



# Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Water Quantity Committee Report

# LFO Water Quantity Committee

- Jimmy Webb, Chair
- Steve Bailey
- John Bridges
- Jimmy Champion
- Hal Haddock
- Gary Leddon
- Chris Hobby
- George McIntosh
- Doyle Medders
- T.E. Moye
- Greg Murray
- Mike Newberry
- Richard Royal
- Howard Small



# Committee Efforts

- Joint Committee Meeting with UF Water Quantity Committee (October 26)
  - Meeting summary: pp. 35-39 of pre-meeting packet
- Committee conference call (December 3)
  - Meeting summary: hand-out
- Discussed management practices (agricultural permits, interbasin transfers, storage), information needs, and Endangered Species Act concerns



# Endangered Species Act

- Chairman Royal meeting with Director Barnes
- Follow-up: legal advice sought



# Water Conservation Savings Estimates

- Committee requested that Technical Ad Hoc Committee evaluate how to address EPD concern about quantification of water savings from conservation practices

# 2006 Flint Plan

## New Upper Flint management practice:

Manage new agricultural water withdrawal permits in the region according to the 2006 Flint River Basin Water Development and Conservation Plan

- The 2006 Flint Plan limits new agricultural withdrawal permits based on expected impact on nearby wells and streams (summarized by map of Capacity Use, Restricted Use, and Conservation Use areas included in the 2006 plan).
- Under the 2006 Flint Plan, new agricultural water withdrawal permits require mandatory conservation measures, such as end-gun shut off switches and leak prevention and repair, as a condition of the permit.
- New surface water permits in Ichawaynochaway and Spring Creek sub-basins must suspend use when streamflow drops below 25% Average Annual Discharge instead of 7Q10.
- New permits in the Flint River Basin have a \$250 application fee.



# 2006 Flint Plan

- Clarification of role of Flint Plan as permit guidance
- Committee suggests:
  - Acknowledge 2006 Flint Plan as current permit guidance
  - Until such a time as better information can support improved management of water withdrawals to protect streamflow
  - Information needs:
    - Water use: Better actual use information based on meters
    - Impact evaluation: Improved assessment of effect of withdrawals on streamflow
    - Metrics: Use of stream flow targets that directly relate to minimizing adverse impacts to downstream users and natural systems



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