

Central Florida Water Initiative



Minimum Flows and Levels and Reservations Team

The Central Florida Water Initiative's (CFWI) Minimum Flows and Levels and Reservations Team is comprised of representatives from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, St. Johns River Water Management District, South Florida Water Management District, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Orlando Utilities Commission, Seminole County, and STOPR (St. Cloud, TOHO Water Authority, Orange County, Polk County, Reedy Creek Improvement District).

Team Goals

The team's purpose is to evaluate the status of existing MFLs and reservations and develop collaborative measures (measuring sticks) to be applied consistently across the CFWI area to evaluate the effect of existing and proposed water withdrawal scenarios. The team is also coordinating with other technical teams to complete the initial assessments of groundwater availability in the CFWI. The initiative area includes southern Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Polk counties.

Team Objectives

- Review and understand the various approaches used by water management districts to set MFLs/Reservations in the CFWI area
- Identify commonalities and differences in the approaches that have been used for existing MFLs/Reservations
- Develop options for consistently evaluating the status of MFLs in the CFWI area to provide to the Management Oversight Committee for consideration
- Coordinate with the Regional Water Supply Team and provide a description of the status of adopted MFLs for the CFWI regional water supply plan
- Evaluate current peer review process of each water management district in order to develop options for a standard procedure to peer review MFLs and Reservations within the CFWI
- Develop and document "measuring sticks" to evaluate MFLs status and other resource considerations in the planning process, using output from East Central Florida Transient groundwater model to assist the Groundwater Availability Team's determination of groundwater availability in the CFWI area
- Document the existing processes used by each water management district for developing priority water body lists for MFLs and Reservations
- Coordinate with the Solutions Planning Team and provide technical support in the form of evaluating MFL responses to "solution scenarios" generated by the Solutions Planning Team in order to assess effects on water bodies with MFLs