

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

Water Resources Advisory Commission

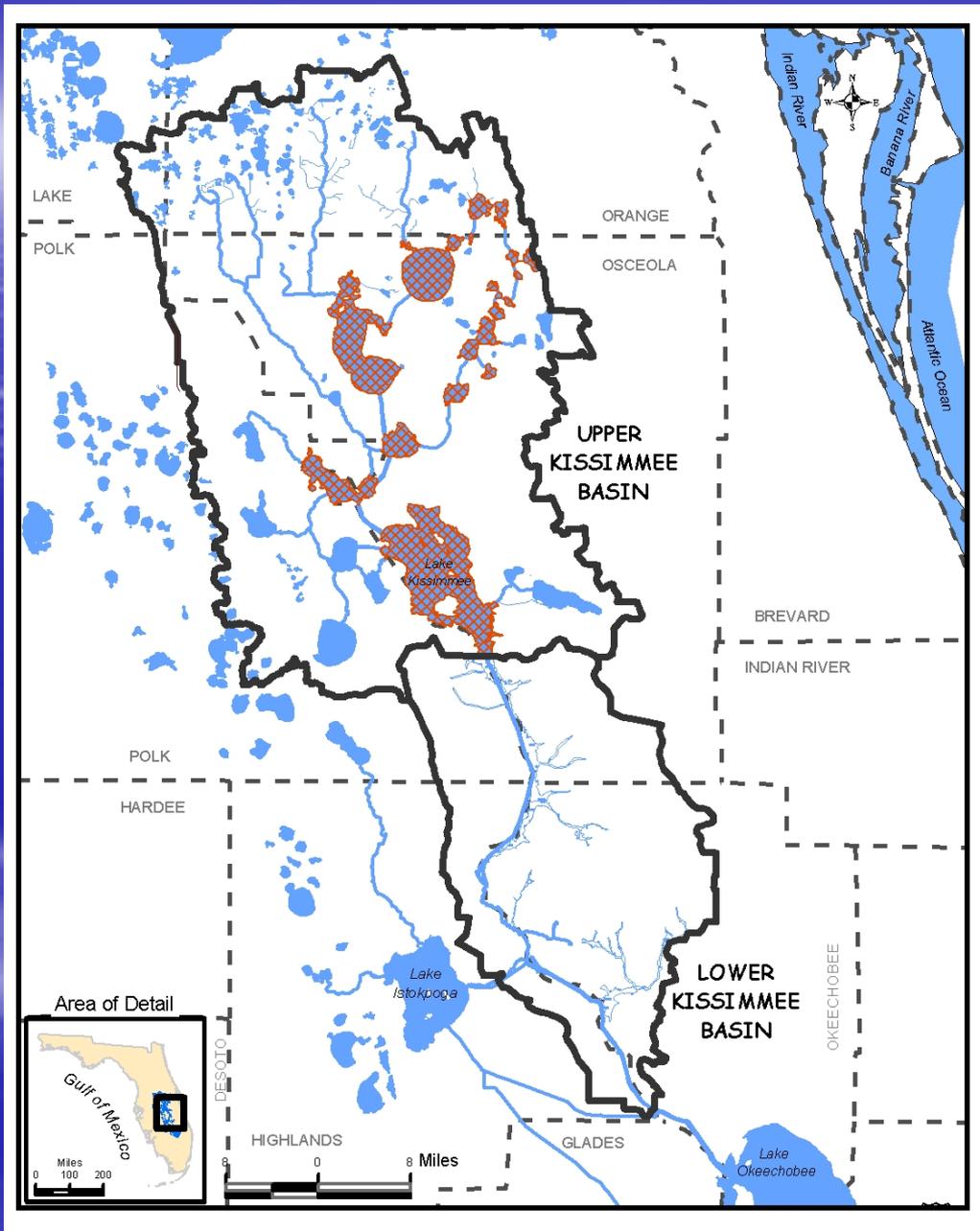
June 5, 2008

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Purpose of the proposed rule development

- Prevent waters that are determined to be necessary for the protection of fish and wildlife from being allocated for consumptive uses
- Provide the public the opportunity to participate in drafting the rule
- Provide the policy makers a forum to hear concerns of stakeholders and provide direction to staff in drafting the rules



Waters affected by the rule

- Surface waters determined to be needed for the protection of fish and wildlife within the River, floodplain, and chain of lakes
- Surficial groundwater that affect surface water defined above in the river, lakes and floodplain
- Waters not needed for fish and wildlife will not be restricted under this rule

Rule development process

- **Project team:** Watershed, Everglades Restoration, Water Supply 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 flows and regulation schedules associated with protection of fish and wildlife: **November, 2008**
- Scientific peer review of analysis, data and assumptions used to determine water to be reserved (if needed): **January, 2009**
- Workshop draft rule language and criteria: **March, 2009**
- Seek Board approval to publish the rule (rulemaking): **June, 2009**

Recommendation

- Authorize publication of a notice of rule development in the Florida Administrative Weekly to adopt a new rule Chapter 40E-10, F.A.C., regarding reservations and protection of water necessary for the natural system, and to amend Chapters 40E-2, 40E-20, 40E-21, and 40E-22, F.A.C., for the specific purpose of assuring water necessary for the protection of fish and wildlife in the Kissimmee River, the Floodplain and the Upper Chain of Lakes.