



An Equal
Opportunity
Employer

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)
WaterMatters.org

Bartow Office
170 Century Boulevard
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700
(863) 534-1448 or
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)

Sarasota Office
78 Sarasota Center Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9770
(941) 377-3722 or
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)

Tampa Office
7601 U.S. 301 North
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759
(813) 985-7481 or
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

John R. Mitten
Chair, Hernando, Marion

Jack Blsphem
Vice Chair, Manatee

Ashley Bell Barnett
Secretary, Polk

John E. Hall
Treasurer, Polk

Ed Armstrong
Former Chair, Pinellas

Kelly S. Rice
Former Chair, Citrus, Lake,
Levy, Sumter

Michelle Williamson
Former Chair, Hillsborough

Josh Gamblin
DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands

James Holton
Pinellas

Dustin Rowland
Pasco

Robert Stern
Hillsborough

Jim Turner
Charlotte, Sarasota

Nancy Watkins
Hillsborough, Pinellas

Brian J. Armstrong, P.G.
Executive Director

October 1, 2025

Jeff Rogers
County Administrator
Hernando County
15470 Flight Path Dr.
Brooksville, FL 34604

Subject: Review of the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program
Priority List

Dear Jeff Rogers:

In 1987, the Florida Legislature enacted the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Act to restore and protect water bodies of state and regional significance. Section 373.453, Florida Statutes, in the SWIM Act requires each water management district, in cooperation with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, Florida Department of Commerce, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and local governments to maintain a list that prioritizes water bodies of regional or statewide significance within the water management district. The list must be reviewed and updated every five years.

To date, the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) has developed, and the state has approved, SWIM plans for twelve priority water bodies identified on the current SWIM Program Priority List. They are:

- 1) Tampa Bay,
- 2) Rainbow River,
- 3) Crystal River/Kings Bay,
- 4) Lake Panasoffkee,
- 5) Charlotte Harbor,
- 6) Lake Tarpon,
- 7) Lake Thonotosassa,
- 8) Winter Haven Chain of Lakes,
- 9) Sarasota Bay,
- 10) Weeki Wachee River,
- 11) Chassahowitzka River,
- 12) Homosassa River.

On September 23, 2025, the District's Governing Board was notified that the District is initiating the process to review the District's SWIM Priority List. To date, District staff have not identified any needed updates to this current List, which assists in prioritizing District resources and project funding.

RECEIVED

OCT 03 2025

**HERNANDO COUNTY
BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Jeff Rogers

Subject: Review of the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program Priority List

Page 2

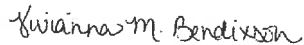
October 1, 2025

A link is included for your reference to the District's SWIM Program website that contains an update for ongoing and completed projects, and all twelve of the SWIM Plans, which include descriptions of each SWIM priority water body, including the issues, status, and trends, as well as the goals and accomplishments for each water body. www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/swim

Essential to carrying out the District's SWIM Program is the cooperation of local governments and agencies in developing and implementing effective SWIM Plans.

No revisions to the current SWIM Program Priority List have been identified at this time, District staff anticipates recommending no changes to the List to the Governing Board, which will consider the matter at its December 2025 meeting. Following Governing Board approval, the SWIM Program Priority List will be forwarded to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. If you have any questions, please contact me at (813) 344-5832.

Sincerely,



Vivianna M. Bendixson

Manager

Surface Water Improvement & Management Section

Natural Systems & Restoration Bureau

Southwest Florida Water Management District

VB