

**ORANGE CREEK BASIN TMDLS
BASIN WORKING GROUP
DRAFT Meeting Notes**

DATE: October 6, 2005

TIME: 9:30 AM

LOCATION: Gainesville, Florida - GRU

Meeting Attendees: (Names in bold are BWG members, names in italics are alternates)

Name	Affiliation
Mary Paulic	DEP, Tallahassee
Terry Pride	DEP, Tallahassee
Jennifer Gihring	DEP, Tallahassee
Jeff Martin	DEP/NED
Fay Baird	Pandion Systems/DEP
Susie Hetrick	DEP, Paynes Prairie
	DCA
Gail Mowry	Marion County
	DACS
Alan Obaigbena	DOT
Chris Bird	ACEPD
Diana Gijsselaers	ACEPD
	ACPW
	ACEPAC
<i>Sally Adkins</i>	City of G'ville/GCWP
Alice Rankeillor	City of G'ville
Brett Cunningham	Jones/Edmunds
Maria Martin	MACTEC

Name	Affiliation
	ACHD
David Walker	SJRWMD
Lori Hazel	SJRWMD
	UF
Brett Goodman	GRU
Paul Davis	GRU
David Richardson	GRU
	FWCC
Phil Gornicki	Forestry Industry - FL Forestry Assoc.
	Forestry Industry
	DACS/DOF
	TCWAC
	Building/Develop.
	Sierra Club
Kathy Cantwell	Sust. Alachua Co.
Walter Willard	GEAC
	Women/Wise Growth
TBI	Town of McIntosh

HOUSEKEEPING

Announcements

- o Sally Adkins noted that there will be another Creek Summit in April, and that a TMDL/BMAP presentation might be appropriate.

Status of Pending Action Items

Mary Paulic

- Coordinate with DEP and SJRWMD staff re: event mean concentrations (EMCs) used in the TMDL for water vs. wetlands (two different approaches) - *PENDING*
- Coordinate with UF & DEP re: analyzing contribution of phosphatic soils - *PENDING*
- Revise basin map – *SOME REVISIONS COMPLETE; SOME PENDING*
- Locate Notice of Intent information to inform agricultural land analyses – *The county may have the best information on this.*
- Distribute projects/activities tables for group members to review and update, after adding a column to indicate which items should go into the BMAP

Terry Pride

- Revise and consolidate BMP survey - *COMPLETE*

GRU

- Draft short paper about upset conditions at Main Street, water quality testing at Main Street, and water quality in Sweetwater Branch. – *GRU will write a summary*
- Provide DEP with locations of privately maintained pump stations connected to GRU system. – *PENDING*

Chris Bird

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- Coordinate with Alachua Co property appraiser's office to identify properties receiving an ag tax exemption. – *The information was sent to _____?*
- Provide DEP with locations of privately maintained pump stations. – *PENDING*

Robin Hallbourg

- Contact Mark Clark and Mark Hooks regarding presentations on phosphate impacts and septic tanks, respectively. – *KEVIN GRACE ALSO CONTACTED, PRESENTATIONS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER MEETINGS, AS PRESENTERS ARE AVAILABLE. MARK HOOKS IS NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL JANUARY.*

Jeff Martin

- Check DEP database for any permitted stations – *DONE*

UPDATES

- o Alachua Sink: DEP water quality modelers and managers are continuing their review of the Alachua Sink TMDL comments.
- o Alachua County EPD has purchased additional property associated with the "Sweetwater Limited" project.
- o Removal of the total coliform criteria was proposed as part of DEP's triennial review of water quality standards.
- o Lakes Working Group
 - The Lakes Working Group met on October 5th and discussed changes to the WBID boundaries, the DEP groundwater study, and the DEP wastewater analysis.
 - WBID Maps: Alachua County is reviewing the Waterbody Identification Number boundaries near Bivens Arm and Calf Pond. Robin Hallbourg and Sally Adkins will provide DEP a shapefile with revised boundaries.
 - Groundwater Study: The Lakes Working Group provided feedback on the final scope of work and field sampling details for DEP's groundwater-surface water interaction study on Lake Lochloosa. Alachua County and the SJRWMD volunteered resources to support field sampling. If successful, results of this study will influence development of the Lake Lochloosa TMDL. This method could be applied to other lakes in the basin. Field work will be initiated in late winter/early spring.
 - o Dr. Cantwell asked why the groundwater study did not incorporate Newnans Lake. Mary Paulic responded that they would discuss that possibility with the Groundwater Section. She asked that anyone that has studies on forestry impacts please send them to her.
 - o Alan O. questioned the use of "Push" technology and suggested that DEP would need to develop a well or they would get false readings. Mary Paulic offered to put him in touch with DEP Groundwater staff to discuss this.
 - Wastewater Analysis: The Lakes Working Group approved DEP's proposal to move forward with an analysis of nutrient loading from onsite wastewater systems in Alachua County. This analysis focuses on the unincorporated areas, except maybe for parts of Newnans within 200 feet of the lake. It can be linked with the groundwater study to help prioritize management actions.
 - o David Richardson raised the idea of studying the urban areas more, which Mary Paulic said they may consider.
 - o Chris Bird noted that they could get a sense of the age of urban septic systems based on the property appraiser's database.
 - o Dr. Cantwell suggested that more could be done about septic tank impacts in around Newnans than Lochloosa or Orange. Jennifer indicated that improvements could be achieved for Orange and Lochloosa because of the karst features, but that the 200-foot range might not work as well.

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PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES - BMP SURVEY

- o Revised versions of the projects and activities table and BMP survey were distributed.
- o Sections of the NPDES annual reports can be referenced, where appropriate, in response to questions.
- o Sections of the survey may need to be filled out by different sections within a jurisdiction. However, group members should fill out the survey only for their area of responsibility/jurisdiction.
- o Q: How will this information translate into "credit" in the BMAP? A: The method for this type of translation is still being developed. This information may be included as part of the Margin of Safety instead of quantitative credit.
- o Responses to the survey should be sent in by the November 3 meeting, but incomplete areas can be marked, if necessary, with an indication of when they will be completed.

REVIEW OF DRAFT BMAP

General:

- o Terry Pride distributed and reviewed the draft BMAP with group members.
- o Dr. Cantwell pointed out that Sustainable Alachua County had not yet been added to the list of BWG members. This will be corrected.
- o A remaining issue for the group is how to best identify the expected resource-based responses associated with the management actions.
- o The current timeframe is March for a final draft BMAP.
- o Regarding Lake Lochloosa, the BMAP will contain ongoing management actions, with provisions for continued monitoring.

Maps:

- o A surface water flow map can be developed for the basin. The group recommended also including text in the BMAP that discusses drainage directions.
- o The basin map key needs to be changed to include Hogtown and Tumblin creeks and to identify the AS Basin Remodeling as Paynes Prairie.
- o The BWG would like to see a map of impaired waters in the basin for possible inclusion in the BMAP.

Source Tables:

- o Dave Walker distributed and reviewed the revised source loading tables.
- o Silviculture is currently included with natural forest land (rangeland). Data from Dr. Comeford (FSU) showed that loadings from these two land uses are similar. Data demonstrating that they are significantly different has not been provided.
- o Q: How will we allocate nutrient loads to individual MS4s? A: It is unlikely that we will develop detailed allocations in this basin.
- o Project Lists in the BMAP
 - Project information is being gathered by Mary Paulic. Feedback provided through the BMP survey will be integrated with other project information.
 - The BMAP will include a section listing projects in the basin and their anticipated benefits. In addition to providing credit for current projects, this will allow the BMAP to provide support for projects seeking funding.
 - Internal policies may limit some group members (e.g. DOT) to only include funded projects. However, the decision regarding which of their projects to include is up to each group member and the entity he/she represents.
 - Project lists in the BMAP may be split into "funded projects" and "recommended projects."

Consensus Decisions:

- Add non-BWG member participants to the acknowledgments.
- We will use the sources spreadsheet that specifically identifies tributary inflows from Hatchett and Little Hatchett creeks.
- Percentage reductions will remain listed in the table.

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- Silviculture areas will be listed as a “controllable” source. This will be accompanied by text that discusses the extent and benefits of BMP implementation (e.g. appropriate BMP implementation decreases loads back to natural background).
- Projects listed in the BMAP should not be limited to those that are already funded, though they may be categorized as recommended projects.
- Aquatic plant control methods will be added to the list of issues, as a primary issue.
- Add narrative discussion on sources.
- Various edits/clarifications to the BMAP were recommended, which Terry Pride will make.

APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING COLIFORM TMDLS

- o Mary Paulic distributed and reviewed a draft approach for addressing coliforms in the BMAP.
- o Quantitative loading tables will not be developed for coliforms.
- o Brett Goodman is also working on a coliform analysis by stream segment. He distributed a draft list of stream segments that will be included.
- o There are other sources, but human-related waste is the most significant controllable threat to human health. However, this does not mean that other sources should be ignored.
- o Discussion about how to address coliforms and prioritize potential sources will occur at the December meeting.
- o It was suggested that we look at the Lower SJR approach to coliforms. They are working under the assumption that addressing fecal coliforms will address total coliforms.

NEXT STEPS IN BMAP DEVELOPMENT

- o DEP staff will revise the draft BMAP based on group comments.
- o **Note:** The BWG will need to discuss the ultimate sign-off process for the BMAP, including endorsement by local elected officials.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

- o BWG Members
 - Continue work on completing BMP survey. Where information is readily available, responses should be submitted to DEP by the first week of November.
 - Group members will review and revise subbasin hydrology descriptions.
- o Brett Goodman
 - Develop presentation about GRU's coliform study for the December BWG meeting.
 - Map private lift stations
 - Map smoke testing
 - Map proximity of septic tanks to storm drains?? – suggested by Chris Bird
- o Dave Walker
 - Revise source tables to include the following items:
 - Loading from Hatchett/Little Hatchett specifically identified under tributary inflows.
 - List “Silviculture” on its own line, separate from developed uses.
 - Clarify that “Atmospheric Deposition” is the loading that falls directly onto a waterbody.
 - Clarify that “Rangeland” is not actively managed pasture.
 - Clarify that the “Controllable Baseline % Contribution” column refers to the fraction of the total controllable load, not the fraction of the baseline loading.
 - Wherever the term is used, change “Baseline” to a more appropriate term.
- o Terry Pride
 - Revise the BMP survey and its cover letter to: 1) indicate the date range applicable to data collection (2000 and later); 2) clarify that entities should only respond for areas under their jurisdiction, and 3) clarify that references to the NPDES annual report can be used where appropriate.
 - Distribute revised BMP survey via email.
 - Arrange for drafting of a description of aquatic plant management activities in the basin (e.g. 1963 management document used by Alachua County, DEP, and FWC) for the BMAP.

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- Contact Kevin Grace (pilot study of soil phosphorus levels) and Mark Clark (Tumblin Creek phosphorus loading) regarding presentations at the November BWG meeting.
- Check on potential conflicts for the November meeting date and confer with the group about a new date, if needed.
- Get information for the BWG on the LSJR approach to coliforms.
- Contact Joe Hinkle and the FWCC representative to make sure they participate in a discussion of the impacts of aquatic plant control on nutrient loadings to impaired waters.
- Contact smaller local governments re BMAP process.
- Continue development of the BMAP, including comments received thus far from the BWG.
- o Mary Paulic
 - Distribute a list of information that will be needed to facilitate discussion about coliforms, the BMP survey, and other issues at the December meeting.
 - Finalize refinements to the basin map boundaries and change the key to include Hogtown and Tumblin creeks and to identify the AS_Basin_Remodeling as Paynes Prairie.
 - Develop map of the basin that shows impaired waters with TMDL due dates.
- o Jennifer Gihring
 - Pull sub-basin hydrology language from the TMDL documents and send to appropriate BWG members for their review. **Note:** Robin and Troy were volunteered to draft language on the basin hydrology. A deadline of the end of December was set for this language.
 - Develop a surface water flow map for the basin.
 - Estimate forest acreage that falls into the categories of “natural,” “industrial forest” (e.g. Plum Creek), and “other managed forest” (e.g. SJRWMD forest land).
 - Send group members information about the triennial review of water quality standards.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- o The November meeting will include:
 - Phosphorus presentations by Dr. Mark Clark (if available) and Kevin Grace.
 - GRU mapping and coliform study updates
 - Update on Alachua Sink
 - BMP survey update (compilation)
 - Updated BMAP
 - Other issues
- o The December meeting will include:
 - Detailed discussion about addressing coliforms in the BMAP
 - Consensus item: focusing on human-related sources
 - Detailed discussion about project information
 - Other issues

OUTREACH

- o City and county representatives noted that it might be a good time to brief their commission subcommittees on the progress of BMAP development. No presentations were requested of DEP.

Next meeting: November 3, 2005, at GRU