Central Florida Water Initiative



2025 CFWI Regional Water Supply Plan Steering Committee and Public Meeting Meeting Minutes November 19, 2024, 1:00 pm

- Presented by Pamela Flores, FDEP, Facilitator.
- Welcome and Electronic Forum Coordination.
- Ms. Flores took roll call for Committee Members.
- Present Members:
 - Adam Blalock, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Chair
 - o Todd Swingle, Public Water Supply, Toho Water Authority
 - o Benjamin Butler, South Florida Water Management District
 - o J. Chris Peterson, St. Johns River Water Management District
 - o West Gregory, Director, Office of Agriculture Water Policy
- Not Present:
 - Ashley Bell Barnett, Southwest Florida Water Management District
 - Reviewed the forthcoming agenda.
 - 1. Overview
 - Purpose: Discuss the draft results for the 2025 Regional Water Supply Plan
 - Major Topics:
 - Hydrologic analysis
 - Minimum Flows and Levels
 - o Environmental Measures
 - Data Monitoring and investigations updates
- 2. Presentation: Overview of 2025 CFWI Regional Water Supply Plan

Presented by: Callie Register, St. John's River Water Management District

- Summary:
 - Provided an overview of the CFWI and regional water supply plan process.
 - Reviewed timeline for upcoming meetings, it is expected that the final plan will go to Governing Boards in November 2025.
 The plan should be published online by December 2025.
- 3. Presentation: Hydrologic Assessment
 Presented by: Pete Kwiatkowski, South Florida Water Management
 District
- Summary:
 - Presented modeling results on groundwater withdrawals and their impacts on natural water systems and aquifers.
- Presentation: Minimum Flows and Water Levels
 Presented by: Andrew Sutherland, St. John's River Water
 Management District
- Summary:
 - Explanation and overview on minimum flows and levels as regulatory criteria to balance consumptive and nonconsumptive uses.
 - o Assessed MFL's using the ECFTX model output and site-specific water budget models.
- 5. Presentation: Environmental Measures
 Presented by: Kym Rouse Holzwart, Southwest Florida Water
 Management District
- Summary:
 - o Discussed stressed wetlands and plains wetlands
- Break: The Meeting recessed at 1:55pm and reconvened at 2:05pm.
- Presentation: Data, Monitoring, and Investigations Team (DMIT)
 Update
 Presented by: Keith Pari, St. Johns River Water Management District,

Hydrologist IV

• Summary/Objective:

- o Ensuring hydrologic, environmental, and other pertinent data collection.
- o Gave an update on work plan progression.
- o Recommended to complete a new evaluation of remaining sites.

7. General Public Comment:

• David MacIntyre:

o The employees with SWFWMD have taken the position it would be the same withdrawal constraints when considering the Upper and Lower Floridan. Is that reflected in the model based on the results of the regional drawdown increasing to 2045? If you inject that constraint you might see some local variations of increased drawdown and increased mounting where mitigation measures don't fall in exactly the same spot as increased withdrawals, shouldn't we be seeing widespread Floridan production past the 2025 levels, is this accurate?

• Angel Martin:

- o In the model where it showed Seminole and Polk counties in the vertical flow, do you know if it doubled or tripled in flow?
- Jason LaRoche in SWFL created a new monitoring and well drilling strategy, was that taken into account in the new modeling?
- He would like to understand the term "stressed" in Kym's presentation.

• Michael Cliburn:

 Does the 2045 groundwater demand give what the value is and is it going to exceed 760 mgd 2020 the master plan being the limit to protect Wekiva river and springs so they can still meet their MFL's?

Tom Mariosi:

- o In 2045 and moving forward, would the Lower Floridan aquifer still be a good supply for alternative water?
- Mr. Mariosi would like to receive more commentary or information on the confining layer between the Upper and Lower Floridan.

• Dan Schmutz:

- The CFWI presentation noted stressed areas, specifically the wetlands in Lake Apopka. He would like a better understanding of the tradeoffs of discussing site specific locations vs. probabilistic method.
- No response requested.

Angel Martin:

- Regarding the DMIT process, are there considerations of placing observation monitoring wells in the area where you have possible upward leakage from the brackish, slightly saline water from the Lower Floridan to the Upper Floridan?
- Pam Flores will have staff reach out to each individual.

8. Steering Committee Comment

- Todd Swingle:
 - When are the upcoming meetings as it could answer some of the public comments and questions.
 - Stacy Payseno: Gave information about upcoming dates where more information will be presented. This does not relate to specific projects, only will indicate region wide.

• Benjamin Butler:

General comment: Thanked presenters and commenters.
 Reviewing the presented data, there are some challenges and opportunities we will face in the future. Eager to view the draft.

Adam Blalock:

 Thanked the staff for their hard work and applauded the committee for their attendance and vested interest.

• Mr. Gregory:

 Thanked the staff for the presentations. Noted the interest of seeing the graphics and comparisons of the impacts and drawdowns. Offered maps from their site if they are needed.

9. 2025 Steering Committee Schedule

- April 2025: Steering Committee/Public Meeting
- October 2025: Steering Committee/ Public Meeting on Final Draft of RWSP
- November 2025: Final plan will go to Governing Board
- December 2025: Official plan should be published online

10. Adjourn

• Meeting adjourned, time not referenced.