

attributable to water conservation requirements applicable to Public Supply permits with allocations exceeding 100,000 gpd.<sup>204</sup>

Small counties are estimated to incur total costs between \$191,746 and \$234,134 within the first five years of rule implementation.<sup>205</sup> Like small cities, these estimates are based on a review of existing permits and 2020 Census population data identifying small county permittees in the NFRWSP planning area.<sup>206</sup> Only three small county Public Supply permits exceed 100,000 gpd and are subject to water conservation requirements, resulting in an estimated cost of \$178,104.<sup>207</sup> Additional costs to small counties are attributable to monitoring and reporting requirements, based on their proportionate share of affected permittees.<sup>208</sup>

Small businesses are estimated to incur total costs between \$3,272,885 and \$6,628,584 within the first five years of rule implementation.<sup>209</sup> The proposed rule would only directly impact small businesses that are water use permittees or applicants in the NFRWSP planning area.<sup>210</sup> Below is a table summarizing the regulatory costs from the proposed water conservation requirements.

Estimated Number of Small Business Permittees by Use Type and Regulatory Costs from Conservation Requirements<sup>211</sup>

Water Use Type	Total Number of Permittees with a Regulatory Cost (a)	Water Conservation Reporting Cost per Permittee (b)	Total Regulatory Cost per Use Type (a x b)
Agricultural	669	\$120	\$80,280
Commercial/Industrial/Institutional	30	\$12,388	\$371,640
Landscape/Recreation	81	\$12,388	\$1,003,428
Mining/Dewatering	10	\$12,388	\$123,880
Public Supply <sup>212</sup>	10	\$59,368	\$613,680

In addition, small businesses are estimated to incur \$1,079,977–\$4,435,676 in costs related to the proposed rule’s monitoring and reporting requirements.<sup>213</sup>

<sup>204</sup> *Id.*

<sup>205</sup> *Id.* at 38. “Small county” means any county that has an unincarcerated population of 75,000 or less according to the most recent decennial census. *Id.* at 35; [s. 120.52\(19\), F.S.](#)

<sup>206</sup> DEP, Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs-Summary of SERC Economic Assessment: Rule 62-42.300, F.A.C.: Attachment A (Oct. 2, 2025), available at <https://floridadep.gov/owper/water-policy/documents/attachment-lsfir-serc-summary-serc-economic-assessment> at 38.

<sup>207</sup> *Id.*

<sup>208</sup> *Id.*

<sup>209</sup> *Id.* at 36. “Small business” means an independently owned and operated business concern that employs 200 or fewer permanent full-time employees and that, together with its affiliates, has a net worth of not more than \$5 million or any firm based in this state which has a Small Business Administration 8(a) certification. As applicable to sole proprietorships, the \$5 million net worth requirement includes both personal and business investments. *Id.* at 34-35; [section 288.703\(6\), F.S.](#)

<sup>210</sup> DEP, Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs-Summary of SERC Economic Assessment: Rule 62-42.300, F.A.C.: Attachment A (Oct. 2, 2025), available at <https://floridadep.gov/owper/water-policy/documents/attachment-lsfir-serc-summary-serc-economic-assessment> at 35.

<sup>211</sup> *Id.* at 36.

<sup>212</sup> The cost for Public Supply is the combined cost of the five-year cost for the Public Supply Annual Report (\$46,980) and the one-time cost for the Public Supply Five-Year Water Conservation Report (\$12,388). There is one small business Public Supply permit with an allocation greater than 1 mgd, which means it would also have an additional \$20,000 reporting cost for implementing the data analytics requirements. This \$20,000 is added to the total for Public Supply. *Id.* at 36.

<sup>213</sup> *Id.* at 36.