

ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM

BORROWER: Polk Regional Water Cooperative

LOCATION: Polk County, Florida

WIFIA LOAN AMOUNT: \$305 million

Loan 1 amount: \$223 million

Loan 2 amount: \$82 million

TOTAL WIFIA PROJECT COSTS: \$624 million

POPULATION SERVED BY PROJECT: 637,000 people

NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED: 2,000 jobs



Source: Polk Regional Water Cooperative

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Polk Regional Water Cooperative's Alternative Water Supply Program is a regional solution to help sustain water supply for communities throughout central Florida and reduce strain on the Upper Floridian Aquifer. The Upper Floridian Aquifer, the primary water source in the region, is projected to be unable to meet demand by 2035. Polk Regional Water Cooperative, comprised of 16 local governments, will use their WIFIA loans to design and construct two new water production facilities that will draw brackish water from the Lower Floridian Aquifer. Both facilities will have extraction and injection wells, as well as standalone reverse osmosis water treatment plants. By completing these projects, Polk Regional Water Cooperative will produce 10 million gallons per day of new water supplies with future expansion capability of up to 22.5 million gallons per day. Polk Regional Water Cooperative is financing these projects with two WIFIA loans under a WIFIA master agreement.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Diversifies the source of drinking water for communities throughout Polk County to reduce strain on Upper Floridian Aquifer.
- Enhances water supply sustainability and climate change resiliency.
- Saves the Polk Regional Water Cooperative approximately \$178 million by financing with a WIFIA loan.