

Initiation of Rule Development; Water Reservation for the Kissimmee River and Upper Chain of Lakes

Water Resources Advisory Commission

June 5, 2008

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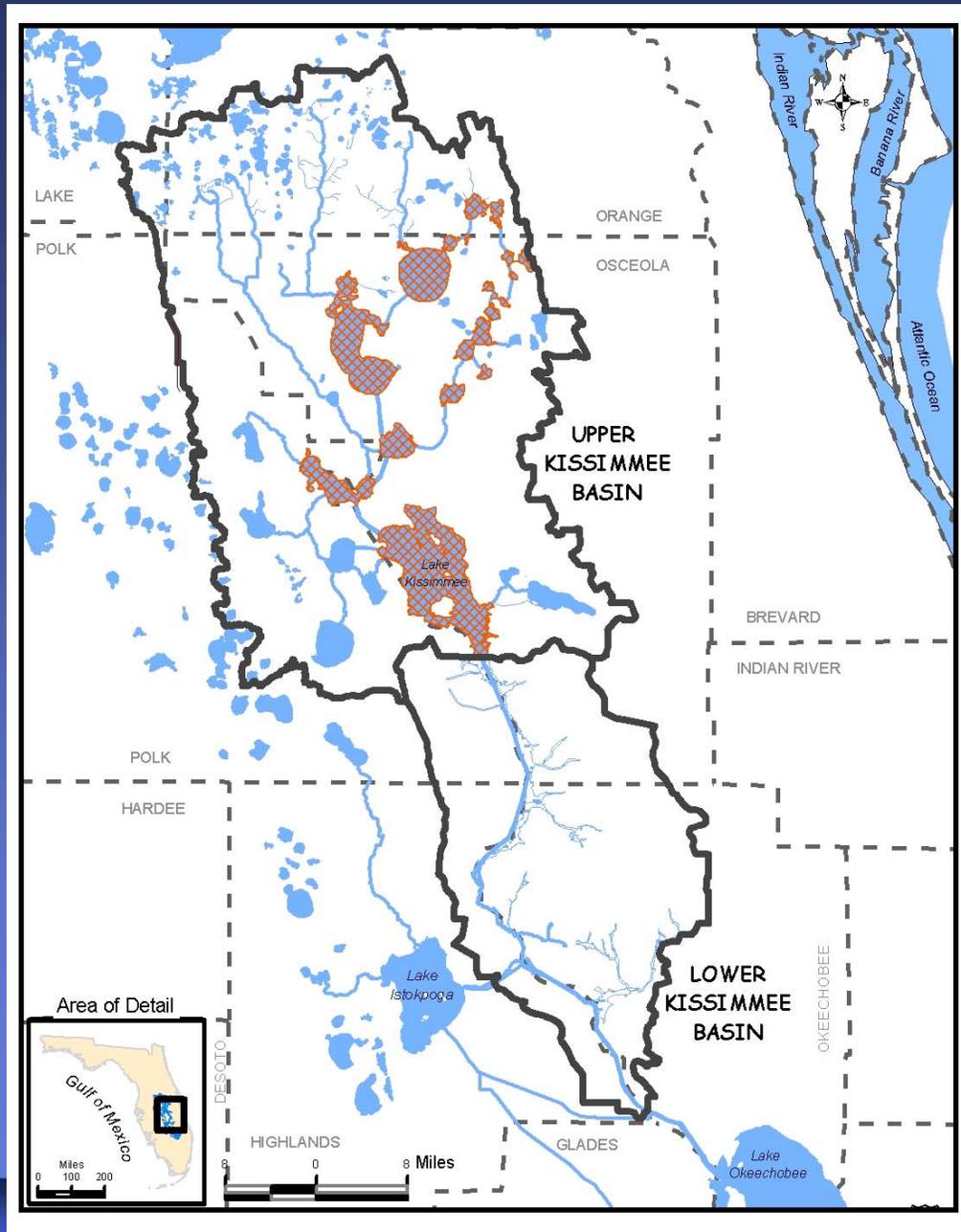
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Purpose of the proposed rule development

- Prevent allocation of water needed for the protection of fish and wildlife
- Public participation in rule drafting
- Provide policy makers a forum to hear concerns of stakeholders and provide direction to staff



Waters affected by the rule

- Surface waters needed for the protection of fish and wildlife
- Surficial groundwater that affects surface water
- Waters not needed for fish and wildlife will not be restricted under this rule

Rule development process

- **Project team:** Watershed, Everglades Restoration, Water Supply, Orlando Service Center and Office of Counsel
- **Stakeholders:** Environmental interests, recreational interests, water utilities, WMD (St. Johns and Southwest), DEP, USCOE, local governments
- **Outreach:** Public workshops, WRAC, Governing Board briefings, Web page

Major Milestones

- Initiate rule development: **June, 2008**
- Identify regulation schedules associated with protection of fish and wildlife: **November, 2008**
- Scientific peer review of data, analysis, and assumptions used to determine water reservation (if needed): **January through March, 2009**
- Workshop draft rule language and criteria: **January through June, 2009**
- Seek Board approval to publish the final draft rule in Florida Administrative Weekly: **June, 2009**

Recommendation

- **Initiate the rule development process for water reservations within the upper Kissimmee River Basin**