

TCAA PROJECTS, DEMONSTRATIONS AND REGULATORY REVIEWS FOR 2012

Mark Clark

Wetlands and Water Quality Extension Specialist

Associate Professor, Soil and Water Science Department

TCAA Water Quality Data Review and Information-Sharing Program

Mark Clark

Wendy Graham

Jeff Ullman

Kathleen McKee

Scope of Work

- “...review of information resources used by the SJRWMD and FDEP to estimate nutrient loadings and establish nutrient load reduction allocations associated with the Lower St. Johns River (LSJR) total maximum daily load (TMDL). The reviewers will evaluate specific reports and documents related to the development of the LSJR TMDL and basin management action plan (BMAP) in an effort to answer the following grower questions:”

Program Reviewers

- **Mark Clark** - Wetlands and Water Quality Extension Specialist, Soil and Water Science Department
- **Wendy Graham** - Carl S. Swisher Chair in Water Resources, Director UF Water Institute
- **Jeff Ullman** - Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- **Kathleen McKee** - Research Coordinator, UF Water Institute

Preliminary Questions to be Addressed

- What assumptions, methods, and data were used to:
 - Determine that the LSJR is impaired?
 - Determine nutrient loads to the LSJR?
 - What are the estimated relative load contributions for various land uses in the basin?
 - Is there information available to show how these loads have changed over time?
 - Develop the TMDLs and load reduction allocations for the LSJR BMAP and for the TCAA in particular?
 - Is the required load reduction aggregated by total land use in the basin, or is it a required reduction per unit acre of a specific land use?
 - Was the feasibility of reducing nutrient loads and effectiveness of implementing agricultural and urban BMPs considered when allocating load reductions?
- Were the assumptions, data, and models used to develop the TMDL and BMAP for the LSJR consistent with best professional practices for development of other TMDLs? Did the process make use of the best information available? If not, how could the assumptions, data, models, and development process be improved?

Tasks to be Completed

- **Task 1 (November 30)**: Conduct preliminary meetings separately with the following stakeholder groups:
- **Task 2 (October 31)**: Create and maintain a public web-site containing all documents being reviewed, meeting summaries, and preliminary and final reports.
 - http://waterinstitute.ufl.edu/workshops_panels/tcaa/index.html
- **Task 3 (December 31)**: Review the following documents (along with possible additional documents identified during Task 1) that either summarize the LSJR TMDL and BMAP or were substantively used in the development of the LSJR TMDL and BMAP.
- **Task 4 (January 31)**: Conduct follow-up meeting(s) with the growers, FDACS, SJRWMD, and FDEP, as needed, to discuss preliminary findings and obtain clarifications.
- **Task 5 (February 29)**: Prepare a final report taking into account clarifications and comments provided by stakeholders.
- **Task 6 (March 31)**: Conduct a workshop to deliver Final Report to growers, FDACS, FDEP, and SJRWMD.

Program Website

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Tri-County Agricultural Area Water Quality Data Review and Information-Sharing Program

In response to a request by growers in the Tri-County Agricultural Area (TCAA), and with cooperation from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the University of Florida Water Institute and Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension will review information resources used by the SJRWMD and FDEP to estimate nutrient loadings and establish nutrient load reduction allocations associated with the Lower St. Johns River (LSJR) total maximum daily load (TMDL). The project will review specific reports and documents related to the development of the LSJR TMDL and basin management action plan (BMAP) and coordinate workshops and meetings to define and explain the process to TCAA stakeholders and deliver a report that will explore the assumptions, methods, and data sources used to develop the TMDL.

Scope of Work

This scope of work was submitted to FDACS. [Link to pdf](#)

Documents to Be Reviewed

Primary documents: