


# Regional Water Supply Authorities

## A Primer

Presented to  
Northeast Florida Regional Council  
by  
Brian Teeple  
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# Authorization

- Section 373.1962, Florida Statutes first passed in 1974, subsequently amended in 77,79,86,94,97,98,05.
- Created via Interlocal Agreement and governed by the signatories to the agreement (Counties, Municipalities, Special Districts).
- Purpose –developing, recovering, storing, and supplying water for municipal purposes in such a manner as will give priority to reducing adverse environmental effects of excessive or improper withdrawals of water from concentrated areas.
- Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection must approve the creation of a RWSA.

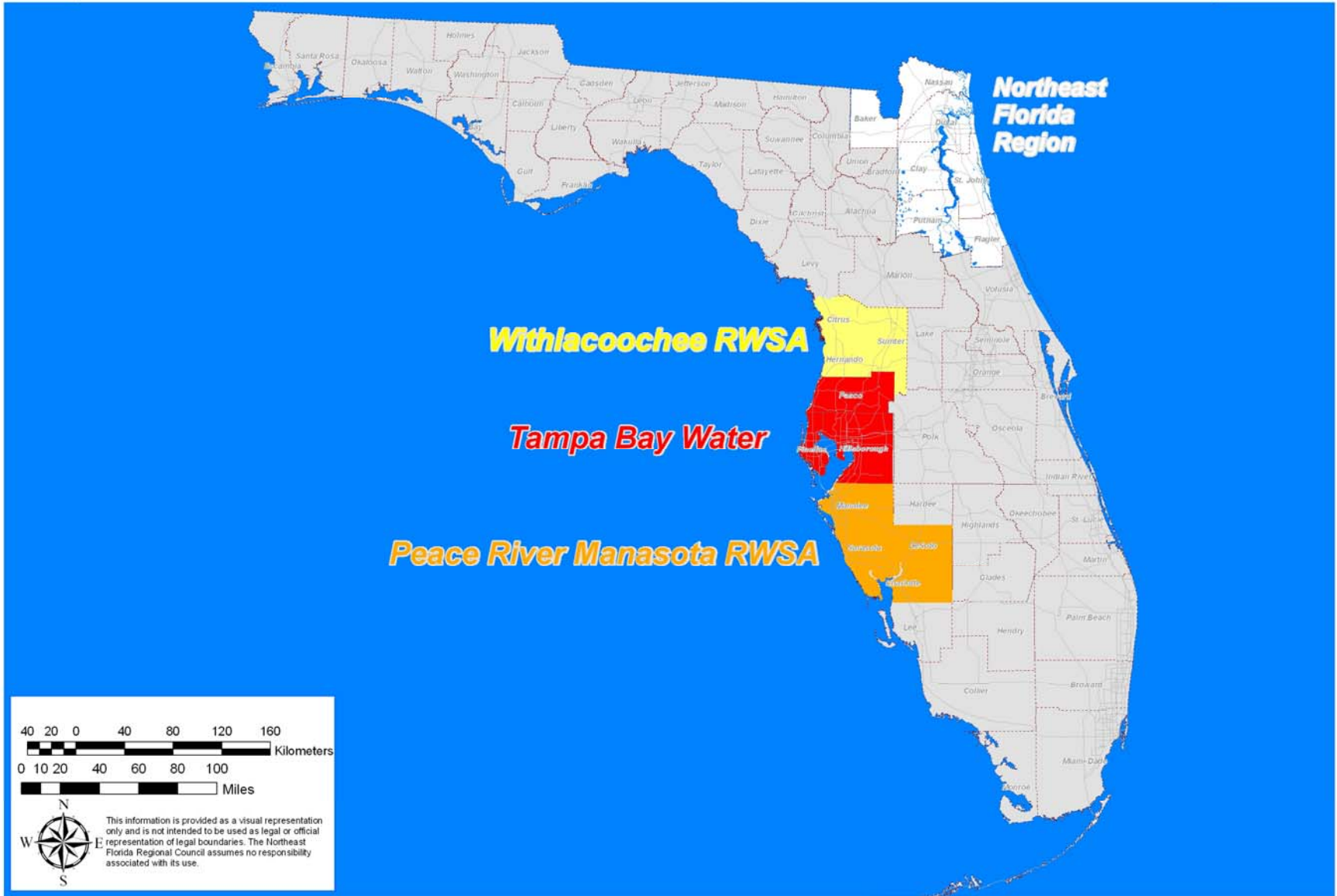
# FDEP Considerations

- Is it in the Public Interest?
- Is geographic territory of sufficient size?
- Maximization of economic development of the water resources.
- Availability of dependable and adequate water supply.
- Ability of a proposed RWSA to design, construct, operate and maintain water supply facilities to ensure an adequate water supply.
- Impact of a proposed RWAS on any county, municipality, or existing authorities.
- Existing needs of water users.

# RWSA Powers and Duties

- All powers and duties agreed upon through the Interlocal Agreement.
- Levy ad valorem taxes, not to exceed 0.5 mill upon approval of the electors.
- Acquire water and water rights, develop, store, and transport water; provide, sell and deliver water; set rates that equitably apportion capital and operating expenses.
- Collect, treat, and recover wastewater.
- Can not engage in local water distribution.
- Exercise the power of eminent domain on real property except water and wastewater rights already devoted to reasonable and beneficial use or any water production or transmission facilities owned by any county or municipality.
- Issue revenue bonds.
- Sue and be sued in its own name.
- Borrow money and incur indebtedness.
- Join with one or more other public corporations in carrying out its powers and duties.

# Regional Water Supply Authorities



40 20 0 40 80 120 160  
 Kilometers

0 10 20 40 60 80 100  
 Miles

This information is provided as a visual representation only and is not intended to be used as legal or official representation of legal boundaries. The Northeast Florida Regional Council assumes no responsibility associated with its use.

# Questions

