



Why It's Needed

Florida law requires Minimum Flows & Water Levels (MFLs) to be established to protect water bodies from significant harm due to groundwater pumping. A recovery or prevention strategy is necessary if a water body is not meeting or is projected to not meet an MFL.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has proposed MFLs for the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers (LSFIR), which are not being met. DEP is developing a recovery and prevention strategy to meet the MFLs while meeting the growing needs of the region.

Proven Success

Similar projects like the Sweetwater Wetlands Project in Alachua County and the Black Creek Water Resource Development Project in Clay County have successfully improved water quality, restored wetland habitats, and provided community benefits – proving this approach works for North Florida.

This collaborative effort by the St. Johns River Water Management District, Suwannee River Water Management District, and other key stakeholder organizations including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and local utilities, delivers a comprehensive solution that:



Protects our natural water systems by replenishing the aquifer and restoring flows to our springs and rivers



Ensures reliable water supply for homes, farms, and businesses



Supports economic growth by sustaining key industries like agriculture, tourism, and small businesses



Creates environmental benefits by restoring wetlands that support wildlife habitats and recreational opportunities