

### 5.3.1.2 Water Quality Monitoring

USGS conducts water quality monitoring within the RHI. The USGS has collected water quality data at 193 active and historic surface water sites within the RHI (USGS 2015). Two of these sites are within the NWR. Twenty six of these sites have at least a ten year period of record (Table 10, Figure 23.). These sites have been monitored for a variety of water quality parameters, including mercury, lead, temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, pH, phosphorous, and dissolved solids.

GAEPD maintains a network of monitoring stations that are sampled periodically as a part of the state’s water quality program. There are 57 GAEPD monitoring sites within the RHI. Thirteen of these sites are upstream from the refuge. All upstream sites are within the Upper Suwannee subbasin.

Table 10. U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) surface water quality and monitoring sites within the Okefenokee RHI boundary. [Source: USGS 2015].

# on Figure 23	Site Number	Name	Type	Agency	Period of Record
1	02226475	SATILLA RIVER AT WALTERTOWN GA	Stream	USGS	8/15/1974 - 8/25/1999
2	02226500	SATILLA RIVER NEAR WAYCROSS GA	Stream	USGS	5/1/1937 - 8/9/1974
3	02226582	SATILLA RIVER AT GA 15&121 NEAR HOBOKEN GA	Stream	USGS	8/20/1974 - 3/26/2015
4	02228500	NORTH PRONG ST. MARYS RIVER AT MONIAC GA	Stream	USGS	5/19/1958 - 8/26/1999
5	02228700	OCEAN POND AT OLUSTEE FLA.	Lake, Reservoir, Impoundment	USGS	8/15/1966 - 9/30/1982
6	02229000	MIDDLE PRONG ST. MARYS RIVER AT TAYLOR FL	Stream	USGS	6/1/1966 - 6/11/1996
7	02229400	PALESTINE LAKE NR OLUSTEEFL	Lake, Reservoir, Impoundment	USGS	8/13/1965 - 9/7/1982
8	02230000	TURKEY CREEK AT MACCLENNY FLA.	Stream	USGS	5/31/1966 - 8/31/1977
9	02230500	SOUTH PRONG ST. MARYS RIVER AT GLEN ST. MARY FL	Stream	USGS	5/31/1966 - 10/6/1979
10	02231000	ST. MARYS RIVER NEAR MACCLENNY FL	Stream	USGS	2/25/1958 - 3/22/2006