

**Northwest Florida Water Management District  
Governing Board Meeting Minutes  
January 14, 2021**

1. Opening Ceremonies

Called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Brett Cyphers called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

Present: George Roberts, Chair; Jerry Pate, Vice Chair; Gus Andrews; Ted Everett; Nick Patronis; Kellie Ralston

2. Special Thanks and Recognition

MOTIONED BY NICK PATRONIS, SECONDED BY KELLIE RALSTON, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 882 AWARDING ANNE RUDLOE AS THE 2020 WINNER OF THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT'S "RIVER AND BAY CHAMPION" AWARD. PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Changes to the Agenda

None.

4. Approval of the Minutes for December 17, 2020

MOTIONED BY TED EVERETT, SECONDED BY NICK PATRONIS, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 17, 2020. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Approval of the Financial Reports for the Month of November 2020

MOTIONED BY NICK PATRONIS, SECONDED BY KELLIE RALSTON, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2020. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Consideration of Amendments No. 1 through No. 3 to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget

MOTIONED BY KELLIE RALSTON, SECONDED BY NICK PATRONIS, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 880 AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET AND ALLOW STAFF TO REALIGN REVENUES AND RESERVES TO MAINTAIN THE PROPER BALANCE IN EACH FUND. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Request for Release of Funds from the General Revenue Fund and Related Agreement for Alternative Water Supply Efforts

MOTIONED BY NICK PATRONIS, SECONDED BY KELLIE RALSTON, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 881 TO REQUEST THE SECRETARY OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO RELEASE UP TO \$2,994,900 FROM THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND FOR ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DEP FOR THESE FUNDS, SUBJECT TO LEGAL COUNSEL REVIEW. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

8. Consideration of Grant Agreement with the City of Panama City Beach for Septic Tank Abatement

MOTIONED BY TED EVERETT, SECONDED BY KELLIE RALSTON, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH TO PROVIDE UP TO \$71,975 IN GRANT FUNDING SUBJECT TO BUDGET AUTHORITY TO SUPPORT THE EXTENSION OF SEWER SERVICE AND ELIMINATION OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS PROXIMATE TO GRAND LAGOON IN THE ST. ANDREW BAY WATERSHED. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

9. Overview of the District

Informational purposes only.

10. Legal Counsel Report

There are no pending cases in which the District is a party.

11. *Diaz v. Northwest Florida Water Management District and Palafox, LLC*, DOAH Case No. 19-005831, Permit No. IND-73-288406-1, Consideration and Issuance of Supplemental Final Order

MOTIONED BY KELLIE RALSTON, SECONDED BY NICK PATRONIS, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE AND ISSUE THE SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL ORDER. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
Financial Report  
Summary Statement of Receipts, Disbursements & Cash Balances  
For Month Ending December 31, 2020

Balance Forward - Operating Funds	\$39,811,892.44	
Operating Funds Received in current month:		
Revenue Receipts, Current	\$2,025,127.69	
Contracts Receivable	214,993.17	
Other Deposits/Refunds/Adjustments	26,712.19	
Transfers from Lands Accounts	<u>0.00</u>	
Total Deposits during month	<u>2,266,833.05</u>	
Total Deposits and Balance Forward		\$ 42,078,725.49
Disbursements:		
Employee Salaries	643,522.69	
Employee Benefits	271,470.46	
Employee Flexible Spending Account	0.00	
Contractual Services (Professional)	583,452.23	
Operating Expenses - Services	69,438.04	
Operating Expenses - Commodities	27,278.10	
Operating Capital Outlay	1,050.00	
Grants and Aids	<u>18,149.29</u>	
Total Operating Expenses during month	1,614,360.81	
Payables, Prior Year	2,343.69	
Other Disbursements or (Credits)	<u>27,927.64</u>	
Total Funds Disbursed by check during month	1,644,632.14	
Bank Debits (Fees, Deposit Slips, etc.)	0.00	
Transfer to Cypress Springs Account	<u>0.00</u>	
Total Funds Disbursed		<u>1,644,632.14</u>
Cash Balance Operating Funds at month end		\$ 40,434,093.35
Operating Depositories:		
Petty Cash Fund	250.25	
Bank of America:		
General Fund Checking	1,820,231.25	
Payroll Account	6,325.76	
Passthrough (EFT) Account	1,000.00	
Investment Accounts:		
Fla. Board of Administration @ 0.18%		
General Fund	14,356,461.19	
Lands Fee Fund	5,619,043.10	
SWIM Fund	90,226.90	
Water Prot. & Sust. Program TF	100,155.52	
Okaloosa Regional Reuse	2,506,761.74	
Mitigation Fund	<u>15,933,637.64</u>	
Total Operating Depositories at month end	\$	40,434,093.35

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
 Financial Report  
 Summary Statement of Receipts, Disbursements & Cash Balances  
 For Month Ending December 31, 2020

Land Acquisition Funds:

Fla. Board of Administration @ 0.18%	\$	300,054.09	
Total Land Acquisition Funds			300,054.09

Restricted Land Management Funds:

Fla. Board of Administration Phipps Land Management Account @ 0.18%		56,974.11	
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Fla. Board of Administration Cypress Springs R&M Account @ 0.18%		844,953.72	
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Total Restricted Land Management Funds			<u>901,927.83</u>
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Total Land Acquisition, and Restricted Management Funds			<u>1,201,981.92</u>
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TOTAL OPERATING, LAND ACQUISITION, & RESTRICTED FUNDS AT MONTH END			<u><u>\$ 41,636,075.27</u></u>
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Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairman or Executive Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ February 12, 2021 \_\_\_\_\_

**Northwest Florida Water Management District**  
**Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds**  
**For the Period ending December 31, 2020**  
**(Unaudited)**

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Actuals Through 12/31/2020</b>	<b>Variance (under)/Over Budget</b>	<b>Actuals As A % of Budget</b>
<b>Sources</b>				
Ad Valorem Property Taxes	\$ 3,587,899	\$ 2,383,976	\$ (1,203,923)	66%
Intergovernmental Revenues	77,583,585		(77,583,585)	0%
Interest on Invested Funds	382,820	22,144	(360,676)	6%
License and Permit Fees	437,500	144,770	(292,730)	33%
Other	4,510,476	232,348	(4,278,128)	5%
Fund Balance	26,699,885		(26,699,885)	0%
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$ 113,202,165</b>	<b>\$ 2,783,238</b>	<b>\$ (110,418,927)</b>	<b>2%</b>

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Encumbrances <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Available Budget</b>	<b>%Expended</b>	<b>%Obligated <sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Uses</b>						
Water Resources Planning and Monitoring	\$ 7,233,145	\$ 729,148	\$ 207,932	\$ 6,296,064	10%	13%
Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works	69,227,458	487,264	13,113,085	55,627,109	1%	20%
Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works	7,048,616	1,034,405	2,328,680	3,685,531	15%	48%
Regulation	3,880,386	755,240	159,474	2,965,673	19%	24%
Outreach	136,457	34,308	117	102,032	25%	25%
Management and Administration	2,083,595	445,297	75,565	1,562,733	21%	25%
<b>Total Uses</b>	<b>\$ 89,609,657</b>	<b>\$ 3,485,661</b>	<b>\$ 15,884,853</b>	<b>\$ 70,239,143</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>22%</b>
Reserves	23,592,508			23,592,508	0%	0%
<b>Total Uses and Reserves</b>	<b>\$ 113,202,165</b>	<b>\$ 3,485,661</b>	<b>\$ 15,884,853</b>	<b>\$ 93,831,651</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>17%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Encumbrances represent unexpended balances of open purchase orders.

<sup>2</sup> Represents the sum of expenditures and encumbrances as a percentage of the available budget.

This unaudited financial statement is prepared as of December 31, 2020, and covers the interim period since the most recent audited financial statements.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS

GENERAL FUND

DECEMBER 2020

CHECKS	12/3/2020	\$	233,120.98
AP EFT CHECKS	12/4/2020		261,357.10
DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS	12/4/2020		550.00
CHECKS	12/10/2020		53,101.21
AP EFT CHECKS	12/11/2020		165,585.07
DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS	12/11/2020		1,430.00
CHECKS	12/17/2020		28,526.79
AP EFT CHECKS	12/18/2020		98,670.34
DIRECT DISBURSEMENT	12/18/2020		450.00
CHECKS	12/23/2020		5,111.82
AP EFT CHECKS	12/23/2020		534.64
CHECKS	12/30/2020		1,669.17
AP EFT CHECKS	12/30/2020		22,137.40
VOIDED CHECKS	12/30/2020		-135.00
RETIREMENT EFT	12/31/2020		97,974.31
		\$	<u><u>970,083.83</u></u>

APPROVED:

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Chairman or Executive Director

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February 11, 2021  
Date

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP  
COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>CHECK DATE</b>	<b>INVOICE NET</b>	<b>INVOICE DESCRIPTION</b>
4522 AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC	12/03/2020	159,088.00	LAKE MUNSON HARMFUL ALGAE BLOO
95 AT&T	12/03/2020	302.38	PHONE SERVICE-EFO
4180 BA MERCHANT SERVICES	12/03/2020	705.39	TRANSACTION FEES FOR E-PERMITT
3158 BELL,GRIFFITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.	12/03/2020	2,500.00	APPRAISAL OF BRUCE FOREST LLC
1616 BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF FLORIDA	12/03/2020	955.13	MEDICARE INSURANCE
1616 BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF FLORIDA	12/03/2020	56,240.37	MEDICAL INSURANCE
916 GULF POWER COMPANY	12/03/2020	333.33	ELECTRIC-DEFUNIAK OFFICE
5294 KRONOS, INCORPORATED	12/03/2020	5,241.60	TIMESHEET PROGRAM
5294 KRONOS, INCORPORATED	12/03/2020	4.37	TIMESHEET PROGRAM
2663 PATIENTS FIRST LAKE ELLA MEDICAL CENTER, P.A.	12/03/2020	49.00	LABORATORY TESTING
4832 SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/03/2020	93.80	PREPAID DENTAL ACCT 5
4832 SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/03/2020	5,338.32	PPO DENTAL ACCT 4
4834 SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/03/2020	969.78	AD&D ACCT 1
4834 SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/03/2020	81.60	EAP ACCT 7
4833 SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/03/2020	992.29	VOL LTD ACCT 3
5737 TELECHECK SERVICES, INC.	12/03/2020	64.58	EPERMITTING FEES - TELECHECK
4626 WASTE PRO OF FLORIDA, INC	12/03/2020	161.04	SOLID WASTE - HQ

**TOTAL CHECKS**

**233,120.98**

3293 ANGUS G. ANDREWS, JR.	12/04/2020	8,125.00	ENCUMBER LEASE AGREEMENT - CON
5089 ATKINS NORTH AMERICA, INC.	12/04/2020	7,257.15	RISK MAP PROGRAM SUPPORT
3638 B & B DUGGER, INC	12/04/2020	8,349.39	ENCUMBER T.O. # 3 FOR CONTRACT
1617 CAPITAL HEALTH PLAN	12/04/2020	80,079.93	MEDICAL INSURANCE
3126 DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC	12/04/2020	25,469.42	RISK MAP PROGRAM SUPPORT
3126 DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC	12/04/2020	2,047.50	CONTRACT #16-086
4807 WEX BANK	12/04/2020	9,347.94	FUEL/REPAIRS
4807 WEX BANK	12/04/2020	1,050.00	WEX TELEMATICS FLEET MANAGEMEN
4807 WEX BANK	12/04/2020	25.00	FLEET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - LAND
4807 WEX BANK	12/04/2020	50.00	WEX TELEMATICS FLEET MANAGEMEN
5728 MERIT FIRST LLC	12/04/2020	119,392.78	CONTRACT #20-082A
4799 STAPLES CONTRACT & COMMERCIAL, INC.	12/04/2020	4.89	OFFICE SUPPLIES
5218 WAGeworks, INC.	12/04/2020	158.10	FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT ADMI

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP  
COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

<b>TOTAL ACH TRANSFER</b>			<b><u>261,357.10</u></b>	
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	50.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 290372-3 MI
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	50.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 295199 MICH
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	50.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 295583 DARR
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	50.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 295657 JERR
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	50.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 295681 DUPL
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	50.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 295822 CHAR
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	35.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 295910 STEV
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	15.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 295996 JERR
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	150.00	REFUND WUP PERMIT 296001
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/04/2020	50.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT 296119 CHAR
<b>TOTAL DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS</b>			<b><u>550.00</u></b>	
<b>TOTAL AP</b>			<b><u>495,028.08</u></b>	



**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP  
COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>CHECK DATE</b>	<b>INVOICE NET</b>	<b>INVOICE DESCRIPTION</b>
5623 ALPHA SERVICES, LLC	12/10/2020	4,703.18	RETURN BID BOND ITB 21B-001
5131 CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS	12/10/2020	190.32	WATER/SEWER DEFUNIAK SPRINGS
5743 DAVEY GRAVY HOLDINGS, INC.	12/10/2020	556.00	DRONE PILOT PREP COURSE REGIST
4748 EAST MILTON WATER SYSTEM	12/10/2020	34.42	WATER-MILTON OFFICE
2713 FL DEPT OF AG. & CONSUMER SERVICES	12/10/2020	108.00	PRESCRIBED BURN ASSISTANCE
5746 FLORIDA DEVELOPMENT CONSULTING GROUP, LLC	12/10/2020	2,600.00	P17142-2 OVRPMT REFUND JUSTIN
2701 FLORIDA MUNICIPAL INSURANCE TRUST	12/10/2020	26,691.42	2ND INSTALLMENT FY 20-21
5410 GUARDIAN AUTOMOTIVE	12/10/2020	47.80	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG AND ERP
2299 LIBERTY COUNTY SOLID WASTE	12/10/2020	32.00	SOLID WASTE DUMPSTER-FL RIVER
5610 OKALOOSA-WALTON SECURITY & SURVEILLANCE	12/10/2020	75.00	DFS SECURITY
3370 PAUL'S MARINE SERVICE INC.	12/10/2020	729.38	SCANDY WHITE BOAT OUTBOARD SER
62 PENSACOLA NEWS-JOURNAL	12/10/2020	128.82	WATER USE PERMIT LEGAL AD
5223 SOUTHERN HABITATS, LLC	12/10/2020	3,000.00	WIREGRASS SEED COLLECTION (SHL
5250 SUN LIFE FINANCIAL - VISION	12/10/2020	643.60	VISION ACCT 6
4272 SUNBELT CRUSHING, LLC	12/10/2020	437.57	CRUSHED CONCRETE FOR PERDIDO
4272 SUNBELT CRUSHING, LLC	12/10/2020	1,315.77	CRUSHED CONCRETE FOR PERDIDO
4272 SUNBELT CRUSHING, LLC	12/10/2020	3,106.47	CRUSHED CONCRETE FOR PERDIDO
110 TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.	12/10/2020	2,459.68	ELECTRIC - HQ
110 TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.	12/10/2020	264.80	WATER/SEWER - HQ
110 TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.	12/10/2020	90.20	SECURITY LIGHTS - HQ
5737 TELECHECK SERVICES, INC.	12/10/2020	51.92	FEEES FOR ONLINE PAYMENTS
4557 VERIZON WIRELESS	12/10/2020	214.30	CELL PHONES
4557 VERIZON WIRELESS	12/10/2020	943.08	JETPACKS
4626 WASTE PRO OF FLORIDA, INC	12/10/2020	200.00	DUMPSTER FOR ECONFINA OFFICE A
4297 WILLIAMS FORESTRY & ASSOCIATES, LLC	12/10/2020	4,477.48	RETURN BID BOND ITB 21B-001
<b>TOTAL CHECKS</b>		<b><u>53,101.21</u></b>	
5729 CHIPOLA FORESTRY SERVICES LLC	12/11/2020	59,750.00	HURRICANE DEBRIS SERVICES
3126 DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC	12/11/2020	38,992.64	RISK MAP PROGRAM SUPPORT
3126 DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC	12/11/2020	20,859.20	RISK MAP PROGRAM SUPPORT
45 DMS	12/11/2020	304.00	OFFSITE DATA STORAGE
4855 ENVIRON SERVICES INCORPORATED	12/11/2020	2,583.34	JANITORIAL SERVICES, HEADQUART

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP  
COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

3337	FORESTECH CONSULTING	12/11/2020	793.75	SUPPORT, TRAINING AND HOSTING
3942	A & W VENTURES, L.C.	12/11/2020	156.34	PORTABLE TOILET FOR PHIPPS PAR
3942	A & W VENTURES, L.C.	12/11/2020	400.00	PORTABLE TOILETS FOR HQ
5328	HSW ENGINEERING, INC	12/11/2020	12,630.00	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL, ECOLOG
2268	INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, INC	12/11/2020	837.00	PHONE MAINTENANCE
5368	KOUNTRY RENTAL NWF, INC.	12/11/2020	7,840.00	PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILET SERV
5368	KOUNTRY RENTAL NWF, INC.	12/11/2020	400.00	5 PORTABLE TOILETS FOR EFO STA
5368	KOUNTRY RENTAL NWF, INC.	12/11/2020	207.50	CLEANING OF ECONFINA OFFICE AN
64	PANAMA CITY NEWS HERALD	12/11/2020	65.52	NOTICE OF RULE DEVELOPMENT
5614	ZACHARY J. SELLERS	12/11/2020	787.50	DEFUNIAK OFFICE JANITORIAL
5651	SGS TECHNOLOGIE, LLC	12/11/2020	373.33	HOSTINA AND MAINTAINING DISTRI
1620	SUPERIOR FORESTRY SERVICE, INC	12/11/2020	3,311.80	RETURN BID BOND ITB 21B-001
4955	TERRY'S HOME & LAWN MAINTENANCE, INC.	12/11/2020	3,376.90	RECREATION SITE CLEANUP-CONTRA
4955	TERRY'S HOME & LAWN MAINTENANCE, INC.	12/11/2020	200.00	JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR MILTON
5336	TETRA TECH, INC	12/11/2020	9,641.25	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	300.00	3 REGULAR PORTABLE UNITS & HAN
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	230.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	115.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	200.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	370.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	230.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	115.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	200.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	115.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/11/2020	200.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T

**TOTAL ACH TRANSFER**

**165,585.07**

5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/11/2020	250.00	KEITH JOHNSON P296061-1 WITHDR
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/11/2020	1,080.00	WIATT LEWIS P295655 OVRPMT REF
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/11/2020	100.00	PHILLIP SANTORA EP DISCOUNT RE

**TOTAL DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS**

**1,430.00**

**TOTAL AP**

**220,116.28**

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP  
COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>CHECK DATE</b>	<b>INVOICE NET</b>	<b>INVOICE DESCRIPTION</b>
2905 ALTHA FARMERS COOPERATIVE	12/17/2020	2,400.00	GATES
2967 BANK OF AMERICA	12/17/2020	722.57	PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT - AMAZO
2967 BANK OF AMERICA	12/17/2020	185.16	OFFICE SUPPLIES
2967 BANK OF AMERICA	12/17/2020	1,319.76	OTHER FIELD & TECH SUPPLIES -
2967 BANK OF AMERICA	12/17/2020	149.99	KVM SWITCH FROM AMAZON FOR IT
2967 BANK OF AMERICA	12/17/2020	2,457.48	P-CARD CHARGES
3538 CITY OF APALACHICOLA	12/17/2020	1,500.00	CONSTRUCTION OF STORMWATER RET
4676 CITY OF MILTON FLORIDA	12/17/2020	72.23	DUMPSTER SERVICE
4676 CITY OF MILTON FLORIDA	12/17/2020	67.42	SEWER MILTON OFFICE
5187 CLEAR CHOICE REALTY GROUP, INC.	12/17/2020	2,146.87	AG COST SHARE AGREEMENT
3424 DURRA-QUICK-PRINT INC.	12/17/2020	20.00	BUSINESS CARDS FOR HEADQUARTER
1292 FISHER SCIENTIFIC	12/17/2020	176.78	CALIBRATION STANDARDS
2291 GULF COAST ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,INC	12/17/2020	274.68	ELECTRIC SERVICE - EFO
2291 GULF COAST ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,INC	12/17/2020	199.18	ELECTRIC SERVICE - EFO
916 GULF POWER COMPANY	12/17/2020	512.03	ELECTRIC - MILTON FIELD OFFICE
4876 NORTH AMERICAN FARMS, INC.	12/17/2020	14,502.42	AG SHARE COST
3213 SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP	12/17/2020	1,650.00	SYMANTEC ENDPOINT PROTECTION S
5737 TELECHECK SERVICES, INC.	12/17/2020	64.65	EPERMITTING FEES - TELECHECK
5218 WAGeworks, INC.	12/17/2020	56.55	COBRA ADMINISTRATION
4038 WINDSTREAM COMMUNICATIONS	12/17/2020	49.02	800 NUMBERS & EFO LONG DISTANCE

**TOTAL CHECKS**

**28,526.79**

5340 APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT, INC.	12/18/2020	23,852.50	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL AND ECO
5340 APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT, INC.	12/18/2020	2,076.40	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL AND ECO
3638 B & B DUGGER, INC	12/18/2020	11,253.32	ENCUMBER T.O. # 2 FOR CONTRACT
2507 CALHOUN LIBERTY JOURNAL	12/18/2020	14.50	NOTICE OF RULE DEVELOPMENT
4944 BRETT CYPHERS	12/18/2020	115.70	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
97 THE DEFUNIACK HERALD	12/18/2020	44.00	WATER USE PERMIT LEGAL AD
3126 DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC	12/18/2020	1,125.00	ENCUMBER CONTRACT # 16-086
3126 DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC	12/18/2020	16,902.38	RISK MAP PROGRAM SUPPORT
4807 WEX BANK	12/18/2020	6,102.07	FUEL/REPAIRS
4807 WEX BANK	12/18/2020	50.00	WEX TELEMATICS FLEET MANAGEMEN

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP**

**COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

4807	WEX BANK	12/18/2020	1,075.00	WEX TELEMATICS FLEET MANAGEMEN
4807	WEX BANK	12/18/2020	25.00	FLEET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - LAND
2702	FISH AND WILDLIFE	12/18/2020	4,078.29	LAW ENFORCEMENT-CONTRACT NO. 1
5701	GRICE & SON PORT A POTTI, LLC	12/18/2020	380.00	PORTABLE TOILETS
2268	INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, INC	12/18/2020	500.00	TELEPHONE MAINTENANCE - EXTEN
3603	JIM STIDHAM & ASSOCIATES, INC.	12/18/2020	1,735.08	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE
3603	JIM STIDHAM & ASSOCIATES, INC.	12/18/2020	2,896.00	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE
3603	JIM STIDHAM & ASSOCIATES, INC.	12/18/2020	4,220.00	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE
3603	JIM STIDHAM & ASSOCIATES, INC.	12/18/2020	7,048.00	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE
5653	L & R CONTRACTING, LLC	12/18/2020	1,050.00	ENCUMBER CONTRACT #19-032
4952	LAW, REDD, CRONA & MUNROE, P.A.	12/18/2020	2,695.00	INSPECTOR GENERAL SERVICES AGR
4952	LAW, REDD, CRONA & MUNROE, P.A.	12/18/2020	3,404.50	INSPECTOR GENERAL SERVICES AGR
4607	QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC	12/18/2020	1,087.65	MAILING SYSTEMS FOR HQ AND DEF
5656	JASON STORRS	12/18/2020	19.95	REIMBURSEMENT
5336	TETRA TECH, INC	12/18/2020	1,785.00	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE
5336	TETRA TECH, INC	12/18/2020	3,060.00	AS NEEDED HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	300.00	3 REGULAR PORTABLE UNITS & HAN
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	230.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	115.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	200.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	370.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	230.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	115.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	200.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	115.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/18/2020	200.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE T

**TOTAL ACH TRANSFER**

**98,670.34**

5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/18/2020	100.00	CHRISTEN GORMAN P296298-1 WD R
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/18/2020	250.00	ROBERT DAVIS P296391 WD REFUND
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/18/2020	100.00	CHRISTIN GORMAN P296307 WD REF

**TOTAL DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS**

**450.00**

**TOTAL AP**

**127,647.13**

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP  
COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CHECK DATE</b>	<b>INVOICE NET</b>	<b>INVOICE DESCRIPTION</b>
3289	CITY OF TALLAHASSEE	12/23/2020	41.13	ELECTRIC DATA COLLECTION-LAKES
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	178.14	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	284.16	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	199.03	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	111.94	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	172.30	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	184.50	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	205.52	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	12/23/2020	109.84	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RE
5680	MCKENZIE MOTOR COMPANY	12/23/2020	511.50	REPAIRS TO WMD 2414 FORD F150
3406	NEECE TRUCK TIRE CENTER INC.	12/23/2020	885.96	TIRES FOR WMD-96219
1205	OFFICE DEPOT, INC.	12/23/2020	94.02	OFFICE DEPOT ORDER
5744	THE KAYAK EXPERIENCE, INC.	12/23/2020	2,133.78	TANDEM KAYAK
<b>TOTAL CHECKS</b>			<b><u>5,111.82</u></b>	
4944	BRETT CYPHERS	12/23/2020	20.47	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
45	DMS	12/23/2020	88.29	CONFERENCE CALLS
45	DMS	12/23/2020	57.70	AIR CARDS & HOTSPOTS
5705	CODY JHONSON	12/23/2020	126.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
5500	RYAN REGA	12/23/2020	90.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
4799	STAPLES CONTRACT & COMMERCIAL, INC.	12/23/2020	152.18	STAPLES-HAND SANITIZER AND DIS
<b>TOTAL ACH TRANSFER</b>			<b><u>534.64</u></b>	
<b>TOTAL AP</b>			<b><u><u>5,646.46</u></u></b>	

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AP  
COMPUTER PAID/EFT CHECKS**

<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CHECK DATE</b>	<b>INVOICE NET</b>	<b>INVOICE DESCRIPTION</b>
2992	BANK OF AMERICA	12/30/2020	381.89	ONLINE ACCESS TO BANK ACCOUNT
2992	BANK OF AMERICA	12/30/2020	1,054.44	ACCOUNT ANALYSIS
1205	OFFICE DEPOT, INC.	12/30/2020	68.74	STAPLES-HAND SANITIZER
4626	WASTE PRO OF FLORIDA, INC	12/30/2020	164.10	SOLID WASTE - HQ
<b>TOTAL CHECKS</b>			<b><u>1,669.17</u></b>	
4845	CALHOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	12/30/2020	1,007.60	LAW ENFORCEMENT - CONTRACT NO
3126	DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC	12/30/2020	533.50	ENCUMBER CONTRACT # 16-086
3813	PENNINGTON, P.A.	12/30/2020	75.00	QUOTE FOR TITLE SEARCH ON ANDE
3813	PENNINGTON, P.A.	12/30/2020	250.00	TITLE SEARCH/EXAM
3813	PENNINGTON, P.A.	12/30/2020	7,607.00	LEGAL COUNSEL
5218	WAGeworks, INC.	12/30/2020	158.10	FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT ADMI
2631	WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	12/30/2020	12,506.20	LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY
<b>TOTAL ACH TRANSFER</b>			<b><u>22,137.40</u></b>	
<b>TOTAL AP</b>			<b><u><u>23,806.57</u></u></b>	

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS

PAYROLL

DECEMBER 2020

DIRECT DEPOSIT	12/06/2020	\$	229,981.01
CHECKS	12/04/2020		1,901.69
FLEX SPENDING EFT	12/4/2020		1,769.16
DIRECT DEPOSIT	12/18/2020		212,579.69
CHECKS	12/18/2020		1,901.69
FLEX SPENDING EFT	12/18/2020		1,769.16
DIRECT DEPOSIT	12/30/2020		224,476.06
CHECKS	12/30/2020		169.85
			<hr/>
		\$	<u>674,548.31</u>

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman or Executive Director

February 11, 2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Brett Cyphers, Executive Director  
Lyle Seigler, Chief of Staff  
Carlos Herd, Director, Resource Management Division  
Paul Thorpe, Deputy Director, Resource Management Division

FROM: Darryl Boudreau, Resource Planning Program Manager

DATE: January 26, 2021

SUBJECT: Pensacola and Perdido Bay Estuary Program Update

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#### Summary

In September 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded Escambia County \$2 million to establish the Pensacola and Perdido Bay Estuary Program (P&PBEP) using Deepwater Horizon funds. Today, the P&PBEP has several full-time staff, including an Executive Director, Senior Scientist, Community Outreach Coordinator, Project Volunteer Coordinator, and a Transitional Advisor. Mr. Donald Killorn, P&PBEP Executive Director, will present an overview of the program and describe how it will work in concert with the District's Surface Water Improvement Management (SWIM) Program to advance state and regional priorities for watershed protection and restoration.

#### Background

In the first round of RESTORE "Pot 2" projects, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council provided EPA with \$2 million to establish a new Estuary Program in Florida's panhandle based on the proven National Estuary Program (NEP) model. The EPA released a request for proposals and received three proposals: Pensacola/Perdido Bay, Choctawhatchee Bay, and St. Andrew/St. Joseph Bay. The EPA selected the Pensacola and Perdido Bay proposal as the first Estuary Program to be established in northwest Florida.

The P&PBEP Policy Board includes representatives from Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Okaloosa counties in Florida and Baldwin County in Alabama, as well as the cities of Pensacola, Milton, Gulf Breeze, and Orange Beach, Alabama. In addition to the first \$2 million grant, the P&PBEP has secured \$500,000 from the 2020 Florida Legislature and an additional \$300,000 grant from EPA. The P&PBEP is on track to produce a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan by the end of 2022, which will build on the District's SWIM plans and enable the program to work collaboratively with regional stakeholders to identify priority issues and projects.



**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Brett Cyphers, Executive Director  
Lyle Seigler, Chief of Staff

FROM: Grace Adams, Human Resources Administrator

DATE: January 27, 2021

SUBJECT: Consideration of Renewal of Employee Health and Life Insurance

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve the renewal of the annual employee health and life insurance policies beginning April 1, 2021 and ending March 31, 2022.

**Background**

The District’s current employee health coverage, a dual option plan with Capital Health Plan of Tallahassee (an HMO) and Florida Blue (a PPO) will expire on March 31. Insurance is scheduled to be renewed on an annual basis with the approval of the Governing Board.

To maintain a comparable level of health insurance coverage for District employees, and with the current providers, the premiums will increase by 3.93 percent over the current year rate. The District contributes 87 percent of the premium for regular staff and 98 percent for those in management positions.

Florida Blue / Capital Health Plan Health Insurance Rates - Monthly Amount								
Coverage	Current	April 2021 Renewal						
	Rates	Rates	Increase					
			District Portion*		Employee Portion*		Total*	
Employee	\$749.77	\$ 779.25	\$25.65	3.42%	\$3.83	0.51%	\$29.48	3.93%
Employee/Spouse	\$1,559.49	\$ 1,620.81	\$53.35	3.42%	\$7.97	0.51%	\$61.32	3.93%
Employee/Children	\$1,293.05	\$ 1,343.89	\$44.23	3.42%	\$6.61	0.51%	\$50.84	3.93%
Full Family	\$2,240.16	\$ 2,328.24	\$76.63	3.42%	\$11.45	0.51%	\$88.08	3.93%

*\* Figures are based on District contribution of 87% of the premium for Regular Class. The District contribution is 98% for Select Exempt and Senior Management Classes.*

In addition to health insurance, the District provides a \$25,000 life insurance policy for employees in authorized positions through Sun Life Financial, Inc. The rates paid by the District for life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance will remain at the current rates.

<b>Life &amp; Accidental Death and Dismemberment Rates-Sun Life</b>				
Policy	Current	April 2021 Renewal		
	Rate per \$1,000 Coverage*		Increase	
Life	\$0.38	\$0.38	\$0.00	0.00%
AD&D	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.00	0.00%

\* Figures are based on the District's contribution of 100% of the rate for coverage of \$25,000.

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) we are required to hold an annual open enrollment. We would like to start the open-enrollment period on February 22, 2021, to provide employees 30 days to review their options. Open enrollment allows employees to discuss coverage details with the company representatives, make changes to insurance options including the supplemental insurance products offered through the District, and make changes to dependent coverage.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
PUBLIC HEARING FOR REGULATORY MATTERS  
A G E N D A

ECUA Boardroom  
9255 Sturdevant Street  
Pensacola, FL 32514

Thursday  
February 11, 2021  
1:05 p.m., CT

Note: Appeal from any NFWMD Final Agency Action requires a record of the proceedings. Although Governing Board meetings are normally recorded, affected persons are advised that it may be necessary for them to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities or handicaps who need assistance or reasonable accommodation in order to participate in these meetings should contact the District at least 72 hours in advance of these meetings to make appropriate arrangements.

PART I — CONSENT AGENDA

• WATER USE PERMITS

A. Permit Modification

A-1 Applicant: Mainbase Public Supply – Eglin Air Force Base  
App. No.: 2B-091-3002-4  
Use: Public Supply

Authorization Statement: This Permit authorizes the Permittee to make an average annual withdrawal of 2.2 million gallons per day (105 million gallons per month maximum) of groundwater from the Floridan aquifer for public supply use.

Duration Recommended: Same as Original Permit; Expiration of August 1, 2035  
Staff Recommendation: Approval  
Public Comment Received: No

WATER USE TECHNICAL STAFF REPORT  
13-January-2021  
Application No.: 2B-091-3002-4

**Owner:** Col. Kevin J. Osborne, USAF  
Eglin Air Force Base  
96th Civil Engineer Group  
501 DeLeon Street, Suite 100  
Eglin AFB, FL 32542-5133  
(850) 882-2876

**Applicant:** Col. Kevin J. Osborne, USAF  
Eglin Air Force Base  
96th Civil Engineer Group  
501 DeLeon Street, Suite 100  
Eglin AFB, FL 32542-5133  
(850) 882-2876

**Agent:** Amy Sweeney  
American States Utility Services - ASUS  
P.O. Box 1869  
Eglin AFB, FL 32542-5133  
(850) 503-2241

**Compliance Contact:** Amy Sweeney  
American States Utility Services - ASUS  
P.O. Box 1869  
Eglin AFB, FL 32542-5133  
(850) 503-2241

**Project Name:** Mainbase Public Supply-Eglin Air Force Base  
**County:** Okaloosa  
**WRCA:** N/A  
**ARC:** N/A  
**Objectors:** No

This Permit authorizes the Permittee to make an average annual withdrawal of 2.2 million gallons per day (105 million gallons per month maximum) of groundwater from the Floridan aquifer for public supply use.

**Recommendation:** Approval  
**Reviewers:** Lindsay Furr; Kristine Locke; Beth Perison

## RECOMMENDED PERMIT DURATION AND COMPLIANCE REPORTING:

Staff recommends the permit expiration date remain August 1, 2035. The Permittee is required to submit and comply with all information and data pursuant to the conditions set forth in the permit.

## WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION:

Water Use	Permitted	Requested	Recommended
Average Day (GPD)	2,200,000	2,200,000	2,200,000
Maximum Month (GAL)	105,000,000	105,000,000	105,000,000

## DESCRIPTION:

Eglin Air Force Base (EAFB) requests modification of Individual Water Use Permit (IWUP) No. 2B-091-3002-3 for the replacements of well MB-61 (FLUWID:AAA5079) and well HO-14 (FLUWID: AAA5090). The applicant also requests continued authorization of groundwater withdrawals from the Floridan aquifer for public supply uses without changes to the currently permitted withdrawal amounts.

EAFB withdraws water from the Floridan aquifer to serve the main base and housing regions with potable supply and mission support water use demands. This region has a total population of approximately 7,669 people with the residential population accounting for approximately 3,000 people of the total population. The applicant requests no change to the permitted withdrawal amounts. These withdrawal amounts are considered reasonable and adequate to meet the applicant's water use demands for the requested permit duration.

Staff used the program DRAWDOWN to analyze potential impacts to the Floridan aquifer associated with withdrawals of the average daily rate over the remainder of the permit duration. Simulated drawdowns of approximately 1.5 feet and 1.2 feet were simulated at distances of one-half mile and one mile, respectively, from the center of pumping. These drawdowns are not anticipated to interfere with existing legal uses.

## PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW:

Section 373.223, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and section 40A-2.301, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), require an applicant to establish that the proposed use of water:

- (a) Is a reasonable-beneficial use;
- (b) Will not interfere with any presently existing legal use of water; and,
- (c) Is consistent with the public interest.

In addition, the above requirements are detailed further in the District's Water Use Permit Applicant's Handbook. District staff have reviewed the water use permit application pursuant to the above-described requirements and have determined that the application meets the conditions for issuance of this permit.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is the determination of the staff that the water use amounts recommended, as conditioned, are reasonable-beneficial, consistent with the public's interest, and will not interfere with any presently existing legal use of water. This determination has been made according to provisions of Chapter 373, F.S., and Chapter 40A-2, F.A.C.

Staff recommends that the applicant be granted an Individual Water Use Permit for an annual average daily withdrawal of 2.2 million gallons; and a maximum monthly withdrawal of 105 million gallons. Staff also recommends that the expiration date of the permit remain August 1, 2035, and that the permit be conditioned as per the "Conditions for Issuance" included in Exhibit A of the permit document.

**WELL INFORMATION:**

**Site Name:** Main Base

Well Details								
District ID	Station Name	Casing Diameter (inches)	Casing Depth (feet)	Total Depth (feet)	Capacity (GPM)	Source Name	Status	Use Type
11520	MB-62	4	300	520	15	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
12352	MB-1	10	374	575	300	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
12353	MB-2A	10	624	765	1000	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
12354	MB-3	12	364	652	700	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
12355	MB-4	12	357	557	1000	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
12356	MB-5	16	360	642	950	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
12357	MB-6	12	365	590	400	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
12362	MB-61	8	404	702	150	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	To be abandoned	Public Supply
12497	MB-65	6	413	582	350	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
298658	MB-61R	10	400	750	150	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Proposed	Public Supply

Site Name: Housing

Well Details								
District ID	Station Name	Casing Diameter (inches)	Casing Depth (feet)	Total Depth (feet)	Capacity (GPM)	Source Name	Status	Use Type
16613	HO-07	10	424	627	300	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16614	HO-08	10	425	603	300	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16615	HO-09	18	450	695	800	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16616	HO-10	12	400	896	500	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16617	HO-11	16	441	750	800	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16618	HO-12	16	444	606	400	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16619	HO-13	16	443	629	300	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16620	HO-14	8	444	635	300	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	To be abandoned	Public Supply
16621	HO-15	10	482	736	525	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
16875	HO-16R	12	460	740	750	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
19165	HO-111	6	435	540	70	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Active	Public Supply
19166	WR-4000	4	Unknown	Unknown	50	Sand & Gravel	Inactive	Public Supply
299783	HO-14R	16	440	600	450	Floridan Aquifer (Undiff)	Proposed	Public Supply

**WATER USE PERMIT**

**PERMIT NO.** 2B-091-3002-4 **DATE ISSUED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mainbase Public Supply - Eglin  
**PROJECT NAME:** Air Force Base **DATE RECEIVED:** December 17, 2020

**A PERMIT AUTHORIZING:**

This Permit authorizes the Permittee to make an average annual withdrawal of 2.2 million gallons per day (105 million gallons per month maximum) of groundwater from the Floridan aquifer for public supply use.

**LOCATION:**

STR: Sections 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34 and 35, Township 1 South, Range 23 West

Okaloosa County

**ISSUED TO:**

Eglin Air Force Base  
96th Civil Engineer Group  
501 DeLeon Street, Suite 100  
Eglin AFB, FL 32542-5133

Permittee agrees to hold and save the Northwest Florida Water Management District and its successors harmless from any and all damages, claims, or liabilities which may arise from permit issuance. Said application, including all maps and specifications attached thereto, is by reference made a part hereof.

This permit does not convey to the Permittee any property rights nor any rights or privileges other than those specified herein, nor relieve the Permittee from complying with any law, regulation or requirement affecting the rights of other bodies or agencies.

This permit may be revoked, modified or transferred at any time pursuant to the appropriate provisions of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 40A-2, Florida Administrative Code.



**PERMIT IS CONDITIONED UPON:**

See conditions on attached "Exhibit A," dated \_\_\_\_\_.

**AUTHORIZED BY:** Northwest Florida Water Management District  
Division of Regulatory Services

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**"EXHIBIT A"**  
**CONDITIONS FOR ISSUANCE OF PERMIT NUMBER 2B-091-3002-4**  
**Mainbase Public Supply-Eglin Air Force Base**  
**DATED \_\_\_\_\_**

**Specific Conditions**

1. This permit shall expire on August 1, 2035.
2. This Permit authorizes the Permittee to make an average annual withdrawal of 2.2 million gallons per day (105 million gallons per month maximum) of groundwater from the Floridan aquifer for public supply use. The individual facilities authorized to make this combined withdrawal are shown in the table below. The total combined amounts of water withdrawn by all facilities listed shall not exceed the amounts identified above.

3.

Facility ID #	FLUWID	Location SEC, TWN, RNG
HO-07	AAA5088	Sec.27, R1N, R23W
HO-08	AAA5071	Sec.28, R1N, R23W
HO-09	AAA5091	Sec.27, R1N, R23W
HO-10	AAA5072	Sec.33, R1N, R23W
HO-11	AAA5087	Sec.27, R1N, R23W
HO-111	---	Sec.26, R1N, R23W
HO-12	AAA5073	Sec.33, R1N, R23W
HO-13	AAA5075	Sec.33, R1N, R23W
HO-14	To be abandoned	Sec.28, R1N, R23W
HO-14R	---	Sec.28, R1N, R23W
HO-15	AAA5089	Sec.21, R1N, R23W
HO-16R	AAA4975	Sec.32, R1N, R23W
MB-1	AAA5083	Sec.24, R1N, R23W
MB-2A	AAA5085	Sec.24, R1N, R23W
MB-3	AAA5076	Sec.24, R1N, R23W
MB-4	AAA8817	Sec.24, R1N, R23W
MB-5	AAA5086	Sec.24, R1N, R23W
MB-6	AAA5084	Sec.24, R1N, R23W
MB-61	To be abandoned	Sec.23, R1N, R23W
MB-61R	---	Sec.23, R1N, R23W
MB-62	AAA8816	Sec.23, R1N, R23W
MB-65	AAA5077	Sec.23, R1N, R23W
WR-4000	---	Sec.20, R1N, R23W

4. The Permittee shall include the Individual Water Use Permit number and the well's Florida Unique Identification Number (e.g. AAA4975 for HO-16R) when submitting reports or otherwise corresponding with the District.
5. The Permittee, by January 31 of each year, shall submit a water use report for the previous calendar year (January – December), even if no water is used. The Permittee shall record the data required on Water Use Summary Reporting Form (Form 172). The Permittee, if preferred, may submit the report electronically by downloading the correct form from the District website, filling it out properly, and e-mailing it to [compliance@nwfwater.com](mailto:compliance@nwfwater.com).
6. The Permittee shall install and maintain, in working order, in-line totalizing flow meters at the well heads of all production wells by August 1, 2025. The meters shall be maintained to be at least 95% accurate and any meter determined defective must be replaced within 30 days of its discovery. The Permittee, within 30 days of well completion, shall provide documentation to the District that the required flow meters have been installed and report the initial meter readings.
7. The Permittee shall submit to the District in a single electronic submittal the following information by January 31 of each year:

Static water level measurements conducted during the first two weeks of January, April, July, and October from wells HO-11 (AAA5087) and HO-16R (AAA4975) using a District-approved water level measuring device. Water levels shall be taken following a 24-hour non-pumping period, as much as is practicable, reported as depth-to-water below a pre-defined measuring point. All measurements shall be taken from the same measuring point. If the measuring point is different from land surface elevation, then the Permittee shall provide the measuring point distance above or below land surface. All static water level reports shall include the date and time the well was turned off, date and time the measurement was taken, method and device used, and the water level measurement to 0.01 foot for steel/electric tape and 1.0 foot precision for airline methods, respectively. The Permittee, if utilizing the airline method, shall also report airline length, gauge reading, linear distance of the airline terminus from land surface, and a description of where the airline terminates (e.g. land surface, pump base, pressure gauge, etc.).

8. The Permittee, by July 31, 2025, and 2030, shall conduct and submit to the District the results of a comprehensive evaluation of water use practices in the Permittee's service area and a list of measures that provide for the enhancement of water conservation/efficiency measures, reduce water demand and water losses, and prevent exceedance of the authorized amounts. The list shall include but is not limited to:
  - a. The evaluation undertaken to identify/detect leaks and inaccurate flow meters and verify treatment losses;
  - b. The basis of the determinations made;
  - c. Other water conservation practices the Permittee determines are feasible to implement within a year of permit issuance or renewal;
  - d. Any water conservation/efficiency measures planned for future implementation; and,
  - e. Installation of equipment which supports conservation.

The Permittee shall include the measures implemented during the previous year. If the Permittee determines that any of the listed measures are no longer feasible, the report shall describe the specific reasons they cannot be implemented.

9. The Permittee shall collect water quality samples for laboratory analyses from HO-11 (AAA5087), HO-16R (AAA4975), MB-2A (AAA5085), and MB-61R (To be determined) within the first two weeks of October in each year. Prior to sampling, the Permittee shall purge a minimum of three well volumes and report, with each set of test results: the duration of purging, purge volume, and purge rates used. All sampling and analysis methodologies used shall conform to standards established in Chapter 62-160, F.A.C., Quality Assurance. Furthermore, all water quality analysis shall be conducted by a laboratory with National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) and Florida Department of Health Rule 64E-1, F.A.C., certification for the constituents of concern. The water quality analyses shall include the following constituents: Sodium, Chloride, and Total-Dissolved Solids. The Permittee shall submit results from tests conducted in October to the District by November 30 of each year. At the time of modification or renewal, the Permittee shall submit a summary and analysis of the water quality data collected for the wells for the entire period of record.
10. The Permittee, by October 31, in years 2026, 2031, and at the time of requesting a permit modification or renewal, shall submit documentation of all flow meter calibrations and accuracy ratings to the District using the Flow Meter Accuracy Report Form (Form 170). The Permittee, if preferred, may submit the report electronically by downloading the correct form from the District website, filling it out properly, and e-mailing it to [compliance@nfwfwater.com](mailto:compliance@nfwfwater.com).
11. The Permittee shall encourage and provide for the efficient and non-wasteful use of water, and shall implement water conservation measures, including a proactive leak detection program, designed to enhance water use efficiency and reduce water demand and water losses.

#### **Standard Conditions**

12. All water uses authorized by this permit shall be implemented as conditioned by this permit, including any documents incorporated by reference in a permit condition. The District may revoke this permit, in whole or in part, or take enforcement action, pursuant to sections 373.136 or 373.243, F.S., unless a permit modification has been obtained to address the noncompliance.
13. The Permittee shall immediately notify the District in writing of any previously submitted information that is later discovered to be inaccurate.
14. This permit does not convey to the Permittee any property rights or privileges other than those specified herein, nor relieve the Permittee from complying with any applicable local government, state, or federal law, rule, or ordinance.
15. The Permittee shall notify the District in writing within 45 days of any sale, transfer, or conveyance of ownership or any other loss of permitted legal control of the project and/or related facilities from which the permitted water use is made. Where Permittee's control of the land subject to the permit was demonstrated through a lease, the Permittee must either submit documentation showing that it continues to have legal control or transfer control of the permitted system/project to the new landowner or new lessee. All transfers of ownership are subject to the requirements of section 40A-2.351, F.A.C. Alternatively, the Permittee may surrender the water use permit to the District, thereby relinquishing the right to conduct any activities under the permit.
16. Nothing in this permit should be construed to limit the authority of the District to declare a water shortage and issue orders pursuant to Chapter 373, F.S. In the event of a declared water shortage, the Permittee must adhere to the water shortage restrictions, as specified by the District. The Permittee is advised that during a water shortage, reports shall be submitted as required by District rule or order.

17. With advance notice to the Permittee, District staff with proper identification shall have permission to enter, inspect, observe, collect samples, and take measurements of permitted facilities to determine compliance with the permit conditions and permitted plans and specifications. The Permittee shall either accompany District staff onto the property or make provision for access onto the property.
18. The Permittee may seek modification of any term of an unexpired permit. The Permittee is advised that section 373.239, F.S., and section 40A-2.331, F.A.C., are applicable to permit modifications.
19. The District reserves the right to curtail permitted withdrawal and diversion rates if the withdrawal or diversion causes harm to legal uses of water, offsite land use, or water resources and associated environmental features that existed at the time of permit application.
20. The Permittee shall not cause harmful saltwater intrusion. The District reserves the right to curtail permitted withdrawal rates if withdrawals cause harmful saline water intrusion.
21. The Permittee's consumptive use of water as authorized by this permit shall not reduce a flow or level below any minimum flow or level established by the District or the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to sections 373.042 and 373.0421, F.S. If the Permittee's use of water causes or contributes to such a reduction, then the District shall modify or revoke the permit, in whole or in part, unless the Permittee implements all provisions applicable to the Permittee's use in a District-approved recovery or prevention strategy.
22. The Permittee shall mitigate any harm caused by withdrawals or diversions permitted herein on legal water uses, offsite land use, and water resources and associated environmental features which existed at the time of permit application. Mitigation may include modification of the Permittee's pumping schedule (i.e., duration, withdrawal rates, time of day, etc.), the lowering of the affected pump(s) or the replacement of the well(s) including proper plugging and abandonment of the well(s) that is replaced. The Permittee, upon receipt of an allegation of interference, shall retain the services of an appropriate licensed professional to investigate the alleged interference. The Permittee shall ensure their chosen professional investigates any alleged interference within 48 hours of the allegation being made and provides the conclusions of the investigation to the entity alleging the impact within 72 hours of the allegation being made. If it is determined that the use of a well has been impaired as a result of the Permittee's operation, the Permittee shall complete the required mitigation within 30 days. The Permittee shall be responsible for the payment of services rendered by the licensed professional. The Permittee, within 30 days of any allegation of interference, shall submit a report to the District including the date of the allegation, the name and contact information of the party making the allegation, the result of the investigation made, and any mitigation action undertaken.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Brett Cyphers, Executive Director  
Lyle Seigler, Chief of Staff  
Danny Layfield, Deputy Director, Division of Asset Management

FROM: Carol L. Bert, Asset Management Administrator

DATE: January 29, 2021

SUBJECT: *Public Hearing 1:10 p.m.* - Consideration of Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan

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**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve the Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan.

**Background:**

Section 373.139(3), Florida Statutes, requires the District to adopt, following a public hearing, a Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan. The District's 2021 land acquisition program will focus on acquiring properties that improve the quality or quantity of water flowing from springs. The use of a Conservation Easement will be the preferred method of acquisition.

/cb

# Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report



# Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report

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## Introduction

Section 373.199(7), F.S. requires the Northwest Florida Water Management District (District) to annually update the Florida Forever Five-Year Work Plan. The 20th annual update of the plan contains information on projects eligible to receive funding under the Florida Forever Act and Land Acquisition Trust Fund and also reports on land management activities, surplus or exchanged lands, and the progress of funding, staffing and resource management of projects for which the District is responsible. This plan also applies to land acquisition funds deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to s.28(a), Art. X of the State Constitution.

## Florida Forever Program

In 1999, the Florida Legislature passed the Florida Forever Act (section 259.105, F.S.) which has continued the state's long-term commitment to environmental land acquisition, restoration of degraded natural areas, and high-quality outdoor recreation opportunities.

While previous programs focused almost exclusively on the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands, the Florida Forever program is somewhat different in that it authorizes the use of up to half of the program funding for certain types of capital improvement projects. Eligible uses of these funds include water resource development, stormwater management projects, water body restoration, recreation facilities, public access improvements, and removing invasive plants, among others. The remaining 50 percent must be spent on land acquisition and the table below illustrates actual expenditures for land acquisition using Florida Forever funding.

**Table 6.1 Land Acquisition Expenditures by Water Management Area**

Water Management Area	Acres	Dollars Expended
Perdido River	6,044	\$13,535,865
Escambia River	697	\$ 1,231,692
Yellow River	205	\$ 630,046
Choctawhatchee River	4,269	\$ 6,162,350
Econfina Creek	3,663	\$ 7,977,220
Apalachicola River	1,912	\$ 3,981,132
Chipola River	2,440	\$ 5,922,785
St. Marks River	830	\$ 1,862,050
Ochlockonee River	1,529	\$ 1,951,197
TOTAL	21,589	\$43,254,337

Since the inception of the District's land acquisition program, the goal has been to protect the floodplain of our major rivers and creeks. To date, 224,833 acres have been protected for water resource purposes through the land acquisition efforts of the District either in fee simple or through conservation easements.

## Acquisition Planning

The District employs a watershed approach to select and prioritize the water resources and natural systems within the groundwater contribution area and major river basins of northwest Florida. Primary among the considerations in this process are how specific floodplain or buffer areas help satisfy the District's water resources and natural system protection objectives; the availability of funds; the seller's

willingness; how different areas fit into the District’s land management strategy; and the size, accessibility, and overall condition of each property. Recommendations from interest groups, landowners, local governments, agency representatives, and other interested parties are given full consideration in the acquisition process.

Subject to receiving funding, the District’s acquisition efforts this year will focus on the purchase of fee simple or less than fee simple (Conservation Easements) projects that protect the quality and quantity of water that flows into and out of springs. The District’s acquisition efforts will focus on acquiring fee or less than fee simple interest in properties located within the Jackson Blue, Chipola, Econfina, and Wakulla Springs Groundwater Contribution Areas. Existing WMAs include the Perdido River, Escambia River, Blackwater River, Yellow River, Garcon Point, Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek, Econfina Creek, Chipola River, Apalachicola River, and St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers.

In developing the annual update, District staff review projects proposed by DEP’s Division of State Lands in order to minimize redundancy and facilitate an efficient and mutually supportive land acquisition effort.

### Approved Acquisition Areas

The approved acquisition areas listed below are not presented on a priority basis. For each of these water bodies, it is desirable to acquire both the floodplain and a natural buffer zone to provide further water resource protection.

**Table 6.2 Approved Acquisition Areas**

Rivers & Creeks Originating In Florida	Rivers and Creeks Originating Outside Florida	Springs	Lakes & Ponds	Other Ecosystems, Basins and Buffers
Wakulla River	Apalachicola River	St. Marks River near Natural Bridge	Lake Jackson	Southwest Escambia County Ecosystem
St. Marks River	Lower Apalachicola River Wetland	Spring Lake Spring Group Area	Sand Hill Lakes	Garcon Point Ecosystem
Econfina Creek and other Tributaries of Deer Point Lake	Chipola River	Bosel Springs Chipola River Springs Waddell Springs		West Bay Buffer
Lafayette Creek	Choctawhatchee River including Holmes Creek	Cypress Spring		Sandy Creek Basin
	Escambia River	Hays Springs		Apalachicola Bay and St. Vincent Sound Buffer
	Blackwater River including Juniper, Big Coldwater, and Coldwater creeks	Econfina Springs		
	Ochlockonee River and its major tributaries	Jackson Blue Spring		
	Yellow and Shoal Rivers	Wakulla Spring		
	Perdido River and Bay			

Groundwater Recharge Areas

Such lands may be designated by the District as Recharge Areas for the Floridan, Sand-and-Gravel, and other important aquifers and may be acquired in fee simple or less than fee simple.

Donated Lands

The District may accept donations of lands within its major acquisition areas if those lands are necessary for water management, water supply, and the conservation and protection of land and water resources.

Exchange Lands

The District may exchange lands it has acquired under the Florida Forever program for other lands that qualify for acquisition under the program. The District’s Governing Board establishes the terms and conditions it considers necessary to equalize values of the exchange properties. In all such exchanges, the District’s goal will be to ensure there is a net positive environmental benefit.

Mitigation Acquisitions

Under Florida law, unavoidable losses of natural wetlands or wetland functions require “mitigation” through the acquisition or restoration of other nearby wetlands. The District is often the recipient of such lands in the form of donations and also serves as the mitigation agent for the Florida Department of Transportation. Whenever possible, the District attempts to acquire mitigation lands contiguous to its existing ownership, but since proximity to the original wetland impact is often paramount, the District will on occasion acquire or manage isolated tracts at times.

Surplus

Chapter 373.089, F.S., allows the Governing Board of the District to sell (surplus) lands or interest or rights in lands to which the District has acquired title or to which it may hereafter acquire title. Any lands, or interests or rights in lands, determined by the Governing Board to be surplus may be sold by the District at any time for the highest price, but in no case shall the selling price be less than the appraised value.

**Surplus Lands**

District staff conducted an evaluation of all District lands to determine if there were any parcels appropriate for surplus. The parcels recommended for surplus were small, non-contiguous, isolated tracts or connected only on a corner. The following tracts were declared surplus by the District’s Governing Board in 2013.

**Table 6.3 District Surplus Lands**

WMA	Acres	County	Acquired Date	Status
Econfina Creek	8.39	Washington	December 19, 1997	For Sale
Escambia River	115	Escambia	April 26, 1994	For Sale

## **Note to Landowners**

It is important to note the District's land acquisition process only involves willing sellers and is usually initiated by landowners offering parcels for sale.

This plan includes a number of areas the District has identified for potential purchase. If your property is included in any of our acquisition areas or maps and you do not desire to sell your land to the District, Florida Statutes require the District to remove your property from the acquisition plan at the earliest opportunity. Please contact the Division of Asset Management at (850) 539-5999 at any time if you wish to remove your property from possible purchase consideration. The District will maintain a list of such requests and annually adjust its acquisition plan accordingly.

## **Less Than Fee Methods of Land Protection**

In less than fee purchases, the District attempts to acquire only those rights in property (i.e., development and land use conversion rights) that are needed to accomplish specific resource protection goals. Such less than fee methods can provide a number of public benefits. First, acquisition funding can be conserved, thereby enabling the protection of more land with limited funds. Also, the property continues in private ownership and thus may remain on local property tax rolls. Moreover, the District does not incur the long-term costs of land management since the property's management and maintenance remains the landowner's responsibility. Not all properties are suitable for less than fee acquisition, but the potential benefits make these kinds of transactions the preferred alternative to the District's typical fee-simple land purchases.

## **DEP Florida Forever Priority List**

The Florida Forever Priority List can be found at:

<https://floridadep.gov/lands/environmental-services/content/florida-forever>

## **Florida Forever Goals and Numeric Performance Measures**

As outlined in Chapter 18-24, F.A.C., the District is required to report on the goals and measures for lands to be acquired under the Florida Forever program. The following page summarizes the goals and measures applicable to the Northwest Florida Water Management District.

## ***Florida Forever Goals and Numeric Performance Measures***

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Reported as of October 1, 2020

### Rule No. 18-24.0022

(2)(d)1. For proposed acquisitions, see the (Florida Forever) Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report in the Consolidated Annual Report.

(2)(d)2. For proposed acquisitions for water resource development projects, see the (Florida Forever) Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report in the Consolidated Annual Report

(3)(a)2. Refer to (Florida Forever) Capital Improvement Work Plan of the Consolidated Annual Report for funded capital improvements identified in SWIM, stormwater, or restoration plans.

(3)(a)3. NFWFMD lands to be treated for upland invasive, exotic plants = <5,000 acres

The District has not conducted surveys to identify the spatial distribution of invasive exotic plant infestation on District lands. It is known that invasive plant problems exist at varying levels on some District lands, and staff treat with herbicide as needed.

(3)(b) New water to be made available through Florida Forever funding for water resource development

Major water resource development accomplishment has been provided by additions to Econfina Creek Water Management Area (1992-2009). Additionally, Florida Forever funding has in the past contributed to the construction of a 750,000-gallon reuse storage facility for the City of Freeport to serve a 0.6 MGD reuse water service area (project completed in 2009). Funding for water supply development, including construction of water reuse facilities, is primarily provided through the State alternative water supply funding, the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund, NFWFMD General Fund, and local funding. See the NFWFMD Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program report and Consolidated Annual Report.

(4)(a)1. NFWFMD lands that are in need of and are undergoing restoration, enhancement or management by the District.

In need of restoration, enhancement and management = 8,251 acres

Undergoing restoration or enhancement = 1,109 acres

Restoration completed = 25,417 acres

Restoration maintenance = 25,417 acres

(4)(a)3. Refer to section 3, (Florida Forever) Capital Improvement Work Plan of the Consolidated Annual Report for capital improvements identified in SWIM, stormwater, or restoration plans.

(4)(a)6. NFWFMD lands under upland invasive, exotic plant maintenance control = <10,000 acres

(4)(b) Refer to Water Projects in the Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program of the Consolidated Annual Report for quantity of new water made available through regional water supply plans.

(4)(c) See (Florida Forever) Land Acquisition Work Plan (Table 6.6) of the Consolidated Annual Report for resource-based recreation facilities by type.

## Land Acquisition Projects

The Florida Forever Act, in particular section 373.199(3) F.S., identifies information that must be included for each Florida Forever Project. Some of the required information is relatively general and applicable to all projects. To reduce the redundancies of this plan, general information is provided separately as part of the District's Five-Year Plan for the Florida Forever Program. Specific land acquisition projects are individually identified and detailed information specific to the project is provided in the following pages.

Hurricane Michael substantially impacted northwest Florida in October 2018. According to a report by the Florida Forest Service (<https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/Forest-Health/Forest-Recovery-After-a-Hurricane>), more than 2.8 million acres of forest land were damaged. Restoring and preserving flood protection and nutrient reduction capabilities inherent in these systems is vital not only to protecting the natural resources but to restoring the economy. To help in this effort, this plan identifies the hurricane impact area (as provided by National Weather Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) as the Forest Restoration Acquisition Area (FRAA). The goal of FRAA is to work with willing sellers to restore and protect, through conservation easement acquisition, the water quantity and quality benefits afforded by silviculture and agricultural best management practices.

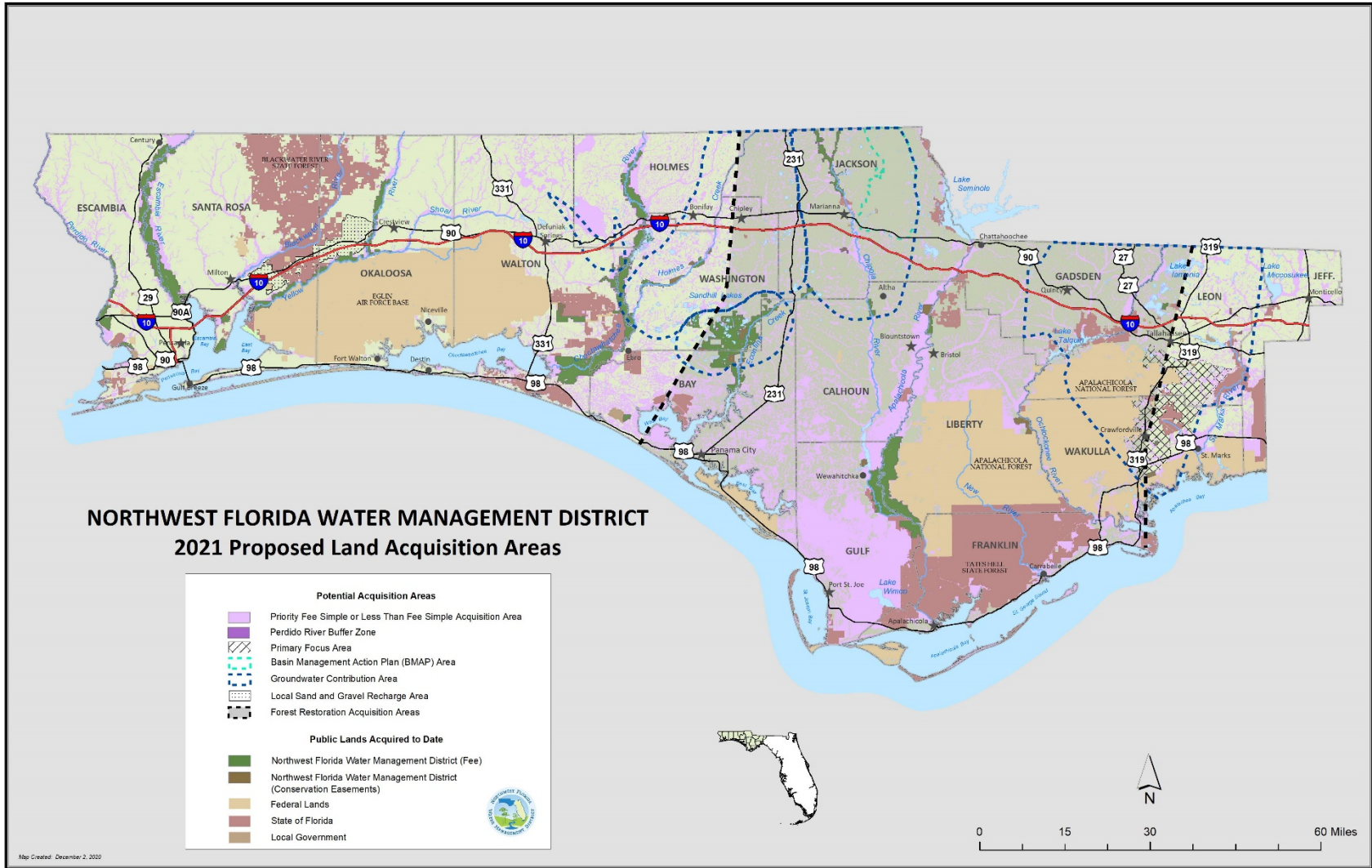


Figure 6.1 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas 2021



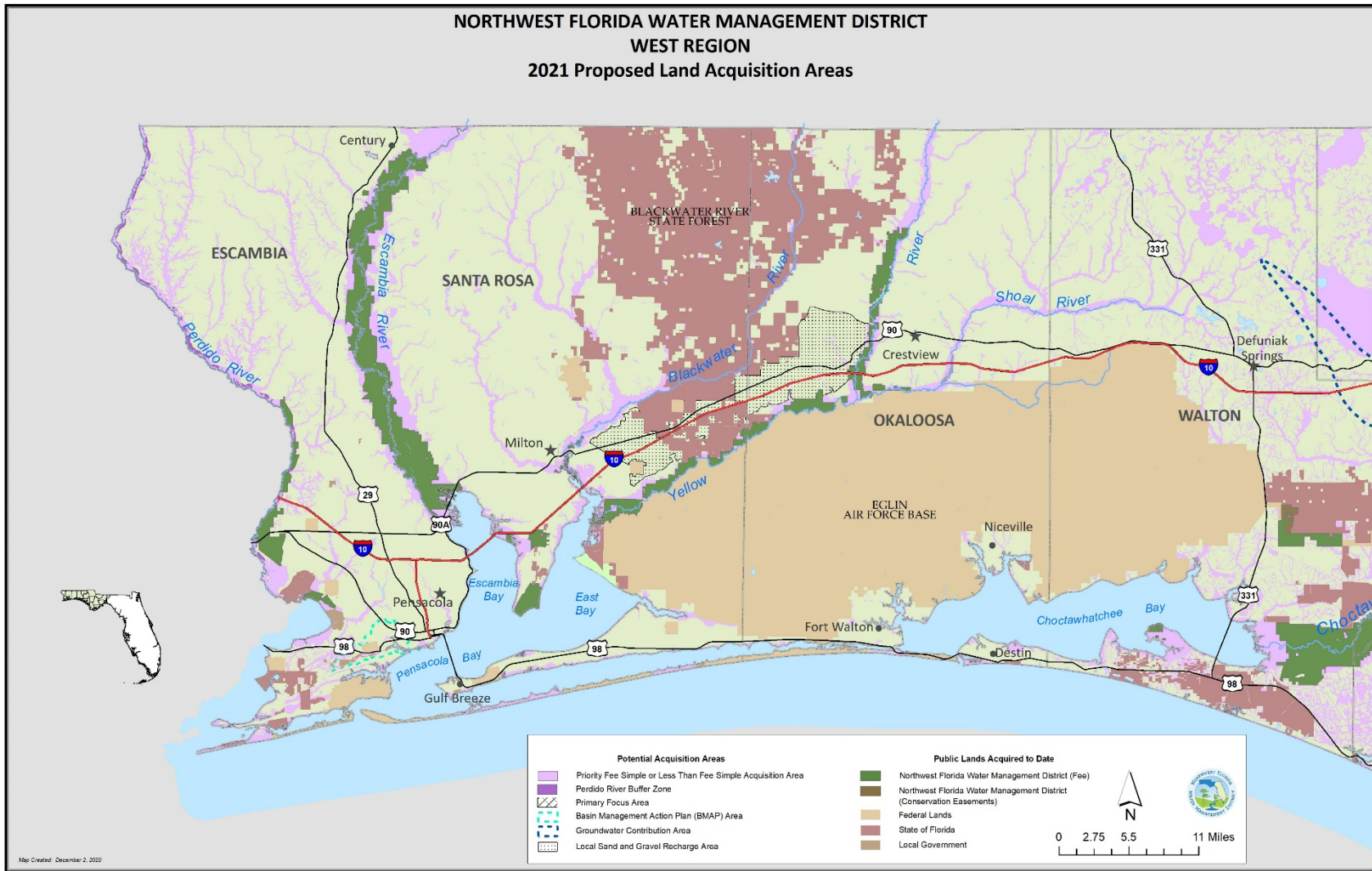


Figure 6.2 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2021, West Region



## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Perdido River and Bay Basin**

The Perdido River serves as the state line, separating Florida from Alabama (see Figure 6.2). The Perdido River has been designated an Outstanding Florida Water and Special Water system, a canoe trail, and a recreation area. The upper part of the river is a shifting sand river system, unique to portions of northwest Florida, south Alabama, southern Mississippi, and eastern Louisiana, while the lower end of the river is characteristic of a blackwater stream. The District owns 6,261 acres in fee simple and 4 acres in less than fee between the Perdido River and Bay.

The project area is mostly undeveloped and contains a diverse list of species. Acquisition of any floodplain area along the Perdido River, whether in fee or less than fee, will enhance water quality protection efforts for the Perdido Bay system.

Purchases within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will be concentrated on floodplain parcels along the river, around the river mouth, and designated tributaries.

The Perdido Bay is an estuarine system which receives fresh water from the Perdido River. Subsidiary embayments within the Perdido Bay estuary include Tarkiln Bay, Arnica Bay, Wolf Bay, Bayou La Launch, and Bayou St. John. Perdido Key separates Perdido, Tarkiln, and Arnica bays, Bayou La Launch, and Bayou St. John from the Gulf of Mexico. Big Lagoon adjoins Perdido Bay to the east, separating it from Pensacola Bay. Currently, the District owns 810.19 acres along Perdido Bay.

Purchases within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will be concentrated on floodplain parcels adjacent to the bay which can enhance water quality protection.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Southwest Escambia County Ecosystem**

Several major estuarine drainages including Jones Swamp, Bayou Grande, Big Lagoon, and Tarkiln Bay, intersect in southwest Escambia County (see Figure 6.2). These, in turn, comprise portions of the Pensacola and Perdido bay watersheds. The Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Areas border a major urban area containing residential and commercial development.

Protecting the ecological integrity of this area is important to the quality of water resources in the Pensacola and Perdido bay systems. Acquisition will help limit non-point source pollution and untreated stormwater runoff by preventing channelization. Wetlands and upland buffers will also be preserved, and riparian buffer zones will be maintained. Additionally, public access will be improved, and fish, wildlife, and estuarine productivity will be protected.

This acquisition is consistent with a number of major initiatives designed to protect environmental and other public resources in the region. These include water quality treatment systems, acquisition programs for the Jones Swamp Wetland Preserve and the Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie, and efforts to prevent encroachment on NAS Pensacola. Together with nearby state parks, these acquisitions will provide for a major environmental reserve and greenway system within a rapidly urbanizing area.

### **Local Sand and Gravel Recharge Area**

Designated area has groundwater recharge potential.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

# ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

## **Escambia River Basin**

Beginning at the confluence of the Conecuh River and Escambia Creek above the Florida-Alabama border and discharging into Escambia Bay, the Escambia River corridor (see Figure 6.2) contains a rich diversity of plant and animal species, as well as many rare fish and waterfowl. The Escambia River basin is broad and well drained in the upper reaches, and swampy below Molino, Florida. While the overall water quality is considered good, many point, and non-point pollution sources empty into the river. Currently, the District owns 35,413 acres in fee and 19 acres in less than fee along the river.

Purchases within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will be concentrated on floodplain parcels around the river mouth and designated tributaries.

## **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

## **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

# ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

## **Garcon Point Ecosystem**

The Priority Fee Simple or Less Than Fee Simple acquisition area contains a portion of the Garcon Point Peninsula, which borders Pensacola, Escambia, East, and Blackwater bays (see Figure 6.2). The project area is largely undeveloped and includes a variety of natural communities that are in good to excellent condition. The entire tract provides considerable protection to the water quality of the surrounding estuary, as well as harboring a number of rare and endangered species.

The emergent estuarine marsh that borders several miles of shoreline within the project is an important source of organic detritus and nutrients and serves as a nursery for many of the species found in Pensacola Bay. These wetlands function as stormwater filtration and a storm buffer area, as well as providing erosion controls to the neighboring uplands. A minimum of 13 endangered or threatened species are known to live in the region including the recently listed federally endangered reticulated flatwoods salamander. The northern wet prairie portion is known to be an outstanding pitcher plant habitat.

Purchases within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will be concentrated on floodplain parcels adjacent to Escambia and East Bays. Currently the District owns 3,245 acres on Garcon Point.

## **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

## **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

# ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

## **Blackwater River Basin**

Originating in the Conecuh National Forest in Alabama, the Blackwater River (see Figure 6.2) has a large portion of its Florida watershed further protected by the Blackwater River State Forest. In all, nearly 50 miles of the river corridor is remote and undeveloped. As a result, the Blackwater River is considered one of Florida's best-preserved waterways. Currently the District owns 381 acres along the Blackwater River immediately north and south of Milton in Santa Rosa County.

The Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area includes considerable floodplain. Purchases within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will be concentrated on these parcels. In addition, purchase of lands north and northwest of Eglin AFB, along the I-10 corridor, would provide approximately 52,000 acres of land that has the potential for future water resource development to supplement the constrained potable water sources in southern Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties. Acquisitions in this area are consistent with the District's Regional Water Supply Plan for Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton counties to protect future supply sources.

## **Local Sand and Gravel Recharge Area**

In Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, the sand-and-gravel aquifer is the principal source of potable water for public supply. The sand-and-gravel aquifer is unconfined or poorly confined, making it particularly susceptible to contamination by surface land uses. Land acquisition along the I-10 corridor between the Yellow and Blackwater rivers in Santa Rosa County would protect recharge areas that are important for future water supply sources. This area encompasses approximately 52,000 acres.

## **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis prior to acceptance.

## **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over the next five years or more. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

# ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

## **Yellow and Shoal River Basin**

The Yellow River has its headwaters in Conecuh National Forest in Alabama and forms the northern border of Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) across much of eastern Santa Rosa and western Okaloosa counties (see Figure 6.2). The proposed acquisitions would bring floodplain of the Yellow River in Florida under public ownership. Included in the project is a segment of the lower Shoal River, the largest tributary to the Yellow River. The Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will be given to tracts containing considerable floodplain. Currently the District owns 16,553 acres along the river.

Although the Yellow and Shoal rivers exhibit good overall water quality, both are fed largely by rainwater runoff and are thus susceptible to pollution from land use activities. The Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area would provide water quality protection beginning at the Alabama border. Purchase of lands north and northwest of Eglin AFB, along the I-10 corridor, would provide approximately 52,000 acres of land that has the potential for future water resource development to supplement the strained potable water sources in southern Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties. Acquisitions in this area are consistent with the District's Regional Water Supply Plan for Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton counties to protect future supply sources.

## **Local Sand and Gravel Recharge Area**

The Sand-and-Gravel Aquifer is unconfined or poorly confined, making it particularly susceptible to contamination by land uses. Land acquisition along the I-10 corridor between the Yellow and Blackwater rivers in Okaloosa County would protect recharge areas that are important for future water supply sources. This area encompasses approximately 52,000 acres.

## **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational and educational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

## **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

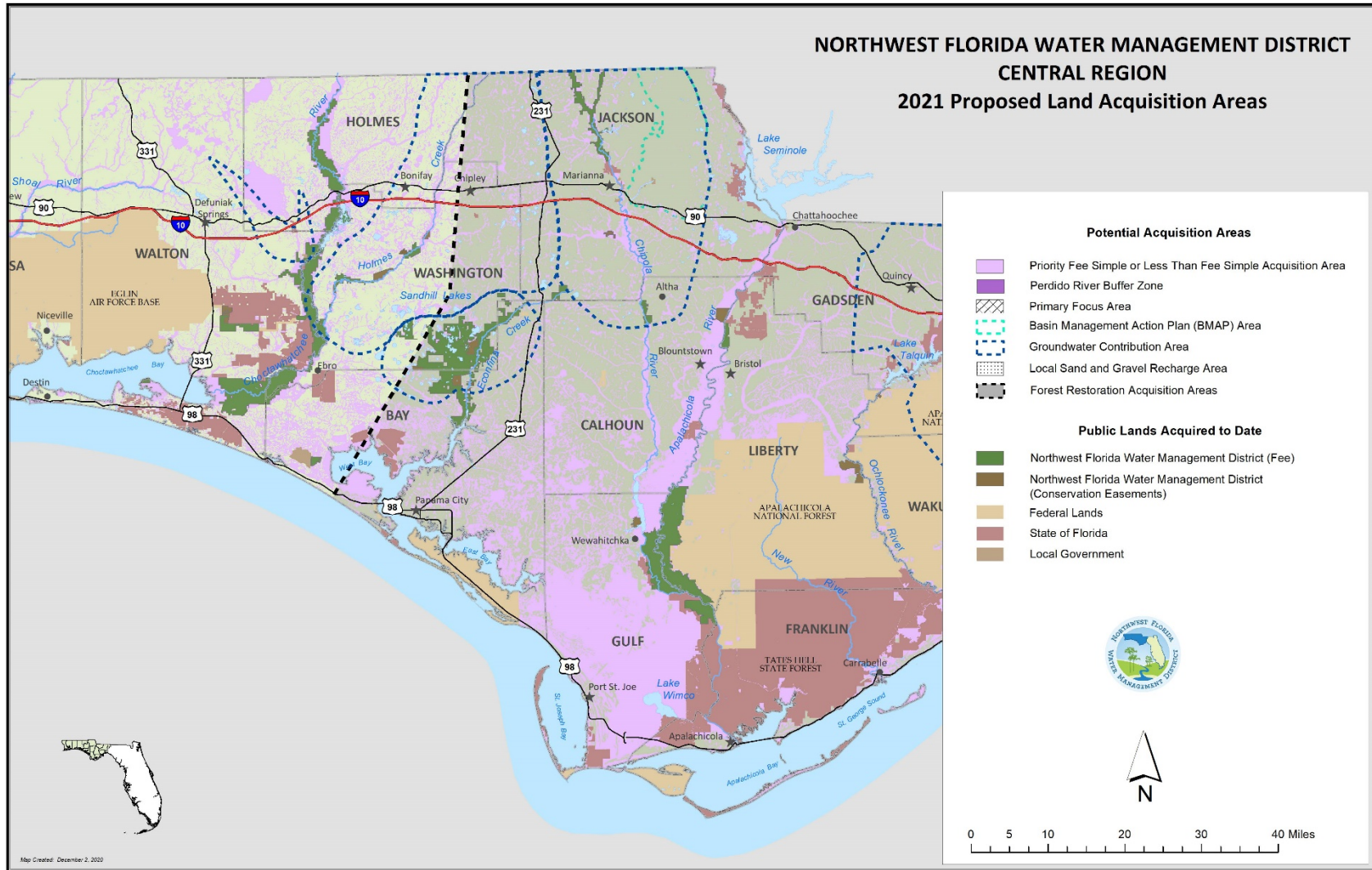


Figure 6.3 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2021, Central Region

## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Lafayette Creek**

Originating in south central Walton County, the Lafayette Creek drainage basin is located northeast of Freeport, Florida (see Figure 6.3). The main stem of the creek begins about seven miles east of Freeport and runs due west for about six miles before it turns south and empties into LaGrange Bayou/Choctawhatchee Bay. Purchases with the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will protect a portion of Magnolia and Wolf creeks, both of which are significant tributaries to Lafayette Creek, as well as protect many diverse natural communities and habitat types. Currently, the District owns 3,160 acres along the creek, including 420 acres for DOT mitigation purposes.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.



## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Choctawhatchee River and Holmes Creek Basin**

Originating in Alabama and flowing into Choctawhatchee Bay, the Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek basin encompasses the second largest floodplain in the state (see Figure 6.3). Approximately 3,133 square miles of the watershed is in Alabama and 2,052 square miles is in Florida. The river is 170 miles long with about 88 miles in Florida. Although the river basin exhibits localized water quality problems, primarily due to agricultural land use in the upper basin, the overall water quality is considered good. The river basin encompasses 57 springs on Holmes Creek and a variety of habitats including bottomland hardwood forests, marshes, and Tupelo-Cypress swamps.

Due to the river corridor's undeveloped nature, the basin provides habitat for a variety of native wildlife, including several endangered plant and animal species. The river also serves as a breeding and migratory area for both the Alligator Gar and the Gulf Sturgeon. The District currently owns 63,673 acres along the river, creek, and bay in fee and less than fee. Purchases within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area will be concentrated on parcels containing floodplain along the river and designated tributaries such as Holmes Creek.

### **Groundwater Contribution Area**

In addition, a portion of the Choctawhatchee River and all of Holmes Creek is captured within the Groundwater Contribution Area. Properties within this contribution area may be considered as a potential acquisition, especially those properties improving the quality or quantity of water for springs.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **West Bay Buffer**

West Bay is the westernmost embayment of the St. Andrew Bay estuary (see Figure 6.3). The bay supports notable shellfish and seagrass communities, important fisheries, and other environmental and economic resources. The West Bay watershed is characterized by extensive pine flatwoods, as well as hardwood forests, cypress wetlands, mixed-forested wetlands, freshwater marshes, wet prairie, and other wetlands. Salt marshes, inland forested wetlands, and associated upland communities are especially prominent in several areas, including the Breakfast Point peninsula and other lands adjacent to the Burnt Mill and Crooked Creek tributaries.

Like other estuaries, the bay is vulnerable to impacts associated with intensive residential and commercial development. Potential impacts include the long-term degradation as a result of non-point source pollution, as well as habitat loss and fragmentation. Acquisitions within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area would help prevent such degradation by preserving intact and extensive ecosystem of forests, scrub, salt marshes, and freshwater wetlands. Preserving the associated wetland and upland communities in the vicinity of the bay protects water quality by providing a substantial riparian buffer and maintaining the natural hydrology in the vicinity of the bay. The District currently owns 719 acres in the West Bay Buffer.

In addition to providing for public use and water resource protection, this acquisition will be consistent with several ongoing initiatives, including the West Bay Sector Plan. These initiatives also include efforts to restore seagrass communities in the bay and to improve the treatment and management of domestic wastewater.

Due to impacts of Hurricane Michael on October 10, 2018, this basin has been identified as part of the Forest Restoration Acquisition Area (FRAA) for potential conservation easement acquisition.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

# FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT

## Econfina Creek

Econfina Creek is the major contributor to Deer Point Lake, which serves as the public water supply for Bay County, including Panama City, Panama City Beach, and neighboring communities (see Figure 6.3). Properties along the creek contain several spring-run streams, which are imperiled biological communities. The slope forest communities that border considerable lengths of the creek contain some of the highest species diversity encountered in Florida. The project area features high rolling sandhill habitat, steephead ravines, and numerous sandhill upland lakes. Much of the sand hills area is of excellent quality, with a nearly intact ground cover of wiregrass and dropseed. At least 18 species of rare or endangered plants inhabit the sand hills area. The District currently owns 44,057 acres in fee and less than fee, including the 2,155-acre Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank. Purchases will be concentrated on parcels within the Groundwater Contribution Area as well as purchases that improve the quality or quantity of water for springs.

## Groundwater Contribution Area

The upper portion of the acquisition project is a significant groundwater contribution area of the Floridan Aquifer and properties within this contribution area may be considered as a potential acquisition, especially those properties improving the quality and quantity of water for springs. The majority of the acreage purchased by the District and targeted for future purchase is one of the most important groundwater contribution areas for the Floridan Aquifer in northwest Florida. Recharge rates in the area have been estimated at 25 to 40 inches per year, and this recharge drives the spring flows along Econfina Creek, the largest tributary of the Deer Point Lake Reservoir. The reservoir currently provides approximately 50 million gallons per day for residential, commercial, and industrial water uses in Bay County.

Due to impacts of Hurricane Michael on October 10, 2018, this basin has been identified as part of the Forest Restoration Acquisition Area (FRAA) for potential conservation easement acquisition.

## Public Access

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

## Land Acquisition

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Sandy Creek Basin**

Sandy Creek is a major tributary of East Bay, the easternmost embayment of the St. Andrew Bay estuary (see Figure 6.3). The creek's basin is characterized by extensive wet pine flatwoods, as well as hardwood forests, saltmarshes, cypress wetlands, mixed forested wetlands, freshwater marshes, wet prairie, and other wetlands. Salt and freshwater marshes, inland forested wetlands, and associated upland communities are especially prominent along the creek and its tributaries.

Preservation of the Sandy Creek basin will protect a major tributary basin of East Bay. In doing so, it would preserve water quality and a mosaic of interconnected upland, wetland, stream, and estuarine habitats. Purchases within the Priority Fee Simple and Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area would protect water quality by providing a substantial riparian buffer and maintaining natural hydrology.

Due to impacts of Hurricane Michael on October 10, 2018, this basin has been identified as part of the Forest Restoration Acquisition Area (FRAA) for potential conservation easement acquisition.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

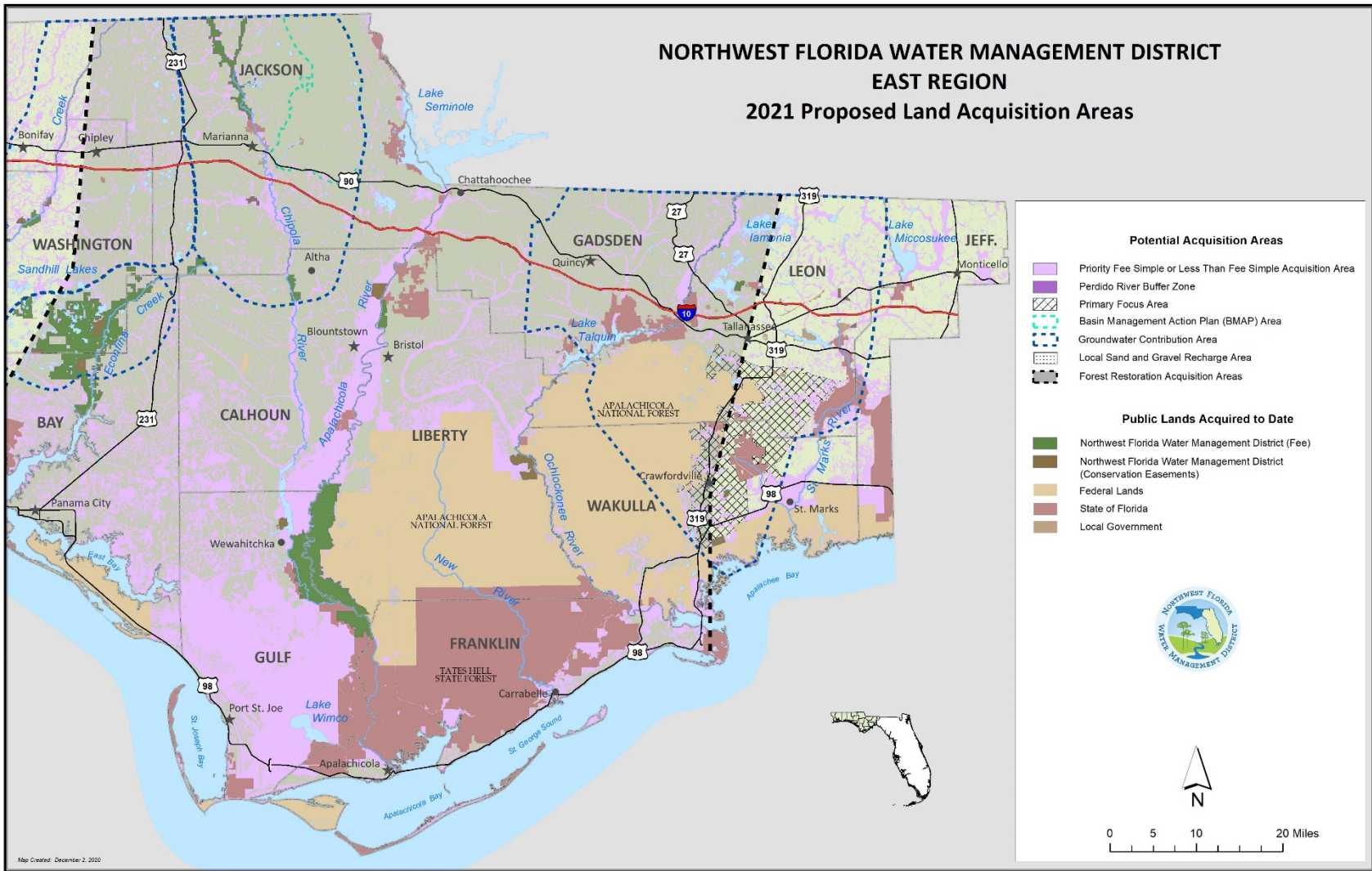


Figure 6.4 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2021, East Region

## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Chipola River Basin**

Areas along the Chipola River have been identified as a Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition Area. The area lies in Calhoun and Jackson counties (see Figure 6.4). Acquisitions along the Chipola River will help protect miles of the riverbank. In 2009, the District acquired 1,377.76 acres in fee along the Middle Chipola River, including the “Look-N-Tremble” rapids. The District now owns a total of 9,094 acres in fee simple and holds a conservation easement on 1,198 acres in the Chipola River Basin.

An additional area is identified for Priority Fee Simple or Less than Fee Simple Acquisition along the Chipola River. Spring Lake Spring Group is located in central Jackson County. Acquisition of land in the Spring Lake Spring Group area with its numerous springs and tributaries which flow into the Chipola River will provide enhanced water resource protection to the area.

Due to impacts of Hurricane Michael on October 10, 2018, this basin has been identified as part of the Forest Restoration Acquisition Area (FRAA) for potential conservation easement acquisition.

### **Jackson Blue Spring BMAP and Chipola Springs Groundwater Contribution Area (GWCA)**

The Jackson Blue Spring BMAP Area, east of the Chipola River, and the Chipola Springs GWCA, have been identified for fee simple or less than fee simple acquisition to provide protection to Blue Spring and the groundwater contribution area in Jackson County. Properties within this BMAP or contribution area may be considered as a potential acquisition, especially those properties improving the quality or quantity of water for springs.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.



## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Apalachicola Bay and River**

Apalachicola Bay has been recognized as a resource of state, federal, and international significance. The bay has extensive fish and shellfish resources, and it supports noteworthy commercial and recreational fisheries and other recreational and economic activities. It has been designated an Outstanding Florida Water, a State Aquatic Preserve, and an International Biosphere Reserve. It includes the Apalachicola Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and the St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge (see Figure 6.4). State and federal agencies, as well as the NFWMD, have made extensive investments in acquiring and protecting lands throughout the basin.

Like other northwest Florida estuaries, Apalachicola Bay is vulnerable to impacts associated with development. Such potential impacts include the long-term effects of non-point source pollution and habitat loss and fragmentation. The proposed acquisition would help prevent such degradation by preserving the integrated forest and wetland community bordering St. Vincent Sound and Apalachicola Bay. The acquisition would limit new sources of pollution, prevent habitat loss and fragmentation, and protect the stability and integrity of littoral vegetation. The acquisition would also protect water quality by providing a substantial riparian buffer which would help prevent channelization from new impervious surfaces.

The Apalachicola River begins below Lake Seminole at the confluence of the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers (see Figure 6.4). It has the largest floodplain in the state and is widely regarded as one of the state's most important natural resources. The Apalachicola River supports the highly productive fishery in Apalachicola Bay. The District owns 36,823 acres of river floodplain and holds a conservation easement on 1,550 acres.

Major habitat types along the Apalachicola River include coastal marshes, freshwater marshes, flatwoods, and bottomland hardwood swamp. Water tupelo, Ogeechee tupelo, Bald cypress, Carolina ash, and Swamp tupelo have been identified in the floodplain, as well as numerous species of rare fish. Substantial additional acreage of the Apalachicola system is owned by other public agencies and private conservation organizations. Purchases will be concentrated on parcels within the Priority Fee Simple or Less than fee Simple Acquisition Area.

Due to impacts of Hurricane Michael on October 10, 2018, this basin has been identified as part of the Forest Restoration Acquisition Area (FRAA) for potential conservation easement acquisition.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **Ochlockonee River Basin**

The Ochlockonee River originates in the coastal plain of Georgia and traverses parts of five Florida counties (see Figure 6.4). Water quality in the river is lowest when it enters Florida and generally improves as it flows closer to the Gulf of Mexico. The Ochlockonee is primarily fed by rainwater runoff and is therefore susceptible to pollution by land use activities. Large parts of the watershed are publicly owned, including Joe Budd Wildlife Management Area, Lake Talquin State Forest, and Apalachicola National Forest.

The District's primary focus is to acquire less than fee rights on privately owned floodplain land separating existing federal and state properties. Public ownership of the erosion-prone lands bordering this usually fast-flowing river will reduce water quality degradation. The District presently has 3,675 acres in less than fee holdings in the area.

Due to impacts of Hurricane Michael on October 10, 2018, this basin has been identified as part of the Forest Restoration Acquisition Area (FRAA) for potential conservation easement acquisition.

### **Public Access**

All District conservation lands are available for public use. Such uses include fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities. Access issues are addressed on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.



## ***FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT***

### **St. Marks and Wakulla Rivers**

The Wakulla River originates at Wakulla Spring and flows south approximately 10 miles to join the St. Marks River at the town of St. Marks in Wakulla County (see Figure 6.4). The St. Marks River starts east of Tallahassee as a narrow stream, widens considerably below Horn Spring, and then disappears underground at Natural Bridge. After reemerging as a much stronger river at St. Marks Spring, it flows 11 miles to its confluence with the Wakulla River. The St. Marks River supports one of the most heavily used inshore saltwater fisheries in north Florida, the viability of which is largely dependent on the quality of freshwater flowing into the estuarine system. Both the Wakulla Springs State Park and the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge are major refuges for numerous biological species. The District presently has 1,500 acres under less than fee acquisition and 131.49 acres in fee simple in the area.

### **Wakulla Springs BMAP and Primary Focus Area**

Within the Upper Wakulla River and Wakulla Springs BMAP, the Priority Focus Area, east of the Apalachicola National Forest, has been identified for fee simple or less than fee simple acquisition to provide protection to the groundwater contribution area in Wakulla County. Properties within this contribution area may be considered as a potential acquisition, especially those properties improving the quality or quantity of water for springs.

### **Land Acquisition**

Sufficient lands have been identified to allow for a flexible implementation strategy over at least the next five years. The timing of any given acquisition will depend upon such considerations as: availability of funds, Governing Board policy; threats to the resource; availability of willing sellers; tract size; general market conditions; and available staff resources.

## Florida Forever District Work Plan

As required by section 373.199(2), F.S., a District five-year work plan identifies and includes projects that further the goals of the Florida Forever Act (section 259.105, F.S.). These include priorities identified in approved surface water improvement and management (SWIM) plans, Save Our Rivers land acquisition lists, stormwater management and water resource development projects, springs and water body restoration projects, and other eligible activities that would assist in meeting the goals of Florida Forever.

From 2003 to 2008, the District provided grant funding to local governments for capital improvements that help implement SWIM projects, water resource development projects, and projects included within stormwater master plans. The program awarded more than \$23 million for 55 stormwater retrofit, restoration, and reuse projects. These grants leveraged significant additional funding, with more than \$52 million in local and other match funding allocated to the approved projects.

No significant appropriations of Florida Forever funds for capital improvements have been made since FY 2008-2009. Table 6.4 identifies projects eligible for remaining Florida Forever capital improvement funding, together with conceptual projects considered eligible for future Florida Forever capital improvement funding.

**Table 6.4 Projects Currently Eligible for Florida Forever Funding**

Project	Description	Status	Estimated Cost
Unpaved road sedimentation abatement	Unpaved road stabilization to reduce sedimentation and non-point source pollution; supports water quality improvement and habitat restoration objectives of SWIM plans for all District watersheds	Planning	TBD
Spring habitat restoration	Construction activities to restore riparian and aquatic habitats and shorelines associated with northwest Florida springs and to improve compatible public access	Construction	\$324,480
Stormwater retrofit facilities	Construction of cooperative stormwater retrofit projects, improving water quality and flood protection in accordance with approved SWIM plans	Planning	TBD
Hydrologic and shoreline restoration	Restoration of shoreline and riparian habitats and hydrologic conditions to improve water and habitat quality and to enhance public access, consistent with SWIM plans	Construction	\$48,000

Project specifics, as noted in section 373.199(2), (3), (4) and (5), F.S., will be provided in the future if projects are able to advance beyond the preliminary planning stage.

Future Florida Forever or special legislative appropriations, and funding from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, federal grants, local governments, other local matching resources, and potentially other sources may contribute to the implementation of these projects. Final approval of funding for any project requires District Governing Board approval.

## **Implementation of the 2019-2020 Work Plan**

### **Land Acquisition**

In 2020, the District purchased two conservation easements and one fee simple tract for springs protection in Jackson and Wakulla Counties to further protect the Chipola River Groundwater Contribution Area and Wakulla Springs Priority Focus Areas.

### **Land Management**

In October 2018, Hurricane Michael severely impacted District lands and the District's Econfina Field Office. Recovery from Hurricane Michael became the highest priority for the District's land managers in the central and eastern land management regions. Recovery activities included initial damage assessments, securing of facilities and clearing debris for essential access, planning and implementing salvage timber harvests, clearing roads and firelines, clearing and repairing recreation sites, contracting for various hurricane recovery activities, and coordinating with FEMA. In addition to hurricane recovery, the District completed numerous land management activities during Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Management and restoration efforts included prescribed burns, native species planting, and timber harvesting across the District's 211,324 managed acres. In addition, the District maintains and improves public access and recreational amenities such as boat ramps, primitive campsites, and swimming and picnic areas. In the pages that follow, Table 6.5 and Table 6.6 provide additional information on specific land restoration activities completed during the year. The Fiscal Year 2020-2021 staffing and management budget by WMA can be found in Table 6.7.

To date, the District has conserved and protected 224,833 acres primarily through fee simple acquisition. These lands help promote wetland and floodplain functions, groundwater recharge, surface and groundwater quality, and fish and wildlife habitat, as well as protect natural systems. All District-owned lands are accessible to the public and are managed to provide public access and resource-based recreation.

District lands include the majority of the Escambia and Choctawhatchee river floodplains, as well as extensive lands along the Perdido, Blackwater, Yellow, Shoal, Apalachicola, and St. Marks/Wakulla rivers; Lafayette, Holmes, and Econfina creeks; and on Perdido Bay, Garcon Point, and Live Oak Point. In addition, the District manages and conducts habitat restoration and maintenance on Yellow River Ranch, Live Oak Point, Ward Creek West, and Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank. The District has acquired the majority of the groundwater recharge area for springs that discharge into Econfina Creek and form a crucial component of the groundwater contribution to Deer Point Lake Reservoir.

### **Land Management Accomplishments (FY 2019-2020)**

- The District conducted prescribed burns on approximately 6,768 acres of District lands, as well as vegetation management (herbicide) and habitat enhancements on 1,390 acres.
- 2,038 camping permits were issued at 90 reservation-only sites on District lands.
- Seven special resource area permits were issued on District property.
- Five timber harvests totaling 2,518 acres were active, removing offsite sand pine and thinning loblolly and slash pine.

- More than 9,500 acres of District-owned land were surveyed for invasive exotic plants and control measures were implemented for identified problem areas.
- Hurricane debris removal was completed on 154 acres and contracted on an additional 1,978 acres to be completed in FY 2020-2021.

## **Restoration**

The District accomplishes water resource restoration through several interrelated programs, primarily Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM), Land Management, longleaf reforestation, and mitigation.

Approved NFWFMD plans with substantial restoration components include the following:

- *Apalachicola River and Bay SWIM Plan (2017)*
- *Capital Improvements Plan (Annual)*
- *Choctawhatchee River and Bay SWIM Plan (2017)*
- *Ochlockonee River and Bay SWIM Plan (2017)*
- *Pensacola Bay System SWIM Plan (2017)*
- *Perdido River and Bay SWIM Plan (2017)*
- *St. Andrew Bay Watershed SWIM Plan (2017)*
- *St. Marks River and Apalachee Bay Watershed SWIM Plan (2017)*
- *Tate's Hell State Forest Hydrologic Restoration Plan (2010)*
- *NFWFMD In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program Final Instrument (2014)*
- *East Region Land Management Plan (2019)*
- *West Region Land Management Plan (2020)*

## **Restoration Accomplishments (FY 2019-2020)**

- The District completed hand planting of 1,264 acres of longleaf pine reforestation. These restoration activities improve upland habitat and serve important water resource functions by enhancing water recharge and providing water quality benefits. This work included site preparation and planting of 917,664 longleaf pine tubelings within the Econfina Creek and Chipola River WMA's.
- The District completed stabilization and restoration of approximately 150 linear feet of streambank at Econfina Blue Spring using planted coir log retaining walls. To prevent further degradation of the shoreline from recreational use, existing concrete steps were replaced and an access boardwalk was installed. The project will improve water quality, restore historical shoreline impacted by erosion, and prevent destruction of habitat resulting from erosion and recreational use on Econfina Creek.

**Table 6.5 Restoration, Enhancement, and Maintenance (2020)**

Water Management Area	Acres Burned					Acres Planted					Acres Harvested			Acres Treated	
	Total	Fuel Reduction	Site Preparation	Growing Season	Wiregrass Propagation	Total	Upland/Wetland Wiregrass and Toothache Grass	Longleaf Pine	Slash Pine	Hardwood	Total	Restoration	Thinning	Habitat Restoration	For Invasive, Non-native or Off-site Species
Escambia River	232	232													
Garcon Point	7	7													1
Blackwater River															7
Yellow River															8
Perdido River	799	799													226
Choctawhatchee River	2,126	2,126				47	47				488	488			
Econfina Creek	1,918	1,249	669			669		669			613	613			363
St. Andrews	963	963													
Carter Restoration	101	101													
Ward Creek West	342	342													4
Devils Swamp Restoration															
Chipola River	92	92				595		595			660	660			13
Apalachicola River															323
Lake Jackson	366	366													
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,946</b>	<b>6,277</b>	<b>669</b>			<b>1,311</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1,264</b>			<b>1,761</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>488</b>		<b>945</b>

Table 6.6 Access and Recreation Management (2020)

Water Management Area	Picnic Areas	Day Use Sites	Parking Areas	Reserved Camp Sites	Boat, Canoe/Kayak Landings	Portolet Stations	Horse Trail	Canoe Trail	Hiking Trail	Nature Trail	Bike Trail	Access Road	Camp Site Reservations	General Purpose (boundary signs)	Information Signs on District Lands	Weather Pavilions and Wildlife Viewing Towers
	Number Maintained						Miles Maintained						Issued	Signs		Maintained
Escambia River	6	11	12	28	11	10			1	2		27	687	20	7	2
Garcon Point		2	2						3					10	2	
Blackwater River	1	3	3		2				1							1
Yellow River		3	3		3			50				36		30		
Perdido River	3	3	4	1	4	10	6	15	6	1		32	43	40	10	1
Choctawhatchee River	12	15	15	24	14	10		15	11			55	646		16	11
Econfina Creek (incl. Carter Tract)	14	21	21	25	14	15	56	22	18	2		269	612		21	29
Chipola River	1	4	4	3	2	2		6				11	59			1
Apalachicola River	1	1	2	10	2	1						8	98			2
Lake Jackson	1	2	2			1	7		10		7	9				2
St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers												3		30		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>2,145</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>49</b>

**Table 6.7 Projected Funding, Staffing, and Resource Management for FY 2020-2021**

Region	Water Management Area	Acres	Assigned Staff	Total Funding	Funding for Resource Management
Western	Escambia	35,413		\$135,905	\$85,828
	Escambia Conservation Easements	19		\$250	\$250
	Garcon Point	3,245		\$53,366	\$5,400
	Yellow	16,553		\$78,190	\$32,052
	Blackwater	381		\$13,905	\$6,728
	Perdido	6,261		\$184,960	\$135,892
	Perdido Conservation Easements	4		\$250	\$250
	<b>Western Region Total</b>	<b>61,876</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$466,826</b>	<b>\$266,400</b>
Central	Choctawhatchee	60,831		\$424,192	\$256,380
	Choctawhatchee/Holmes Conservation Easements	2,841		\$250	\$250
	Econfina	39,179		\$561,693	\$480,339
	St. Andrew/Econfina Conservation Easements	2,722		\$2,794	\$500
	Ward Creek West	719		\$0	\$0
	Carter Restoration	2,154		\$69,000	\$69,000
	<b>Central Region Total</b>	<b>108,446</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$1,057,929</b>	<b>\$806,469</b>
Eastern	Chipola	9,094		\$84,861	\$58,118
	Apalachicola	36,823		\$31,856	\$13,400
	Apalachicola/Chipola Conservation Easements	2,748		\$250	\$250
	Lake Jackson	539		\$48,668	\$4,950
	St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers	131		\$0	\$0
	St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers Conservation Easements	1,500		\$2,196	\$250
	Ochlockonee Conservation Easements	3,675		\$1,792	\$250
	<b>Eastern Region Total</b>	<b>54,510</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$169,623</b>	<b>\$77,218</b>
<b>Regional Totals</b>		<b>224,833</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$1,694,378</b>	<b>\$1,150,087</b>

**Projected Funding, Staffing, and Resource Management for FY 2020-2021 (cont.)**

<b>Other Projects</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Assigned Staff</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>Funding for Resource Management</b>
Land Management Administration		4	\$901,394	\$366,336
IT Initiative			\$492,157	\$283,559
Land Management Database			\$49,646	\$44,500
Brunson Landing Tract (owned by FDEP)	348		\$10,369	\$8,460
Washington County School Board Donation			\$278	\$278
Hurricane Michael District Restoration			\$3,929,244	\$3,571,375
Cypress Spring Recreation Area			\$39,774	\$39,774
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>225,181</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$7,117,240</b>	<b>\$5,464,369</b>



# NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Brett Cyphers, Executive Director  
Lyle Seigler, Chief of Staff  
Carlos Herd, Director, Division of Resource Management

FROM: Paul Thorpe, Deputy Director, Division of Resource Management

DATE: January 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Consideration of the 2021 Consolidated Annual Report

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### Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve the [2021 Consolidated Annual Report](#).

### Background

Section 373.036(7), Florida Statutes, directs the District to provide an annual report on the management of water resources. The Consolidated Annual Report fulfills this requirement and is due to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, Department of Environmental Protection Secretary, Office of Economic and Demographic Research Coordinator, chairs of legislative committees with fiscal jurisdiction over water management districts, and the governing boards of the 16 counties within the District, annually by March 1.

The report includes several independent reports required elsewhere in statute and one optional chapter, including:

1. Strategic Water Management Plan Annual Work Plan Report
2. Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule
3. Annual Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan
4. Alternative Water Supplies Annual Report
5. FY 2020-2021 Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Plan
6. Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report
7. Mitigation Donation Annual Report
8. Water Projects in the Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Plan
9. Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program Annual Report (Optional)

Chapters 3 and 5 are linked to and consistent with the District's adopted budget. A draft Water Resource Development Work Plan is completed every year in October, 30 days after budget adoption. The final version included in the Consolidated Annual Report incorporates any changes requested by the Department of Environmental Protection and year-end expenditures from FY 2019-2020. Chapter 6 will be presented in a February public hearing and is incorporated into this report.

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Brett Cyphers, Executive Director  
Lyle Seigler, Chief of Staff  
Carlos Herd, Director, Division of Resource Management

FROM: Paul Thorpe, Deputy Director, Division of Resource Management

DATE: January 22, 2020

SUBJECT: Consideration of Sub-Recipient Funding Agreement with the Florida Division of Emergency Management and Delegation of Authority

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize and delegate the Executive Director to:

1. Execute sub-recipient funding agreement and any amendments with the Florida Division of Emergency Management as designated authorized agent for the Northwest Florida Water Management District.
2. Sign project worksheets, request for reimbursements, and other documents for the Federal Emergency Management Agency/State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management (FEMA/FDEM) agreement.

**Background**

The District applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance program for reimbursement of eligible expenses incurred as a result of Hurricane Sally. Public Assistance funding is provided via a federal award agreement that recognizes the State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) as the pass-through entity and the District as a sub-recipient of FDEM. Given this, the District and FDEM must enter into a sub-recipient funding agreement prior to the receipt of any federal funding. FDEM identifies the Board Chairman as the authorized agent to execute the public assistance funding agreement but allows for the delegation of this authority to a District employee.

A federal major disaster declaration for the Hurricane Sally was issued September 23, 2020 (DR-4564), with the incident period September 14, 2020 through September 28, 2020.

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Brett Cyphers, Executive Director  
Lyle Seigler, Chief of Staff  
Andrew Joslyn, Director, Division of Regulatory Services

FROM: Megan Seward, Deputy Director, Division of Regulatory Services

DATE: January 27, 2021

SUBJECT: Rulemaking Update – Minimum Flow(s) for the Wakulla and Sally Ward Spring System – Informational Item

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The District is undergoing rulemaking to update Chapter 40A-8, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels, including establishing the minimum flow(s) for the Wakulla and Sally Ward Spring System.

The District plans to hold a virtual public rulemaking workshop on February 16, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern, which will be followed by a 14-day public comment period.

In anticipation of the workshop, staff has provided the draft rule language to date for Board review. Staff continues to revise the draft rule language, with input from legal counsel and other technical staff, and still expects the language to be in final draft form and ready for Board review and approval at the March 2021, Governing Board Meeting.

Once the Governing Board reviews and approves the final draft language, staff will publish the Notice of Proposed Rule and proceed through the additional rulemaking steps outlined in Florida law. The District anticipates the rule should be effective no later than June, 2021.

# NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Brett J. Cyphers, Executive Director  
Lyle Seigler, Chief of Staff  
Carlos Herd, Director, Resource Management Division  
Kathleen Coates, Chief, Bureau of Water Resource Evaluation

FROM: Paul Thurman, Program Manager, Minimum Flows and Levels, Bureau of Water Resource Evaluation

DATE: February 11, 2021

SUBJECT: Technical Assessment for Wakulla and Sally Ward Springs Minimum Flow

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### Summary

Section 373.042(1), Florida Statutes, requires each water management district to develop minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs) for specific water bodies within its jurisdiction. The District is completing the MFL technical assessment for Wakulla Spring, a first magnitude spring, and Sally Ward Spring, a second magnitude spring. Both springs are located in Wakulla County. This informational item provides an overview of the technical assessment and proposed minimum flow for the Wakulla and Sally Ward springs.

### Background

Section 373.042(1), Florida Statutes, requires each water management district to develop minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs) for specific water bodies within its jurisdiction. The minimum flow or minimum water level for a given waterbody is the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area. Minimum flows are used in planning evaluations and are one of the criteria considered in the issuance of water use permits.

The District's MFL priority list includes four first magnitude springs, including Wakulla Spring, and multiple second magnitude springs, including Sally Ward Spring. The multi-year process required to establish MFLs involves data collection, technical assessments, peer review, public involvement, and rulemaking activities. To support MFL development for the Wakulla and Sally Ward springs, enhanced hydrologic and water quality monitoring was performed at more than 60 sites. Hydrologic models were developed using the best available information to relate changes in spring flows to environmental values such as fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and estuarine resources. The models were utilized to determine the allowable changes in spring flow from Wakulla and Sally Ward springs to prevent significant harm from water withdrawals.

## Status

The draft MFL technical assessment report for Wakulla and Sally Ward springs was completed in November 2020. Multiple metrics were investigated as part of the technical assessment. The most limiting metric is maintaining sufficient water depth for passage of the Florida manatee along the Wakulla River spring run. The average combined flow from the Wakulla Spring and Sally Ward spring is 598 cubic feet per second (cfs) for the October 23, 2004 through December 31, 2019 baseline time period. The recommended total allowable flow reduction is 59 cubic feet per second (cfs) (38 million gallons per day) from this long-term average combined flow.

The District has initiated a voluntary peer review, which is being performed by three independent panelists with expertise in hydrology, ecology, and the development of minimum flows and water levels. The peer review is scheduled to be completed in mid-February. Based on the recommendations provided by the peer review panel, the District may choose to revise the draft technical assessment report. The final technical assessment report for Wakulla and Sally Ward springs minimum flow will be available in March 2021.

The rule making process for this MFL has been initiated and is discussed in a separate informational item.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board

FROM: J. Breck Brannen, General Counsel

RE: Legal Counsel Report

DATE: January 28, 2021

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There are no pending cases in which the District is a party.