

Ichetucknee Rivers Minimum Flows and Levels and offsetting the permittee's share of impacts to the Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva minimum flows and levels established by Rule 40C-8.031(5), F.A.C.

Recommendation: Approval

Reviewers: Paula Presley; Kristian Holmberg; Timothy Clohisy

Abstract:

This application is for a consolidation and renewal of two existing public supply permits with an allowance for an increase in Upper Floridan aquifer (UFA) groundwater allocation from 21.58 mgd to 27.11 mgd, if the permittee meets the offset requirements of Rule 62-42.300(7), F.A.C., relating to the Implementation Strategy for the Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Rivers (LSFIR) Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) and offsets the permittee's share of impacts to the Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva minimum flows and levels established by Rule 40C-8.031(5), F.A.C. The requested allocation is based on population projections within the applicant's service area. The proposed allocation reflects the applicant's request to combine Consumptive Use Permit (CUP) 1142-17 for St. Johns County Utility Department's (SJCUD) Ponte Vedra System and CUP 1198-9 for SJCUD's Mainland System, with current allocations of 7.03 mgd and 14.55 mgd, respectively. Staff are recommending a 20-year permit duration with a 10-year compliance report.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

SJCUD is a publicly owned utility that provides potable water, reclaimed water, and wastewater services in St. Johns County. SJCUD's service area covers a large majority of the county with the northernmost area along the St. Johns and Duval County boundary in Ponte Vedra Beach and southernmost area along the St. Johns and Flagler County boundary.

SJCUD currently utilizes 27 active UFA wells which are strategically located in wellfields throughout the Mainland and Ponte Vedra Systems to maximize efficiency and minimize resource impacts. SJCUD currently operates two wellfields as part of its SJCUD Mainland System: the Tillman Ridge (TR) wellfield located northwest of the intersection of County Road 214 and Interstate 95, and the Northwest (NW) wellfield located northwest of the intersection of International Golf Parkway and Interstate 95. The SJCUD Ponte Vedra System, which is being combined into the Mainland System as part of this permit renewal, includes the Ponte Vedra North wellfield located east of the Intracoastal Waterway near the Duval and St. Johns County boundary and the Ponte Vedra South wellfield also located east of the Intracoastal Waterway in the southern Ponte Vedra area. The application also adds two wells, serving the existing Bartram Oaks subdivision near State Roads 16 and 13 North by Shands Bridge, now operated by the County.