How Water Supply Planning and MFLs Affect Us

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How Does GRU & Our Community Fit In?

- GRU currently serves approximately 189,000 people as well as UF, area hospitals and business
  - ~3/4 of the population of Alachua County
- GRU within both SJRWMD and SRWMD boundaries
- Anticipate population growth of 43,000 people over next 20 years

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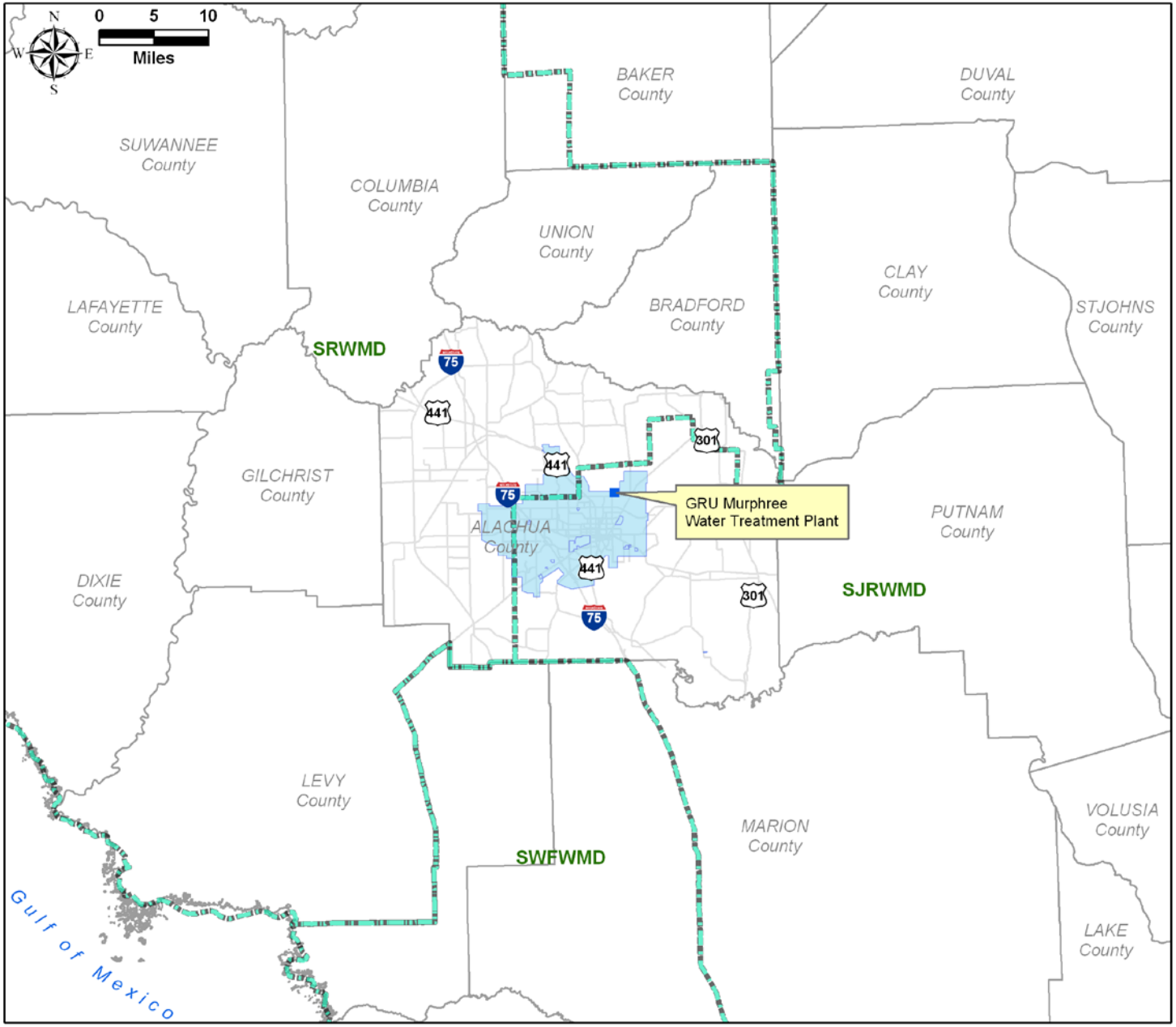
GRU Murphree Water Treatment Plant



Legend

- WMD Boundary
- County Bdy
- GRU Water Service Bdy

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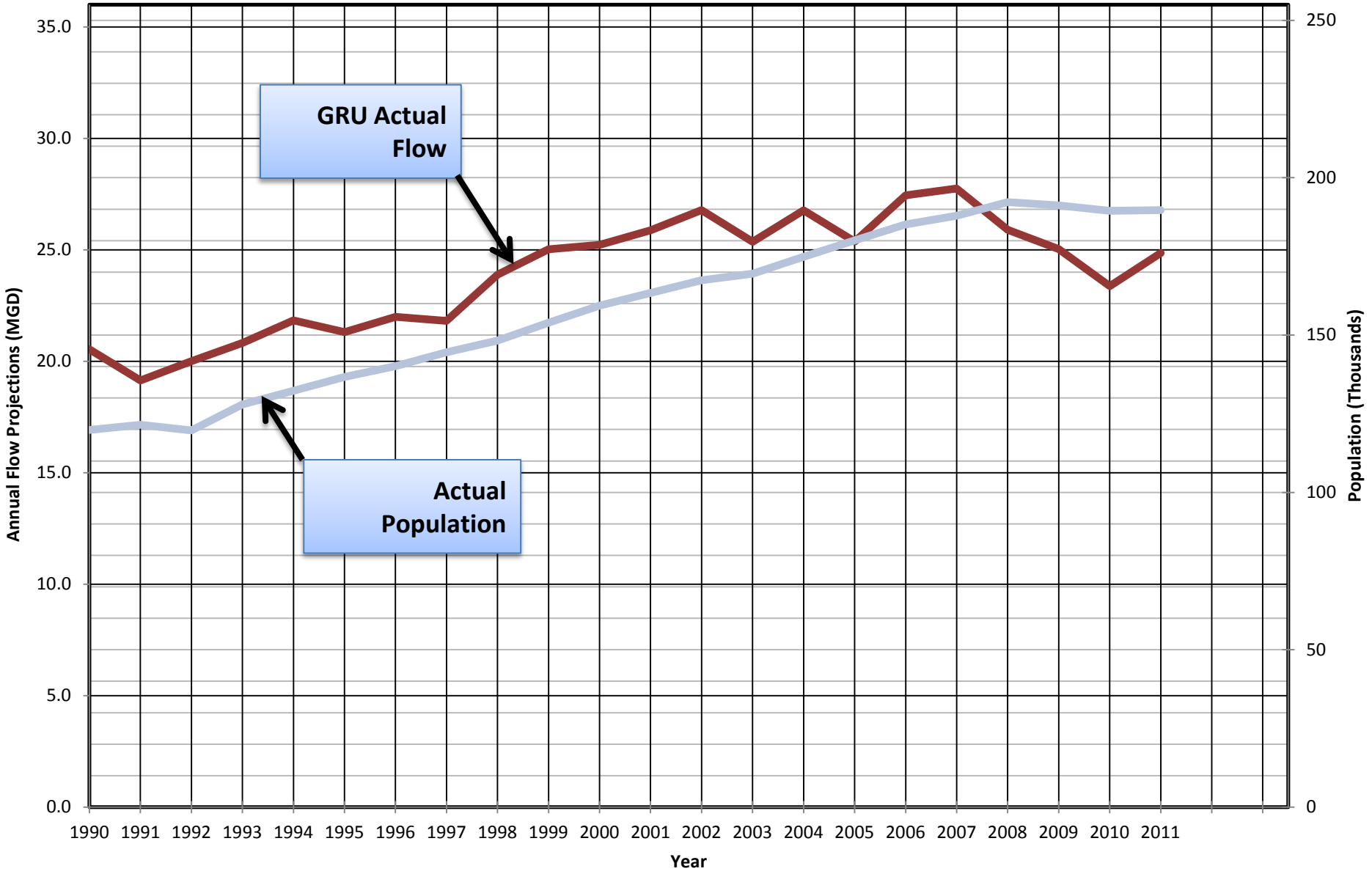
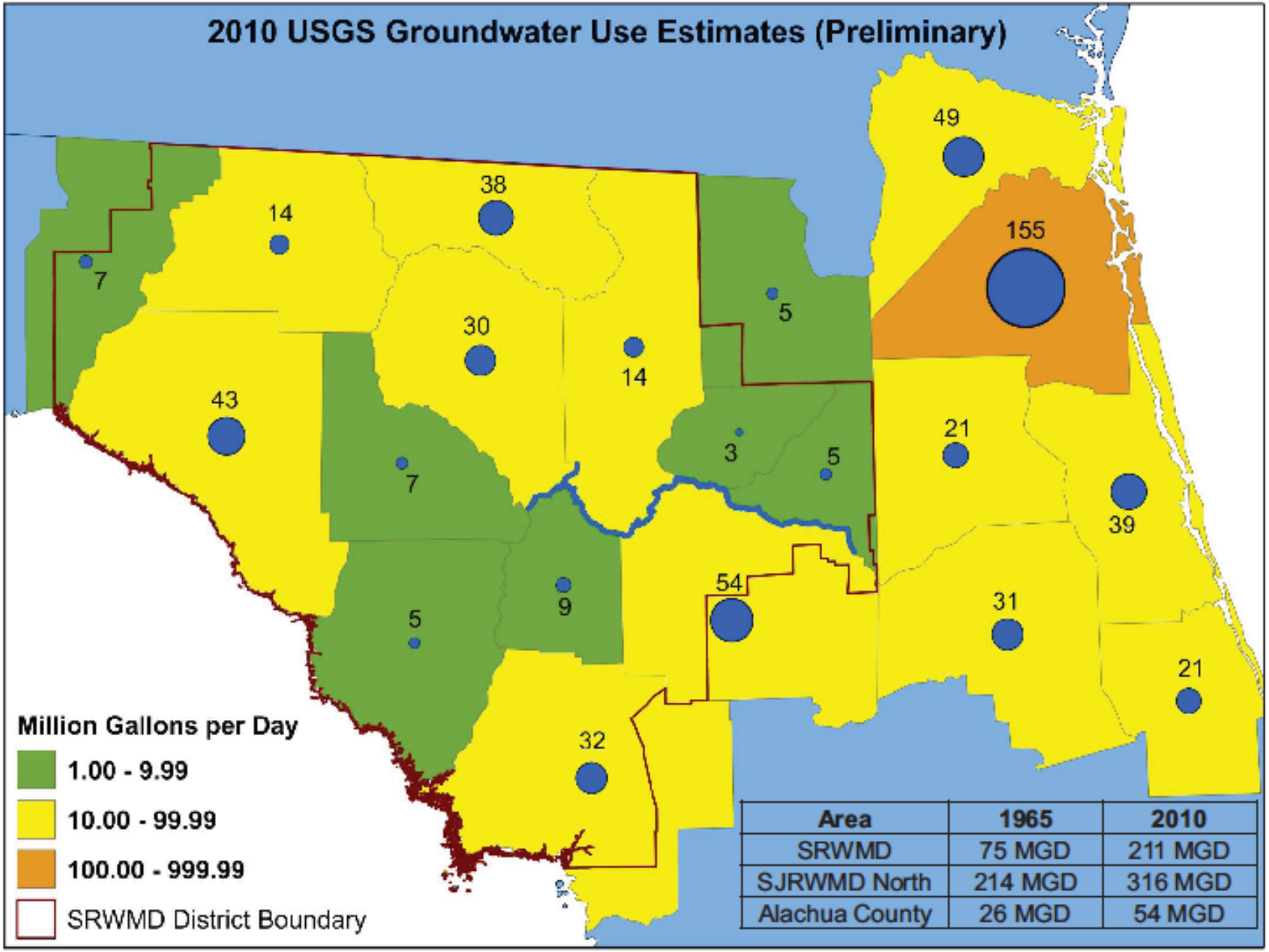
Water Management District Boundaries - Alachua County

Historic Water Use and Population

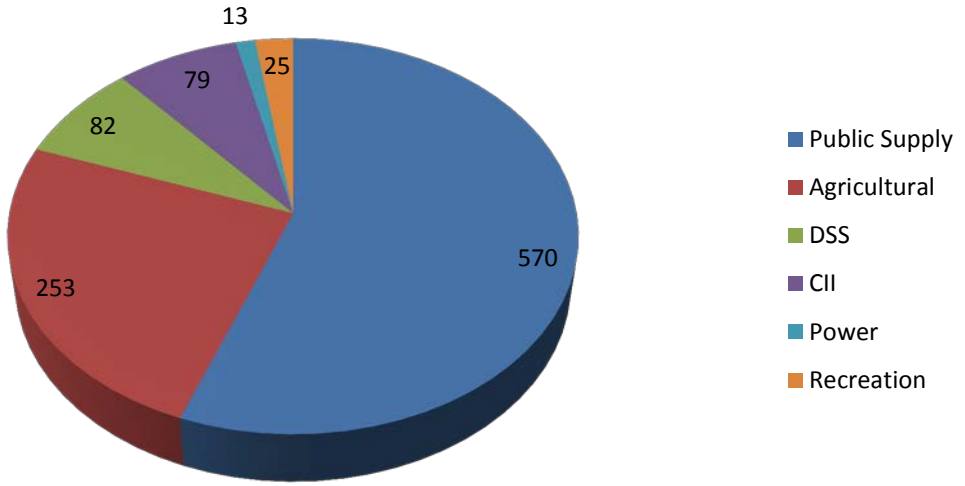




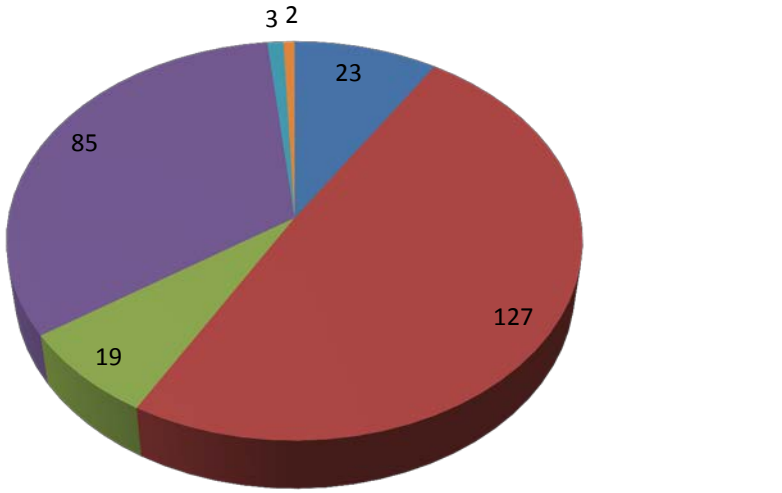
Area	1965	2010
SRWMD	75 MGD	211 MGD
SJRWMD North	214 MGD	316 MGD
Alachua County	26 MGD	54 MGD

SJRWMD 2010 WSP actual groundwater use 2005

SJRWMD (mgd by use)



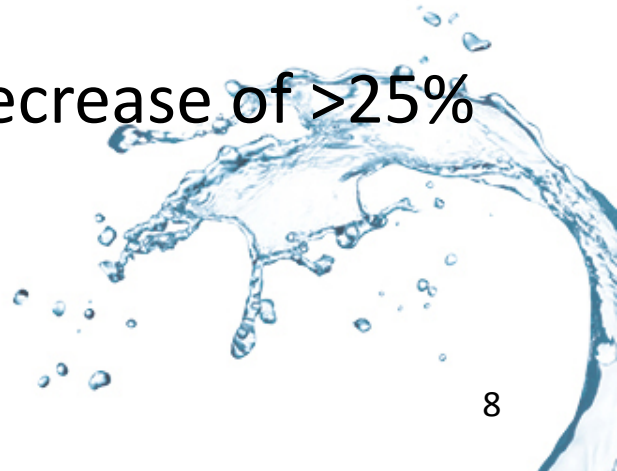
SRWMD (mgd by use)



SRWMD 2010 WSA water use in 2010

GRU Approach to Water Supply

- Conservation
  - Tiered rates, rebates, retrofit programs, education & other programs
  - Innovative Conservation Programs
    - SJRWMD Cost share Program
  - Alachua County & water management district efforts
  - Residential per capita water use decrease of >25% since 2001



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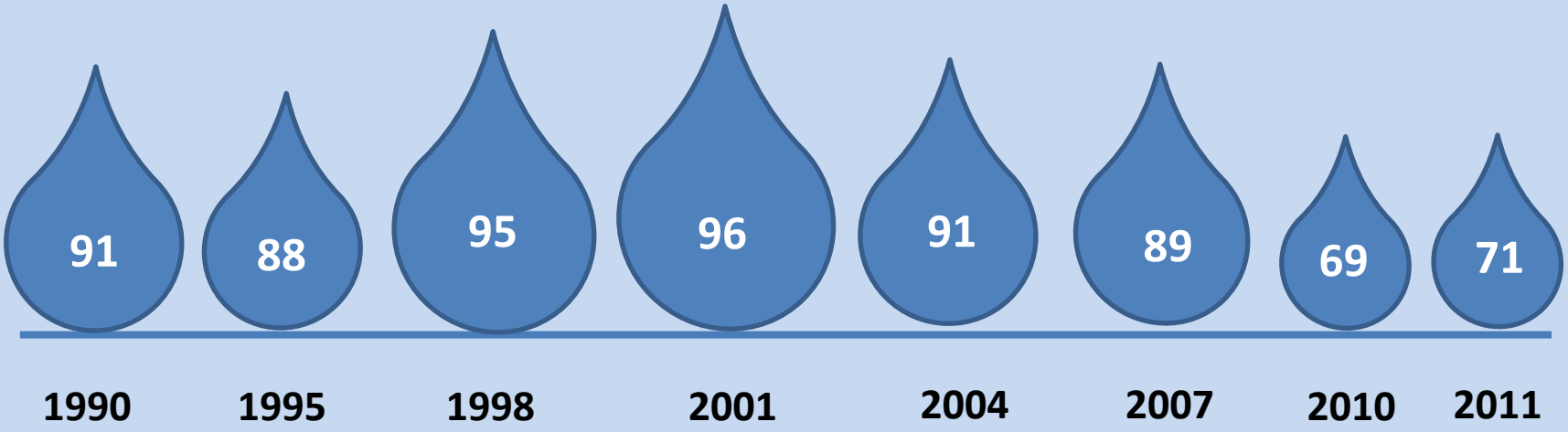
Reduce - Water Conservation

Gainesville and Vicinity Public Water Supply – Residential Use



Average gallons used per person per day.

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GRU Approach to Water Supply

- Water Reuse
  - 70% of water withdrawn at Murphree is returned to aquifer
  - Reclaimed water used to offset potable water demands
    - Irrigation
    - Cooling

Wharton-Smith, Inc
CONSTRUCTION GROUP

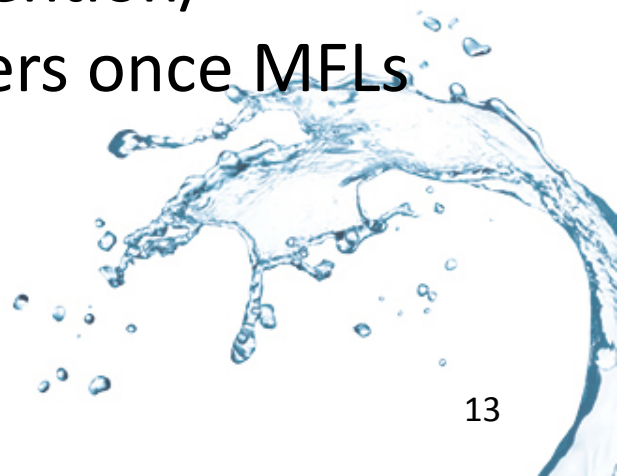
Sweetwater Branch/Paynes Prairie
Sheet Flow Restoration

Image # 130607 2011
Date : 06.07.2013
Aero Photo 888.542.0231

KWRF Groundwater Recharge Wetland

GRU Approach to Water Supply

- GRU CUP Permit Renewal Application
  - Asking for current 30 mgd allocation for 20 yrs
  - Additional conservation
  - Ability to expand allocation if more growth than projected, if we do additional projects to offset additional allocation
  - Commitment to participate in prevention/ recovery plans along with other users once MFLs set.



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What is an MFL?

- Defines the extent to which flows and/or water levels can differ from un-impacted conditions without causing harm
- Calculated individually for each spring, river, or lake
- Calculation Highly Complex
  - Must separate out effects of pumping versus:
    - **Rainfall**
    - Changes in drainage patterns
    - Changes in land uses

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What is an MFL?

- If a water body is not meeting its MFL, or is expected to not meet its MFL the water management district or FDEP must develop a "Prevention/Recovery Strategy"
  - **Requires actions of Consumptive Use Permit Holders**

Potential Prevention/Recovery Strategies

- Requirements for water conservation & using reclaimed water
  - Water Utilities - Golf Courses
  - Agriculture - Industrial
- Aquifer recharge projects
- Reduction of water allocations
- Alternative water supplies
  - Desalination &/or surface water

Why are MFLs Important?

- If MFLs are technically sound & well vetted:
  - Help to ensure natural resources are protected
  - Sets a regulatory benchmark to allow us to plan ahead to ensure we can sustainably meet future water supply needs of community
- MFLs & Prevention/Recovery strategies
  - Technical review
  - Vetting & buy-in from all stakeholders

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Why are MFLs Important?

- Both MFL and Prevention/Recovery Strategy are adopted together as rules
  - Prevention /Recovery Strategy must provide plan & schedule of how MFL will be met
  - Existing & New water users must meet MFL
- Costs & Economic Impacts can be substantial
  - MFLs need to be technically sound & recovery actions need to be understood by all stakeholders

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Concerns with Lower Santa Fe & Ichetucknee MFLs

- Technical Concerns with MFL Criteria
  - Unprecedented drought in 2000-2010
  - Over-estimates impact of pumping
  - Under-estimates impact of weather
    - UF Peer review team & we identified critical flaws
- Recent change in technical method
    - New method not peer reviewed
- Accelerated timeline

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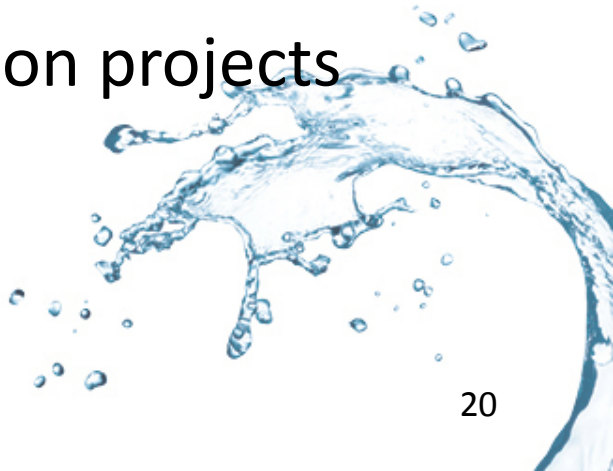
Concerns with Lower Santa Fe & Ichetucknee MFLs

- Draft Recovery Plan
  - We generally support most of actions in plan
    - Conservation (agriculture, public supply, self supply)
    - Aquifer recharge projects
  - We & our community already doing much of this
  - We are already working w/ SRWMD & SJRWMD on additional recharge & conservation projects



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Concerns with Lower Santa Fe & Ichetucknee MFLs

- Concern is that actions & costs required to meet MFL may potentially be well beyond what is anticipated in recovery plan
  - Large scale surface water transfer
  - Desalination & long distance pumping
  - Large scale buy-out of farms to close their Consumptive Use Permits
- Costs regionally potentially in $100s of millions or $billions
- FDEP & WMDs legally required to enforce MFLs

Current Approach/Status

- Providing technical comment to FDEP, SRWMD & SJRWMD
- Working with FDEP, SRWMD & SJRWMD to understand actions that will be required to meet MFL, how much they will cost and how much of this cost will be borne by GRU & our customers

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Summary

- GRU continues to be committed to providing clean, safe, affordable, sustainable water supply to community & to protection of natural resources
- GRU supports appropriate regulatory efforts to ensure protection of springs, rivers, and other natural resources
- GRU committed to doing our fair share in meeting MFLs once they are set

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Summary

- MFLs & other regulations need to be
  - technically sound
  - Reasonable
  - Fair & equitable
  - Produce desired result
- GRU continuing to provide technical comment to FDEP, SRWMD & SJRWMD to resolve our concerns

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