



Lyle Seigler
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Northwest Florida Water Management District

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August 26, 2026

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee
Room 680 Pepper Building
111 W. Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

RE: Annual Regulatory Plan

To Whom It May Concern:

As required by section 120.74, F.S., the Northwest Florida Water Management District (District) has reviewed its rules to ensure compliance with statutory requirements. The following laws were enacted or amended during the previous twelve (12) months which create or modify the duties or authority of the District. Unless noted, the following laws do not require the District to adopt new or amend current administrative rules for proper implementation. Each of the Laws of Florida identified below is being implemented by complying with the statutory requirements therein, and no rulemaking is required by the District for same.

- Chapter 2026-002: Department of Environmental Protection
- Chapter 2026-012: Florida Statutes/Adoption
- Chapter 2026-022: Ethics for Public Officers and Employees
- Chapter 2026-028: Systems of Law and Terrorist Organizations
- Chapter 2026-044: Conservation Lands
- Chapter 2026-045: Prohibited Governmental Policies Regulating Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Chapter 2026-052: OGSR/Trade Secret Held by an Agency
- Chapter 2026-058: Public Employees Relation Commission
- Chapter 2026-060: Stormwater Treatment
- Chapter 2026-065: Data Centers
- Chapter 2026-066: Foreign Influence
- Chapter 2026-092: Military Affairs
- Chapter 2026-120: OGSR/Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Operational Technology Information
- Chapter 2026-142: Public Records and Public Meetings/Attorney Meetings to Discuss Private Property Rights Claims
- Chapter 2026-167: Special District Funding
- Chapter 2026-169: Electronic Payments Made to Units of Local Governments
- Chapter 2026-232: General Appropriations Act
- Chapter 2026-233: Implementing the 2026-2027 General Appropriations Act
- Chapter 2026-235: Retirement

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Before July 1, 2027, the District expects to undergo rulemaking to implement changes to the rules outlined in **Attachment A**.

Mandatory Review of Existing Rules

As required by s. 120.74(1)(e), F.S., the District plans to review all rules by July 1, 2030. As identified below, the District has eight rule chapters with **101** rules remaining for review in which twenty percent will be reviewed by year until all have been reviewed. Please refer to **Attachment B** for the NFWFMD List of Rules and Yearly Review Schedule.

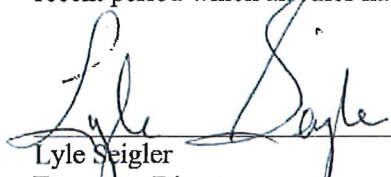
Chapter No.	Chapter Title	Number of Rules Remaining Needing Review
40A-1	General and Procedural Rules	13
40A-2	Regulation of Consumptive Uses of Water	0
40A-3	Regulation of Wells	28
40A-6	Works of the District	14
40A-7	Contractor Suspension	0
40A-8	Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels	6
40A-21	Water Shortage Plan	22
40A-44	Regulation of Agricultural and Forestry Surface Water Management Projects	18
Total:		101

Licensing Data

Attachment C includes the District's licensing performance report for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. As required in s. 120.74(1)(g), F.S., included are numbers of license applications categorized by type of license and program area, the average and median number of days to approve or deny after receipt of completed applications, and the number of employees dedicated to processing these applications.

As required, the Annual Regulatory Plan will be available on our website homepage www.nfwwater.com for ten (10) years after publishing. By October 1, the District will publish in the Florida Administrative Register a notice identifying the date of publication of the Annual Regulatory Plan along with a hyperlink to the plan.

I hereby certify that I have reviewed the plan. The District reviews its rules regularly with 2026 being the most recent period which all rules have been reviewed.


Lyle Seigler
Executive Director


J. Breck Brannen
Legal Counsel

Enclosure: **Attachment A** NFWFMD List of Rules Undergoing Rulemaking In The Next 12 Months
 Attachment B NFWFMD List of Rules and Yearly Review Schedule
 Attachment C NFWFMD Licensing Performance Report by Program Area

Attachment A

NWFWMD List of Rules Undergoing Rulemaking In The Next 12 Months

Attachment A

NFWFMD List of Rules Undergoing Rulemaking In The Next 12 Months		
Rule Number	Rule Title	Rulemaking Justification
40A-1.1003	Variance and Emergency Variance or Authorization Procedures	Amend rule to delete reference to repealed rule and remove obsolete rulemaking authority s. 120.54(5), 373.085(1), 373.246, 373.308, and 373.309, F.S.
40A-1.1010	Point of Entry Into Proceedings	Remove obsolete rulemaking authority s. 120.54(5), F.S.
40A-1.2025	Fees	Amend and clarify rule to update website address and format of form effective date.
40A-1.203	Permit Application Procedure	Amend rule to clarify timeline and add a space between two words.
40A-1.205	Suspension, Revocation, Cancellation and Modification of District Permits	Amend and clarify rule to update website address, remove strikethrough comma, and reformat effective date.
40A-1.600	Lobbyist Registration Procedures	Amend and clarify rule to update website address and effective dates of forms.
40A-2.331	Modification of Permits	Amend letter modification form to delete contradicting requirements and reflect rule requirements.
40A-2.381	Limiting Conditions	Amend rule to incorporate change of address form and a form for agricultural permittees that combines the monthly pumpage and crop summary forms to increase efficiency for permittees.
40A-2.901	Forms	Amend rule to update letter modification form, and to list a change of address form and a form for agricultural permittees that combines the monthly pumpage and crop summary forms to increase efficiency for permittees.
40A-6.011	Policy and Purpose	Amend rule to clarify and correct statutory reference.
40A-6.101	Content of Application	Amend rule to clarify and update website address.
40A-6.201	Permit Processing Fee	Amend rule to clarify fee.
40A-6.301	Conditions for Issuance of Permits	Remove obsolete rulemaking authority s. 373.103(4), F.S.
40A-6.901	Forms and Instructions	Amend rule to clarify and update website address.

Attachment B

NWFWMD List of Rules and Yearly Review Schedule

Attachment B

NFWFMD List of Rules and Yearly Review Schedule				
Chapter No.	Rule Number	Rule Title	Effective Date	Year to be Reviewed
40A-1	40A-1.0045	District Funds	8/6/2013	2026
40A-1	40A-1.021	Definitions	4/5/2014	2026
40A-1	40A-1.1003	Variance and Emergency Variance or Authorization Procedures	3/2/2000	2026
40A-1	40A-1.1010	Point of Entry Into Proceedings	3/2/2000	2026
40A-1	40A-1.2025	Fees	4/15/2014	2026
40A-1	40A-1.2026	Easements Across District Owned Lands to Privately-Owned Lands	8/21/2023	2026
40A-1	40A-1.203	Permit Application Procedure	4/7/2015	2026
40A-1	40A-1.205	Suspension, Revocation, Cancellation and Modification of District	4/15/2014	2026
40A-1	40A-1.207	Complaints	4/17/2018	2026
40A-1	40A-1.208	Administrative Enforcement Action	3/2/2000	2026
40A-1	40A-1.209	Emergency Action	10/1/1984	2026
40A-1	40A-1.510	District Investigations and Probable Cause Determination	3/2/2000	2026
40A-1	40A-1.600	Lobbyist Registration Procedures	4/7/2015	2026
40A-3	40A-3.011	Policy and Purpose	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.021	Definitions	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.037	Water Well Contractor Licensing	5/20/2020	2027
40A-3	40A-3.041	Permits Required	5/20/2020	2027
40A-3	40A-3.051	Exemptions	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.201	Permit Application Fees	11/1/1993	2027
40A-3	40A-3.301	Conditions for Issuance of Permits	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.321	Duration of Permits	11/1/1995	2027
40A-3	40A-3.341	Disapproval of Wells	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.342	Permit Denial	7/1/1998	2027
40A-3	40A-3.411	Completion Reports	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.451	Emergency Authorization	5/20/2020	2027
40A-3	40A-3.461	Inspections	3/2/2000	2027
40A-3	40A-3.492	Violations of Permits	11/1/1995	2027
40A-3	40A-3.502	Construction Methods	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.504	Location	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.507	Casing and Liner Pipe Standards	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.512	Standard Well Construction Methods	11/1/1992	2027
40A-3	40A-3.517	Grouting and Sealing	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.521	Well Seals	1/9/1986	2027
40A-3	40A-3.525	Explosives	4/5/1988	2027
40A-3	40A-3.529	Flowing Wells	1/9/1986	2027
40A-3	40A-3.531	Abandoned Well Plugging	8/1/1989	2027
40A-3	40A-3.550	Violations of Construction Standards	11/1/1992	2027
40A-3	40A-3.901	Forms and Instructions	8/15/2018	2027
40A-3	40A-3.951	Introduction	11/1/1993	2027
40A-3	40A-3.952	Violations	8/1/1989	2027
40A-3	40A-3.980	Enforcement and Penalties	8/1/1989	2027
40A-6	40A-6.011	Policy and Purpose	8/6/2013	2026
40A-6	40A-6.021	Definitions	10/29/1980	2026
40A-6	40A-6.041	Permit Required	4/17/2018	2026

40A-6	40A-6.091	Works of the District	7/1/1998	2026
40A-6	40A-6.101	Content of Applications	8/6/2013	2026
40A-6	40A-6.201	Permit Processing Fee	4/17/2018	2026
40A-6	40A-6.301	Conditions for Issuance of Permits	4/17/2018	2026
40A-6	40A-6.331	Revocation and Modification of Permits	8/6/2013	2026
40A-6	40A-6.351	Transfer of Permits	8/6/2013	2026
40A-6	40A-6.381	Limiting Conditions	4/14/1980	2026
40A-6	40A-6.411	Completion Reports	4/14/1980	2026
40A-6	40A-6.451	Emergency Authorization	4/17/2018	2026
40A-6	40A-6.481	Remedial and Emergency Measures	8/6/2013	2026
40A-6	40A-6.901	Forms and Instructions	8/6/2013	2026
40A-8	40A-8.011	Policy and Purpose	6/12/2019	2029
40A-8	40A-8.021	Definitions	4/28/2026	2029
40A-8	40A-8.031	Minimum Flows for the St. Marks River Rise	6/12/2019	2029
40A-8	40A-8.041	Minimum Flow for Wakulla Spring and Sally Ward Spring	5/18/2021	2029
40A-8	40A-8.051	Minimum Flow for Middle Econfina Creek, Including the Gainer Springs, Sylvan Spring, and Williford Spring Groups	6/29/2025	2029
40A-8	40A-8.061	Minimum Flow for Jackson Blue Spring	4/8/2026	2029
40A-21	40A-21.001	Policy and Purpose	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.031	Elements of the Plan	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.051	Definitions	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.221	Evaluating Water Conditions	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.231	Declaring a Water Shortage	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.251	Water Shortage Phases	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.271	Water Use Restrictions	3/27/2019	2028
40A-21	40A-21.291	Implementing a Water Shortage Declaration	3/27/2019	2028
40A-21	40A-21.331	Declaring a Water Shortage Emergency	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.371	Water Use Restrictions in a Water Shortage Emergency	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.391	Implementing a Water Shortage Emergency Declaration	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.401	Monitoring	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.421	Enforcement	3/27/2019	2028
40A-21	40A-21.511	Classification System	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.531	Source Classes	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.551	Use Classes	3/27/2019	2028
40A-21	40A-21.571	Method of Extraction or Diversion Classes	3/27/2019	2028
40A-21	40A-21.601	Specific Restrictions	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.621	Phase I: Moderate Water Shortage	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.631	Phase II: Severe Water Shortage	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.641	Phase III: Extreme Water Shortage	3/29/1992	2028
40A-21	40A-21.651	Phase IV: Critical Water Shortage	3/29/1992	2028
40A-44	40A-44.011	Policy and Purpose	7/1/1992	2028
40A-44	40A-44.021	Definitions	8/6/2013	2028
40A-44	40A-44.041	Permits Required	3/27/2019	2028
40A-44	40A-44.051	Exemptions	3/27/2017	2028
40A-44	40A-44.052	Authorizations for Certain Forestry Projects	3/27/2017	2028
40A-44	40A-44.091	Processing of Permits	3/27/2019	2028
40A-44	40A-44.101	Content of Application	3/27/2017	2028
40A-44	40A-44.142	Headgates, Valves and Measuring Devices	8/6/2013	2028

40A-44	40A-44.201	Permit Processing Fee	3/27/2019	2028
40A-44	40A-44.301	Conditions for Issuance of Permits	3/27/2019	2028
40A-44	40A-44.321	Duration of Permit	3/27/2019	2028
40A-44	40A-44.331	Modification of Permits	3/27/2019	2028
40A-44	40A-44.341	Revocation of Permits	3/27/2017	2028
40A-44	40A-44.351	Transfer of Permits	3/27/2017	2028
40A-44	40A-44.381	Limiting Conditions	3/27/2019	2028
40A-44	40A-44.411	Completion Report	8/6/2013	2028
40A-44	40A-44.451	Emergency Authorization	8/6/2013	2028
40A-44	40A-44.901	Forms	8/6/2013	2028
40A-2	40A-2.011	Policy and Purpose (Repealed)	4/6/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.021	Definitions	4/29/2015	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.041	Permits Required	5/29/2014	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.051	Exemptions	5/29/2014	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.061	General Water Use Permits by Rule	3/5/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.101	Content of Application	3/5/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.201	Fees	5/29/2014	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.223	Reservation of Water	3/5/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.301	Conditions for Issuance	3/5/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.321	Duration of Permits	3/5/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.331	Modification of Permits	3/5/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.351	Transfer of Permits	5/29/2014	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.361	Renewal of Permits	4/29/2015	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.381	Limiting Conditions	4/29/2015	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.501	Permit Classification	5/29/2014	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.511	Declaration of Water Shortage	5/31/1992	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.801	Declaration of Water Resource Caution Areas	5/29/2014	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.802	Water Resource Caution Areas	5/29/2014	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.901	Forms	4/29/2015	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.902	Areal Boundary Maps for Water Use Permitting	5/20/2026	2025*
40A-2	40A-2.904	Areal Boundary Maps for Water Resource Caution Areas	5/20/2026	2025*
40A-7	40A-7.001	Policy	8/13/2020	2025*
40A-7	40A-7.002	Definitions	8/13/2020	2025*
40A-7	40A-7.003	Determination and Notice of a Material Breach of a Contract with t	8/13/2020	2025*
40A-7	40A-7.004	Determination and Notice of a Contractor Suspension	8/13/2020	2025*
40A-7	40A-7.005	Administrative Hearings	8/13/2020	2025*

* = Completed

Attachment C

NWFWMD Licensing Performance Report by Program Area

Consumptive Use Permitting (CUP)		
1. Numbers of Applications		Units
(a)	Number of new applications received during the reporting period	59 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications left incomplete by applicants	6 (unitless)
2. Appeals and Hearings		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which final agency action was appealed	0 (unitless)
(b)	For such applications, the number of formal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
(c)	For such applications, the number of informal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
3. Time Extensions		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which the district requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(i)	Number of applications for which the applicant requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	8 (unitless)
(b)(ii)	Of those in (b)(i), the number of applications for which an extension was required by a state agency or	0 (unitless)
4. Requests for Additional Information (RAIs)		Units
(a)	Number of applications which required the issuance of one or more RAIs	47 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications where the applicant was unresponsive to one or more RAIs	0 (unitless)
5. Permit Backlog		Units
(a)	Number of applications not approved or denied within the statutory timeframe	0 (unitless)
6. Processing Times		Units
(a)	Median number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	1.00 days
(b)	Average number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	3.45 days
7. Staffing		Units
(a)	Number of current staff for the permit area	7.00 (unitless)

Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP)		
1. Numbers of Applications		Units
(a)	Number of new applications received during the reporting period	642 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications left incomplete by applicants	86 (unitless)
2. Appeals and Hearings		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which final agency action was appealed	1 (unitless)
(b)	For such applications, the number of formal hearings requested	1 (unitless)
(c)	For such applications, the number of informal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
3. Time Extensions		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which the district requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(i)	Number of applications for which the applicant requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	52 (unitless)
(b)(ii)	Of those in (b)(i), the number of applications for which an extension was required by a state agency or	0 (unitless)
4. Requests for Additional Information (RAIs)		Units
(a)	Number of applications which required the issuance of one or more RAIs	429 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications where the applicant was unresponsive to one or more RAIs	0 (unitless)
5. Permit Backlog		Units
(a)	Number of applications not approved or denied within the statutory timeframe	0 (unitless)
6. Processing Times		Units
(a)	Median number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	3.00 days
(b)	Average number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	6.03 days
7. Staffing		Units
(a)	Number of current staff for the permit area	17.00 (unitless)

Water Well Construction Permitting		
1. Numbers of Applications		Units
(a)	Number of new applications received during the reporting period	5401 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications left incomplete by applicants	137 (unitless)
2. Appeals and Hearings		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which final agency action was appealed	0 (unitless)
(b)	For such applications, the number of formal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
(c)	For such applications, the number of informal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
3. Time Extensions		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which the district requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(i)	Number of applications for which the applicant requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(ii)	Of those in (b)(i), the number of applications for which an extension was required by a state agency or	0 (unitless)
4. Requests for Additional Information (RAIs)		Units
(a)	Number of applications which required the issuance of one or more RAIs	52 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications where the applicant was unresponsive to one or more RAIs	0 (unitless)
5. Permit Backlog		Units
(a)	Number of applications not approved or denied within the statutory timeframe	0 (unitless)
6. Processing Times		Units
(a)	Median number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	0.00 days
(b)	Average number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	0.53 days
7. Staffing		Units
(a)	Number of current staff for the permit area	11.75 (unitless)

Water Well Contractor Licensing		
1. Numbers of Applications		Units
(a)	Number of new applications received during the reporting period	54 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications left incomplete by applicants	0 (unitless)
2. Appeals and Hearings		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which final agency action was appealed	0 (unitless)
(b)	For such applications, the number of formal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
(c)	For such applications, the number of informal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
3. Time Extensions		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which the district requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(i)	Number of applications for which the applicant requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(ii)	Of those in (b)(i), the number of applications for which an extension was required by a state agency or	0 (unitless)
4. Requests for Additional Information (RAIs)		Units
(a)	Number of applications which required the issuance of one or more RAIs	8 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications where the applicant was unresponsive to one or more RAIs	0 (unitless)
5. Permit Backlog		Units
(a)	Number of applications not approved or denied within the statutory timeframe	0 (unitless)
6. Processing Times		Units
(a)	Median number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	1.00 days
(b)	Average number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	2.33 days
7. Staffing		Units
(a)	Number of current staff for the permit area	0.25 (unitless)

Works of the District (WOD)		
1. Numbers of Applications		Units
(a)	Number of new applications received during the reporting period	0 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications left incomplete by applicants	0 (unitless)
2. Appeals and Hearings		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which final agency action was appealed	0 (unitless)
(b)	For such applications, the number of formal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
(c)	For such applications, the number of informal hearings requested	0 (unitless)
3. Time Extensions		Units
(a)	Number of applications for which the district requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(i)	Number of applications for which the applicant requested a time extension or waiver of time clock	0 (unitless)
(b)(ii)	Of those in (b)(i), the number of applications for which an extension was required by a state agency or	0 (unitless)
4. Requests for Additional Information (RAIs)		Units
(a)	Number of applications which required the issuance of one or more RAIs	0 (unitless)
(b)	Number of applications where the applicant was unresponsive to one or more RAIs	0 (unitless)
5. Permit Backlog		Units
(a)	Number of applications not approved or denied within the statutory timeframe	0 (unitless)
6. Processing Times		Units
(a)	Median number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	0.00 days
(b)	Average number of days to take final agency action after receipt of completed application	0.00 days
7. Staffing		Units
(a)	Number of current staff for the permit area	0.00 (unitless)

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