



North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership

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For immediate release

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North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership stakeholder committee identifies regional boundary

PALATKA, Fla., Feb. 4, 2013 — The North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership stakeholder advisory committee has identified a regional planning boundary spanning two water management districts, defining the area where collaborative initiatives will address water resource challenges and ensure a sustainable water supply throughout north Florida.

The North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan will encompass specific counties in both the St. Johns River and Suwannee River water management districts. Those counties are Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee and Union.

Over several months, the Partnership's stakeholder advisory committee reviewed and discussed the proposed boundary for the regional water supply plan. The committee approved the regional boundary at its Jan. 23 meeting.

While the planning boundary encompasses 14 counties, groundwater modeling for the water supply plan will be significantly broader to ensure that sufficient data is gathered and analyzed.

The regional water supply plan will identify:

- Water use demand projections
- Water resource impacts that could occur if future demand were met solely from existing groundwater supplies
- Water conservation opportunities
- Potential water supply development projects that may be needed to supplement groundwater supplies

In the past, both districts worked independently on water supply planning. The St. Johns River and Suwannee River water management districts in collaboration with the Partnership will jointly develop the North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan, which is scheduled for completion in 2015. Because of the shared resource and shared impacts, the districts formally agreed in 2011 that only one plan for North Florida should be developed and implemented. The

North Florida Regional Water Supply Plan will be a chapter in each district’s overall water supply plan.

Water supply plans identify future water supply needs for a 20-year planning horizon, and programs and projects needed to ensure sustainable supplies. These plans are updated as needed — at a minimum, once every five years.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Feb. 18. For more information about the Partnership, visit northfloridawater.com.

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About the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership

The [Partnership](#) seeks to improve program coordination, scientific tool development and communication among water managers, local governments, concerned individuals and other stakeholders by working together to protect our shared water resources and cost-effective, sustainable water supplies. The [committee](#) serves as an advisory body to offer viewpoints from stakeholder groups to the St. Johns River and Suwannee River water management districts and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to help address the region’s water supply issues.

