



CFWI 2020 Regional Water Supply Plan Nearing Completion

The Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) 2020 Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP) is nearing completion and final approval.

The plan identifies existing and projected water needs as well as projects and funding sources to meet those needs in the CFWI Planning Area over the next 20 years. The CFWI Planning Area consists of all of Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Polk counties and southern Lake County, covering approximately 5,300 square miles.

“One of the key findings in the plan is that the area’s population is projected to reach 4.4 million by 2040, which is a 49 percent increase from the 2015 estimate,” said Tammy Bader-Gibbs, RWSP Team Lead. “As a result, total water use is projected to increase 36 percent from 667 million gallons per day to 908 million gallons per day by 2040. Therefore, alternative water sources will need to be developed along with additional water conservation efforts to meet these demands while protecting the water resources and natural systems.”

The public and key stakeholders had an opportunity to attend virtual workshops and provide comments on the draft plan earlier this year. The RWSP Team will now bring the final draft of the 2020 CFWI RWSP to the CFWI Steering Committee for approval Oct. 28. Click [here](#) to register for the virtual meeting via Zoom. Then the governing boards of the three water management districts will consider the plan for approval at their November meetings, thereby establishing a water supply strategy for the five-county area for the next two decades. Once approved, the plan will be updated approximately every five years.

The CFWI 2020 RWSP has been developed collaboratively among the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the St. Johns, Southwest and South Florida water management districts, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, public water supply utilities and other stakeholder groups.

The draft plan is available on the CFWI website at cfwiwater.com. The final draft plan is expected to be posted to the website later this month.