

**FWCA**  
**WORKSHOP REPORT**  
Workshop #13

Friday, September 18, 2015

9:00 – 4:00pm

Prepared by  
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Hosted by  
Tampa Bay Water, Clearwater, Florida

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## Background

**Florida Water and Climate Alliance (FWCA)** is a stakeholder-scientist partnership committed to increasing the relevance of climate science data and tools to support decision-making in water resource management, planning and supply operations in Florida (<http://floridawca.org/>) The FWCA brings together interested stakeholders (public water supply utilities, local governments, water management districts and academic institutions) to increase the relevance and usability of climate change and variability data and tools to the specific needs of public water supply utilities and resource managers and planners. Initiated in 2010 by the UF Water Institute, the FWCA partnership includes the UF Water Institute, Southeast Climate Consortium (SECC), the Florida Climate Institute (FCI), UF/IFAS Center for Public Issues Education, six major public water supply utilities, representatives of local governments, and three water management districts.

Initially supported through [two NOAA funded projects](#) when the project concluded successfully in November 2015 participants called for some “slightly more formal type of governance” that would include a steering committee, technical science committees and central management support services including workshop planning, facilitation, website and deliverable production. In addition, they suggested that there is a need for bare bones support for design, implementation management of 3 workshops and a website, with buy in for specific products. The UF Water Institute (WI) submitted a proposal and FWCA secured interim support from Saint Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and Tampa Bay Water (TBW) to continue FWCA network workshops and website respectively.

*Detailed information on the FloridaWCA is available the [FloridaWCA website](#) being managed by Dr. Chris Martinez, UF.*

**FWCA Goal:** Unfold the need for, and enhance the usability of, climate change and variability data and tools in the planning and operations of Florida’s public water supply utilities by creating spaces for sharing knowledge from the multiple perspectives and enhancing collaborative research. FloridaWCA participants are interested in impacting relevant research agendas in the technical and social sciences; understanding policy, management, operations and application of planning tools and understanding new policy changes at the state/local level that would affect the utilities; and the FloridaWCA network sustainability.

Specific Workshop Objectives:

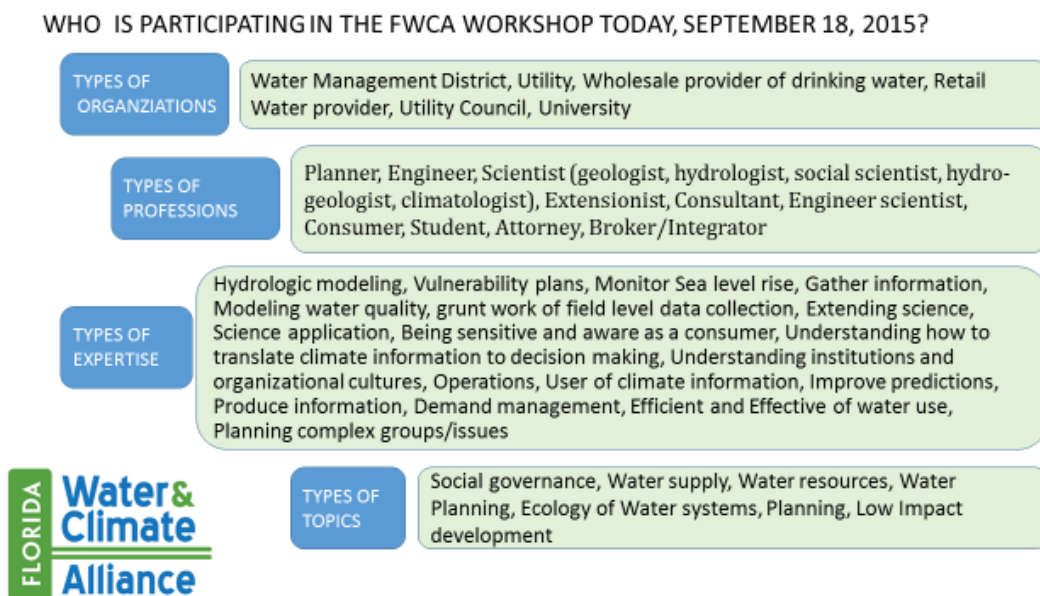
1. Stakeholder-scientist collaboration - Share current research, tools and benefits
2. Learn about stakeholder-based climate research programs in South Florida and explore synergies
3. Discuss Proposal Opportunities - Linking Science and the FWCA
4. Sustain the FWCA network - an environment for shared information, learning and networking.

## Session 1: FloridaWCA – Learning Together

- Welcome
  - Matt Jordan, General Manager, Tampa Bay Water, welcomed the FloridaWCA to Tampa Bay Water and shared his enthusiasm for the network and its role.
  - Mike Cullum, Saint Johns River Water Management District, expressed importance of the FWCA and recognized current support of WMD in terms of funding for Website activities to support the network.
  - Tom Frazer, Acting Director, UF Water Institute is keeping up the enthusiasm for the FWCA while Dr. Wendy Graham spends a year in a post at National Science Foundation.
  
- Introductions, where we are, what’s new?
  - [Florida Water and Climate Alliance background and goals](#) (Lisette Staal)

Setting the context for the day’s activities, Lisette provided background on the FWCA’s evolution as scientist-stakeholder network from Public Water Supply Utilities Climate Impacts Working Group (PWSU-CIWG), to Florida Water and Climate Alliance (FloridaWCA), to an even more familiarized version of FWCA. She posed a few key questions for people to keep in mind throughout the discussions..... What is a stakeholder? What is a scientist? What is stakeholder based research? What is stakeholder-scientist collaboration? Then, asked each participant to introduce themselves to the group and share what ROLE they play relative to the FWCA network and wrote their responses on flipcharts. Responses and discussion highlighted e results showing breadth of actors, richness of diverse expertise, and strength of having these perspectives contributing to the relevance of climate change and variability in the context of water supply (figure 1.)

Figure 1. Results from interactive introductions



## **Session 2: Stakeholder-scientist collaboration - The case of Tampa Bay Water**

Dr. Tirusew Asefa (Tampa Bay Water) presented information on what research has been done, what is planned, and the benefits of collaboration from the perspective of Tampa Bay Water. In particular focusing on the modeling process and data being used for demand forecasting at Tampa Bay Water and how it is being used for longer supply planning. [Presentation](#)

## **Session 3: Stakeholder-based climate research programs in South Florida**

Dr. Mike Sukop (Florida International University) provided an introduction to three stakeholder based research efforts underway in South Florida, two recently awarded Sustainable Research Network projects, the URex and the UWin, and the WSC project, South Florida Water, Sustainability, and Climate project (SFWSC).

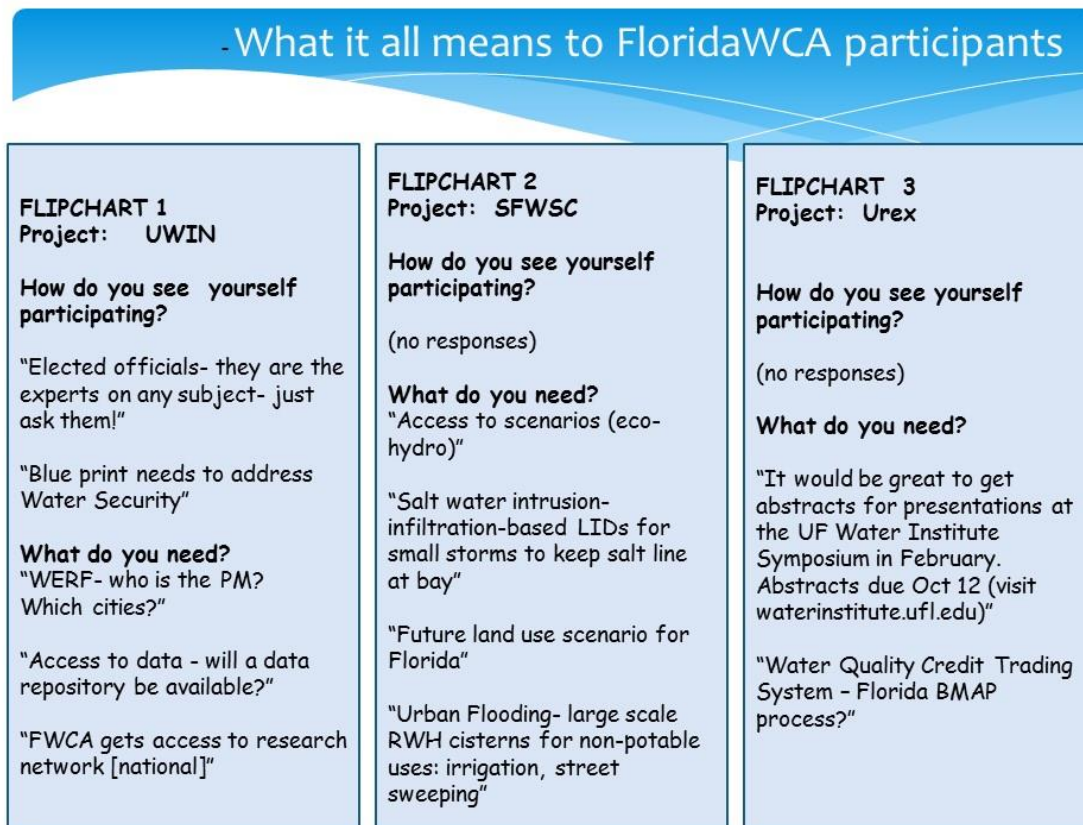
The SFWSC project is half way through five years. Alicia Lanier, (FIU team, Lanier Consultants) introduced her role as project management coach, trainer, and facilitator for the FIU projects (SFWSC, U-WIN). Linking back to the workshop introduction activity, Alicia asked the group to think about the following during Session 3 which would focus on stakeholder-based climate research programs in South Florida – ‘*as a stakeholder, in this role, I could see participating in these projects through these avenues*’, or ‘*I still have all these questions*’. [Presentations featured the following three projects](#)

- Urban Resilience to Extremes Sustainability Research Network (UREx), (Dr. John Kominoski) [presentation \(slides 2 – 10\)](#)
- South Florida Water, Sustainability, and Climate Project (SFWSC) (Dr. Mike Sukop)
- Urban Water Innovation Network Sustainability Research Network Project(U-WIN) (Dr. Mike Sukop) [presentation \(slides 10 – 44\)](#)
- SFWSC and U-WIN Stakeholder-based Research Plans (Dr. Jessica Bolson) [presentation](#)

Discussion/activity - As a project team the presenters noted that they were interested in learning from the participants in the following areas: How can we incorporate the perspectives of utilities, managers, suppliers in our model? What are the primary linkages between utilities, suppliers and regional water allocation? What affects utilities’ operating costs? Any additional recommendations for economic section of model? What comes to mind when considering different future land use scenarios? What are the implications of the climate scenarios presented?

Alicia posted three charts on the wall, one for each project discussed during this 2-hour session. After the presentations and the subsequent general discussion, she asked the attendees to think about these two questions for each of the three projects - How do you see participating, and What do you need? She asked everyone to write on the sticky notes provided, and post on the corresponding chart. The comments posted on flipcharts (see figure 2) were reviewed and discussed.

Figure 2: Results of session 3 activity



#### Session 4: FWCA proposal efforts - NSF Coupled Natural and Human Systems Potential Proposal

Dr. Vasu Misra (Florida State University) introduced a proposal development effort building on the long term affiliation with the FWCA. The proposal team shared some of their initial thinking about both the intellectual merit and broader impacts and asked for input and feedback in an effort to better reflect stakeholder specific situations and needs.

- Vasu Misra - Introduction of proposal theme and approach – [presentation](#) and discussion
- Chris Coutts – [presentation](#) and discussion (presented by Vasu Misra)
- Tatiana Borisova – [presentation](#) and discussion
- Tirusew Asefa - [presentation](#) and discussion

The proposal is due November 17<sup>th</sup>, and the proposal team led by Dr. Misra Vasu (FSU) will meet together to incorporate input and develop proposal.

## Session 5: FloridaWCA – FWCA Network and Next Steps

Several issues raised throughout the workshop were revisited in the afternoon with emphasis on recognizing/identifying long term issues of importance and identifying specific next steps and recognizing. The group identified two longer term challenges including: 1) a lack of funding mechanisms that support the actual coordination and nurturing scientist – stakeholder research collaboration in addition to the actual research efforts; and the 2) need to understand timeframes and transboundary governance and regulation impacts “joint rules on water supply” (an example working with these issues currently is the Central Florida Water Initiative ([CFWI](#)) which includes three Water Management Districts. Shorter term next steps/actions included maintaining the current structure and weekly phone conference meeting schedule (as needed) of the Steering committee. Specific actions included:

1. Proposals
  - a. Proposal team to write up of sections/roles by Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> to Vasu.
  - b. Mike Sukop to connect with Vasu regarding request for access to land use scenario data.
  - c. Vasu Misra to communicate with team regarding timeline and next steps
2. Funding – Tampa Bay Water and SJRWMD are providing funding Workshops and website. In order for SJRWMD to continue need to have \$ commitment from other WMDs
  - a. Steering committee to discuss options for Utilities to provide funding for FWCA support. .
3. Website - Chris Martinez is in charge of the website and will be working with the Steering Committee for input.
  - a. Chris Martinez will provide report is due to SJRWMD by September 30, 2015.
4. Workshops –
  - a. Lisette Staal draft follow-up report on September 18 workshop. Connect with Alicia Lanier for input on session provided by South Florida Projects team (Mike Sukop, Jon Kominoski, Jessica Bolson and Alicia Lanier)
  - b. There will be two more workshops though summer of 2016. Lisette Staal with facilitate the development of the agenda with the Steering Committee input and outreach.
    - 1) Workshop in March....
    - 2) Workshop in Aug....
    - 3) Locations – potential that one of the workshops will be in MIAMI.

- a. Mike Sukop to followup with Jessica Bolson on current thinking of the WSC/U-WIN stakeholder connection/synergies with FWCA. Jessica and Lisette to connect.



APPENDIX 1: List of Participants –  
 Florida Water and Climate Alliance Workshop – September 18, 2015 – Tampa Bay Water

<b>Last name</b>	<b>First name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>email</b>
Adams	Alison	Tampa Bay Water	<a href="mailto:AADAMS@tampabaywater.org">AADAMS@tampabaywater.org</a>
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Golden	James	SWFWMD	<a href="mailto:James.Golden@swfwmd.state.fl.us">James.Golden@swfwmd.state.fl.us</a>
Kominoski	John	Florida International University (FIU)	<a href="mailto:jkominos@fiu.edu">jkominos@fiu.edu</a>
Lanier	Alicia	Lanier consulting	<a href="mailto:alicia@lanier-consulting.com">alicia@lanier-consulting.com</a>
Martinez	Christopher	University of Florida/Florida Climate Institute/ Southeast Climate Consortium	<a href="mailto:chrisjm@ufl.edu">chrisjm@ufl.edu</a>
May	Joe	Miami Dade Water and Sewar	<a href="mailto:E312622@miamidade.gov">E312622@miamidade.gov</a>
Misra	Vasu	Florida State University/Florida Climate Institute/ Southeast Climate Consortium	<a href="mailto:vmisra@fsu.edu">vmisra@fsu.edu</a>
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Staal	Lisette	University of Florida Water Institute	<a href="mailto:lstaal@ufl.edu">lstaal@ufl.edu</a>
Sukop	Mike	Florida International University (FIU)	<a href="mailto:sukopm@fiu.edu">sukopm@fiu.edu</a>
Teegarden	Robert	Orlando Utilities Commission	<a href="mailto:rteegarden@ouc.com">rteegarden@ouc.com</a>

## APPENDIX 2: Agenda -

### FWCA Workshop AGENDA

**FRIDAY, September 18, 2015, 9:00 – 4:00**

**Tampa Bay Water,**

2575 Enterprise Road Clearwater, Florida [Directions](#)

*Florida Water and Climate Alliance (FWCA) is a stakeholder-scientist partnership committed to increasing the relevance of climate science data and tools to support decision-making in water resource management, planning and supply operations in Florida*

**Overall Working Group Goal:** *Enhance the usability of, climate change and variability data and tools in the planning and operations of Florida's public water supply utilities.*

#### Workshop Objectives

5. Stakeholder-scientist collaboration - Share current research, tools and benefits
6. Learn about stakeholder-based climate research programs in South Florida and explore synergies
7. Discuss Proposal Opportunities - Linking Science and the FWCA
8. Sustain the FWCA network - an environment for shared information, learning and networking.

8:45 – Check in and Networking

9:00 – 9:30 **Session 1:** FloridaWCA – Welcome and introductions, where we are, what's new?

- Matt Jordan, General Manager, Tampa Bay Water
- Mike Cullum, SJRWMD
- Tom Frazer, Acting Director, UF Water Institute
- Florida Water and Climate Alliance goals and current updates
- updates, new stuff, cool ideas

9:30– 10:00 **Session 2:** Stakeholder-scientist collaboration

Presentation: The case of Tampa Bay Water -- What research has been done, what we plan to do, and benefits of collaboration (**Dr. Tirusew Asefa**)

10:00 – 10:15 BREAK

10:15– 12:15 **Session 3:** Stakeholder-based climate research programs in South Florida

Presentations:

- [Urban Resilience to Extremes Sustainability Research Network \(UREx SRN\)](#), (Dr. John Kominoski)
- [South Florida Water, Sustainability, and Climate Project \(SFWSC\)](#) (Dr. Mike Sukop)
- [Urban Water Innovation Network Sustainability Research Network Project \(U-WIN SRN\)](#) (Dr. Mike Sukop)
- [SFWSC and U-WIN Stakeholder-based Research Plans](#) (Dr. Jessica Bolson)
- [Project Management and Facilitation](#) (Alicia Lanier)

Discussion - What it all means to FloridaWCA participants and what next?

12:15 – 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 – 2:30 **Session 5:** FWCA proposal efforts

Presentations: NSF Coupled Natural and Human Systems Potential Proposal (Dr. Vasu Misra)

Discussion - What it all means to FloridaWCA participants and what next?

2:30 – 2:45 BREAK

2:45- 3:45 - FWCA Network – Proposals (NOAA), Workshops (2 more), Website, Outputs, and Impacts

3:45- 4:00 NEXT STEPS and Reflections

*\*The FWCA Steering Committee has secured interim support from Saint Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and Tampa Bay Water (TBW) to continue FWCA network workshops and website. Established in 2010, the FWCA partnership includes the UF Water Institute, Southeast Climate Consortium (SECC), the Florida Climate Institute (FCI), the UF/IFAS Center for Public Issues Education, six major public water supply utilities, representatives of local governments and three water management districts*