

Regional Project Example from the Lower St. Johns River Main Stem

Lake Jesup Technical Working Group Meeting
August 28, 2008

LSJR Main Stem

- Several entities in the freshwater section did not have adequate projects in their jurisdictions to meet their required reductions:
 - Clay County
 - Putnam County
 - St. Johns County
 - Town of Welaka

SJRWMD Algal Initiative

- “St. Johns River Nutrient Discharge Reduction Initiative” (“Algal Initiative”) is an existing SJRWMD initiative.
- Main focus is to achieve phosphorus reductions in the freshwater reach to reduce the frequency of algal blooms; however, many of the proposed projects will also reduce nitrogen.
- SJRWMD provided this option to the entities to achieve their phosphorus and nitrogen reductions.

Commitments

- By adding the Algal Initiative to their project tables, the entities committed to:
 - Working with the SJRWMD to identify and develop projects, and
 - Funding the projects to meet their allocation.
- The SJRWMD has committed to:
 - Helping to determine costs and load reduction estimates for the potential projects, and
 - Identifying the most cost efficient projects.

Schedule

- Two (2) years for project identification and assessment (from time the BMAP is approved).
- Two (2) years for project design and fund raising.
- Up to five (5) years for project construction (depending on the project).
- Entities have the option of developing their own projects to meet a portion of the reduction attributed to the Algal Initiative as long as this schedule is met.

Implications

- The BMAP project lists contains both local projects and regional projects.
- The regional projects provide subsidized project assessment work and opportunities for economies of scale.
- The actual project costs are not yet known—locals can opt in or opt out when the project planning is complete and the costs are defined.
- The project tables show that the local governments can meet their total reduction on a schedule that is measurable and achievable (but also longer than 5 years). If they opt out, they need to meet the load reductions and schedule with their own projects. The schedule and load reductions are linked to their MS4 permit.



Questions?