

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Warren Zwanka, P.G., Division Director, Resource Management

THRU: Steve Minnis, Deputy Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: August 30, 2019

RE: Approval of a Modification of Water Use Permit 2-041-221351-2, Jody Stephenson Farm, for Agricultural Use, Gilchrist County

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Governing Board approve Water Use Permit number 2-041-221351-2 with seventeen standard conditions and eight special limiting conditions, to Jody Stephenson, in Gilchrist County.

BACKGROUND

This is a modification of an existing agricultural water use to receive a ten-year permit extension for voluntary implementation of automated monitoring of withdrawals. The project consists of approximately 80 controlled and 75 irrigated acres and is located approximately 3.5 miles northwest of Bell in Gilchrist County. Groundwater is used to irrigate corn, peanuts, green beans and rye through one center pivot. Supplemental irrigation models were used to determine the 0.1313 mgd 1-in-10-year drought allocation, a 0.0234 mgd decrease from the previous sequence.

The one 10-inch diameter well will be monitored through electrical consumption. There have been no reports of interference or observed harm to water resources associated with previous withdrawals at this project.

Staff has determined the proposed withdrawals are in accordance with Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels (MFLs) and MFL recovery strategies pursuant to Chapters 62-42, 40B-8, and Emergency Rule 40BER17-01, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The application is complete and satisfies the conditions for issuance in Chapter 40B-2, F.A.C.

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