Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

Tuesday, January 25, 2011
12:30 PM
Reed Hall

Dean Cannon
Speaker

Steve Crisafulli
Chair

AGENDA

Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee
January 25, 2011
12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Reed Hall

I. Chair Opening Remarks

II. Presentation by the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) on the role IFAS plays with respect to agriculture and citrus in Florida

III. Agriculture in Florida – Challenges and Opportunities

- Presentation the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Presentations by private stakeholders within the agriculture and citrus industries
    - Danny Johns, Blue Sky Farms
    - Halsey Beshears, Simpson Nursery
    - Mike Sparks, Florida Citrus Mutual, and Vic Story, Story Companies
    - Wilton Simpson, Simpson Egg Farm
    - Billy Kempfer, Kempfer Cattle Company
    - Eric Jacobsen, General Manager, Deseret Ranch

IV. Closing Remarks by Chair

V. Adjournment

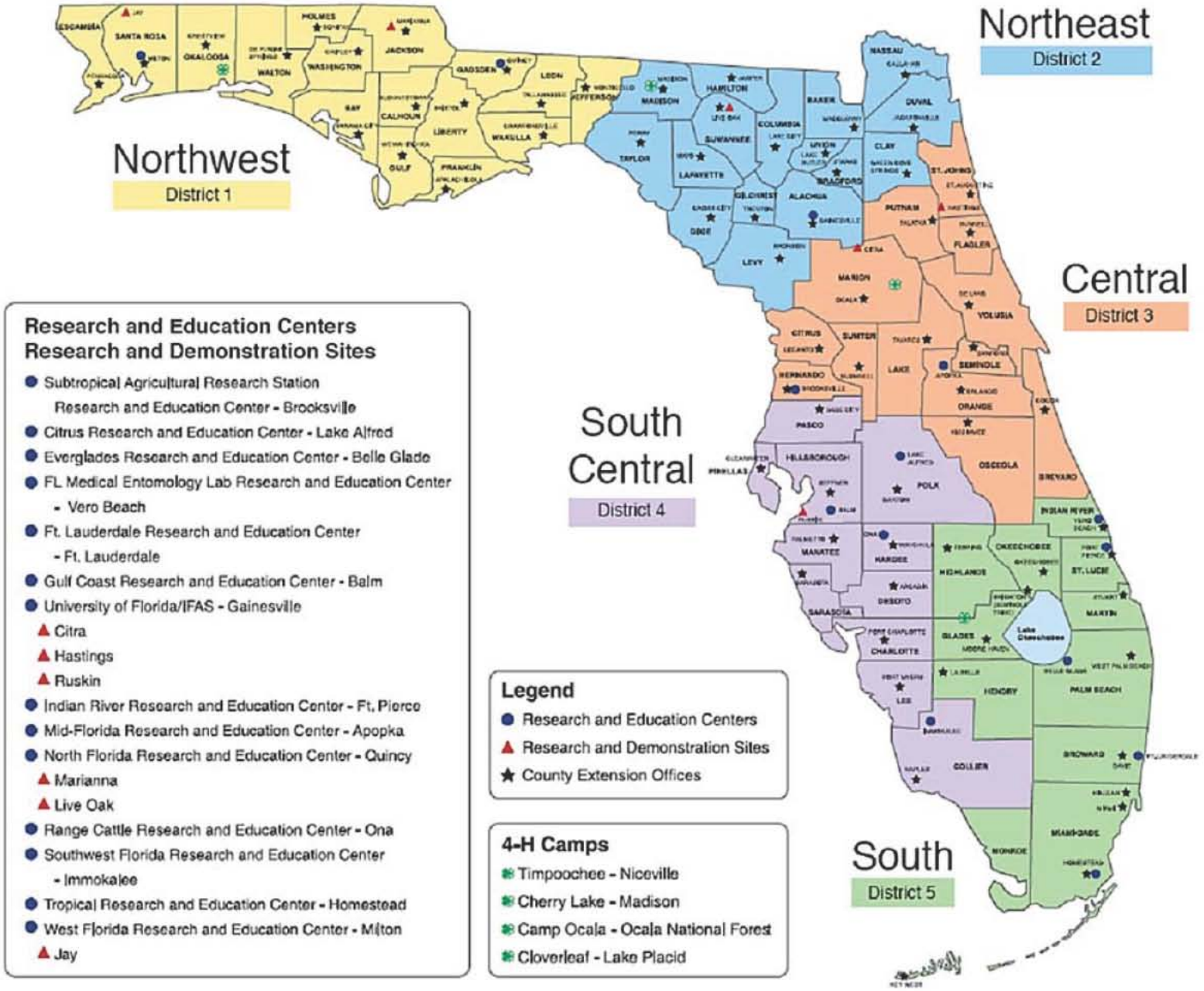
Institute of Food and
Agricultural Sciences

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Solutions for Your Life….

Solutions for All Floridians

Mary Ann Gosa
Director, UF/IFAS Governmental Affairs
House Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee
January 25, 2010


Northwest
District 1
Northeast
District 2
Central
District 3
South Central
District 4
South
District 5
Research and Education Centers
Research and Demonstration Sites
Subtropical Agricultural Research Station
Research and Education Center - Brooksville
Citrus Research and Education Center - Lake Alfred
Everglades Research and Education Center - Belle Glade
FL Medical Entomology Lab Research and Education Center - Vero Beach
Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center - Ft. Lauderdale
Gulf Coast Research and Education Center - Balm
University of Florida/IFAS - Gainesville
Citra
Hastings
Ruskin
Indian River Research and Education Center - Ft. Pierce
Mid-Florida Research and Education Center - Apopka
North Florida Research and Education Center - Quincy
Marianna
Live Oak
Range Cattle Research and Education Center - Ona
Southwest Florida Research and Education Center - Immokalee
Tropical Research and Education Center - Homestead
West Florida Research and Education Center - Milton
Jay
Legend
Research and Education Centers
Research and Demonstration Sites
County Extension Offices
4-H Camps
Timpoochee - Niceville
Cherry Lake - Madison
Camp Ocala - Ocala National Forest
Cloverleaf - Lake Placid

Research

- IFAS is the first line of defense to any threat or challenge to the agriculture and natural resources industries, be it pest, disease, drought, or remaining globally competitive.

- Ranked 1st by the National Science Foundation in agricultural research and development (R&D), IFAS sets a world-class standard for innovative research.

Inventions Boosting Florida's Economy

From 2001-2009

- 214 new cultivars
- 255 new inventions
- 211 patents
- 888 licenses

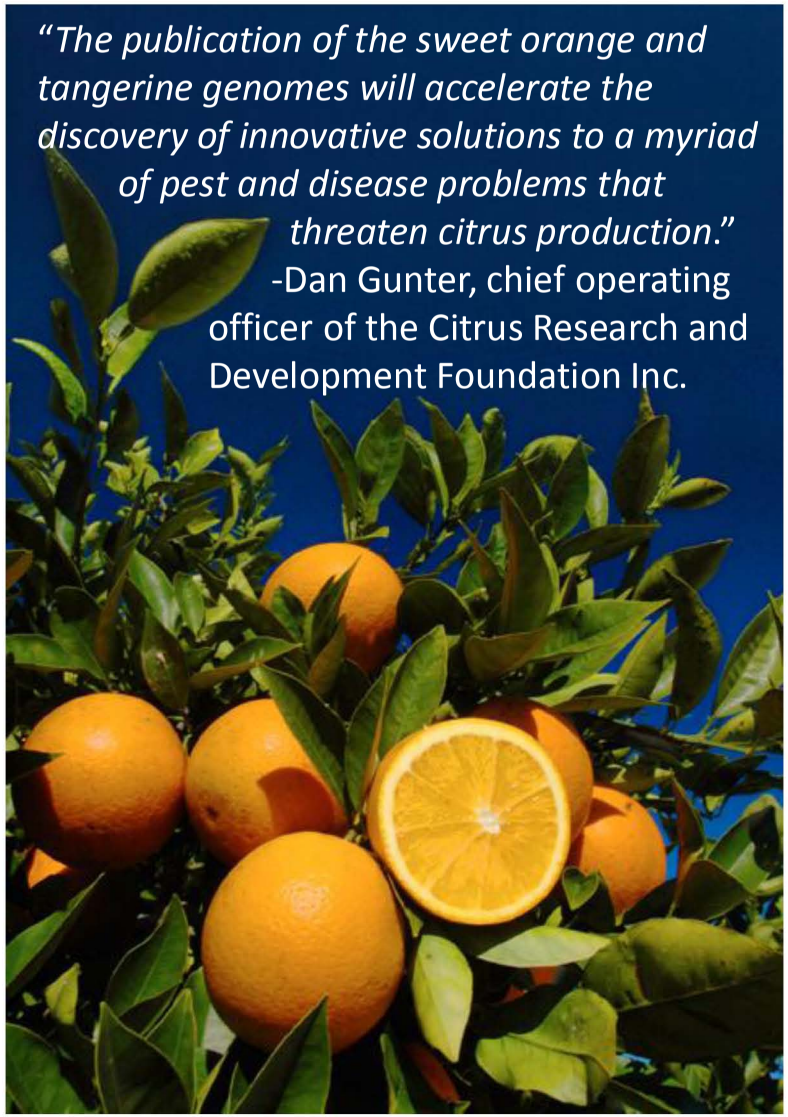
In the past 5 years we have doubled our grant awards.

- 931 research grants awarded from 1,157 proposals

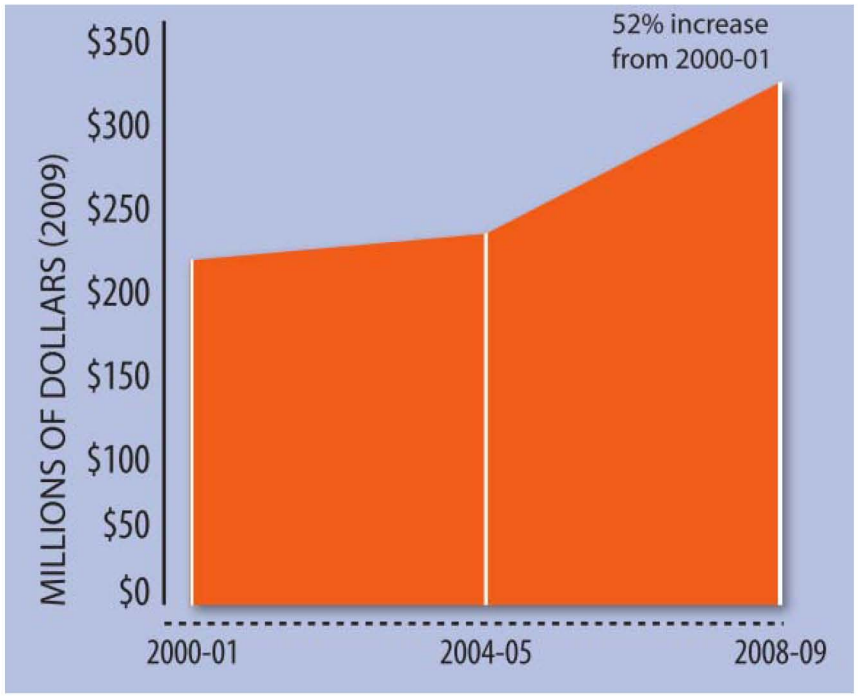
Citrus Greening

- A group of international scientists led by **UF/IFAS** has assembled the genome sequences for two citrus varieties.

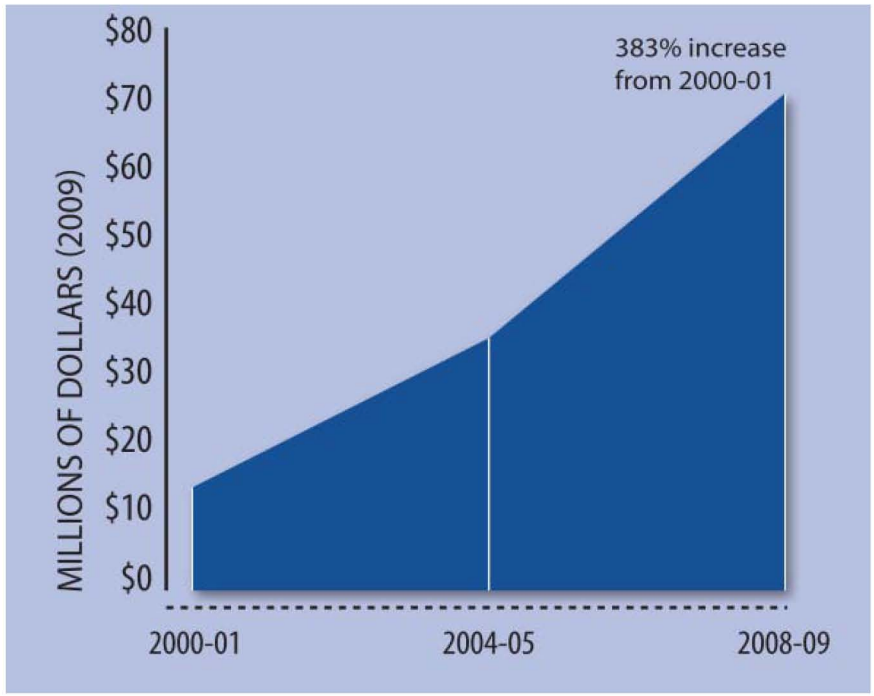
- This breakthrough is expected to help scientists unravel the secrets behind citrus diseases such as greening, a deadly threat to the state's $9 billion citrus industry.



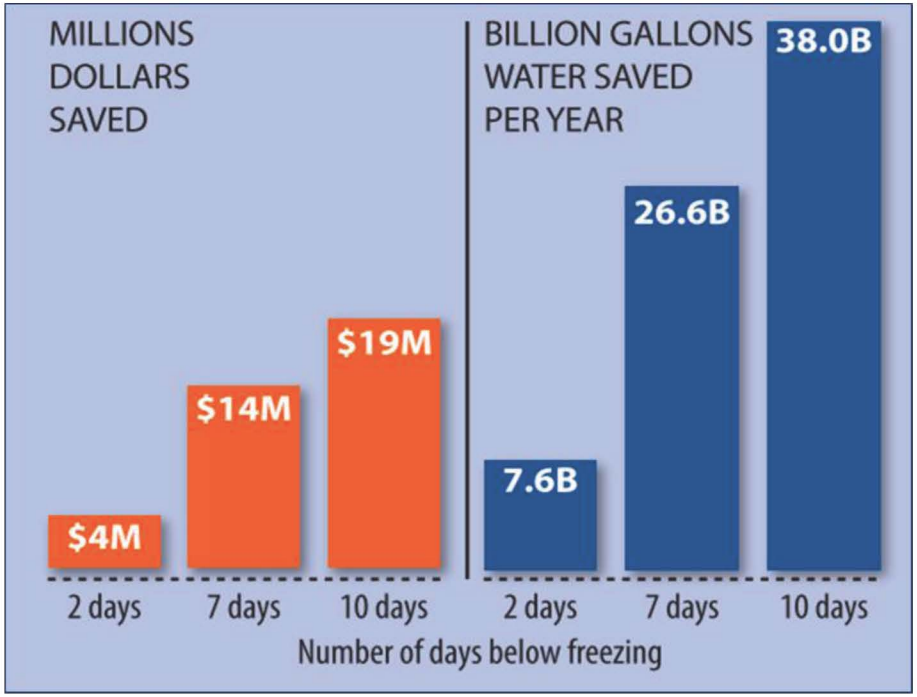
Value of Florida Strawberries, 2000-09



Value of Florida Blueberries, 2000-09



Impacts of Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN)



Florida Automated Weather Network




Bioenergy Feedstocks in Florida


15 million acres of forest land
10 million acres of farm land

- #1 in sugarcane and citrus
- #1 in forest residues
- #1 in urban wood waste
- #2 in vegetables




Space Life Sciences Laboratory

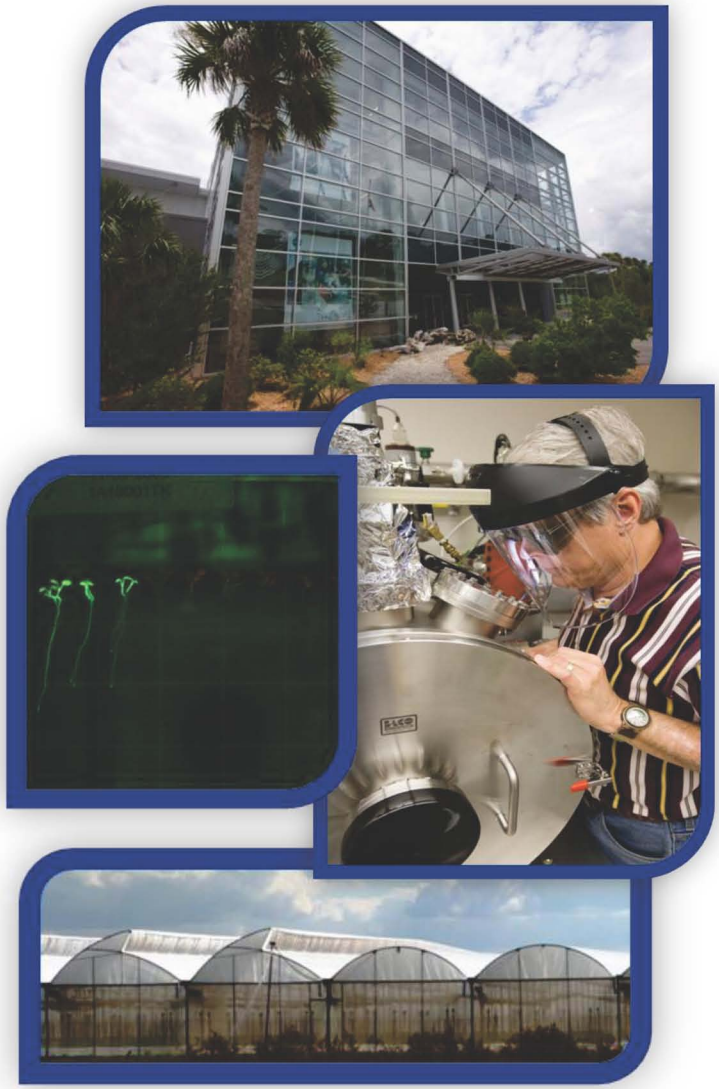
Planetary Analogs and Earth Applications

Exploring and developing analogs on Earth

- Technology for greenhouses that allow plants to grow on the Moon and Mars and that help meet production needs on Earth
- Understanding microbial life on, around and off the Earth, especially associated with agriculture and food production

Applying lessons learned in extreme environments to the home front

- Automation of nutrient delivery environmental conditions
- Remote monitoring of plant health and development
- Maximizing operational efficiency and produce return with limited resources
- Again, to connect the challenge of life support in space, and remote environments to the challenge of urban agriculture



Mission of the Extension System

UF/IFAS Extension is dedicated to developing knowledge in agriculture, human and natural resources, and the life sciences and to making that knowledge accessible to the public.

Areas of Specialty

- Agriculture
- Horticulture—Environmental/Commercial
- Marine and Aquatic Sciences
- Natural Resources
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- 4-H Youth Development
- Community Development and Sustainability

Extension Sea Grant

UF/IFAS extension and Sea Grant agents played a critical role in the after-effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

- Food Safety Task Force
- Ag Communications Task Force
- Damage Assessment Task Force
- Limit misinformation through websites, workshops, flyers, etc.
- Solutions for Your Life, Extension Disaster Education Network
- Explore financial assistance for impacted businesses
- Explore legal issues for oil impacts
- Pre/post assessments of water quality, sediments and biota along gulf coast

Youth Programs

- Florida 4-H creates supportive environments for diverse youth and adults to reach their fullest potential.

- Operation Military Kids: OMK is a program to support the youth of guard and reserve military members. Our mission is to help children with the stress of their parents being deployed through various activities and educational programs.

- Nutrition programs: Research-based information, resources, and tips for families, consumers, and educators; provided by the faculty of the UF/IFAS Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences

take charge of your diabetes

Cooperative Extension
Family Nutrition Program
http://fnp.ifas.ufl.edu
FNP
University of Florida
1-888-FNP-8397

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS)

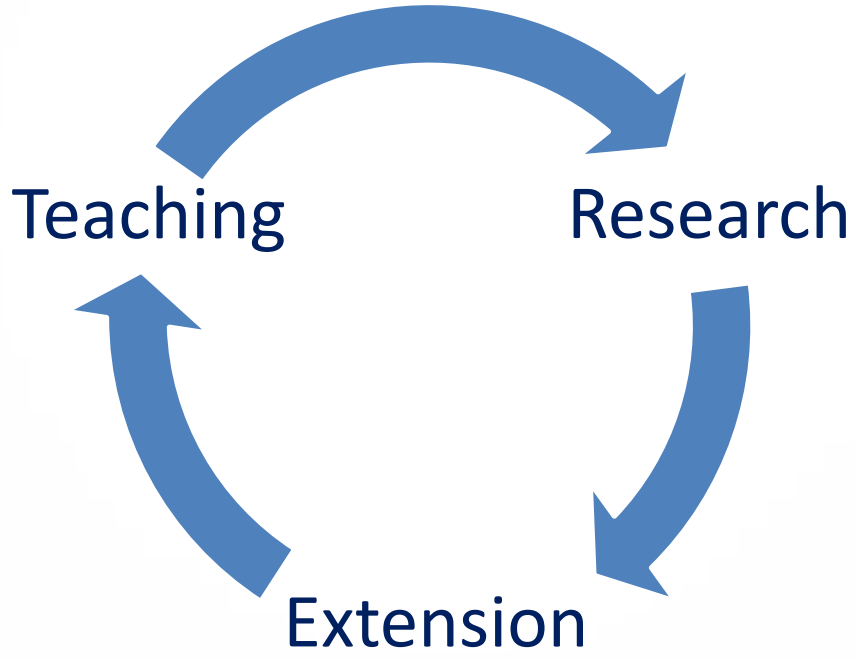
- An educational leader in the areas of food, agriculture, natural resources and life sciences
- Over 5,000 students—2nd in overall graduate enrollment and 1st in PhD in nation among allied colleges
- Tim Tebow, one of our most famous graduates, majored in Family, Youth and Community Sciences

CALS

24 undergraduate majors and 23 graduate majors with more than 50 areas of specialization. Students are offered a variety of majors that lead to diverse job opportunities such as:

- Toxicologist
- Hydrologist
- Agricultural Engineer
- Epidemiologist
- Biological Scientist
- Dietician
- Foster Care Worker
- Wetlands Ecologist
- Golf Course Superintendent
- Parks Superintendent
- Soil Scientist
- Wildlife & Fisheries Biologists
- Bacteriologist
- Reforestation Manager
- Geneticist
- Precision Agriculture Specialist

Importance of Research, Teaching and Extension Linkage



Return on Investment

- Annual state contribution to agricultural research and extension approximately: $133 million
- Translates in approximately: $1.3 billion in economic benefits to the state
- For every dollar of state general revenue invested, IFAS leverages over one dollar in non-state funds

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA IFAS

HOUSE DISTRICT 32

Economic Impacts

Agricultural and related industries generate

161,550 jobs (13.20% of total) in House District 32.

$12.1 billion in revenues.

8.4% contribution to gross regional product.

Based on a 2008 UF study

It is estimated that for every **1** invested in agricultural research and extension, there is a return of **10** to the community.

Based on a 2007 USDA study

Statewide Client Satisfaction

Quality

95% Residents who used Extension services and were satisfied with the service provided.

Effectiveness

79% Clients who had an opportunity to use the information received, and...

86% Said it solved their problem or answered their question.

Leverage

74% Clients who shared the information with someone else.

Funding

State funds for extension	$1,673,066
Federal funds for extension	$1,664,764
County funds for extension	$3,901,517

Clientele Contacts

Field and office consultations	12,656
Participants at group learning events	65,279
Phone and email consultations	43,698
Educational materials created	624

Volunteers

Number of volunteers	1,146
Hours worked	50,017
Dollar value of hours worked	$1,042,854

Statewide Clientele Outcomes

Clients reporting an increase in knowledge or skill	87%
Clients reporting a change in behavior or attitude	76%
Clients adopting best practices resulting in societal, economic, or environmental benefits to community	63%

Giving

Recent donors residing in HD32	27,457
FY 2010 donors residing in HD32	12,145
Gifts to UF from HD32 residents	$10,856,045
Gifts to IFAS from HD32 residents	$551,800

Students and Alumni

UF students from HD32	4,012
CALS students from HD32	358
UF alumni residing in HD32	21,841
IFAS alumni residing in HD32	1,390

EXTENSION: 4-H youth; Personal & family well-being; Nutrition, food safety & health;Livestock production, Marine sciences; Residential & commercial horticulture; Urban forestry

COMMODITIES: Tropical foliage, Cut foliage, Woody ornamental, Grape, Vegetables

RESEARCH: Plant development, production and protection of environmental horticulture, vegetables, fruit crops

Brevard Cooperative Extension Service
Cocoa
Web: http://brevard.ifas.ufl.edu

Orange Cooperative Extension Service
Orlando
Web: http://ocextension.ifas.ufl.edu

Mid-Florida Research and Education Center
Apopka
Web: http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/

Thank you

Visit our website at : www.ifas.ufl.edu

County Reports: http://ifas.ufl.edu/reports.html

Mary Ann Gosa, Director

UF/IFAS Office of Governmental Affairs

mgosa@ufl.edu

850-681-0000

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Agriculture in Florida

The Role of Agricultural Lands in Water Resource and Habitat Protection

Water Quality

- Watershed Restoration Act (s.403.067 F.S.)
- Northern Everglades & Estuaries Protection Act (s. 373.4595 F.S.)
- Nitrogen Control (s. 576.045 F.S.)

BMP Implementation Status-

- Forestry – 5.3 Million acres
- General Agriculture – 3 Million acres

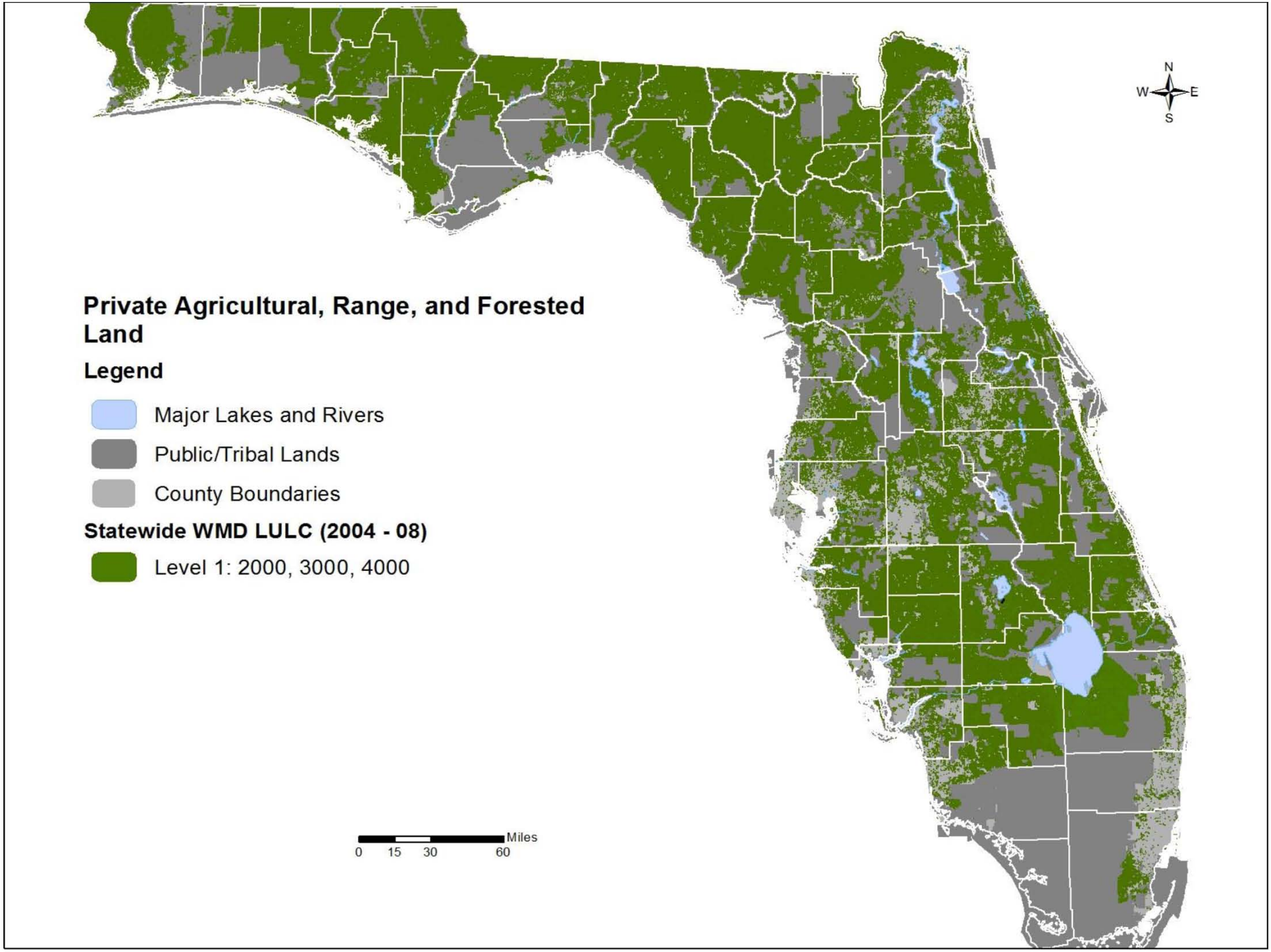
Water Quality BMPs – What are they?

- Practice or combination of practices based on research, field-testing and expert review, to be the most effective and practicable on-location means, including economic and technological considerations, for improving water quality in agricultural and urban discharges.
- Nutrient (nitrogen & phosphorus) Management
- Stormwater Management
- Irrigation Management
- Fencing / Buffers near Waterways

BMPs – What do they look like?

Water Quantity

- Agriculture is largest user of fresh water in Florida
- Access to adequate quantities of fresh water is critical
- Participation in long-range water supply planning
- Commitment to conservation/efficiency (Mobile Irrigation Laboratories)
- In partnership with water management districts to develop alternative water supply projects
- Participate with stakeholders to develop innovative water storage programs on private lands


Private Agricultural, Range, and Forested Land
Legend
Major Lakes and Rivers
Public/Tribal Lands
County Boundaries
Statewide WMD LULC (2004 - 08)
Level 1: 2000, 3000, 4000
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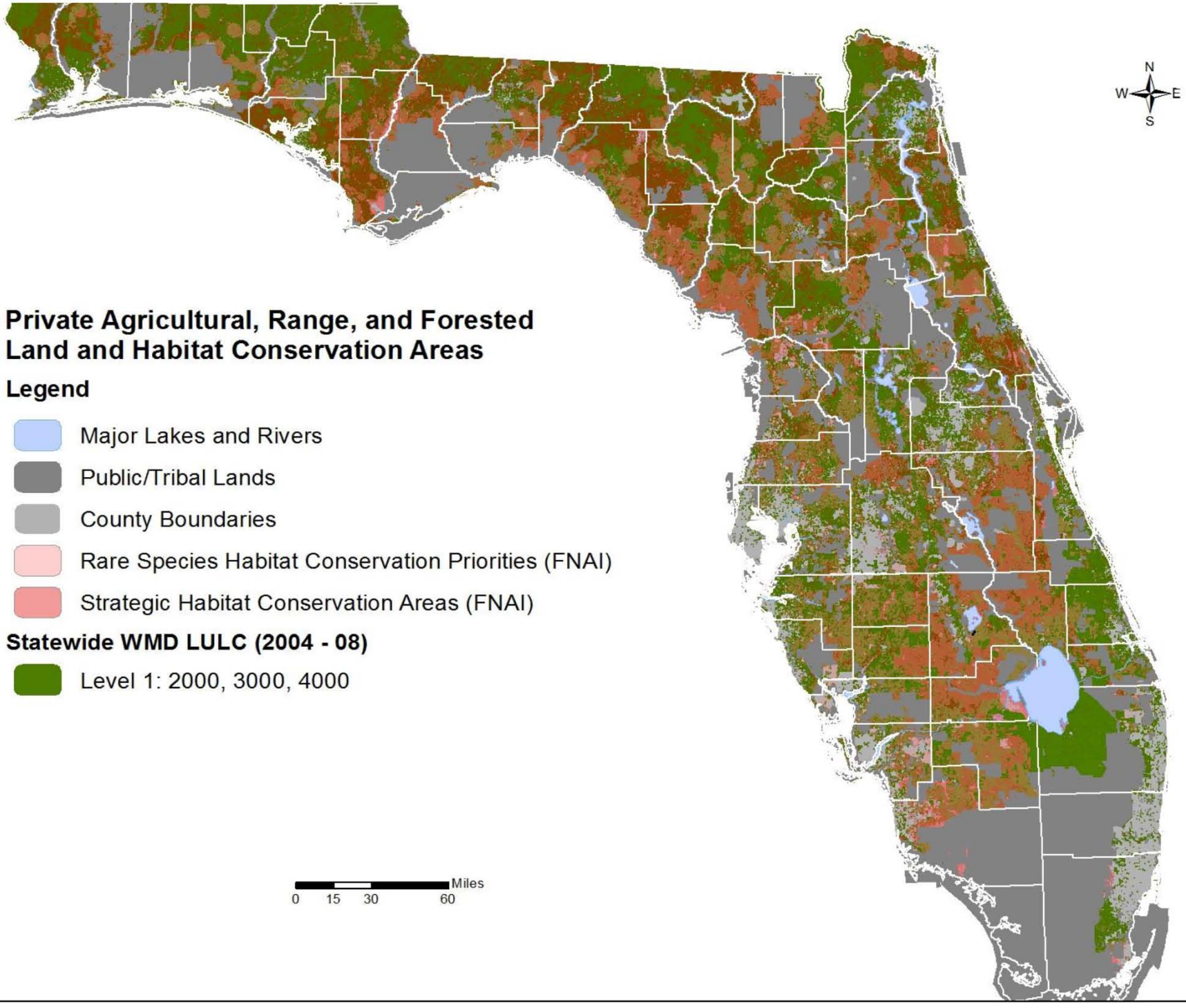
Private Agricultural, Range, and Forested Land and Habitat Conservation Areas
Legend
Major Lakes and Rivers
Public/Tribal Lands
County Boundaries
Rare Species Habitat Conservation Priorities (FNAI)
Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (FNAI)
Statewide WMD LULC (2004 - 08)
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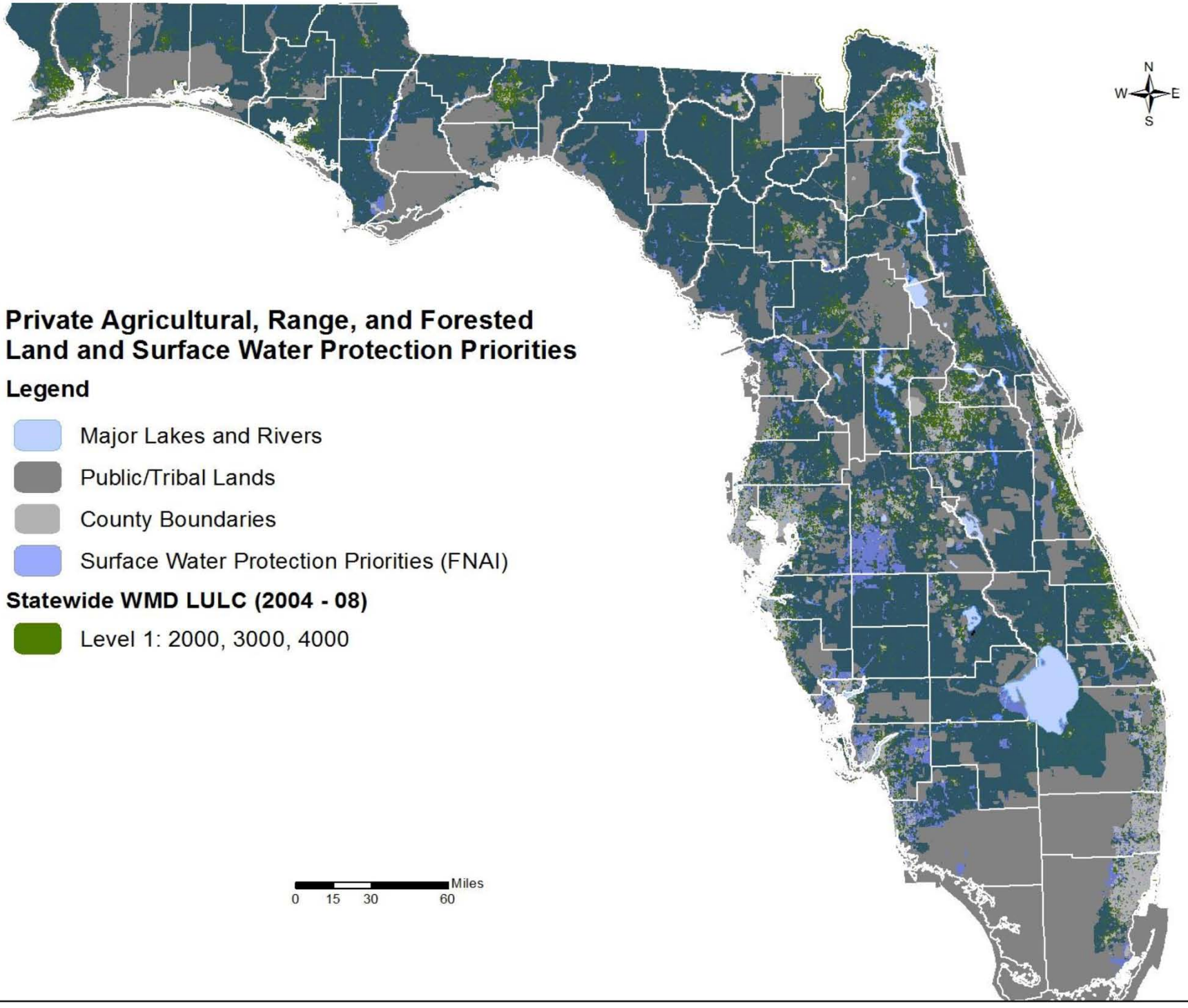
Private Agricultural, Range, and Forested Land and Surface Water Protection Priorities
Legend
Major Lakes and Rivers
Public/Tribal Lands
County Boundaries
Surface Water Protection Priorities (FNAI)
Statewide WMD LULC (2004 - 08)
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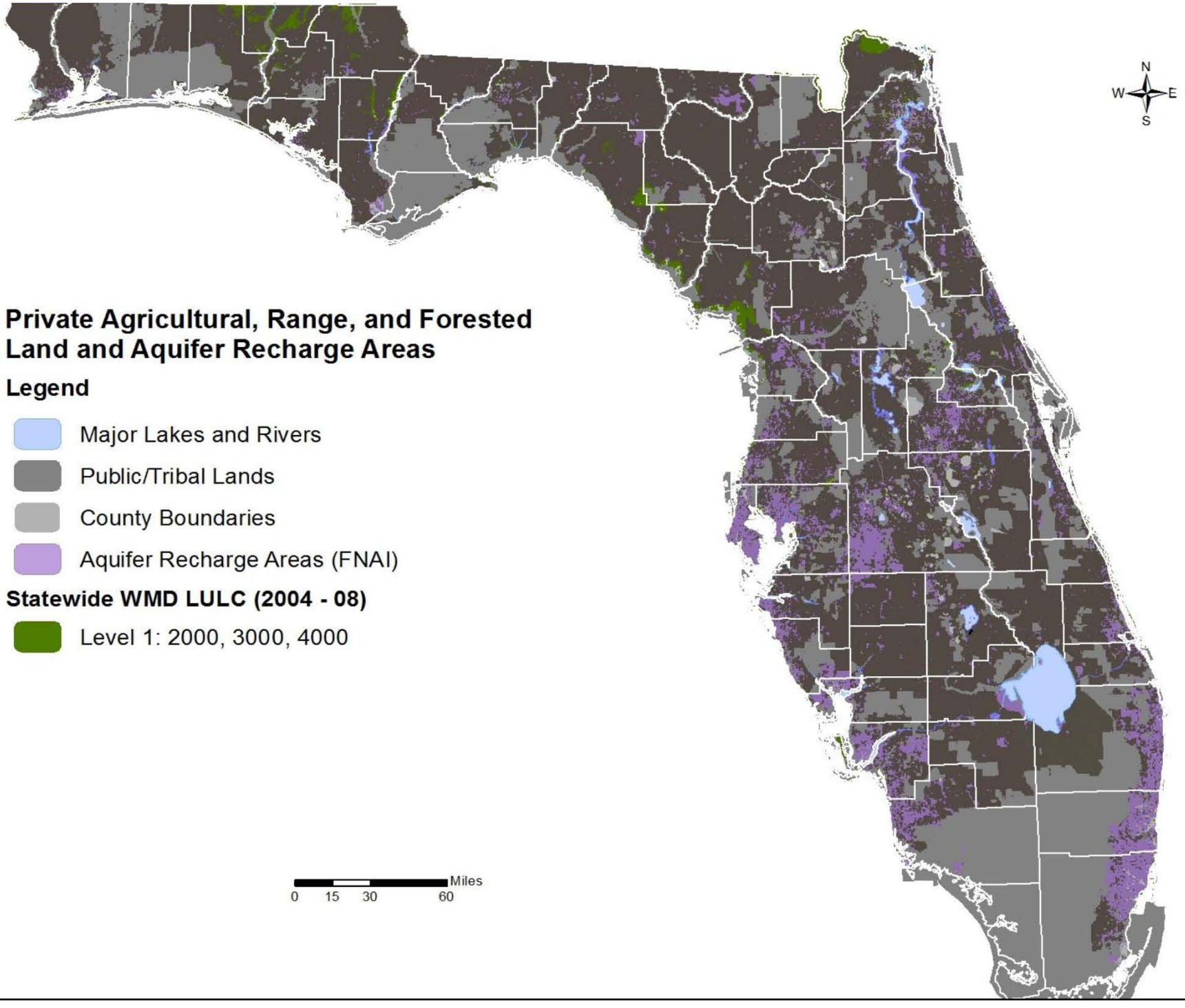
Private Agricultural, Range, and Forested Land and Aquifer Recharge Areas
Legend
Major Lakes and Rivers
Public/Tribal Lands
County Boundaries
Aquifer Recharge Areas (FNAI)
Statewide WMD LULC (2004 - 08)
Level 1: 2000, 3000, 4000
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Natural Resource Protection

- FDACS manages, for wildlife habitat and recreation, over 1 million acres of state-owned land and provides fire control services for 26 million acres
- Many of FDACS BMPs directly contribute to wildlife habitat and protection
- Preserving agricultural lands is critical for water storage and treatment, ground water recharge, and wildlife corridors
- Cooperatively develop programs to compensate landowners for providing environmental benefit to the public

Dept. of Agriculture and
Consumer Services

DESERET RANCHES OF FLORIDA

DESERET RANCHES

History

- Founded in 1950
- Property consisted of native land and cut-over timberland
- Now has 80-90 employees (cowboys, mechanics, agronomists, etc.); some are third-generation
- Owner is the LDS Church, which is committed to agriculture, self-reliance, and sustainability

DESERET RANCHES

Geography

- Ranch is 290,000 acres, mostly pasture
- Borders St. Johns River and Upper Kissimmee
- Located in Osceola, Orange, and Brevard counties

DESERET RANCHES

Cattle

- Deseret is a commercial cow-calf operation
  - Florida has 3 of the top 10 and 7 of the top 20 cow-calf ranches in the country
- Deseret is one of the premier cattle producers in the US
  - 42,000 cows
  - 32,000 calves yearly
  - 1,300 bulls
- Each cow/calf pair has about 4 acres of pasture

DESERET RANCHES

Cattle

- Our cattle breeding program has been a 60-year effort
- Three breed rotational cross: Braford, Brangus, and Simbrah
- Must be adapted to Florida heat, humidity, and insects

DESERET RANCHES

Cattle

- We seek profitability in the cattle market by:
  - Controlling costs
  - Improving genetics
    - AI and embryo transfer
  - Selecting for adaptability, production efficiency, and marketability:
    - Residual feed intake
    - EPDs

DESERET RANCHES

Cowboys

- Ranch is divided into 13 operational units
- Each unit has 2 or 3 cowboys, 3,500 head of cows, and 7,000-25,000 acres
- Work is done on horseback
- Cowboys rotate herds, build fences, manage pastures, and care for the cattle and horses

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Other Operations

- Produce 1700 acres of juice citrus
- Grow potatoes for potato chips
- Harvest palm trees
- Grow sod
- Mine shell deposits

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Environment

- Implement a multiple use philosophy and strive for long-term sustainability

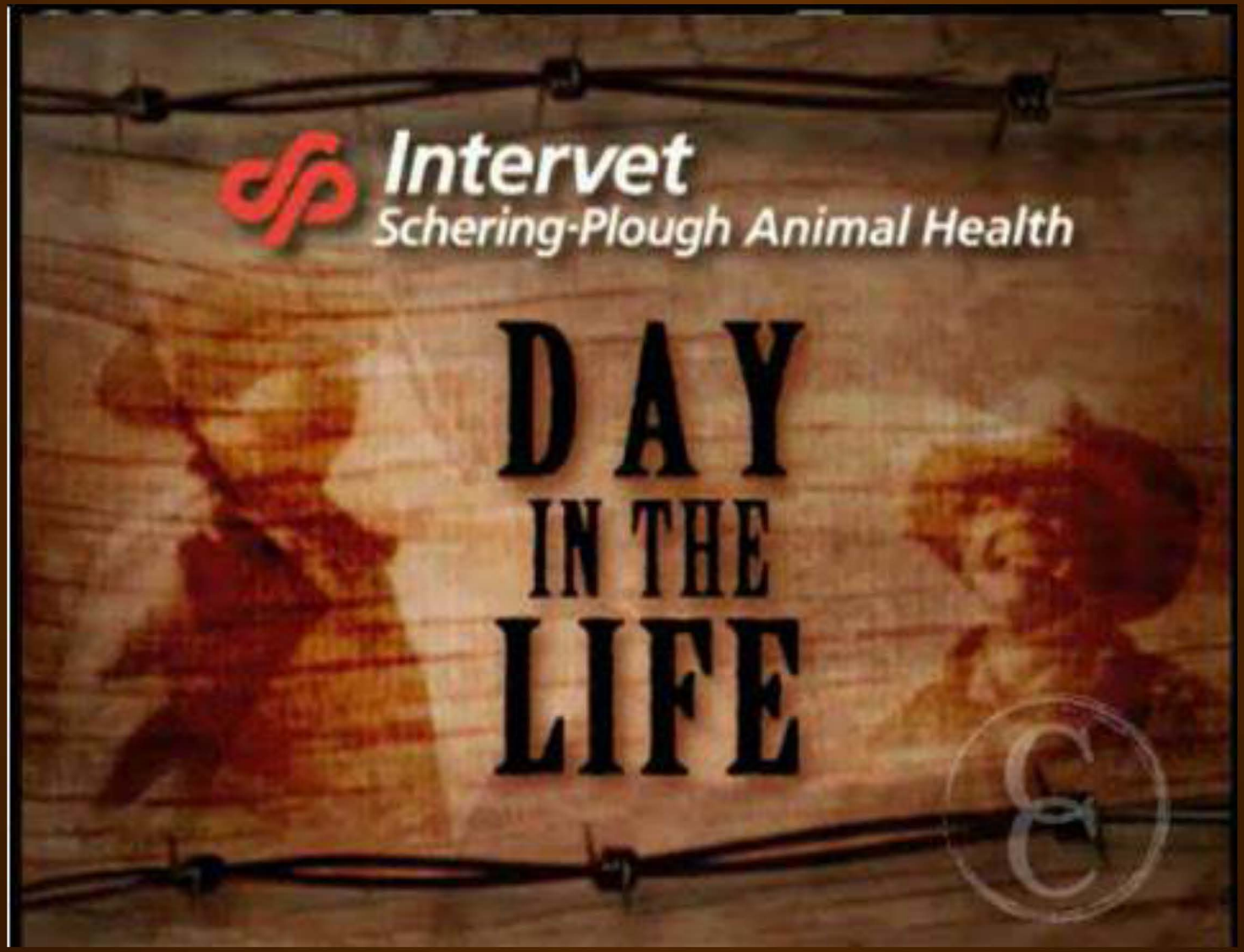
- Maintain an active wildlife management program
  - Wildlife biologist oversees hunting leases
  - Program has led to healthier populations

DESERET RANCHES

Stewardship

- Special attention given to critical species and habitat
  - Wood Stork rookery
  - Jug Island Reservoir
- Awarded the Florida Cattlemen's 2009 Environmental Stewardship Award
- Awarded the National Cattlemen's 2010 Region 2 Environmental Stewardship Award

DESERET RANCHES



DESERET RANCHES

Regulatory Issues

- Water Supply
- Water Quality
- Land Use
- Regulatory Burden

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Water (Supply)

- Water is important to communities but is also important to agriculture
- Ranch has donated easements for water storage
- Over 20 million gallons of water per day are pumped off the Ranch to supply local communities

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Water (Supply)

- Municipalities often reach out for water
  - Taylor Creek Reservoir
- Agricultural projections are often ignored in water supply planning
- Who gets the cheap water?

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Water (Quality)

- Ranchlands receive a lot of rainwater
- We have voluntarily tried to retain most of our stormwater runoff
- Numeric Nutrient Criteria
- Best Management Practices

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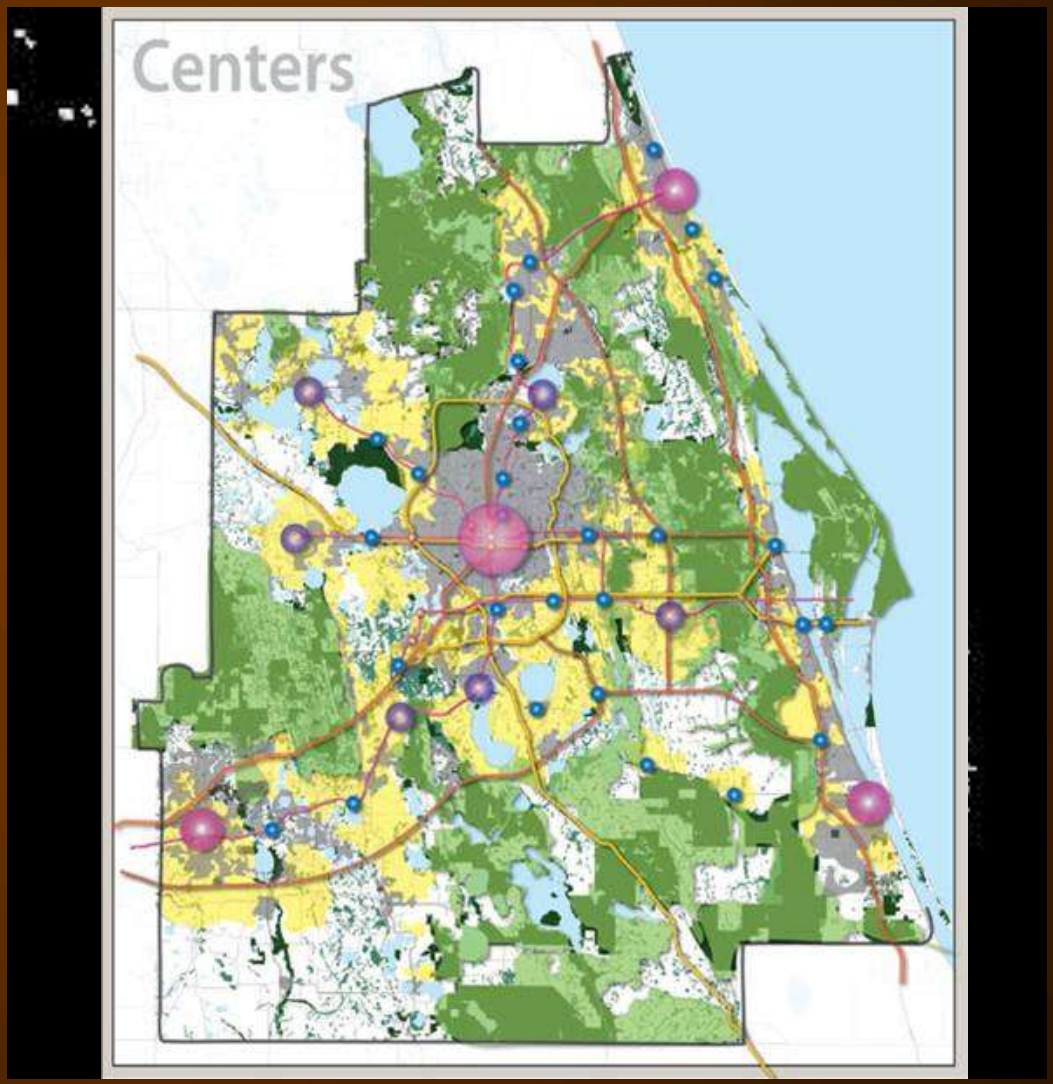
Land Use

- Central Florida has experienced tremendous growth, which will continue
- We support long-range land-use, transportation, water, and environmental planning
- Ranchers should not be punished for being good stewards



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Species

- Habitat and species can be a mixed blessing for ranchers
- Greenprinting
  - CARL
  - CCB
  - CLIP
  - Greenways
  - New NWR
- Ensuring the economic viability of ranches is the greatest way to ensure their ecological viability

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Regulatory Overlap

- The Econlockhatchee River
  - Federal Wetland Regulations (Clean Water Act Section 404)
  - Florida Wetland Regulations (Florida Statutes 373)
  - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
    - Outstanding Florida Waters Regulation (Florida Administrative Code 62-4.242)
    - Environmental Resource Permitting (Florida Administrative Code 62-343.050)
  - St. Johns River Water Management District Econlockhatchee River Riparian Habitat Protection Zone (Florida Administrative Code 40C-41.063(5)
  - Orange County
    - Econlockhatchee River Protection Ordinance (Section 15-443)
    - Innovation Way Policy 8.4.3
    - Environmental Land Stewardship Program
  - Administrative Law

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Regulatory Burden

- Agencies often fail to consider the costs of regulations on the private sector:
  - Expensive modeling required
  - Extra-regulatory requirements
  - Multiple Requests for Additional Information
  - Uncertainty in permitting

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Stewardship

- Committed to agriculture, the environment, and the community
  - Provide jobs, tax revenue, community support
  - Provide land management, open space, ecosystem services
- As a landowner, our future is tied to that of the region and state

Thank you.

DESERET RANCHES OF FLORIDA