

Joint Public Workshop for Minimum Flows and Levels Priority Lists and Schedules for the CFWI Area



St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD)
Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)

September 5, 2019
St. Cloud, Florida

Agenda

1. Introductions and Background..... Don Medellin, SFWMD
2. SJRWMD MFLs Priority List.....Andrew Sutherland, SJRWMD
3. SWFWMD MFLs Priority List..Doug Leeper, SWFWMD
4. SFWMD MFLs Priority List.....Don Medellin, SFWMD
5. Stakeholder comments
6. Adjourn

Statutory Directive for MFLs

Water management districts or DEP must establish MFLs that set the limit or level...

“...at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area.”

Section 373.042(1), Florida Statutes

Statutory Directive for Reservations

Water management districts may...

“...reserve from use by permit applicants, water in such locations and quantities, and for such seasons of the year, as in its judgment may be required for the protection of fish and wildlife or the public health and safety.”

Section 373.223(4), Florida Statutes

District Priority Lists and Schedules Meet Statutory and Rule Requirements

- Prioritization is based on the importance of waters to the State or region, and the existence of or potential for significant harm
- Includes waters experiencing or reasonably expected to experience adverse impacts
- MFLs the districts will voluntarily subject to independent scientific peer review are identified
- Proposed reservations are identified
- Listed water bodies that have the potential to be affected by withdrawals in an adjacent water management district are identified

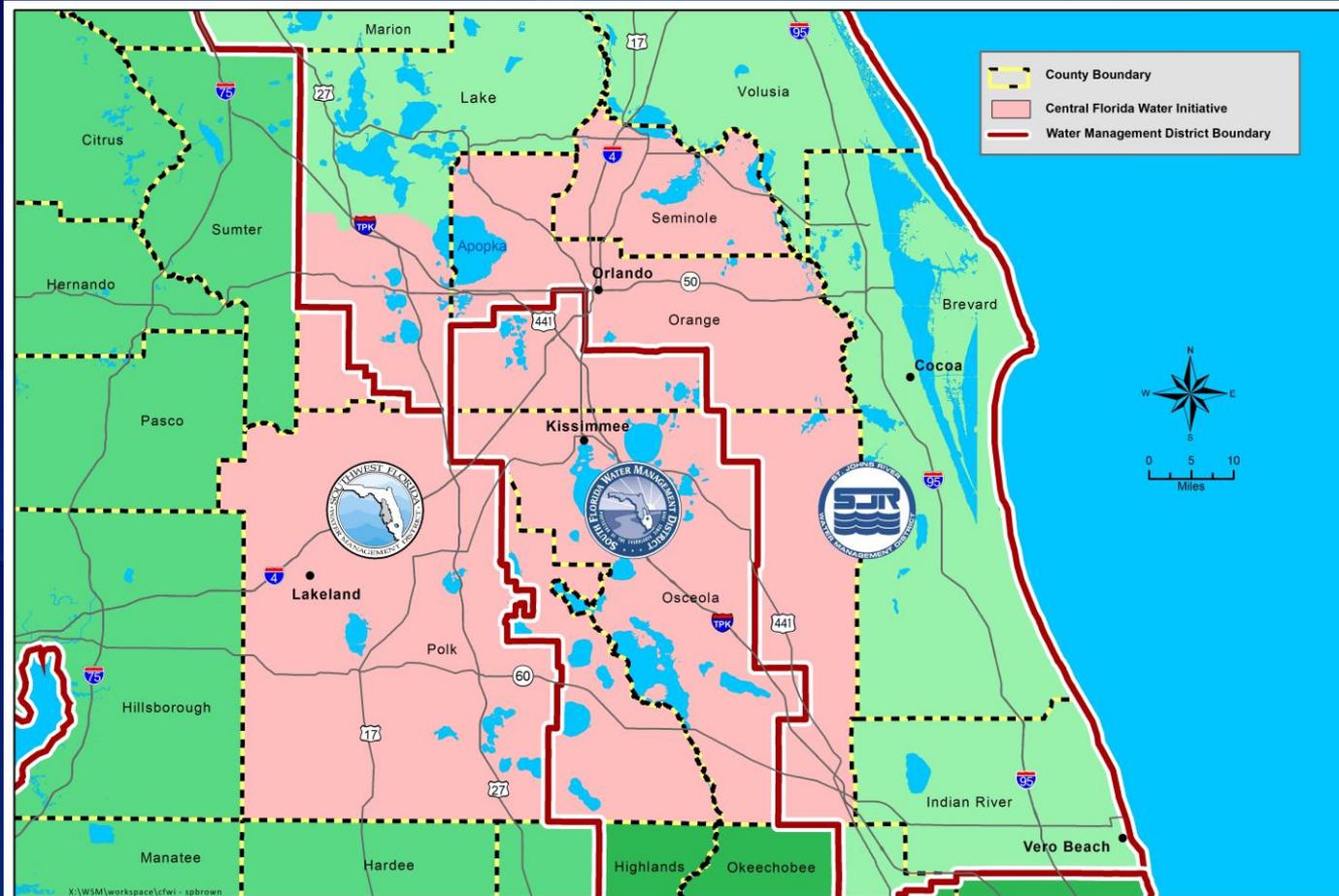
2019 Draft Priority List and Schedule

- Annual priority list and schedule required by statute for each district
- Presented to respective District Governing Boards for approval
- Submitted to DEP for review by Nov. 15th
- Districts are seeking stakeholder input.

Written comments may be submitted to/by:

SJRWMD	Oct. 1, 2019	<i>Andrew Sutherland - asutherl@sjrwmd.com</i>
SWFWMD	Oct. 1, 2019	<i>Doug Leeper - doug.leeper@watermatters.org</i>
SFWMD	Sept. 20, 2019	<i>Don Medellin - dmedelli@sfwmd.gov</i>

CFWI Planning Area



SJRWMD

Draft 2019 MFLs Priority List and Schedule

Posted on the SJRWMD web site at

<https://www.sjrwmd.com/minimumflowsandlevels/>

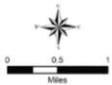


Lochloosa Lake (Marion Co.)

- *MFL adopted Dec. 2018*
- *Effective Jan. 2019*



Lochloosa Lake, Alachua County, Florida

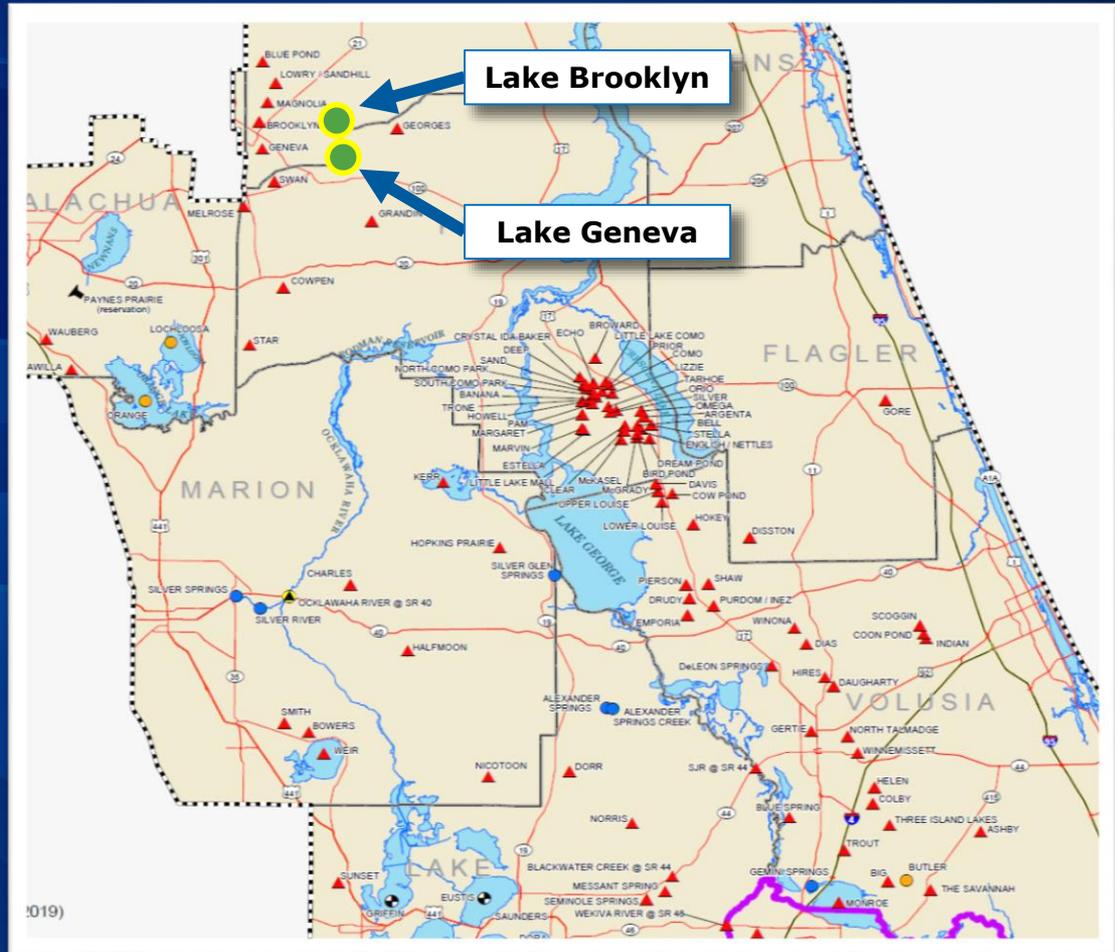


2020

**Lake Brooklyn
Lake Geneva
(Clay and Bradford
Counties)**

Previous Priority Year: 2018

Reason for Rescheduling:
To allow for completion of
peer review of environmental
criteria and recalibration of
local-scale KHTM; Allow for
engagement with numerous
stakeholders



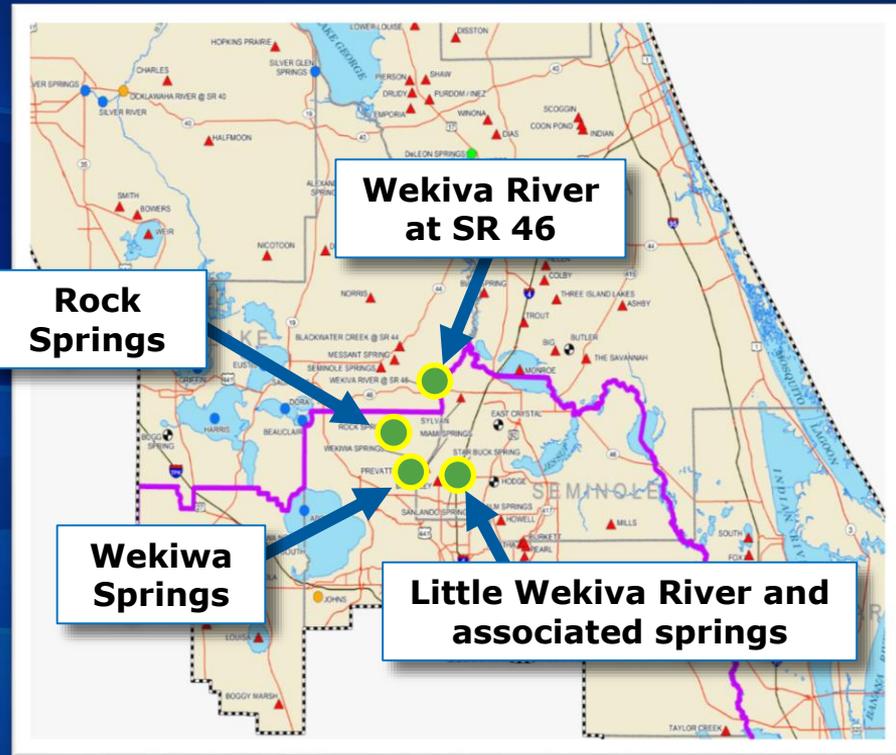
2020

Wekiva Basin

- **Wekiva River at SR46**
- **Wekiwa Springs**
- **Rock Springs**
- **Little Wekiva River**

Previous Priority Year:
2019

Reason for Rescheduling:
To allow for completion of
ECFTX and CFWI peer
review process



Note: Completion of this MFL may shift to 2021, if impact apportionment analysis shows cross-boundary influence by other district(s).

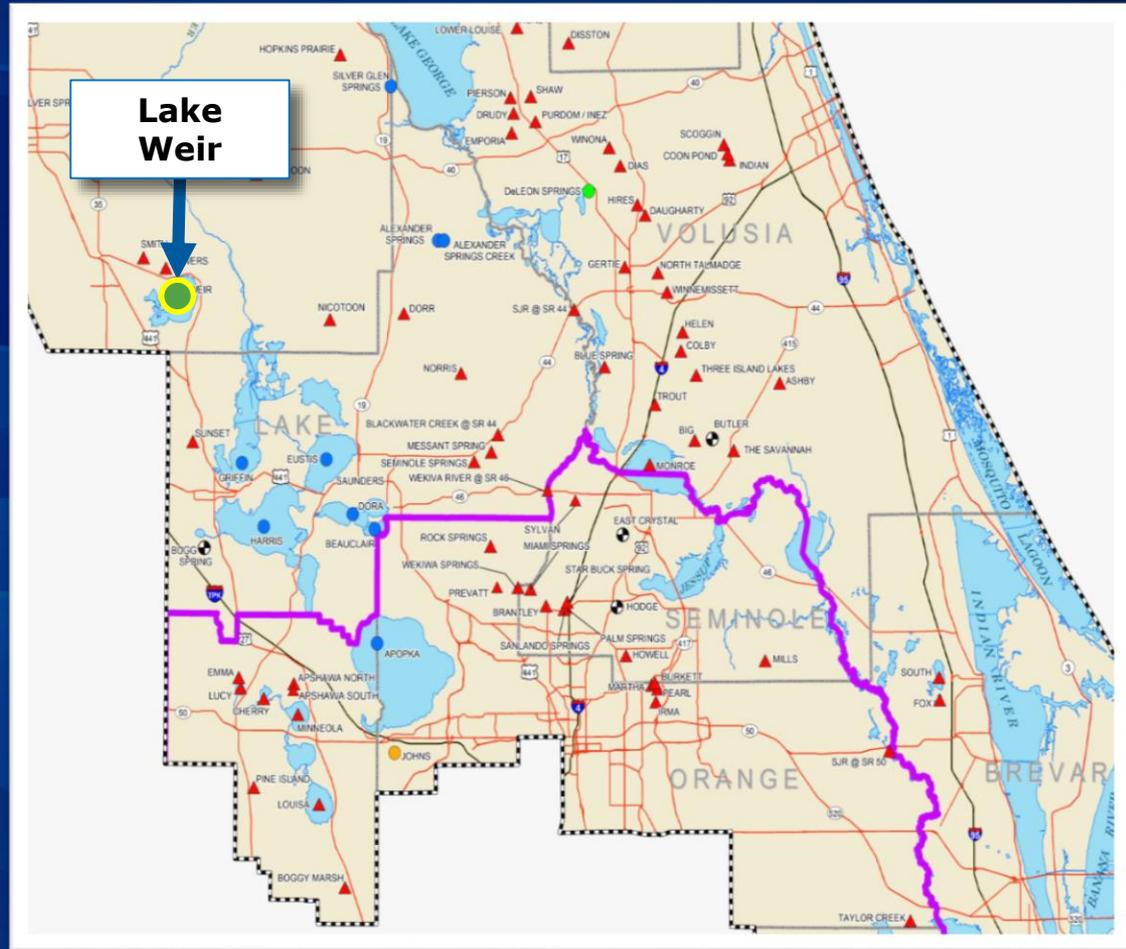
2020

Lake Weir (Marion County)

Previous Priority Year:
2020 - no change

Note:

Completion of this MFL may shift to 2021, if impact apportionment analysis shows cross-boundary influence by other district(s).



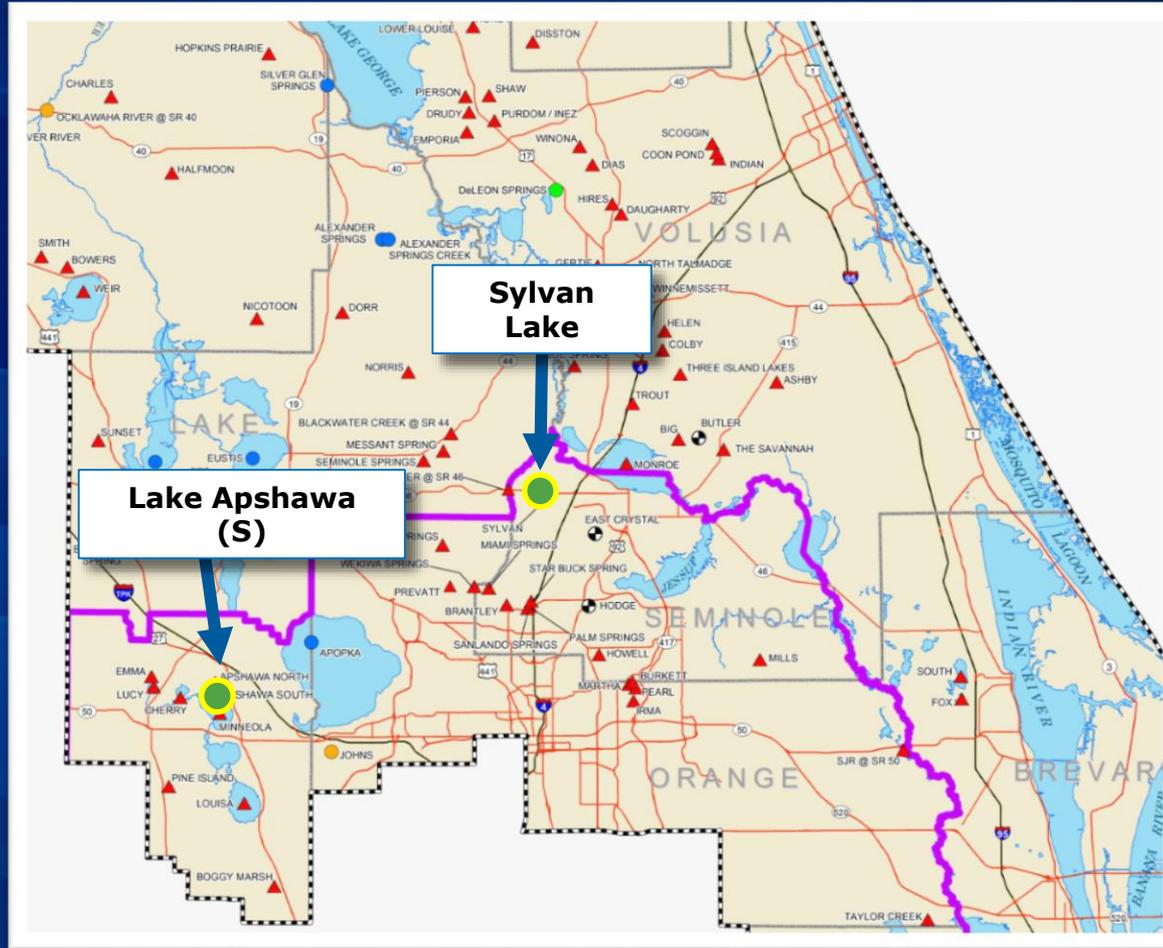
2020

Lake Sylvan (Seminole County)

Previous Priority Year:
2020 - no change

Lake Apshawa (Lake County)

Previous Priority Year:
2020 - no change



2021

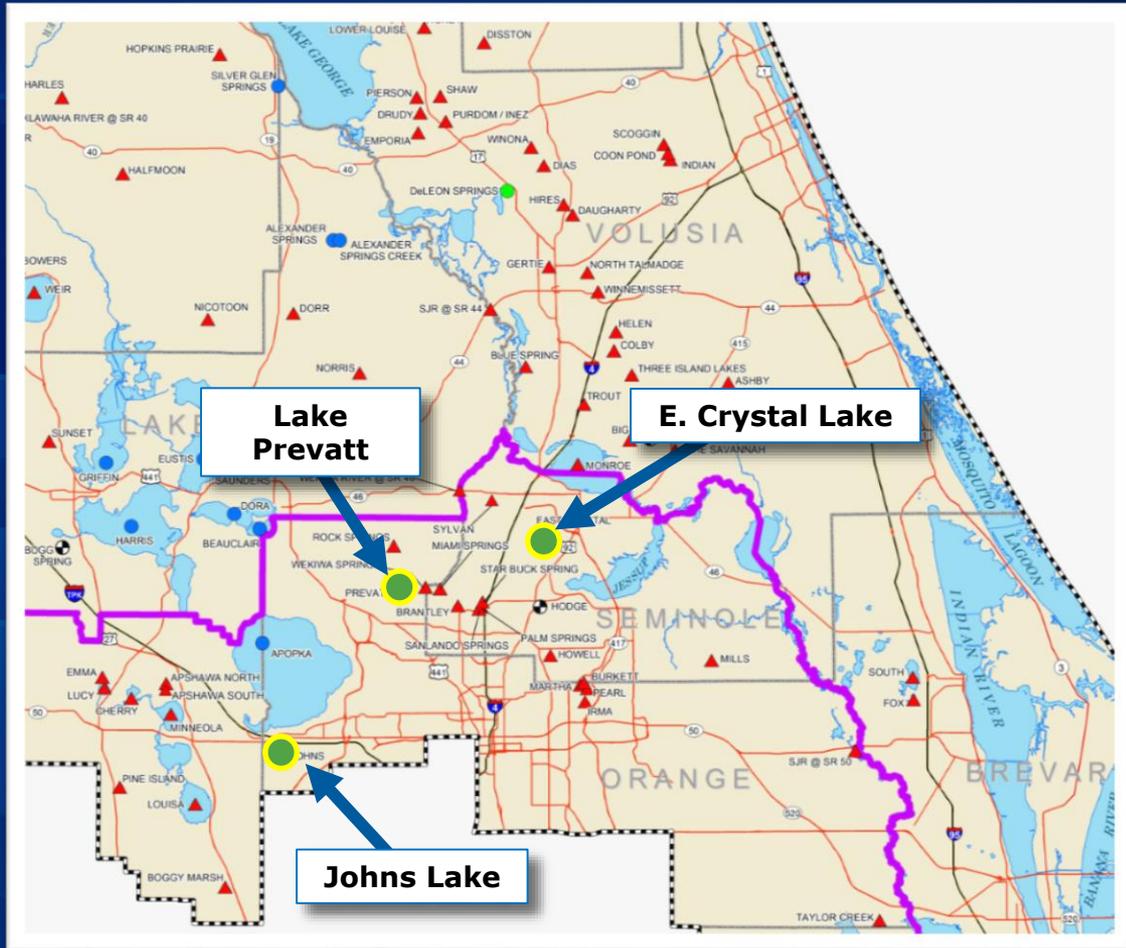
E. Crystal Lake (Seminole Co.)

Lake Pevatt (Orange Co.)

Johns Lake (Orange Co.)

Previous Priority Year: 2020

*Reason for Rescheduling:
To allow for completion of
ECFTX and CFWI peer review
process; Resource balancing
with systems moved to 2020*



2021

New: Red Bug Lake (Seminole County)

- *Added to replace Lake Hodge*
- *Lake is 4 times larger than Hodge*
- *Wetlands larger, less disturbed*
- *Large county park*



2022

Lake Apopka

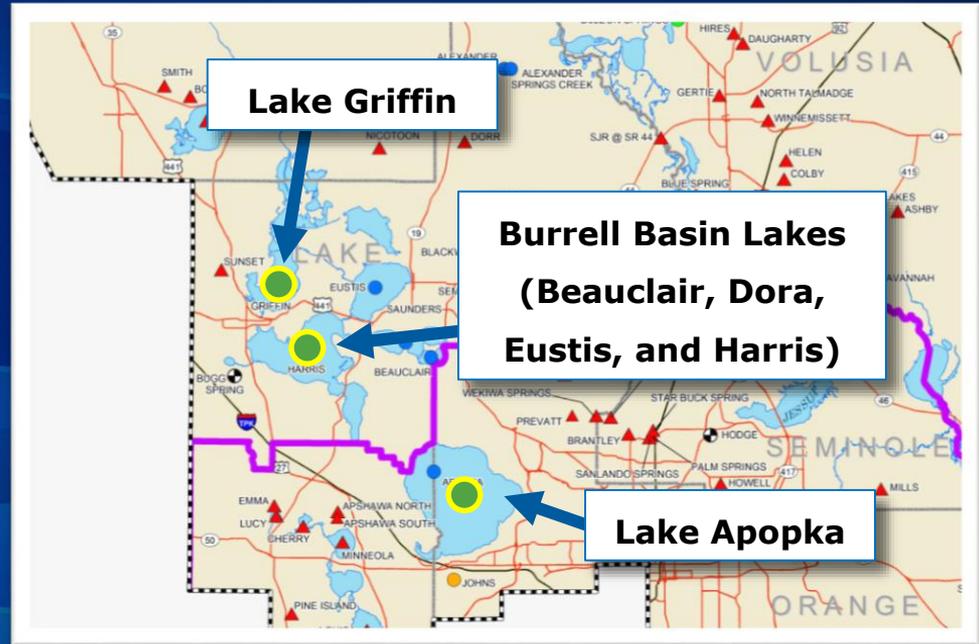
Lake Griffin

**Burrell Basin Lakes (Beauclair,
Dora, Eustis and Harris)**

Previous Priority Year: 2021

Reason for Rescheduling:

To allow for completion of ECFTX and CFWI peer review process; Resource balancing with systems moved to 2020 and 2021



Note:

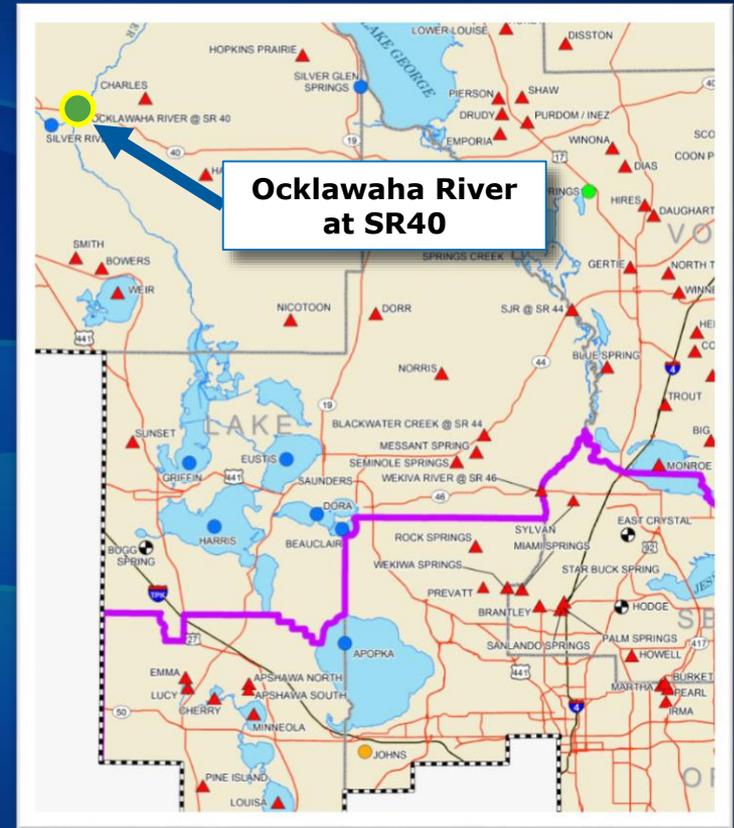
Completion of MFLs dependent upon finalization of Apopka management plan and regulation schedule revision.

2022

Ocklawaha R. at SR40

Propose Removing from Priority List:

- Originally added when Ocklawaha was potential future AWS
- No longer planned as AWS
- Highly modified system with multiple impoundments/structures
- May be added back to list if Rodman Reservoir dam is removed



SJRWMD Draft 2019 MFLs Priority List

Priority Year	New or Re-Evaluation	Water Body Name	Waterbody Type	County
2019	New	Butler	Lake	Volusia
2020	Re-evaluation	Lake Weir	Lake	Marion
	Re-evaluation	Brooklyn	Lake	Clay
	Re-evaluation	Geneva	Lake	Clay
	Re-evaluation	Sylvan*	Lake	Seminole
	Re-evaluation	Aphawa South*	Lake	Lake
	New	Little Wekiva River and associated springs*	River / Springs	Seminole/Orange
	Re-evaluation	Wekiva River at SR 46 Bridge*	River	Seminole/Lake
	Re-evaluation	Wekiwa Springs*	Springs	Seminole/Orange
	Re-evaluation	Rock Springs*	Springs	Orange
2021	New	Johns/Avalon*	Lake	Orange
	New	East Crystal*	Lake	Seminole
	New	Red Bug*	Lake	Seminole
	Re-evaluation	Prevatt*	Lake	Orange
2022	New	Apopka*	Lake	Lake/Orange
	New	Griffin	Lake	Lake
	New	Burrell Basin Lakes (Beauclair, Dora, Eustis, Harris)	Lake	Lake

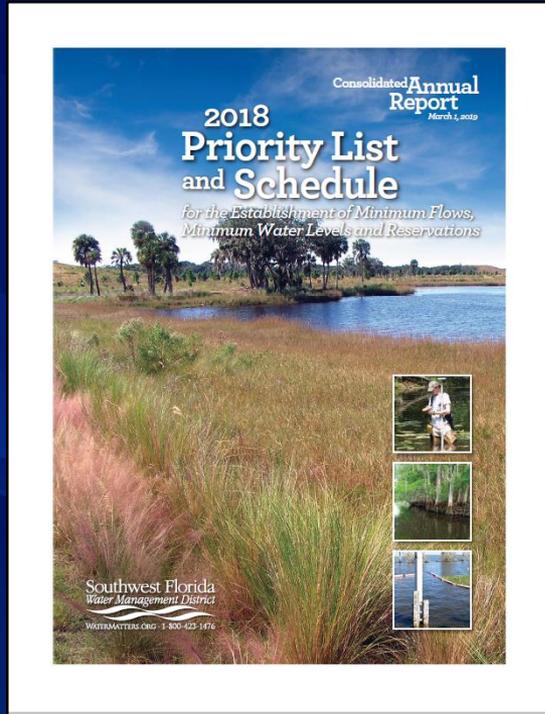
* water bodies in the CFWI

SWFWMD

2019 Draft Priority List and Schedule

SWFWMD Priority List and Schedule

Current: 2018 (2018-2019)



Proposed: 2019 (2019-2020)*

Item 24

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
August 27, 2019
Submit and File Report
Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule Update

Purpose
This submit and file report addresses the initial step for the statutorily-required update of the District's priority list and schedule (priority list) for the establishment of minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs). Following review of public input on the updated draft priority list included in this report, and any necessary revisions, the priority list will be brought to the Governing Board in October 2019 for final review and approval prior to submittal to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Background/History
Pursuant to Sections 373.036(7) and 373.042(3), Florida Statutes, the District is required to annually update and submit its minimum flows and minimum water levels priority list to the Florida DEP by November 15th, for approval, and include the approved priority list in the District's Consolidated Annual Report by March 1st.

Attached is a draft "Southwest Florida Water Management District Proposed 2019 (2019-2020) Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule and Reservations List and Schedule" that staff will preliminarily review with DEP. As indicated in the draft priority list, the District has established 210 MFLs, including MFLs for 23 river segments, 10 springs or spring groups, 127 lakes, 41 wetlands, 7 wells in the Northern Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area, the Upper Floridan aquifer in the Most Impacted Area of the Southern Water Use Caution Area (SWUCA) and in the Dover/Plant City Water Use Caution Area. The established MFLs include 40 that have been reevaluated and revised, as needed. The District has also established a reservation for water from Morris Bridge Sink to support MFLs recovery for the lower Hillsborough River.

The draft priority list addresses all relevant statutory directives and guidance concerning minimum flow, minimum water level, and water reservation prioritization included in Rules 62-40.473, and 62-40.474 within the State Water Resource Implementation Rule (Chapter 62-40, Florida administrative Code (F.A.C.)). Formatting requirements from the DEP Office of Water Policy are also addressed.

Past Year Rule Adoption Updates
Since the last priority list and schedule update, MFLs rulemaking was completed for 7 lakes. The rulemaking included adoption of reevaluated MFLs for 6 Hillsborough County lakes (Allen, Brant, Dossan, Harvey, Sunshine, and Virginia) and 1 Pasco County lake (Pierce) that were scheduled for 2018.

In addition to the completed rulemaking, initiation of rulemaking was authorized by the Governing Board for new MFLs for the Rainbow River and Rainbow Spring Group. This rulemaking was initiated for replacement of the emergency rule established for the river/spring system in 2017 and is currently pending due to a rule challenge. Based on this rulemaking

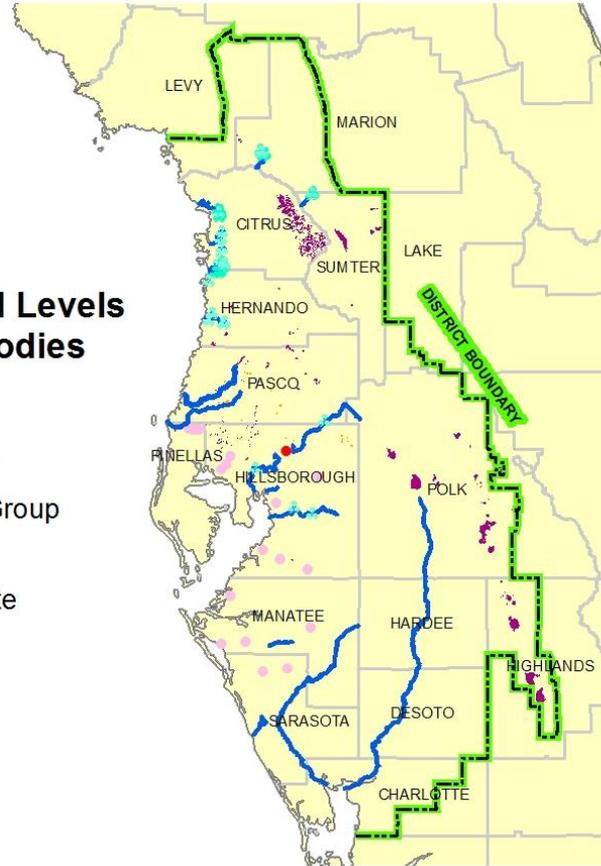
Packet Pg. 136

* Includes prioritization through 2029

SWFWMD Adopted Minimum Flows and Levels and Reservations

Adopted Minimum Flows and Levels and Reservations Water Bodies

- Minimum Lake Level Site
- Minimum Flow River Segment
- Minimum Flow Spring/Spring Group
- Minimum Wetland Level Site
- Minimum Aquifer Level Well Site
- Reservation Site



SWFWMD Draft Priority List Update – “Completions”

- ❑ MFLs adopted for 7 of 7 lakes (Allen, Brant, Dosson, Harvey, Pierce, Sunshine, Virginia) scheduled for reevaluation in 2018
- ❑ Initiation of MFLs rulemaking leading to rule adoption is anticipated this year for most water bodies scheduled for reevaluation/adoption in 2019:
 - ❑ 6 of 7 scheduled lakes (Calm, Charles, Church, Echo, Linda, Sapphire) (reevaluations)
 - ❑ 20 of 20 scheduled Northern Tampa Bay wetlands (reevaluations)
 - ❑ 5 of 5 scheduled rivers/springs (Chassahowitzka River, Chassahowitzka Spring Group, Blind Spring, Homosassa River, Homosassa Spring Group) (reevaluations)
 - ❑ 2 of 2 scheduled river/spring (Rainbow River, Rainbow Spring Group) (replacements for emergency rule)

Draft Priority List Update – “No Changes”

- ❑ No changes for several MFLs prioritized for adoption in 2020 – 2027
 - ❑ 2020: 5 Lakes (Cypress, Garden, Halfmoon, Jackson, Strawberry) (reevaluations), **Peace River (lower segment, reevaluation)**, Shell Creek (lower segment), 21 Northern Tampa Bay Wetlands (reevaluations)
 - ❑ 2021: Braden River (lower segment), Manatee River (lower segment), Manatee River (lower segment)
 - ❑ 2022: Little Manatee River (lower and upper segments)
 - ❑ 2023: **Charlie Creek**, Horse Creek, **SWUCA Salt Water Intrusion Minimum Aquifer Level (reevaluation)**
 - ❑ 2024: **Withlacoochee River (lower segment and 3 upper segments)**
 - ❑ 2025: **Peace River (3 upper segments, reevaluation)**, Prairie Creek, Shell Creek (upper segment)
 - ❑ 2026: Cypress Creek, Gum Slough Spring Group (reevaluation)
 - ❑ 2027: Crystal River/Kings Bay Spring Group (reevaluation), **North Prong Alafia River**, Rainbow River/Rainbow Spring Group (reevaluation), **South Prong Alafia River**

- ❑ No change for 1 reservation prioritized for adoption in 2020
 - ❑ **Hancock Lake/Peace River (upper segment)**

SWFWMD Draft Priority List Update – “Changes”

- ❑ Added 5 Northern Tampa Bay lake (lakes Barbara, Crenshaw, Ellen, Helen and Mound) MFLs reevaluations for 2021
- ❑ Rescheduled 1 Northern Tampa Bay lake (Pasco) MFLs reevaluation from 2019 to 2027
- ❑ Added 5 river/spring (Chassahowitzka River/Chassahowitzka Spring Group/Blind Spring (reevaluation) and Homosassa River/Homosassa Spring Group) MFLs reevaluations for 2029

SWFWMD Proposed Priority Water Bodies

Proposed Minimum Flows and Levels and Reservations Water Bodies

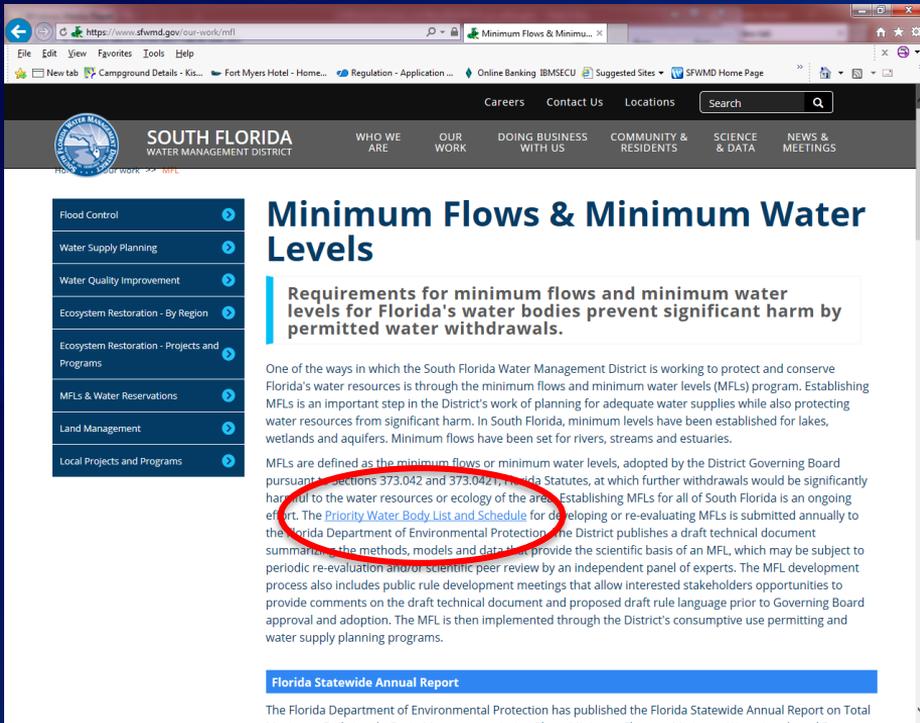
- Minimum Lake Level Site
- Minimum Flow River Segment
- Minimum Flow Spring/Spring Group
- Minimum Wetland Level Site
- Minimum Aquifer Level Well Site
- Reservation Site



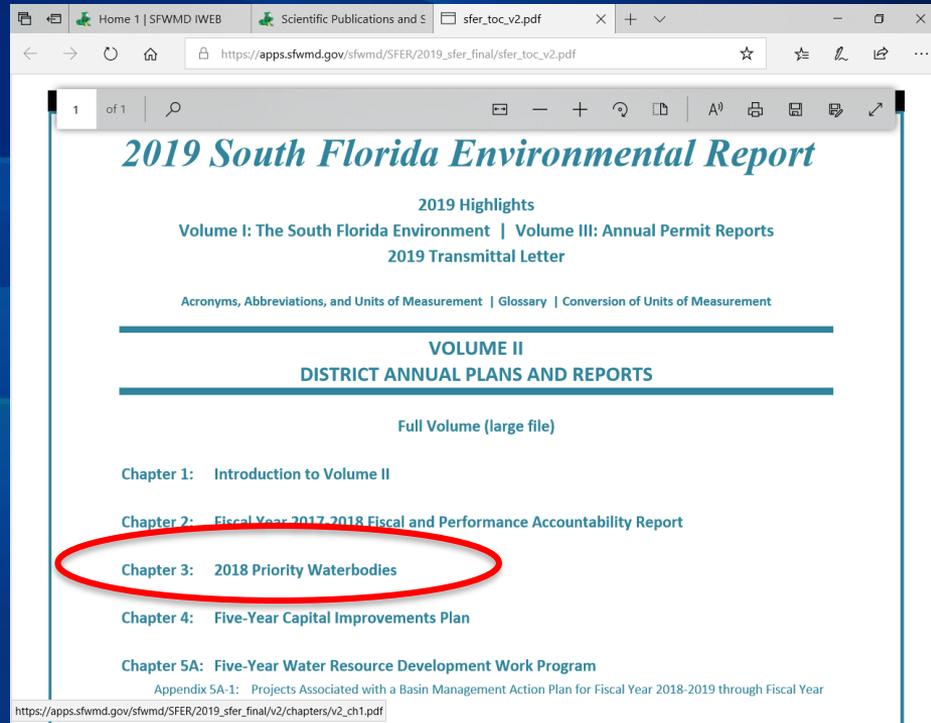
SFWMD

2019 Draft Priority List and Schedule

SFWMD Approved Priority List and Schedule Posted in two locations on the SFWMD Website



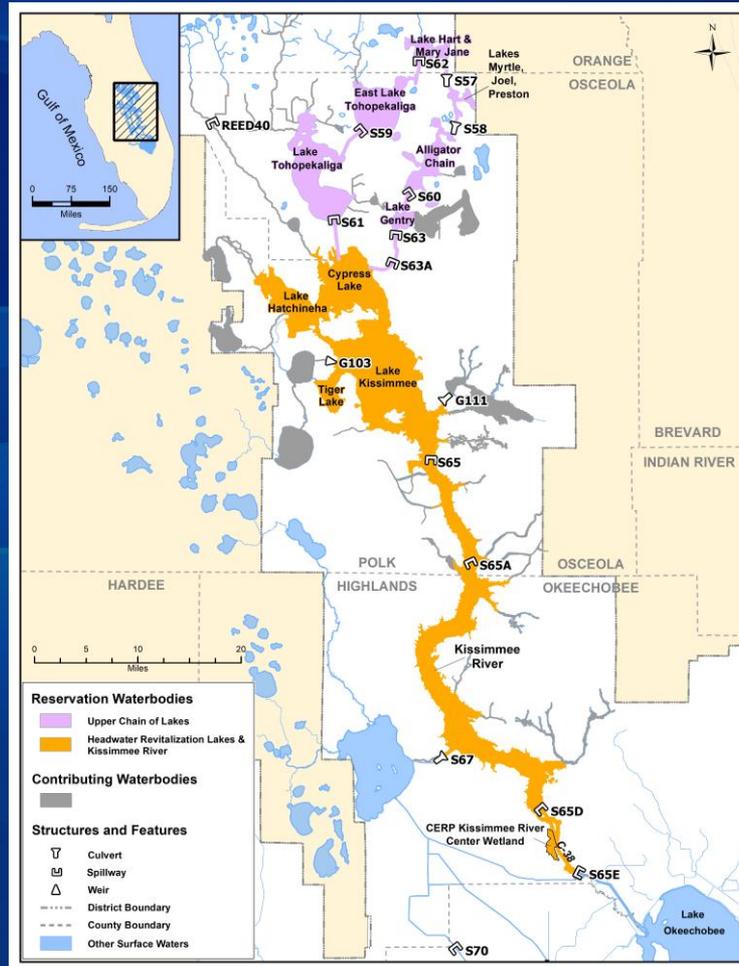
The screenshot shows the SFWMD website's 'Minimum Flows & Minimum Water Levels' page. The page features a navigation menu on the left with categories like Flood Control, Water Supply Planning, and MFLs & Water Reservations. The main content area has a large heading and a sub-heading: 'Requirements for minimum flows and minimum water levels for Florida's water bodies prevent significant harm by permitted water withdrawals.' Below this, there is a paragraph explaining the MFL program and a red circle highlighting the text: 'The Priority Water Body List and Schedule for developing or re-evaluating MFLs is submitted annually to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The District publishes a draft technical document summarizing the methods, models and data that provide the scientific basis of an MFL, which may be subject to periodic re-evaluation and/or scientific peer review by an independent panel of experts.' At the bottom, there is a blue button labeled 'Florida Statewide Annual Report'.



The screenshot shows the '2019 South Florida Environmental Report' table of contents. The report is divided into Volume I and Volume III. Volume II is titled 'DISTRICT ANNUAL PLANS AND REPORTS' and contains several chapters. A red circle highlights 'Chapter 3: 2018 Priority Waterbodies'. Below the chapters, there is a link for 'Appendix 5A-1: Projects Associated with a Basin Management Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 through Fiscal Year 2019-2020'.

SFWMD Priority List and Schedule

Kissimmee River and Chain of Lakes



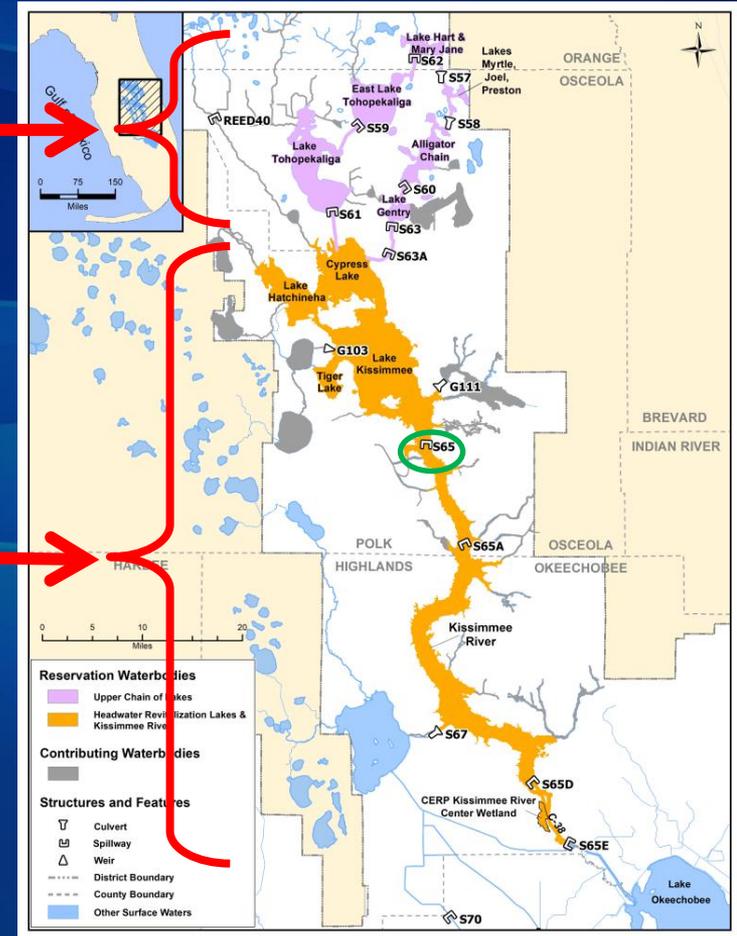
Current Draft Reservation Rule Language

Upper Chain of Lakes

Water will be reserved up to the proposed "Water Reservation Line"

Headwater Lakes & Kissimmee River

All of the water will be reserved



Kissimmee River and Chain of Lakes - Fish and Wildlife



Wading Birds on Floodplain



American Alligator on
Phase 1 Restoration Area

■ Fish Community

- Approximately 50+ species

■ Water Birds

- 68 species of wetland dependent birds
- 14 species of wading birds including Federally threatened wood stork
- 16 species of ducks

■ Amphibians and Reptiles

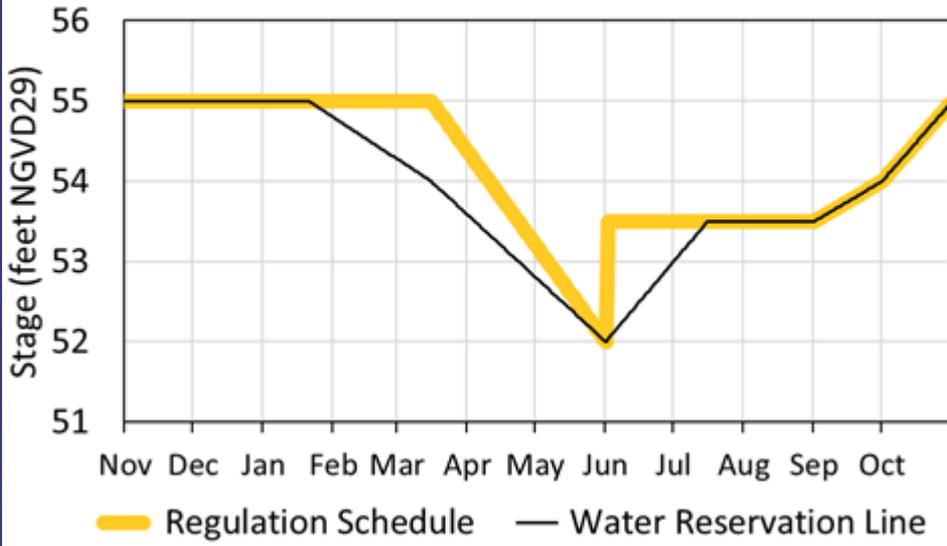
- 24 species

■ Mammals

- 4 species wetland dependent

Water Reservation Line Example

Lake Tohopekaliga Waterbodies



Day	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	55.00	54.80	54.28	53.58	52.81	52.00	53.00	53.50	53.50	54.00	55.00	55.00
2	55.00	54.78	54.26	53.56	52.78	52.03	53.03	53.50	53.52	54.03	55.00	55.00
3	55.00	54.76	54.24	53.53	52.75	52.07	53.07	53.50	53.53	54.06	55.00	55.00
4	55.00	54.74	54.22	53.51	52.73	52.10	53.10	53.50	53.55	54.10	55.00	55.00
5	55.00	54.72	54.20	53.48	52.70	52.13	53.13	53.50	53.57	54.13	55.00	55.00
6	55.00	54.70	54.19	53.45	52.68	52.17	53.17	53.50	53.58	54.16	55.00	55.00
7	55.00	54.69	54.17	53.43	52.65	52.20	53.20	53.50	53.60	54.19	55.00	55.00
8	55.00	54.67	54.15	53.40	52.62	52.23	53.23	53.50	53.62	54.23	55.00	55.00
9	55.00	54.65	54.13	53.38	52.60	52.27	53.27	53.50	53.63	54.26	55.00	55.00
10	55.00	54.63	54.11	53.35	52.57	52.30	53.30	53.50	53.65	54.29	55.00	55.00
11	55.00	54.61	54.09	53.32	52.55	52.33	53.33	53.50	53.67	54.32	55.00	55.00
12	55.00	54.59	54.07	53.30	52.52	52.37	53.37	53.50	53.68	54.35	55.00	55.00
13	55.00	54.57	54.06	53.27	52.49	52.40	53.40	53.50	53.70	54.39	55.00	55.00
14	55.00	54.56	54.04	53.25	52.47	52.43	53.43	53.50	53.72	54.42	55.00	55.00
15	55.00	54.54	54.02	53.22	52.44	52.47	53.47	53.50	53.73	54.45	55.00	55.00
16	55.00	54.52	54.00	53.19	52.42	52.50	53.50	53.50	53.75	54.48	55.00	55.00
17	55.00	54.50	53.97	53.17	52.39	52.53	53.50	53.50	53.77	54.52	55.00	55.00
18	55.00	54.48	53.95	53.14	52.36	52.57	53.50	53.50	53.78	54.55	55.00	55.00
19	55.00	54.46	53.92	53.12	52.34	52.60	53.50	53.50	53.80	54.58	55.00	55.00
20	55.00	54.44	53.90	53.09	52.31	52.63	53.50	53.50	53.82	54.61	55.00	55.00
21	55.00	54.43	53.87	53.06	52.29	52.67	53.50	53.50	53.83	54.65	55.00	55.00
22	54.98	54.41	53.84	53.04	52.26	52.70	53.50	53.50	53.85	54.68	55.00	55.00
23	54.96	54.39	53.82	53.01	52.23	52.73	53.50	53.50	53.87	54.71	55.00	55.00
24	54.94	54.37	53.79	52.99	52.21	52.77	53.50	53.50	53.88	54.74	55.00	55.00
25	54.93	54.35	53.77	52.96	52.18	52.80	53.50	53.50	53.90	54.77	55.00	55.00
26	54.91	54.33	53.74	52.94	52.16	52.83	53.50	53.50	53.92	54.81	55.00	55.00
27	54.89	54.31	53.71	52.91	52.13	52.87	53.50	53.50	53.93	54.84	55.00	55.00
28	54.87	54.30	53.69	52.88	52.10	52.90	53.50	53.50	53.95	54.87	55.00	55.00
29	54.85		53.66	52.86	52.08	52.93	53.50	53.50	53.97	54.90	55.00	55.00
30	54.83		53.64	52.83	52.05	52.97	53.50	53.50	53.98	54.94	55.00	55.00
31	54.81		53.61		52.03		53.50	53.50		54.97		55.00

Kissimmee River and Chain of Lakes Water Reservation

- Currently in rule development process
- Draft rules are posted on the website:
- <https://www.sfwmd.gov/our-work/water-reservations>
- Regionally significant waterbodies
- Approximately 170,500 acres in size
- Reservation will protect the existing public investment of nearly \$1 Billion for the Kissimmee River Restoration
- Rule adoption targeted for 2020

Stakeholder Comment

Written comments may be submitted to/by:

SJRWMD	Oct. 1, 2019	<i>Andrew Sutherland - asutherl@sjrwmd.com</i>
SWFWMD	Oct. 1, 2019	<i>Doug Leeper - doug.leeper@watermatters.org</i>
SFWMD	Sept. 20, 2019	<i>Don Medellin - dmedelli@sfwmd.gov</i>

Governing Board meetings open to the public:

SJRWMD	Nov. 12, 2019	Palatka
SWFWMD	Oct. 22, 2019	Brooksville
SFWMD	Oct. 10, 2019	West Palm Beach