

Program Name: Water Supply Planning
Project Name: **Regional water supply plans (LEC Plan, LWC Plan, UEC Plan, LKB Plan, CFWI Plan)**
Project ID: 3800 (Formerly Project ID 3704)
Lead Agency: South Florida Water Management District
Authority: Chapter 373, Florida Statutes

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: 3.C.1

Measurable Output(s): Comprehensive water supply plans identifying strategies to meet existing and projected water needs over a 20-year planning horizon, while meeting the needs of the water resources and related natural systems. Water made available through Alternative Water Supply (AWS) Program is reported separately as Project ID: 3900.

Project Synopsis: In Florida, water supply plans are developed by the water management districts to ensure that an adequate supply of water exists to protect water resources and natural systems and to meet existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses. Development of comprehensive water supply plans customized to each region is key to identifying and understanding current and future water needs. Based on a 20-year outlook, these plans provide detailed, area-specific information and recommended actions including identification of water conservation measures, water supply development project options, and water resource development project options. In addition, water supply plans include minimum flows and levels (MFL) criteria and associated recovery or prevention strategies adopted within the planning region. The plans also identify any surface water or aquifers for which MFLs are scheduled to be adopted. CERP projects form the capital projects element of several MFL recovery strategies. Water supply plans are mandated to be updated at least every five years and are developed in a public process under the auspices of the District's Water Resources Advisory Commission.

Five regional planning areas have been established encompassing the District: the Lower East Coast (LEC), the Upper East Coast (UEC), the Lower West Coast (LWC), Lower Kissimmee Basin (LKB) and the Upper Kissimmee Basin (UKB). The UKB is in the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) Regional Water Supply Planning (RWSP) area, which is a joint effort between South Florida, Southwest Florida, and St. Johns River water management districts. Initial water supply plans were approved between 1998 and 2000 and the first updates were approved between 2005 and 2007. Subsequent updates were approved between 2011 and 2015.

The Program requires water supply planning coordination between the water management districts and local governments to ensure permitted water supply and potable water facilities are available before new development is approved. The District must notify each PWS utility that is required to complete a project and each local government in the planning region within six months of the plan approval. Each PWS utility then has one year from the notification to identify the water supply projects it intends to develop. Within 18 months after the water supply plans are approved, local governments also must update the Water Facilities Element of their Comprehensive Plan that details the water supply and conservation projects for at least a 10-year planning period.

Each regional water supply plan includes a water supply development chapter and a water resource development chapter. Water supply projects create water and are the responsibility of local governments and utilities. Water resource development projects support and enhance water supply development projects, but often do not by themselves yield specific quantities of water. For example, hydrologic investigations and groundwater monitoring and modeling provide important information on aquifer

characteristics, such as hydraulic properties and water quality. All of this information is useful in developing an appropriate facility design, identifying the safe yield and evaluating the economic viability of water supply development projects. Many water resource development projects cross planning region boundaries or are conducted District-wide.

Current Status: In November 2015, the SFWMD Governing Board approved the 2015 CFWI RWSP including the 2035 Water Resource Protection and Water Supply Strategies document and associated appendices. This CFWI RWSP was also approved by the Governing Boards of SWFWMD and SJRWMD. In March 2016, the Governing Board approved the UECWSP Update. Updates to the District's other regional water supply plans have been initiated or planned. The schedule for completion of these updates are: Lower West Coast in Fiscal Year 2017-18; Lower East Coast in Fiscal Year 2018-19; Lower Kissimmee Basin in Fiscal Year 2019-20; and, CFWI in Fiscal Year 2020-21. The planning horizon for these updates is 2040.

Cost:	Total Cost*+
Regional water supply plans – Water Resource Development Projects (2016-2020)	\$ 28,122,000

*Excludes: costs associated with CERP and costs of alternative water supply projects, which are reported separately, and the estimated portion of the C&SF Operation and Maintenance budget allocated to Water Supply.

Hyperlink:
<http://www.sfwmd.gov/watersupply>

+ Source: The 2016 South Florida Environmental Report. Table 5A-1. Fiscal Years 2016–2020 implementation schedule and projected costs for regional water resource development projects. Includes projects estimated to be completed between 2016-2020. Includes FTE costs.

Contacts: Mark Elsner, SFWMD; Cynthia Gefvert, SFWMD