

**Cow Slough Water Control District
for
Caloosahatchee River and Estuary Basin Management Action Plan
September 2019**

The Cow Slough Water Control District (CSWCD) is a Chapter 298 District established in 1989, and presently codified pursuant to Chapter 2000-394. The CSWCD encompasses 8,735 acres of agricultural lands within Hendry and Collier Counties. The CSWCD collects stormwater runoff and discharges the runoff into canals flowing to the C-43.

A map of the CSWCD drainage canals and associated rights of way is shown below. There are 8.8 miles of canals and rights of way that are maintained by the CSWCD.



A map generally depicting the agricultural producers enrolled within the CSWCD is on file with FDACS. All stormwater entering the CSWCD canals is subject to the FDACS program.

The CSWCD receives runoff from the lands within the landowners and transmits the flow to discharge points. This practice does not increase the nutrient load in the runoff. The CSWCD is proposing BMP's to remove nutrients sequester in vegetation and sediment during the transportation process.

The CSWCD proposes that the listed best management practices will be implemented and reported as activity based strategies. A specific allocation or nutrient reduction target will not be established. Rather the CSWCD's activities will serve to assist in the control of nutrients as part of the efforts described in the Basin Management Action Plan. Implementation of the best management practices shall provide compliance with the BMAP and Chapters 373 and 403 F.S.

In selecting the best management practices, in coordination with FDEP, the function, operation and budget of the CSWCD has been considered and these listed best management practices should not be considered as cost-effective, technically practical or applicable to any other water control district within the BMAP. Each best management practice includes a description and the required records.

The CSWCD will provide FDEP an annual report confirming these activities are as identified below. Detailed records of same will be kept in the CSWCD's offices.

1. Public Education and Outreach

Description: The CSWCD shall include as part of its annual meeting, an agenda item to alert its landowners of the existence of the BMAP and requirements for agricultural landowners. FDEP and FDACS will assist with the preparation of the agenda materials.

Report: Annual Landowners' Agenda. A copy of the agenda and background materials shall be on file.

2. FDACS BMP Assistance

Description: The CSWCD will provide assistance to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), when requested. The CSWCD will identify current landowner or producer and their contact information based on the CSWCD records. The CSWCD will contact landowners identified by FDACS to encourage the landowner or producer to participate in the FDACS BMP programs and recommend they contact FDEP to learn more about the program.

Report: Number of landowners/producer information requested by FDACS and responses provided.

3. Nutrient Controls

Description: No nutrients imported via direct land application for application on the CSWCD's rights of way.

Report: Annual verification by CSWCD

4. Canal/Ditch Bank Berms

Description: Minimize sediment transport by constructing berms on top of canal/ditch banks and promoting vegetative cover. Developed agricultural lands discharge to the canal system through control structures.

Report: Visual Observation.

5. Control Structures

Description: Maintain existing water control structures to regulate storm water discharges during storm events and to allow nutrients and sediments to settle out in the canals where they can be removed. Evaluate the cost benefit impact of new structures as identified to improve water quality.

Report: Structure type, location, and operation. Identify proposed structures analyzed and the results. Nutrient Controls

Description: No application of fertilizer within the CSWCD's rights of way.

Report: Annual verification by CSWCD.