

**CHAPTER 62-42**  
**MINIMUM FLOWS AND LEVELS**

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**62-42.100 Scope.**

(1) The purpose of this chapter is to set forth Department-adopted minimum flows and levels (MFLs) and the regulatory provisions of any required related recovery or prevention strategy as provided in Section 373.042(4), F.S.

(2) The Department recognizes that recovery and prevention strategies may contain both regulatory and non-regulatory provisions. The non-regulatory provisions are not included in this rule, and will be included in the applicable regional water supply plans approved by the appropriate districts pursuant to Sections 373.0421(2) and 373.709, F.S.

*Rulemaking Authority 373.026(7), 373.036(1)(d), 373.043, 373.171 FS. Law Implemented 373.023, 373.026, 373.033, 373.036(1)(d), 373.0391, 373.0395, 373.042, 373.0421, 373.0831, 373.086, 373.103, 373.106, 373.171, 373.175, 373.185, 373.1961, 373.223, 373.246, 373.250, 373.418, 373.451, 373.453, 403.0615(3), 403.064, 403.0891 FS., Section 38, Chapter 2002-296, Laws of Florida. History—New 11-26-14.*

**62-42.200 Definitions.**

When used in this chapter, including materials incorporated by reference, the following words shall have the indicated meanings unless the rule indicates otherwise:

(1) Agency or Agencies: The Department and applicable water management districts acting under the authorities afforded by Part II of Chapter 373, F.S., as applicable.

(2) Authorized uses: Uses of water authorized by a consumptive use permit issued by the applicable District or Department, any general permit by rule of the Districts, or by statute.

(3) Consumptive use permit (CUP): a permit that authorizes the consumptive use of particular quantities of ground or surface water. The phrases “Consumptive Use Permit,” “Consumptive Use Permitting,” and “Consumptive Use Applicants” are synonymous with “Water Use Permit,” “Water Use Permitting,” and “Water Use Applicants,” respectively, as used by agencies implementing Part II of Chapter 373, F.S.

(4) District(s): A water management district established pursuant to Ch. 373, F.S.

(5) Domestic Use: Exempt water uses as defined in section 373.019(6), F.S. (2025). See also section 373.219(1), F.S. (2025).

(6) Implementation Strategy: A strategy designed to ensure that a minimum flow or minimum water level (MFL) Compliance Point meets its MFL in accordance with sections 373.042, 373.0421, and 373.805, F.S., as applicable.

(7) MFL Compliance Point: The gage at which an MFL is established in this Chapter.

(8) Outstanding Florida Spring (OFS): Springs as defined in Section 373.802(5), F.S.

(9) P50 flow: The flow of the spring or surface water that is equaled or exceeded 50 percent of the time as determined from the expressed long-term flow time series.

*Rulemaking Authority 373.026(6), 373.043, 373.171, 373.227, 373.250, 373.805, 373.813 FS. Law Implemented 373.016, 373.019, 373.023, 373.026, 373.042, 373.0421, 373.046, 373.086, 373.103, 373.106, 373.113, 373.116, 373.118, 373.171, 373.175, 373.216, 373.217, 373.219, 373.223, 373.227, 373.228, 373.229, 373.236, 373.239, 373.243, 373.246, 373.250, 373.418, 373.451, 373.453, 373.62, 373.802, 373.805, 373.813, 403.064 FS. History—New 11-26-14, Amended 1-20-26.*

**62-42.300 Minimum Flows and Levels and Recovery and Prevention Strategies**

The Department hereby establishes the following minimum flows and levels in accordance with Section 373.042, F.S.

(1) Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers and Associated Priority Springs: The minimum surface water flows for the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee River and Associated Priority Springs are provided below:

(a) The minimum surface water flows for the Lower Santa Fe at the Santa Fe River near Ft. White, FL (USGS Gage No. 02322500) are:

1. 3,101 cubic feet per second (cfs) for a flow duration frequency of five percent,
2. 2,523 cubic feet per second (cfs) for a flow duration frequency of 10 percent,