

# **Springs Coast Management Committee**

Audio is also available by calling 786-749-6127  
conference code 184 277 442#

Please mute audio when not speaking

Additional information is available at  
[WaterMatters.org](http://WaterMatters.org)



# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## Springs Coast Management Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, February 18,  
2026 1:30 p.m.

Southwest Florida Water Management District  
2379 Broad Street  
Brooksville, FL 34604

\*\*\*\*All meetings are open to the public\*\*\*\*

- All or part of this meeting may be conducted by means of communications media technology.
- Public input for issues not listed on the published agenda will be heard shortly after the meeting begins.

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SWFWMD – Southwest Florida Water Management District

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- 1) Call to Order and Roll – Jennette Seachrist, SWFWMD
- 2) Additions or deletions to the agenda
- 3) Action Item: Minutes Approval from 7/9/2025
- 4) Public Input
- 5) Presentation: Quantifiable Objective Updates: Rainbow – Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD
- 6) Presentation: Hydrologic conditions – Casie Cutman, SWFWMD
- 7) Presentation: Manatees, Rescues, & Rehab – Kate Spratt, FDEP
- 8) Open Discussion
- 9) Next Meeting: July 8, 2026 (SCSC will meet March 4, 2026 and July 29, 2026 via Teams)
- 10) Adjournment

[WaterMatters.org/SpringsCommittees](https://WaterMatters.org/SpringsCommittees)



# SWIM Plan Quantifiable Objective Updates – Rainbow River

Southwest Florida  
Water Management District

  
WATERMATTERS.ORG

Madison Trowbridge, Ph.D.

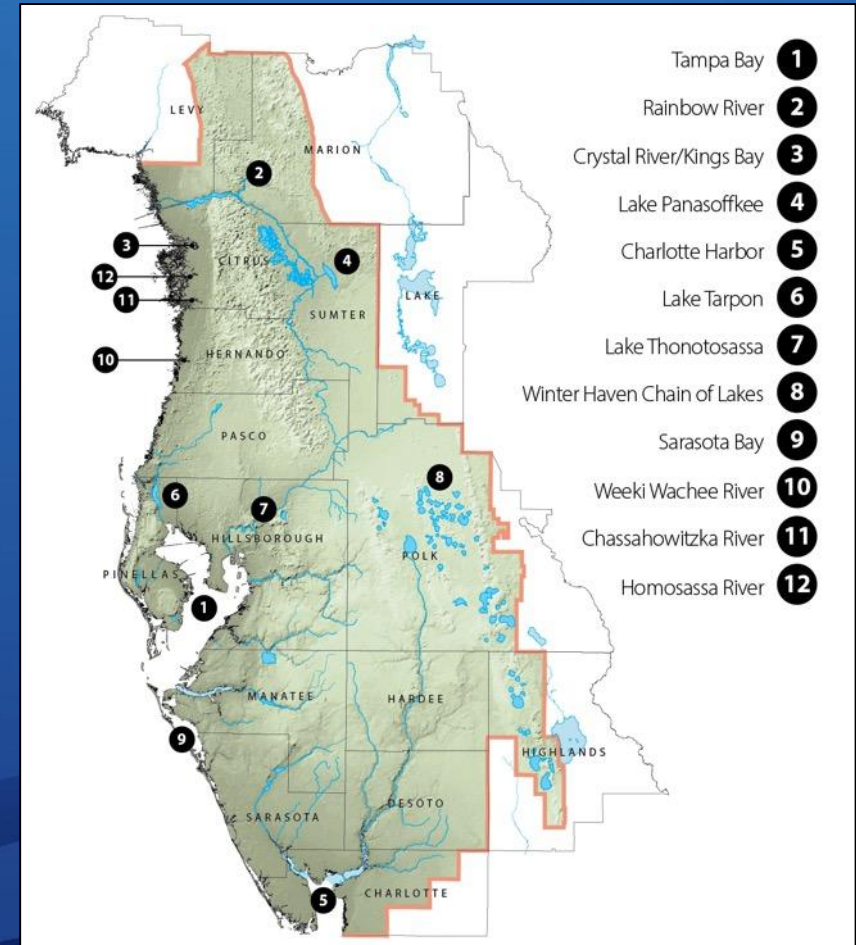
Springs Scientist

Natural Systems and Restoration



## SWIM Act 373.453, F.S.

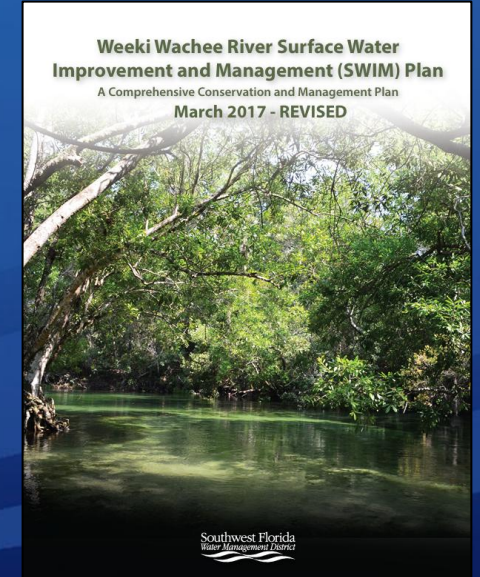
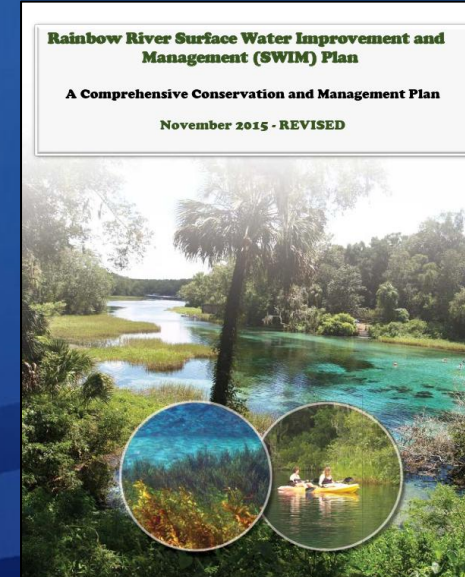
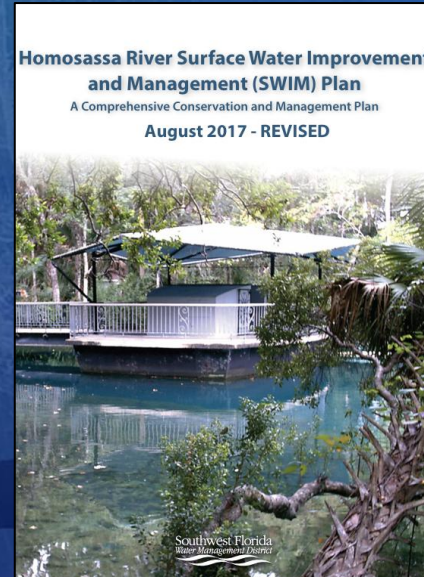
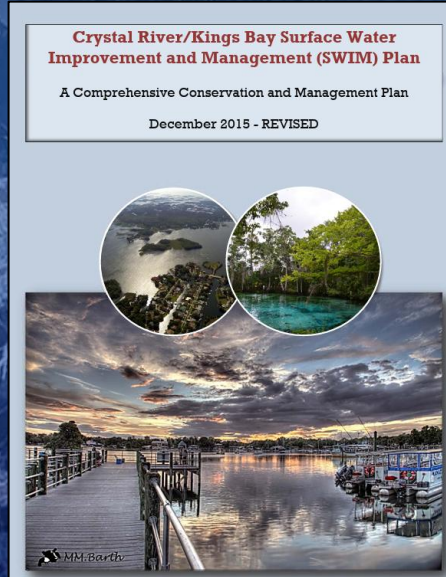
- Created by the Legislature in 1987
- Managed by the Water Management Districts
- Develop and maintain lists of priority surface waters
- Develop plans to protect and restore priority surface waters





# First-Magnitude Springs SWIM Plans

- Surface Water Improvement & Management (SWIM) Plans
  - Issues & Drivers
  - Management Actions (Quantifiable Objectives & Indicators)
  - Projects & Initiatives





# Quantifiable Objectives & Indicators

## WATER QUALITY



- Water clarity^
- Nitrate concentration\*
- Total nitrogen concentration\*
- Total phosphorus concentration\*
- Chlorophyll concentration^\*

## WATER QUANTITY



- Minimum flows & levels (MFLs)

## NATURAL SYSTEMS



- Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)
- No net loss of shoreline\*
- Shoreline enhancement\*

^ denotes indicator status

\* denotes not applicable to all systems



# Rainbow River

## Indicators & Quantifiable Objectives

### Indicators

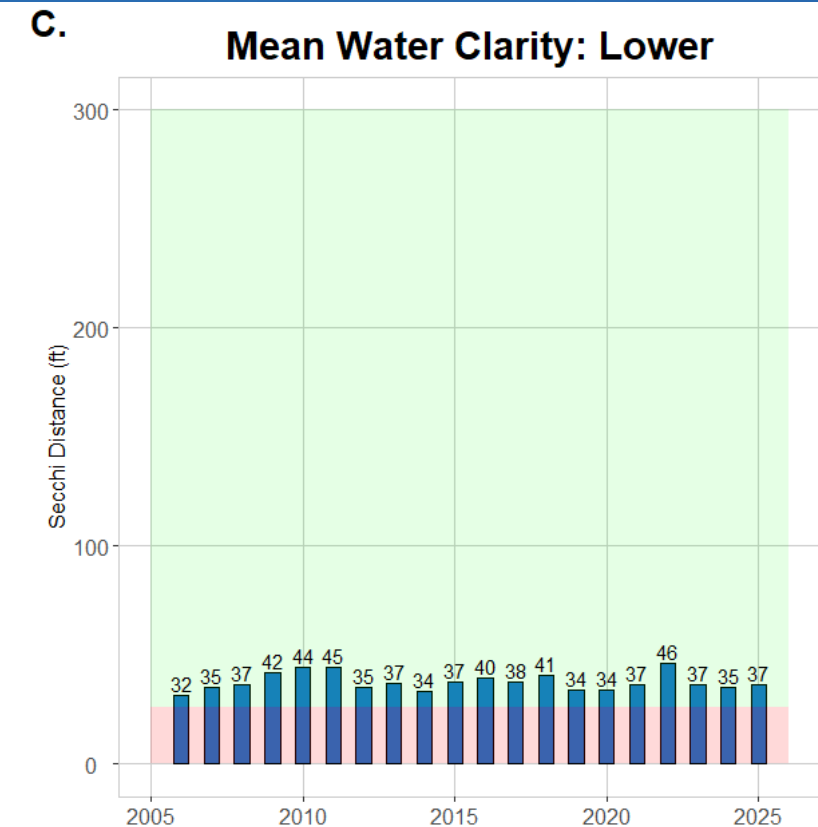
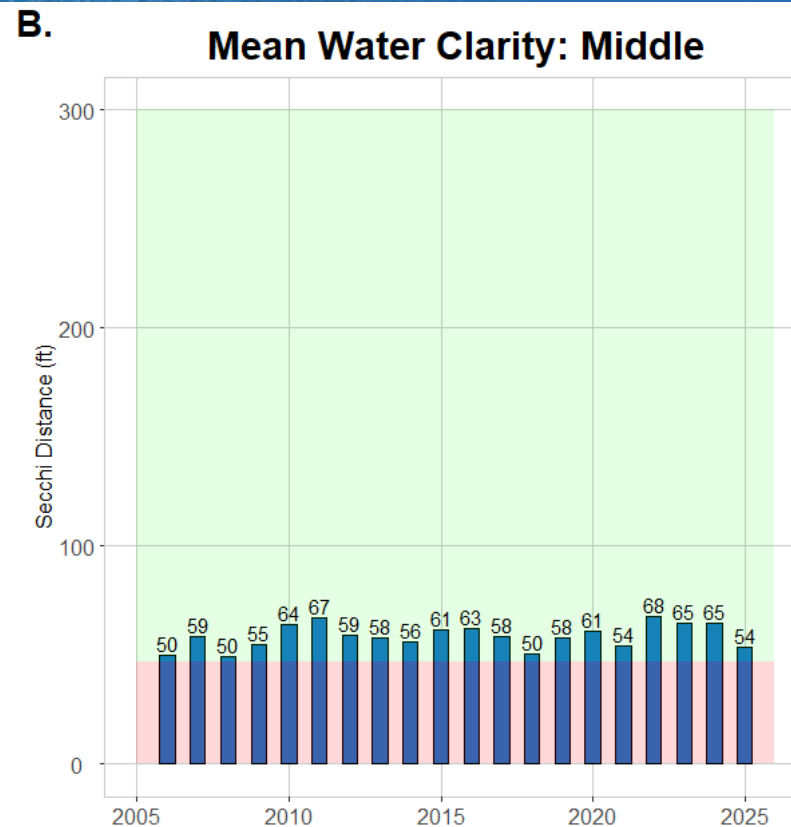
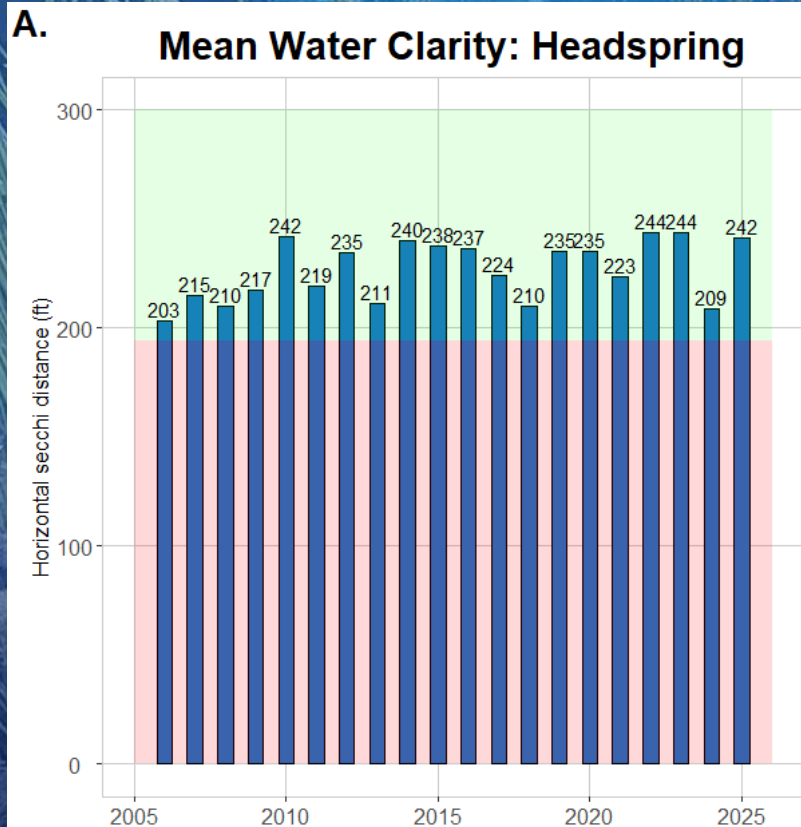
	Water clarity	Threshold
👍	Near the headspring	194 ft
👍	Middle portion of river	47 ft
👍	Lower portion of the river	26 ft

### Quantifiable Objectives

	Water quality	Target
👎	Nitrate concentration in the springs and river	< 0.35 mg/L
	Water quantity	
👍	Minimum flows for the springs and river	> 95% natural flow
	Natural systems	
👍 👎	Desirable submerged aquatic vegetation in the upper and lower portions of the river.	> 65%
👍 👎	Invasive aquatic vegetation in the upper and lower portions of the river.	< 10%

# Rainbow River – Indicators

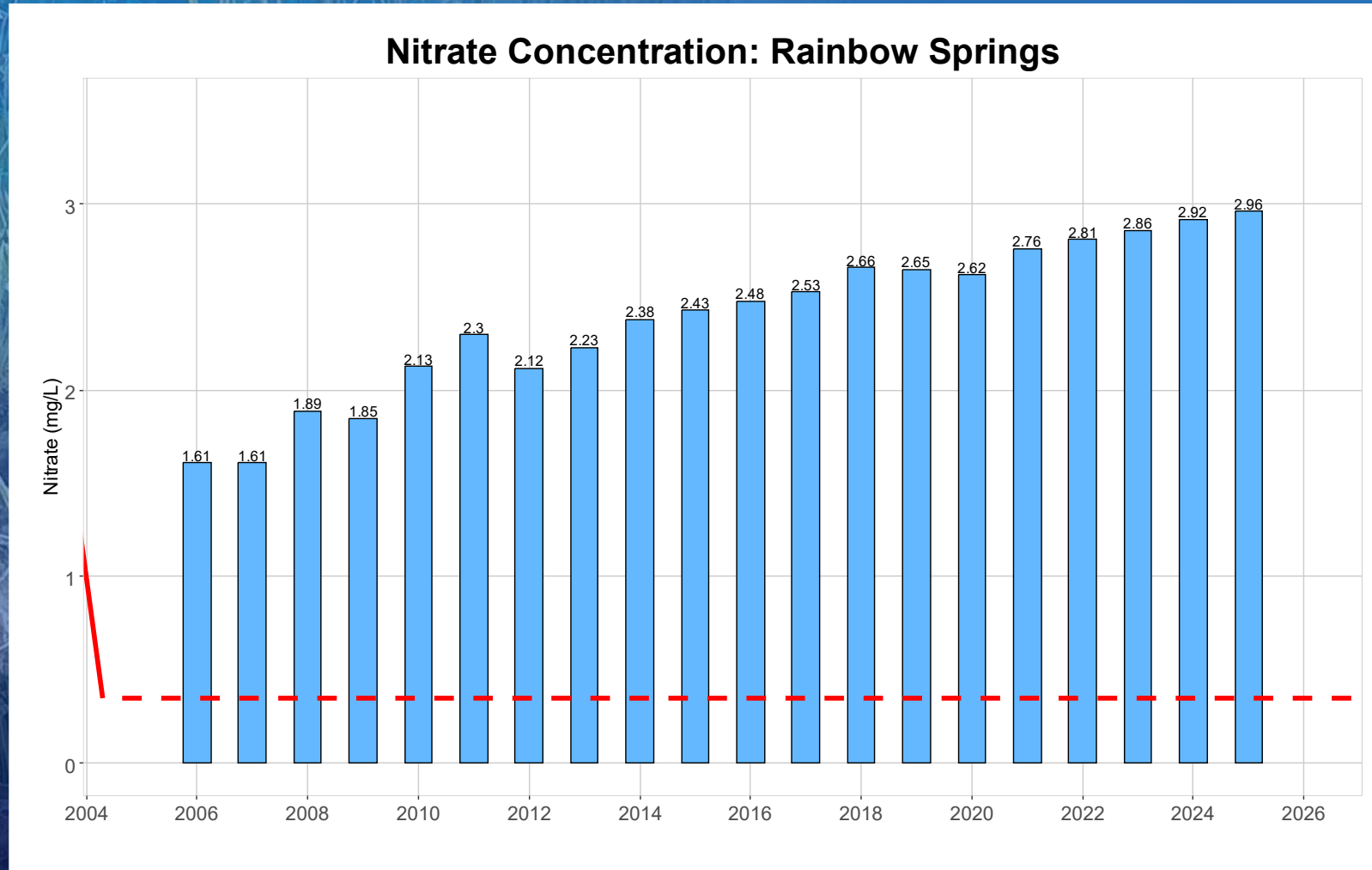
## Water Clarity





# Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives

## Nitrate Concentration





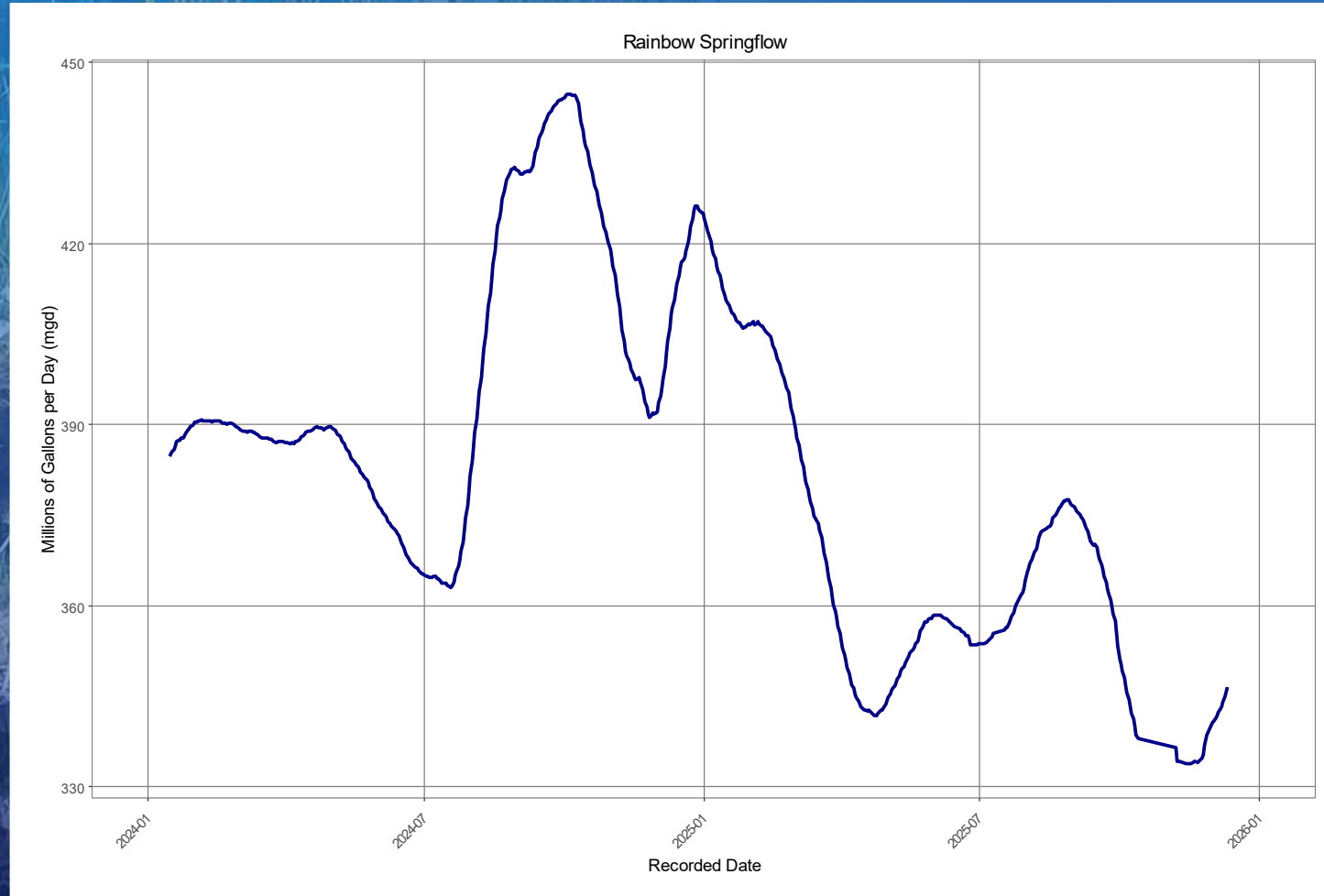
## **Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives**

### **Flows**

- Minimum Flow for the River: >95% Natural Flow
- MFL Status: Maintaining 99% Natural Flow



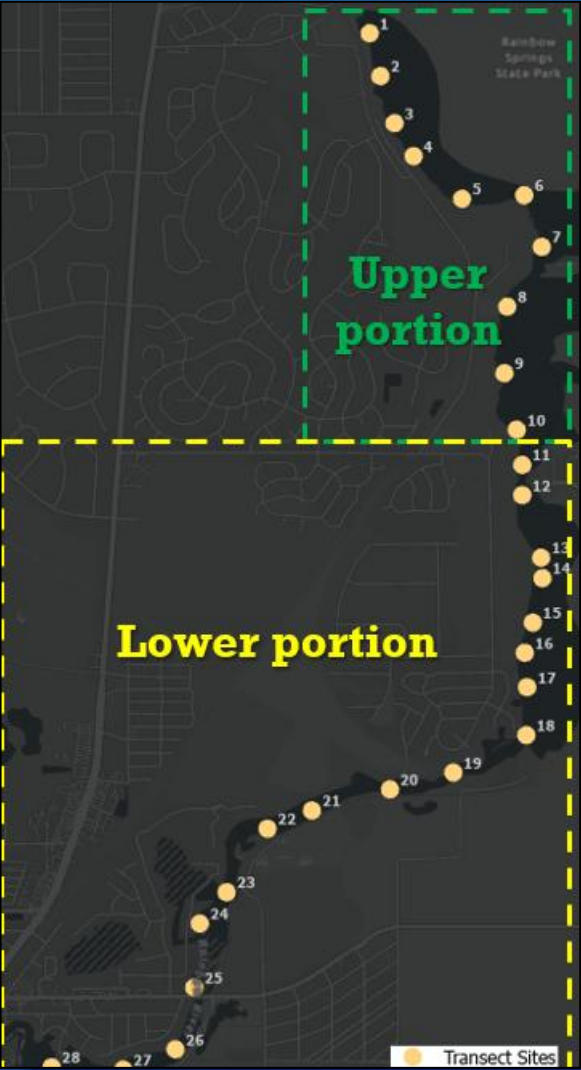
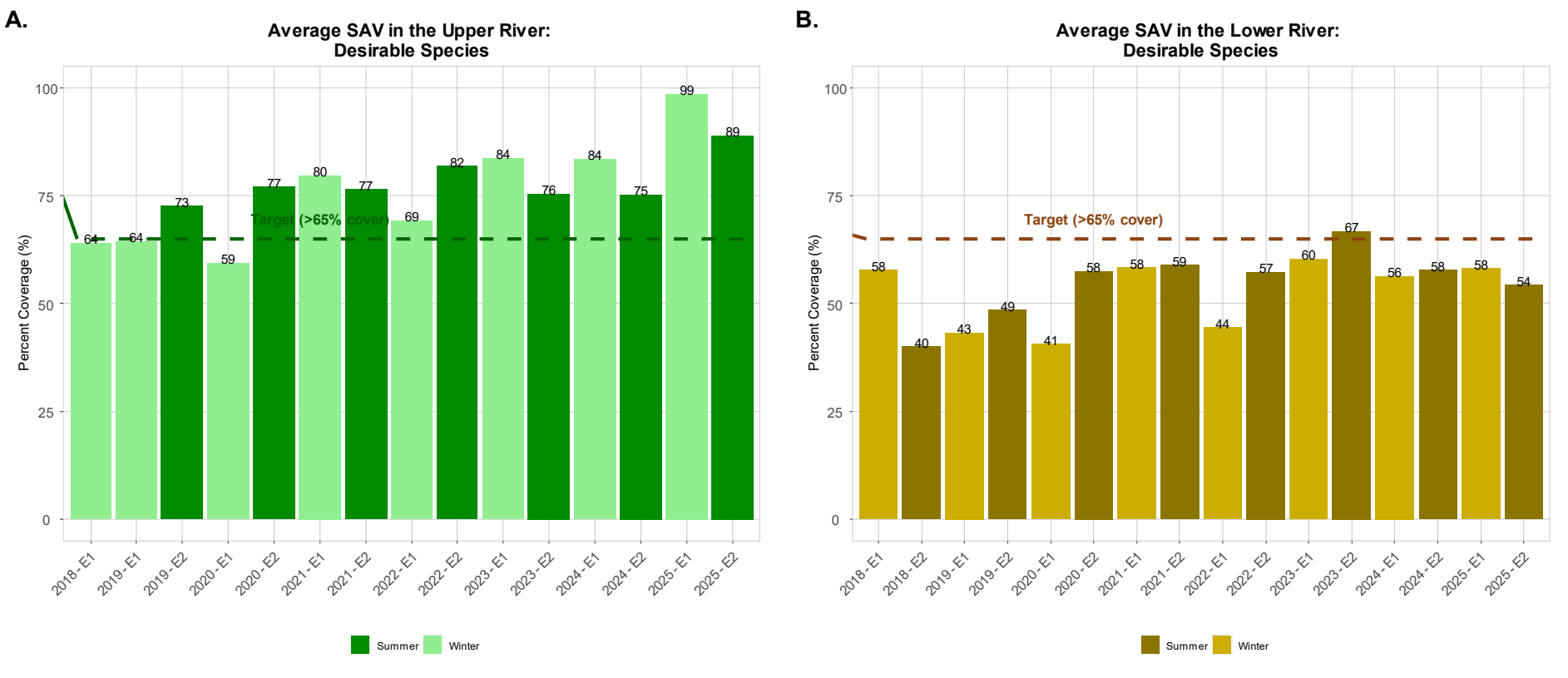
# Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives Flow





# Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives

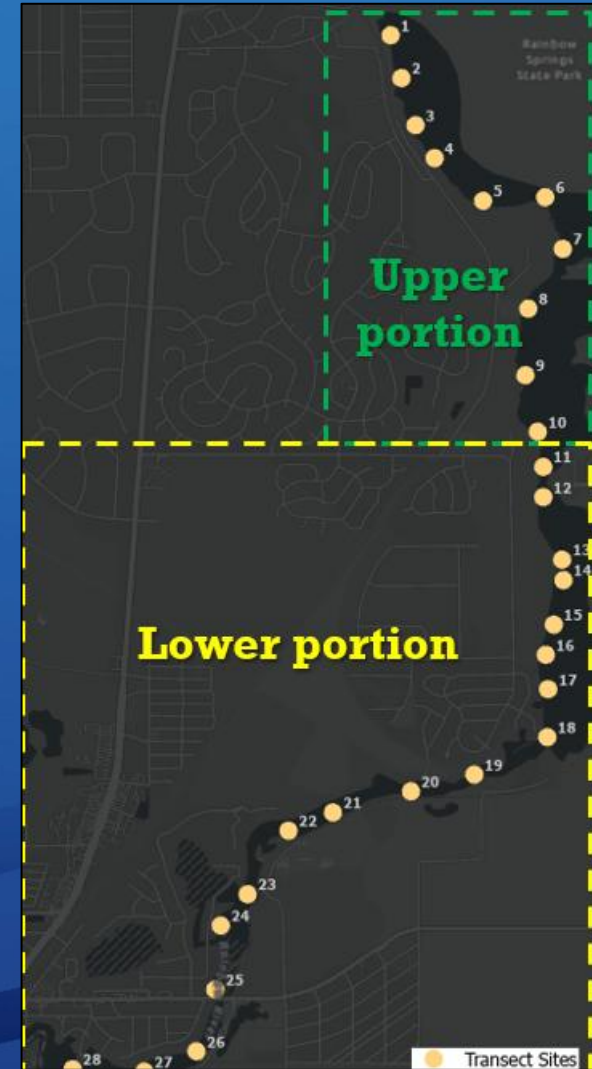
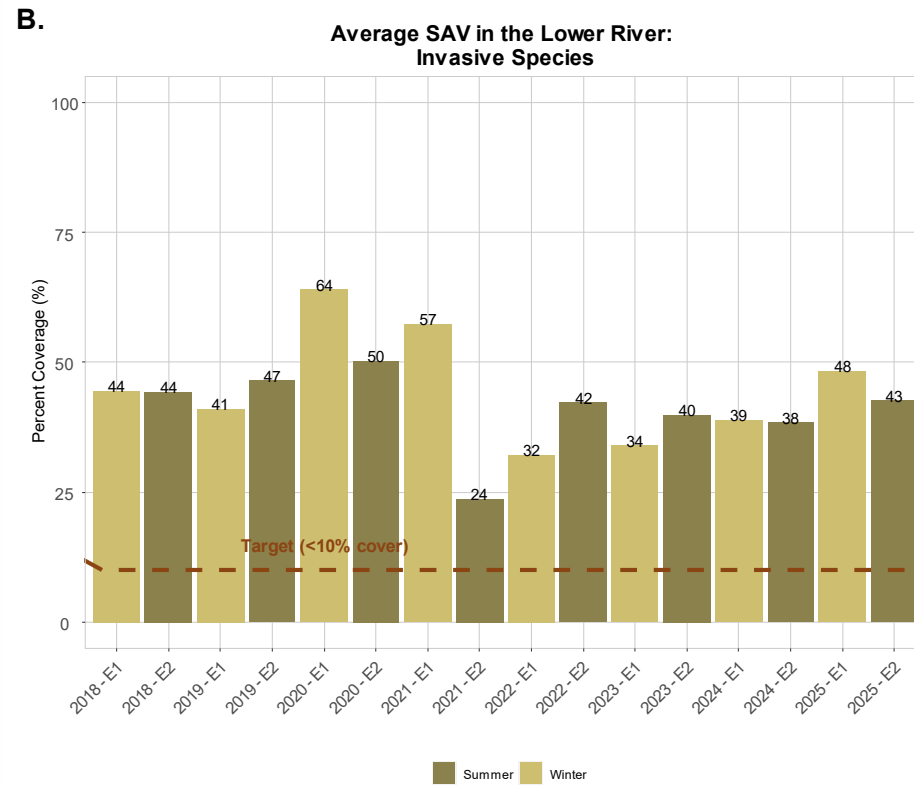
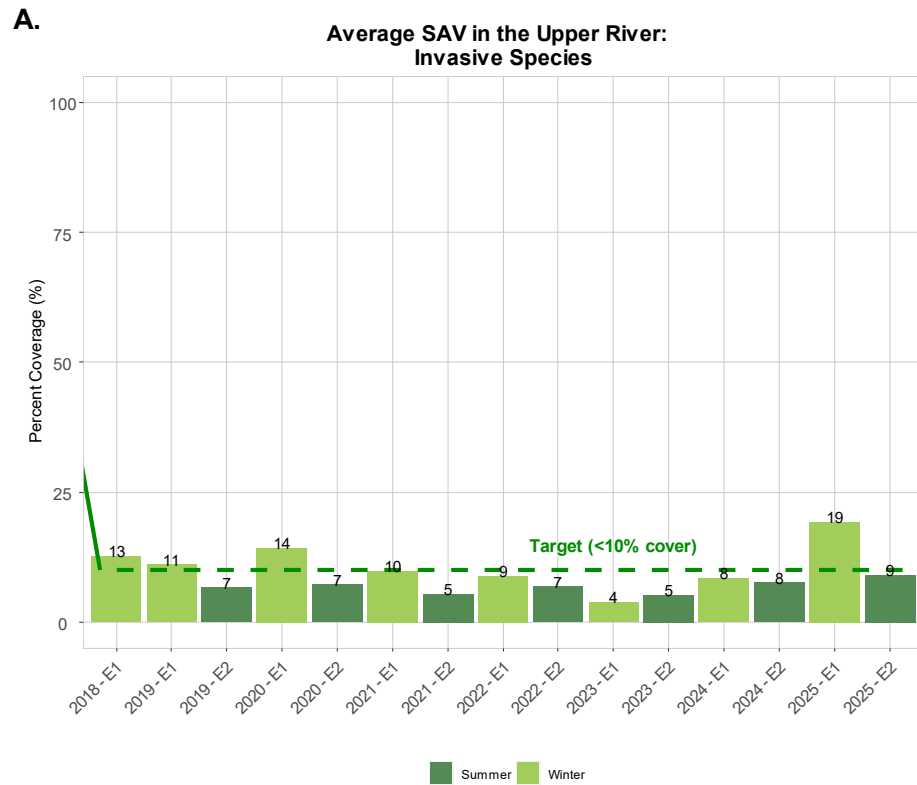
## Desirable Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)





# Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives

## Invasive Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)





[WaterMatters.org/springs](https://WaterMatters.org/springs)



**Madison Trowbridge, Ph.D.**

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Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau

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