

LOWER SANTA FE RIVER & SPRINGS MFL ESTABLISHMENT



**Public Information
Meeting**

Fort White, FL

November 14, 2006



Florida MFL Overview & Process

What is an MFL?

Chapter 373.042, Florida Statutes (F.S.) specifies that the District Board shall establish the following:

- (a) Minimum flow for all surface watercourses in the area. The minimum flow for a given watercourse shall be the limit at which further withdrawals would be **significantly harmful** to the water resources or ecology of the area.

Florida MFL Overview & Process

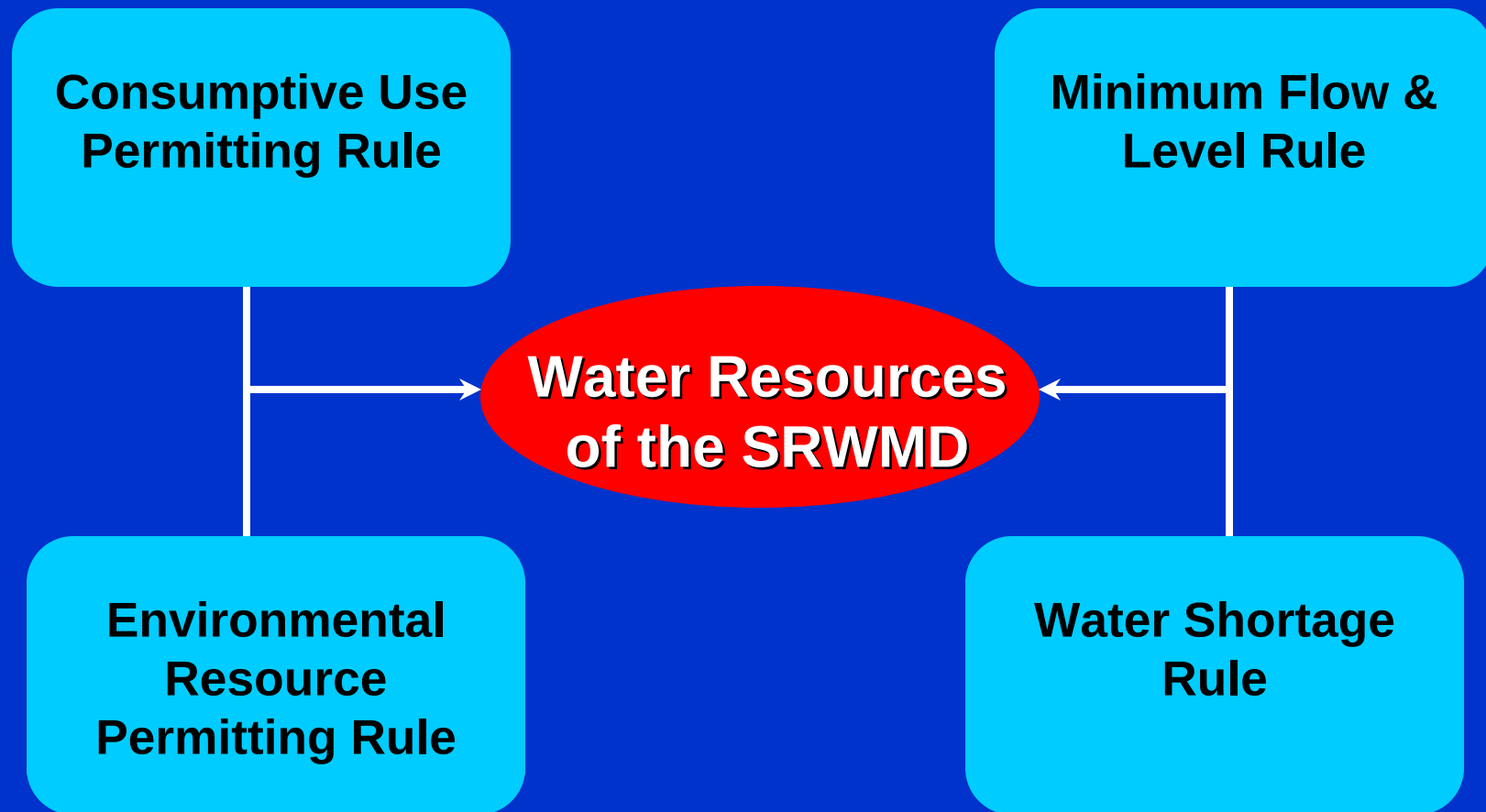
What is an MFL?

Subsequent language in the statute (Chapter 373.042(1), F.S.) provides guidance that the Governing Board shall use the **“best information available”** and that it may consider “seasonal variations” and the “protection of non-consumptive uses” in establishing MFLs.

**Habitat based
MFLs will protect water resources
and ecology from significant harm
caused by withdrawals or diversions
and...**

Protect existing legal users.

Water Use & Resource Protection



APPROACH

- **Collect best available information**
- **Analyze best available information**
- **Evaluate applicable 62-40.473 criteria**
- **Identify limiting target criteria**
- **Identify minimum flow to prevent significant harm to water resource and related ecology**

62-40.473 F.A.C.

Ecological and Water Resource Values

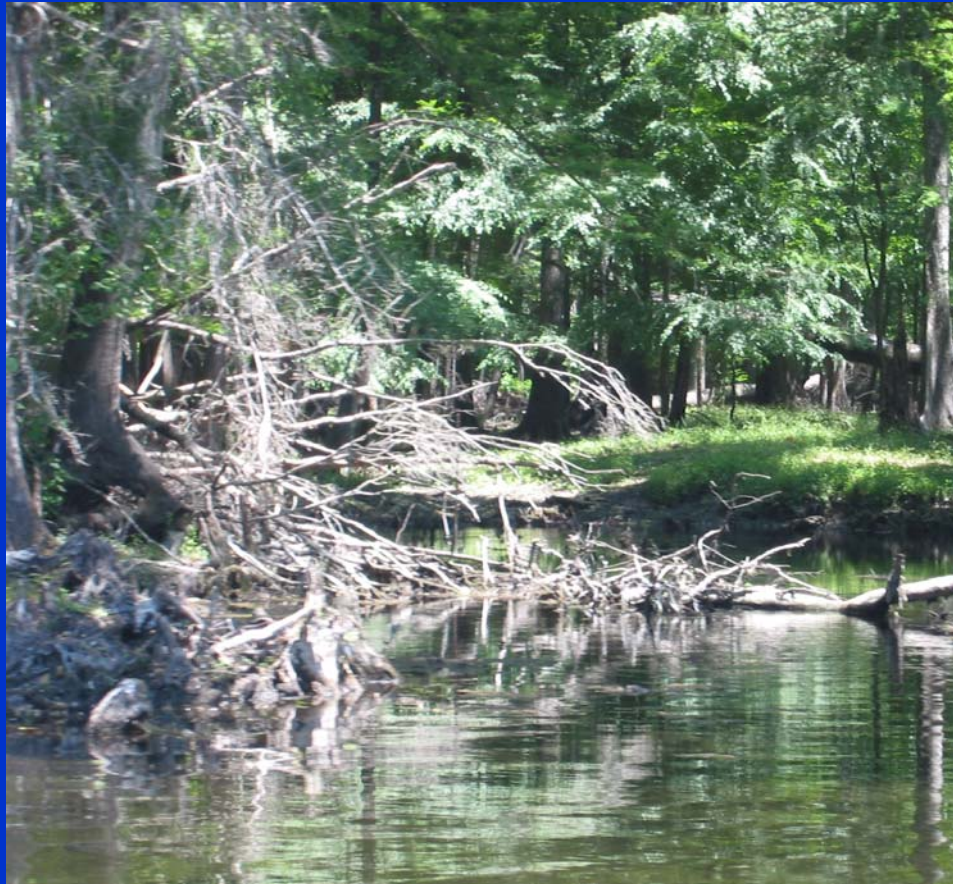
- a. Recreation in and on the water;**
- b. Fish and wildlife habitats and the passage of fish;**
- c. Estuarine resources;**
- d. Transfer of detrital material;**
- e. Maintenance of freshwater storage and supply;**
- f. Aesthetic and scenic attributes;**
- g. Filtration and adsorption of nutrients and other pollutants;**
- h. Sediment loads;**
- i. Water quality; and**
- j. Navigation.**

TARGET HABITATS



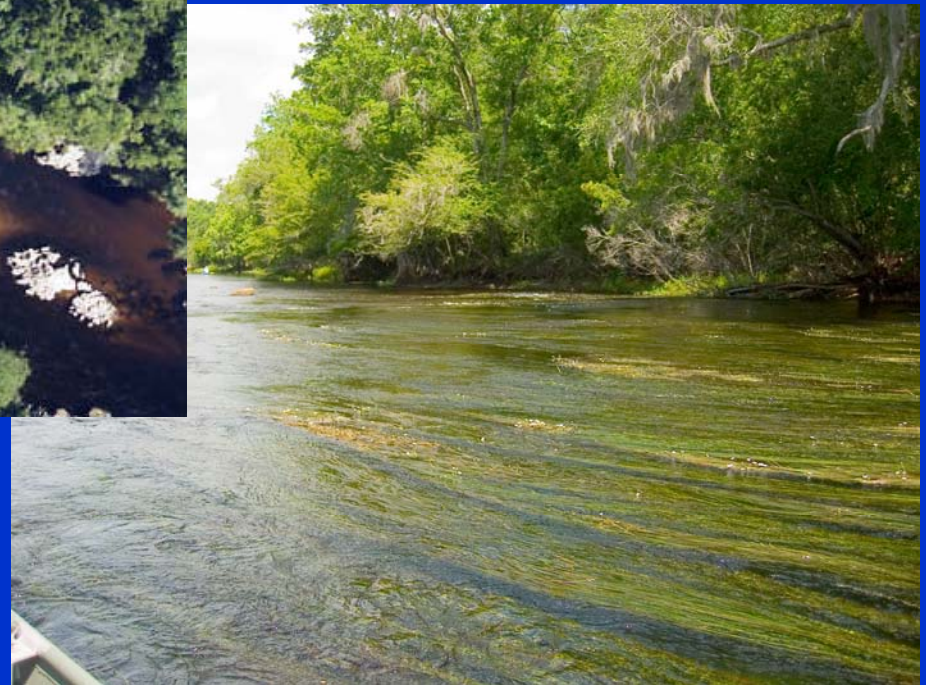
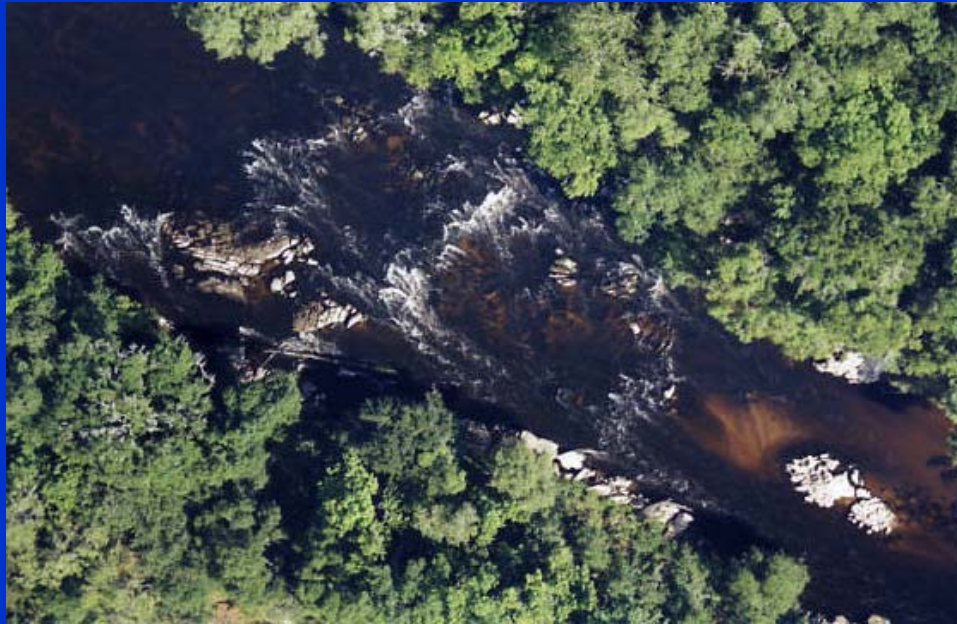
**Floodplain aquatic habitats
(ponds, tributary creeks, sloughs)**

TARGET HABITATS



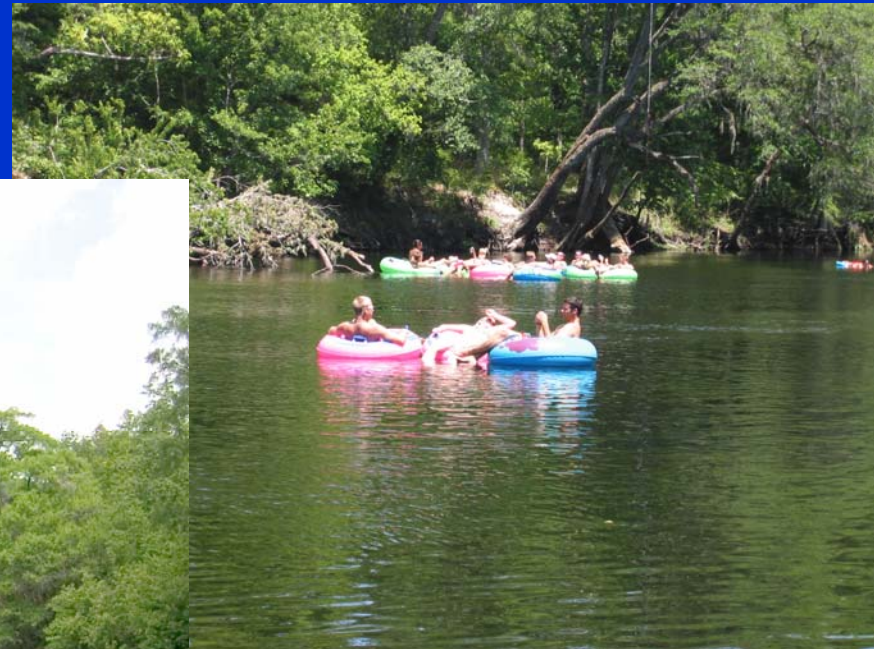
Riparian snag habitat

TARGET HABITATS

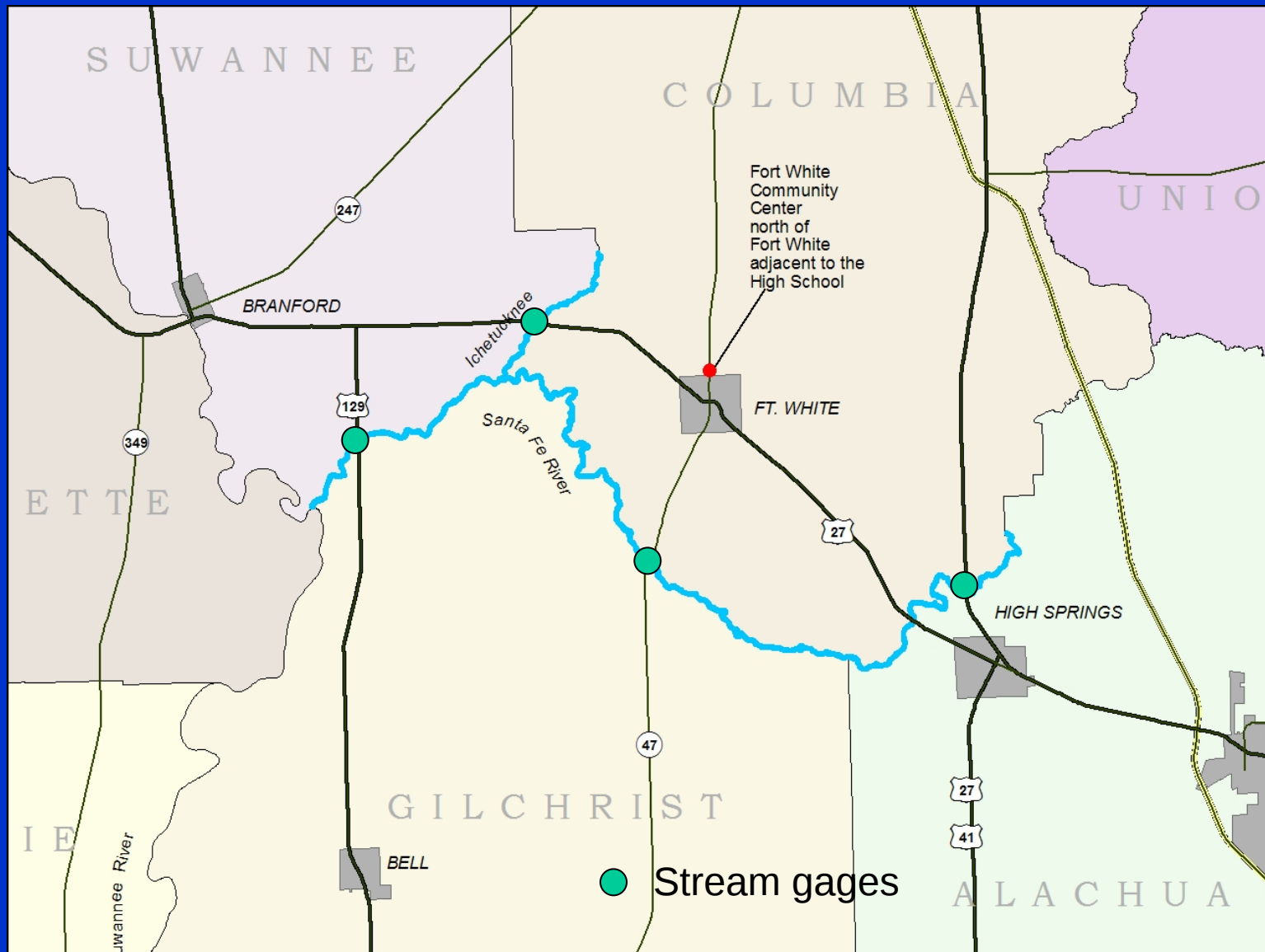


Riverine shoals habitat

RECREATION AND AESTHETICS



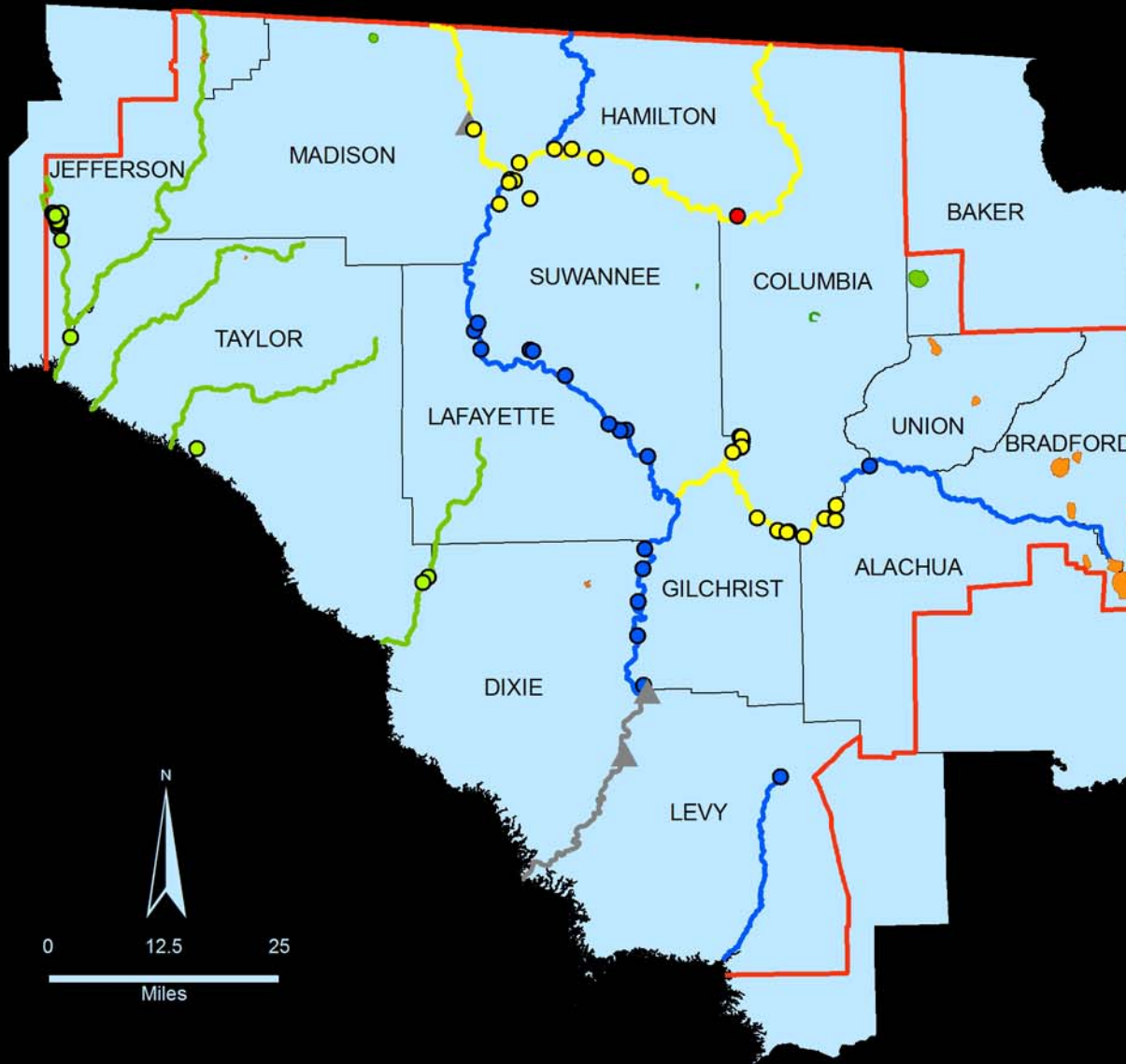
Lower Santa Fe River Location Map



SPRINGS



SRWMD MFL Schedule



Completed

▲ Springs

■ River

Lakes

■ 2010

■ 2011

Springs

● 2007

● 2008

● 2009

● 2010

Rivers

■ Upper Santa Fe River - 2007

■ Waccasassa River - 2007

■ Middle Suwannee River - 2007

■ Alapaha River - 2007

■ Withlacoochee River - 2008

■ Lower Santa Fe River - 2008

■ Upper Suwannee River - 2008

■ Wacissa River - 2010

■ Aucilla River - 2010

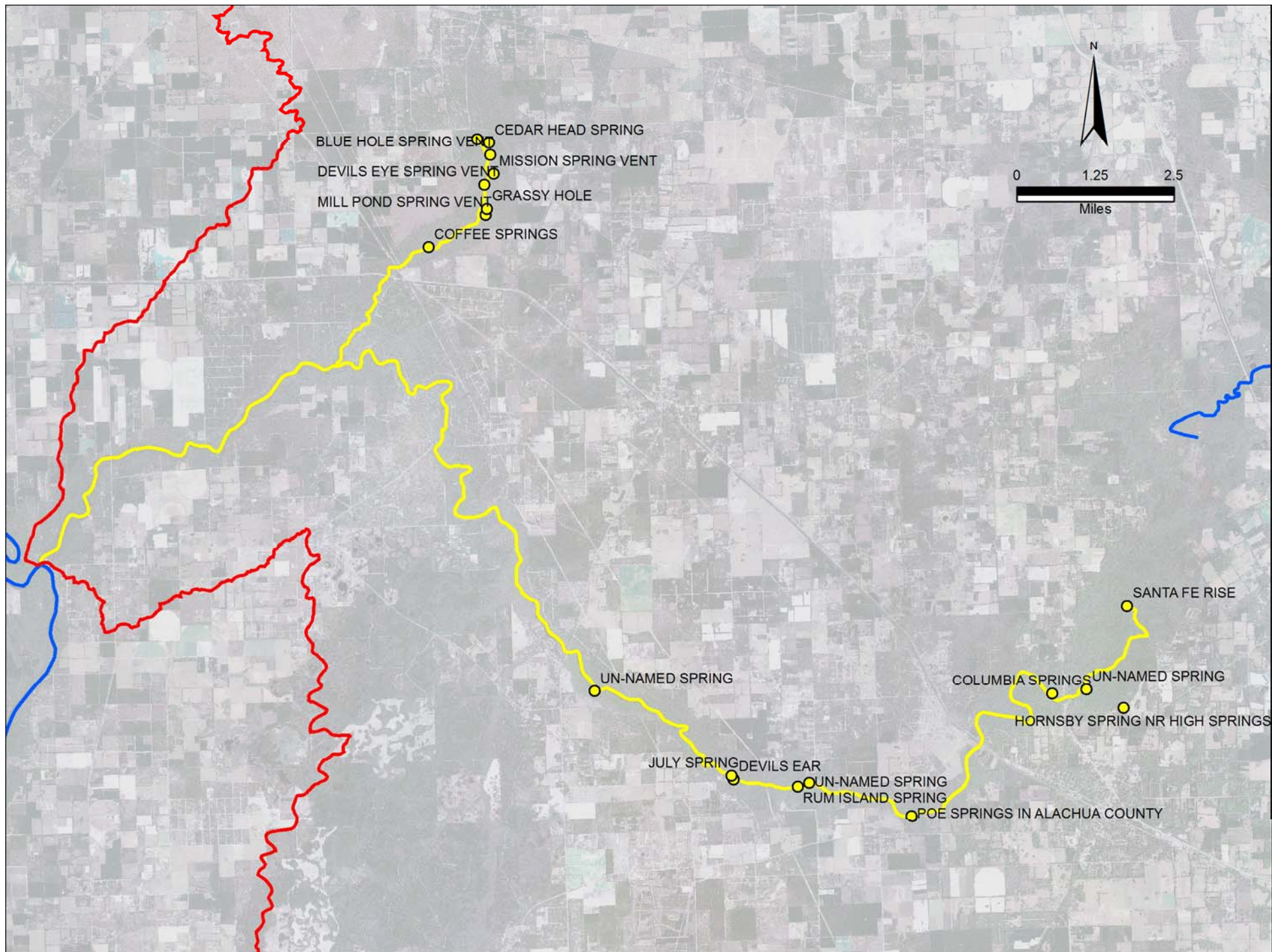
■ Steinhatchee River - 2010

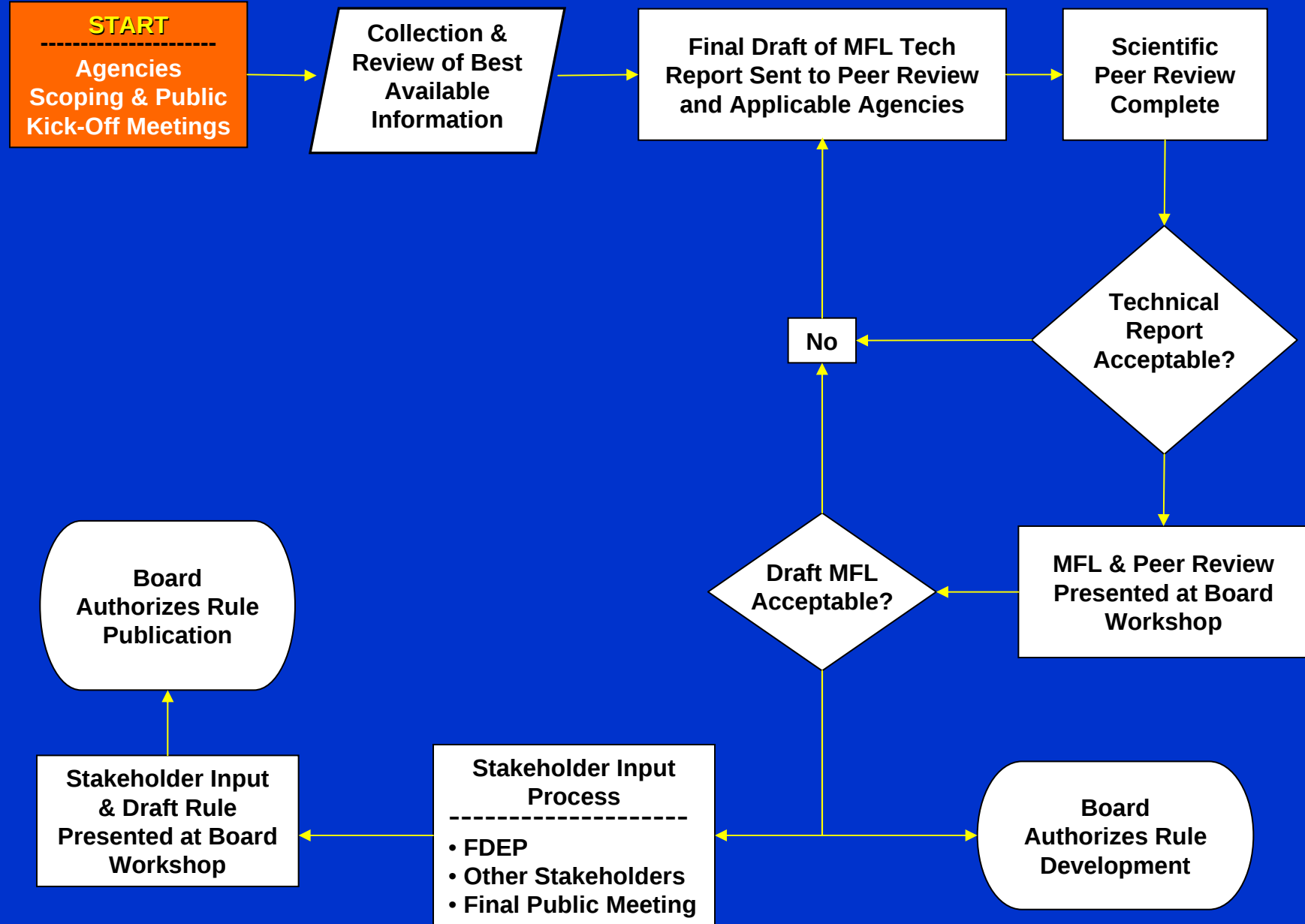
■ Fenholloway River - 2010

■ Ecofina River - 2010

MFL SPRINGS

1. Treehouse (1)
2. Blue Hole (1)
3. COL101974 (2)
4. Columbia (1)
5. Devil's Ear (Ginnie group) (1)
6. GIL1012973 (Siphon Creek Rise) (1)
7. Hornsby (1)
8. Ichetucknee group (1)
9. July (1)
10. Poe (2)
11. Rum Island (2)
12. Santa Fe Rise (1)





NEXT STEPS

- **Technical Report complete
September, 2007**
- **Rule making to initiate after Board
adoption, tentative February , 2008**
- **Rule adoption process approximately
4-5 months**