

Consolidated **Annual**
Report
March 1, 2021

2020 Priority List and Schedule

*for the Establishment of Minimum Flows,
Minimum Water Levels and Reservations*

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

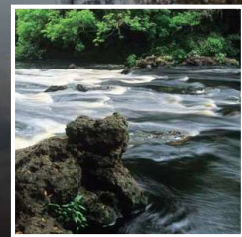
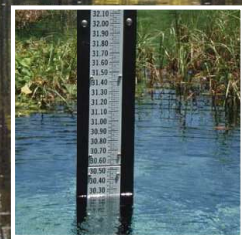


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SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT

2020 PRIORITY LIST AND SCHEDULE

Overview

Pursuant to Sections 373.036(7) and 373.042(3), Florida Statutes (F.S.), the Southwest Florida Water Management District is required to annually update its priority list and schedule for the establishment of minimum flows and minimum water levels, submit the updated list and schedule to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) by November 15th for approval, and include the approved list and schedule in the District's Consolidated Annual Report by March 1st. Minimum flows and minimum water levels are rules established by the state water management districts or DEP that define the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area. In addition to prioritized minimum flows and water levels, the priority list and schedule must include reservations proposed for establishment. Reservations are rules that reserve water from use by permit applications, as necessary for the protection of fish and wildlife or public health and safety.

The District prepared this 2020 priority list and schedule to address all relevant statutory directives, and guidance concerning minimum flow, minimum water level and water reservation prioritization included in Rules 62-40.473, and 62-40.474 within the State Water Resource Implementation Rule (Chapter 62-40, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)).

As of FY2020, District rules include minimum flows or minimum water levels for 205 water bodies (Chapter 40D-8, F.A.C.) and reservations for 2 water bodies (Chapter 40D-2, F.A.C.). As listed in this draft 2020 priority list and schedule, minimum flows or water levels have been established for 127 lakes, 36 wetlands, 23 freshwater and estuarine river segments, 10 springs or spring groups (including all first magnitude springs and all second magnitude springs within the District that occur within state or federal lands purchased for conservation purposes), 7 Upper Floridan aquifer (UFA) sites in the northern Tampa Bay area, an UFA site in the Dover/Plant City area, and the UFA in the Most Impacted Area of the Southern Water Use Caution Area. Eighty-four of these established minimum flows and levels have been reevaluated and revised, as necessary and 7 additional minimum flows and levels repealed following their reevaluation. As also noted in this draft 2020 priority list and schedule, reservations have been established for Lake Hancock/Lower Saddle Creek and Morris Bridge Sink to support minimum flow recovery in 2 rivers.

Minimum flows, minimum water levels and reservations proposed for establishment and reevaluation through 2023 are provided in tabular form in this 2020 priority list and schedule. Designation of water body type (aquifer, estuary, lake, river, river-estuary, spring and as appropriate, spring magnitude, which is associated with the rate of spring discharge) are provided along with location information. Water bodies that are part of a larger system, e.g., a spring group associated with a river, are listed by water body name and system.

The District's intent regarding completion of voluntary, independent, scientific peer review is also identified for each prioritized water body. Voluntary scientific peer review is proposed for all prioritized spring and river segments identified for minimum flow establishment based on the expected level of complexity of the minimum flows, and the anticipated degree of public concern regarding their development. None of the prioritized lake minimum levels are expected to be subjected to voluntary scientific peer review, based on anticipated use of previously peer-reviewed methodologies for development of the minimum water levels.

Prioritized water bodies that may be affected by withdrawals occurring in other water management districts, i.e., are potentially subject to cross-boundary impacts, are identified to support coordination of regulatory activities among the districts and DEP. Development of minimum flow or water levels by the DEP for these water bodies is not, however, currently considered necessary or appropriate.

Finally, the status of rulemaking for each prioritized water body is also provided.

Southwest Florida Water Management District Water Bodies with Adopted and Effective Minimum Flow and Minimum Water Level Rules, Including Those That Have Been Reevaluated

- Alafia River (upper segment) ^a
- Alafia River (lower segment)/Lithia-Buckhorn Spring Group
- Anclote River (lower segment)
- Anclote River (upper segment)
- Braden River (upper segment)
- Chassahowitzka River/Chassahowitzka Spring Group (OFS) ^b and Blind Spring (reevaluated)
- Citrus County Lakes – Ft. Cooper, Tsala Apopka – Floral City, Inverness and Hernando Pools
- Crystal River/Kings Bay Spring Group (OFS) ^b
- Crystal Springs
- Dona Bay/Shakett Creek System
- Dover/Plant City Water Use Caution Area Minimum Aquifer Level
- Gum Slough Spring Run ^a
- Hernando County Lakes – Hunters, Lindsey, Mountain, Neff, Spring, Tooke, Weekiwachee Prairie, Whitehurst
- Highland County Lakes – Angelo ^a, Anoka ^a, Damon ^a, Denton ^a, Jackson (reevaluated) ^a, Little Lake Jackson (reevaluated) ^a, June-in-Winter ^a, Letta (reevaluated) ^a, Lotela (reevaluated) ^a, Placid ^a, Tulane ^a, Verona ^a
- Hillsborough County Lakes – Alice (reevaluated), Allen (reevaluated), Barbara, Bird (reevaluated), Brant (reevaluated), Calm (reevaluated), Carroll, Charles (reevaluated), Church (reevaluated), Crenshaw, Crescent, Crystal (reevaluated), Cypress, Dan (reevaluated), Deer (reevaluated), Dosson (reevaluated), Echo (reevaluated), Ellen, Fairy [Maurine], Garden, Halfmoon, Hanna, Harvey (reevaluated), Helen, Hobbs (reevaluated), Hooker, Horse (reevaluated), Jackson, Juanita (reevaluated), Keene, Kell, Little Moon (reevaluated), Merrywater (reevaluated), Mound, Platt, Pretty, Rainbow (reevaluated), Raleigh, Reinheimer, Rogers, Round (reevaluated), Saddleback (reevaluated), Sapphire (reevaluated), Starvation, Stemper (reevaluated), Strawberry, Sunset (reevaluated), Sunshine (reevaluated), Taylor, Virginia (reevaluated), Wimauma
- Hillsborough County Wetlands Sites – Cypress Bridge 32 (reevaluated), Cone Ranch 1 (reevaluated), Cone Ranch 2 (reevaluated), Cone Ranch 3 (reevaluated), Cone Ranch 4 (reevaluated), Cone Ranch 5 (reevaluated), Cone Ranch 6 (reevaluated), Eldridge Wilde 11 (NW-44) (reevaluated), Morris Bridge Clay Gully Cypress (MBR-88) (reevaluated), Morris Bridge Entry Dome (MBR-35) (reevaluated), Morris Bridge Unnamed (MBR-16) (reevaluated), Morris Bridge X-4 (MBR-89) (reevaluated)
- Hillsborough River (lower segment) (reevaluated)
- Hillsborough River (upper segment)
- Homosassa River/Homosassa Spring Group (OFS) (reevaluated) ^b
- Levy County Lake – Marion (reevaluated)
- Marion County Lakes – Bonable, Little Bonable, Tiger
- Myakka River (lower segment)
- Myakka River (upper segment)
- Northern Tampa Bay – 7 Wells – Upper Floridan aquifer/Saltwater Intrusion
- Pasco County Lakes – Bell, Big Fish (reevaluated), Bird, Buddy (reevaluated), Camp (reevaluated), Clear, Crews, Green, Hancock, Iola, Jessamine, King, King [East], Linda, Middle, Moon (reevaluated), Padgett (reevaluated), Parker aka Ann, Pasadena (reevaluated), Pasco, Pierce (reevaluated), Unnamed #22 aka Loyce
- Pasco County Wetland Sites – Cross Bar Q-1 (reevaluated), Cross Bar Q-25 (Stop #7), Cross Bar T-3 (reevaluated), Cypress Bridge A (reevaluated), Cypress Bridge 4 (reevaluated), Cypress Bridge 16 (reevaluated), Cypress Bridge 25 (reevaluated), Cypress Creek W-56 (G) (reevaluated), Cypress Creek W-11 (reevaluated), Cypress Creek W-12 (reevaluated), Cypress Creek W-17 (reevaluated), North Pasco 3 (reevaluated), North Pasco 21 (reevaluated), South Pasco 2 (NW-49) (reevaluated), South

Pasco 6 (NW-50) (reevaluated), South Pasco South Cypress (reevaluated), Starkey Central (reevaluated), Starkey Eastern (S-73) (reevaluated), Starkey M (S-69) (reevaluated), Starkey N (reevaluated), Starkey S-75 (reevaluated), Starkey S-99, Starkey Z (reevaluated)

- Peace River (lower segment) (reevaluated)
- Peace River (middle segment)
- Peace River (three upper segments – "low" minimum flows)
- Pinellas County Wetland Site – Eldridge Wilde 5
- Pithlachascotee River (lower segment)
- Pithlachascotee River (upper segment)
- Polk County Lakes – Annie ^a, Aurora ^a, Bonnie ^a, Clinch (reevaluated) ^a, Crooked (reevaluated) ^a, Crystal ^a, Dinner ^a, Eagle (reevaluated) ^a, Easy ^a, Eva ^a, Hancock, Lee ^a, Lowery ^a, Mabel ^a, McLeod (reevaluated) ^a, North Lake Wales ^a, Parker, Starr (reevaluated) ^a, Venus ^a, Wailes (reevaluated) ^a
- Rainbow River/Rainbow Spring Group (OFS) ^{a, b}
- Sulphur Springs
- Sumter County Lakes – Big Gant ^a, Black ^a, Deaton ^a, Miona ^a, Okahumpka ^a, Panasoffkee ^a
- Southern Water Use Caution Area – Upper Floridan aquifer
- Tampa Bypass Canal
- Weeki Wachee River/Weeki Wachee Spring Group (OFS) ^b

Southwest Florida Water Management District Water Bodies with Adopted and Effective Reservation Rules

- Lake Hancock/Lower Saddle Creek (water reserved to contribute to achieving minimum flows adopted for the three upper segments of the Peace River for the protection of fish and wildlife)
- Morris Bridge Sink (water reserved to contribute to achieving or maintaining minimum flows adopted for the lower segment of the Hillsborough River for the protection of fish and wildlife)

Southwest Florida Water Management District Minimum Flows and Levels to be Adopted in 2020

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name ^c	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status ^d
Reevaluation	Cypress, Lake	Cypress, Lake	Lake	Hillsborough	No	No	28.125561	-82.564727	N/A
Reevaluation	Garden, Lake	Garden, Lake	Lake	Hillsborough	No	No	28.131751	-82.63094	N/A
Reevaluation	Halfmoon Lake	Halfmoon Lake	Lake	Hillsborough	No	No	28.097114	-82.548128	N/A
Reevaluation	Jackson, Lake	Jackson, Lake	Lake	Hillsborough	No	No	28.137542	-82.629974	N/A
Reevaluation	Linda, Lake	Linda, Lake	Lake	Pasco	No	No	28.1890	-82.4787	N/A
Reevaluation	Strawberry (North Crystal) Lake	Strawberry (North Crystal) Lake	Lake	Hillsborough	No	No	28.139517	-82.474755	N/A
Reevaluation	Cross Bar Q-25 (Stop #7)	Cross Bar Q-25 (Stop #7)	Wetland	Pasco	No	No	28.3436	-82.4744	Rule Adopted, Ratification not required
Reevaluation	Peace River (lower segment)	Peace River (lower segment)	River-Estuary	Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte	Yes	Yes	27.2206	-81.8764	N/A

Southwest Florida Water Management District Minimum Flows and Levels to be Adopted in 2021

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name ^c	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status ^d
New	Shell Creek (lower segment)	Shell Creek (lower segment)	River-Estuary	Charlotte	Yes	Yes	26.9844	-81.9358	N/A

Southwest Florida Water Management District Minimum Flows and Levels to be Adopted in 2022

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name ^c	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status ^d
Reevaluation	North Lake Wales	North Lake Wales	Lake	Polk	No	No	27.9096	-81.5805	N/A
Reevaluation	Tulane, Lake	Tulane, Lake	Lake	Highlands	No	No	27.5860	-81.5036	N/A
Reevaluation	Verona, Lake	Verona, Lake	Lake	Highlands	No	No	27.5978	-81.4969	N/A
New	Little Manatee River (lower segment)	Little Manatee River (lower segment)	River-Estuary	Hillsborough	Yes	No	27.6708	-82.3528	N/A
New	Little Manatee River (upper segment)	Little Manatee River (upper segment)	River	Hillsborough, Manatee	Yes	No	27.6708	-82.3528	N/A

Southwest Florida Water Management District Minimum Flows and Levels to be Adopted in 2023

New or Re-Evaluation	Waterbody Name or Compliance Point	System Name ^c	Waterbody Type	County(s)	Voluntary Peer Review to be Completed?	Cross-Boundary Impacts from Adjacent WMD?	Latitude	Longitude	Rulemaking Status ^d
New	Braden River (lower segment)	Braden River (lower segment)	River-Estuary	Manatee	Yes	No	27.4411	-82.4878	N/A
New	Charlie Creek	Charlie Creek	River	Hardee, Polk	Yes	No	27.3747	-81.7967	N/A
New	Manatee River (lower segment)	Manatee River (lower segment)	River-Estuary	Manatee	Yes	No	27.5133	-82.3672	N/A
New	Horse Creek	Horse Creek	River	Hardee, DeSoto	Yes	No	27.1992	-81.9886	N/A
Reevaluation	Southern Water Use Caution Area Saltwater Intrusion Minimum Aquifer Level (SWTIAL)	Southern Water Use Caution Area Saltwater Intrusion Minimum Aquifer Level (SWTIAL)	Aquifer	Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota	Yes	No	27.5603	-82.4013	N/A

^a Water body may be affected by groundwater withdrawals in an adjacent water management district.

^b OFS = Outstanding Florida Spring.

^c System name identifies larger system that the water body is associated with for minimum flows rule development; otherwise system name is same as waterbody name or compliance point

^d Last rulemaking action taken: Notice of Rule Development published; Notice of Proposed Rule published; Rule challenge pending; Rule adopted, Ratification not required; Rule adopted, Awaiting ratification; Rule adopted, Ratified. N/A indicates formal rulemaking has not been initiated.