

By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator Brodeur

578-02645-22

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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.

10
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 present paragraph (e) of that subsection and paragraph (b) of
17 subsection (7) of that section are amended, to 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 ~~(f)~~~~(e)~~ At its option, a governing board may substitute an
37 annual strategic plan for the requirement to develop a district
38 water management plan and the district water management plan
39 annual report required by subparagraph (7) (b)1., provided that
40 nothing herein affects any other provision or requirement of law
41 concerning the completion of the regional water supply plan and
42 the strategic plan meets the following minimum requirements:

43 1. The strategic plan establishes the water management
44 district's strategic priorities for at least a future 5-year
45 period.

46 2. The strategic plan identifies the goals, strategies,
47 success indicators, funding sources, deliverables, and
48 milestones to accomplish the strategic priorities.

49 3. The strategic plan development process includes at least
50 one publicly noticed meeting to allow public participation in
51 its development.

52 4. The strategic plan includes separately, as an addendum,
53 an annual work plan report on the implementation of the
54 strategic plan for the previous fiscal year, addressing success
55 indicators, deliverables, and milestones.

56 5. The strategic plan includes a list of critical wetlands
57 to be acquired using funds from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund,
58 pursuant to paragraph (e).

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59 (7) CONSOLIDATED WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT.—

60 (b) The consolidated annual report shall contain the
61 following elements, as appropriate to that water management
62 district:

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

65 ~~(2) (e) 4.~~

66 2. The department-approved minimum flows and minimum water
67 levels annual priority list and schedule required by s.
68 373.042 (3).

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

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

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

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

77 7. The mitigation donation annual report required by s.
78 373.414 (1) (b) 2.

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

81 a. A list of all specific projects identified to implement
82 a basin management action plan, including any projects to
83 connect onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to central
84 sewerage systems and convert onsite sewage treatment and
85 disposal systems to enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage
86 treatment and disposal systems, or a recovery or prevention
87 strategy;

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

93 c. The estimated cost for each listed project;

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

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

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

101 9. A grade for each watershed, water body, or water segment
102 in which a project listed under subparagraph 8. is located
103 representing the level of impairment and violations of adopted
104 minimum flow or minimum water levels. The grading system must
105 reflect the severity of the impairment of the watershed, water
106 body, or water segment.

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