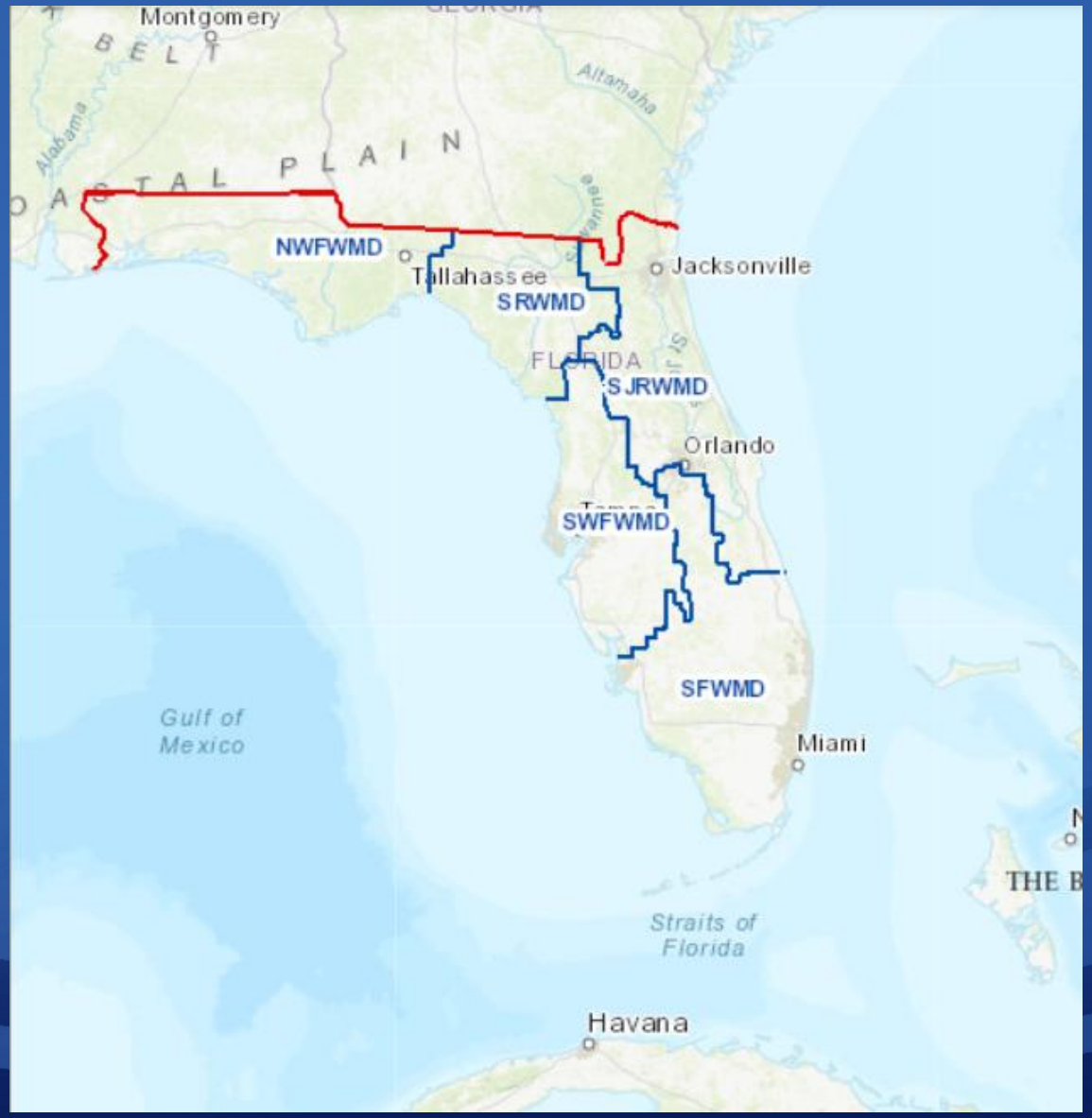
October 2025

East Pasco Chamber

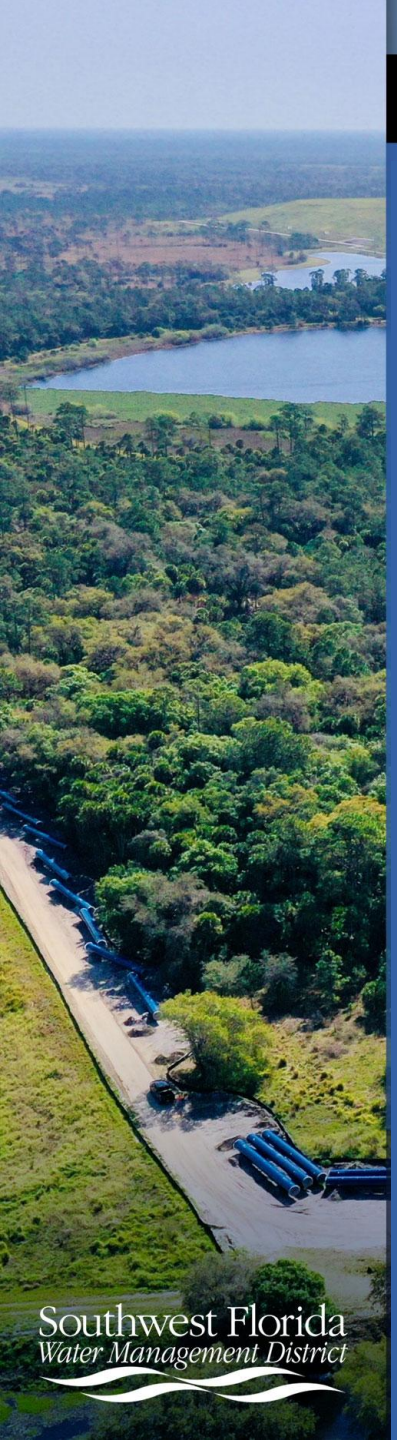
Southwest Florida
Water Management District

Amber E. Smith
Senior Government Affairs Regional Manager

Florida's Water Management Districts



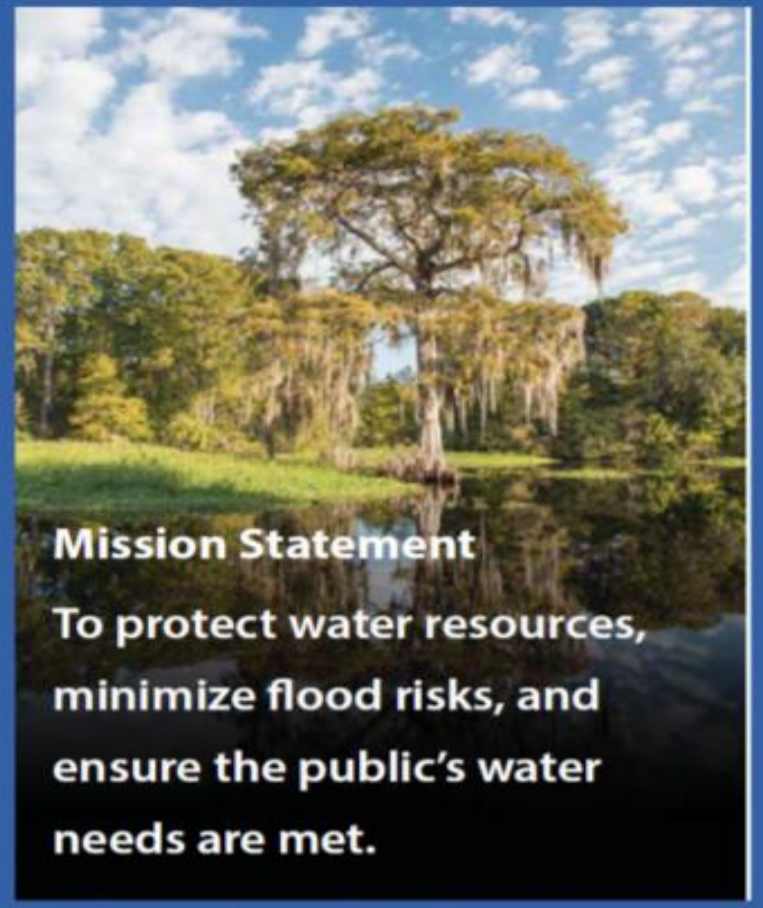
Southwest Florida
Water Management District



Who We Are

- **10,000 Square Miles**
- **All or Part of 16 Counties**
- **Nearly 6 Million Population**
- **Numerous Water Resources**
  - About 1,800 Lakes
  - 13 Major Rivers
  - Three Estuaries of National Recognition
  - Thousands of Acres of Productive Wetlands

What We Do – Today



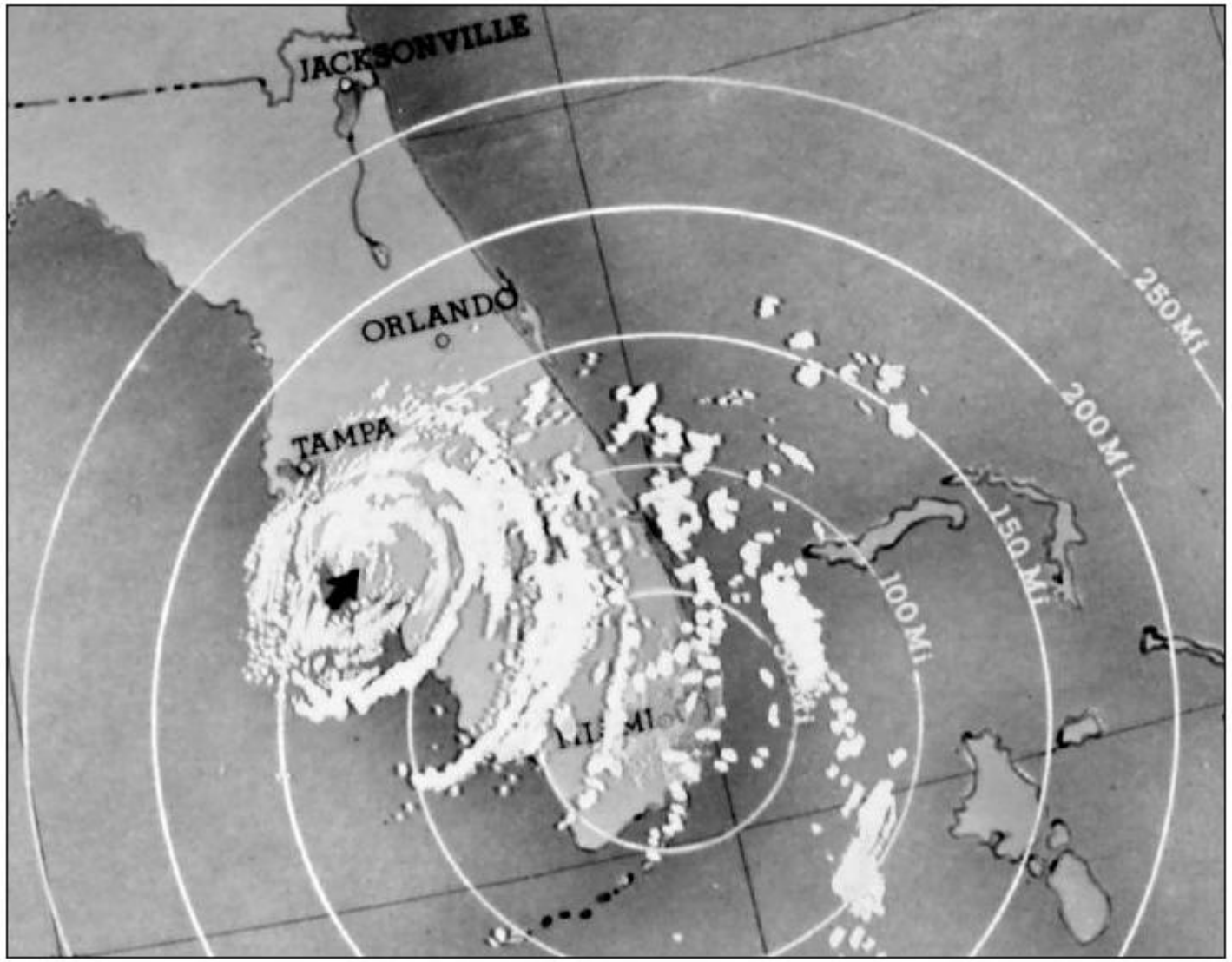
Water Supply

Water Quality

Natural Systems

Flood Protection

Hurricane Donna, September 10, 1960



THE ROCKY MOUNT

SUNDAY TELEGRAM

FLORIDA AREA DEVASTATED BY DONNA

Four Killed, Destruction Widespread

HURRICANE "DONNA"

Aftermath of Hurricane Donna. 1960. Plant City Photo Archives and History Center.

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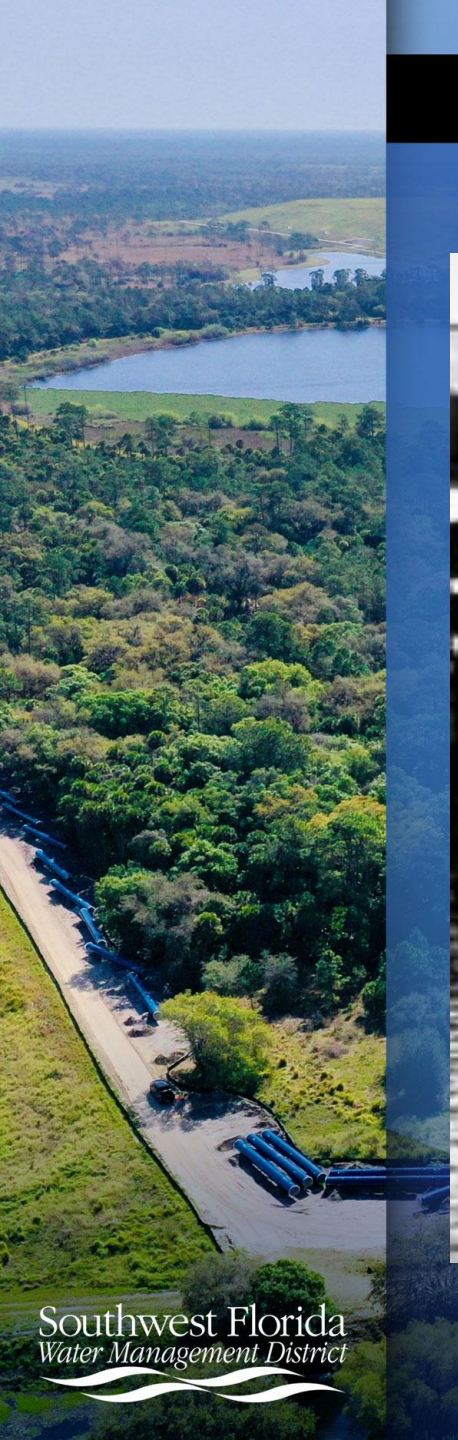
Water Management District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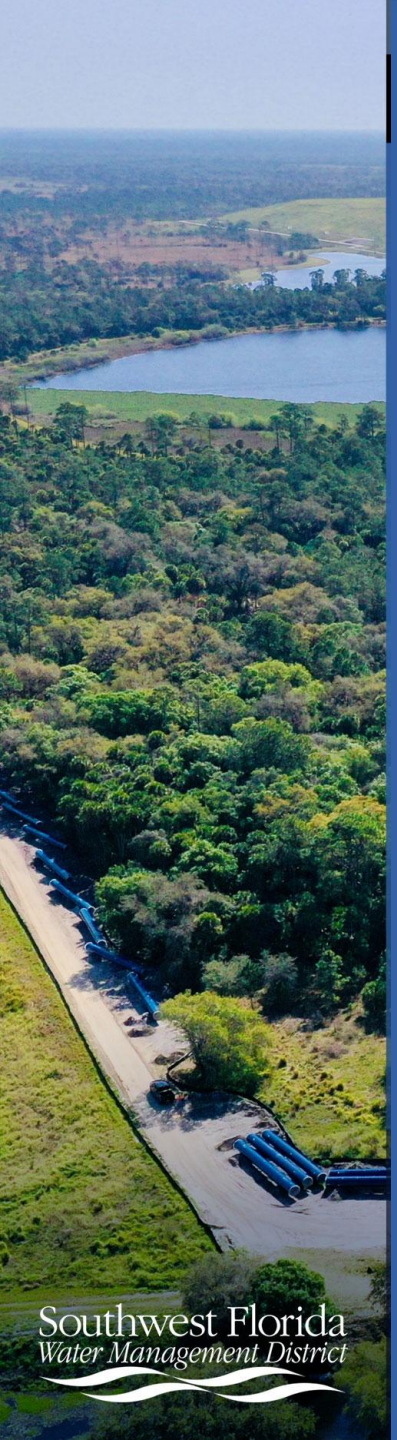
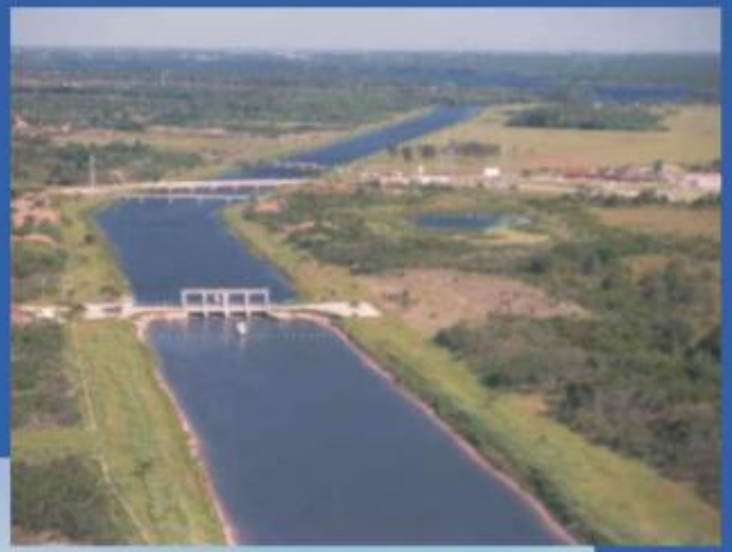
COLONY SHOPS
STANDARD OIL



What We Do – Early Days

- **Hurricane Donna 1960**
- **District Formed in 1961 as a Flood Control District**
  - Tampa Bypass Canal
  - Lake Tarpon Outfall Canal
  - Masaryktown Canal



Strategic Initiatives

Water Supply

1. Regional Water Supply Planning
2. Alternative Water Supplies
3. Reclaimed Water
4. Conservation

Water Quality

1. Assessment and Planning
2. Maintenance and Improvement

Natural Systems

1. MFL Establishment/Recovery
2. Conservation and Restoration

Flood Protection

1. Floodplain Management
2. Maintenance and Improvement
3. Emergency Flood Response

Watershed Management Program

Southwest Florida Water Management District

1. Project Development

START

2. Digital Topographic Information

3. Watershed Evaluation

GPS Data Collection

High Water Marks

Catchments and Connectivity

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Physical Map Revisions

4. Floodplain Analysis

Model Development, Calibration and Verification

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

5. Alternatives Analysis*

* Alternatives Analysis May Include:

- Flood Protection Level of Service (FPLOS) Determination
- Surface Water Resource Assessment (SWRA)
- Best Management Practices (BMPs) Alternatives Analysis

Implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Pre Construction

Post Construction

Update/Maintenance of Watershed Models

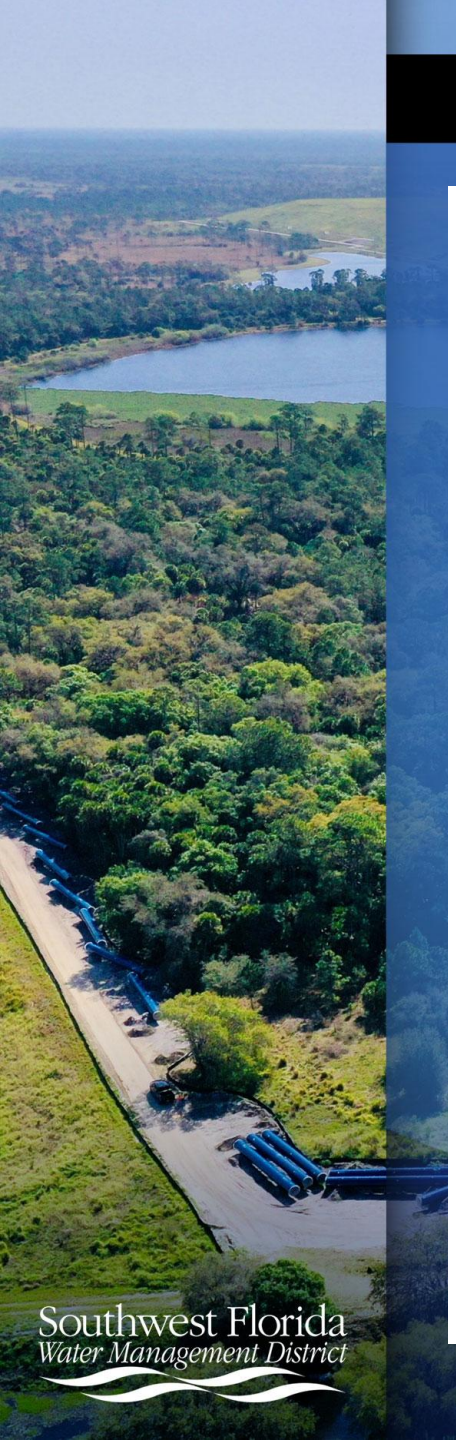
New Topography

As-Built Plans

New Development

Post

Pre



Floodplain Map Viewer

The Southwest Florida Water Management District, in cooperation with local governments, is developing flood risk information for watersheds throughout west-central Florida. **The floodplain map viewer is an interactive tool that allows you to view flood risk information** that has been developed to date as part of the District's Watershed Management Program. The information is provided as an advisory tool for flood hazard awareness and to present preliminary floodplain results for public review and comment. Once finalized, the flood hazard information will be used by the District as the most appropriate information for **environmental resource permitting** and will, in the future, be used to revise the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).

If you do not know which watershed you live in, you may submit an address using the **watershed search tool** to find out.

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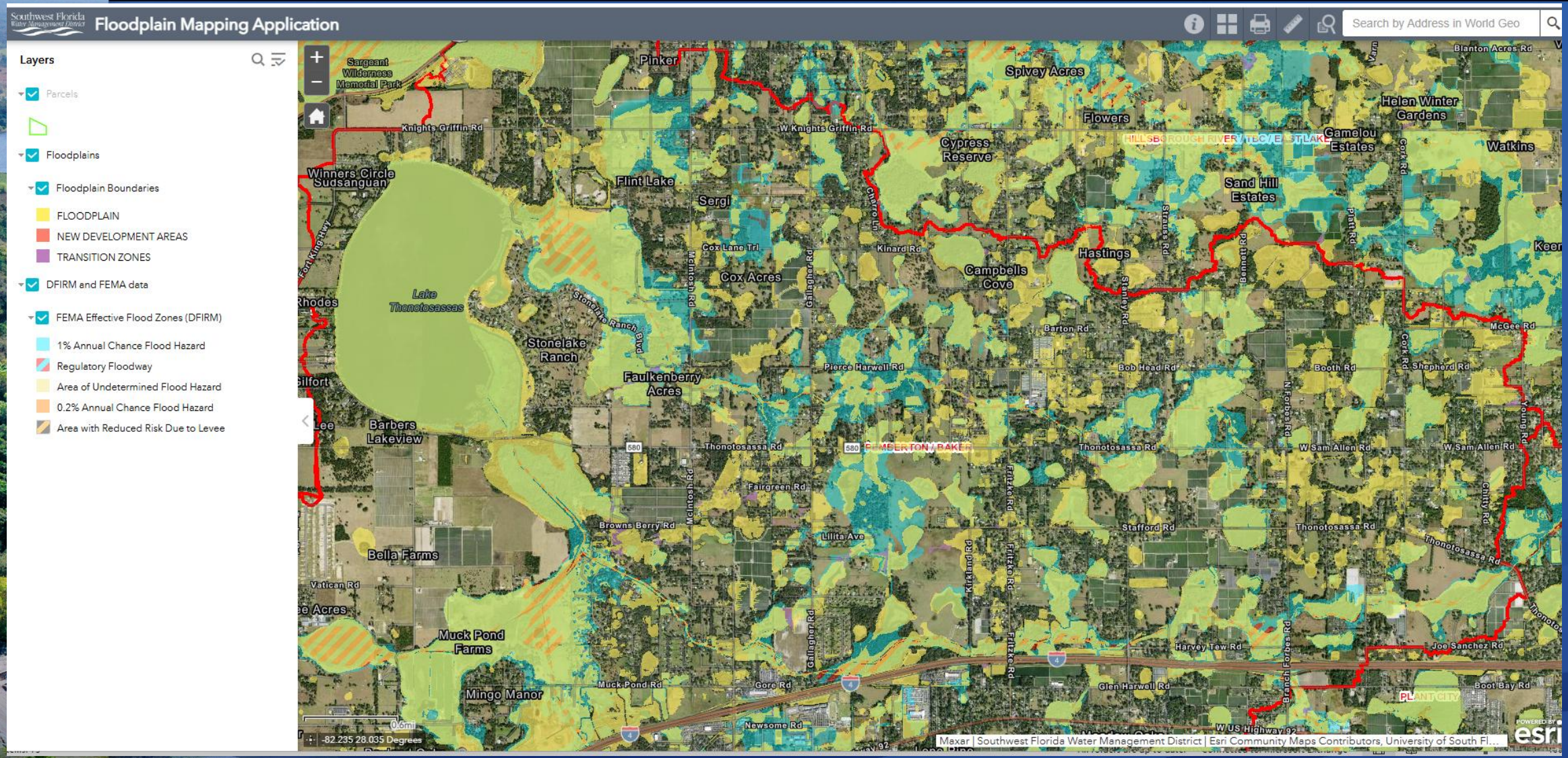

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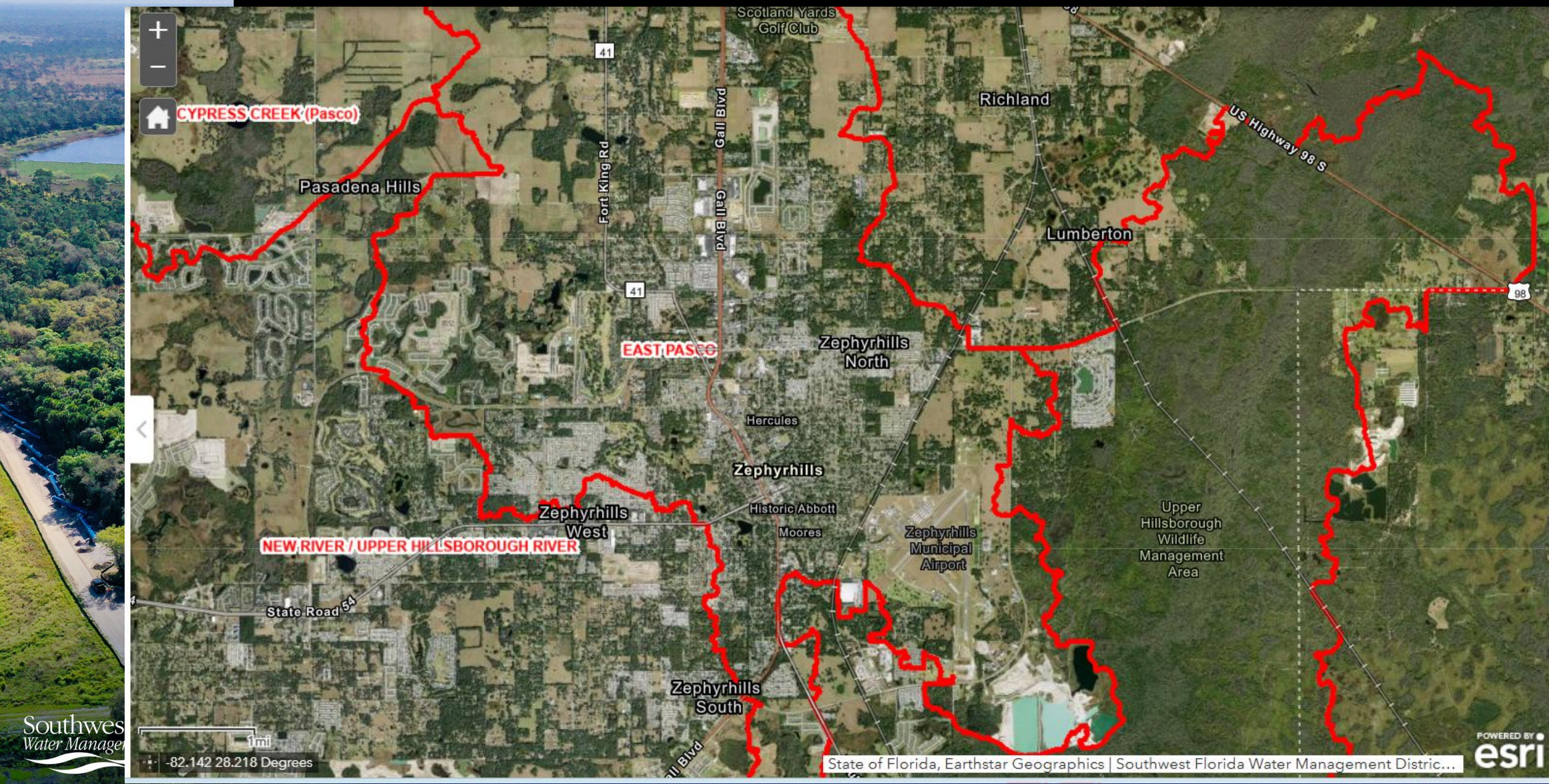

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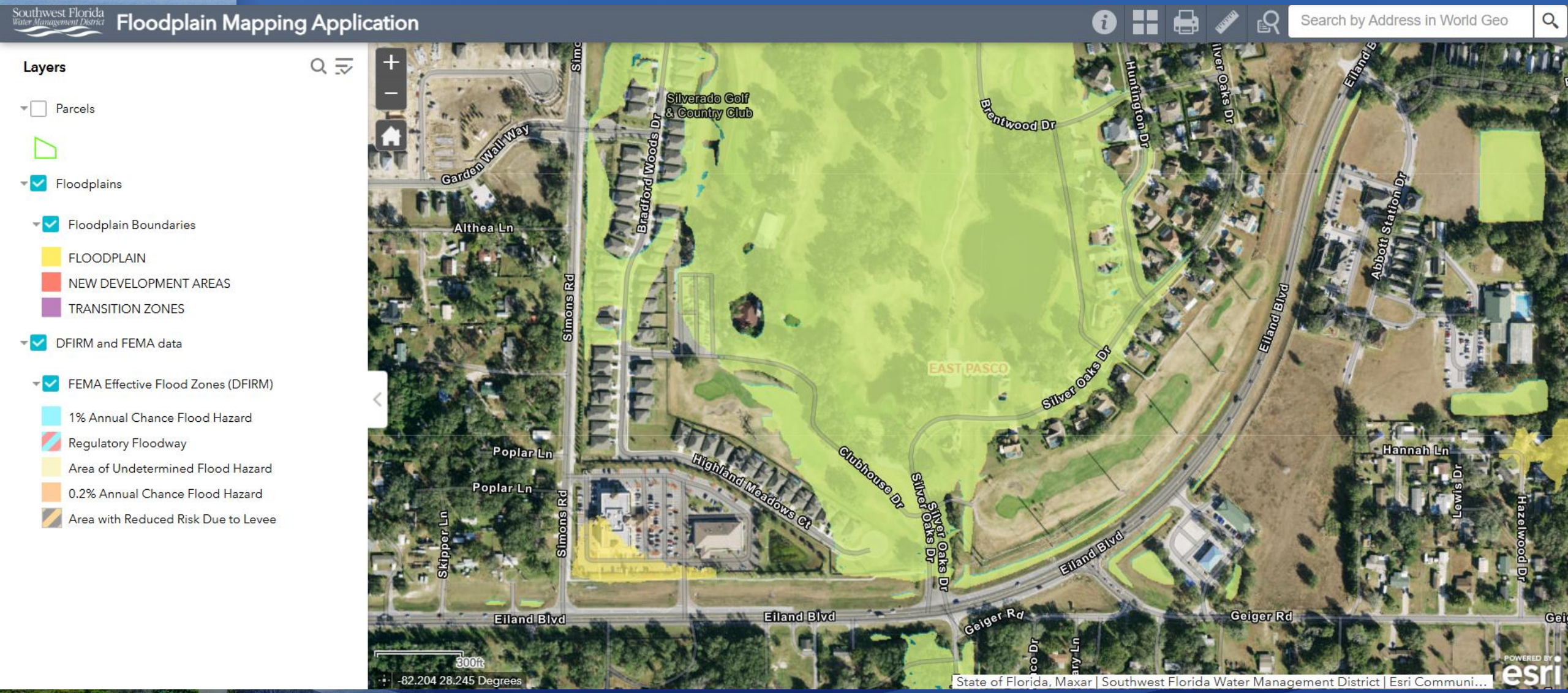

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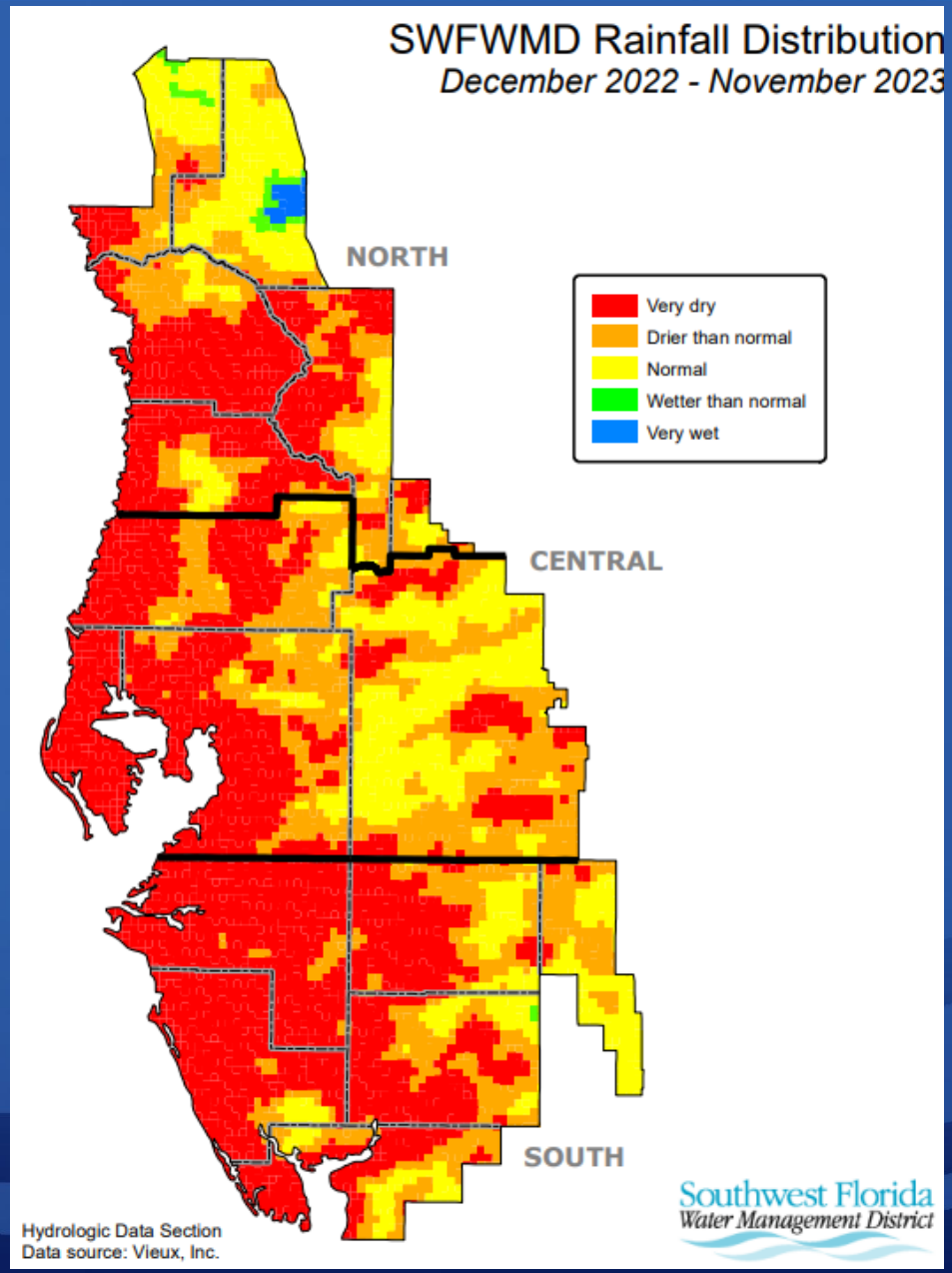

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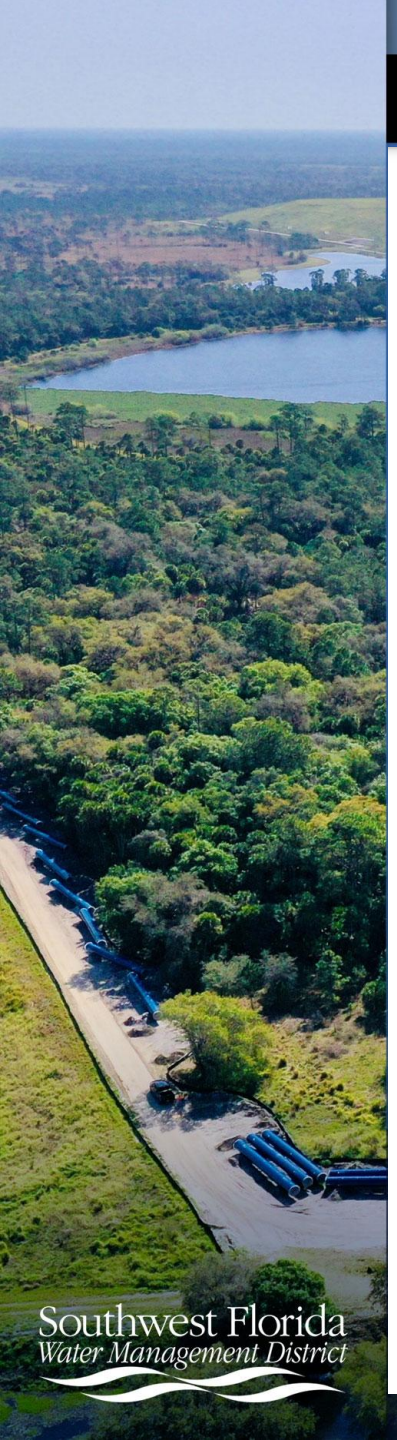

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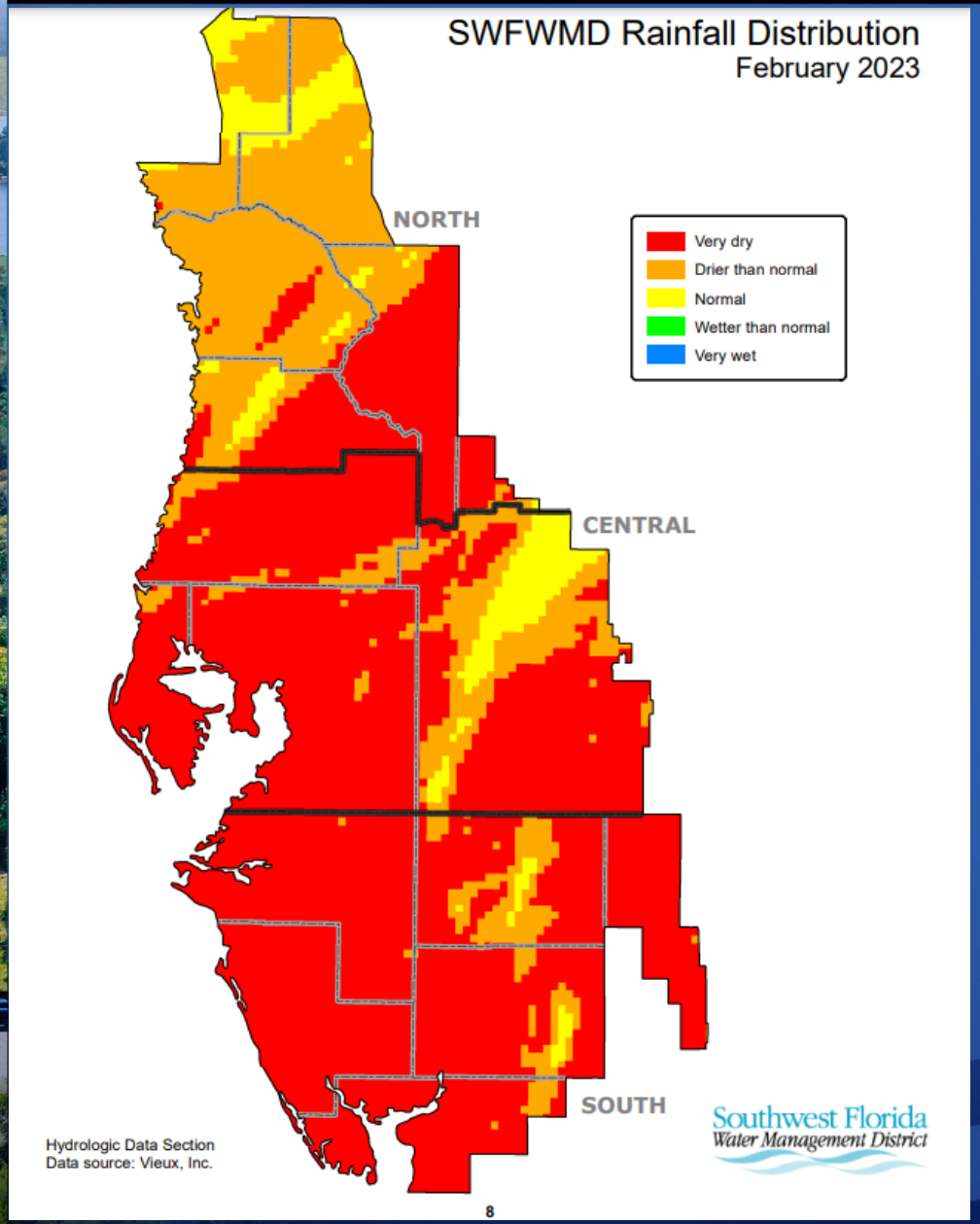

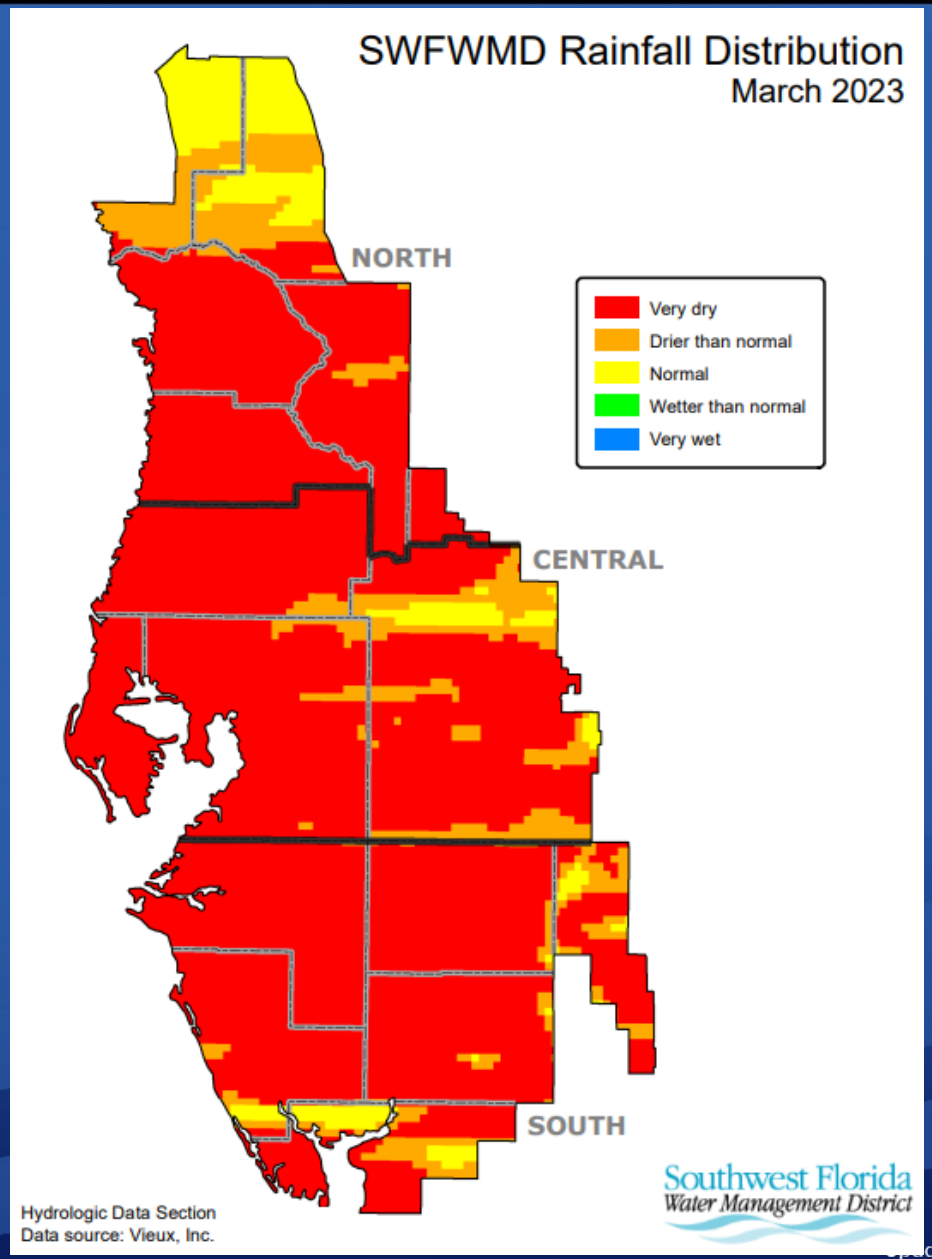

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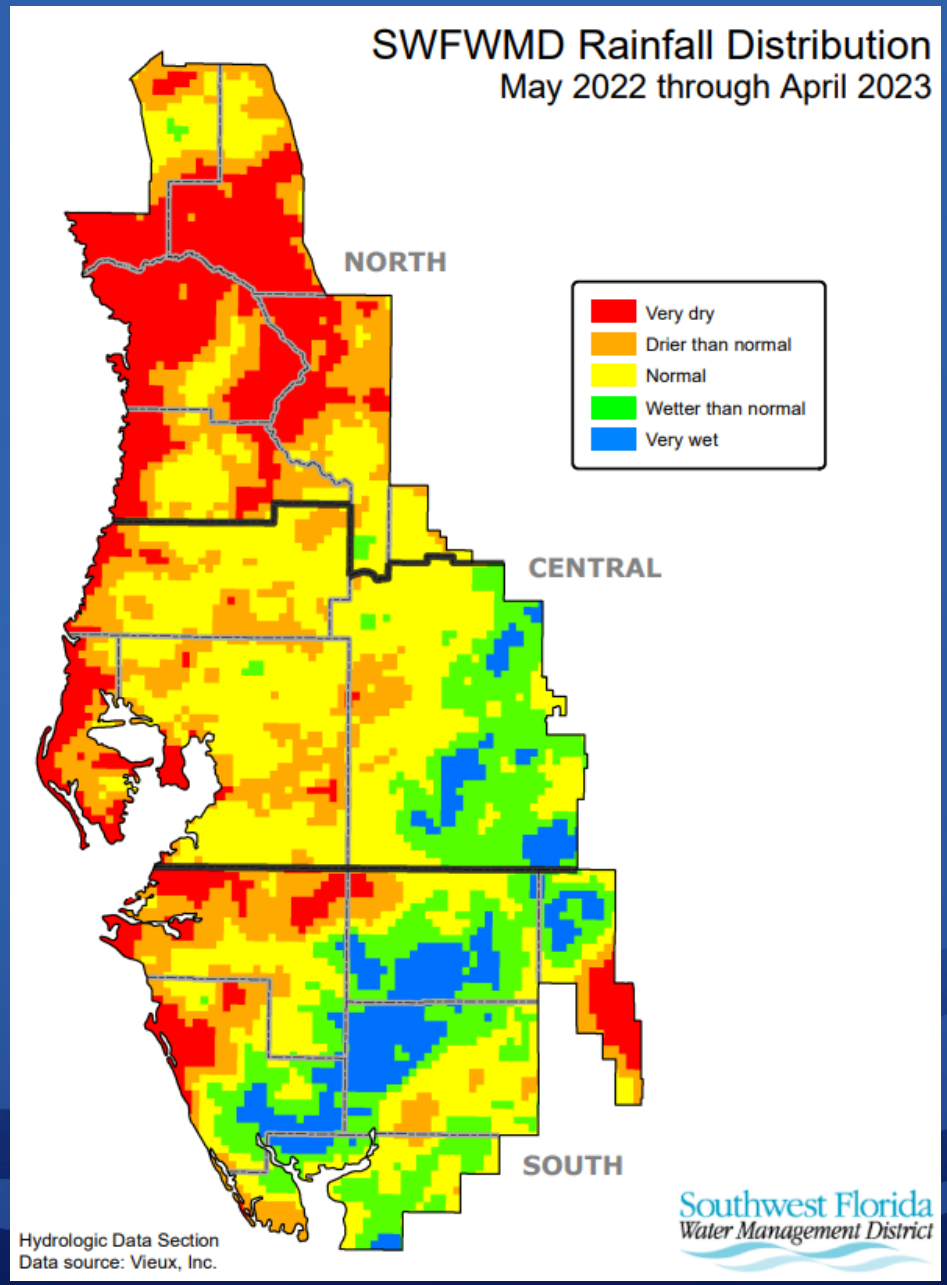

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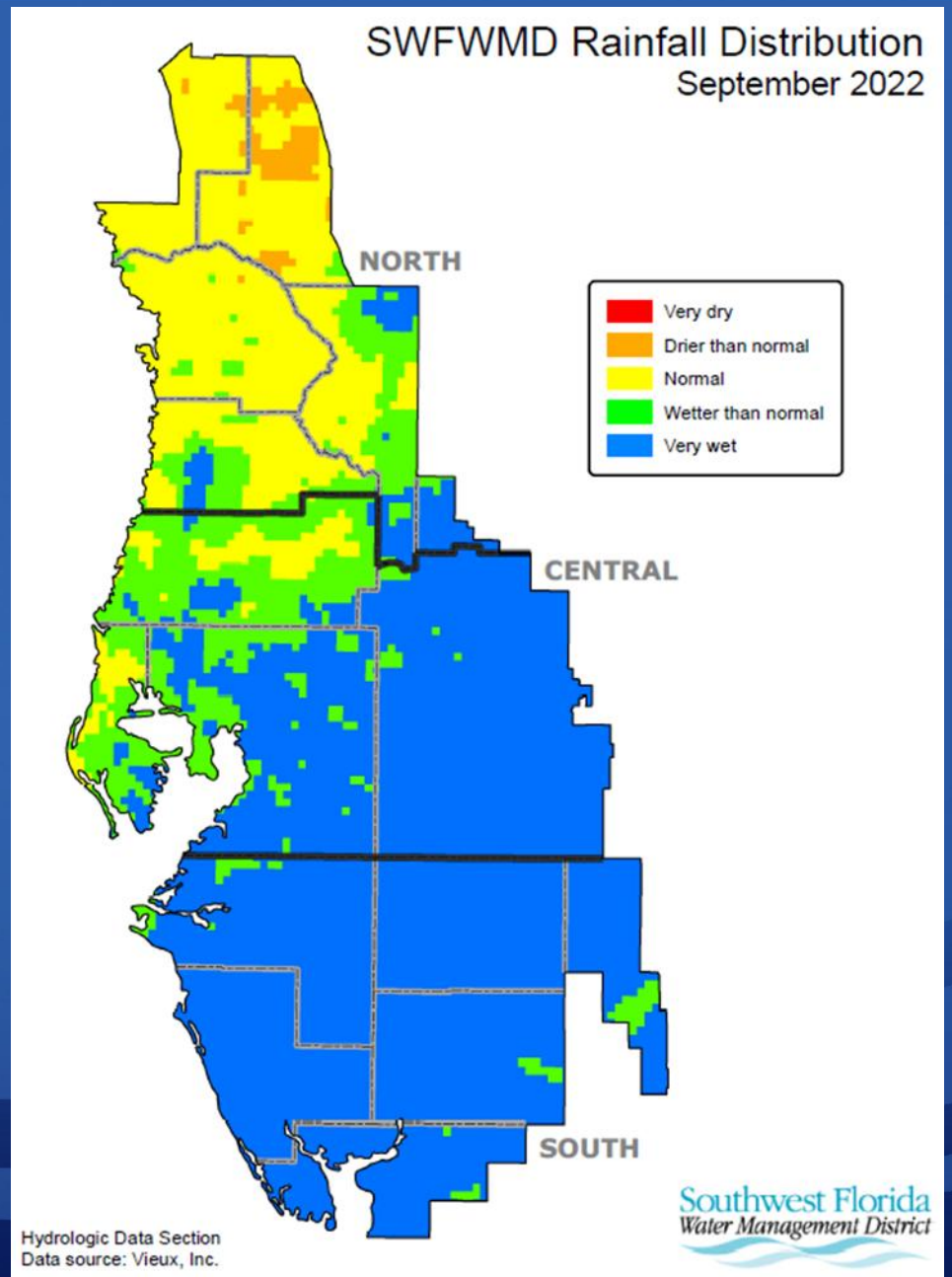

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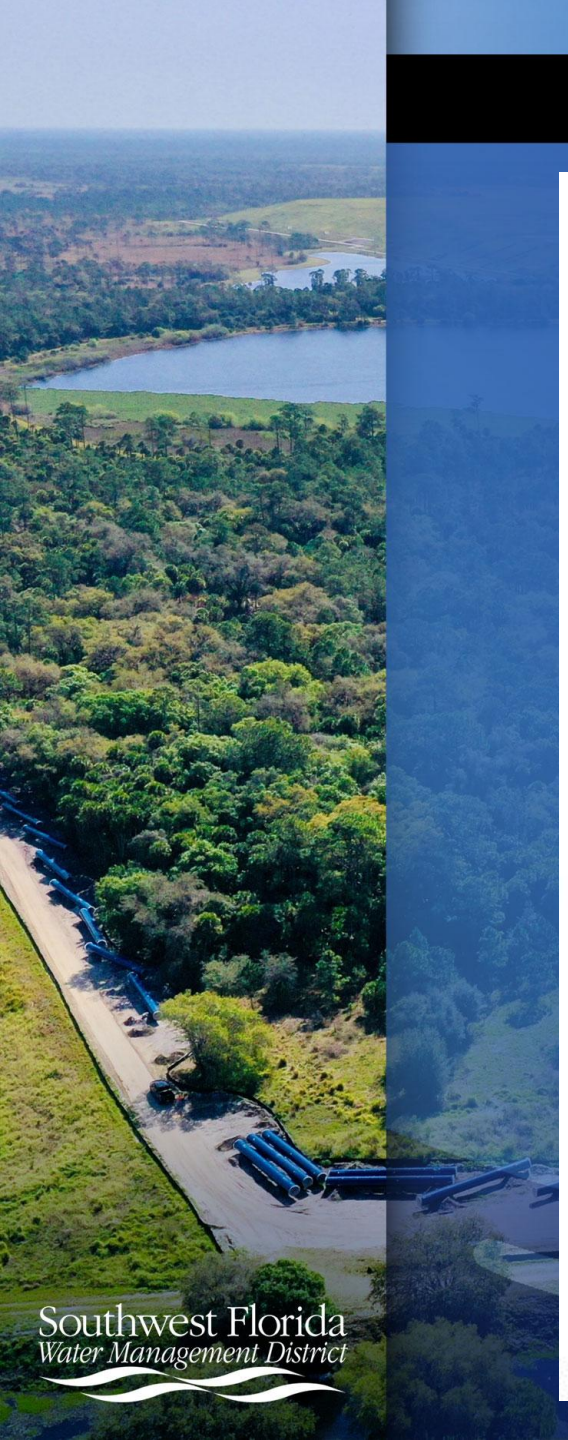
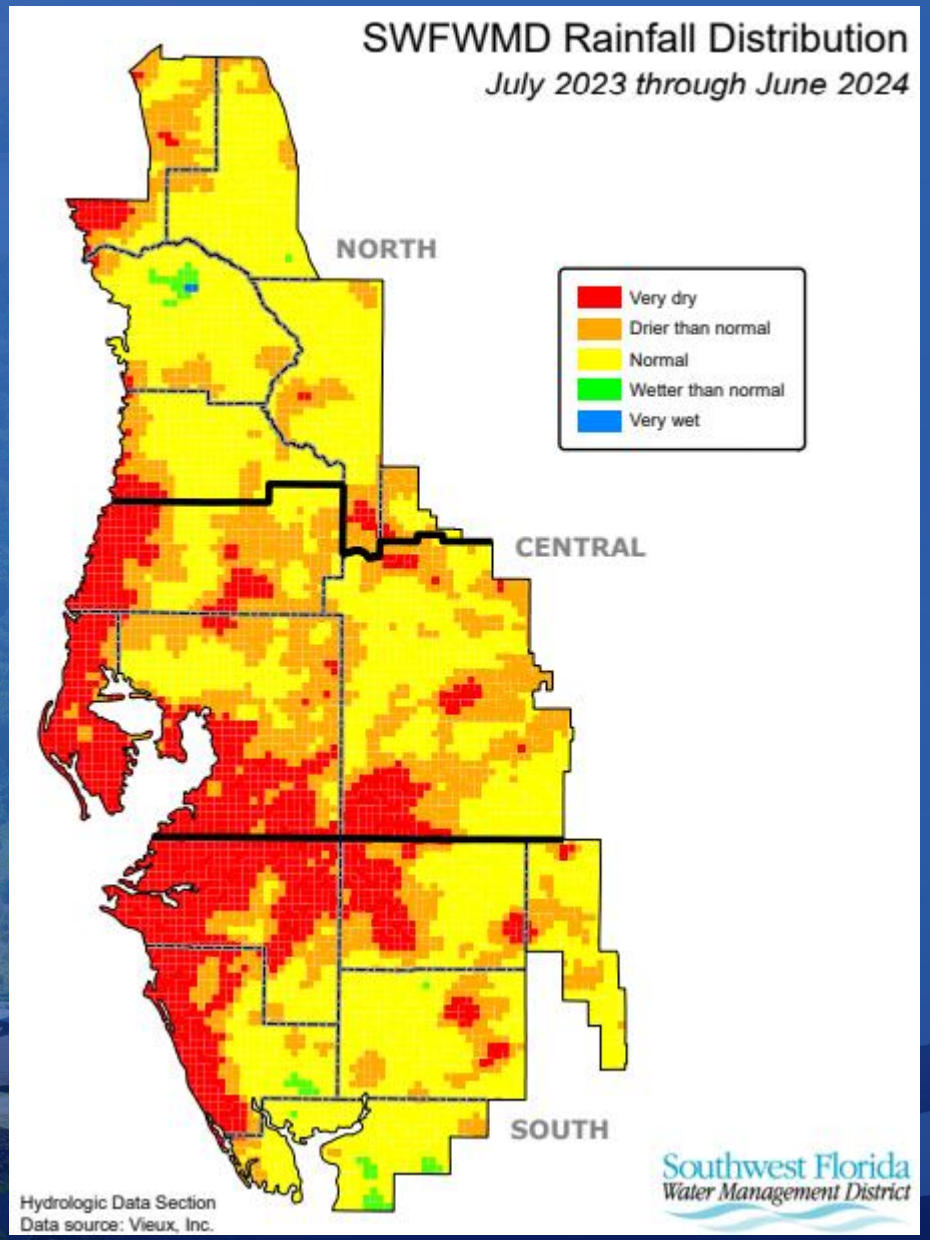
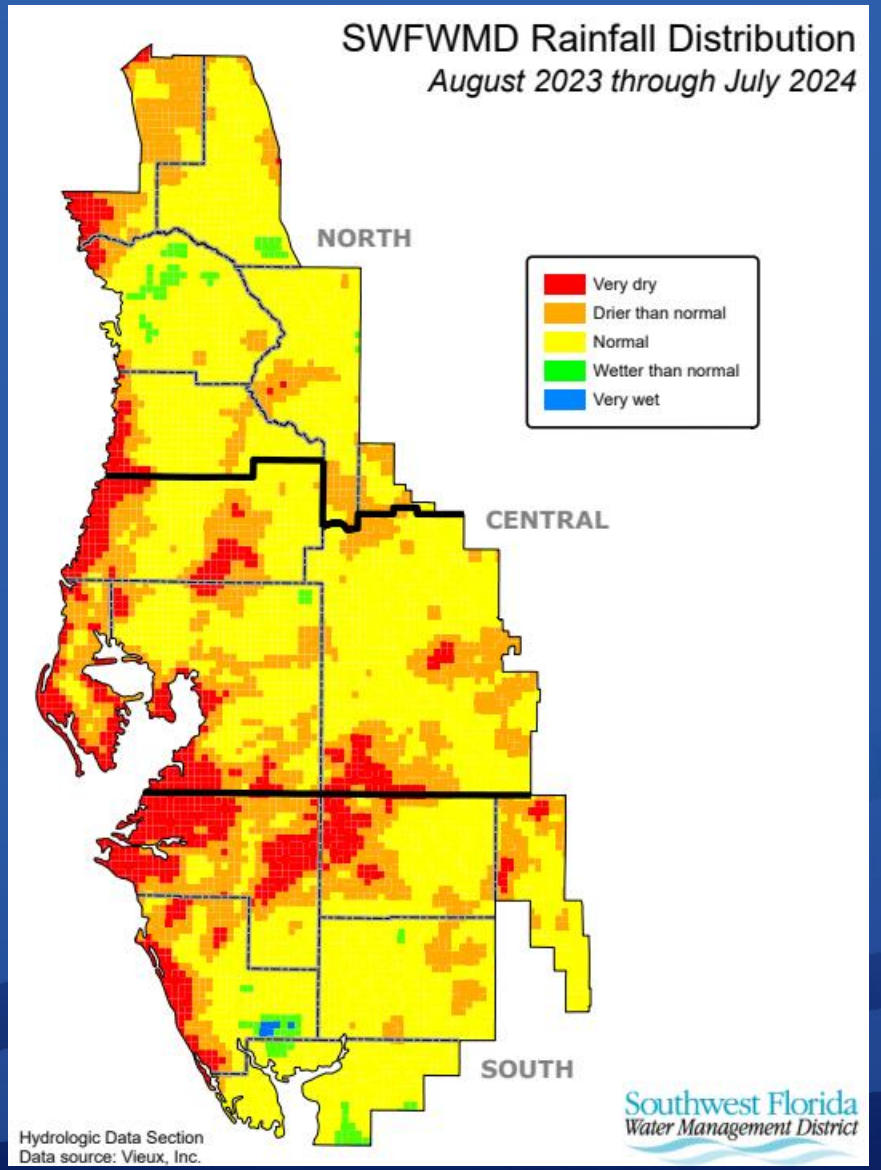






Modified Phase I Water Shortage Restrictions

Q: What are the new water restrictions for the Southwest Florida Water Management District?

A: The District's Modified Phase I water shortage restrictions are in effect Nov. 21, 2023, through Sept. 1, 2024, except where stricter measures have been imposed by local governments. The following restrictions apply to all of Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota and Sumter counties; portions of Charlotte, Highlands and Lake counties; the City of Dunnellon and The Villages in Marion County; and the portion of Gasparilla Island in Lee County.

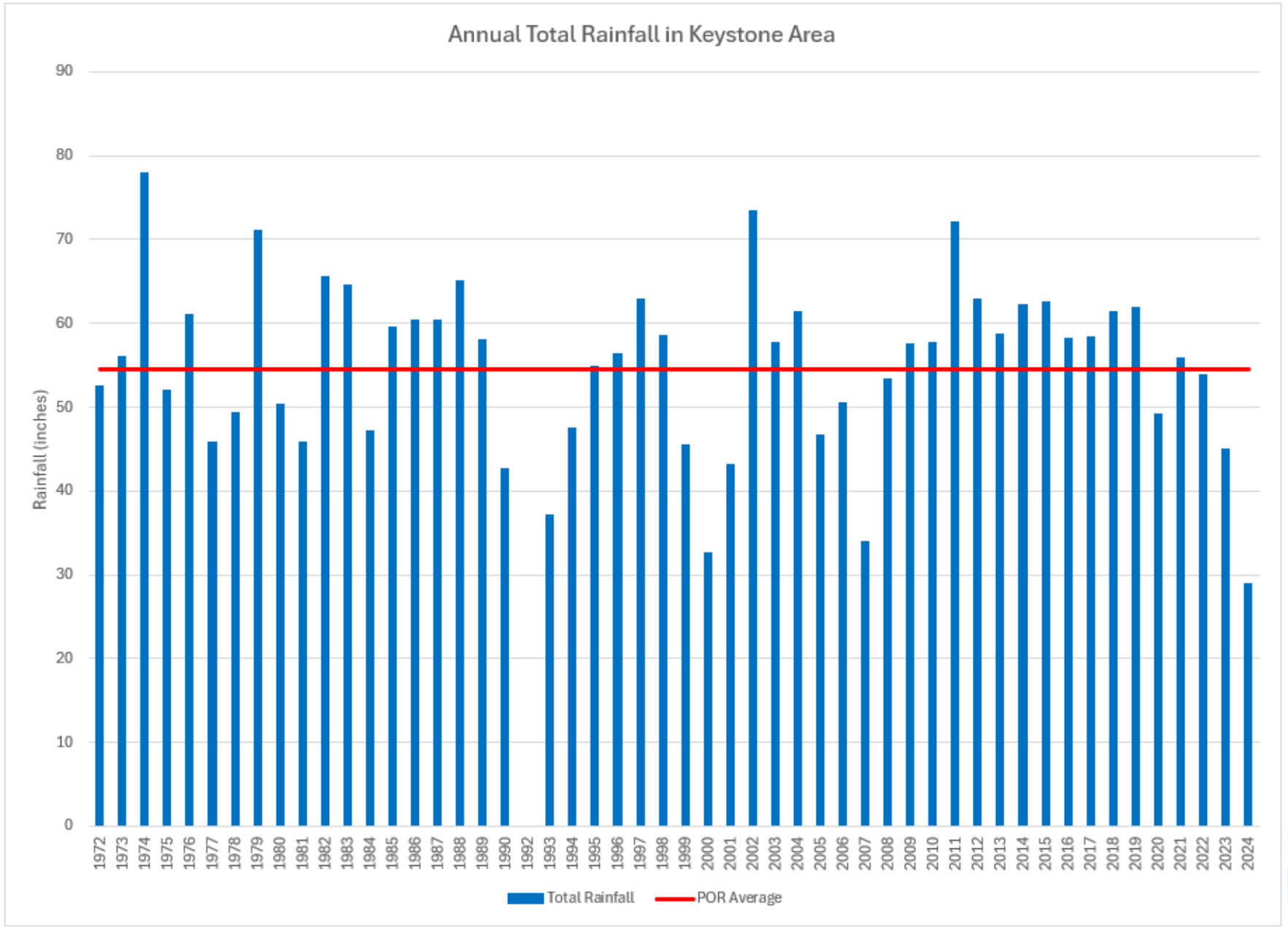
As of Dec. 1, 2023, Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties will be under a Modified Phase I Water Shortage Order that limits watering to once per week through Sept. 1, 2024. Some local governments such as unincorporated Citrus, Hernando and Sarasota counties, and the cities of Dunedin and Venice, have local ordinances that remain on one-day-per-week schedules.

Q: Why did the District declare a Modified Phase I Water Shortage?

A: The District received lower than normal rainfall during its summer rainy season (June-September) and had a 12.77-inch rainfall deficit compared to the average 12-month total. In addition, water levels in the District's water resources, such as aquifers, rivers and lakes, were beginning to decline.

Q: Why did the District extend the one-day-per-week water restrictions for Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties?

A: Despite having Districtwide above-average rainfall during the winter months (Nov.-Jan.), we still have a Districtwide 12-month rainfall deficit of about **7.4 inches** (based on data through May). The 12-month rainfall total through May in the Northern Region of the District matches the historical average, while it is below average in the Southern and the Central regions, which includes the Tampa Bay area. June rainfall through June 19 is near the historical average in the Southern Region of the District, while it is below average in the Northern and Central regions. Additionally, Tampa Bay Water's 15.5-billion-gallon C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir is still approximately 12.5 billion gallons below its normal capacity.


Annual Total Rainfall in Keystone Area
Rainfall (inches)
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
1972
1973
1974
1975
1976
1977
1978
1979
1980
1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
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2012
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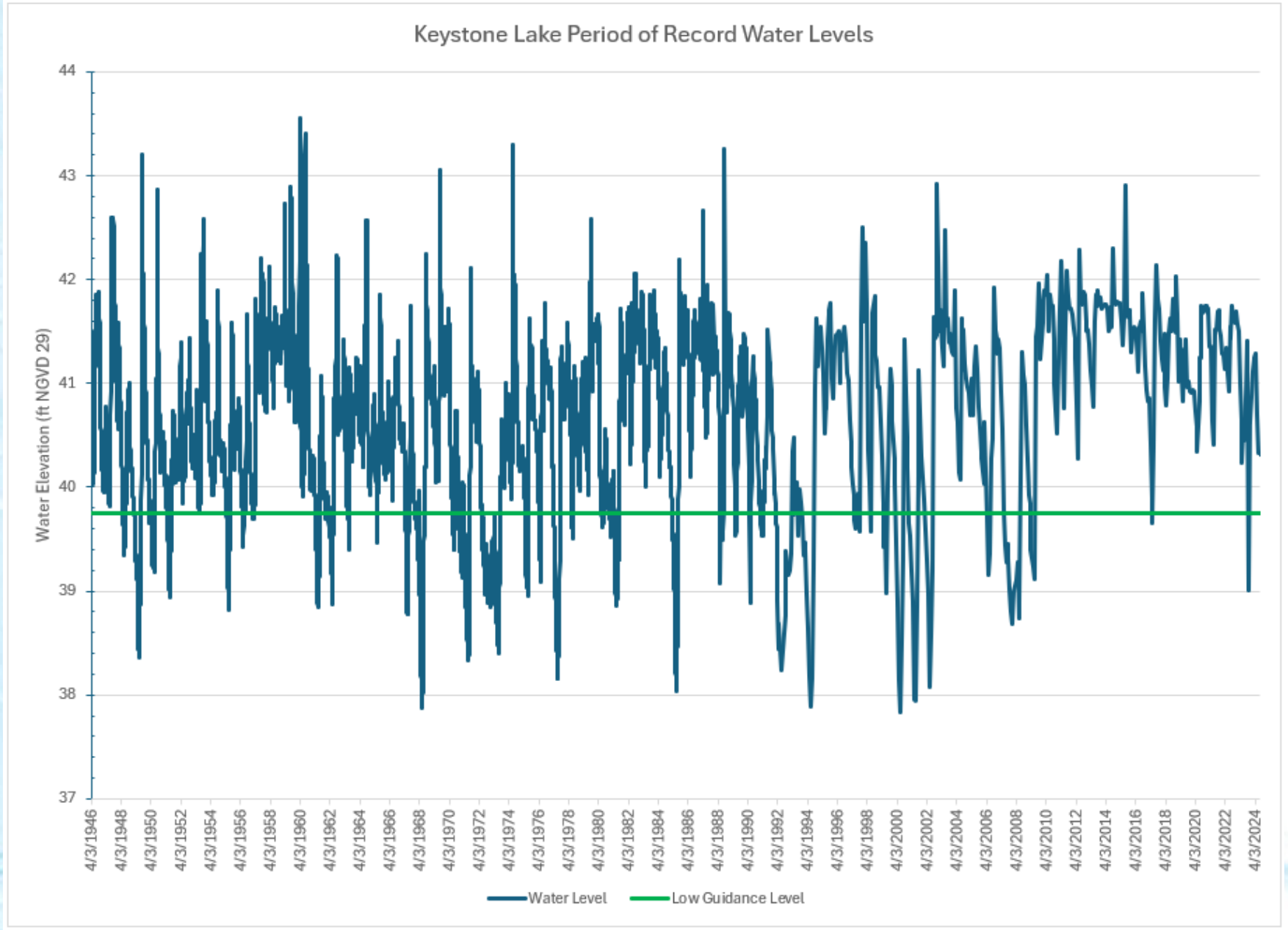
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Total Rainfall
POR Average


Keystone Lake Period of Record Water Levels
Water Elevation (ft NGVD 29)
44
43
42
41
40
39
38
37
4/3/1946
4/3/1948
4/3/1950
4/3/1952
4/3/1954
4/3/1956
4/3/1958
4/3/1960
4/3/1962
4/3/1964
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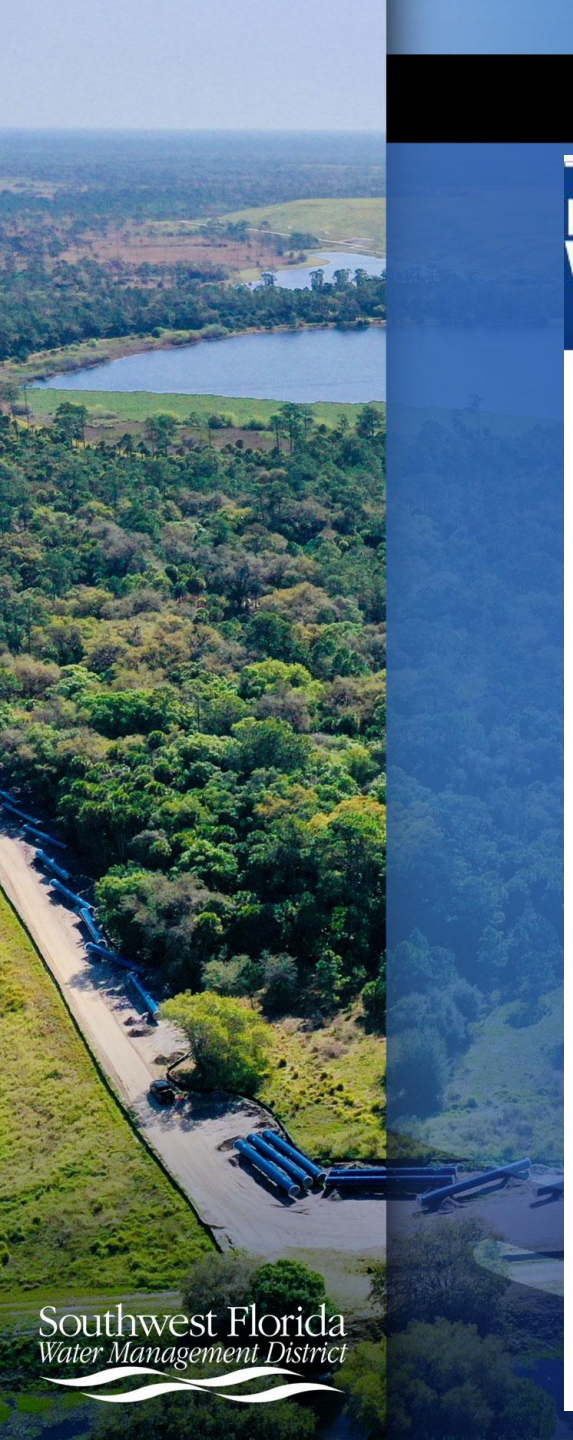
4/3/2010
4/3/2012
4/3/2014
4/3/2016
4/3/2018
4/3/2020
4/3/2022
4/3/2024
Water Level
Low Guidance Level

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Cosme Odessa Wellfield

Water Year Pumping Data - mgd

Water Year	Average Pumping Rate
2000	7.10
2001	10.83
2002	10.41
2003	6.63
2004	4.84
2005	5.87
2006	8.91
2007	8.65
2008	6.66
2009	5.98
2010	1.59
2011	4.93
2012	4.37
2013	4.37
2014	5.03
2015	6.62
2016	6.14
2017	7.89
2018	7.12
2019	6.65
2020	7.64
2021	8.74
2022	7.69
2023	8.44
2024	2.74

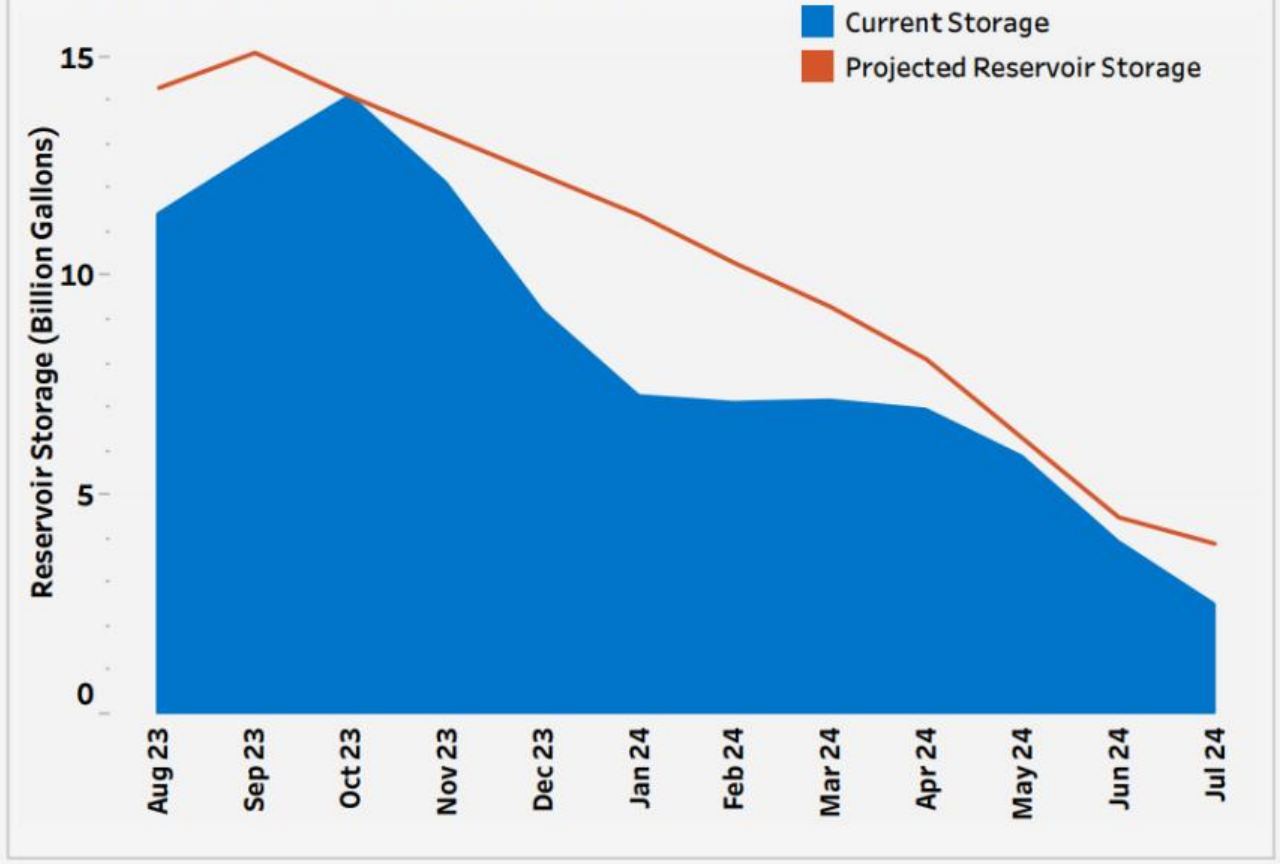


TAMPA BAY WATER

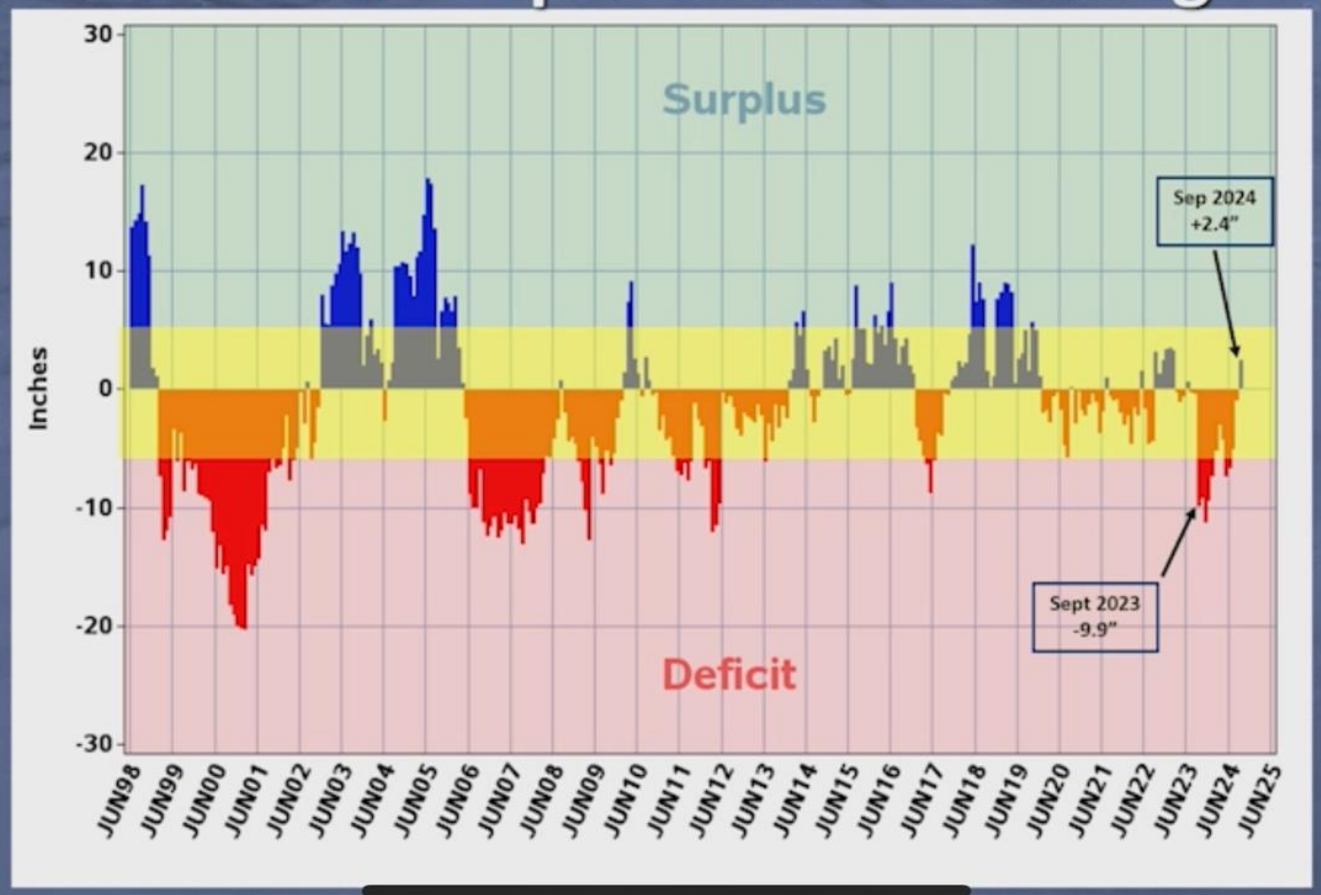
C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir

Meeting Projected Reservoir Storage Volume

This indicator provides a measure of the reliability of the utility's forecasted reservoir use by comparing forecasted storage against actual levels.



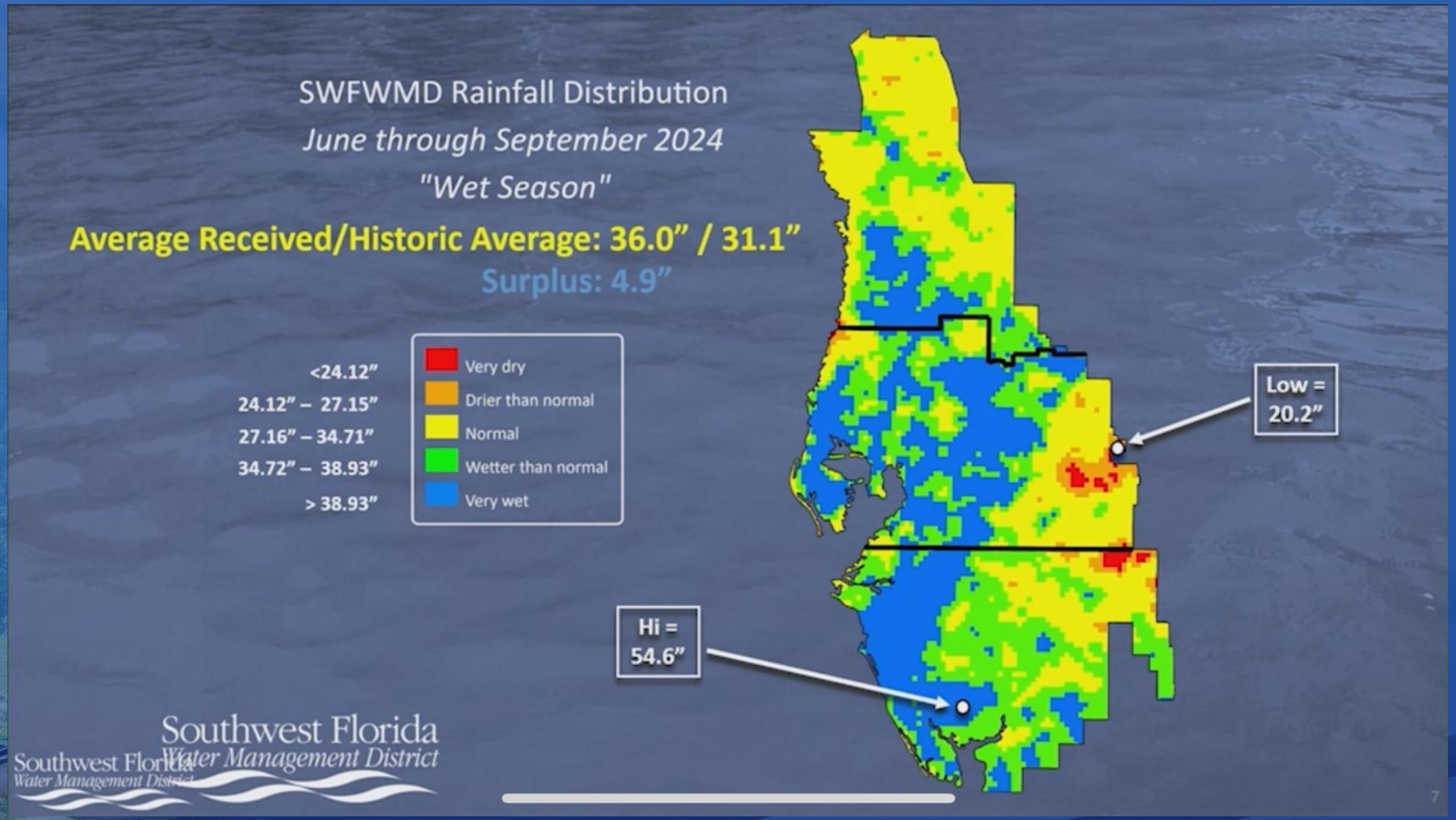
District-wide Rainfall: 12-Month Departure from Average



Update by Amber E. Smith

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Southwest Florida Water Management District



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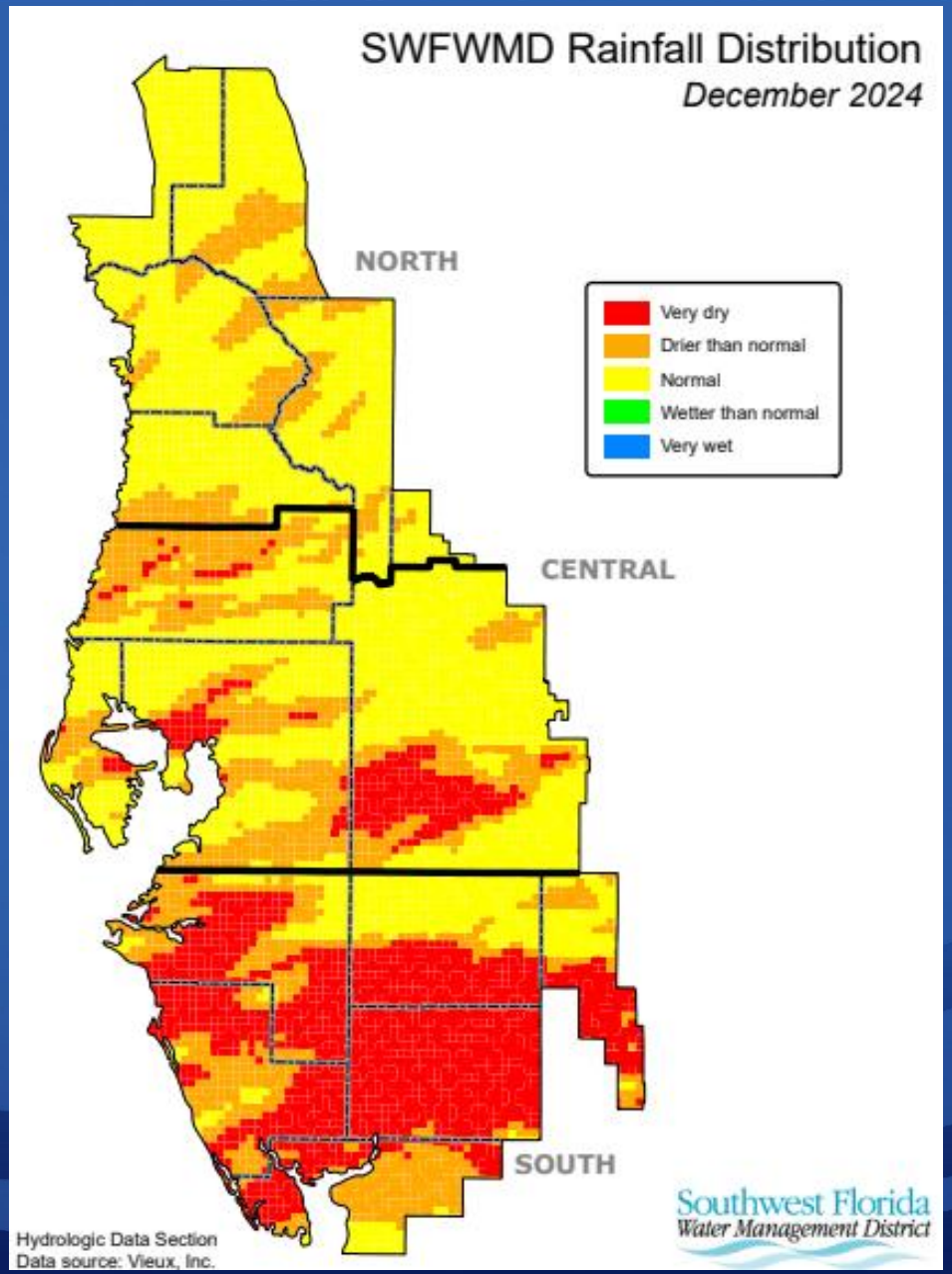

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

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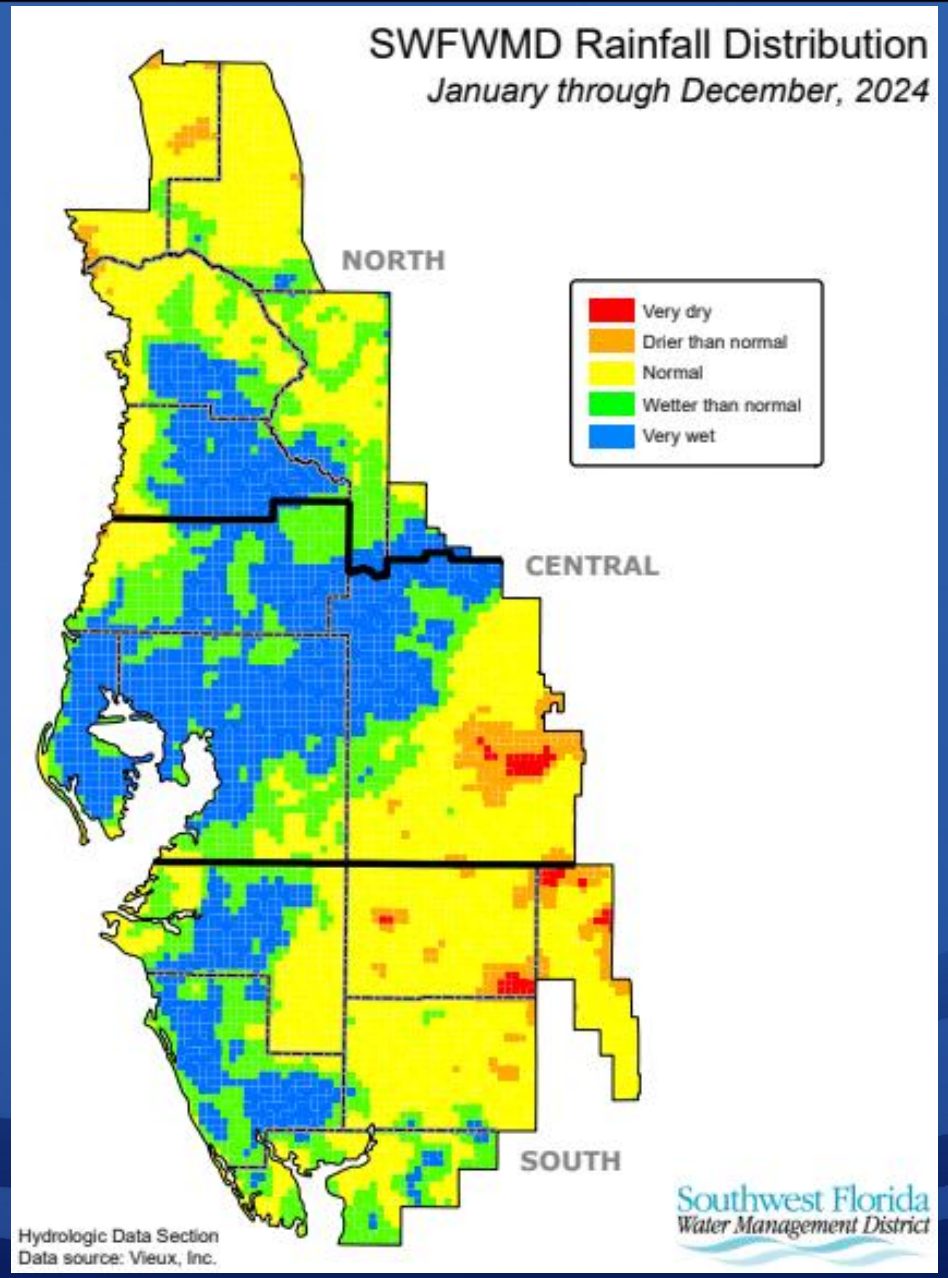

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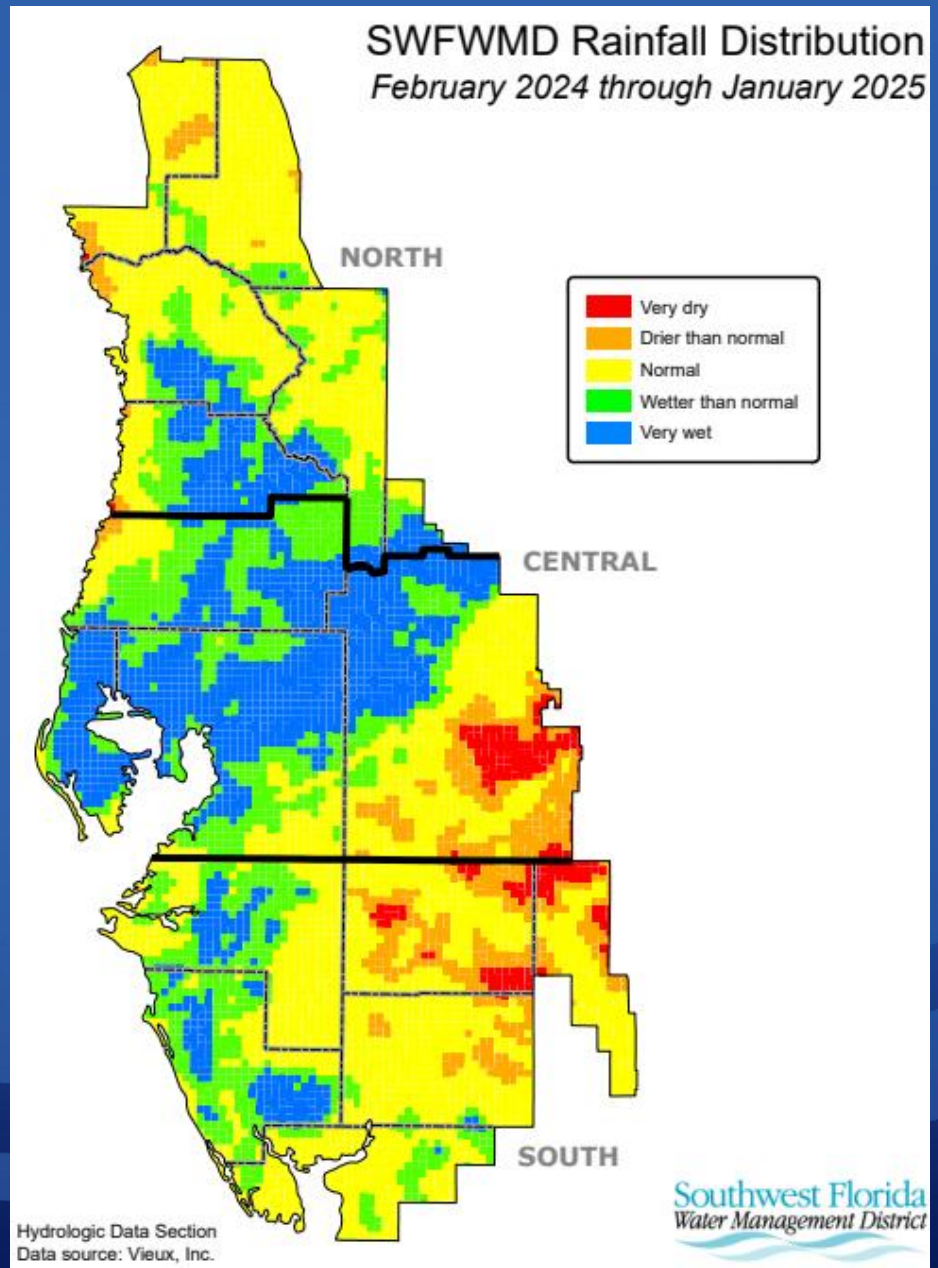
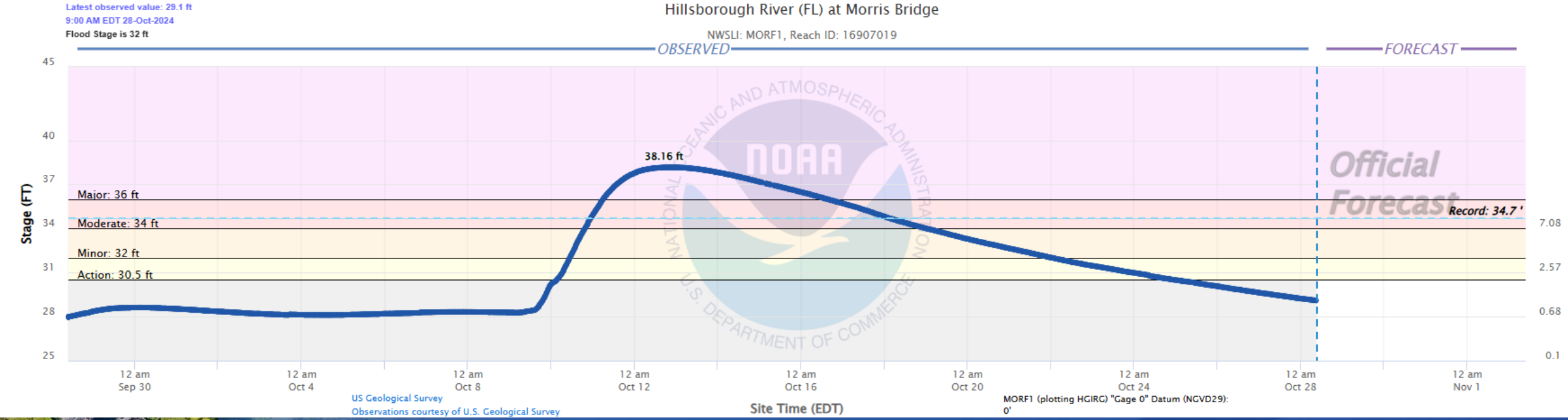


Southwest Florida
Water Management District

Southwest Florida Water Management District

← UPSTREAM GAUGE (ZPHF1)

DOWNSTREAM GAUGE (FOWF1) →



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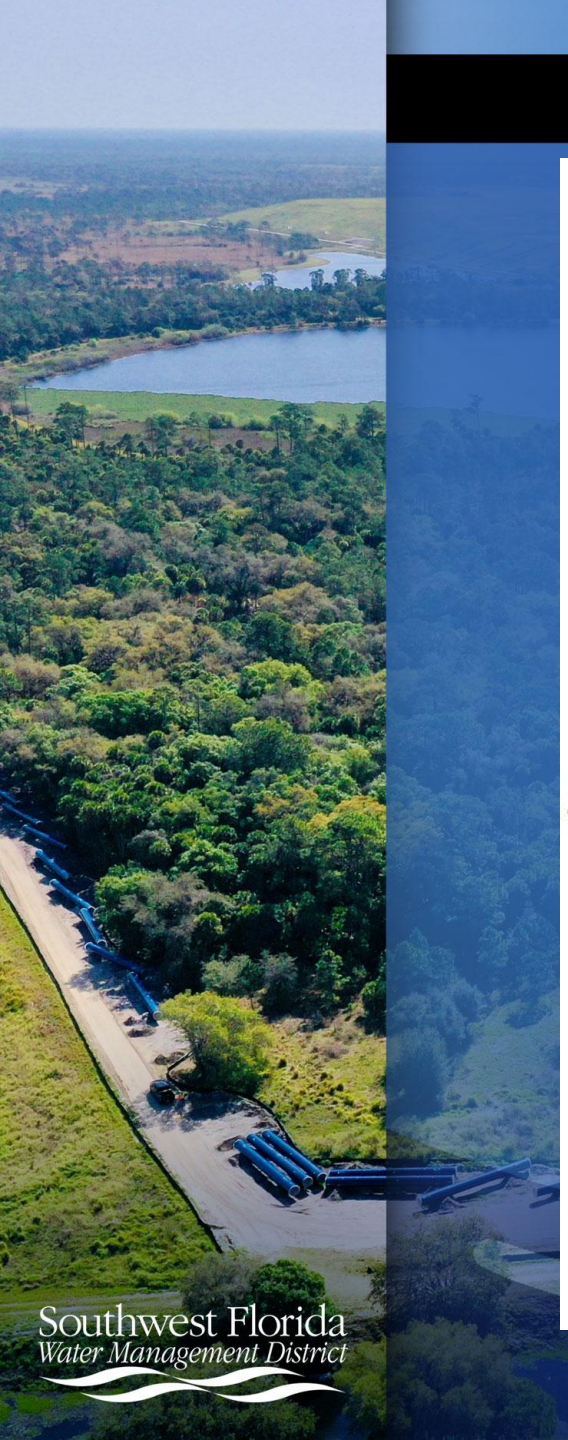


Hillsborough R at Fowler AV Near Temple Terrace FL - 02304000

October 22, 2023 - October 21, 2024

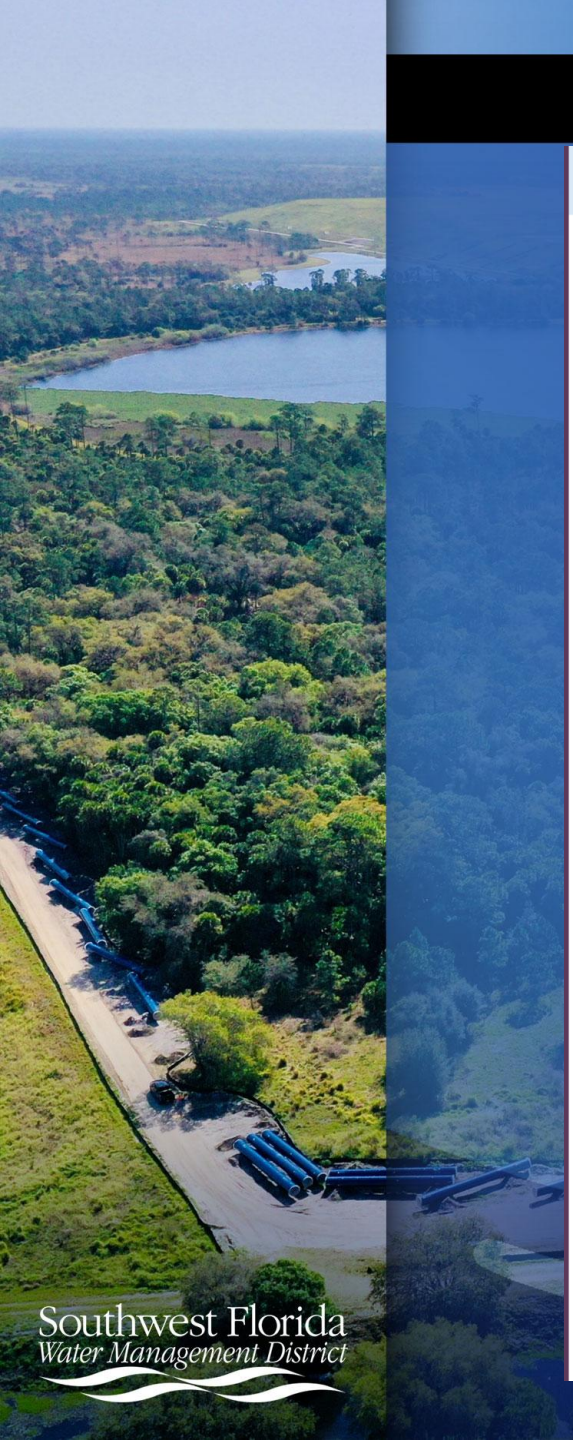
Gage height, feet

24.72 ft - Oct 20, 2024 08:00:00 AM EDT

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Update by Amber E. Smith

Southwest Florida Water Management District



Hillsborough R at Fowler AV Near Temple Terrace FL - 02304000

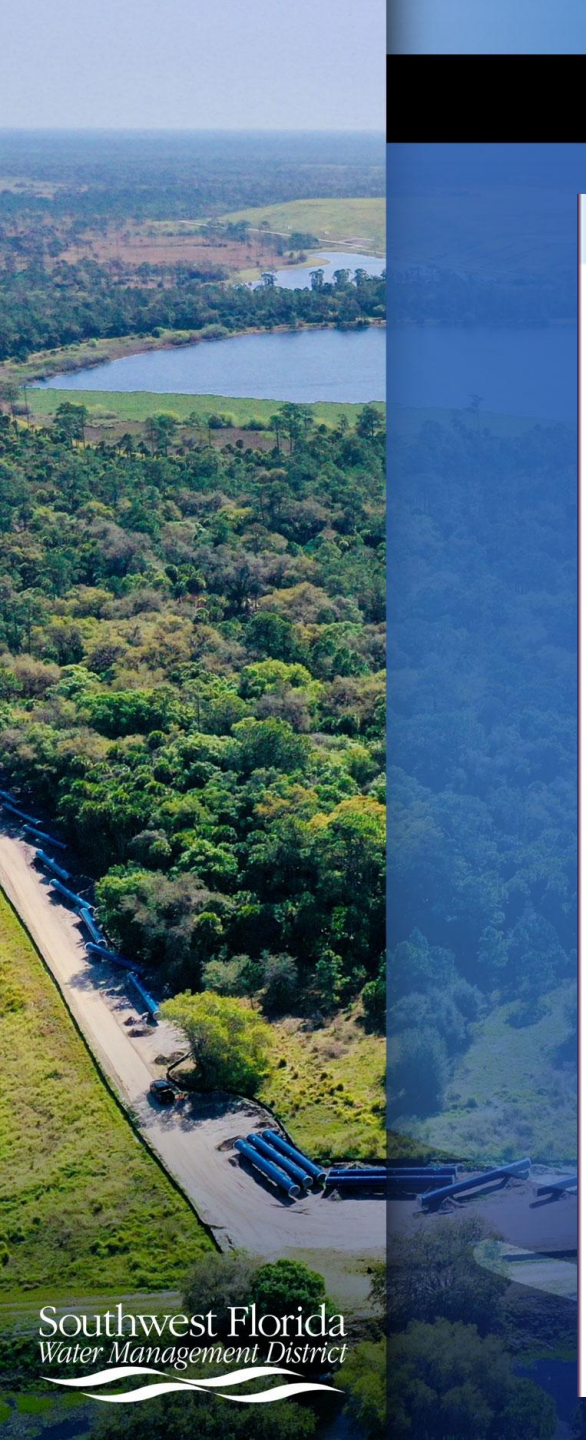
Subscribe to WaterAlert

February 19, 2024 - February 18, 2025

Gage height, feet

21.57 ft - Feb 18, 2025 03:30:00 AM EST

Southwest Florida Water Management District



Hillsborough R at Fowler AV Near Temple Terrace FL - 02304000

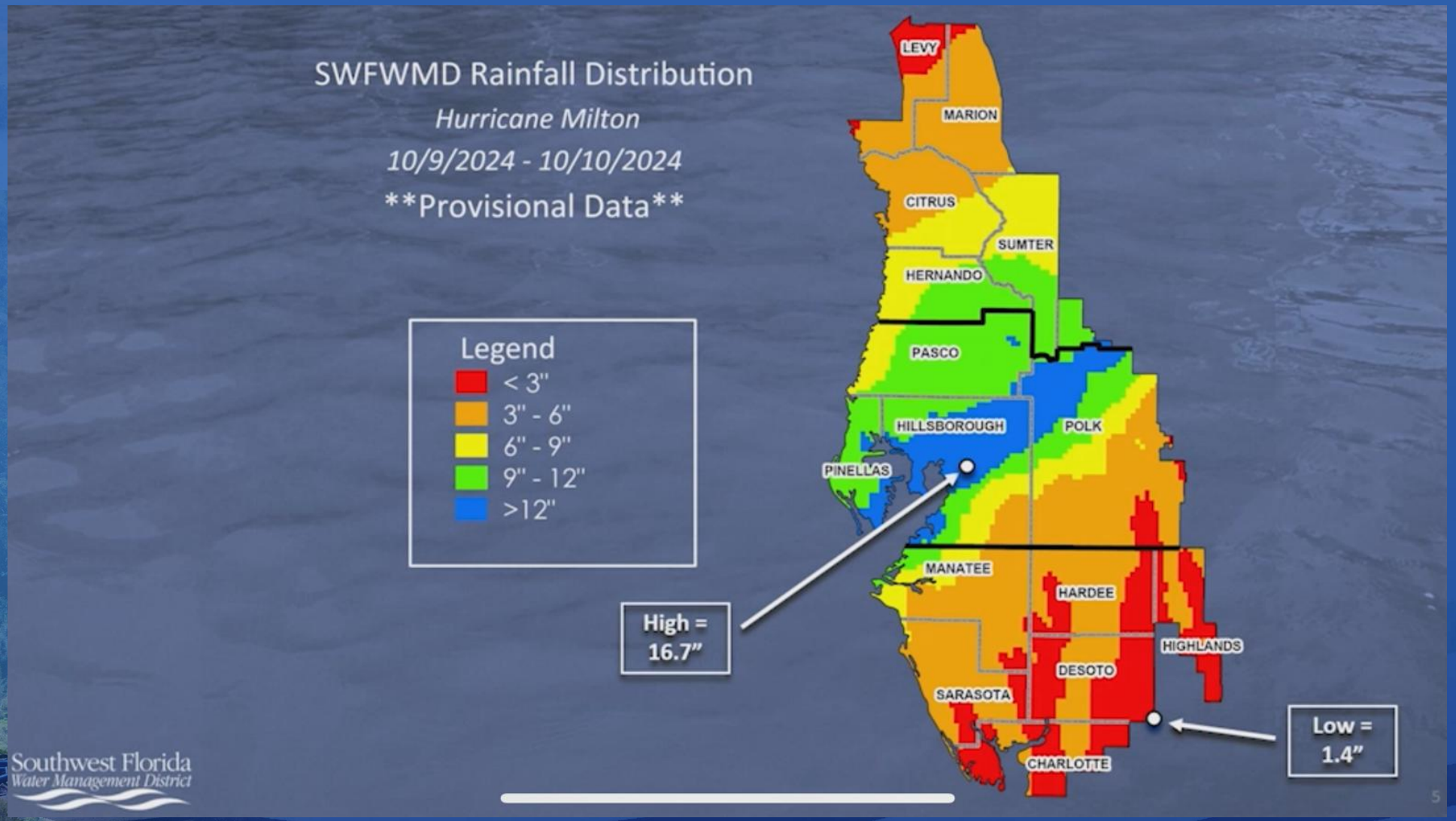
Subscribe to WaterAlert

July 21, 2024 - July 21, 2025

Gage height, feet

21.62 ft - Jul 21, 2025 07:30:00 AM EDT

Southwest Florida Water Management District



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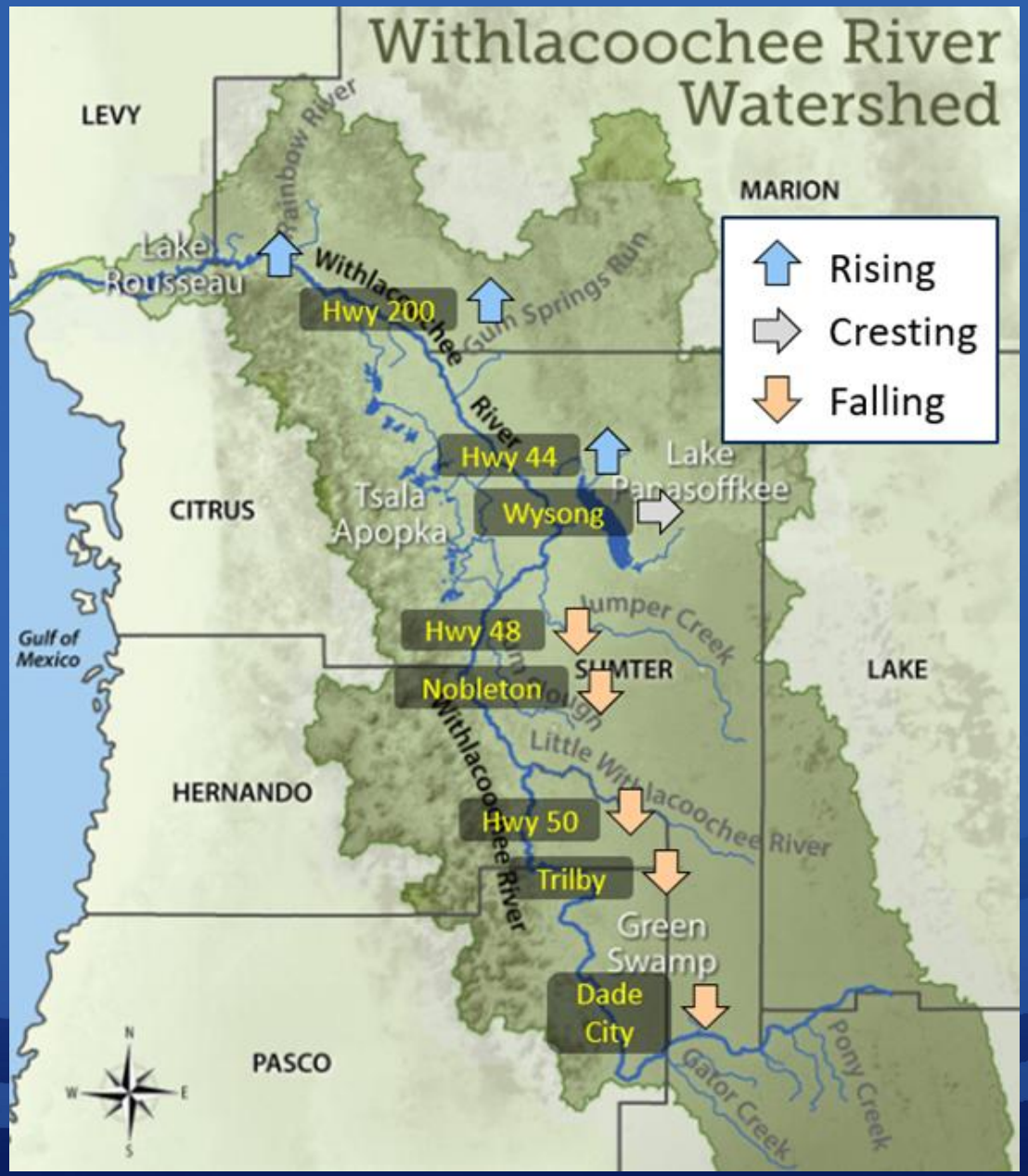

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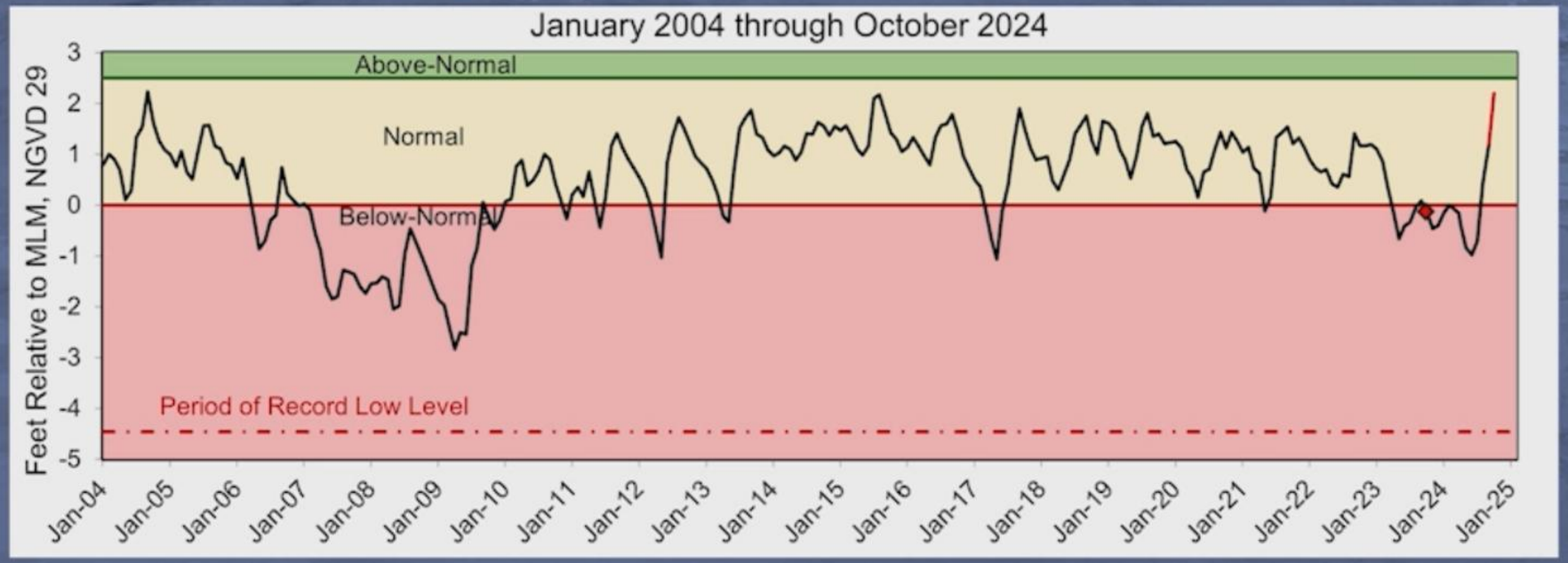
Surface Water Levels: Tampa Bay Lakes



Southwest Florida Water Management District

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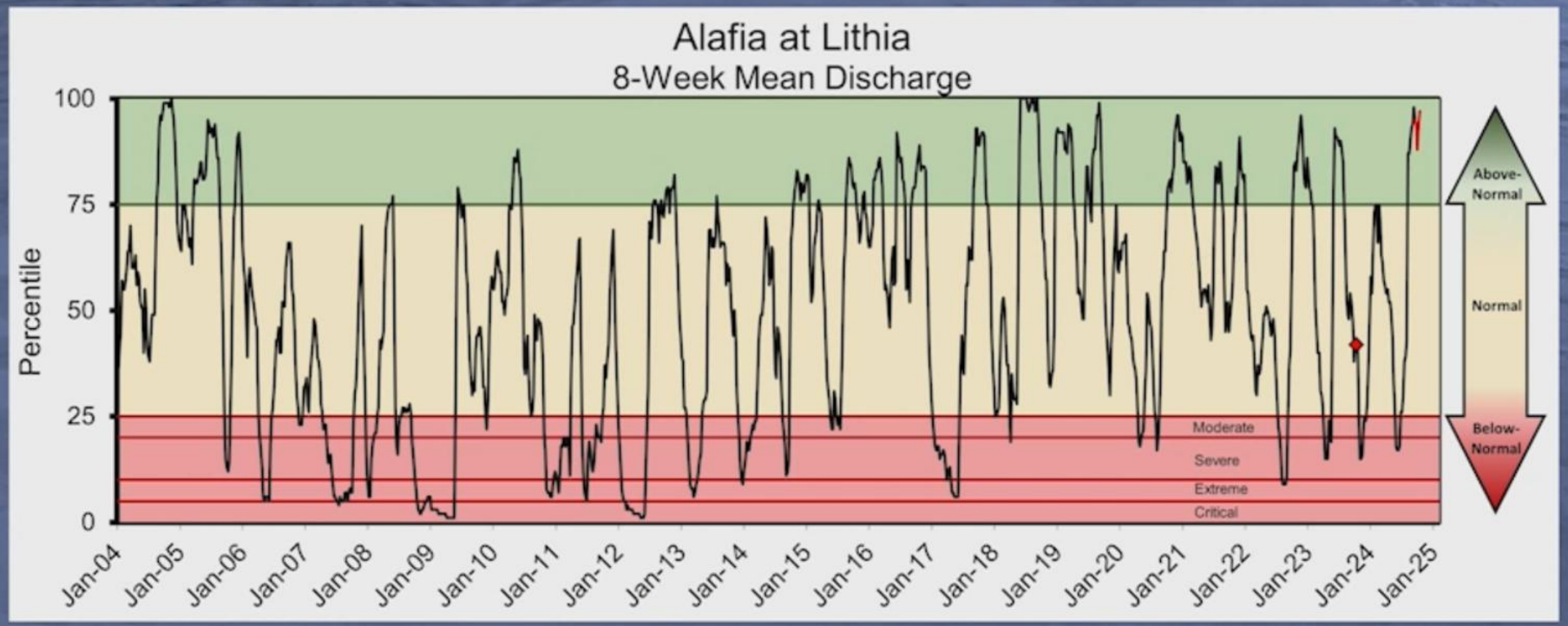
Southwest Florida Water Management District

Surface Water Discharge: Alafia River



Data Source: United States Geological Survey

Southwest Florida Water Management District

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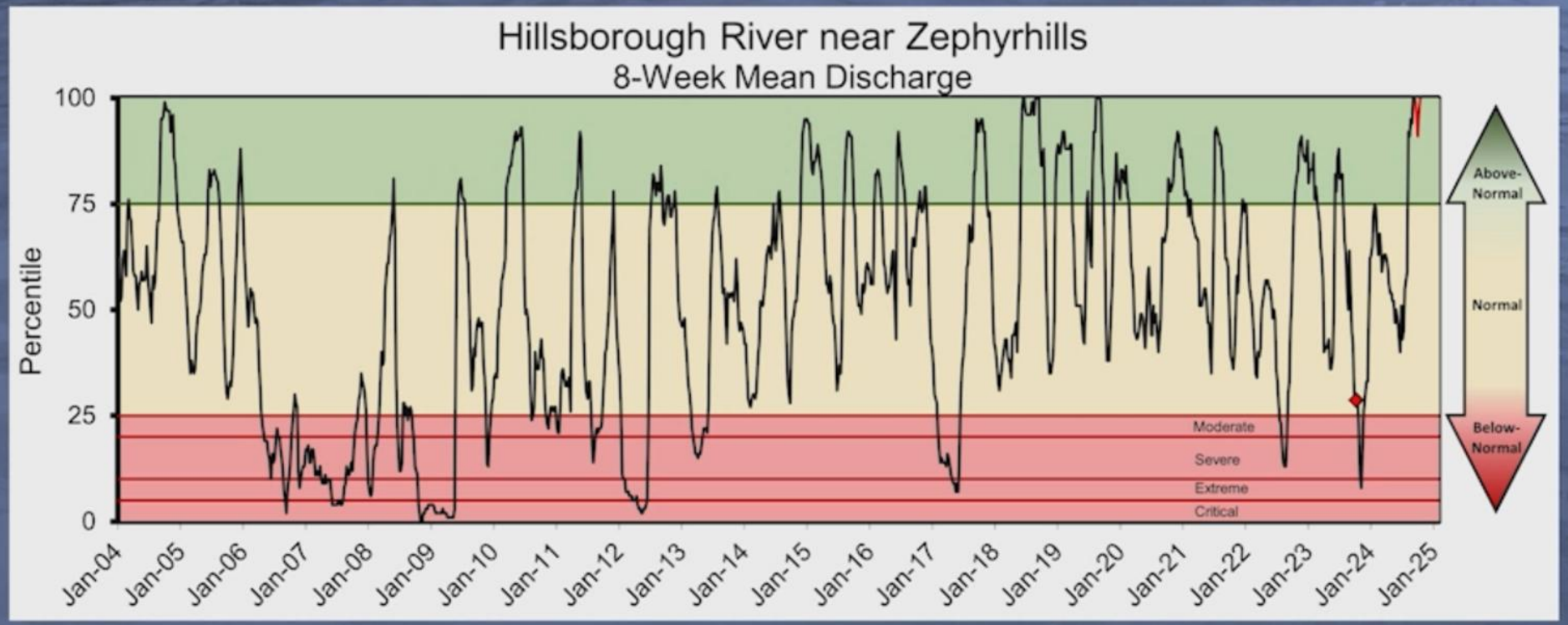
Surface Water Discharge: Hillsborough River



Data Source: United States Geological Survey

Southwest Florida Water Management District

16

Update by Amber E. Smith

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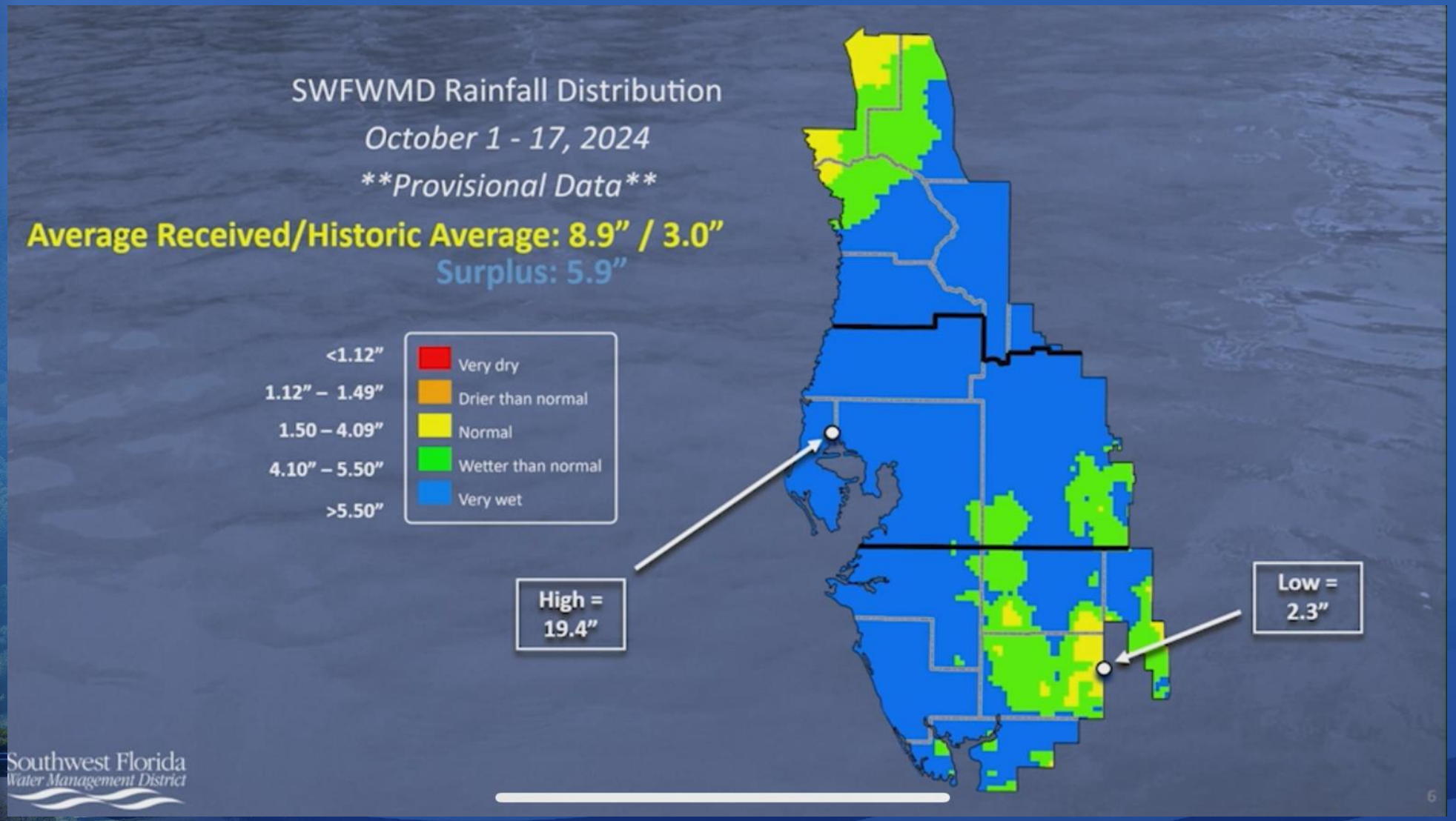

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Water Resource Weekly Update

Aquifer* Levels (percentile)

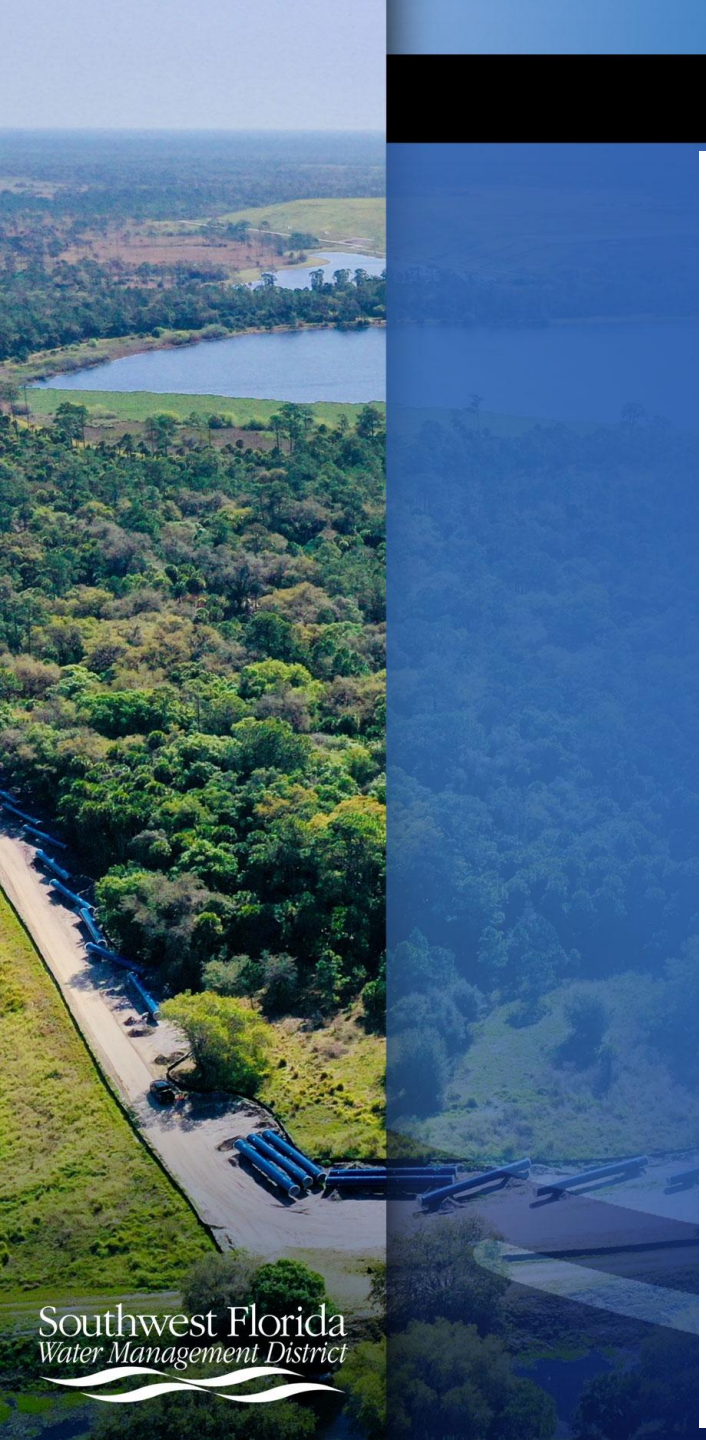
Regions **	Oct. 23 percentile***	Previous week percentile	Same date last year percentile	Normal range percentile****
North	85	87	37	25 – 75
Central	93	93	36	25 – 75
South	73	74	36	25 – 75

* Aquifers are underground layers of rock and sand that hold water. In southwest Florida, more than 80 percent of the water supply comes from aquifers.

** **North** (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties)
Central (Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties)
South (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee and Sarasota counties)

*** The **percentile** compares current aquifer levels to historical levels during the same time of year on a scale of 0-100. For example, if the groundwater level is at the 50th percentile, it means that half of the historical levels for this time of year were higher and half were lower than the current level.

**** Any level that falls between the 25th and the 75th percentile is considered **normal**. Less than the 25th would be considered below normal and above the 75th percentile is above normal.



Aquifer* Levels (percentile)

Regions **	Feb. 12 percentile***	Previous week percentile	Same date last year percentile	Normal range percentile****
North	70	71	47	25 – 75
Central	60	64	56	25 – 75
South	39	44	69	25 – 75

* Aquifers are underground layers of rock and sand that hold water. In southwest Florida, more than 80 percent of the water supply comes from aquifers.

** **North** (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties)
Central (Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties)
South (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee and Sarasota counties)

*** The **percentile** compares current aquifer levels to historical levels during the same time of year on a scale of 0-100. For example, if the groundwater level is at the 50th percentile, it means that half of the historical levels for this time of year were higher and half were lower than the current level.

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Aquifer* Levels (percentile)

Regions **	Sept. 10 percentile***	Previous week percentile	Same date last year percentile	Normal range percentile****
North	39	40	73	25 – 75
Central	41	44	71	25 – 75
South	37	38	54	25 – 75

* Aquifers are underground layers of rock and sand that hold water. In southwest Florida, more than 80 percent of the water supply comes from aquifers.

** **North** (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties)
Central (Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties)
South (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee and Sarasota counties)

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**** Any level that falls between the 25th and the 75th percentile is considered **normal**. Less than the 25th would be considered below normal and above the 75th percentile is above normal.

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Aquifer* Levels (percentile)

Regions **	Sept. 30 percentile***	Previous week percentile	Same date last year percentile	Normal range percentile****
North	26	31	70	25-75
Central	31	36	73	25-75
South	25	29	60	25-75

* Aquifers are underground layers of rock and sand that hold water. In southwest Florida, more than 80 percent of the water supply comes from aquifers.

** **North** (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties)
Central (Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties)
South (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee and Sarasota counties)

*** The **percentile** compares current aquifer levels to historical levels during the same time of year on a scale of 0-100. For example, the if groundwater level is at the 50th percentile, it means that half of the historical levels for this time of year were higher and half were lower than the current level.

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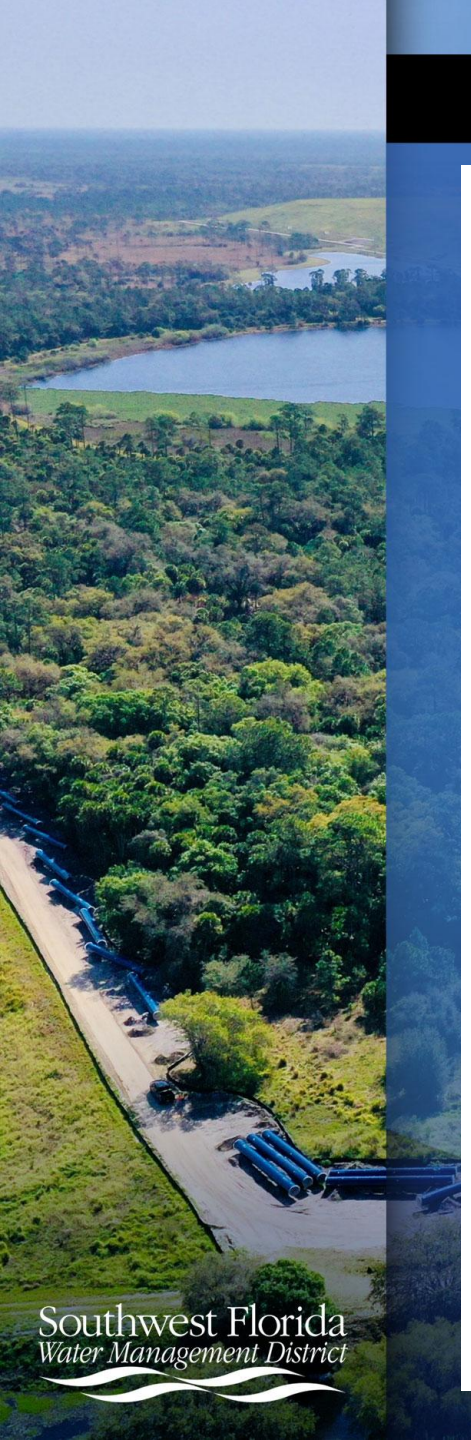
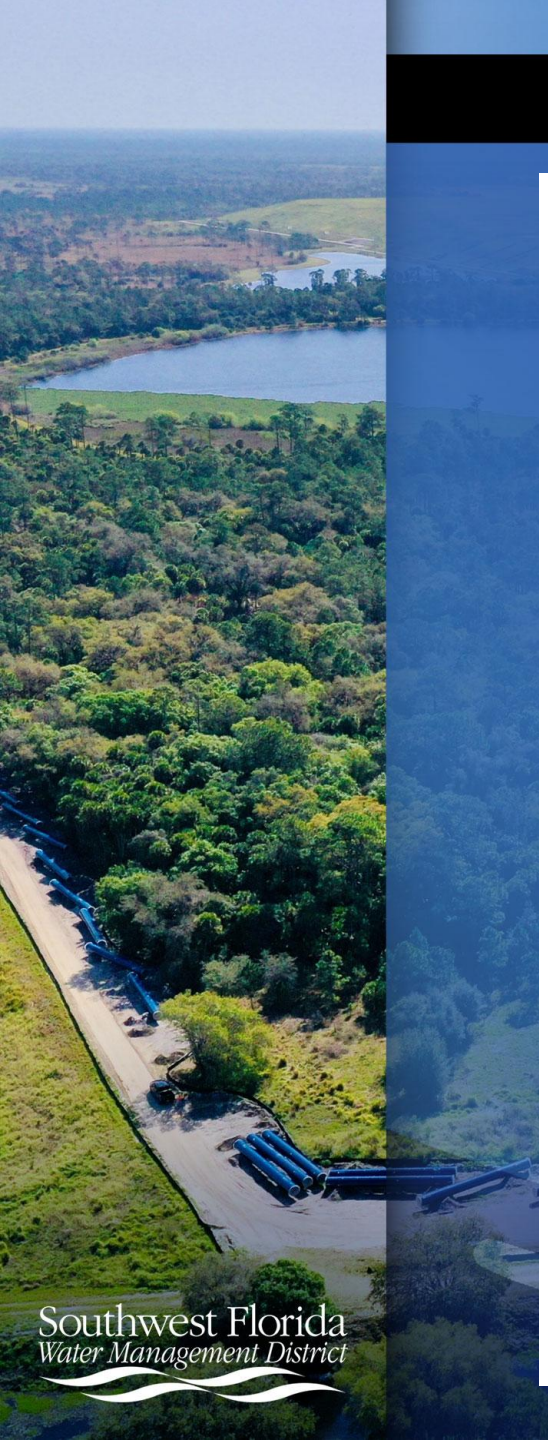


Southwest Florida Water Management District

	Sept. 30	September		Year to date	January – September	
	Actual **	Historic Avg.***	Normal Range***	Actual**	Historic Avg.***	Normal Range***
North	3.33	6.32	4.16 – 8.03	34.84	46.06	41.43 – 50.54
Central	2.78	6.92	4.82 – 7.98	37.07	45.17	40.06 – 48.62
South	3.52	7.47	5.36 – 9.18	36.10	45.51	40.40 – 50.22

Historic Rainfall (January - December in inches)

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	Jan. through Dec.	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Historic Avg.***	Normal Range***
North	58.57	48.00	51.78	60.87	47.77	57.02	66.66	52.41	54.01	48.63 – 58.08
Central	61.49	42.23	55.14	50.15	52.10	56.03	59.62	51.37	52.20	46.83 – 56.56
South	55.68	40.82	60.49	45.70	52.23	48.56	56.53	57.43	52.64	47.05 – 57.09



CONSENT AGENDA
October 22, 2024

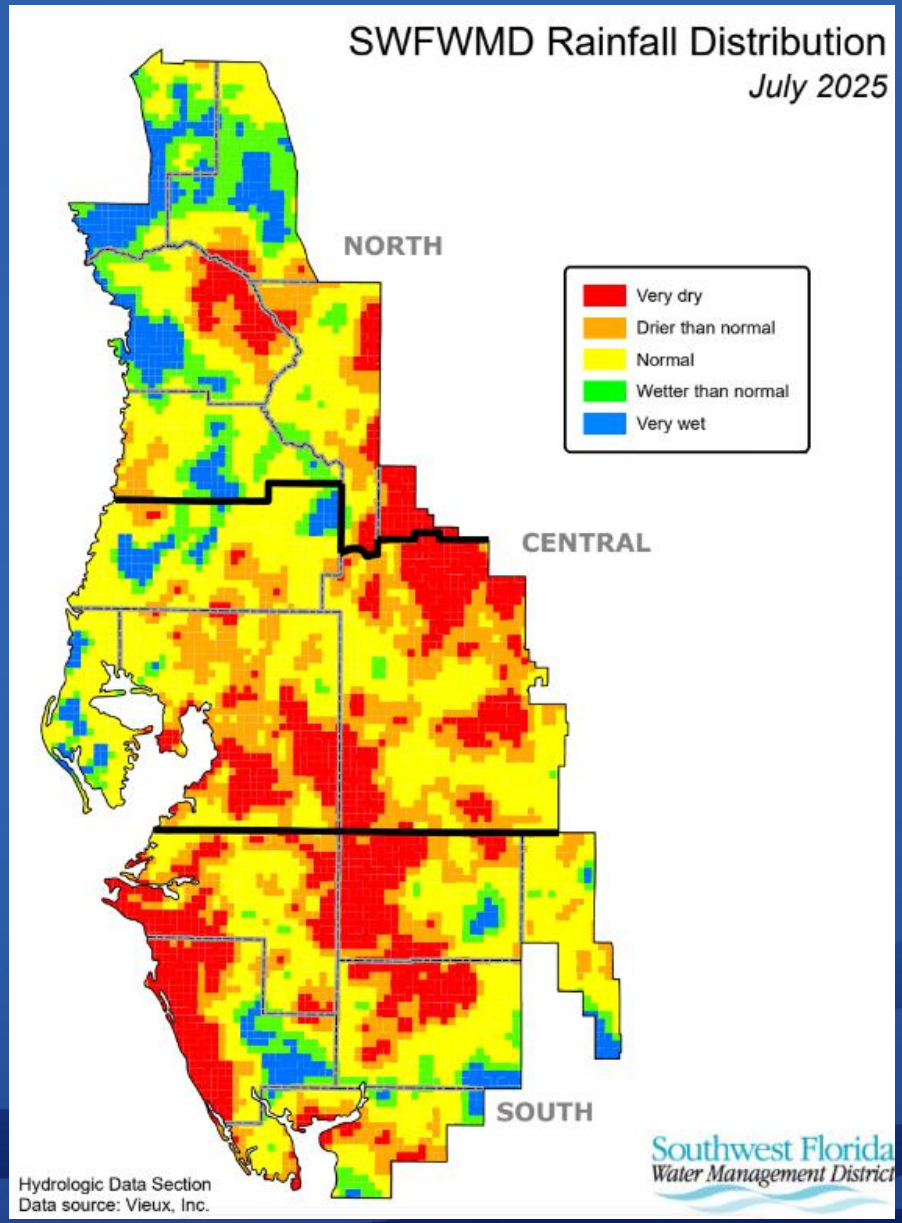
Regulation Committee: Consider Rescinding Water Shortage Order No. SWF 23-041

On November 14, 2023, the Governing Board issued Water Shortage Order No. SWF 23-041, declaring a modified Phase I water shortage across portions of the District. Phase II water shortage restrictions, including limitations on residential lawn and landscape irrigation, went into effect in Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco Counties. The Governing Board extended the water shortage for all areas on February 27, and subsequently extended Phase II water shortage restrictions for Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco Counties on June 25 and August 27, 2024. These restrictions remain in effect until December 23, 2024, unless modified or rescinded by the Governing Board.

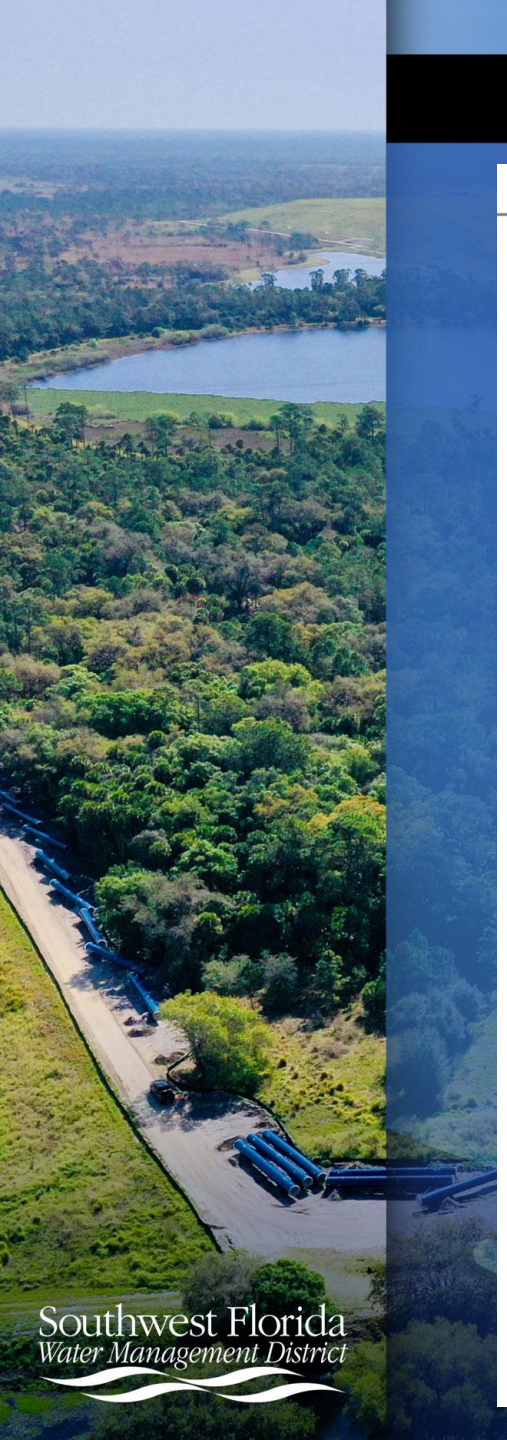
Since the most recent extension of the Water Shortage Order, the District has experienced severe hydrologic conditions that necessitate reconsideration of the water shortage restrictions. As of October 14, 2024, the storage volume of the C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir was at 14.99 billion gallons, or 97% full, due to high rainfall received from Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton.

As a result of the conditions described above, staff recommends that SWF Order No. 23-041, as modified on August 27, 2024, be rescinded.

Southwest Florida Water Management District



Southwest Florida
Water Management District



Stay Informed

- Know your flood zone by visiting hcfl.gov/floodmaps
- Know your evacuation zone and sign-up for emergency alerts at hcfl.gov/departments/emergency
- Visit the NOAA Storm Prediction Center Website at www.spc.noaa.gov
- Follow the U.S. National Weather Service Tampa Bay on Facebook or X
- Call Hillsborough County Customer Service & Support at (813) 272-5900

Important Numbers

Hillsborough County:

- Development Services (813) 272-5600
- Road or Drainage Problems (813) 635-5400
- Customer Service & Support (en Español) (813) 272-5900

City of Tampa:

- Stormwater Operations (813) 274-3101
- Construction Services Center (813) 274-3100

City of Temple Terrace:

- Public Works (813) 506-6570
- Community Development (813) 506-6480

City of Plant City:

- Stormwater (813) 707-7200
- Development Services (813) 659-4200

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAMPA, FL 33601
Permit No. 295

Stormwater Program
Public Works Department
P.O. Box 1110
Tampa, FL 33601-1110
1380

Hillsborough County Florida
Engineering & Operations

Flood Information for Residents in the 100-Year Floodplain

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Florida Water Star Ordinances

- Florida Water Star (FWS)
  - Indoor appliances, plumbing fixtures, irrigation systems and landscapes
  - 48,000 gallons less per year
- 13 ordinances to date since 2018
  - More than **27,000** homes
  - **1.3 billion** gallons saved annually
- Bay Laurel Utilities (Ocala) and City of Zephyrhills
- Total **56,000** properties and **2.7 billion** gallons saved annually at build out.

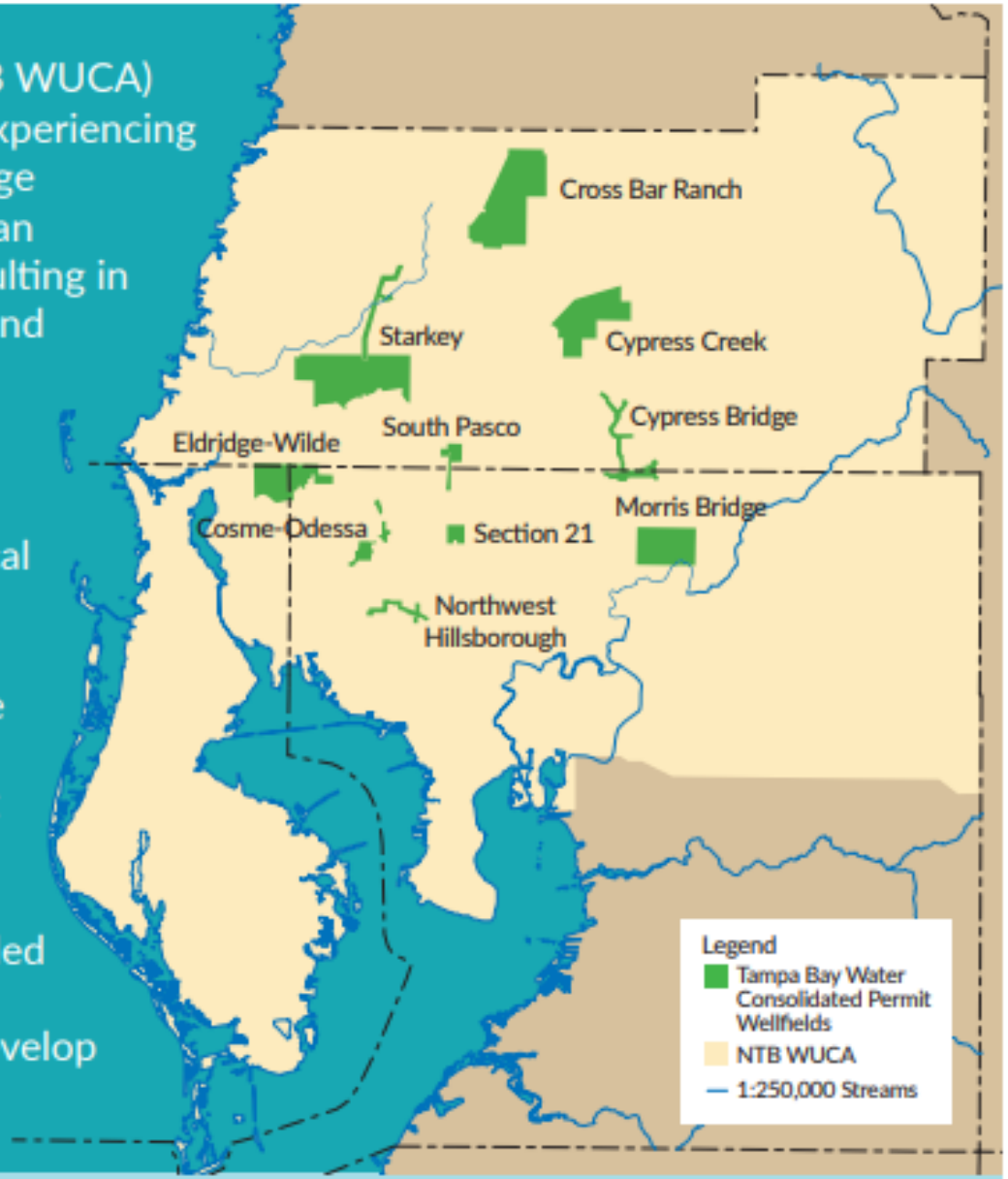
Florida Water Star℠

Update by Amber E. Smith

Southwest Florida Water Management District

The Northern Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area (NTB WUCA) was established in 1989. At that time, our region was experiencing unprecedented drought and population growth, and large amounts of water were being pumped out of the Floridan Aquifer, causing surface water bodies to lose water resulting in significant harm to the natural ecosystem. Some lakes and wetlands in the area had completely dried up, which caused much concern.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) and Tampa Bay Water which represents six local governments and municipalities in Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties, partnered together in 1998 to develop a recovery plan. The plan included reducing the amount of groundwater withdrawals allowed under Tampa Bay Water's consolidated permit and developing alternative water sources. Tampa Bay Water invested nearly **$2** billion in alternative water supplies and pipelines to fully connect its system. The District provided more than **$300** million, which has been used in joint efforts with local governments to study the area and develop alternative water supplies.



Update by Amber E. Smith

Northern Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area

The Northern Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area (NTB WUCA) includes all of Pinellas and Pasco counties, and the majority of Hillsborough County.

NTB Recovery Plan a Success

District staff conducted a hydrologic assessment of the Northern Tampa Bay wellfield recovery in August and September of 2020. The assessment indicated that by reducing groundwater withdrawals by about 50 percent since the 1990s, improved rainfall conditions, and implementation of a robust wellfield operations strategy by TBW that prioritized environmental preservation, all MFL lakes and all but one MFL wetland (located on the Morris Bridge wellfield) were meeting their levels, the ecological health of lakes and wetlands had significantly improved, and aquifer water levels were near their highest elevations in four to six decades.

Update by Amber E. Smith

Cross Bar Ranch

Location Q-08

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Cypress Creek

Location W-21

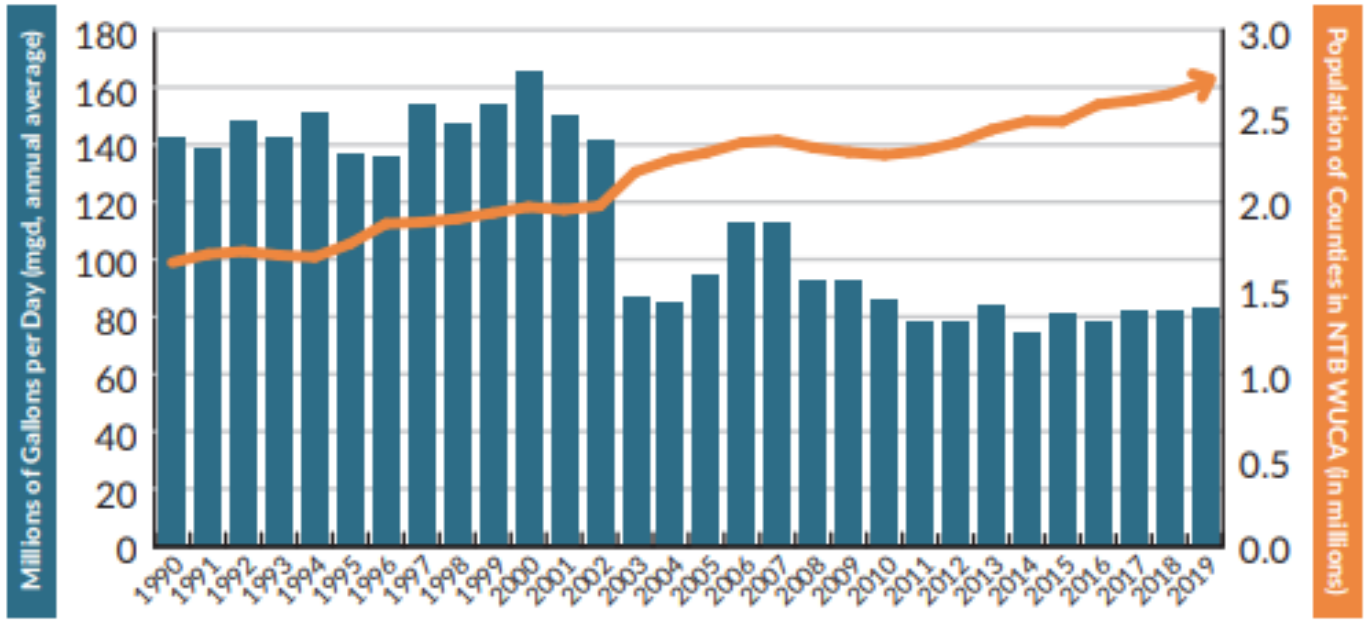
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

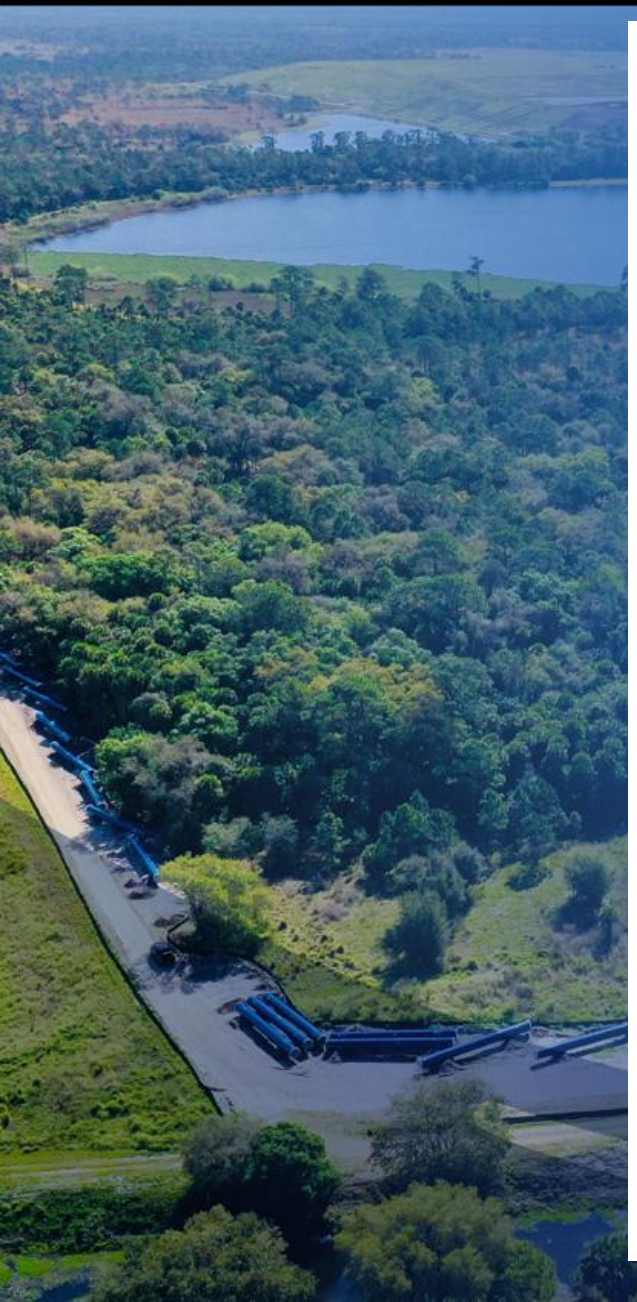
Starkey

Location S-18 Mud Lake

Groundwater Withdrawals from Wellfields in Consolidated Permit and Population Growth in the NTB WUCA

Over the last 20 years, the District has worked closely with Tampa Bay Water and its member governments to reduce the consolidated permitted groundwater withdrawals by about **50%**. Meanwhile, the population of the area has grown by almost **60%** or by about 1 million people.





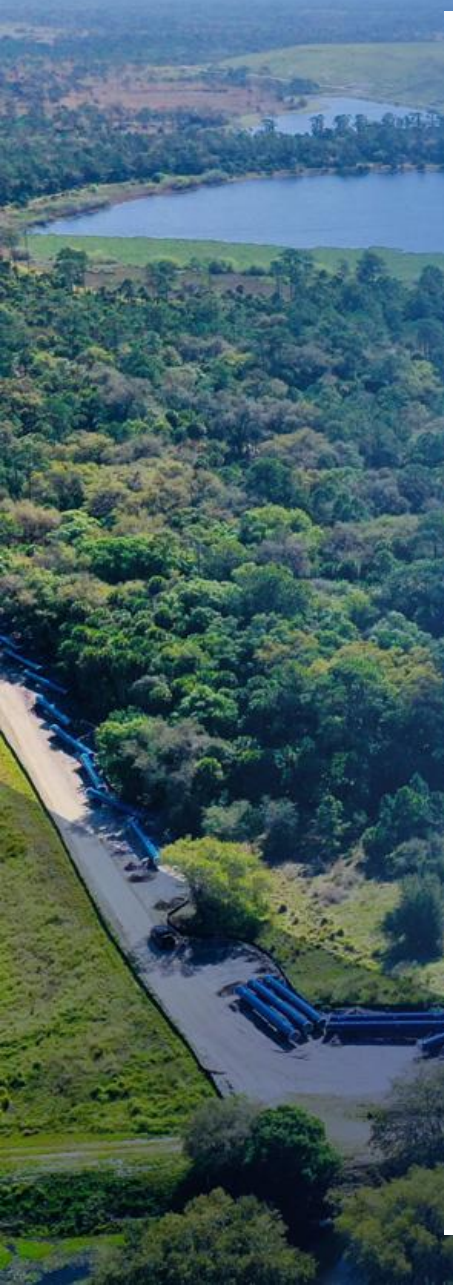
Reductions Through Permitting

Before the consolidated permit was issued in 1998, collectively there was a total permitted annual average of 192 million gallons per day (mgd) of groundwater withdrawals for the 11 wellfields in the area. The original consolidated permit was issued for 158 (mgd) with plans to reduce withdrawals to 121 mgd by 2003 and 90 mgd by 2008. Reductions were achieved through the development of alternative water supplies. In 2010, the District's Governing Board adopted the second phase of the recovery strategy and has since continued to evaluate the amount of environmental recovery achieved while withdrawals remain at or below 90 mgd.

Recovery Plan

The District established MFLs in the NTB area for cypress wetlands, lakes, rivers, springs and the Upper Floridan aquifer beginning in the late-1990s. Phase One (approved in 1999) required that new withdrawals not violate established MFLs, unless the withdrawal was part of the NTB WUCA Recovery Strategy. Phase Two was approved in 2009 for implementation through 2020.

Since the approval of the recovery plan, TBW has implemented three projects including Big Fish Lake Augmentation, Cross Bar Ranch Wellfield Wetlands Restoration and Cypress Creek Surface Water Management Project, which benefit up to 745 acres of wetlands. An additional eight projects are in development.



Alternative Water Supply Projects

Several approaches were taken by the District and TBW to develop alternative water sources for the Tampa Bay area, including building the largest **seawater desalination plant** in North America located in Apollo Beach, pulling water from various river sources, constructing a **regional offstream reservoir** in southern Hillsborough County, installing many miles of pipelines to connect systems, and completion of a surface water treatment plant. These alternative water resources have helped tremendously to compensate for the reduction in groundwater withdrawals and the rise in demand for water due to population growth in the area. These alternative sources also provide resiliency, allowing Tampa Bay Water flexibility in its water source so that resources can be rested before they become stressed.

Minimum Flows and Levels within the NTBWUCA

The District has established **minimum flows and levels (MFLs)** at approximately 30 wetlands, 71 lakes, two springs, three rivers and seven aquifer sites in NTB. All MFLs in the area are meeting levels except for one wetland located on the Morris Bridge wellfield and the **Lower Hillsborough River (LHR)** at the City of Tampa's Dam location.

Major Alternative Water Supply Projects

The District has partnered with Tampa Bay Water on several major projects to develop innovative solutions for alternative water supplies to offset reductions in groundwater withdrawals. Tampa Bay Water built, owns and operates these facilities:

Tampa Bay Regional Surface Water Treatment Plant

- Began operating in **2002**
- Total Capital Cost **$274** million
- District contributed **$95** million
- Treats up to **120** million gallons of surface water per day

C.W. "Bill" Young Regional Reservoir

- Began operating in **2005**
- Total Capital Cost **$146** million
- District contributed **$26** million
- Holds **15.5** billion gallons of water

Tampa Bay Seawater Desalination Plant

- Completed in **2007**
- Total Capital Cost **$158** million
- District contributed **$95** million
- Treats up to **25** million gallons per day

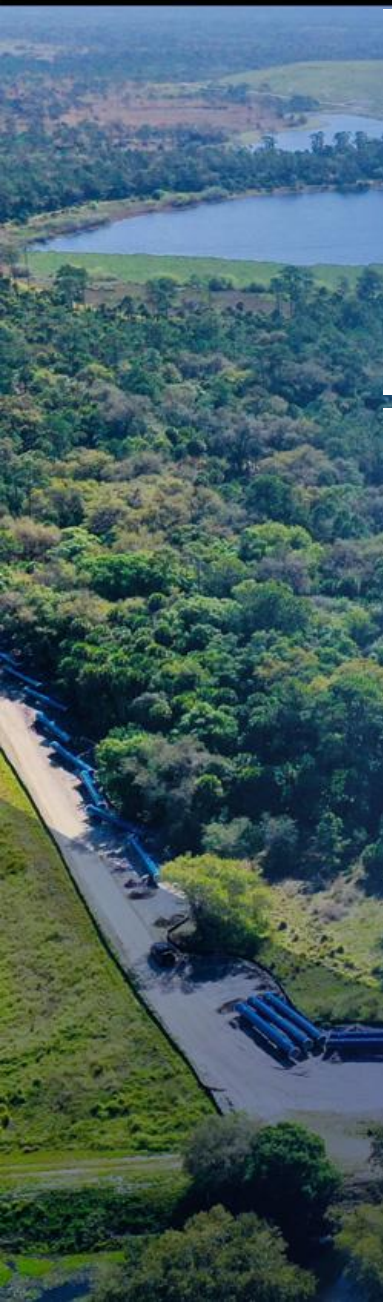
TAMPA BAY WATER

Partnership and Funding History

- Configuration I: $183 million
- Configuration II: $122 million
- West Pasco Infrastructure Project: $11.25 million
- Brandon Booster Station: $5.3 million
- South Hillsborough Pipeline: $145 million
- Other Projects: $5.8 million

~$473 million received or committed for funding

Southwest Florida Water Management District



Southern Water Use Caution Area

A **Water Use Caution Area**, or WUCA, is an area where regional action is necessary to address cumulative water withdrawals which are causing or may cause adverse impacts to the water and related natural resources or the public interest. The District Governing Board designates WUCAs and establishes rules that enhance the protection and/or recovery of the water resources.

What

The **Southern Water Use Caution Area (SWUCA)** was designated in 1992 to address declines in aquifer levels due primarily to groundwater withdrawals. Drawdowns in aquifer levels in some areas exceeded 50 feet.

Where

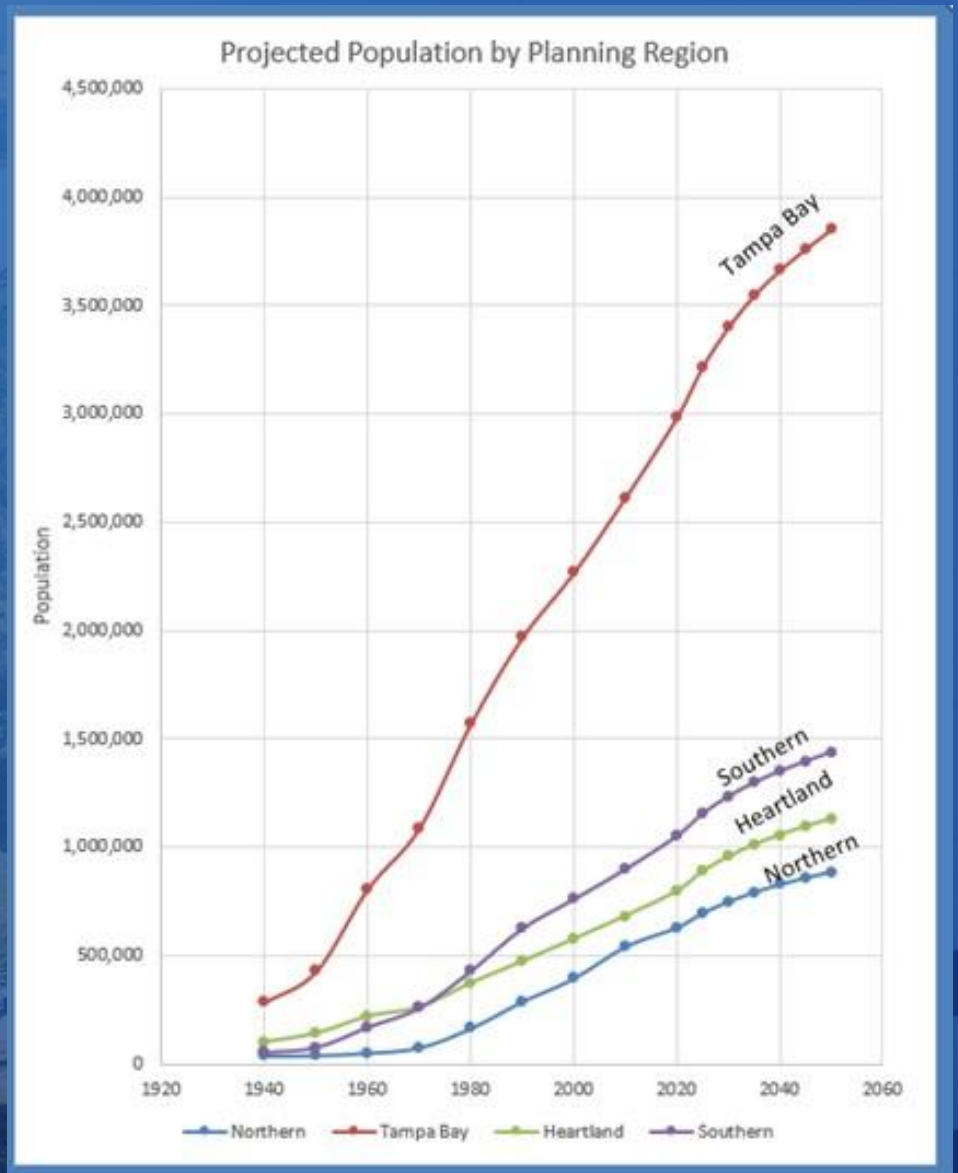
The area encompasses approximately 5,100 square miles, including all of DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee and Sarasota counties, and parts of Charlotte, Highlands, Hillsborough and Polk counties.

Challenges

- Reduced flows in the **upper Peace River**
- Reduced lake levels in the **Ridge Lakes area** (extends roughly 90 miles along the center of the state in Polk and Highlands counties)
- Rate of saltwater intrusion into the Upper Floridan aquifer along the coast, especially in the **Most Impacted Area (MIA)**, area of about 708 square miles located along the coast of southern Hillsborough, Manatee and northwestern Sarasota counties

The District has adopted **minimum flows and levels (MFL)** for 41 priority water bodies in the SWUCA. An MFL is the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology. More than half of the established MFLs are not being met.

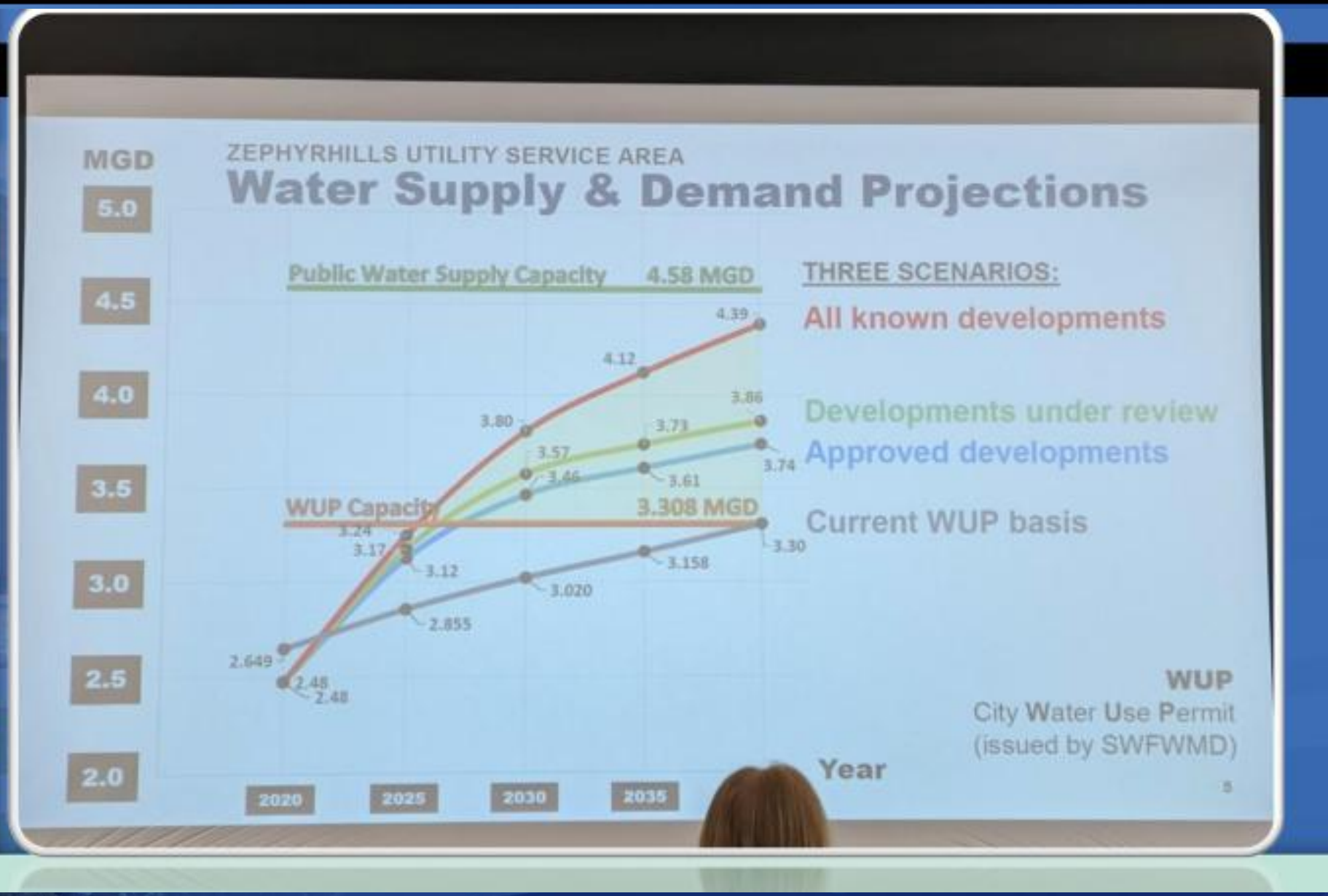
Southwest Florida Water Management District



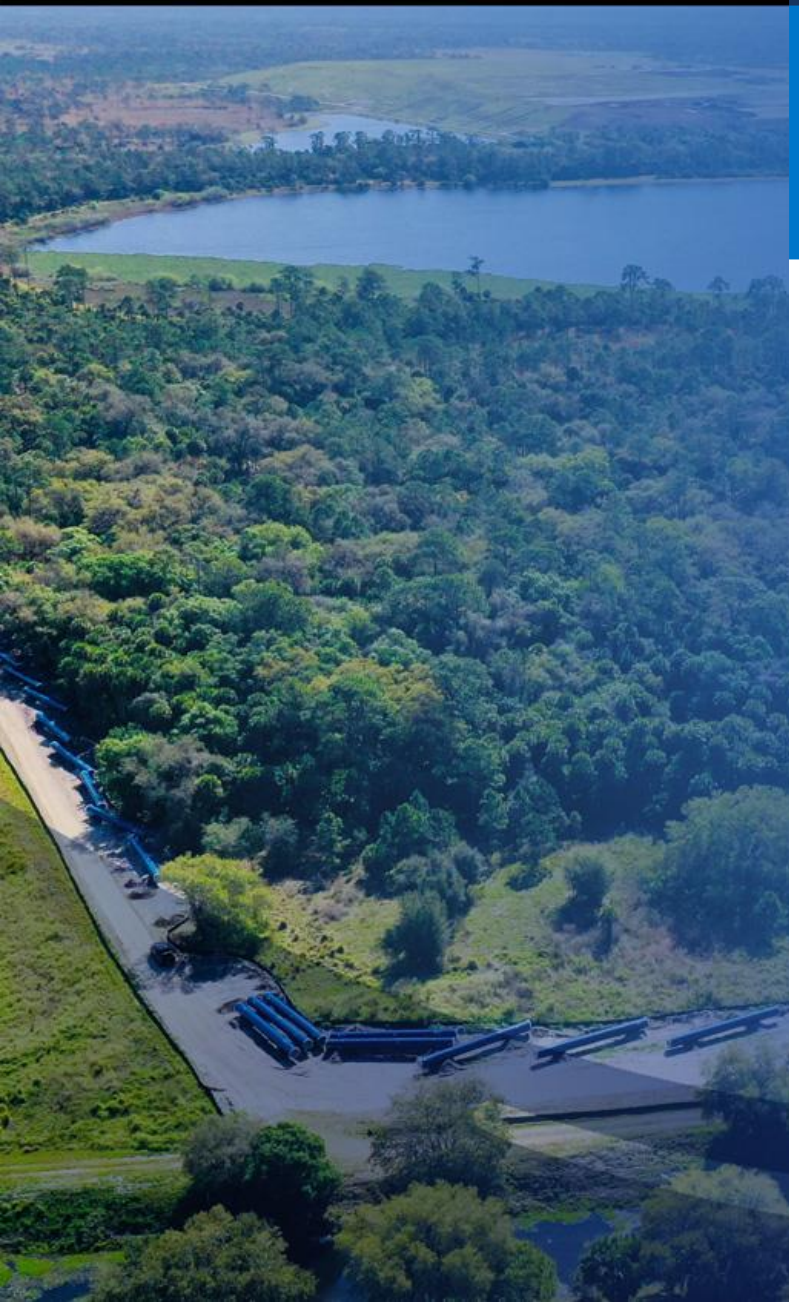
Projected Population increase for the District counties.
Source: 1900-2020 are US Census data; 2025-2045 data are from the Bureau of Economic and Business Research.

Update by Amber E. Smith

Southwest Florida Water Management District



Update by Amber E. Smith



TAMPA BAY WATER

HOME AGENCY SUPPLY QUALITY CONSERVATION CAREER

02 Oct

Rainfall Deficit Calls for Conservation Measures

Share | Return

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brandon Moore
bmoore@tampabaywater.org
(727) 791-2304 | (727) 470-0702

CLEARWATER, Fla. (Oct. 2, 2023) – Tampa Bay Water has sufficient drinking water supplies to serve the region; however, the Tampa Bay region is now in a Stage 1 water shortage due to below-average regional rainfall on a 12-month rolling average. The Stage 1 shortage is declared under the regional Water Shortage Mitigation Plan, Tampa Bay Water's supply management plan to proactively mitigate water supply shortages driven by prolonged, below-normal hydrologic conditions.

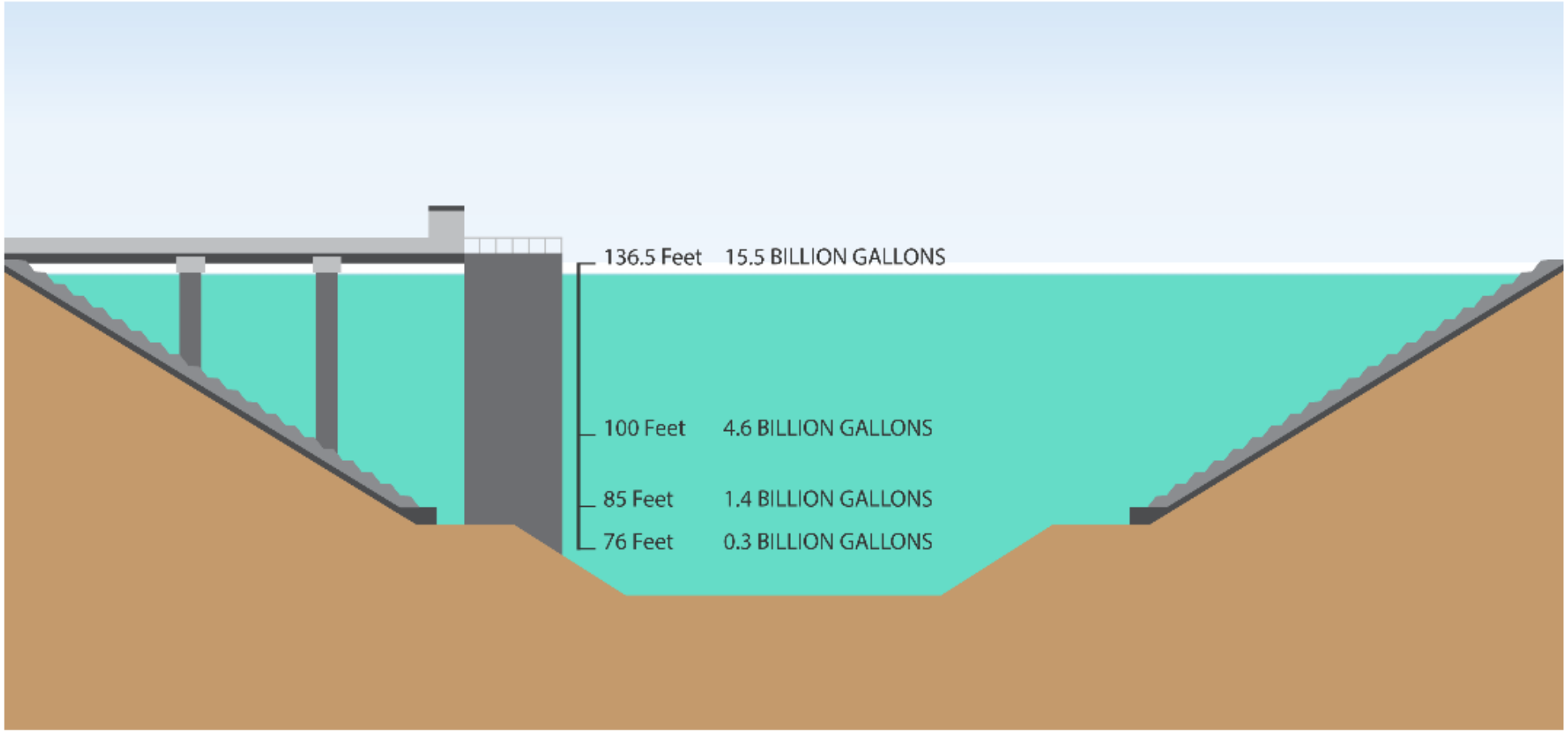
The region enters a Stage 1 water shortage when the rainfall deficit is more than 5 inches. Regional rainfall totals averaged 8.3 inches below normal over the past 12 months.

Tampa Bay Water's diverse water supply system is built to withstand dry conditions with the use of the regional reservoir and seawater desalination plant. Tampa Bay Water's C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir, the region's water savings account, is nearly full at 14 billion gallons of its 15.5-billion-gallon capacity, which will help maintain water supply to the Tampa Bay Regional Surface Water Treatment Plant. The Tampa Bay Seawater Desalination Plant, the region's drought-proof water supply, is expected to deliver water beginning in November.

It's important to take proactive measures in a Stage 1 water shortage and residents can help by conserving water during these drier than normal conditions. Regional water supply demands in September averaged 208.5 million gallons per day (mgd), 7.45 mgd higher than August 2023 average demand mostly due to outdoor watering.

Update by Amber E. Smith

Current Reservoir Levels



Previous Water Level: **134.51**
Previous Volume: **14.65**
Previous Read Date: **Oct 6 2025 12:00AM**

Water Level Change: **0.08 feet**
Volume Change: **0.03 BG**

Current Water Level: **134.59**
Current Volume: **14.68**
Current Read Date: **Oct 7 2025 12:00AM**

EXAMPLES

TAMPA BAY WATER

Focus on Water Conservation

- Tampa Bay Water Wise
  - Promoting multi-family rebates
- County promotion of rain sensor requirements and rebates
- County education and enforcement of watering restrictions

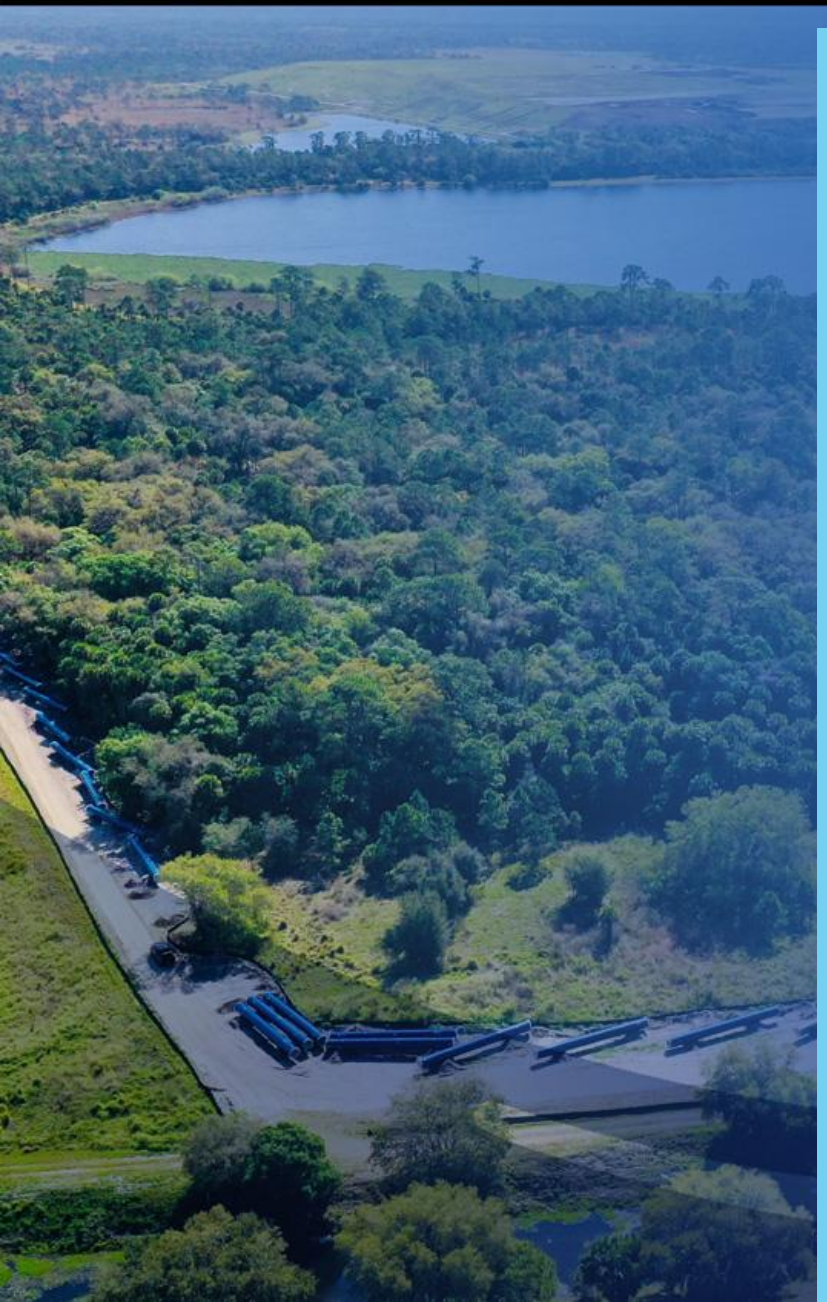
TAMPA BAY water wise

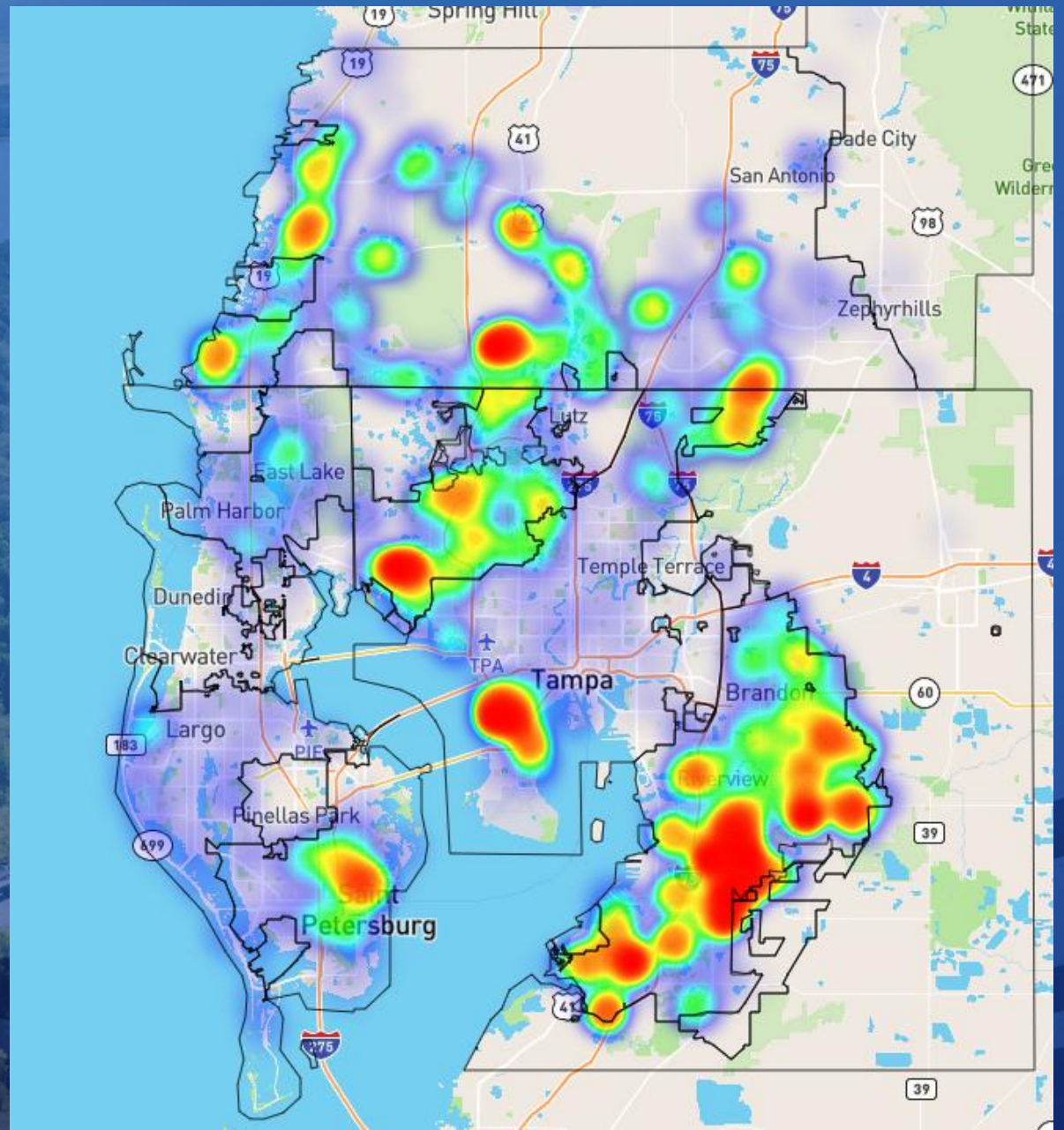
Hillsborough County Florida

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Saving Water Indoors and Out

Southwest Florida Water Management District





Update by Amber E. Smith

Southwest Florida Water Management District

District
average per capita*
97 gpd

United States
average per capita*
130 gpd

Florida
average per capita*
134 gpd
*2015 Data

$152 Million Invested in Conservation Cost-Share Projects

CFI
Cooperative Funding Initiative

213 Projects

More than $61 Million
Total Project Costs

FARMS
Facilitating Ag Resources Management Systems

242 Projects

Nearly $87 Million
Total Project Costs

Mini-FARMS

305 Projects

More Than $2 Million
Total Project Costs Since 2007

Update by Amber E. Smith

Southwest Florida Water Management District

About WISE Program

Grants (cost-share reimbursements) of up to $20,000 are available for water conservation projects that improve water use efficiency and help protect the region's water resources. A wide variety of nonagricultural water users are eligible for the program, such as:

- Commercial properties
- Hotels
- Apartment complexes
- HOAs and condo associations
- Industrial facilities
- Government facilities
- Schools
- Golf courses and more!

Funds are available for projects throughout **the District**, and applications are accepted year round.

WISE Program Quick Facts

- Maximum reimbursement of 50% of eligible project costs, up to $20,000 per project
- Project must receive District approval before expenditures begin
- Water savings will need to be calculated on a project-by-project basis
- Projects must be completed within one year of the awarded date
- Projects must take place within the District (**see map**)
- Funding will be awarded on a "first come, first serve" basis until depleted
- Through a partnership with **Tampa Bay Water Wise**, some water users may qualify for additional funding (total incentive up to $40,000)

WATER INCENTIVES SUPPORTING EFFICIENCY

Funding Available for Water Conservation Projects

Cost-share reimbursements are available for water conservation projects throughout the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) that improve water use efficiency and help protect the region's water resources. The District will reimburse approved applicants 50% of project costs up to $20,000 per project. Applications will be accepted year-round until all project year funds are awarded.

RECEIVE UP TO $20,000

Conservation Projects That May Be Eligible

- Toilet, showerhead and plumbing fixture replacements
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ conversions
- Irrigation system modifications
- Weather stations for irrigation control
- Cooling tower modifications and pretreatment systems
- High-efficiency commercial/industrial processing equipment

Additional projects not listed may be eligible for funding. Please contact District staff to discuss ideas.

Benefits

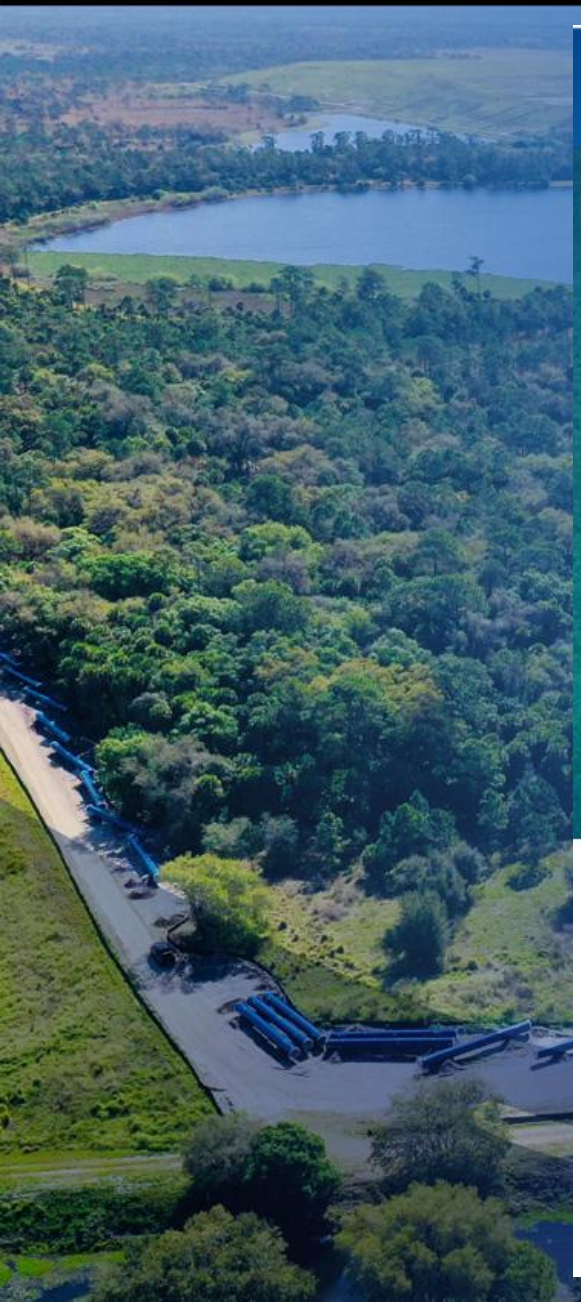
- Save money on utility bills and operating expenses
- Improve process and system efficiency
- Reduce your project costs through reimbursement
- Protect Florida's water resources

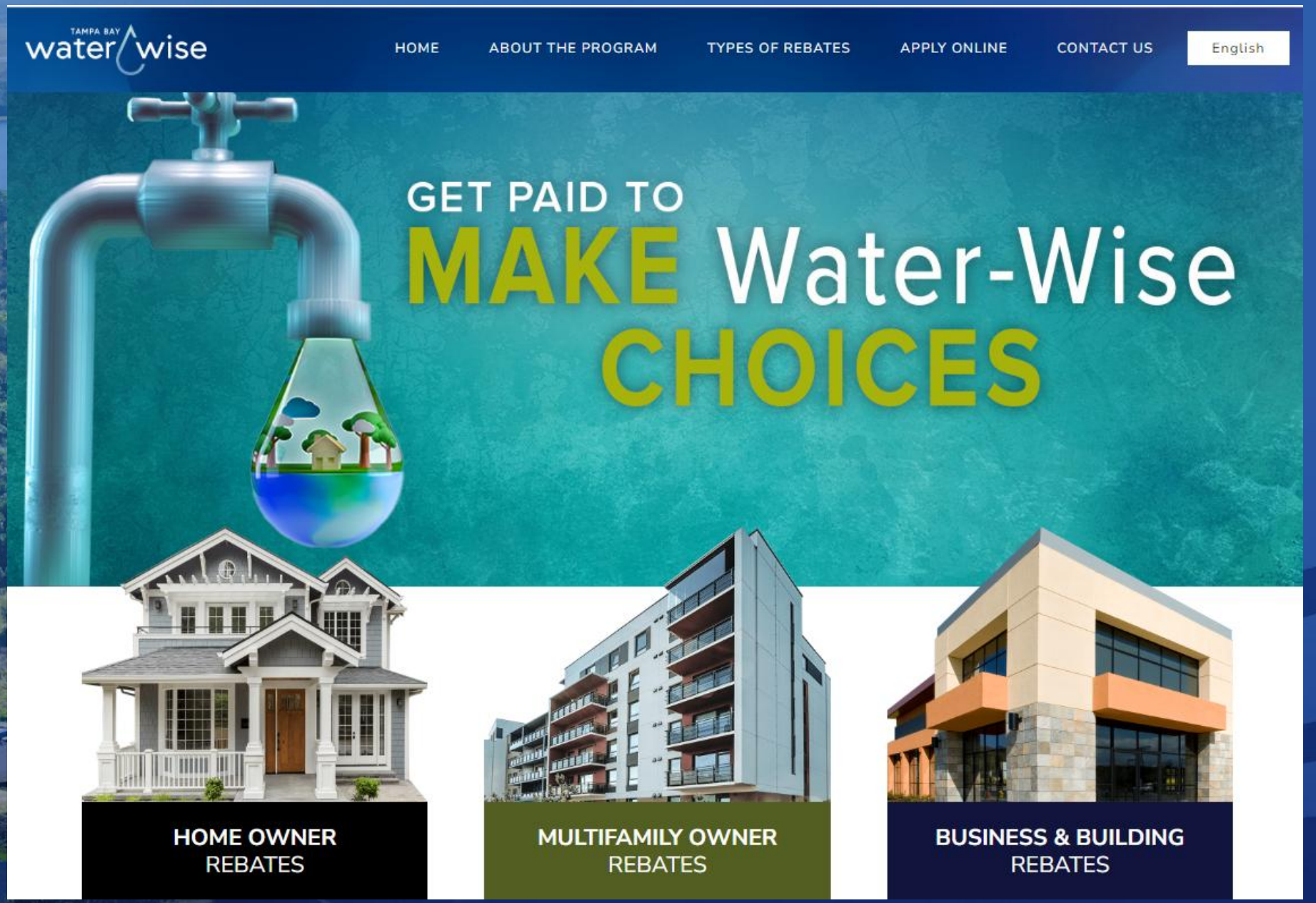
Visit WaterMatters.org/WISE to learn more, or contact Josh Madden at (352) 796-7211, ext. 4197 or Josh.Madden@WaterMatters.org.

WISE
WATER INCENTIVES SUPPORTING EFFICIENCY

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Southwest Florida Water Management District





H_2OSAV Multifamily Water Savings Report

Prepared by the University of Florida | IFAS H2OSAV: Water Savings, Analytics & Verification Program

Background

To date the Tampa Bay Water Wise program has issued four rebate incentives for large-scale water efficiency retrofits in multifamily housing complexes. The goal of this report is to provide estimated water savings associated with these retrofits based on monthly water use records.

Station 42

Student housing of N 42nd Street/Station 42

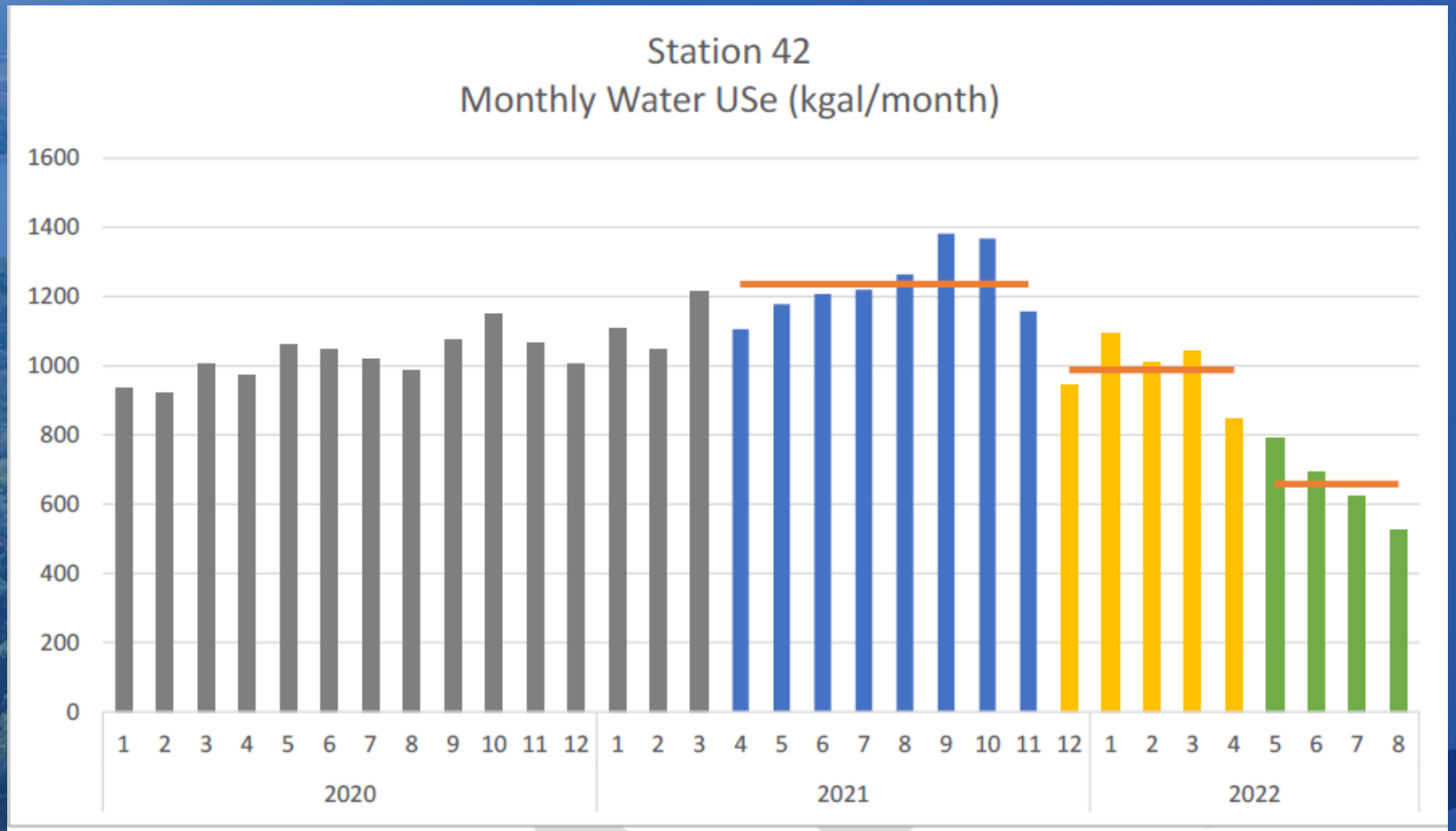


Figure 1: Combined monthly water use for Station 42 and averages for the pre-retrofit and post-retrofit periods.

Period	Dates	Average Water Use	Sequential Change in Water Use	Total Change in Water Use
Pre-retrofit	4/2021 – 11/2021	1,235 kgal/mo		
Post-retrofit w/ flow restrictor	12/2021 – 4/2022	988 kgal/mo	247 kgal/mo	
Post -retrofit w/ retrofits	5/2022 – 8/2022	658 kgal/mo	330 kgal/mo	577 kgal/mo

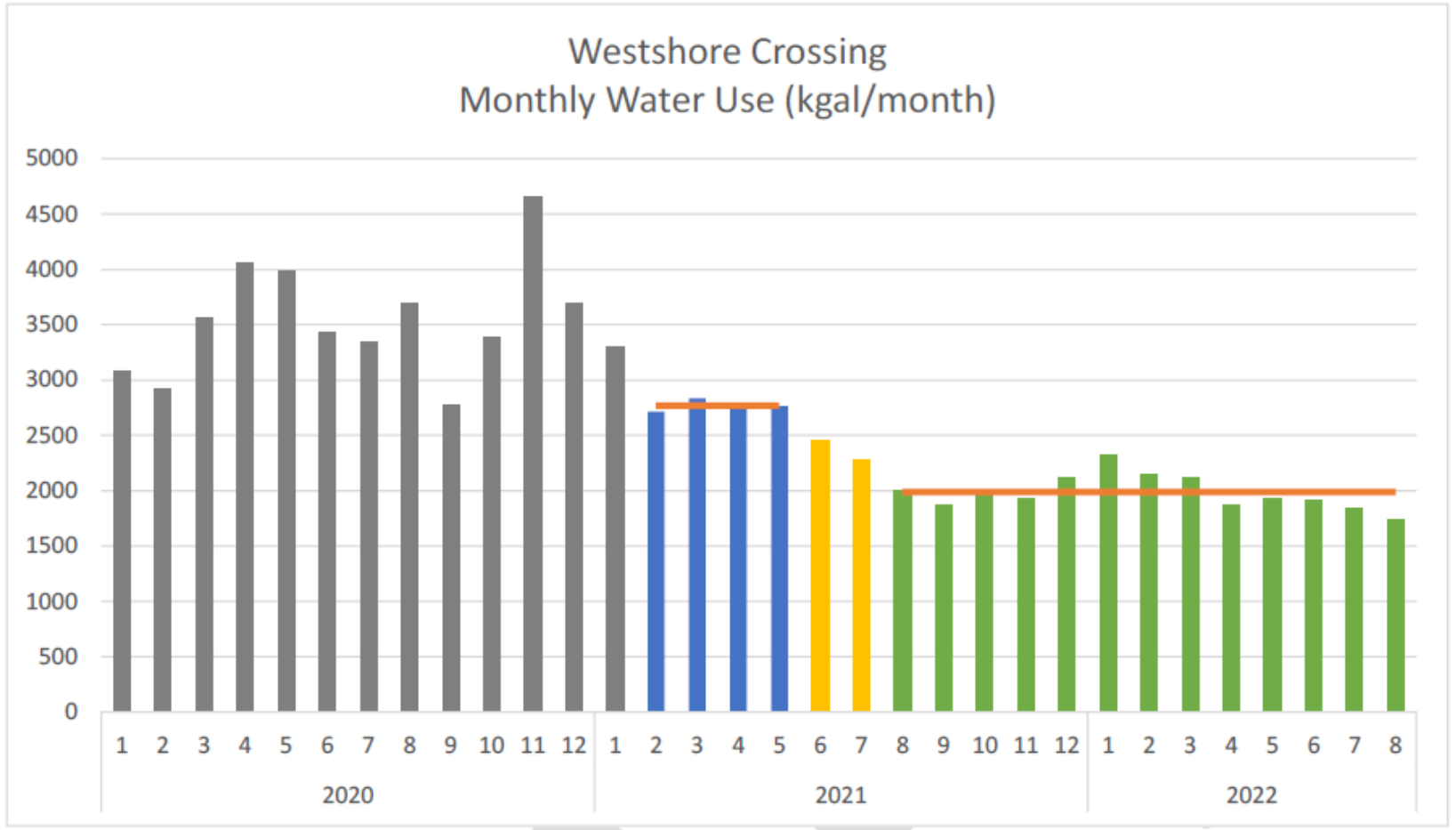


Figure 2: Monthly water use for Westshore Crossing and averages for the pre-retrofit and post-retrofit periods.

Period	Dates	Water Use
Pre-retrofit	2/2021 – 5/2021	2,765.5 kgal/month
Retrofit period	6/2021 – 7/2021	
Post -retrofit	8/2021 – 8/2022	1,985.7 kgal/month
Change in Water Use (Savings)		779.7 kgal/month

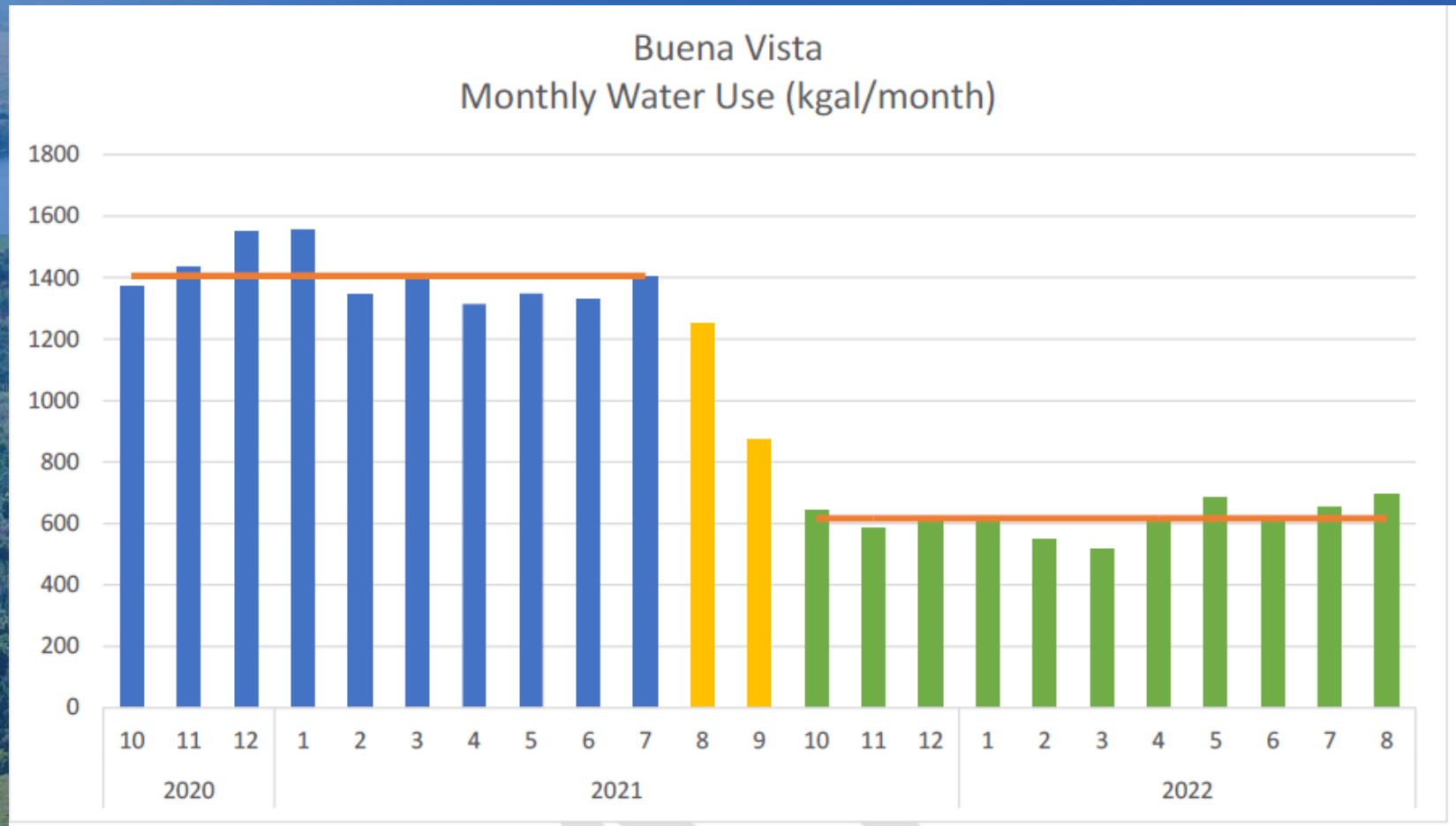
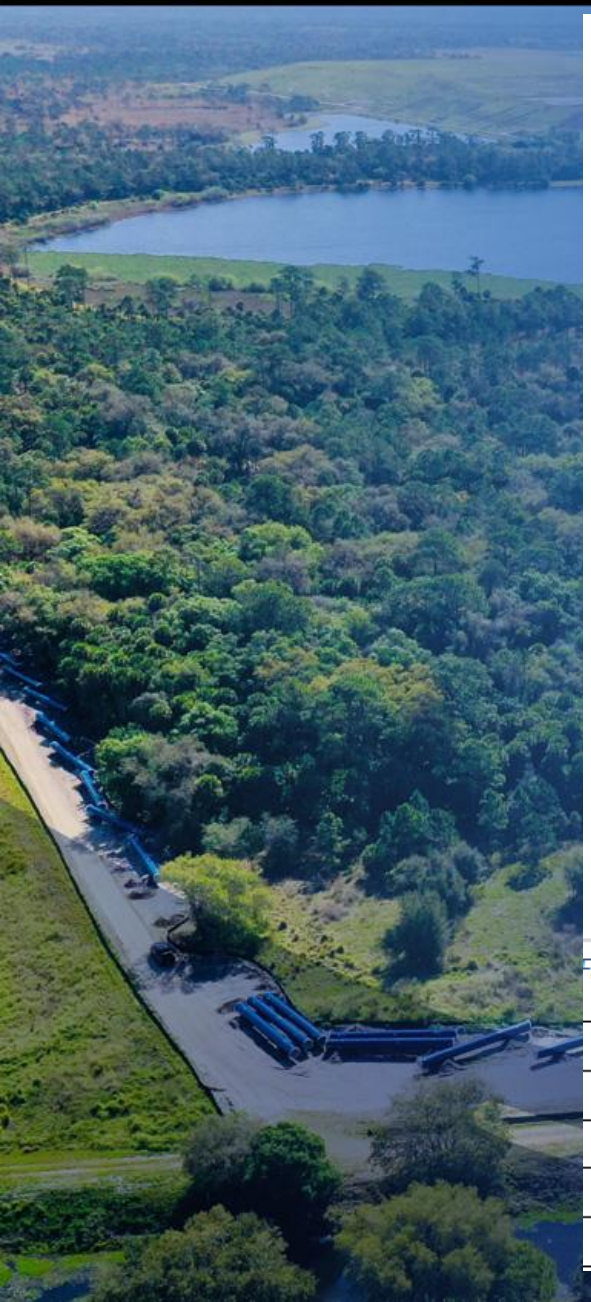


Figure 3: Monthly water use for Buena Vista and averages for the pre-retrofit and post-retrofit periods.

Period	Dates	Water Use
Pre-retrofit	10/2020 – 7/2021	1,405 kgal/month
Retrofit period	8/2021 – 9/2021	
Post -retrofit	10/2021 – 8/2022	615.6 kgal/month
Change in Water Use (Savings)		789.4 kgal/month



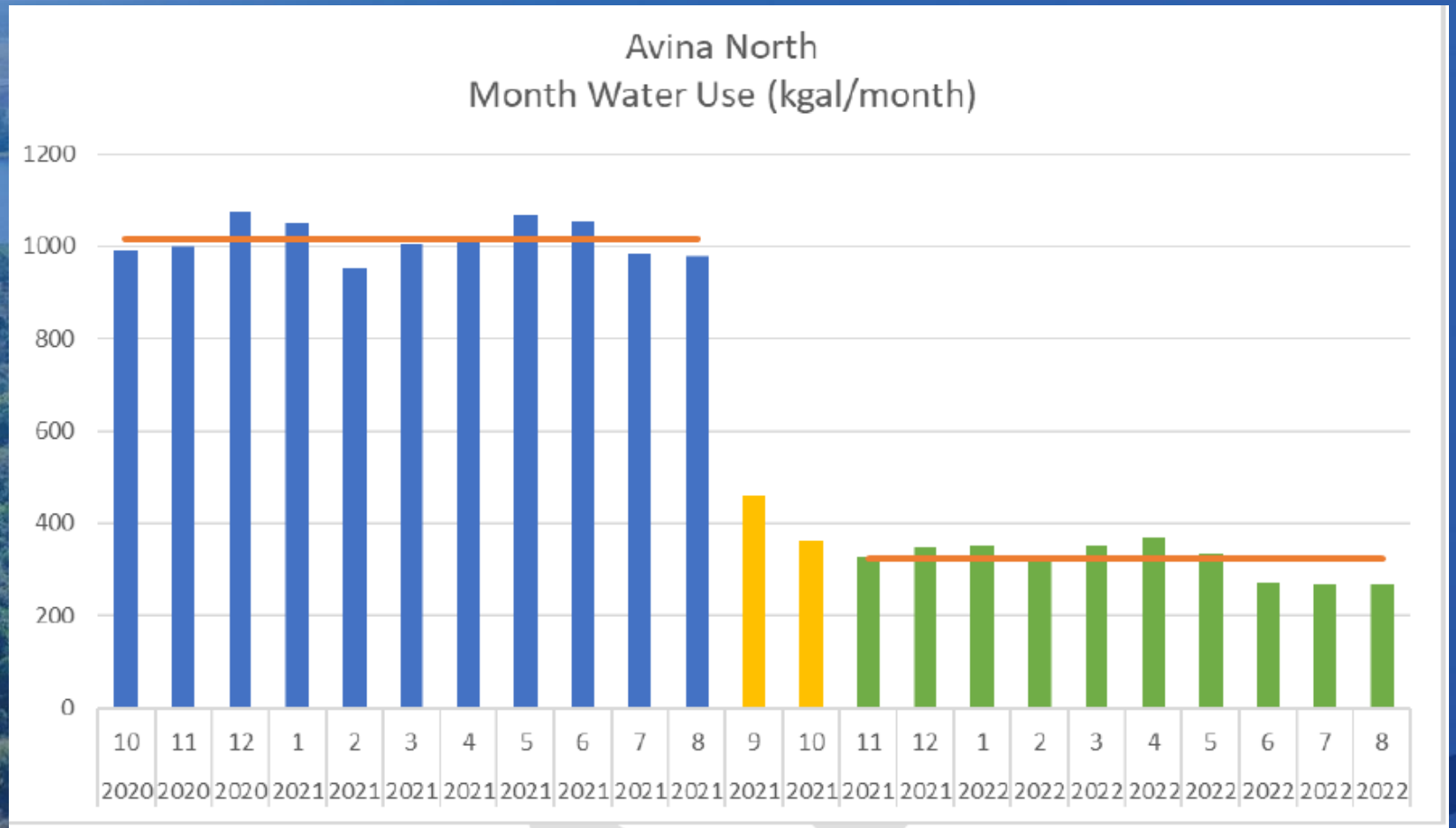
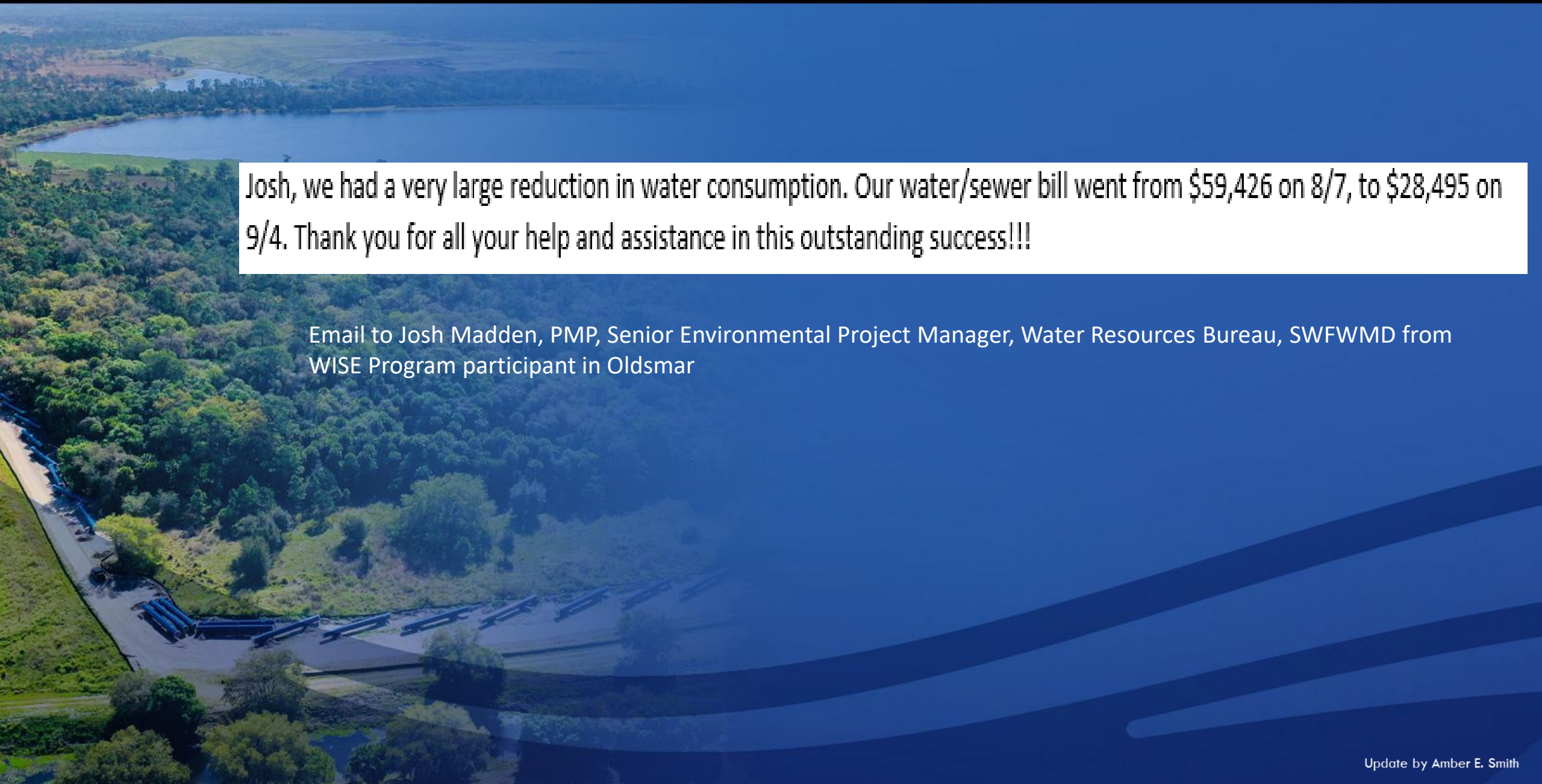


Figure 4: Monthly water use for Avina North and averages for the pre-retrofit and post-retrofit periods.

Period	Dates	Water Use
Pre-retrofit	10/2020 – 8/2021	1,015 kgal/month
Retrofit period	9/2021 – 10/2021	
Post -retrofit	11/2021 – 8/2022	323 kgal/month
Change in Water Use (Savings)		692 kgal/month



Josh, we had a very large reduction in water consumption. Our water/sewer bill went from $59,426 on 8/7, to $28,495 on 9/4. Thank you for all your help and assistance in this outstanding success!!!

Email to Josh Madden, PMP, Senior Environmental Project Manager, Water Resources Bureau, SWFWMD from WISE Program participant in Oldsmar

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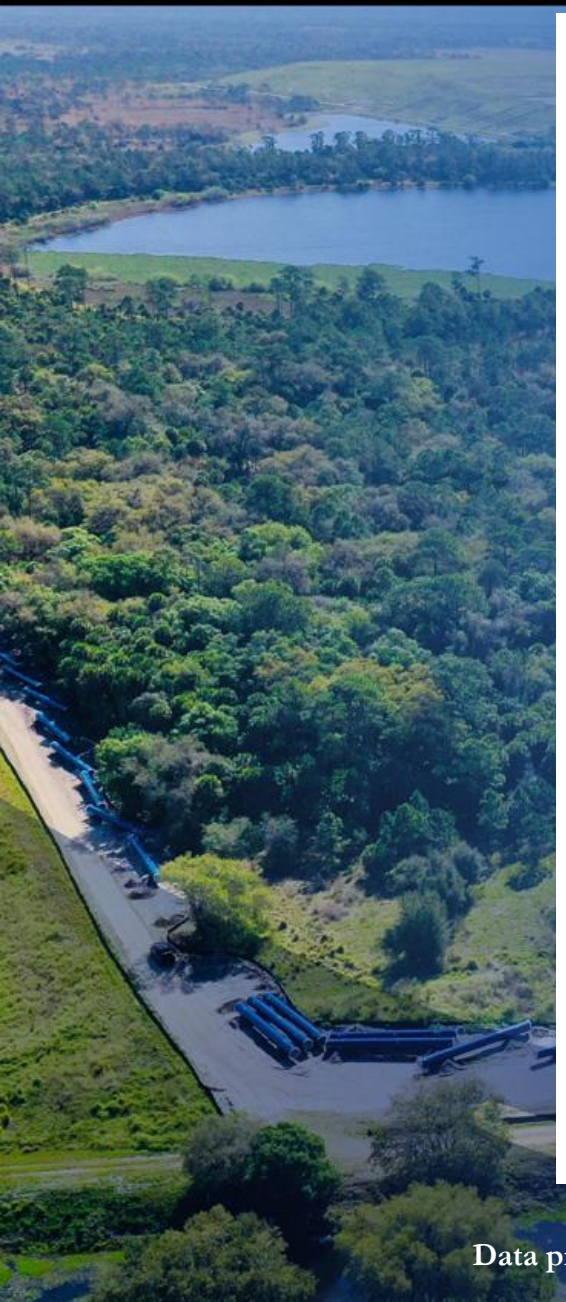
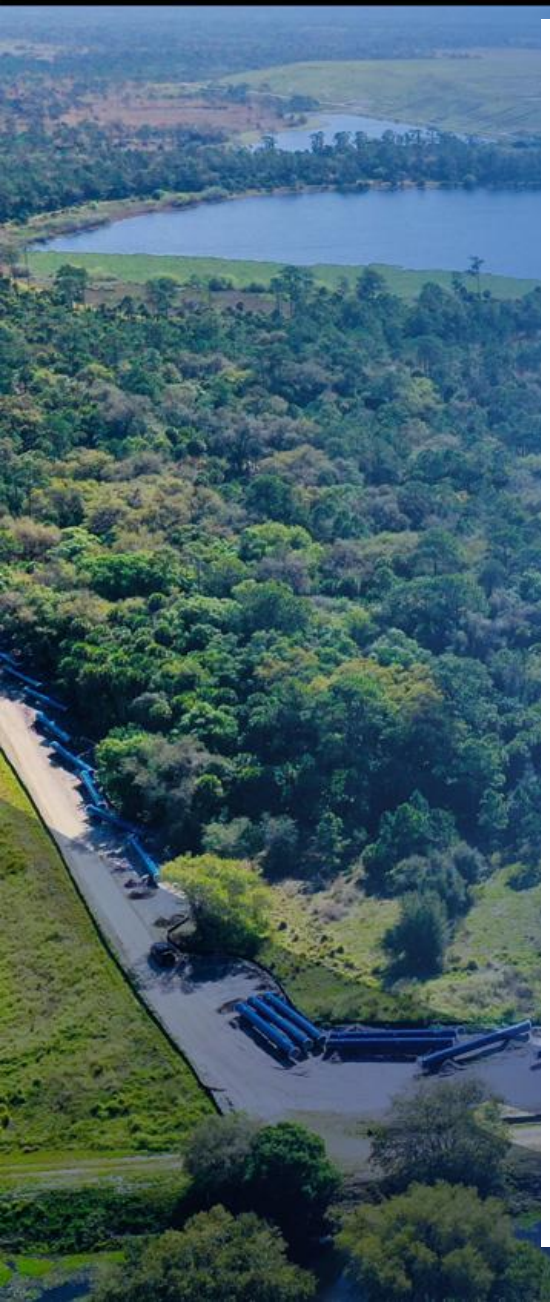
Email to Josh Madden, PMP, Senior Environmental Project Manager, Water Resources Bureau, SWFWMD from WISE Program participant in Oldsmar

	Total use (gallons)	Use per unit per month (gallons)	Financial	Convert total use to gallons per day
Pre project (august bill)	3,390,000	8,475	$59,426	99,705
Post project (sept bill)	1,261,000	3,152	$28,495	43,482
Savings	2,129,000	5,323	**$30,931**	**56,223**



Property #	Monthly Reduction in Water & Wastewater Bill	% Difference in Bills	Rebate Type	Rebate Amount
1	$ 7,760.00	25%	286 $75 toilets	$21,450
2	$ 7,866.50	50%	205 $75 toilets	$15,375
3	$ 5,995.40	44%	120 0.8 toilets, showerheads, aerators	$17,980
Approximate Range	**$6,000 - $8,000**	**25% - 50%**	**120 – 290 toilets +/- shwr/aer.**	**$15,000 - $21,000**

Data provided by Amelia Brown, Demand Management Program Manager, TBW



💧🚀 *La Vista's Water Revolution: 351 Toilets, 1 Vision, and $31,780 in Tampa Bay Water Wise Rebates*

💸 *The Rebate Win*

Thanks to Tampa Bay Water Wise a regional water conservation program offered by Tampa Bay Water, La Vista secured a **$31,780 rebate**, offsetting a significant portion of the retrofit cost. It was a clear validation of the project's environmental impact and regional importance.

🗓️ Daily Usage Assumptions and Annual Projected Savings

Fixture Type	Daily Savings per Unit	Units Installed	Total Daily Savings	Annual Projected Savings (365 days)
Toilets	27 gallons	351	9,477 gallons	3,459,105 gallons
Showerheads	10 gallons	235	2,350 gallons	857,750 gallons
Bath Aerators	5 gallons	352	1,760 gallons	642,400 gallons
Kitchen Aerators	5 gallons	127	635 gallons	231,775 gallons

💧 Total Projected Annual Water Savings

5,191,030 gallons per year

Environmental Impact Equivalent to saving ~ 8 Olympic swimming pools of water annually

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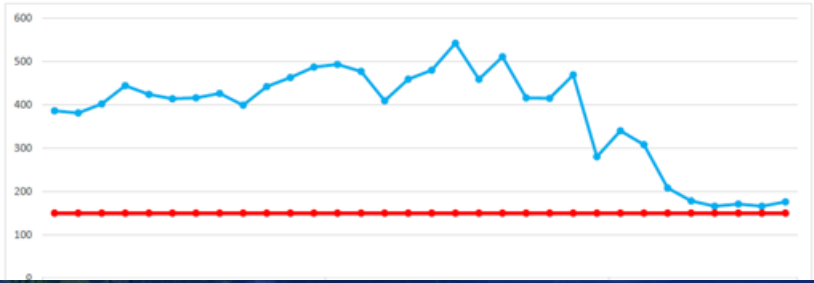
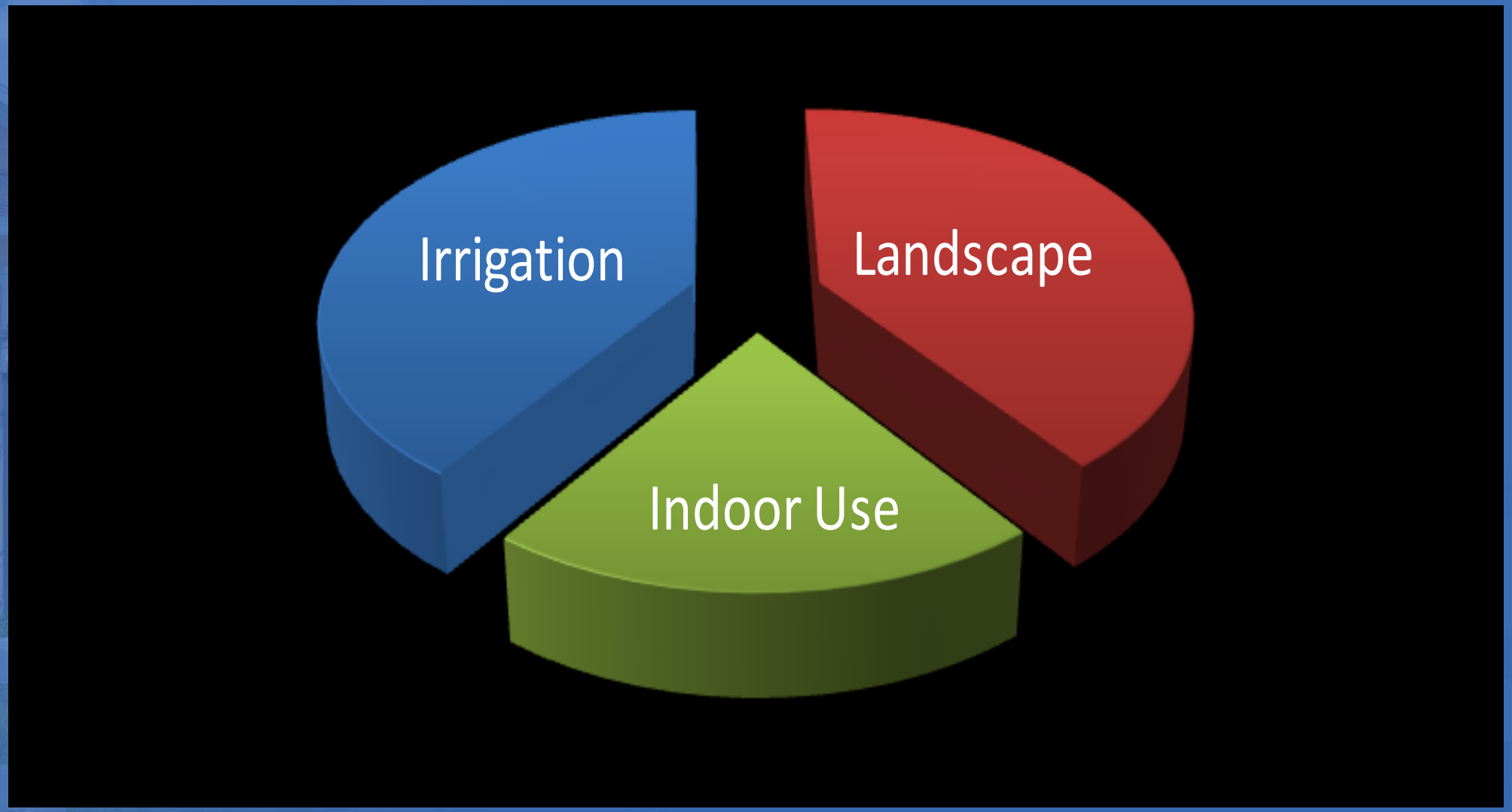
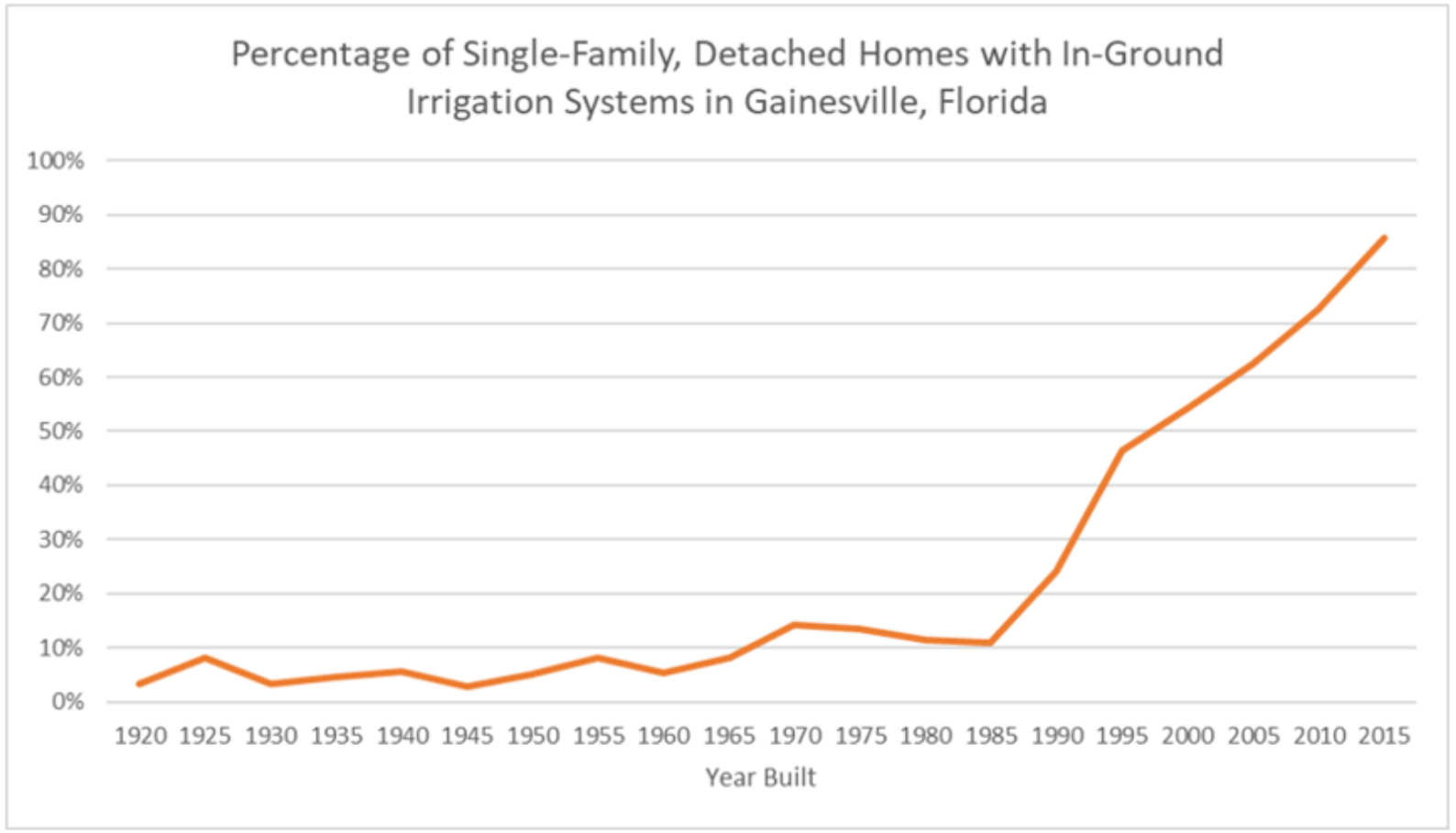
The following chart illustrates average daily water demand per residential unit in gallons.

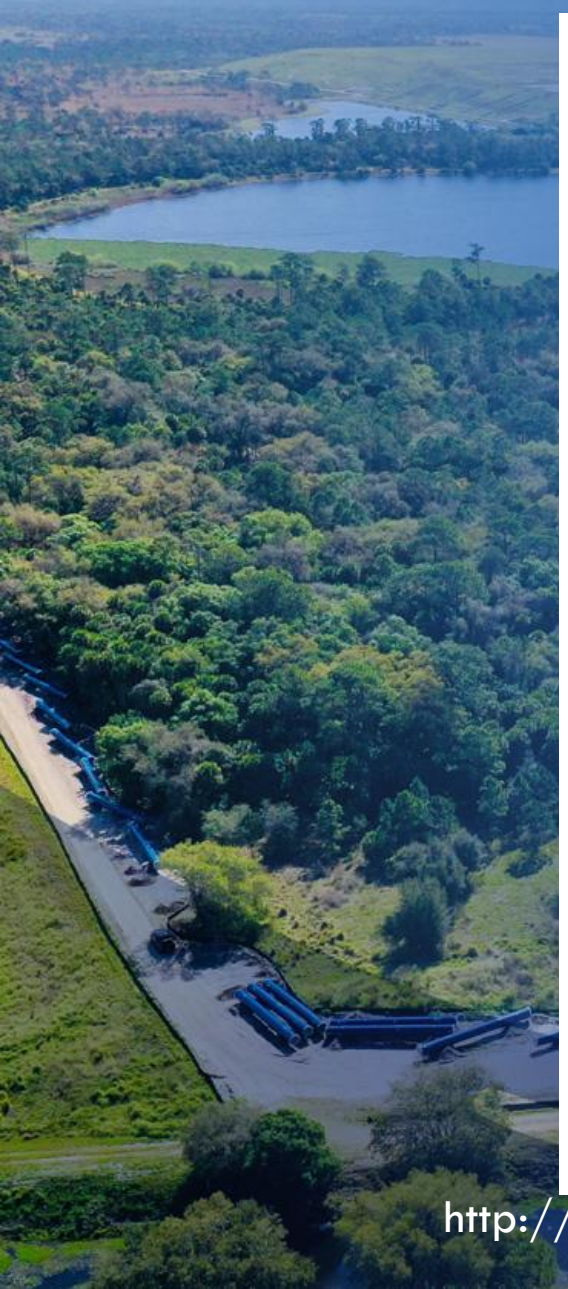


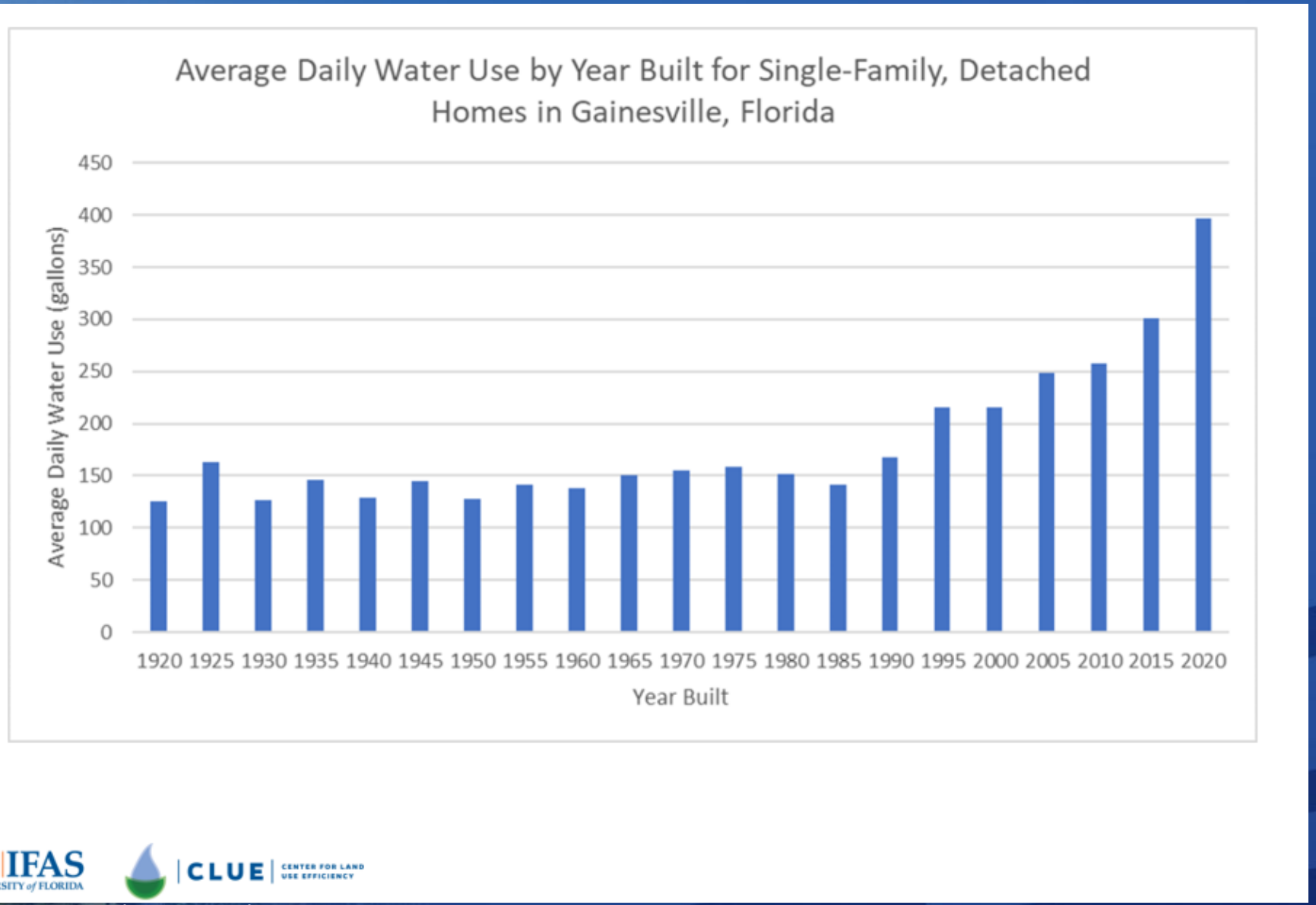

Irrigation
Landscape
Indoor Use



UF IFAS UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA | CLUE | CENTER FOR LAND USE EFFICIENCY

http://abe.ufl.edu/mdukes/





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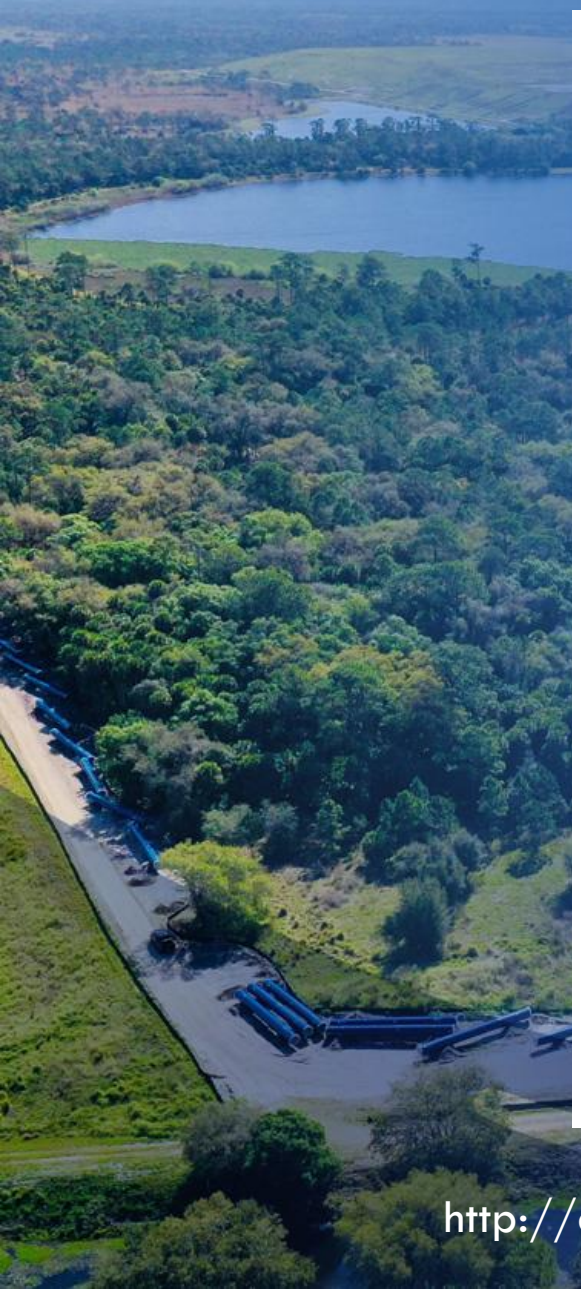
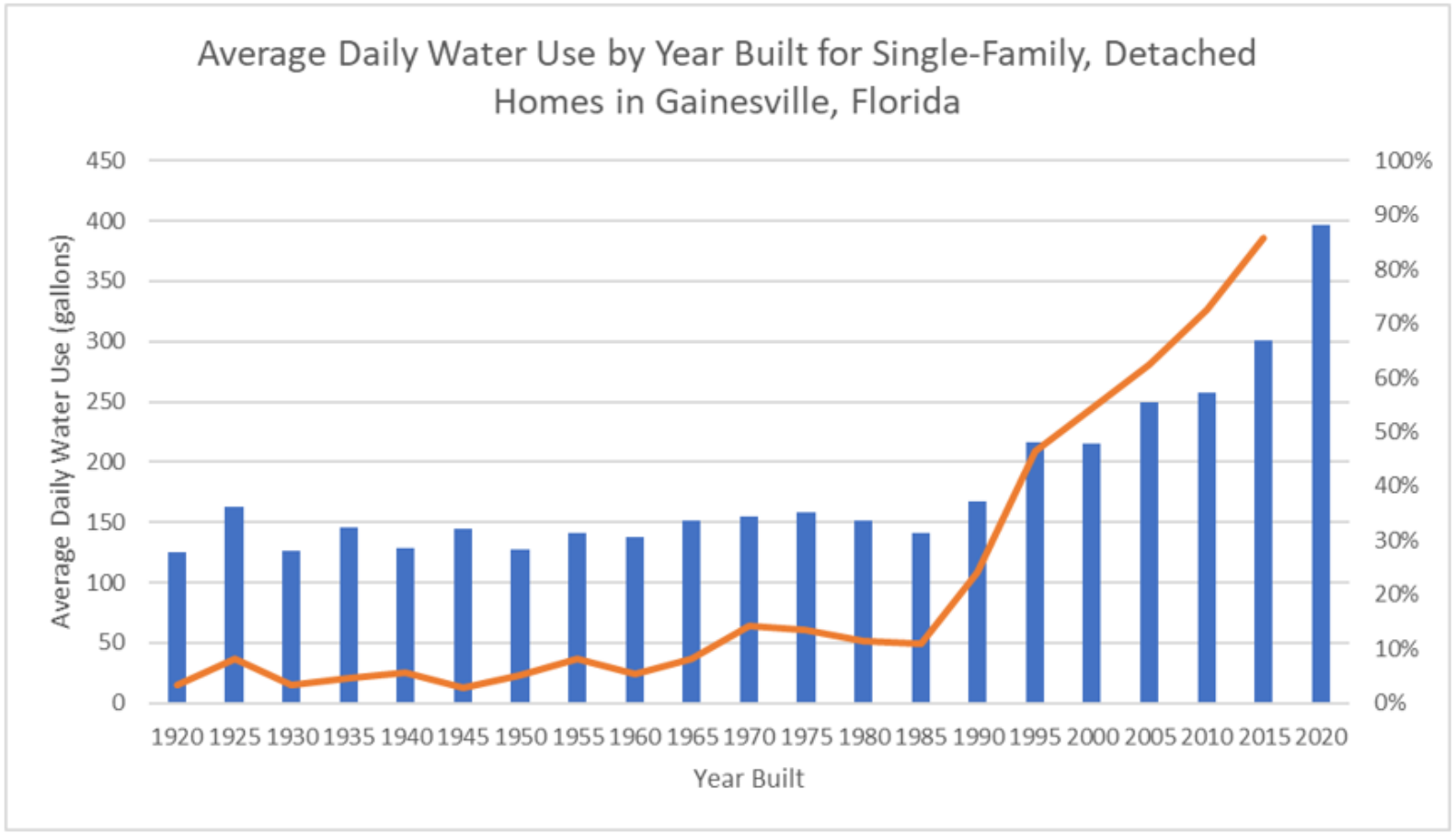
http://abe.ufl.edu/mdukes/

Update by Amber E. Smith





UF IFAS UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA | CLUE CENTER FOR LAND USE EFFICIENCY

Update by Amber E. Smith

http://abe.ufl.edu/mdukes/

Two Decades of Smart Irrigation Controllers in U.S. Landscape Irrigation

Published by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, St. Joseph, Michigan www.asabe.org

Citation: Transactions of the ASABE. 63(5): 1593-1601. (doi: 10.13031/trans.13930) @2020
Authors: Michael D. Dukes
Keywords: ET controller, Landscape irrigation, Smart controller, SMS, Soil moisture sensor, Soil water sensor.

Highlights

Savings numbers in new studies across multiple soil types and climates are similar to those summarized in 2011 and are summarized here as 51% in research plot studies and 30% in single-family homes.

Studies of the human factors have begun showing how important the users are to success of the technology.

Education in implementation remains important to achieve potential water conservation.

Abstract. Smart irrigation controllers, such as evapotranspiration (ET) and soil moisture sensor (SMS) controllers, have become commonly available from virtually all irrigation controller manufacturers. This review summarizes the literature since the Fifth Decennial National Irrigation Symposium (NIS) concerning these controllers in research studies and pilot implementations. Studies have expanded to multiple climates throughout the U.S. on a variety of soils and plant types. When these devices are implemented properly on sites that have potential irrigation savings (i.e., excess irrigation), they are able to reduce irrigation while maintaining plant quality. The level of reduction depends on many factors, including the amount of excess irrigation, climate, plant type, and human interaction with the technology. When studies report positive savings, the levels documented here range from 40% to 61% (51% avg.) in plot studies and from 28% to 32% (30% avg.) in residential studies. Of 17 identified studies in the past decade, five reported negative savings, and in most cases those results were due to ET controllers installed on sites with little excess irrigation or controller programming that was not optimized for savings. New trends in the industry include Wi-Fi signal-based ET controllers with smartphone app capability, an upcoming standard for SMS controllers, as well as smart controllers becoming mandatory in areas of the U.S. As identified in the Fifth Decennial NIS, it remains important to implement controllers on sites with the potential for irrigation reduction as well as proper implementation with the best current information. Finally, there is a need to understand human interaction with these devices because improper programming can make the difference between a water-saving device and ineffective technology with a dissatisfied customer.

Update by Amber E. Smith

EXAMPLE

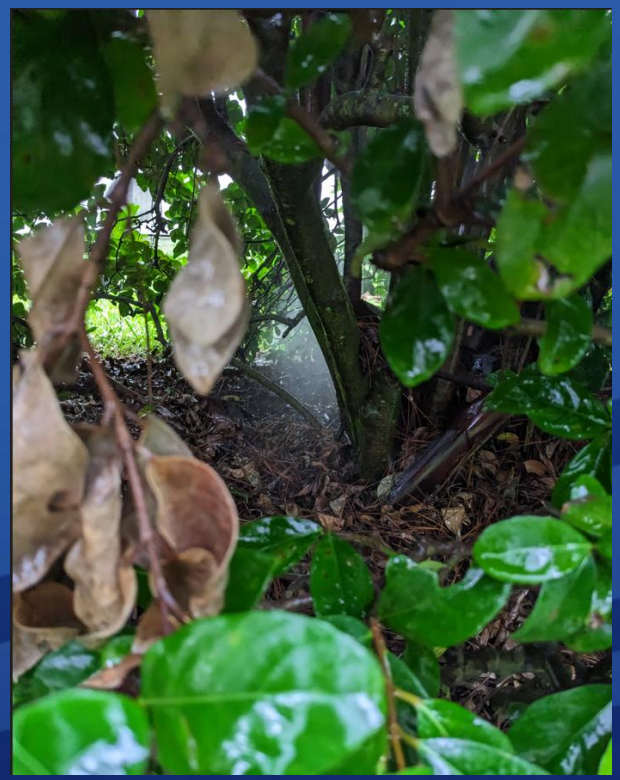
Bought Rachio Smart Irrigation Controller on Black Friday Sale

+

Certified Irrigation Evaluation and Installation

+

Corrected Rainfall Sensor, Capped Some Sprinkler Heads, Fixed Spray Heads



Florida Water Star

Program criteria | Codes and rebates | Resources | Events and contacts

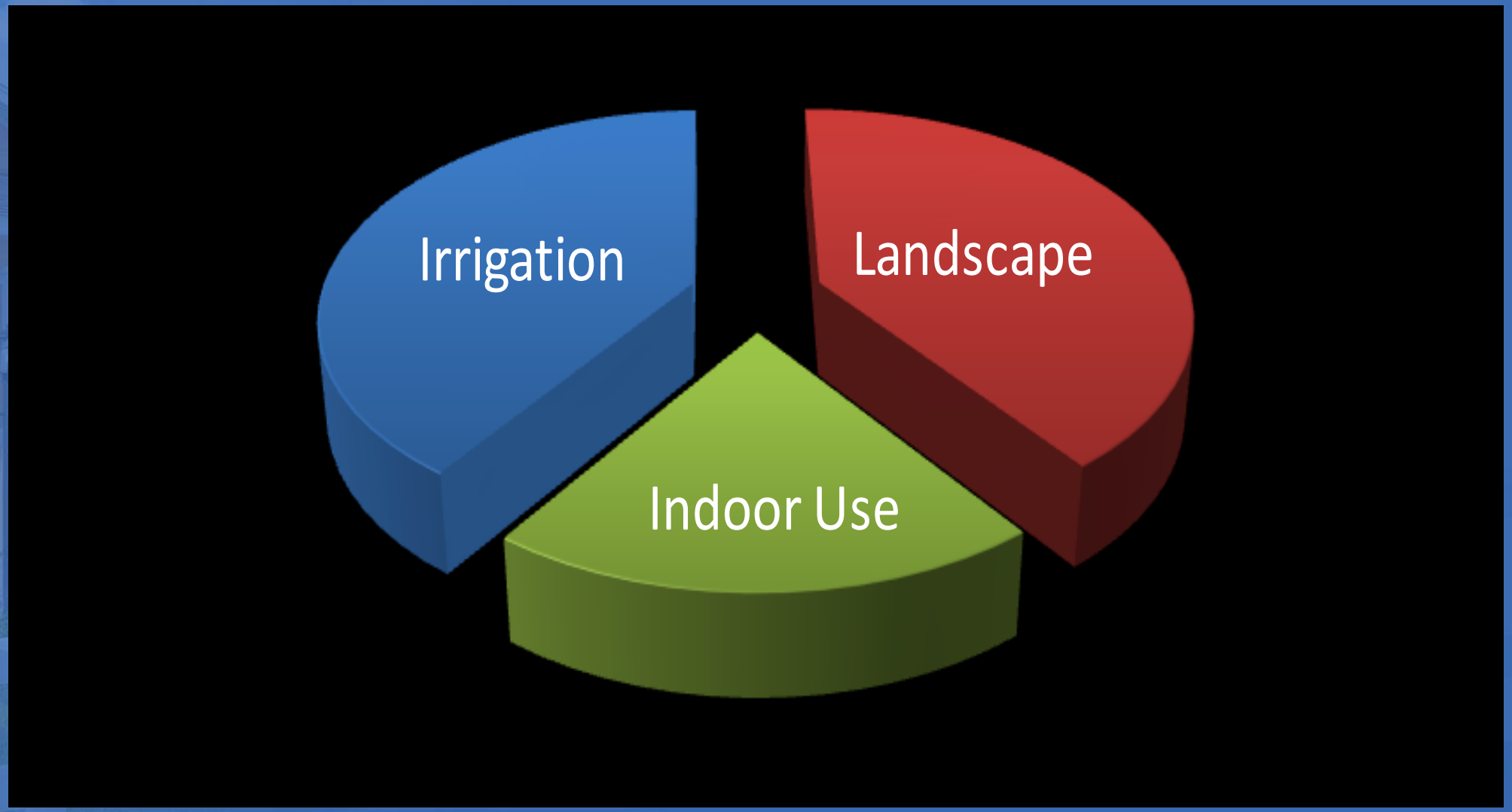
Florida Water Star℠

Florida Water Star is a certification program for homes and commercial buildings that use less water in landscapes, irrigation systems and indoors.

A Florida Water Star-certified home saves money, water and benefits Florida's environment.

Please email **Robin** or **Deirdre** to learn more.

Update by Amber E. Smith


Irrigation
Landscape
Indoor Use

Florida Water Star℠

EPA WaterSense℠

ENERGY STAR

Maximum of 60% Sprinkler Irrigation

Pressure Regulation

Check Valves

Micro-Irrigation

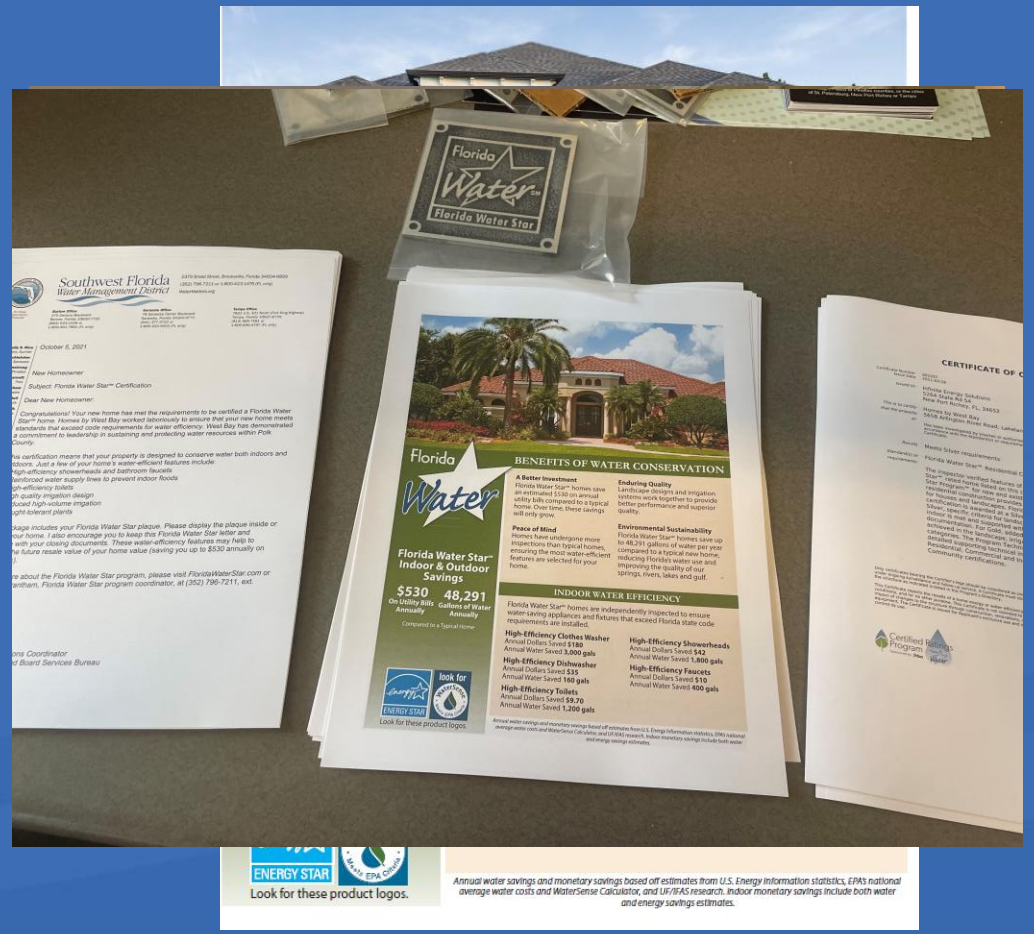
Florida Water Star℠ Savings After One Year

	Annual Water Savings	Annual Monetary Savings
Indoor	6,560 Gallons	$276.70
Outdoor	41,741 Gallons	$253.00
Total Savings	48,301 Gallons	$529.70

- Based on 2 people per household
- Indoor includes energy and water utility savings
- Outdoor includes only water utility savings

FWS Certification is Obtained

- FWS Private Inspectors
- FWS Marketing Materials
- FWS Realtor Training
- FWS Plaques and Certificates



FWS Certification is NOT Obtained

- FWS Permit Affidavit
- FWS CO Affidavit
- FWS District Audits

2. **AUDITS OBSERVATIONS:** At the time of inspection, determine if newly constructed single-family homes within a municipality with an FWS building code are meeting minimum FWS irrigation criteria. This checklist does not cover all FWS criteria and is not equivalent to an official FWS inspection with certification.

A. Plant Bed Irrigation -

i. Micro-Irrigation is installed in plant beds	( ) Yes ( ) No (Explain)	( ) N/A
ii. The plant bed includes high-volume irrigation	( ) Yes ( ) No (Explain)	( ) N/A

B. Landscape areas is limited to 60% high-volume irrigation (spray or rotor) by:

i. Un- irrigated side and backyards	( ) Yes ( ) No (Explain)	( ) N/A
ii. Large, expanded plant beds with micro-irrigation in front and backyards	( ) Yes ( ) No (Explain)	( ) N/A
iii. There is more than 60% high-volume irrigation (photo provided)	( ) Yes ( ) No (Explain)	( ) N/A
iv. Other (email Robin)		

10.7.2.2.1. All irrigation systems shall be designed by an irrigation professional consistent with the irrigation systems standards and as set forth in this Section.
10.7.2.2.2. Where Florida Water Star Certification will not be obtained, a "Letter of Certification of the Design for an Irrigation System" signed by the contracted irrigation professional certifying the design is consistent with the requirements of this Section shall be required to obtain a building before issuance of

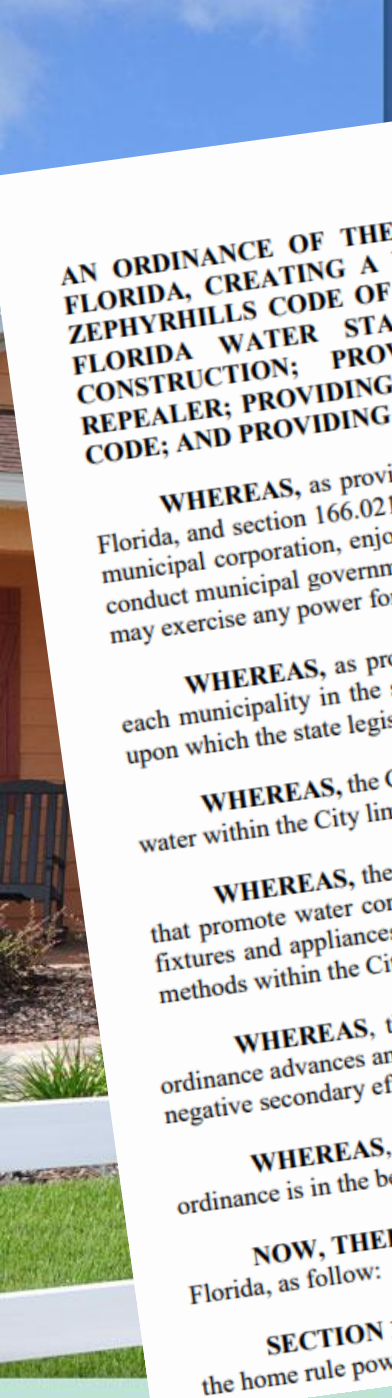
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Florida Water Star Ordinances

- Florida Water Star (FWS)
  - Indoor appliances, plumbing fixtures, irrigation systems and landscapes
  - 48,000 gallons less per year
- 13 ordinances to date since 2018
  - More than **27,000** homes
  - **1.3 billion** gallons saved annually
- Bay Laurel Utilities (Ocala) and City of Zephyrhills
- Total **56,000** properties and **2.7 billion** gallons saved annually at build out.

Florida Water Star℠

Update by Amber E. Smith



ORDINANCE 1457-23

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA, CREATING A NEW SECTION TO CHAPTER 156 OF THE CITY OF ZEPHYRHILLS CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 156.30-156.36 ESTABLISHING FLORIDA WATER STAR℠ CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, as provided in section 2(b), Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida, and section 166.021(1), Florida Statutes, the City of Zephyrhills, Florida (the "City"), a municipal corporation, enjoys all governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers necessary to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services, and may exercise any power for municipal purposes, except as expressly prohibited by law; and

WHEREAS, as provided in section 166.021(3), Florida Statutes, the governing body of each municipality in the state has the power to enact legislation concerning any subject matter upon which the state legislature may act, except when expressly prohibited by law; and

WHEREAS, the City of Zephyrhills has the desire to reduce the unnecessary use of potable water within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, the purpose and intent of this ordinance is to implement uniform procedures that promote water conservation through the mandatory installation of more efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances and installation of more efficient landscapes and irrigation systems and methods within the City of Zephyrhills; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Zephyrhills, Florida hereby finds that this ordinance advances an important government purpose by reducing the likelihood of the unregulated negative secondary effects of cannabis dispensing facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Zephyrhills, Florida hereby finds that this ordinance is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Zephyrhills, Florida, as follow:

SECTION 1. This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, and under the home rule powers of the City.

City of Tampa
Jane Castor, Mayor

Community Redevelopment Department
Erica Moody, CRA Director
306 E. Jackson Street 2N
Tampa, Florida 33602
Office (813) 274-3284
Fax: (813) 274-7410

DATE: October 12, 2023

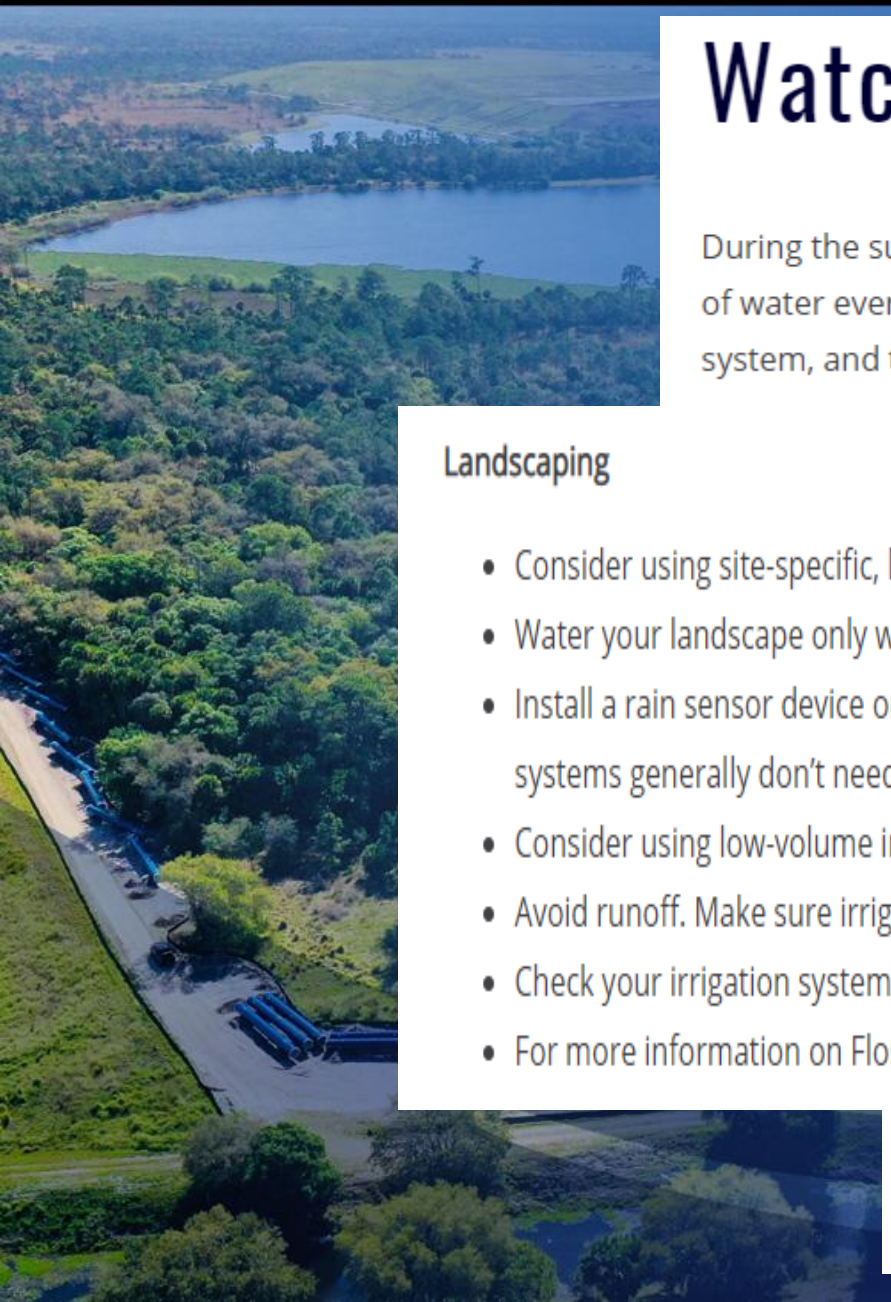
TO: Honorable Chair Gwendolyn Henderson and Members of the CRA Board

FROM: Erica Moody, Community Redevelopment Agency Director

SUBJECT: Tampa Bay Water Wise Program and CRA Partnership

Motion: [CRA Staff to work with Tampa Bay Water - SWFWMD - matching WISE Fund] (Carlson-Hurtak)
That the CRA Staff work with Tampa Bay Water, Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), and the City Water Department to look into the feasibility of matching WISE funds for apartment buildings within the CRA districts and report on October 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Update by Amber E. Smith



Watch the Weather, Wait to Water

During the summer months of June, July, August and September, yards need no more than ½ to ¾ inch of water every 2 to 3 days. If your lawn has received enough water from rainfall, turn off your irrigation system, and turn it back on when needed.

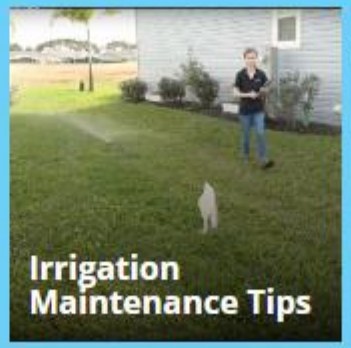
Landscaping

- Consider using site-specific, low-maintenance plants and surround them with mulch to keep soil moist and reduce water runoff.
- Water your landscape only when needed and early in the morning or in the evening when wind and evaporation are lowest.
- Install a rain sensor device or other automatic shutoff device on irrigation systems and adjust the irrigation schedule for seasonal changes. Irrigation systems generally don't need to run as often in cooler weather or during the rainy season.
- Consider using low-volume irrigation, such as a drip system.
- Avoid runoff. Make sure irrigation systems are directing water to landscape areas and not to parking lots, sidewalks or other paved areas.
- Check your irrigation system for leaks and broken heads at least every two weeks.
- For more information on Florida-Friendly Landscaping™, visit **WaterMatters.org/Yards/**.

Check your rain sensor

- If you have a rain sensor, make sure that it is working properly.

Update by Amber E. Smith



Update by Amber E. Smith

Conservation Education Program

- **Program Goal:** Increase residents' knowledge and behaviors that lead to water conservation
- **Funding:** Projects fully funded by the District
- **Project Partners:** Utilities, Extension Offices and Homeowner Associations

Southwest Florida Water Management District