

Springs Coast Management Committee

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

SWFWMD – Southwest Florida Water Management District

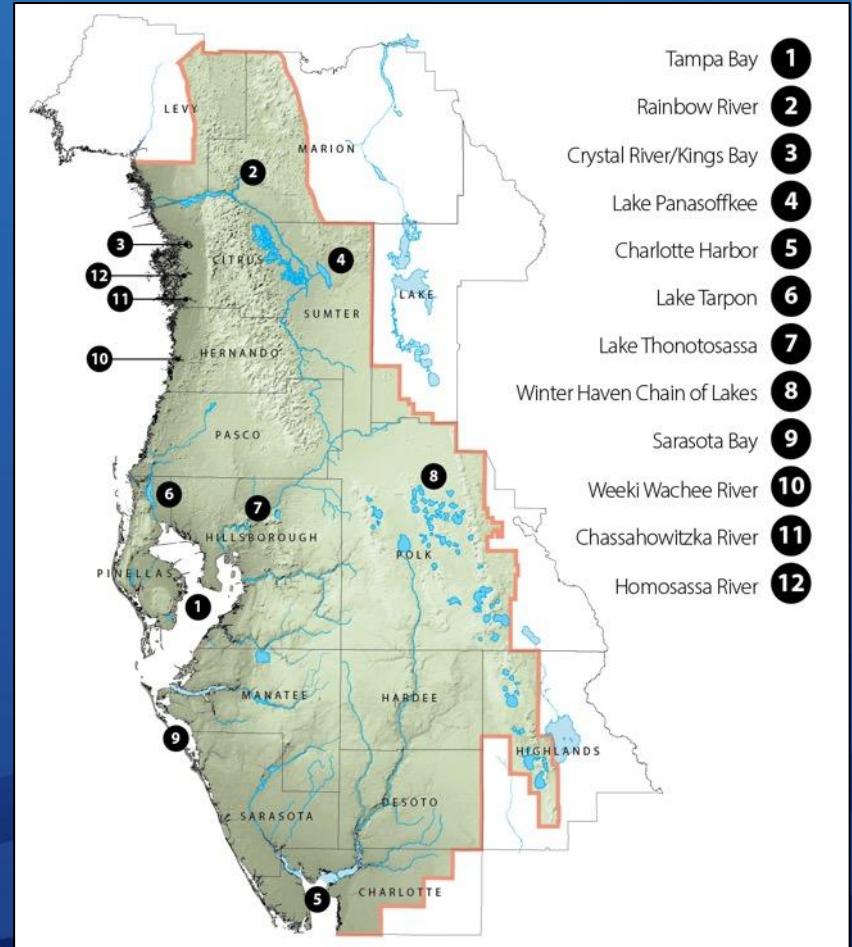
- 1) Call to Order and Roll – Jennette Seachrist, SWFWMD
- 2) Additions or deletions to the agenda
- 3) Action Item: Minutes Approval from 7/9/2025
- 4) Public Input
- 5) Presentation: Quantifiable Objective Updates: Rainbow – Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD
- 6) Presentation: Hydrologic conditions – 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

SWIM Plan Quantifiable Objective Updates – Rainbow River

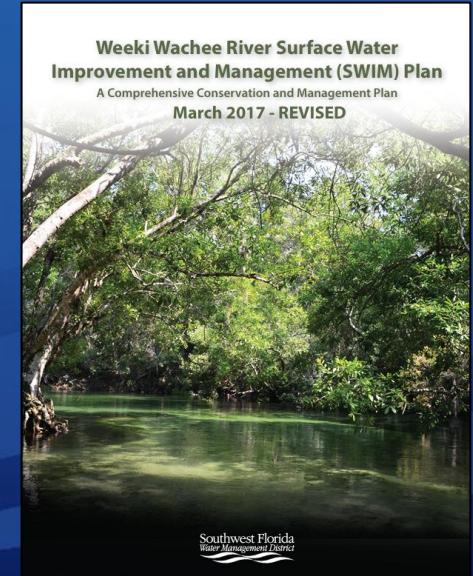
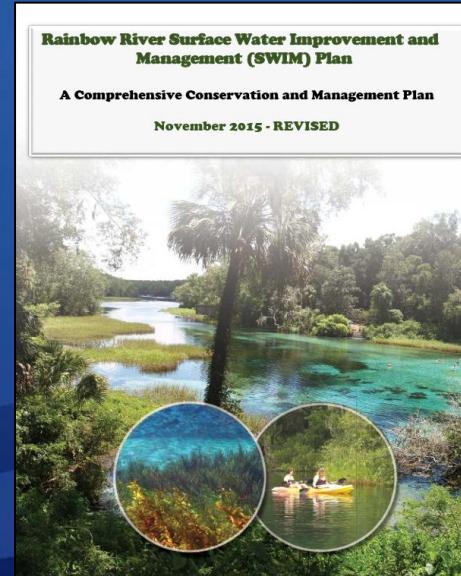
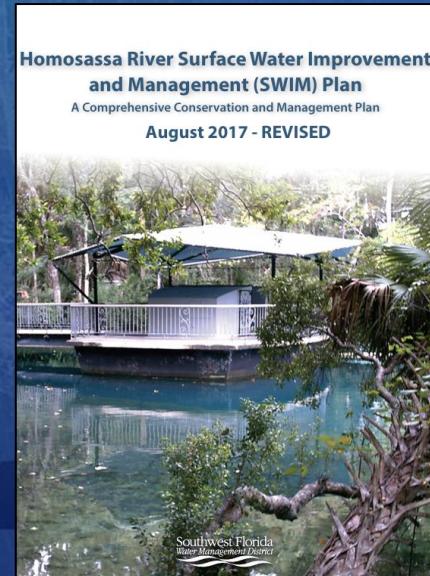
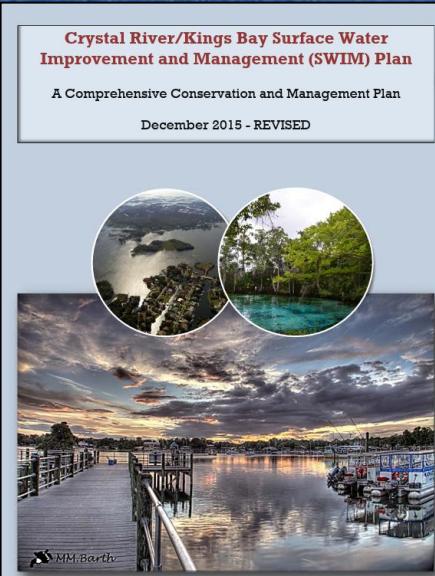
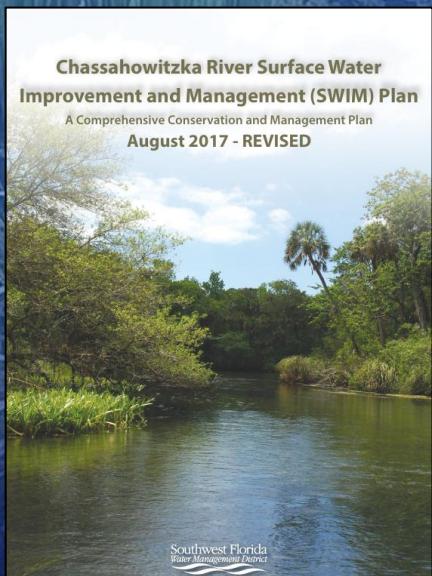
SWIM Act 373.453, F.S.

- 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 QUANTITY



NATURAL SYSTEMS



- Water clarity[^]
- Nitrate concentration*
- Total nitrogen concentration*
- Total phosphorus concentration*
- Chlorophyll concentration^{^*^}

- Minimum flows & levels (MFLs)

- 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

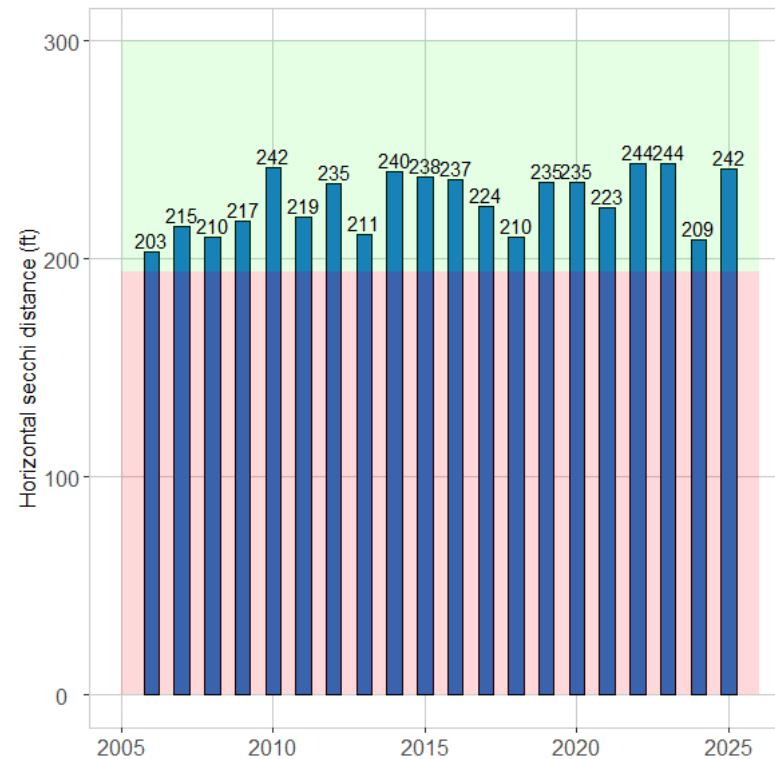
Water quality	Target
 Nitrate concentration in the springs and river	< 0.35 mg/L
Water quantity	
 Minimum flows for the springs and river	> 95% natural flow
Natural systems	
  Desirable submerged aquatic vegetation in the upper and lower portions of the river.	> 65%
  Invasive aquatic vegetation in the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

Rainbow River – Indicators

Water Clarity

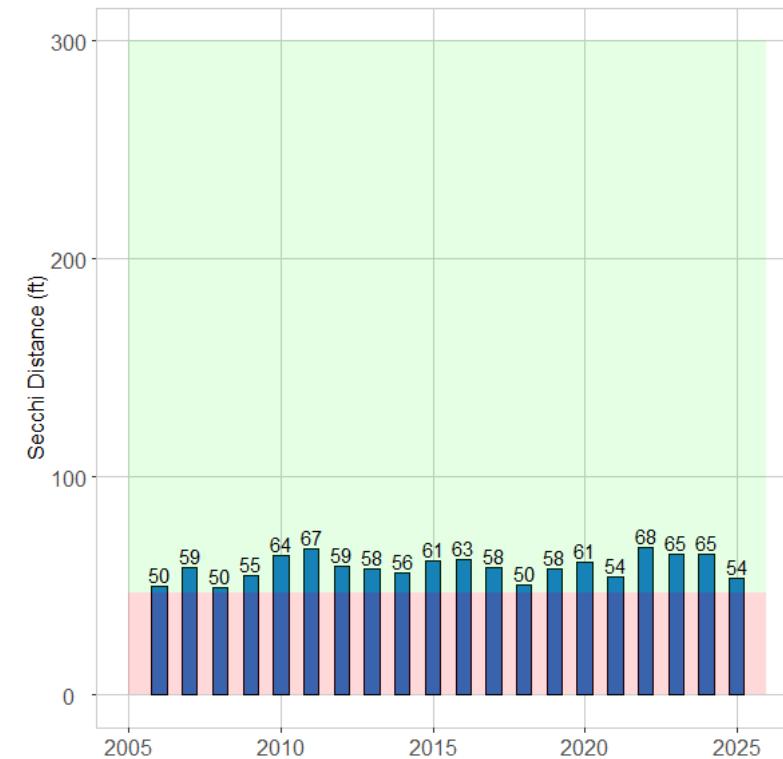
A.

Mean Water Clarity: Headspring



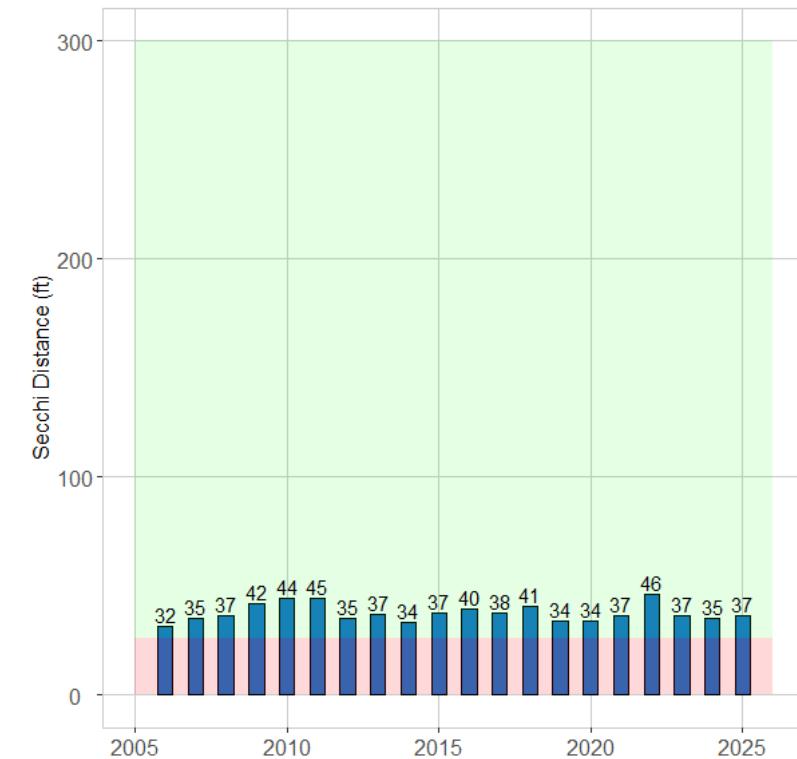
B.

Mean Water Clarity: Middle



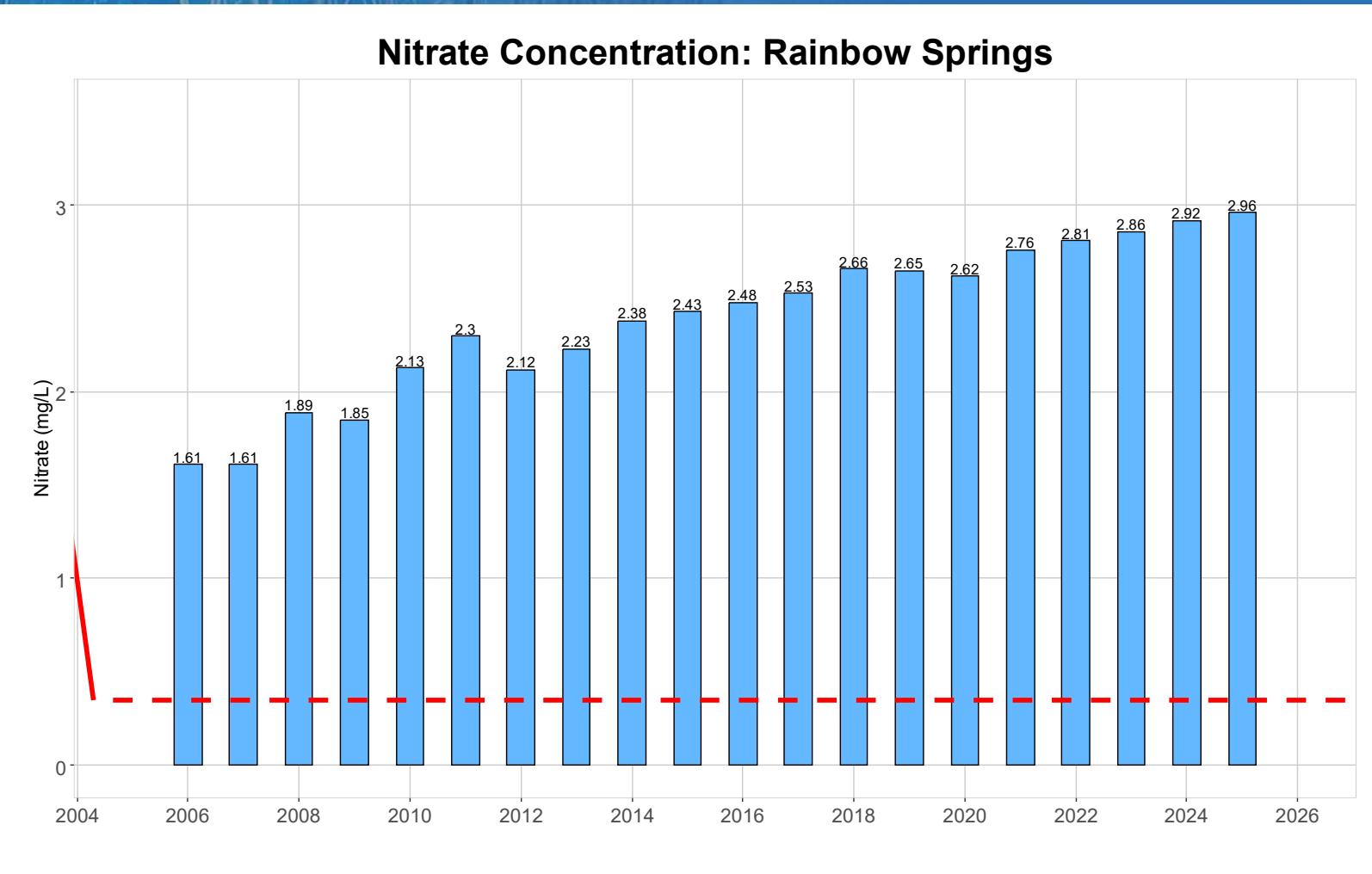
C.

Mean Water Clarity: Lower



Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives

Nitrate Concentration

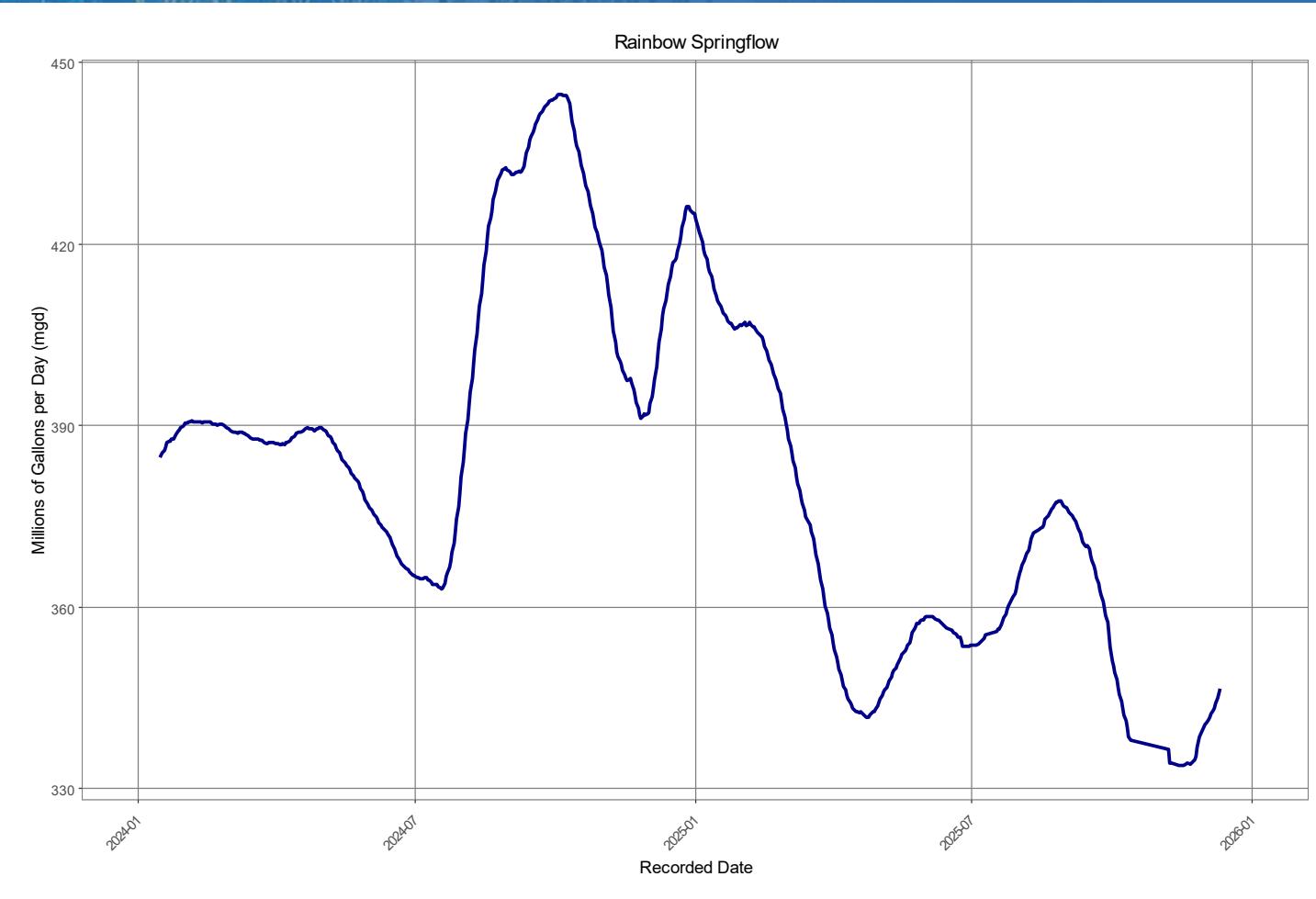


Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives Flows

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

Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives

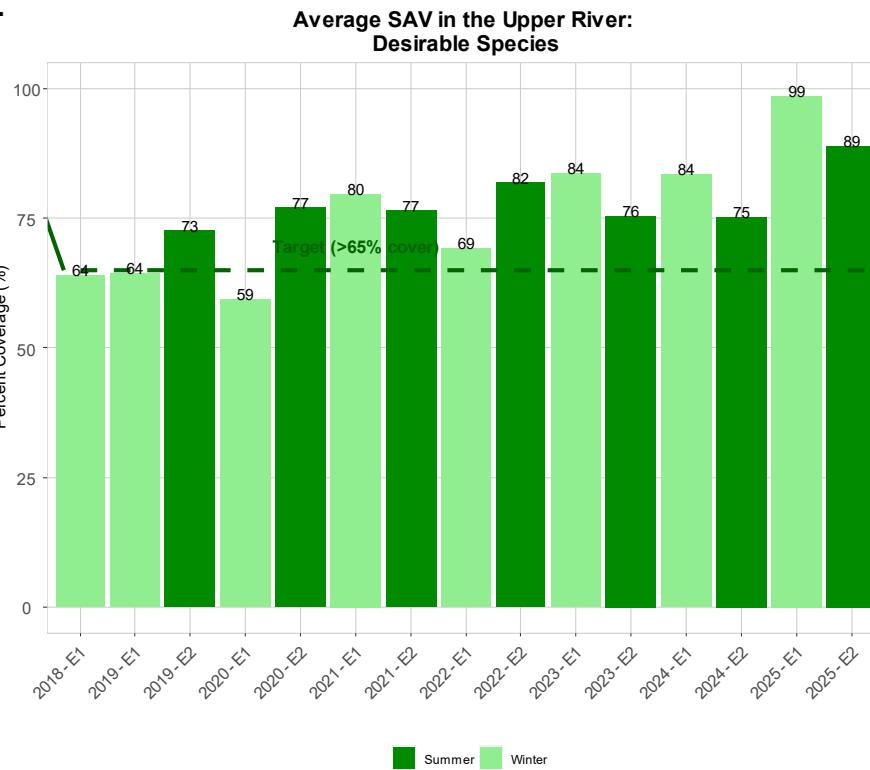
Flow



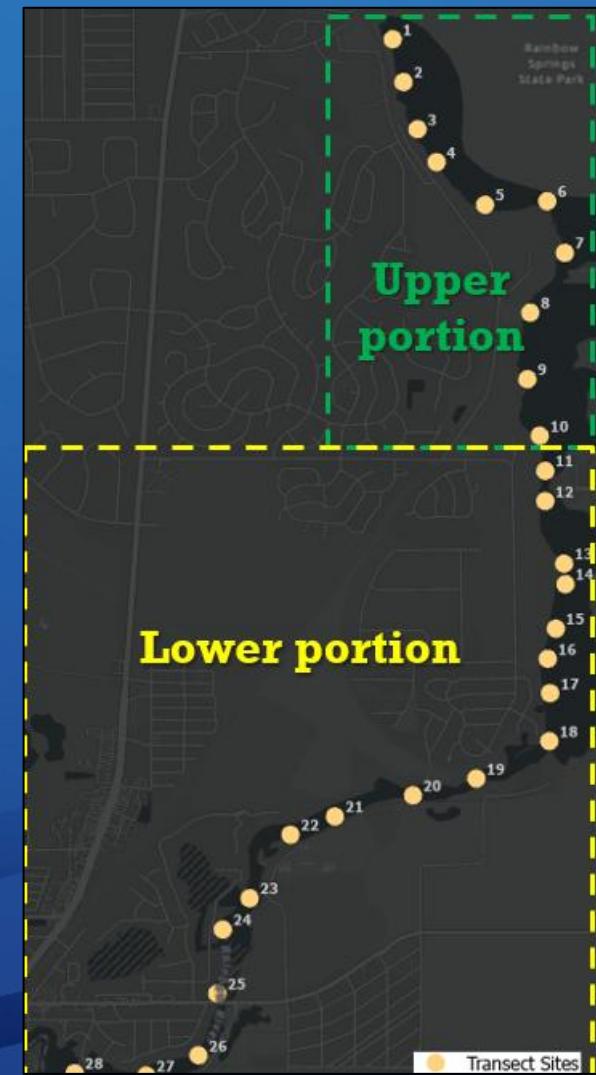
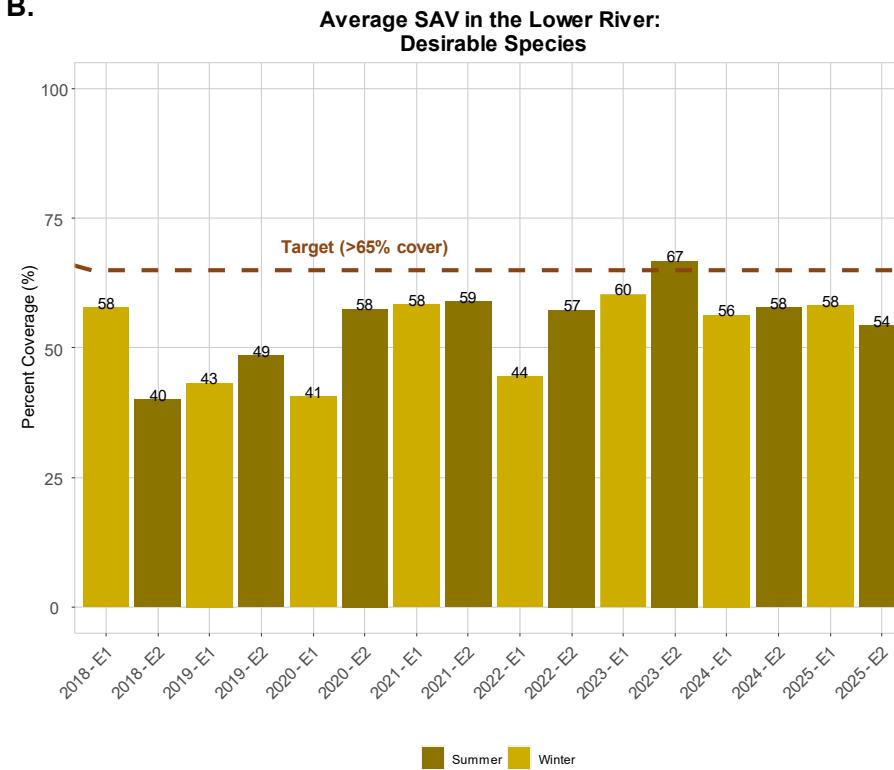
Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives

Desirable Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)

A.



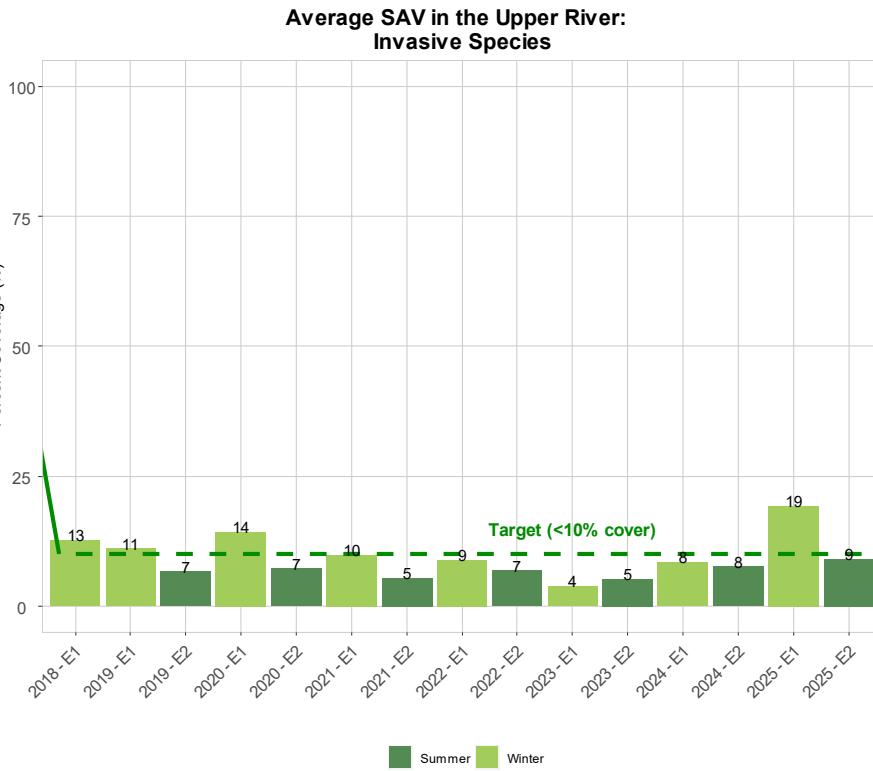
B.



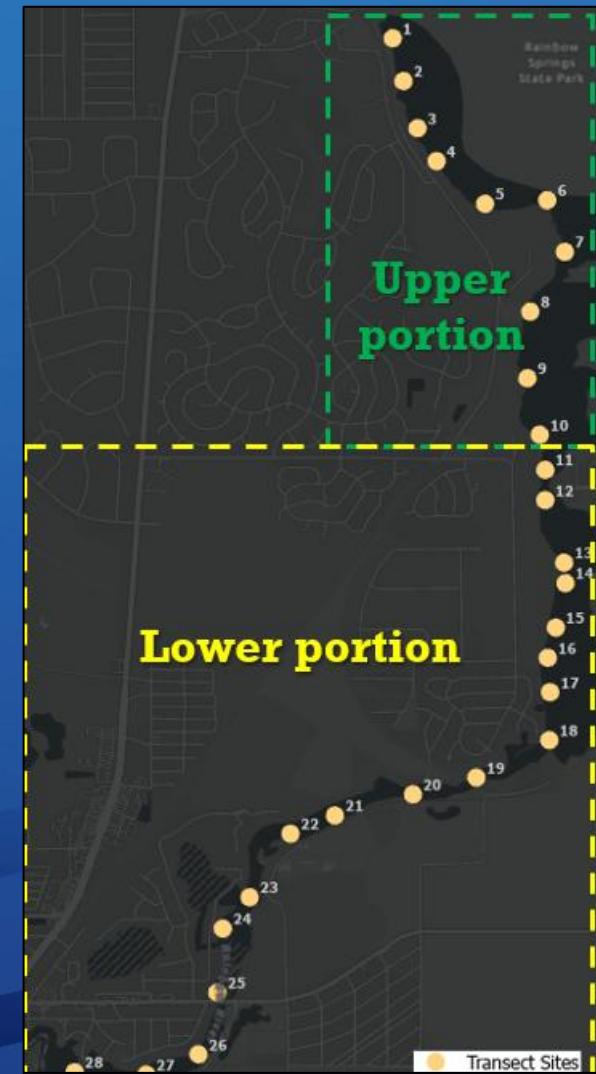
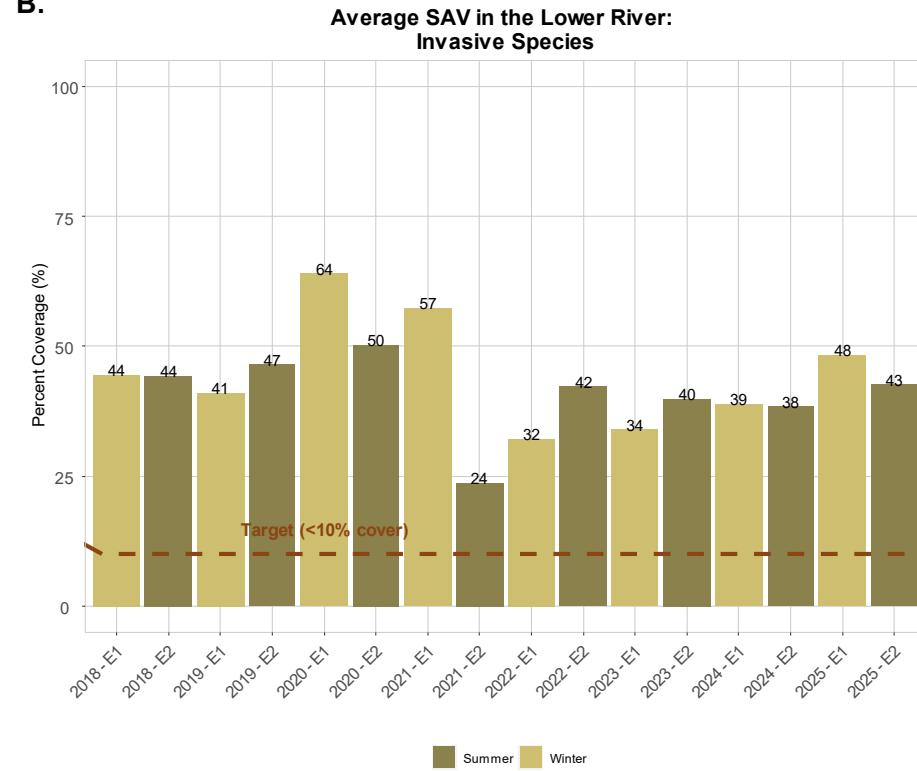
Rainbow River – Quantifiable Objectives

Invasive Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)

A.



B.



WaterMatters.org/springs



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