

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to the Water Management Lands Trust Fund;  
3       amending s. 373.59, F.S.; prohibiting the issuance of  
4       certain refunding bonds; revising, as of a specified  
5       fiscal year, distributions from the trust fund to certain  
6       water management districts to include distribution  
7       priorities and allocation of specified amounts of such  
8       distributions to the General Revenue Fund each fiscal  
9       year; providing an effective date.

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

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13           Section 1. Subsections (1) and (8) of section 373.59,  
14   Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

15           373.59 Water Management Lands Trust Fund.--

16           (1) There is established within the Department of  
17   Environmental Protection the Water Management Lands Trust Fund  
18   to be used as a nonlapsing fund for the purposes of this  
19   section. The moneys in this fund are hereby continually  
20   appropriated for the purposes of land acquisition, management,  
21   maintenance, capital improvements of land titled to the  
22   districts, payments in lieu of taxes, debt service on bonds  
23   issued prior to July 1, 1999, debt service on bonds issued on or  
24   after July 1, 1999, which are issued to refund bonds issued  
25   before July 1, 1999, preacquisition costs associated with land  
26   purchases, and the department's costs of administration of the  
27   fund. No refunding bonds may be issued which mature after the  
28   final maturity date of the bonds being refunded or which provide

29 for higher debt service in any year than is payable on such  
30 bonds as of February 1, 2009. The department's costs of  
31 administration shall be charged proportionally against each  
32 district's allocation using the formula provided in subsection  
33 (8). Capital improvements shall include, but need not be limited  
34 to, perimeter fencing, signs, firelanes, control of invasive  
35 exotic species, controlled burning, habitat inventory and  
36 restoration, law enforcement, access roads and trails, and  
37 minimal public accommodations, such as primitive campsites,  
38 garbage receptacles, and toilets. The moneys in the fund may  
39 also be appropriated to supplement operational expenditures at  
40 the Northwest Florida Water Management District and the Suwannee  
41 River Water Management District, with such appropriations  
42 allocated prior to the allocations set out in subsection (8) to  
43 the five water management districts.

44 (8) Moneys from the Water Management Lands Trust Fund  
45 shall be allocated as follows ~~to the five water management~~  
46 ~~districts in the following percentages:~~

47 (a) Through the 2008-2009 fiscal year, thirty percent to  
48 the South Florida Water Management District. Beginning with the  
49 2009-2010 fiscal year, thirty percent shall be used first to pay  
50 debt service on bonds issued before February 1, 2009, by the  
51 South Florida Water Management District which are secured by  
52 revenues provided by this section or to fund debt service  
53 reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with  
54 respect to such bonds, then to transfer \$3,000,000 to the credit  
55 of the General Revenue Fund in each fiscal year, and lastly to

56 distribute the remainder to the South Florida Water Management  
57 District.

58 (b) Through the 2008-2009 fiscal year, twenty-five percent  
59 to the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Beginning  
60 with the 2009-2010 fiscal year, twenty-five percent shall be  
61 used first to transfer \$2,500,000 to the credit of the General  
62 Revenue Fund in each fiscal year and then to distribute the  
63 remainder to the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

64 (c) Through the 2008-2009 fiscal year, twenty-five percent  
65 to the St. Johns River Water Management District. Beginning with  
66 the 2009-2010 fiscal year, twenty-five percent shall be used  
67 first to pay debt service on bonds issued before February 1,  
68 2009, by the St. Johns River Water Management District which are  
69 secured by revenues provided by this section or to fund debt  
70 service reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts  
71 payable with respect to such bonds, then to transfer \$2,500,000  
72 to the credit of the General Revenue Fund in each fiscal year,  
73 and to distribute the remainder to the St. Johns River Water  
74 Management District.

75 (d) Ten percent to the Suwannee River Water Management  
76 District.

77 (e) Ten percent to the Northwest Florida Water Management  
78 District.

79 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.