



**SPRINGS COAST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, October 20, 2021 – 1:30 PM**  
**2379 BROAD STREET, BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604**

**MINUTES**

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Committee Members Present

Michael Molligan, SWFWMD  
Christina Malmberg, Citrus County  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County  
Jody Kirkman, Marion County  
Jake Cuarta, Pasco County  
Kevin Coyne, FDEP  
Will Fontain, FGUA  
Jason Wagman, FWC  
Jessica Stempien, FDACS  
Curt Williams, Agriculture  
Suzy Folsom, Public Supply  
Alana Todd, Regional Planning Council  
Ilia Balcom, Industry  
Chris Oliver, State Parks

Staff Members

Vivianna Bendixson  
Frank Gargano  
Madison Trowbridge  
Virginia Singer  
Randy Emberg

Committee Administrative Support

Lauren Vossler

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FDACS – Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
FDEP – Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
SCMC – Springs Coast Management Committee  
FGUA – Florida Governmental Utility Authority

FWC – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
SWFWMD – Southwest Florida Water Management District  
SCSC – Springs Coast Steering Committee

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**1. Call to Order and Roll**

The Springs Coast Management Committee (SCMC) of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) met for its regular meeting at 1:30 p.m., on October 20, 2021, via Microsoft Teams.

Mr. Michael Molligan, Employee and External Relations Director, called the meeting to order. Roll was called and a quorum was noted.

**2. Action Item: Minutes Approval from July 14, 2021**

*A motion was made for approval of July 14, 2021, minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.*

**3. Public Input**

None

**4. Presentation: FY2023 FDEP Springs Funding Applications – Vivianna Bendixson, SWFWMD**

Ms. Vivianna Bendixson, SWIM Program Manager, provided members with an update of the FY22 FDEP request summary by BMAP area. She discussed the FDEP Spring funding requests and summary for the SWFWMD region as projects await notification from the FDEP on selection for

funding. Ms. Bendixson provided the FY2023 Springs funding process overview and FDEP request summary by Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP). She also provided summaries on the FY2023 applications received and the FDEP springs funding requests for the SWFWMD region. Four of the applications had applied in a previous fiscal year. Presentations for the four new applications will be given at the December SCMC meeting. Ms. Bendixson provided a detailed FY2022 timeline. Springs Coast Management and Steering Committee meeting dates were provided to members as well.

Mr. Will Fontaine thanked Ms. Bendixson for a clear and concise presentation.

**5. Discussion: Springs Coast BMAP Updates – Lauren Campbell, FDEP**

Dr. Lauren Campbell, Basin Management Action Plan Coordinator, provided members with the Springs Coast Basin Management Action Plan update. She mentioned Florida Springs BMAP story maps have been updated and can be found at [www.arcgis.com](http://www.arcgis.com). The statewide annual report (STAR) 2020 has been updated and is located at [FloridaDEP.gov/star](http://FloridaDEP.gov/star). Dr. Campbell provided committee members with STAR project updates on the Crystal River/Kings Bay BMAP, Homosassa/Chassahowitzka BMAP, Weeki Wachee BMAP and the Rainbow Springs BMAP. The projects are designed to achieve incremental pollutant load reduction within the first 15 years of the BMAP.

Dr. Campbell discussed the annual BMAP project collection portal designed to help communicate project information, track progress and streamline supporting documentation uploads. She discussed the feasibility analyses status and next steps based on the four BMAPs previously discussed. These analyses deliver an ongoing effort to convert septic systems to sewer and identify septic systems within the priority focus area (PFA) that require remediation. Dr. Campbell provided a brief summary on the wastewater project report and the monitoring gap report. She explained the onsite sewage and disposal system state remediation plan will assist in achieving necessary load reductions. Dr. Campbell discussed the BMAP status next steps including, milestone reviews and updating the BMAPs.

Mr. Molligan asked how long it takes in between projects to see an impact on the springs. Dr. Campbell responded it does take time to see the impacts in the groundwater wells, data, and biology. FDEP is currently working on implementing a Spring Biological Assessment team and expanding the biological samples of the springs.

**6. Presentation: Minimum Flows and Levels in the Southwest Florida Water Management District – Dr. Gabe Herrick, SWFWMD**

Dr. Gabe Herrick, Lead Environmental Scientist, discussed the general approach to establishing minimum flows and levels (MFLs), what MFLs are and specifics for MFLs that are set for the springs systems within our District. He mentioned there are a total of 202 MFLs within our district and reevaluations have been completed for 95 MFLs. MFLs are defined in Florida Statutes (373.042) as the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area. Dr. Herrick explained MFL considerations address natural seasonal fluctuations, non-consumptive uses and environmental values.

Dr. Herrick explained how developing unimpacted flow records accounts for natural flow variation, structural alterations and as necessary, corrects for withdrawal impacts. He discussed developing models for evaluation flows at locations other than long-term stream flow gauging stations and models for assessing environmental values affected by flows. He provided a summary on how fish and invertebrate habitat suitability is established implementing these models.

**7. Open Discussion**

None

8. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.