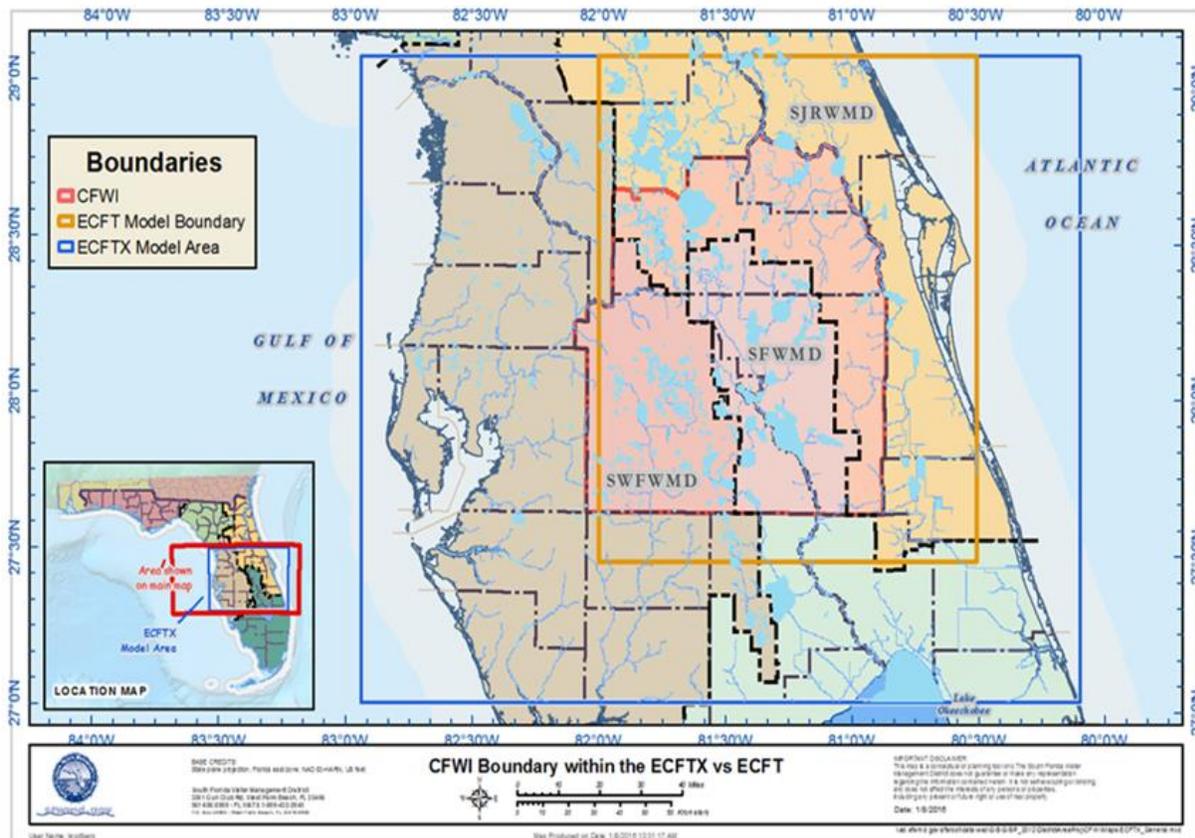


## Project Completed to Update Groundwater Model



*Map of ECFTX model boundaries.*

A recently completed project by the Hydrologic Assessment Team (HAT), a sub-team of the Water Resource Assessment Team (WRAT), will mean better data and improved confidence in future groundwater model applications involving the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI).

The HAT recently completed calibration of the expanded East-Central Florida Transient (ECFTX) groundwater model for the 2020 Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP). The objective of this project was to improve upon the previous model using the most accurate information to estimate groundwater availability in the region.

The new model more accurately simulates the subsurface hydrogeology using 11 layers instead of seven and incorporating data from new exploratory wells completed into the Lower Floridan Aquifer. The model now also uses true hydrologic boundaries, extending into the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico.

Brian Starford, who leads the WRAT, said this is a significant accomplishment for CFWI.

“This is the successful culmination of nearly four years of dedicated effort by the HAT to develop and calibrate the ECFTX groundwater model,” Starford said. “This new and substantially improved tool is a critical component of the CFWI Regional Water Supply Planning efforts.”

The ECFTX Model has been peer reviewed by groundwater modeling experts. The project is part of CFWI’s overall mission to identify planning-level groundwater availability for the region and to assist with planning to meet the water demands of Central Florida while protecting natural systems such as springs, lakes and wetlands. To learn more about the model update, visit [www.cfwiwater.com](http://www.cfwiwater.com).



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[sfwmd.gov](http://sfwmd.gov)



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[watermatters.org](http://watermatters.org)



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[www.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.com)

The CFWI encompasses five counties: Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk and Seminole. The state’s water experts project that this region will need an additional 300 million gallons of water per day by 2035. Through the CFWI, three water management districts — South Florida, Southwest Florida and St. Johns River — are working collaboratively with other agencies and stakeholders to implement effective water resource planning, including water resource and supply development and management strategies to protect, conserve and restore our water resources. To learn more, please visit [cfwiwater.com](http://cfwiwater.com).