

By the Committee on Appropriations; and Senator Clary

309-2359-04

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Water Management Lands  
3           Trust Fund; amending s. 373.59, F.S.;  
4           authorizing moneys in the trust fund to be  
5           allocated for the purpose of supplementing  
6           operational expenditures for specified water  
7           management districts; providing an effective  
8           date.

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10   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12           Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 373.59, Florida  
13   Statutes, is amended to read:

14           373.59 Water Management Lands Trust Fund.--

15           (1) There is established within the Department of  
16   Environmental Protection the Water Management Lands Trust Fund  
17   to be used as a nonlapsing fund for the purposes of this  
18   section. The moneys in this fund are hereby continually  
19   appropriated for the purposes of land acquisition, management,  
20   maintenance, capital improvements of land titled to the  
21   districts, payments in lieu of taxes, debt service on bonds  
22   issued prior to July 1, 1999, debt service on bonds issued on  
23   or after July 1, 1999, which are issued to refund bonds issued  
24   before July 1, 1999, preacquisition costs associated with land  
25   purchases, and the department's costs of administration of the  
26   fund. The department's costs of administration shall be  
27   charged proportionally against each district's allocation  
28   using the formula provided in subsection (8). Capital  
29   improvements shall include, but need not be limited to,  
30   perimeter fencing, signs, firelanes, control of invasive  
31   exotic species, controlled burning, habitat inventory and

1 restoration, law enforcement, access roads and trails, and  
2 minimal public accommodations, such as primitive campsites,  
3 garbage receptacles, and toilets. The moneys in the fund may  
4 also be appropriated to supplement operational expenditures at  
5 the Northwest Florida Water Management District and the  
6 Suwannee River Water Management District, with such  
7 appropriations allocated prior to the allocations set out in  
8 subsection (8) to the five water management districts.

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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11 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
12 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
13 Senate Bill 1266

14 The committee substitute differs from the original bill by  
15 expanding the use of the Water Management Lands Trust Fund to  
16 include supplemental operational expenditures for the  
Northwest Florida Water Management District and the Suwannee  
River Water Management District.