

**Groundwater Quantity & Quality Modeling Updates**

**Golmar Golmohammadi**  
 Assistant Professor  
 Hydrology and Water Quality  
 UF/IFAS RCREC  
 Ona Highlight, 12/10/2024

**UF IFAS**  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

1

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Groundwater in Florida**  
**Features of Floridan's aquifer**

- Karstic aquifer
- Sinkholes
- Underground caves
- Springs

**Groundwater Issues in Florida**

- Groundwater depletion
- Saline-related contamination issues
- Nutrient pollution

**Impacts of Nutrient Pollution**

- Nitrate contamination in groundwater
  - Degraded springs ecology; risk to human health
  - Eutrophication of surface water; risks to aquatic plants and animals
- How to **prevent and control nutrients?**
  - Additional regulatory measures?
  - Agricultural BMPs/Urban LIDs

FDEP 2020  
<https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2013/5079/>

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Hydrology & Water Quality Program, RCREC Ona**

Data Collection  
Field Survey

Hydrologic models  
(Numerical/physical/  
mathematical models)

Remote Sensing  
Capture  
Soil/Water/Climate  
Characteristics

AI/ML models, use  
soil/water/climate  
variables to forecast

Blazar, S. M., Shehadeh, H. A., Ghorbani, M. A., Golmohammadi, G., Ghorbani, M. A., and A. Saha. "Soil Temperature Forecasting Using a Hybrid Artificial Neural Network in Florida Subtropical Grazinglands Agro-Ecosystems." Scientific reports 14, 1 (2024): 1535–1535. Web.  
 Nemati, A., Golmohammadi, G., Javadi, S., Mohammadi, K., Rudra, R., Blazar, S. M., and Neshat, A. 2024. "Exceedance Probability Model for Predicting the Frequency of Summer Hot Day Patterns and Temperature Variability" STOTEN (accepted).  
 Golmohammadi, G., Nedhunuri, R. R., and N. Tziolas. "Applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Water Resources Forecasting". 2024. EDIS (Under Revision).  
 Golmohammadi, G., Nedhunuri, R. R., Blazar, S. M., Shaghghi, S and K. Mohammadi. Large-scale forecasts of River Discharge and Groundwater Dynamics using Advanced AI models. 2024. STOTEN (Under Revision).

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Instrumentation and data monitoring

- RCREC, Ona (instrumentation and data collection)
- DeLuca Preserve (instrumentation and data collection)
- BIR (available data, water quality data collection)

### Study Area: BIR

The slide contains a title 'Instrumentation and data monitoring' followed by a bulleted list of three study areas: RCREC, Ona; DeLuca Preserve; and BIR. Below this is a sub-section titled 'Study Area: BIR' which includes a detailed map of the BIR area with various monitoring points marked, and a larger map of Florida with a red box indicating the location of the study area. A legend identifies symbols for wells (red dots), pipelines (blue lines), and ponds (blue shapes).

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### RCREC, Ona

The slide features a line graph titled 'GWL SOUTH DREN' showing ground water level in feet from 18.0 to 21.5 over time from 1/1/2010 to 12/31/2023. The graph shows a steady decline with a notable spike in late 2023. Below the graph are three photos of field workers. To the right is a map of the RCREC area with labels for 'GWL level', 'GW quality', 'Soil', 'Drainage', and 'climate' at various locations like 'North', 'Center', and 'South'.

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Water Quality Measurement

The slide is titled 'Water Quality Measurement' and contains four line graphs showing data for different parameters over time. Below these are three photos of field workers. A section titled 'Goose Pond Experiment, Ona' includes two more graphs and a photo of a tractor in the field.

6

---

---

---

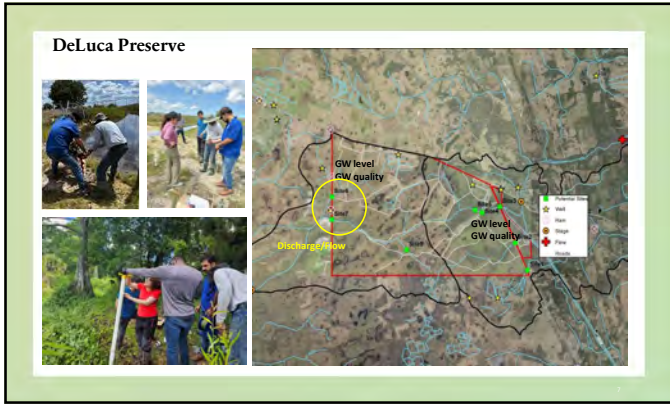
---

---

---

---

---



7

---

---

---

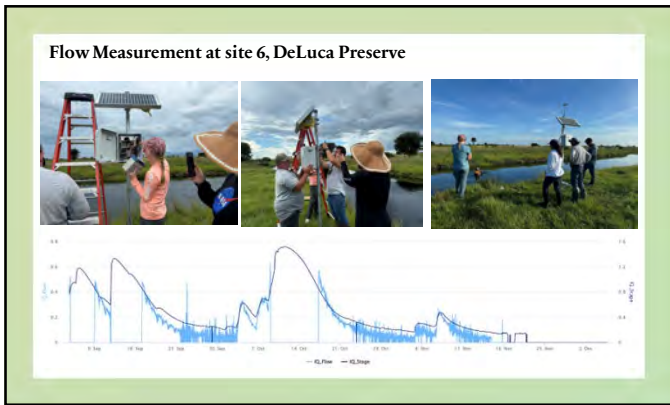
---

---

---

---

---



8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Groundwater Modeling

**Goals and Plans**  
**To provide a tool for simulating groundwater systems; evaluating the effectiveness of existing and alternate BMPs in improving the water quantity and quality in Florida's cattle ranches and underlying aquifers**

- Develop a numerical model to be able to simulate the groundwater system and predict how the system can be affected by changes in stresses
  - Propose alternative BMP scenarios
  - Prioritizing BMPs to enhance water quality
- Develop various modeling techniques to forecast/simulate groundwater parameters

10

---

---

---

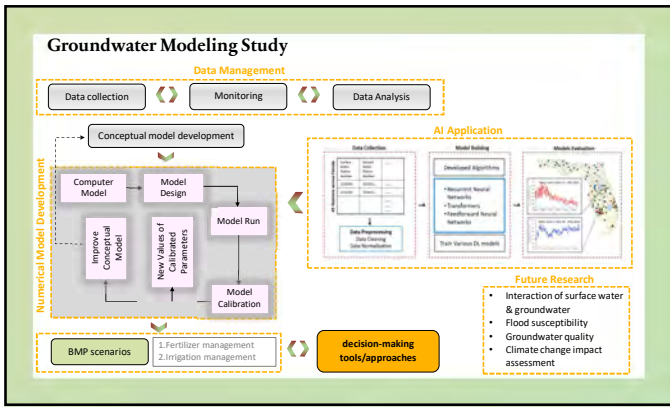
---

---

---

---

---



11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Study Area

**Site-scale model and regional-scale model**

- to address potential adverse boundary conditions impacts.
- flexibility to extend the site-scale model beyond the current extent for new data

**Archbold**  
**UF IFAS**  
 UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Conceptual Model

Conceptual models are simplified, high-level representations of the site/region to be modeled.

- Surficial Aquifer System (SAS)
- Intermediate Aquifer System/Intermediate Confining Unit (IAS/ICU)
- Floridian Aquifer System (FAS)

13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Groundwater Numerical Modeling

#### Model Inputs

- Topographic Data
  - Top Layer (Ground Surface)
  - Bottom Layer (Bottom of the Surficial Aquifer)
- Boundary Conditions
- Horizontal Hydraulic Conductivity
- Initial Head
- Inflow & Outflow Data

14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Model Calibration and Validation

#### Groundwater Level

15

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


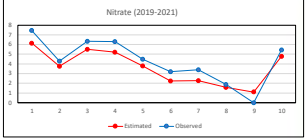
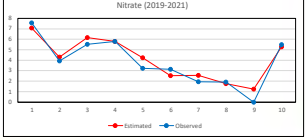
---

---

### Model Calibration and Validation

#### Groundwater Quality (Nitrate)

Modular 3-Dimensional Transport model (MT3D) Model to simulate (verify) nitrate

16

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

### Scenarios

- Scenario 1: During the months (March to May), fertilizer applied to existing condition fertilized pastures and irrigation scheme remains as current.
- Scenario 2: 20% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 3: 50% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 4: 100% reduction in fertilizer application in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 5: 20% reduction in irrigation rate in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 6: Irrigation only in months 3 to 5 in Scenario 1 (same time as fertilizer application)
- Scenario 7: During Months 3 to 5, fertilizer is applied to existing fertilized pastures excluding three pastures with the highest impacts. The irrigation scheme remains as current.



17

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

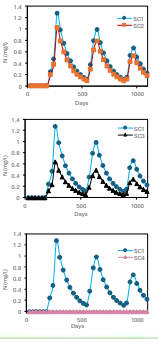
---

---

---

### Scenarios Fertilizer Management

- Scenario 1: During the months (March to May), fertilizer applied to existing condition fertilized pastures and irrigation scheme remains as current.
- Scenario 2: 20% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 3: 50% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 4: 100% reduction in fertilizer application in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 5: 20% reduction in irrigation rate in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 6: Irrigation only in months 3 to 5 in Scenario 2 (same time as fertilizer application)
- Scenario 7: During Months 3 to 5, fertilizer is applied to existing fertilized pastures excluding three pastures with the highest impacts. The irrigation scheme remains as current.



18

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Scenarios Irrigation Management

- Scenario 1: During the months (March to May), fertilizer applied to existing condition fertilized pastures and irrigation scheme remains as current.
- Scenario 2: 20% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 3: 50% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 4: 100% reduction in fertilizer application in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 5: 20% reduction in irrigation rate in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 6: Irrigation only in months 3 to 5 in Scenario 2 (same time as fertilizer application)
- Scenario 7: During Months 3 to 5, fertilizer is applied to existing fertilized pastures excluding three pastures with the highest impacts. The irrigation scheme remains as current.

19

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Scenarios Pasture Management

- Scenario 1: During the months (March to May), fertilizer applied to existing condition fertilized pastures and irrigation scheme remains as current.
- Scenario 2: 20% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 3: 50% reduction of fertilizer on Scenario 1.
- Scenario 4: 100% reduction in fertilizer application in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 5: 20% reduction in irrigation rate in Scenario 1.
- Scenario 6: Irrigation only in months 3 to 5 in Scenario 2 (same time as fertilizer application)
- Scenario 7: During Months 3 to 5, fertilizer is applied to existing fertilized pastures excluding three pastures with the highest impacts. The irrigation scheme remains as current.

20

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Scenario Selection (Alternative Solutions)

Multi-Criteria Decision-Making Model (MCDM)

| Scenarios                  | Rank |
|----------------------------|------|
| Fertilizer Rate Decrease   | 2    |
| Irrigation Rate Decrease   | 3    |
| Irrigation Time Change     | 4    |
| Fertilizer Location Change | 1    |

21

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---