



Alafia River Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Update Meeting

Via Webinar

Webinar Registration Link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1202495630602232158>

*April 2, 2025
10:00 AM EDT*

Agenda

- Alafia River BMAP Background.
- Overview of Draft Alafia River BMAP Update.
- Questions/Comments.

Please note the site for documents pertaining to the BMAP: [BMAP Public Meetings | Florida Department of Environmental Protection](#)

For more information on the Alafia River BMAP, contact: Anita Stine, (850) 245-8545,
Anita.Stine@FloridaDep.gov



ALAFIA RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN DOCUMENT UPDATE

Anita Stine

Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Virtual Meeting | April 2, 2025



WEBINAR HOUSEKEEPING

Attendee Participation

Open your control panel

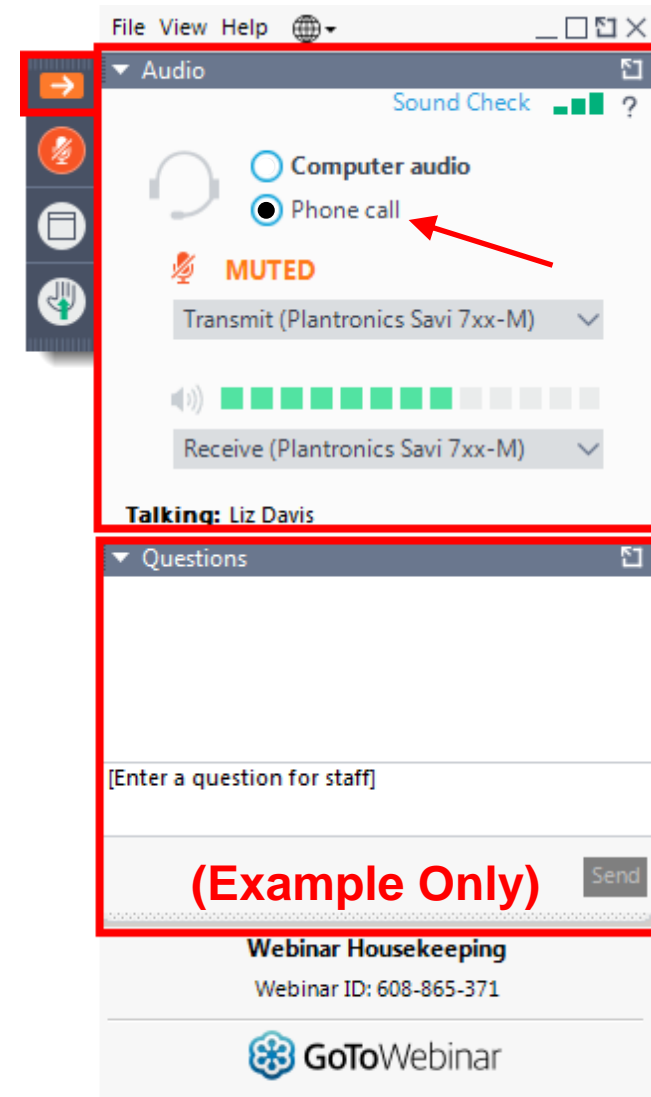
Join audio:

- Choose **Phone Call** and dial using the information provided
- Or choose **Computer Audio** to use your computer's speakers for audio
- Attendee audio will be muted

Submit questions and comments via the Questions panel

If viewing this webinar as a group, please provide a list of attendees via the Questions panel

Note: Today's presentation is being recorded and will be provided on the FTP after the webinar.





AGENDA

- Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Background.
- 2025 BMAP Update Draft Document.
- Next Steps.





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:

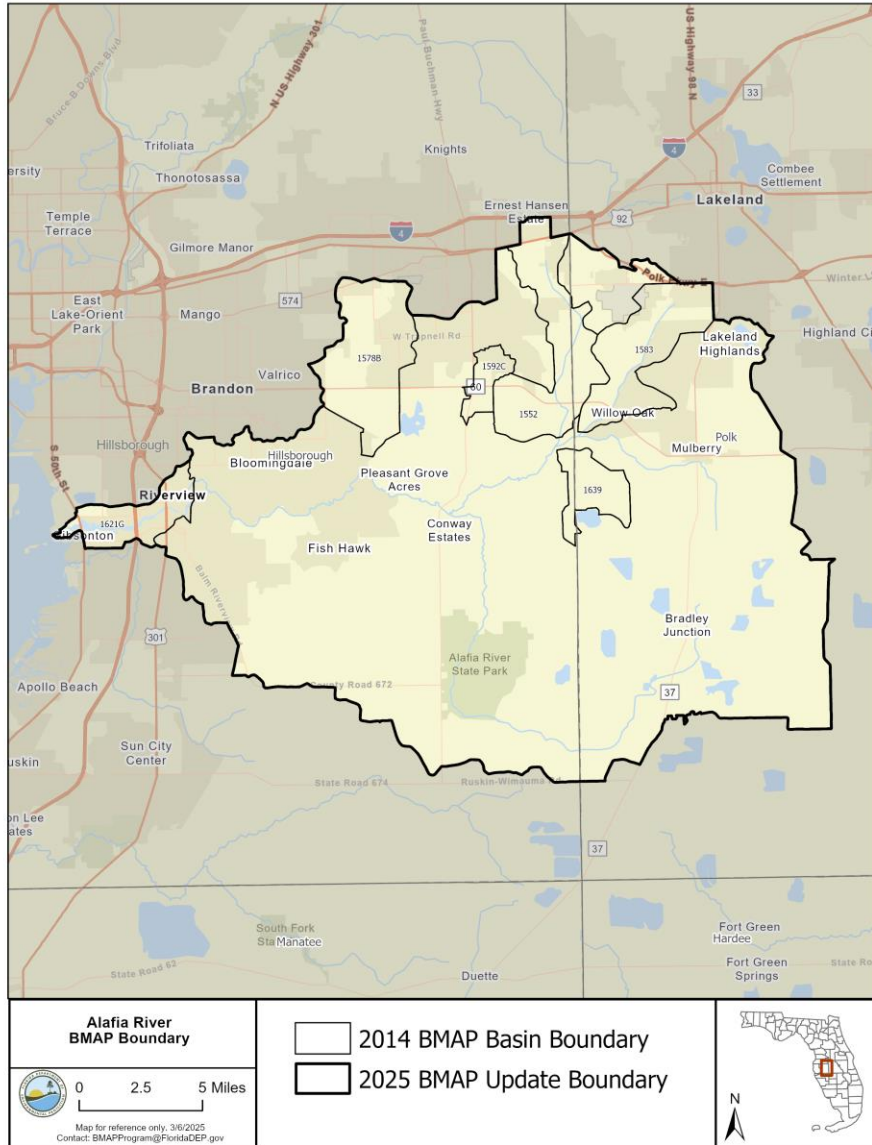
- Implementation timeline.
- Commitment to projects.
- Expected water quality improvement from projects and management strategies.

Process to assess progress toward achieving the TMDL:

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



BACKGROUND



- 2014: Initial adoption.
- 2025: BMAP update.



BACKGROUND

TMDL COMPONENTS

Waterbody	TMDL Components
1621G Alafia River above Hillsborough Bay (Tidal Segment)	TN concentration (target = 0.65 milligrams per liter [mg/L]) WLA (NPDES stormwater) = 54% reduction WLA (NPDES wastewater) = 14.3 lbs/day LA = 54% reduction
1578B Turkey Creek	Fecal coliform concentration WLA (NPDES stormwater) = 64% reduction WLA (NPDES wastewater) = must meet permit limits LA = 64% reduction
1592C Mustang Ranch Creek	TN concentration (% reduction) WLA (NPDES stormwater) = 50% LA = 50% TP concentration (% reduction) WLA (NPDES stormwater) = 45% LA = 45% Fecal coliform concentration (% reduction) WLA (NPDES stormwater) = 88% reduction LA = 88% reduction
1552 English Creek	Fecal coliform concentration (% reduction) WLA (NPDES stormwater) = 40% reduction LA = 40% reduction
1639 Thirtymile Creek	TN concentration (target = 3.0 mg/L) WLA = 3.0 mg TN/L (monthly average) LA = 1.6 mg TN/L (annual average)
1583 Poley Creek	Fecal coliform concentration (% reduction) WLA (NPDES stormwater) = 67% reduction LA = 67% reduction

LA = Load Allocation

mg/L = milligrams/Liter

NPDES=National Pollutant

Discharge Elimination System

TN=Total Nitrogen

TP=Total Phosphorous

WLA = Waste Load Allocation



BACKGROUND

ALAFIA RIVER BMAP STAKEHOLDERS

Type of Governmental or Private Entity	Participant
Responsible Entities	Agriculture City of Lakeland City of Mulberry Hillsborough County Plant City Polk County

Type of Governmental or Private Entity	Participant
Responsible Agencies	County Health Departments Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Florida Department of Health Florida Department of Transportation Southwest Florida Water Management District
Other Interested Stakeholders	Residents/Homeowners Florida Onsite Wastewater Association Septic System Contractors Tampa Bay Estuary Program Tampa Bay Water



BMAP UPDATE COMPONENTS

ADOPT BY JULY 1, 2025

- Management strategies.
- Future growth update.
- Incorporate the 2020 Clean Waterways Act, 2023 House Bill (HB) 1379 and 2024 HB 1557 requirements.
- Evaluate relationships between nitrogen loads and water quality using empirical data in the tidal Alafia River segment.
- Incorporate regional projects.
- Evaluate expansion of the BMAP boundary.
- Evaluate further onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS) provisions.
- Evaluate the need for advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) or other more stringent effluent limits for domestic wastewater treatment facilities (WWTF).





DRAFT DOCUMENT

Section 1: Context, Purpose and Scope of the Plan.

Section 2: Data Evaluation and Analyses

Section 3: Tracking Implementation

Section 4: Management Actions.

Section 5: Monitoring Strategy.

Section 6: Commitment to Plan Implementation.

Appendices.



ALAFIA RIVER BMAP BASIN EXPANSION

SECTION 1: CONTEXT, PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE PLAN

- Review of the TMDLs, BMAP process and stakeholder involvement.
- Alafia River BMAP basin will now expand to match the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP) for Alafia.
- Continue protections of existing water quality progress achieved through RAP.
- Applies future growth protections to the whole watershed.
- Fair and equitable consideration of all land uses, including agricultural land uses, in the process of addressing loading which were addressed by the RAP through voluntary participation.
 - Now Best Management Practices (BMP) program participation will be required, as applicable.
- Adds prioritization and opens funding opportunities for additional stakeholders, including producers and additional communities.

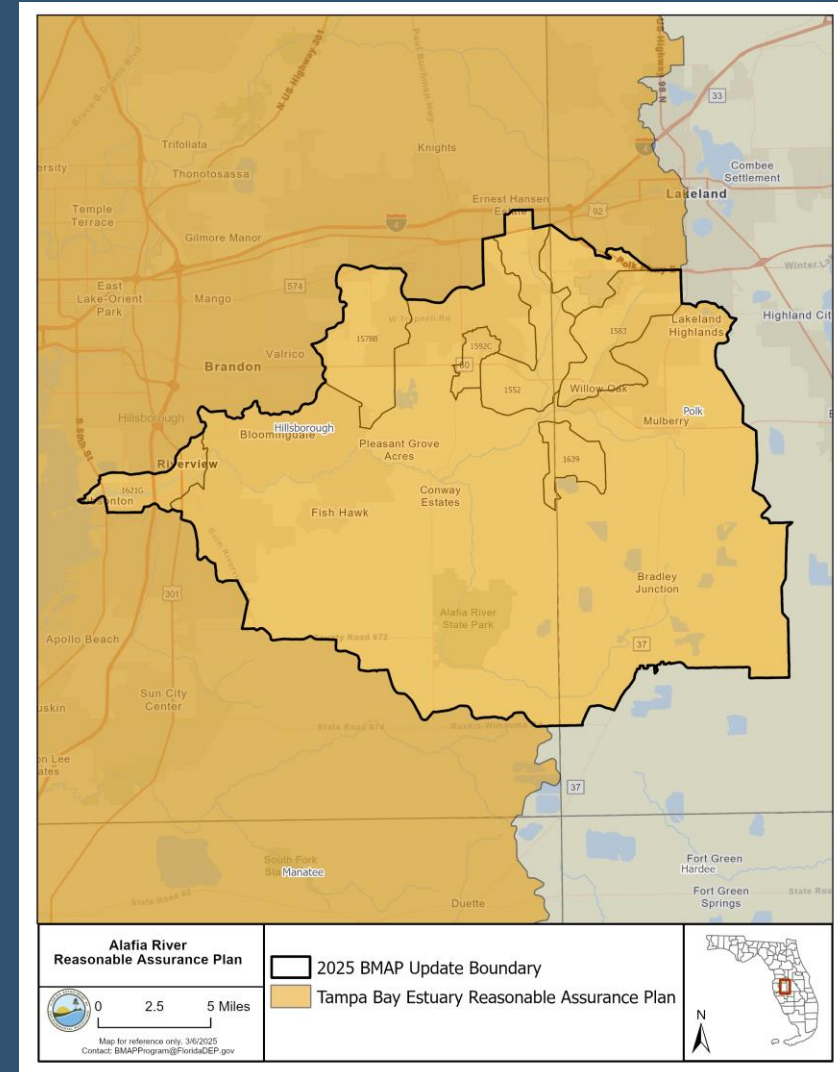


ALAFIA RIVER BMAP BASIN EXPANSION

SECTION 1: CONTEXT, PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE PLAN

Map showing:

- Alafia River TMDL Waterbodies.
- Tampa Bay Reasonable Assurance Plan.
- Updated BMAP Basin Boundary.

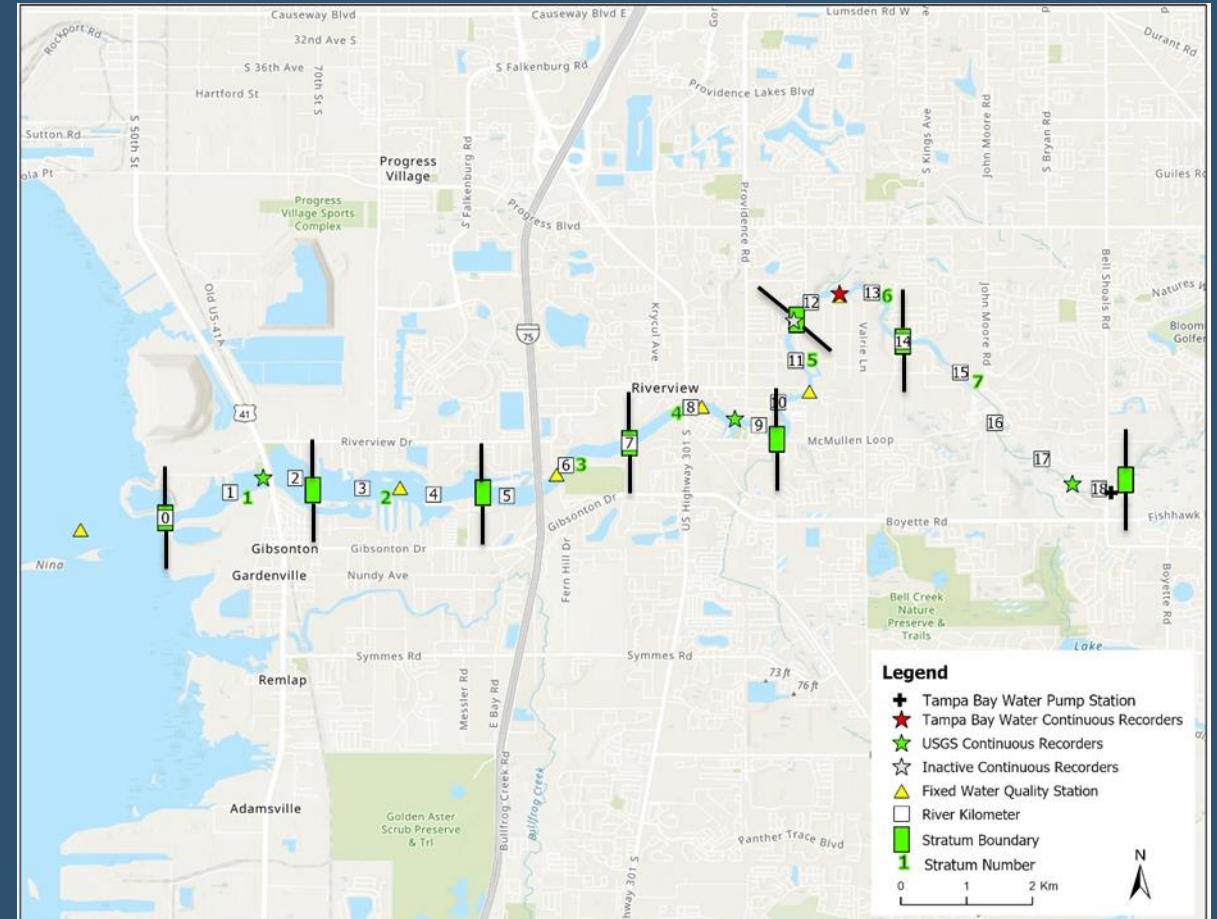




BMAP UPDATE DOCUMENT

SECTION 2: DATA EVALUATION AND ANALYSES

- Review of the 2014 BMAP.
- Data evaluation and analyses.
- Evaluation of attainment of water quality standards.
- Empirical Analyses.





BMAP UPDATE DOCUMENT

Section 3: Tracking Implementation

- **Five Year Milestones**
 - Requirement under section 403.067, Florida Statutes (F.S.) (amended in 2023 HB 1379).



Source: SJRMWD



MILESTONES

SECTION 3: TRACKING IMPLEMENTATION

- Allocations for the Tampa Bay region are set by the RAP.
- Milestones set in the BMAP are to implement measures to meet statutory requirements in a timely manner.
- Consistent with statutes, in basins where entities have BMAP allocations, entities must provide a list of projects and strategies to DEP that show how entities will meet their required reductions to achieve the next upcoming BMAP milestone, even if the identified project or strategy will not be completed by the milestone.
- All projects needed to achieve milestone targets should be included in the Statewide Annual Report (STAR), even if a funding mechanism is not currently identified, as this information gives the state an understanding of the support is necessary to achieve BMAP goals and assists with the prioritization of projects.
- It is critical for each BMAP that entities plan for and report projects and project updates to the state through the STAR process.



MILESTONES

SECTION 3: TRACKING IMPLEMENTATION

- Responsible entities must submit a **sufficient list** of projects and management strategies to DEP by **Jan. 14, 2026**, to be compliant with the upcoming BMAP milestone or be subject to further department enforcement.
- If any lead entity is unable to submit a sufficient project list, then specific project identification efforts must be submitted **by Jan. 14, 2026**:
 - These responsible entities must catalog their efforts to identify management strategies as required under recent legislation as described in the BMAP.
 - These planning efforts are ineligible for BMAP credit themselves but are necessary to demonstrate that additional eligible management actions will be forthcoming and BMAP compliance will be achieved.



BMAP TIMELINE AND MILESTONES

SECTION 3: TRACKING IMPLEMENTATION

Timeline

- **2009** Detailed accounting of the process to develop allocations is detailed in the [Reasonable Assurance Plan Addendum](#)
- **2010** [Final Order](#) adopting WQBELs for each bay segment, by entity.
- **2014** adoption of the original BMAP
- **2025** BMAP update
- **2026** list of actions to meet milestones in STAR.



Source: [Alafia River State Park | Florida State Parks](#)



BMAP UPDATE DOCUMENT

Section 4: Management Actions

- Bills and legislation updates.
 - 2020 Clean Waterways Act, 2021 Senate Bill (SB) 64, 2023 HB 1379 and 2024 HB 1557.
- Management actions by source.
 - Wastewater — OSTDS, WWTFs and biosolids.
 - Stormwater.
 - Sports turfgrass.
 - Agriculture (BMPs and agricultural cooperative regional elements).
 - Atmospheric deposition.
- Future Growth Analysis.
 - Considers impact of future population on loading from wastewater.



WASTEWATER

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Recent legislative updates have expanded the requirements for addressing wastewater sources within BMAPs.

Clean Waterways Act SB 712 (2020)

- Requires local governments within a nutrient BMAP to develop wastewater treatment plans and/or OSTDS remediation plans to be incorporated into BMAP updates.

Reclaimed Water SB 64 (2021)

- Subsection 403.064(16), F.S., requires domestic wastewater utilities that dispose of effluent, reclaimed water or reuse water by surface water discharge to submit for DEP review and approval, a plan for eliminating non-beneficial surface water discharge by Jan. 1, 2032.
 - A utility must fully implement the approved plan by Jan. 1, 2032.
- If a plan was not timely submitted or approved by DEP, the utility's domestic WWTFs may not dispose of effluent, reclaimed water or reuse water by surface water discharge after Jan. 1, 2028.



WASTEWATER

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Recent legislative updates have expanded the requirements for addressing wastewater sources within BMAPs.

Environmental Protection HB 1379 (2023)

- Requires facilities discharging to a waterbody impaired for nutrients or subject to a BMAP to upgrade to AWT within 10 years.
- Requires applicants for new septic systems serving lots of one acre or less within BMAPs to connect to central sewer if available. If unavailable, requires applicants to install an enhanced nutrient-reducing system or other wastewater system that achieves a nitrogen reduction of 65%.

Environmental Protection HB 1557 (2024)

- Requires advanced treatment of reclaimed water within BMAPs (403.086, F.S.).
- DEP has determined that the use of reclaimed water is causing or contributing to the nutrient impairments being addressed in this BMAP area.
- The facilities listed in the BMAP — Appendix D have 10 years from BMAP adoption to meet the applicable AWT standards.



WASTEWATER

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The nitrogen and phosphorus effluent limits will be applied as an annual average, taken at the end of pipe before any land disposal (or other authorized compliance point), to all new and existing WWTFs with a DEP-permitted discharge or disposal area within this BMAP.

Nitrogen effluent limits for wastewater facilities

Facility Capacity (mgd)	Surface Water Discharges (mg/L)	WWTFs Listed in Appendix D (mg/L)	WWTFs Not Listed in Appendix D - Rapid Rate Land Application Effluent Disposal System (mg/L)	WWTFs Not Listed in Appendix D - All Other Disposal Methods, Including Reuse (mg/L)
≥ 0.5	3	3	3	10
$< 0.5, \geq 0.1$	3	3	6	10
< 0.1	3	3	10	10

Phosphorus effluent limits for wastewater facilities

Facility Capacity (mgd)	Surface Water Discharges (mg/L)	WWTFs Listed in Appendix D (mg/L)	WWTFs Not Listed in Appendix D - Rapid Rate Land Application Effluent Disposal System (mg/L)	WWTFs Not Listed in Appendix D - All Other Disposal Methods, Including Reuse (mg/L)
≥ 0.5	1	1	1	6
$< 0.5, \geq 0.1$	1	1	3	6
< 0.1	1	1	6	6

mgd = million gallons per day. mg/L = milligrams per liter.



WASTEWATER

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Biosolids

- To provide assurance that nitrogen losses to surface water and groundwater are minimized from the permitted application of biosolids and septage in the BMAP, requirements in accordance with Chapter 62-640, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), apply to newly-permitted application sites and existing application sites upon permit renewal.



Source: SJRWMD



STORMWATER

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Stormwater

- The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program will, within five years of BMAP adoption, evaluate any entity located in the BMAP area that serves a minimum resident population of at least 1,000 individuals that is not currently covered by an MS4 permit and designate eligible entities as regulated MS4s, in accordance with Chapter 62-624, F.A.C.
- Chapter 62-330, F.A.C. (2024)
 - Updated Florida's stormwater rule for design criteria and to strengthen the operation and maintenance requirements.
 - Applicants must demonstrate a level of treatment sufficient to accomplish the greater of the following nutrient load reduction criteria through calculations or modeling that the future stormwater management systems would provide additional treatment to meet new Environmental Resource Permits stormwater treatment performance standards of 80% reduction for TP and 55% reduction for TN, or post-development condition average annual loading of nutrients does not exceed the predevelopment condition nutrient loading, along with additional requirements that would apply where a project discharges to Outstanding Florida Waters or impaired waters.

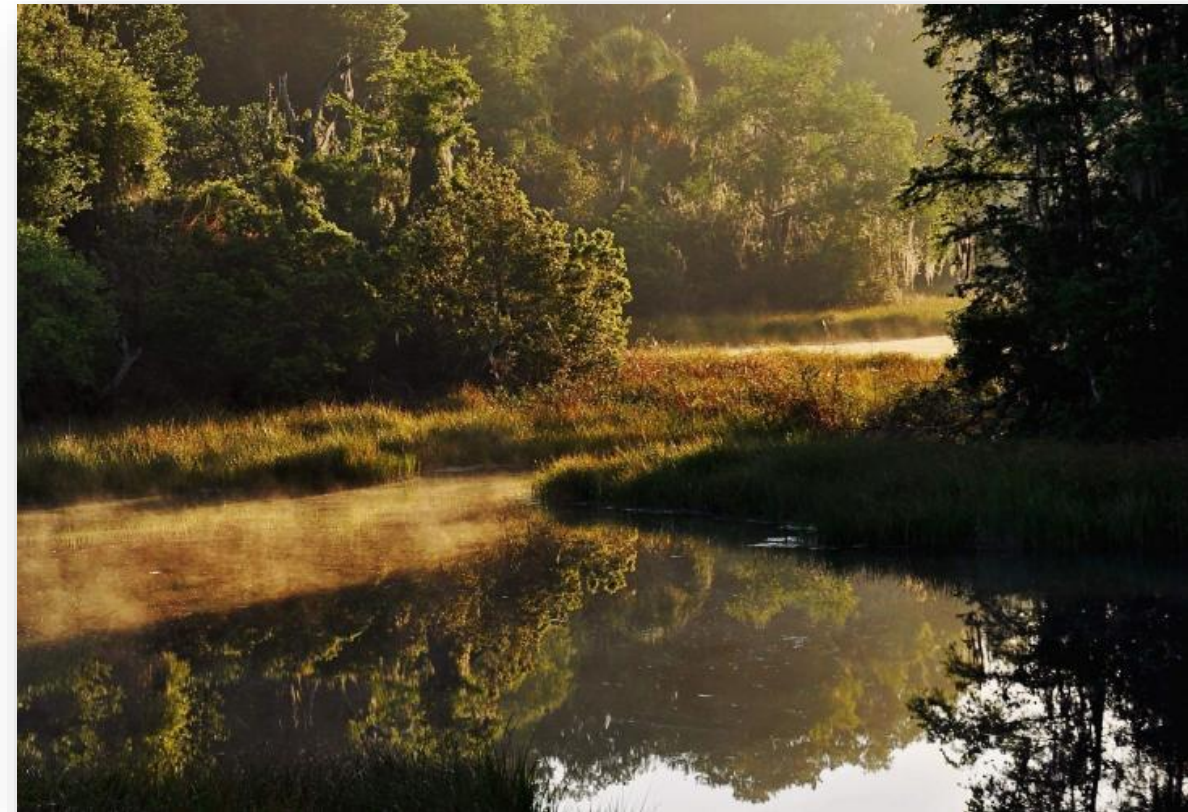


SPORTING FACILITIES

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Sports Turfgrass and Golf Courses

- Sporting facilities are required to follow the 2025 Sports Turf BMP Manual.
- All publicly owned golf courses within the BMAP must obtain a certification for golf course BMPs under section 403.9339, F.S. and all golf courses must implement the BMPs described in the 2021 DEP golf course BMP manual.
- All golf courses located within a BMAP are required to submit a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP).



Source: [Alafia River State Park | Florida State Parks](#)



AGRICULTURE

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Dairy Operations with Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Permits, Chapter 62-670, F.A.C.

- Waste storage ponds must be lined and demonstrate no leaking.
- Sampling for TN and TP or land-applied effluent/wastewater must be included in the monitoring plan.

Livestock Operations Without CAFO Permits

- Section 403.067, F.S., requires livestock operations not large enough to require a NPDES CAFO permit to enroll in and implement the applicable DAC BMP Program OR
- Conduct a monitoring program approved by DEP or the applicable water management district.

Aquaculture

- Chapter 597, F.S., required DACS to create a program that requires those who sell aquatic species to annually acquire an Aquaculture Certificate of Registration and implement Chapter 5L-3, F.A.C. Aquaculture BMPs. Permit holders must be certified every year.

Silviculture

- The Florida Forest Service implements Chapter 5I-6, F.A.C. and requires both private and public forest landowners across the state to comply with BMPs and the rule.



AGRICULTURE

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Agricultural Cooperative Regional Elements (ACE)

- Section 403.067, F.S., requires DACS, DEP and agricultural producers to work together to establish an ACE.
- DACS is responsible for providing DEP a list of projects which, in combination with BMPs, state-sponsored regional projects and other management strategies will achieve the needed pollutant load reductions established for agricultural nonpoint sources.
- DACS is assigned the lead role on project solicitation, development, selection and implementation. However, they will work closely with all the key stakeholders, including DEP as a partner agency, to define and identify regional projects that will be included in the BMAP.
- DACS and DEP will work together to track progress on agricultural water quality projects under the ACE framework through the development of performance metrics and evaluation of water quality monitoring data in the basin.
- DACS will report on projects annually through the DEP STAR process and during BMAP update and/or development.
- Projects and other management strategies implemented through the ACE will be evaluated cooperatively by partner agencies using the predetermined performance metrics.



ATMOSPHERIC DEPOSITION

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

- Atmospheric sources of nutrients are local, national and international.
- Recent data indicate that the deposition of nitrogen has been generally decreasing in Florida with an up to 55% decrease in atmospheric deposition by 2028 possibly as result of the following:
 - Power plant fuel source changes.
 - Air treatment upgrades.
 - Increased use of electric vehicles.
 - Decreasing mobile sources.
- No specific nitrogen or phosphorus reductions were assigned to this source category in this BMAP.
- Atmospheric deposition sources and trends will be re-evaluated periodically.



FUTURE GROWTH

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Assessed additional loading to the basin by 2040 under different growth management scenarios.

- 2040 population “additional people” based on Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BEBR) medium growth projections per county.
- Growth distributed to jurisdictional boundaries based on available land area.
- Determined percentage of population sewered based on Florida Water Management Inventory (FLWMI) parcel to point data.
- Applied per person loading values for portions of future population on centralized sewer or OSTDS.
- Assumed increase in urban stormwater loading based on percentage of undeveloped acres converted to low density residential land use, using statewide event mean concentrations and runoff coefficients.
- Ran three management scenarios to look at loading by entity, source and overall basin.



FUTURE GROWTH

SECTION 4: MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Scenario 1

By 2040:

- **90% or more of new population** is connected to central sewer.
- All wastewater treating to **3 mg/L**.
- Remainder of new population has **enhanced OSTDS**.
- **2% of undeveloped land** converted to low density development.

Scenario 2

By 2040:

- **New population** is connected to central sewer at **same rate as today**.
- All wastewater treating to **3 mg/L**.
- Remainder of new population has **enhanced OSTDS**.
- **10% of undeveloped land** converted to low density development.

Scenario 3

By 2040:

- **New population** is connected to central sewer at **same rate as today**.
- All wastewater treating to **6 mg/L**.
- Remainder of new population has **conventional OSTDS**.
- **17% of undeveloped land** converted to low density development.



FUTURE GROWTH ANALYSIS

TN

Entity	2040 People	Scenario 1 TN (lbs/yr)	Scenario 2 TN (lbs/yr)	Scenario 3 TN (lbs/yr)
Hillsborough County	70,746	39,818	51,091	101,040
Plant City	3,245	1,626	1,647	3,241
Polk County	22,334	12,613	24,880	48,976
Lakeland	1,898	1,072	1,283	2,499
Mulberry	1,073	592	607	1,176
2040 Loading — Basin Totals		Scenario 1 Total	Scenario 2 Total	Scenario 3 Total
		55,720	79,507	156,931

In every scenario, additional loading is expected in the basin by 2040 due to increasing populations. However, entities should be working now to both remediate existing loading and plan to mitigate loading from future growth.



BMAP UPDATE DOCUMENT

Section 5: Monitoring Strategies

- Review of monitoring network.

Section 6: Commitment to Plan Implementation

- Review of process for BMAP adoption, tracking and adaptive management.



BMAP UPDATE DOCUMENT

APPENDICES

- **Updated:** Important links.
- **Updated:** Project tables.
 - Projects submitted by responsible entities through the BMAP portal through January 15, 2025.
 - Includes projects from the 2020 Clean Waterways Act WWTF and OSTDS plans submitted by local governments August 2024.
- **NEW:** Additional Management Strategies
 - Examples of project efforts entities can identify to meet their milestone requirements.
- **NEW:** Wastewater Facilities
 - List of facilities with reclaimed water that are causing or contributing to nutrient impairments.
- **NEW:** Golf Course Nutrient Management Plans
- **Updated:** Agricultural Enrollment (provided by DACS).



NEXT STEPS

BMAP update document draft review:

- Draft document sent to members of the public on **March 26, 2025**.
- Stakeholder review comments due on **April 16, 2025**.

Submit comments to:
Anita.Stine@FloridaDEP.gov





UPCOMING SCHEDULE

November 2024 was the Technical BMAP update public meeting.

March 26, 2025 the Draft BMAP document is available for review.

Early April, 2025 is the Draft BMAP update public meeting.

End of April, 2025 the Draft BMAP update comment period.

July 1, 2025 is the Statutory deadline for updated nutrient BMAPs.



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)

Water Quality Restoration Program Quick Links

[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 Map](#)

[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 agricultural wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, regional projects and conservation programs designed to reduce pollutant loads. A BMAP is developed with local stakeholders and relies on local input for implementation. BMAPs are adopted by Secretarial Order and are legally enforceable. BMAPs that allows for incremental load reductions through the implementation of projects and management practices, monitoring and conducting studies to better understand the water quality and hydrologic dynamics, project implementation and water quality analyses. DEP continues to work with local and regional stakeholders on projects necessary to meet reduction milestones to achieve the TMDLs and inform funding priorities.

What's New: Upcoming Meetings and BMAP Updates

July 1, 2025 BMAP Update Progress

As required by the Clean Waterways Act, DEP must prepare updates to its nutrient BMAPs by July 1, 2025. The [Update Progress](#) dashboard provides a visual representation of progress towards the completion of related sub-tasks leading up to the July 1, 2025 updates. Please visit the [BMAP Public Meeting](#) page for upcoming meetings and subscribe to meeting notices.

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.

[Basin Management Action Plans \(BMAPs\) | DEP](#)



THANK YOU

Anita Stine
BMAP Coordinator

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850-245-8545
Anita.Stine@FloridaDEP.gov



BMAP MEETING

PUBLIC QUESTIONS PERIOD

Verbal Questions

- We ask that questions and comments be limited to **two minutes** so that we may hear from everyone.

Written Comments

- Submit written comments concerning today's meeting to: BMAPProgram@FloridaDEP.gov.

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2:00

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Alafia River Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)
Virtual Public Meeting via GoToWebinar
April 2, 2025
10:00 am – 10:41 am EDT**

Attendees

Charles Avery, Citizen
Vanessa Bauzo, FDACS
Julianna Belitz, DEP
Tabitha Biehl, Polk County
Shayla Bradford, Polk County
Beth Brady, Save the Manatee Club
Tiffany Busby, Wildwood Consulting
Juliet Christian, EPCHC
Carolin Ciarlariello, DEP
Brett Connell, Trutta Solutions
Joe Costine, City of Lakeland
Ryan Countess, Pale Blue Dot Consulting
Services
Jason Cupit, City of Mulberry
Cameron Drees, Pennoni
Sara Driggers, Wildwood Consulting
Trevor Fagan, SWFWMD
Cathy Foerster, Drummond Carpenter
David Glicksberg, Hillsborough County
Roxanne Groover, FOWA
Jerry Gullins, City of Mulberry
Moirra Homann, DEP
Daryll Joyner, ESA
David Karlen, EPCHC
Ashley Law, City of Plant City
Celeste Lyon, RES

Daniel Magro, Aclus Engineering
Sarah Malone, Applied Ecology Inc.
Terri Mayekar, Citizen
Jeff McKinney, Pennoni
Tania McMillan, City of Lakeland
Shannon Meddleton, Citizen
Mark Mikolon, Polk County
Jessica Mostyn, DEP
Kevin ODonnell, DEP
Belinda Oliver, DEP
Diana Perez, City of Mulberry
Kevin Petrus, DEP
Lorelei Pfefferkorn, Citizen
Nicolas Pisarello, Applied Technology &
Management
Nicole Pollio, RES
Tiffany Simpson, DEP
Eric Simpson, DEP
Linda Skidmore, Citizen
Anita Stine, DEP
Brittany Thornton, City of Lakeland
Diana Turner, DEP
Rachel Vitek, RES
Ken Weaver, DEP
John Wright, City of Mulberry
David Zeledon, Pennoni

Overall

The draft BMAP document can be downloaded here: <https://floridadep.gov/dear/water-quality-restoration/documents/march-25-2025-alaf-draft-bmap>. Comments on the draft BMAP document are due by April 16, 2025. Verbal comments at this meeting were welcome. Written comments submitted at the meeting were invited. Comments after the meeting should be sent to BMAPPprogram@FloridaDEP.gov by April 16, 2025.

Questions and Answers

Question (Q): How do the future growth loading estimates compare to the existing load and allocated load?

Answer (A): We do not have a slide with a direct comparison of existing nutrient loading and allocated nutrient reductions. The future growth scenarios were broadly evaluated similarly across all BMAPs to provide insights into potential wastewater impacts from population growth, including septic systems, sewer, and stormwater loading. This planning tool offers local governments a general understanding of how population growth may affect future responsibilities, enabling comparisons of strategies to manage loading and required reductions. While the growth numbers are broad estimates, they highlight the impacts of different scenarios and could potentially inform planning decisions. Refinements to the tool, incorporating more specific local data, may be considered; suggestions are welcome. Additionally, the Statewide Stormwater Rule Ratification (Senate Bill 7040) aims to mitigate urban and suburban loading through enhanced treatment requirements, which may reduce some of the additional nutrient loading within the future growth scenarios. This is an initial approach, and we welcome suggestions for further strategies or refinements. Please feel free to reach out to Moira Homann or Anita Stine with feedback.

Q: Did DEP model a future growth scenario requiring onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to upgrade to enhanced nutrient reduction systems with at least 65% nitrogen reduction?

A: Yes, this is scenario one on the future growth analysis, which applies to new population systems without remediation. Scenario two addresses new population systems with enhanced systems and accounts for land converted to development, resulting in different conversion rates. Both scenarios assume enhanced septic systems achieving at least a 65% nitrogen reduction.

Comments

There were no verbal or written comments on the draft BMAP submitted during the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 10:41 am EDT.