

untreated sewage into the Withlacoochee River; see Appendix D. Then and in more recent years, owners of wells near that same river find *E. coli* in their well water that may be timed with sewage or other contaminants coming downstream.

We urge EPA and Army to go even further in protecting groundwater as well as surface water.

Further, EPA and the other agencies should do what Sierra Club proposed seven years ago. They should declare the Floridan Aquifer a Sole Source Aquifer (SSA) with extra protections.<sup>12</sup> As that 1999 USGS report says (see Appendix A), the Floridan Aquifer “is the sole source of water supply for Valdosta, Georgia, and much of the surrounding area.” The surrounding area which uses groundwater as its sole source of water supply, for drinking, industry, and agriculture, most if not all of the Suwannee River Basin in Georgia and Florida, and much if not all of the Floridan Aquifer.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

John S. Quarterman,  
Suwannee RIVERKEEPER®  
229-242-0102  
contact@suwanneeriverkeeper.org  
WWALS Watershed Coalition, Inc.  
850-290-2350  
wwalswatershed@gmail.com  
[www.wwals.net](http://www.wwals.net)  
PO Box 88, Hahira, GA 31632

---

<sup>12</sup> “More Floridan Aquifer Protection Called for by Sierra Club Petition to EPA,” Press Release, Sierra Club, 5 May 2015, <http://www.sierraclubfloridanews.org/2015/05/more-floridan-aquifer-protection-called.html>