



OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL WATER POLICY

AGRICULTURE AND THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON BMAP

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Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- **Agricultural BMPs**

- Most effective and practicable means for improving water quality
 - Determined through research, field-testing, and expert review
- Adopted by FDACS, verified effective by DEP
- Must be economically and technically feasible for the producer to implement
 - When funding is available, FDACS works with producers to provide cost-share for some BMPs



Agriculture's Role in BMAPs

- Commercial agricultural operations within BMAP areas have two options:
 - Enroll in and implement FDACS BMPs
 - Follow a FDEP- or WMD-prescribed water quality monitoring plan at their own expense

Failure to do either could result in enforcement action by FDEP or the applicable WMD.



Typical Agricultural BMPs

- **Nutrient Management**

- Practices designed to use fertilizer to effectively provide necessary crop nutrients while protecting against adverse environmental effects
 - Soil testing, plant tissue testing, fertilizer application timing

- **Irrigation Management**

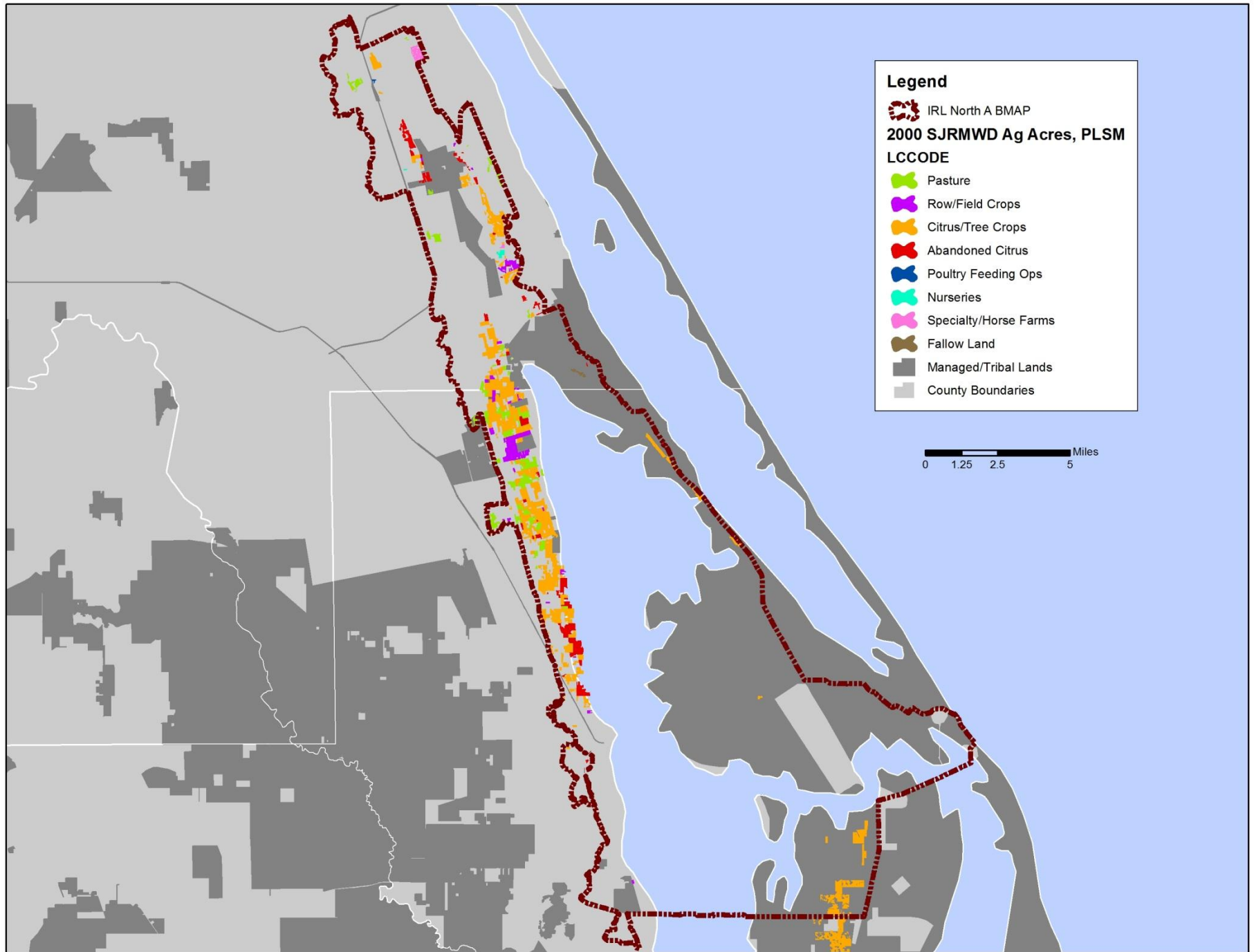
- Control the volume and frequency of irrigation water applied to crops, to meet water needs of crops while conserving water resources

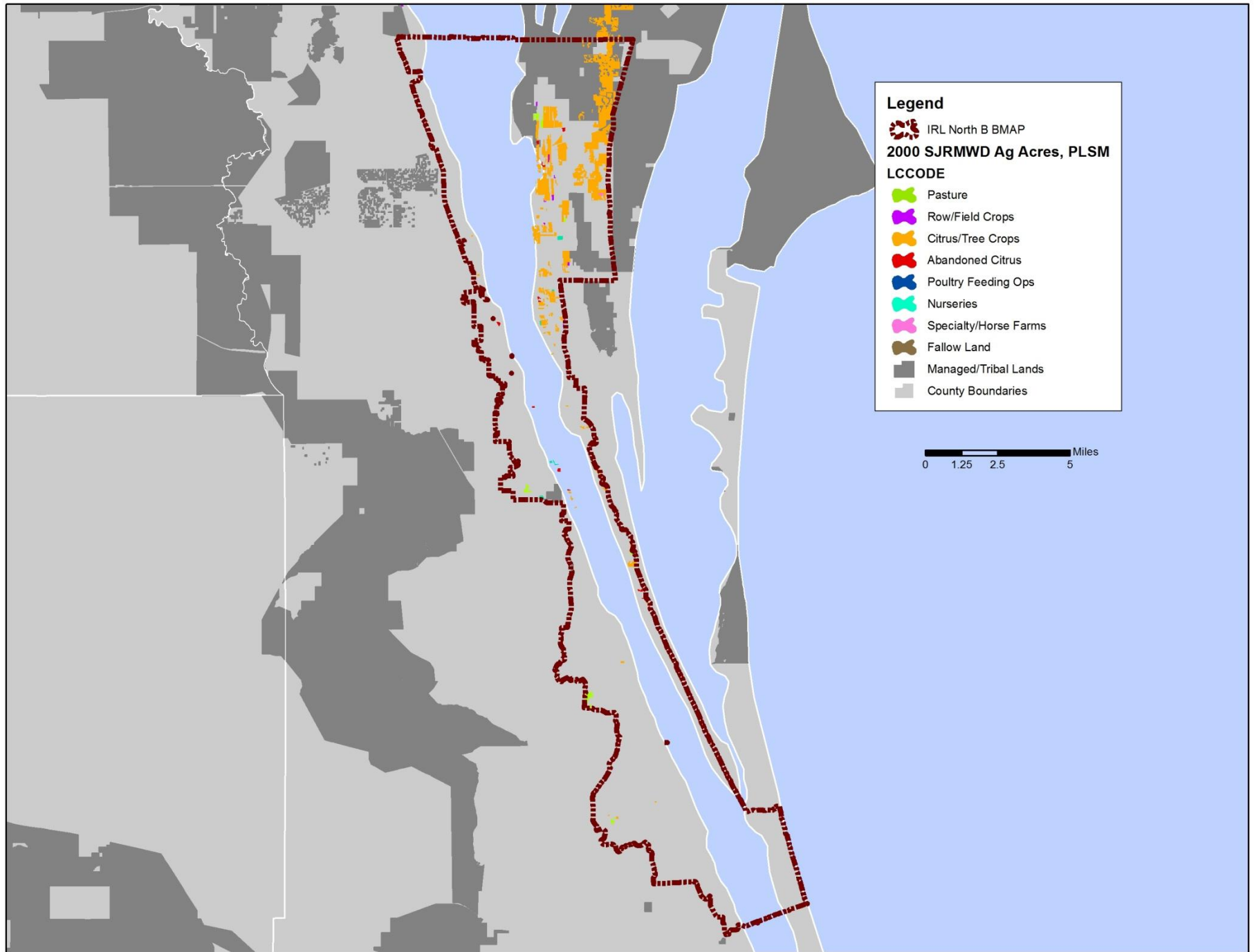


Agricultural Acres

- TMDL based on SJRWMD land use/land cover from 2000
 - North A: 8,069 acres (64% of basin in 2000)
 - North B: 3,692 acres (49% of basin in 2000)
- Significant land use changes since 2000
 - Working with DEP to generate credit for ag load based on conversion to urban or less intensive agricultural uses



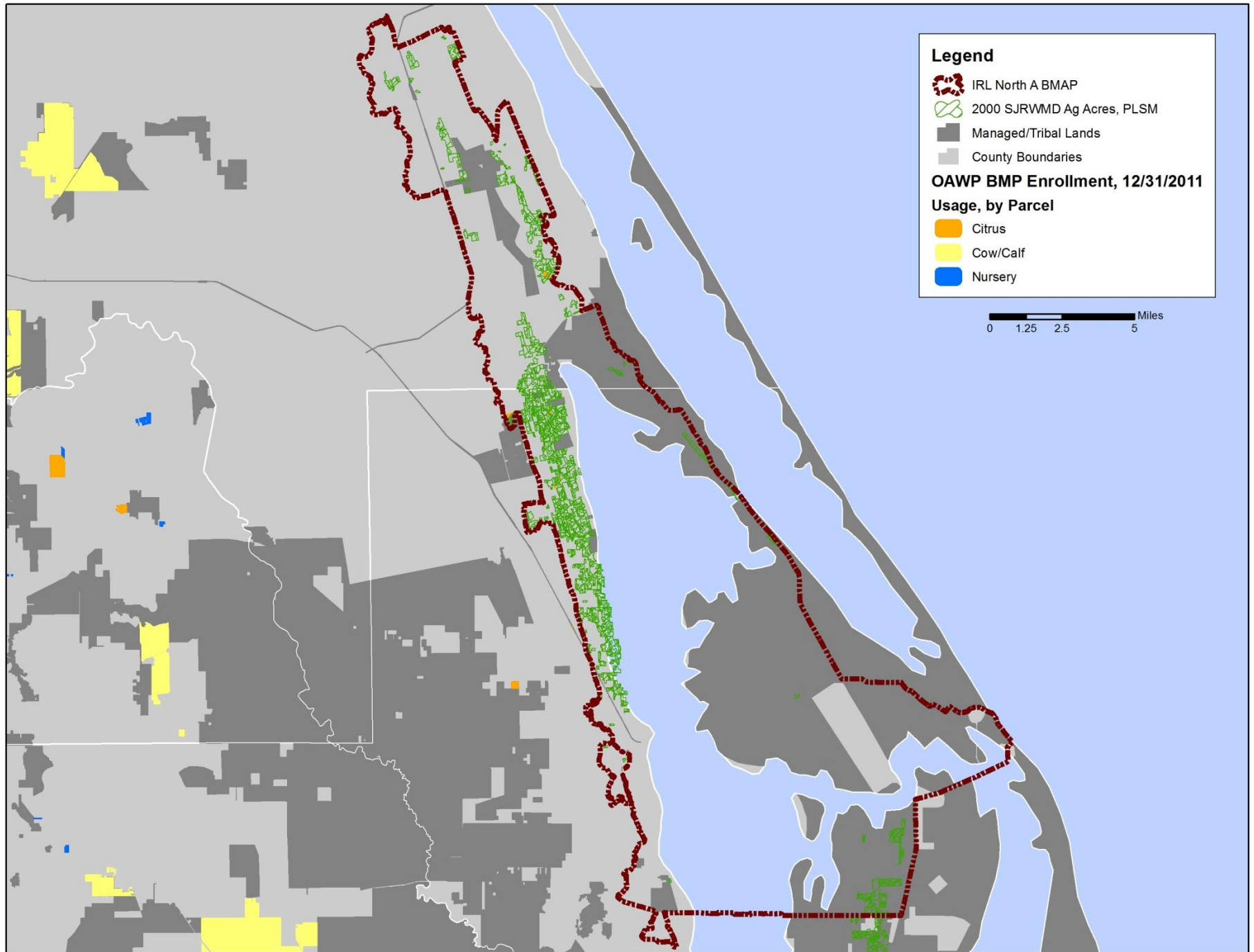


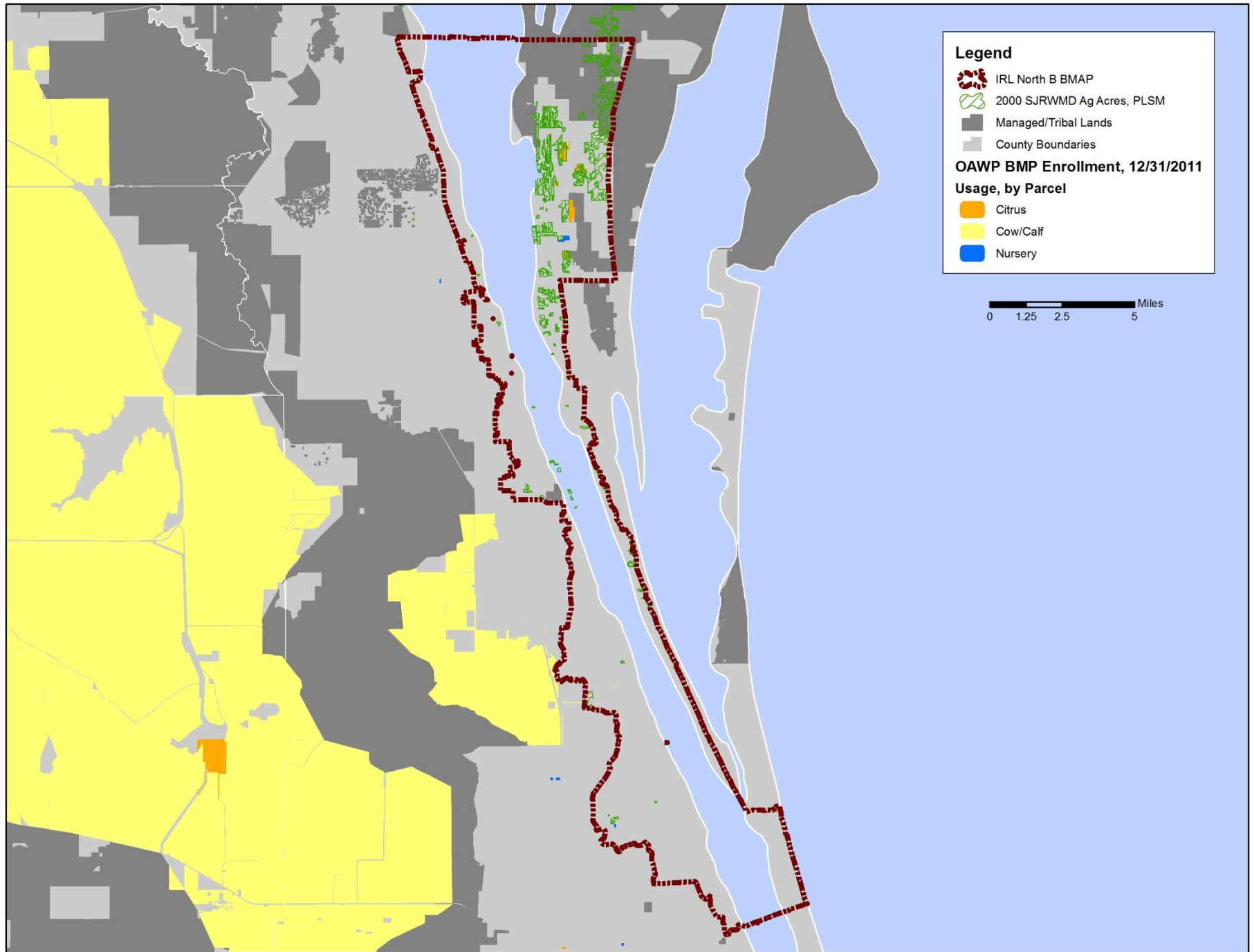


Current BMP Enrollment

- **North IRL A:** 305 acres enrolled, all citrus
- **North IRL B:** 214 acres enrolled, citrus and container nurseries







BMP Enrollment Goals

- Phase 1 requires 15% reduction for TN & TP
 - Ag meets this with land use changes for TP in both basins and TN in North B.
- DACS will work with remaining citrus, nursery, row crop, and potential cow/calf operations to increase participation
 - Difficult to determine remaining citrus from aerial imagery, since so much has been abandoned



Questions?

For more information on BMP programs:

www.floridaagwaterpolicy.com





Thank You!

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www.FloridaAgWaterPolicy.com

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