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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
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05/02/2023 06:51 PM	.	05/03/2023 04:02 PM
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Senator Brodeur moved the following:

**Senate Amendment**

Delete lines 758 - 1881  
and insert:  
loads.-The department, in coordination with the Department of  
Agriculture and Consumer Services, the St. Johns River Water  
Management District, South Florida Water Management District,  
local governments, the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary  
Program, and other stakeholders, shall identify and prioritize  
strategies and projects necessary to achieve water quality  
standards within the Indian River Lagoon watershed and meet the



12 total maximum daily loads. Projects identified from this  
13 evaluation must be incorporated into the Banana River Lagoon  
14 Basin Management Action Plan, Central Indian River Lagoon Basin  
15 Management Action Plan, North Indian River Lagoon Basin  
16 Management Action Plan, and Mosquito Lagoon Reasonable Assurance  
17 Plan, as appropriate.

18 (c) Indian River Lagoon Watershed Research and Water  
19 Quality Monitoring Program.—The department, in coordination with  
20 the St. Johns River Water Management District, the South Florida  
21 Water Management District, and the Indian River Lagoon National  
22 Estuary Program, shall implement the Indian River Lagoon  
23 Watershed Research and Water Quality Monitoring Program to  
24 establish a comprehensive water quality monitoring network  
25 throughout the Indian River Lagoon and fund research pertaining  
26 to water quality, ecosystem restoration, and seagrass impacts  
27 and restoration. The department shall use the results from the  
28 program to prioritize projects and to make modifications to the  
29 Banana River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan, Central Indian  
30 River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan, North Indian River  
31 Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan, and Mosquito Lagoon  
32 Reasonable Assurance Plan, as appropriate.

33 (d) Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems.—

34 1. Beginning on January 1, 2024, unless previously  
35 permitted, the installation of new onsite sewage treatment and  
36 disposal systems is prohibited within the Banana River Lagoon  
37 Basin Management Action Plan, Central Indian River Lagoon Basin  
38 Management Action Plan, North Indian River Lagoon Basin  
39 Management Action Plan, and Mosquito Lagoon Reasonable Assurance  
40 Plan areas where a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage



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41 system is available as defined in s. 381.0065(2) (a). Where  
42 central sewerage is not available, only enhanced nutrient-  
43 reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems or other  
44 wastewater treatment systems that achieve at least 65 percent  
45 nitrogen reduction are authorized.

46 2. By July 1, 2030, any commercial or residential property  
47 with an existing onsite sewage treatment and disposal system  
48 located within the Banana River Lagoon Basin Management Action  
49 Plan, Central Indian River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan,  
50 North Indian River Lagoon Basin Management Action Plan, and  
51 Mosquito Lagoon Reasonable Assurance Plan areas must connect to  
52 central sewer if available or upgrade to an enhanced nutrient-  
53 reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal system or other  
54 wastewater treatment system that achieves at least 65 percent  
55 nitrogen reduction.

56 (4) RELATIONSHIP TO STATE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS.—This  
57 section may not be construed to modify any existing state water  
58 quality standard or to modify s. 403.067(6) and (7) (a).

59 (5) PRESERVATION OF AUTHORITY.—This section may not be  
60 construed to restrict the authority otherwise granted to  
61 agencies pursuant to this chapter and chapter 403, and this  
62 section is supplemental to the authority granted to agencies  
63 pursuant to this chapter and chapter 403.

64 (6) RULES.—The department and governing boards of the St.  
65 Johns River Water Management District and South Florida Water  
66 Management District may adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1)  
67 and 120.54 to implement this section.

68 Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 373.501, Florida  
69 Statutes, is amended to read:



70           373.501 Appropriation of funds to water management  
71 districts.—

72           (1) The department shall transfer ~~may allocate~~ to the water  
73 management districts, ~~from~~ funds appropriated to the districts  
74 through the department in, such sums as ~~may be~~ deemed necessary  
75 to defray the costs of the administrative, regulatory, and other  
76 operational activities of the districts. The governing boards  
77 shall submit annual budget requests for such purposes to the  
78 department, and the department shall consider such budgets in  
79 preparing its budget request for the Legislature. The districts  
80 shall annually report to the department on the use of the funds.

81           Section 7. Present subsections (2) through (8) of section  
82 373.802, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (3)  
83 through (9), respectively, and a new subsection (2) is added to  
84 that section, to read:

85           373.802 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

86           (2) "Enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and  
87 disposal system" means an onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
88 system approved by the department as capable of meeting or  
89 exceeding a 50 percent total nitrogen reduction before disposal  
90 of wastewater in the drainfield, or at least 65 percent total  
91 nitrogen reduction combined from the onsite sewage tank or tanks  
92 and drainfield.

93           Section 8. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 373.807,  
94 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

95           373.807 Protection of water quality in Outstanding Florida  
96 Springs.—By July 1, 2016, the department shall initiate  
97 assessment, pursuant to s. 403.067(3), of Outstanding Florida  
98 Springs or spring systems for which an impairment determination



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99 has not been made under the numeric nutrient standards in effect  
100 for spring vents. Assessments must be completed by July 1, 2018.

101 (2) By July 1, 2017, each local government, as defined in  
102 s. 373.802(3) ~~s. 373.802(2)~~, that has not adopted an ordinance  
103 pursuant to s. 403.9337, shall develop, enact, and implement an  
104 ordinance pursuant to that section. It is the intent of the  
105 Legislature that ordinances required to be adopted under this  
106 subsection reflect the latest scientific information,  
107 advancements, and technological improvements in the industry.

108 (3) As part of a basin management action plan that includes  
109 an Outstanding Florida Spring, the department, relevant local  
110 governments, and relevant local public and private wastewater  
111 utilities shall develop an onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
112 system remediation plan for a spring if the department  
113 determines onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems within a  
114 basin management action plan ~~priority focus area~~ contribute at  
115 least 20 percent of nonpoint source nitrogen pollution or if the  
116 department determines remediation is necessary to achieve the  
117 total maximum daily load. The plan must ~~shall~~ identify cost-  
118 effective and financially feasible projects necessary to reduce  
119 the nutrient impacts from onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
120 systems and shall be completed and adopted as part of the basin  
121 management action plan no later than the first 5-year milestone  
122 required by subparagraph (1)(b)8. The department is the lead  
123 agency in coordinating the preparation of and the adoption of  
124 the plan. The department shall:

125 (a) Collect and evaluate credible scientific information on  
126 the effect of nutrients, particularly forms of nitrogen, on  
127 springs and springs systems; and



128 (b) Develop a public education plan to provide area  
129 residents with reliable, understandable information about onsite  
130 sewage treatment and disposal systems and springs.

131  
132 In addition to the requirements in s. 403.067, the plan must  
133 ~~shall~~ include options for repair, upgrade, replacement,  
134 drainfield modification, addition of effective nitrogen reducing  
135 features, connection to a central sewerage system, or other  
136 action for an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system or  
137 group of systems within a basin management action plan ~~priority~~  
138 ~~focus area~~ that contribute at least 20 percent of nonpoint  
139 source nitrogen pollution or if the department determines  
140 remediation is necessary to achieve a total maximum daily load.  
141 For these systems, the department shall include in the plan a  
142 priority ranking for each system or group of systems that  
143 requires remediation and shall award funds to implement the  
144 remediation projects contingent on an appropriation in the  
145 General Appropriations Act, which may include all or part of the  
146 costs necessary for repair, upgrade, replacement, drainfield  
147 modification, addition of effective nitrogen reducing features,  
148 initial connection to a central sewerage system, or other  
149 action. In awarding funds, the department may consider expected  
150 nutrient reduction benefit per unit cost, size and scope of  
151 project, relative local financial contribution to the project,  
152 and the financial impact on property owners and the community.  
153 The department may waive matching funding requirements for  
154 proposed projects within an area designated as a rural area of  
155 opportunity under s. 288.0656.

156 Section 9. Section 373.811, Florida Statutes, is amended to



157 read:

158 373.811 Prohibited activities within a basin management  
159 action plan ~~priority focus area~~.—The following activities are  
160 prohibited within a basin management action plan ~~priority focus~~  
161 ~~area~~ in effect for an Outstanding Florida Spring:

162 (1) New domestic wastewater disposal facilities, including  
163 rapid infiltration basins, with permitted capacities of 100,000  
164 gallons per day or more, except for those facilities that meet  
165 an advanced wastewater treatment standard of no more than 3 mg/l  
166 total nitrogen, expressed as N, on an annual permitted basis, or  
167 a more stringent treatment standard if the department determines  
168 the more stringent standard is necessary to attain a total  
169 maximum daily load for the Outstanding Florida Spring.

170 (2) New onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems where  
171 connection to a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system  
172 is available as defined in s. 381.0065(2) (a). On lots of 1 acre  
173 or less, if a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system  
174 is not available, only the installation of enhanced nutrient-  
175 reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems or other  
176 wastewater treatment systems that achieve at least 65 percent  
177 nitrogen reduction are authorized ~~on lots of less than 1 acre,~~  
178 ~~if the addition of the specific systems conflicts with an onsite~~  
179 ~~treatment and disposal system remediation plan incorporated into~~  
180 ~~a basin management action plan in accordance with s. 373.807(3).~~

181 (3) New facilities for the disposal of hazardous waste.

182 (4) The land application of Class A or Class B domestic  
183 wastewater biosolids not in accordance with a department  
184 approved nutrient management plan establishing the rate at which  
185 all biosolids, soil amendments, and sources of nutrients at the



186 land application site can be applied to the land for crop  
187 production while minimizing the amount of pollutants and  
188 nutrients discharged to groundwater or waters of the state.

189 (5) New agriculture operations that do not implement best  
190 management practices, measures necessary to achieve pollution  
191 reduction levels established by the department, or groundwater  
192 monitoring plans approved by a water management district or the  
193 department.

194 Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 375.041, Florida  
195 Statutes, is amended to read:

196 375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

197 (3) Funds distributed into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund  
198 pursuant to s. 201.15 shall be applied:

199 (a) First, to pay debt service or to fund debt service  
200 reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with  
201 respect to Florida Forever bonds issued under s. 215.618; and  
202 pay debt service, provide reserves, and pay rebate obligations  
203 and other amounts due with respect to Everglades restoration  
204 bonds issued under s. 215.619; and

205 (b) Of the funds remaining after the payments required  
206 under paragraph (a), but before funds may be appropriated,  
207 pledged, or dedicated for other uses:

208 1. A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent or \$200 million  
209 shall be appropriated annually for Everglades projects that  
210 implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set  
211 forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning  
212 Project subject to congressional authorization; the Long-Term  
213 Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2); and the Northern Everglades  
214 and Estuaries Protection Program as set forth in s. 373.4595.





215 From these funds, \$32 million shall be distributed each fiscal  
216 year through the 2023-2024 fiscal year to the South Florida  
217 Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan as defined in  
218 s. 373.4592(2). After deducting the \$32 million distributed  
219 under this subparagraph, from the funds remaining, a minimum of  
220 the lesser of 76.5 percent or \$100 million shall be appropriated  
221 each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the  
222 planning, design, engineering, and construction of the  
223 Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s.  
224 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project, the  
225 Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir Project, the Lake  
226 Okeechobee Watershed Project, the C-43 West Basin Storage  
227 Reservoir Project, the Indian River Lagoon-South Project, the  
228 Western Everglades Restoration Project, and the Picayune Strand  
229 Restoration Project. The Department of Environmental Protection  
230 and the South Florida Water Management District shall give  
231 preference to those Everglades restoration projects that reduce  
232 harmful discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee to the St.  
233 Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a timely manner. For the  
234 purpose of performing the calculation provided in this  
235 subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to  
236 paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the  
237 purposes set forth under this paragraph shall be added to the  
238 amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph  
239 (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be  
240 reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to  
241 paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the  
242 purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

243 2. A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent or \$50 million



244 shall be appropriated annually for spring restoration,  
245 protection, and management projects. For the purpose of  
246 performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the  
247 amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds  
248 issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this  
249 paragraph shall be added to the amount remaining after the  
250 payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the  
251 distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal  
252 to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds  
253 issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this  
254 subparagraph.

255 3. The sum of \$5 million shall be appropriated annually  
256 each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the St.  
257 Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to  
258 the restoration of Lake Apopka. This distribution shall be  
259 reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to  
260 paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the  
261 purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

262 4. The sum of \$64 million is appropriated and shall be  
263 transferred to the Everglades Trust Fund for the 2018-2019  
264 fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, for the EAA  
265 reservoir project pursuant to s. 373.4598. Any funds remaining  
266 in any fiscal year shall be made available only for Phase II of  
267 the C-51 reservoir project or projects identified in  
268 subparagraph 1. and must be used in accordance with laws  
269 relating to such projects. Any funds made available for such  
270 purposes in a fiscal year are in addition to the amount  
271 appropriated under subparagraph 1. This distribution shall be  
272 reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to



273 paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the  
274 purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

275 5. The sum of \$50 million shall be appropriated annually to  
276 the South Florida Water Management District for the Lake  
277 Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project in accordance with s.  
278 373.4599. This distribution must be reduced by an amount equal  
279 to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds  
280 issued after July 1, 2021, for the purposes set forth in this  
281 subparagraph.

282 6. The sum of \$100 million shall be appropriated annually  
283 to the Department of Environmental Protection for the  
284 acquisition of land pursuant to s. 259.105 ~~Notwithstanding~~  
285 ~~subparagraph 3., for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, funds shall be~~  
286 ~~appropriated as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This~~  
287 ~~subparagraph expires July 1, 2023.~~

288 Section 11. Present paragraphs (f) through (r) of  
289 subsection (2) of section 381.0065, Florida Statutes, are  
290 redesignated as paragraphs (g) through (s), respectively, a new  
291 paragraph (f) is added to that subsection, and paragraph (n) of  
292 subsection (4) of that section is amended, to read:

293 381.0065 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems;  
294 regulation.—

295 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in ss. 381.0065-381.0067, the  
296 term:

297 (f) "Enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and  
298 disposal system" means an onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
299 system approved by the department as capable of meeting or  
300 exceeding a 50 percent total nitrogen reduction before disposal  
301 of wastewater in the drainfield, or at least 65 percent total



302 nitrogen reduction combined from the onsite sewage tank or tanks  
303 and drainfield.

304 (4) PERMITS; INSTALLATION; CONDITIONS.—A person may not  
305 construct, repair, modify, abandon, or operate an onsite sewage  
306 treatment and disposal system without first obtaining a permit  
307 approved by the department. The department may issue permits to  
308 carry out this section, except that the issuance of a permit for  
309 work seaward of the coastal construction control line  
310 established under s. 161.053 shall be contingent upon receipt of  
311 any required coastal construction control line permit from the  
312 department. A construction permit is valid for 18 months after  
313 the date of issuance and may be extended by the department for  
314 one 90-day period under rules adopted by the department. A  
315 repair permit is valid for 90 days after the date of issuance.  
316 An operating permit must be obtained before the use of any  
317 aerobic treatment unit or if the establishment generates  
318 commercial waste. Buildings or establishments that use an  
319 aerobic treatment unit or generate commercial waste shall be  
320 inspected by the department at least annually to assure  
321 compliance with the terms of the operating permit. The operating  
322 permit for a commercial wastewater system is valid for 1 year  
323 after the date of issuance and must be renewed annually. The  
324 operating permit for an aerobic treatment unit is valid for 2  
325 years after the date of issuance and must be renewed every 2  
326 years. If all information pertaining to the siting, location,  
327 and installation conditions or repair of an onsite sewage  
328 treatment and disposal system remains the same, a construction  
329 or repair permit for the onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
330 system may be transferred to another person, if the transferee



331 files, within 60 days after the transfer of ownership, an  
332 amended application providing all corrected information and  
333 proof of ownership of the property. A fee is not associated with  
334 the processing of this supplemental information. A person may  
335 not contract to construct, modify, alter, repair, service,  
336 abandon, or maintain any portion of an onsite sewage treatment  
337 and disposal system without being registered under part III of  
338 chapter 489. A property owner who personally performs  
339 construction, maintenance, or repairs to a system serving his or  
340 her own owner-occupied single-family residence is exempt from  
341 registration requirements for performing such construction,  
342 maintenance, or repairs on that residence, but is subject to all  
343 permitting requirements. A municipality or political subdivision  
344 of the state may not issue a building or plumbing permit for any  
345 building that requires the use of an onsite sewage treatment and  
346 disposal system unless the owner or builder has received a  
347 construction permit for such system from the department. A  
348 building or structure may not be occupied and a municipality,  
349 political subdivision, or any state or federal agency may not  
350 authorize occupancy until the department approves the final  
351 installation of the onsite sewage treatment and disposal system.  
352 A municipality or political subdivision of the state may not  
353 approve any change in occupancy or tenancy of a building that  
354 uses an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system until the  
355 department has reviewed the use of the system with the proposed  
356 change, approved the change, and amended the operating permit.  
357 (n) Evaluations for determining the seasonal high-water  
358 table elevations or the suitability of soils for the use of a  
359 new onsite sewage treatment and disposal system shall be



360 performed by department personnel, professional engineers  
361 registered in the state, or such other persons with expertise,  
362 as defined by rule, in making such evaluations. Evaluations for  
363 determining mean annual flood lines shall be performed by those  
364 persons identified in paragraph (2)(1) ~~(2)(k)~~. The department  
365 shall accept evaluations submitted by professional engineers and  
366 such other persons as meet the expertise established by this  
367 section or by rule unless the department has a reasonable  
368 scientific basis for questioning the accuracy or completeness of  
369 the evaluation.

370 Section 12. Subsection (3) is added to section 381.00655,  
371 Florida Statutes, to read:

372 381.00655 Connection of existing onsite sewage treatment  
373 and disposal systems to central sewerage system; requirements.-

374 (3) Local governmental agencies, as defined in s.  
375 403.1835(2), that receive grants or loans from the department to  
376 offset the cost of connecting onsite sewage treatment and  
377 disposal systems to publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage  
378 systems are encouraged to do all of the following while such  
379 funds remain available:

380 (a) Identify the owners of onsite sewage treatment and  
381 disposal systems within the jurisdiction of the respective local  
382 governmental agency who are eligible to apply for the grant or  
383 loan funds and notify such owners of the funding availability.

384 (b) Maintain a publicly available website with information  
385 relating to the availability of the grant or loan funds,  
386 including the amount of funds available and information on how  
387 the owner of an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system may  
388 apply for such funds.



389 Section 13. Section 403.031, Florida Statutes, is reordered  
390 and amended to read:

391 403.031 Definitions.—In construing this chapter, or rules  
392 and regulations adopted pursuant hereto, the following words,  
393 phrases, or terms, unless the context otherwise indicates, have  
394 the following meanings:

395 (1) "Contaminant" is any substance which is harmful to  
396 plant, animal, or human life.

397 (2) "Department" means the Department of Environmental  
398 Protection.

399 (3) "Effluent limitations" means any restriction  
400 established by the department on quantities, rates, or  
401 concentrations of chemical, physical, biological, or other  
402 constituents which are discharged from sources into waters of  
403 the state.

404 (5) "Enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and  
405 disposal system" means an onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
406 system approved by the department as capable of meeting or  
407 exceeding a 50 percent total nitrogen reduction before disposal  
408 of wastewater in the drainfield, or at least 65 percent total  
409 nitrogen reduction combined from the onsite sewage tank or tanks  
410 and drainfield.

411 (6)~~(4)~~ "Installation" means ~~is~~ any structure, equipment, or  
412 facility, or appurtenances thereto, or operation which may emit  
413 air or water contaminants in quantities prohibited by rules of  
414 the department.

415 (7) "Nutrient or nutrient-related standards" means water  
416 quality standards and criteria established for total nitrogen  
417 and total phosphorous, or their organic or inorganic forms;



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418 biological variables, such as chlorophyll-a, biomass, or the  
419 structure of the phytoplankton, periphyton, or vascular plant  
420 community, that respond to a nutrient load or concentration in a  
421 predictable and measurable manner; or dissolved oxygen if it is  
422 demonstrated for the waterbody that dissolved oxygen conditions  
423 result in a biological imbalance and the dissolved oxygen  
424 responds to a nutrient load or concentration in a predictable  
425 and measurable manner.

426 (8) "Onsite sewage treatment and disposal system" means a  
427 system that contains a standard subsurface, filled, or mound  
428 drainfield system; an aerobic treatment unit; a graywater system  
429 tank; a laundry wastewater system tank; a septic tank; a grease  
430 interceptor; a pump tank; a solids or effluent pump; a  
431 waterless, incinerating, or organic waste-composting toilet; or  
432 a sanitary pit privy that is installed or proposed to be  
433 installed beyond the building sewer on land of the owner or on  
434 other land to which the owner has the legal right to install a  
435 system. The term includes any item placed within, or intended to  
436 be used as a part of or in conjunction with, the system. The  
437 term does not include package sewage treatment facilities and  
438 other treatment works regulated under chapter 403.

439 (9) ~~(5)~~ "Person" means the state or any agency or  
440 institution thereof, the United States or any agency or  
441 institution thereof, or any municipality, political subdivision,  
442 public or private corporation, individual, partnership,  
443 association, or other entity and includes any officer or  
444 governing or managing body of the state, the United States, any  
445 agency, any municipality, political subdivision, or public or  
446 private corporation.





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447           ~~(10)(6)~~ "Plant" is any unit operation, complex, area, or  
448 multiple of unit operations that produce, process, or cause to  
449 be processed any materials, the processing of which can, or may,  
450 cause air or water pollution.

451           ~~(11)(7)~~ "Pollution" is the presence in the outdoor  
452 atmosphere or waters of the state of any substances,  
453 contaminants, noise, or manmade or human-induced impairment of  
454 air or waters or alteration of the chemical, physical,  
455 biological, or radiological integrity of air or water in  
456 quantities or at levels which are or may be potentially harmful  
457 or injurious to human health or welfare, animal or plant life,  
458 or property or which unreasonably interfere with the enjoyment  
459 of life or property, including outdoor recreation unless  
460 authorized by applicable law.

461           ~~(12)(8)~~ "Pollution prevention" means the steps taken by a  
462 potential generator of contamination or pollution to eliminate  
463 or reduce the contamination or pollution before it is discharged  
464 into the environment. The term includes nonmandatory steps taken  
465 to use alternative forms of energy, conserve or reduce the use  
466 of energy, substitute nontoxic materials for toxic materials,  
467 conserve or reduce the use of toxic materials and raw materials,  
468 reformulate products, modify manufacturing or other processes,  
469 improve in-plant maintenance and operations, implement  
470 environmental planning before expanding a facility, and recycle  
471 toxic or other raw materials.

472           ~~(14)(9)~~ "Sewerage system" means pipelines or conduits,  
473 pumping stations, and force mains and all other structures,  
474 devices, appurtenances, and facilities used for collecting or  
475 conducting wastes to an ultimate point for treatment or



476 disposal.  
477        (15)~~(10)~~ "Source" means is any and all points of origin of  
478 a contaminant ~~the item defined in subsection (1)~~, whether  
479 privately or publicly owned or operated.

480        (21)~~(11)~~ "Treatment works" and "disposal systems" mean any  
481 plant or other works used for the purpose of treating,  
482 stabilizing, or holding wastes.

483        (22)~~(12)~~ "Wastes" means sewage, industrial wastes, and all  
484 other liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substances  
485 which may pollute or tend to pollute any waters of the state.

486        (23)~~(13)~~ "Waters" include, but are not limited to, rivers,  
487 lakes, streams, springs, impoundments, wetlands, and all other  
488 waters or bodies of water, including fresh, brackish, saline,  
489 tidal, surface, or underground waters. Waters owned entirely by  
490 one person other than the state are included only in regard to  
491 possible discharge on other property or water. Underground  
492 waters include, but are not limited to, all underground waters  
493 passing through pores of rock or soils or flowing through in  
494 channels, whether manmade or natural. Solely for purposes of s.  
495 403.0885, waters of the state also include navigable waters or  
496 waters of the contiguous zone as used in s. 502 of the Clean  
497 Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq., as in  
498 existence on January 1, 1993, except for those navigable waters  
499 seaward of the boundaries of the state set forth in s. 1, Art.  
500 II of the State Constitution. Solely for purposes of this  
501 chapter, waters of the state also include the area bounded by  
502 the following:

503        (a) Commence at the intersection of State Road (SRD) 5  
504 (U.S. 1) and the county line dividing Miami-Dade and Monroe



505 Counties, said point also being the mean high-water line of  
506 Florida Bay, located in section 4, township 60 south, range 39  
507 east of the Tallahassee Meridian for the point of beginning.  
508 From said point of beginning, thence run northwesterly along  
509 said SRD 5 to an intersection with the north line of section 18,  
510 township 58 south, range 39 east; thence run westerly to a point  
511 marking the southeast corner of section 12, township 58 south,  
512 range 37 east, said point also lying on the east boundary of the  
513 Everglades National Park; thence run north along the east  
514 boundary of the aforementioned Everglades National Park to a  
515 point marking the northeast corner of section 1, township 58  
516 south, range 37 east; thence run west along said park to a point  
517 marking the northwest corner of said section 1; thence run  
518 northerly along said park to a point marking the northwest  
519 corner of section 24, township 57 south, range 37 east; thence  
520 run westerly along the south lines of sections 14, 15, and 16 to  
521 the southwest corner of section 16; thence leaving the  
522 Everglades National Park boundary run northerly along the west  
523 line of section 16 to the northwest corner of section 16; thence  
524 east along the northerly line of section 16 to a point at the  
525 intersection of the east one-half and west one-half of section  
526 9; thence northerly along the line separating the east one-half  
527 and the west one-half of sections 9, 4, 33, and 28; thence run  
528 easterly along the north line of section 28 to the northeast  
529 corner of section 28; thence run northerly along the west line  
530 of section 22 to the northwest corner of section 22; thence  
531 easterly along the north line of section 22 to a point at the  
532 intersection of the east one-half and west one-half of section  
533 15; thence run northerly along said line to the point of



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534 intersection with the north line of section 15; thence easterly  
535 along the north line of section 15 to the northeast corner of  
536 section 15; thence run northerly along the west lines of  
537 sections 11 and 2 to the northwest corner of section 2; thence  
538 run easterly along the north lines of sections 2 and 1 to the  
539 northeast corner of section 1, township 56 south, range 37 east;  
540 thence run north along the east line of section 36, township 55  
541 south, range 37 east to the northeast corner of section 36;  
542 thence run west along the north line of section 36 to the  
543 northwest corner of section 36; thence run north along the west  
544 line of section 25 to the northwest corner of section 25; thence  
545 run west along the north line of section 26 to the northwest  
546 corner of section 26; thence run north along the west line of  
547 section 23 to the northwest corner of section 23; thence run  
548 easterly along the north line of section 23 to the northeast  
549 corner of section 23; thence run north along the west line of  
550 section 13 to the northwest corner of section 13; thence run  
551 east along the north line of section 13 to a point of  
552 intersection with the west line of the southeast one-quarter of  
553 section 12; thence run north along the west line of the  
554 southeast one-quarter of section 12 to the northwest corner of  
555 the southeast one-quarter of section 12; thence run east along  
556 the north line of the southeast one-quarter of section 12 to the  
557 point of intersection with the east line of section 12; thence  
558 run east along the south line of the northwest one-quarter of  
559 section 7 to the southeast corner of the northwest one-quarter  
560 of section 7; thence run north along the east line of the  
561 northwest one-quarter of section 7 to the point of intersection  
562 with the north line of section 7; thence run northerly along the



563 west line of the southeast one-quarter of section 6 to the  
564 northwest corner of the southeast one-quarter of section 6;  
565 thence run east along the north lines of the southeast one-  
566 quarter of section 6 and the southwest one-quarter of section 5  
567 to the northeast corner of the southwest one-quarter of section  
568 5; thence run northerly along the east line of the northwest  
569 one-quarter of section 5 to the point of intersection with the  
570 north line of section 5; thence run northerly along the line  
571 dividing the east one-half and the west one-half of Lot 5 to a  
572 point intersecting the north line of Lot 5; thence run east  
573 along the north line of Lot 5 to the northeast corner of Lot 5,  
574 township 54 1/2 south, range 38 east; thence run north along the  
575 west line of section 33, township 54 south, range 38 east to a  
576 point intersecting the northwest corner of the southwest one-  
577 quarter of section 33; thence run easterly along the north line  
578 of the southwest one-quarter of section 33 to the northeast  
579 corner of the southwest one-quarter of section 33; thence run  
580 north along the west line of the northeast one-quarter of  
581 section 33 to a point intersecting the north line of section 33;  
582 thence run easterly along the north line of section 33 to the  
583 northeast corner of section 33; thence run northerly along the  
584 west line of section 27 to a point intersecting the northwest  
585 corner of the southwest one-quarter of section 27; thence run  
586 easterly to the northeast corner of the southwest one-quarter of  
587 section 27; thence run northerly along the west line of the  
588 northeast one-quarter of section 27 to a point intersecting the  
589 north line of section 27; thence run west along the north line  
590 of section 27 to the northwest corner of section 27; thence run  
591 north along the west lines of sections 22 and 15 to the



592 northwest corner of section 15; thence run easterly along the  
593 north lines of sections 15 and 14 to the point of intersection  
594 with the L-31N Levee, said intersection located near the  
595 southeast corner of section 11, township 54 south, range 38  
596 east; thence run northerly along Levee L-31N crossing SRD 90  
597 (U.S. 41 Tamiami Trail) to an intersection common to Levees L-  
598 31N, L-29, and L-30, said intersection located near the  
599 southeast corner of section 2, township 54 south, range 38 east;  
600 thence run northeasterly, northerly, and northeasterly along  
601 Levee L-30 to a point of intersection with the Miami-  
602 Dade/Broward Levee, said intersection located near the northeast  
603 corner of section 17, township 52 south, range 39 east; thence  
604 run due east to a point of intersection with SRD 27 (Krome  
605 Ave.); thence run northeasterly along SRD 27 to an intersection  
606 with SRD 25 (U.S. 27), said intersection located in section 3,  
607 township 52 south, range 39 east; thence run northerly along  
608 said SRD 25, entering into Broward County, to an intersection  
609 with SRD 84 at Andytown; thence run southeasterly along the  
610 aforementioned SRD 84 to an intersection with the southwesterly  
611 prolongation of Levee L-35A, said intersection being located in  
612 the northeast one-quarter of section 5, township 50 south, range  
613 40 east; thence run northeasterly along Levee L-35A to an  
614 intersection of Levee L-36, said intersection located near the  
615 southeast corner of section 12, township 49 south, range 40  
616 east; thence run northerly along Levee L-36, entering into Palm  
617 Beach County, to an intersection common to said Levees L-36, L-  
618 39, and L-40, said intersection located near the west quarter  
619 corner of section 19, township 47 south, range 41 east; thence  
620 run northeasterly, easterly, and northerly along Levee L-40,



621 said Levee L-40 being the easterly boundary of the Loxahatchee  
622 National Wildlife Refuge, to an intersection with SRD 80 (U.S.  
623 441), said intersection located near the southeast corner of  
624 section 32, township 43 south, range 40 east; thence run  
625 westerly along the aforementioned SRD 80 to a point marking the  
626 intersection of said road and the northeasterly prolongation of  
627 Levee L-7, said Levee L-7 being the westerly boundary of the  
628 Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge; thence run southwesterly  
629 and southerly along said Levee L-7 to an intersection common to  
630 Levees L-7, L-15 (Hillsborough Canal), and L-6; thence run  
631 southwesterly along Levee L-6 to an intersection common to Levee  
632 L-6, SRD 25 (U.S. 27), and Levee L-5, said intersection being  
633 located near the northwest corner of section 27, township 47  
634 south, range 38 east; thence run westerly along the  
635 aforementioned Levee L-5 to a point intersecting the east line  
636 of range 36 east; thence run northerly along said range line to  
637 a point marking the northeast corner of section 1, township 47  
638 south, range 36 east; thence run westerly along the north line  
639 of township 47 south, to an intersection with Levee L-23/24  
640 (Miami Canal); thence run northwesterly along the Miami Canal  
641 Levee to a point intersecting the north line of section 22,  
642 township 46 south, range 35 east; thence run westerly to a point  
643 marking the northwest corner of section 21, township 46 south,  
644 range 35 east; thence run southerly to the southwest corner of  
645 said section 21; thence run westerly to a point marking the  
646 northwest corner of section 30, township 46 south, range 35  
647 east, said point also being on the line dividing Palm Beach and  
648 Hendry Counties; from said point, thence run southerly along  
649 said county line to a point marking the intersection of Broward,



650 Hendry, and Collier Counties, said point also being the  
651 northeast corner of section 1, township 49 south, range 34 east;  
652 thence run westerly along the line dividing Hendry and Collier  
653 Counties and continuing along the prolongation thereof to a  
654 point marking the southwest corner of section 36, township 48  
655 south, range 29 east; thence run southerly to a point marking  
656 the southwest corner of section 12, township 49 south, range 29  
657 east; thence run westerly to a point marking the southwest  
658 corner of section 10, township 49 south, range 29 east; thence  
659 run southerly to a point marking the southwest corner of section  
660 15, township 49 south, range 29 east; thence run westerly to a  
661 point marking the northwest corner of section 24, township 49  
662 south, range 28 east, said point lying on the west boundary of  
663 the Big Cypress Area of Critical State Concern as described in  
664 rule 28-25.001, Florida Administrative Code; thence run  
665 southerly along said boundary crossing SRD 84 (Alligator Alley)  
666 to a point marking the southwest corner of section 24, township  
667 50 south, range 28 east; thence leaving the aforementioned west  
668 boundary of the Big Cypress Area of Critical State Concern run  
669 easterly to a point marking the northeast corner of section 25,  
670 township 50 south, range 28 east; thence run southerly along the  
671 east line of range 28 east to a point lying approximately 0.15  
672 miles south of the northeast corner of section 1, township 52  
673 south, range 28 east; thence run southwesterly 2.4 miles more or  
674 less to an intersection with SRD 90 (U.S. 41 Tamiami Trail),  
675 said intersection lying 1.1 miles more or less west of the east  
676 line of range 28 east; thence run northwesterly and westerly  
677 along SRD 90 to an intersection with the west line of section  
678 10, township 52 south, range 28 east; thence leaving SRD 90 run





679 southerly to a point marking the southwest corner of section 15,  
680 township 52 south, range 28 east; thence run westerly crossing  
681 the Faka Union Canal 0.6 miles more or less to a point; thence  
682 run southerly and parallel to the Faka Union Canal to a point  
683 located on the mean high-water line of Faka Union Bay; thence  
684 run southeasterly along the mean high-water line of the various  
685 bays, rivers, inlets, and streams to the point of beginning.

686 (b) The area bounded by the line described in paragraph (a)  
687 generally includes those waters to be known as waters of the  
688 state. The landward extent of these waters shall be determined  
689 by the delineation methodology ratified in s. 373.4211. Any  
690 waters which are outside the general boundary line described in  
691 paragraph (a) but which are contiguous thereto by virtue of the  
692 presence of a wetland, watercourse, or other surface water, as  
693 determined by the delineation methodology ratified in s.  
694 373.4211, shall be a part of this waterbody ~~water body~~. Any  
695 areas within the line described in paragraph (a) which are  
696 neither a wetland nor surface water, as determined by the  
697 delineation methodology ratified in s. 373.4211, shall be  
698 excluded therefrom. If the Florida Environmental Regulation  
699 Commission designates the waters within the boundaries an  
700 Outstanding Florida Water, waters outside the boundaries may  
701 ~~shall~~ not be included as part of such designation unless a  
702 hearing is held pursuant to notice in each appropriate county  
703 and the boundaries of such lands are specifically considered and  
704 described for such designation.

705 (16)-(14) "State water resource implementation rule" means  
706 the rule authorized by s. 373.036, which sets forth goals,  
707 objectives, and guidance for the development and review of



708 programs, rules, and plans relating to water resources, based on  
709 statutory policies and directives. The waters of the state are  
710 among its most basic resources. Such waters should be managed to  
711 conserve and protect water resources and to realize the full  
712 beneficial use of these resources.

713 (17)~~(15)~~ "Stormwater management program" means the  
714 institutional strategy for stormwater management, including  
715 urban, agricultural, and other stormwater.

716 (18)~~(16)~~ "Stormwater management system" means a system  
717 ~~which is~~ designed and constructed or implemented to control  
718 discharges that ~~which~~ are necessitated by rainfall events,  
719 incorporating methods to collect, convey, store, absorb,  
720 inhibit, treat, use, or reuse water to prevent or reduce  
721 flooding, overdrainage, environmental degradation and water  
722 pollution or otherwise affect the quantity and quality of  
723 discharges from the system.

724 (19)~~(17)~~ "Stormwater utility" means the funding of a  
725 stormwater management program by assessing the cost of the  
726 program to the beneficiaries based on their relative  
727 contribution to its need. It is operated as a typical utility  
728 which bills services regularly, similar to water and wastewater  
729 services.

730 (24)~~(18)~~ "Watershed" means the land area that ~~which~~  
731 contributes to the flow of water into a receiving body of water.

732 (13)~~(19)~~ "Regulated air pollutant" means any pollutant  
733 regulated under the federal Clean Air Act.

734 (4)~~(20)~~ "Electrical power plant" means, for purposes of  
735 this part of this chapter, any electrical generating facility  
736 that uses any process or fuel and that is owned or operated by



737 an electric utility, as defined in s. 403.503(14), and includes  
738 any associated facility that directly supports the operation of  
739 the electrical power plant.

740 ~~(20)~~(21) "Total maximum daily load" is defined as the sum  
741 of the individual wasteload allocations for point sources and  
742 the load allocations for nonpoint sources and natural  
743 background. Prior to determining individual wasteload  
744 allocations and load allocations, the maximum amount of a  
745 pollutant that a waterbody ~~water body~~ or water segment can  
746 assimilate from all sources without exceeding water quality  
747 standards must first be calculated.

748 Section 14. Paragraphs (a) and (e) of subsection (7) of  
749 section 403.067, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

750 403.067 Establishment and implementation of total maximum  
751 daily loads.—

752 (7) DEVELOPMENT OF BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS AND  
753 IMPLEMENTATION OF TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS.—

754 (a) *Basin management action plans.*—

755 1. In developing and implementing the total maximum daily  
756 load for a waterbody ~~water body~~, the department, or the  
757 department in conjunction with a water management district, may  
758 develop a basin management action plan that addresses some or  
759 all of the watersheds and basins tributary to the waterbody  
760 ~~water body~~. Such plan must integrate the appropriate management  
761 strategies available to the state through existing water quality  
762 protection programs to achieve the total maximum daily loads and  
763 may provide for phased implementation of these management  
764 strategies to promote timely, cost-effective actions as provided  
765 for in s. 403.151. The plan must establish a schedule



766 implementing the management strategies, establish a basis for  
767 evaluating the plan's effectiveness, and identify feasible  
768 funding strategies for implementing the plan's management  
769 strategies. The management strategies may include regional  
770 treatment systems or other public works, when appropriate, and  
771 voluntary trading of water quality credits to achieve the needed  
772 pollutant load reductions.

773         2. A basin management action plan must equitably allocate,  
774 pursuant to paragraph (6)(b), pollutant reductions to individual  
775 basins, as a whole to all basins, or to each identified point  
776 source or category of nonpoint sources, as appropriate. For  
777 nonpoint sources for which best management practices have been  
778 adopted, the initial requirement specified by the plan must be  
779 those practices developed pursuant to paragraph (c). When  
780 appropriate, the plan may take into account the benefits of  
781 pollutant load reduction achieved by point or nonpoint sources  
782 that have implemented management strategies to reduce pollutant  
783 loads, including best management practices, before the  
784 development of the basin management action plan. The plan must  
785 also identify the mechanisms that will address potential future  
786 increases in pollutant loading.

787         3. The basin management action planning process is intended  
788 to involve the broadest possible range of interested parties,  
789 with the objective of encouraging the greatest amount of  
790 cooperation and consensus possible. In developing a basin  
791 management action plan, the department shall assure that key  
792 stakeholders, including, but not limited to, applicable local  
793 governments, water management districts, the Department of  
794 Agriculture and Consumer Services, other appropriate state



795 agencies, local soil and water conservation districts,  
796 environmental groups, regulated interests, and affected  
797 pollution sources, are invited to participate in the process.  
798 The department shall hold at least one public meeting in the  
799 vicinity of the watershed or basin to discuss and receive  
800 comments during the planning process and shall otherwise  
801 encourage public participation to the greatest practicable  
802 extent. Notice of the public meeting must be published in a  
803 newspaper of general circulation in each county in which the  
804 watershed or basin lies at least 5 days, but not more than 15  
805 days, before the public meeting. A basin management action plan  
806 does not supplant or otherwise alter any assessment made under  
807 subsection (3) or subsection (4) or any calculation or initial  
808 allocation.

809 4. Each new or revised basin management action plan must  
810 ~~shall~~ include all of the following:

811 a. The appropriate management strategies available through  
812 existing water quality protection programs to achieve total  
813 maximum daily loads, which may provide for phased implementation  
814 to promote timely, cost-effective actions as provided for in s.  
815 403.151.~~†~~

816 b. A description of best management practices adopted by  
817 rule.~~†~~

818 c. For the applicable 5-year implementation milestone, a  
819 list of projects that will achieve the pollutant load reductions  
820 needed to meet the total maximum daily load or the load  
821 allocations established pursuant to subsection (6). Each project  
822 must include a planning-level cost estimate and an estimated  
823 date of completion. A list of projects in priority ranking with



824 ~~a planning level cost estimate and estimated date of completion~~  
825 ~~for each listed project;~~

826 d. A list of projects developed pursuant to paragraph (e),  
827 if applicable.

828 ~~e.d.~~ The source and amount of financial assistance to be  
829 made available by the department, a water management district,  
830 or other entity for each listed project, if applicable. ~~;~~ and

831 ~~f.e.~~ A planning-level estimate of each listed project's  
832 expected load reduction, if applicable.

833 5. The department shall adopt all or any part of a basin  
834 management action plan and any amendment to such plan by  
835 secretarial order pursuant to chapter 120 to implement this  
836 section.

837 6. The basin management action plan must include 5-year  
838 milestones for implementation and water quality improvement, and  
839 an associated water quality monitoring component sufficient to  
840 evaluate whether reasonable progress in pollutant load  
841 reductions is being achieved over time. An assessment of  
842 progress toward these milestones shall be conducted every 5  
843 years, and revisions to the plan shall be made as appropriate.  
844 Any entity with a specific pollutant load reduction requirement  
845 established in a basin management action plan shall identify the  
846 projects or strategies that such entity will undertake to meet  
847 current 5-year pollution reduction milestones, beginning with  
848 the first 5-year milestone for new basin management action  
849 plans, and submit such projects to the department for inclusion  
850 in the appropriate basin management action plan. Each project  
851 identified must include an estimated amount of nutrient  
852 reduction that is reasonably expected to be achieved based on



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853 the best scientific information available. Revisions to the  
854 basin management action plan shall be made by the department in  
855 cooperation with basin stakeholders. Revisions to the management  
856 strategies required for nonpoint sources must follow the  
857 procedures in subparagraph (c)4. Revised basin management action  
858 plans must be adopted pursuant to subparagraph 5.

859         7. In accordance with procedures adopted by rule under  
860 paragraph (9)(c), basin management action plans, and other  
861 pollution control programs under local, state, or federal  
862 authority as provided in subsection (4), may allow point or  
863 nonpoint sources that will achieve greater pollutant reductions  
864 than required by an adopted total maximum daily load or  
865 wasteload allocation to generate, register, and trade water  
866 quality credits for the excess reductions to enable other  
867 sources to achieve their allocation; however, the generation of  
868 water quality credits does not remove the obligation of a source  
869 or activity to meet applicable technology requirements or  
870 adopted best management practices. Such plans must allow trading  
871 between NPDES permittees, and trading that may or may not  
872 involve NPDES permittees, where the generation or use of the  
873 credits involve an entity or activity not subject to department  
874 water discharge permits whose owner voluntarily elects to obtain  
875 department authorization for the generation and sale of credits.

876         8. The department's rule relating to the equitable  
877 abatement of pollutants into surface waters do not apply to  
878 water bodies or waterbody ~~water body~~ segments for which a basin  
879 management plan that takes into account future new or expanded  
880 activities or discharges has been adopted under this section.

881         9. In order to promote resilient wastewater utilities, if



882 the department identifies domestic wastewater treatment  
883 facilities or onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems as  
884 contributors of at least 20 percent of point source or nonpoint  
885 source nutrient pollution or if the department determines  
886 remediation is necessary to achieve the total maximum daily  
887 load, a basin management action plan for a nutrient total  
888 maximum daily load must include the following:

889 a. A wastewater treatment plan developed by each local  
890 government, in cooperation with the department, the water  
891 management district, and the public and private domestic  
892 wastewater treatment facilities within the jurisdiction of the  
893 local government, that addresses domestic wastewater. The  
894 wastewater treatment plan must:

895 (I) Provide for construction, expansion, or upgrades  
896 necessary to achieve the total maximum daily load requirements  
897 applicable to the domestic wastewater treatment facility.

898 (II) Include the permitted capacity in average annual  
899 gallons per day for the domestic wastewater treatment facility;  
900 the average nutrient concentration and the estimated average  
901 nutrient load of the domestic wastewater; a projected timeline  
902 of the dates by which the construction of any facility  
903 improvements will begin and be completed and the date by which  
904 operations of the improved facility will begin; the estimated  
905 cost of the improvements; and the identity of responsible  
906 parties.

907  
908 The wastewater treatment plan must be adopted as part of the  
909 basin management action plan no later than July 1, 2025. A local  
910 government that does not have a domestic wastewater treatment





911 facility in its jurisdiction is not required to develop a  
912 wastewater treatment plan unless there is a demonstrated need to  
913 establish a domestic wastewater treatment facility within its  
914 jurisdiction to improve water quality necessary to achieve a  
915 total maximum daily load. A local government is not responsible  
916 for a private domestic wastewater facility's compliance with a  
917 basin management action plan unless such facility is operated  
918 through a public-private partnership to which the local  
919 government is a party.

920       b. An onsite sewage treatment and disposal system  
921 remediation plan developed by each local government in  
922 cooperation with the department, the Department of Health, water  
923 management districts, and public and private domestic wastewater  
924 treatment facilities.

925       (I) The onsite sewage treatment and disposal system  
926 remediation plan must identify cost-effective and financially  
927 feasible projects necessary to achieve the nutrient load  
928 reductions required for onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
929 systems. To identify cost-effective and financially feasible  
930 projects for remediation of onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
931 systems, the local government shall:

932       (A) Include an inventory of onsite sewage treatment and  
933 disposal systems based on the best information available;

934       (B) Identify onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems  
935 that would be eliminated through connection to existing or  
936 future central domestic wastewater infrastructure in the  
937 jurisdiction or domestic wastewater service area of the local  
938 government, that would be replaced with or upgraded to enhanced  
939 nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems,



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940 or that would remain on conventional onsite sewage treatment and  
941 disposal systems;

942 (C) Estimate the costs of potential onsite sewage treatment  
943 and disposal system connections, upgrades, or replacements; and

944 (D) Identify deadlines and interim milestones for the  
945 planning, design, and construction of projects.

946 (II) The department shall adopt the onsite sewage treatment  
947 and disposal system remediation plan as part of the basin  
948 management action plan no later than July 1, 2025, or as  
949 required for Outstanding Florida Springs under s. 373.807.

950 10. The installation of new onsite sewage treatment and  
951 disposal systems constructed within a basin management action  
952 plan area adopted under this section, a reasonable assurance  
953 plan, or a pollution reduction plan is prohibited where  
954 connection to a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system  
955 is available as defined in s. 381.0065(2)(a). On lots of 1 acre  
956 or less within a basin management action plan adopted under this  
957 section, a reasonable assurance plan, or a pollution reduction  
958 plan where a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system is  
959 not available, the installation of enhanced nutrient-reducing  
960 onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems or other wastewater  
961 treatment systems that achieve at least 65 percent nitrogen  
962 reduction is required.

963 ~~11.10.~~ When identifying wastewater projects in a basin  
964 management action plan, the department may not require the  
965 higher cost option if it achieves the same nutrient load  
966 reduction as a lower cost option. A regulated entity may choose  
967 a different cost option if it complies with the pollutant  
968 reduction requirements of an adopted total maximum daily load



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969 and meets or exceeds the pollution reduction requirement of the  
970 original project.

971 12. Annually, local governments subject to a basin  
972 management action plan or located within the basin of a  
973 waterbody not attaining nutrient or nutrient-related standards  
974 must provide to the department an update on the status of  
975 construction of sanitary sewers to serve such areas, in a manner  
976 prescribed by the department.

977 (e) *Cooperative agricultural regional water quality*  
978 *improvement element.*—

979 1. The department ~~and~~ the Department of Agriculture and  
980 Consumer Services, in cooperation with ~~and~~ owners of  
981 agricultural operations in the basin, shall develop a  
982 cooperative agricultural regional water quality improvement  
983 element as part of a basin management action plan where only if:

984 a. ~~Agricultural measures have been adopted by the~~  
985 ~~Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to~~  
986 ~~subparagraph (c)2. and have been implemented and the water body~~  
987 ~~remains impaired;~~

988 ~~b.~~ Agricultural nonpoint sources contribute to at least 20  
989 percent of nonpoint source nutrient discharges; or ~~and~~

990 ~~b.e.~~ The department determines that additional measures, in  
991 combination with state-sponsored regional projects and other  
992 management strategies included in the basin management action  
993 plan, are necessary to achieve the total maximum daily load.

994 2. The element will be implemented through the use of cost-  
995 effective and technically and financially practical regional  
996 agricultural nutrient reduction ~~cost-sharing~~ projects and. ~~The~~  
997 ~~element~~ must include a list of such projects submitted to the



998 department by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer  
999 Services which, in combination with the best management  
1000 practices, additional measures, and other management strategies,  
1001 will achieve the needed pollutant load reductions established  
1002 for agricultural nonpoint sources ~~cost-effective and technically~~  
1003 ~~and financially practical cooperative regional agricultural~~  
1004 ~~nutrient reduction projects that can be implemented on private~~  
1005 ~~properties on a site-specific, cooperative basis.~~ Such  
1006 cooperative regional agricultural nutrient reduction projects  
1007 may include, but are not limited to, land acquisition in fee or  
1008 conservation easements on the lands of willing sellers and site-  
1009 specific water quality improvement or dispersed water management  
1010 projects. The list of regional projects included in the  
1011 cooperative agricultural regional water quality improvement  
1012 element must include a planning-level cost estimate of each  
1013 project along with the estimated amount of nutrient reduction  
1014 that such project will achieve ~~on the lands of project~~  
1015 participants.

1016 3. To qualify for participation in the cooperative  
1017 agricultural regional water quality improvement element, the  
1018 participant must have already implemented and be in compliance  
1019 with best management practices or other measures adopted by the  
1020 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to  
1021 subparagraph (c)2. The element must ~~may~~ be included in the basin  
1022 management action plan as a part of the next 5-year assessment  
1023 under subparagraph (a)6.

1024 4. The department or the Department of Agriculture and  
1025 Consumer Services may submit a legislative budget request to  
1026 fund projects developed pursuant to this paragraph. In



1027 allocating funds for projects funded pursuant to this paragraph,  
1028 the department shall provide at least 20 percent of its annual  
1029 appropriation for projects in subbasins with the highest  
1030 nutrient concentrations within a basin management action plan.  
1031 Projects submitted pursuant to this paragraph are eligible for  
1032 funding in accordance with s. 403.0673.

1033 Section 15. Section 403.0673, Florida Statutes, is amended  
1034 to read:

1035 403.0673 Water quality improvement ~~Wastewater~~ grant  
1036 program.—A ~~wastewater~~ grant program is established within the  
1037 Department of Environmental Protection to address wastewater,  
1038 stormwater, and agricultural sources of nutrient loading to  
1039 surface water or groundwater.

1040 (1) The purpose of the grant program is to fund projects  
1041 that will improve the quality of waterbodies that:

1042 (a) Are not attaining nutrient or nutrient-related  
1043 standards;

1044 (b) Have an established total maximum daily load; or

1045 (c) Are located ~~Subject to the appropriation of funds by~~  
1046 ~~the Legislature, the department may provide grants for the~~  
1047 ~~following projects~~ within a basin management action plan area, a  
1048 reasonable assurance plan area ~~an alternative restoration plan~~  
1049 ~~adopted by final order, an accepted alternative restoration plan~~  
1050 area, or a rural area of opportunity under s. 288.0656.

1051 (2) The department may provide grants for all of the  
1052 following types of projects that reduce the amount of nutrients  
1053 entering those waterbodies identified in subsection (1):

1054 (a) Connecting onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems  
1055 to central sewer facilities.



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1056 (b) Upgrading domestic wastewater treatment facilities to  
1057 advanced waste treatment or greater.

1058 (c) Repairing, upgrading, expanding, or constructing  
1059 stormwater treatment facilities that result in improvements to  
1060 surface water or groundwater quality.

1061 (d) Repairing, upgrading, expanding, or constructing  
1062 domestic wastewater treatment facilities that result in  
1063 improvements to surface water or groundwater quality, including  
1064 domestic wastewater reuse and collection systems.

1065 (e) Projects identified pursuant to s. 403.067(7)(a) or  
1066 (7)(e).

1067 (f) Projects identified in a wastewater treatment plan or  
1068 an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system remediation plan  
1069 developed pursuant to s. 403.067(7)(a)9.a. and b.

1070 (g) Projects listed in a city or county capital improvement  
1071 element pursuant to s. 163.3177(3)(a)4.b.

1072 (h) Retrofitting onsite sewage treatment and disposal  
1073 systems to upgrade such systems to enhanced nutrient-reducing  
1074 onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems where central  
1075 sewerage is unavailable which will individually or collectively  
1076 reduce excess nutrient pollution:

1077 ~~(a) Projects to retrofit onsite sewage treatment and~~  
1078 ~~disposal systems to upgrade such systems to enhanced nutrient-~~  
1079 ~~reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems.~~

1080 ~~(b) Projects to construct, upgrade, or expand facilities to~~  
1081 ~~provide advanced waste treatment, as defined in s. 403.086(4).~~

1082 ~~(c) Projects to connect onsite sewage treatment and~~  
1083 ~~disposal systems to central sewer facilities.~~

1084 ~~(3)(2) In allocating such funds, priority must be given to~~



1085 ~~projects that subsidize the connection of onsite sewage~~  
1086 ~~treatment and disposal systems to wastewater treatment~~  
1087 ~~facilities. First priority must be given to subsidize the~~  
1088 ~~connection of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to~~  
1089 ~~existing infrastructure. Second priority must be given to any~~  
1090 ~~expansion of a collection or transmission system that promotes~~  
1091 ~~efficiency by planning the installation of wastewater~~  
1092 ~~transmission facilities to be constructed concurrently with~~  
1093 ~~other construction projects occurring within or along a~~  
1094 ~~transportation facility right-of-way. Third priority must be~~  
1095 ~~given to all other connections of onsite sewage treatment and~~  
1096 ~~disposal systems to wastewater treatment facilities. The~~  
1097 ~~department shall consider and prioritize those projects that:~~  
1098 ~~(a) Have the maximum estimated reduction in nutrient load~~  
1099 ~~per project;~~  
1100 ~~(b) Demonstrate project readiness;~~  
1101 ~~(c) Are cost-effective;~~  
1102 ~~(d) Have a cost share identified by the applicant, except~~  
1103 ~~for rural areas of opportunity;~~  
1104 ~~(e) Have previous state commitment and involvement in the~~  
1105 ~~project, considering previously funded phases, the total amount~~  
1106 ~~of previous state funding, and previous partial appropriations~~  
1107 ~~for the proposed project; or~~  
1108 ~~(f) Are in a the cost-effectiveness of the project; the~~  
1109 ~~overall environmental benefit of a project; the location where~~  
1110 ~~reductions are needed most to attain the water quality standards~~  
1111 ~~of a waterbody not attaining nutrient or nutrient-related~~  
1112 ~~standards.~~  
1113



1114 Any project that does not result in reducing nutrient loading to  
1115 a waterbody identified in subsection (1) is not eligible for  
1116 funding under this section of a project; the availability of  
1117 local matching funds; and projected water savings or quantity  
1118 improvements associated with a project.

1119 ~~(3) Each grant for a project described in subsection (1)~~  
1120 ~~must require a minimum of a 50 percent local match of funds.~~  
1121 ~~However, the department may, at its discretion, waive, in whole~~  
1122 ~~or in part, this consideration of the local contribution for~~  
1123 ~~proposed projects within an area designated as a rural area of~~  
1124 ~~opportunity under s. 288.0656.~~

1125 (4) The department shall coordinate annually with each  
1126 water management district, ~~as necessary,~~ to identify potential  
1127 projects grant recipients in each district.

1128 (5) The department shall coordinate with local governments  
1129 and stakeholders to identify the most effective and beneficial  
1130 water quality improvement projects.

1131 (6) The department shall coordinate with the Department of  
1132 Agriculture and Consumer Services to prioritize the most  
1133 effective and beneficial agricultural nonpoint source projects  
1134 identified pursuant to s. 403.067(7)(e).

1135 (7) Beginning January 15, 2024 ~~1, 2021,~~ and each January