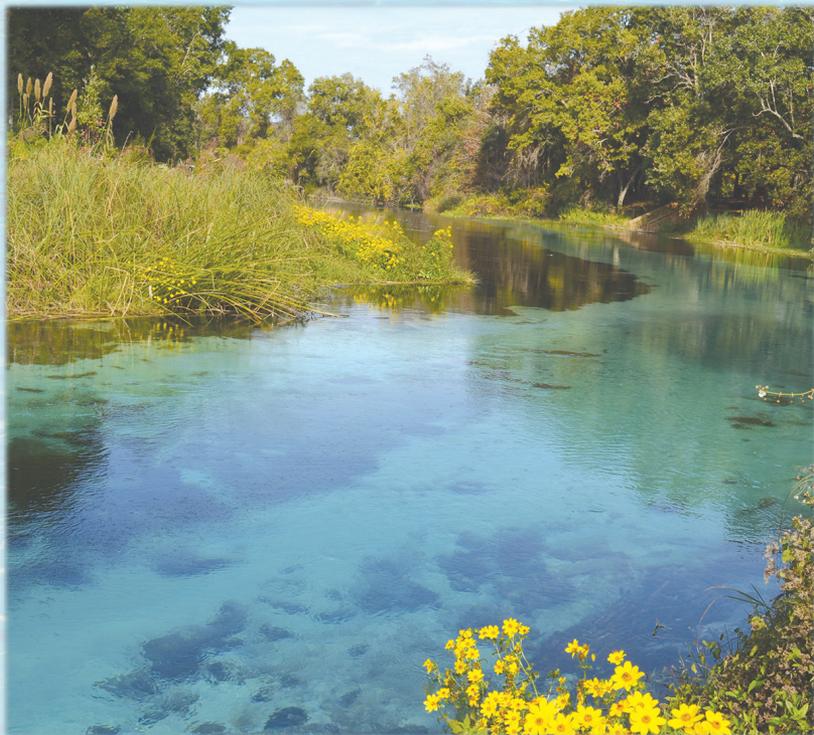


# FISCAL YEAR 2015-16 BUDGET-IN-BRIEF



## GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
*Robert R. Beltran, P.E.*

Southwest Florida  
*Water Management District*

## Message From the Executive Director

On behalf of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board, I am pleased to present the District's adopted budget for fiscal year (FY) 2015–16, which begins October 1, 2015 and ends September 30, 2016.

The District's FY2015–16 budget is designed to protect Florida's water resources and to improve Florida's economic vitality. All programs and projects are dedicated to the mission of the District and intended to provide the highest quality service to the citizens of west-central Florida.

On September 29, 2015, the Governing Board adopted a final millage, the rolled-back rate of 0.3488 mill, which is a reduction of 4.6 percent. Over the last six fiscal years, the District's Governing Board has reduced its millage rate more than 40 percent to help reduce the tax burden for Florida residents.

The District's FY2015–16 adopted budget is \$184.3 million, compared to \$166.3 million in FY2014–15. The majority of this increase is for Cooperative Funding Initiatives and District projects. In fact, approximately 60 percent of the total budget is allocated for projects. The Cooperative Funding grants combined with matching funds through cooperative partnerships with public and private partners will result in more than a \$150 million total investment for water resource projects in the region. Since 1988 the District and its partners have a combined investment of more than \$2.8 billion for the region's water resources.

The District and its partners have committed \$28.2 million for the northern coastal springs systems. These efforts will contribute to reducing groundwater withdrawals and improving water quality in the springs as well as restore submerged aquatic vegetation and emergent wetland habitats to improve water clarity.

The District is committed to protecting Florida's water and water-related resources. This budget addresses our core mission

responsibilities in accordance with Governing Board priorities, Legislative directives, and the Five-Year Strategic Plan. Our plan shows that the District's fiscal resources, supplemented with prudently managed project reserves, can support a healthy investment in the water resources and economy during the next 10 years.

In summary, the District's Governing Board has adopted a final budget for FY2015–16 that ensures the long-term sustainability of the region's water resources. This budget provides for significant investment in water resource projects and strategic initiatives. The District will continue seeking efficiencies to allow the Governing Board the flexibility to maintain the necessary annual investment in critical water resource management projects for the west-central Florida region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert R. Beltran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Beltran" clearly legible.

Robert R. Beltran, P.E.  
Executive Director

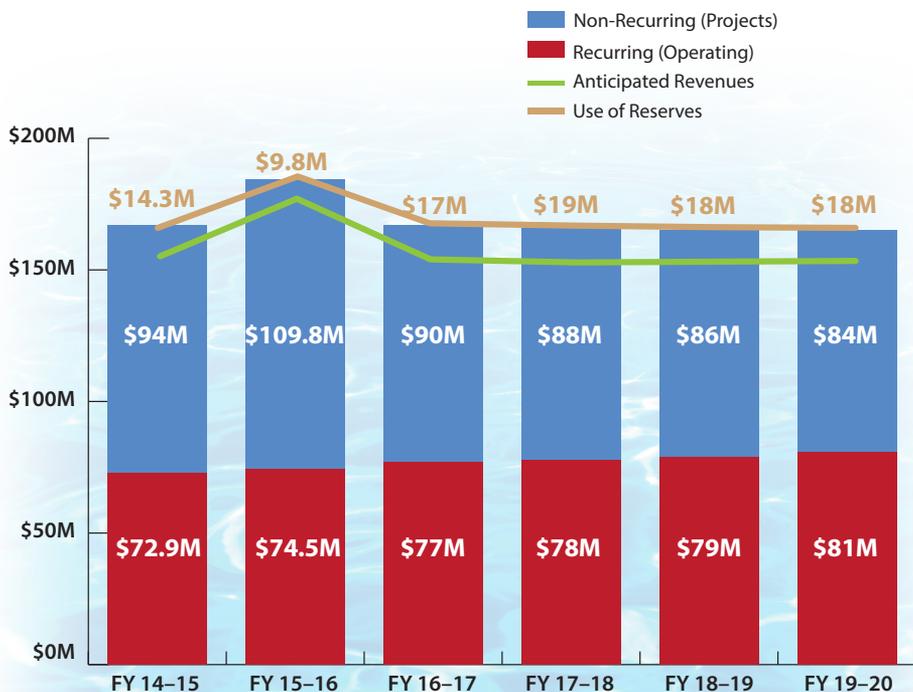
## FY2015–16 Budget — Key Highlights

The District's budget for capital, infrastructure and other projects is \$109.8 million, representing 60 percent of total expenditures. The following are examples of project investments for FY2015-16:

- ✓ \$28.2 million investment for the northern coastal springs. This includes \$22.7 million budgeted by the District, leveraged with an additional \$5.5 million from local cooperators.
- ✓ \$25 million for reclaimed water projects to reduce our reliance on groundwater.
- ✓ \$12 million for stormwater improvement projects to improve the water quality of SWIM priority water bodies, such as Kings Bay, Rainbow River and Tampa Bay.
- ✓ \$10 million for land acquisition to conserve and protect water and water-related resources.
- ✓ \$8 million for restoration of impacted lands to improve water quality and re-establish wetland and upland natural systems.
- ✓ \$7 million for stormwater improvement projects to reduce flood risk and protect our citizens.
- ✓ \$7 million for Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) projects to reduce groundwater use and improve water quality impacted by agricultural practices.
- ✓ \$4 million for watershed management planning in cooperation with local partners to assess existing flood risk in flood-prone areas. The District's advanced models also help evaluate alternative practices that can be implemented to reduce flood risk.
- ✓ \$2.75 million from the newly established Land Acquisition Trust Fund for land management activities.

### Long-Term Funding Plan

The graph below represents a snapshot of the District’s financial model. This model shows how the District plans to 1) control its operating expenditures; 2) schedule its long-range project funding needs; and 3) depending on anticipated revenue generated, use reserves to supplement long-range project funding. By managing our operating expenses and prudently applying reserves to vital water resource projects, the District’s fiscal resources can support a healthy investment in the economy and water resources over the next five years.



## How the District is Funded

### FY2015–16 Budget

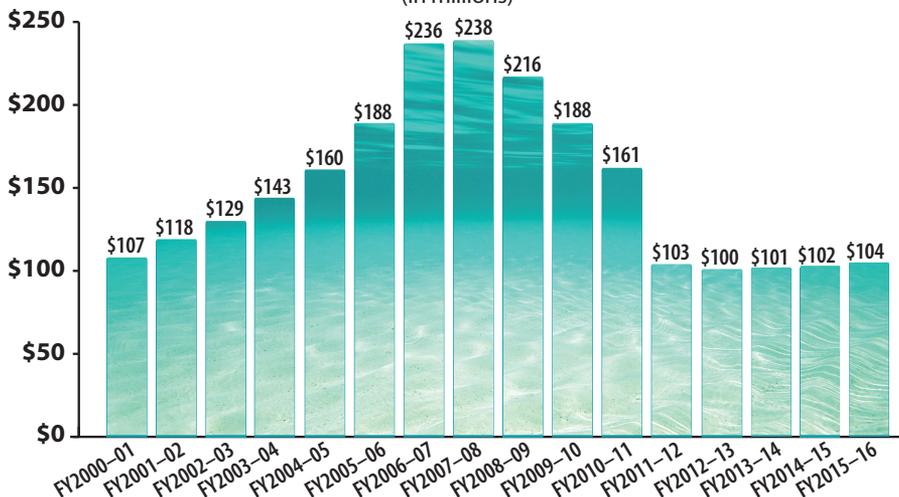
**Revenues**  
(in millions)

**Percent of Total**

<b>Ad Valorem Taxes</b>	<b>\$104.0</b>	<b>56.5%</b>
Property taxes levied on the taxable value of real and personal property as certified by the property appraiser in each county. The millage rate for FY2015-16 is 0.3488 mill, which is the rolled-back rate.		
<b>State/Federal/Local Funding</b>	<b>\$30.7</b>	<b>16.6%</b>
Funding includes \$13.4 million for Springs Initiatives provided by the Department of Environmental Protection; \$10.5 million for land acquisition from the Florida Forever Trust Fund; \$2.75 million for land management from the Florida Land Acquisition Trust Fund; \$2.5 million for the Florida Department of Transportation Mitigation program; and more than \$1.4 million from the state and other local entities within the District's jurisdiction.		
<b>Other Funding</b>	<b>\$5.2</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
Various funding sources such as interest earnings on investments (\$3.1 million), permit and license fees (\$1.5 million), and miscellaneous revenue (\$560,700).		
<b>Balance from Prior Years</b>	<b>\$34.6</b>	<b>18.8%</b>
Unexpended funds carried forward from the previous fiscal year(s) primarily related to projects completed under budget and project cancellations.		
<b>Reserves</b>	<b>\$9.8</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
Represents restricted basin reserves of \$5 million and project reserves of \$4.8 million utilized to fund projects.		
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$184.3</b>	<b>100%</b>

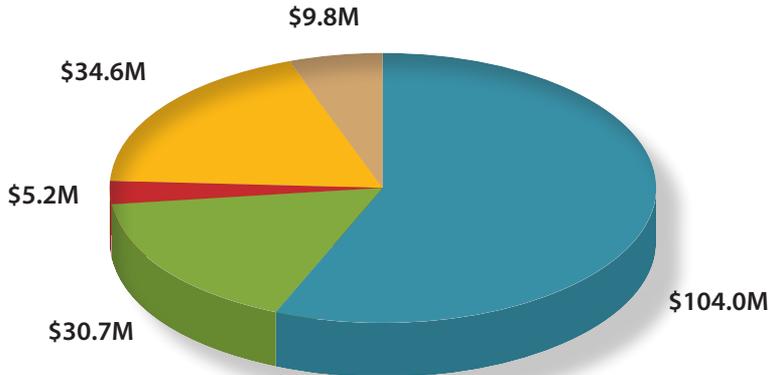
### Historical Ad Valorem Tax Revenue

(in millions)

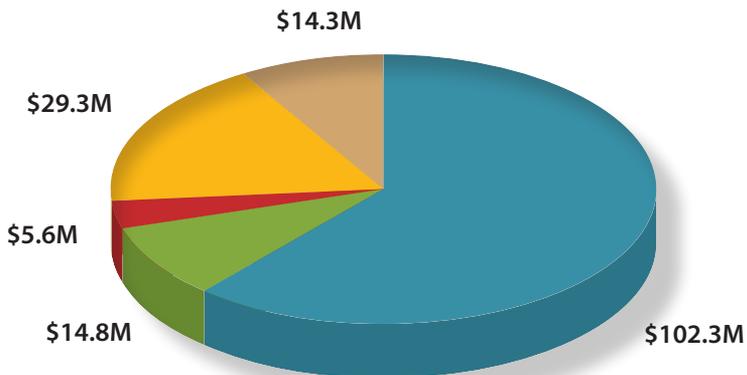


### Year-to-Year Comparison

#### FY2015–16 Adopted Budget — \$184.3 million



#### FY2014–15 Adopted Budget — \$166.3 million



- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ad Valorem Taxes            | Balance From Prior Years |
| State/Federal/Local Funding | Reserves                 |
| Other Funding               |                          |

## How the District Allocates Resources by Category

### FY2015–16 Budget

### Expenditures

(in millions)

### Percent of Total

#### Salaries & Benefits

**\$48.4**

**26.3%**

Salaries and benefits for District regular full time equivalent (FTE) positions. The number of FTE positions remains consistent from FY2014-15 to FY2015-16 at 574 FTEs.

#### Operating Expenses

**\$15.2**

**8.2%**

This includes items such as Property Tax Commissions, Software/Software Maintenance, Parts and Supplies, Utilities, Insurance and Bonds, Fuels and Lubricants, and Telephone/Data Communications. Reduction of more than \$700,000 from FY2014-15 through continued cost reductions where possible.

#### Contracted Services for Operational Support & Maintenance

**\$9.5**

**5.2%**

Outsourced services in support of the District's operations in areas such as Information Technology, Data Collection, Land Management, and Structure Operations & Maintenance.

#### Operating Capital Outlay

**\$1.4**

**0.8%**

Purchases of heavy equipment, vehicles, airboats, computer hardware, and equipment with a value per item of at least \$1,000 and an estimated useful life of one or more years.

#### Cooperative Funding/District Grants

**\$82.0**

**44.5%**

Matching funds provided through the District Cooperative Funding Initiative and District grants such as the Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) program. The Cooperative Funding Initiative generally provides 50 percent matching funds toward the cost of projects that help create sustainable water resources, enhance conservation efforts, and provide flood protection.

#### Contracted Services for District Projects

**\$17.0**

**9.2%**

District-led projects such as Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) restoration, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) research and Florida Department of Transportation Mitigation. These projects are performed by the private sector and represent direct investments into the economy as well as important projects that protect Florida's water resources.

#### Fixed Capital Outlay

**\$10.8**

**5.8%**

Funding for land purchases, land easements, water control structures, bridges, and buildings.

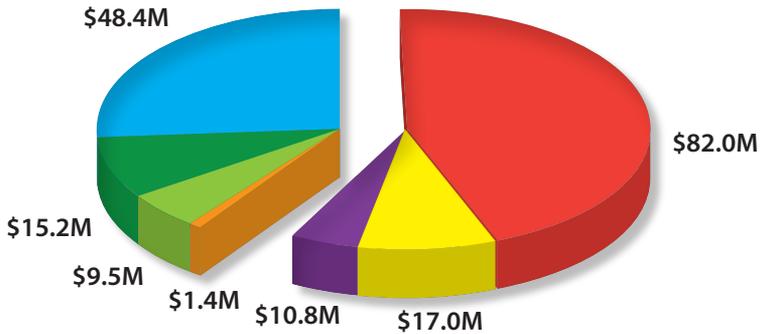
#### TOTAL EXPENDITURES

**\$184.3**

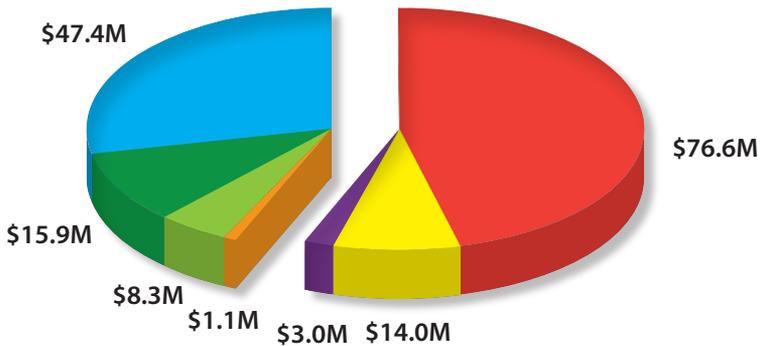
**100%**

### Year-to-Year Comparison

#### FY2015–16 Adopted Budget — \$184.3 million



#### FY2014–15 Adopted Budget — \$166.3 million



#### Recurring (Operating)

- Salaries & Benefits
- Operating Expenses
- Contracted Services for Operational Support & Maintenance
- Operating Capital Outlay

#### Non-Recurring (Projects)

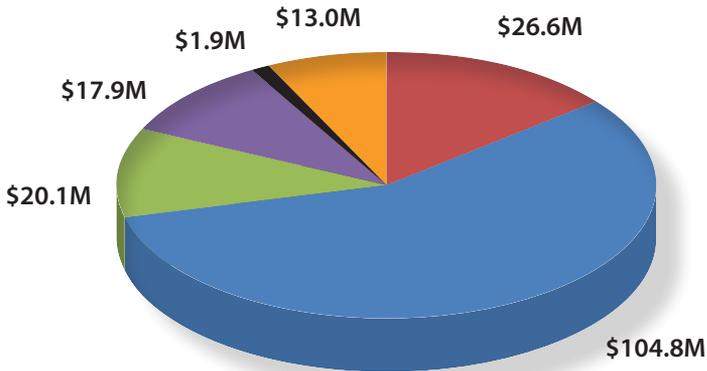
- Cooperative Funding/District Grants
- Contracted Services for District Projects
- Fixed Capital Outlay

## How the District Allocates Resources by Program Area

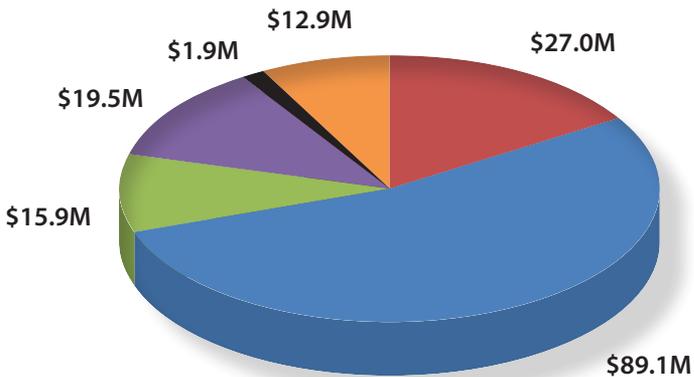
FY2015–16 Budget	Expenditures (in millions)	Percent of Total
<b>Water Resources Planning and Monitoring</b>	<b>\$26.6</b>	<b>14.4%</b>
<p>All water management planning, including water supply planning (\$609,448), development of minimum flows and levels for aquifers, lakes and rivers (\$2.2 million), and other water resources planning activities including watershed management planning (\$6.3 million); research, data collection, analysis, and monitoring (\$14.1 million); technical assistance (\$1.2 million) which includes local/regional plan and program review; and other program activities including technology and information services.</p>		
<b>Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works</b>	<b>\$104.8</b>	<b>56.9%</b>
<p>All development and construction of capital projects, including water resource and water supply development projects such as reclaimed water, Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS), and conservation projects in partnership with local governments (\$55.2 million); surface water projects for the restoration of lands and water bodies with water quality, flood protection and natural systems benefits (\$37 million); acquisition of land for the protection and management of water resources (\$11.2 million); and other program activities including technology and information services.</p>		
<b>Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works</b>	<b>\$20.1</b>	<b>10.9%</b>
<p>All operation and maintenance of flood control and water conservation structures, canals and levees (\$4.6 million); management of public conservation lands, restoring their natural conditions, and providing for compatible recreational use (\$6.5 million); operation and maintenance of District facilities (\$3.4 million); management and maintenance of District fleet (\$2.8 million); and other program activities including technology and information services.</p>		
<b>Regulation</b>	<b>\$17.9</b>	<b>9.7%</b>
<p>All consumptive use permitting (\$4.1 million), water well construction permitting and contractor licensing (\$709,065), environmental resource/surface water management permitting (\$7 million), permit administration/enforcement or any delegated regulatory program (\$2.5 million); and other program activities including technology and information services.</p>		
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>\$1.9</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<p>All water resources education activities, such as springs protection campaigns and water conservation programs for builders and the hospitality industry (\$825,564); public information activities (\$851,198); all lobbying activities relating to regional, state and federal governmental affairs (\$89,124); and other program activities including technology and information services.</p>		
<b>District Management and Administration</b>	<b>\$13.0</b>	<b>7.1%</b>
<p>All administrative and operations support (\$9.5 million or 5.2%), and commissions to county tax collectors and property appraisers (\$3.5 million or 1.9%).</p>		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$184.3</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Year-to-Year Comparison

#### FY2015–16 Adopted Budget — \$184.3 million



#### FY2014–15 Adopted Budget — \$166.3 million



- |                                                                                   |                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <span style="color: red;">■</span> Water Resources Planning and Monitoring        | <span style="color: purple;">■</span> Regulation                             |
| <span style="color: blue;">■</span> Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works     | <span style="color: black;">■</span> Outreach                                |
| <span style="color: green;">■</span> Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works | <span style="color: orange;">■</span> District Management and Administration |

## MISSION

The mission of the Southwest Florida Water Management District is to manage water and related natural resources to ensure their continued availability while maximizing the benefits to the public. Central to the mission is maintaining the balance between the water needs of current and future users while protecting and maintaining water and related natural resources which provide the District with its existing and future water supply.



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 and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the District's Human Resources Bureau Chief, 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4703; or email [ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org](mailto: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).