



Water Use Permits for Mining

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Section Leader

Water Use Regulation

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Permitting Authority

- **Florida Statutes - Chapter 373**
- **Florida Administrative Code
Chapters 40E-2 & 40E-20**
- **Water Use Basis of Review**



“Three-Pronged” Test

- **Reasonable- Beneficial Use**
- **Not interfere with presently existing legal uses of water**
- **Consistent with the public interest**



Exempt Uses

- Private Domestic Use
- Fire Protection
- Reclaimed Water
- Sea Water



Water Use Definition

Water Use:

“Any use of water which reduces the supply from which it is withdrawn or diverted.”



Primary Use Classes

- **Public Water Supply**
- **Mining/Dewatering**
- **Industrial/ Commercial**
- **Irrigation**
 - **Agricultural / Nursery**
 - **Landscaping / Golf Course**
- **Diversion & Impoundment**



Source Classification

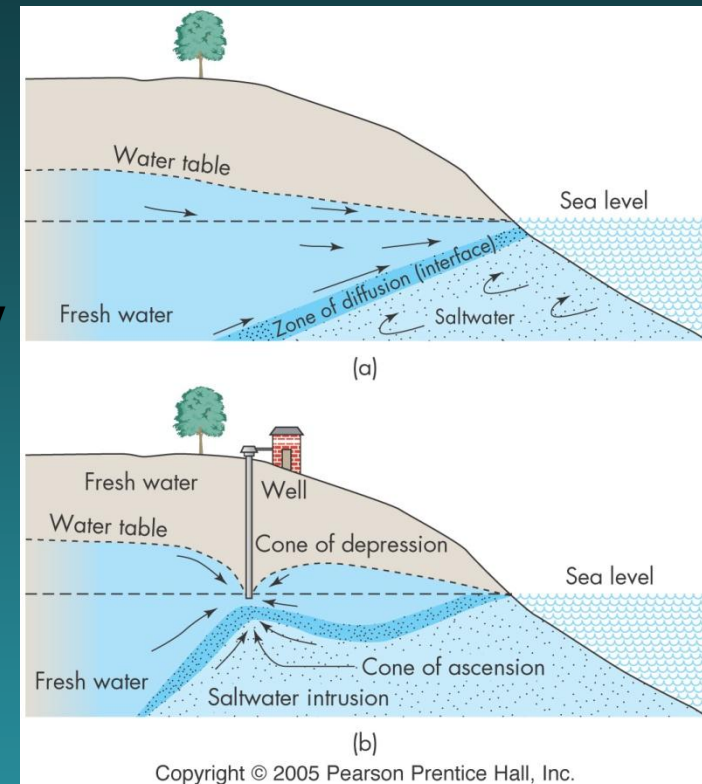
- **Permit all Sources**
 - **Ground Water**
 - **Surface Water**
- **Fresh vs Saline Water**
 - **Saline > 250 mg/L Chlorides**
- **Exempt Sources**
 - **Seawater (>19,000 mg/L)**
 - **Reclaimed Water**



Supply

■ Impact Analysis

- Water Resource Availability
- Existing Legal Users
- Existing Domestic Users
- Saline Intrusion/Upconing
- Wetland Environments
- Contamination Movement
- Minimum Flows & Levels



WU Permits for Mining

Mining operations may need:

- **Drinking water for employees**
- **Industrial – rock washing/sorting**
- **Dewatering activities**



Dewatering Permit Types

- **No-Notice Authorization (No permit issued)**
 - Less than 90 day duration
 - Less than 5 MGD / 100 MG total
- **Short-term General Permit**
 - Less than 1 year duration
 - Less than 10 MGD / 1,800 MG total
- **Long-term Individual Permits**
 - Between 1 & 5 year duration



Long-term Individual Permits

- **Between 1 & 5 year duration**
- **Standard**
 - **Well defined projects**
- **Master**
 - **“Typical” dewatering activities**
 - **Site-specific dewatering plans submitted 2 weeks prior to commencing**



Off-site Discharge

Must demonstrate technical infeasibility for on-site retention and provide:

- **Authorization to discharge to receiving water body**
- **Demonstrate receiving water body is capable of accepting discharge**
- **Operational plan to meet State Water Quality standards**
- **Operational plan to meet turbidity levels <29 NTU above background**
- **Monitoring plan for daily turbidity measurements**
- **Contingency plan for correcting water quality violations and cease pumping**



Permit

- Allocation
 - Annual
 - Maximum Month
- Duration
- Withdrawal Facilities
- Limiting Conditions



Limiting Conditions

- **Standard – all permits**
- **Special – case by case**
 - **Maximum depth of dewatering**
 - **Water Use Accounting**
 - **Saline Water Monitoring**
 - **Wetland Monitoring**
 - **Turbidity Monitoring**
 - **Water Quality Monitoring**



Application Processing Fees

- No-Notice = No Application
- Short-term General Permit = \$500
- Long-term Individual Permits
 - <30 MGM = \$1,800
 - 30-300 MGM = \$3,250
 - >300 MGM = \$4,000





Processing Timeframes

- Initial 30 day review for completeness
- Send letter requesting information if incomplete
- 60 days after complete application for issuance of General Permits
- 90 days after complete application for Individual Permits for Executive Director approval





QUESTIONS

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