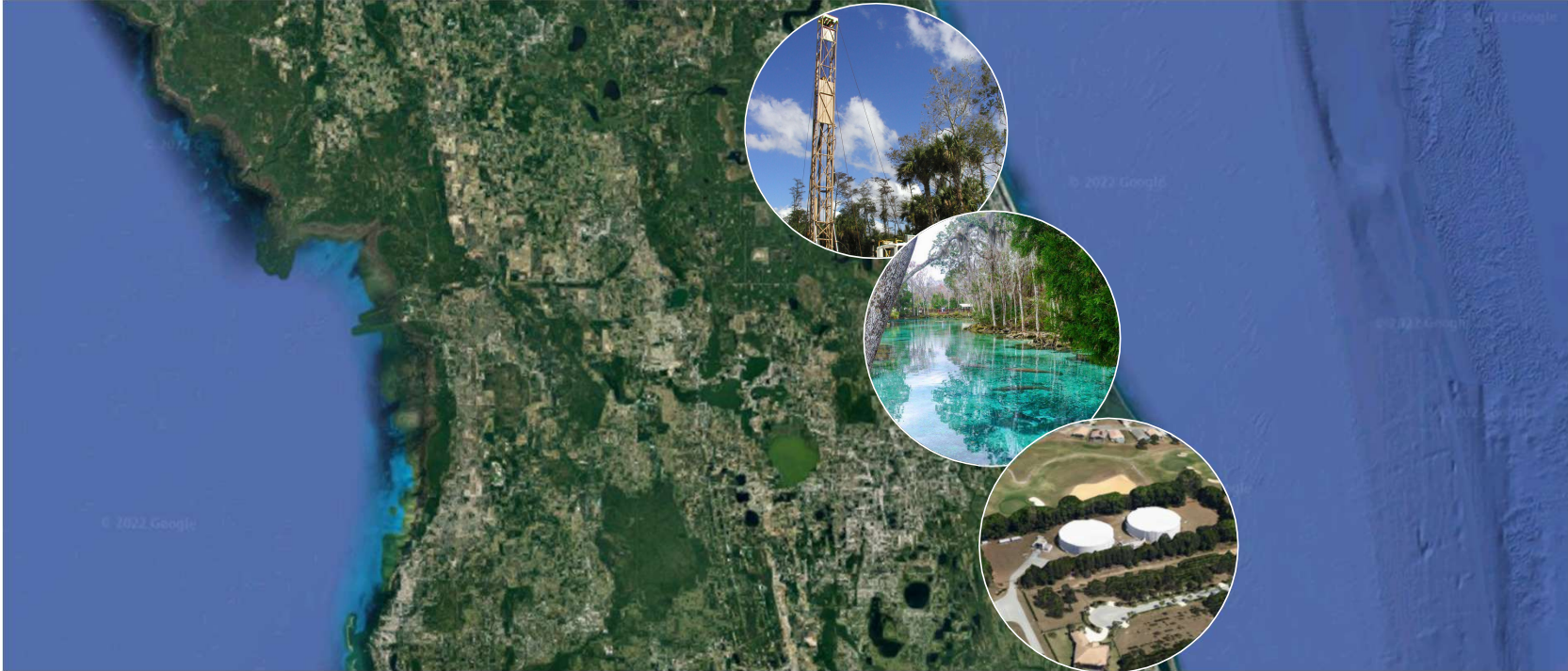


**Hazen**



**WITHLACOOCHEE  
REGIONAL  
WATER  
SUPPLY  
AUTHORITY**

# **2024 Regional Water Supply Plan Update WRWSA Alternative Water Supply Options**

January 14, 2026

## Project Goals and Objectives

- Goal
  - Assist public utilities by identifying regional water supply opportunities across four counties
- Objectives
  - Quantify public water supply demand
  - Assess water conservation and reuse potential
  - Identify water resource availability to meet demand
  - Evaluate economic constraints
- Plan cooperatively funded by SWFWMD
  - In support of 2025 RWSP for Northern Region



## Key Project Tasks

### Population and Demand Projections

- Update water demand projections through 2045

### Water Conservation and Reuse Evaluation

- Estimate conservation potential, reclaimed availability, potential offsets

### Source Water Assessments

- Evaluate and identify water resources availability to meet demand

### Water Supply and Treatment Options

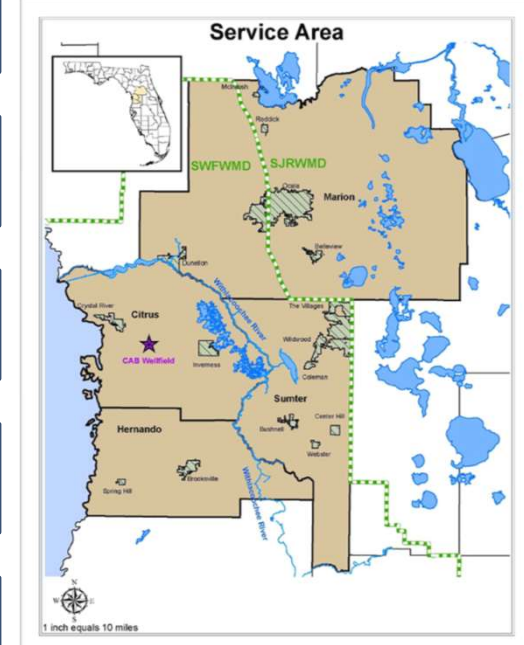
- Identify traditional/alternative supply availability and project options

### Organization, Funding, & Governance Recommendations

- Recommend Regional Governance Framework for WRWSA

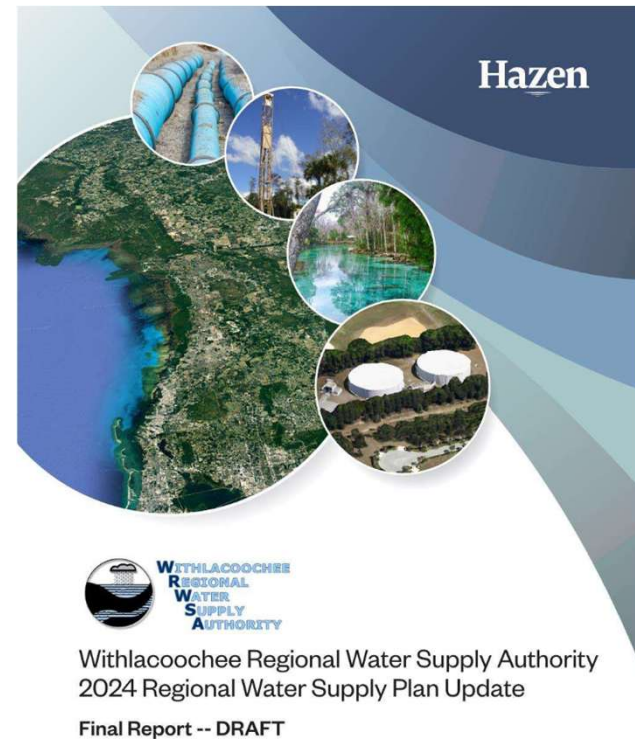
### Regional Water Supply Plan

- Provides description of technical analyses and recommendations.



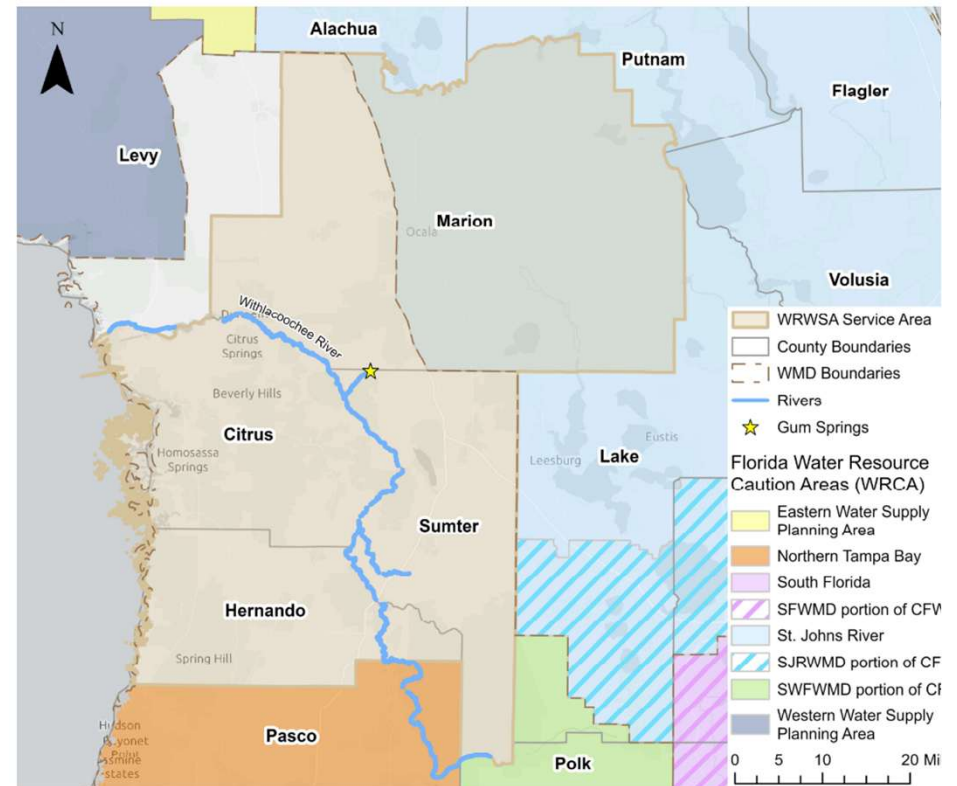
# Chapter 1 – Introduction & Regional Context

- Four-county region underlain by highly productive karst aquifers
- Strong surface water–groundwater connections increase vulnerability
- Population growth and seasonal demand drive long-term challenges
- Regional planning is required to balance supply reliability and resource protection



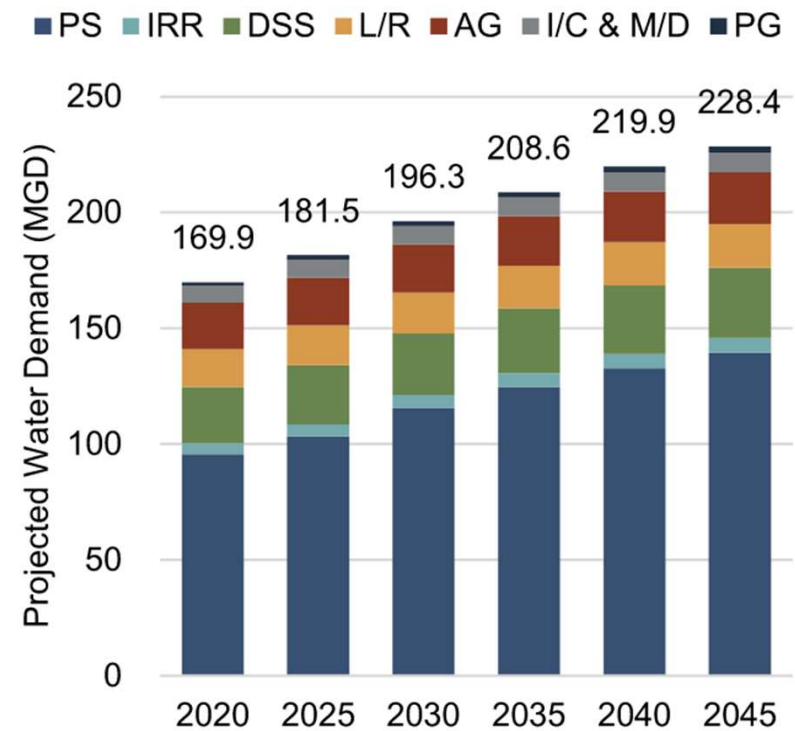
## Chapter 2 – Water Resource Protection Strategies

- Water Resource Caution Areas affect neighboring parts of the planning region
- Existing and pending Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs)
- Potential future limits on Upper Floridan Aquifer withdrawals
- Regulatory uncertainty increases supply risk



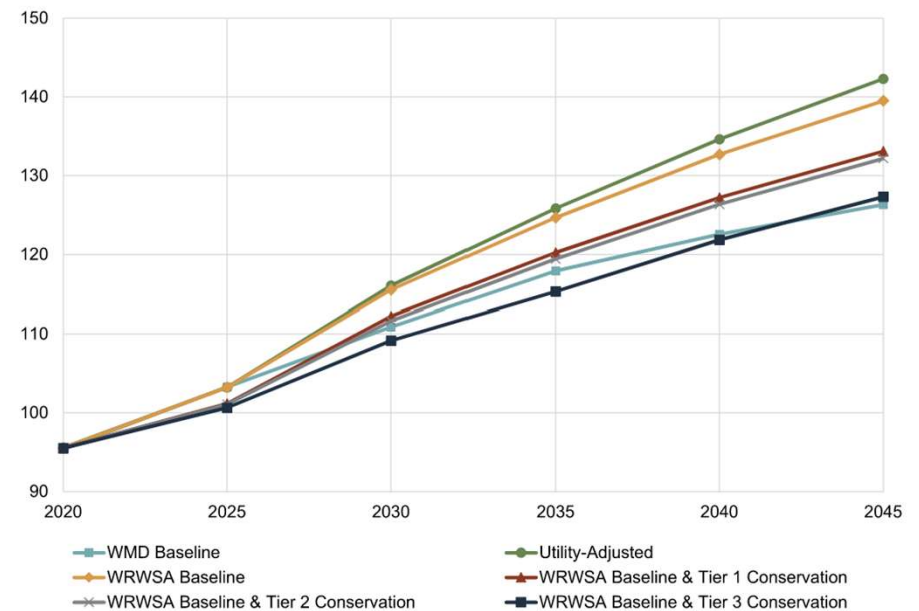
## Chapter 3 – Future Water Demands

- Utility-based projections identify emerging supply deficits
- Some utilities face shortfalls before 2035
- Seasonal peak demand is a primary driver
- Deficits vary by county, reinforcing regional solutions



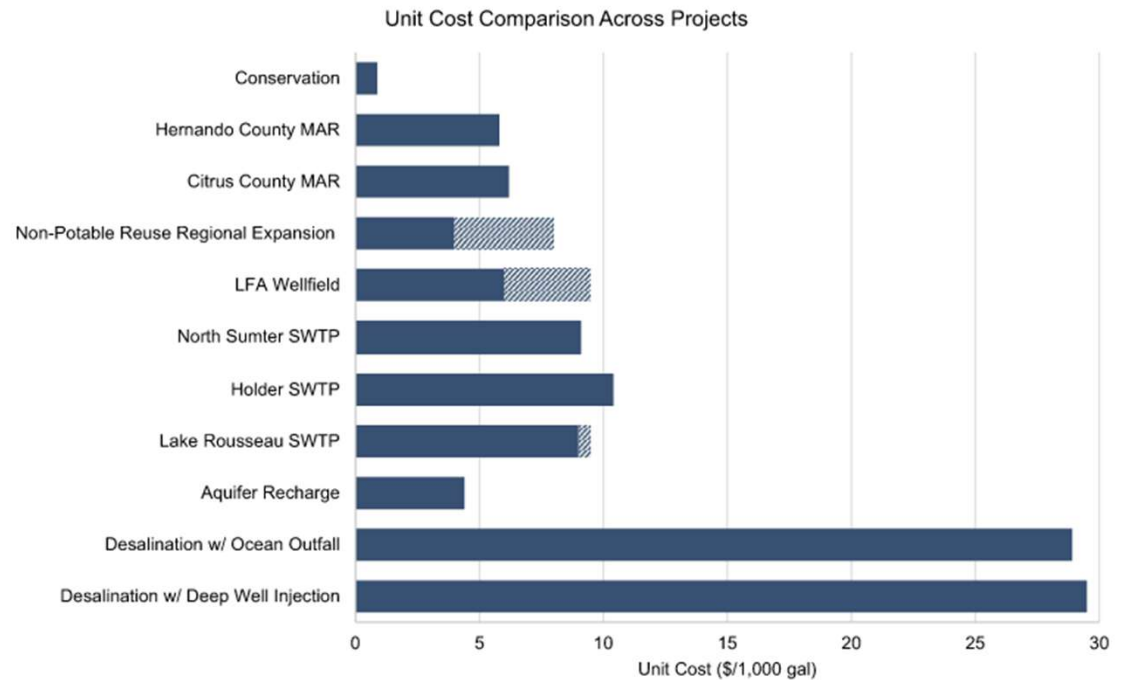
## Chapter 4 – Evaluation of Water Sources

- Conservation is the most immediate and cost-effective supply option
- Tier 3 conservation provides 12.2 MGD of demand reduction by 2045
- Approximately 13.7 MGD of unallocated reclaimed water available by 2045
- Source water availability increasingly constrained by MFLs and aquifer limits



## Chapter 5 – Water Supply Development Options

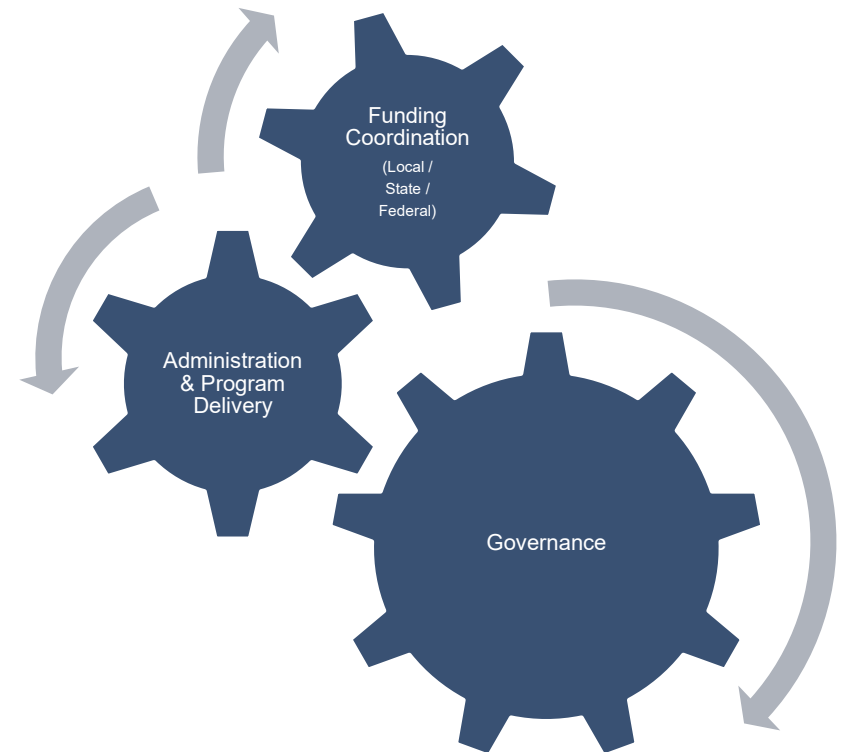
- Reclaimed Water Optimization, Aquifer Recharge, and Non-Potable Reuse provide high regional value (<\$6/kgal)
- Lower Floridan Aquifer offers reliable mid-term potable supply (~\$6–\$10/kgal)
- Surface water adds long-term regional capacity and diversification (~10/kgal)
- Desalination provides drought-proof but high-cost supply (~\$29/kgal)



Cost increases with reliability and drought resilience

## Chapter 6 – Regionalization of Water Supply

- Regional cooperation reduces cost and implementation risk
- Shared infrastructure improves funding competitiveness



## Chapter 7 – Summary and Recommendations

<b>Advance</b> Near-Term   0-10 years	Advance Hernando MAR credit evaluation (2025–2026). Confirm aquifer benefit, crediting potential, and regulatory pathway.
<b>Initiate</b> Mid-Term   5-15 years	Initiate Lower Floridan Aquifer feasibility study with SWFWMD and DEP. Evaluate yield, water quality, and permitting considerations.
<b>Preserve</b> Long-Term   Readiness	Preserve the Holder surface water interconnection corridor. Maintain siting and transmission flexibility for future needs.
<b>Expand</b> Ongoing   Foundational	Expand regional reuse data integration and monitoring network. Support conservation, MAR/IPR readiness, and adaptive management.

**Phasing Logic:** Prioritize low-cost demand reduction and recharge first, diversify supplies as constraints emerge, and preserve higher-cost options for long-term resilience.

## Next Steps

- Receive feedback by from stakeholders by January 30, 2026
- Issue final report by February 27, 2026
- Request Board Adoption March 18, 2026

# Questions & Discussion

Thank you! We welcome your input