

**Northwest Florida Water Management District
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 12, 2023
81 Water Management Drive
Havana, Florida 32333**

1. Opening Ceremonies

Called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Savannah Shell called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

Present: George Roberts, Chair; Nick Patronis, Secretary-Treasurer; John Alter; Gus Andrews; Ted Everett; Kellie Ralston; Anna Upton

Absent: Jerry Pate, Vice Chair

2. Special Thanks and Recognition

Ben Faure received the employee of the quarter award.

3. Changes to the Agenda

None.

4. Approval of the Minutes for December 8, 2022

MOTIONED BY NICK PATRONIS, SECONDED BY KELLIE RALSTON, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 8, 2022. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Approval of the Financial Reports for the Month of November 2022

MOTIONED BY NICK PATRONIS, SECONDED BY JOHN ALTER, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2022. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Consideration of ITB 23B-001 for Williford Spring Step Repairs

MOTIONED BY KELLIE RALSTON, SECONDED BY NICK PATRONIS, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE THE BID RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO INVITATION TO BID 23B-001 FOR THE REPAIR OF THE WILLIFORD SPRING STEPS AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH LIVE FLYER, INC., IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$116,000.00 TO COMPLETE THIS WORK. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Consideration of Consultant Selections and Agreements for Prescribed Burning and Vegetation Management for District-owned Restoration Properties

MOTIONED BY NICK PATRONIS, SECONDED BY KELLIE RALSTON, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE THE SELECTION COMMITTEE'S RESULTS PROVIDED IN TABLE 1 AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE FOUR HIGHEST-RANKED FIRMS, PENDING LEGAL COUNSEL REVIEW.

Table 1 - Consultant Selection Scores- RFP 23-002

Firm	Total Score	Avg. Score
*Attack-One Fire Management Services	272	90.667
*Wildland Services, Inc.	265	88.333
*B&B Dugger, Inc.	264	88.000
*Merit First, LLC	253	84.333
Native Ecosystem Services, LLC	244	81.333

***Highest Ranked Firms**

NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

8. 1:05 p.m., – Public Hearing on Consideration of Regulatory Matters

Called to order at 1:19 p.m.

A. Permit Modification with Modification

A-1 Applicant: Scott Taylor, International Paper Company
App. No.: 2B-033-2435-10
Use: Industrial

MOTIONED BY KELLIE RALSTON, SECONDED BY JOHN ALTER, THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVE APPLICATION NO. 2B-033-2435-10, SCOTT TAYLOR, INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY, PER THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONDITIONS OF THE STAFF REPORTS AND PER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PERMIT DOCUMENTS. NO PUBLIC COMMENT WAS GIVEN. MOTION CARRIED.

9. Ward Creek West Management Conditions and Options

Informational purposes only.

10. Update on Regional Flooding

Informational purposes only.

11. Legislative Update

Informational purposes only.

12. Legal Counsel Report

Breck Brannen provided a status update on the case referenced below.

Northwest Florida Water Management District, Plaintiff, vs. GHD Construction Services, Inc., Defendant, Walton County Circuit Court Case No. 21CA137

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Financial Report
Summary Statement of Receipts, Disbursements & Cash Balances
For Month Ending December 31, 2022

Balance Forward - Operating Funds		\$42,532,346.49	
Operating Funds Received in current month:			
Revenue Receipts, Current	\$2,341,273.15		
Contracts Receivable	358,040.31		
Other Deposits/Refunds/Adjustments	12,219.62		
Transfers from Lands Accounts	0.00		
Total Deposits during month		<u>2,711,533.08</u>	
Total Deposits and Balance Forward			\$ 45,243,879.57
Disbursements:			
Employee Salaries	693,723.80		
Employee Benefits	273,133.29		
Employee Flexible Spending Account	0.00		
Contractual Services (Professional)	910,956.98		
Operating Expenses - Services	104,677.17		
Operating Expenses - Commodities	27,848.97		
Operating Capital Outlay	0.00		
Grants and Aids	18,499.75		
Total Operating Expenses during month		<u>2,028,839.96</u>	
Payables, Prior Year	23,950.40		
Other Disbursements or (Credits)	19,117.91		
Total Funds Disbursed by check during month		<u>2,071,908.27</u>	
Bank Debits (Fees, Deposit Slips, etc.)	0.00		
Transfer to Cypress Springs Account	0.00		
Total Funds Disbursed			<u>2,071,908.27</u>
Cash Balance Operating Funds at month end			\$ 43,171,971.30
Operating Depositories:			
Petty Cash Fund	250.25		
Bank of America:			
General Fund Checking	2,254,339.88		
Payroll Account	6,000.00		
Passthrough (EFT) Account	0.00		
Investment Accounts:			
Fla. Board of Administration @ 4.3%			
General Fund	19,946,295.23		
Lands Fee Fund	4,794,472.38		
Ecosystem TF	73,073.07		
Water Prot. & Sust. Program TF	102,076.43		
Okaloosa Regional Reuse	1,152,425.16		
Mitigation Fund	14,843,038.90		
Total Operating Depositories at month end			\$ 43,171,971.30

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Financial Report
Summary Statement of Receipts, Disbursements & Cash Balances
For Month Ending December 31, 2022

Land Acquisition Funds:

Fla. Board of Administration @ 4.3%	\$ 305,808.98	
Total Land Acquisition Funds		305,808.98

Restricted Management Funds:

Fla. Board of Administration Phipps Land Management Account @ 4.3%	42,739.60	
-----------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------	--

Fla. Board of Administration Cypress Springs R&M Account @ 4.3%	<u>856,666.30</u>	
--------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------	--

Total Restricted Land Management Funds		<u>899,405.90</u>
----------------------------------------	--	-------------------

Total Land Acquisition, and Restricted Management Funds		<u>1,205,214.88</u>
------------------------------------------------------------	--	---------------------

TOTAL OPERATING, LAND ACQUISITION, & RESTRICTED FUNDS AT MONTH END		<u><u>\$ 1,205,214.88</u></u>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------	--	-------------------------------

Approved: _____
Chairman or Executive Director

Date: February 9, 2023

Northwest Florida Water Management District
Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds
For the Period ending December 31, 2022
(Unaudited)

	Current Budget	Actuals Through 12/31/2022	Variance (under)/Over Budget	Actuals As A % of Budget			
Sources							
Ad Valorem Property Taxes	\$ 3,792,899	\$ 2,559,480	\$ (1,233,419)	67%			
Intergovernmental Revenues	93,788,620	241,114	(93,547,506)	0%			
Interest on Invested Funds	49,500	402,864	353,364	814%			
License and Permit Fees	655,000	199,600	(455,400)	30%			
Other	5,394,046	108,375	(5,285,671)	2%			
Fund Balance	29,459,952		(29,459,952)	0%			
Total Sources	\$ 133,140,017	\$ 3,511,432	\$ (129,628,585)	3%			
	Current Budget	Expenditures	Encumbrances ¹	Available Budget	%Expended	%Obligated ²	
Uses							
Water Resources Planning and Monitoring	\$ 6,095,261	\$ 590,449	\$ 1,395,815	\$ 4,108,997	10%	33%	
Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works	86,734,666	462,463	30,187,978	56,084,225	1%	35%	
Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works	7,518,827	1,494,964	3,079,398	2,944,465	20%	61%	
Regulation	4,378,607	823,630	243,020	3,311,957	19%	24%	
Outreach	145,141	36,869	916	107,355	25%	26%	
Management and Administration	2,377,045	473,465	100,253	1,803,327	20%	24%	
Total Uses	\$ 107,249,547	\$ 3,881,841	\$ 35,007,380	\$ 68,360,327	4%	36%	
Reserves	25,890,470			25,890,470	0%	0%	
Total Uses and Reserves	\$ 133,140,017	\$ 3,881,841	\$ 35,007,380	\$ 94,250,797	3%	29%	

¹ Encumbrances represent unexpended balances of open purchase orders.

² Represents the sum of expenditures and encumbrances as a percentage of the available budget.

This unaudited financial statement is prepared as of December 31, 2022, and covers the interim period since the most recent audited financial statements.

CHECKS	12/01/2022	\$ 16,042.20
ACH TRANSFERS	12/02/2022	90,397.46
DIRECT DISBURSMENT	12/02/2022	70,324.59
RETIREMENT	12/06/2022	83,421.67
CHECKS	12/09/2022	57,101.50
ACH TRANSFERS	12/09/2022	278,612.23
CHECKS	12/15/2022	249,128.92
ACH TRANSFERS	12/16/2022	293,221.56
DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS	12/16/2022	2,661.86
CHECKS	12/22/2022	24,019.33
ACH TRANSFERS	12/22/2022	184,130.36
DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS	12/22/2022	250.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 1,349,311.68

February 9, 2023
Date

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DISBURSEMENTS**

VENDOR	NAME	CHECK DATE	INVOICE NET	INVOICE DESCRIPTION
1616	BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF FLORIDA	12/1/2022	719.00	MEDICARE
916	FPL NORTHWEST FLORIDA	12/1/2022	658.98	ELECTRIC DEFUNIAK OFFICE
3370	PAUL'S MARINE SERVICE INC.	12/1/2022	2,200.85	SEA ARK BOAT REPAIRS
4465	SHERIFF OF SANTA ROSA COUNTY	12/1/2022	40.00	WELLS PROCESS SERVER
5011	SERVICE PLUS OFFICE MACHINES, INC.	12/1/2022	131.00	MAINTENANCE CARTRIDGE FOR GIS PLOTTER
4577	SOUTHERN TIRE MART, LLC	12/1/2022	156.77	REPLACEMENT DUMP TRAILER TIRE
4577	SOUTHERN TIRE MART, LLC	12/1/2022	1,077.90	REPLACEMENT TIRES FOR WMD2428
4832	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/1/2022	5,195.98	DENTAL
4832	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/1/2022	80.10	PREPAID DENTAL
4834	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/1/2022	966.00	LIFE INSURANCE
4834	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/1/2022	2,953.45	VOL LIFE
4834	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/1/2022	80.58	EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
4833	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL	12/1/2022	1,159.77	VOL LTD
5250	SUN LIFE FINANCIAL - VISION	12/1/2022	621.82	VISION
TOTAL CHECKS			\$ 16,042.20	
3293	ANGUS G. ANDREWS, JR.	12/2/2022	8,125.00	DFO LEASE AGREEMENT - CONTRACT PO
1617	CAPITAL HEALTH PLAN	12/2/2022	81,678.51	MEDICAL INSURANCE
3002	FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	12/2/2022	451.15	OFFSITE DATA STORAGE
5218	WAGeworks, INC.	12/2/2022	142.80	FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT ADMINISTRATION
TOTAL ACH TRANSFERS			\$ 90,397.46	
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/2/2022	35.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT #308592
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/2/2022	9.00	REFUND WELL PERMIT #308646
1616	BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF FLORIDA	12/2/2022	2,714.77	RETIREE INSURANCE
1616	BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF FLORIDA	12/2/2022	67,565.82	EMPLOYEE MEDICAL INSURANCE
TOTAL DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS			\$ 70,324.59	
TOTAL AP			<u>\$ 176,764.25</u>	
95	AT&T	12/8/2022	348.38	PHONE SERVICE - EFO
4180	BANK OF AMERICA	12/8/2022	768.99	TRANSACTION FEE FOR EPERMITTING
4180	BANK OF AMERICA	12/8/2022	33.92	MONTHLY TRANSACTION FEES
3784	CULLIGAN WATER SERVICES, INC	12/8/2022	50.00	REFUND WELLS PERMIT #308249-1
4748	EAST MILTON WATER SYSTEM	12/8/2022	20.35	WATER - MILTON OFFICE
2701	FLORIDA MUNICIPAL INSURANCE TRUST	12/8/2022	29,447.00	SECOND INSTALLMENT FY 22-23

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DISBURSEMENTS**

391	GADSDEN COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR	12/8/2022	119.55	TAG/REGISTRATION FOR NEW LANDS ROLLSRITE TRAILER
5474	HATCHER PUBLISHING INC	12/8/2022	22.00	PUBLISH NORD NOTICE
3567	HELENA CHEMICAL COMPANY	12/8/2022	2,470.00	HERBICIDE
2299	LIBERTY COUNTY SOLID WASTE	12/8/2022	40.00	SOLID WASTE DUMPSTER - FL RIVER
5404	RIMINI STREET, INC.	12/8/2022	14,457.00	ORACLE TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT
5437	SRM CONCRETE	12/8/2022	965.00	CONCRETE - PORTO POTTY STANDS - BLUE AND CROOMS
110	TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.	12/8/2022	495.48	WATER/SEWER - HQ
110	TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.	12/8/2022	84.40	SECURITY LIGHTS - HQ
110	TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.	12/8/2022	3,677.38	ELECTRIC - HQ
5798	UNISOURCE SIGN CONNECTION	12/8/2022	3,715.72	PARTIAL RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND - 21-042
4626	WASTE PRO OF FLORIDA, INC	12/8/2022	174.15	SOLID WASTE - HQ
4626	WASTE PRO OF FLORIDA, INC	12/8/2022	212.18	DUMPSTER FOR ECONFINA OFFICE AND CANOE LAUNCH

TOTAL CHECKS

\$ 57,101.50

2507	CALHOUN LIBERTY JOURNAL	12/9/2022	27.00	LEGAL ADS-WATER USE PERMITS
2507	CALHOUN LIBERTY JOURNAL	12/9/2022	23.00	PUBLISH NORD NOTICE
4300	DYER, RIDDLE, MILLS & PRECOURT, INC.	12/9/2022	10,825.65	SURVEYING SERVICES
5749	DUMPSTER SERVICES LLC	12/9/2022	550.00	30 YARD ROLL OFF CONTAINER
3337	FORESTECH CONSULTING	12/9/2022	400.00	LAND MANAGEMENT DATABASE
3492	GEOTECH ENVIRONMENTAL EQUIP, INC.	12/9/2022	725.00	LAB SUPPLIES - TUBING
3942	A & W VENTURES, L.C.	12/9/2022	250.00	PORTABLE TOILET FOR PHIPPS PARK
5368	KOUNTRY RENTAL NWF, INC.	12/9/2022	8,105.00	SERVICE FOR PORTABLE TOILETS-C
5728	MERIT FIRST LLC	12/9/2022	250,440.00	HURRICANE SERVICE DEBRIS
5802	MURPHY CASSIDY DIESEL REPAIRS	12/9/2022	91.13	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
5802	MURPHY CASSIDY DIESEL REPAIRS	12/9/2022	91.13	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
5802	MURPHY CASSIDY DIESEL REPAIRS	12/9/2022	1,179.48	VEHICLE REPAIR #2414
5802	MURPHY CASSIDY DIESEL REPAIRS	12/9/2022	84.97	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
5802	MURPHY CASSIDY DIESEL REPAIRS	12/9/2022	168.82	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
4091	THE SHOE BOX	12/9/2022	153.00	SAFETY BOOTS - IT - SARAH HIBBARD
2808	THAT BOOT STORE	12/9/2022	166.49	SAFETY BOOTS-BAILEY
3790	WILDLANDS SERVICE, INC.	12/9/2022	1,948.56	PIG AND COON ISLAND ROAD MATERIALS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	274.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	175.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	472.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	274.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	175.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	449.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	274.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	350.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	175.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DISBURSEMENTS**

5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	175.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	390.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS
5060	EXTREME LOGISTICS GULF COAST, LLC	12/9/2022	200.00	RENTAL & SERVICE OF PORTABLE & COMPOST TOILETS

TOTAL ACH TRANSFERS \$ 278,612.23

TOTAL AP \$ 335,713.73

5835	1 HOUR , INC	12/15/2022	334.00	QR CODE STICKER FOR LANDS SIGNS
5768	ALFORD BROTHERS INC	12/15/2022	121.90	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
5676	ARBOR TREE CARE LLC	12/15/2022	600.00	HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL - ENFINGER RD.
5826	FRANKLIN'S PROMISE COALITION	12/15/2022	18,499.75	OYSTER CORPS PILOT PROJECT-FL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	190.47	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	190.47	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	238.47	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	101.46	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	177.88	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	183.48	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	111.11	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
698	KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	12/15/2022	167.36	KONICA MINOLTA COPIER LEASE RENEWAL
3266	LOWE'S COMPANIES INC.	12/15/2022	114.51	OPERATING SUPPLIES
3266	LOWE'S COMPANIES INC.	12/15/2022	1,487.04	OPERATING SUPPLIES
5893	SEASCAPE RESORTS	12/15/2022	4,500.00	SEASCAPE RESORTS OVERPMT REFUND P298536-3
5889	SOUTHERN DISASTER RECOVERY LLC	12/15/2022	209,625.00	AGREEMENT FOR RECOVERY EFFORTS
5223	SOUTHERN HABITATS, LLC	12/15/2022	10,200.00	SEED COLLECTION (GARCON--WIREGRASS & TOOTHACHE)
4577	SOUTHERN TIRE MART, LLC	12/15/2022	2,171.62	TIRES FOR WMD0004
5737	TELECHECK SERVICES, INC.	12/15/2022	64.40	EPERMITTING FEES-TELECHECK
5737	TELECHECK SERVICES, INC.	12/15/2022	50.00	FEES FOR ONLINE PAYMENTS

TOTAL CHECKS \$ 249,128.92

3586	ATTACK-ONE FIRE MANAGEMENT SVCS	12/16/2022	15,540.00	AGREEMENT FOR PRESCRIBED BURNI
5871	AVS SYSTEMS INC	12/16/2022	75.00	DFO SECURITY
3638	B & B DUGGER, INC	12/16/2022	128,250.00	AGREEMENT FOR PRESCRIBED BURNI
4742	BRECK BRANNEN	12/16/2022	105.02	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
771	CITY OF MARIANNA	12/16/2022	23,950.40	TARA ESTATES SEWER PROJECT
5824	DAVID STANFORD	12/16/2022	110.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
45	DMS	12/16/2022	661.38	DEFUNIAK LOCAL
45	DMS	12/16/2022	1,965.23	DEFUNIAK ETHERNET & LONG DISTANCE
45	DMS	12/16/2022	0.84	CONFERENCE CALLS

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DISBURSEMENTS**

45	DMS	12/16/2022	26.44	HQ LONG DISTANCE
45	DMS	12/16/2022	96.00	MILTON LOCAL
45	DMS	12/16/2022	19.50	AIR CARDS & HOTSPOTS
45	DMS	12/16/2022	9,574.12	HQ ETHERNET
45	DMS	12/16/2022	3.10	LAN PORTS AND INTRANET/INTERNET
45	DMS	12/16/2022	1,554.78	HQ LOCAL
5749	DUMPSTER SERVICES LLC	12/16/2022	750.00	FILL DIRT FOR REC SITE PAVILION CONSTRUCTION
4961	PETER FOLLAND	12/16/2022	110.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
2268	INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, INC	12/16/2022	837.00	PHONE SYSTEM MAINTANANCE CONTRACT 07-037
1695	JAMES MOORE & COMPANY	12/16/2022	5,840.00	INDEPENDANT AUDITOR SERVICES
5146	MICHAEL CORRIE MANNION	12/16/2022	12,597.20	STAFF AUGMENTATION FOR CUSTOM APPLICATE #18-066
5802	MURPHY CASSIDY DIESEL REPAIRS	12/16/2022	697.11	REPAIRS FOR WMD2413
4600	MYTHICS, INC.	12/16/2022	6,494.20	ORACLE LICENSE SUPPORT
3813	PENNINGTON, P.A.	12/16/2022	3,760.00	LEGAL COUNSEL
5614	ZACHARY J. SELLERS	12/16/2022	925.00	DFO JANITORIAL SERVICES
5651	SGS TECHNOLOGIE, LLC	12/16/2022	3,360.00	DISTRICT WEBSITE DATA MIGRATION
4955	TERRY'S HOME & LAWN MAINTENANCE, INC.	12/16/2022	4,481.90	RECREATION SITE CLEAN UP AND M
4955	TERRY'S HOME & LAWN MAINTENANCE, INC.	12/16/2022	200.00	JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR THE MILTON OFFICE
5337	VANASSEE HANGEN BRUSTLIN, INC.	12/16/2022	8,280.00	AGREEMENT FOR AS NEEDED SERVIC
5218	WAGeworks, INC.	12/16/2022	56.55	COBRA ADMINISTRATION
3790	WILDLANDS SERVICE, INC.	12/16/2022	62,900.79	HURRICANE DEBRIS SERVICES

TOTAL ACH TRANSFERS

\$ 293,221.56

2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	2,151.07	NOVEMBER 2022 P-CARD
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	50.00	REG SUNPASS
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	162.88	DFO VEHICLES CARWASH
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	100.91	SAFETY BOOTS-WAITS AND FIELD SUPPLIES: AMAZON
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	29.95	DIGITAL NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	27.72	DIGITAL NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	9.99	DIGITAL NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	11.99	DIGITAL NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	11.99	DIGITAL NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION
2967	BANK OF AMERICA	12/16/2022	105.36	AMAZON - OFFICE SUPPLIES

TOTAL DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS

\$ 2,661.86

TOTAL AP

\$ 545,012.34

5768	ALFORD BROTHERS INC	12/22/2022	44.95	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
------	---------------------	------------	-------	--------------------------------

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DISBURSEMENTS**

5768	ALFORD BROTHERS INC	12/22/2022	85.92	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
5768	ALFORD BROTHERS INC	12/22/2022	71.94	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES
2992	BANK OF AMERICA	12/22/2022	437.73	ONLINE ACCESS TO BANK ACCOUNT
2992	BANK OF AMERICA	12/22/2022	1,127.26	NOVEMBER 2022 ANALYSIS STATEMENT
4180	BANK OF AMERICA	12/22/2022	1,002.40	TRANSACTION FEE FOR EPERMITTING
4180	BANK OF AMERICA	12/22/2022	33.79	MONTHLY TRANSACTION FEES
735	CARLTON APPRAISAL COMPANY	12/22/2022	3,388.00	APPRAISAL
5131	CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS	12/22/2022	217.67	WATER/ SEWER DEFUNIAK SPRINGS
4676	CITY OF MILTON FLORIDA	12/22/2022	80.67	DUMPSTER SERVICE
4676	CITY OF MILTON FLORIDA	12/22/2022	37.24	SEWER MILTON OFFICE
3289	CITY OF TALLAHASSEE	12/22/2022	45.78	LAKESHORE & I-10
3424	MIDTOWN PRINT CO.	12/22/2022	25.00	BUSINESS CARDS
5787	DYLAN RYALS-HAMILTON	12/22/2022	166.88	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
916	FPL NORTHWEST FLORIDA	12/22/2022	406.65	MILTON ELECTRIC
5872	FUSION FLEET SERVICES LLC	12/22/2022	359.84	GPS TROUBLESHOOT/REPAIR FOR WMD-96843
2291	GULF COAST ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,INC	12/22/2022	231.18	ELECTRIC SERVICE - EFO
5294	KRONOS, INCORPORATED	12/22/2022	13.40	KRONOS RENEWAL
5294	KRONOS, INCORPORATED	12/22/2022	8.67	KRONOS RENEWAL
5680	MCKENZIE MOTOR COMPANY	12/22/2022	79.49	MINOR REPAIRS FOR REG VEHICLES IN MILTON
423	OKALOOSA CO. TAX COLLECTOR	12/22/2022	2.42	2020 TAX ROLL ERRORS
5892	ONE BEAT CPR LEARNING CENTER LLC	12/22/2022	704.00	AED PAD/BATTERY REPLACEMENT
4068	RING POWER CORPORATION	12/22/2022	1,305.26	CAT 299 PM SERVICE
4557	VERIZON WIRELESS	12/22/2022	1,134.23	CELL PHONES AND JET PACKS
5612	WETLAND SOLUTIONS, INC.	12/22/2022	12,944.00	HYDROLOGIC & WATER QUALITY DAT
4038	WINDSTREAM COMMUNICATIONS	12/22/2022	64.96	800 NUMBERS & EFO LONG DISTANCE

TOTAL CHECKS

\$ 24,019.33

3586	ATTACK-ONE FIRE MANAGEMENT SVCS, INC	12/22/2022	8,760.00	AGREEMENT FOR PRESCRIBED BURNI
5702	AUTO ALLEY INC	12/22/2022	130.39	MINOR REPAIRS FOR HQ REG VEHICLES
5450	CAITLIN BRONGEL	12/22/2022	195.80	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
5824	DAVID STANFORD	12/22/2022	146.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
5824	DAVID STANFORD	12/22/2022	110.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
4855	ENVIRON SERVICES INCORPORATED	12/22/2022	2,079.17	JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR HQ
4807	WEX BANK	12/22/2022	11,444.02	NOVEMBER 2022 FUEL / SERVICE PURCHASES
4807	WEX BANK	12/22/2022	1,145.00	WEX GPS TRACKING
2702	FISH AND WILDLIFE	12/22/2022	1,952.27	LAW ENFORCEMENT - CONTRACT NO. 11-012
4961	PETER FOLLAND	12/22/2022	146.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
4961	PETER FOLLAND	12/22/2022	110.00	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
5896	KRISTINE LOCKE	12/22/2022	1,462.96	TUITION REIMBURSEMENT
5159	L & R TRACTOR INC.	12/22/2022	1,500.00	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF CLAY FILL

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DISBURSEMENTS**

4952	LAW, REDD, CRONA & MUNROE, P.A.	12/22/2022	9,097.00	INSPECTOR GENERAL SVCS AGREEMENT 18-051
5728	MERIT FIRST LLC	12/22/2022	122,850.00	HURRICANE SERVICE DEBRIS
4607	QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC	12/22/2022	1,087.65	MAILING SYSTEMS FOR HQ AND DEF
3851	SOUTHEASTERN SURVEYING & MAPPING COR	12/22/2022	9,225.92	SURVEYING SERVICES
4799	STAPLES CONTRACT & COMMERCIAL, INC.	12/22/2022	148.62	OFFICE SUPPLIES AND CALENDARS
4799	STAPLES CONTRACT & COMMERCIAL, INC.	12/22/2022	4.07	OFFICE SUPPLIES AND CALENDARS
4799	STAPLES CONTRACT & COMMERCIAL, INC.	12/22/2022	84.93	Division of Administrative Services Supplies
5885	SYDNEY ARMSTRONG	12/22/2022	252.56	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT
2631	WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	12/22/2022	12,198.00	LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY
TOTAL ACH TRANSFERS			\$ 184,130.36	
5707	REFUND PAYEEZY	12/22/2022	250.00	DAVID FORSTROM OVERPMT REFUND P309257
TOTAL DIRECT DISBURSEMENTS			\$ 250.00	
TOTAL AP			\$ 208,399.69	

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS
PAYROLL
DECEMBER 2022

DIRECT DEPOSIT	12/02/2022	\$	235,089.64
CHECKS	12/02/2022		275.45
FLEX SPENDING TRANSFER	12/02/2022		1,468.66
DIRECT DEPOSIT	12/16/2022		234,786.65
CHECKS	12/17/2022		275.45
FLEX SPENDING TRANSFER	12/17/2022		1,468.66
DIRECT DEPOSIT	12/29/2022		249,232.08

\$ 722,596.59

APPROVED:

Chairman or Executive Director

February 9, 2023

Date

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff

FROM: Jack Furney, Director, Division of Administrative Services

DATE: January 25, 2023

SUBJECT: Consideration of Amendment No. 1 to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board adopt Resolution No. 913 amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget and allow staff to realign revenues and reserves to maintain the proper balance in each fund.

Background

Amendment 1 involves budgeting unanticipated revenue. Per section 373.536(4)(c), Florida Statutes, this amendment has been reviewed and approved by the Executive Office of the Governor. Amendment 1 recognizes \$1,497,270.30 in unanticipated springs restoration state grant funding to complete construction of central sewer to the Tara Estate subdivision in north Marianna, FL. This will increase the District's FY 2022-23 budget in the amount of \$1,497,270.30.

Summary of Fund Impact to Expense Budget:

<u>Fund Source</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Impact</u>
General Fund			
Land Acquisition Fund			
Projects Fund	1,497,270.30	(0)	1,497,270.30
Lands Management Fund			
Regulation Fund			
Mitigation Fund			
	<u>1,497,270.30</u>	<u>(0)</u>	<u>1,497,270.30</u>



Lyle Seigler
Executive Director

Northwest Florida Water Management District

81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-4712
(U.S. Highway 90, 10 miles west of Tallahassee)

Phone: (850) 539-5999 • Fax: (850) 539-2777

RESOLUTION NO. 913 AMENDMENT NUMBER 1 TO FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET

WHEREAS, chapters 200 and 373, Florida Statutes, require the Governing Board of the Northwest Florida Water Management District (District) to adopt a final budget for each fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 910, after a public hearing on September 22, 2022, the Governing Board of the District adopted a final budget for the District covering its proposed operations and other requirements for the ensuing fiscal year, beginning October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 189.016(7), Florida Statutes, the District will post the adopted amendment on its official website within five days after its adoption; and

WHEREAS, a budget amendment involves an action that transfers, increases, or decreases to total appropriated Fund amounts in the budget; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 120.525, Florida Statutes, the District has provided notice of its intention to amend the Budget in the published notification of the Governing Board meeting at which the amendment will be considered; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Northwest Florida Water Management District, that:

Amendment 1 increases spending authority and revenue by \$1,497,270.30 in springs restoration state grant funding to complete construction of central sewer to the Tara Estate subdivision in north Marianna, FL.

This amendment is to properly reflect activities to be performed and accurately assign costs with an increase to the total District budget.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 9th day of February, 2023, A.D.

ATTEST:

George Roberts, Chair

Nick Patronis, Secretary-Treasurer

GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
Pensacola

NICK PATRONIS
Secretary
Panama City

JOHN W. ALTER
Malone

GUS ANDREWS
DeFuniak Springs

TED EVERETT
Chipley

KELLIE RALSTON
Tallahassee

ANNA UPTON
Tallahassee

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff

FROM: Jack Furney, Director, Division of Administrative Services

DATE: January 25, 2023

SUBJECT: Consideration of Amendment No. 2 to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board adopt Resolution No. 914 amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget and allow staff to realign revenues and reserves to maintain the proper balance in each fund.

Background

Amendment 2 involves budgeting unanticipated revenue. Per section 373.536(4)(c), Florida Statutes, this amendment has been reviewed and approved by the Executive Office of the Governor. Amendment 2 recognizes \$200,000 in unanticipated state grant funding to perform water quality sampling in support of the Jackson Blue Spring Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP).

This will increase the District's FY 2022-23 budget in the amount of \$200,000.

Summary of Fund Impact to Expense Budget:

<u>Fund Source</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Impact</u>
General Fund			
Land Acquisition Fund			
Projects Fund	200,000	(0)	200,000
Lands Management Fund			
Regulation Fund			
Mitigation Fund			
	200,000	(0)	200,000



Lyle Seigler
Executive Director

Northwest Florida Water Management District

81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-4712
(U.S. Highway 90, 10 miles west of Tallahassee)

Phone: (850) 539-5999 • Fax: (850) 539-2777

RESOLUTION NO. 914 AMENDMENT NUMBER 2 TO FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BUDGET

WHEREAS, chapters 200 and 373, Florida Statutes, require the Governing Board of the Northwest Florida Water Management District (District) to adopt a final budget for each fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 910, after a public hearing on September 22, 2022, the Governing Board of the District adopted a final budget for the District covering its proposed operations and other requirements for the ensuing fiscal year, beginning October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 189.016(7), Florida Statutes, the District will post the adopted amendment on its official website within five days after its adoption; and

WHEREAS, a budget amendment involves an action that transfers, increases, or decreases to total appropriated Fund amounts in the budget; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 120.525, Florida Statutes, the District has provided notice of its intention to amend the Budget in the published notification of the Governing Board meeting at which the amendment will be considered; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Northwest Florida Water Management District, that:

Amendment 2 increases spending authority and revenue by \$200,000 in state grant funding to perform water quality sampling in support of the Jackson Blue Spring Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP).

This amendment is to properly reflect activities to be performed and accurately assign costs with an increase to the total District budget.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 9th day of February, 2023, A.D.

ATTEST:

George Roberts, Chair

Nick Patronis, Secretary-Treasurer

GEORGE ROBERTS
Chair
Panama City

JERRY PATE
Vice Chair
Pensacola

NICK PATRONIS
Secretary
Panama City

JOHN W. ALTER
Malone

GUS ANDREWS
DeFuniak Springs

TED EVERETT
Chipley

KELLIE RALSTON
Tallahassee

ANNA UPTON
Tallahassee

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff

FROM: Grace Adams, Human Resources Administrator

DATE: February 2, 2023

SUBJECT: Consideration of Employee Health and Life Insurance

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the executive director to negotiate and select employee health and life insurance policies for the year beginning April 1, 2023, and ending March 31, 2024.

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.

In addition to health insurance, the District provides a \$25,000 life insurance policy for employees in authorized positions through Sun Life, Inc. The rates paid by the District for life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment (ADD) insurance are not expected to increase.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff
Carlos Herd, Director, Division of Resource Management

FROM: Kathleen Coates, Chief, Bureau of Resource Evaluation

DATE: January 23, 2023

SUBJECT: Consideration of Grant Funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for Jackson Blue Spring Groundwater Quality Monitoring

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to receive grant funding up to \$200,000, subject to legal counsel review and budget approval. Additionally, staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to issue task orders for a contractor(s) to perform the data collection in accordance with the scope of work outlined in the DEP agreement.

Background

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Section 604(b) of the Clean Water Act to monitor and evaluate groundwater quality in support of the Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) for Jackson Blue Spring.

The Department's Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Program uses Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) as a starting point and brings together local, regional, and state representatives with an interest in reducing pollutant loads and restoring water quality. Together, DEP, the District, local governments, and other stakeholders are working to implement the BMAP to meet the nutrient TMDL of 0.35 milligrams per liter (mg/L) nitrate at Jackson Blue Spring.

To assess progress being made as management strategies and restoration projects are implemented across the Jackson Blue Spring basin, the groundwater monitoring network was expanded by DEP. Fourteen wells were drilled to fill spatial data gaps and to assess groundwater quality. Under this grant agreement with the District, quarterly sampling will be performed at these 14 groundwater wells for a two-year period. The work will be performed by a District contractor and authorized through a task order. This expanded network and the analysis of the

collected data will help determine changes in groundwater quality across the springshed over time.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff
Carlos Herd, Director, Resource Management Division

FROM: Jerrick Saquibal, Chief, Bureau of Resource Projects & Planning

DATE: January 25, 2023

SUBJECT: Consideration of Grant Funding for Completion of Tara Estates Sewer Extension Project

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into agreements with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and city of Marianna to receive and provide \$1,497,270.30 in grant funding for completion of the Tara Estates Sewer Extension Project, subject to budget authority and legal counsel review.

Background

The Tara Estates Sewer Extension Project was originally funded for \$1,125,500 through the Springs Restoration Funding Program in FY 20-21. The project will extend central sewer service to the Tara Estates subdivision, including up to 17 aging septic tanks proximate to the Chipola River. The Tara Estates subdivision is north of Marianna and across from the Caverns State Park, on the west bank of the Chipola River.

Construction bids for the project were received by the city of Marianna on October 18, 2022. Two bids were received and the lowest bid was well over the project budget. This has been a common occurrence not only in our District, but statewide due to increasing prices for construction services and materials the past several years. In anticipation of the need for additional grant funding to complete the project, the city of Marianna applied for grant funding to complete the project through DEP's Wastewater Grant Portal in August 2022. The funding requested was established on an updated evaluation of the Engineer's Probable Cost based on recent construction bids for similar projects within Jackson County.

In December 2022, the Department of Environmental Protection notified the District that the Tara Estates Sewer Extension Project had been selected for additional funding with State springs restoration funding in the amount of \$1,497,270.30.

The Tara Estates Sewer Extension Project will benefit the Chipola River watershed and adjacent springs. The project is implemented to reduce nitrate concentrations within groundwater and surface water by abandoning onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff
Danny Layfield, Director, Division of Asset Management

FROM: Carol L. Bert, Asset Management Administrator

DATE: February 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Consideration of Division of Asset Management Spending Authority with Extreme Logistics Gulf Coast, LLC for Fiscal Year 2022-23

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve and authorize the Executive Director with spending authority in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 with Extreme Logistics Gulf Coast, LLC for rental and service of portable toilets and service of a compost toilet.

Background:

The Division of Asset Management requires the services of several portable toilet companies in our 16-county area to provide regular and handicap-accessible portable toilets and the required services at District recreation sites and campsites, including one compost toilet. These companies not only provide the units but also provide weekly or monthly service for the portable and compost units and also provide the necessary supplies for cleaning hands.

Extreme Logistics Gulf Coast, LLC has been providing portable toilets and the required services in the West Region (Escambia and Santa Rosa counties) since March 2020 and also recently began providing services in the East Region (Calhoun and Liberty counties) in October 2022.

In February 2022, District staff requested and received spending authority up to \$85,000 from the Governing Board for Extreme Logistics because payments made for these services during FY 2021-22 were going to exceed \$65,000 cumulatively. The District's Policies and Procedures Manual requires Governing Board approval if multiple purchases from the same vendor for the same purpose cumulatively is anticipated to exceed \$65,000 across fiscal years.

During the current fiscal year, the District will exceed \$85,000, the authorized spending authority amount for Extreme Logistics Gulf Coast, LLC, and therefore requires additional spending

authority from the Governing Board. To date, the District has spent \$82,937.84 with Extreme Logistics and is requesting spending authority up to \$120,000.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

THROUGH: Lyle Seigler, Executive Director
Caitlin Brongel, Chief of Staff
Danny Layfield, Director, Division of Asset Management

FROM: Carol L. Bert, Asset Management Administrator

DATE: January 23, 2023

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

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 2023 program will focus on acquiring properties that improve the quality or quantity of water flowing from springs.

/cb

Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report



Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Florida Forever Program	1
Acquisition Planning	1
Approved Acquisition Areas.....	2
Surplus Lands	3
Note to Landowners	3
Less Than Fee Methods of Land Protection.....	4
DEP Florida Forever Priority List	4
Florida Forever Goals and Numeric Performance Measures.....	4
Land Acquisition Projects.....	6
Florida Forever District Work Plan.....	26
Implementation of the 2021-2022 Work Plan.....	27

List of Tables

Table 1	Land Acquisition Expenditures by Water Management Area.....	1
Table 2	Approved Acquisition Areas.....	2
Table 3	District Surplus Lands.....	3
Table 4	Projects Currently Eligible for Florida Forever Funding	26
Table 5	Restoration, Enhancement, and Maintenance (2022).....	30
Table 6	Access and Recreation Management (2022)	31
Table 7	Projected Funding, Staffing, and Resource Management for FY 2022-2023.....	32

List of Figures

Figure 1	Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2023.....	7
Figure 2	Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2023, West Region	8
Figure 3	Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2023, Central Region	15
Figure 4	Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2023, East Region.....	21

Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan Annual Report

Introduction

Section 373.199(7), F.S. requires the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD or District) to annually update the Florida Forever Five-Year Work Plan. The 22nd 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. The table below illustrates actual expenditures for land acquisition using Florida Forever funding.

Table 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 floodplains of our major rivers and creeks. To date, 225,584 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 areas 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. Existing water management areas (WMAs) include the Perdido River, Escambia River, Blackwater River, Yellow River, Garcon Point, Choctawhatchee River/Holmes Creek, Econfinia Creek, Chipola River, and Apalachicola River.

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, Econfinia, and Wakulla Springs groundwater contribution areas.

In developing the annual update, District staff review projects proposed by DEP's Division of State Lands 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 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
Econfinia 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	Econfinia 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 wetland type and proximity to the original wetland impact are often paramount, the District will on occasion acquire or manage isolated tracts.

Surplus Lands

Chapter 373.089, F.S., allows the Governing Board of the District to sell (surplus) lands or interests 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.

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. The following tracts were declared surplus by the District's Governing Board in 2013.

Table 23 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

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

Reported as of October 1, 2022

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 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 = 1,700 acres

Undergoing restoration or enhancement = 2,327 acres

Restoration completed = 28,659 acres

Restoration maintenance = 28,659 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) 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.

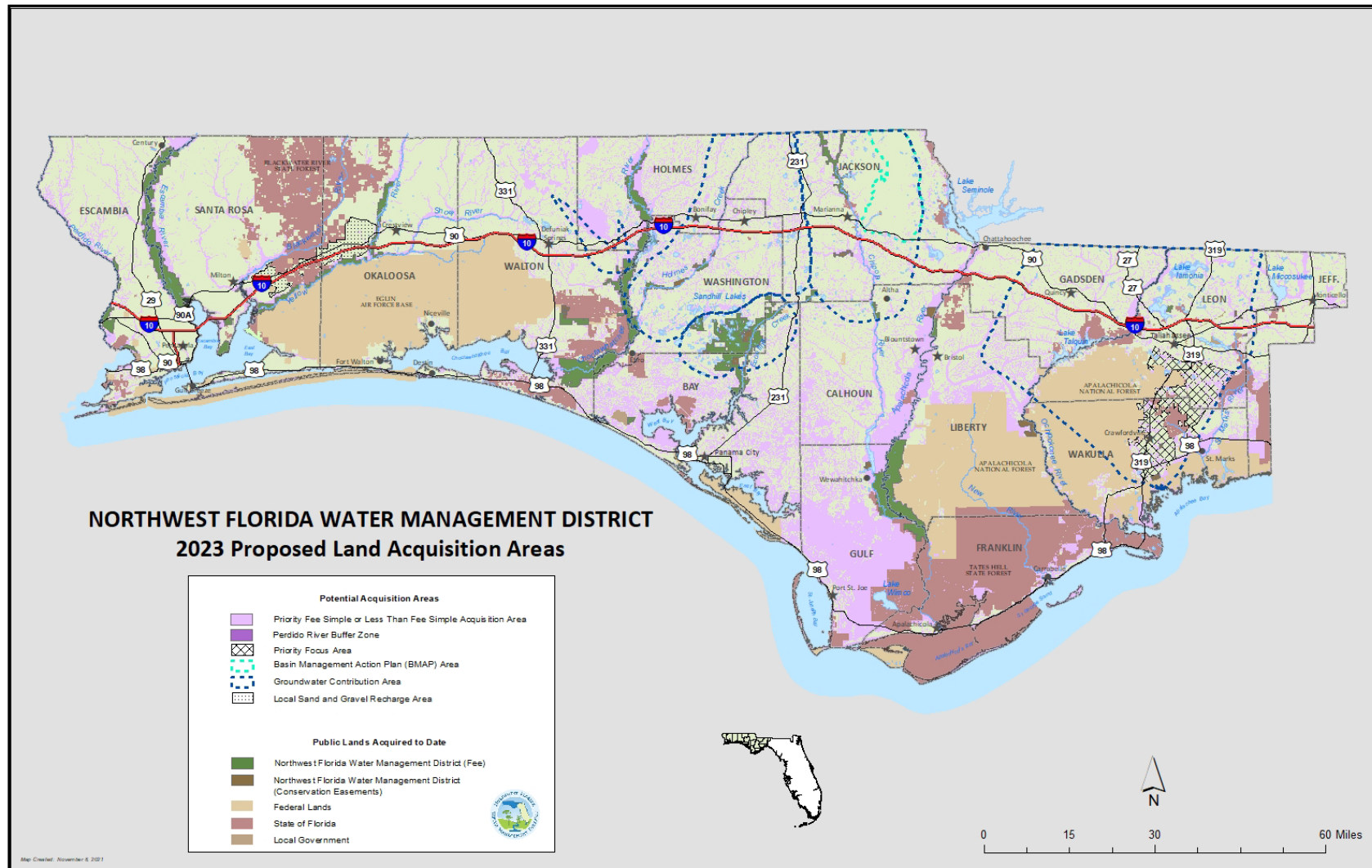


Figure 1 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas 2023

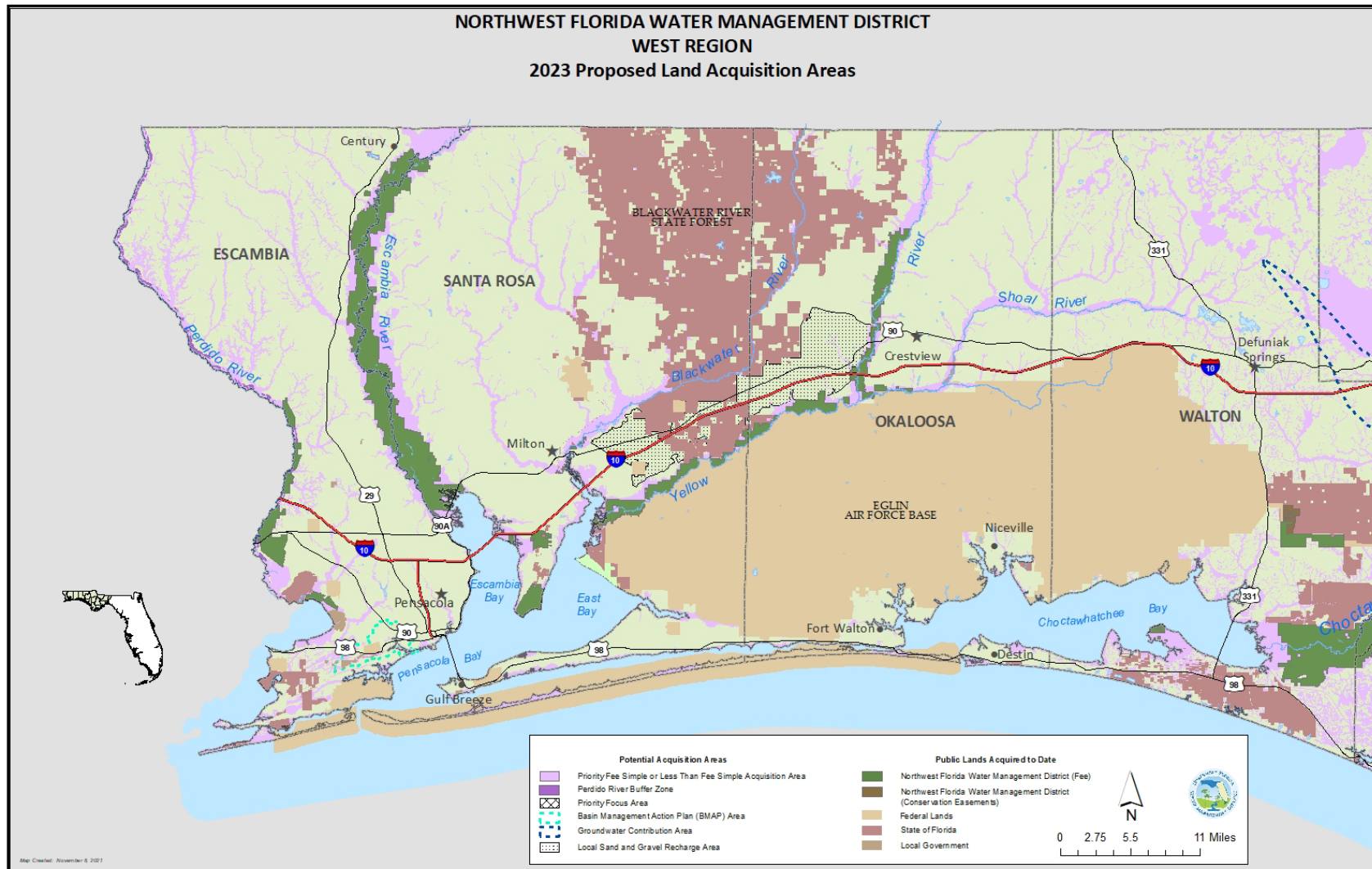


Figure 2 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2023, West Region

FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT

Perdido River and Bay Basin

The Perdido River serves as the state line, separating Florida from Alabama (see Figure 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 four 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 Bay, Tarkiln Bay, Arnica Bay, 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 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 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 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 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 Air Force Base (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 AFB across much of eastern Santa Rosa and western Okaloosa counties (see Figure 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.

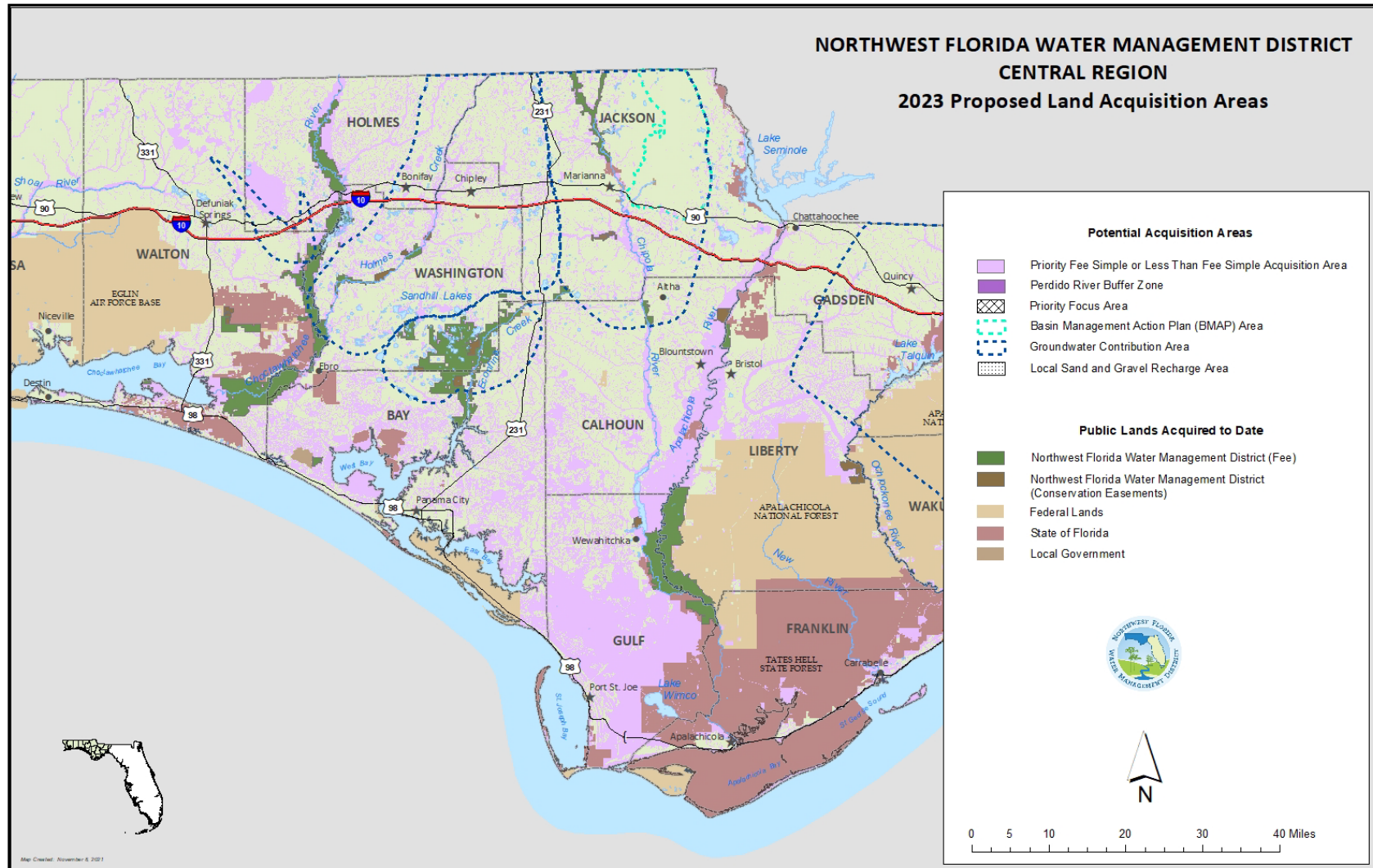


Figure 3 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2023, Central Region

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 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 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 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 approximately 719 acres in the vicinity of 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 Bay-Walton Sector Plan. These initiatives also include efforts to restore seagrass communities in the bay and to improve the treatment and management of domestic wastewater.

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 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 44,184 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.

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 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.

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.

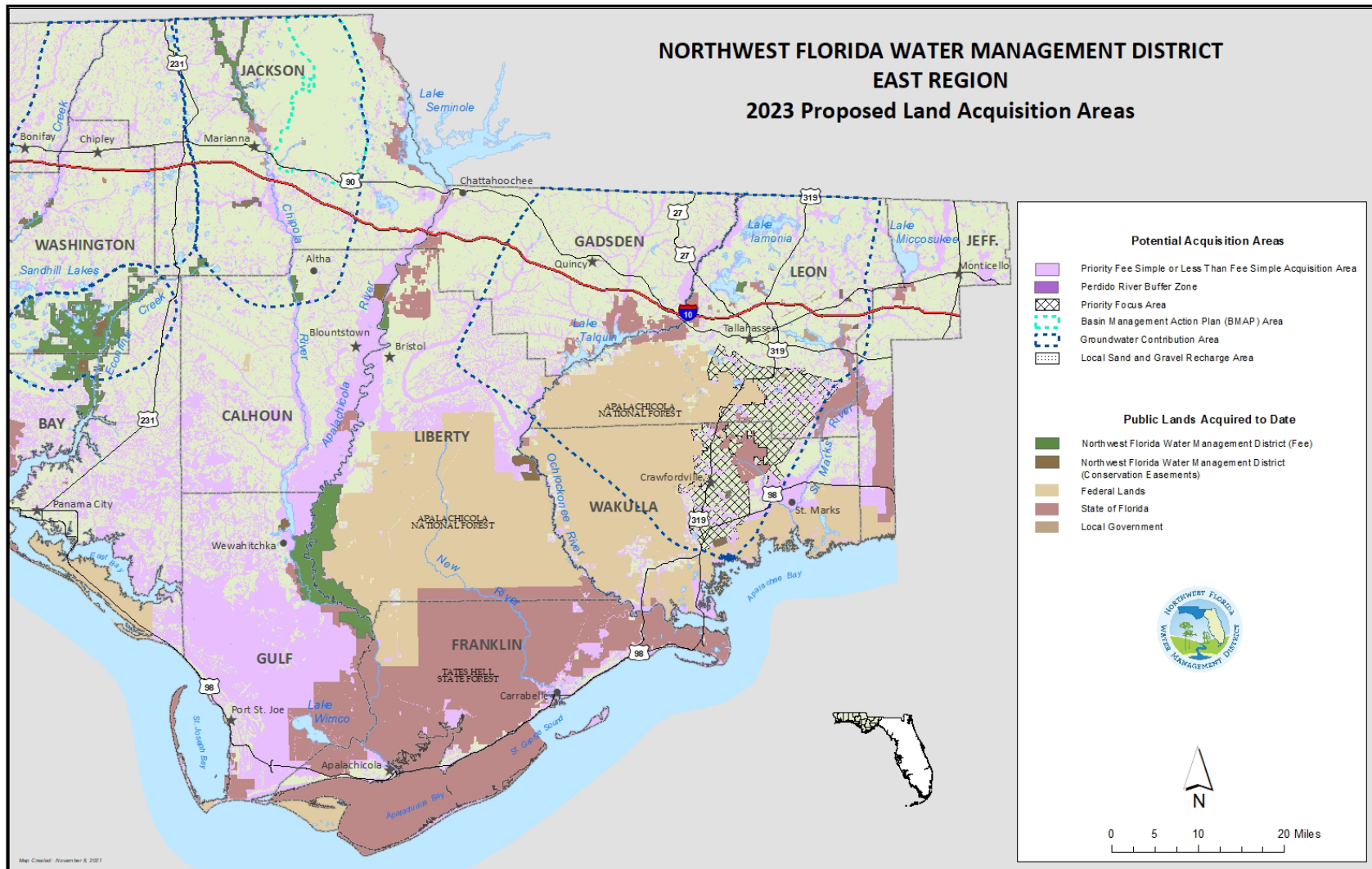


Figure 4 Proposed Land Acquisition Areas, 2023, East Region

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 (Figure 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 1,011 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.

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 4). State and federal agencies, as well as the District, 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 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.

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 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.

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 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 Priority 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 4 identifies conceptual projects considered eligible for future Florida Forever capital improvement funding.

Table 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	Planning	TBD
Stormwater retrofit facilities	Construction of cooperative stormwater retrofit projects, improving water quality and flood protection in accordance with approved SWIM plans	Planning	TBD
Reclaimed water storage facilities	Construction of reclaimed water storage facilities that contribute to water quality improvement and conservation and protection of water resources	Planning	TBD
Hydrologic, wetland, and shoreline restoration	Restoration of shoreline, wetland, and riparian habitats and hydrologic functions to improve water and habitat quality and to enhance public access, consistent with SWIM plans	Planning	TBD

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 2021-2022 Work Plan

Land Acquisition

In 2022, the District purchased two fee simple tracts for springs protection in Bay County to further protect the Econfina Springs Groundwater Contribution Area.

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 2021-2022. Management and restoration efforts included prescribed burns, native species planting, and timber harvesting across the District's 211,452 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 5 and Table 6 provide additional information on specific land restoration activities completed during the year. The Fiscal Year 2022-2023 staffing and management budget by WMA can be found in Table 7.

To date, the District has conserved and protected 225,584 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 2021-2022)

- District contractors and in-house staff conducted prescribed burns for wildfire-fuel reduction on approximately 5,061 acres of District lands. In-house staff conducted site prep burns on 127 acres of District lands. In addition, vegetation management (herbicide) and habitat enhancements were conducted on 814 acres.
- 4,144 camping permits were issued at 96 reservation-only sites on District lands.
- 30 special resource area permits were issued on District property.

- Two timber harvests totaling 2,564 acres were active, removing offsite sand pine and thinning loblolly and slash pine.
- More than 6,100 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 1,232 acres.

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 NFWMD 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)*
- *NFWMD In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program Final Instrument (2014)*
- *Sand Hill Lakes Mitigation Bank Mitigation Banking Instrument (2006)*
- *East Region Land Management Plan (2019)*
- *West Region Land Management Plan (2020)*
- *Central Region Land Management Plan (2021)*

Restoration Accomplishments (FY 2021-2022)

- The District completed hand planting of 1,799.50 acres of longleaf and slash 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 1,282,842 longleaf and slash pine tubelings within the Choctawhatchee River, Econfina Creek and Chipola River WMA's.
- The District initiated shoreline habitat and salt marsh restoration at Live Oak Point in Walton County. When complete, the project will include establishment of breakwaters and salt marsh vegetation on over 4,600 feet of shoreline on the south shore of Choctawhatchee Bay. Live Oak Point contains the largest salt marsh system (approximately 1,000 acres) in Choctawhatchee Bay. The marsh has been subject to rapid erosion, with recent shoreline retreat averaging 3-4 feet per year.
- The District initiated stabilization and restoration of approximately 550 linear feet of spring bank at Cypress Spring using planted turf mats as needed. To prevent further degradation of the shoreline from recreational use, boardwalks and steps at entrance and exit points will be constructed. The project will improve water quality, restore the historical shoreline that has

been impacted by erosion and prevent destruction of habitat resulting from erosion and recreational use on the spring run and Holmes Creek.

- Permitting and contracting took place to implement a living shoreline at the District's Dutex Tract in Escambia County on the north shore of Perdido Bay. Construction is expected to begin in the spring or summer of 2023. Initial construction of breakwaters and planting of marsh species will occur along 3,980 feet of shoreline to protect salt marsh from ongoing erosion. A second phase, not yet scheduled, will extend the planned living shoreline by 2,760 feet to protect freshwater marsh and uplands. Full completion will yield a total of 6,740 feet of protected shoreline.

Table 5 Restoration, Enhancement, and Maintenance (2022)

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	23	23													124
Garcon Point	2,037	2,037													50
Blackwater River															5
Yellow River	121	121													300
Perdido River															555
Choctawhatchee River	3,036	3,036									160		160		1,000
Econfina Creek	3,218	2,263	127	828		2,364	33	2,216	115		102			102	200
St. Andrews	927	927													1,291
Carter Restoration															2,155
Ward Creek West															722
Devils Swamp Restoration															
Chipola River	881	881				107		80	27						852
Apalachicola River															1,313
Lake Jackson															539
St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers															132
Totals	10,243	9,288	127	828		2,471	33	2,296	142	0	262		160	102	9.238

Table 6 Access and Recreation Management (2022)

	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
Water Management Area	Number Maintained							Miles Maintained						Issued	Signs		Maintained
Escambia River		6	11	12	28	11	10			1	2		27	1,209	40	12	20
Garcon Point			2	2						3			1				
Blackwater River		1	3	3		2					1						1
Yellow River			3	3		3			50				36		15	3	
Perdido River		3	3	4	1	4	10	6	15	6	1		32	43	35	12	1
Choctawhatchee River		12	15	15	23	14	10		15	11			55	1,092		21	11
Econfina Creek (incl. Carter Tract)		14	21	21	31	14	15	56	22	18	2		269	1,428		53	39
Chipola River		1	4	5	3	2	1		6				11	138			1
Apalachicola River		1	1	2	10	2	1						8	234			7
Lake Jackson		1	2	2			1	7		10		7	9				2
St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers			1	2			1			3	3	3	3		30	4	1
Totals		39	66	71	96	52	49	69	108	52	9	10	451	4,144	120	105	83

Table 7 Projected Funding, Staffing, and Resource Management for FY 2022-2023

Region	Water Management Area	Acres	Assigned Staff	Total Funding	Funding for Resource Management
Western	Escambia	35,413		\$179,359	\$117,935
	Escambia Conservation Easements	19		\$250	\$250
	Garcon Point	3,245		\$64,418	\$5,840
	Yellow	16,553		\$129,882	\$73,492
	Blackwater	381		\$10,345	\$4,346
	Perdido	6,261		\$206,808	\$149,930
	Perdido Conservation Easements	4		\$250	\$250
	Western Region Total	61,876	3	\$591,312	\$352,043
Central	Choctawhatchee	60,831		\$513,544	\$348,826
	Choctawhatchee/Holmes Conservation Easements	2,841		\$2,537	\$250
	Econfina	39,307		\$829,152	\$554,039
	St. Andrew/Econfina Conservation Easements	2,722		\$2,787	\$500
	Ward Creek West	719		\$0	\$0
	Carter Restoration	2,155		\$73,590	\$73,590
	Central Region Total	108,575	6	\$1,421,610	\$977,205
Eastern	Chipola	9,094		\$128,823	\$100,138
	Apalachicola	36,823		\$48,625	\$31,160
	Apalachicola/Chipola Conservation Easements	3,370		\$250	\$250
	Lake Jackson	539		\$47,466	\$23,350
	St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers	131		\$11,639	\$8,273
	St. Marks/Wakulla Rivers Conservation Easements	1,500		\$2,923	\$250
	Ochlockonee Conservation Easements	3,675		\$2,151	\$250
	Eastern Region Total	55,132	2	\$241,877	\$163,671
Regional Totals		225,583	11	\$2,254,799	\$1,492,919

Projected Funding, Staffing, and Resource Management for FY 2022-2023 (cont.)

Other Projects	Acres	Assigned Staff	Total Funding	Funding for Resource Management
Land Management Administration		4	\$1,470,224	\$442,094
IT Initiative			\$463,628	\$273,672
Land Management Database			\$46,470	\$41,500
Brunson Landing Tract (owned by FDEP)	348		\$10,632	\$8,700
Washington County School Board Donation			\$278	\$278
Hurricane Michael District Restoration			\$2,728,730	\$2,640,270
Cypress Spring Recreation Area			\$39,809	\$39,809
Grand Total	225,931	15	\$7,014,570	\$4,939,242

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Breck Brannen, General Counsel

DATE: February 1, 2023

SUBJECT: Consideration of Rule Language – Rule 40A-1.2026, F.A.C.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve the proposed rule language for Rule 40A-1.2026, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Ingress and Egress Easements Across District-owned lands.

Background

The District is currently undergoing rulemaking to update Chapter 40A-1, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), General and Procedural Rules. This rule development covers creating a rule within Chapter 40A-1, F.A.C. that establishes the criteria under which an ingress and egress easement may be granted across District-owned land. The District published its Notice of Rule Development for this rulemaking in the Florida Administrative Register on November 1, 2022, and also in local newspapers throughout the District. The District recently held a public rulemaking workshop on January 17, 2023, which was properly noticed and followed by a 14-day public comment period. The District received no public comment on the draft rule language and the public comment period closed on January 31, 2023.

Next Steps

The rule language for Rule 40A-1.2026, F.A.C. is now being presented for Board review and approval. Upon such approval, staff will proceed with the remaining steps in the rulemaking process. The next step includes preparing the Notice of Proposed Rule and providing same to the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Regulatory Reform (OFARR) and to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC), and publishing same in the Florida Administrative Register. The Notice of Proposed Rule will be followed by a 21-day challenge/comment period. Assuming there are no significant hurdles in the public rulemaking process, we anticipate the rule becoming effective by May 2023.

Coded Rule Text

Chapter 40A-1 General and Procedural Rules.

40A-1.2026 Ingress and Egress Easements Across District Owned Lands.

(1) The District shall only grant an ingress and egress easement across District-owned lands to a privately-owned parcel of land upon the affirmative vote of the Governing Board based upon the following criteria:

_____ (a) A written analysis performed by the person or entity requesting the easement demonstrating why the easement cannot be located in a manner which will avoid District-owned lands;

_____ (b) The proposed easement must be located within an existing easement, along a District-owned land boundary, or within an existing fireline or roadway; and

_____ (c) The proposed easement shall not fragment wetland or other functioning habitat.

(2) The District must be compensated for the fair market value of the loss of use of the land within the proposed easement.

(3) The District shall not grant a utility easement across, under or through District-owned lands, including but not limited to easements for electricity, gas, telecommunications, sewer and water.

(4) The Governing Board retains the right to deny any request for an easement across District-owned lands for any reason or no reason.

Rulemaking Authority 373.044, 373.113, 373.1391, F.S. Law Implemented 373.056, 373.085, 373.089, 373.139, 373.1391 F.S. History-New XX-XX-XX.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board

FROM: J. Breck Brannen, General Counsel

RE: Legal Counsel Report

DATE: January 27, 2023

***Northwest Florida Water Management District, Petitioner, vs. GHD Construction Services, Inc.,
Defendant, Walton County Circuit Court Case No. 21CA137***

The District has resolved the above-referenced case.

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