

District Overview: Southwest District FY 2019-20



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

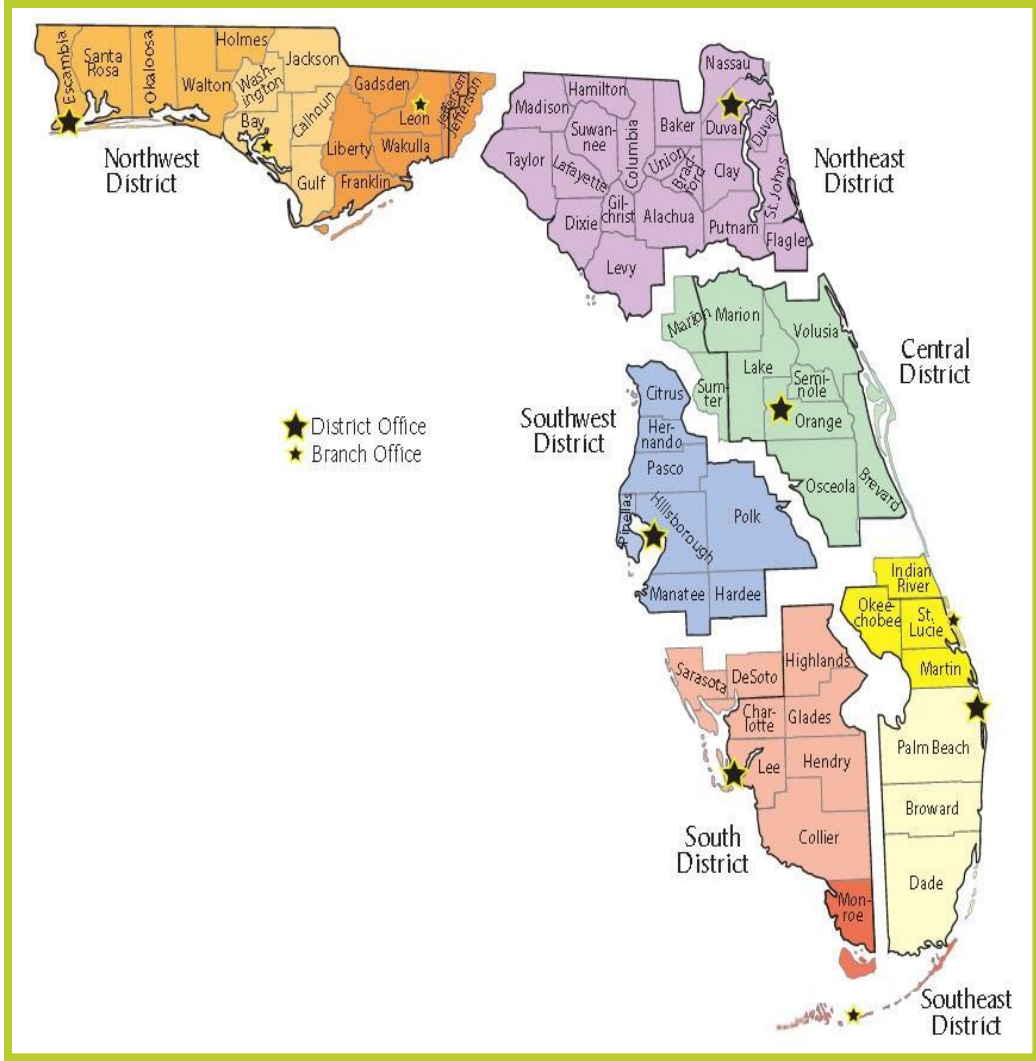
The six District Offices represent a public presence for the Department's Regulatory Programs. In addition to issuing various kinds of program-specific permits, these offices conduct most of the day-to-day environmental inspections, including the performance of compliance assistance and enforcement functions.

Within each District Office, a District Director provides guidance and oversight to the program areas, while an Assistant Director coordinates the compliance functions. The Divisions do not supervise the district program areas but does provide guidance for policy and consistency between the districts. Three of the District Offices (Northwest District Office, Southeast District Office and South District Office) span 200 miles or more and include Branch Offices in Panama City, and Marathon Key.

The Legislature appropriates funding in a lump sum to the District Offices, which is then allocated internally by the Department to each District Office. Approximately 21% of the funding appropriated to the District Offices comes from General Revenue, while the remaining 79% is provided from an aggregate of eleven different trust funds.

The Southwest District is home to Tampa Bay, Florida's largest open-water estuary which encompasses nearly 400 square miles. It is also the crown jewel of the National Estuary Program. In addition, we enjoy a variety of scenic waterways including the Myakka River, Homosassa Springs, Hillsborough River, Manatee River, and portions of the Peace River. The best of our coastal landscapes has been set aside for protection as aquatic preserves. St. Martin's Marsh, Cockroach Bay, Terra Ceia, Boca Ciega Bay and Pinellas County Aquatic Preserves are all situated in the Southwest District.

The Southwest District is committed to performing at our highest level to meet the changing needs of our communities and our workforce. Building and maintaining strong relationships with our partners and stakeholders is the cornerstone to providing unprecedented customer service. This business plan will help the reader understand the key performance metrics and goals we are striving to accomplish this year. It also highlights many of the achievements and lessons-learned that serve as a foundation to build a more efficient, more cost effective, and more customer-oriented district.



DEP's MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

Mission

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection protects, conserves, and manages the state's natural resources and enforces its environmental laws.

Vision

To advance Florida's position as a world leader in protecting natural resources while growing the state's economy.

Values

- **Leadership.** *Serve as an example of how to protect natural resources and economic vitality while adhering to the integrity of our shared vision.*
- **Integrity.** *Operate ethically, honorably, and respectfully.*
- **Accountability.** *Accept personal ownership for our actions and responsibilities.*
- **Communication.** *Operate transparently, sharing information frequently and honestly.*
- **Innovation.** *Seek innovative ways to improve operations and scientific achievements.*
- **Service.** *Serve Florida, its environment, the public, stakeholders, and each other.*

DEP STRATEGIC GOALS & OBJECTIVES

COASTAL RESILIENCY

Strategic Goal #1: Florida has the most advanced coastal resiliency program in the nation.

- Our communities are prepared for sea level rise.
- We have the most advanced coral management system.
- Our beaches flourish, they protect local communities and allow the public to experience the most iconic beaches in the world.

Objective 1.1
Addressing threats to coral reefs.

Objective 1.2
Protecting Florida's interests in offshore oil and gas production.

Objective 1.3
Assisting communities in mitigating the risks of sea level rise.

Objective 1.4
Protect Florida's beaches.

EVERGLADES RESTORATION

Strategic Goal #2: Florida has the largest and most successful restoration program on the planet to restore America's Everglades and its estuaries.

Objective 2.1
Continue water quality improvements within the Everglades protection area.

Objective 2.2
Increase clean freshwater deliveries to the Everglades protection area.

PRIZED PROPERTIES

Strategic Goal #3: Florida is received as a national leader for conservation stewardship through strategic acquisitions and recreational networks.

Objective 3.1
Manage aquatic preserves.

Objective 3.2
Spend appropriated funding for the acquisition of conservation properties and secure stakeholder support.

Objective 3.3
Improve state conservation efforts by improving compliance within land management plans.

Objective 3.4
Dispose of land identified for surplus while getting the best value for the taxpayer.

Objective 3.5
Long-term parcel-based resource management plans and infrastructure repair/replacement plans will guide budget decisions.

Objective 3.6
Volunteers and partner organizations are valued and augment workforce.

Objective 3.7
Value, in response to state park investments by taxpayers, users, and donors in state parks, is compelling and leads to annual budget growth.

Objective 3.8
DEP/DRP will plan, promote and provide outdoor recreational opportunities through network of trails/access and information.

Objective 3.9
Staff and volunteers will deliver ongoing interpretive programs about state parks and Florida natural and cultural resources.

WATER SUSTAINABILITY

Strategic Goal #4: Florida has the most advanced water protection programs in the nation.

Quality:

- Florida is the best at preventing pollution from entering waters.
- Florida has the best tools to restore impacted waterways.

Quantity:

- Florida has the best tools to ensure future water supply needs to sustain our communities and ecosystems.

Objective 4.1
Decrease nutrient loading from residential and community operations.

Objective 4.2
Decrease nutrient loading from agricultural operations.

Objective 4.3
Restore impacted waterways.

ONE DEP

Strategic Goal #5: Ensure solutions, resources and ideas are shared to advance the mission of the DEP to protect, conserve and manage Florida's natural resources.

- Commitment to communities.
- Advance the services, tools and resources enabling employees to promote the DEP mission.

Objective 5.1
Advancing community and stakeholder partnerships.

Objective 5.2
Increase outreach and education.

Objective 5.3
Provide superior customer service.

Objective 5.4
Establishing enterprise systems and performance measures.

Objective 5.5
Investing in employee growth and development.

Objective 5.6
Increased recognition for employee achievement.

Objective 5.7
Increasing employee engagement through internal communications focused on strategic priorities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Strategic Goal #6: Managing environmental impacts.

Objective 6.1
Meeting environmental standards.

CLIENT SERVICES

Southwest District has three client segments which must be responsibly balanced:

The Citizens and Visitors of Florida expect that the District Office will reasonably, respectfully, and responsibly implement Florida's laws and regulations. Services provided on behalf of these clients include:

- Issuing permits which meet state and federal requirements
- Ensuring compliance of regulated facilities
- Responding to public concerns related to regulated and non-regulated facilities
- Providing opportunities for the public to share its thoughts and concerns, and in turn, ensuring that the public has timely and efficient access to our public records
- Training to understand the rules associated with the various programs
- Technical assistance with permitting, compliance and enforcement cases

The Regulated Community expects that District Office will provide regulatory certainty and consistency along with fair solutions. Services provided on behalf of these clients include:

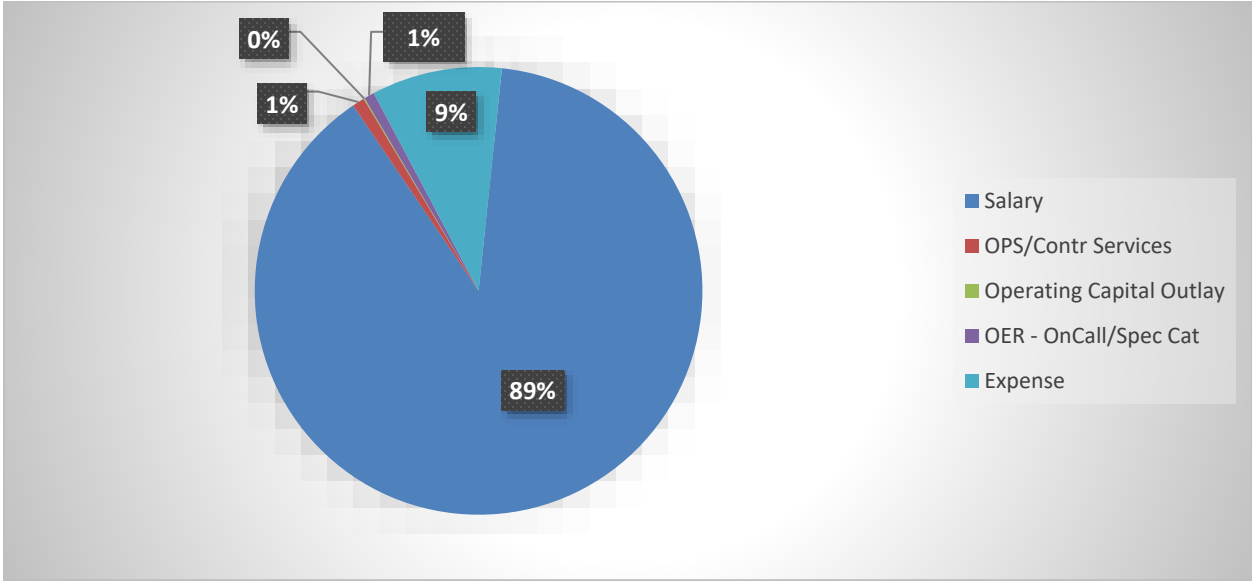
- Issuance of reasonable, law-based permits in a timely manner
- Ensuring regulatory certainty and consistency
- Providing professional and timely review of permit applications
- Providing opportunities for the regulated community to share its thoughts and concerns, and in turn, ensuring that the regulated community has timely and efficient access to our public records
- Training to understand the rules associated with the various programs
- Technical assistance with permitting, compliance and enforcement cases

The Department expects the District Office to assist them in achieving goals as established by the Secretary's Office. This assistance includes:

- Consistent application of regulations and policies throughout District programs
- Producing work products as stipulated in Division goals
- Sharing information and allowing input regarding projects that fall within their respective boundaries and programs

DIVISION/DISTRICT BUDGET OVERVIEW

FY 2019-20 Appropriated Budget – By Category



CATEGORY DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Salaries	6,504,709
OPS/Contr Services	64,518
Operating Capital Outlay	6,000
OER – OnCall/Spec Category	54,281
Expense	690,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATED BUDGET *	7,319,508

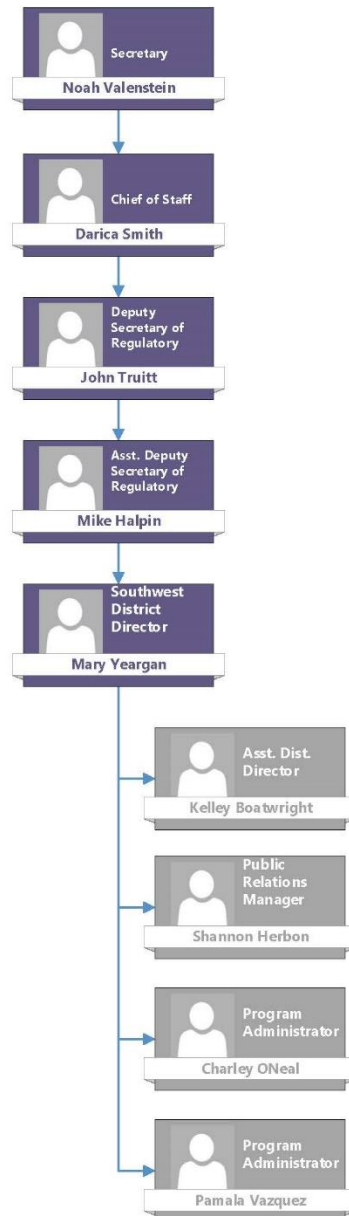
This chart represents the district’s total appropriated budget by category for the current fiscal year.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



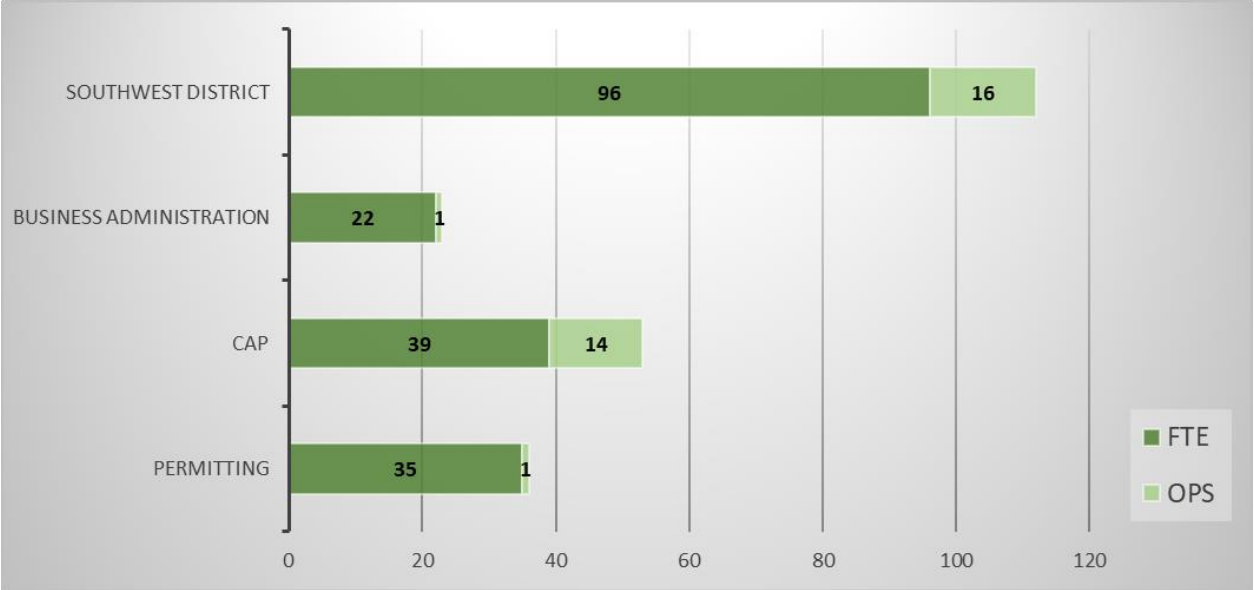
Southwest District - Executive

July 30, 2019



DIVISION STAFFING

District Position Summary



Total District Employees:

**95 FTE
17 OPS**

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

Compliance Assurance Program (CAP)

- Provide fair, consistent, and efficient service
- Provide timely and thorough inspections which meet state and federal requirements
- Provide the regulated community with compliance assistance to build a healthy economy and environment
- Provide technical assistance
- Complaint Investigations

District Permitting and Waste Cleanup Program

- Provide certainty in permitting
- Issue fair and timely permits and authorizations
- Assist facilities with their permit requirements, ensuring a complete application
- Provide technical assistance
- Implement the Waste Cleanup and Brownfields Programs, providing timely reviews and approvals to ensure cleanup of contaminated sites

Business Planning

- Provide administrative support to program areas through customer service, document management, and the purchasing/tracking of supplies
- Balance district budget and provide budget analysis to ensure fiscal responsibility and support of Department goals and initiatives
- Manage information systems, data and document storage
- Provide ombudsman support and to foster productive relationships with internal and external customers, including media outlets and legislative offices
- Provide effective human resource services
- Provide internal support for fleet operation & maintenance, safety, facilities and IT services
- Manage the Discipline Training Program for staff
 - Planning, coordination, and tracking of training for staff based on need, Level of service, and building the bench through better staff development.
 - Support and development of District Level of service /Work plan through data analysis, continual work plan review, and Business Plan reporting.
 - Support all program through coordination of overlap, tools for communication, and evaluation of resources to get the job done across program boundaries.

Public Outreach

- Individual consultations
- Workshops
- Facility recognition for consistent compliance
- Participating in community events
- Mentoring through State Parks and School programs (Life Program)



***Department of Environmental
Protection***
Southwest District Office

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