

From: [JUDY ORCUTT](#)
To: [WQEA 2023](#)
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 8:17:32 AM

EXTERNAL MESSAGE

This email originated outside of DEP. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.

My first impression of the Water Quality Enhancement Area Program was positive. It sounded like a method to encourage private companies to develop creative methods of nutrient reduction and be able to be paid for their work. After listening to the webinar, it now appears that it is more of the same failing policy that has put Florida in the current crisis - having impaired water bodies throughout the State.

Until entities are held accountable for a measurable nutrient reduction, we will not achieve TMDL. Brevard County sets a good example once again. They have hired a private contractor to remove nutrients but they are "PAID FOR PERFORMANCE" by the County government.

The same could apply at any WQEA. Monthly water sampling should be taken (by the government who is purchasing the credits) and the private entity should be paid for performance. The government would have to invest in water quality treatment to meet TMDL so this simple directs the funds to the entity that is helping them achieve that goal.

Judy Orcutt
Clean Water Coalition of Indian River County