



The Sumter County Stormwater Management project was an assessment of the County's stormwater management needs in three primary watersheds – Big Prairie, Jumper Creek Canal and Gant Lake. Services provided include the development of a comprehensive program to address stormwater related capital improvements, maintenance and administration. The project was jointly funded by Sumter County and the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

As a subconsultant to Government Services Group, Inc., Inwood provided engineering support to establish capital project needs to improve water quality and reduce flooding. A field assessment and inventory was conducted of accessible drainage infrastructure. A field GIS / GPS based data collection system was used with photo documentation of each drainage feature. This included a conditions assessment to estimate future maintenance needs. The data was also used to support a preliminary engineering analysis of the infrastructure to determine relative stormwater level of service for a future capital improvement program.

The project resulted in identifying flooding, maintenance and water quality needs to be addressed under a proposed stormwater utility. Recommendations indicated the need for comprehensive watershed assessment as existing data was virtually non-existent. Maintenance needs identified included additional dedicated staff and equipment resources for the County to have a proactive program rather than the existing reactive program.

An assessment of easement and maintenance needs was conducted using desktop GIS to determine an equitable geographical apportionment of appropriate staff and equipment resources to manage the County's stormwater facilities and implement flooding improvement projects. The desktop GIS assessment also included analysis of existing drainage easements and assisting in identifying areas where future easements should be acquired.

