

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

Basin Working Group Meeting Summary

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

*Gainesville Regional Utilities – Multi-purpose Room
301 Southeast 4th Avenue, Gainesville, Florida*

Attendees

Tiffany Busby, Wildwood Consulting	Mark Kuhn, FDOT
Angelique Bochnak, ECT	Jody Lee, FDACS
Vicki Busseno, Gainesville	Laura Line, Water & Air Research
Paul Davis, GRU	James Link, Alachua County
Anthony Dennis, FDOH in Alachua County	Carol Lippincott, Florida LLC
Holly Edmond, FDACS	Wayne Magley, FDEP
Judy Etzler, Resident	Whitey Markle, Sierra Club
Xueqing Gao, FDEP	Jenn McElroy, GRU
Robin Hallbourg, Alachua County EPD	Eric Nagid, FWC
Ryan Hamm, FWC	Alan Obaigbena, FDOT
David Hamstra, Plum Creek	Bob Palmer, Resident
Janet Hearn, ATM	Mary Paulic, FDEP
Robin Holland, Florida Forest Service	Alice Rankeillor, GRU
Dale Jones, FWC	Andrew Roberts, Gainesville
Tom Kallemeyn, FDEP	Geoff Sample, SJRWMD
Karen Kohoutek-Luckin, FDOT	Russell Simpson, FDEP

Welcome and Introductions

Tiffany Busby welcomed everyone to the Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) meeting. She thanked Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) for the use of their meeting room. The participants introduced themselves and the entity they represent.

Stakeholder Updates

Tiffany asked if there were any updates not already noted on the agenda. The following updates were discussed, as noted below.

City of Gainesville

Andrew Roberts stated that the City of Gainesville is in the process of contracting for a study on both Little Hatchett and Lake Forest Creeks. The request for qualification is about to be released. Mary Paulic asked what the timeframe is for the completion of the study. Andrew responded that they expect the study to take about one year to complete.

Paynes Prairie Update/GRU

Alice Rankeillor reported that the Paynes Prairie construction is about 97 percent complete. The official opening date of the park will be on May 2nd and will be open on weekends through the end of the fiscal year. Also, the water quality study for Sweetwater Branch is ongoing and has a Department-approved study plan. Right now, they are wrapping up the modeling and the corresponding report.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

Ryan Hamm asked if there had been any further discussion about allowing other public uses in addition to wildlife viewing (i.e., fishing). Alice responded that there are not discussions at this time. There are concerns about interactions with alligators. Ryan asked if it might be possible to address these concerns so fishing could be allowed. Alice responded that it is unclear how to satisfy those concerns.

Wayne Magley asked if the portion of the project where about two miles of canals were going to be filled is complete. Alice responded that it is complete. Ryan asked if there was any testing done on the filling and the functionality after completion. Alice responded that it has been surveyed but it has not yet been certified as complete. She added that there are no permit requirements for testing of the functionality. She also noted that the plantings are complete. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is assisting with evaluation of plant survival.

Orange Creek Interagency Basin Working Group (OCIABWG) Update/Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

Ryan reported that the group hosted a meeting about Orange Lake access. There are two sites on the lake--one on the east and one on the west side of the lake. It is helpful to have the access points on opposite sides of the lake so if the wind blows the tussocks against one shoreline, boaters can still get off the lake on the opposite side. The FWC has additional habitat improvements being considered on Red Bird Island, Bird Island, North Island, and Grassy Point. No work is being done at present on North Island but on the others, mechanical shredders are being used. As a result, they are observing lots of bird activity and roosting. They feel that positive wildlife habitat benefits are being achieved.

The OCIABWG also held an aquatic plant control workshop. During the workshop, the herbicide regulations were reviewed and the types of chemicals and their toxicity were described. A summary of the question and answer session is available at the Word Press site as well as presentations (www.orangecreekbasin.wordpress.com).

An upcoming workshop is being planned toward mid-May on hydrogeology of Orange Lake. The next OCIABWG meeting for group members is tentatively scheduled for April 30th. They will be discussing issues with the Orange Lake weir located on the east side of U.S. Route 301. Ryan described how an earthen dam was built as part of the road improvements and this berm creates a barrier to lake flushing. The group will review technical reports and discuss what actions may be possible.

Mary Paulic noted that a date has not yet been set for the hydrogeology workshop and when it is known it will be announced via the OCIABWG distribution list.

Judy Etzler added that the herbicide workshop was very well done and informative. David Hamstra asked about the location of the U.S. Route 301 basin working group discussion. Ryan responded that the basin working group discussion is not a public meeting but they are posting the meeting summaries on the Word Press website. Mary added that the technical reports that will be reviewed are posted on the Department's website and she can provide the link to the folder where they are located, in case anyone would like to review them.

Mark Kuhn asked if there is a date for the basin working group meeting. Mary responded that the April 30 tentative date still has to be confirmed as she is waiting for responses from the report authors and other experts to schedule a time that works for the most people. Whitey Markle asked if the report

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

authors are listed on the website. Mary responded that, yes, the authors' names and their documents are posted on the website. Mary asked Ryan if there is audio available from the herbicide workshop. Ryan responded that the audio is not posted. The FWC is working on using the video from the workshop to create a statewide education tool. However, it is unclear whether large files such as audio and video files can be posted on the Word Press site because of the site's storage limitations.

BMAP Workplan and Schedule

Mary reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on the workplan and schedule. She noted that the schedule to revise the BMAP and to add projects is on a fast track schedule with a completion date for a draft BMAP by March 2016. She is not yet sure if the entire BMAP document will be adopted or only pertinent sections will be adopted.

Mary noted that the approach is to have both regular Basin Working Group (BWG) meetings as well as technical discussions that will be topic-driven and will get into the weeds of resolving the questions. Based on the technical discussions, information will be gathered and brought to the BWG meetings for recommendations to the Department.

Mary provided a handout on the schedule and noted that there are more details on the slides. In the April to May 2015 timeframe, technical discussions will be started on nutrient sources, problems that may hinder implementation, regional treatment, new technologies, credits for existing projects, allocation strategies, and stakeholder engagement strategies. A June BWG meeting is planned to review the stakeholder engagement approaches, allocations of load reductions to lakes and the BMAP revision process including new projects and the Lochloosa Lake total maximum daily load (TMDL).

In the June to July 2015 period, it is planned to compile the information for the 2015 annual progress report. Additionally, technical discussions are planned for lake nutrient budgets, new project information for each lake, collecting project information, reviewing project crediting procedures, identifying load reduction strategies and refining allocation and stakeholder engagement approaches.

In the August to September 2015 timeframe, an annual meeting is planned in August where the 2015 Annual Progress Report would be presented. Also, technical discussions are planned including the allocation and stakeholder engagement processes, lake management and watershed loading strategies, and how to calculate credit for the kinds of projects that lack a current calculation method. There are also plans to meet with individual stakeholders to discuss their projects and calculations.

During the October to November 2015 time period, the goal is to hold a BWG meeting in October 2015. Additionally, technical discussions are planned on the outline of the revised BMAP document, to discuss additional investigative studies, and to evaluate the monitoring plan. Additional individual stakeholder meetings may also be needed.

In the December 2015 to January 2016 timeframe, a BWG meeting is planned for both December and January. Technical discussions may be held on finalizing the list of projects, revisions to the monitoring plan, and elements of the FFWCC Orange Lake Management Plan for inclusion or reference in the BMAP. In January 2016, the Department plans to draft the BMAP document.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

In the February 2016, the draft BMAP will be presented for review and the adoption steps will be reviewed. The Department will make presentations for adoption of the BMAP and conduct briefings to local governments and others, as needed.

In March 2016, the final monitoring plan will be discussed and the final project and investigative studies will be incorporated into the BMAP document. The BMAP will be revised based on stakeholder comments received. A public meeting is planned for March 2016.

In the April to May 2016 time period, the Department will prepare the BMAP for adoption and obtain the appropriate approvals.

Judy asked if the PowerPoint will be available for review. Mary responded that she will post the presentations on the meeting website.

Bob Palmer noted that the BMAP documents are supposed to follow the requirements of law and that they don't appear to do so. The law requires milestones for water quality improvements. The BMAP document doesn't address when we will meet the TMDLs. Also, the bills being proposed in the current legislative session seem to rely on the BMAPs and minimum flows and levels (MFLs). However, those tools don't seem that great and we need milestones to make sure that we reach our goals. Mary responded that we do have a monitoring plan and comparisons are made based on the data and the TMDLs. Annually, we also report progress on projects, so we can see what is getting done. Additionally, every five years, we do a BMAP update. Bob responded that the last five-year plan had nothing new, so he doesn't put much stock in the update process. Bob added that it sounds like there will be more new actions in this update but he plans to "trust, but verify" that is the case. Mary replied that there were some new projects in the BMAP update and now there will be more. Mary offered to follow up with Bob and review the new projects in the 2014 BMAP update.

Mary noted that she wanted some feedback on future meeting logistics and when the best time to schedule meetings would be. She stated that we have usually met the first Thursday of the month and asked if there were concerns with that timing. She also asked if morning or afternoon meetings are preferred. There were a few people who indicated that afternoon meetings on the first Thursday are preferred as there are other regular meetings in the morning of the first Thursday. Alan Obaigbena indicated that he has a conflict in the morning on the first Thursday. Mary stated that everyone should plan for the next meeting to be held on June 4th in the afternoon and she will send out an email before each meeting confirming the date and time.

Mary noted that based on the first Thursday schedule, the following meeting dates are planned: June 4, 2015; August 6, 2015; October 1, 2015; December 3, 2015; and January 7, 2016. Additional meetings are planned in February and March 2016, but the dates are not yet determined. The January date may be changed to later in the month because of end of the year holidays.

Nutrient Issues and Sources for the Lakes

Mary moved on to the next section of her presentation on nutrient issues and sources. She reminded everyone that most of the TMDLs we are working on were adopted in 2003.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

Lake Wauberg

Mary reviewed the total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP) TMDLs for Lake Wauberg and that on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS) are estimated to be 32% of the existing loads for both TN and TP. Mary reviewed the trends in chlorophyll-a and seasonal trophic state index (TSI) averages. The chlorophyll-a data are LAKEWATCH data using uncorrected chlorophyll-a. Mary added that the TMDLs used TSI as a target and TSI has historically been elevated in Lake Wauberg. Mary noted that Lake Wauberg is a large lake with a small watershed. There were some urban land uses (39 acres) in the watershed and the watershed includes the U.S. 441 area.

Mary stated that the Florida Department of Health in Alachua County helped the Department perform a preliminary survey of OSTDS in the basin. The University of Florida (UF) has two areas that have OSTDS and the Paynes Prairie State Park also uses OSTDS. At the time of the survey, the agencies had difficulty getting access to some of the properties. Now, the Department is considering using better tools to calculate the nitrogen plumes from OSTDS. Also, there is interest in reviewing the usage rates at the UF and Paynes Prairie sites and their operations and maintenance (O&M) procedures to see if they may be improved.

Jody Lee asked where the agricultural land uses are located in this basin. Mary noted that the figure reflects older data, so there have likely been some shifts in land uses since then.

Anthony Dennis stated that the UF properties may be important but it is unlikely that the residential OSTDS are important sources due to their small number and locations. Anthony offered to share his contacts with the UF facilities managers on Lake Wauberg. Mary agreed to follow up with Anthony to get this contact information. Judy noted that one UF site is gated with access control, so they should have a good head count of how many people use the site. Anthony added that the southern UF site has expanded with more facilities on the property. Judy stated that Paynes Prairie State Park has camping facilities above Micanopy. Mary replied that she will check on the Park's wastewater facilities. Whitey asked what the percentage of internal loading is in Lake Wauberg. Mary responded that she is not sure what the internal loading is. The modeling is not specific about the internal loads so that is one of the unknowns. Wayne Magley responded that a researcher named Whitmore performed some sediment cores in the lake, but his study did not include phytoplankton enumeration.

Judy commented that Lake Wauberg is not porous like some of the other lakes like Orange Lake that dry out. Mary responded that the lake bottom is comprised in part of the Hawthorn group which is not very porous and also has sediments rich in TP. Mary added that the Department is also looking at atmospheric deposition as a less known portion of the loading. Mark noted that atmospheric deposition was listed in previous reports as a dominant source to the lakes.

Alice noted that the Camp McConnell package plant discharges to a lake, called George's Pond, adjacent to Lake Wauberg so she is unclear if that could be a source to the lake or not. It is unclear if George's Pond, which is located on the other side of U.S. 441, may be connected via a culvert to Lake Wauberg.

Orange Lake

Mary reviewed the key components of the Orange Lake TP TMDL. She stated that Orange Lake changes a lot in size, depending on rainfall levels, so its area can vary from 5,000 to 14,700 acres.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

Orange Lake is connected to the Floridan aquifer. In terms of water quality, chlorophyll-a levels in Orange Lake are not as high as they are in some of the other lakes. We have also observed some reduction of phytoplankton levels in Orange Lake. The land uses in the 87,000 acre watershed of Orange Lake include agriculture and silviculture as well as urban areas. Based on 2009 data, there is lots of agriculture around the lake. Horse farms and pasture are common uses. This area also overlaps the Silver Springs BMAP area.

Jody said that he needs some help ground-truthing what is really out there for agricultural land uses. There may be a lot of hobby farms that are not commercial operations. He reported that the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) is working with the UF-Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) on the best course of action in this area. Judy noted that the blue color on the map may not reflect the extensive marshy areas that exist around the lake. Judy added that there is a large recreational vehicle (RV) park near Citra that is expanding (Grand Lakes RV Park). Mary responded that she will check into the permitted wastewater facilities at the RV parks and fish camps in the basin. Anthony noted that he can also help Mary with contacts for these facilities.

Whitey asked why silviculture was not included on the map as agricultural area. Mary responded that it is common to separate silviculture from other kinds of agriculture as they are managed by different parts of FDACS. Whitey stated that there has been debate about the quality of runoff from silviculture and that there may be higher loads than are estimated. Mary asked for the data to review. Whitey responded that he has not seen any data but has heard discussions about the potential loads from silviculture.

Mary reviewed that the incoming loads from Camps Canal and Cross Creek are about 49% of the current TP loading. Camps Canal connects Newnans Lake to Orange Lake. Cross Creek flows into Orange Lake from Lochloosa Lake. Some of the unknowns related to Orange Lake include the magnitude of nitrogen fixation occurring within the lake and the external loads of TN and TP to the lake. Also, it is unknown how to quantify load reductions from habitat restoration efforts and from upstream improvements.

Lochloosa Lake

Mary reviewed the proposed TN and TP TMDLs for Lochloosa Lake and the land uses based on 2009 data. Mary also reviewed the data on the existing watershed load versus the estimated internal loads for TN and TP. Mary noted that a more detailed nutrient budget is in development by the Department that will provide more detail for the tributary watersheds. The phytoplankton in Lochloosa Lake are dominated by blue-green algae; at one time the lake was macrophytes-dominated. It is unclear the implication of the shift to a phytoplankton-dominated system and if the effects of on-going aquatic plant treatments play any role in that shift.

Newnans Lake

Mary reviewed the TN and TP TMDLs for Newnans Lake. A large portion of the loading in Newnans Lake is from internal recycling. Watershed loads and tributary inflows are also important, as is atmospheric deposition, although it is smaller than the other sources. Mary noted that Newnans Lake has high internal loads and chlorophyll-a levels, although the chlorophyll-a levels have declined. Gizzard shad harvesting was performed in 2010 but with unclear results. Wildlife also has an unknown role in the watershed loads. Further, hydrologic alterations of the tributary canals cutting down into the Hawthorn layer may be a phosphorus source. Wetlands could also be releasing TP.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

The Department is working on identifying legacy agricultural loads as a potential source and starting conversations with FDACS about those areas. The research that Matt Cohen performed may also help identify solutions or projects. Other local efforts such as the City of Gainesville plans and the Alachua County proposed activities would also be helpful.

Orange Creek Basin Project Development

Carol Lippincott, representing Alachua County Environmental Protection Department, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the county's Orange Creek Basin lake restoration project development efforts. Carol noted the 2003 TMDLs, the original 2007 BMAP and 2014 Phase 2 BMAP, the 2010 pollutant load reduction goal (PLRG), and the 2013 surface water improvement and management (SWIM) Plan update. Carol reviewed her experience working in the basin. Alachua County has hired her to review the projects identified in the various plans and to identify their benefits and possible funding sources to implement them. This effort is not to identify additional projects but to get some of the projects identified in the BMAP funded and implemented. The focus is on the Little Hatchett Creek, which is a tributary to Newnans Lake.

Carol showed a map of Little Hatchett Creek that wraps around and through the Gainesville airport and close up aerial photos of the basin. Carol also showed the depth to the Hawthorn group sediment profile and some photos of incised ditches with exposed layers of the Hawthorn.

Carol noted that they are working on evaluating multiple projects, but she is highlighting a few in this presentation. The first project being highlighted is the potential sewerage of Brittany Estates, a mobile home park. This neighborhood has an on-site package plant that could potentially be phased out if the area could be connected to the GRU system. This area is approximately 4% of the load to Newnans Lake. The project is to start a dialog with the owners of the mobile home park, GRU, and the residents to see if an affordable solution can be identified while eliminating their discharge.

The second project is to reduce the erosion of sediments in the ditch, particularly the downstream segment. Historically, the creek flowed into a wetland but the water is currently routed through a ditch system. The ditch sediments are high in TP as they are part of the Hawthorn formation. Carol showed a map where the Hawthorn is close to the land surface. She reviewed photos of the ditch and the area. The county contracted to pull sediment samples in the ditch. One cubic centimeter of these sediments has 2,000 times more TP and 1 liter of healthy lake water should contain. Therefore, decreasing the sediments moving down from the ditch into Newnans Lake could reduce the TP loads. The photos Carol displays showed lots of sediment accumulation and the smothering of aquatic habitat.

The third project highlighted is the Gum Root Swamp project to better understand the wetland dynamics. The creek travels under State Road (SR) 26 into Newnans Lake. It is known that wetlands can store, transform, or release nutrients depending on their hydrology and dynamics. Carol reported that UF did a study on Gum Root Swamp and expected the wetlands to hold and assimilate nutrients during the summertime. Instead, their results showed that the swamp's inflow and outflow concentrations in summertime were about equal and in winter, the wetland stored some nutrients. The question here is whether it is possible to enhance Gum Root Swamp to store more nutrients.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

Ryan asked if this is a feasibility effort or are the projects actually being implemented. Carol responded that they may find the next step is to conduct the project, or to identify data gaps, or to perform a feasibility study. Judy asked what funding is available to support implementation of these projects. Carol responded that Alachua County has requested \$312,000 from the Florida Legislature to further project implementation, so we will have to monitor that request to see if the legislature grants it. Dale Jones from the FWC added that their agency also has some funding. Wayne added that there is Section 319 funding also available from the Department for projects.

Stakeholders and Possible Allocation Approaches

Mary provided a PowerPoint presentation on this agenda item. She reminded everyone that the Florida Watershed Restoration Act requires an allocation of loading reductions and currently the BMAP allocates to the entire watershed. For the second phase, we need to determine how to make an allocation of responsibilities. The allocations can be individual or in groups. For example, the Gainesville Clean Water Partnership determined their own relative responsibilities for the Paynes Prairie Project. The types of sources that generally are addressed in allocations include point sources, urban stormwater, agricultural stormwater, aquaculture and silviculture. Point source allocations are often specified in the TMDL, particularly when they have a direct discharge to a surface water. Mary noted that it is a different kind of permit that applies to facilities that discharge to the ground surface and ultimately to ground water.

Mary reviewed the benefits of allocations such as defined responsibilities that promotes participation from all parties. Allocations can encourage collaboration and cooperation among stakeholders. The Department wants to focus efforts on finding viable solutions to restore water quality and it is acceptable to use different approaches in different situations. The forms that allocations have taken have varied and it is not a “one size fits all” situation.

Mary noted that the crediting factors are important when allocations are assigned as projects need a method to establish their load reductions. Provisional credit approaches are sometimes used when there is not an established method for estimating reductions from certain kinds of activities. Examples include habitat restoration or restoring ecological function, which are elements that apply in this basin.

Mary noted that an intergovernmental organizational structure can provide a structure for an allocation approach. Some other basins do not have the coordination that this basin has performed.

Mary reviewed the stakeholders in each basin including Newnans Lake, Orange Lake, Lake Wauberg, and Lochloosa Lake. Mary asked for help in engaging and re-engaging all the pertinent stakeholders and to identify anyone who is missing. Carol noted that the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) was not listed and is a stakeholder in all the lake basins. Mary responded that they are an important partner and a land manager. Bob asked about the internal recycling in Newnans Lake and Lochloosa Lake and asked who is responsible for those loads and how is that assigned to a stakeholder. Mary replied that is a good point and the watershed loads may be handled differently than the internal loads. We may have to use different strategies for different sources.

Judy asked if the Town of McIntosh has been in contact with Mary. Mary responded that they are engaged and she has had correspondence with the Town Manager regarding the Silver Springs BMAP.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

However, they need to be re-engaged for this basin. Also, the Town of Hawthorne is in the Lochloosa Lake basin, so they need to be engaged in the process where their area wasn't part of the BMAP before. There are some other stakeholders that also need to be re-engaged.

Alan asked why the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is listed in the Lochloosa Lake basin when they have no direct discharges there. Mary responded that there are state roads in the basin, so they are considered to be a stakeholder. Alan responded that any loading they have should be considered too minimal to worry about and this has been done in other areas. Tiffany responded that Alan is correct that, in some areas, a *de minimus* load has been established and entities under that threshold were not given specific assignments. The decision to have *de minimus* loads, however, is not a give and the amount varies by the basin. Mark asked who decides what the *de minimus* level should be. Tiffany replied that is a consideration that would likely be discussed with the BWG and they could make a recommendation to the Department. It is, however, up to the Department on how to proceed. Janet Hearn stated that doing allocations here would be problematic because dealing with the internal loads is going to give us trouble.

Jody asked how you determine if the benefits outweigh the costs. Mary replied that those kinds of factors enter in to how we approach this and the method we decide to use.

Judy asked if there have been discussions about the legacy loads and the definition of that. It is very important to Lochloosa Lake. Perhaps we should leave the lake the way it is if its condition is from legacy loads. Mary replied that there have not been those discussions yet, but it is a good point. Judy asked how far down the road will the approach be determined. Mary responded that it will be soon—most likely this summer.

Whitey asked what happens if the lakes, due to their history, are wacky and out of balance. Mary responded that it is likely that the lakes have been affected by everything that has happened over time—roads, land use changes, land clearing, etc. The clearer way to say that is there is an imbalance of flora and fauna that we are trying to address. Whitey asked that if the public is not allowed at the interagency meetings, how is that message getting across and are you participating in those meetings. Mary replied that she is participating and carrying that message to the other agencies. Mark added that Mary is there and that Ryan said that the public isn't invited yet to the meetings, but may be invited in the future.

Judy stated that it sounds like these items are being discussed, but she is not hearing that decisions are being made. Whitey added that not much has been said about these lakes in the last 15 years.

David asked if new technologies are being considered to address the internal recycling in the lakes. Mary replied that they are being considered and will be part of the technical discussions. The Department does not expect to determine everything about the approaches to use and is open to ideas, so please bring them to the table as future topics.

Bob stated that he doesn't work for an agency so he doesn't understand the genesis of the projects and how they are identified and implemented. He understands that agency staff can report back but the process of how things actually happen is not transparent. He asked Mary to enlighten him. Mary replied that BMAP projects may be the result of land uses or something like the Paynes Prairie project that was initiated by GRU. There are a lot of projects and they start in different ways. Mark added that

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

the FDOT projects are triggered by their agency's mission and those related activities. Mary added that the Department doesn't dictate what projects must occur. David offered that in the Upper Ocklawaha basin the Lake Beauclair projects is a \$7 million project that is removing a tremendous load. There, some of the entities pooled their money to create a single, large project. Dale added that the FWC gets funding allocated for local projects. They can work with local partners, such as the filling of the Paynes Prairie ditch, to review proposals and make funding decisions. Ryan stated that the FWC projects are focused on their mission—fish and wildlife habitat. Mark commented that FDOT also conducts maintenance activities to keep projects working. Whitey noted that a skyway bridge over Orange Lake would be nice. Ryan stated that when projects have multiple benefits, it is possible to receive funding from multiple agencies.

Mary agreed to provide a description of how projects are developed and funded as a future agenda item. Alice stated that for the Paynes Prairie project, they discussed the project plan with this BMAP group and then turned a water treatment project into a wider partnership and an environmental mitigation project. Judy responded that it is a great idea to present how these projects happen.

Mary noted that no dates have been set for the technical discussions for April and May but she will work on them and announce them soon. The next BWG meeting will be on June 4th.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 PM.

Action Items

- Mary Paulic noted that a date has not yet been set for the hydrogeology workshop and when it is known it will be announced via the OCIBAWG distribution list.
- Mary will provide the link to the folder where the technical reports on the berm for U.S. Route 301 are located, in case anyone would like to review them. That link is <http://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/DEAR/BMAP/OrangeCreek/OCBIAWG/>. Files at this web link include:
 1. SJ97-SP8, Water Management Alternatives Effects on Lake Level and Wetland in the Orange Creek Basin.
 2. SJ98-SP3, An Impact Analysis of the Ground Water Geological effect of Potential Control of the Sinkhole Discharge at Heagy-Burry Park, Orange Lake FL.
 3. Easement file for construction of Orange Lake weir (Department).
 4. SJ2012-1, Chapter 3 Hydrology.
 5. Hwy 301 Weir Engineer Report (FWC).
- Mary will post the March 31st presentations on the meeting website.
- Mary offered to follow up with Bob and review the new projects in the 2014 BMAP update.
- Everyone should plan for the next meeting to be held on June 4th in the afternoon and she will send out an email before each meeting confirming the date and time.
- Anthony offered to share his contacts with the UF facilities managers on Lake Wauberg and for RV parks and fish camps in the Orange Lake basin. Mary agreed to follow up with Anthony to get this contact information.
- Mary will check on the Paynes Prairie State Park's wastewater facilities and the possible connection between George's Pond and Lake Wauberg.

Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan

- Mary will check into the permitted wastewater facilities at the RV parks and fish camps in the Orange Lake basin.
- A more detailed nutrient budget for Lochloosa Lake is in development by the Department.
- Mary agreed to provide a description of how projects are developed and funded as a future agenda item.
- Mary noted that no dates have been set for the technical discussions for April and May but she will work on them and announce them shortly.
- The next BWG meeting will be on June 4th.