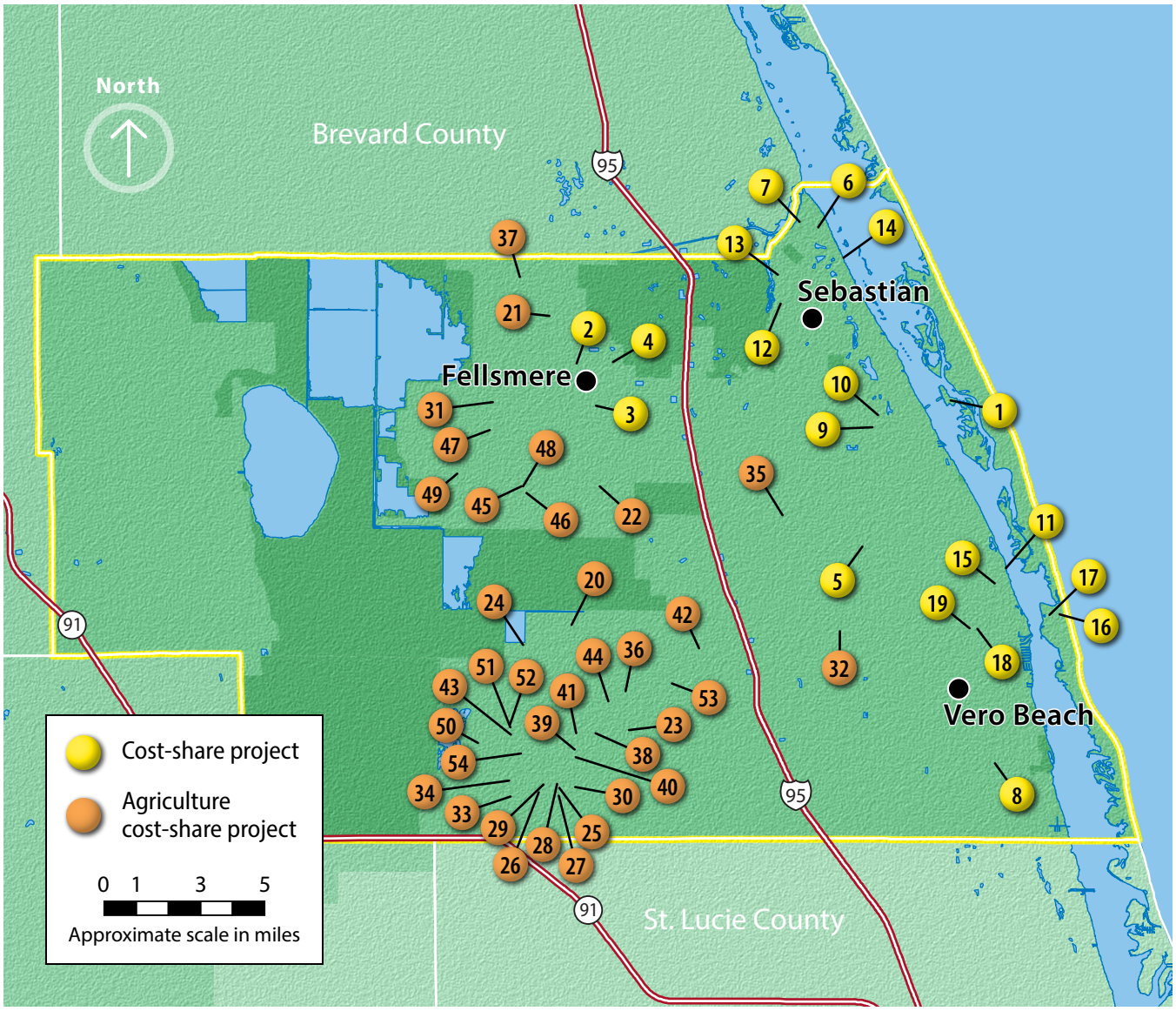
St. Johns River Water Management District

Cost-share and District-led projects in Indian River County

The St. Johns River Water Management District (District) implements a wide variety of projects aimed at protecting water supplies, improving water quality, restoring natural systems, and providing flood protection. A summary of the cost-share projects benefiting Indian River County are described on the following pages. The summary includes a description of benefits for each project, including nutrient load reduction (total phosphorus [TP], total nitrogen [TN] pounds per year [lbs/yr]), alternative water supplied (million gallons per day [mgd]), water conserved (mgd), alternative water storage capacity created (million gallons [MG]), or acres protected from flooding.

Also listed at the end of this document are District-led and other efforts benefiting the communities in Indian River County.



Cost-Share Program:

Through the Cost-Share Program, the District and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) together have awarded nearly $14 million for projects in communities throughout Indian River County beginning in fiscal year 2015, leveraging more than $39 million when combined with local matching funds. Indian River County cost-share projects have provided an estimated benefit of 6.1 million gallons per day (mgd) of alternative water supply, 30,000 lbs/yr TN (total nitrogen in pounds per year [lbs/yr]) reduction, 2,900 lbs/yr TP (total phosphorus) reduction, and 66 acres of uplands improved, and 34 acres protected from flooding.

1. **Environmental Learning Center Septic-to-Sewer** — The project included the replacement of the Environmental Learning Center septic tank with a private lift station and connection to the existing sewer main. The estimated nutrient load water quality benefit to the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) is 24 lbs/yr of TN. Project Status: Complete.
2. **Fellsmere North Regional Lake (REDI)** — The project consisted of constructing a 3-acre stormwater pond to treat a 26-acre watershed with no stormwater treatment. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 212 lbs/yr of TN and 104 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
3. **Fellsmere South Regional Lake (REDI)** — The project consisted of the construction of a stormwater pond to treat a 585-acre watershed with no stormwater treatment. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 479 lbs/yr of TN and 139 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
4. **Fellsmere State Street Reservoir Expansion** — The project includes expanding an existing stormwater pond to reduce flooding to a residential area. The estimated flood protection benefit is 34 acres and the estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the upper St. Johns River is 5.6 lbs/yr of TN and 0.6 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Not Started.
5. **Indian River County Moorhen Marsh Low Energy Aquatic Plant System** — The project involved the construction of an aquatic plant (water lettuce) based treatment system that treats stormwater from a 6,300-acre watershed. The system will pump 10 mgd from the North Relief Canal into the aquatic plant treatment system. The estimated nutrient reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 4,854 lbs/yr of TN and 785 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
6. **Indian River County North Sebastian Septic-to-Sewer: Phase 1** — This project involved the installation of a gravity sewer to serve 61 parcels of primarily zoned commercial property with two lift stations. Lateral connections were established for 38 developed parcels with septic tanks and 23 vacant parcels. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 2,190 lbs/yr of TN and 365 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
7. **Indian River County North Sebastian Septic-to-Sewer: Phase 2** — This project involved the construction of approximately three miles of gravity sewer main, manholes, and a lift station. The project area encompasses a total of 180 parcels on septic systems in the North Sebastian area that will be connected to the gravity sewer main. The estimated alternative water supply benefit is 0.042 mgd. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 1,179 lbs/yr of TN. Project Status: Complete.
8. **Indian River County Osprey Acres Stormwater Park** — This project involved the construction of a stormwater park with settling basins, serpentine water flow-way, shallow marsh, and a final filtering marsh. The system will remove residual nitrogen and phosphorus from Indian River County's Osprey Marsh Algal Turf Scrubber Facility's effluent. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 9,000 lbs/yr of TN and 400 lbs/yr of TP. Approximately 66 acres of uplands will be improved. Project Status: Complete.

9. **Indian River County West Wabasso Septic-to-Sewer: Phase 2** — This project involved the construction of a gravity sewer system that connects to 54 existing parcels and 47 vacant parcels. The existing 54 septic systems were abandoned and 47 vacant parcels are now available for future hookup. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 1,153 lbs/yr of TN. Project Status: Complete.
10. **Indian River County West Wabasso Septic-to-Sewer: Phase 3** — This project involves converting 36 existing septic tanks to sewer. There are 61 total parcels in the project area and 36 parcels are developed with septic tanks. The 25 undeveloped parcels will receive a lateral stub out for future connection. A gravity sewer system will be installed with 3,000 linear feet (LF) of 8-inch PVC gravity sewer, 13 manholes, service laterals, and two lift stations. All tanks will be abandoned, and laterals connected. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 409 lbs/yr of TN. Project Status: Complete.
11. **Indian River Shores Indian-Seminole Lane Treatment Train** — This project involved the construction of catch basins, inlet debris baskets, polyacrylamide (PAM) blocks, and maintenance dredging. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 378 lbs/yr of TN and 194 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
12. **Kashi Church Foundation Septic-to-Sewer** — This project involved abandoning 12 existing septic tanks and drainfields, and installing 3,000 LF of sewer pipe, 11 sanitary manholes, and connecting to existing sewer at the north end of the property. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 139 lbs/yr of TN. Project Status: Complete.
13. **Sebastian Roseland Road Septic-to-Sewer** — This project involved the construction of approximately 2,350 LF of 8-inch gravity sewer main; 11 manholes, a lift station, and removal of approximately 13 septic tanks in direct proximity to the St. Sebastian River, which outfalls into the IRL. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 150 lbs/yr of TN. Project Status: Complete.
14. **Sebastian Treatment Train Nutrient Reduction Project** — This project involved the construction of a stormwater treatment train for a 13-acre basin. The treatment train includes vegetated swales with floc logs, inlet baskets, and baffle box. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 199 lbs/yr of TN and 26 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
15. **Vero Beach Canal to Irrigation Water Project** — This project is Phase 2 of a two-phased project and involves the construction of approximately 29,150 LF of reclaimed water main to transmit treated canal water from the Phase 1 Vero Beach Stormwater Treatment Plant project for irrigation. The estimated alternative water supply benefit is 3 mgd. Project Status: In Progress.
16. **Vero Beach Hybrid Septic Tank Effluent Pumping Force Main: Phase 1** — This project involves the installation of the force main for the Septic Tank Effluent Pumping (STEP) collection system that will eventually service 1,484 single and multi-family residential units. The estimated alternative water supply benefit is 0.5 mgd. Project Status: Complete.
17. **Vero Beach Hybrid Septic Tank Effluent Plant Service Lines: Phase 2** — This project involved the installation of 293 STEP collection systems and service lines and connection to the STEP force main (funded under Phase 1). The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 3,868 lbs/yr of TN. Project Status: Complete.
18. **Vero Beach Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Facility Expansion** — The project involved the construction of two new 1.25 mgd membrane skids and modifications to the existing 2.0 mgd skid producing a total reverse

osmosis production capacity of 4.6 mgd. The estimated alternative water supply benefit is 2.6 mgd. Project Status: Complete.

19. **Vero Beach Stormwater Treatment Plant** — This project is Phase 1 and involves the construction of an intake station to provide canal water to the existing filtration system to withdraw approximately 3 mgd from the Main Relief Canal that currently discharges to the IRL. Construction also includes a pipeline to the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), filters, and re-pumping station. The canal water will be filtered, screened, and treated at the existing WWTP. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit to the IRL is 5,820 lbs/yr of TN and 900 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

Agricultural Cost-Share Program:

The Agricultural Cost-Share Program provides funding to agricultural operations to conserve water and reduce offsite nutrient loading. Beginning in fiscal year 2016, the District and DEP have provided $5.2 million in funding for agricultural projects in Indian River County. Indian River County agricultural cost-share projects have provided an estimated alternative water supply benefit of 0.9 mgd, 4 mgd of water conservation, nearly 99,000 lbs/yr TN reduction, and 24,000 lbs/yr TP reduction.

20. **Banack Family Partnership Irrigation Retrofit and Pump Automation** — This project involved performing an irrigation retrofit, purchasing, and installing pump automation controllers, and purchasing and installing soil moisture sensors on approximately 115 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.02 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 136 lbs/yr of TN and 30 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

21. **Banack Family Partnership Surface Water Conversion** — This project involved upgrading an existing irrigation system to better utilize surface water on approximately 80 acres of citrus benefitting the Indian River Lagoon and the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.057 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 167 lbs/yr of TN and 14 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

22. **Bernard A. Eagan Precision Irrigation** — This project involved installing irrigation water filters and weather stations with remote sensing capabilities on approximately 2,000 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin and the Indian River Lagoon. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.25 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 5,838 lbs/yr of TN and 1,277 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

23. **Blue Cypress Grain Soil Grid Mapping and Variable Rate Fertilizer** — This project involved performing soil grid mapping and implementing variable rate fertilizer application on approximately 1,463 acres of row crops benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit is 21,600 lbs/year TN and 6,144 lbs/year TP. Project Status: Complete.

24. **Blue Goose Pump Station Replacement and Automation Project** — This project involved replacing a micro-jet irrigation system with a more efficient system and automating a pump station on approximately 423 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.25 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 4,253 lbs/yr of TN and 930 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

25. **Estes Citrus Portable Tissue Testing Lab and Soil Moisture Sensors** — This project included the purchase and implementation of a portable mini-lab and soil moisture sensors

on approximately 120 acres of citrus and Pongamia trees benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.01 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 1,627 lbs/yr of TN and 347 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

26. **Estes Citrus Pump Automation 1** — This project involved replacing an existing microjet system with a higher efficiency system and pump automation on approximately 80 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.004 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 465 lbs/yr of TN and 102 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
27. **Estes Citrus Pump Automation 2** — This project involved performing pump automation and installing soil moisture sensors on approximately 120 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.03 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 258 lbs/yr of TN and 57 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
28. **Estes Citrus Pump Automation 3** — This project involved moving the pump automation station 600 feet south to tie into another irrigation system on approximately 80 acres of citrus and Pongamia tree benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.02 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 108 lbs/yr of TN and 31 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
29. **Estes Citrus Pump Automation 4** — This project involved installation of pump automation equipment on approximately 30 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.01 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 47 lbs/yr of TN and 10 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
30. **Estes Citrus/Uttam Grove Pump Automation** — This project involved implementing pump automation on approximately 80 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.011 mgd and the estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit is 59 lbs/yr of TN and 13 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
31. **Fellsmere Joint Venture Irrigation Retrofit 1** — This project involved performing an irrigation retrofit on approximately 300 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.14 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 830 lbs/yr of TN and 168 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
32. **Florida Research Center for Ag Sustainability Soil Moisture Sensors** — This project involved the purchase of soil moisture sensors and a weather station on approximately 30 acres of citrus benefitting the Indian River Lagoon. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.001 mgd and the estimated nutrient load reduction water quality is 21 lbs/yr of TN and 5 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
33. **Global Strategic Investments Irrigation Retrofit** — This project involves the installation of an irrigation retrofit with pump automation on approximately 38 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns Basin. The estimated conservation is 0.004 mgd. The estimated nutrient load reduction benefit is 118 lbs/yr of TN and 31 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
34. **Global Strategic Investments Pump Automation** — This project involves the purchase and installation of pump automation on approximately 275 acres of citrus and mangoes benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated conservation is 0.06 mgd.

The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit is 74 lbs/yr of TN and 16 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

35. **Hammond Groves, Inc., Surface Water Conversion** — This project involved the design and installation of a surface water pump station and pond restoration project on approximately 400 acres of citrus benefitting the Indian River Lagoon and the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.33 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 2,195 lbs/yr of TN and 199 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
36. **Hammond Groves Irrigation Retrofit / Fertigation** — This project involves performing an irrigation retrofit with fertigation on approximately 510 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin and the Indian River Lagoon. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit is 735 lbs/yr of TN and 151 lbs/yr of TP. The project is also estimated to provide a water conservation benefit of 0.11 mgd. Project Status: Complete.
37. **IMG Citrus, Inc., Compost Spreader** — This project involved the purchase of compost and a compost spreader for use on approximately 920 acres of citrus benefitting the Indian River Lagoon and the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.03 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 3,628 lbs/yr of TN and 794 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
38. **IMG Citrus, Inc., Pump Automation and Fertigation 1** — This project involved installing an automated irrigation / fertigation system with soil moisture sensors on approximately 118 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.01 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 876 lbs/yr of TN and 192 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
39. **IMG Citrus, Inc., Pump Automation and Irrigation Retrofit** — This project involved the installation of pump automation and irrigation retrofit on approximately 330 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The project is estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 268 lbs/yr of TN and 59 lbs/yr of TP. The project is also estimated to provide a water conservation benefit of 0.04 mgd. Project Status: Complete.
40. **IMG Citrus Inc. Pump Automation and Irrigation Retrofit 2** — This project involves an irrigation retrofit and pump automation on approximately 69 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.013 mgd and the estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit is 22 lbs/yr of TN and 5 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
41. **IMG Citrus, Inc., Soil Grid Mapping** — This project involved implementing soil grid mapping on approximately 807 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit is 5,985 lbs/yr of TN and 1,309 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
42. **Lambeth Citrus Irrigation Retrofit** — This project involved the replacement of a micro-jet irrigation system with a more efficient one and installation of soil moisture sensors on approximately 116 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.01 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 767 lbs/yr of TN and 168 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
43. **Riverfront Packing Irrigation Retrofit and Surface Water Pump** — This project involved performing an irrigation retrofit with surface water pump on approximately

314 acres of citrus benefitting the Indian River Lagoon and the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.05 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 819 lbs/yr of TN and 31 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

44. **St. Johns River Farm Linear Overhead Field 1** — This project involved performing an irrigation conversion from micro-jet and seepage to linear overhead irrigation on approximately 860 acres of row crops benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 1.63 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 22,255 lbs/yr of TN and 6,528 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

45. **Sun Ag Conversion to Surface Water 1** — This project involved converting from groundwater use to surface water for irrigation of 150 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.08 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 435 lbs/yr of TN and 95 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

46. **Sun Ag Conversion to Surface Water 2** — This project involved the conversion from groundwater to surface water use on approximately 540 acres of citrus and installation of groundcover on approximately 20 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated alternative water supplied is 0.3 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 1,665 lbs/yr of TN and 114 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

47. **Sun Ag Irrigation Retrofit** — This project involves performing an irrigation retrofit and installing soil moisture sensors on approximately 500 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin and the Indian River Lagoon. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.05 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 508 lbs/yr of TN and 127 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

48. **Sun Ag Irrigation Retrofit and Surface Water Conversion 2** — This project involved performing an irrigation retrofit and converting to surface water on approximately 300 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.18 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 182 lbs/yr of TN and 36 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

49. **Sun Ag Surface Water Pump and Pump Automation** — This project involved the installation of a surface water pump with pump automation and the purchase and implementation of portable weather stations and soil moisture sensors for use on approximately 300 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water supply benefit is 0.038 mgd and the estimated nutrient load reduction water quality benefit is 279 lbs/yr of TN and 61 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

50. **Twenty-Twenty Groves Irrigation Retrofit** — This project involved replacing the outdated and inefficient micro-jet irrigation system and installing irrigation controllers and soil moisture sensors on approximately 450 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.07 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 1,879 lbs/yr of TN and 438 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

51. **West River Groves SMS and Riser Culvert** — This project involved the installation of soil moisture sensors and a riser culvert on approximately 285 acres of citrus benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.01 mgd.

The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 75 lbs/yr of TN and 16 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

52. **West River Groves Weather Station and Groundcover** — This project involved the purchase and installation of groundcover for approximately 255 acres of citrus and installation of a weather station benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.15 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 419 lbs/yr of TN and 105 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
53. **West Vero Farms LLC Linear Overhead Irrigation 1** — This project involved performing an irrigation conversion from seepage to a linear overhead irrigation system on approximately 465 acres of row crop benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.77 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 10,775 lbs/yr of TN and 3,065 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.
54. **West Vero Farms LLC Linear Overhead Irrigation 2** — This project involved the installation of a linear overhead irrigation system on approximately 304 acres of row crops benefitting the Upper St. Johns River Basin. The estimated water conservation benefit is 0.42 mgd. The project is also estimated to provide a nutrient load reduction water quality benefit of 9,271 lbs/yr of TN and 1,369 lbs/yr of TP. Project Status: Complete.

District-led projects and other efforts

The District constructs large, regional projects that often benefit multiple counties and benefit more than one of the District's core missions. Some of the efforts in Indian River County include:

Upper St. Johns River Basin Project — The District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) embarked on an ambitious, long-term flood control project in 1977 to revitalize the upper basin. Extending from the headwaters of the St. Johns River in Indian River and Brevard counties to the confluence of the St. Johns and Econlockhatchee rivers in Seminole County, the project reclaimed drained marshlands by creating reservoirs and replumbing canals that had been diked and drained in the early 1900s for agriculture. The goals of this award-winning project are numerous: to improve water quality, reduce freshwater discharges to the Indian River Lagoon, provide for water supply, and restore or enhance wetland habitat. The project is now in long-term maintenance.

Fellsmere Water Management Area — The District restored 10,000 acres of wetlands and open water at the headwaters of the St. Johns River. Formerly pasture and crop lands, the property has been transformed into wetlands that will become the primary source of irrigation water supply for the remaining agricultural lands owned by Sun-Ag Inc. Benefits include restoring agricultural land to wetlands, reducing the annual amount of phosphorus and chloride flowing to the upper St. Johns River, providing a mosaic of wetland types that will provide habitat for a large number of species, decreasing the frequency of freshwater discharges through the C-54 canal to the Indian River Lagoon to less than a 1-in-100-year storm event; conserving groundwater that is withdrawn from the Floridan aquifer; augmenting dry season flows to the St. Johns River, enhancing downstream aquatic environments; and increasing water storage in the Blue Cypress Lake watershed.

Central Springs/East Coast water supply planning region — The District works in partnership with the Southwest and South Florida water management districts, DEP, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, local utilities and other stakeholders in the region to implement a data-driven, proactive approach to ensure effective and consistent water resource and water supply planning and development. Learn more about this regional water supply planning region at ***www.sjrwmd.com/water-supply/planning/csec-rwsp***.

Minimum flows and levels (MFLs) program — The District establishes MFLs for priority water bodies within its boundaries. MFLs define the limits at which further water withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of an area. MFLs is an effective tool to assist in making sound water management decisions and preventing significant adverse impacts due to water withdrawals.

Hydrologic and water quality data collection — The District operates a network of data collection sites for hydrologic conditions and water quality in many lakes, wetland restoration areas, streams, springs, and wells.

District conservation areas

The District buys land in the course of its work to protect and preserve water resources. These lands also protect plant and wildlife habitat and provide areas for public recreation and environmental education. Virtually all District property is open to the public for activities that are compatible with conservation, though some may be closed during ongoing construction or restoration projects. In Indian River County, District properties include Blue Cypress Conservation Area, Fellsmere Water Management Area and Fort Drum Marsh Conservation Area. For a current listing of District conservation areas, visit ***www.sjrwmd.com/lands***.

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