

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
DeLeon Spring, Gemini Springs, and Volusia Blue Spring Basin Management Action Plans
(BMAPs)**

Question and Answer (Q&A) Summary

Public Meeting on May 29, 2024

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Via GoToWebinar

Attendees

Ginger Adair, Volusia County	Megan Hunnicutt, FDACS
Alison Adams, Citizen	Chandler Keenan, DEP
Jim Ailes, City of Deland	Joy Kokjohn, SJRWMD
Dustin Allen, DEP	Charles Legros, DEP
Jon Ayscue, Citizen	Celeste Lyon, RES
Deborah Baldwin, Citizen	Allison M Chancy, DEP
Lisa Bally, ATM	Tom Mayton, SJRWMD
Evelyn Becerra, DEP	Max Mcamis, Pasco County
Connie Becker, DEP	Karen McLaughlin, Citizen
Beth Brady, Save The Manatee	Jessica Meinhofer, Citizen
Tiffany Busby, Wildwood Consulting	Gabrielle Milch, St. Johns Riverkeeper
Andy Canion, SJRWMD	Jessica Mostyn, DEP
Nancy Church, Volusia County	Mark Nelson, Jones Edmunds
Carolin Ciarlariello, DEP	Ryne Nimmo, DEP
Patricia Coffey, FDACS	Kevin O'Donnell, DEP
Susan Davis, SJRWMD	Josh Papacek, SJRWMD
Cammie Dewey, SJRWMD	Jim Parrish, City of Deltona
Lauren Dorval, FDACS	Wendy Poag, Lake County
Chloe Dougherty, Florida Springs Council	Roderick Reardon, Citizen
Katie Durham, DEP	Erin Reed, Volusia County
Jeff Earhart, Lake County	Eb Roeder, DEP
Yesenia Escribano, FDACS	Shannon Salvatori, SJRWMD
Holly Giles, Volusia County	Suzanne Scheiber, Citizen
Tina Gordon, Wildwood Consulting	Stacey Simmons, FDACS
Roxanne Groover, FOWA	Ryan Smart, Florida Springs Council
Matt Guzinski, Mead & Hunt	Jennifer Spain, Volusia County
Sam Hankinson, DEP	Anita Stine, DEP
Janet Hearn, ATM	Jennifer Thera, FDACS
Clay Henderson, Stetson University	Diana Turner, DEP
Cori Hermle, SJRWMD	Michael Ulrich, Volusia County
Margarita Hernandez, DEP	Lisa Van Houdt, DEP
Danielle Honour, CDM Smith	Oscar Vera, Liquid Solutions Group
Barbara Howell, DEP	Connor Wagner, DEP
Bryan Hummel, EPA	Ken Weaver, DEP

Tanya Welborn, DEP
Brenda Wells, Florida Springs Council
Samantha West, Volusia County

Shannon Wetzel, Seminole County
Kelly Young, Volusia County
Unknown, The Florida Channel

DeLeon Spring, Gemini Springs, and Volusia Blue Spring Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Overview

Q: On a previous slide with the table of the number of projects, there was a reference to the nitrogen shown being the reduction goal. Can you clarify to what this is related?

A: The numbers shown were actually the verified reductions for projects submitted as a part of the statewide annual report (STAR) process.

Nitrogen Source Inventory Loading Tool (NSILT) Results

Q: On the slide regarding loading for onsite sewage and disposal systems (OSTDS), can you explain why the percentage of load to groundwater versus surface water is different among the three springs?

A: This is due to the recharge factors applied to the loading estimate at the land surface to estimate the load to groundwater and the proportion of OSTDS located in the various recharge types (i.e., high, medium, low, and discharge) in each spring. The proportion of OSTDS located in each recharge type varies among the three springs.

Q: Are the estimated total nitrogen loads in the springsheds consistent with the measured nitrate/nitrite concentrations at the spring vents?

A: The NSILT springshed estimate and the spring vent estimate are two different evaluations. There is a lot of uncertainty in estimating when the loading at the land surface reaches the spring vent, including the age of the water, and so there is often some delay to when the surface loading changes are expected to influence the spring vent concentrations. The NSILT is a Geographic Information System (GIS) spreadsheet tool designed to estimate, to the best of our ability and the data availability, the load to the land surface currently. It is not a model to predict exactly what the load is at the spring vent is. We have not tried to calibrate the NSILT loading to the spring vent analysis due to the variability to the loading at that land surface, what comes out at the spring vent, and when. We will be going over the spring vent analysis later in the presentation. It is a combination of both the NSILT estimate and the spring vent measurements that allows us to examine the loading and estimate the needed reductions.

Spring Vent Load Analysis Results

Q: Will there be any “what we are doing to improve this or how citizens can get involved” sections to the presentations today?

A: This will be addressed during a future meeting when we get into more details on projects and management strategies. Citizens can participate in upcoming meetings and visit the StoryMaps to learn more.

Q: Has the accuracy of the analyses (NSILT and spring vent) been estimated?

A: Regarding the NSILT, it is not a model but a spreadsheet tool. The tool is used to identify and quantify the loading and proportion the nitrogen sources. For the spring vent analysis, we used data from the Watershed Information Network (WIN) to summarize loading at the spring vent. These measurements are used to determine the proportion of loading that needs to be reduced in order to meet the total maximum daily load (TMDL). The percent reduction needed was based on actual flow and concentration data at the spring vents.

Next Steps - BMAP Updates

There were no additional questions or comments.

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 11:00 am.