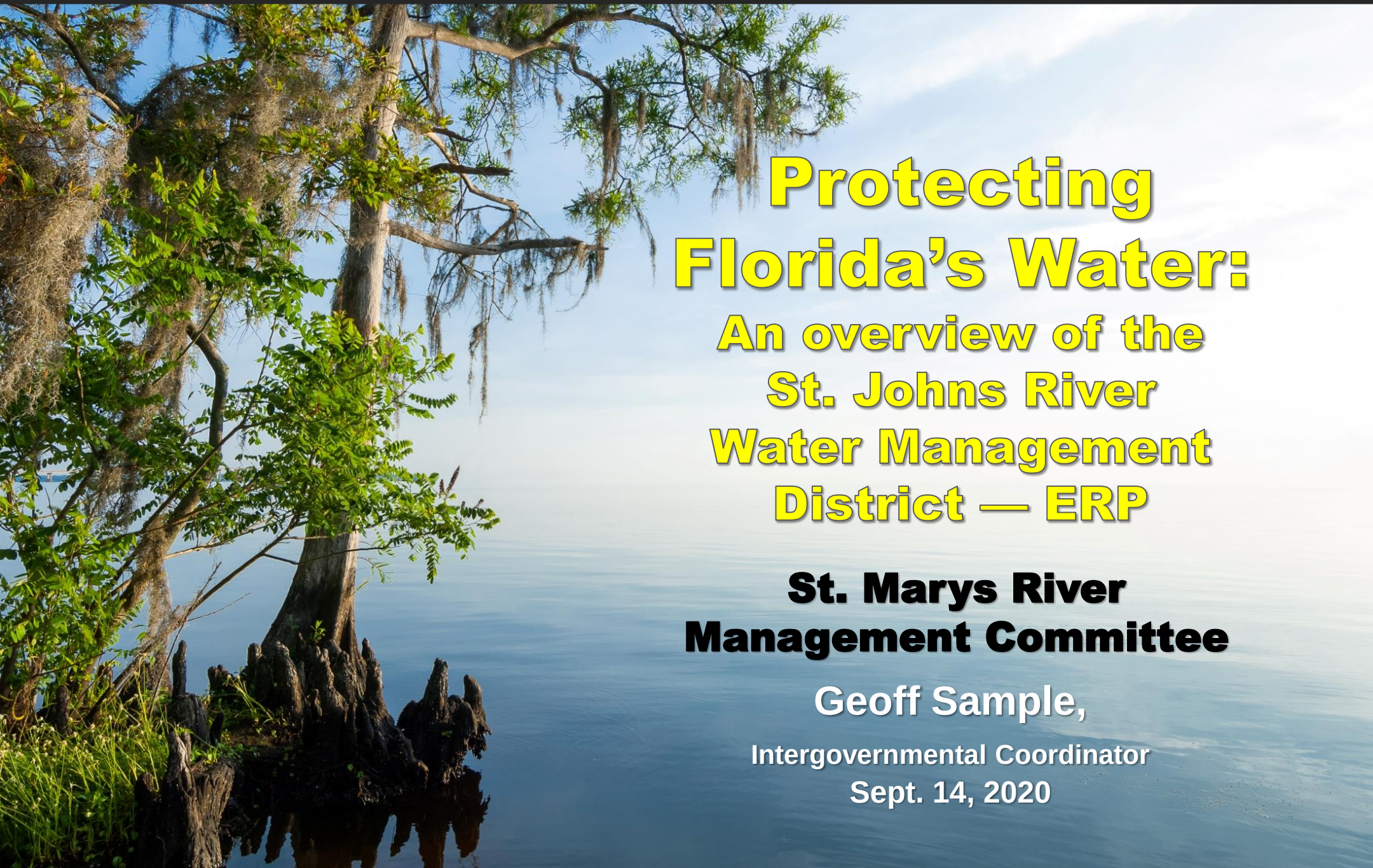


Protecting Florida's Water:

An overview of the St. Johns River Water Management District — ERP

St. Marys River Management Committee

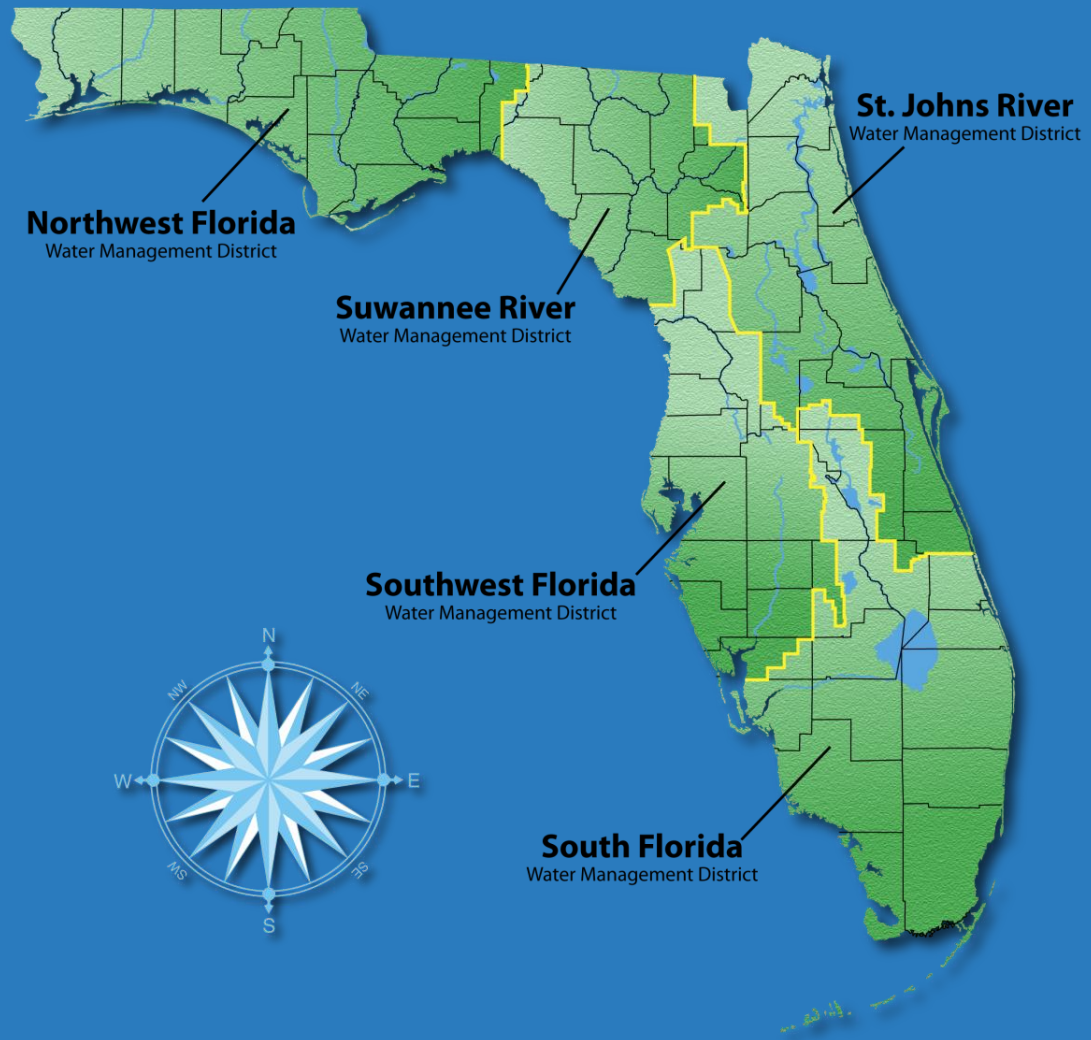
Geoff Sample,

Intergovernmental Coordinator

Sept. 14, 2020

Who We Are

- 12,283 square miles
- Covers all or part of 18 counties in northeast and east-central Florida



Core Missions

Water supply

Water quality

Flood protection

Natural systems

Permitting

SJRWMD Regulatory Programs

- Surface water – environmental resource permit (ERP)
- Groundwater – consumptive use permit (CUP)

What We Don't Do

- District regulations limited to water resources
- District does not regulate:
  - Land use
  - Zoning
  - Density
  - Traffic
  - Height of buildings
  - Design, aesthetics

When is an ERP Required?

- Any impacts to wetlands or surface waters
- Excavation > 40 acre-ft. in volume
- Placement of > 4,000 sq. ft. of pavement
- Placement of > 9,000 sq. ft. of impervious surface
- Certain agricultural and silvicultural projects
- Recreational projects > 5 acres

Surface Water (ERP) Permits

- Comprehensive rules to address:
  - Water quality
  - Water quantity (flooding)
  - Wetland impacts
- Rules adopted in the early 1980s, last updated in 2018

INFILTRATION BASIN


SWALE


WET DETENTION POND

Water Quantity

- Cannot adversely impact adjacent property
- Reduce post-development runoff rates to less than pre-development rates

Water Quality

- Any discharges must meet state water quality standards

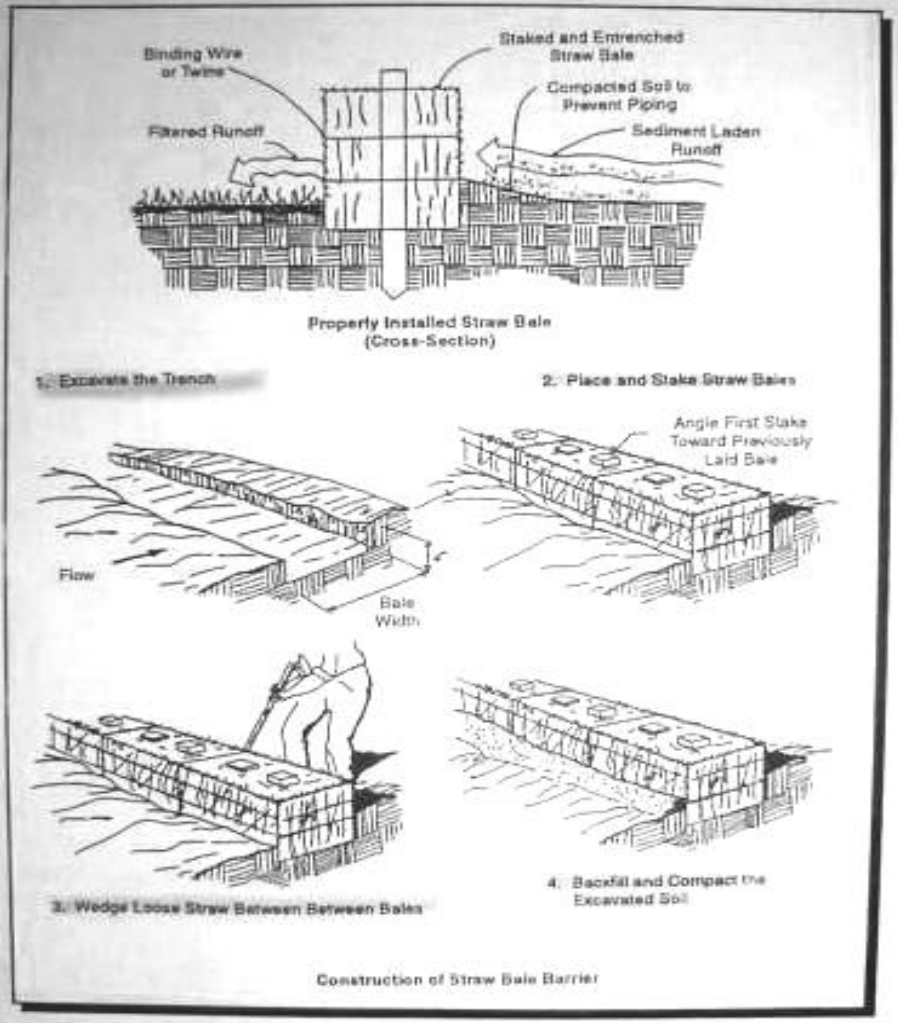
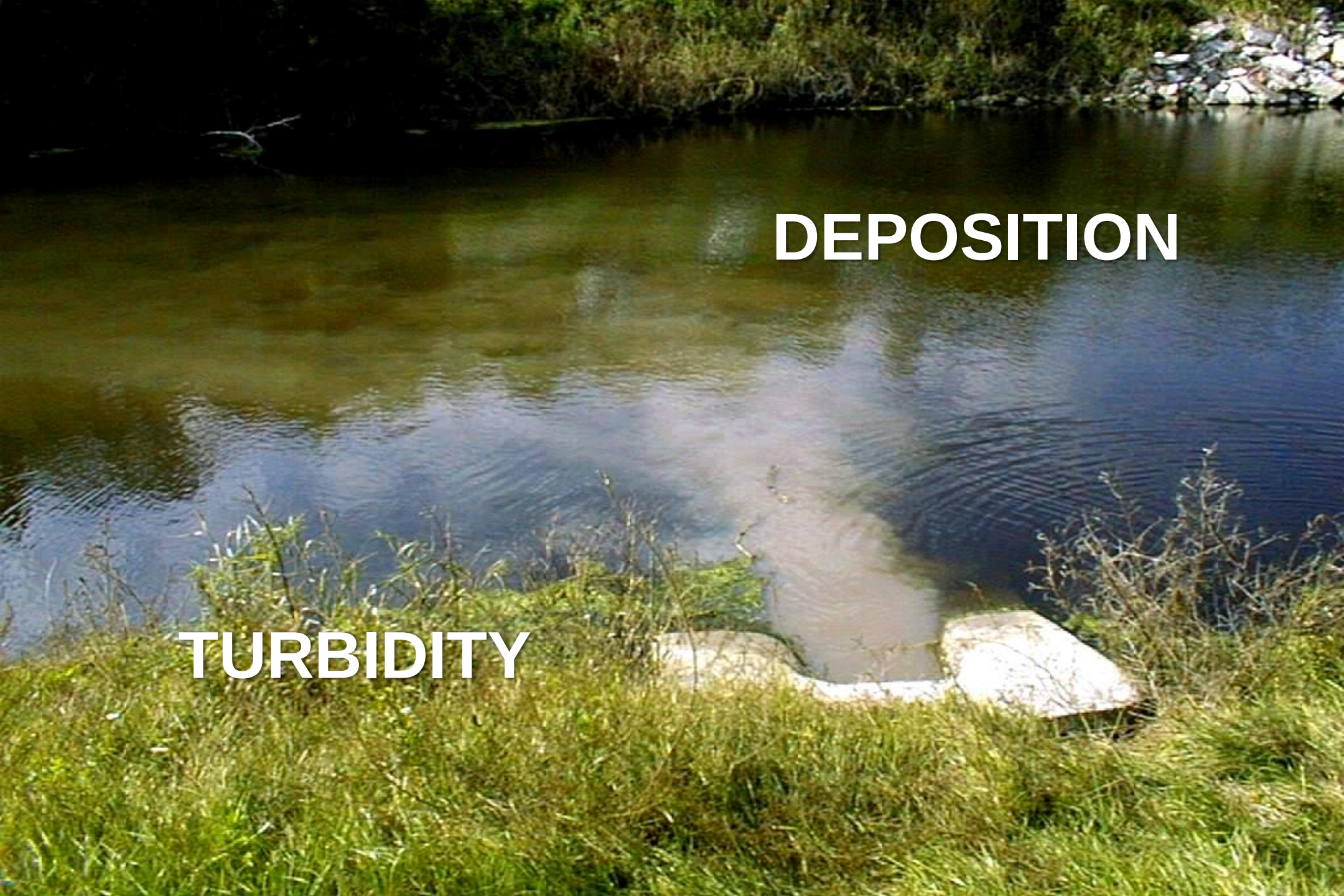


Plate 4.05b Construction of a Straw Bale Barrier
Source: NRCS


DEPOSITION
TURBIDITY

Wetland Review Issues

1. Avoidance of wetland impacts
2. Minimization of impacts
3. Mitigation for unavoidable wetland impacts

Wetland Review

1. Delineate the extent of wetlands (statewide methodology: soils, vegetation, hydrology)
2. Avoidance and minimization of wetland impacts (out provision for regionally significant mitigation)
3. Mitigation for wetland impacts

Applicant's Handbook, Volume 1

1.3.1 "Applicants may wish to consult with … the USACE …, and the local government if they have a wetlands regulatory program regarding any additional permitting and mitigation design considerations that may need to be addressed before, or concurrently with, submitting an application … (to) avoid the need to redesign and modify the project to meet the requirements of those other regulatory agencies.

Types of Mitigation

- Creation
- Restoration
- Enhancement
- Preservation
- Purchase of mitigation bank credits
  - or a combination thereof

Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method Chapter 62-345, F.A.C.

- A standardized procedure for:
- assessing functions provided by wetlands and other surface waters,
- determining the amount that those functions are reduced by a proposed impact, and
- the amount of mitigation necessary to offset that loss
- adopted in February 2004

UMAM Procedure

- define the assessment area(s) – impact or mitigation (creation, enhancement, restoration, preservation)
- narrative characterization (Part I)
- assessment and scoring (Part II)
- if mitigation, adjust for time lag and risk, and if preservation, add PAF
- apply the formulas

62-345.300

Other Wetland Issues

- Secondary impacts
  - 25-ft. average, 15-ft. minimum buffers assumed adequate
- Drawdown of adjacent wetlands from nearby pits or ditches
  - analysis of subsurface conditions and groundwater flows

Questions?

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