

## **SUWANNEE COUNTY**

### **Parks and Recreation**

#### Executive Summary

#### **Objective:**

FWC is requesting comments on a springs protection zone on the Ichetucknee River

#### **Considerations:**

- The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is considering whether or not a spring protection zone should be established on the lower portion of the Ichetucknee River in Columbia/Suwannee County, Florida. Specifically, the request is from the Ichetucknee Springs State Park boundary to the confluence at the Santa Fe River.
- FWC is required by statute to consult and coordinate with the water management district, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the governing bodies in which the spring protection zone being considered is located.
- The FWC is requesting feedback from Suwannee County regarding this request, specifically regarding whether or not the available evidence demonstrates significant harm (to include negative impacts to water quality, water quantity, hydrology, wetlands, and aquatic and wetland-dependent species) predominately caused by the operation, anchoring, mooring, beaching, or grounding of vessels such that a spring protection zone is necessary and appropriate in the requested area.
- The FWC would like feedback about the need for this spring protection zone by 10/24/2025.

#### **Budget Impact:**

No Budget Impact

#### **Recommendation:**

For the board to discuss if they would like to provide a comment to FWC on the proposed springs protection zone.

Respectfully submitted,

October 2, 2025

Alden Rosner  
Suwannee Parks and Recreation