

Cow Pen Slough

Watershed Evaluation Details

Topographic Data: Based on information collected in 2018.

Permit Data: Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) cutoff date for modeling will be 2023.

Projected Timeline for Upcoming Tasks

September - November 2024 (45 days)

- Outreach with the public to collect historical information to assist with further analysis.

December 2024

- District will review all public comments received during initial review period.

Fall 2025

- Preliminary floodplain information presented to public for review and comment.

Additional Resources / Contact Information

FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)

- Manatee County – Current Effective Date is March 2014.
- The County will determine when approved floodplains will be provided to FEMA.

Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)

WMP Info Line (352) 415-0974

WMP@swfwmd.state.fl.us

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: What is the Watershed Management Program?

A: The District takes a watershed approach to managing water and water-related resources within its boundaries. By doing so, all the characteristics of each watershed can be evaluated to reflect the real, interconnected nature of Florida's water resources. This increases the District's ability to clearly identify, prioritize and address issues related to the area's water resources. The Watershed Management Program provides a method to evaluate the capacity of a watershed to protect, enhance and restore water quality and natural systems while achieving flood protection.

For more information, please visit:

https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/sites/default/files/medias/documents/watershed_management.pdf

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs, services and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation, or who would like information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Human Resources Office Chief, at 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4747; or email ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). If requested, appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided at any public meeting, forum, or event of the District. In the event of a complaint, please follow the grievance procedure located at WaterMatters.org/ADA.

Q: How will this affect me?

A: As preliminary flood risk information is developed for a watershed, the District provides the information to the public so that citizens can learn about the data and science used to determine the flood hazard areas, view the preliminary floodplain results and have an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. We encourage you to contact us through a phone call, email or the comment card if you have information to share. This information could be used to update FEMA maps in the future or for permitting decisions on a property.

Q: Where can I provide photos of previous flooding?

A: You may email flood photos to us at WMP@watermatters.org. Please include the date the photo was taken, if possible.

Q: Who do I contact with comments and questions?

A: For watershed related issues you may submit questions and comments on our website, leave a voice message at (352) 415-0974 or email us at WMP@watermatters.org.

Q: Who do I contact if I have a stormwater maintenance issue or a possible Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) violation?

A: Property owners can describe the issue as a comment on our website, leave a voice message at (352) 415-0974 or email us at WMP@watermatters.org and the message will be routed to the appropriate staff within our Regulatory Division.

Q: I got a letter in the mail, but my neighbor did not, Why?

A: The District notifies property owners via mail for those properties that intersect wetlands, or special Flood Hazard Zones "A" or "AE" on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), or soils hydrologic group B/D, C, or D, or are adjacent to conveyance ways such as ditches, creeks, and rivers, to solicit information about the watershed.

Q: Where can I find more information about flood insurance?

A: To view FEMA's existing Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), visit the [FEMA Map Service Center](#) and search by street address; or, you can view flood risk information using [FEMA's map viewer](#).

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