

FDEP ANNUAL REPORT FOR HARRIS CHAIN OF LAKES

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Presentation Overview

- Activities of the Upper Ocklawaha Basin Working Group
- Issues in the Basin
- Legislative Priorities

**Activities of the
Upper Ocklawaha Basin
Working Group
2009 – 2010**

- Basin Management Action Plan adopted in 2007
- Plan includes a nutrient budget and list of projects for each impaired lake
 1. Nutrient budget includes additional loading from projected growth through 2010
 2. Based on loadings for 1991-2000
- Basin Working Group meets 2 times per year to discuss projects and other issues impacting the Upper Ocklawaha

Major challenges for this basin:

- Reducing TP loadings from former agricultural lands and restoring wetlands
- Reducing the water quality impact of upstream lakes on downstream lakes
- Reducing the loadings of TP from urban stormwater and agriculture runoff

Since adoption of the BMAP

- NuRF project in operation- results promising.
- SJRWMD continues lake restoration projects.
- DACS is signing up farmers for ag BMPs
 1. Success with citrus growers – about 50% of acreage covered by BMP
 2. Other BMP coverage: 1600 ac container nursery, 700 ac vegetable, 1000 ac ranch Land (cow/calf), 565 ac sod farms.

Local Governments

Lake County Public Works:

- Completed basin stormwater studies
- Stormwater retrofit project examples; Hollendel Road, Getford Road (partnership with Eustis), and Dead River stormwater ponds
- DEP provided funding assistance to Lake County through TMDL Water Quality Restoration Grants. SJRWMD helped with land purchase for Hollendel Rd. pond

Local Governments

Lake County Environmental Services:

Adopt-A-Lake Program

1. Water quality sampling
2. Pollution prevention
3. Monofilament line recycling
4. Education activities

Stormwater retrofits (examples):

- Leesburg: Venetian Gardens retrofit/nutrient removing baffle box. DEP partially funded Venetian Gardens work with 319 money. SJRWMD grant.
- Mt. Dora: Nutrient removing baffle box and inlet skimmer
- Eustis: North Bay Street and Clifford Avenue dry detention pond

Activities in the Next Year

- Continue implementation of stormwater retrofits and Ag BMPs
- Develop nutrient budget that reflects the period from 2001 to 2010
 1. Compare actual loadings with projected loadings
 2. Status update of progress to achieve TMDLs
 3. Allows the working group to direct resources where most needed (greatest reduction in loading)

Issues/Projects in the Basin

- Selective Dredging – in favor of it with appropriate ERP permits obtained.
- Restoration strategies/habitat – in favor of restoration FWCC/SJRWMD issue –
- Selective hydrilla removal – FWCC issue.
- Fish size limits – FWCC issue.
- Central District FDEP is a regulatory agency office and many of these issues are outside our jurisdiction and expertise – we focus more on water quality issues.

Legislative Priorities

- Not yet determined

- Possible items – authority for revised storm water rule, pesticide permitting – both left over from last year.
- Will continue to follow EPA numeric nutrient criteria development and update Council.