

Project Schedule

July 2025 - July 2026	January 2026 - January 2029	July 2026 - July 2031	January 2027 - January 2030	January 2030 - January 2045
Feasibility Study	Permitting	Land Acquisition	Design	Construction

Implementation Ease



Permitting: Permitting for this project would include an intrabasin transfer and further hydrogeological and engineering analysis to ensure all environmental goals are met and that there are no adverse environmental or flooding impacts. Anticipated permitting includes NPDES, Clean Water Act Section 404, Potable Water Production, Class V Well Discharge, Sovereign Submerged Lands, and ROW permits.



Political/Public Opinion: It is anticipated that there will be strong public opposition to withdrawing water from the Suwannee River. There is hope that establishing low flow thresholds protective of the plants and wildlife in the river will alleviate some concerns.



Land Acquisition: This project will require some land acquisition for treatment facilities, but does not include the large land area for constructed wetlands or RIBs.



Conveyance Obstacles: Few or no conveyance obstacles were identified for this project. Most transmission is through non-congested public rights-of-way.

Operational Complexity



Governance: This project could be executed by a single implementing agency.



Monitoring: Ground water recharge wells will require monitoring of water quality prior to discharge (Chapter 62-610, FAC Part V).



Training and Operations: Some operational training will be required to operate and maintain a large pump station and recharge wells.

Key Assumptions

- Water availability is based on maintaining three key flows to protect plants and wildlife in the Lower Suwannee River.

Key Questions to be Answered by Further Study

Treatment:

- Refine low flow (protective flow) thresholds to better estimate availability of water defined as peak discharges. Consider additional impacts to wetlands, spring recharge, and recreational use.
- Determine specific treatment components for conventional surface water treatment and nutrient removal.

Recharge:

- Determine best recharge site to facilitate longer storage of water in the aquifer.
- Determine the number and spacing of recharge wells based on site specific characteristics.

Conveyance:

- Perform route analysis.
- Identify number and location of booster pump stations.

References

Saint Johns River Water Management District (2023) "Updated Cost Equation for Apr 2023" SJRWMD. Provided April 2024.