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WWALS Watershed Coalition advocates for conservation and stewardship of the Withlacoochee, Willacoochee, Alapaha, Little, Santa Fe, and Suwannee River watersheds in south Georgia and north Florida through education, awareness, environmental monitoring, and citizen activities.











To: Potential member of WWALS Advisory Committee

## Re: About the WWALS Advisory Committee

You have been suggested as an Advisor to WWALS Watershed Coalition. Before you consider joining anything, probably you would like to know what it is and what you might do.

# What is WWALS?

WWALS Watershed Coalition (WWALS) is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational charity. It was formed in June 2012 by charter board members from Lowndes and Tift Counties, Georgia, and currently has board members from those counties and from Harris County, Georgia, and Duval County, Florida. Most work of WWALS is done by volunteer members, by committees, and by the Board of Directors.

WWALS is the WATERKEEPER® Alliance Member for the Suwannee River Basin as <u>Suwannee RIVERKEEPER®</u>. Currently there is one paid staff member, who is the Suwannee Riverkeeper, and an acting Executive Director.

### **WWALS Vision:**

A healthy watershed with clean, swimmable, fishable, drinkable water.

### **WWALS Mission:**

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## **WWALS Goals:**

WWALS has <u>seven overarching goals</u>, many about issues. Most of the issues listed here are addressed by the <u>WWALS Watershed Issues Committee</u>. Testing has its own <u>Committee</u>. The Water Trails have their own Committee.

- Water Quality Testing; see also Committee.
- Valdosta (and other) Wastewater
- <u>Corporate agriculture</u>: land purchases and land use
- Solar power
- Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) export
- Sabal Trail fracked methane pipeline
- Fracking
- Coal Ash
- The Waycross Superfund mess
- Water Trails; see also Committee.

For further detail, see <a href="http://wwals.net/issues/">http://wwals.net/issues/</a>.

#### What does WWALS do?

WWALS strives to work with local landowners and counties and municipalities and other parties to promote the wise use and conservation of water resources in the region.

WWALS is perhaps best known for our frequent paddle outings on our rivers, lakes, and swamps, at least one a month, more than any other similar organization of which we are aware. We have also become known for our advocacy, such as about the ongoing Valdosta sewage situation, through our attendance at meetings, media coverage, and success in getting the state of Georgia to publish Sewage Spill Reports each business day. We also attend many festivals and put on at least three major fundraisers of our own each year.

WWALS is primarily member-supported. While most of our members reside in the Suwannee River Basin, we have quite a few from Jacksonville, Tallahassee, and Atlanta, and some from as far away as California, New York State, and Miami.