



# Alternative Restoration Plans Survey and Data Display

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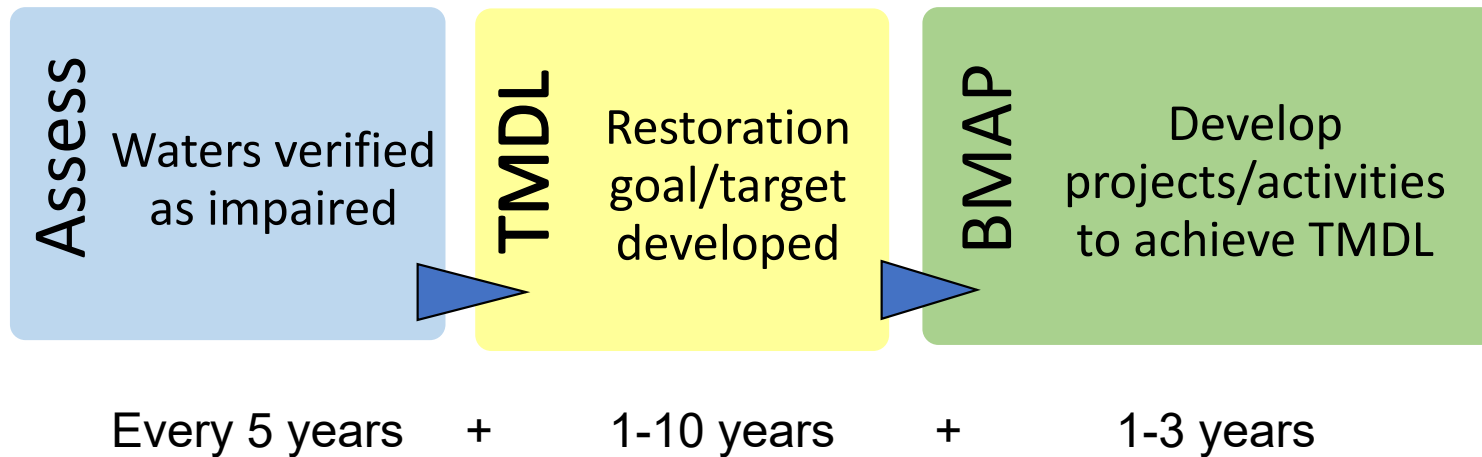
Division of Environmental Assessment and  
Restoration

December 2020



# Water Quality Restoration Process

## DEP Regulated Process



It can take awhile





**Are there other restoration options?**

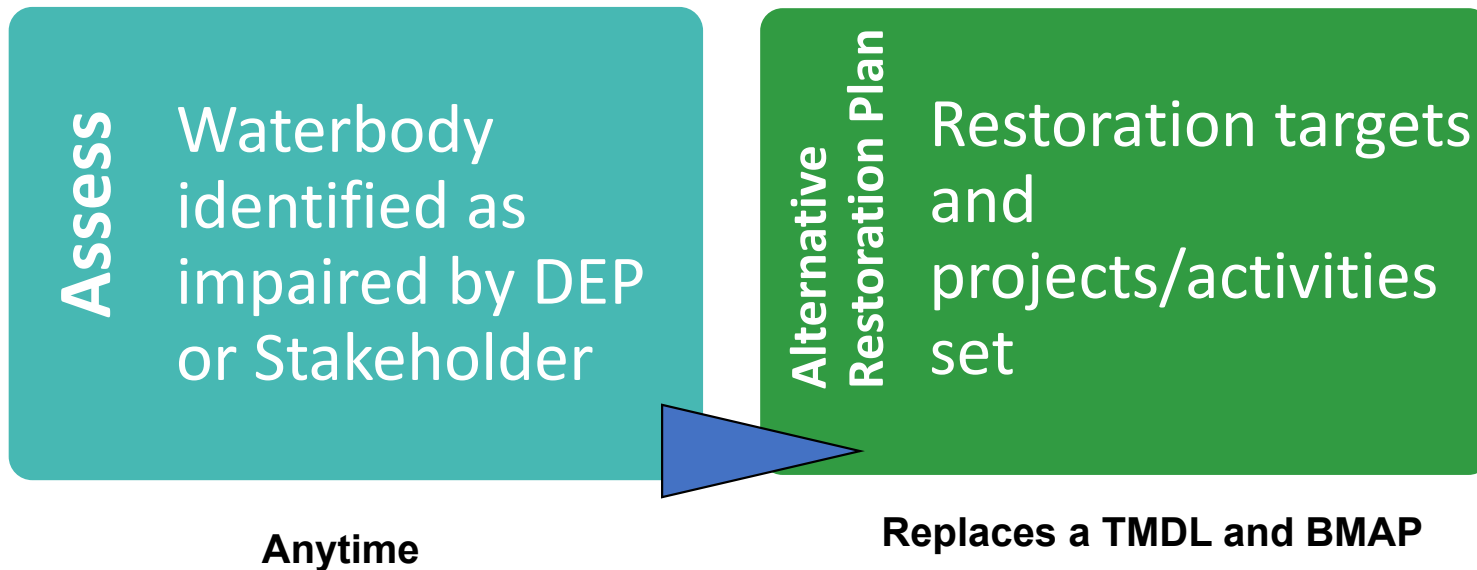




# Water Quality Restoration Alternatives

## *Alternative Restoration Plans*

### Stakeholder Driven Process



**Cleaner Water, Faster!!**



# Alternative Restoration Plans

1. **Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP)**
  - Assessment Category 4b
  - **Not** Placed on the 303(d) List
  - Replaces a TMDL and BMAP
  
2. **Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP)**
  - Assessment Category 4e
  - **Included** on the 303(d) List
  - Defers TMDL development by DEP

**These plans are addressed in the impaired waters rule in section 62-303.600, F.A.C**

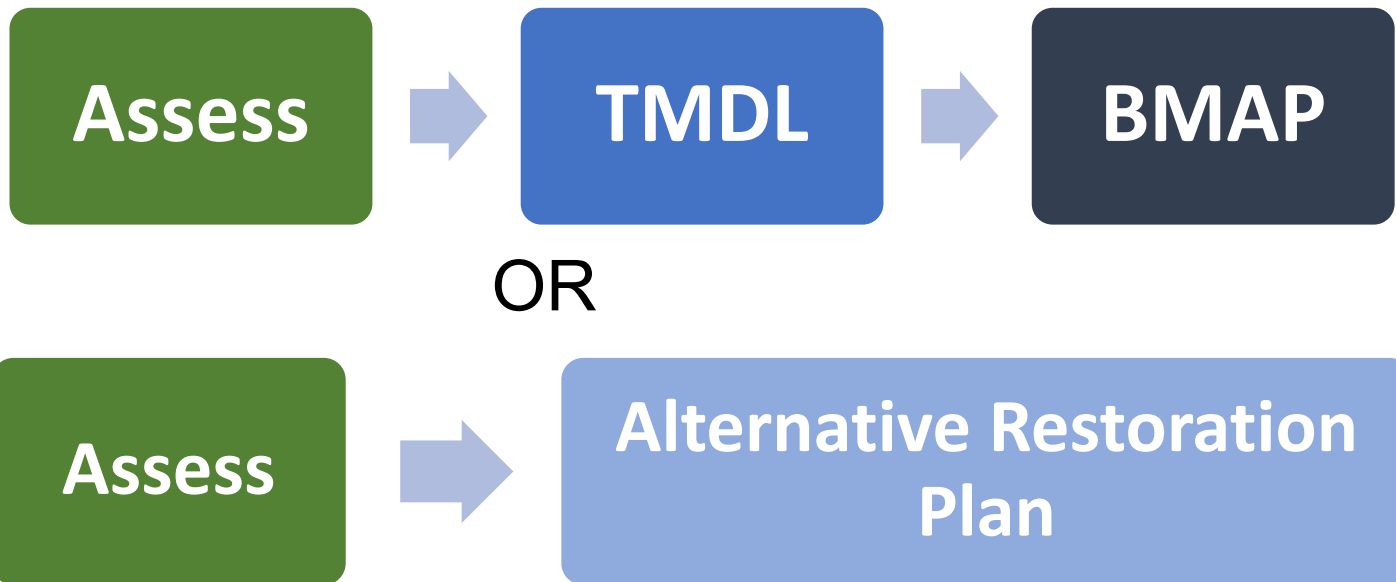


# Benefits of an Alternative Restoration Plan

- Provides a faster path to restoration
  - One EPA review loop
  - Minimizes regulatory process
- Allows stakeholders to control the path to restoration for their waterbody
  - Developing a plan prior to state or federal action provides the best way for stakeholders to plan for efficient and effective management
- Acknowledges proactive efforts
  - Stakeholders receive credit for pollutant reductions
  - Benefits to downstream impaired waters
- Combines many of the steps
- Enhances public relations



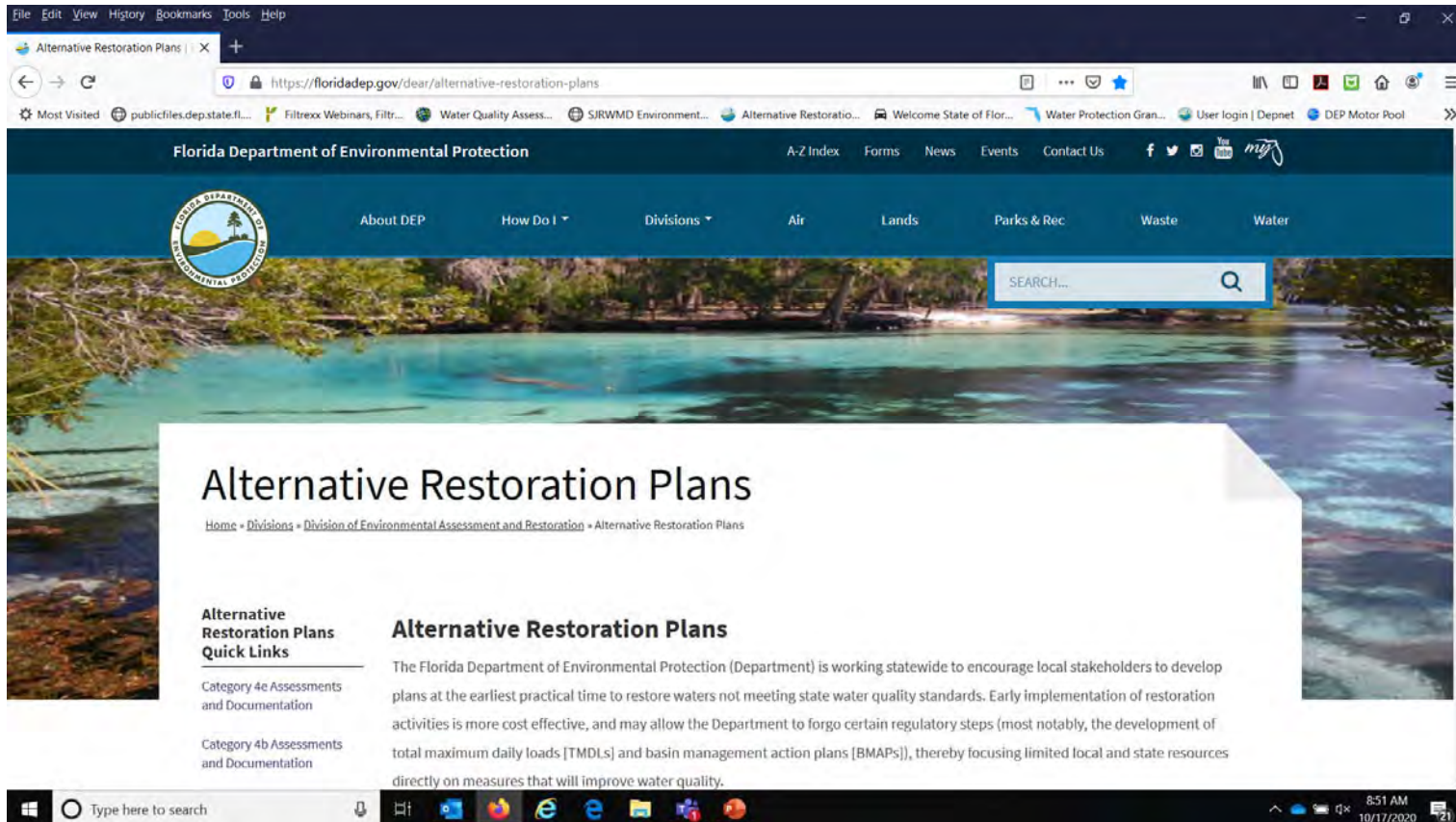
# Pathways to Restoration



Both pathways have the same goal:  
Water Quality Restoration



# Alternative Restoration Plans Website



<https://floridadep.gov/dear/alternative-restoration-plans>

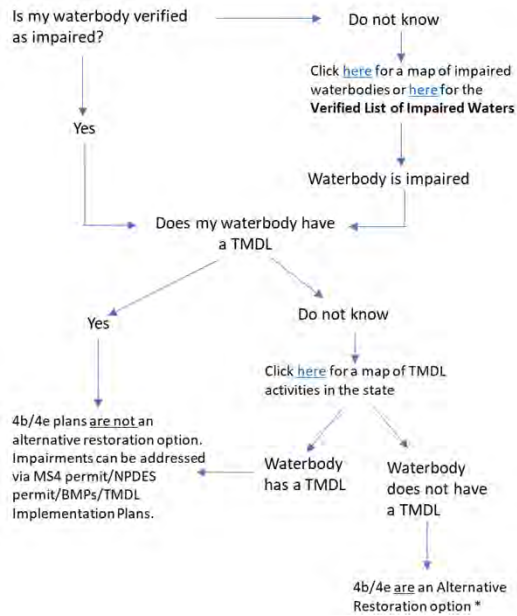




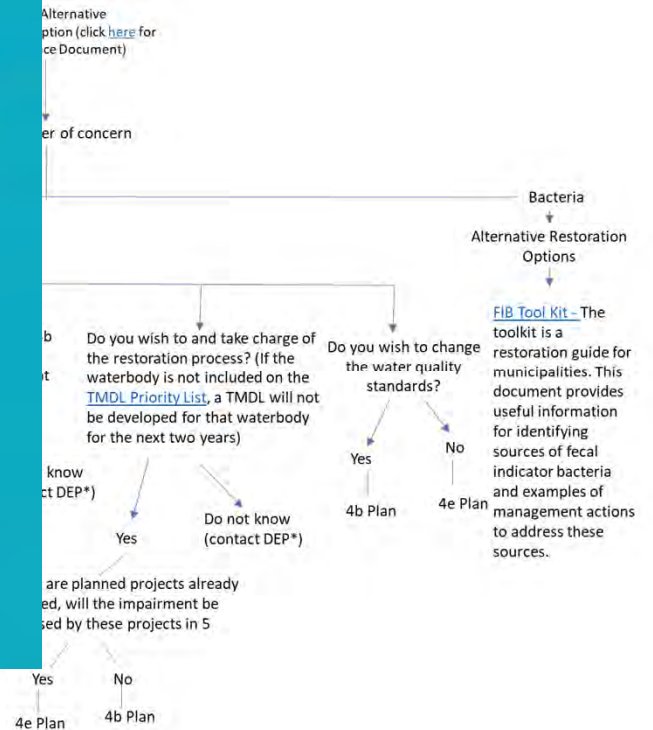
# *Alternative Restoration Plans Survey*



# Which Plan is Best for My Waterbody?



\*Contact Ben Ralys at [Benjamin.Ralys@floridaDEP.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Ralys@floridaDEP.gov)





# Alternative Restoration Plans Survey

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's website. The page title is "Alternative Restoration Plans" and the URL is "https://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/5351584/Impaired-Waterbodies". The page features the department's logo and a navigation bar with various environmental images. The main content area is titled "Alternative Restoration Plans" and contains three paragraphs of text explaining the department's efforts to restore water quality and the purpose of the survey. A "Next" button is visible at the bottom of the text area.

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection**

## Alternative Restoration Plans

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is working statewide to encourage local stakeholders to develop plans at the earliest practical time to restore waters not meeting state water quality standards. Early implementation of restoration activities is more cost effective, and may allow the Department to forgo certain regulatory steps (most notably, the development of total maximum daily loads [TMDLs] and basin management action plans [BMAPs]), thereby focusing limited local and state resources directly on measures that will improve water quality.

The Impaired Waters Rule (IWR) authorizes two types of restoration plans that delay placement of a waterbody on the Verified List; therefore, the optimal time to propose or submit one of these is during the assessment cycle and/or prior to TMDL development. Category 4b and 4e restoration plans are established in a streamlined manner compared to the process leading to BMAPs and are a preferred alternative to the typical regulatory steps by the department as they focus limited resources on restoring the identified impairment.

The primary purpose of this survey is to help stakeholders identify waterbodies that could be candidates for alternative restoration plans and determining whether they may need support to develop key components of these plans necessary for success. It is important to answer the questions to the best of your ability so that the suggested path to restoration is as accurate as possible.

[Next](#)



# Survey

## Important Information to Include

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a survey titled "Alternative Restoration Plans". The survey is hosted on SurveyGizmo. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.surveygizmo.com/s/5351584/Impaired-Waterbodies>. The survey form includes the following fields:

- 1. Contact Information
  - First Name
  - Last Name
  - Affiliation
  - Email Address
  - Waterbody Name
  - Waterbody Identification (WBID) (Optional)
  - Parameter of concern (dropdown menu)

The "Parameter of concern" dropdown menu is open, showing the following options:

- Please Select --
- Bacteria
- Biology
- Chloride
- Dissolved Oxygen (Percent Saturation)
- Metals
- Nutrients
- Pesticides
- pH
- Specific Conductance
- Turbidity
- Other
- Please Select --

A red arrow points to the "Parameter of concern" dropdown menu. The survey also includes "Back" and "Next" buttons at the bottom.



# Before you start

*Do you know if your waterbody is impaired?*

The image shows a survey interface for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The survey title is "Alternative Restoration Plans". The text on the page reads:

Alternative Restoration Plans (category 4b and 4e plans, Management Action Plans (BMAPs), and are an alternative to category 4b plans, there is reasonable assurance that attainment of water quality standards will be made by the category 4e plans, the waterbody is still included on the category 4e plan and evaluation of progress towards the Comprehensive Verified List will be amended accordingly.

In order to find the most appropriate restoration plan for your waterbody, click [here](#) for a map of DEP water quality restoration areas, the TMDLs developed and the areas of the state that are currently impaired.

Click [here](#) for the **Comprehensive Verified List of Impaired Waters**. For the Watershed Assessment Section's annual schedule and the cycle assessment periods, [click here](#).

**If your waterbody does not have a TMDL click next to continue.**

Links will open a new browser tab, to return to the survey, click on the Survey tab. Please do not use the browser back button to navigate as it will exit you from the survey.

At the bottom of the survey are two buttons: "Back" and "Next".

The browser window overlay shows the Florida Department of Environmental Protection website. The page title is "Comprehensive Verified List". The document is titled "Comprehensive Verified List\_08182020.xlsx" and is a "Final Agency Action". The document type is "Final Agency Action". The document is updated with Group 2 - Cycle 4 Assessment Updates adopted on April 30, 2020.



# Before you start

*Do you know if your waterbody has a TMDL?*

The screenshot shows a web browser with two tabs. The active tab is titled "Water Quality Assessments, TMDLs, and BMAPs" and displays a map of Florida. The map is overlaid with various colored regions representing different water quality management plans. A legend on the left side of the map identifies the following categories:

- Florida Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
  - TMDLs Adopted (light blue)
  - TMDL Activities In Progress (yellow)
- Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)
  - Adopted BMAPs (green)
  - Pending BMAPs (light green)
- Waters Not Attaining Standards (WNAS) (grey)

On the left side of the browser window, there is a sidebar with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection logo and the text "Alternative Restoration Plans". Below this, there is a paragraph of text with a red arrow pointing to a link:

Alternative Restoration Plans (category 4b plans), there is reasonable attainment of water quality standards. category 4e plans, the waterbody is on the Verified List will be amended according to the most appropriate...

In order to find the most appropriate...

Click [here](#) for a map of DEP water quality TMDLs developed and the areas...

Click [here](#) for the Comprehensive Verification Survey.

If your waterbody does not have a...

Links will open a new browser tab, survey.

At the bottom of the browser window, there are "Back" and "Next" buttons. The system tray at the bottom right shows the time as 3:21 PM on 10/26/2020.



# TMDL? Yes or No?

A screenshot of a web browser displaying a survey form titled "Alternative Restoration Plans" from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The form contains a question: "2. If the waterbody is verified as impaired, does it have a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)?". Below the question are three radio button options: "Yes", "No", and "I do not know". A red arrow points to the "No" option. The form also includes "Back" and "Next" buttons. The browser's address bar shows the URL "https://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/5351584/Impaired-Waterbodies".

- Alternative Restoration Plans are an option only if the waterbody of interest:
  - Is impaired
  - Does not have a TMDL
- If the waterbody is impaired and does not have a TMDL, select 'No' and you can proceed with the survey



# Survey Questions

*Is my best option a 4b or 4e?*

- What is the parameter of concern (nutrients/other or bacteria)?
  - If bacteria, you will be directed to the Fecal Indicator Bacteria (FIB) Tool Kit
- Is the waterbody close to meeting water quality standard(s)?
- Have water quality restoration projects/activities been recently completed and/or are planned to be implemented in the near future?
  - Will impairment(s) will be addressed by projects/activities within 5 years?
- Is there an intent to create a 4b plan but inadequate time to prepare one during the current assessment cycle?
- Do you wish to change the water quality standard(s)?
- Do you wish to take charge of the restoration process?
  - If there are planned projects already identified, will the impairment be addressed by these projects within 5 years?







# *Alternative Restoration Plans Data Display*



# Alternative Restoration Plans Data Display

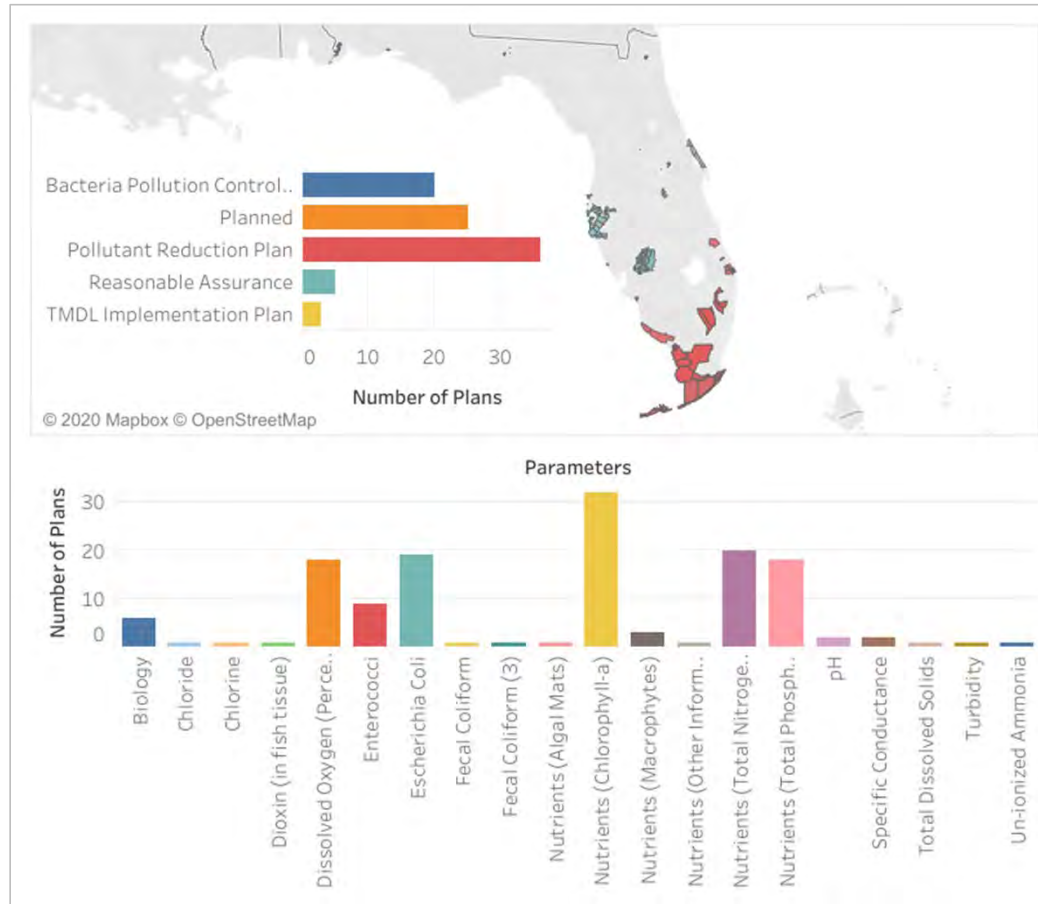
*What is going on around the State?*

- **Category 4b**
  - 5 Reasonable Assurance Plans (RAPs)
- **Category 4e**
  - 26 Pollutant Reduction Plans (PRPs)
  - 20 Bacteria Pollution Control Plans (BPCPs)
  - 3 TMDL Implementation Plans
- **25 Planned**
- **So much happening! How do we display all the good work and alternative restoration plan information?**



# Alternative Restoration Plans

*Dynamic and Interactive Display Dashboards – Plan Type and Parameter*





# Dynamic and Interactive Display

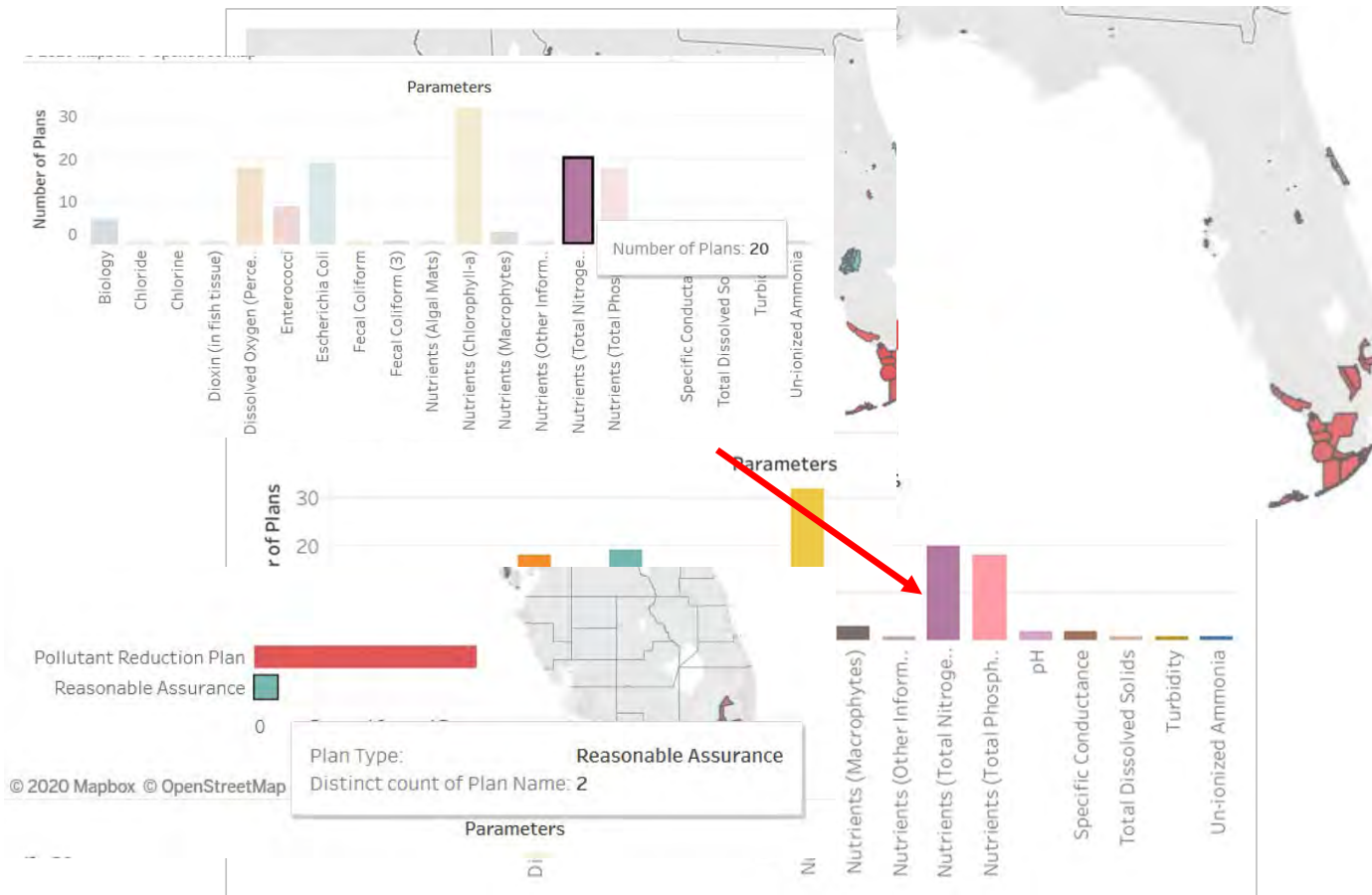
## By Plan Type (example PRP)





# Alternative Restoration Plans

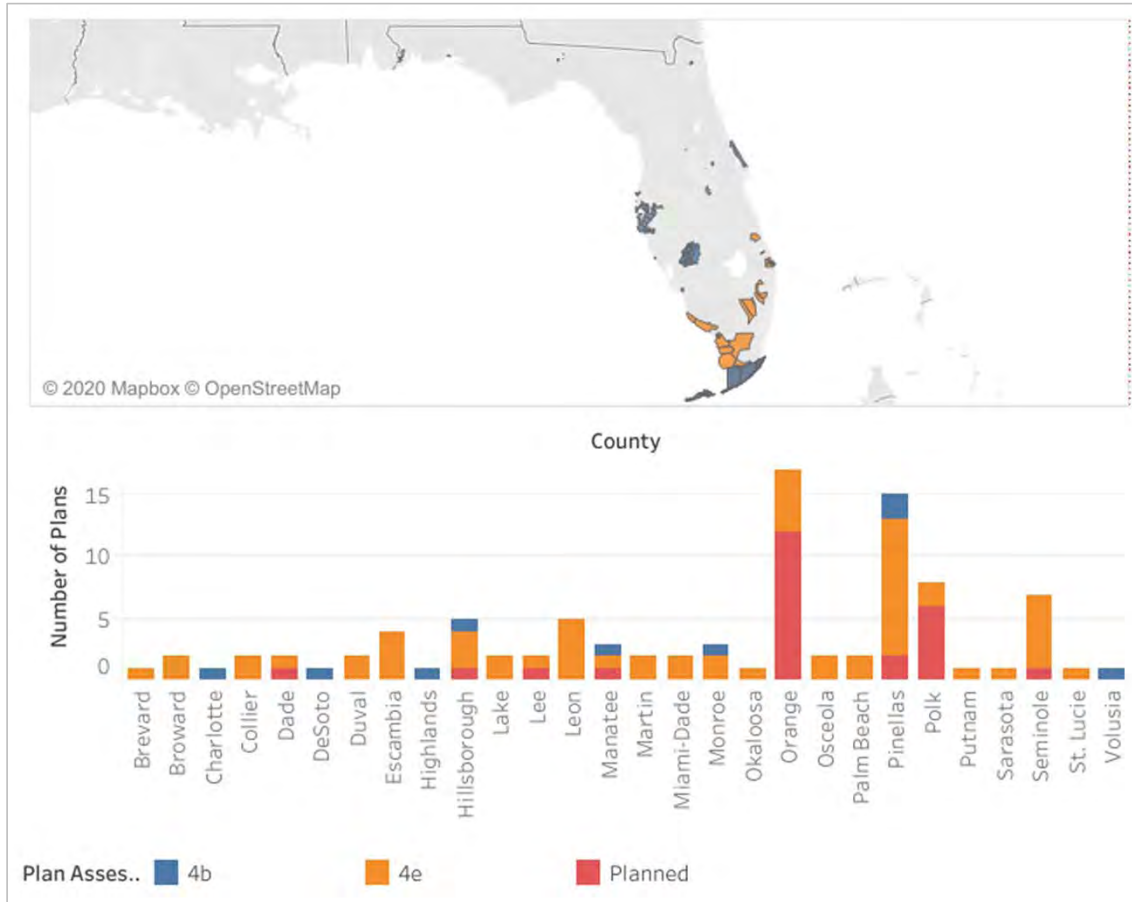
*By Parameter (example Nutrients – TN)*





# Alternative Restoration Plans

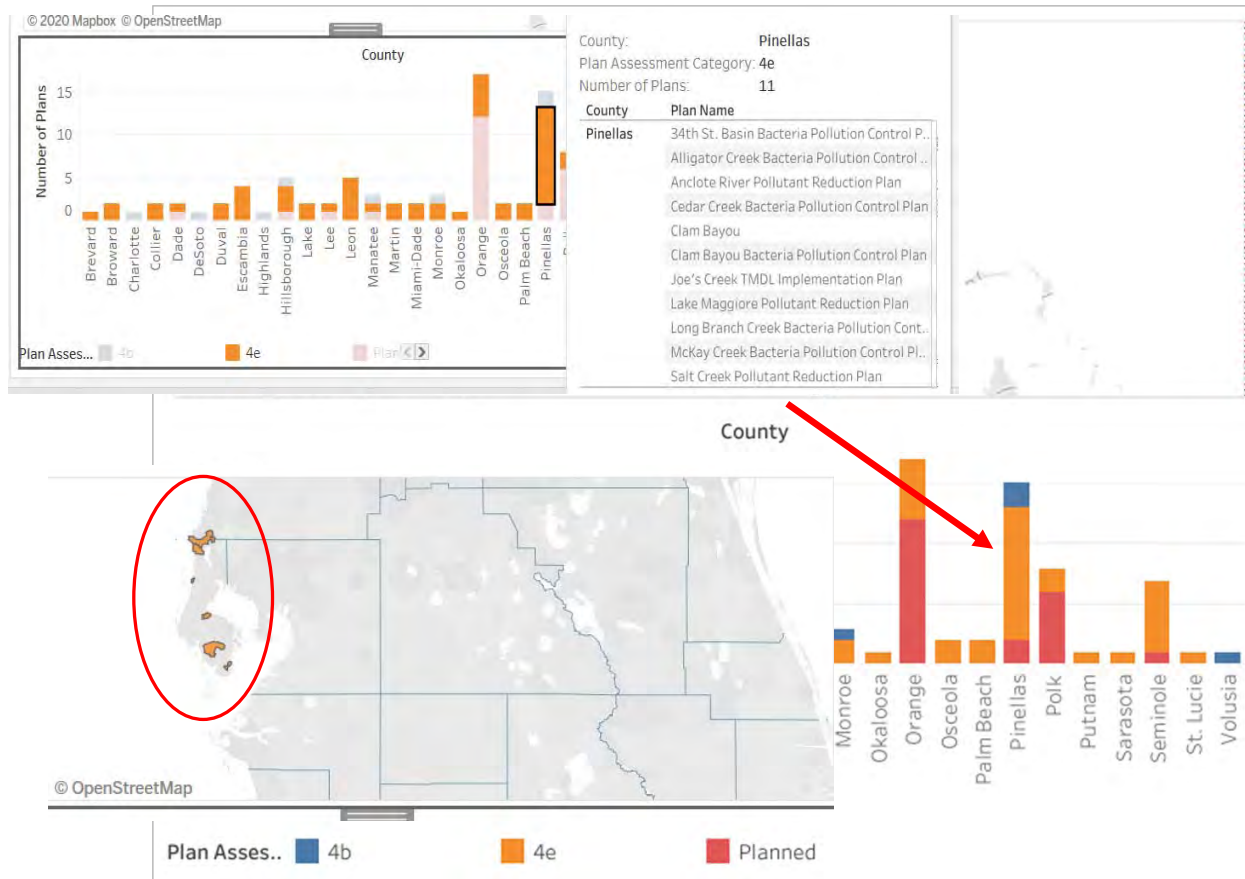
*Dynamic and Interactive Display Dashboards - County and Plan Type*





# Dynamic and Interactive Display

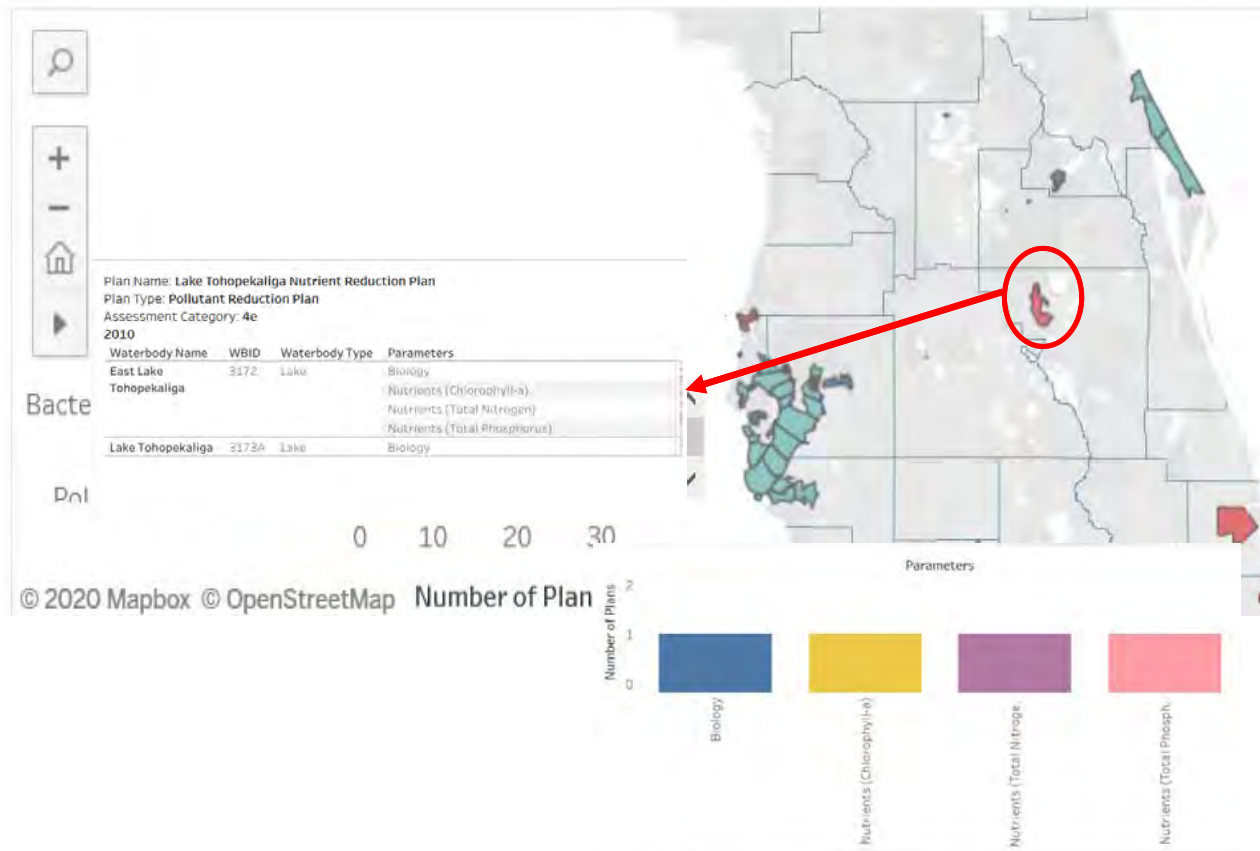
## County and Plan Type (example Pinellas Co./4e)





# Dynamic and Interactive Display

## Map Features







**Thank you!**  
**Questions?**



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