

Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI)

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Overview

- Background
- New direction
- Collaborative process
- Technical collaborative teams
- Putting it all together
- Conclusion



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Background

- Concerns over water availability in Central Florida led to increased coordination across Water Management District (WMD) boundaries
- The WMDs agreed to a Central Florida Coordination Area (CFCA) action plan
- Action plan led to coordinated efforts in three component areas
 - Regulatory
 - Modeling and predictive tools
 - Planning



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Background

- Action plan had two phases
- Short-term (Interim rules)
 - Limited groundwater withdrawals to 2013 demands
 - Rule sunsets 12/31/2012
- Long-term
 - Resource assessments
 - Long-term regulations
 - Comprehensive Water Supply Plan



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New Direction

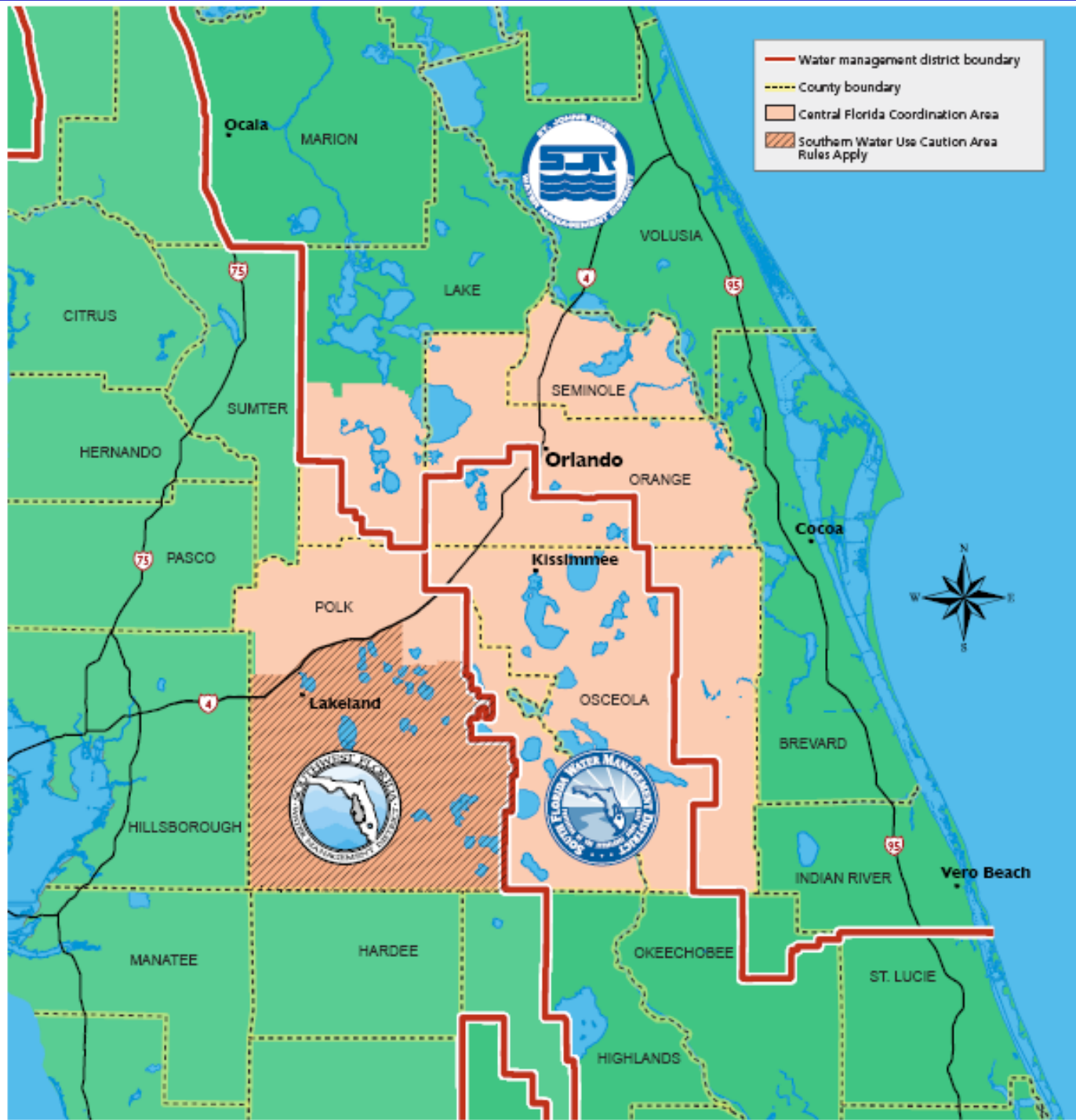
- As deadlines approached and technical tools were still under development, the CFCA process was suspended
- A new collaborative process called the Central Florida Water Initiative was formed



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CFWI Guiding Principles

- Identify sustainable quantities of groundwater for water supply without causing unacceptable harm to water resources
- Develop strategies to meet water demands that are in excess of sustainable yield of traditional groundwater sources
- Establish consistent rules and regulations for the 3 WMDs to implement CFWI results



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CFWI Governance

- Steering Committee
 - One rep each from:
 - Utilities, WMD GB member, FDEP, DACS
- Management Oversight Committee
- Technical Oversight Committee



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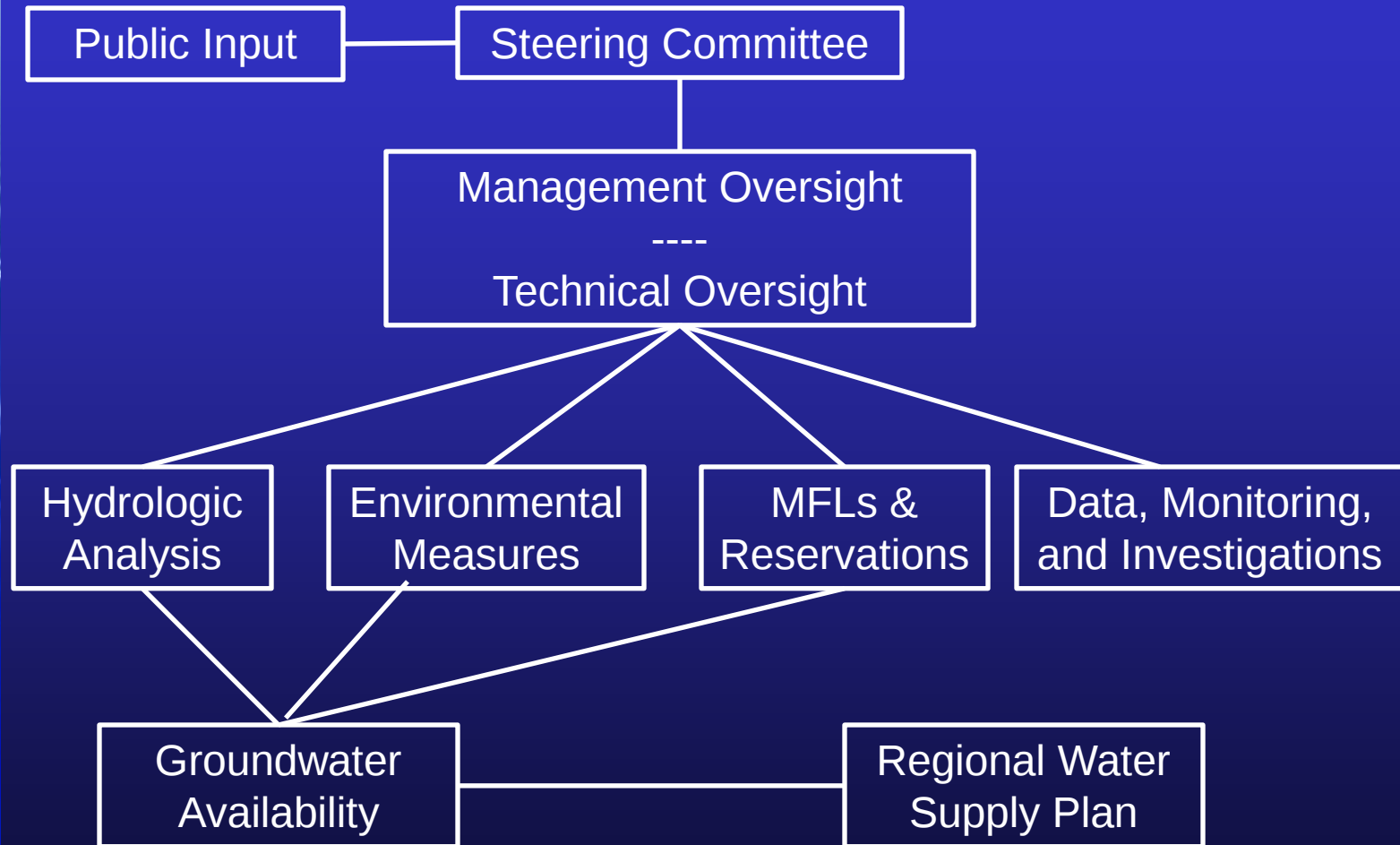
Technical Collaborative Teams

- Hydrologic analysis
- Environmental measures
- Minimum flows and levels/reservations
- Data, monitoring and investigations
- Groundwater availability
- Regional water supply plan (RWSP)



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CFWI Organization



Collaborative themes

- Single model or methodology
- Uniform definition of harm
- One reference condition
- One consistent process
- One RWSP



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Hydrologic analysis team

- New transient groundwater flow model (U.S. Geological Survey)
- Model calibration
- Statistical trends in hydrologic data
- Quantify factors affecting groundwater and lake levels
- Model scenarios



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Environmental measures team

- Evaluate condition of wetlands in CFWI
- Develop options for quantitative relationships to changes in hydrology
- Apply model output to quantitative assessment



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Minimum flows and levels (MFL) and reservations team

- Develop options for standard MFL/reservation methodology
- Develop guidelines for implementing MFLs/reservations in permitting, planning, and water shortage determinations
- Determine collaborative process to update priority water body list to adopt new MFLs/reservations



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Steering Committee Schedule Guidance

- CFWI technical work: 2011 to 2012
- Estimate of Groundwater Availability:
Aug 2012
- Management and Policy Options:
Dec 2012
- Draft Regional Water Supply Plan:
Dec 2012
- Implementation: Dec 2013



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Status - 2012

- May: Prelim USGS model output
- June: Environmental effects analysis
 - Wetlands
 - MFLs and reservations
- August: Groundwater availability
- Dec: Draft RWSP



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Putting it all together

- One Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP)
- Major tasks
 - Population and water demand projections
 - Resource assessment
 - Water conservation potential
 - Water supply and water resource development options



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CFWI RWSP

- The water supply planning process will include a large component of public outreach
 - Public meetings in affected areas
 - Technical methods workshops
 - Web posting of progress, meetings, presentations



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Conclusion

- CFWI ... A collaborative water supply endeavor to protect, conserve and restore our water resources
- More information:
<http://cfwiwater.com>
- Additional questions:
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