

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Senator Rodriguez, Chair
Senator Ingoglia, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 14, 2025
TIME: 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
PLACE: *Toni Jennings Committee Room*, 110 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Rodriguez, Chair; Senator Ingoglia, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, Brodeur, DiCeglie, Harrell, Polsky, and Smith

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1		Presentation by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection relating to progress on water quality improvement with a focus on Basin Management Action Plans, Reasonable Assurance Plans, and data collection and accessibility.	Presented
2		Presentation by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection on implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Grant Program.	Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents			

OneFLORIDA

PROTECTING FLORIDA TOGETHER

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Jan. 14, 2025



DEP OVERVIEW AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

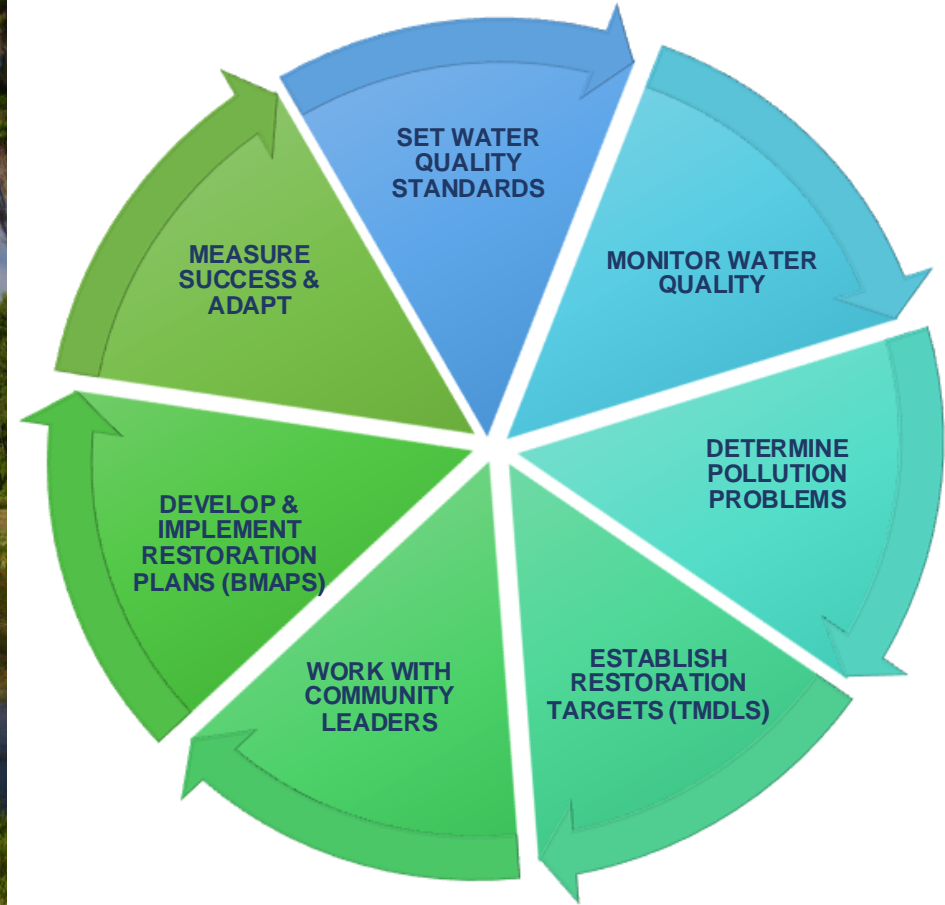
PROTECTING FLORIDA'S AIR, WATER AND LAND



The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is the state's lead agency for environmental management and stewardship, protecting our air, water and land.

WATER QUALITY RESTORATION FRAMEWORK

OVERVIEW

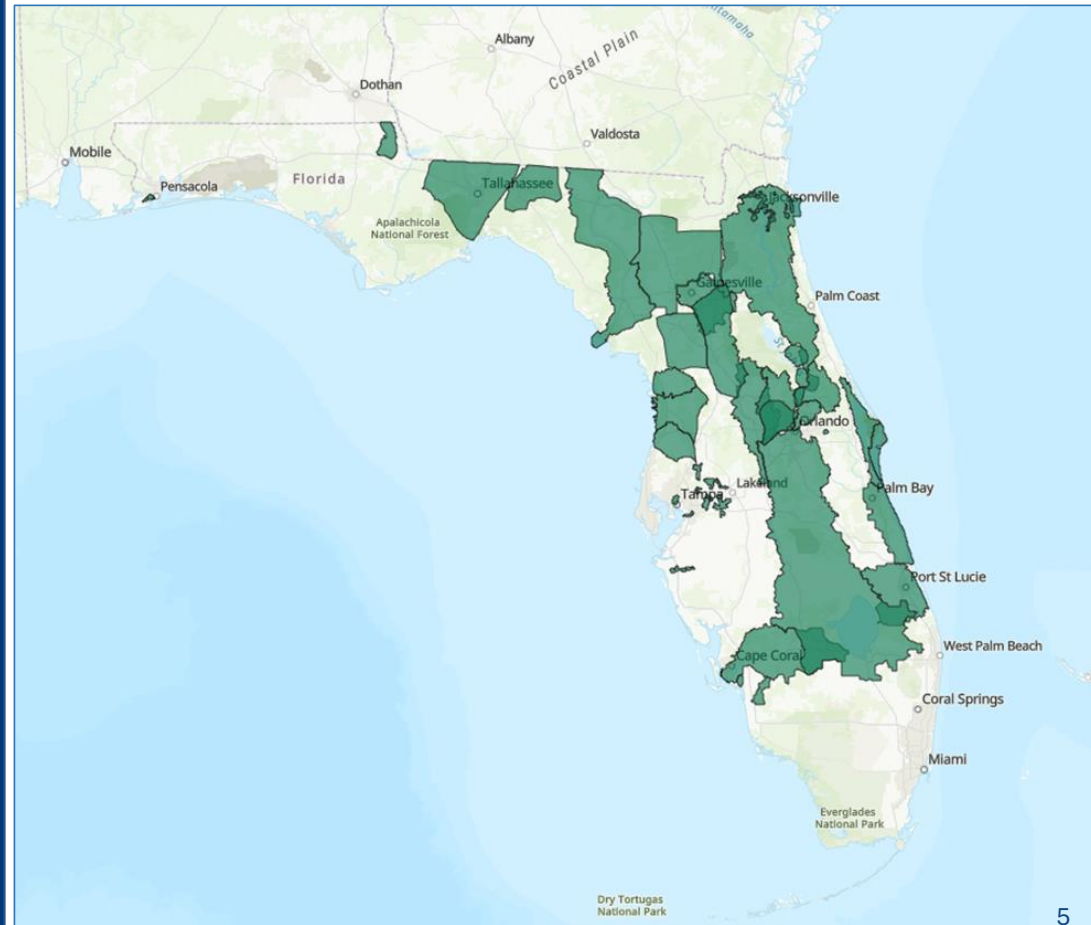




BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS

BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS (BMAP) OVERVIEW

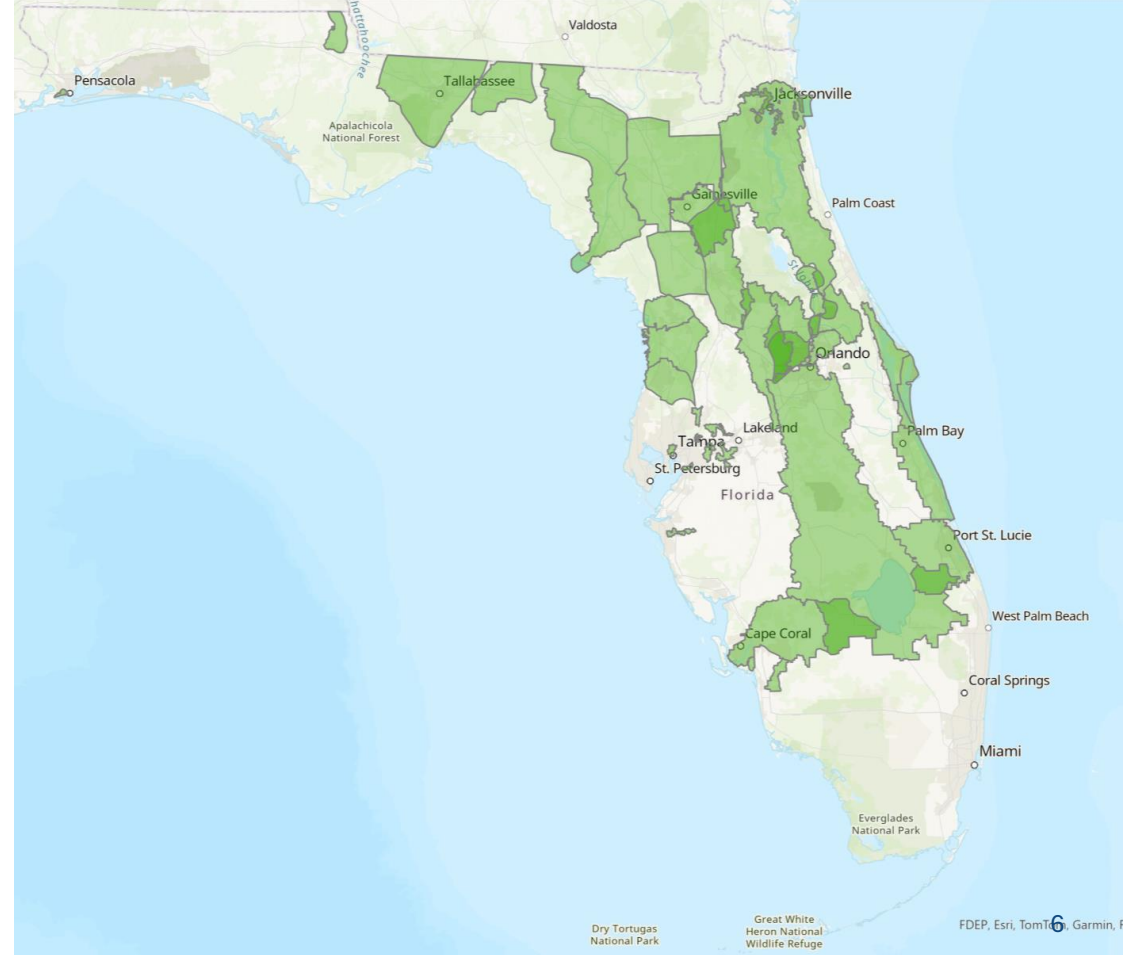
- 33 BMAPs statewide.
- Adopted by DEP through a secretarial order.
- Project reporting - BMAPs are reviewed annually and reported in the Statewide Annual Report.
- Follow-up meetings with stakeholders.
- BMAPs are updated approximately every five years.
 - Update water quality analyses.
 - Review progress.
 - Adapt and recommend changes.



BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS ENFORCEMENT



- BMAPs are enforceable agency Final Orders.
- Legal requirements can be enforced through domestic wastewater facility permits, through municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) permits, or through the authority of the BMAP itself.
- BMAP updates to be adopted by July 1, 2025, will adopt requisite local government wastewater and septic tank remediation plans.



BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS

HOW PROGRESS IS MEASURED



Florida Department of Environmental Protection Statewide Annual Report 2023 Basin Management Action Plans



Introduction	Total Maximum Daily Loads	Basin Management Action Plans	Alternative Restoration Plans	Minimum Flows & Water Levels	Recovery & Prevention Strategies	Contacts & Project Data
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How to Use This Report	What Is the STAR?	Reductions & Legislation	What Are Nutrients?	What Are FIB?	What Are BMAP Projects?
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Nutrient BMAPs	Fecal Indicator Bacteria BMAPs	BMAP Projects	Project Table
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- Sorted by alphabetical order
- Santa Fe River Basin
- Silver River and Springs Basin
- St. Lucie River and Estuary Basin
- Upper Ocklawaha River Basin
- Upper Wakulla River and Wakulla Spring Basin
- Volusia Blue Springs Basin

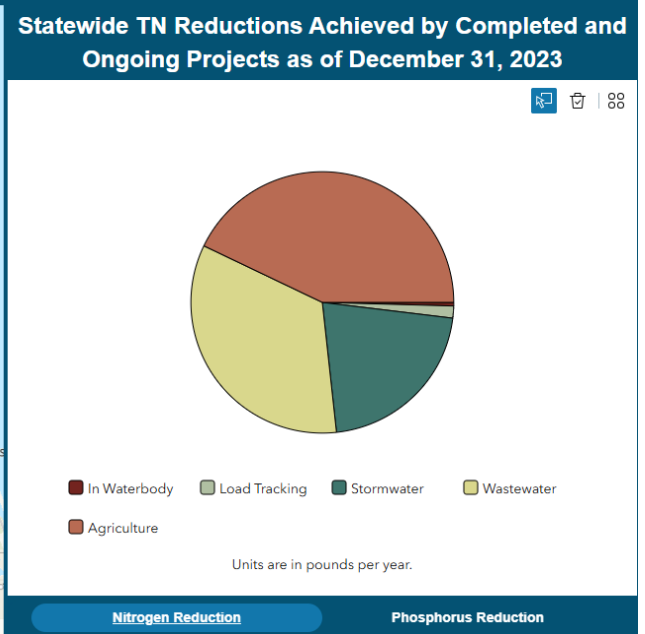
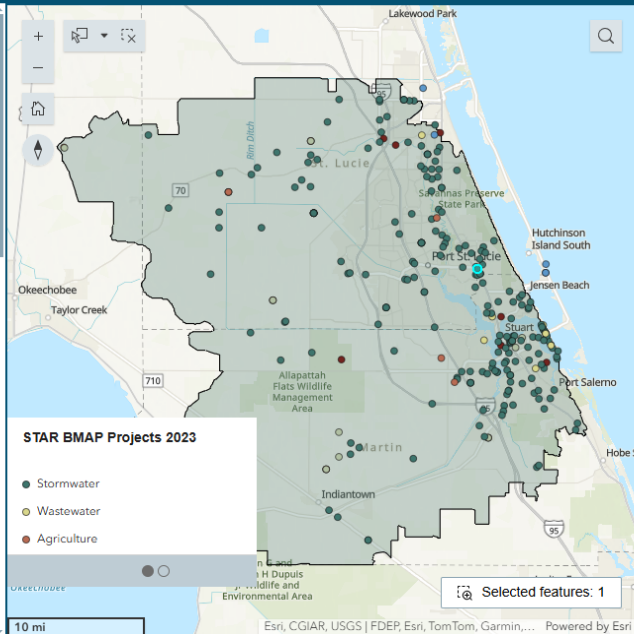
Eastern Watershed Improvement Project -Howard Creek, Cane Slough 1, Cane Slough 2 STA's

Eastern Watershed Improvement Project -Howard Creek, Cane Slough 1, Cane Slough 2 STA's is in the North Fork crediting location of the STLU BMAP. The project is estimated to reduce loading by 1,266 lbs./yr. of total nitrogen and 439 lbs./yr. of total phosphorus. This project is a BMP Treatment Train and currently has a status of Completed with an estimated completion date of 2010. Stakeholder-reported costs for this project are \$6,889,079.00.

According to City of Port St. Lucie, funding for this project was obtained through City of Port St. Lucie - \$4,924,195; DEP - \$500,000; SFWMD - \$500,000; Not provided - \$964,884.

City of Port St. Lucie describes this project as: Construction of weir, 45-acre STA, littoral shelves, and new plantings.

Projects listed with zero TN and TP reductions may not have enough information to verify the nutrient reductions.



WHAT IT TAKES...

...TO SEE RESULTS



A suite of project completions

One project will typically not be observed in a waterbody due to **time lag** and **attenuation**, as well as its reduction compared to the total amount needed.

A sufficient period of monitoring

To show change, there must be enough data over the correct period of time to establish a **trend**.

Time lag is the amount of time it takes for a pollutant to move through surface or ground waters.

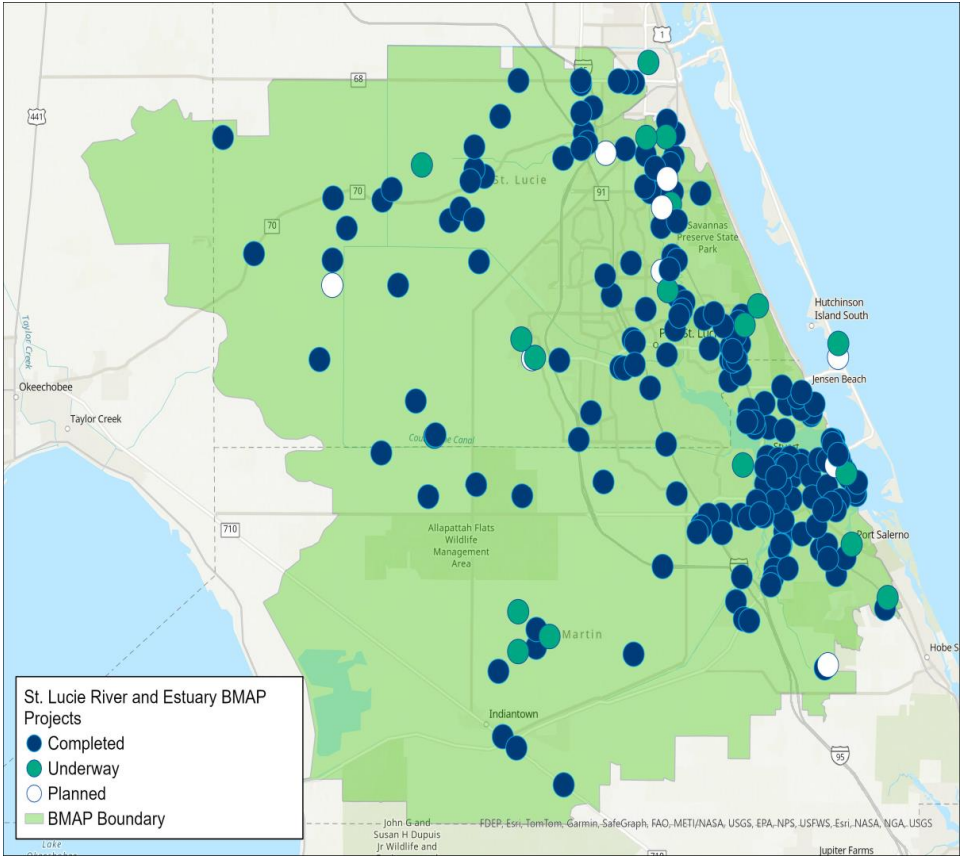
Attenuation is the natural reduction of pollutants as the source travels through surface or ground waters.

There must be a minimum of **five years of data** and three must be after the suite of projects were completed.

The trend must also be **statistically significant** as natural variation in water quality will occur.

BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS

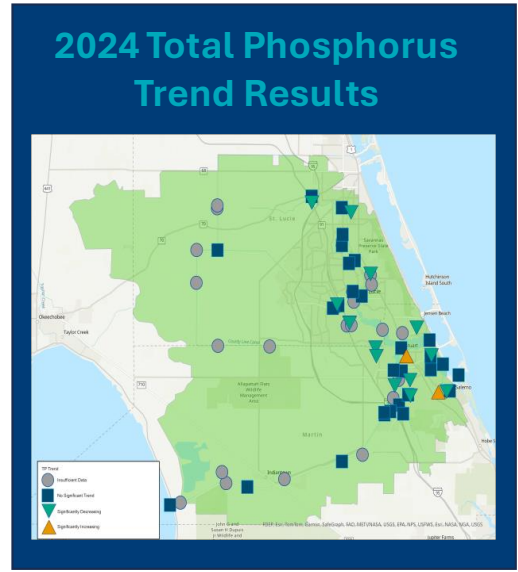
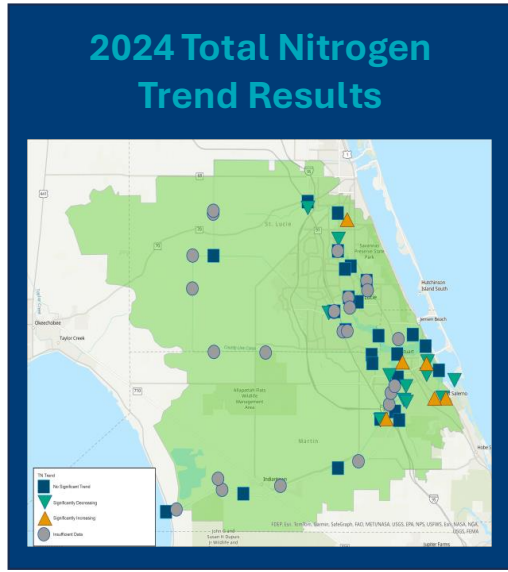
ST. LUCIE ILLUSTRATION



274
Projects
Completed

25
Projects
Underway

11
Projects
Planned

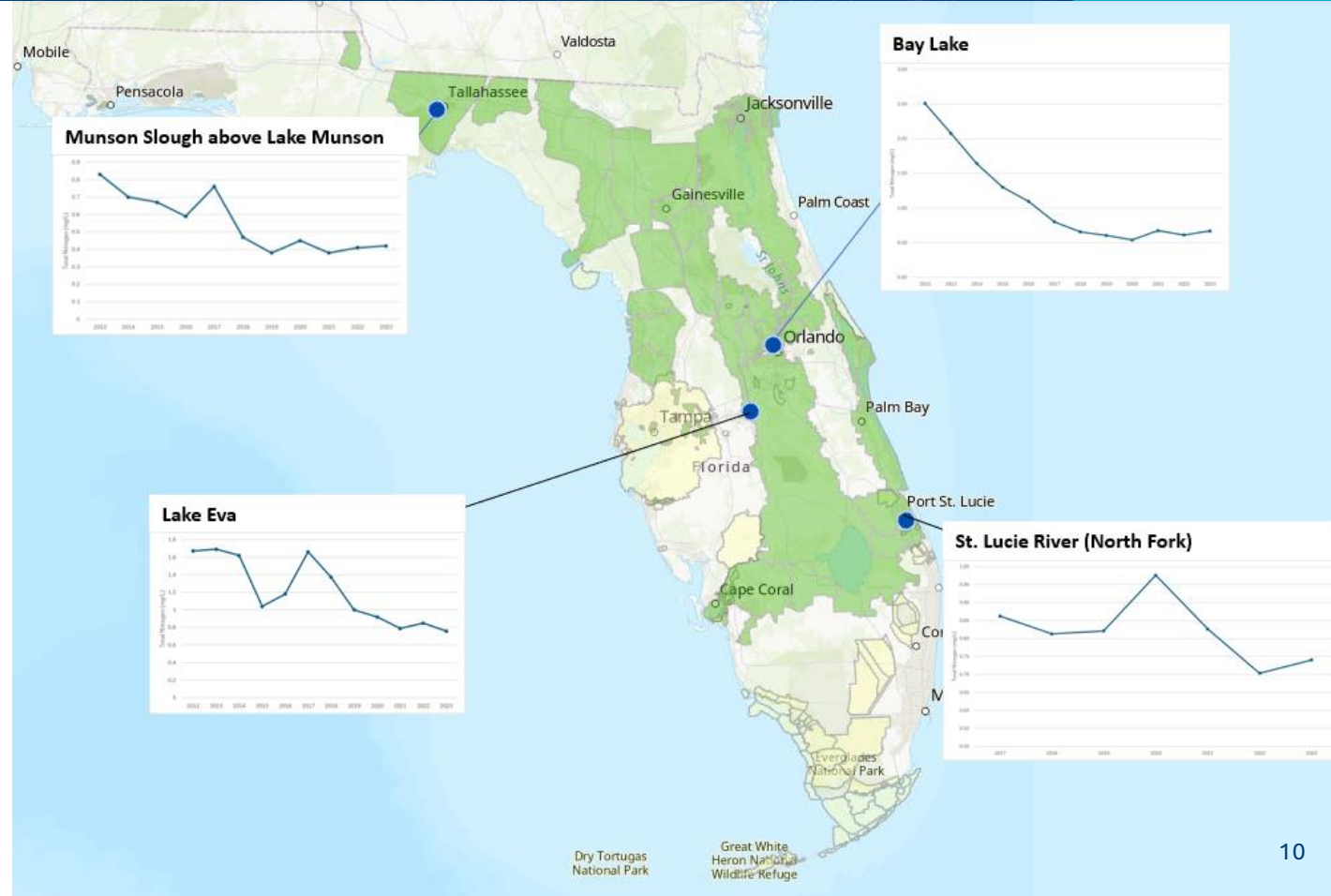


WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

IMPAIRED WATERS MONITORING AND EVALUATION



- This figure illustrates four waterbodies that demonstrate reductions in Total Nitrogen following completion of projects.
- More than 2.45 million water quality results were entered into the Watershed Monitoring Network in 2024.
- Waters are evaluated for impairment every two years.

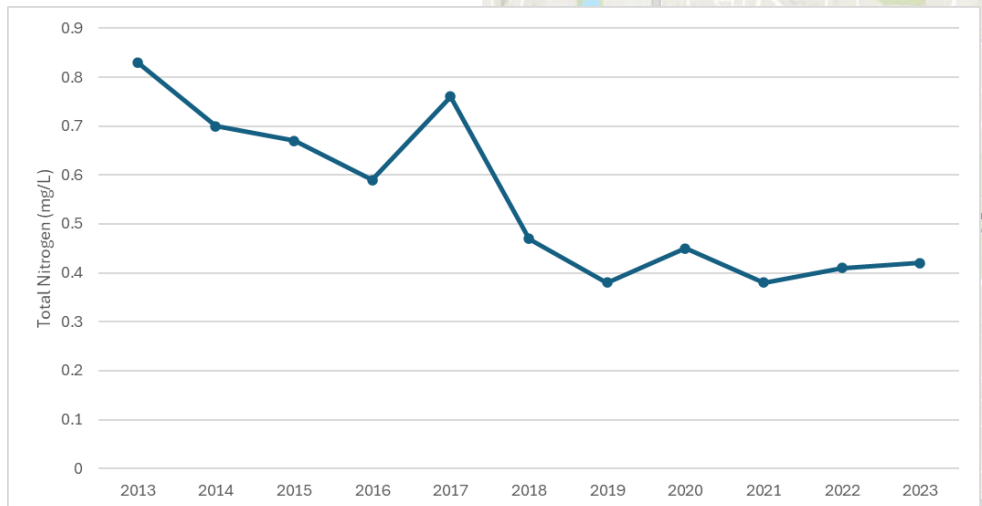
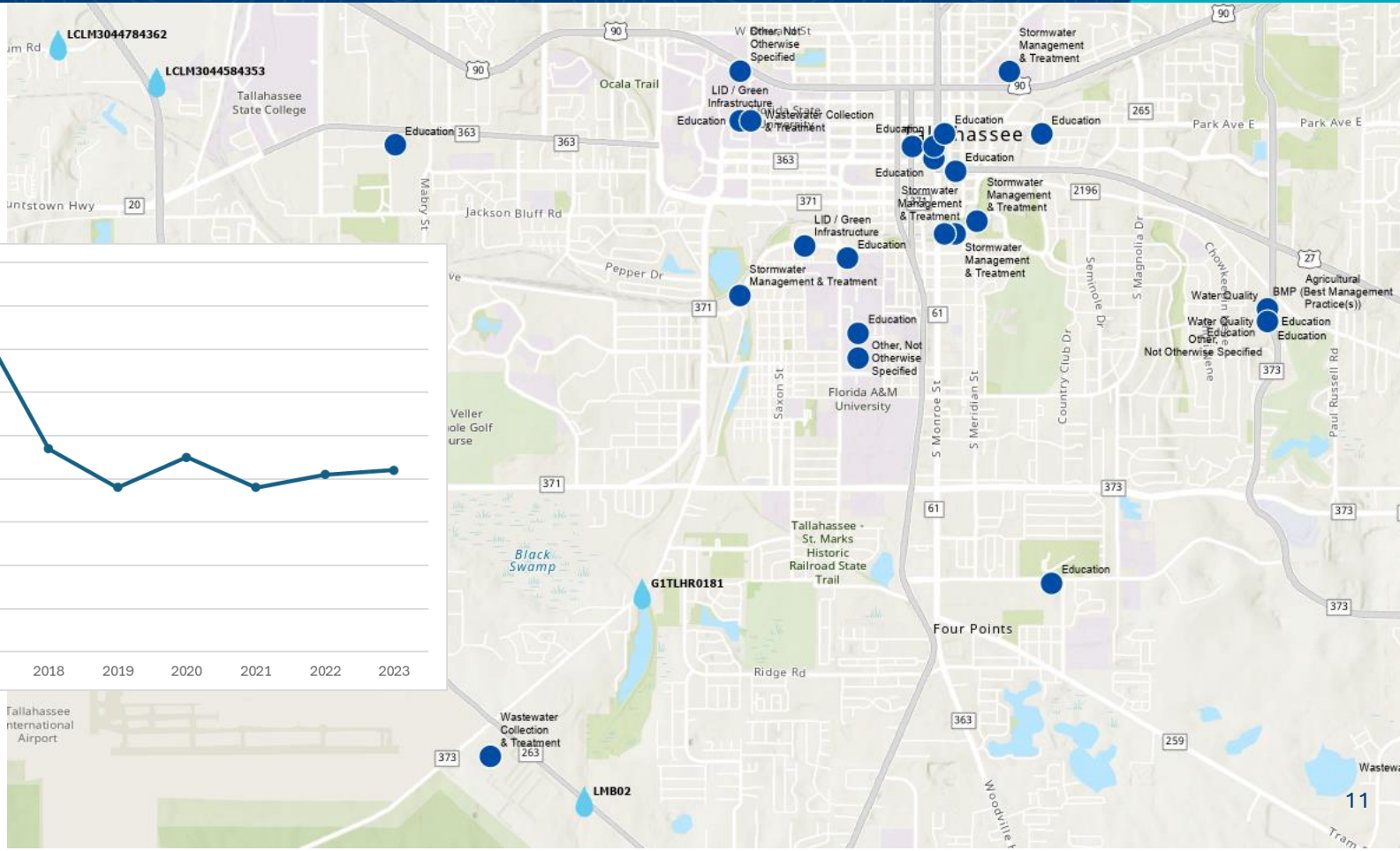


IMPROVEMENTS IN WATER QUALITY

HOW PROGRESS IS MADE

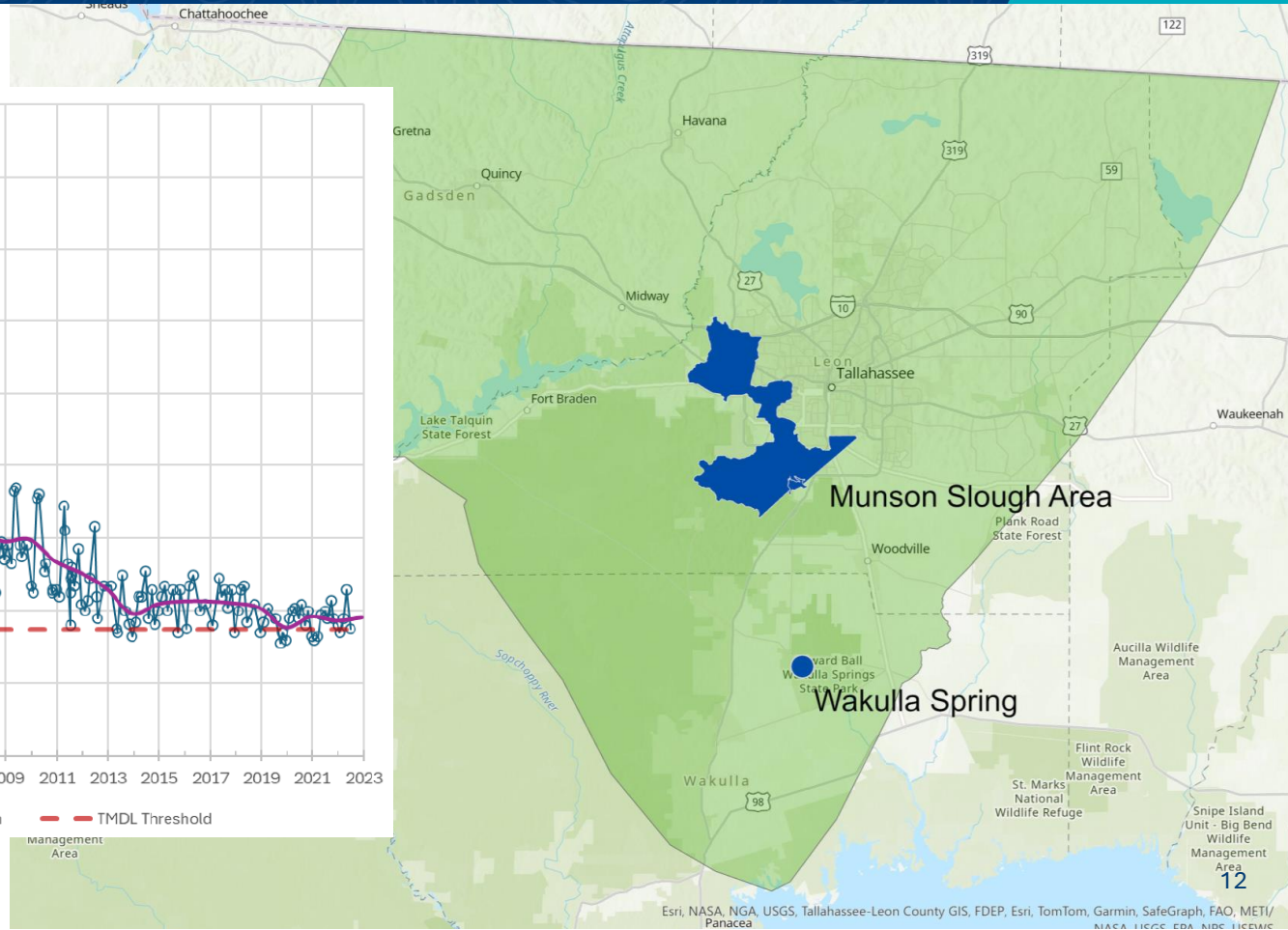
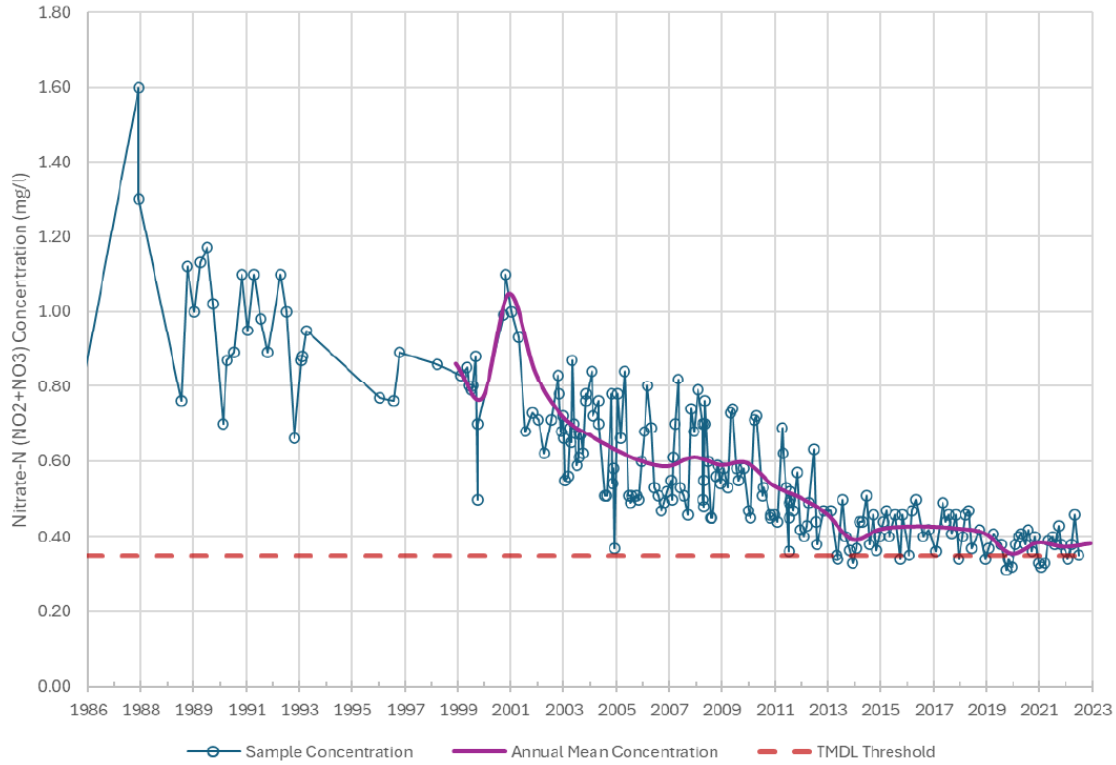


MUNSON SLOUGH



BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLANS

WAKULLA SPRINGS

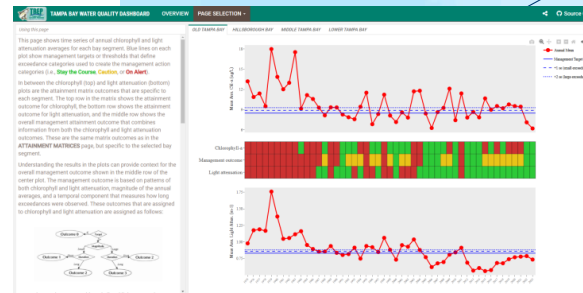
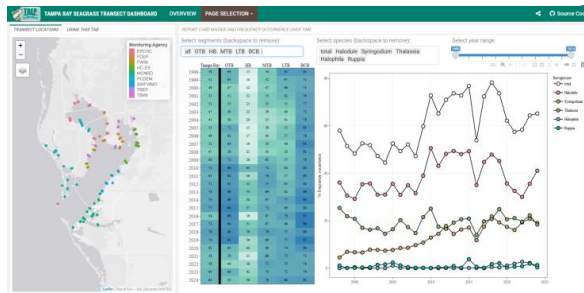
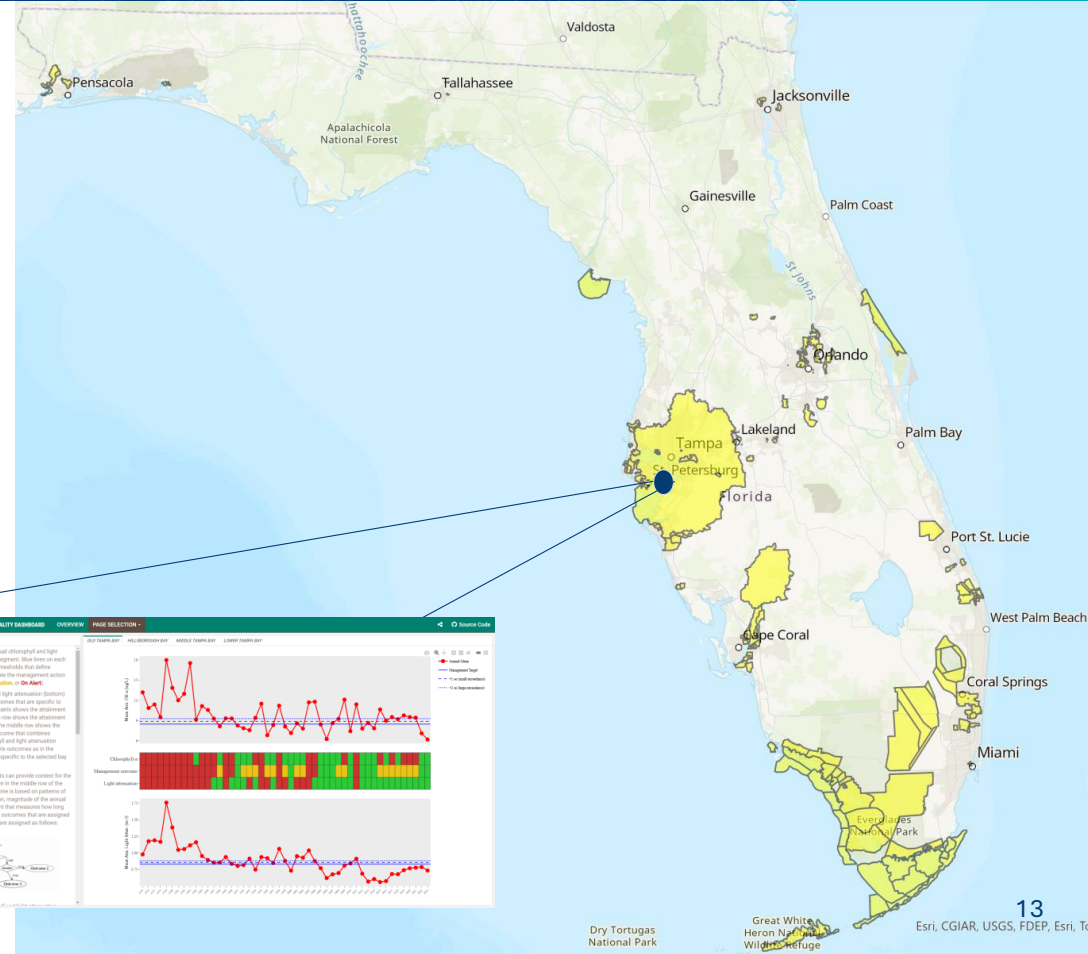


ALTERNATIVE RESTORATION PLANS

HOW PROGRESS IS MEASURED



- Water quality improvements are measured through the biennial assessment process.
- Stakeholders submit regular updates detailing:
 - Restoration project information;
 - Water quality monitoring updates; and
 - Water quality data analyses.



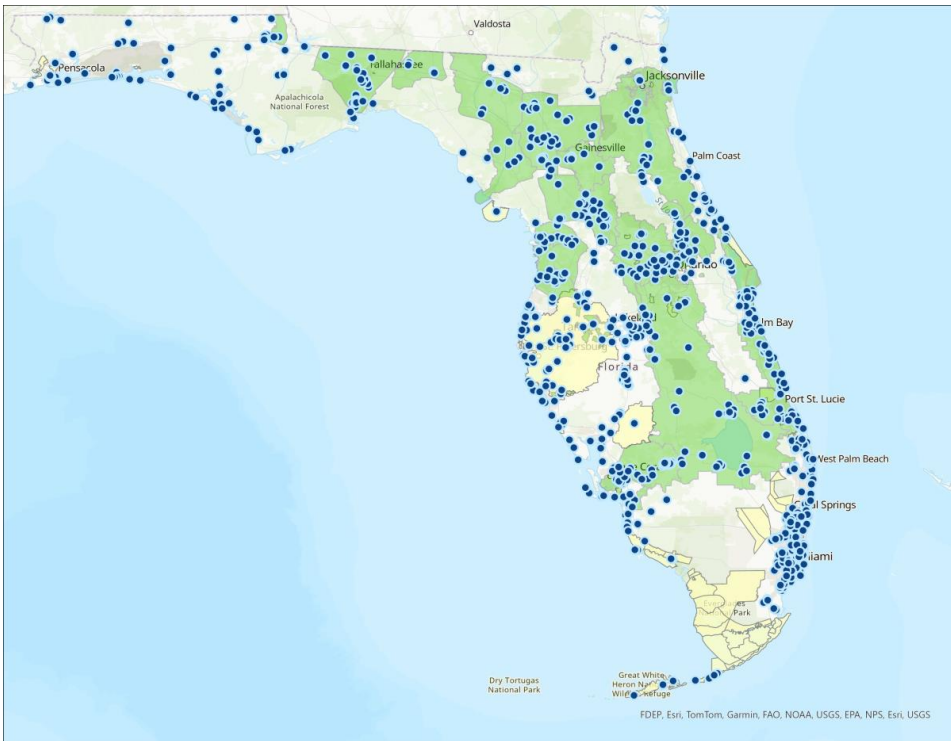
<https://tbep.org/>



WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT IMPLEMENTATION

STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY PROJECTS

\$2.9 BILLION AWARDED TO DATE



- Statewide Water Quality Improvement Grants
- Statewide Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)
- Pollutant Reductions Plans

1,098

community projects
invested in water
quality

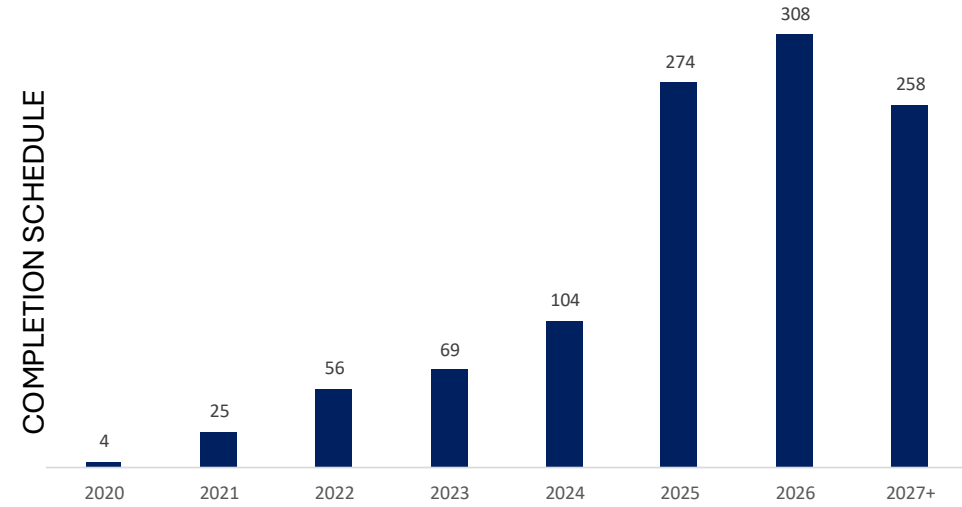
4.6M

lbs/yr of
Total Nitrogen
to be removed

893K

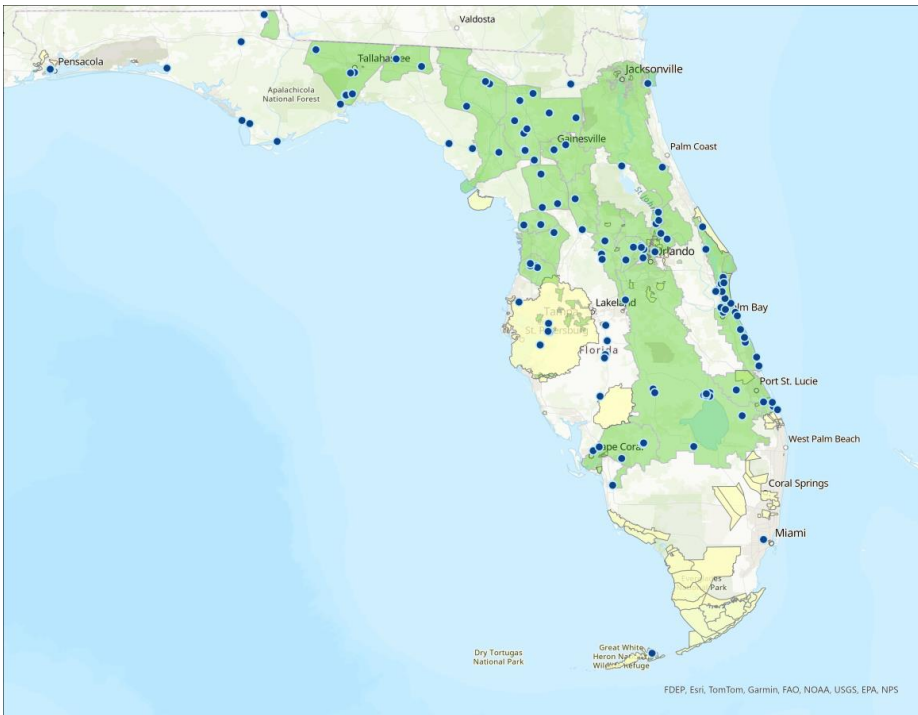
lbs/yr of
Total Phosphorus
to be removed

253 projects completed to date



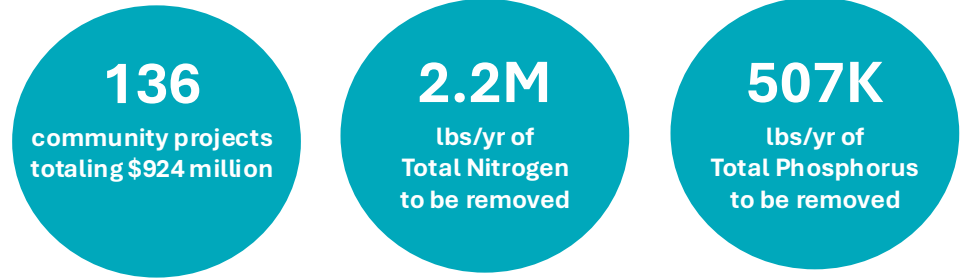
WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT*

\$1.1 BILLION APPROPRIATED TO DATE



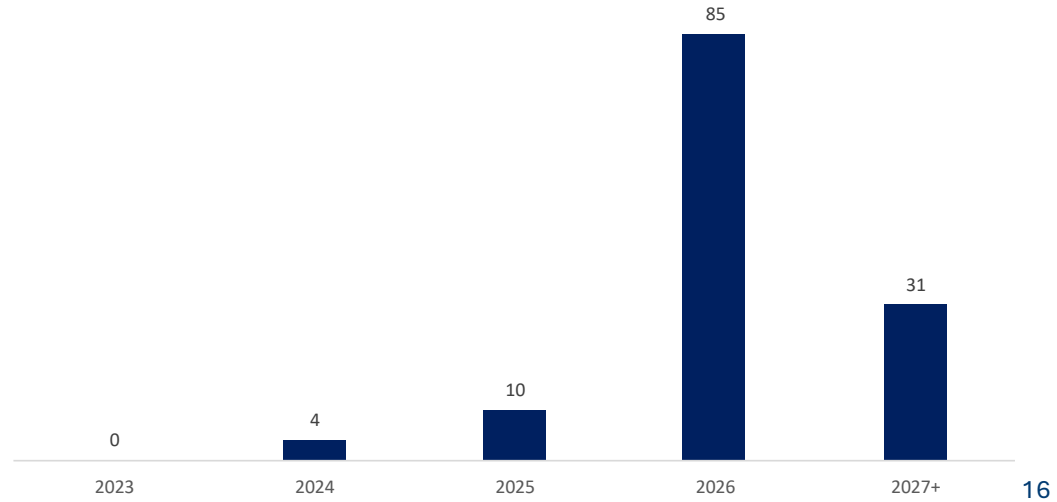
- Water Quality Improvement Grants
- Statewide Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)
- Pollutant Reductions Plans

*Data includes Wastewater Grant Program appropriations



4 projects completed to date

COMPLETION SCHEDULE



WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

TYPES AND CRITERIA



Project Types

Advanced waste treatment
and other wastewater

Septic to sewer

Septic upgrades

Stormwater

Regional agricultural

Other BMAP projects

Criteria

- Have the maximum estimated reduction in nutrient load per project.
- Demonstrate project readiness.
- Are cost-effective.
- Have a cost share identified by the applicant, except for rural areas of opportunity.
- Have multiyear project implementation schedules with previous state commitment.
- Are in a location where reductions are needed most (such as an area with the greatest level of impairment or nutrient load reduction).
- Determined eligible in a previous application cycle and were able to demonstrate project readiness but were not awarded a grant.

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

PRIMARY PROJECT TYPES



Advanced wastewater treatment

Projects typically retrofit wastewater facility treatment to ensure nutrient discharges meet 3 mg/L of nitrogen and 1 mg/L of phosphorus.

Septic-to-sewer

Projects connect septic systems to central sewer to reduce nutrient loading. There are currently an estimated 2.6 million septic systems in Florida.

Stormwater

Projects include structural elements designed to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff, one of the primary sources of nutrient pollution in Florida.

Cooperative agricultural regional water quality improvement

Projects, such as dispersed water storage or tailwater recovery, help address agricultural sources holistically.



DASHBOARDS AND DATA SHARING

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT CREATION OF A USER-FRIENDLY DASHBOARD



Click here to learn more

South Banana Zone B Septic-to-Sewer

Grant Project Short Description	Septic-to-Sewer conversion project for 41 homes on S Banana River Drive, Merritt Island, Brevard County.
Primary County	Brevard
Waterbody Targeted	Indian River Lagoon

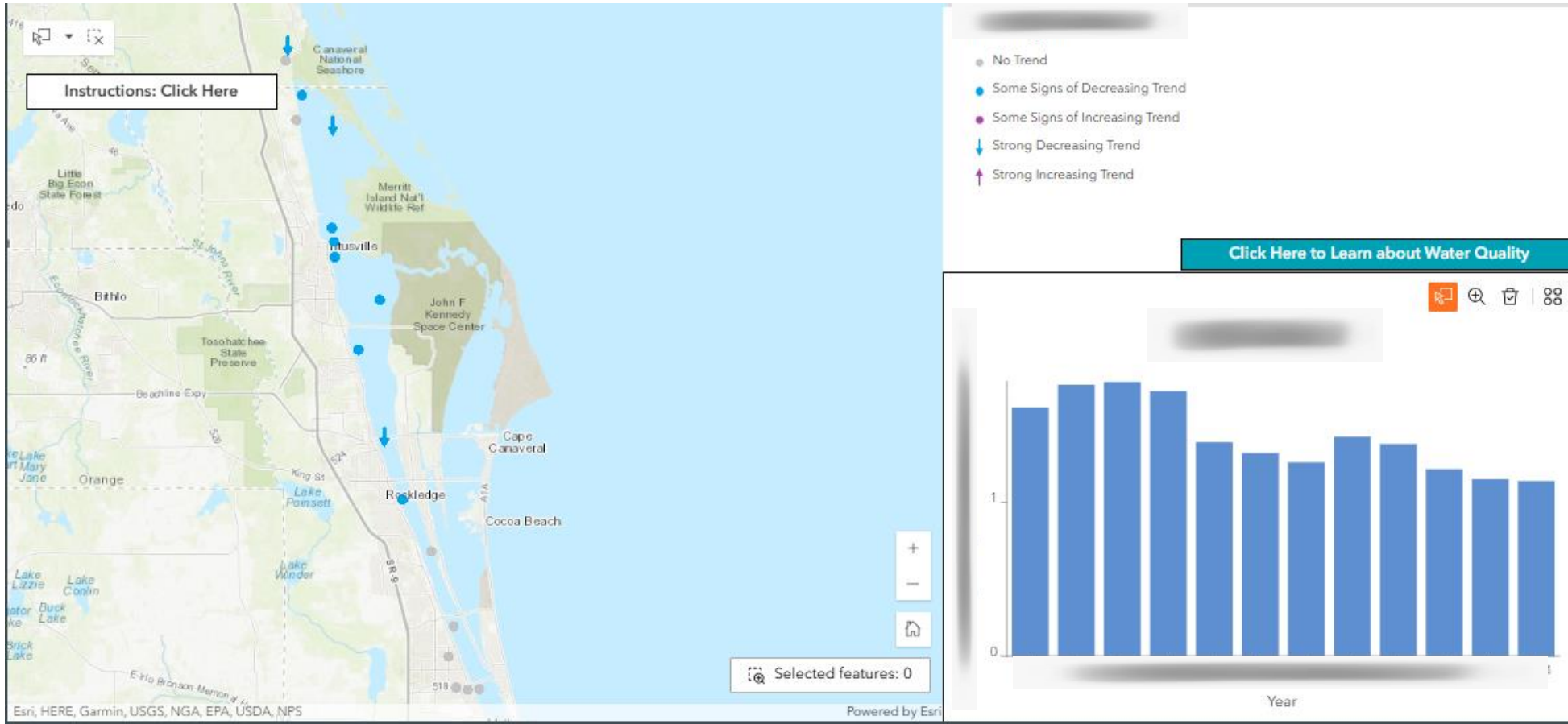
1 of 11

Total Project Cost	Total Project Grant Funding	Total Completed or Ongoing Projects
[Blurred]	[Blurred]	[Blurred]

Projects by End Date Year

Total Phosphorus Removed (lbs)	Total Nitrogen Removed (lbs)
[Blurred]	[Blurred]

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT CREATION OF A USER-FRIENDLY DASHBOARD





THANK YOU



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Avila.bryan.web@flsenate.gov

COMMITTEES: COMMITTEES:

Finance and Tax, *Chair*
Transportation, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development
Environmental and Natural Resources
Ethics and Elections
Fiscal Policy
Rules

SENATOR BRYAN AVILA
39th District

December 19, 2024

The Honorable Senator Rodriguez
Committee on Environmental and Natural Resources Chair
The Florida Senate
410 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

REF: EXCUSAL LETTER

Honorable Chair Rodriguez,

Please excuse my absence from committee weeks in January, which are scheduled from Monday, January 13th 2025 to Friday, January 24, 2025. I have been activated to serve in the Florida Army National Guard during that time.

Thank you for your understanding and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryan Avila".

A handwritten signature in black ink, which is illegible but appears to be the signature of the recipient, Senator Rodriguez.

Bryan Avila
Senator
District 39

CC: Ellen Rogers, Staff Director
Kim Bonn, Committee Administrative Assistant
Jordan Watters, Legislative Aide

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 110

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Judge:

Started: 1/14/2025 11:01:02 AM

Ends: 1/14/2025 11:48:02 AM

Length: 00:47:01

11:01:04 AM Chair Rodriguez calls meeting to order
11:01:07 AM Roll call
11:01:22 AM Quorum present
11:01:25 AM Senator Avila is excused
11:01:32 AM Pledge of Allegiance
11:01:51 AM Chair Rodriguez makes opening remarks
11:02:54 AM Member introductions:
11:02:58 AM Senator Polsky introduction
11:03:11 AM Senator Smith introduction
11:03:33 AM Senator Arrington introduction
11:03:43 AM Senator Brodeur introduction
11:04:01 AM Vice Chair Ingoglia introduction
11:04:40 AM Senator Harrell introduction
11:05:37 AM Senator DiCeglie introduction
11:06:38 AM Chair Rodriguez introduction
11:06:59 AM Committee staff introduction from chair
11:07:20 AM Tab 1 and 2 - Presentation by Adam Blalock, FL Dept. of Environmental Protection
11:07:54 AM Mr. Blalock presents
11:23:30 AM Vice Chair Ingoglia question
11:23:44 AM Mr. Blalock replies
11:24:08 AM Vice Chair Ingoglia
11:24:33 AM Mr. Blalock replies and continues presentation
11:26:26 AM Questions:
11:26:29 AM Senator Smith
11:27:22 AM Mr. Blalock replies
11:28:49 AM Senator Smith
11:29:27 AM Mr. Blalock
11:31:20 AM Mr. Blalock continues presentation
11:34:42 AM Senator Brodeur comment
11:35:52 AM Senator Harrell with question
11:36:12 AM Mr. Blalock replies
11:36:44 AM Mr. Blalock continues presentation
11:37:26 AM Senator Harrell comment
11:37:53 AM Mr. Blalock replies and continues presentation
11:45:01 AM Questions:
11:45:05 AM Senator Smith
11:45:55 AM Mr. Blalock replies
11:47:23 AM Chair Rodriguez
11:47:47 AM Vice chair Ingoglia moves to adjourn
11:47:53 AM Meeting adjourned