



# Office of Environmental Accountability and Transparency (OEAT)

Sara C. Davis, Director

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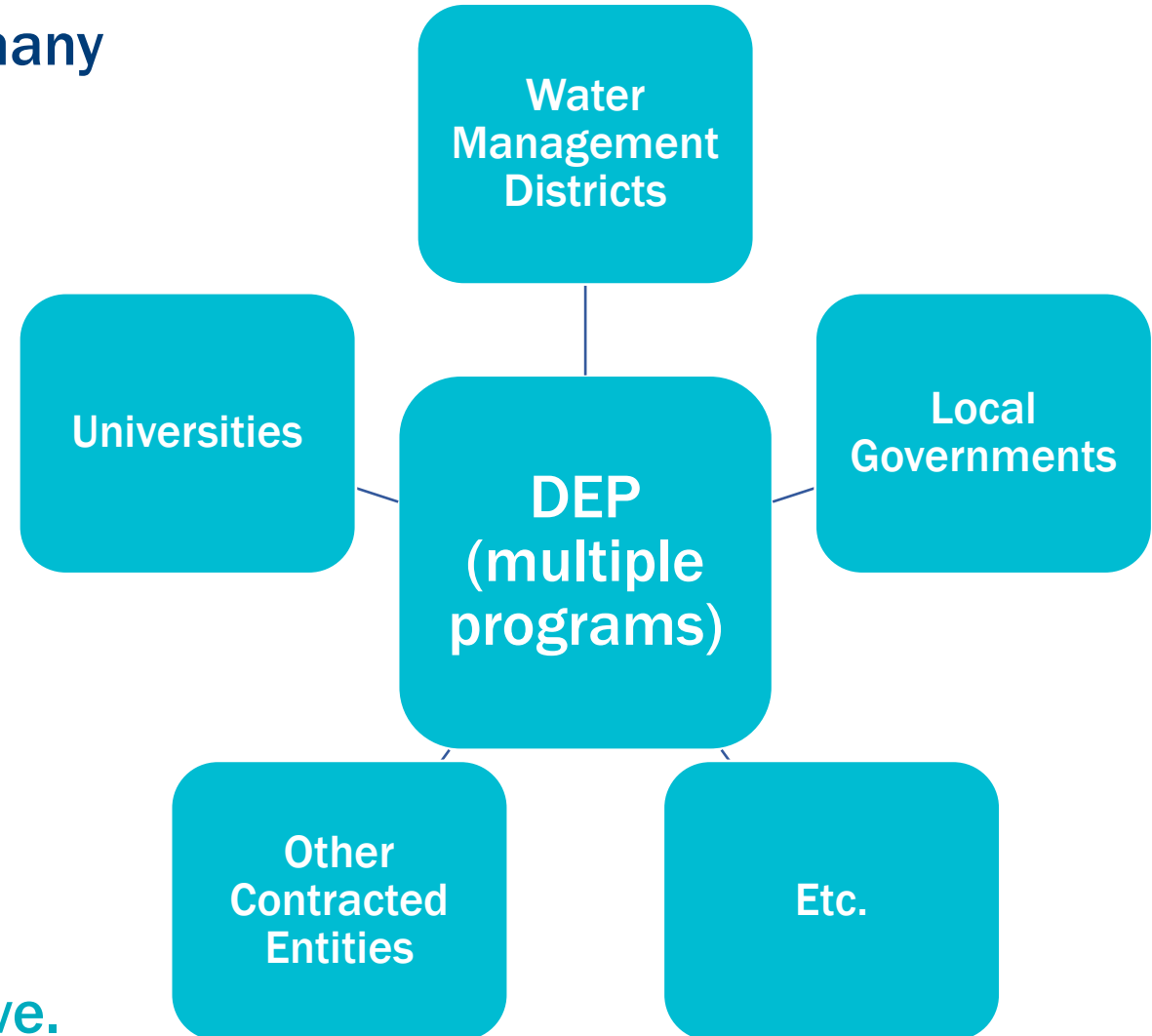
Blue-Green Algae Task Force Meeting

# COMPREHENSIVE MONITORING STRATEGY

## IMPROVING OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CHALLENGES WE FACE



- Monitoring and studies are conducted by many entities for various purposes.
- Multiple programs within DEP
  - Environmental Assessment and Restoration.
    - Strategic monitoring plan.
    - Algal bloom response.
  - Aquatic preserves/national estuarine research reserves.
  - Regulatory programs.
- Purpose of some monitoring and studies is **exploratory, investigative, novel or innovative.**



# WHAT IS THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY?



Created by Governor DeSantis in 2019 through Executive Order (EO) 19-12

Charged with ensuring key water quality objectives are clearly communicated to the public

Under Chief Science Officer, Dr. Mark Rains

Leads agency priorities - integration of science and policy

Promotes and facilitates agency research initiatives

Public-facing information on priority environmental issues

# OEAT

## KEY FOCUS AREAS



Water Quality



Real-Time Positioning



Remote Data Acquisition



Side Scan Sonar



Water Velocity



Bathymetry



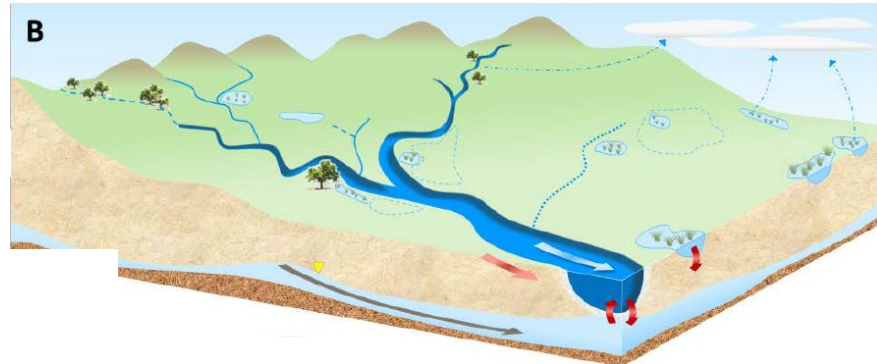
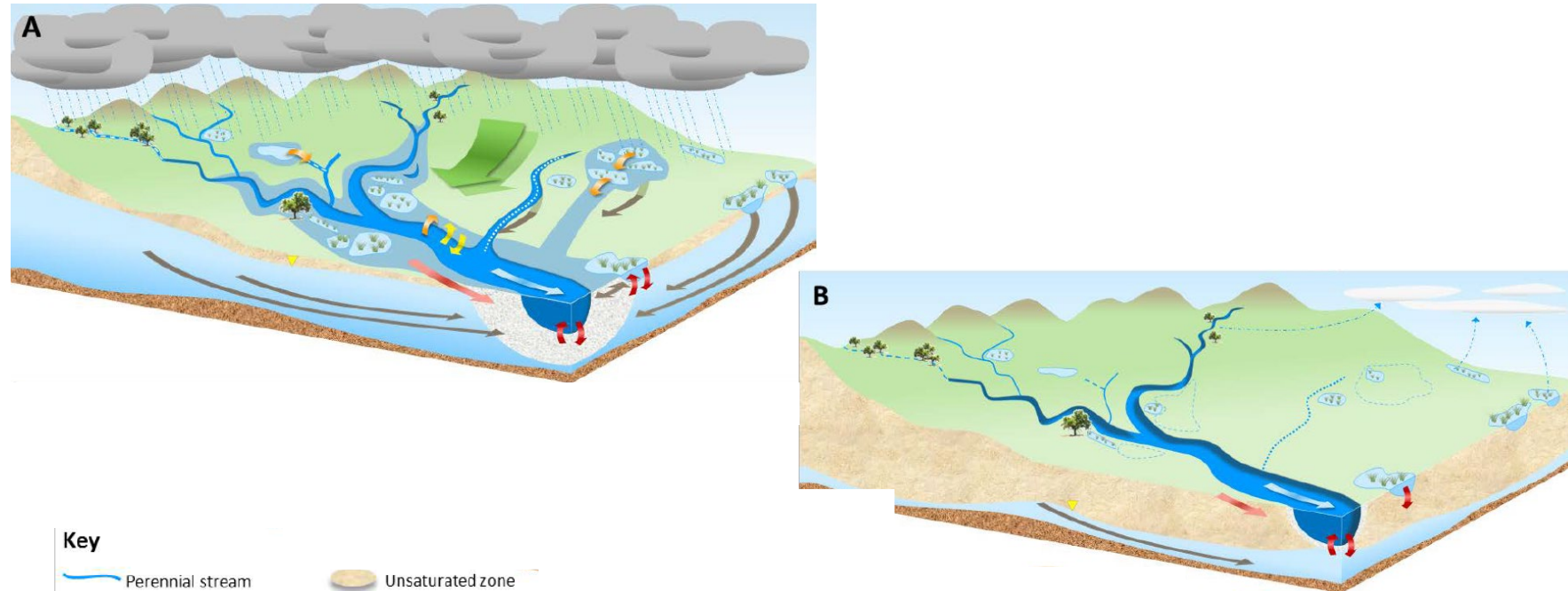
Depth Measurement

Source: <https://www.ysi.com/hycat>

- **Enhanced Monitoring.**
- **Water Quality Analytics.**
- **Blue-Green Algae Task Force.**
- **Protecting Florida Together.**  
(<https://protectingfloridatogether.gov/>)



# OEAT FUTURE INITIATIVES



Key			
	Perennial stream		Unsaturated zone
	Ephemeral stream		Saturated zone
	Intermittent stream		Local aquifer and hyporheic zone
	Precipitation		Confining layer
	Atmospheric losses (e.g., evapotranspiration, volatilization, denitrification)		Water table level
	Wetland (dry period)		Ground-water flow through local and larger scale aquifers
	Open water (dry period)		Overland and interflow
	Expansion and overbank flow into floodplain and overflow of wetlands and open-waters during wetter periods		Streamflow and transport of materials, organisms
	Dry wetland		Overbank flow and transport or spillage of materials, organisms
			Bank storage
			Hyporheic flow and surface-subsurface exchange of water, materials, organisms

Monitoring and Research Initiatives

Water Quality Data Analytics

Protecting Florida Together Enhancements

Source: U.S. EPA. Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands To Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence (Final Report). Figure 1-2



# QUESTIONS?

**Sara C. Davis**

**[Sara.C.Davis@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Sara.C.Davis@FloridaDEP.gov)**