



Webinar Housekeeping

Attendee Participation

Open your control panel.

Join audio:

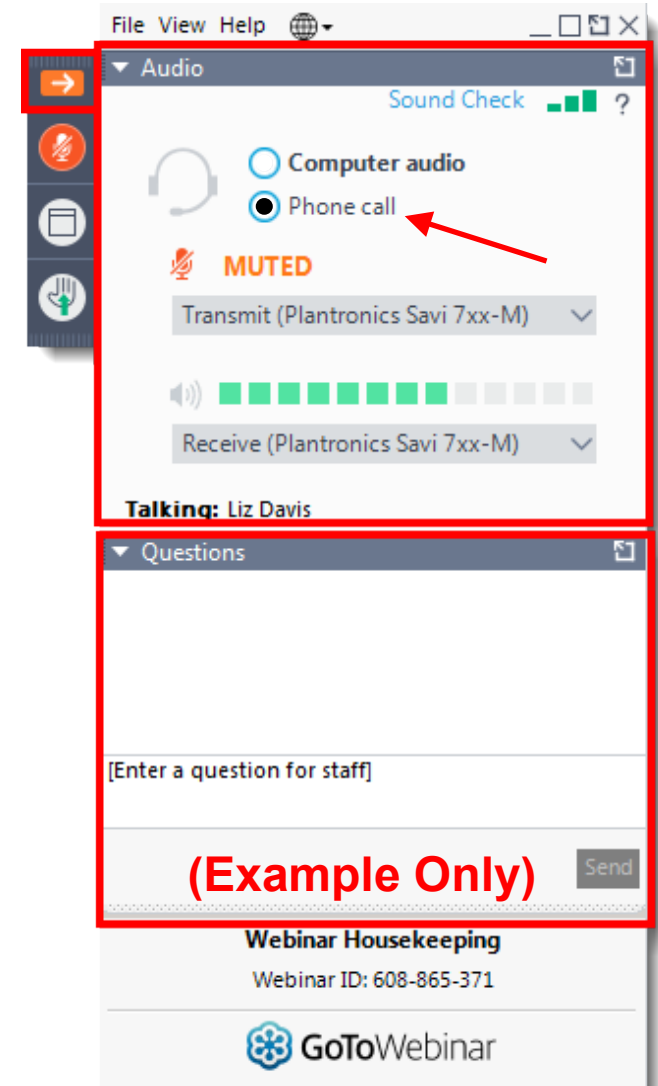
- Choose Computer Audio or
- Choose Phone Call and dial using the information provided with your registration

Attendee audio will automatically be muted.

Submit questions and comments via the **Questions** panel.

If viewing this webinar as a group, please provide a list of attendees via the **Questions** panel.

Note: Today's presentation is being recorded and will be provided on the file transfer protocol (FTP) site after the webinar.





Lake Okeechobee Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Annual Meeting

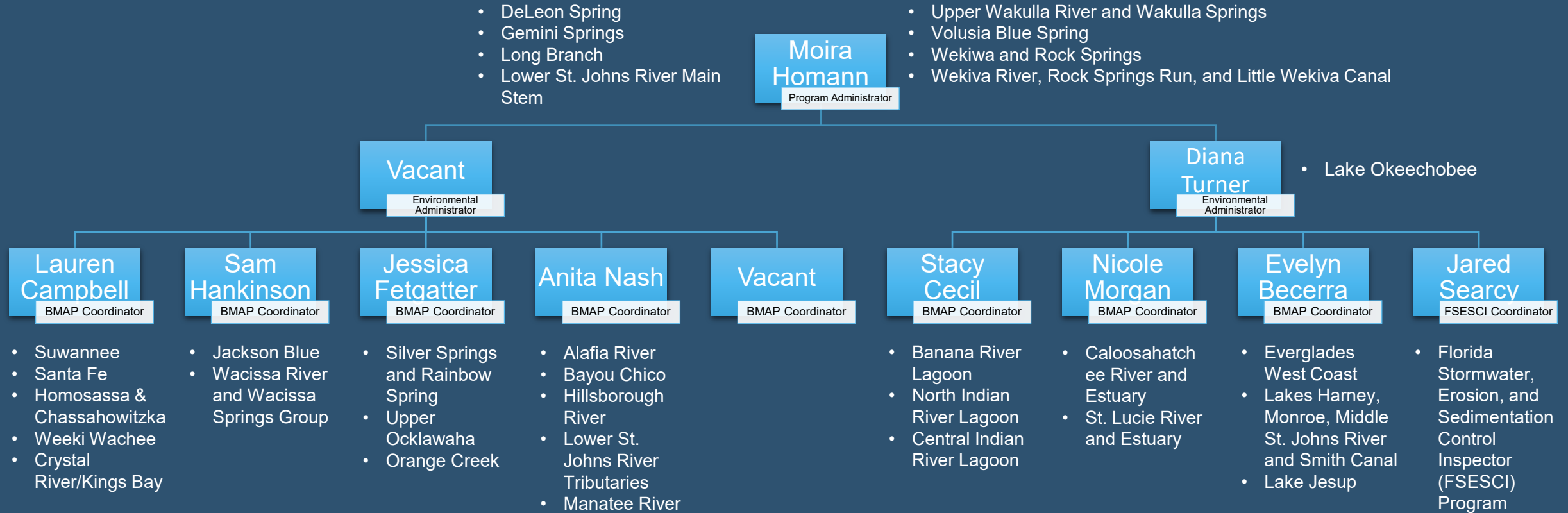
Diana Turner

Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

March 28th, 2023



BMAP PROGRAM STAFF UPDATE





The Florida Stormwater, Erosion, and Sedimentation Control Inspector (FSESCI) Program

To become qualified to conduct National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Generic Permit (CGP) Stormwater Inspections, take this class to learn:

- Construction Best Management Practices – Common Techniques and Technologies,
- Proper compliance with the NPDES CGP,
- Creating and reviewing a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP),
- Florida specific stormwater regulation,
- How to conduct stormwater inspections.

For more information and a list of public classes, visit:

- www.fsesci.com, or
- www.FDEPstormwaterclass.com.

Become an FSESCI Instructor for your organization:

- www.fsesci.com/newinstructor/

**DEP Statewide Training
Coordinator:**

Jared Searcy

Jared.Searcy@floridadep.gov

850-245-8445



Lake Okeechobee BMAP Annual Meeting



Photo Credit: SFWMD

Agenda

- Background Information
- South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Updates
- Annual Progress
- Statewide Annual Report (STAR)
- What's Next for the BMAP?
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) Updates
- Unenrolled Agricultural Producer Enforcement Update



Lake Okeechobee Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Background

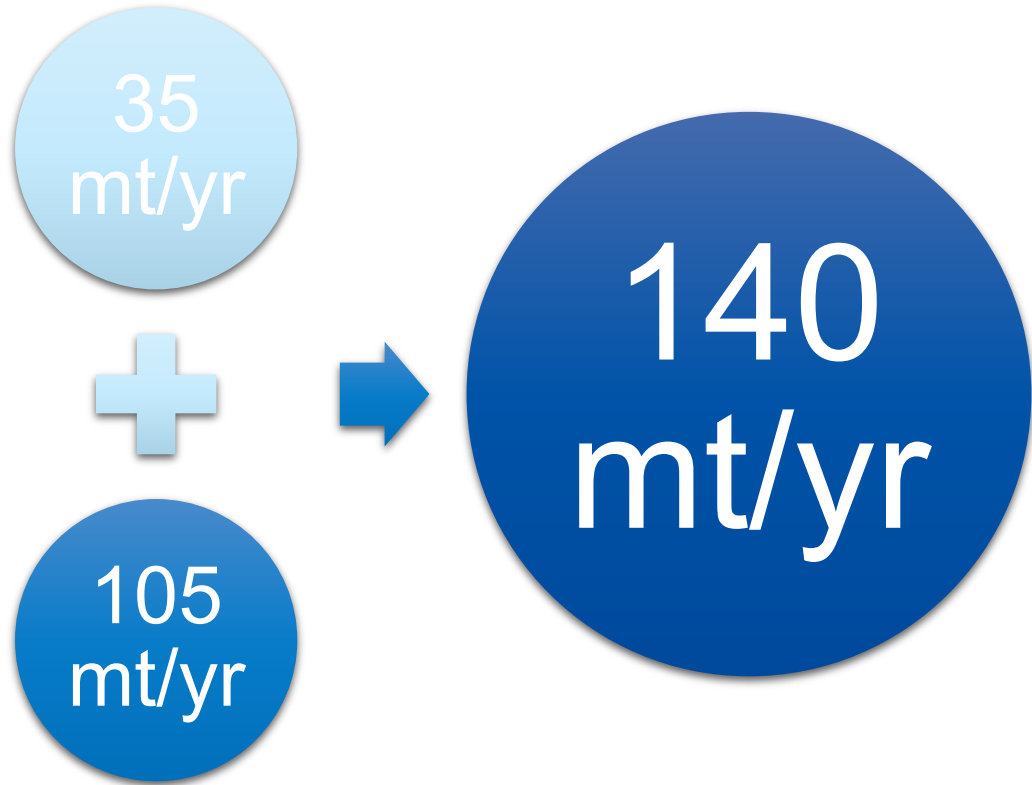


Photo Credit: SFWMD



Lake Okeechobee BMAP Background



- Initially adopted in December 2014.
- First 5-year review completed December 2019.
- Updated BMAP adopted in February 2020.



Stakeholders

Background

Counties

- Glades
- Hendry
- Highlands
- Martin
- Okeechobee
- Orange
- Osceola
- Palm Beach
- Polk

Municipalities

- City of Avon Park
- City of Edgewood
- City of Kissimmee
- City of Okeechobee
- City of Orlando
- City of Sebring
- Town of Windermere

Government Entities and Special Districts

- Avon Park Air Force Range
- Okeechobee Utility Authority
- Istokpoga Marsh Watershed Improvement District
- Reedy Creek Improvement District
- Spring Lake Improvement District
- South Florida Conservancy District
- Valencia Water Control District

State Agencies

- FDACS
- SFWMD
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
Districts 1, 4 and 5

SFWMD Update

Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project

Stacey Ollis, PMP
Principal State Policy Analyst
Everglades & Estuaries Protection Bureau
Lake Okeechobee BMAP Annual Meeting
March 28, 2023

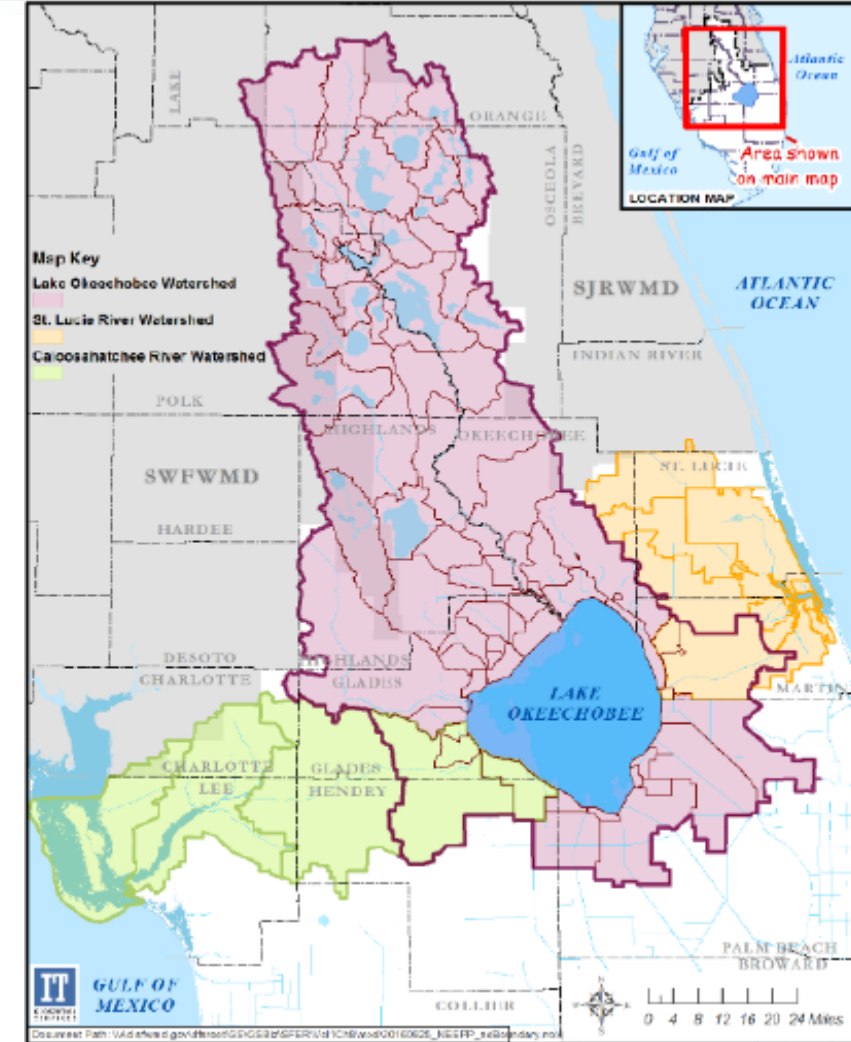
Agenda



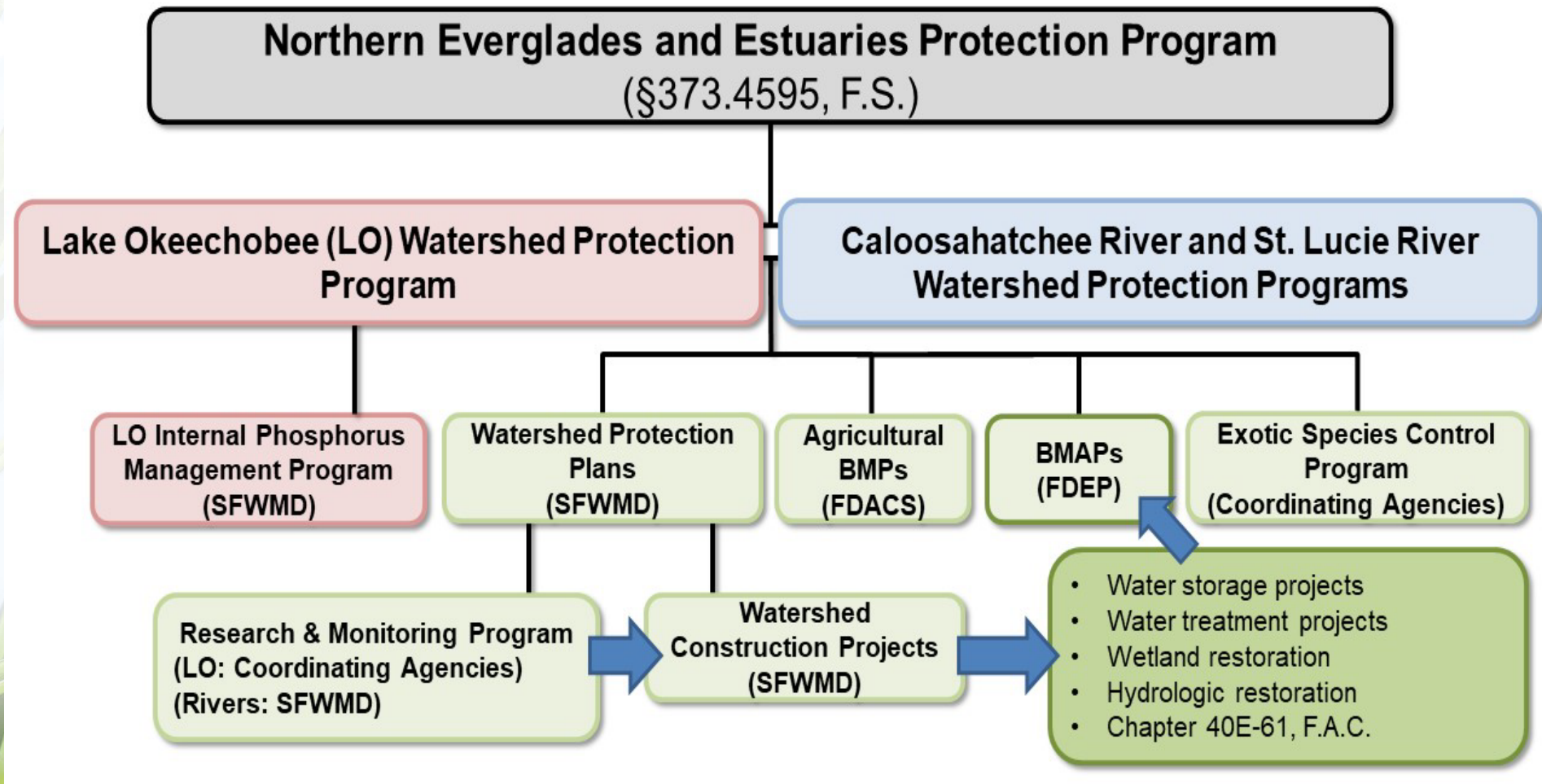
- Northern Everglades Program Overview
- 2022 Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project Review
 - Project Spotlights
 - Water Storage Benefits
- What's New
- Watershed Protection Plan Reporting

Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP)

- Purpose: Protect and restore surface water resources by improving hydrology and water quality for the Northern Everglades ecosystem (§373.4595, Florida Statutes)
- Goal: Improve Water Quality
 - Lake Okeechobee: Total Phosphorus (TP)
 - Caloosahatchee Estuary: Total Nitrogen (TN)
 - St. Lucie Estuary: TP and TN
- Goal: Manage Water Quantity
 - Increase water storage north of Lake Okeechobee and in Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie River Watersheds



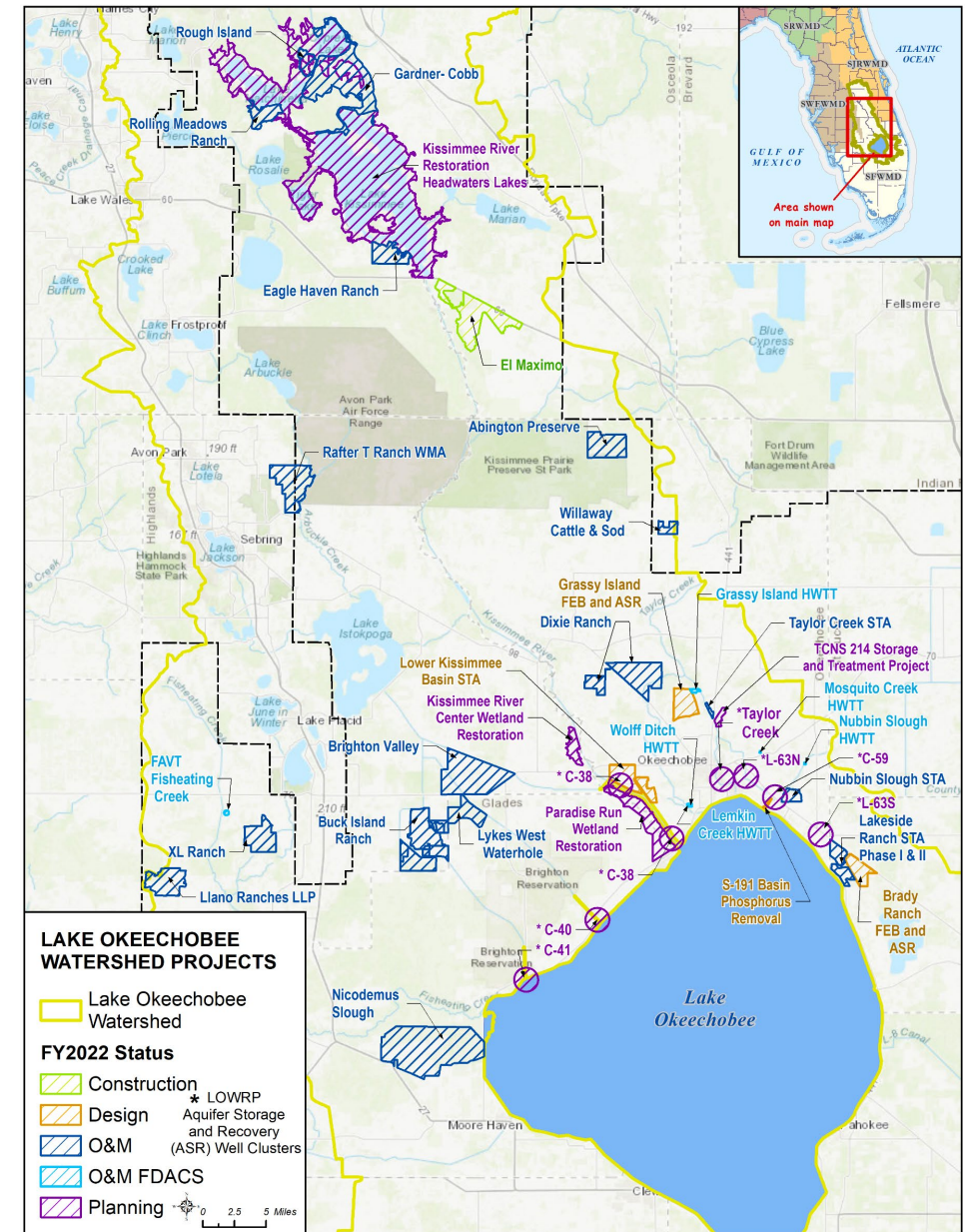
NEEPP: Coordinating Agencies Roles



Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project Review

- In 2020, SFWMD initiated annual Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project (LOWCP) reviews, as part of the Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) reviews
- Annual reviews are important to:
 - Maintain transparency and accountability in BMAP process
 - Assist to progressively move toward achieving state's TMDLs
 - Develop and update WPPs required every five years
 - Consolidate into NEEPP annual progress reporting (South Florida Environmental Report, or SFER) per §373.4595(6), F.S.
- Focus: 2022 LOWCP Review
 - Key accomplishments during Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 (Oct. 1, 2021–Sept. 30, 2022)
 - Final 2023 SFER – Volume I, Chapter 8B (March 1, 2023) at [SFWMD.gov/SFER](https://www.sfwmd.gov/SFER)

- 2 projects – planning
- 3 projects – design
- 1 project – construction
- 18 projects – operations



Project Spotlights

- Kissimmee River Restoration Project & Headwater Lakes Regulation Schedule
- Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP)
- Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment Area (STA)
- El Maximo Ranch Dispersed Water Management (DWM)



Kissimmee River Restoration Project

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION

- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony July 2021
- 44 miles of historic river channel natural flow reestablished/open to public access

KISSIMMEE HEADWATERS REVITALIZATION REGULATION SCHEDULE

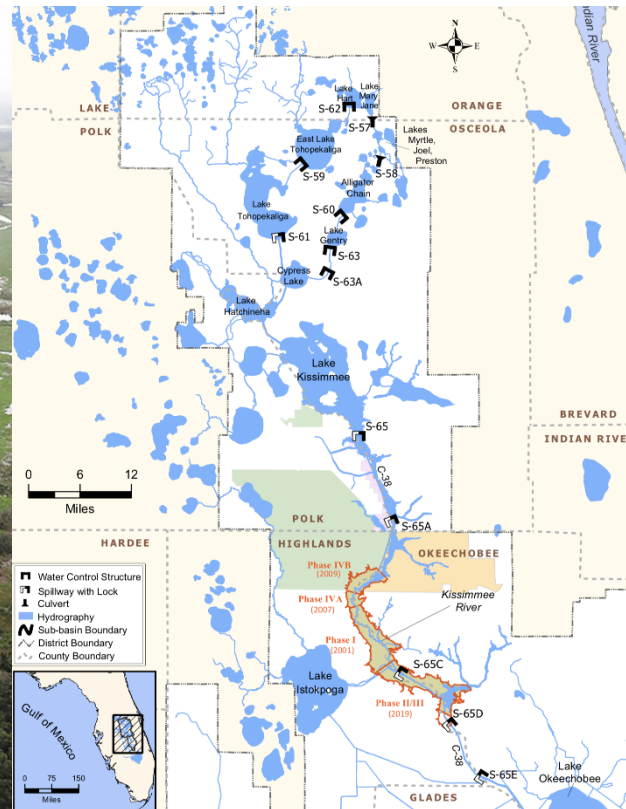
- Incremental Implementation (2023-2026)

EVALUATION MONITORING

- 5-Year Post-Restoration Monitoring Period (2027-2031)



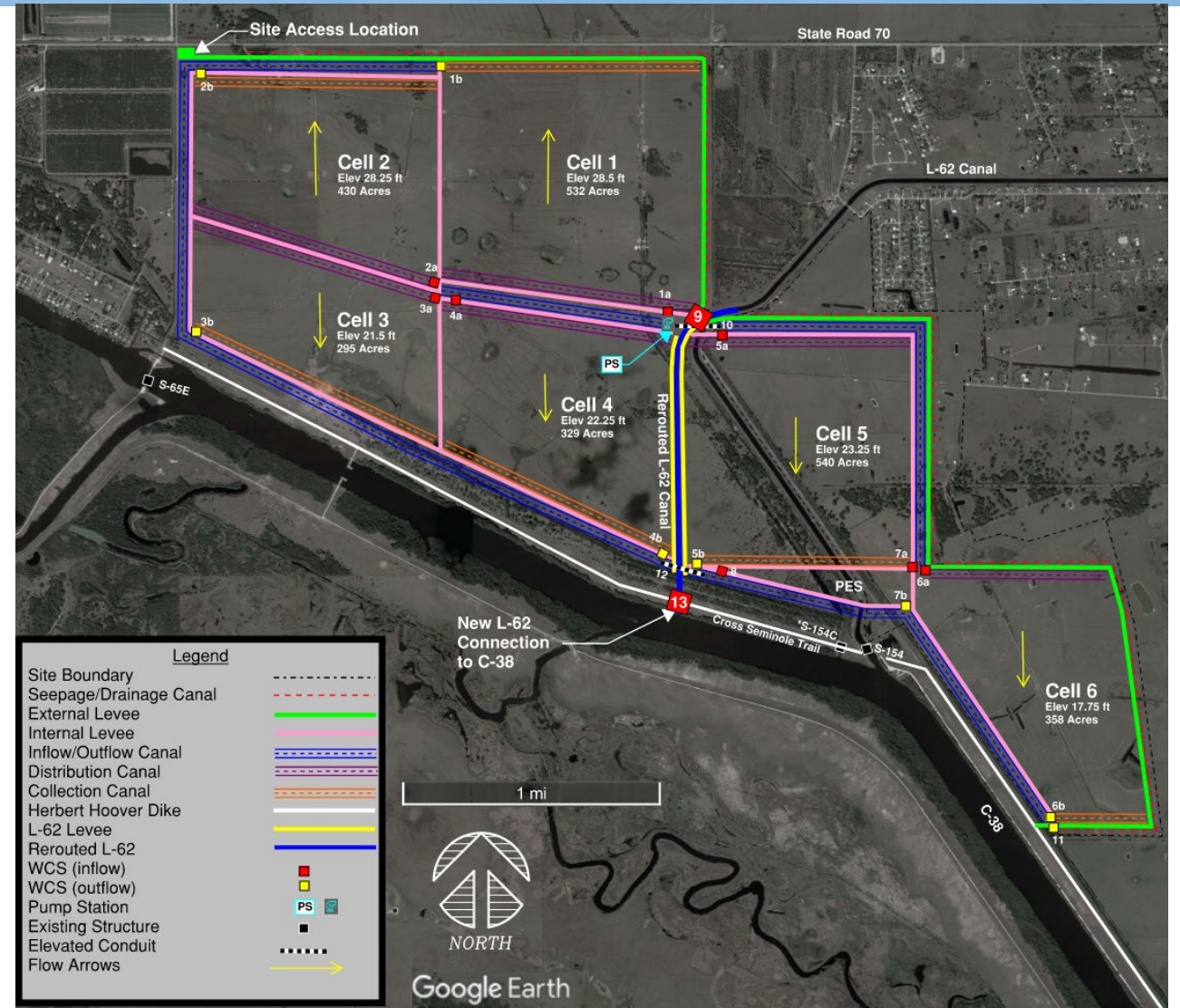
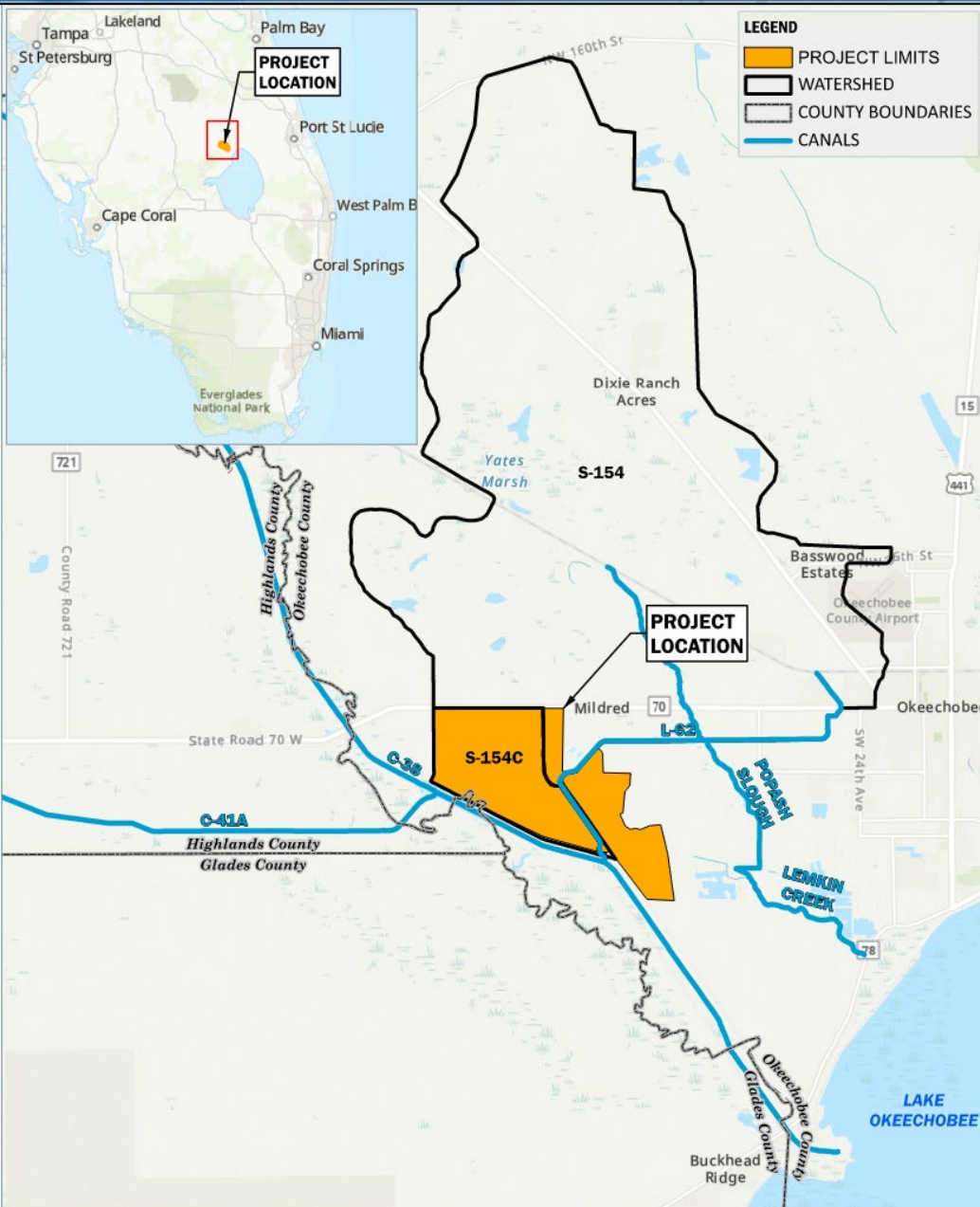
Phase II Restoration Area looking southeast downstream Riverwoods Run and floodplain



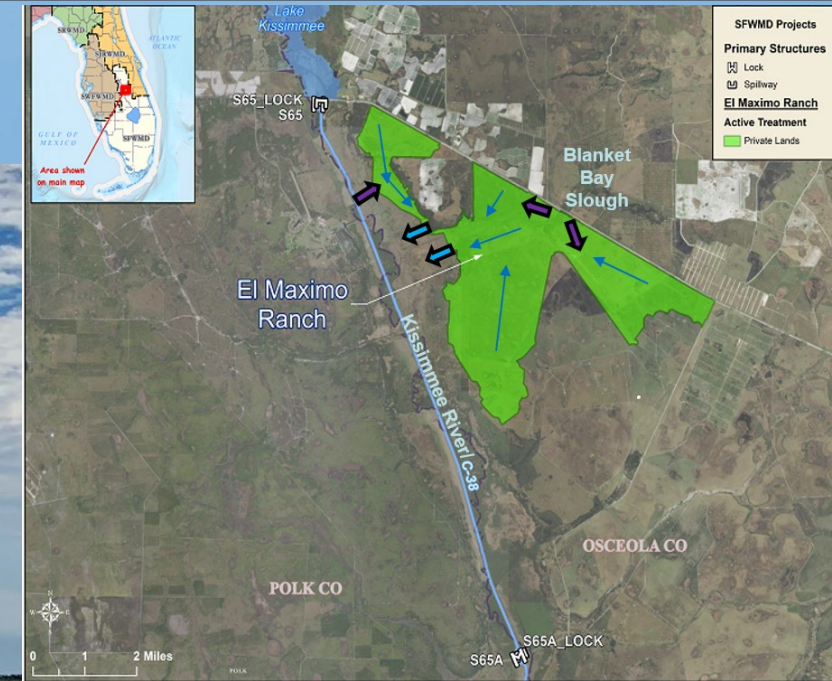
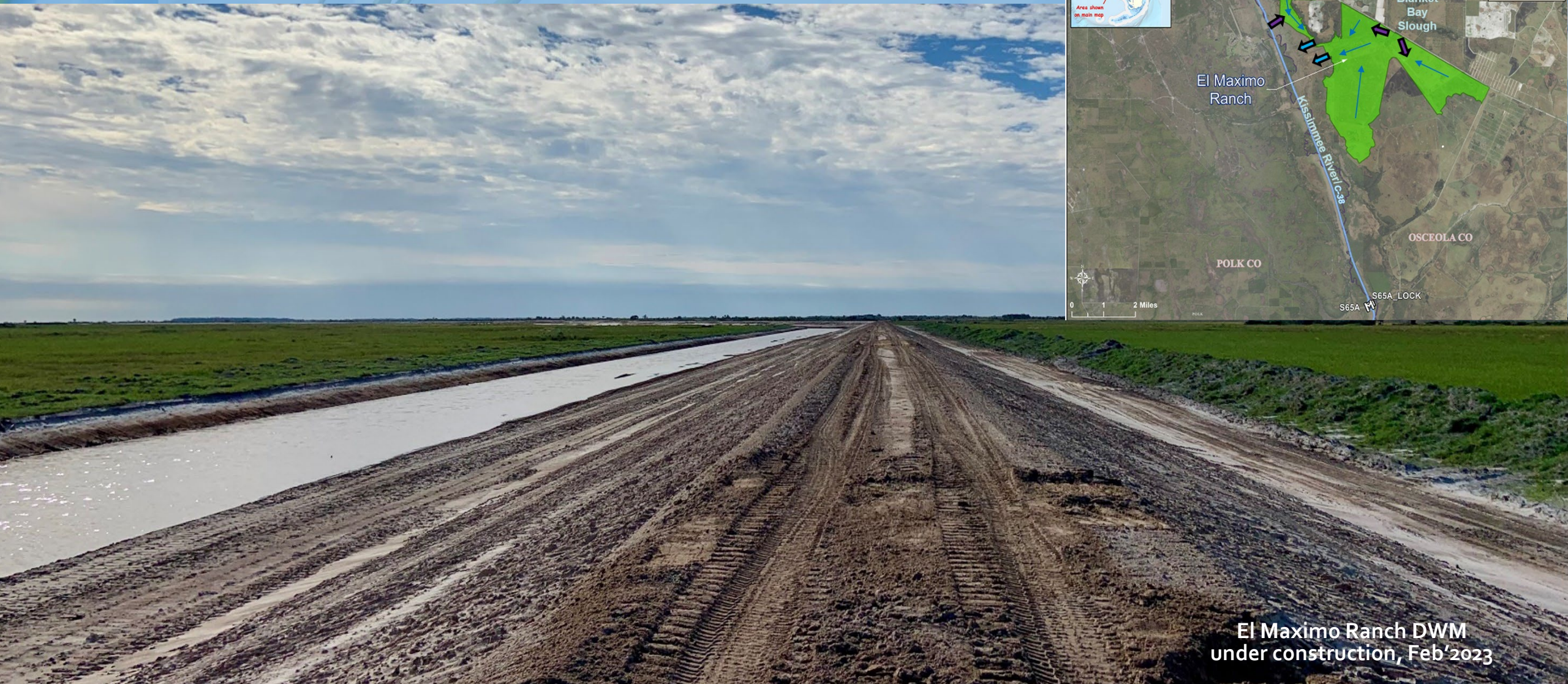
Photographs by Brent Anderson
SFWMD, August 2021

S-69 Weir and Phase III
Restoration Area looking upstream

Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment Area



El Maximo Ranch DWM



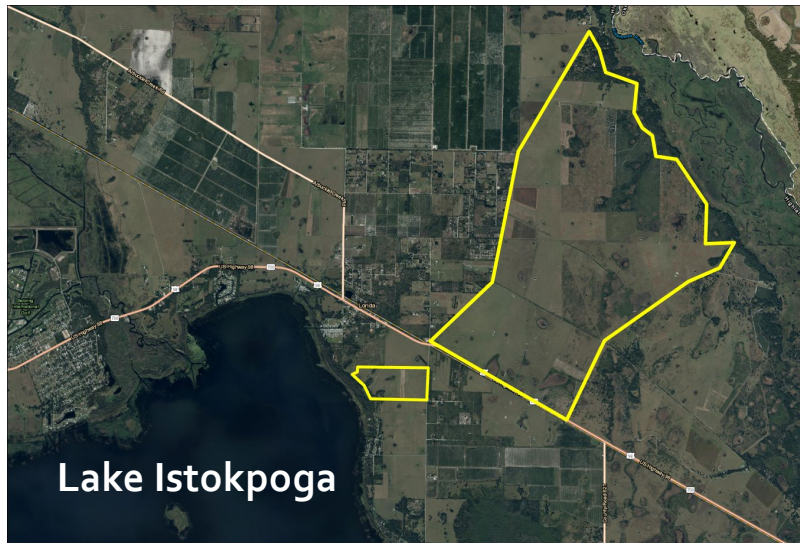
El Maximo Ranch DWM
under construction, Feb'2023

- [illegible]

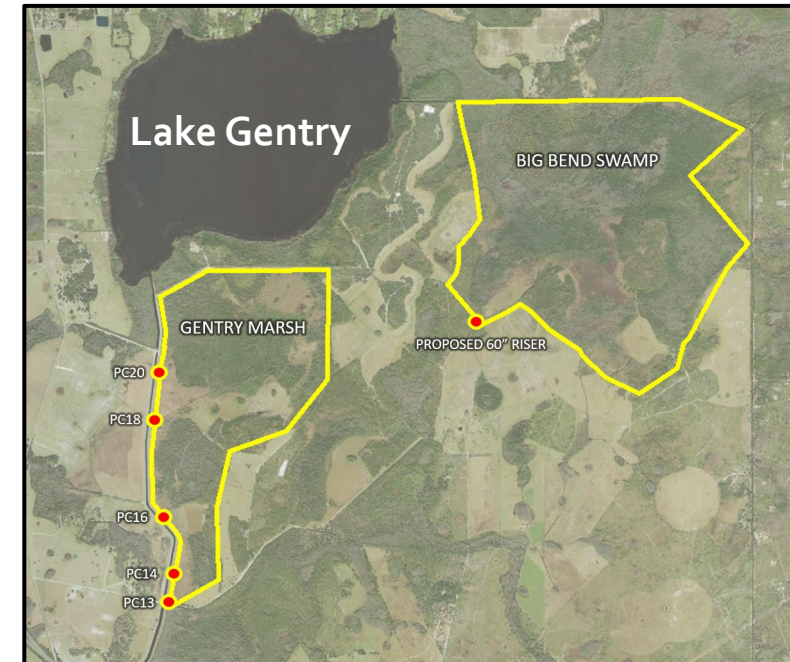
Northern Everglades Water Retention and Nutrient Load Reduction Projects

AguaCulture Nutrient Removal

- Project purpose is to divert and retain TP from Lake Istokpoga in order to reduce nutrient loads to Lake Okeechobee.
 - Mechanical harvesting of wetland vegetation and unconsolidated muck from Lake Istokpoga
 - To be applied as a nutrient amendment on private lands
- Estimated benefits (per year):
 - 4.54 mt TP removal
 - Pay-for-performance basis



Partin Family Ranch



- Water and nutrient retention project
 - 3,050 acres on private land in Osceola County
- Estimated benefits (per year):
 - 4,270 ac-ft storage
 - 0.4 mt TP removal
 - 5.2 mt TN removal

Watershed Protection Plan Reporting

For more information, visit:

[SFWMD.gov/WPPs](https://www.sfwmd.gov/WPPs)

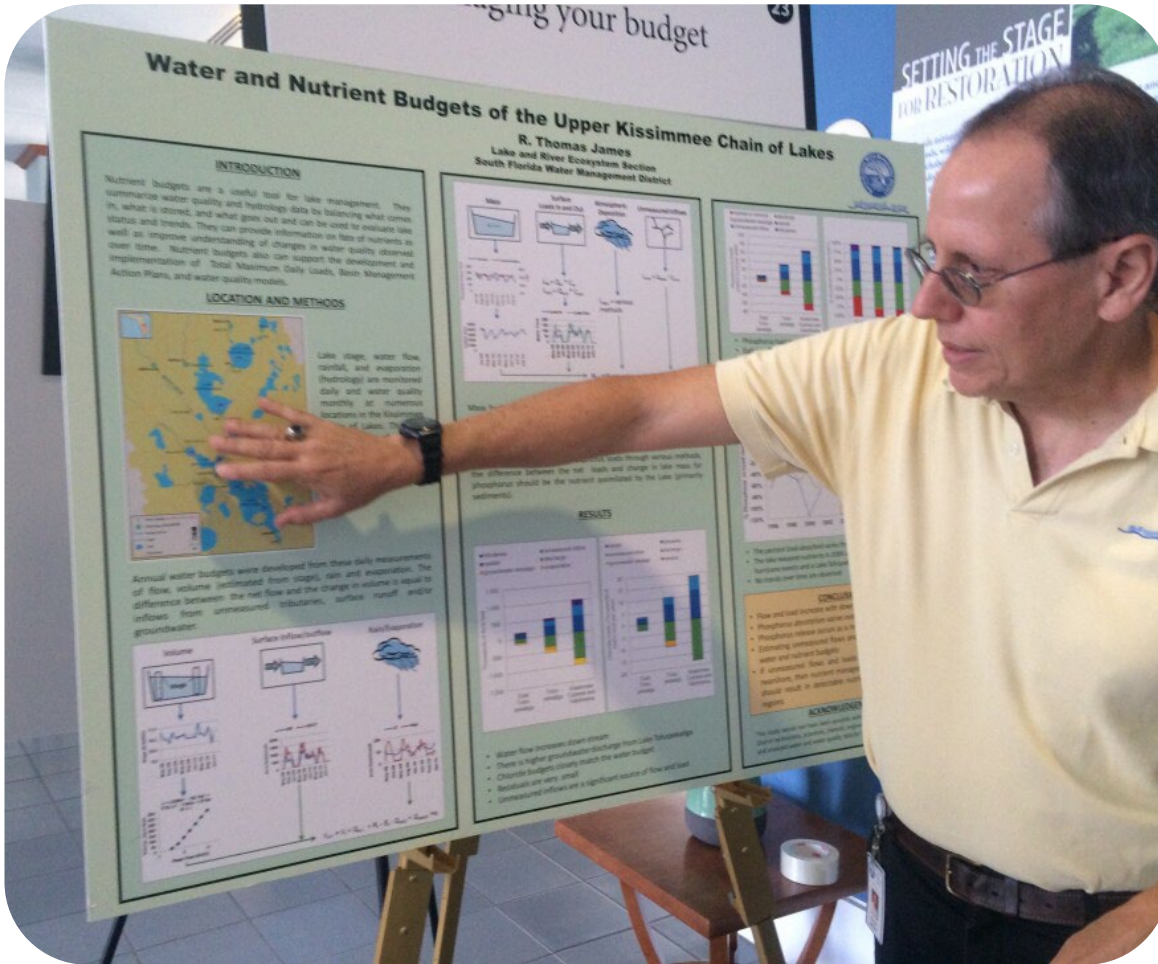
and

[SFWMD.gov/SFER](https://www.sfwmd.gov/SFER)

(Final 2023 SFER –
Volume I, Chapter 8B)



Mark Your Calendars



SFWMD Governing Board Open House

2023 SFER – Volume I

April 12, 2023 at 1 pm

SFWMD Headquarters

B-1 Auditorium & Lobby

3301 Gun Club Road

West Palm Beach, FL

[SFWMD.gov/news-events/meetings](https://www.sfwmd.gov/news-events/meetings)

Contact Information

Stacey Ollis, PMP – Principal State Policy Analyst
Everglades & Estuaries Protection Bureau, State Policy Unit
South Florida Water Management District
sollis@sfwmd.gov; 561-682-2039

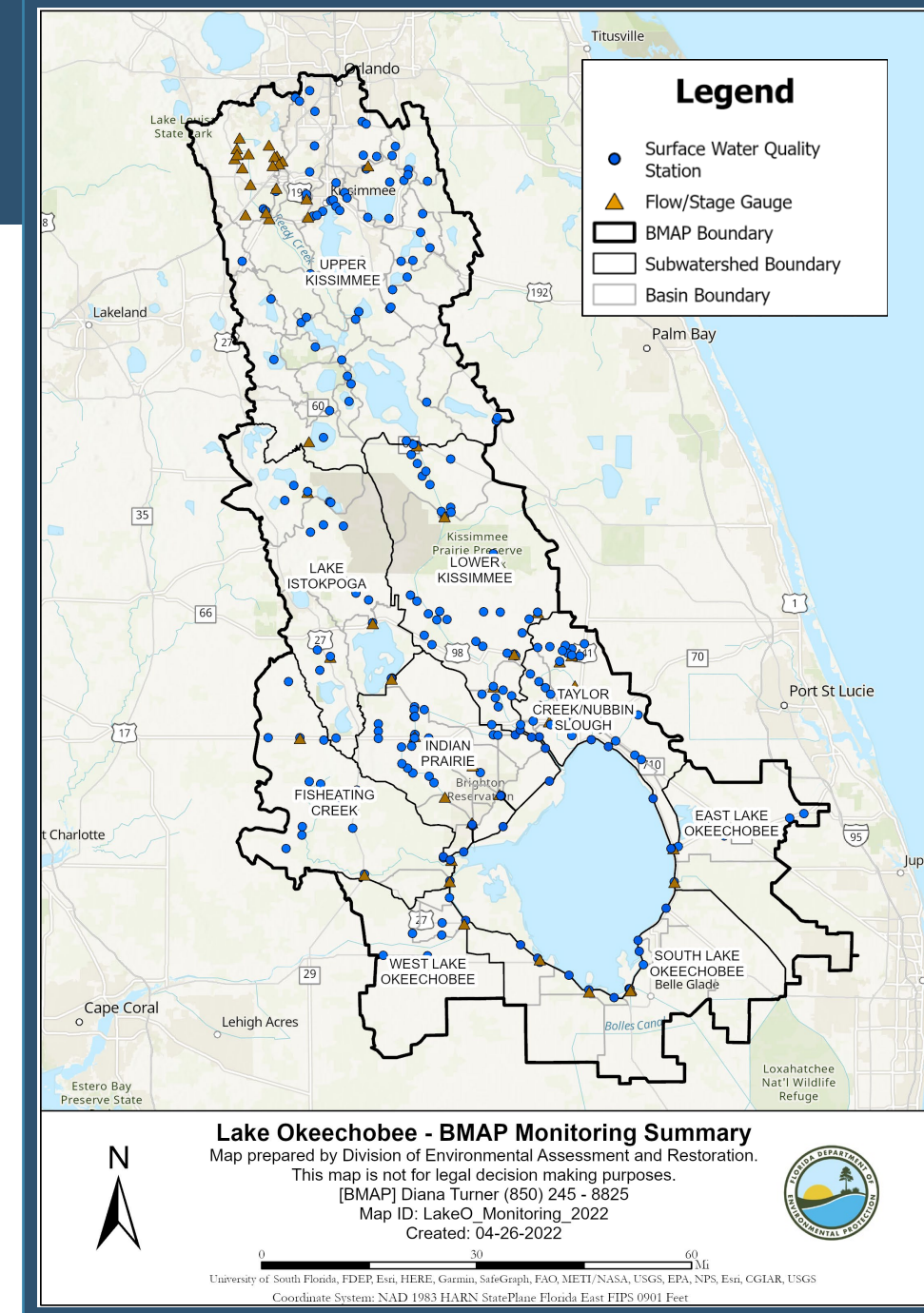




Monitoring Network

BMAP Wide

- 309 stations.
- 3-tiered network.
- Monitored by local entities, DEP, SFWMD, and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

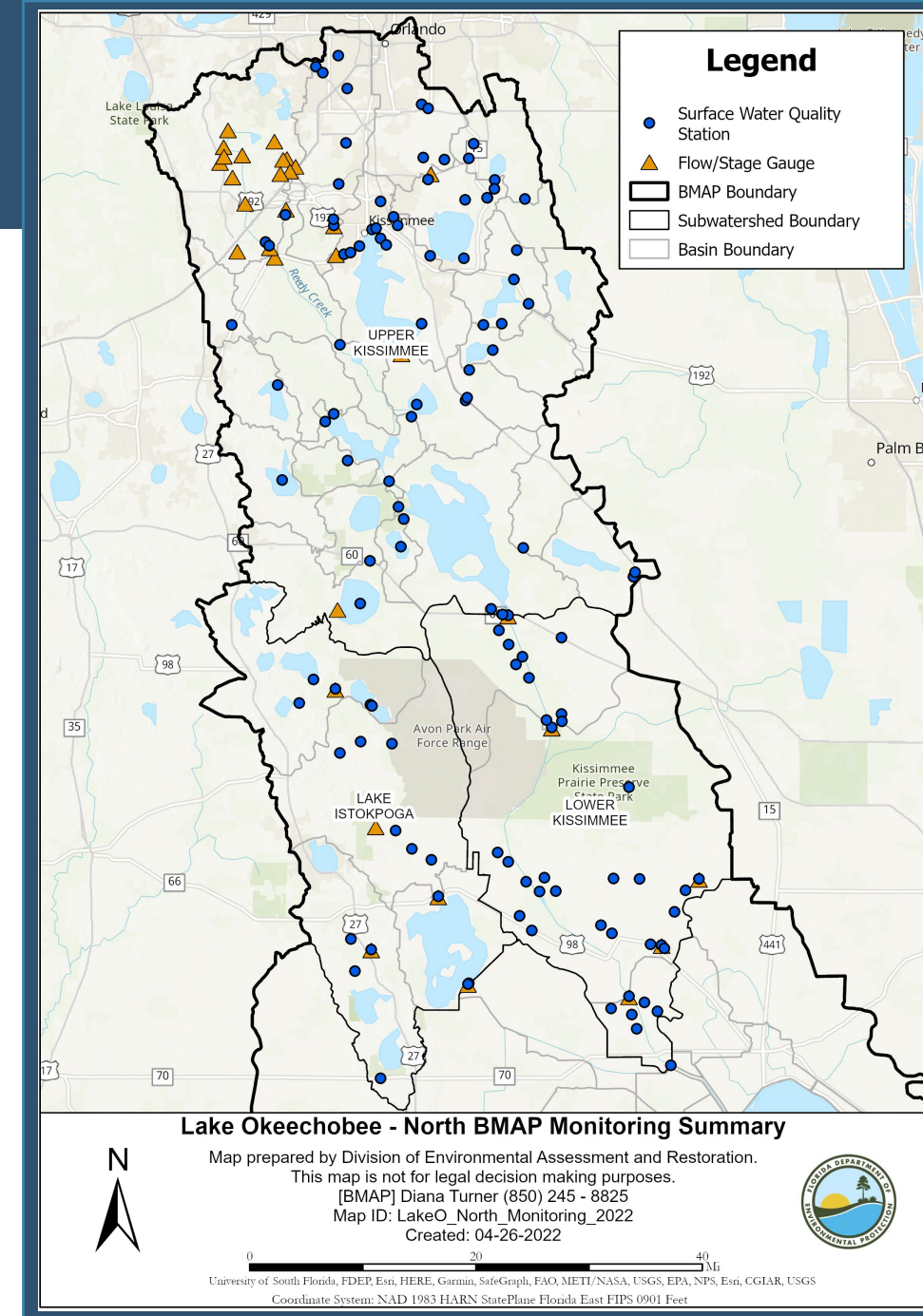




Monitoring Network

North BMAP Area

- Upper Kissimmee:
 - 25 representative.
 - 44 other water quality.
 - 22 flow.
- Lower Kissimmee:
 - 3 representative.
 - 33 other water quality.
 - 5 flow.
- Lake Istokpoga:
 - 5 representative.
 - 15 other water quality.
 - 5 flow.

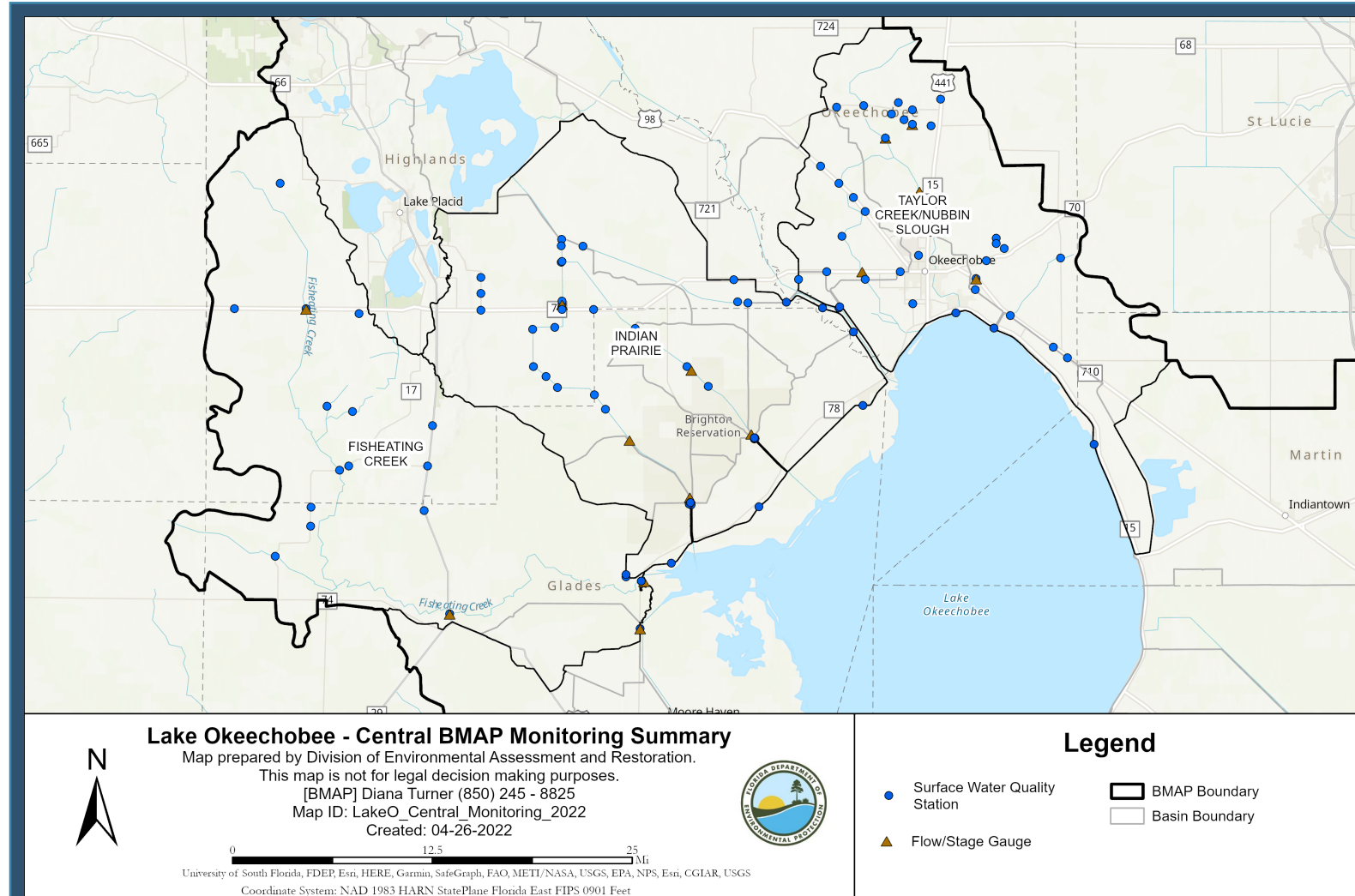




Monitoring Network

Central BMAP Area

- **Fisheating Creek:**
 - 2 representative.
 - 16 other water quality.
 - 4 flow.
- **Indian Prairie:**
 - 11 representative.
 - 28 other water quality.
 - 5 flow.
- **Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough:**
 - 5 representative.
 - 34 other water quality.
 - 9 flow.

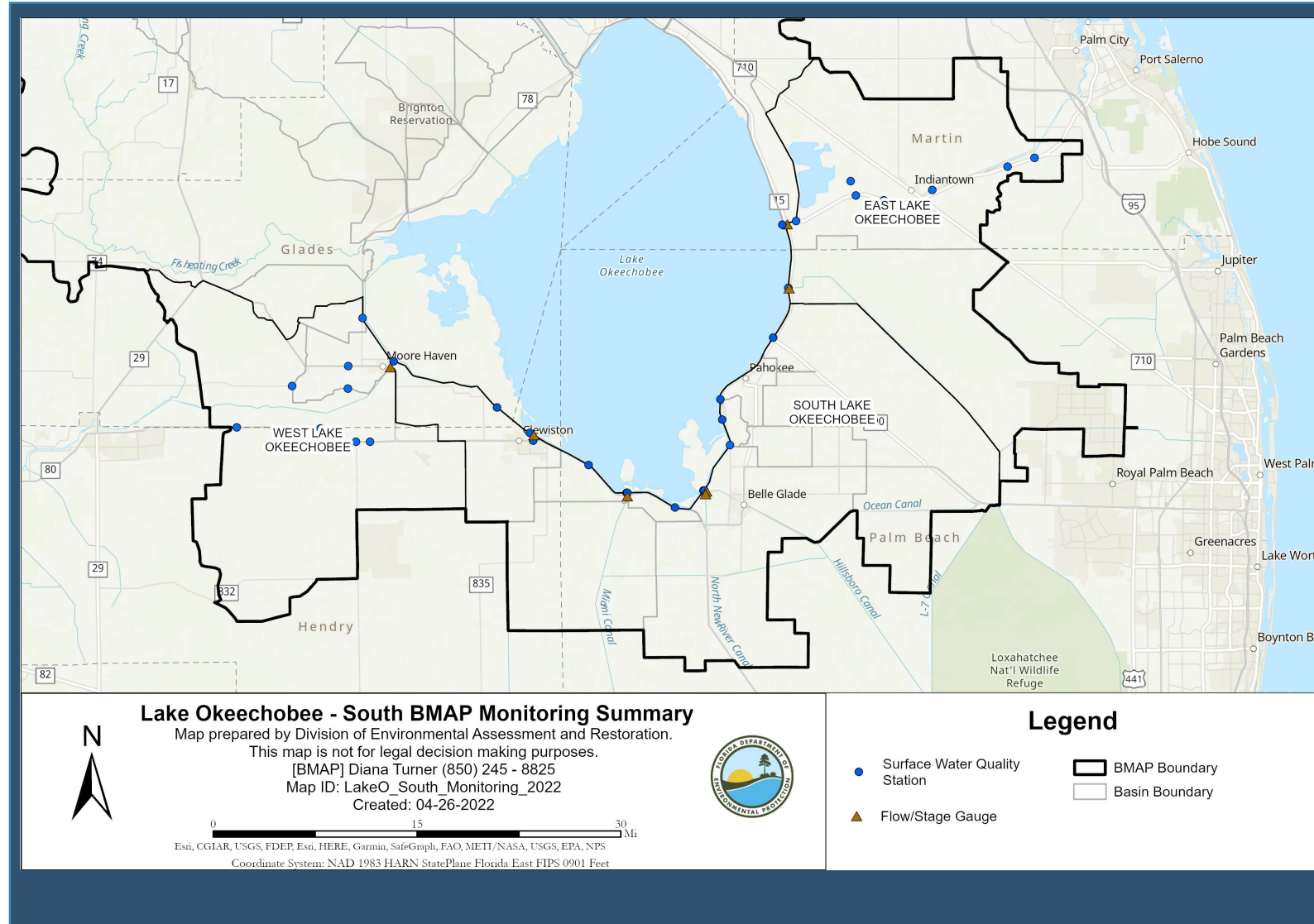




Monitoring Network

South BMAP Area

- West Lake Okeechobee:
 - 3 representative.
 - 6 other water quality.
 - 1 flow.
- South Lake Okeechobee:
 - 9 representative.
 - 4 other water quality.
 - 4 flow.
- East Lake Okeechobee:
 - 2 representative.
 - 7 other water quality.
 - 2 flow.

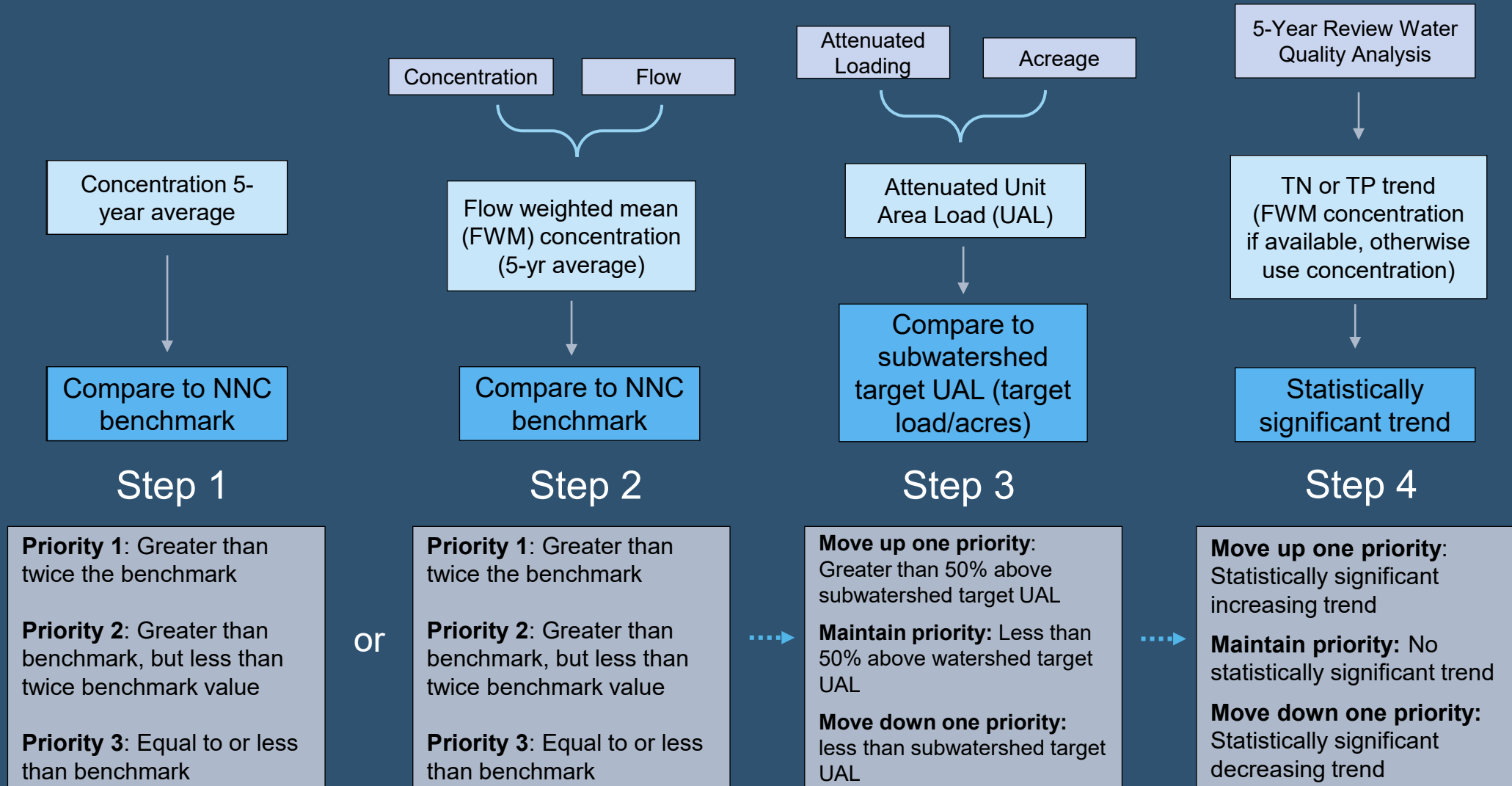






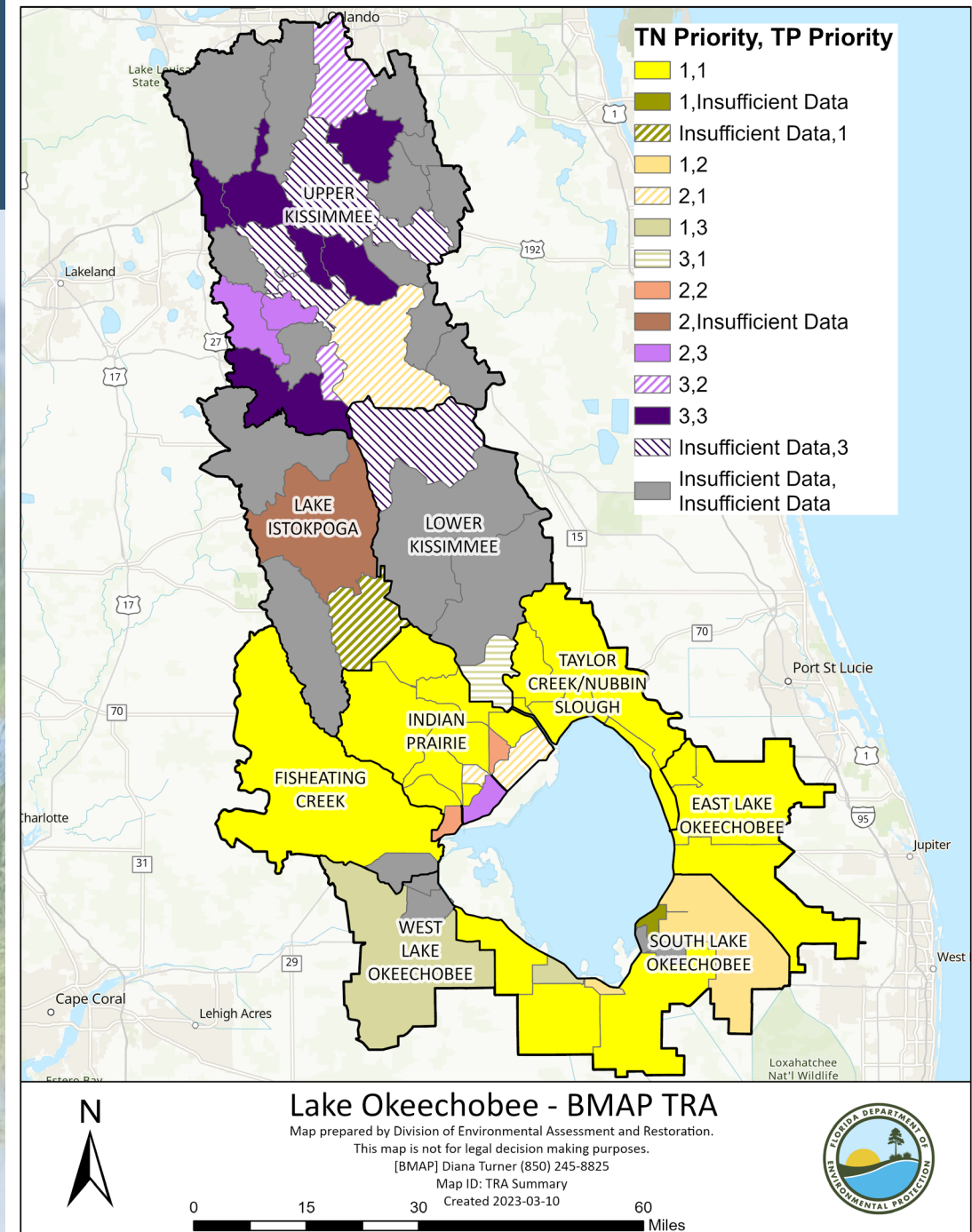
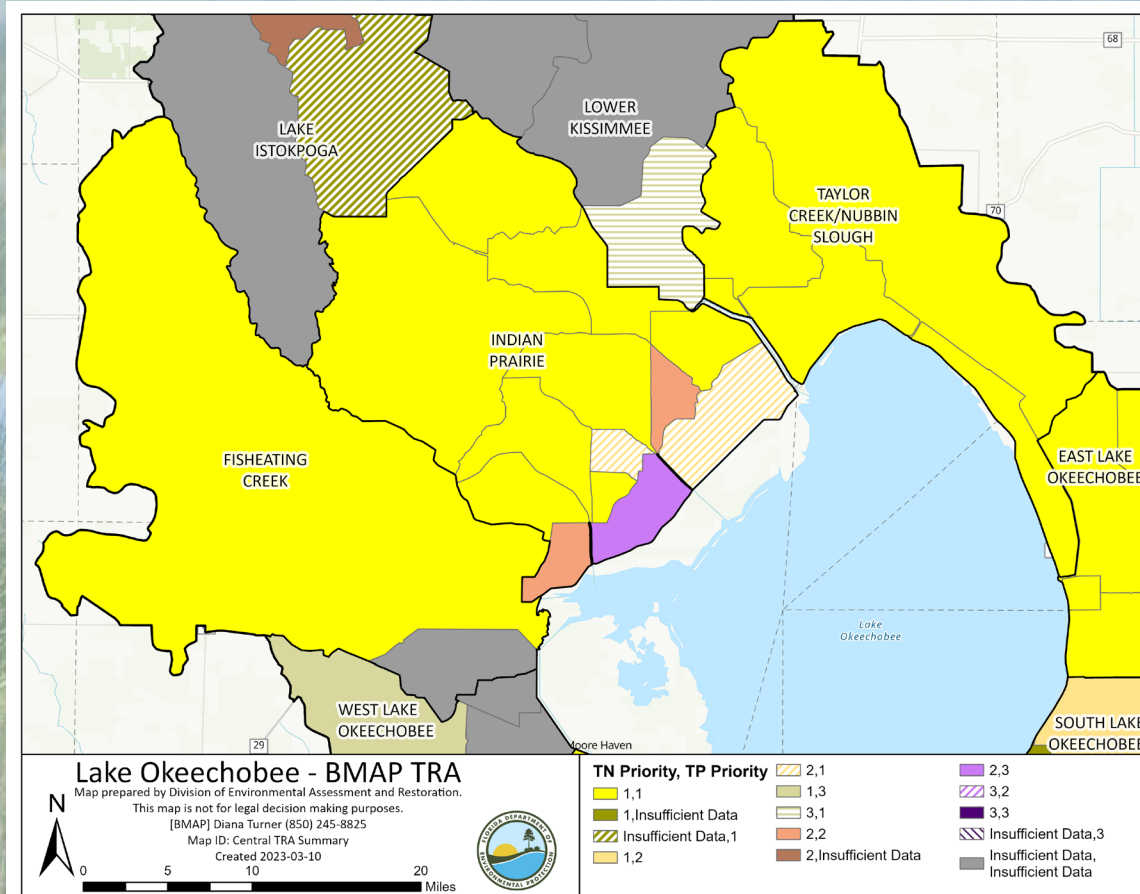
TRA Evaluation Update

Approach





TRA Evaluation Update Results





Subwatershed Goals

Targets Summary

Subwatershed	WY2014– WY2018 TP Load (mt/yr)	% Contribution of Load	TP Load Required Reduction (mt/yr)	TP Target (mt/yr)	WY2018– WY2022 TP Load (mt/yr)	% Contribution of Load	TP Load Required Reduction (mt/yr)	TP Target (mt/yr)
Fisheating Creek	72.4	12	59.7	12.7	51.1	10	40.3	10.8
Indian Prairie	102.5	17	84.5	18.0	71.0	14	56.0	15.0
Lake Istokpoga	47.7	8	39.3	8.4	38.9	8	30.7	8.2
Lower Kissimmee	125.9	21	103.8	22.1	118.3	24	93.3	25.0
Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough	113.6	19	93.7	19.9	88.9	18	70.1	18.8
Upper Kissimmee	90.5	15	74.6	15.9	83.5	17	65.8	17.7
East Lake Okeechobee	16.8	3	13.9	2.9	23.3	5	18.4	4.9
South Lake Okeechobee	29.0	5	23.9	5.1	21.0	4	16.6	4.4
West Lake Okeechobee	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
Total	598.4	100	493.4	105.0	496.0	100	391.0	105.0



Subwatershed Goals

Progress **Preliminary*

Subwatershed	TP Load Required Reduction (mt/yr)	TP Reduction Through December 31, 2022 (mt/yr)	TP Reductions Achieved Through December 31, 2022 (%)
Fisheating Creek	40.3	15.4	38%
Indian Prairie	56.0	22.7	41%
Lake Istokpoga	30.7	2.7	9%
Lower Kissimmee	93.3	13.2	14%
Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough	70.1	32.3	46%
Upper Kissimmee	65.8	18.4	28%
East Lake Okeechobee	18.4	2.3	13%
South Lake Okeechobee	16.6	3.0	18%
West Lake Okeechobee	0.0	0.6	100%
Total	391.0	110.6	28%



Status of Projects

Through December 31, 2022 **Preliminary*

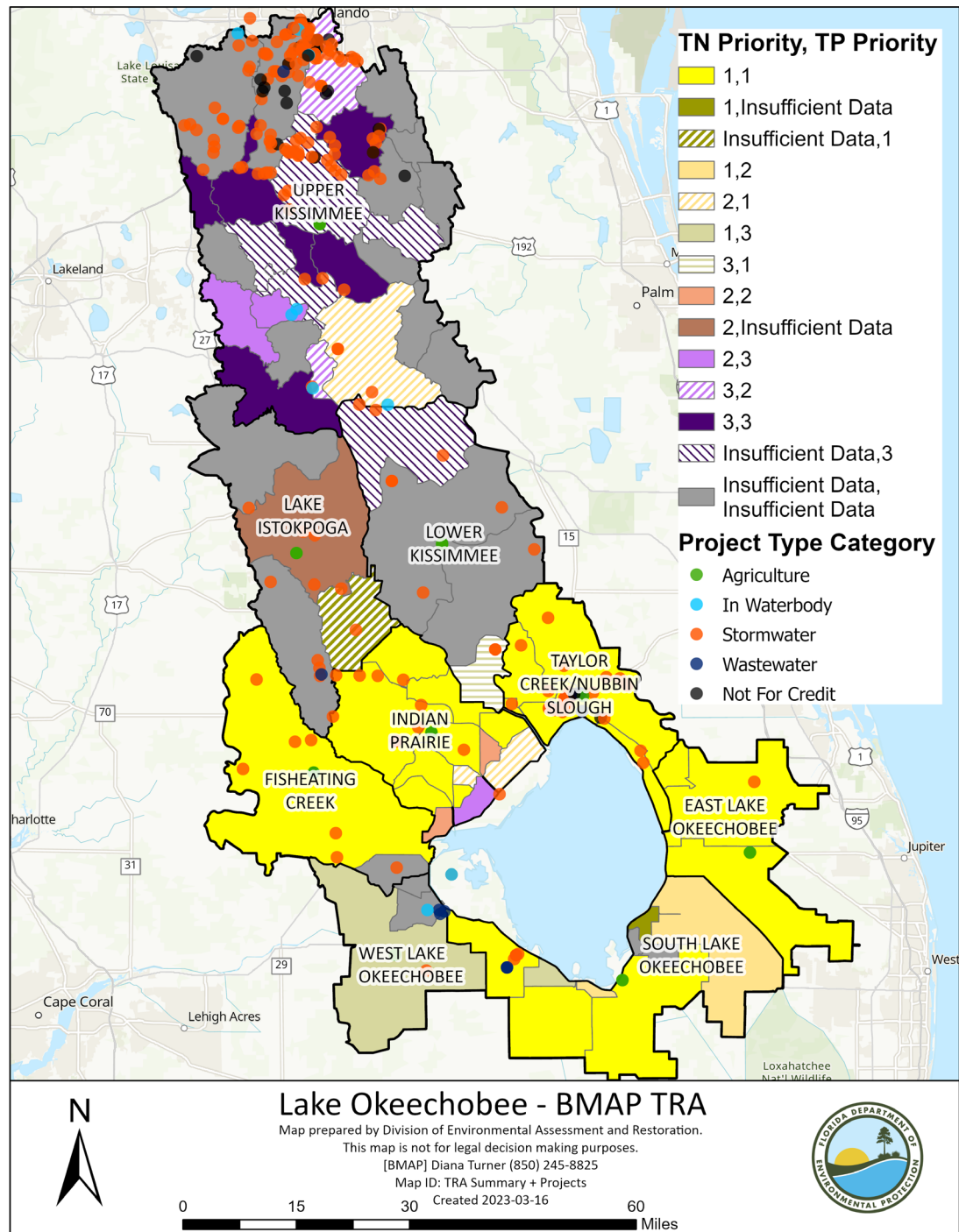
Lead Entity	Canceled	Completed	Ongoing	Planned	Underway	Grand Total
Avon Park Air Force Range	-	1	-	-	-	1
City of Avon Park	-	2	1	-	-	3
City of Clewiston	-	1	3	-	1	5
City of Edgewood	-	-	3	-	-	3
City of Kissimmee	-	5	2	2	-	9
City of Moore Haven	-	1	-	1	-	2
City of Okeechobee	-	2	3	1	2	8
City of Orlando	1	7	10	1	-	19
City of Sebring	-	1	1	-	-	2
Coordinating Agency	1		-	-	-	1
FDACS	-	11	18	4	1	34
FDOT	-	37	13	-	2	52
Glades County	-	3	2	-	3	8
Hendry County	-	-	-	2	1	3
Highlands County	-	3	4	-	-	7
Istokpoga Marsh Watershed Improvement District	-	1	-	-	1	2



Status of Projects

Through December 31, 2022 **Preliminary*

Lead Entity	Canceled	Completed	Ongoing	Planned	Underway	Grand Total
Martin County	-	-	-	-	1	1
Okeechobee County	-	8	-	-	-	8
Okeechobee Utility Authority	-	-	-	1	2	3
Orange County	3	59	7	1	16	86
Osceola County	-	30	3	2	-	35
Polk County	-	1	3	-	-	4
Reedy Creek Improvement District	-	-	3	-	-	3
SFWMD	-	30	-	7	1	38
Spring Lake Improvement District	1	1	-	-	-	2
Town of Lake Placid	-	-	-	-	1	1
Town of Windermere	-	1	-	-	-	1
Valencia WCD	-	1	1	-	-	2
Grand Total	6	206	77	22	32	343







STAR

Statewide Annual Report

What is it and where can you find it?

How was the data collected?

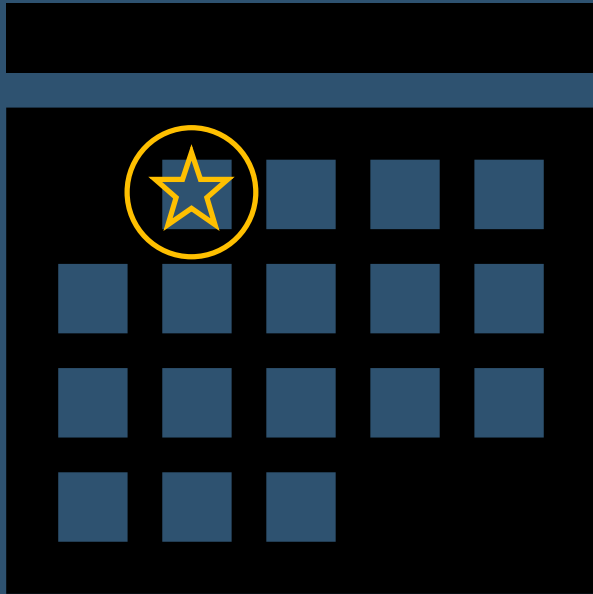
***What does it report for the Lake Okeechobee
BMAP?***



STAR

Statewide Annual Report

**Report is submitted
by July 1, 2023**



<https://floridadep.gov/STAR>

- What's in the STAR?
 - Summarizes accomplishments in the BMAPs statewide.
 - Reports on restoration projects and management strategies.
- STAR is getting a digital makeover!
 - Improvements to report display.
 - Data download available.



STAR BMAP Project Portal Implementation

**DEP BUSINESS PORTAL**

DEAR RESTORATION PROJECT COLLECTION PORTAL
Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration

Workflow ▾ Data Services ▾ Module Administration ▾ Source Tables ▾

Welcome, **Nicole Morgan** [Roles : Coordinator]
Your Session will time out in **060** minutes. [Sign Out](#)

Project Workbook

Home » Workflow » Project Workbook

Search Criteria

BMAP ID:

None selected ▾

Lead Entity:

None selected ▾

Partners:

Project ID:

Project Status:

None selected ▾

Project Type Category:

None selected ▾

Project Type:

None selected ▾

Estimated Start Date:

Estimated Completion Date:

Crediting Location:

None selected ▾

Project Number:

Project Name:

Project Description:

STAR Year:

None selected ▾

Review Stage:

None selected ▾

Funding Source:

DEP Contract Agreement Number:

WMD Contract Agreement Number:

Search

Reset

Updates Complete? ⓘ

Lead Entity:*

Please select ▾

BMAP ID:*

None selected ▾

Notify Coordinator

Clicking this button certifies by the entity that ALL project updates through this reporting period (ending December 31st) are complete. This means: all updates to be processed for this reporting period have been submitted for coordinator review; the entity has reviewed ongoing status projects; and/or the entity assures that no changes are necessary to existing projects which are not submitted for coordinator review.

Exports

Export All Projects

Export Selected Projects

Most recent edits are always included in the export results. Select additional options below to add them to the export.

☐

 Include archive search (history of changes). Dataset size will be large. We recommend limiting the number projects for this export.

Search Results

Move to Next Review Stage

Create New Project

Create Duplicate Project

Column width can be adjusted with a tool that will appear if you hover over a column line in the table heading. Sorting arrows will appear in most columns if the column width is expanded.

Project Workbooks List

☐	User Action Icons	Review Stage ▴ ▾	STAR Year ▴ ▾	Saved But Not Submitted ▴ ▾	BMAP ID ▴ ▾	Project ID ▴ ▾	Lead Entity ▴ ▾	Project Number ▴ ▾	Project Name ▴ ▾	Project Type Category	Project Type ▴ ▾	Project Status ▴ ▾	Estimated Completion Date
		x	x	x	STLU x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x



STAR

BMAP Project Portal Implementation

Timeliness

Portal kept everyone on same timeline, which keeps us on time.

Consistency

Real-time error messages allowed for more accurate information to be entered for projects.

Guided Data Entry

Drop-down menus allow for consistent categories and required information limits data gaps.

**First year for
all reporting
stakeholders
to use the
portal.**



Program Debugging

Development errors took more time fixing than anticipated.

Communication

Coordinators needed to do more outreach to ensure stakeholder participation.



STAR

Lake Okeechobee Story Map

<https://fdep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=ac355a2b17224f7baae353bfa234cbac>

Lake Okeechobee Basin Management Action Plan



Introduction

Overview

Location

Monitoring

Projects

Progress

Contacts & More Information



Photo: [SFWMR](#)

For more information on the Lake Okeechobee BMAP, please contact:

Diana Turner

Voice: 850-245-8825

e-mail Diana.M.Turner@FloridaDEP.gov

Data Downloads

[Subwatersheds](#)

[BMAP Boundaries](#)





What's Next for the BMAP?

Upcoming 5-Year Review and update to include:

- Evaluating milestones,
- Evaluating monitoring network,
- Evaluating model needs,
- Conducting more detailed trend analysis,
- Developing hotspot analysis,
- Identifying additional projects,
- Adding onsite sewage treatment and disposal system (OSTDS) provisions, and
- Adding Clean Waterways Act requirements.



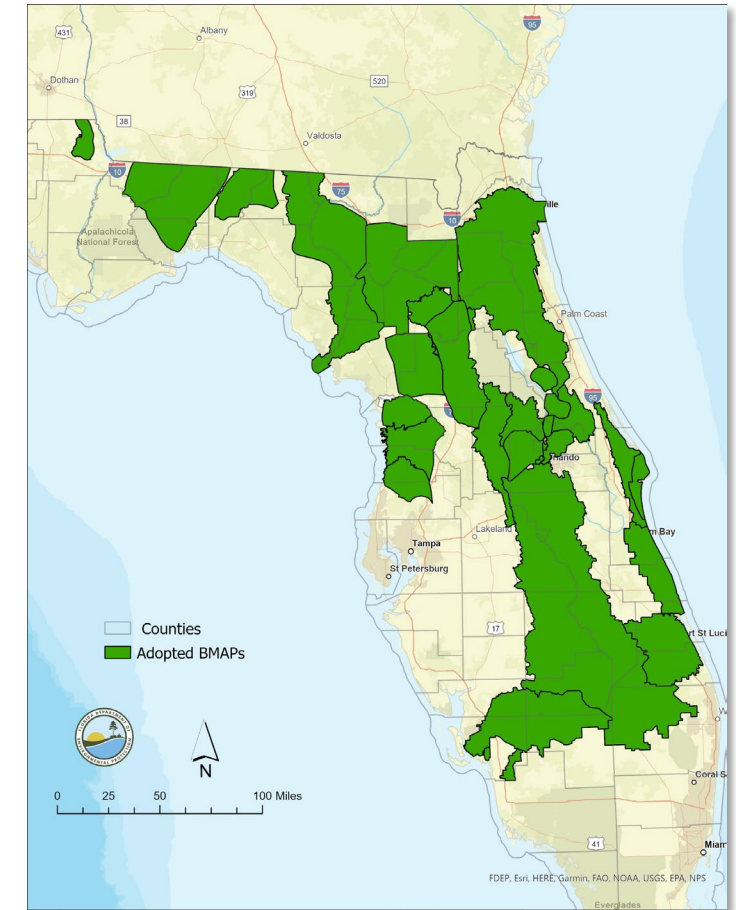


Clean Waterways Act Requirements

Wastewater Treatment Plans

- Inventory of wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs) within jurisdiction of local governments.
- Summary of each facility's current status, which may include:
 - Permitted capacity,
 - Average discharge,
 - Permitted nutrient limits,
 - Average nutrient concentration, and
 - Estimated average nutrient load.
- Summary of capacity analysis for each facility:
 - Including plans for future growth.
- Ranking or list of facility upgrades needed to meet requirements.
- Timelines/milestones for all projects.
- Funding estimates for all projects.

Nutrient BMAPs



Update to BMAP adopted by
July 1, 2025.

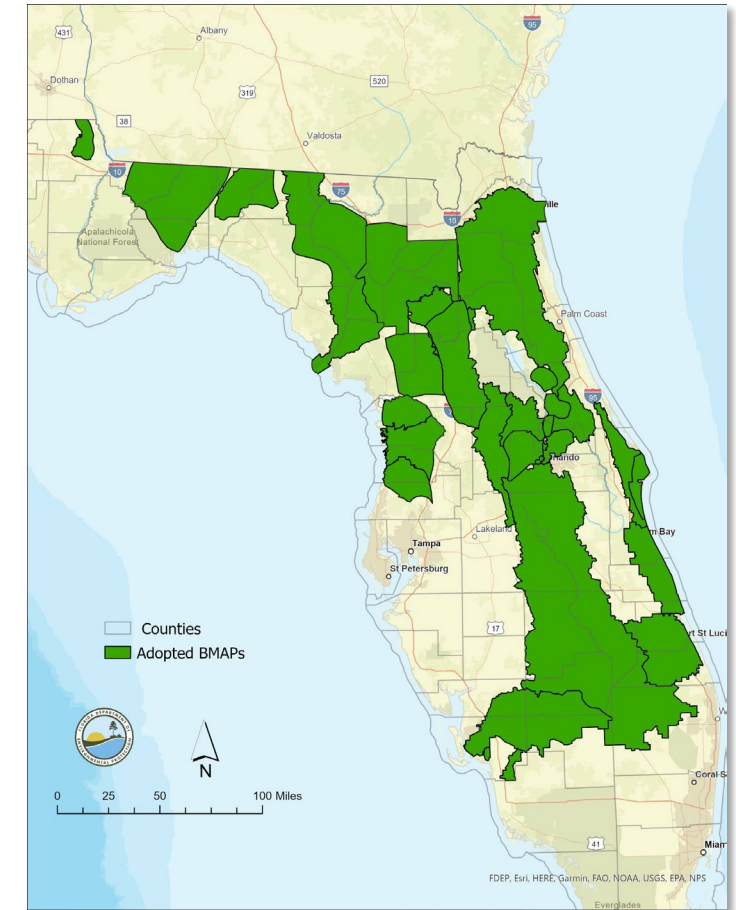


Clean Waterways Act Requirements

OSTDS Remediation Plans

- Inventory of OSTDS within jurisdiction of local governments.
- Plan to address OSTDS in the future:
 - Areas for sewerage and/or enhancements and prioritization of those areas.
 - Summary of capacity analysis for wastewater facilities that would accept newly sewerage areas.
 - Timelines/milestones for projects.
 - Funding estimates for all projects.
 - Future growth considerations.

Nutrient BMAPs



Update to BMAP adopted by
July 1, 2025.



Lake Okeechobee BMAP Annual Meeting

March 28, 2023

Jennifer Thera

**Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Office of Agricultural Water Policy**



Overview

- Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP)
- FDACS Role in BMP Implementation
- Enrollments within the Lake Okeechobee Basin
 - Unenrolled Agricultural Lands Classification
- BMP Implementation Verification (IVs)
- Producer Outreach
- Legislative Report



Office of Agricultural Water Policy (OAWP) Staff Update

- **N. West Gregory**; Director West.Gregory@fdacs.gov
- **Bret Prater**; Asst. Director Bret.Prater@fdacs.gov
- **Angela Chelette**; Chief of Policy Planning and Coordination (PPC) Section Angela.Chelette@fdacs.gov
- **Yesenia Escibano**; Environmental Administrator-BMAPs Yesenia.Escibano@fdacs.gov
- **Jennifer Thera**; Environmental Consultant-NEEPP & Everglades West Coast BMAPS Jennifer.Thera@fdacs.gov



Agricultural Best Management Practices

- Management strategies, tools and practices that improve water quality, conserve water, enhance soil health and protect water resources
- Based on the best available science and technology
 - Work closely with FDEP staff
- Must balance production and water resource protection



Benefits of Agricultural Best Management Practices

- Increase efficiencies in nutrient, irrigation and water management
- Conservation and protection of water and environmental resources
- Improve soil health
- Promote groundwater recharge
- Enhance wildlife habitat

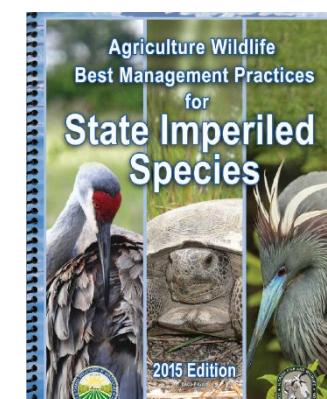
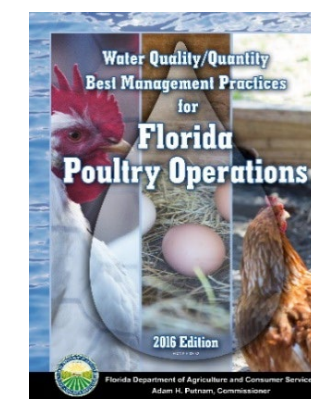
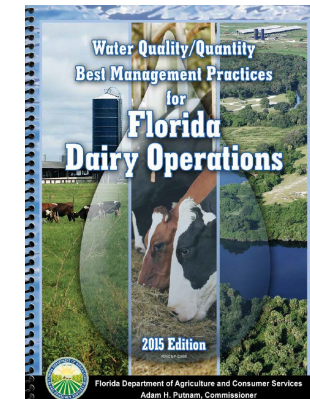
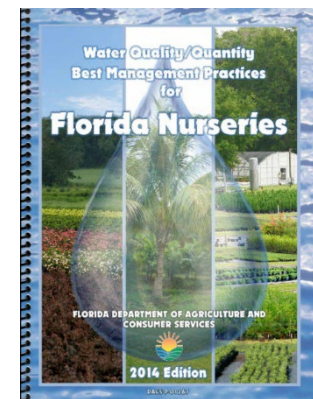
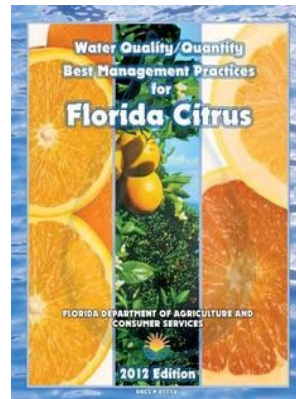
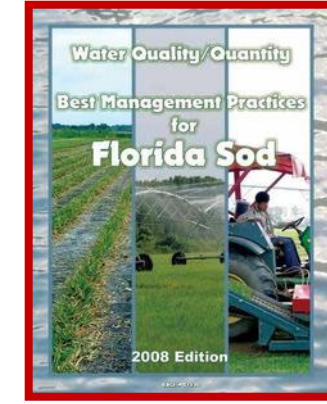
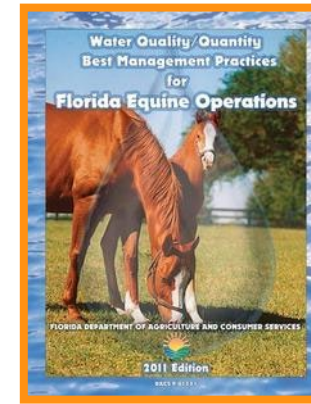
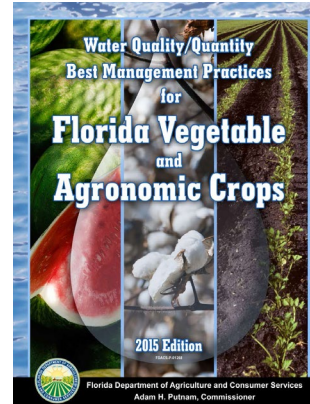
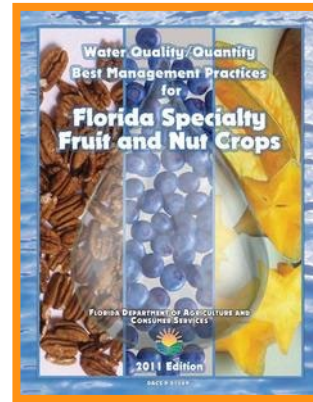
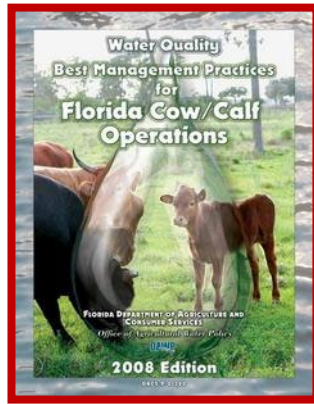


FDACS Role in BMP Implementation

- Develop BMPs in Manuals and adopt BMPs by Rule
- Assist Producers with BMP Enrollment
- Identify and support targeted cost-share of select BMPs
- Fund research to develop new, innovative BMPs that improve nutrient and irrigation use efficiencies
- Verify proper implementation through site visits and record review



Adopted BMP Manuals



Producer Options in BMAP Areas

1. Sign a Notice of Intent (NOI) and properly implement applicable BMPs for presumption of compliance, OR
2. Follow an FDEP or WMD-prescribed water quality monitoring plan at a Producer's expense



Enrollments within the Lake Okeechobee BMAP

Subwatershed	Total Ag Acres	Enrolled Ag Acres	% Enrolled	Irrigated Acres	Enrolled Irrigated Acres	% Enrolled
East Lake Okeechobee	93,941	78,129	83%	39,812	37,476	94%
Fisheating Creek	212,746	197,195	93%	19,138	17,418	91%
Indian Prairie	230,079	187,249	81%	51,796	42,468	82%
Lake Istokpoga	127,657	102,220	80%	47,723	43,113	90%
Lower Kissimmee	262,496	213,905	81%	22,023	20,937	95%
South Lake Okeechobee	332,379	319,799	96%	321,971	316,709	98%
Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough	148,157	123,069	83%	12,457	11,520	92%
Upper Kissimmee	269,812	195,088	72%	41,751	35,064	84%
West Lake Okeechobee	150,115	134,015	89%	85,084	78,327	92%



BMP enrollment as of Dec 2022 and the 9th Florida Statewide Agricultural Irrigation Demand ([FSAID](#)) Geodatabase

Agricultural Acres Enrolled within Lake Okeechobee BMAP

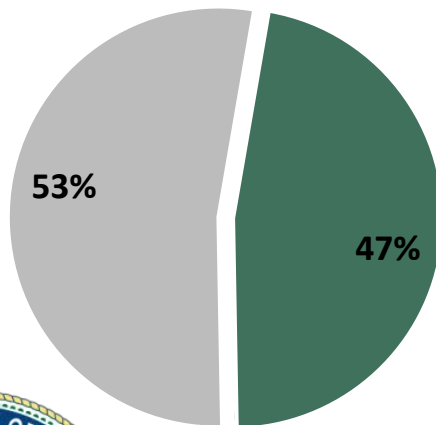
BMP Manual	Acres
Citrus	103,339
Conservation Plan	160,292
Cow/Calf	532,185
Dairy	1,382
Equine	470
Fruit/Nut	996
LOPP	1,911
Multiple Commodities	332,507
Nursery	3,660
Poultry	135
Row/Field Crop	403,273
Sod	10,532
Total	1,550,683



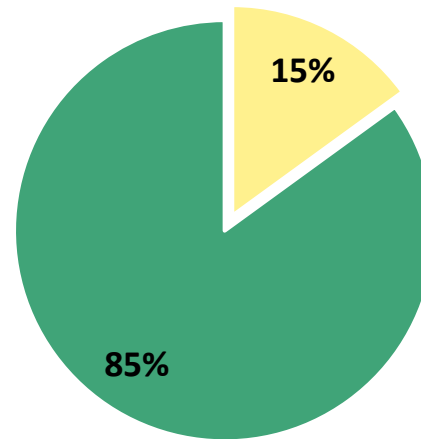
Agricultural Lands within Lake Okeechobee BMAP

Non-Agricultural Acres	Agricultural Acres	Enrolled Agricultural Acres	Remaining Agricultural Acres	Unlikely Enrollable Acres	Potentially Enrollable Acres
2,070,753	1,827,425	1,550,683	276,594*	72,667	119,563

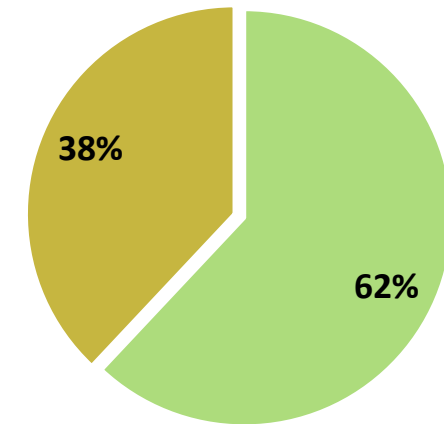
Non-Ag Acres vs.
Ag Acres



Enrolled Ag Acres vs.
Remaining Ag Acres



Unlikely Enrollable Acres
vs. Potentially Enrollable
Acres



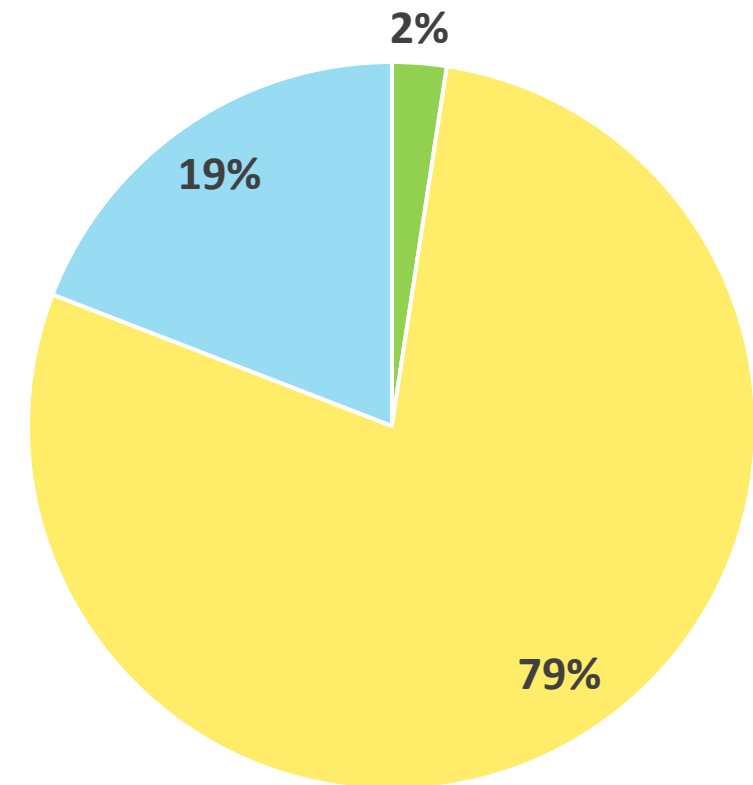
*This value includes ~84,000 acreages within state-owned properties and/or surface water project areas that are not included in the 'unlikely enrollable' or 'potentially enrollable' acres categories

Unlikely Enrollable Agricultural Lands within Lake Okeechobee BMAP

Category	Acres
State Lands, Surface Water Projects	96,903
Timberland and Aquaculture	1,756
Not Agriculture [e.g., DOR Use Code 70-99 (industrial or institutional use, acreage not zoned agricultural), Non-Ag Entity]	57,015
Not Enrollable [e.g., Missing Parcel Information, Slivers, Tribal Lands]	13,895

Unlikely Enrollable Acres: **72,667**

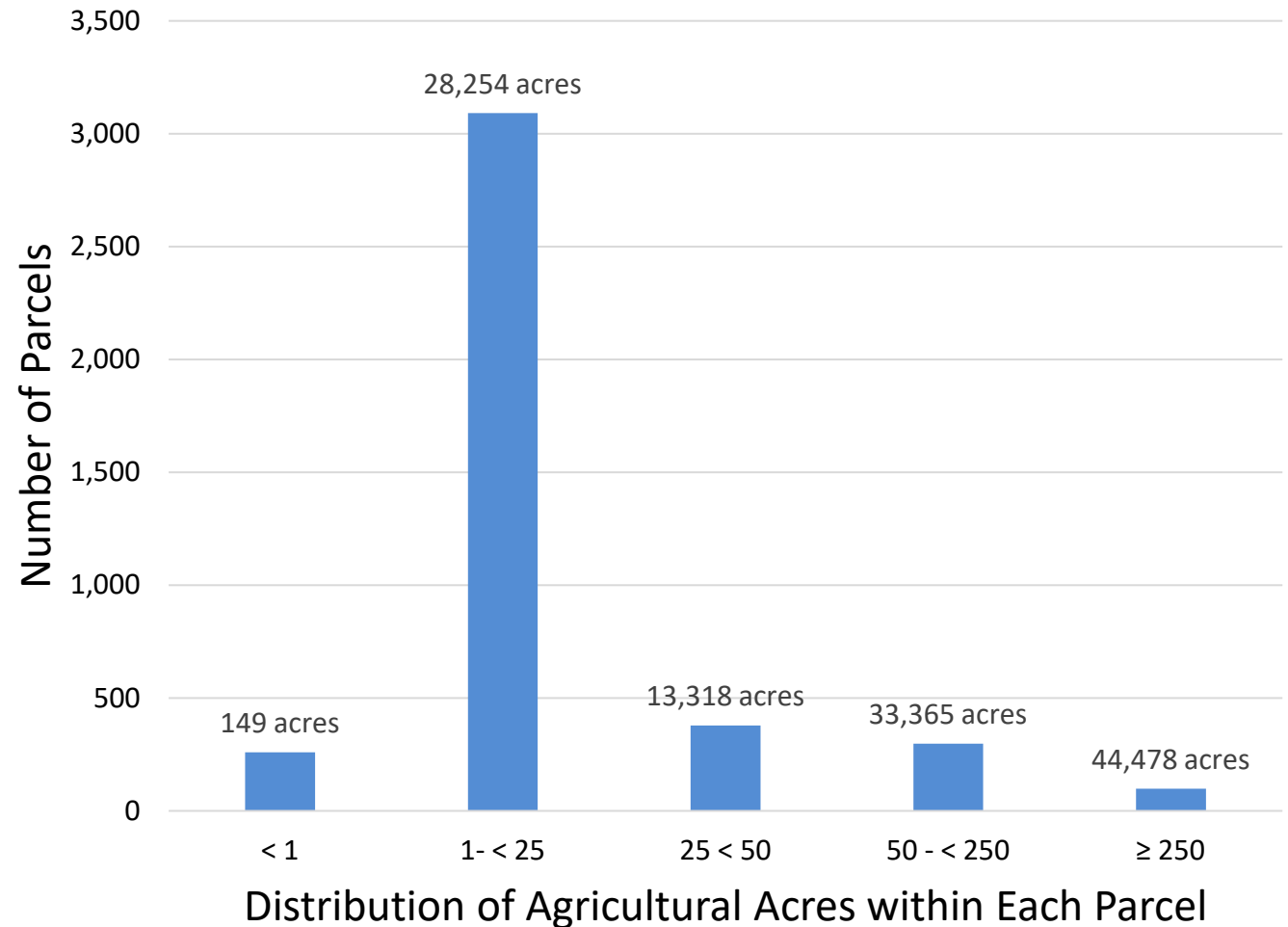
Remaining Acreage: Unlikely Ag Breakdown



Potentially Enrollable Agricultural Lands within Lake Okeechobee BMAP

Ag Acres within Parcel	Parcel Count	Total Ag Acres
< 1	259	149
1 - < 25	3,091	28,254
25 - < 50	378	13,318
50 - < 250	298	33,365
≥ 250	99	44,478

Potentially Enrollable Acres: 119,563



BMP Implementation Verification (IV)

- Process to verify the status of implementation of BMPs
- **Clean Waterways Act - SB 712 (July 2020)**
 - Requires IV site visits every 2 years
 - 95% completed
 - Requires collection, review, and retention of N and P fertilizer records
 - Nutrient Application Record Form (NARF)
 - FDACS reports total N and P applications to FDEP for utilization in BMAP assessments

** IVs completed as of Dec 31, 2022



Producer Outreach: Coming Soon....

- BMP Program Videos

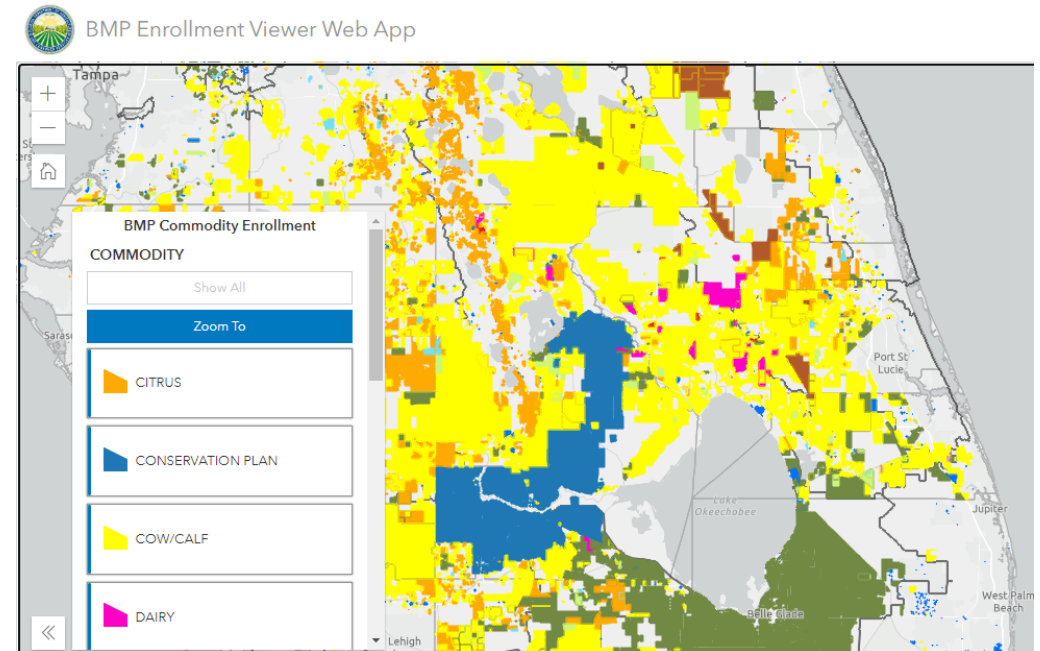
[Agricultural Water Policy - About BMPs – YouTube](#)



- New Online Features

- Are you in a BMAP?

- BMP Enrollment Viewer Web App



[Agricultural Best Management Practices / Water / Agriculture Industry / Home - Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services \(fdacs.gov\)](#)

2022 FDACS Legislative Report

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of Agricultural Water Policy



Status of Implementation of Agricultural Nonpoint Source Best Management Practices

July 1, 2022

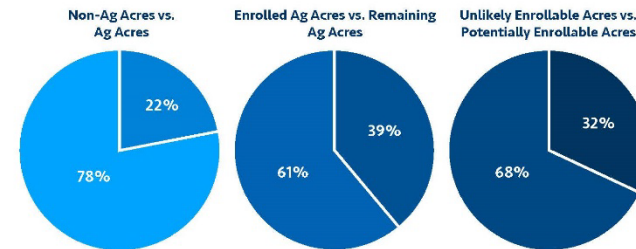
Report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House
Pursuant to Section 403.0675(2), F.S.

Publication No: FDACS-P-01924 Rev. 07/22



Status of Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) Statewide

Non-Agricultural Acres	Agricultural Acres	Enrolled Agricultural Acres	Remaining Agricultural Acres*	Unlikely Enrollable Acres	Potentially Enrollable Acres
26,723,359	7,596,641	4,628,627	2,968,014	884,291	1,851,559



Enrollment and IV Site Summary	2021	2021 Percent Enrolled
Total agricultural acres in the state	7,596,641	61%
Total agricultural acres enrolled	4,628,627	
Total irrigated acres	1,862,717	82%
Total irrigated acres enrolled	1,526,689	
Number of NOIs statewide	13,269	
Completed IV site visits	3,938	

Potentially Enrollable Parcel Distribution by Agricultural Acreage

Agricultural Acres Within Parcel	Number of Parcels	Total Agricultural Acres
< 1	2,984	1,610
1 - 25	52,005	468,885
25 - < 50	8,580	298,416
50 - < 250	6,187	596,906
≥ 250	971	485,742
TOTAL	70,727	1,851,559

Agricultural Acres Enrolled

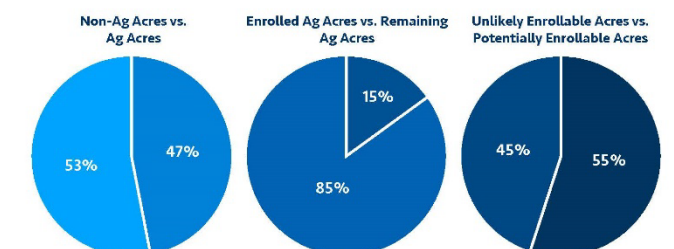
BMP Manuals	Acres
Citrus	445,006
Conservation Plan	132,280
Cow/Calf	1,634,597
Dairy	13,227
Equine	20,071
Fruit & Nut	16,615
Lake Okeechobee PP	2,476
Multiple Commodities	1,172,097
Nursery	32,246
Poultry	1,024
Row/Field Crops	1,010,521
Sod	26,321
Wildlife	13,346
TOTAL	4,628,627

* This value includes acres within state-owned properties and/or surface water project areas that are not included in the 'unlikely enrollable' or 'potentially enrollable' acres categories.

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Status of Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) Lake Okeechobee BMAP

Non-Agricultural Acres	Agricultural Acres	Enrolled Agricultural Acres	Remaining Agricultural Acres*	Unlikely Enrollable Acres	Potentially Enrollable Acres
2,063,396	1,834,800	1,561,494	273,306	44,818	55,054



Enrollment and IV Site Summary	2021	2021 Percent Enrolled
Total agricultural acres in the BMAP	1,834,800	85%
Total agricultural acres enrolled	1,561,494	
Total irrigated acres	666,699	94%
Total irrigated acres enrolled	626,503	
Number of NOIs within BMAP	2,489	
Completed IV site visits	1,271	

Potentially Enrollable Parcel Distribution by Agricultural Acreage

Agricultural Acres Within Parcel	Number of Parcels	Total Agricultural Acres
< 1	160	91
1 - 25	1,341	12,199
25 - < 50	171	6,113
50 - < 250	184	19,912
≥ 250	40	16,738
TOTAL	1,896	55,054

Agricultural Acres Enrolled

BMP Manuals	Acres
Citrus	109,967
Conservation Plan	160,185
Cow/Calf	526,398
Dairy	1,382
Equine	428
Fruit/Nut	874
LOPP	2,473
Multiple Commodities	340,044
Nursery	3,429
Poultry	135
Row/Field Crop	402,413
Sod	13,566
TOTAL	1,561,494

* This value includes acres within state-owned properties and/or surface water project areas that are not included in the 'unlikely enrollable' or 'potentially enrollable' acres categories.

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<https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Water-Policy>

Thank You!

<http://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Water-Policy>

Jennifer Thera, Environmental Consultant
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Unenrolled Agricultural Producer Enforcement

David Frady, Ph.D.
Program Administrator

Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

March 28, 2023



Clean Waterways Act Requirements

- The Clean Waterways Act (Senate Bill 712) was signed into law by Governor DeSantis in 2020.
 - The law requires a wide range of water quality protection provisions aimed at minimizing impacts from known nutrient pollution sources.
 - Agricultural landowners and producers within a BMAP must enroll in one of two programs:
 - FDACS Best Management Practices (BMP) program.
 - Water Quality Monitoring approved by DEP.
 - The law also requires FDACS to:
 - Conduct on-site implementation verification (IV) site visits on properties enrolled in the BMP program every two years.
 - Collect fertilizer data via the Nutrient Application Record Form (NARF).
 - **Identify agricultural parcels within a BMAP that are out of compliance and refer them to DEP for enforcement.**



Enforcement Process

FDACS
Identifies non-
compliant
producers

- FDACS uses various database to identify parcels within a BMAP that may be agricultural operations.

FDACS refers
non-compliant
producers to
FDEP for
enforcement

- After confirming agricultural activity and attempting to enroll the producer in the BMP program, FDACS refers non-compliant producers to DEP for enforcement.

DEP conducts
outreach and
engagement to
bring producers
into compliance

- It saves taxpayers money and is better for the environment to bring producers into compliance quickly through education and outreach efforts prior to taking formal enforcement action against small farmers.

DEP Initiates
enforcement
action

- If an agricultural producer fails to come into compliance, DEP initiates a civil suit to compel them to come into compliance.
- DEP is prioritizing enforcement actions based on parcel size and impact to the environment.



Success in Outreach and Engagement Efforts

- DEP takes immediate action when a producer is referred for enforcement.
 - More than **96%** of the unenrolled agricultural parcels identified by FDACS and referred to DEP have been brought into compliance.
- There are no parcels greater than 100 acres out of compliance and the majority are smaller than 10 acres.
- DEP is engaged in an ongoing campaign to educate landowners of their requirements and bring them into compliance quickly through additional outreach and on-site visits.



THANK YOU

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and Restoration

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THANK YOU

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