



water resources research center

WRRC provides support for 10 Ph.D.s during FY2006

The mission of the Florida Water Resources Research Center is to facilitate communication and collaboration between Florida's Universities and the state agencies that are responsible for managing Florida's water resources. A primary component of this collaborative effort is the development of graduate training opportunities in critical areas of water resources that are targeted to meet Florida's short- and long-term needs.

Under the direction of Dr. Kirk Hatfield, the Florida Water Resources Research Center has been restructured with the goal of maximizing the amount of graduate student funding available to the state of Florida under the provisions of section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-242).

Agreements have been established with three of Florida's Universities (Florida State University, University of South Florida, and the University of Florida) and four state agencies (South Florida Water Management District, Southwest Florida Water Management District, St. Johns River Water Management District, and the Florida Geological Survey) that will support the work of 10 Ph.D. students. These agreements are funded with support from the United States Geological Survey (\$92,335) along with matching funds from collaborating universities and state agencies (\$220,481) to provide \$312,816 in total support for water resources related research (FY2006).

The supported research projects consider a wide range of water resource related issues while maintaining focus on topics specific to Florida. These topics include investigating the geochemical processes that control the mobilization of arsenic during aquifer storage recovery (ASR), comparing widely used procedures by which radar- and gauge-derived rainfall are optimally combined for water management and regulatory decisions, investigating the measurement of evapotranspiration, recharge, and runoff in shallow water table environments characteristic of the Gulf of Mexico coastal plain, studying the measurement of erosion around and flow through hydraulic structures and culverts, and developing software for quantifying the impacts of saltwater up-coning and well field pumping.