

# Highlands Hammock Watershed Management Plan

## Watershed Evaluation Details

**Topographic Data:** Based on information collected in 2005-2011.

**Permit Data:** Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) cutoff date for modeling will be 2021.

## Projected Timeline for Upcoming Tasks

### **July 2021/August 2021 (45 days)**

- Outreach with the public to collect historical information to assist with further analysis.

### **September 2021**

- District will review all public comments received during initial review period.

### **Winter 2022**

- Preliminary floodplain information presented to public for review and comment.

## Additional Resources / Contact Information

### **FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)**

- Highlands County – Current Effective Date is November 2015.
- Hardee County – Current Effective Date is November 2013.
- The County will determine when approved floodplains will be provided to FEMA.

### **Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)**

(352) 796-0515, extension 4297

(800) 423-1476, extension 4297 (Florida only)

[WMP@swfwmd.state.fl.us](mailto:WMP@swfwmd.state.fl.us)

*The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs, services and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation, or who would like information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Human Resources Office Chief, at 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4747; or email [ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org](mailto:ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org). If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). If requested, appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided at any public meeting, forum, or event of the District. In the event of a complaint, please follow the grievance procedure located at [WaterMatters.org/ADA](http://WaterMatters.org/ADA).*

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **Q: What is the Watershed Management Program?**

A: The District takes a watershed approach to managing water and water-related resources within its boundaries. By doing so, all the characteristics of each watershed can be evaluated to reflect the real, interconnected nature of Florida's water resources. This increases the District's ability to clearly identify, prioritize and address issues related to the area's water resources. The Watershed Management Program provides a method to evaluate the capacity of a watershed to protect, enhance and restore water quality and natural systems while achieving flood protection.

For more information, please visit:

[https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/sites/default/files/medias/documents/watershed\\_management.pdf](https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/sites/default/files/medias/documents/watershed_management.pdf)

### **Q: How will this affect me?**

A: As preliminary flood risk information is developed for a watershed, the District provides the information to the public so that citizens can learn about the data and science used to determine the flood hazard areas, view the preliminary floodplain results and have an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. We encourage you to contact us through a phone call, email or the comment card if you have information to share. This information could be used to update FEMA maps in the future or for permitting decisions on a property.

### **Q: Where can I provide photos of previous flooding?**

A: You may email flood photos to us at [WMP@watermatters.org](mailto:WMP@watermatters.org). Please include the date the photo was taken, if possible.

### **Q: Who do I contact with comments and questions?**

A: For watershed related issues you may submit questions and comments on our website, leave a voice message at (352) 796-0515 ext. 4297 or 1-800-423-1476 (Florida only) ext. 4297 or email us at [WMP@watermatters.org](mailto:WMP@watermatters.org).

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs, services and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation, or who would like information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Human Resources Office Chief, at 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4747; or email [ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org](mailto:ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org). If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). If requested, appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided at any public meeting, forum, or event of the District. In the event of a complaint, please follow the grievance procedure located at [WaterMatters.org/ADA](http://WaterMatters.org/ADA).

**Q: Who do I contact if I have a stormwater maintenance issue or a possible Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) violation?**

A: Property owners can describe the issue as a comment on our website, leave a voice message at (352) 796-0515 or 1-800-423-1476 (Florida only) ext. 4297 or email us at [WMP@watermatters.org](mailto:WMP@watermatters.org) and the message will be routed to the appropriate staff within our Regulatory Division.

**Q: I got a letter on the mail, but my neighbor did not, Why?**

A: The District notifies property owners via mail for those properties that intersect wetlands, or special Flood Hazard Zones "A" or "AE" on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), or soils hydrologic group B/D, C, or D, or are adjacent to conveyance ways such as ditches, creeks, and rivers, to solicit information about the watershed.

**Q: Where can I find more information about flood insurance?**

A: To view FEMA's existing Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), visit the [FEMA Map Service Center](#) and search by street address; or, you can view flood risk information using [FEMA's map viewer](#).