

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899 (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only) WaterMatters.org

An Equal Opportunit Emp**l**over **Bartow Office**

170 Century Boulevard Bartow, Florida 33830-7700 (863) 534-1448 or 1-800-492-7862 (FL only) **Sarasota Office** 6750 Fruitville Road Sarasota, Florida 34240-9711

(941) 377-3722 or 1-800-320-3503 (FL only) **Tampa Office**

7601 U.S. 301 North (Fort King Highway) Tampa, Florida 33637-6759 (813) 985-7481 or 1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

Randall S. Maggard Chair, Pasco

Jeffrey M. Adams

Vice Chair, Pinellas

Bryan K. Beswick

Secretary, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands

Ed Armstrong Treasurer, Pinellas

H. Paul Senft, Jr.Former Chair. Polk

Michael A. Babb Former Chair, Hillsborough

> John Henslick Manatee

James G. Murphy

Kelly S. Rice Citrus, Lake, Levy, Sumter

Joel Schleicher Charlotte, Sarasota

Rebecca Smith Hillsborough, Pinellas

Mark Taylor Hernando, Marion

Michelle Williamson Hillsborough

Brian J. Armstrong, P.G. Executive Director June 12, 2018

Subject: Public Meeting on Updates to the Priority List and Schedule for

Establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels and Reservations

Dear stakeholder:

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) invites your participation in the process of updating its Priority List and Schedule for the Establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels and Reservations (Priority List). Minimum flows and levels are limits set by the District Governing Board for surface waters and groundwater that are intended to prevent significant harm to the water resources or ecology of an area that may be caused by water withdrawals. Reservations set aside water from withdrawals for the protection of fish and wildlife or public health and safety. The Priority List identifies water bodies for which the District plans to establish minimum flows and levels and reservations.

A public meeting for discussion of and input on the draft Priority List for 2018 (2018-2019) has been scheduled for August 29, 2018, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., in the Governing Board Room at the District's Tampa Service Office. The office is located at 7601 U.S. Highway 301 North, Tampa, Florida 33637-6759. The current 2017 Priority List is posted on the District's web site at: https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/documents-and-reports. The draft 2018 Priority List will be made available at the same web page on August 28th or 29th and will also be available at the planned public meeting.

Written comments on the draft 2018 Priority List are welcome and can be submitted no later than October 1, 2018 to Doug Leeper, MFLs Program Lead, by mail or via e-mail (doug.leeper@watermatters.org).

This process represents an important opportunity for local governments, individuals and other stakeholders to be part of the scheduling of minimum flows and levels and reservations for rivers, streams and other flowing waters, lakes, wetlands, and aquifers. Please feel free to contact me at 1-800-423-1476, extension 4272, if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Doug Leeper

MFLs Program Lead

Springs and Environmental Flows Section

Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau

DL:dl