

By Senator Brodeur

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to inventories of critical wetlands;
3 amending s. 373.036, F.S.; requiring each water
4 management district governing board, in cooperation
5 with local governments, to develop a list of critical
6 wetlands for acquisition using funds from the Land
7 Acquisition Trust Fund; requiring the boards to
8 consider certain criteria when including wetlands on
9 the list; 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. Present paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of
14 section 373.036, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph
15 (f), a new paragraph (e) is added to that subsection, and
16 paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of that section is amended, to
17 read:

18 373.036 Florida water plan; district water management
19 plans.—

20 (2) DISTRICT WATER MANAGEMENT PLANS.—

21 (e) As part of the district water management plan, each
22 governing board, in cooperation with local governments, shall
23 develop a list of critical wetlands to be acquired using funds
24 from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. The governing boards shall
25 consider all of the following criteria in designating a wetland
26 for inclusion on the list:

27 1. The ecological value of the wetland, as determined by
28 the physical and biological components of the environmental
29 system.

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30 2. The effect of the wetland on water quality and flood
31 mitigation.

32 3. The ecosystem restoration value of the wetland.

33 4. The inherent susceptibility of the wetland to
34 development due to its geographical location or natural
35 aesthetics.

36 (7) CONSOLIDATED WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT.-

37 (b) The consolidated annual report shall contain the
38 following elements, as appropriate to that water management
39 district:

40 1. A district water management plan annual report or the
41 annual work plan report allowed in subparagraph (2) (f) 4.

42 ~~(2) (e) 4.~~

43 2. The department-approved minimum flows and minimum water
44 levels annual priority list and schedule required by s.
45 373.042(3).

46 3. The annual 5-year capital improvements plan required by
47 s. 373.536(6) (a) 3.

48 4. The alternative water supplies annual report required by
49 s. 373.707(8) (n).

50 5. The final annual 5-year water resource development work
51 program required by s. 373.536(6) (a) 4.

52 6. The Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan
53 annual report required by s. 373.199(7).

54 7. The mitigation donation annual report required by s.
55 373.414(1) (b) 2.

56 8. Information on all projects related to water quality or
57 water quantity as part of a 5-year work program, including:

58 a. A list of all specific projects identified to implement

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59 a basin management action plan, including any projects to
60 connect onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to central
61 sewerage systems and convert onsite sewage treatment and
62 disposal systems to enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage
63 treatment and disposal systems, or a recovery or prevention
64 strategy;

65 b. A priority ranking for each listed project for which
66 state funding through the water resources development work
67 program is requested, which must be made available to the public
68 for comment at least 30 days before submission of the
69 consolidated annual report;

70 c. The estimated cost for each listed project;

71 d. The estimated completion date for each listed project;

72 e. The source and amount of financial assistance to be made
73 available by the department, a water management district, or
74 other entity for each listed project; and

75 f. A quantitative estimate of each listed project's benefit
76 to the watershed, water body, or water segment in which it is
77 located.

78 9. A grade for each watershed, water body, or water segment
79 in which a project listed under subparagraph 8. is located
80 representing the level of impairment and violations of adopted
81 minimum flow or minimum water levels. The grading system must
82 reflect the severity of the impairment of the watershed, water
83 body, or water segment.

84 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.