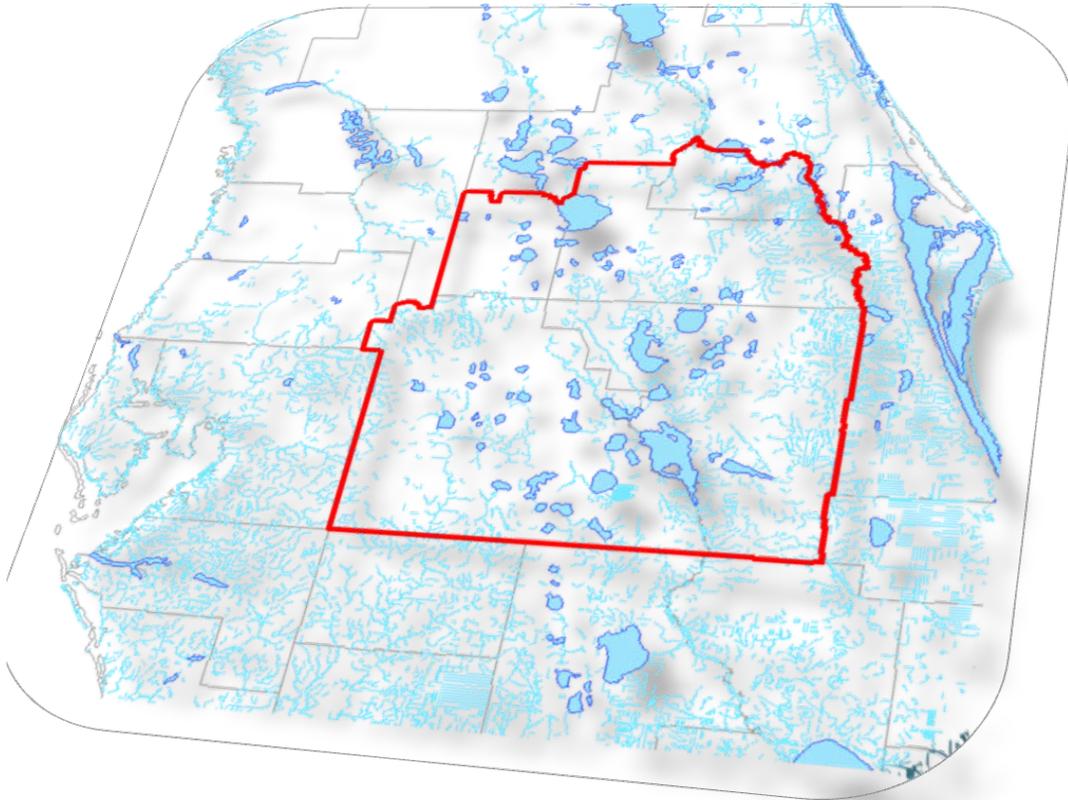


CENTRAL FLORIDA WATER INITIATIVE

2020



Continuing the collaborative regional water supply endeavor to protect, conserve and restore our water resources

The CFWI 2020 document is a constantly evolving document. It is intended to describe the collaborative process being implemented in Central Florida. As such, this version reflects the process underway as of the date shown. Through adaptive management principles it will be revised as appropriate under direction of the CFWI Steering Committee.

CENTRAL FLORIDA WATER INITIATIVE 2020 GUIDING DOCUMENT

Preface

To continue the effort for more effective, consistent water resource planning, development and management, the Central Florida Water Initiative will continue. This update will incorporate the findings of the previous CFWI 2015 effort and will incorporate the “Next Steps” recommended in that plan together with subsequent direction from the Florida Legislature, the Water Management District Governing Boards and the Steering Committee. The development of consistent rules, along with a timetable for rulemaking, will be undertaken to meet the directives.

CFWI 2015

Through the completed Central Florida Water Initiative 2015 (CFWI 2015), the St. Johns River Water Management District, South Florida Water Management District, and Southwest Florida Water Management District worked collaboratively with other agencies and stakeholders to develop a framework to implement effective water resource planning, including water resource and supply development and management strategies to protect, conserve, and restore our water resources. This effort used a unified process to address central Florida’s current and long-term water supply needs.

The CFWI 2015 identified measures to achieve water resource sustainability in the CFWI Planning Area that will require ongoing action by the Districts and stakeholders. The implementation process will require continued commitment and collaboration to initiate and realize the key findings and recommendations of the CFWI 2015 (RWSP & Solutions Plan).

The following recommendations of the CFWI 2015 Plan will guide future water supply solutions and be addressed in the next phase of the effort- the CFWI 2020. When followed the region will be on a path to ensure that future water demands are met while protecting water resources and related natural systems. Recommended actions for implementing the results of the CFWI 2015 Planning effort include the following

- Implement Water Conservation Programs
- Develop Specific Prevention and Recovery Strategies
- Support Development and Implementation of Regional Project Solutions
- Support Additional Alternative Water Supply (AWS) Projects
- Improve Water Resource Assessment Tools and Supporting Data
- Develop Options for Consistent Rules and Regulations
- Continue Communication and Outreach
- Identify Options for Future CFWI Framework to Support Implementation Strategies

The Continuing Collaborative Process

Provide for the continuation of the collaborative process in the CFWI area among the state agencies, affected WMDs, regional public water supply utilities, and other stakeholders the CFWI process will continue through 2020. The next phase will be called the Central Florida Water Initiative 2020 (CFWI 2020) and will be guided by the following principles and goals.

CFWI 2020 Guiding Principles

1. Review and update the 2015 CFWI Water Supply Plan as well as the sustainable quantities of traditional groundwater sources available in the CFWI area that can be used without causing unacceptable harm to the water resources and associated natural systems.
2. Monitor progress of regional strategies and solutions identified in the CFWI 2015 Plan; review and update strategies to meet water demands that are in excess of the sustainable yield of existing traditional groundwater sources.
3. Establish consistent rules and regulations for the three water management districts that meet the Collaborative Process Goals and implement the results of this Central Florida Water Initiative.
4. Encourage funding for regional strategies necessary to achieve the objectives of the CFWI.

Collaborative Process Goals

- a) Update the single hydrologic planning model used to assess the availability of groundwater
- b) A single, uniform definition of “harmful to the water resources” consistent with its usage in section 373.219, Florida Statutes.
- c) One reference condition
- d) A single process for permit reviews
- e) A single, consistent process, as appropriate, to set MFLs and water reservations
- f) An updated single multidistrict regional water supply plan, including any needed recovery or prevention strategies and a list of water resource or supply development projects
- g) Address other directives enacted by the Florida Legislature

The process will provide flexibility for cases where Recovery Strategies have been adopted, such as for the Southern Water Use Caution Area in the SWFWMD.

Central Florida Water Initiative Governance

The relational hierarchy for the Central Florida Water Initiative 2020 is as follows (see Figure #2 in the Appendix):

Steering Committee

This is the primary oversight committee comprised of a cross section of water supply partners meeting regularly to guide a coordinated effort to fulfill the Guiding Principles and Collaborative Process Goals of the CFWI. The Steering Committee shall provide guidance and direction to the Management Oversight Committee and collaborative technical teams and regarding the efforts of each of those groups.

The Steering Committee shall conduct its meetings in accordance with the requirements of Section 286.011, Florida Statutes (the "Sunshine Law"). All meetings of the Steering Committee shall be open to the public at all times. The Steering Committee shall provide reasonable notice of all of its meetings in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

The Steering Committee shall be Chaired by an appointee of the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection and comprised of the following members:

- Utilities - A public water supply utilities representative
- WMDs - One designated Governing Board Member from each of the WMDs
- FDEP - One designated FDEP representative
- DACS - One designated DACS representative

The findings and recommendations of the Steering Committee will be presented for evaluation, assessment and guidance for the initiation of rulemaking to the Governing Boards and/or the Florida Department of Environmental Protection as appropriate.

Management Oversight Committee (MOC)

The Steering Committee will appoint members of the Management Oversight Committee who will provide regular oversight to Technical Teams (described below) in order to ensure a coordinated effort is maintained. The MOC is comprised of representatives of the executive management teams from each of the representative entities serving on the Steering Committee. The MOC will meet on an ad hoc basis between meetings of the Steering Committee on issues of management and coordination. The Management Oversight Committee and the other Technical Teams will not operate as "Sunshine" committees, as their functions will be limited to fact finding and technical analysis. They will conduct fact-finding regarding the Guiding Principles and Collaborative Process Goals of the CFWI 2020 and provide options for implementation of the Guiding Principles and Collaborative Process Goals of the CFWI 2020. They will not make policy decisions or prioritize options. The Management Oversight Committee and Technical Teams shall obtain instruction from the Steering

Committee regarding any potential policy issues that may arise as a result of their investigations. Final resolution of some of these issues may require Governing Board or Legislative resolution. Consistency issues that have their genesis in laws or rules will need to be clearly identified as such when brought before the Steering Committee.

The Chair of the Management Oversight Committee shall be designated by the Steering Committee.

- Utilities - A public water supply utilities representative
- WMDs - One designated Executive representative from each of the WMDs
- FDEP - One designated FDEP representative
- DACS - One designated DACS representative
- Environment – One environmental stakeholder representative

Public Input

A key objective of the Central Florida Water Initiative 2020 will be to seek input from other interested parties in a regularly scheduled open forum at each meeting of the Steering Committee.

Technical Collaborative Teams

To continue the process of enhancing the strong technical foundation started in previous efforts that will be necessary to achieve the Guiding Principles and Collaborative Process Goals, Technical Teams will work together collaboratively refining and developing the ongoing technical work. The Technical Teams will not operate as “Sunshine” committees, as their functions will be limited to fact finding and technical analysis. They will conduct fact-finding regarding the Guiding Principles and Collaborative Process Goals of the CFWI 2020 and provide options for implementation of the Guiding Principles and Collaborative Process Goals of the CFWI 2020. They will not make policy decisions or recommendations or prioritize options. The Technical Teams shall obtain instruction from the Steering Committee regarding any potential policy issues that may arise as a result of their investigations. The Technical Teams are shown below. The membership of individuals assigned to each Technical Team including the Team Leader shall be proposed by the MOC with final approval by the Steering Committee.

Each Technical Collaborative Team will have a work plan and schedule to accomplish their effort and, when needed for timeliness and efficiency, the Technical teams may create Sub Teams. Sub Team membership will not require Steering Committee approval. Each Technical Team will be expected to present their progress as needed in a Steering Committee meeting.

1. Conservation

Continue the effort to advance conservation beyond the estimates established in the RWSP. Set an annual conservation goal for each CUP consistent with the RWSP.

2. Regulatory

Develop a consistent rule framework for the region that recognizes the water resource challenges of the area. Develop options for consistent regulations as well as identify Legislative changes, as needed, to implement the solution strategies identified in the CFWI process, to assist with resource recovery strategies, and to provide for equitable and predictable review of consumptive use permit applications among the districts.

3. CFWI Regional Water Supply Plan

Update the water supply projections by December 2017. Update and implement the single multidistrict regional water supply plan, including any needed recovery or prevention strategies including identification of sustainable water supply programs and projects. Monitor and report progress on the CFWI Programs and projects and identified in the CFWI 2015 Plan.

4. Water Resource Assessments

Develop any needed recovery or prevention strategies. Update the East Central Florida Transient model by December 2017. Continue the effort to implement the next steps from the CFWI 2015 Plan not specifically assigned to one of the existing Collaborative Technical Teams. Ensure technical coordination between the teams.

5. Communication & Outreach

Develop programs to address the “next step” recommendations from the Phase 2 Community Outreach and Consensus Report.

Conservation Team

Team Leader:

<INSERT>

Background:

<INSERT>

Goal:

<INSERT>

Team Approach:

<INSERT>

Team Objectives:

<INSERT>

Team Scope of Work:

<INSERT>

Team Schedule

<INSERT>

Regulatory Team

Team Leader:

<INSERT>

Background:

<INSERT>

Goal:

<INSERT>

Team Approach:

<INSERT>

Team Objectives:

<INSERT>

Team Scope of Work:

<INSERT>

Team Schedule

<INSERT>

CFWI Regional Water Supply Plan Team

Team Leader:

<INSERT>

Background:

<INSERT>

Goal:

<INSERT>

Team Approach:

<INSERT>

Team Objectives:

<INSERT>

Team Scope of Work:

<INSERT>

Team Schedule

<INSERT>

Water Resource Assessment Team

Team Leader:

<INSERT>

Background:

<INSERT>

Goal:

<INSERT>

Team Approach:

<INSERT>

Team Objectives:

<INSERT>

Team Scope of Work:

<INSERT>

Team Schedule

<INSERT>

Communication & Outreach

Team Leader:

<INSERT>

Background:

<INSERT>

Goal:

<INSERT>

Team Approach:

<INSERT>

Team Objectives:

<INSERT>

Team Scope of Work:

<INSERT>

Team Schedule

<INSERT>

APPENDICES

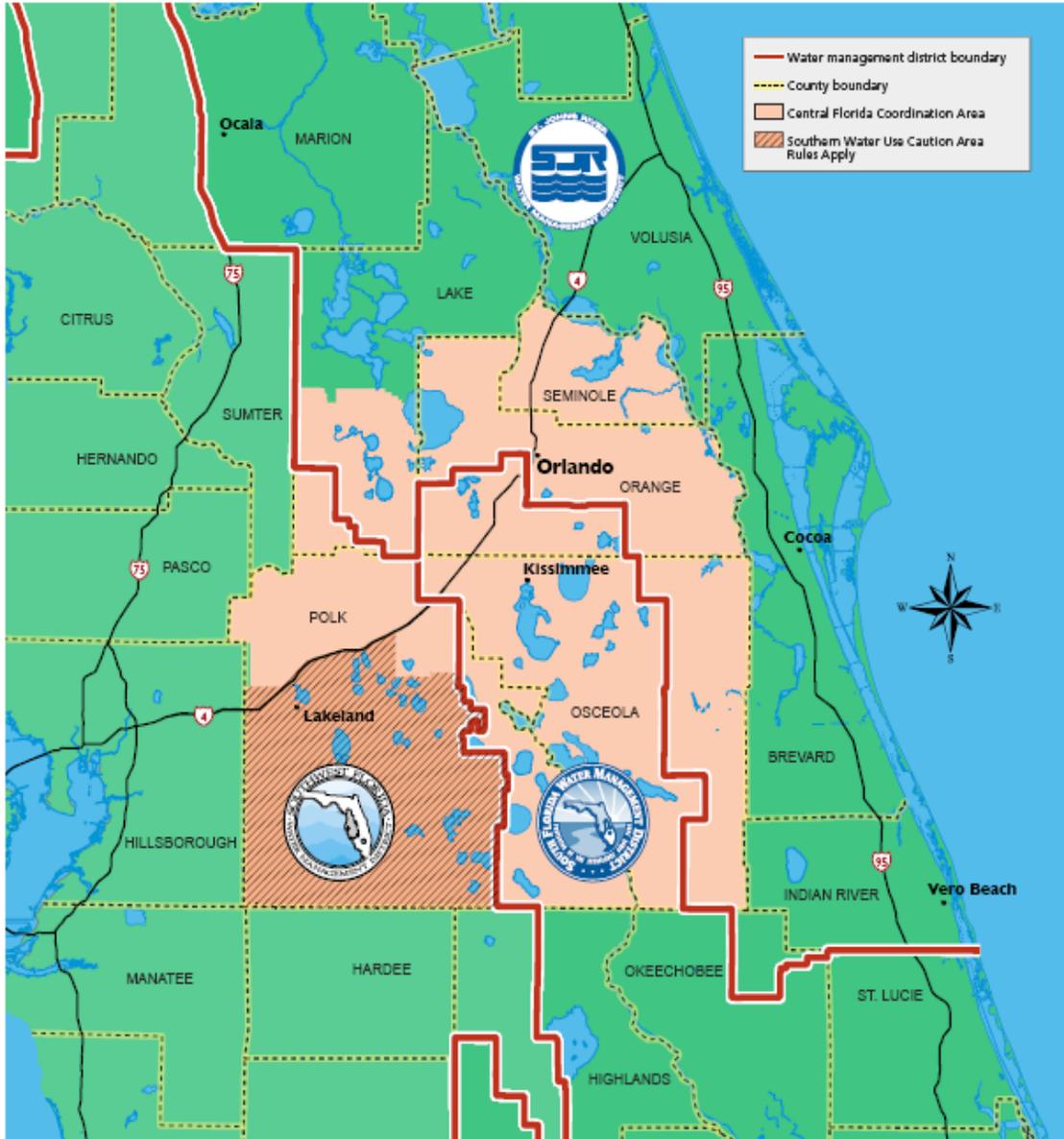
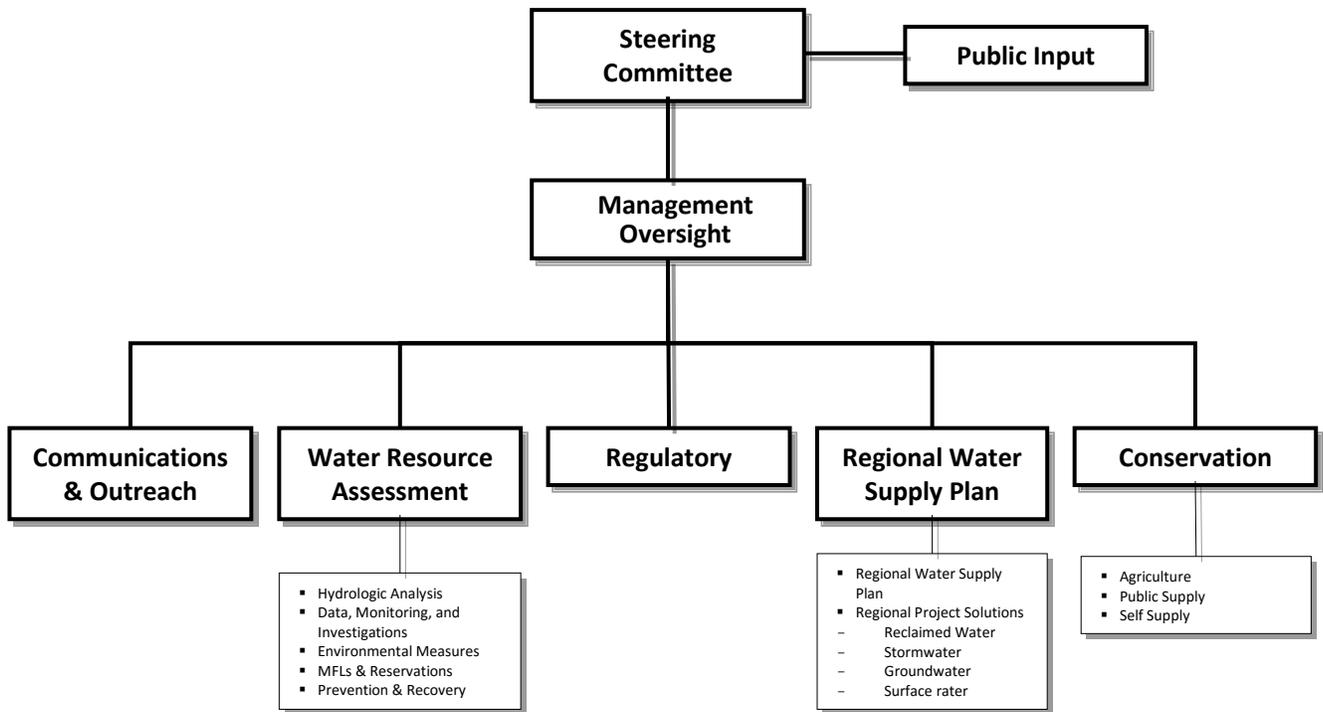


FIGURE 2

Governance



DRAFT

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES
CENTRAL FLORIDA WATER INITIATIVE
STEERING COMMITTEE

I. COMPOSITION

The composition of the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) Steering Committee (SC) is described in the Central Florida Water Initiative Guiding Document to which this document is attached as an appendix. A member of the SC may provide one alternate for his or her seat on the SC upon written notice to the SC.

II. COORDINATION

A. A Coordinator shall be selected from among the SC members by unanimous vote of the SC.

B. The Coordinator is the presiding officer at meetings of the SC, and is to execute all documents authorized by the SC that may require his or her signature.

C. The Coordinator may designate a SC member to serve as the meeting Moderator.

III. MEETINGS

A. All meetings of the SC are subject to the Florida Sunshine Law. Alternate members, if any, are also subject to the Florida Sunshine Law. Such alternate(s) may, outside noticed meetings, discuss CFWI Steering Committee matters with their respective member(s), but not with other alternates or Steering Committee members. The public shall be allowed to comment on matters coming before the SC at appropriate times as determined by the Coordinator. The SC reserves the right to limit the public comment time to a specific length of time and to require speakers to fill out speaker cards. All meeting sites shall meet accessibility standards for public meetings.

B. The SC shall meet at least quarterly or more frequently at the call of the Coordinator.

C. An agenda for the meeting shall be prepared by the Coordinator or his or her designee and made available to the public in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Sunshine Law.

D. The SC shall publish notice of its meetings in the Florida Administrative Weekly in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Sunshine Law. The contents of the notice shall conform to the template attached to these procedures.

IV. ACTIONS

Actions of the SC are to be recorded by the Coordinator in meeting minutes.

V. INSPECTION AND COPYING OF PUBLIC RECORDS

The inspection and copying of the SC public records will be in accordance with the Florida Public Records Law. CFWI and SC records shall be maintained and available for

DRAFT

public inspection and copying at the offices of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd, MS 23 Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

VI. AMENDMENT

These operational procedures may be amended at any time at a meeting by a unanimous vote of the SC members.

NOTICE TEMPLATE

The Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) Steering Committee consisting of a Governing Board member from each of the South Florida Water Management District, the Southwest Florida Water Management District, and the St. Johns River Water Management District, and a representative from each of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services and the Tohopekaliga (Toho) Water Authority, representing public water supply utilities within the Central Florida Coordination Area, announces a public meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME:

PLACE:

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: The CFWI Steering Committee is a collaborative effort among government agencies formed to address water resource issues in the area known as the Central Florida Coordination Area. The CFWI Steering Committee will consider matters appearing on the agenda for the meeting or matters added to the agenda as determined by the Chairman of the Committee. Additional information about this effort may be found at: cfwiwater.com.

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: _____, or at <http://cfwiwater.com/> seven days prior to the meeting.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 5 hours before the workshop/meeting by contacting: South Florida Water Management District Clerk, (800) 432-2045, ext. 2087 or (561) 682-2087. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

For more information, you may contact: _____, St. Johns River Water Management District, P.O. Box 1429, Palatka, Florida 32178-1429, 386/329-_____, _____@sjrwmd.com;

_____, Southwest Florida Water Management District, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899, 352/796 _____, _____@swfwmd.state.fl.us;

_____, South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406, 561/682-_____, _____@swfwmd.gov; John Shearer: Shearer Consulting Inc., 1917 Wingfield Drive, Longwood, Florida 32779, 321/297-7372, johnshearer@cfl.rr.com