



Wacissa River and Wacissa Spring Group Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)

Update Meeting

Via Webinar

Webinar Registration Link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5502195224651082848>

April 15, 2025

2:00 PM EDT

Agenda

- Wacissa River and Wacissa Spring Group BMAP Background.
- Overview of Draft Wacissa River and Wacissa Spring Group BMAP.
- Next Steps.
- Questions/Comments.

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

For more information on the Wacissa River and Wacissa Spring Group BMAP,
contact: Sam Hankinson, 850-245-8086.
Samuel.Hankinson@FloridaDEP.gov



WACISSA RIVER AND WACISSA SPRING GROUP BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN DOCUMENT UPDATE

Sam Hankinson

Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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WEBINAR TIPS

Audience Participation

Open your control panel.

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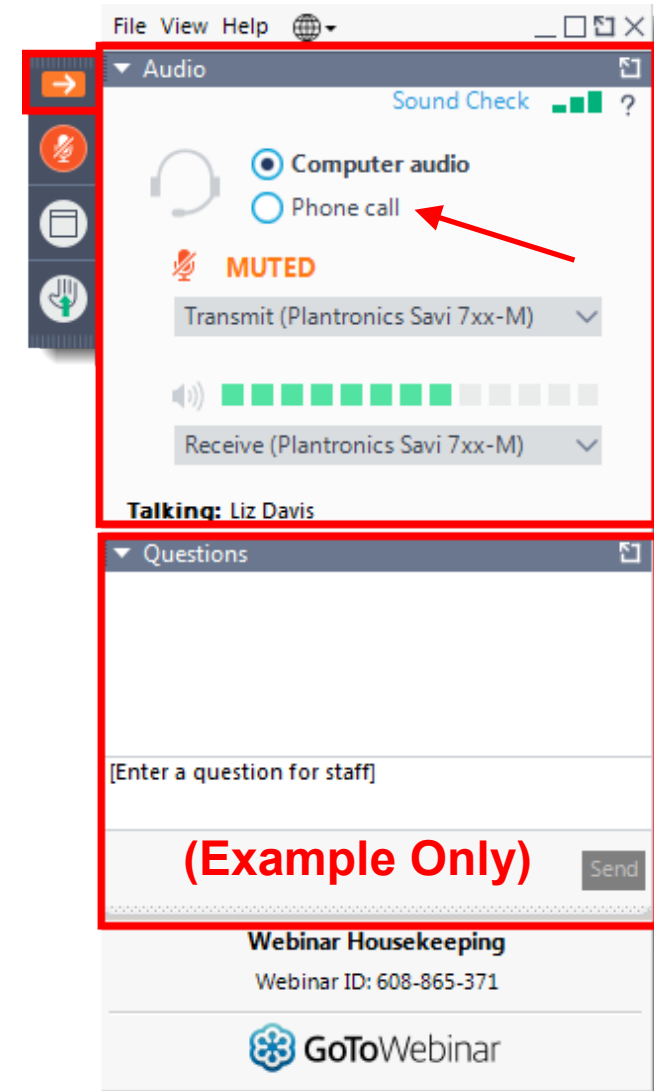
- Choose Computer Audio or
- Choose Phone Call and dial using the information provided with your registration

Attendee audio will automatically be muted.

Submit questions and comments via the **Questions** panel.

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





AGENDA

- Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Background.
- Review of Previous Meetings.
- Document Update Walk-through.
- Next Steps.



Photo Credit: USFWS



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.

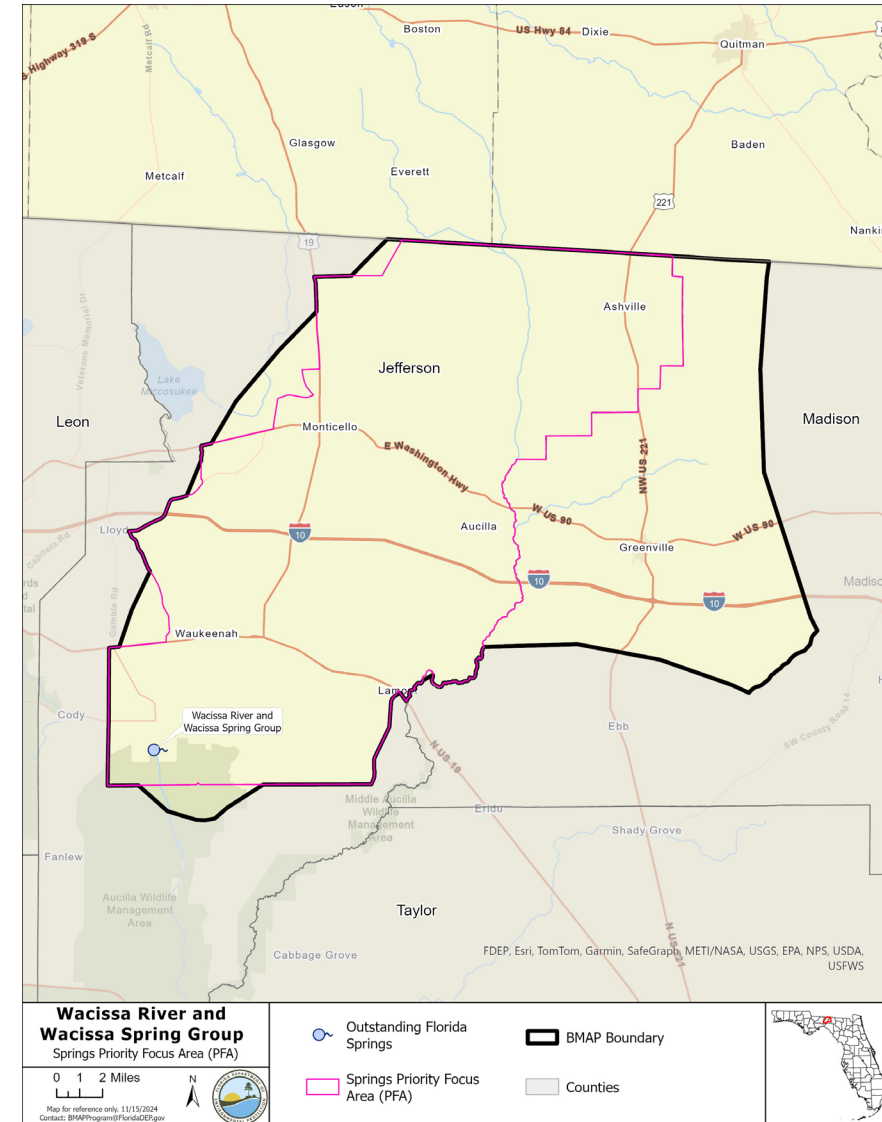
Process to assess progress toward achieving the TMDL:

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



BACKGROUND

- BMAP area is approximately 327,508 acres.
- Impaired for the nitrate form of nitrogen.
- TMDL is a monthly average target of 0.20 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of nitrate for the Wacissa River and 0.24 mg/L of nitrate for the Wacissa Spring Group.





BACKGROUND

BMAP STAKEHOLDERS

Type of Organization/Entity	Name
Responsible Entities	Agriculture City of Monticello Town of Greenville Jefferson County Madison County Private Wastewater Treatment Facilities Private Golf Courses
Responsible Agencies	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Florida Department of Health (DOH) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Florida Department of Transportation District 2 Northwest Florida Water Management District Suwannee River Water Management District
Other Interested Stakeholders	Residents/Homeowners Florida Farm Bureau Florida Onsite Wastewater Association Septic System Contractors University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences



BMAP UPDATE COMPONENTS

ADOPT BY JULY 1, 2025

- Nitrogen Source Inventory Loading Tool (NSILT) updates.
- Spring vent load analyses updates.
- Entity allocation development.
- Establish five-year milestones for project implementation.
- Incorporate the 2020 Clean Waterways Act, 2023 House Bill (HB) 1379 and 2024 HB 1557 requirements.
- Incorporate regional projects.
- Future growth.
- Water quality data evaluation:
 - Evaluation of the monitoring network (spring vent and groundwater).
 - Water quality trend analyses.
- 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).





PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Summary of BMAP update meetings (held in 2024):

- **January Public Meeting**
 - Virtual.
 - Overview of NSILT methodology updates (all springs basins).
- **May Public Meeting**
 - Virtual.
 - Legislative requirements and basin specific analyses.
- **October/November Public Meeting**
 - In person.
 - Basin and entity allocated reductions, poster session.
- **Entity Specific Meetings**
 - Throughout summer and fall.
 - Multiple meetings to discuss reduction allocations and project lists.



Source: [Crystal River and Kings Bay | WaterMatters.org](https://www.watermatters.org/)



DRAFT DOCUMENT

Section 1: Background

Section 2: Implementation

Section 3: Monitoring and Reporting

Section 4: Commitment to Plan Implementation

Section 5: References

Appendices

Legislation

TMDLs

BMAP Requirements

BMAP Area

Priority Focus Area
(PFA)

Other Scientific and Historical Information

Stakeholder
Involvement

Best Management
Practices (BMPs)
Adopted by Rule



DRAFT DOCUMENT

Section 1: Background

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Appendices

Pollutant Loads

Load Reduction Strategy

Allocated Reductions

**Management
Strategies**

OSTDS

WWTF

**Urban Turfgrass
Fertilizer (UTF)**

**Sports Turfgrass
Fertilizer (STF)**

Agriculture

Atmospheric Deposition

Future Growth

Funding Opportunities



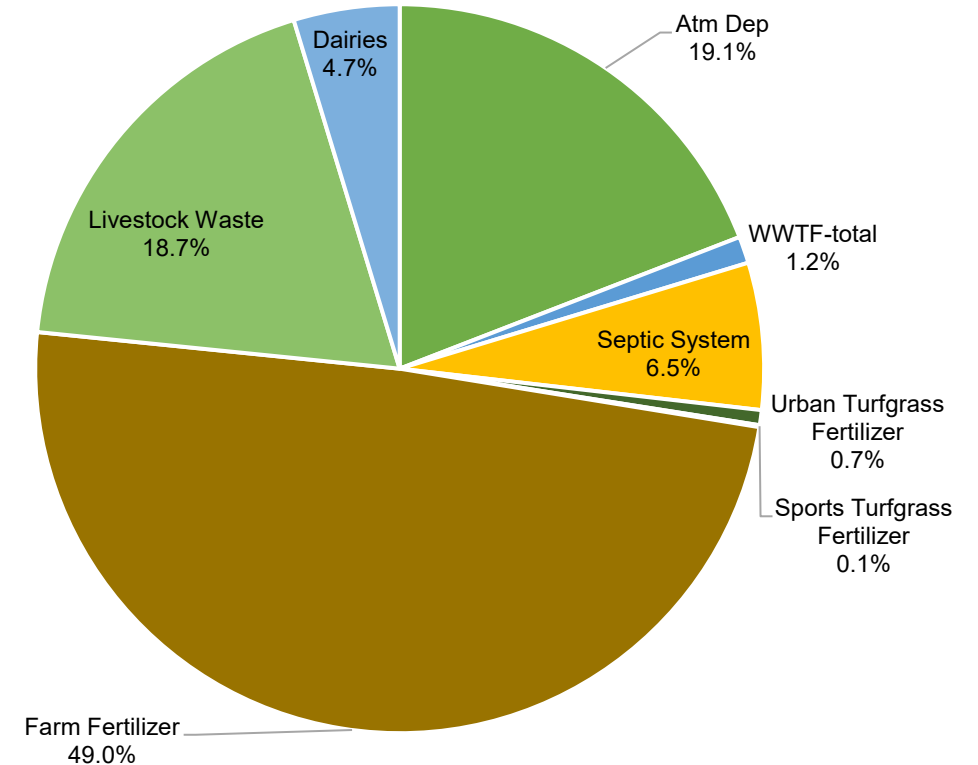
POLLUTANT LOADS

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Nitrogen Source	Total Nitrogen(TN) Load to Groundwater (lbs/yr)	% Contribution
OSTDS	35,872	6.5%
UTF	3,659	0.7%
Atmospheric Deposition (AD)	105,274	19.1%
Farm Fertilizer (FF)	270,052	49%
STF	468	0.1%
Livestock Waste (LW)	102,964	18.7%
Livestock Waste - CAFO	25,864	4.7%
WWTFs	6,524	1.2%
Total	550,677	100%

lbs/yr = pounds/year

Wacissa Spring Group (2023)





LOADING ALLOCATION

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Description	Nitrogen Loads (lbs/yr)	Notes Regarding Data Used
Total Load at Spring Vent	184,802	Upper 95% confidence interval - nitrate data and flow data from 2012 to 2022 (0.41 mg/L average and 230.02 combined cubic feet per second [cfs]).
TMDL Load	108,541	TMDL target is 0.35 mg/L and using the spring vent flow data from 2012 to 2022.
Percent Reduction	41.27%	Calculated reduction needed based on the total load at the spring vent and the TMDL load.
NSILT Load	550,679	Total load to groundwater from the updated NSILT.
Required Reduction	227,245	Percent reduction multiplied by the NSILT load.

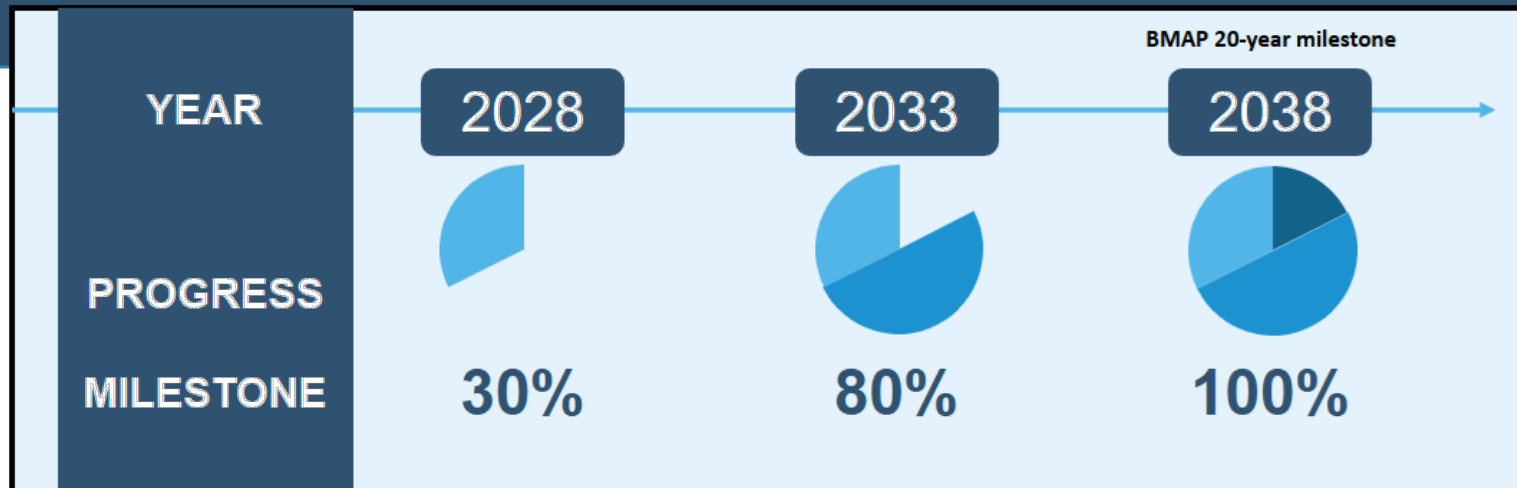
cfs – cubic feet per second



MILESTONES/REDUCTION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

- Consistent with statutes, 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/REDUCTION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

- Responsible entities must submit a **sufficient list** of additional 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 submit project identification efforts whose purpose and timeline will provide projects to meet the 5-year milestone.
 - These efforts create a compliance schedule that must reflect the urgency of defining, funding and implementing projects to meet the upcoming and future milestones.
 - 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.



ENTITY ALLOCATIONS

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Timeline

- 2028 - 30%
- 2033 - (+50%) 80%
- 2038 - (+20%) 100%

Entity	2028 Milestone Assigned Reductions (30%) TN (lbs/yr)	Total Assigned Reductions TN (lbs/yr)
Jefferson County	3,291	10,970
Madison County	872	2,905
City of Monticello	152	505
Town of Greenville	2,041	6,802
Total, All Reductions	6,356	21,182



ENTITY ALLOCATIONS

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Entity	2028 Milestone Assigned Reductions (30%)(lbs/yr)	TN Completed and Ongoing Project Credits (lbs/yr)	TN Reductions from Planned and Underway Projects* (Not Verified) (lbs/yr)	Total Projected** Project TN Reductions by Entity Through 2028 (lbs/yr)
City of Monticello	152	0	0	0
Jefferson County	3,291	0	0	0
Madison County	872	0	0	0
Town of Greenville	2,041	0	2,473	2,473
Total	6,356	0	2,473	2,473

* Planned and underway project reduction estimates are not verified by DEP.

** Projected reductions include projects with a project status of completed, ongoing, planned and underway.



WASTEWATER

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

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

Clean Waterways Act (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 Senate Bill (SB) 64 (2021)

- Subsection 403.064(16), Florida Statutes (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 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

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, or if unavailable, 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 G have 10 years from BMAP adoption to meet the applicable AWT standards.



WASTEWATER

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

The nitrogen effluent limits will be applied as an annual average, taken at 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 these BMAPs.

Nitrogen effluent limits for wastewater facilities

Facility Capacity (gpd)	Surface Water Discharges (mg/L)	WWTFs Not Listed in Appendix G — Rapid Rate Land Application Effluent Disposal System (mg/L)	WWTFs Not Listed in Appendix G — All Other Disposal Methods, Including Reuse (mg/L)
Greater than 100,000	3	3	3
20,000 to 100,000	3	3	6
Less than 20,000	3	6	6

gpd = gallons per day.



EXISTING OSTDS REMEDIATION

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Section 373.807, F.S.

- Requires BMAPs to include an OSTDS remediation plan if OSTDS contribute at least 20% of nonpoint source nitrogen pollution, or if DEP determines OSTDS remediation is needed to achieve the TMDL.
- In this BMAP, OSTDS contribute less than 20% of nonpoint source nitrogen pollution to the Outstanding Florida Spring (OFS).
- The remediation plan for this BMAP does not include requirements for the addition of enhanced nitrogen reducing treatment to conventional systems upon the need for modification or repair of existing OSTDS.

Subsection 403.067(7)(a)9., F.S.

- Requires local governments to develop an OSTDS remediation plan if DEP identifies OSTDS as contributors of at least 20% of point source or nonpoint source nutrient pollution or if DEP determines remediation is necessary to achieve the TMDL.
- Loading from OSTDS in this BMAP does not meet the 20% contribution threshold and local governments were not required to submit an OSTDS remediation plan.



WASTEWATER

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

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: DEP



URBAN TURFGRASS

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Fertilizer Ordinance

- Subsection 373.807(2), F.S., requires local governments with jurisdictional boundaries within an OFS to develop, enact and implement a fertilizer ordinance by July 1, 2017.

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 a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (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 Total Phosphorous (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.



SPORTS TURFGRASS

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Sports Turfgrass and Golf Courses

- Sporting facilities are required to follow the 2025 Sports Turf BMP Manual.
 - DEP and University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) are collaborating the develop this manual.
- Superintendents of 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).
 - A draft NMP must be submitted to DEP within one year of BMAP adoption and a final document is due two years after adoption.



AGRICULTURE

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

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 must enroll in and implement the applicable DACS 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 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Agricultural Cooperative Regional Elements (ACE)

- Section 403.067, F.S., requires the 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 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

- Atmospheric sources of nutrients are local, national and international.
- Recent data indicate that the emission of nitrogen has been generally decreasing in Florida with an up to 55% decrease in atmospheric emissions by 2028 possibly as result of the following:
 - Power plant fuel source changes.
 - Air treatment upgrades.
 - Increased use of electric vehicles.
 - Decreasing mobile sources.
- Nitrogen reductions from this source category were not assigned to responsible entities.
- Atmospheric deposition sources and trends will be re-evaluated periodically.



FUTURE GROWTH

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

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 sewerage 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 turfgrass loading based on percentage of available acres developed using low and high intensity landscaping, based on a general percent turf cover and turfgrass species fertilization rates.
- Ran three management scenarios to look at loading by entity, source and overall basin.



FUTURE GROWTH

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

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 available land** developed using **low intensity** landscaping (10% turf cover using centipedegrass).

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 available land** developed using **low intensity** landscaping (10% turf cover using centipedegrass).

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 available land** developed using high **intensity** landscaping (25% turf cover using st augustinegrass).



FUTURE GROWTH ANALYSIS

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE TMDL

Entity	2040 People	Scenario 1 TN (lbs/yr)	Scenario 2 TN (lbs/yr)	Scenario 3 TN (lbs/yr)
Jefferson County	815	1,167	11,586	177,633
Monticello	14	19	184	3,006
Madison County	35	367	4,476	75,449
Greenville	0	4	53	884

2040 Loading — Basin Totals

Scenario 1 Total	Scenario 2 Total	Scenario 3 Total
1,557	16,299	256,972

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



DRAFT DOCUMENT

SECTION 2

Questions?



DRAFT DOCUMENT

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Section 3: Monitoring and Reporting

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Section 5: References

Appendices

Methods for Evaluating Progress

Adaptive Management

Water Quality and Biological Monitoring

Groundwater Analysis



WATER QUALITY MONITORING

SECTION 3: MONITORING AND REPORTING

Primary objectives:

- Measure the water quality and biological response in the impaired springs and groundwater at the beginning of the BMAP period and during implementation.
- Document nutrient trends in the springshed.

Secondary objectives:

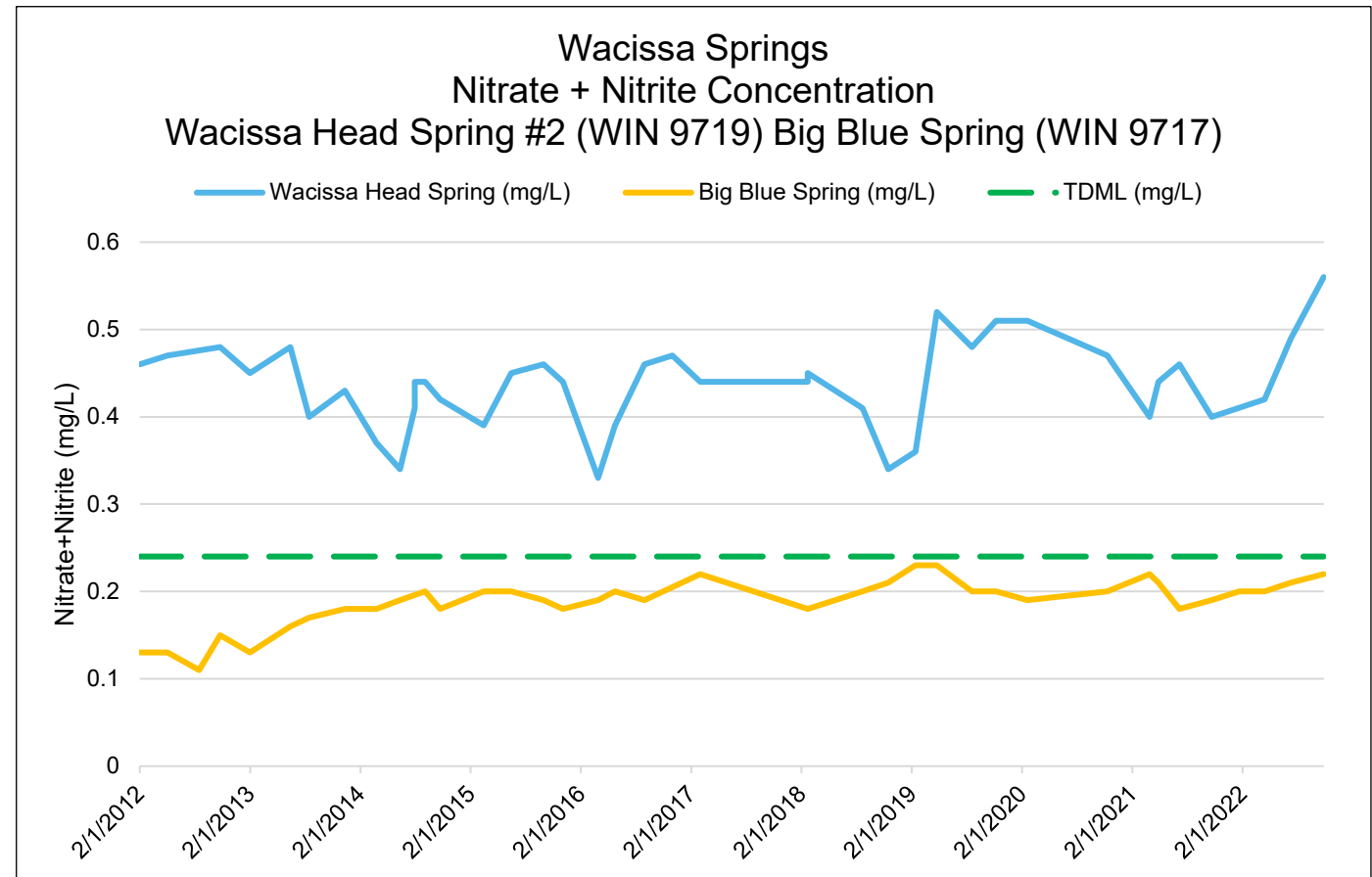
- Identify areas where groundwater data and modeling might help in understanding the hydrodynamics of the system.
- Evaluate groundwater quality trends and nutrient loading to the aquifer across the basin.
- Confirm and refine nutrient removal efficiencies of agricultural and/or urban BMPs, projects and other management efforts



WATER QUALITY MONITORING

SECTION 3: MONITORING AND REPORTING

- Available water quality data will be analyzed during BMAP implementation to determine trends in water quality and the health of the biological community.
- A wide variety of statistical methods are available for the water quality trend analyses.
 - The selection of an appropriate data analysis method will depend on the frequency, spatial distribution and period of record available from existing data. Specific statistical analyses were not identified during BMAP development.





GROUNDWATER MONITORING

SECTION 3: MONITORING AND REPORTING

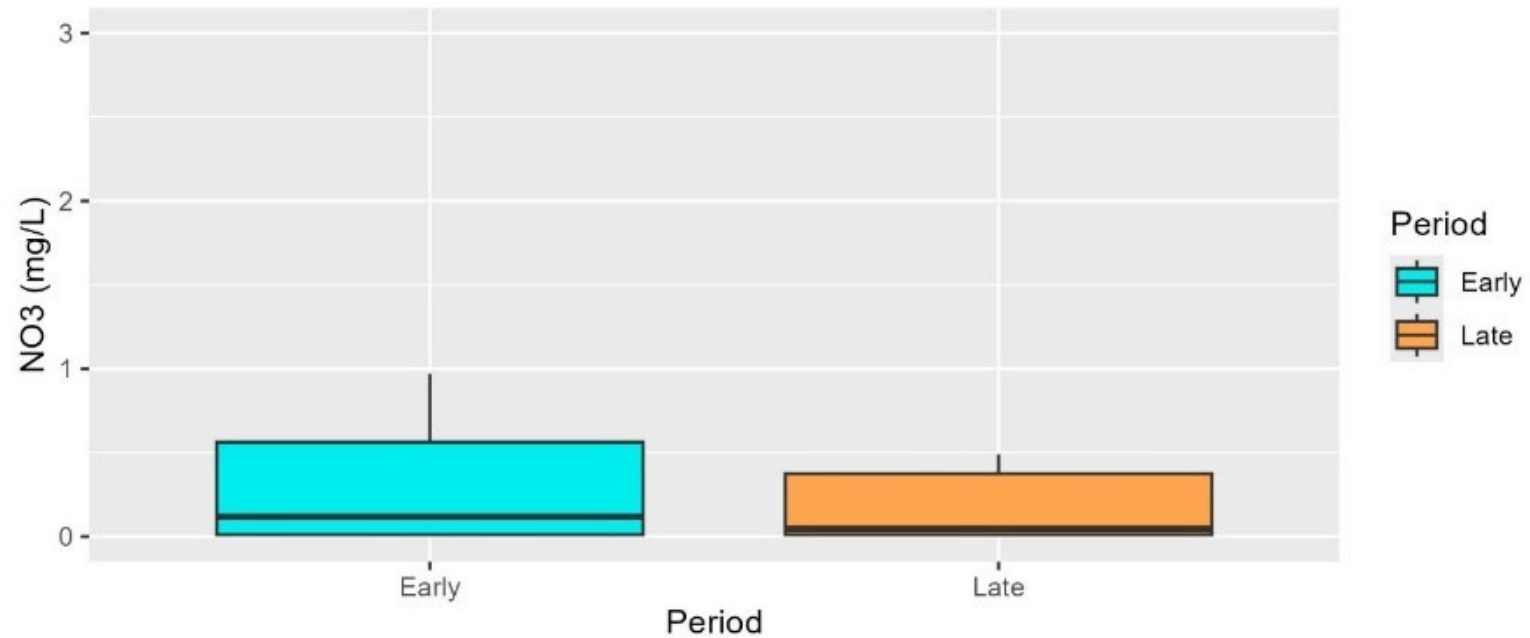
Groundwater monitoring gives us a look at the health of the aquifer before water discharges at spring vent.

- Uses measured nitrate data from groundwater monitoring wells from DEP's Water Information Network (WIN) and the WMD's.
- A visual analysis was performed using boxplots.
- Wells that were sampled regularly through the period of record were considered “fixed”. Wells with inconsistent sampling (i.e. less than four samples over the period of record) were considered “sporadic”.
- Data from the fixed wells were preferred for analyses because comparisons between time periods represent changes in the same set of wells.
- If there was insufficient data from fixed wells, sporadic well data was included in the analysis.
- To resolve seasonal autocorrelation, annual median values were used for wells with multiple samples in any given year.
- To create the box plots, the period of record was divided into early (2017-2020) and late (2021-2024) subperiods. A grand median value is presented for each time period using annual median values from included wells.
- Future considerations:
 - Stratifying data by land use, distance to spring vent or other factors.
 - Trends analysis to see changes over time.
 - Loading evaluation.



GROUNDWATER MONITORING

SECTION 3: MONITORING AND REPORTING



- There are four fixed wells and 23 sporadic wells in the Wacissa basin. Both fixed and sporadic wells were used for this analysis.
- 24 annual median data points were used to calculate the grand median for the early time period
- 26 annual median data points were used to calculate the grand median for the late time period.
- The grand median for the early time period equals 0.12 mg/L. The grand median for the late time period equals 0.04 mg/L.



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Appendices

Adoption Process

Tracking Reductions

Revisions to the BMAP



ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

SECTION 4: COMMITMENT TO PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Tracking Reductions:

- Required loading reductions are expected to be met by 2038.
- Each entity is responsible for implementing management actions to meet their upcoming 5-year milestone.
- The statewide annual report will provide an annual update of progress made in implementing load reductions tracking the implementation status of the management actions listed in the BMAP.

Revisions to the BMAP:

- Section 403.067, F.S., requires that the plan be revised, as appropriate.
 - Assessment of progress toward milestones must be conducted every five years and revisions to the plan must be made as appropriate.
 - BMAPs use an adaptive management approach that allows for incremental load reductions through the implementation of projects and management strategies; however, the restoration target, the TMDL, remains the same.



DRAFT DOCUMENT

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Appendices



BMAP UPDATE DOCUMENT

APPENDICES

- **Updated:** Important links.
- **Updated:** Projects to Reduce Nitrogen Sources.
 - Projects submitted by responsible entities through the BMAP portal through October 2024.
 - Includes projects from the 2020 Clean Waterways Act WWTF and OSTDS plans submitted by local governments August 2024.
- **NEW:** Planning for Additional Management Strategies.
 - Examples of project efforts entities can identify to meet their milestone reduction requirements.
- PFA Report.
- **Updated:** OSTDS Remediation Plan.

- **NEW:** Technical Support Information
 - NSILT methodology.
- **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 and Reductions (provided by DACS).
- **NEW:** Private Wastewater Treatment Facilities Reduction Allocations.
- **NEW:** Private Golf Course Reduction Allocations.



NEXT STEPS

BMAP update document draft review:

- Draft document sent out via GovDelivery **April 8, 2025.**
- Stakeholder review comments due **May 2, 2025.**

Submit comments to:
Samuel.Hankinson@FloridaDEP.gov



Source: DEP



UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Jan. 2024,
NSILT
methodology
public
meeting.

Spring/Fall
2024,
Technical
BMAP update
public
meetings.

Summer/Fall
2024 One-on-
one
stakeholder
meetings.

April 2025,
Draft BMAP
update public
meetings.

April/May
2025, Draft
BMAP update
comment
period.

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



RESOURCES

BMAP WEBSITE AND STORYMAPS

Florida Springs Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)

Welcome to the Florida Springs Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) StoryMap

The springs BMAPs are developed with specific provisions for the protection and restoration of the state's Outstanding Florida Springs. This story map focuses on the springs-related BMAPs; for more details about other BMAPs or more information about the BMAP program in general, visit <https://floridadep.gov/bmaps>.

* The story map will display differently depending on the screen size and resolution being used. Story map best viewed in Chrome or Firefox.

Overview

The Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act (Part VIII of Chapter 373, F.S.) provides for the protection and restoration of the state's Outstanding Florida Springs (OFS), which comprise 24 first magnitude springs, 6 additional named springs, and their associated spring runs. The act provides specific requirements for OFS BMAPs beyond those



1 Legislative Requirements



2 Crystal River - Kings Bay BMAP StoryMap



3 DeLeon Spring Story Map



4 Gemini Springs Story Map



5 Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs...



6 Jackson Blue and Merritts Mill Pond BMAP Story Map



7 Rainbow Springs Group and Rainbow Springs Group Run...



8 Santa Fe River BMAP Story Map



9 Silver Springs and Upper Silver River BMAP Story Map



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](#)

[Clean Waterways Act Requirements for WWTP and OSTDS](#)

[All Water Quality Restoration Program Content](#)

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 best management practices, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, regional projects and conservation programs designed to achieve pollutant reductions established by a TMDL. A BMAP is developed with local stakeholders and relies on local input and commitment for successful implementation. BMAPs are adopted by Secretarial Order and are legally enforceable. BMAPs use an adaptive management approach that allows for incremental load reductions through the implementation of projects and management strategies, while simultaneously monitoring and conducting studies to better understand the water quality and hydrologic dynamics. Progress is tracked by assessing project implementation and water quality analyses. DEP continues to work with local and regional partners to identify additional projects necessary to meet reduction milestones to achieve the TMDLs and inform funding priorities.

What's New: Upcoming Meetings and BMAP Progress

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 [July 1, 2025 BMAP Update Progress](#) dashboard provides a visual representation of progress towards the completion of each of the required tasks and related sub-tasks leading up to the July 1, 2025 updates. Please visit the [BMAP Public Meeting Calendar](#) to find out about upcoming meetings and subscribe to meeting notices.

- [All BMAP Documents](#)
- [Map including BMAPs adopted and in progress](#)
- [Map of HB 1379 New and Existing OSTDS Requirements](#)

Nutrient BMAPs	Springs BMAPs	Fecal Bacteria Impaired BMAPs
 <p>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</p>	 <p>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).</p>	 <p>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.</p>

[Basin Management Action Plans \(BMAPs\) | Florida Department of Environmental Protection](#)



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.





THANK YOU

Sam Hankinson
BMAP Coordinator

Contact Information:
850-245-8086
Samuel.Hankinson@FloridaDEP.gov

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Wacissa River and Wacissa Springs Group Management Action Plan (BMAP)
Virtual Public Meeting via GoToWebinar
April 15, 2025
2:00 pm – 2:47 pm EDT

Attendees

Evelyn Becerra, DEP
Tiffany Busby, Wildwood Consulting
Joe Carter, Geosyntec for FDOT
Caryn Crabb-Nelson, FDACS
Mary Diaz, SRWMD
Kim Duffek, DEP
Kristine Eskelin, SRWMD
Jessica Fetgatter, DEP
Corrine Flumerfelt, DEP
Sam Hankinson, DEP
Kenny Hayman, DEP
Ray Hodge, United Dairy Farmers
Moira Homann, DEP
Jason Icerman, City of Tallahassee
Chandler Keenan, DEP

Wynn McDonald, SRWMD
Jessica Mostyn, DEP
Kevin O'Donnell, DEP
Beth Robertson, DEP
Charles Sardisco, DEP
Tiffany Simpson, DEP
Eric Simpson, DEP
The Florida Channel,
Paul Thurman, NFWMD
Joel Trexler, FSU
Diana Turner, DEP
Jenny Tuten, Walker Dairy Farms
Lisa Van Houdt, DEP
Ken Weaver, DEP
Katrina Yancey, DEP

Overall

The draft BMAP document can be downloaded here: <https://floridadep.gov/dear/water-quality-restoration/documents/april-07-2025-waci-draft-bmap-document>. Comments on the draft BMAP document are due by May 2, 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 May 2, 2025.

Questions and Answers/Comments

There were no written or verbal questions or comments during this meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 2:47 pm EDT.