

Manatee River Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Annual Meeting

Lakewood Ranch Library 16410 Rangeland Parkway Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211

> November 13, 2024 2:00 PM

Agenda

- Manatee River Management Action Plan (BMAP) Background.
- Statute Overview.
- 2025 BMAP Update—Additional BMAP Provisions.

Please note the FTP site for documents pertaining to the Lower St. Johns River Main Stem BMAP: https://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/DEAR/BMAP/Tampa_Bay_Tributaries/Manatee_BMAP/Public_Meetings/2024N_OV13/





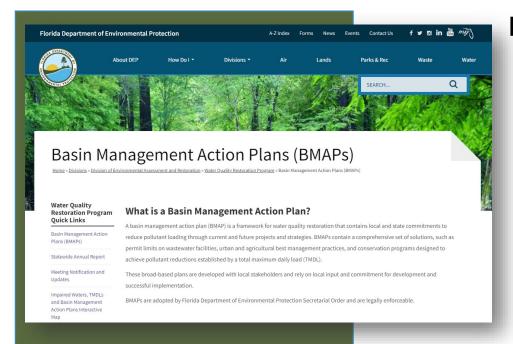
AGENDA

- Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Overview.
- Statute Overview.
- BMAP Update 2025.





BMAPS



BMAPs are:

- Developed with stakeholder input.
- Adopted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Secretarial Order.
- · Enforceable.
- Implemented through a phased approach.
- Reported on annually.
- Updated regularly.

One of DEP's methods for restoring water quality in an impaired waterbody.

- Community leaders.
- Partner agencies.
- Research.

Coordination

Restoration plans

- Address pollution sources in the basin.
- Identify priorities and funding.
- Regular updates
- Statewide Annual Report (STAR).

Measure success and adapt.

Restoration

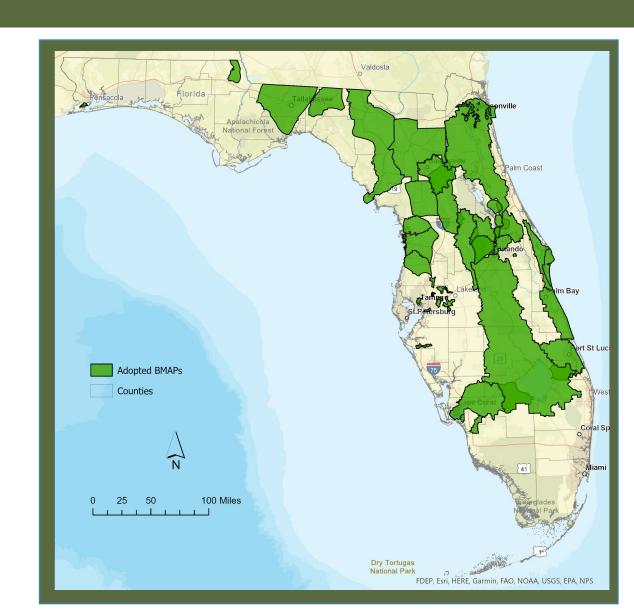
Attain water quality standards.



BMAPs ACROSS THE STATE

33 BMAPs:

- 14 Springs.
- 19 Surface Water:
 - Three Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP).
 - Three Indian River Lagoon.
 - Seven Other nutrient.
 - Six Bacteria.





KEY BMAP COMPONENTS

- Total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) being addressed.
- Area addressed by the restoration plan.
- Identify sources.
- Phased implementation approach.
- Milestones.
- Projects and management strategies.
- Future growth impacts.

Projects to meet the TMDL:

- Implementation timeline.
- Commitment to projects.
- Expected water quality improvement from projects and management strategies.

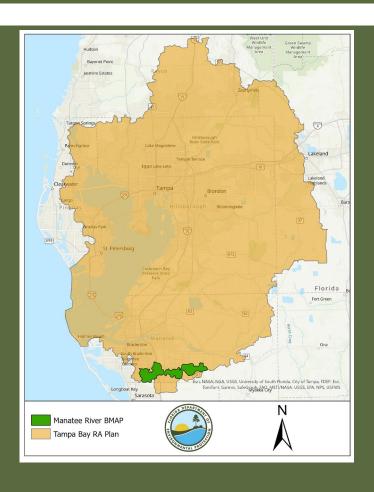
Process to assess progress toward achieving the TMDL:

- Monitoring plan.
- Project reporting.
- Periodic follow-up meetings.
- Water quality analyses.



TAMPA BAY REASONABLE ASSURANCE PLAN

- Stakeholder involvement with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium (NMC) was a key component in developing the Alafia River BMAP.
- The BMAP process engages local stakeholders and promotes coordination and collaboration to address the total nitrogen (TN) reductions needed to achieve the nutrient TMDL, as well as identifying fecal coliform sources for the fecal coliform TMDLs.





STAKEHOLDERS

Responsible Stakeholders.

- Manatee County.
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- Florida Department of Transportation.
- Southwest Florida Water Management District.
- Tampa Bay Estuary Program.
- Lakewood Ranch.
- Florida Department of Health.

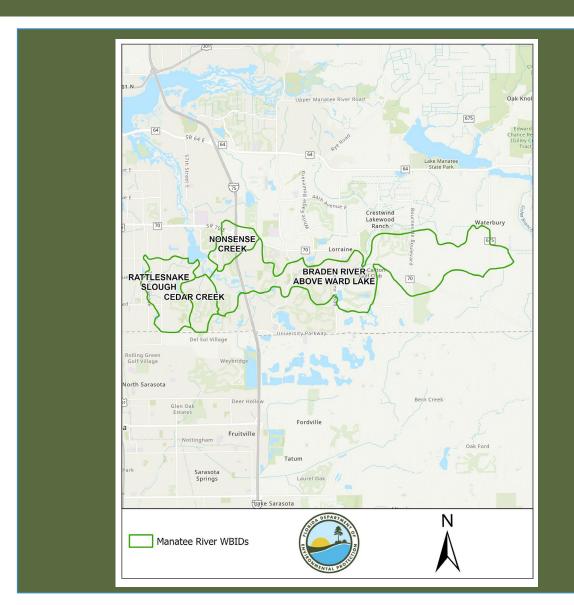


MANATEE RIVER BMAP

TMDLs in Manatee River Basin at the time of BMAP adoption, April 2014.

Acronym Key: Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), Waterbody ID (WBID), Fecal Indicator Bacteria (FIB), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Total Nitrogen (TN), Total Phosphorus (TP) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD).

WBID	Waterbody Name	Parameter
		FIB, TP, TN,
1923	Rattlesnake Slough	BOD
1926	Cedar Creek	FIB, DO, TN
1913	Nonsense Creek	FIB, TN, BOD
	Braden River above Evers	
1914	Reservoir	FIB





BILLS AND LEGISLATION

- Florida Watershed Restoration Act, section 403.067, Florida Statutes (F.S.).
- Senate Bill (SB) 712 Clean Waterways Act.
- 2023 House Bill (HB) 1379.
- 2024 HB 1557 (2024).





LEGISLATION HIGHLIGHTS 2020 CLEAN WATERWAYS ACT

- Promotes resilient wastewater infrastructure and utilities and looks at future growth.
- Requires local governments within a BMAP to develop wastewater treatment plans and/or onsite sewage treatment and disposal system (OSTDS) remediation plans that will be incorporated into the 2025 BMAP updates.





LEGISLATION HIGHLIGHTS 2023 HB 1379

- Requires BMAPs to be assessed and updated every five years as needed to include implementation milestones and other requirements.
- Requires a list of projects and strategies that will achieve the five-year implementation milestones to meet TMDLs.
- Requires agricultural cooperative regional water quality improvement elements.
- Requires facilities discharging to a waterbody impaired for nutrients or subject to a BMAP or reasonable assurance plan (RAP) area to upgrade to advanced waste treatment (AWT) within 10 years.
- Requires applicants for new septic systems serving lots of one acre or less within BMAPs and RAPs to connect to central sewer if available, or if unavailable, to install an enhanced nutrient-reducing system or other wastewater system that achieves nitrogen reduction of 65%.
- Requires local governments to include BMAP projects in their comprehensive plans so these projects
 can be prioritized to achieve restoration benefits.
- Expands grant opportunities to accelerate project implementation.



LEGISLATION HIGHLIGHTS HB 1557 (2024)

- Requires advanced waste treatment standard for reclaimed water within BMAPs if DEP determines that it is necessary.
- Requires facilities (including private) to provide information to local entities developing domestic wastewater treatment plans and OSTDS remediation plans within BMAPs or other restoration areas.



HB 1379 requires responsible entities to report on projects that meet the required five-year milestones.

- Where entity allocations and milestones do not already exist, they will be added in a future BMAP update after completion of model updates. Interim management strategies will be included in the 2025 update for these BMAPs.
- It is critical for each BMAP that entities plan for and report projects and project updates to the state through the STAR process.
- All projects should be included in the STAR report, even if a funding source has not been identified.
- Reporting projects in the STAR allows the state to evaluate funding needs and prioritize projects to promote maximum environmental benefit and to meet milestones.



INTERIM MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES EXAMPLES

Stormwater treatment via traditional and green stormwater best management practices (BMPs): Nutrient credit applies only to the portion above and beyond permit requirements.

Community Education and Outreach:
Nutrient credit is available for implementing the
Florida Yards and Neighborhood program; local
codes and ordinances for fertilizer, landscaping,
irrigation, and pet waste management; and public
service announcements, informational pamphlets,
stormwater website, and inspection program and
call-in number for illicit discharges.

Sports Turf: Owners/operators will be required to follow the upcoming Sports Turfgrass BMP manual to ensure fertilizers are managed responsibly.

Wastewater Treatment Facilities: Facilities must provide a plan with a list of projects to meet the Clean Waterways Act requirements, which includes upgrading to advanced waste treatment standards based on facility size and discharge method, including reuse distribution.

OSTDS: provide and implement a remediation plan to hook up existing OSTDS where sewer is made available or upgrade to enhanced nutrient-reducing (ENR) systems. New development with lots of one acre or less may not install conventional OSTDS and must be tied into sanitary sewer or install ENR.

Golf Courses: Golf courses will be required to provide a nutrient management plan (NMP) and implement BMPs.



What is the STAR?

- Summarizes
 accomplishments in the
 BMAPs statewide.
- Reports on restoration projects and management strategies.
- Published July 1 of each year.
- STAR 2023 reports on project updates through Dec. 31, 2023.



The Statewide Annual Report 2023

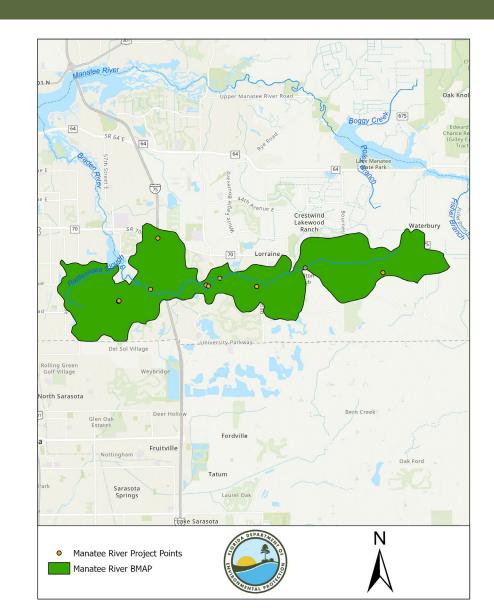
The state of Florida is prioritizing the protection and restoration of our waterways by implementing sound, science-based solutions to current and future environmental challenges. Under the leadership of Governor Ron DeSantis, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is working with local, state and federal partners on short- and long-term strategies to protect water quality and quantity, including investment in long-term

STAR 2023 Intro (arcgis.com)



PROJECTS SUMMARY

- Planned Six.
- Underway Five.
- Ongoing 31.
- Completed 24.
- Canceled Two because their completion precedes the TMDL period of record.



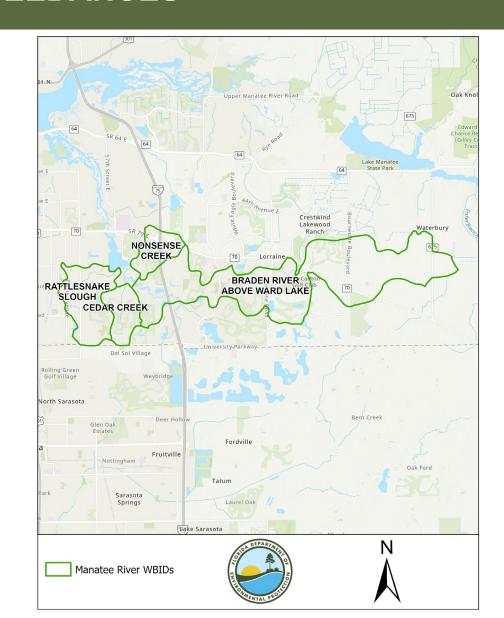


DATA EVALUATION

FECAL INDICATOR BACTERIA EXCEEDANCES

WBID	Waterbody Name	Exceedances January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2023 E. coli
1914	Braden River above Ward Lake	9%
1926	Cedar Creek	35%
1913	Nonsense Creek	63%
1923	Rattlesnake Slough	33%

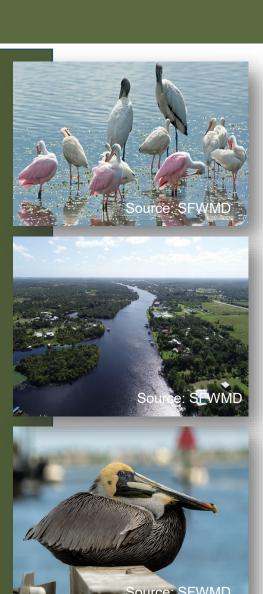
Percent of data exceeding 10% threshold for Manatee River BMAP bacteria TMDL waterbodies for the last 7.5-year data period.





BMAP UPDATE COMPONENTS ADOPT BY JULY 1, 2025

- Management strategies.
- Future growth.
- Establish five-year milestones for project implementation and list of identified projects to meet five-year milestones.
- Incorporate the 2020 Clean Waterways Act, 2023 HB 1379 and 2024 HB 1557 requirements.
- Incorporate regional projects.
- Water quality data evaluation:
 - Evaluation of the monitoring networks.
 - Water quality trend analyses.
- Evaluate further OSTDS provisions.
- Evaluate the need for AWT or other more stringent effluent limits for wastewater facilities.





BMAP UPDATES TIMELINE

May-Aug. 2024

Individual meetings with BMAP stakeholders.

Aug.1, 2024 Final wastewater and OSTDS plans due from stakeholders.

Nov. 2024 Public meeting on BMAP updates.

One-on-one follow-up discussions to further gather interim management strategies.

Nov-Dec. 2024

Draft, review, and Final Draft BMAP document.

Dec. 2024-Jan. 2025

Statutory deadline for updated nutrient BMAPs.

July 1, 2025



RESOURCES BMAP WEBSITE AND STORYMAPS

Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)

Home » Divisions » Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration » Water Quality Restoration Program » Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)



Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)

Statewide Annual Report

Water Quality Grant Opportunities 2024-25

BMAP Public Meetings

Impaired Waters, TMDLs and Basin Management Action Plans Interactive

Tools and Guidance for Calculating Total Nitrogen (TN) and Total Phosphorus (TP) Reductions

Florida Water Quality Credit Trading

What is a Basin Management Action Plan?

A BMAP is a framework for water quality restoration that contains a comprehensive set of solutions to achieve the pollutant reductions

established by a TMDL. Examples include permit limits on regulated facilities, urban and agric wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, regional projects and conservation programs desi established by a TMDL. A BMAP is developed with local stakeholders and relies on local input implementation. BMAPs are adopted by Secretarial Order and are legally enforceable. BMAPs that allows for incremental load reductions through the implementation of projects and man monitoring and conducting studies to better understand the water quality and hydrologic dy project implementation and water quality analyses. DEP continues to work with local and reg projects necessary to meet reduction milestones to achieve the TMDLs and inform funding projects.

What's New: Upcoming Meetings and BMAP P

July 1, 2025 BMAP Update Progress

As required by the Clean Waterways Act, DEP must prepare updates to its nutrient BMAPs by . <u>Update Progress</u> dashboard provides a visual representation of progress towards the completed sub-tasks leading up to the July 1, 2025 updates. Please visit the <u>BMAP Public Meeting</u> meetings and subscribe to meeting notices.

Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs) | Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Nutrient BMAPs

Nutrient BMAPs contain a

comprehensive set of solutions, such as
permit limits on wastewater facilities,
urban and agricultural best
management practices, and
conservation programs designed to
achieve pollutant reductions established
by a total maximum daily load

Springs BMAPs



Springs BMAPs identify the sources of nutrient pollution, list the specific projects and programs necessary to reduce nutrient pollution, and establish priority focus areas where statutory prohibitions on certain activities apply (such as installation of new conventional septic systems).

Fecal Bacteria Impaired BMAPs



Bacteria basin management action plans
(BMAPs) include management strategies or
projects, to be implemented by local
stakeholders, that aim to eliminate and
prevent the release of waste, containing
pathogens, to natural waterbodies.



Manatee River Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Annual Meeting November 13, 2024

2:00 pm - 2:53 pm

Lakewood Ranch Library 16410 Rangeland Parkway Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211

Attendees

Vanessa Bauzo, FDACS

Joshua Herman, Lake Manatee State Park

Greg Blanchard, Manatee County NRD Moira Homann, DEP

Heather Bryan, Sarasota County Steven Kelly, FDOT District 1

Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Estuary Program Thomas LaRoue, RES

Henry Clarke, RES Celeste Lyon, RES

Christian Collier, Manatee County Utilities Nicholas Muzia, Sea and Shoreline

Kirsten Cornwell, RES Keith Nadaskay, Mosaic

John Darovec, Diversified Natural Concepts

Alex Pacelko, Cummins Cederberg

Lesa Ellen Direr, Citizen Pat Shoa, Manatee County

Alexandria Foos, FDOT Central District Anita Stine, DEP

Matt Gencher, RES Mary Szafraniec, RES

Tina Gordon, Wildwood Consulting Brian Wagner, RES

Welcome and Introductions

Anita Stine, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Basin Coordinator for the Manatee BMAP, welcomed the group and facilitated introductions.

She gave a brief overview of the agenda which included BMAP overview, discuss statute changes, and a plan for updating the BMAP in 2025.

BMAP Overview

BMAPs are one method of restoring water quality, developed with stakeholder input, adopted by Secretarial Order, enforceable and implemented in phases, reported on annually, and updated regularly. There are 33 BMAPs covering a large portion of the state. They address nutrients and or fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) in surface waters and springs.

In addition to the key components already mentioned, BMAPs lay out a timeline to achieve load reductions needed to meet total maximum daily load (TMDL) targets through projects and management strategies that will remediate existing loads and address expected future growth impacts. BMAPs are adapted over time based on water quality analyses and model updates.

Many of the same components probably sound familiar to those attendees familiar with the Tampa Bay Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP). A map was shown of the Tampa Bay RAP as well as the watersheds with TMDLs that comprise the Manatee BMAP.

Stakeholder involvement with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program and Nutrient Management Consortium (NMC) were and continue to be key in achieving nutrient reductions, not only for the bay but also the BMAP waters.

The estuary program has paved the way in the Tampa Bay area successfully working with stakeholders in achieving nutrient reductions. Recent legislation has strengthened BMAPs by requiring specific nutrient sources to be addressed with set timelines and measurable targets.

The stakeholders with responsibilities within the BMAP watersheds are a combination of local governments, state government agencies, and the estuary program. City and county governments perform most of the heavy lifting in managing point and non-point sources.

If you represent an agency, local government, or not for profit organization that you feel should be listed in the BMAP update as a stakeholder of, please email Anita Stine at Anita.Stine@FloridaDEP.gov or let us know during this meeting.

A map and table of the watersheds and tributaries, waterbody identification areas (WBIDs), and parameters of impairment in the original Manatee BMAP were shared.

Bills and Legislation

The foundation for developing TMDLs and provisions of BMAPs and authority to adopt are found in 403.067, Florida Statues, which is the Florida Watershed Restoration Act. Since 2020, Florida legislators have passed proposals resulting in updates to the Florida Watershed Restoration Act which strengthen BMAP protections. In 2020, Senate Bill (SB) 712 (Clean Waterways Act); in 2023 House Bill (HB) 1379; and in 2024 HB 1557. Components of this legislation need to be incorporated into the BMAPs, which means DEP is updating all the BMAPs.

SB 712

SB 712 recognizes the regulation of septic systems as a source of nutrients and transferred oversight of the regulatory program from the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) to DEP. This also requires local governments within a BMAP to develop wastewater and/or onsite sewage treatment and disposal system (OSTDS) remediation plans to be incorporated into BMAP updates.

Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP), said they are seeing increases in OSTDS with urban growth within the RAP. She asked if there would be any prohibitions. Moira said in RAPs and BMAPs, new conventional systems will not be allowed on lots of one acre or less. Maya said that they need a partner in the department to report on the new sources so they can track and report allocations. Moira said that they can check with Kevin O'Donnell or the

Watershed Assessment Team. Moira said that DEP would facilitate organizing a meeting with Kevin O'Donnell.

HB 1379

HB 1379 requires BMAPs to include implementation milestones and be updated every five years if needed. It also requires a list of projects and strategies to achieve 5-year milestones and agricultural cooperative regional water quality improvement elements. Additionally, wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs) discharging to a BMAP or RAP area are required to upgrade to advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) within 10 years. To address future growth loading, the legislation requires applicants for new septic systems serving lots of one acre or less within BMAPs and RAPs connect to central sewer if available, or if unavailable, to install an enhanced nutrient-reducing system (ENRs) or other wastewater system that achieves a total nitrogen (TN) reduction of 65%. The legislation also requires local governments to include BMAP projects in their comprehensive plans so these projects can be prioritized to achieve restoration benefits and expands grant opportunities to accelerate project implementation.

HB 1557

HB 1557 requires advanced treatment of reclaimed water within BMAPs. It also requires facilities (including private WWTFs) to provide information to local entities developing WWTF and OSTDS remediation plans within BMAP or other restoration areas.

Projects

HB 1379 also requires responsible entities to report on projects that achieve the required 5-year milestones. Where entity allocations and milestones do not already exist, they may be added in future BMAP updates if deemed necessary. Interim management strategies will be included in the 2025 update for BMAPs without entity allocations. It is critical for each BMAP that entities plan for and report projects and project updates to the state through the Statewide Annual Report (STAR) process. All projects should be included in the STAR report, even if a funding source has not been identified. Reporting projects in the STAR allows the state to evaluate funding needs and prioritize projects to promote maximum environmental benefit and to meet milestones. DEP will continue to assess whether this BMAP will need to have allocations.

The Manatee BMAP will use interim management strategies for the 2025 update and DEP will be reaching out to stakeholders to review existing projects and look at potential interim management strategies to include in the project list. Examples of interim management strategies include the following:

- Stormwater projects achieving reductions above permit requirements.
- Review of wastewater facilities in comparison to HB 1379 requirements, including upgrades to AWT based on size and discharge, including reuse.
- OSTDS new development of 1 acre or less will have to either hook up to sanitary sewer or install ENRs. Remediation of existing OSTDS is also on the list of strategies. This should also include remediation of existing OSTDS.

- Community education such as implementation of Florida Yards and Neighborhoods as well as local codes and ordinances for fertilizer, landscaping, irrigation and pet waste management. Also, inspection programs and a dedicated call in number for the public to report illicit discharges and similar issues.
- A sports turfgrass best management practice (BMP) manual will soon be available.
- Golf courses will be required to provide nutrient management plans and implement BMPs.

A citizen asked what nutrient credits are and how an entity would get nutrient credits. Anita explained that the entity would assess what kind of treatment would be done and what the starting load would be. The amount of nutrients reduced by the treatment would be the credit. The citizen asked about developers and how they get credits. DEP does not credit developers. Treatment levels for new development is done through the permitting process; permitting is done to mitigate growth while the BMAPs focus on reducing the existing watershed load. The citizen asked about how this plan mitigates flooding. Anita explained that the plan is focused on nutrient reductions. Local community flooding should be addressed to the local municipality where the citizen resides.

STAR

The commitments by stakeholders to implement interim management strategies and load reducing projects must be captured in an annual report to legislature and the Governor. The STAR summarizes accomplishments in the BMAPs statewide and reports on restoration projects and management strategies. It is published July 1 of each year. STAR 2023 reports on project updates through Dec. 31, 2023.

Current Status of Projects Listed in the STAR for the BMAP

For the Manatee BMAP, there are currently 6 planned, 5 underway, 31 ongoing, and 24 completed projects. There are also two canceled projects because their completion precedes the TMDL period of record.

FIB Exceedances

The Manatee BMAP also tracks the fecal indicator bacteria by the percent exceedance of the ten percent threshold value over a 7.5-year period. This means that to meet the criteria no more than 10% of the samples taken can exceed the maximum levels of the FIB indicator. In the case of Braden River above Ward Lake, the exceedance level is below 10%. The rest of the waterbodies have not met the criteria and are still impaired.

BMAP Update Components

The July 2025 BMAP update process is expected to tie in all the BMAP-specific requirements of the new and updated legislation. Components of the legislation included establishing 5-year milestones, incorporating the projects outlined in the Clean Waterways Act remediation plans to address WWTF and OSTDS loading, a list of OSTDS restrictions outlined in HB 1379 to help

reduce impacts of future growth, and evaluating the need for further restrictions. There are also requirements to evaluate the need for AWT for wastewater facilities, incorporate regional projects, evaluate water quality monitoring networks, trend analyses, and consider the need for a model.

Someone asked if this would be just for nutrient BMAPs. Moira said that Manatee does have nutrient impairments, but DEP will just be updating the interim projects and will continue to assess the impairments during this time. The other FIB BMAPs that do not have nutrient impairments will be updated in a later timeframe.

BMAP Updates Timeline

In summer 2024, DEP reached out to stakeholders about the SB 712 remediation plans that were then due August 1, 2024. Following this meeting, DEP will be reaching out again to discuss project lists and interim management strategies to be rolled into the draft and final documents in early 2025 which will allow for adoption of the updated BMAP by the statutory deadline of July 1, 2025.

Anita showed the subscribe QR code and informed the audience how to sign up for email notifications via the DEP GovDelivery system. Anita showed links to the GovDelivery sign up and asked interested stakeholders to ensure that they are registered to receive emails. She added that a follow up email would be sent using this system when the meeting materials for this meeting are posted. She also encouraged participants to visit the DEP BMAP webpage to access the original BMAP documents, story maps, links to the legislative updates, interactive mapping tools, and the STAR.

Questions and Answers

Manatee County asked if for reuse, will they be subject to AWT. Tina responded that DEP will be looking at the disposal location or reuse service area to determine if a facility is subject to the legislation and additional treatment requirements, not the facility location. Moira said DEP is working on what facilities to which the requirements will be applied. Anita said that the RAP also triggers the requirements, so if they are distributing reuse in either the BMAP or the RAP areas, they will be subject to the requirements. Manatee County said they have a master reuse facility and asked if the AWT requirement would be applicable to all facilities supplying water to the master reuse going into the boundary. Tina said that it would. She added that some counties are considering isolating flows into the master reuse system so that it is being fed by less facilities while they work on upgrading facilities in a phased approach.

Manatee County asked when the 10-year clock starts. Moira said that it would start at the point that DEP makes the determination that the facility is subject to the legislative requirements. Moira said that may not be done for everyone at the time the BMAP is adopted.

Mary Szafraniec asked if this would be allocated by the time of the BMAP update. Anita said that DEP is working to determine if a model is needed. DEP will be updating this BMAP with

the legislative requirements and using interim strategies to keep active progress and entities will still be working on reductions while this is determined.

A citizen asked if this is all for the quality of water and whether this applies to how water is pooling in developments. Anita said that local stormwater flooding issues would be the responsibility of the planning and development department within the local municipality and is not a part of the BMAP. The citizen also asked if the OSTDS is not clean enough. Anita said that the conventional systems do not treat nutrients to protect water quality. The citizen asked what the cost is of a new system. Moira said that more information on ENRs is available on the DEP website, and they may link to outside information regarding cost.

A stakeholder asked staff to show the current list of planned projects in STAR for the Manatee BMAP. The information was displayed. Anita explained that, currently, the majority of projects listed are focused on FIB. She added the during the upcoming project collection for the BMAP update, stakeholders will be able to enter nutrient-based projects. Maya added that TBEP is working on a crosswalk with DEP so projects listed in the RAP can be included in STAR as well. Moira added that these projects are added by the local governments, so if something has been added and does not look accurate, attendees can contact the local government for more information.

Mary asked how future banking might work. Moira said that has not been decided yet.

For TBEP RAP, Sarasota County has been asking about water quality protection plans to eliminate or avoid TMDL. Maya said the original partnership project got them to a RAP. The options now are a 4e or 4b (RAP). The original plan was a listing of projects or commitments. They would want to look at it for Little Sarasota Bay, or a small portion of it. Moira said Ben Ralys would be the contact for the 4e or 4b plans. Maya said she would send Ben's contact information to Sarasota County.

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Action Items

Moira Homann/Anita Stine – Organize a meeting with TBEP and DEP-WAS to work on OSTDS growth in the Tampa Bay RAP.

Maya Burke – Assist Sarasota County in contacting Ben Ralys regarding an alternative restoration plan for Little Sarasota Bay.

DEP -- Post the meeting materials online.