

Apalachicola Watershed Agriculture Water Quality Improvement

Goal /Major Actions	Project Types	Project Descriptions/Explanation	Cost Estimate
Restore Water Quality	Reduce nutrient and sediment inputs to Gulf waters through the development of state nutrient reduction frameworks.	The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) will provide oversight to administer cost share to landowners to implement FDACS and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) water quality-focused Best Management Practices. The objective of this initiative is to reduce sediments and pollutants generated from agricultural operations in the focus area, and, as a result, reduce their deposition into tributary streams of the Apalachicola River. Ultimately, this will reduce sediments and pollutants that would otherwise end up in Apalachicola Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Efforts will be targeted at land currently being managed for the production of commodity agronomic crops in the focus area.	\$1,077,600

Suwannee River Partnership Irrigation Water Enhancement Program

Goal /Major Actions	Project Types	Project Descriptions/Explanation	Cost Estimate
Restore Water Quality	Reduce nutrient inputs to Gulf waters through the development of state nutrient reduction frameworks.	The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will provide oversight and work with the Suwannee River Partnership to develop an irrigation system efficiency improvement program similar to the USDA NRCS Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP). Work under this project includes converting irrigation systems from high-pressure to low-pressure; retrofitting center pivot irrigation systems with new, more efficient spray nozzles; repairing leaks and endguns and installing endgun shutoffs; and converting older diesel power units and pumps to newer, more efficient diesel or electric power units for reduced air emissions and fuel savings. Additionally, producers would be provided telemetry equipment to allow them to control their irrigation systems and soil moisture sensing equipment, enabling producers to better decide when irrigation is required by the crop. The project will result in significant water conservation and water quality improvements.	\$1,400,000

Hillsborough Agriculture Water Quality Improvement

Goal /Major Actions	Project Types	Project Descriptions/Explanation	Cost Estimate
Restore Water Quality	Reduce nutrient inputs to Gulf waters through the development of state nutrient reduction frameworks.	The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District will reduce off-site discharge of sediments from farms within Hillsborough County (primarily the Dover/Plant City area) via implementation of FDACS-adopted agricultural best management practices to decrease phosphorous and sediment loadings potentially reaching the Gulf of Mexico. Off-site discharge of sediments can come from stormwater flows from fallow/resting fields or from the establishment of crops on fields without the proper implementation of bmps. Utilizing FDACS-adopted agricultural best management practices will reduce the movement of sediments and phosphorous to waterways that eventually make it to the Gulf of Mexico.	TBD

Southwest Florida FARMS Program

Goal /Major Actions	Project Types	Project Descriptions/Explanation	Cost Estimate
Restore Water Quality	Reduce nutrient inputs to Gulf waters through the development of state nutrient reduction frameworks.	The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District will continue The Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) Program which is an agricultural best management practice (BMP) cost-share reimbursement program that involves both water quantity and water quality aspects. This public/private partnership program was developed by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The purpose of the FARMS Program is to implement production-scale agricultural BMP projects that will provide resource benefits that include water quality improvement, reduction of Upper Floridan aquifer withdrawals and/or conservation, restoration or augmentation of the area's water resources and ecology.	\$990,000