



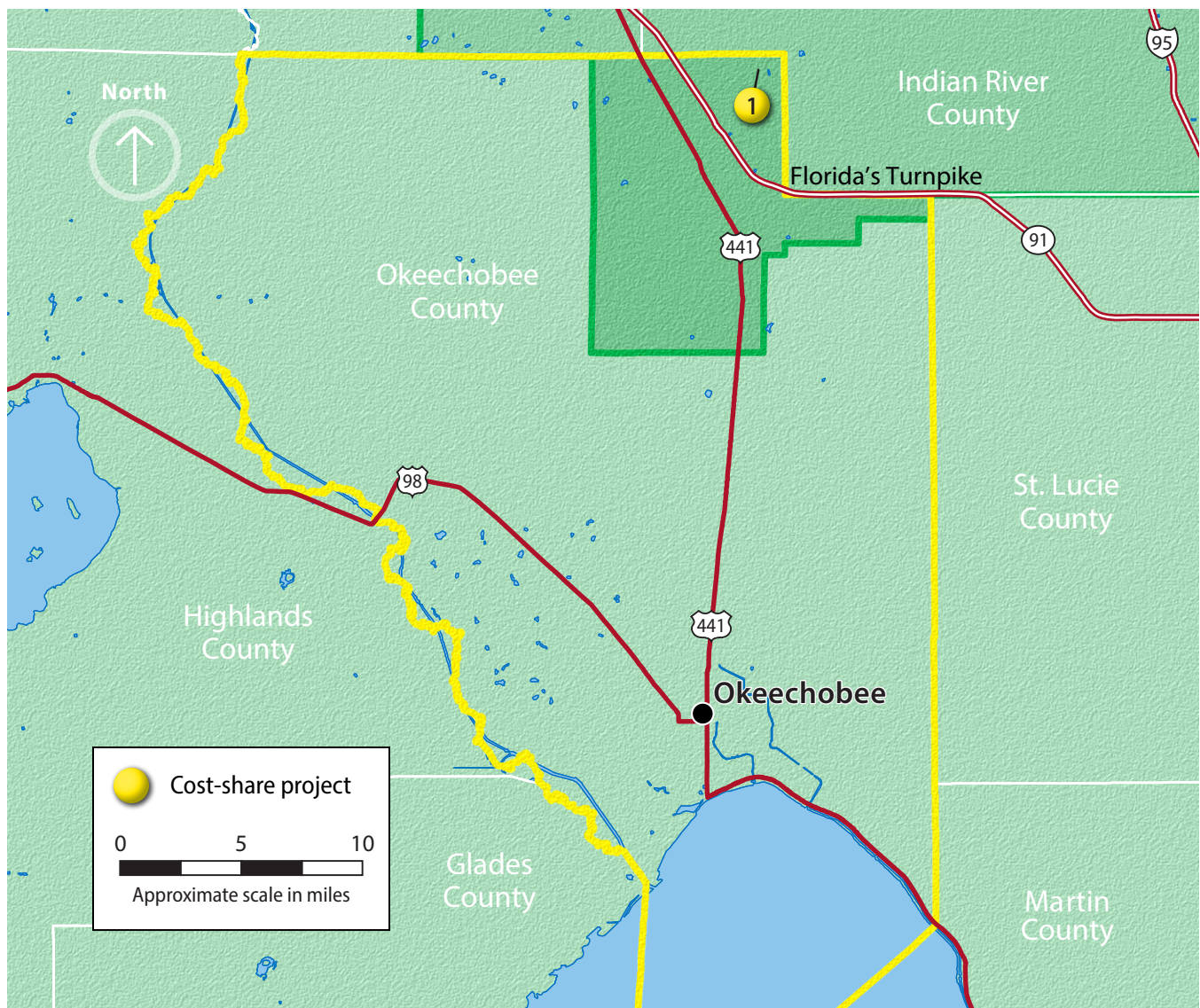
St. Johns River Water Management District

Cost-share and District-led projects in Okeechobee 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 Okeechobee 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 projects and other efforts benefiting the communities in Okeechobee County.



Cost-Share Program:

Through the Cost-Share Program, the District and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) together have awarded approximately \$530,000 for projects in communities throughout Okeechobee County beginning in fiscal year 2021, leveraging approximately \$1 million when combined with local matching funds. Okeechobee County cost-share projects have provided an estimated benefit of 2.2 mgd of alternative water supply.

- 1. FPL Okeechobee Clean Energy Center, Upper Floridan aquifer (UFA) to Lower Floridan aquifer (LFA)** — The project includes conversion of an Upper Floridan aquifer (UFA) well to a brackish portion of the Lower Floridan aquifer (LFA) well for use at Florida Power & Light's Okeechobee Clean Energy Center. The estimated alternative water supply benefit is 2.2 mgd. 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 Okeechobee County include:

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.

