

## Southwest Florida Water Management District

Overview of Water Use Permit Program

Claire E. Muirhead, P.G.

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Myakka River Management Coordinating Council

# Water Use Permit (WUP)

 A legal instrument that gives authority to an entity to withdraw water for use within District boundaries



## Permitting Authority

Ch. 373.223 Florida Statutes – Authority

Rule 40D-2, F.A.C. – Interprets Statute

Applicant's Handbook – Provides
Greater Detail

## The "Three Prong Test" for permit issuance

The proposed use:

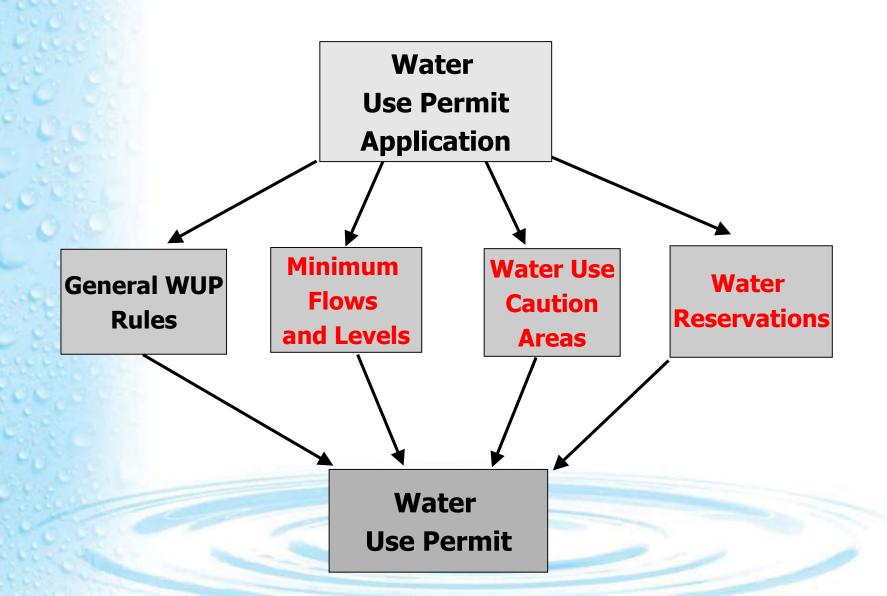
- is a reasonable-beneficial use as defined by Section 373.019(4), F.S.;
- will not interfere with any presently existing use of water; and
- is consistent with the public interest

## Water Use Permit Criteria

 Is the water actually needed (applicant has to prove demand)

- Is the water available without:
  - Affecting an existing user
  - Harming the water resources

## Factors considered in a permit application



## Individual WUP Thresholds

- Well is 6 inches in diameter or greater
- Annual Average Quantities are 100,000 gpd or greater
- Total withdrawal capacity is 1,000,000 gpd or greater
- The outside diameter of a withdrawal pipe in a surface water body is 4 inches or greater

#### Northern Tampa Bay WUCA

All or portions of three counties

• 1,279 WUPs

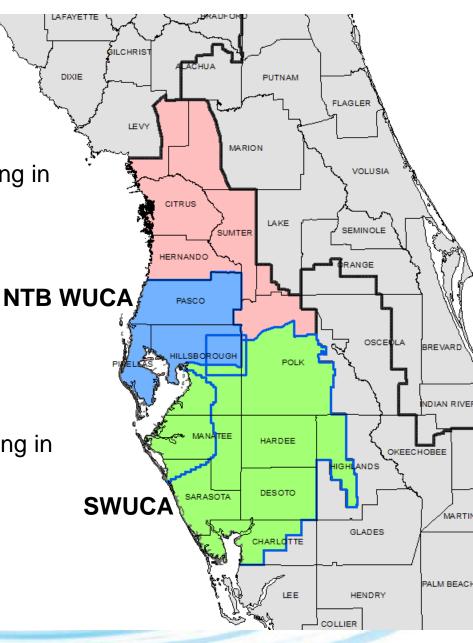
Depressed groundwater levels resulting in

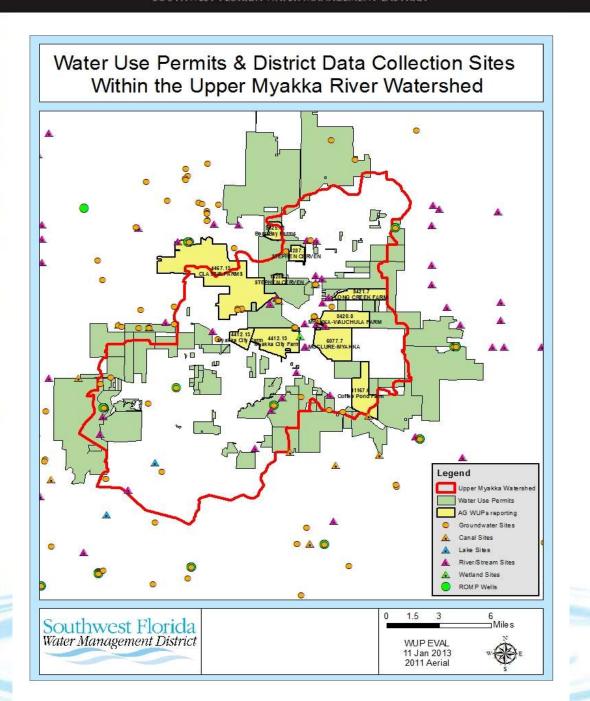
lowered lake levels

lowered wetland levels

#### Southern WUCA

- All or portions of eight counties
- 5,479 WUPs
- Depressed groundwater levels resulting in
  - saltwater intrusion
  - lowered lake levels
  - low flows in Upper Peace River





## WUP Compliance Conditions

- Water Level IAS, water table
- Water Quality chlorides, sulfates, TDS
- Stream Flow documents the capture of irrigation water
- Tailwater Recovery reduction or elimination of discharge
- Best Management Practices (BMPs)

## Best Management Practices

- Water table monitoring wells
- Ditch blocks, culverts with flash board risers
- Soil moisture monitoring devices
- Complaint investigation of discharge
- Feasibility report to reduce off-site discharge
- Decrease in Application Rate

## Contact information

Water Use Permit Bureau

Water Use Permit Evaluation Section

813-985-7481 ext 6533

claire.muirhead@watermatters.org

E-permitting link:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/permits/

## QUESTIONS??

