

year.

Presumably SRWMD could revoke the permit again for another year, etc.

Among provisions of the same chapter, see [373.223 Conditions for a permit.—](#)

- (1) *To obtain a permit pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, the applicant must establish that the proposed use of water:*
  - (a) *Is a reasonable-beneficial use as defined in s. 373.019;*
  - (b) *Will not interfere with any presently existing legal use of water; and*
  - (c) *Is consistent with the public interest.*
- (2) *The governing board or the department may authorize the holder of a use permit to transport and use ground or surface water beyond overlying land, across county boundaries, or outside the watershed from which it is taken if the governing board or department determines that such transport and use is consistent with the public interest, and no local government shall adopt or enforce any law, ordinance, rule, regulation, or order to the contrary.*

And see [373.223\(4\)](#):

*The governing board or the department, by regulation, may reserve from use by permit applicants, water in such locations and quantities, and for such seasons of the year, as in its judgment may be required for the protection of fish and wildlife or the public health and safety. Such reservations shall be subject to periodic review and revision in the light of changed conditions. However, all presently existing legal uses of water shall be protected so long as such use is not contrary to the public interest.*

The public is saying Nestlé's water withdrawal permits are contrary to the public interest.

### **Please review Nestlé's permit, Madison Blue Spring, Withlacoochee River**

As I mentioned on behalf of WWALS at the SRWMD Board meeting of September 18, 2019, SRWMD can use its statutory authority to review and perhaps revoke Nestlé's permit for water withdrawal at Madison Blue Spring.

If I am not mistaken, [Nestlé paid all of \\$230 back in 2008](#) when SRWMD granted it a permit to withdraw water at Madison Blue Spring. It's true that [on August 13, 2019, the SRWMD Board also approved this](#):

***Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to modify and extend the current revenue contract with Nestlé Waters North America beginning October 1, 2019 through the end of the existing permit on May 6, 2028, with annual payment to the District of \$70,000 for monitoring of the Withlacoochee River and Madison Blue Spring.***

As you know, WWALS is all in favor of water quality monitoring. However, there would be less need for it if there were not so many permitted withdrawals lowering the Floridan Aquifer, the rivers, and the springs.

Here is where that annual payment goes:

***Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into an Interagency Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey for an amount not to exceed \$828,310 for streamgaging services.***

