Community Mapping (acres) | 313 | Started May | 0% |
| Gopher Tortoise Surveys (acres) | 159 | 110 | 69% |

| Timber Harvests | FY 2025 Planned | Reporting Period Completed | Percent Complete |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Acreage Sold | 1,764 | 2,462 | 139% |
| Revenue (estimated) | \$1,064,000 | \$945,096.68 | 88% |

| Current Timber Sales | County | Acreage | Type | Status or Revenue |
|--|-----------|---------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Sandlin Bay #9 | Columbia | 374 | Thinning | \$188,865 |
| Woods Ferry #7 | Suwannee | 155 | Thinning | Active |
| Cuba Bay #4 | Madison | 51 | Thinning | Inactive |
| Steinhatchee Springs #24 | Lafayette | 192 | Thinning | Complete |
| Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 1 | Lafayette | 128 | Salvage Clearcut | \$20,555 |
| Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 2 | Lafayette | 419 | Salvage Clearcut | Active |
| Hurricane Helene Steinhatchee Salvage 3 | Lafayette | 117 | Salvage Clearcut | Inactive |
| Hurricane Helene TRSF Selective Salvage Ellaville | Madison | 592 | Salvage Damaged Wood Only | Inactive |
| Hurricane Helene TRSF Westwood West Chipping Salvage | Madison | 130 | Chip Damaged Wood Only | Active |
| Hatchbend #1 | Lafayette | 91 | Clearcut | Inactive |
| Cabbage Creek #2 | Taylor | 382 | Thinning | Inactive |

| Reforestation | FY 2025 Planned | Reporting Period Completed | Percent Complete |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Reforestation (acres) | 293 | 293 | 100% |

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 | 3 | 23% |

| Hydrologic & Road Maintenance | FY 2025 Planned | Reporting Period Completed | Percent Complete |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Culvert Replacements | 9 | 4 | 44% |
| Road maintenance (miles) | 144 | 94 | 65% |

| Tract Maintenance | FY 2025 Planned | Reporting Period Completed | Percent Complete |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Mowing (total miles) | 1,710 | 1009 | 59% |
| Site Maintenance (total visits) | 2568 | 1660 | 64% |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-----|-----|
| Enhanced Patrols (hours) | 800 | 617 | 77% |
| Sign Replacements | 51 | 19 | 37% |
| Boundary Line Painting (miles) | 115.4 | 12 | 10% |

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.

Starke Bypass Mitigation Area: Tree planting survival checks were completed across the entire project area. This was done at the 6-month interval since planting occurred with the final check to be conducted at 1 year post planting. Although good survival was recorded in most areas, some mortality was observed in other areas which seemed to be caused by abnormally dry conditions that have persisted in this area since April. Staff and contractors will continue to evaluate the site over the next few months to determine if any replanting work needs to be conducted. Also, the initial round of invasive plant treatment work is currently being conducted on approximately 251 acres and this work is expected to continue until mid-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 of the sitework has been completed. New signs have been installed.

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 conducted site inspections for the damaged facilities.

Suwannee Springs Park: The damaged staircase has been removed and an overlook observation area of the river constructed. The damaged fence has been repaired. Picnic table repair is underway.

Falmouth Springs Park: The park remains closed due to damage to the boardwalk. The boardwalk and fence were recently removed from the site including all debris. The picnic table repair is underway. Site design for spring access and parking design are contracted with Eautaw and should be completed this fiscal year.

Owen Springs Tract: The project 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 have also been completed. Parking parameter fencing and drive around fencing installation is complete. Invasive species treatment is contracted to start early July. Plan to reopen by August.

Steinhatchee Falls Park: Topographic surveys and geotechnical investigations for the boat ramp reconstruction are complete. Site plans have been developed. Site design and engineering are 100 percent complete. FDEP and ACOE permits have been issued. Seeking funding for project.

Blue Sink Canoe Launch: Removal of sediment from concrete pathway and repairs to erosion control matting is contracted and should be complete by June 30, 2025. FEMA mitigation measures are being discussed and determined.

Atsena Otie Key: Coordination with the Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge for repairs to the Clivus Mulch restroom, boardwalk, and kiosk is underway. USFWS engineering facility staff have conducted an assessment. USFWS has received Congressional funding to make repairs. Discussion underway with LSNWR regarding project priorities. This project was withdrawn from SRWMD facility damage report to FEMA.

Lukens Kayak Launch: Due to launch site damage and erosion impacts from the storm, the site has been closed and removed from the public-use recreation map. Potential relocation of the site is being reviewed.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Lorna Radcliff, Chief, Office of Land Management

THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Office of Outreach and Operations

DATE: July 11, 2025

RE: Task Work Assignment with Lieupo's Maintenance Group, LLC for Recreation Maintenance Services for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to approve a task work assignment with Lieupo's Maintenance Group, LLC for recreation maintenance services on District lands for an amount not to exceed \$304,560.

BACKGROUND

Maintenance of recreation facilities are integral to managing public lands. District lands are open to the public and staff strives to provide quality resource-based recreation opportunities.

Recreation maintenance services may include but are not limited to the removal of litter, removal of downed trees from roads, repair or installation of signs, gates, and cables, mowing of vegetation surrounding signs, kiosks, gates, or parking areas, reporting vandalism, road and parking area mowing, cleaning facilities.

The District entered into Contract 24/25-003 with Lieupo's Maintenance Group, LLC on July 29, 2024. The contract allows for featured and dispersed recreation maintenance set by rates on ITB 23/24-016.

Lieupo's Maintenance Group, LLC will provide featured and dispersed recreation maintenance services to all parks, campgrounds, and tracts in the Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, and Southwest Regions in Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Funding for this TWA is included in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tentative Budget and is contingent upon approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Final Budget. This TWA will expire September 30, 2026.

LR/ao

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Lorna Radcliff, Chief, Office of Land Management
THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Division of Outreach and Operations
DATE: July 14, 2025
RE: Task Work Assignment with 3G Environmental Services, LLC for Ditch Mowing Services for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to execute a task work assignment with 3G Environmental Services, LLC for ditch mowing services on District lands for an amount not to exceed \$149,000.

BACKGROUND

Contract 23/24-045 with 3G Environmental Services, LLC allows for road and ditch mowing services based on per mile rates set by ITB 23/24-001.

The intent of this task work assignment (TWA) is to maintain District road right-of-way and road ditches within District lands using specialty mowing equipment. Ditch mowing is periodically required within and along roads, ditch edges, and within areas unreachable by standard mowers due to the height of encroaching foliage or proximity to adjacent steep ditching. Ditch mowing is also required when the foliage size to be removed has exceeded the capabilities of standard mowing equipment.

Ditch mowing supports land management activities by improving access, enhancing fire breaks across roads, keeping debris off of vehicles/equipment, and enhancing recreational use.

Assigned work locations are subject to change based on needs of the District, weather conditions, or other ecological factors.

Funding for this TWA is included in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tentative Budget and is contingent upon approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Final Budget. This TWA will expire September 30, 2026.

WI/ao

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Lorna Radcliff, Chief, Office of Land Management
THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Division of Outreach and Operations
DATE: July 10, 2025
RE: Task Work Assignment with Sunshine Outdoor Services, LLC for Road and Hydrological Facility Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the executive director to approve a task work assignment with Sunshine Outdoor Services, LLC for road and hydrological facility maintenance on District lands for an amount not to exceed \$310,000.

BACKGROUND

Contract 23/24-009 with Sunshine Outdoor Services, LLC allows for road maintenance and hydrologic facility services based on hourly rates set by ITB 22/23-020.

The intent of this task work assignment (TWA) is to conduct road and hydrologic maintenance on District tracts and access easements for the benefit of District operations and public access in FY 2025-2026. Work planned within this TWA includes approximately 144 miles of routine road maintenance in all regions of the District. Routine road maintenance generally consists of a combination of grading or minimal lime rock patching.

In addition to routine maintenance, approximately 22 miles of intensive road repair are planned for six different tracts which include, Goose Pasture, Cabbage Creek, Natural Well Branch, Steinhatchee Springs, Lake Rowel and Lake Alto tracts. These repairs will include a heavier application of lime rock, roadbed bolstering, ditch pulling, and hydrological facility repair or maintenance.

District lands are vulnerable to adverse weather conditions, based on this fact and possible needs of the District, tract locations, work assignments, and objectives are subject to change.

Graders, bulldozers, excavators, skid loaders, and dump trucks are planned for use in this TWA. The use of lime rock and hard rock are required and will be purchased with separate purchase orders not associated with the cost of this TWA. Aggregate will be picked up and delivered by Sunshine Outdoor Services, LLC.

Funding for this TWA is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Tentative Budget and is contingent upon approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Final Budget. This TWA will expire September 30, 2026.

WI/ao

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board
FROM: Lorna Radcliff, Chief, Office of Land Management
THRU: Katelyn Potter, Director, Division of Outreach and Operations
DATE: July 15, 2025
RE: 2025 District Land Management Plan

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the 2025 District Land Management Plan.

BACKGROUND

The District Land Management Plan (DLMP) establishes general directives to guide the management of all fee title lands held by the District. The Governing Board must approve the DLMP prior to its implementation. The 2025 DLMP is consistent with previous plans in that it was developed using Florida Statutes, program directives, and Board policy.

The 2025 DLMP integrated in the context of the Excellence in Land Management Program into the Land Management and Operations portion. The revised DLMP provides land management goals, objectives and metrics of success for managing District-owned lands. The 2025 DLMP adds a new goal for Road and Hydrologic Infrastructure, as well as updates the titles of a couple of the goals for clarity. Additionally, Appendix A was updated to streamline the DFC table to our operational natural communities. Lastly, Appendix B was removed to eliminate an outdated list of lands as the District acquires or disposes of land.

The 2025 DLMP will supersede the DLMP adopted by the Governing Board in 2018, and all previous versions.

LR/ao
Attachment

2025 Suwannee River Water Management District Land Management Plan



SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The District Land Management Plan (DLMP) establishes the general policies that will guide the management of all fee title lands held by the District; the Board approves the DLMP before it is implemented. This updated management plan is consistent with previous plans in that it was developed using Florida Statutes, Directives and previous Board policy as guidelines. It provides land management objectives and goals to District Land Acquisition and Management Department staff to adequately manage lands titled to the Board.

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Introduction

The Florida Water Resources Act of 1972 (WRA) (Chapter 373, F.S.) granted Florida's five water management districts broad authority and responsibility. The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) is one of five regional water management districts in Florida. The responsibilities of all five districts encompass four broad categories: water supply (including water allocation and conservation), water quality, flood protection, and natural systems management.

The five water management districts, established by the State Legislature and recognized in the State Constitution, are set up largely on hydrologic boundaries. The water management districts are funded in part by ad valorem taxes which emanates from a constitutional amendment passed by Floridians in 1976. Each water management district is governed by its governing board, whose members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. There is also general oversight at the state level by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The Governing Board (Board) of the District is comprised of nine members.

The District Land Management Plan (DLMP) establishes the program and operational policies that guide the management of all fee title or less than fee lands held by the District. It provides land management goals and objectives for managing District-owned lands. The most recent DLMP was adopted by the Board in 2018. This 2025 DLMP revision was developed using Florida Statutes, Program Directives, and Board policy as guidelines.

Through land acquisition the District strives to acquire and manage District lands to preserve, protect or improve exceptional water resource values and related natural systems. Strategies to achieve this program initiative are as follows:

- Manage District lands to achieve the highest natural resource value possible, leading the region in quality of public lands, while still generating sustainable revenue streams from the properties.
- Maximize the water resource values of District-owned property by identifying opportunities to restore hydrologic function on current properties; and by analyzing the ability of all future acquisitions to contribute to the District's missions to protect and enhance the area's water quantity and quality, aquifer recharge, and flood protection.
- Surplus District lands that are not needed for conservation or water resource development projects, investing revenue back into the District's natural systems programs.
- Identify and foster partnerships to assist in acquiring and managing lands that preserve and restore Outstanding Florida Springs, priority water bodies, natural systems, and provide flood protection.
- Develop land conservation programs that assist in preserving the unique connections between the area's economy and natural resources, while achieving the District's core missions.

Lands titled to the District are managed under a multiple-use policy that emphasizes water resource protection, maintenance and restoration of the land's natural state and condition, and provisions for public access and recreation. Planning land management activities and uses at the ownership level allow for efficient and effective implementation of Governing Board priorities and achievement of goals.

Location and Description

The DLMP is broad in scope because it directs land management across natural communities at the ownership level. The District owns land and property rights within 13 North-Central Florida counties. The District’s jurisdictional boundary is approximately 7,640 square miles across all or part of 15 North-Central Florida counties (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Suwannee River Water Management District



The District holds both fee-simple title and conservation easements and other less-than-fee interests. The majority of these lands are located along rivers, springs, headwaters, and water recharge areas which provide the following natural resource benefits:

- Preserving floodplain areas to maintain storage capacity, attenuate floodwaters, and prevent inappropriate development;
- Preventing groundwater contamination by maintaining low intensity land uses within the floodplain and high recharge areas;
- Preserving and/or restoring spring areas to improve surface and ground water;
- Preserving and/or restoring natural plant communities throughout the area to support or enhance populations of game, non-game, and federal/state listed plant and animal species;
- Preserving aquatic buffer zones from high impact uses that have a high potential to degrade surface water quality; and
- Supporting water resource development initiatives.

District Land Management Plan - Goals

Within the District Land Management Plan (DLMP), several goals have been developed to help guide land management decisions, provide the resource benefits listed above, and provide opportunities for public access and recreation. Goals within the DLMP include the following five categories:

- **Natural Resource Protection** – Protect, enhance or restore natural and cultural resources on lands owned by the District.
- **Road and Hydrologic Infrastructure** – Maintain road and hydrologic infrastructure on District lands to a level that successfully facilitates all resource protection and public use objectives.
- **Public Use** – Provide the public with high quality, natural resource compatible, recreation and education opportunities.
- **Stakeholder Engagement**– Coordinate with both public and private stakeholders in the management of District lands.
- **Fiscal Responsibility – Protect resources and manage District lands in an efficient manner within limits of the District’s annual budget.**

Within each of these goal categories, a set of corresponding objectives and metrics has been developed to help ensure a level of excellence is achieved in all land management activities. These parameters are beneficial in many ways and can be used to help track and quantify the implementation of land management activities, provide a format for reporting information to stakeholders, and create a mechanism for using adaptive management as needed.

Because many of these parameters are quantifiable, they can also be used as assessment tools in conjunction with statutorily required Land Management Review Team (LMRT) evaluations (section 373.591, F.S.). In this process, participants have the ability to evaluate and score the District on whether land management activities were deficient, meeting, or exceeding the goals listed in the DLMP. The LMRT process also scores the District on determining whether actions comply with state statutes (section 259.036, F.S.).

Listed below are the five land management goal categories along with corresponding objectives and metrics.

I – NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

Goal - Protect, enhance or restore natural and cultural resources on lands owned by the District.

This DLMP goal has been divided into six separate resource protection areas with their own specific objectives and metrics. These areas include water resources, forest resources, vegetation management, invasive/exotic plant management, rare species resources, and cultural resources. Resource management is most effective when the objectives of all these resource protection areas are addressed in an integrated manner. This is due to the complex and interrelated functions each resource and process has on the others. Managing a spatial scale that incorporates the similarities and interconnectedness of the resources is a holistic and effective approach to land management. When resources are managed correctly following the objectives listed below, visitors will also have a more enjoyable experience, take away a better opinion of District management activities, and obtain a firsthand understanding of the District's message regarding natural resource stewardship.

Listed below are the six resource protection areas and their corresponding objectives and metrics that can be used to help meet this DLMP goal.

1) Water Resources

The objectives listed below will help protect water resources such as river floodplains, wetlands, springs, lakes, etc. District lands have been acquired for a variety of purposes including protecting the 10-year and 100-year floodplains, mitigating flood impacts, flood abatement, water resource protection, spring-shed protection, water recharge protection, and local and regional water resource projects. Lands acquired to protect floodplains also highlight the District's emphasis on non-structural floodplain management wherever practical.

Objectives - Water Resources

- Minimize structural floodplain management on District-managed lands.
- Prevent water resource degradation when conducting all land management activities by implementing Silvicultural best management practices (BMPs).
- Design water resource projects or install/maintain water control structures that protect or enhance water resources..

Metrics - Water Resources

- Number of acres purchased that provide protection for water resources.
- Number of projects completed to reduce erosion near springs, rivers, or waterways.
- Provide compliance report results of bi-annual BMP audits conducted on District lands by the Florida Forest Service.

2) Forest Resources

Forested lands serve as habitat for many game, non-game, and federal/state listed plant and animal species. When managed properly, these lands also benefit water resources by facilitating more efficient water infiltration and reducing evapotranspiration and surface water runoff. This process in turn benefits aquifers and allows for a slower release of water into streams, rivers, and downstream coastal estuaries. The District strives to maintain healthy, sustainable forests. Sustainable forest management means that current practices and the attainment of short-term goals should not compromise the capacity of the forests to deliver ecosystem services and economic products in the future. In its simplest terms, this is

accomplished by limiting harvesting so that the rate of removal does not exceed the rate of growth.

The District follows the concepts of ecological forestry in order to retain and/or enhance natural community heterogeneity and complexity; therefore, silvicultural operations will incorporate natural stand development and disturbance patterns.

The District will maintain a Forest Management Standard which guides staff in planning, implementing, and overseeing silvicultural operations such as timber harvests, site preparation, and reforestation. All silvicultural operations are intended to improve or maintain the DFC and forest health of historically pine dominated natural communities. Professional forestry consultants will be utilized as needed to meet forest management goals.

To help meet natural community and forest protection objectives listed in the Forest Management Standard, one of the keystone silvicultural operations implemented on District lands is pine timber harvests. These operations are used to improve pine forest health and vigor while generating revenue. Pine stands with offsite species, overly stocked stands, growth stagnation, or older stands with large volumes of timber are potentially unhealthy and may be prone to insect or disease infestations. At a minimum, the District will implement timber harvests to protect the pine forest assets and the public investment. Commercial harvests will be conducted to provide a reliable source of revenue generation while considering timber markets and forest industry insight when making harvest decisions. Timber security measures and suitable performance bonds will be implemented on all timber harvests to protect public investment and potential financial returns.

Objectives - Forest Resources

- Manage forest resources to work towards or meet Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) natural community descriptions.
- Protect water quality and certain wildlife habitat values by utilizing Florida's silvicultural best management practices (BMPs) when conducting forest management work.
- Manage forest resources for stand or landscape level heterogeneity to help protect against catastrophic loss from environmental factors such as insects, disease, storms and wildfire
- Manage forest resources for stand or landscape level heterogeneity to attain a multi-aged and vertically diverse forests, including retaining dominant and/or old growth trees.
- Ensure that commercial timber harvests provide financial returns that are methodical and reflective of District revenue needs.
- Maintain accurate and current forest resource inventory data based on designated inventory schedules.
- Reforest using techniques that maximize seedling survival and minimize damage to other natural resources.
-

Metrics - Forest Resources

- Acres meeting the forest management standard guidelines to work towards or maintain the FNAI natural community descriptions.
- Acre ratios of young, intermediate, mature and old growth timber stands.
- Acres with multi-aged and vertically diverse forests, including retaining dominant and/or old growth trees.
- 5-year trend line of operational revenue generated from timber harvests.
- Percentage of acres inventoried that meet the forest management standards.

- Number of acres reforested that meet seedling survival guidelines..

3) Vegetation Management

The District's primary vegetation management objective is to maintain structurally diverse and naturally functioning natural plant communities that provide habitat for a wide variety of game, non-game and federal/state listed plant/animal species while also protecting forest resources from the damaging effects of wildfire. To help meet this objective, the District uses natural plant community Desired Future Condition (DFC) parameters to help guide corresponding vegetation/forest management work. These guidelines consist of measurable parameters that can be incorporated into the planning, implementation, and reporting processes when conducting natural resource management and restoration work.

Natural community Desired Future Condition guidelines are included in the Vegetation Management standard and include the main communities where the District conducts the majority of its natural resource management work. The DFC guidelines outline natural community structure, dominant plant species assemblages, , and disturbance intervals for listed natural communities. The information included in these DFCs is based on region and is documented in published literature and historical references

Although prescribed fire is the most important land management tool, both ecologically and economically, used to help maintain and restore natural communities to designated DFC parameters, alternative tools like groundcover restoration and mechanical/chemical treatments can also be used to help maintain or move these communities closer to listed DFC vegetation objectives. These alternative tools are often used in areas where groundcover is deficient, smoke management issues or heavy fuel loading is a concern, or in any area where timber resources need protection from potential damage caused by the use of prescribed fire.

Objectives – Vegetation Management

- Implement management practices that promote structurally diverse, naturally functioning plant communities as designated in DFC guidelines to the extent practicable.
- Restore/maintain designated Disturbance Intervals for natural plant communities following DFC guidelines.
- Enhance native ground cover resources with local stock where needed to help achieve ecosystem functionality.

Metrics – Vegetation Management

- Number of acres that are within their designated DFC Disturbance Interval.
- Number of acres where prescribed fire is being successfully used as the main tool to maintain natural communities.
- Number of acres where mechanical or chemical vegetation management work is being conducted to help maintain or move natural communities closer to DFC parameters.
- Number of acres where groundcover restoration work was conducted.

4) Invasive Exotic Plant Management

There are a wide variety of non-native plant species that inhabit the natural communities of Florida. Sustainable management of natural communities requires District staff to take an active role in controlling and preventing the spread of these species. The District maintains an Invasive Exotic Plant Management Standard that provides details on how this process is implemented. The District's management strategy is a multi-faceted approach that directly affects invasive exotic plant infestations and provides mechanisms to prevent their persistence and spread to

surrounding areas. The District actively monitors and controls all category I and II invasive exotic vegetation as published by the Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC). To further protect District-managed lands from the potential spread of exotic invasive vegetation staff utilizes a “Come Clean, Leave Clean” standard for all contractual work. Contractors working on behalf of the District may unknowingly import noxious weed material from outside areas or take weed material off District lands and infest other locales.

Objectives – Invasive/Exotic Management

- Annually monitor and treat active infestations on District lands
- Conduct invasive plant surveys on newly acquired lands or District lands that currently contain no records.
- Maintain or update Invasive Plant GIS database and make it available to District staff.
-
- Metrics – Invasive/Exotic Management
- Percent of active infestations monitored and treated each fiscal year.
- Number of new invasive plant surveys conducted.
- Document if the Invasive Plant GIS database has been maintained or updated and made available to District staff.

5) Rare Species Resources

District lands provide habitat to numerous native plant and animal life, some of which are classified as rare species. The District relies on the following lists to classify a species as rare:

- Listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as federally threatened or endangered; or
- Listed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) as threatened or endangered; or
- Listed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry as threatened, endangered, or commercially exploited.

One of the main directives of the District’s resource protection goals is to restore, enhance, or maintain natural communities to the highest degree possible using the best information and tools available. Through the implementation of this process, high quality habitat will also be created for a wide variety of plant and animal species including rare species. While activities that improve natural communities may increase the abundance of rare species, activities that degrade these communities, either in the short or long term, could potentially lead to a decline or loss of a rare species.

To prevent the degradation of natural communities and potential negative impacts on rare species populations, it is important to know both the location and management guidelines associated with these communities and species populations. By using the District’s Rare Species Standard, Florida’s Forestry Wildlife Best Management Practices for State Imperiled Species, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s and other scientific land management guidelines, the District intends to maintain or improve rare species habitat on lands designated as restoration areas. On restoration areas, the following objectives will ensure the District is protecting or improving rare species resources.

Objectives - Rare Species Resources

- Delineate natural plant communities on newly acquired properties, or on properties where natural community data is incomplete or in question.
- Monitor existing rare plant and animal populations on District restoration areas,

- Conduct rare plant and animal surveys on District restoration areas to gather population and location data that can be used to guide land management practices.
- Maintain/Update natural community and rare species GIS layer files for staff use to help guide management practices.
- Research scientific improvements to land management activities and techniques intended to improve rare species habitat.

Metrics - Rare Species Resources

- Number of acres of natural plant communities delineated.
- Number of known rare plant and animal occurrences monitored, number observed, population trends, etc.
- Number of acres or populations where rare species surveys were conducted.
- Document that the Rare Species GIS layer has been maintained/updated to provide staff with the most current rare species locations and status.
- Ensure District staff has the most current information on how to best manage specific rare species found on District lands.

6) Cultural Resources

Artifacts and remnants of past human inhabitants are part of the land's natural history. The District's goal is to protect and minimize damage to these important resources during all land management activities.

Objectives - Cultural Resources

- Monitor the condition of all cultural and historical resources sites on District-managed lands that are classified as significant sites by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources.
- Document location of new cultural and historical resources on District-managed lands and share this information with the Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources.
- Monitor known cultural artifact looting sites and document any new sites that are discovered. This work will be done to determine the size/extent of these impacted areas and provide law enforcement with location information and activity status.
- Provide District staff with the GIS layer file from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources that identifies cultural/historical sites located on District lands to help guide management practices. Maintain and update this information on a regular basis.

Metrics – Cultural Resources

- Number of significant cultural/historical sites monitored.
- Number of new cultural/historical sites located on District lands. A number of these sites were reported to the Florida Department of State, Division of Historic Resources.
- Number of known cultural resource looting sites monitored, number of new sites located, number of sites reported to law enforcement.
- Document that GIS layer file identifying the location of cultural/historical resources on District lands has been maintained or updated and made available to District staff, based on credible project need, to help guide management activities.

II – ROAD AND HYDROLOGIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Goal - Maintain road and hydrologic infrastructure on District lands to a level that successfully facilitates all resource protection and public use objectives.

The maintenance of road and hydrological facilities on District lands is an integral part of meeting many of the District's resource protection and public use objectives. Both the District's Road/Hydrological Maintenance Standard and Road Mowing Standard provide detailed information regarding the implementation of this work. These standards contain information regarding road classification, road use, road/hydrological installation and maintenance guidelines, and road mowing guidelines. Roads will be inspected and maintained to a level compatible with their listed use classification, and hydrologic facilities will be inspected and maintained to ensure their continued functionality.

District roads are designated into categories which determine development and maintenance standards. The three main road categories are public, secondary, and administrative. Roads classified as public or secondary are open to the public. Most road/hydrological maintenance work will occur on the three main road categories listed above. However, under some circumstances, work may occur on some roads classified as abandoned. This may happen on a one-time, temporary basis if designated by District staff. This could include circumstances such as the need to access timber resources, facilitate the use of prescribed fire, or conduct hydrological maintenance work.

Guidelines for the installation and maintenance of hydrologic facilities are incorporated into the Road/Hydrological Maintenance Standard because most District-managed hydrologic facilities are located along District roads. Additionally, roads have a high potential to degrade water quality unless properly built or maintained. District staff shall maintain roads and hydrologic facilities at a level compatible with their designated use.

Listed below are Road and Hydrologic Infrastructure objectives and metrics that can be implemented to help meet this DLMP goal.

- Objectives – Road/Hydrological Maintenance Inspect all public, secondary, and administrative roads on a periodic basis to determine if their condition is compatible with listed road standards.
- Conduct road maintenance work as needed to ensure road conditions are maintained at a level compatible with listed road standards.
- Inspect all hydrologic facilities on a periodic basis to determine if they are functioning correctly and meet all listed standards.
- Repair or replace hydrologic facilities as needed to ensure their continued functionality and compatibility with the listed standards.
- Mow all public, secondary and administrative road corridors two times each fiscal year or as directed by District staff.
- Daylight all public, secondary and administrative road/ditch-edge areas on a 5-year rotational basis or as directed by District staff.

Metrics – Road/Hydrological Maintenance

- Miles of public, secondary, and administrative roads inspected and maintained.
- Number of hydrologic facilities inspected and maintained/replaced.
- Miles of public, secondary and administrative road corridors mowed.
- Miles of public, secondary and administrative road/ditch-edge areas daylight.
- Number of tracts with access.

III - PUBLIC USE

Goal - Provide the public with high quality, natural resources compatible, recreation and education opportunities.

The vast majority of District lands are open to the public. Planning for public use on these lands includes evaluating aspects such as: sensitivity of the site to potential natural resource degradation, the proximity of similar recreational opportunities, the time and financial requirements to provide the use, and public demand for the site.

The District maintains a set of individual Public Use Standards that provide detailed information on many parts of the public use program. These standards provide information on aspects such as public and recreational use classifications, the Special Use Authorization (SUA) program, tract closure procedures, recreation development standards, recreation site maintenance standards, public outreach procedures, camping, recreation facilities, and construction and maintenance procedures. When implemented, these standards are designed to provide a safe, aesthetically pleasing, outdoor environment for public use while minimizing potential negative impacts to the surrounding natural resources. Although the District's goal is to provide the public with high quality, compatible resource-based opportunities, it is not intended to match the level of access or facilities offered at state or county parks.

Objectives – Public Use

- Inspect all public use and recreational facilities on a periodic basis to determine if their condition is compatible with their listed public and recreational use classification and standard.
- Conduct maintenance/repair work as needed to maintain all public use and recreational facilities to a level compatible with their listed use and standard.
- Provide Special Use Authorizations (SUA) for compatible public use activities.
- Follow Governing Board Directives 25-0003 and 24-0004 for exclusive use requests.
- Provide hunting and fishing opportunities on District lands.
- Coordinate with law enforcement agencies to enforce Florida statutes and administrative rules on District-managed lands.
- During emergency situations staff will assist persons in danger and communicate response with appropriate agencies.

Metrics – Public Use

- Number of public use and recreation facilities inspected including type/location.
- Number of public use and recreation facilities maintained and/or repaired including type/location.
- Number of SUA's issued.
- Number and type of exclusive use requests initiated.
- Number of tracts/acreages currently open to hunting; number tracts/acreage of new hunting opportunities developed.
- Number of enhanced patrol hours recorded.

IIII – STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Goal - Coordinate with both public and private stakeholders in the management of District lands.

Communication is a vital tool needed to help meet this DLMP goal and provide the public with awareness of all the unique natural systems and water resources within the District's

jurisdiction. To encourage and promote the use of District lands, all applicable modes of communication, including but not limited to print materials, press releases, outreach activities, social media, website, and other electronic applications should be used to help achieve this goal.

At the end of each fiscal year, the District generates an Annual Land Management Report that provides the Governing Board, stakeholders, and members of the public with information regarding land management activities that were accomplished that year. The report summarizes objectives of the approved DLMP and generally follows its organizational format addressing key topics that provide information as to whether District lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and in accordance with stated land management goals and objectives. It provides details of the five DLMP goal areas including Resource Protection, Road and Hydrological Infrastructure, Public Use, Communication, and Fiscal Responsibility.

The District is also required by statute to conduct Land Management Review Team (LMRT) evaluations (section 373.591, F.S.). In this process, participants have the ability to score the District on whether land management activities were deficient, meeting, or exceeding the goals and objectives listed in the DLMP. The LMRT process also scores the District on determining whether actions comply with state statutes (section 259.036, F.S.).

The LMRT is composed of a diverse group of professionals and citizens who volunteer their time to comment on the District's land management activities and procedures. The group meets at least annually, at which time District staff provides an overview of management objectives and recent activities. LMRT participants are asked to provide an assessment as to whether District lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and whether District staff is following established management plans as represented on the properties that they inspect. Participants' assessments and any additional comments are then summarized and presented to the District Governing Board for its consideration and response of any potential corrective actions.

Objectives – Stakeholder Engagement

- Use multiple forms of media to communicate with stakeholders to provide information about District land management goals, objectives, and accomplishments.
- Provide opportunities for stakeholders to evaluate, critique, and score the District's overall land management process.

Metrics – Stakeholder Engagement

- Number of press releases regarding District lands.
- Number of social media posts with statistics.
- Number of presentations regarding District lands.
- Number of alerts/notices regarding land management activities.
- Document scores submitted by stakeholders in conjunction with the statutorily required Land Management Review Team process.

V – FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Goal - Protect resources and manage District lands in an efficient manner within the limits of the District's annual budget.

Fiscal responsibility requires staff to manage and protect resources on District lands in an efficient and effective manner within the limits of an annual budget. Land management

expenses are met from a variety of funding sources. However, the District's annual budget is primarily funded through a combination of District revenues and state appropriations.

Revenues derived from District lands are the result of operations conducted to achieve land management objectives. Any funds generated will be used to offset land management costs or for capital improvements on District lands. The District does not charge user fees for general recreation on fee-simple lands under District management. Other agencies may impose fees if the District leases the tract to that agency, such as the Florida Park Service. Hunting and fishing licenses administered by FWC are required for those activities on tracts where hunting and fishing are an approved recreational use.

When the District acquires private property, the land becomes public property, and the parcel is taken off the county tax roll. To minimize the impact this removal would have on county government tax revenues, Florida Statutes has established a payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) system for lands acquired by water management districts. If sufficient funds are available, the District is required to make PILT payments to qualifying counties and local governments located in eligible counties.

Objectives – Fiscal Responsibility

- Minimize structural operational management approaches wherever practical.
- Use the most cost effective and experienced firms to complete land management activities
- Coordinates with other land management agencies and organizations to complete land management activities at reduced cost or no cost to the District.
- Locate and obtain grants to help fund land management projects on District-managed lands.
- Implement a Surplus Lands Program which disposes or conveys lands that are no longer needed for resource protection and redirects these funds to higher value, water-resource lands.
- Make PILT payments to qualifying counties or local governments as directed by Florida statute.

Metrics – Fiscal Responsibility

- Report examples of where management costs were minimized.
- Document examples of where the District coordinated with other agencies or organizations to reduce costs.
- Document the number of grants obtained to help fund land management projects.
- Document the amount of acreage disposed of through the District's Surplus Land Program.
- Document the amount of PILT payments made to counties or local governments.
- Document the opportunities pursued for revenue generation.
- Identify opportunities for continuous improvement with fiscal responsibilities.

Appendix A: Desired Future Conditions – Operational Natural Communities

| Natural Community Description | Shrubs (% cover) | Graminoids (% cover) | Herb/Woody (% cover) | Burn Regime | Hydroperiod |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| Maritime Hammock (MR): Closed-canopy evergreen forests on stabilized coastal dunes. These communities are xeric to mesic, with excessively drained soils, but litter layer and closed canopy maintain higher relative humidity. | Dense or open *Yaupon, tough bull, wax myrtle, saw palmetto | Sparse to absent | Sparse to absent | Infrequent to None | None |
| Mesic Flatwoods (MF): Open canopy forest of widely spaced trees with little or no understory but a dense ground cover of herbs and shrubs. Occur on relatively flat, moderately to poorly drained terrain. Soils are typically acidic sands overlying an organic hardpan. Without fire it will succeed into hardwood dominated forests whose closed canopy can eliminate the ground cover. Associated with and often grade into WF, DP, or SCF. | 30-50% *Runner oak, saw palmetto, gallberry, huckleberry, fetterbush, wax myrtle, staggerbush, blueberry | 10-25% *Wiregrass, yellow-eyed grass, cutthroat grass | 10-25% *Gopher apple, tar flower, bog buttons, blackroot, flase foxglove, white-topped aster | 2-8 yrs | Saturated and/or briefly inundated during wet season. |
| Mesic Hammock (MH): An open or closed canopy forest dominated by live oak with cabbage palms found as a co-dominant. The mid- and ground story are not especially diverse. Soils are typically dry and are a combination of sand and organic matter. This community is found as isolated pockets or along the fringes of water bodies and mesic habitats. Can be found in somewhat xeric to almost hydric soils. Associated with and grades into MH, PH, HH, FM. | Dense or Open *saw palmetto, beautyberry, holly, gallberry, sparkleberry, plum, persimmon, blueberry, laurelcherry, yaupon, wax myrtle | Sparse to patchy | Sparse to patchy | Infrequent to None | Infrequent |
| Sandhill (SA): A forest of widely spaced trees with a sparse understory of deciduous oaks and a fairly dense ground cover of grasses and herbs on rolling hills of sand. Occur on hilltops and slopes of gently rolling hills. Soils are composed of deep, marine-deposited, yellowish sands that are well-drained and relatively sterile. Associated with and grade into SC, SCF, MF, UPF, or XH. | 10-30% *Sparkelberry, runner oak, persimmon, winged sumac | 25-50% *Wiregrass, pinewoods dropseed, Indian grass | 10-30% *Buckwheat, queen's delight, yellow foxglove, bracken fern, partridge pea, gopher apple, golden-aster | 2-5 yrs | None |
| Scrub (SC): Closed or open canopy of sand pine with dense clumps or vast thickets of scrub oaks and other shrubs dominating the understory and very sparse ground cover with open patches of barren sand. Occurs on sand ridges along former shorelines of well washed brilliant white sands. Associated with and grade into SA, SCF, and XH. | 30-75% *Myrtle oak, Chapman's oak, saw palmetto, rosemary, rusty lyonia, scrub palmetto, staggerbush | 0-10% *Various Poaceae species | 0-25% *Beak rush, milk peas, ground lichens | 10-50 yrs *however, scrub is a fire-maintained community. Fire regime based on scrub type or other ecological needs | None |
| Scrubby Flatwoods (SCF): Open canopy forest of widely scattered trees with a sparse shrubby understory and numerous areas of barren white sand. Occupy broad transitions or ecotones between SC and MF. Associated with and often grade into MF, SC, DP, or SA. | 30-75% *Chapman's oak, myrtle oak, saw palmetto, staggerbush, rusty lyonia, huckleberry, runner oak | 5-25% *Wiregrass and various other Poaceae species | 5-25% *Ground blueberry, gopher apple, tar flower, golden-aster, lichens, goldenrod, pinweeds | 8-25 yrs | None |
| Upland Hardwood Forest (UHF): Well-developed, closed canopy forests of upland hardwoods on rolling hills. UHF generally lacks the northern species and is generally more common in northern and central peninsular Florida. UHF is more common in the northern panhandle of Florida. Occur on rolling hills that often have limestone or phosphatic rock near the surface and occasionally as outcrops. Soils | 10-50% *Bumelia, sparkleberry, Hercules' club, beautyberry | 5-15% *Various Poaceae species | 10-30% | 25-100 yrs Fire will rarely carry through although could be indirectly | None |

| Natural Community Description | Shrubs (% cover) | Graminoids (% cover) | Herb/Woody (% cover) | Burn Regime | Hydroperiod |
|--|---|---|--|---|-------------|
| are generally sandy-clays or clayey sands with substantial organic and clacareous components. Associated with and grade into UPF, SA, or XH and are considered climax communities. | | | *Partridgeberry, greenbriars, trillium, beech drops, passionflower, bedstraw, silverbess, caric sedges | exposed on the edges from adjacent communities. | |
| Upland Mixed Woodland (UMW): Open to partially closed canopy over an open understory of mixed herbs and scattered shrubs. Occurs on loamy soils on drier sites than UHF and is often found in the ecotone between upland hardwood forest and frequently burned SA or UP where fires burn into the hardwood forest edge. Its dominant hardwood species are more resistant to fire than are those in the UHF and less resistant than those of the sandhills. Associated with and grade into UP, UHF, or SA and are considered climax communities. | *Dogwood, sparkleberry, rusty blackhaw, sassafras, hawthorns | *Various Poaceae species | *New Jersey tea, poison ivy, poison oak, Buckwheat, twinflower | 2-10 yrs Allow fire from adjacent communities burn into UMW but will likely not completely carry through | None |
| Upland Pine (UP): Widely spaced trees with few understory shrubs and a dense ground cover of grasses and herbs. Soils are sand with variable amounts of clays that help retain soil moisture creating mesic conditions. Associated with and grades into UMF/UHF. It may be confused with SA but can be differentiated by soil characteristics and plant species composition. | 20-50% *Runner oak, gallberry, huckleberry, dangleberry, twinflower, winged sumac, blueberry | 25-50% *Wiregrass, Indian grass, broomsedge, and various other Poaceae species | 25-50% *Goldenrod, partridge pea, dog fennel, snakeroot, golden-aster, yellow jessamine, bracken fern, greenbriar | 3-5 yrs | None |
| Wet Flatwoods (WF): Open canopy of scattered trees with thick shrubby understory and sparse ground cover or sparse understory and dense ground cover of hydrophytic herbs and shrubs. Occur on relatively flat, poorly drained terrain. Cabbage palms will occur on neutral soils underlain by marl, while pines occur on acidic soils. Associated with and grade into HH, MF, WP, or BS. | 25-50% *Wax myrtle, gallberry, titi, saw palmetto | 10-30% *Bluestem and various other species | 10-30% *Spikerush, beakrush, sedges, deer tongue, gay feather, greenbriar, pitcher plants | 3-10 yrs | 30-90 days |
| Xeric Hammock (XH): Occur on xeric soils dominated by oaks and often considered to be an advanced successional stage of scrub, scrubby flatwoods, or sandhill resulting from the long-term exclusion of fire. Associated with and grade into SC, SA, UMF, SF. | 10-50% *Staggerbush, saw palmetto, sparkleberry, beautyberry, Chapman's oak | 0-10% *Various Poaceae species | 0-20% *Various forbs and vines | 20-100 yrs | None |

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Susie Hetrick, Chief, Office of Water Resources

THRU: Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

DATE: July 10, 2025

RE: Interagency Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to execute an Interagency Joint Funding Agreement and no-cost amendments with the United States Geological Survey for water resource data collection services for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,090,860, with the District contributing \$559,340 of the total agreement amount for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

BACKGROUND

The District has cooperated with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) since the 1970's to collect high quality water resources data from major surface water stations throughout the District. The USGS operates and maintains data collection platforms, gages, and sensors at these stations; provides data quality assurance and publishes the data; and archives long-term hydrologic data.

This long-standing cooperation provides essential information that supports the production of flood warnings and forecasts, floodplain mapping, the determination of minimum flows and minimum water levels, groundwater modeling, and drought monitoring. Data collected under this agreement is provided in real-time to the public via the USGS national web page, the District's River Levels web page, and the District's automated river level phone service. Real-time data are also provided to the National Weather Service's Southeast River Forecast Center.

The proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Interagency Joint Funding Agreement (JFA) with the USGS is for a total amount of \$1,090,860 with the District contributing \$559,340 and the USGS and other cooperators contributing \$531,520.

Table 1 (attached) provides a detailed budget showing the costs of each monitoring station and a breakdown of the proposed cooperative funding from USGS. The per station costs reflect anticipated across-the-board increases in USGS costs associated with maintaining and monitoring each station. The USGS will discontinue monitoring several stations that were monitored under the FY25, resulting in overall lower costs for the FY26 agreement.

Funding for this agreement is included in the FY 2025-2026 Tentative Budget and is contingent upon approval of the FY 2025-2026 Final Budget.

SH/ak
Attachment

Long-term Streamflow Program with Suwannee River Water Management District for FY 2026

Period of performance: Oct. 1, 2025 to Sept. 30, 2026

| Station No. | Station Name | Total Cost SW | Total Cost QW | RESTORE | USGS FPS (\$) | SW CMF | QW CMF | SRWMD SW | SRWMD QW | Remarks |
|------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| TALLAHASSEE RAN | | | | | | | | | | |
| 02315550 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT SUWANNEE SPRINGS | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 2,500 | | \$ 7,320 | Temp/Cond |
| 02315626 | ALAPAHA RISE ABV SW 68 DR NR JASPER, FL | | \$ - | | | | | | \$ - | Temp/Cond and DCP |
| 02317620 | ALAPAHA RIVER NEAR JENNINGS | \$ 19,800 | | | | \$ 6,200 | | \$ 13,600 | | includes DCP |
| 02317620 | ALAPAHA RIVER NEAR JENNINGS | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 2,500 | | \$ 7,320 | Temp/Cond |
| 02319000 | WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER NEAR PINETTA | \$ 19,800 | | | | \$ 6,200 | | \$ 13,600 | | funded through PCA corp |
| 02319000 | WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER NEAR PINETTA | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 2,500 | | \$ 7,320 | Temp/Cond |
| 02319302 | MADISON BLUE SPRING NR BLUE SPRINGS, FL | \$ 28,340 | | | | \$ 4,560 | | \$ 23,780 | | DCP Well rating, includes well |
| 02319302 | MADISON BLUE SPRING NR BLUE SPRINGS, FL | | \$ 17,090 | | | | \$ 2,500 | | \$ 14,590 | Temp, Cond, DO |
| 02319394 | WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER NEAR LEE | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 11,040 | | \$ 24,120 | | index-velocity site; DCP |
| 02319394 | WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER NEAR LEE | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 2,500 | | \$ 7,320 | Temp/Cond |
| 02319800 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT DOWLING PARK | | \$ - | | | | | | \$ - | Temp/Cond |
| 02319950 | BLUE SPRINGS NEAR DELL | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 10,360 | | \$ 24,800 | | index-velocity site; DCP |
| 02319950 | BLUE SPRINGS NEAR DELL | | \$ 17,090 | | | | \$ 9,635 | | \$ 7,455 | Temp, Cond, DO |
| 02322688 | BLUE HOLE SPRING NR HILDRETH | \$ - | \$ - | | | \$ - | | \$ - | | Stage-Q |
| 02326526 | WACISSA RIVER NEAR WACISSA | | \$ - | | | | \$ - | | \$ - | Temp, Cond, DO, pH |
| 02326526 | WACISSA RIVER NEAR WACISSA | \$ - | \$ - | | | \$ - | | \$ - | | Stage only |
| 02326550 | AUCILLA RIVER NEAR NUTTAL RISE | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 4,780 | | \$ 30,380 | | IV |
| 02326550 | AUCILLA RIVER NEAR NUTTAL RISE | | \$ 14,550 | | | | \$ 9,575 | | \$ 4,975 | 2 level Temp/SC |
| 02319520 | FALMOUTH SPRING AT FALMOUTH | \$ - | \$ - | | | | | \$ - | | Stage only |
| 02319520 | FALMOUTH SPRING AT FALMOUTH | | \$ - | | | | | | \$ - | Temp, Cond, DO, pH |
| 02326050 | ECOFINA RV AT ECOFINA RV STATE PARK NR PERRY, FL | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 4,560 | | \$ 30,600 | | index-velocity site; DCP |
| 02326050 | ECOFINA RV AT ECOFINA RV STATE PARK NR PERRY, FL | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 4,660 | | \$ 5,160 | Temp/Cond |
| 02325543 | FENHOLLOWAY RIVER NEAR HAMPTON SPRINGS, FL | \$ - | \$ - | | | \$ - | | \$ - | | index-velocity site; DCP |
| 02325543 | FENHOLLOWAY RIVER NEAR HAMPTON SPRINGS, FL | | \$ - | | | | \$ - | | \$ - | Temp/Cond |
| 302307083101400 | SUWANNEE RV AB WITHLACOOCHEE RV AT ELLAVILLE, FL | | \$ 11,340 | | | | \$ 4,660 | | \$ 6,680 | Temp/Cond |
| 303224083101785 | DEAS FARM OBS WELL NR JENNINGS, FL | \$ - | | | | | | | | Santa Deas well used for Madison-Blue rating |
| ORLANDO RAN | | | | | | | | | | |
| 02320700 | SANTA FE RIVER NEAR GRAHAM | \$ - | | | | \$ - | | \$ - | | Stage-Q |
| 02321500 | SANTA FE RIVER AT WORTHINGTON SPRINGS | \$ 19,800 | | | | \$ 6,200 | | \$ 13,600 | | Stage-Q |
| 02321500 | SANTA FE RIVER AT WORTHINGTON SPRINGS | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 3,060 | | \$ 6,760 | Temp/Cond |
| 02321898 | SANTA FE RIVER AT O'LENO STATE PARK | \$ 19,800 | | | | \$ 6,200 | | \$ 13,600 | | Stage-Q |
| 02321958 | SANTA FE RIVER AT RIVER RISE NR HIGH SPRINGS | \$ 19,800 | | | | \$ 6,200 | | \$ 13,600 | | Stage-Q |
| 02321958 | SANTA FE RIVER AT RIVER RISE NR HIGH SPRINGS | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 3,060 | | \$ 6,760 | Temp/Cond |
| 02321975 | SANTA FE RIVER AT US HWY 441 Near High Springs, FL | \$ 19,800 | | | | \$ 6,200 | | \$ 13,600 | | Stage-Q |
| 02321975 | SANTA FE RIVER AT US HWY 441 Near High Springs, FL | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 2,400 | | \$ 7,420 | Temp/Cond |
| 02322500 | SANTA FE RIVER NEAR FORT WHITE | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 3,060 | | \$ 6,760 | Temp/Cond |
| 02322700 | ICHETUCKNEE R @ HWY27 NR HILDRETH | | \$ 17,090 | | | | \$ 12,560 | | \$ 4,530 | Temp, Cond, DO |
| 02322800 | SANTA FE RIVER NEAR HILDRETH | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 11,040 | | \$ 24,120 | | DCP, index-velocity |
| 02322800 | SANTA FE RIVER NEAR HILDRETH | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 3,060 | | \$ 6,760 | Temp/Cond |
| TAMPA RAN | | | | | | | | | | |
| 02323566 | MANATEE SPRING NR CHIEFLAND | \$ 28,340 | | | | \$ 9,760 | | \$ 18,580 | | DCP; Well rating, includes well |
| 02323566 | MANATEE SPRING NR CHIEFLAND | | \$ 17,090 | | | | \$ 12,560 | | \$ 4,530 | Temp, Cond, DO |
| 292921082583285 | DNR-Manatee Springs State Park Well | \$ - | | | | | | \$ - | | Well used with Manatee Springs Rating |
| 02313700 | WACCASASSA RIVER NEAR GULF HAMMOCK | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 11,040 | | \$ 24,120 | | index-vel site; w/ DCP |
| 02313700 | WACCASASSA RIVER NEAR GULF HAMMOCK | | \$ 17,090 | | | | \$ 12,560 | | \$ 4,530 | EXO2 - Temp, Cond, DO |
| 02320000 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT LURAVILLE | \$ 19,800 | | | \$ 8,540 | | | \$ 11,260 | | Stage-Q |
| 02320000 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT LURAVILLE | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 2,500 | | \$ 7,320 | Temp/Cond |
| 02320500 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT BRANFORD | | \$ 9,820 | | | | \$ 2,500 | | \$ 7,320 | Temp/Cond |
| 02323000 | SUWANNEE RIVER NEAR BELL | | \$ 9,820 | | | | | | \$ 9,820 | Temp/Cond |
| 02323500 | SUWANNEE RIVER NEAR WILCOX | \$ 35,160 | | | \$ 15,500 | | | \$ 19,660 | | index-velocity site; DCP |
| 02323592 | SUWANNEE RIVER AB GOPHER RIVER NR SUWANNEE | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 8,540 | | \$ 26,620 | | Index velocity |
| 02323592 | SUWANNEE RIVER AB GOPHER RIVER NR SUWANNEE | | \$ 14,550 | | | | | \$ 14,550 | | 2 level Temp/SC |
| 02323502 | FANNING SPRING NR WILCOX | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 11,040 | | \$ 24,120 | | index-velocity site; DCP |
| 02323502 | FANNING SPRING NR WILCOX | | \$ 17,090 | | | | \$ 12,560 | | \$ 4,530 | Temp, Cond, DO |
| 02324000 | STEINHATCHEE RIVER NEAR CROSS CITY | \$ - | | | | | | \$ - | | Stage-Q |
| 02324170 | STEINHATCHEE RIVER AT STEINHATCHEE, FL. | \$ 35,160 | | | | \$ 9,200 | | \$ 25,960 | | index-velocity site; DCP |
| 02324170 | STEINHATCHEE RIVER AT STEINHATCHEE, FL. | | \$ 14,550 | | | | \$ 4,660 | | \$ 9,890 | 2 level Temp/SC |
| FPS & FDOT | | | | | | | | | | |
| 02315500 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT WHITE SPRINGS | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| 02315550 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT SUWANNEE SPRINGS | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|--|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 02319500 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT ELLAVILLE | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| 02319800 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT DOWLING PARK | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| 02320500 | SUWANNEE RIVER AT BRANFORD | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| 02322500 | SANTA FE RIVER NEAR FORT WHITE | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| 02323000 | SUWANNEE RIVER NEAR BELL | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| 02326000 | ECONFINA NEAR PERRY | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| 02326500 | AUCILLA RIVER NEAR LAMONT | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FPS & FDOT |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| FDEP | | | | | | | | | | |
| 02321000 | NEW RIVER NEAR LAKE BUTLER | \$ 19,800 | | | | | | | | FDEP |
| 02322700 | ICHETUCKNEE R @ HWY27 NR HILDRETH | \$ 35,160 | | | | | | | | FDEP |
| 02320250 | TROY SPRING NEAR BRANFORD FLA | \$ 8,540 | | | | | | | | FDEP |
| 02320250 | TROY SPRING NEAR BRANFORD FLA | | \$ 17,090 | | | | | | | FDEP |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | \$ 788,580 | \$ 302,280 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | FPS & FDOT | | | | | \$ 202,240 | | | | |
| | SRWMD | | | | | | | \$ 389,720 | \$ 169,620 | |
| | Cooperative Matching Funds | | | | | | \$ 133,120 | \$ 115,570 | | |

| | Surface Water 2026 | Ground Water 2026 | Water Quality 2026 | Total 2026 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Totals | \$ 788,580 | \$ - | \$ 302,280 | \$ 1,090,860 |
| SRWMD | \$ 389,720 | \$ - | \$ 169,620 | \$ 559,340 |
| Cooperative Matching Funds | \$ 133,120 | \$ - | \$ 115,570 | \$ 248,690 |
| Federal Priority Stream Gaging & FDOT | \$ 202,240 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 202,240 |
| FDEP | \$ 63,500 | \$ - | \$ 17,090 | \$ 80,590 |

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Susie Hetrick, Chief, Office of Water Resources

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

DATE: July 10, 2025

RE: Task Work Assignment with WSP USA, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to approve a task work assignment and no-cost amendments with WSP USA Inc. to provide surface water and groundwater chemistry sample collection and biological data collection and analyses for an amount not to exceed \$366,354.38.

BACKGROUND

The District operates a broad network of surface water and groundwater sites for water quality and biological monitoring. The current water quality and biology network is managed through contractual services.

At the April 9, 2024 Governing Board meeting, the Board authorized the Executive Director to enter contracts with qualified firms to conduct environmental and engineering services for the District. WSP USA, Inc. is a pre-qualified firm under Chapter E - Environmental Data Collection and Assessments of the Engineering and Environmental Services Contract and has provided excellent service to the District in this capacity. This task work assignment (TWA) will include the following four tasks:

1. Water chemistry monitoring which includes collecting field analytes and water samples at up to 76 groundwater stations, and 144 surface water stations.
2. Aquatic macroinvertebrate monitoring, which includes sampling natural substrate at ten surface water stations using standard Florida Department of Environmental Protection Stream Condition Index (SCI) methods.
3. Periphyton monitoring, which includes deploying periphyton samplers at five surface water stations and analyzing for taxa, cell counts, density, dry weight, and biomass.
4. Water chemistry monitoring at up to 10 contingency stations to be determined as needed within the District.

This TWA does not include laboratory chemistry analyses. These analyses will be provided by the St. Johns River Water Management District's laboratory through a separate agreement approved by the Board at the July 2025 Governing Board Meeting.

Funding for this agreement is included in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY 2026) Tentative Budget and is contingent upon approval of the FY 2026 Final Budget.

SH/ak

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Robbie McKinney, Hydrologic Program Manager

THRU: Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources
Susie Hetrick, Water Resources Office Chief

DATE: July 7, 2025

RE: Task Work Assignment with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to execute task work assignment 23/24-140.03 and any associated no-cost amendments with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. to provide surface water discharge measurements and calculation of daily discharge values of streamflow for an amount not to exceed \$304,200.

BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has operated a network of surface and groundwater sites for water quality, discharge, and biological analyses since the late 1980s. The discharge measurement component, including streamflow measurements and calculation of daily flow values, is an essential data collection activity needed for the development of minimum flows and minimum water levels, for use as inputs to hydrologic modeling efforts associated with water resource development project implementation and assessment, and in hydrologic restoration efforts.

At the April 9, 2024, Governing Board meeting, the Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into contracts with qualified firms under Chapter E - Environmental Data Collection and Assessments of the Engineering and Environmental Services Request for Qualifications (RFQ 23/24-025AE) to conduct environmental and engineering services for the District.

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) provided discharge measurements and calculation services for 89 sites and 275 measurements for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. VHB will visit 92 sites and collect 294 measurements in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY 2026). The additional sites and measurements will help offset reductions in service from the United States Geological Survey.

Funding for this agreement is included in the FY 2026 Tentative Budget. This Task Work Assignment will expire September 30, 2026.

RM/ak