

Lake Jesup Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Annual Meeting Summary

Monday, July 31, 2023

10:00 AM – 11:13 AM

Via GoToWebinar

Attendees

Jeffrey Abbott, Citizen

Eesa Ali, Citizen

Taufiqul Aziz, DEP

Lara Bartholomew, Ardurra

Connie Becker, DEP

Lesley Bertolotti, The Nature Conservancy

Kellie Bracht, City of Altamonte Springs

Derek Busby, SJRWMD

Tiffany Busby, Wildwood Consulting

Lauren Campbell, DEP

Michael Cash, City of Sanford

Stacy Cecil, DEP

Carolyn Ciarlariello, DEP

Matthew Clark, Seminole County

Steven Collins, JMT

Nick Cooper, City of Casselberry

Jane Dai, City of Casselberry

Susan Davis, SJRWMD

Jena Delk, Citizen

Lauren Dorval, FDACS

Brian Dunigan, City of Winter Springs

Alyssa Eide, City of Maitland

Sheryl Ervin, Infiltrator Water

Yesenia Escibano, FDACS

Eka Febrina, Seminole County

Jessica Fetgatter, DEP

David Frady, DEP

Fred Gaines, FDOT

Nicole Gough, Dewberry

Sameul Hankinson, DEP

Janet Hearn, ATM

Karen Heriot, Citizen

Cori Hermle, FDACS

Danielle Honour, CDM Smith

Philip Hursh, City of Winter Springs

Bilal Iftikhar, City of Winter Springs

Nathan Jagoda, DEP

Johnny Jones, DEP

Meera Joshi, Corollo Engineers

Chandler Keenan, DEP

Emily Lawson, Orange County

Heather Lindell, Orange County

Erich Marzolf, SJRWMD

Lori McCloud, SJRWMD

Alexa McWilliams, Ardurra

Gabrielle Milch, Citizen

Shannon Monahan, City of Winter Park

Nicole Morgan, DEP

Claire Muirhead, SJRWMD

Joshua Papacek, SJRWMD

Ximena Pernet, RES

Robert Potts, ATM

Raulie Raulerson, FDACS

Christina Rodgers, Citizen

Rhonda Roff, Citizen

Michelle Shelton, Seminole County

Stacey Simmons, FDACS

Victoria Steinnecker, Corollo Engineers

Alexis Stewart, City of Oviedo

Erica Stone, Corollo Engineers

Scott A Towler, Government Services Corp.

William Tredik, Applied Sciences

Tiffany Trent, SJRWMD

Diana Turner, DEP

Lisa Van Houdt, DEP

Kenneth Weaver, DEP

Anne Elise Wester, SJRWMD

Shannon Wetzel, Seminole County

Opening Remarks

Lauren Campbell welcomed everyone to the Lake Jesup BMAP annual meeting. Lauren introduced Evelyn Becerra, who is the new basin coordinator for the Lake Jesup BMAP and is the main contact for any questions related to the Middle St. Johns River and related BMAPs.

Lake Jesup BMAP Updates, Evelyn Becerra

Q: Derek Busby asked is there a single (or is it a composite) water quality station being used for the hot spot benchmark and, if so, where located?

A: Evelyn responded that for this analysis, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reviews the consistent ambient monitoring stations within the entire BMAP area. Some stations are monitored monthly or quarterly, depending on the station.

Q: Eka Febrina asked what is the difference between the Clean Waterways Act (CWA) what are the differences between the Clean Waterways Act (Senate Bill [SB] 712) and the House Bill (HB) 1379 requirements?

A: Lauren responded that the Clean Waterways Act requires the Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System (OSTDS) Plans and Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Plans. These requirements may match some of the planning requirements in HB 1379. The 2023 HB 1379 has additional planning requirements that the CWA plans will help satisfy but also has additional requirements. David Frady added that if anyone has specific questions about either legislation, please let Evelyn know.

Q: Jeffrey Abbot asked if everyone can we get a copy of the recording and other meeting materials?

A: Lauren responded that, yes, a summary of the questions and answers, the meeting presentation, along with the meeting recording will be posted. Please give us some time to post the meeting materials.

Q: Emily Lawson asked where errors on the BMAP Story Map can be reported.

A: Moira Homann and Lauren responded that any questions or comments on the Jesup BMAP Story Map, or other BMAP questions, should be directed to Evelyn Becerra at Evelyn.Becerra@FloridaDEP.gov.

Q: Victoria Steinnecker stated the WWTF Plans and OSTDS Remediation Plans required by SB 712 require a list, ranking, and costs for projects required to meet the nutrient goals of the BMAP, but the Lake Jesup BMAP does not have nutrient goals from treatment plants or OSTDS. What nutrient reductions are stakeholders in the Lake Jesup BMAP supposed to use for treatment plants and OSTDS?

A: The DEP staff asked Victoria to share her email or phone number to discuss her question personally, in more detail.

St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) Update, Tiffany Trent

Q: Jeffrey Abbot asked do we have a working assumption as to why the nitrogen to phosphorus (N:P) ratio is reversed from typical? I assume this is because N is being pulled from the atmosphere as P rises?

A: Tiffany Trent responded that she did expect to see an inverse relationship, which was not the case. It could be because of the atmospheric nitrogen. The N:P could also be related to the fact we are measuring the N:P of the algae when samples are collected. This is a new observation that the SJRWMD will be exploring the cause further.

Q: Tiffany Busby asked about some former studies, there were problems with people interfering with the research equipment. Have you had any issues with equipment tampering?

A: No, our contractor has not had those issues. We have also designed the mesocosms to be visible for navigation for safety reasons, but also low profile so as not to draw attention to the equipment.

Q: Jeffrey Abbot noted the muck thickness and phosphorus levels in the sediments appear to correlate with sulfur spring location/activity. Did you measure phosphorus levels to differentiate the phosphorus resulting from sulfur springs (more transient in nature) and man-made contributions (more persistent).

A: Tiffany Trent responded they have not measured in conjunction with the locations of sulfur springs. Tiffany offered to investigate this question further and respond later.

Q: Jeffrey Abbot asked where will the nutrient treatment system on upland property be located? I understand the Sanford Airport does not want this at the location shown in the slides.

A: Anne Elise Wester responded that the original site for the proposed wetland project was on the other side of the lake (the northwest side of the lake) near the Sanford Airport. The alternative technology treatment project that was selected in lieu of the wetland project is located on the other side of the lake and much further away from the Sanford Airport. The site is also much smaller (9.7 acres) for the alternative treatment. The SJRWMD is hoping for good success from this project. The project site is an upland area with no wetlands, and no wetland mitigation will be necessary.

Q: Christina Rodgers asked about a proposal for a State Road 417 extension to Sanford Airport. Does this treatment site come close to any of those alignments?

A: The proposed treatment site is on the southeast side of the lake and is not close to the Sanford Airport or the alignment. There were concerns about bird activity at another previously proposed site that was closer to the airport on the western side of the lake.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) Update, Cori Hermle
No questions.

Agriculture Enforcement Update, David Frady
No questions.

Funding Opportunities—Nathan Jagota
No questions.

Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.

Action items

1. Evelyn--Post the presentation, questions and answers summary, and meeting recording.
2. Evelyn—Follow up with Victoria Steinnecker (vsteinnecker@carollo.com) on her specific questions about the Clean Waterways Act requirements and plan details.
3. Tiffany Trent—Look into the question about the locations of sulfur springs in Lake Jesup and respond to Jeffrey Abbot at JeffreyBAbbott@hotmail.com.
4. Emily Lawson—Report any comments or errors on the BMAP Story Map to Evelyn Becerra at Evelyn.Becerra@FloridaDEP.gov.