

- 27 (a) Two members appointed by the Governor.
- 28 (b) One representative from the Department of Agriculture
- 29 and Consumer Services.
- 30 (c) One representative from the Department of
- 31 Environmental Protection.
- 32 (d) One representative from Sierra Club Florida.
- 33 (e) One representative from the Florida Home Builders
- 34 Association.
- 35 (f) One representative from the Florida Chamber of
- 36 Commerce.
- 37 (g) One representative from Associated Industries of
- 38 Florida.
- 39 (h) One member of the House of Representatives appointed
- 40 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 41 (i) One member of the Senate appointed by the President of
- 42 the Senate.
- 43 (j) One representative from each of the five water
- 44 management districts.
- 45 (3) (a) The board must meet at least quarterly with each
- 46 meeting in any year being in a different location in the state.
- 47 Additional meetings may be held upon the call of the chair. A
- 48 majority of the members of the board constitutes a quorum. Board
- 49 meetings may be conducted by conference call, teleconferencing,
- 50 or similar technology.
- 51 (b) Members of the board shall serve for a term of 4
- 52 years. Vacancies occurring during a member's term shall be

53 filled in the same manner as the initial appointments. The board
54 shall be chaired by a member chosen by majority vote.

55 (c) The Department of Environmental Protection shall
56 provide the board with staff necessary to assist the board in
57 the performance of its duties.

58 (d) Members of the board shall serve without compensation
59 but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel
60 expenses pursuant to s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

61 Reimbursements made pursuant to this subsection may be paid from
62 appropriations provided to the Department of Environmental
63 Protection by the Legislature in the General Appropriations Act.

64 (4) Recognizing that water is an essential public resource
65 that benefits the entire state and must be carefully managed to
66 ensure its sustainability, the Water Oversight and Planning
67 Board shall use the best science available to:

68 (a) Review and monitor district regional water supply
69 plans developed under s. 373.709, Florida Statutes.

70 (b) Using data provided by the water management districts
71 and others with peer-reviewed scientific data:

72 1. Develop 5-year, 10-year, and 20-year forecasting plans
73 to ensure the state has the appropriate quantities and quality
74 of water at the appropriate times of the year for people,
75 agriculture, and the protection and restoration of natural
76 systems.

77 2. Identify and inventory existing sources of potable
78 water.

79 3. Identify new sources of water for potable uses,
80 agricultural uses, industrial uses, and protection and
81 restoration of natural systems.

82 (c) Consolidate and compile existing water data supplied
83 by the water management districts and others with peer-reviewed
84 scientific data into a standardized format for creation of an
85 electronic water data center. The water data center shall be
86 housed within the Florida Geological Survey and be available to
87 the public.

88 (d) Building upon the reports previously submitted by the
89 Department of Environmental Protection, investigate techniques,
90 financial incentives, and regulatory mechanisms to promote or
91 require water conservation.

92 (e) Working with the Department of Education, investigate
93 ways to promote water conservation education and practices.

94 (f) Promote reuse of reclaimed water and treated
95 wastewater for nonpotable purposes, such as landscape irrigation
96 and farming, as appropriate.

97 (g) Review recommendations contained in the regional water
98 supply plans developed under s. 373.709, Florida Statutes, and
99 solicit input from interested parties to make recommendations
100 for alternative projects to create new potable water sources,
101 preserve existing water sources, restore degraded natural areas,
102 create reservoirs or water storage areas, and assist with flood
103 protection and floodplain management.

104 (h) Assess mechanisms to ensure water management districts

105 expedite the protection and restoration of natural systems
106 including by expanded use of reservations of water under s.
107 373.223(4), Florida Statutes.

108 (i) Investigate mechanisms to incentivize the construction
109 of technologies such as desalination and reuse to produce new
110 sources of potable water.

111 (j) Review the impact of underground activity, including
112 drilling, hydraulic fracturing, chemical injection, mining, and
113 stormwater injection, that may impact or pollute the aquifer,
114 surface waters, or natural systems.

115 (k) Randomly sample dredging projects from permits issued
116 by the water management districts to assess the impacts of
117 dredging activities on natural systems.

118 (l) With input from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
119 Commission, develop recommendations to protect natural systems,
120 including lakes, springs, wetlands, marshes, wildlife habitats,
121 recreational sites, and streams.

122 (m) Make recommendations for improved management of
123 beaches and coastal systems, Everglades restoration, wetland and
124 submerged land protection, and techniques for beach
125 renourishment.

126 (5) By September 1 annually, the board shall submit its
127 long-range plans to the Department of Environmental Protection
128 and each of the water management districts. If a long-range plan
129 identifies projects different from the projects identified
130 within the applicable regional water supply plan, the water

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131 management district shall amend its plans as necessary.

132 (6) Every other year, beginning on September 1, 2016, the
133 board shall submit its findings and recommendations to the
134 substantive committees of the Senate and the House of
135 Representatives having jurisdiction over water issues and shall
136 provide recommendations for appropriations and legislation.

137 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.