



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

DEP update

Central District overview and the 2016 Water Bill

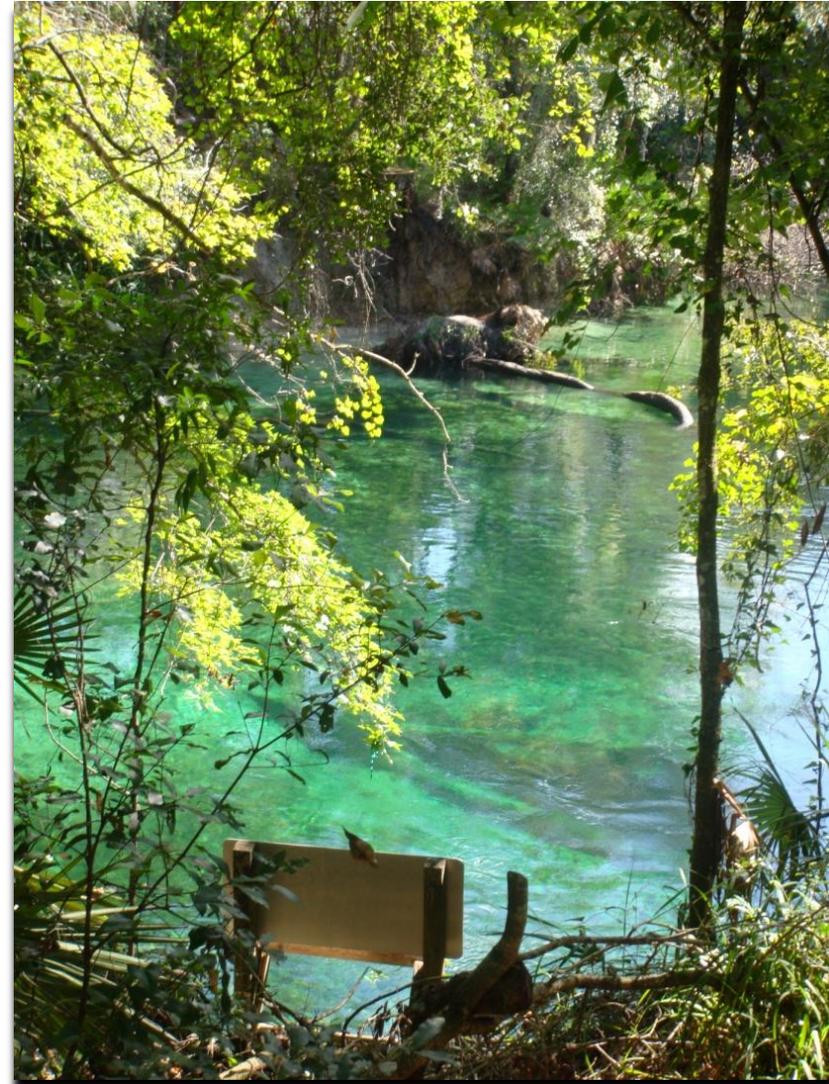
Jeff Prather
March 16, 2016





Our priorities

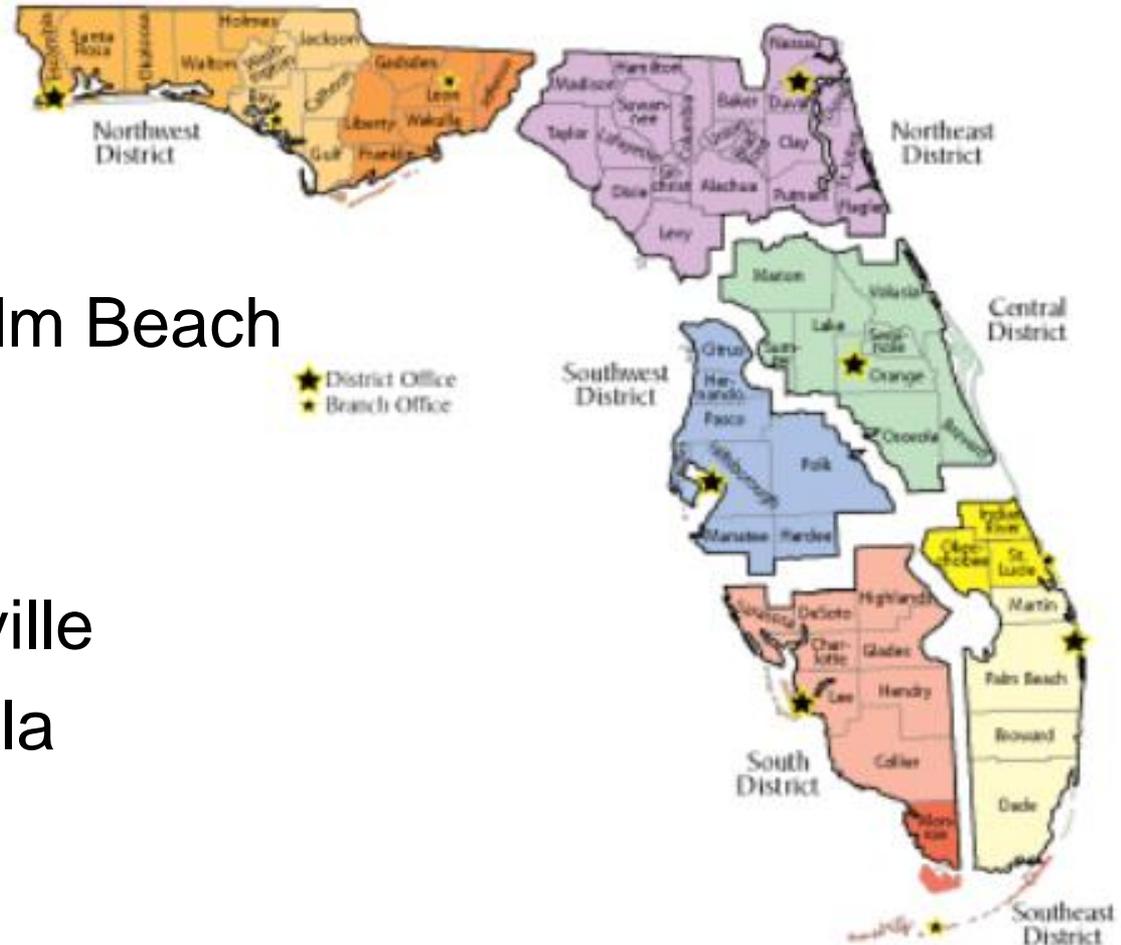
- Strong community partnerships
- Safeguard natural resources
- Enhance ecosystems
- Proactive relationships for high compliance rates
- Quality permits in the shortest time possible
- Efficiency and cost savings





Regulatory Districts

- Central – Orlando
- Southeast – West Palm Beach
- South – Ft. Myers
- Southwest – Tampa
- Northeast – Jacksonville
- Northwest – Pensacola

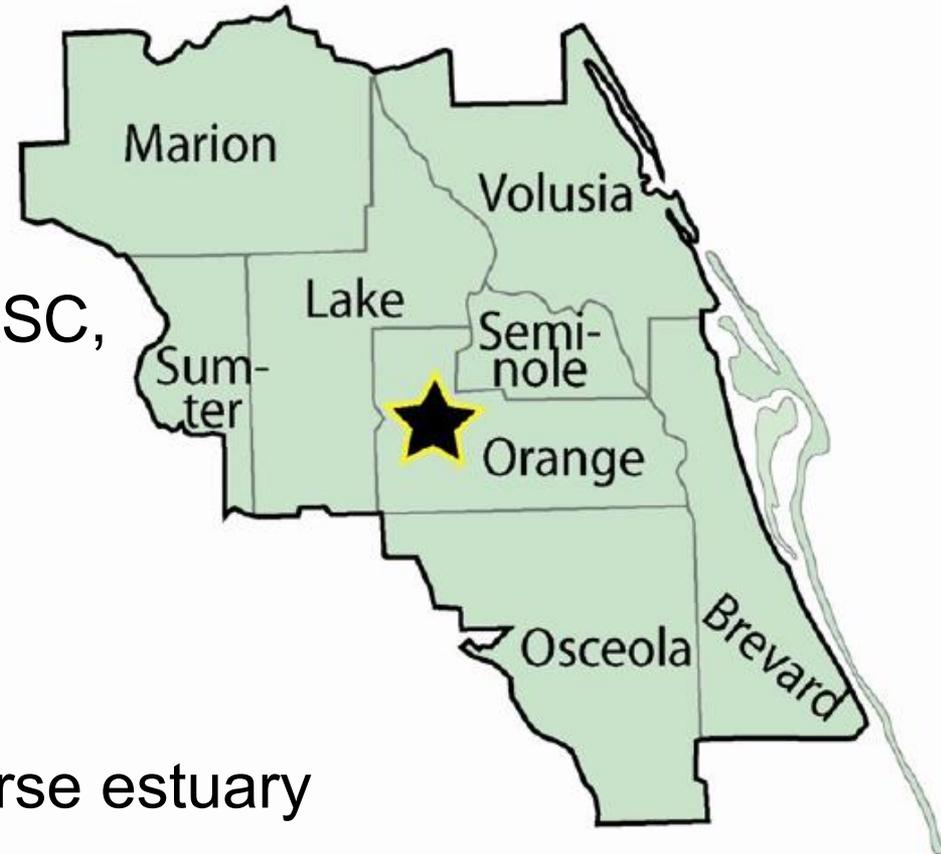




Central District is a study in contrasts

All within an 8 county area...

- 3.5 million people
- 14 state parks
- Disney, Florida Hospital, KSC, Lockheed Martin
- 5 first magnitude springs
- Busy seaport
- North America's most diverse estuary





About the Central District

- 100 employees
- Three programs (permitting, compliance, business)
- Four major “disciplines” (air, water, waste, wetlands)
- Emergency response
- Cross-training
- Focused outreach
- High value on communication – external and internal
- Modernized workplace



The balance of a year's work

120 outreach efforts



authorizations

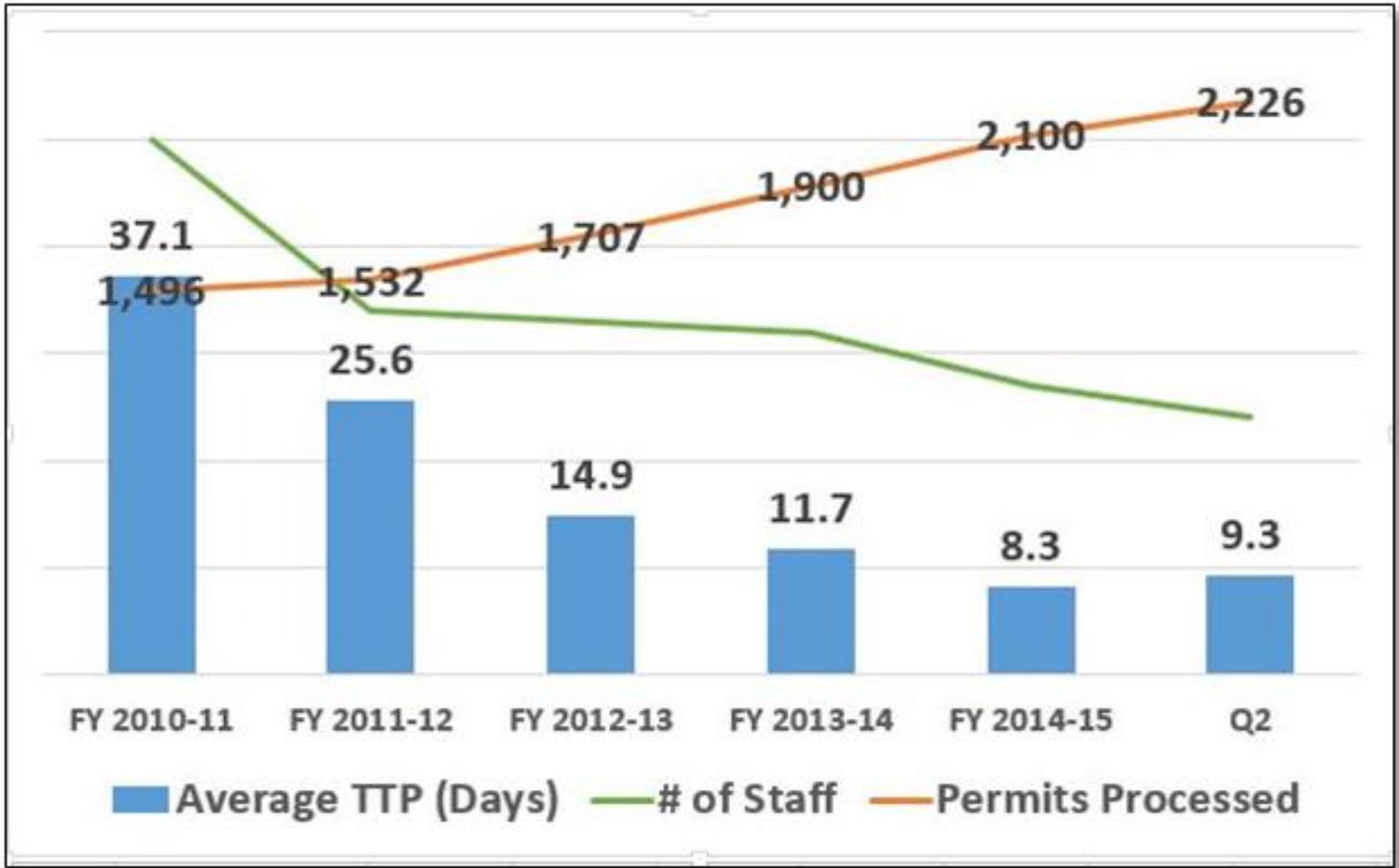
inspections

~ 60,000 monitoring reports

700 complaints



Accomplishments – speed and quality





The Water Bill of 2016

- 1) Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act
- 2) Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program
- 3) Consumptive Use Permits
- 4) Minimum flows and levels
- 5) BMAPs - enforceable
- 6) Monitoring and reporting on water quality, quantity and on conservation lands
- 7) Miscellany



Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act

“Outstanding Florida Springs”

Spring protection plans

Septic tank remediation plans

Rule-making on groundwater withdrawals

Contact: Tom Frick – DEAR – 850.245.7518



Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program

Focus:

- Kissimmee River
- Lake Okeechobee
- St. Lucie
- Caloosahatchee

BMAPs:

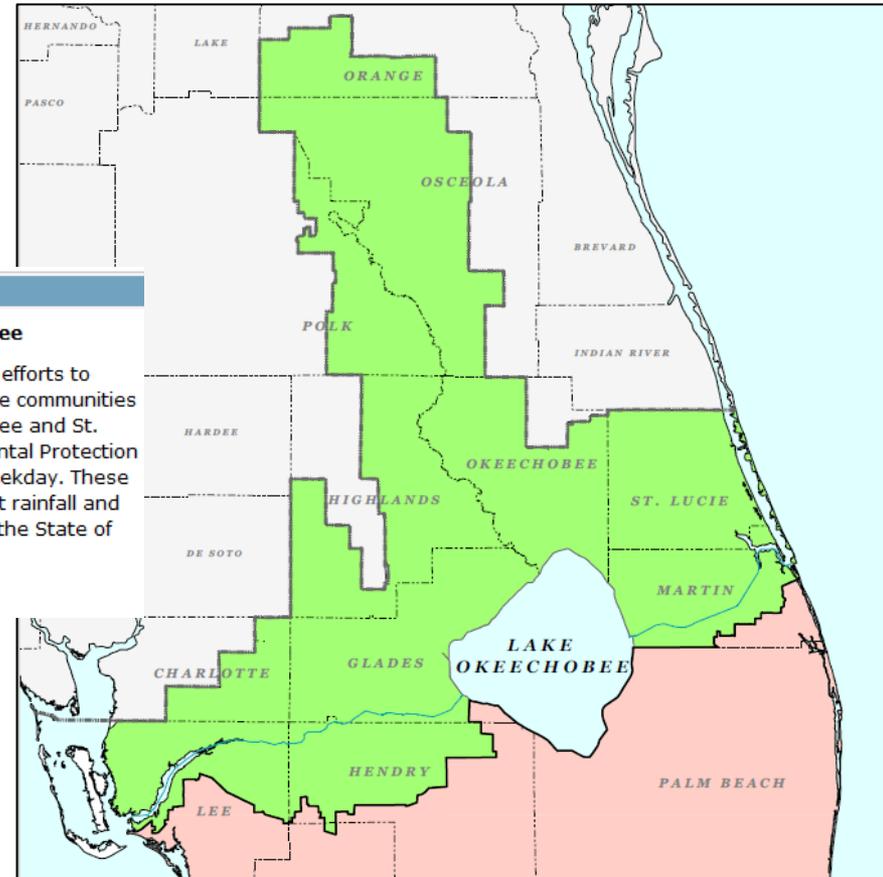
- water projects
- water monitoring programs
- implementation of Best Mgt. Practices
- statutory authority to enforce the use of best mgt. practices

Headlines

DEP's Daily Update on Lake Okeechobee

In an effort to keep Floridians informed of the state's efforts to protect the environment, wildlife and economies of the communities surrounding Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is issuing a Lake Okeechobee status update each weekday. These updates will help residents stay informed of the latest rainfall and lake level conditions, as well as the latest actions by the State of Florida and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

View the [most recent update](#) for more information.



Contact: **Edward Smith** – Director of Ecosystems Projects - 850.245.3169



Consumptive Use Permits



- **Tighter monitoring requirements for some uses**
- **No “mid-term” mods to a permittees’ allocation**
- **WMDs must incentivize conservation (in rule)**
 - **Permitting “priority for proximity”**

Contact: Nancy Christman - Intergovernmental Coordinator at SJRWMD – 407-659-4835



Minimum flows and levels

Deadlines to adopt MFLs
Emphasis on springs
Recovery or prevention strategies

Contact:
Nancy Christman
Intergov. Coordinator at SJRWMD
407-659-4835



Other provisions include...

- 1) Clarifies that BMAPs are, by law, enforceable
- 2) New, public data base of conservation lands
- 3) New standards for collection of surface water related data
- 4) New classification for waters used for potable supply
- 5) Pilot program for alternative water supply development



Questions





Contact Information

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