Attachment 2 -- Florida Water Basin Boards

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Basin Boards

Our seven Basin Boards provide guidance for local programs that are specific to the basins they protect.

One way the District is distinguished from the other four water management districts in Florida is by its Basin Boards. These Boards provide guidance for local programs that are specific to the basins they protect.

The District has eight basins. Seven of them have Basin Boards. The eighth basin is the Green Swamp, headwaters for four major rivers. Because of its hydrologic significance for a large portion of the District, the Green Swamp Basin is administered directly by the Governing Board.

Basin Boards

1. Alafia River
2. Coastal Rivers
3. Hillsborough River
4. Manasota
5. Peace River
6. Pinellas-Anclote River
7. Withlacoochee River

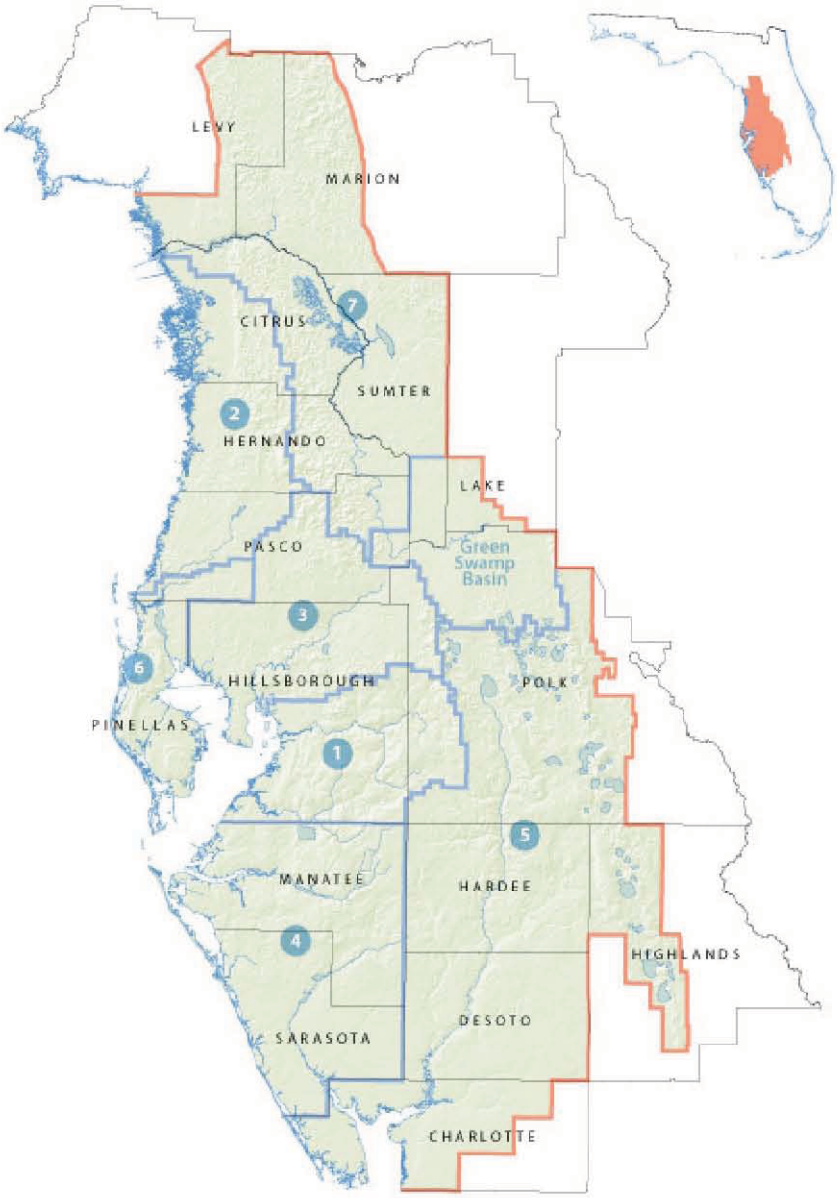
Basin Board priorities *provide guidance to staff and cooperators, identifying projects that address the needs of each basin. Learn more...*

Meetings

View our calendar

Meeting information
(agendas, notebooks, minutes)

Read more about Basin Boards in an issue paper.



The Basin Boards offer a local perspective to water management projects and programs. They focus on water-related issues and projects, and they provide programs and budgets to address these concerns. They finance their programs in part through ad valorem taxes. The one mill taxing capability of the District is divided evenly between the Basin Boards and the Governing Board.

Basin Boards are important to efficient water resource management. They allow planning to take place for each Basin, which conforms to trends being established by state and federal agencies. And they also provide a vehicle to enhance environmental protection efforts that look at entire watersheds, including the land, water, and plants and animals within them. The Basin Boards, through their annual planning process, identify key issues and establish priorities in their Basins in four areas of responsibility: water supply, flood protection, water quality, and natural systems.

One way the Basin Boards fulfill their responsibilities is through their role in the District's Cooperative Funding Initiative. Through this program, Basin Boards work with local governments and other entities on water resource projects that have an impact in local communities. Half the money for these projects comes from the Basin Boards. The other half comes from the local government or local cooperator.

Basin Board members are unpaid citizen volunteers appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. They serve three-year terms. Each of the Basin Boards includes one person from each county within the basin, and there must be at least three members on each board. Each Basin Board has at least one of the 13 members of the District's Governing Board that serves as the Basin Board's chair. There are a minimum of 29 Basin Board seats on the seven boards, excluding the Governing Board representatives.

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
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