



South Florida Water Management District

SFWMD RECREATIONAL FORUM MEETING AGENDA

June 13, 2022

5:00 PM

SFWMD Headquarters - B1 Auditorium
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks - Drew Bartlett, Executive Director and Newton Cook, Facilitator
2. Palm Beach Shooting Sports Complex Update - Bill Cline, Section Leader, Hunter Safety and Public Shooting Ranges, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
3. Allapattah Restoration Update - Jim Schuette, Section Leader, SFWMD
4. STA Updates - James Harbaugh, Recreation Planner, SFWMD
 - STA Waterfowl & Alligator 2022-2023 Hunting Season
5. Public Use Project Updates - Dan Cotter, Section Leader, SFWMD
6. Recreational Discussion, Updates and Future Meeting Topics
7. Adjourn
- 7.1. Recreational Public Meeting Presentations

Agenda Item Background:

Recreational Public Meeting Presentations

[02_PB_SportsComplex_BCline_2022_06_13.pdf](#)

[03_Allapattah_JSchuette_2022_06_13.pdf](#)

[04_STA_Updates_JHarbaugh_2022_06_13.pdf](#)

[05_DCotter_Rec Forum_2022_06_13 DRAFT revised-1.pdf](#)

Palm Beach County Shooting Sports Complex Update

**Palm Beach County
Shooting Sports Park**



South Florida Water Management District
Recreational Public Forum – June 13, 2022

Partnerships



South Florida Water Management District Recipient
of 2021 YHPF Landowner of the Year Award

Presenter: **Bill Cline**

Palm Beach County

Shooting Sports Complex



Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission



Presenter: Bill Cline

Hunter Education



Hands-on Training



Skills Building



Safety



Marksmanship



Engaging New Gun Owners

- 8,000,000 new gun owners
- Notable increase in first-time purchases:
 - 58% African Americans
 - 40% women



Photo Credit: Ruger American New Shooter Academy – Maggie’s Mission – filmed at FWC’s Bay County Shooting Range



Increasing Diverse Participation

- 56.4 million (24%) adults in the United States participated in target shooting in 2020
- Notable increase in participation:
 - 30% African Americans
 - 29% Hispanic or Latino
 - 19% 18-34 years old
 - 17% women



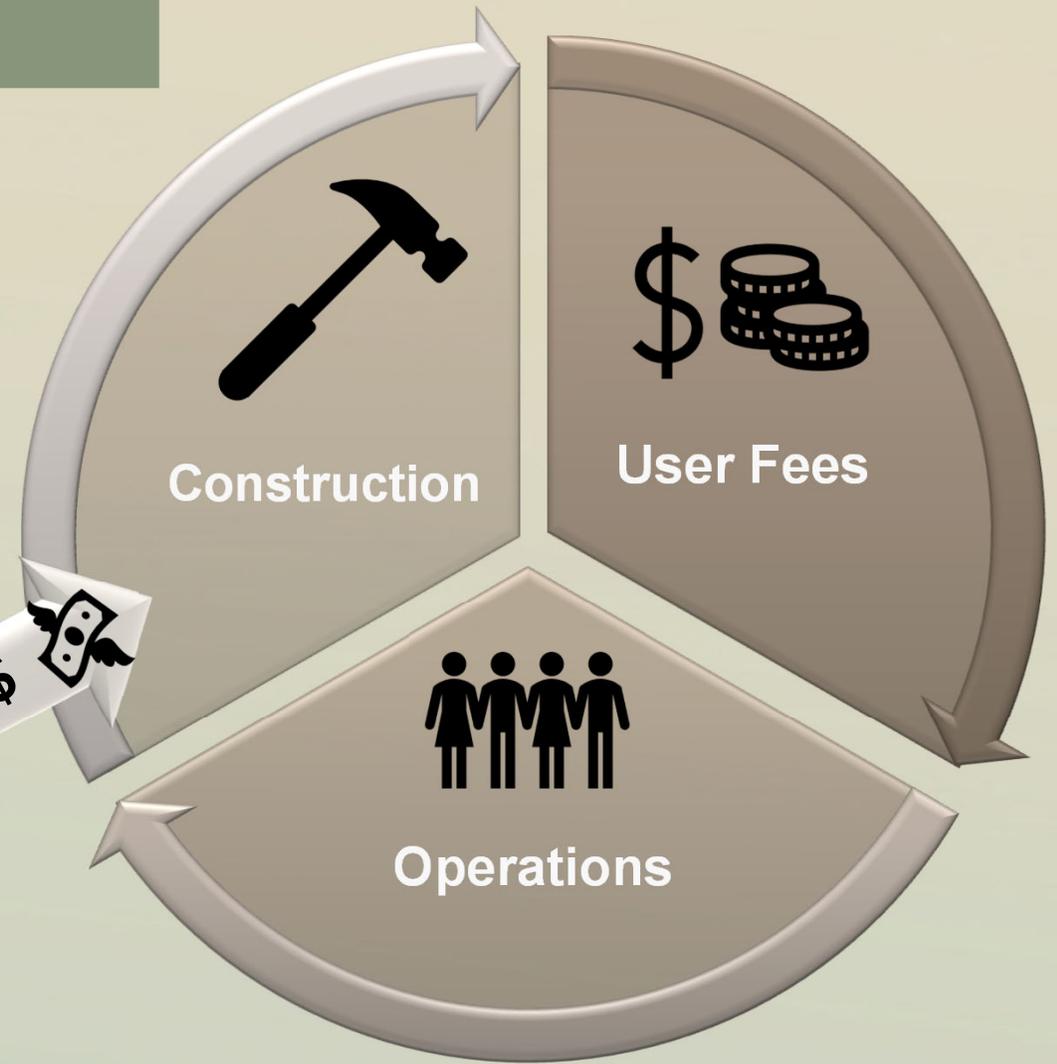
First Shots Event at Tenoroc Shooting Range



Investing Inward



Wildlife Restoration \$ 



Palm Beach County Shooting Sports Complex






Palm Beach County
Shooting Sports Complex
Range 2
200 Yard Rifle

Rifle and Handgun Ranges



Trap and Skeet Fields



Palm Beach County
Shooting Sports Complex

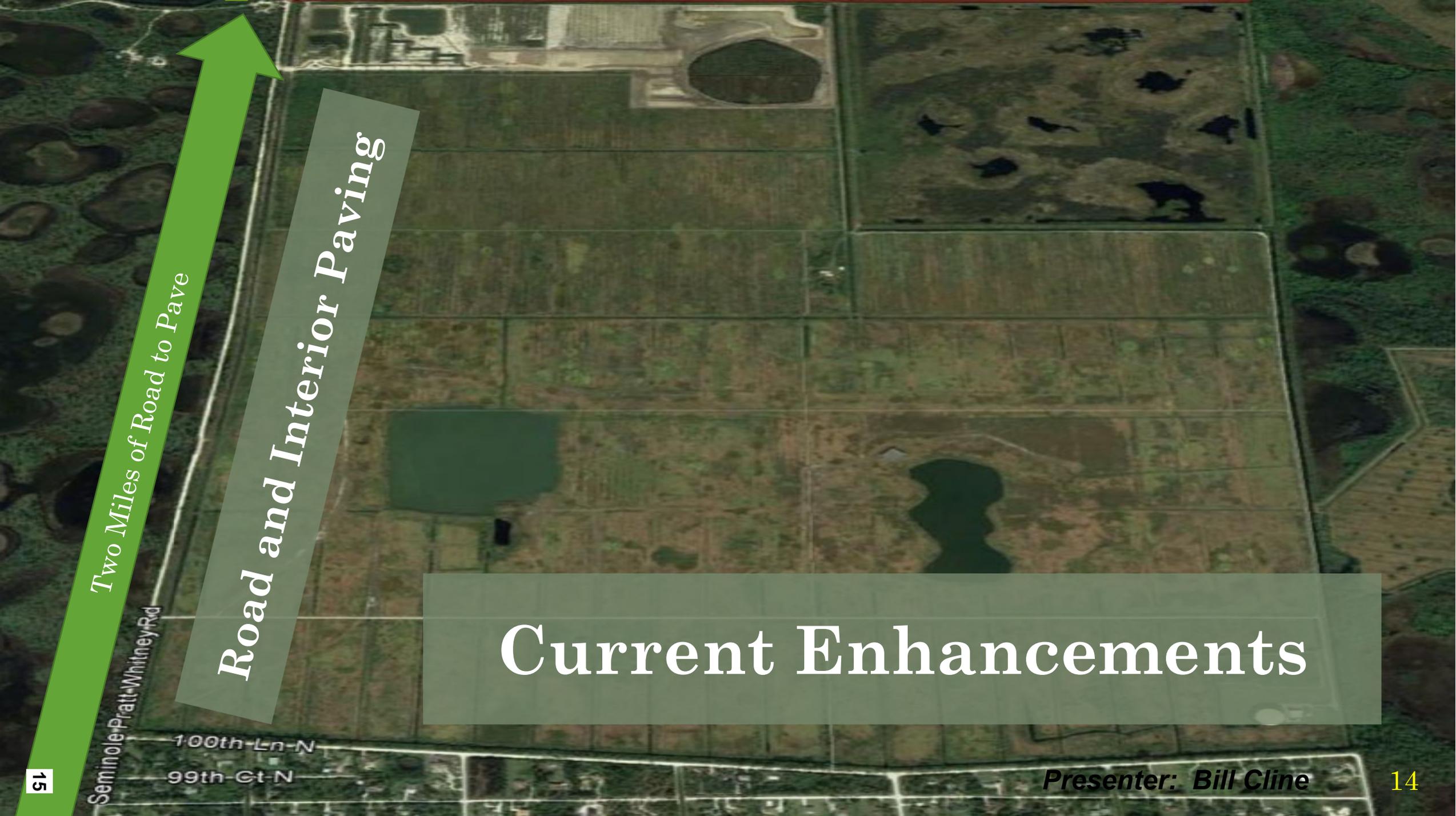
5-Stand
Sporting Clays

5-Stand

Presenter: Bill Cline

Sporting Clays





Two Miles of Road to Pave

Road and Interior Paving

Current Enhancements

Palm Beach County Shooting Sports Complex

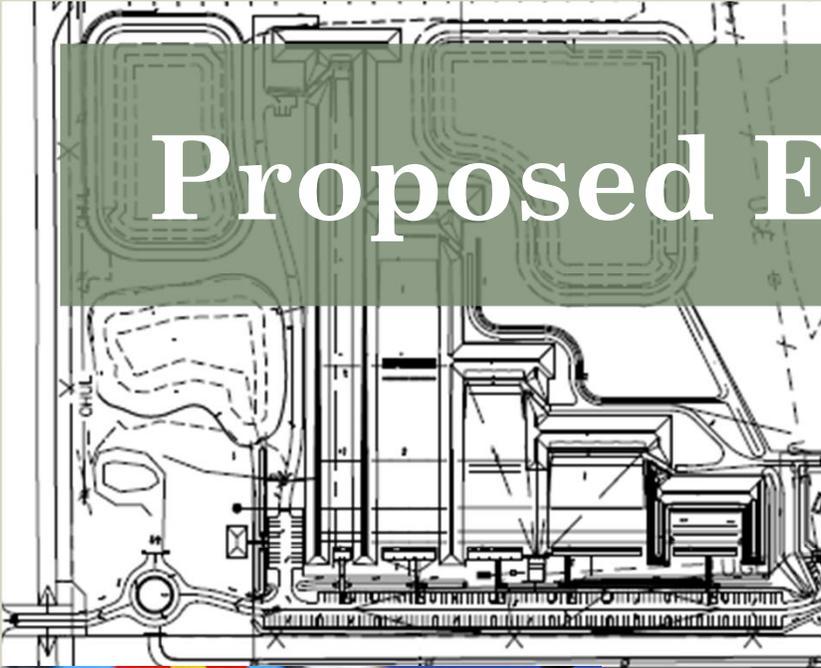
Proposed Enhancements



Proposed Administrative Center



Proposed Enhancements



6,512,208 S.F±
149.50 Ac.±



Thanks for visiting!

Bring a friend when you return!

A Pittman-Robertson Project



**Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission**



Allapattah Flats Management Area Hydrologic Restoration



SFWMD Recreational Forum
June 13, 2022
James Schuette
Section Lead
Land Management





Allapattah Flats Management Area

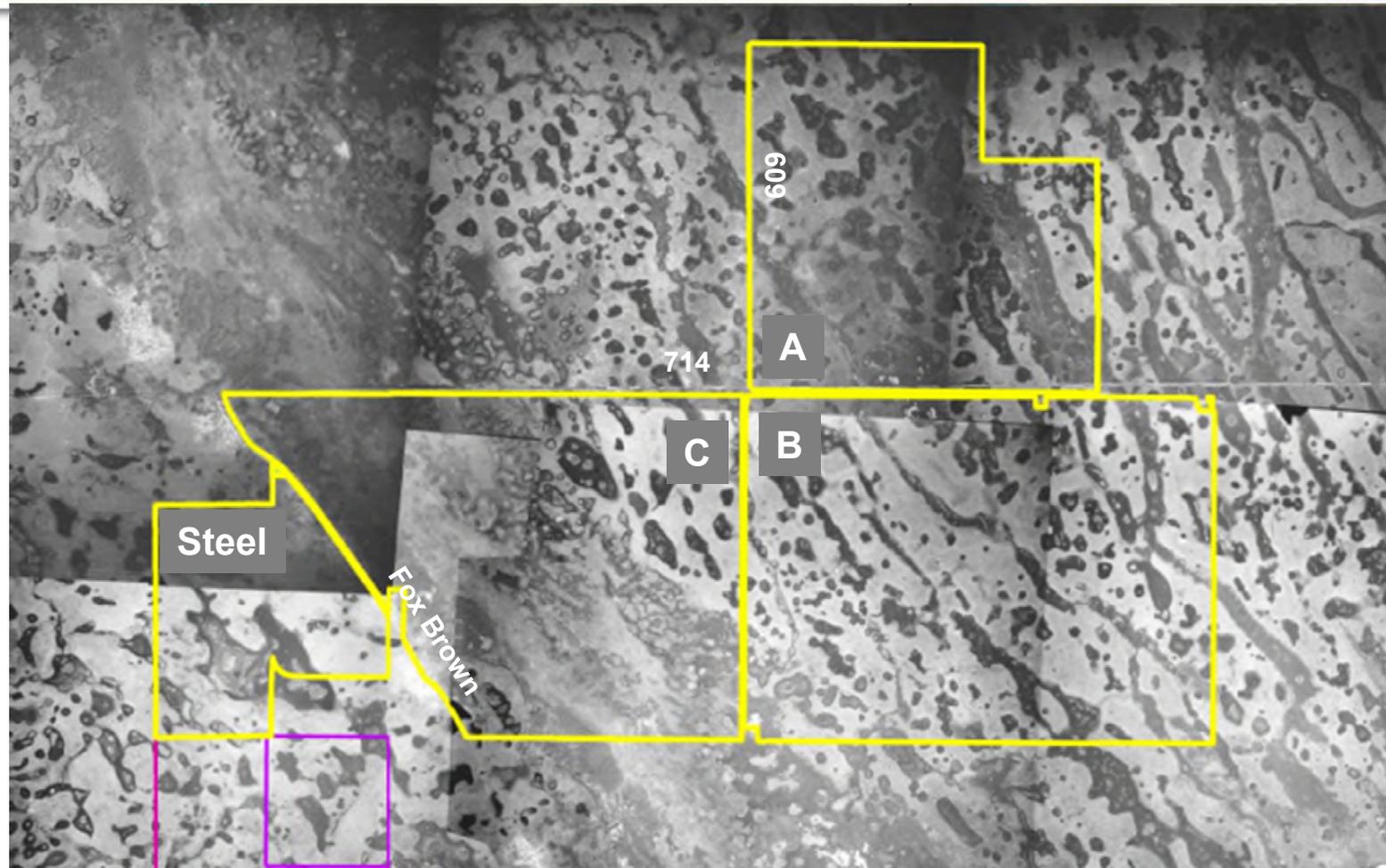




Natural Hydrology

➤ Pre-European Settlement

- Wet prairie and freshwater marsh
- Islands of pine, maple, bay, cypress and oak
- Elevated ridges of pine, palmetto and prairie grasses



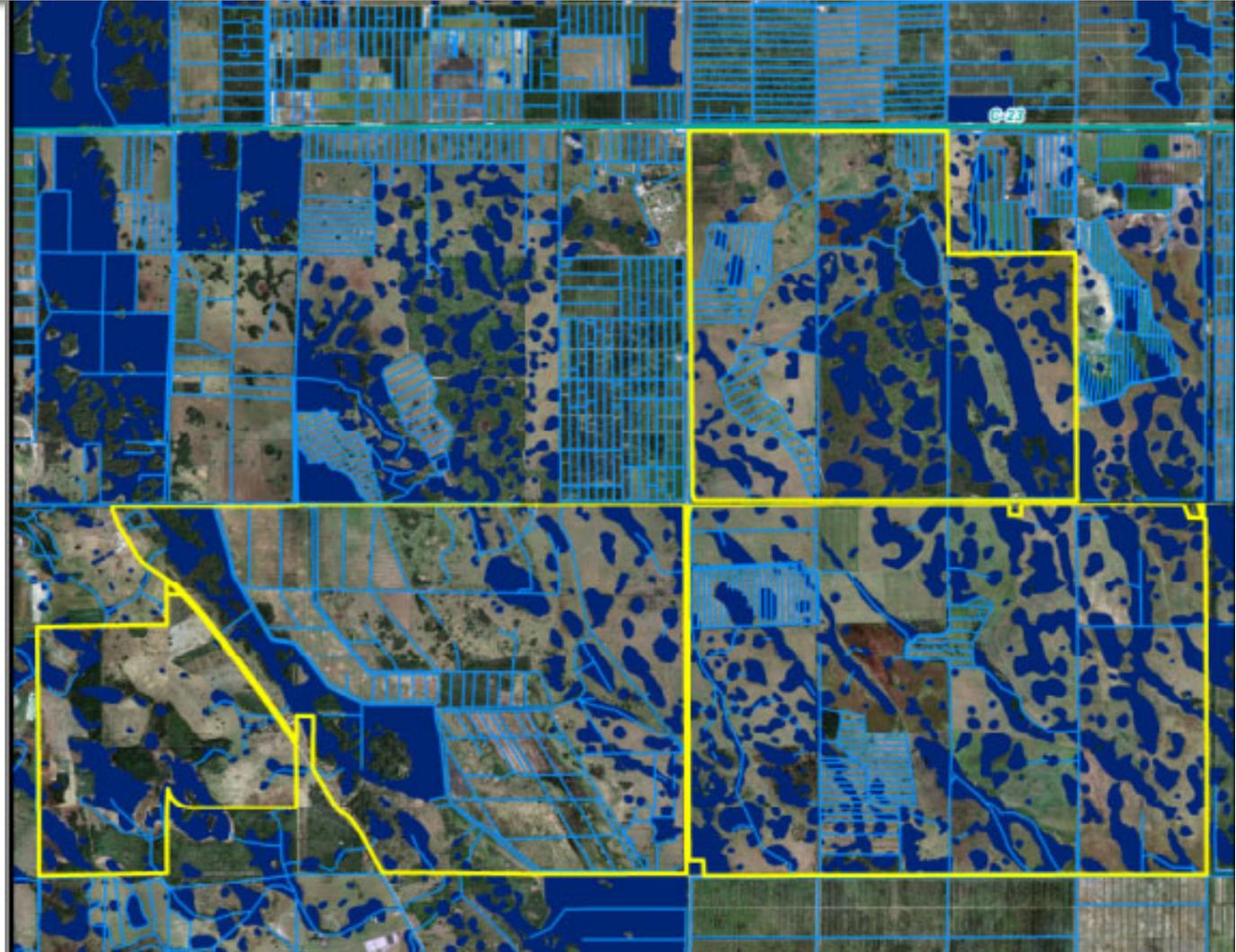
Allapattah Flats Management Area-1939 aerial imagery

Presenter: Jim Schuette 3



Significant Historic Hydrologic Impacts

- **1942-C-23 constructed**
- **1957-Most feeder canals added**





Historic Uses

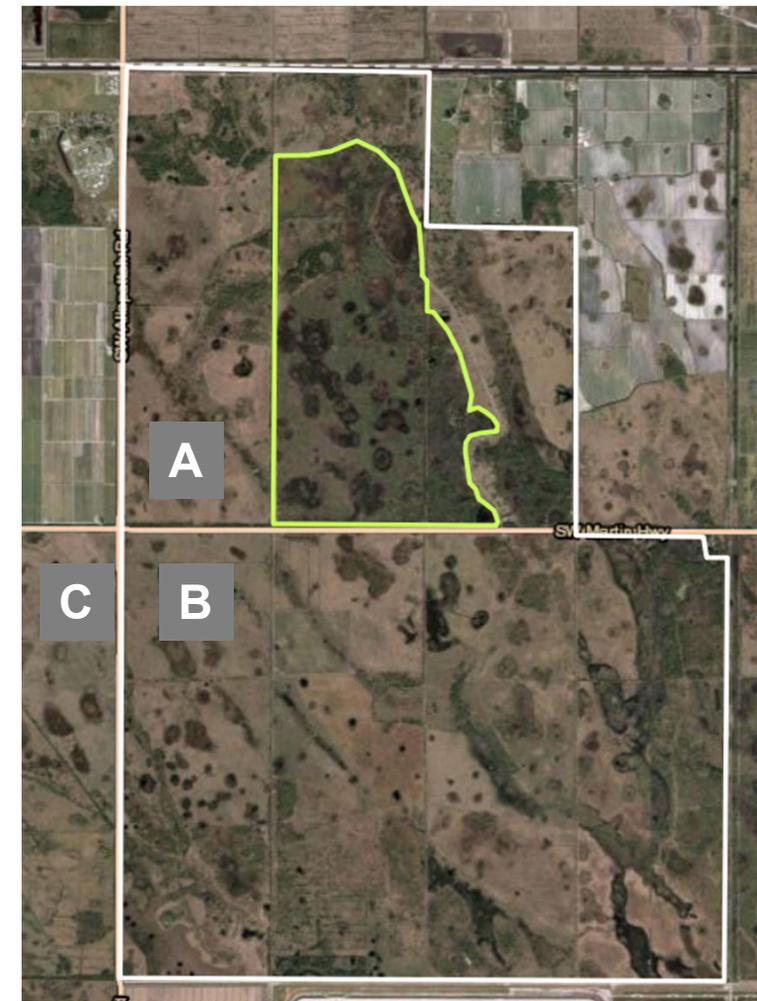
- **Cattle grazing**
- **Row crops**
- **Sod production**





Allapattah "A" Natural Area

➤ **1800 acres never "improved"**





Restoration Milestones

➤ 2001--CERP

▪ Indian River Lagoon-South Project

- Allapattah Flats Complex
- Essential component for water storage
- Natural wetland system

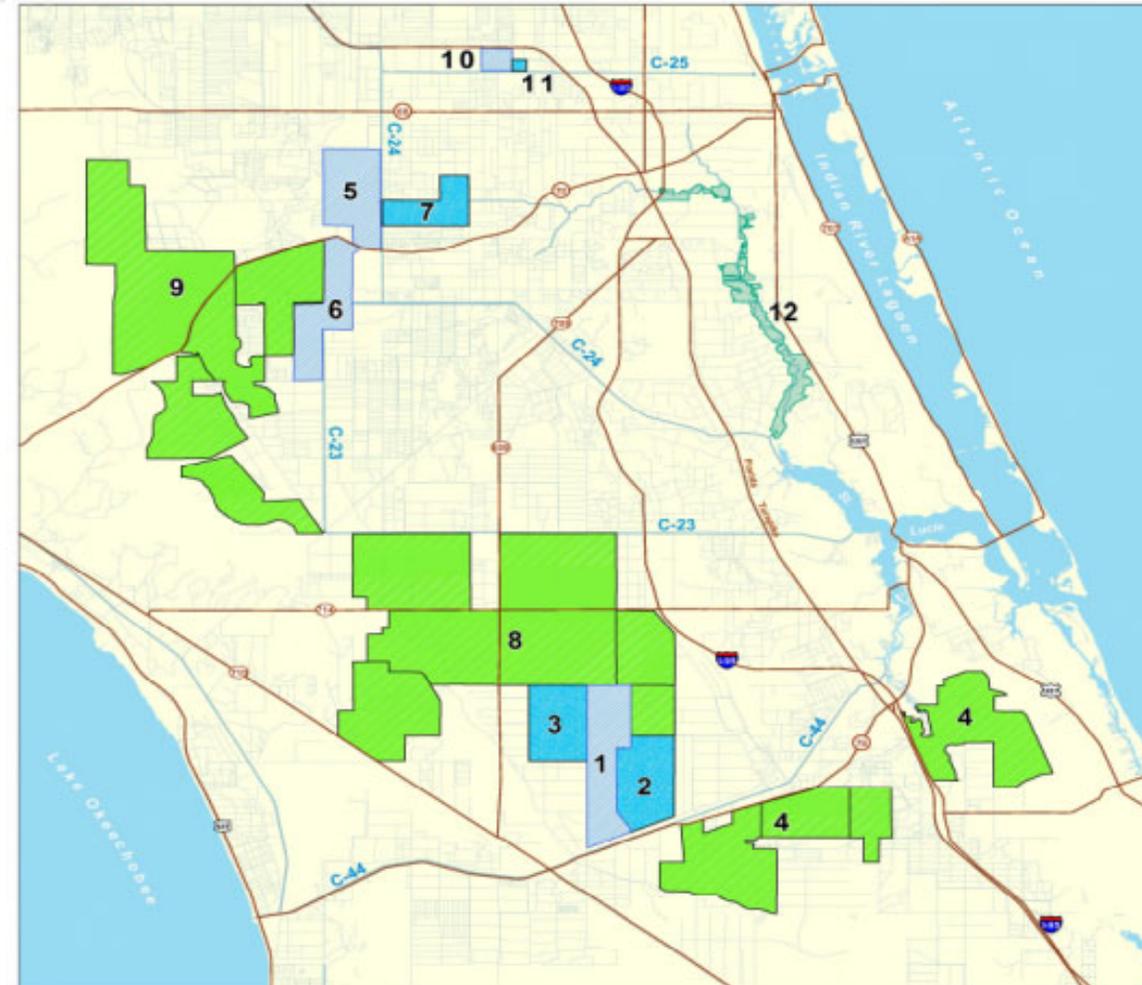
➤ 2002-2008--SFWMD & Martin County

- Purchased 21,709 acres

➤ 2013--NRCS

- Wetland Reserve Program

- 15,370 acres



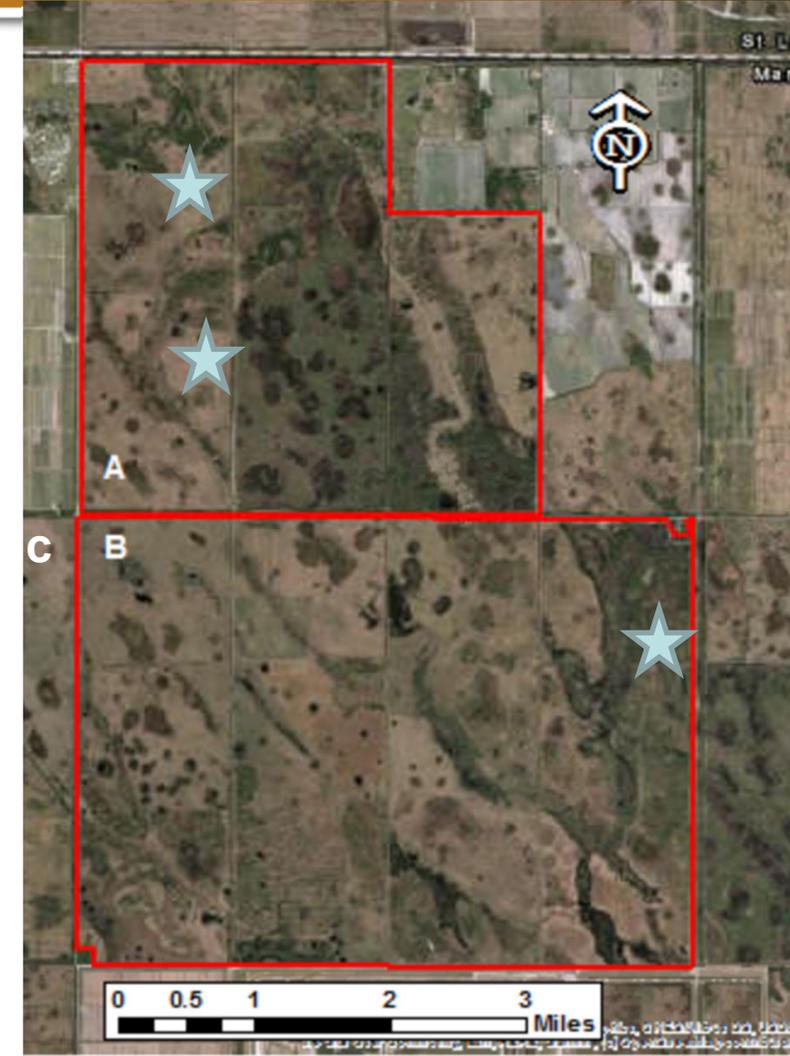
Indian River Lagoon South Recommended Plan



Early Restoration Efforts

➤ 2004

- Planted 375,000 slash pines Units A and B





On-going Management Efforts

- **Prescribed fire**
- **Invasive plant control**
 - Exotics
 - Woody vegetation
- **Cattle Grazing**
- **Public Use**
 - Hunting
 - Camping
 - Equestrian



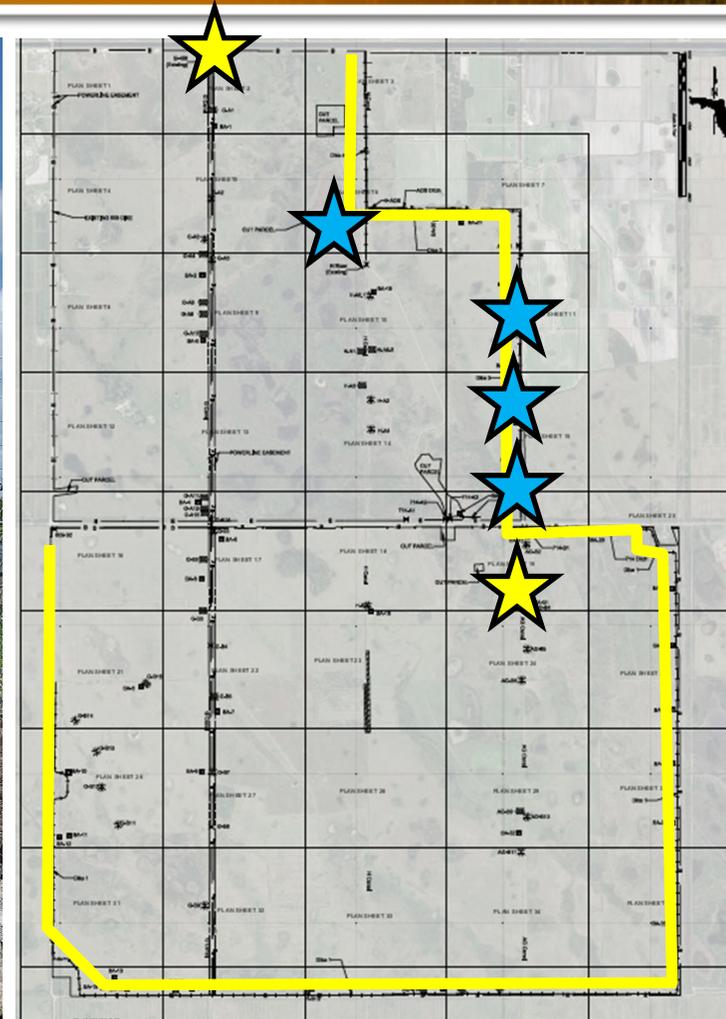


Recent Allapattah A&B Restoration Efforts

- **2022—Original NRCS project scope completed**
 - **12,175 acres hydrologically improved**
 - **75,626 feet of berms built along perimeter**
 - **40 wetlands created to source berm material**
 - **4 riser culverts and 2 gated weir culverts**
 - **44 ditch plugs installed**



G-450 to C-23



Allapattah Flats NRCS plan

Presenter: Jim Schuette



Allapattah A&B Next Steps

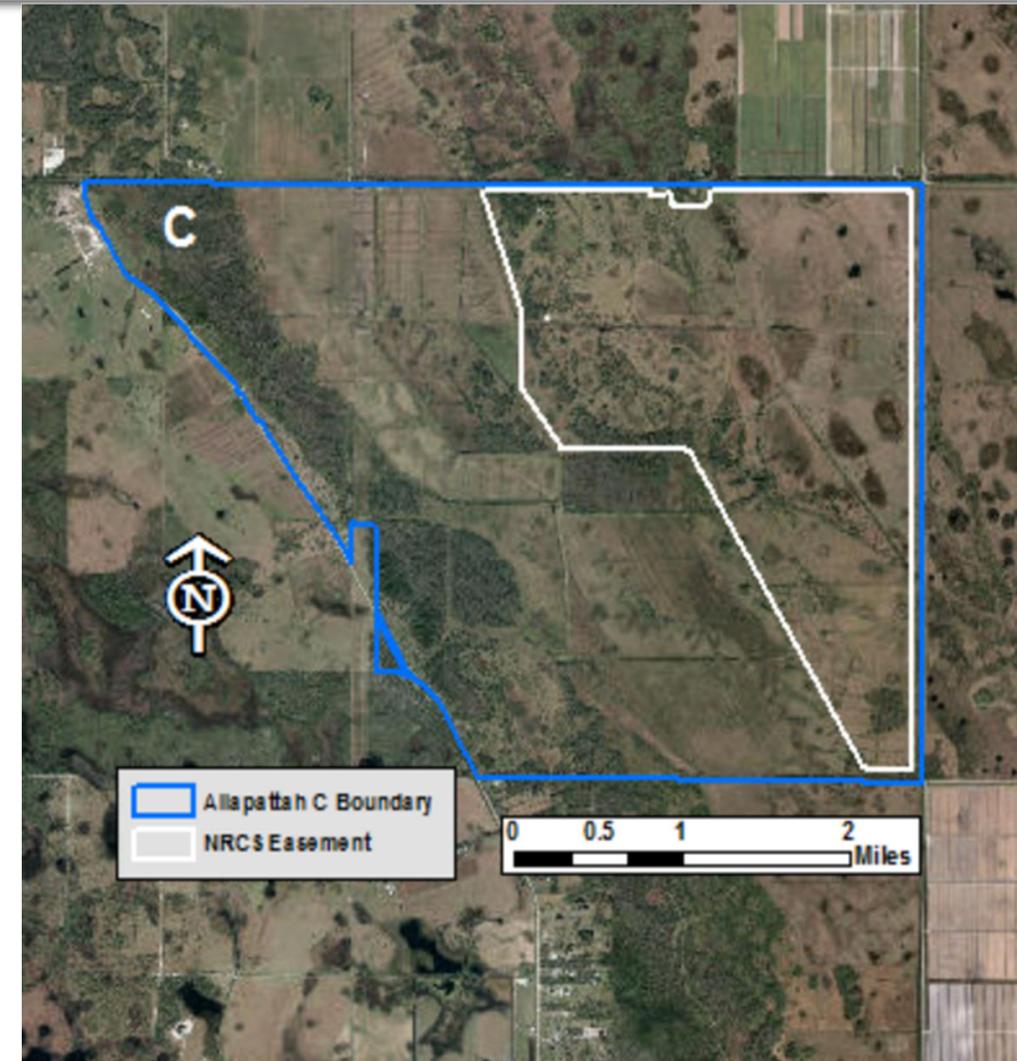
- **Stabilization of levees**
- **Monitoring water levels**
- **Identifying potential modifications**
- **Verifying hydroperiods**
- **Restoring vegetation**
 - **Plantings**
 - **Natural recruitment**





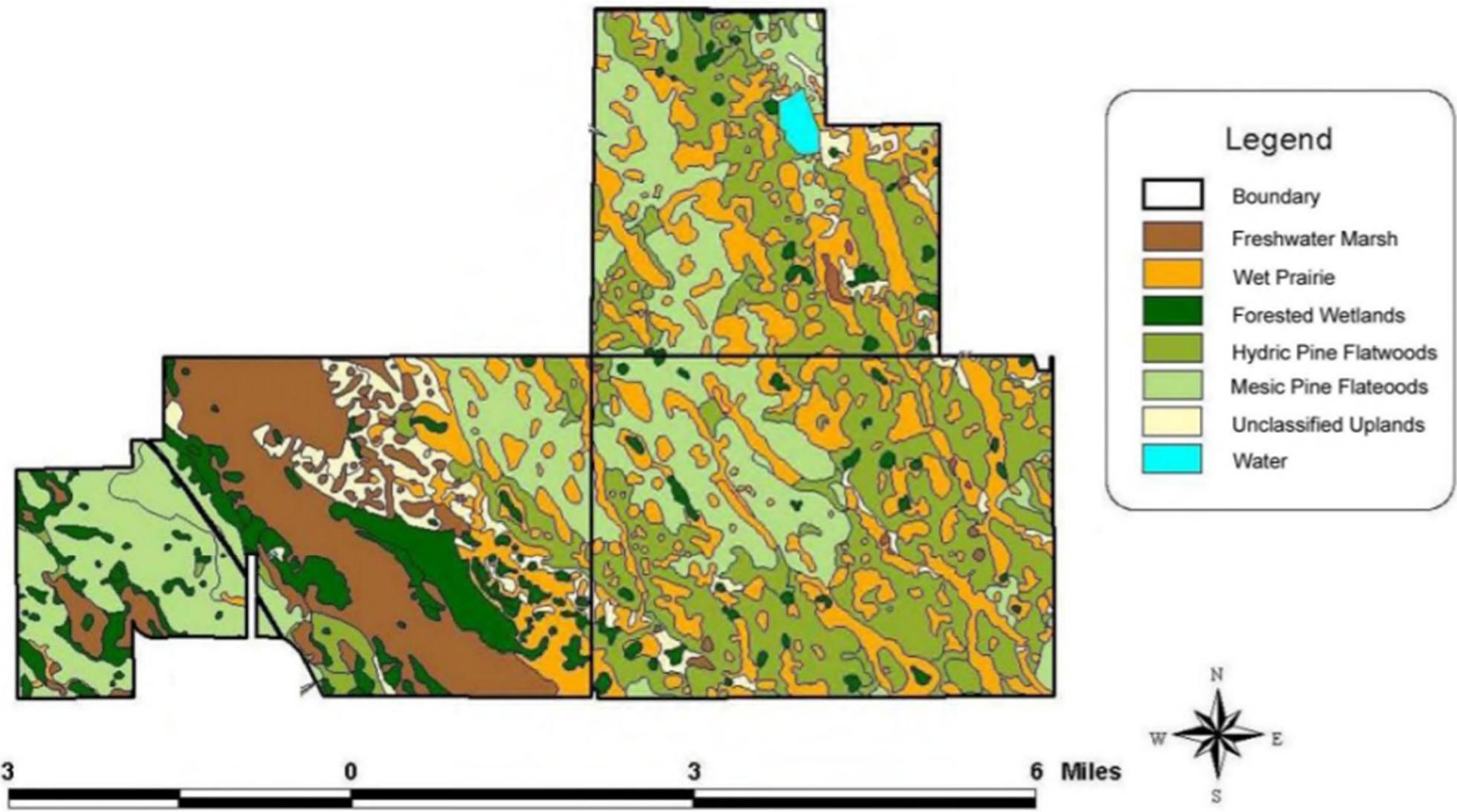
Future Restoration: Parcel C

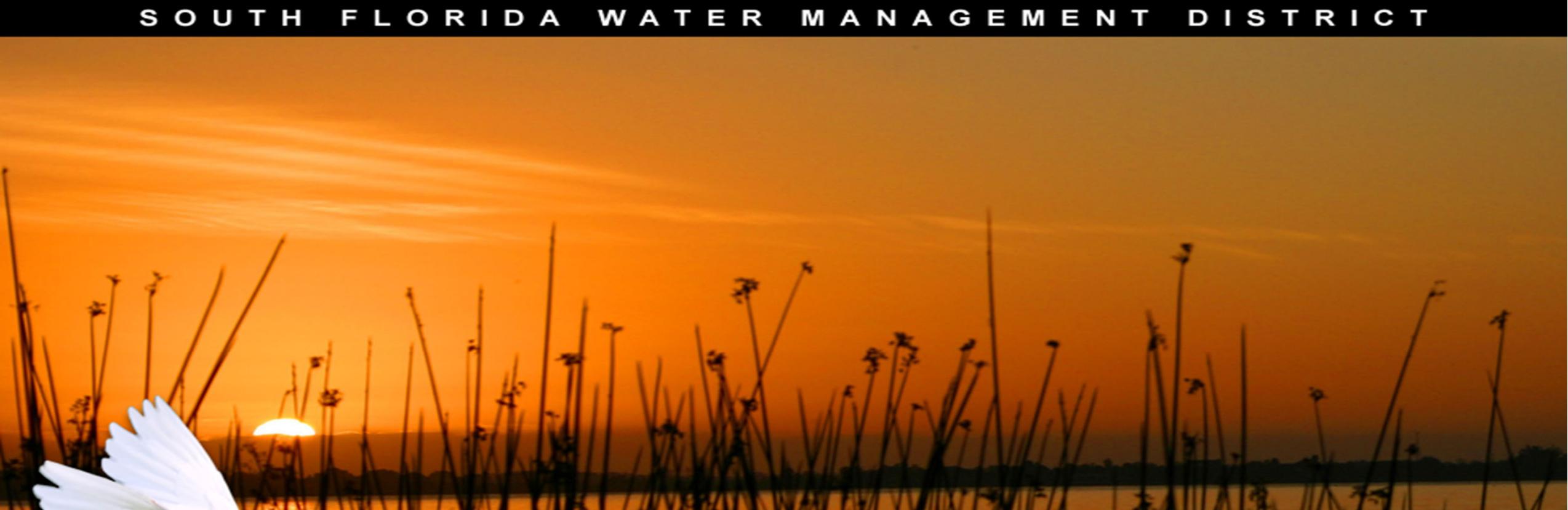
- **Developing hydrologic restoration plans**
 - **Joint effort SFWMD/NRCS**
 - NRCS Easement: 2672 acres
 - SFWMD: 3646 Acres
 - **Document current water flows & barriers**
 - **Identify areas with shortened hydroperiods**





Desired Future Vegetative Communities





Questions?

Presenter: Jim Schuette

STA Updates Waterfowl & Alligator 2022-2023 Hunting Season

SFMWD Recreational Public Forum
June 13, 2022

James Harbaugh
Recreation Planner
jharbaug@sfwmd.gov

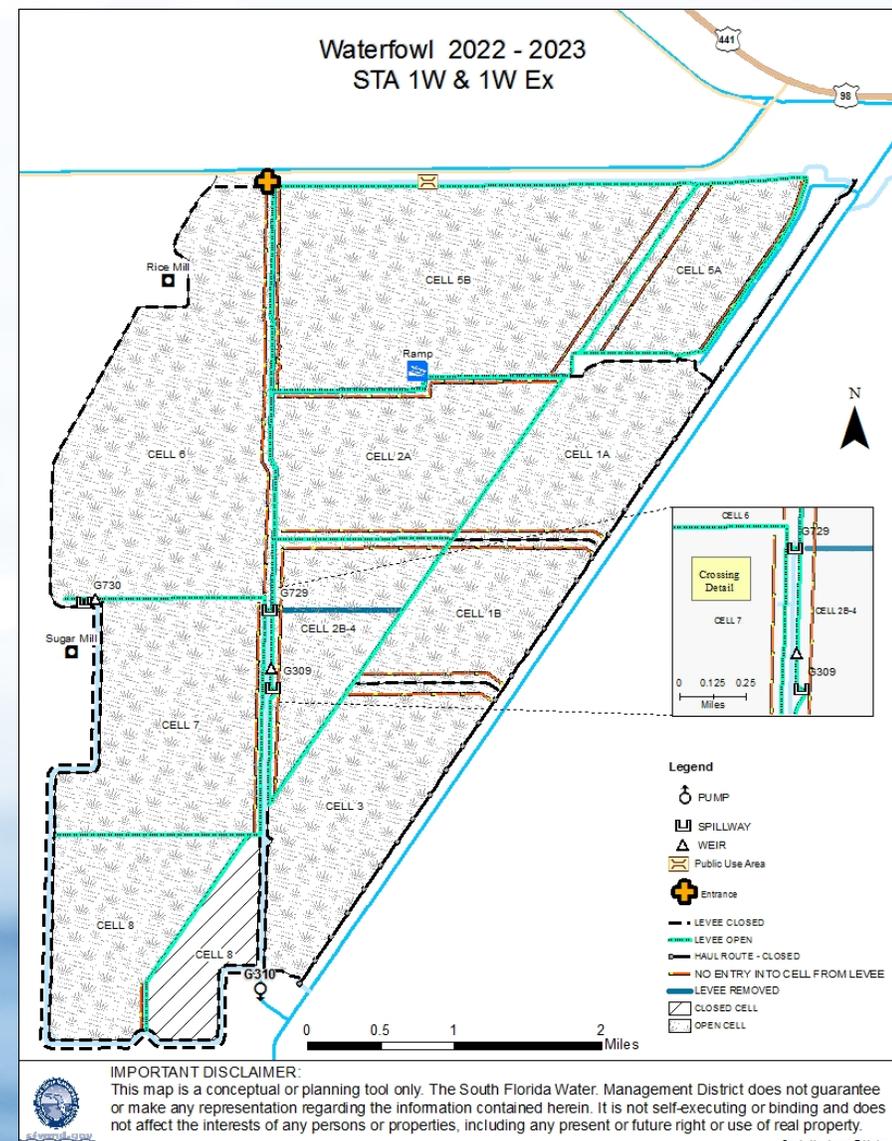


FWC Alligator Statewide Changes

- STA's and A1 FEB alligator hunting format unchanged from 2021 (5PM -10AM)
- FWC Alligator statewide rule change to allow 24-hour hunting
- Not compatible with STA function
 - Unsecured access
 - Compatibility with other public use

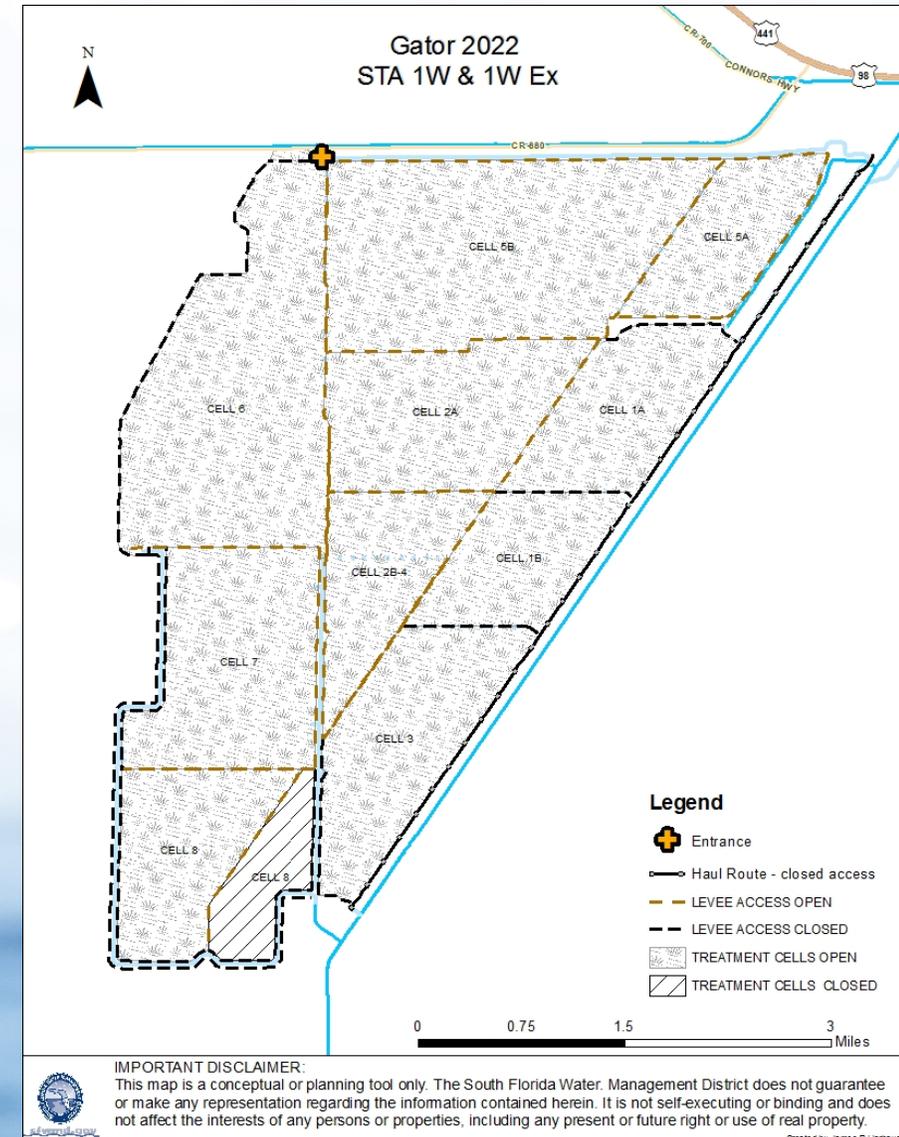
STA 1W Waterfowl

- Quota expected to increase
- STA cells re-opened
 - Cell 5b/2a levee
 - Cell 2-B4
- New construction haul Route – EX 2
- Cell 7 & 8 levee construction
 - Start 2022
- Utilize original check station



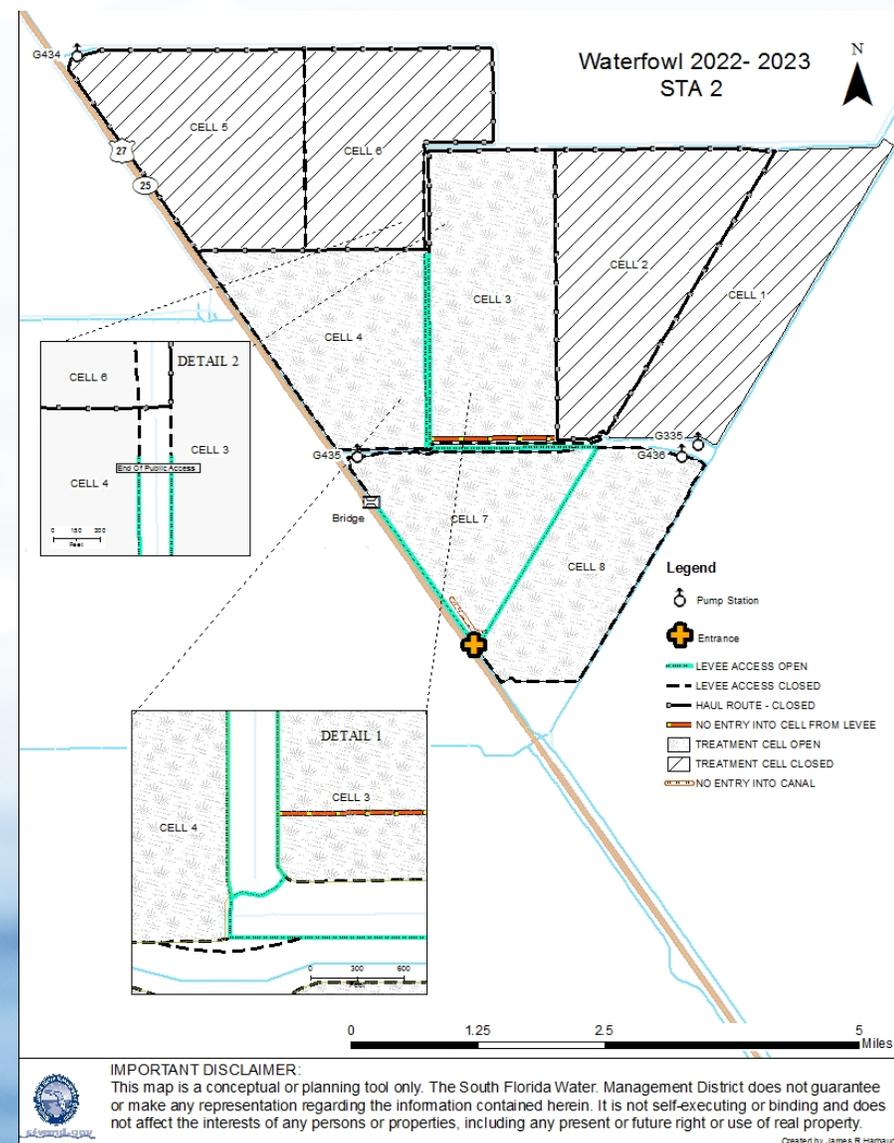
STA 1W Alligator

- Quota 25
 - Down from 2021
- Same levees open as waterfowl



STA 2 Waterfowl

- Quota same as 2021-2022
- Cell 2 continuing refurbishment
 - Construction haul routes
 - Limit accessible levees
- Adding more access than last year
 - Cell 4 east levee



STA 2 Alligator

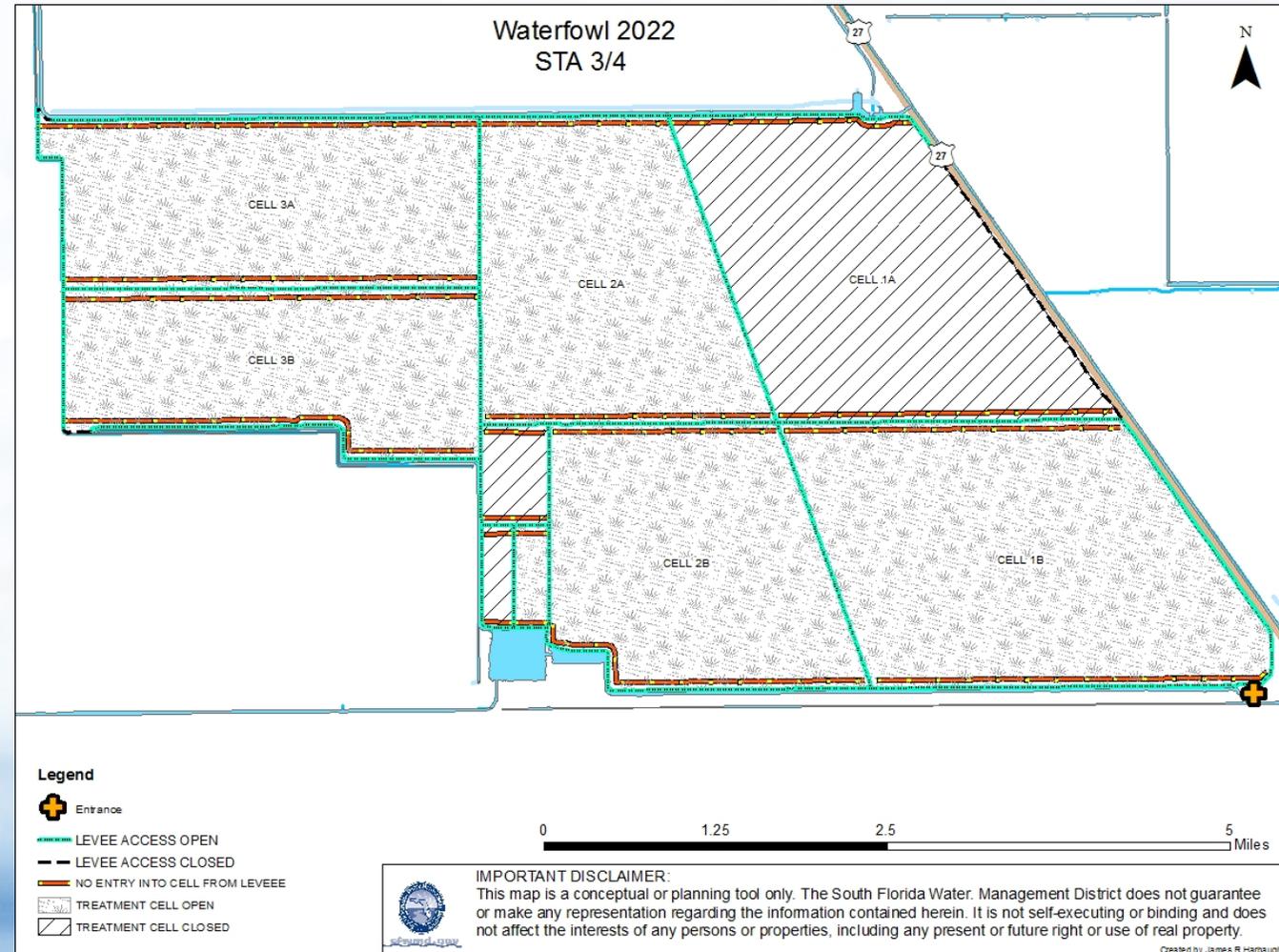
- No alligator hunting 2022
- Same as 2021
- Not enough space for multiple hunters
- Open to hunting post construction 2023



STA 2- CELL 2 APRIL 2022

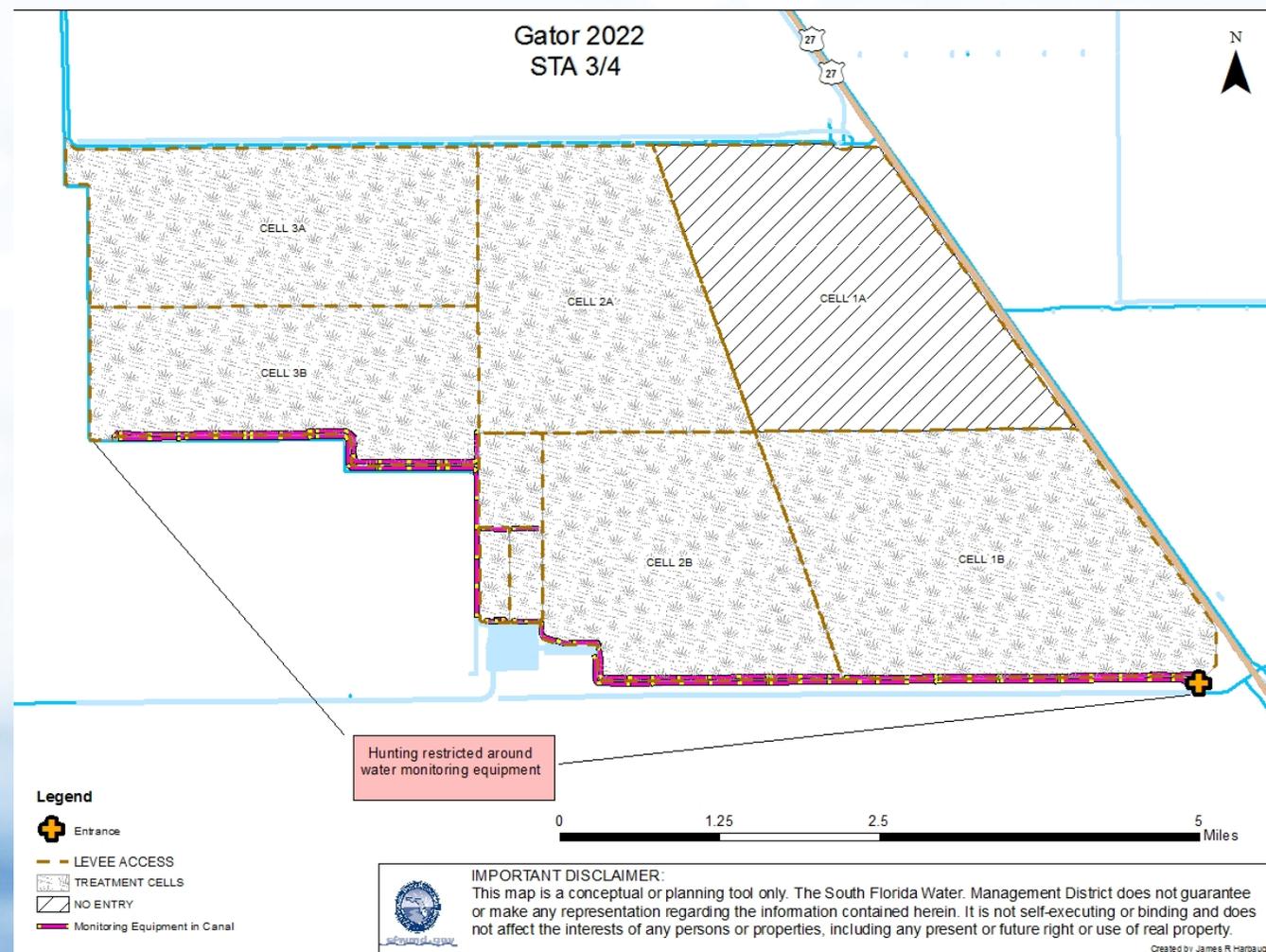
STA 3/4 Waterfowl

- Quota same as 2021-2022
- Pending upcoming restoration projects
- Continued draw down cell 1A
 - Vegetation repair
 - Delamination



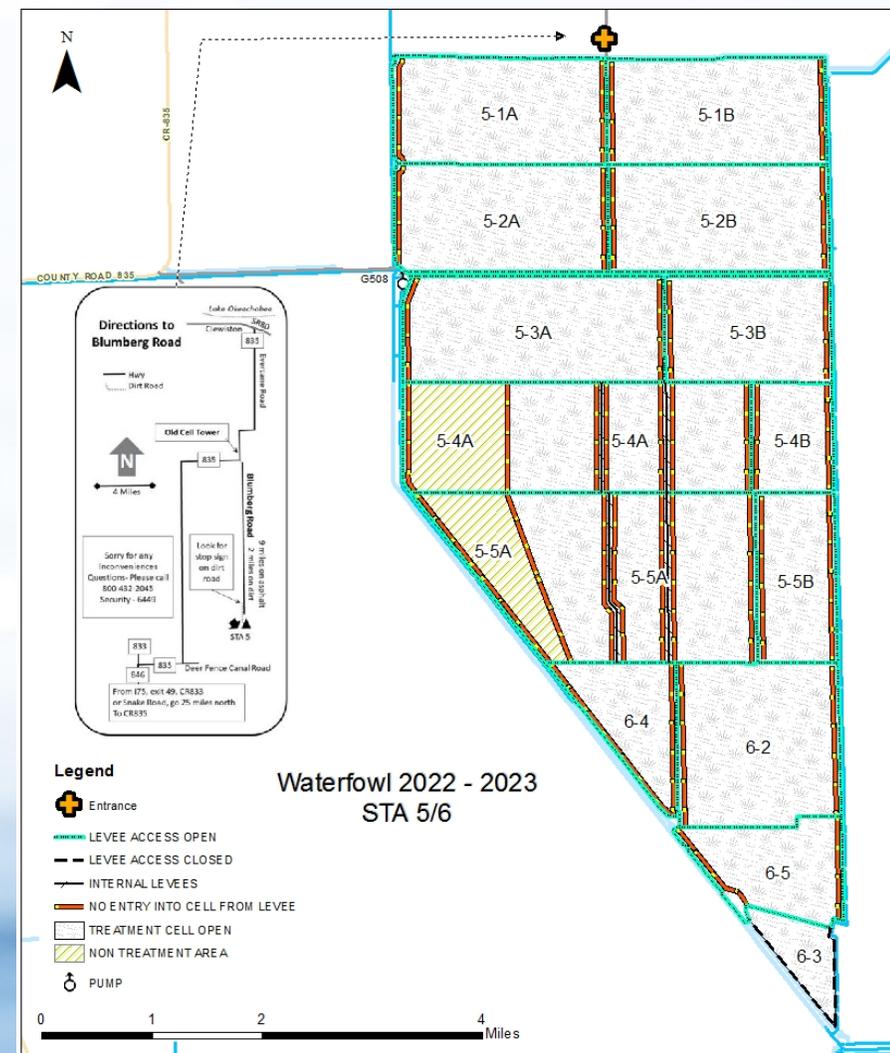
STA 3/4 Alligator

- Quota same as 2021
- Same levees open as waterfowl
- Alligator hunting restricted around water quality monitoring equipment



STA 5/6 Waterfowl

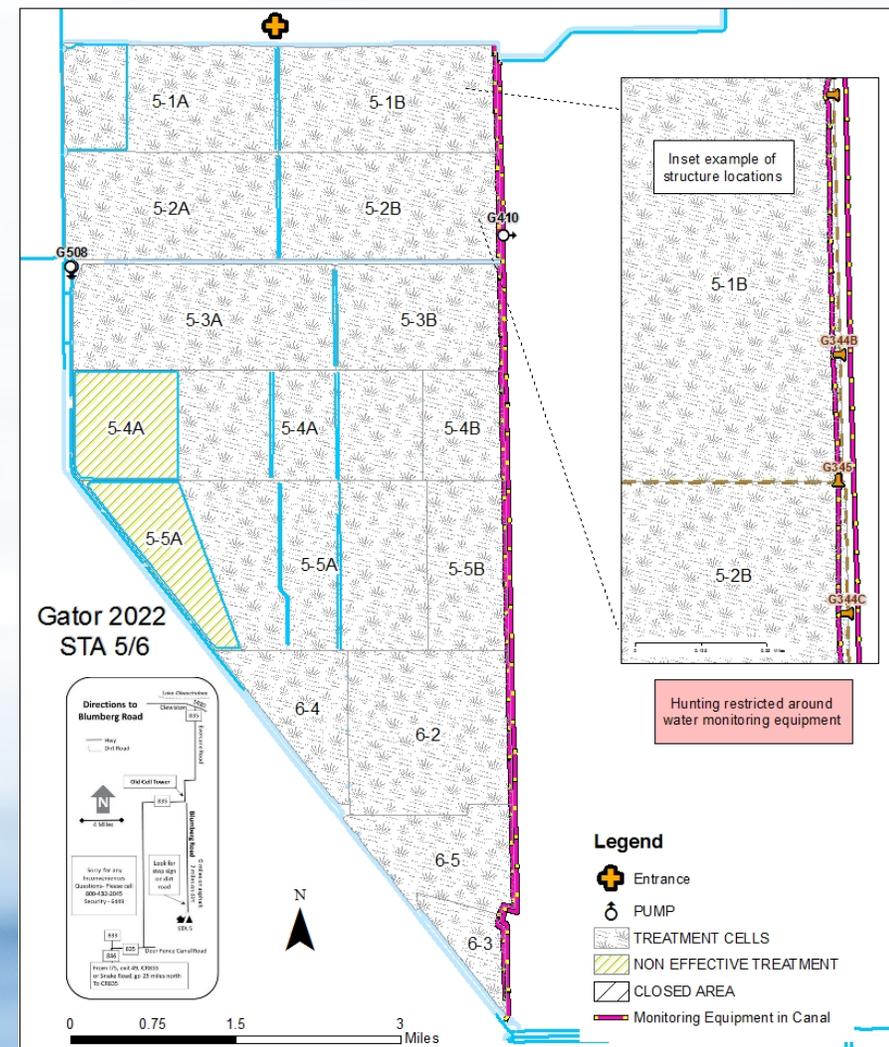
- Quota Same as 2021 -2022
- Blumberg Rd access
 - C 139 FEB construction zone
 - Deer Fence Canal Rd reroute
 - Expected completion summer 2023



IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER:
 This map is a conceptual or planning tool only. The South Florida Water Management District does not guarantee or make any representation regarding the information contained herein. It is not self-executing or binding and does not affect the interests of any persons or properties, including any present or future right or use of real property.

STA 5/6 Alligator

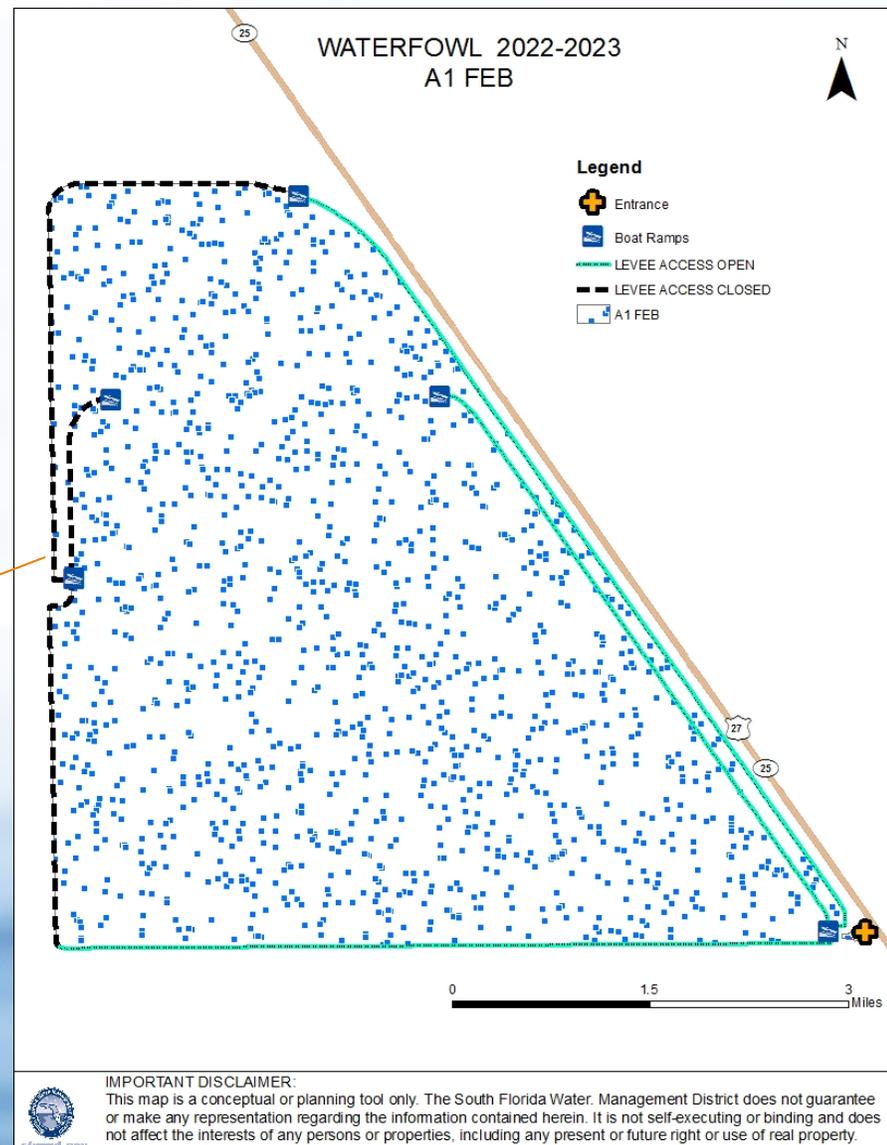
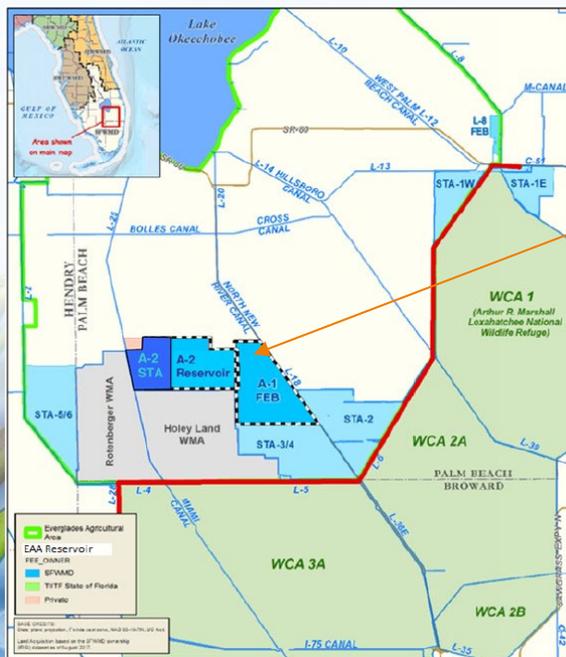
- Quota same as 2021
- Same access re-route
- Alligator hunting restricted around water quality monitoring equipment



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 Created by James R. Harbough

A1 FEB Waterfowl

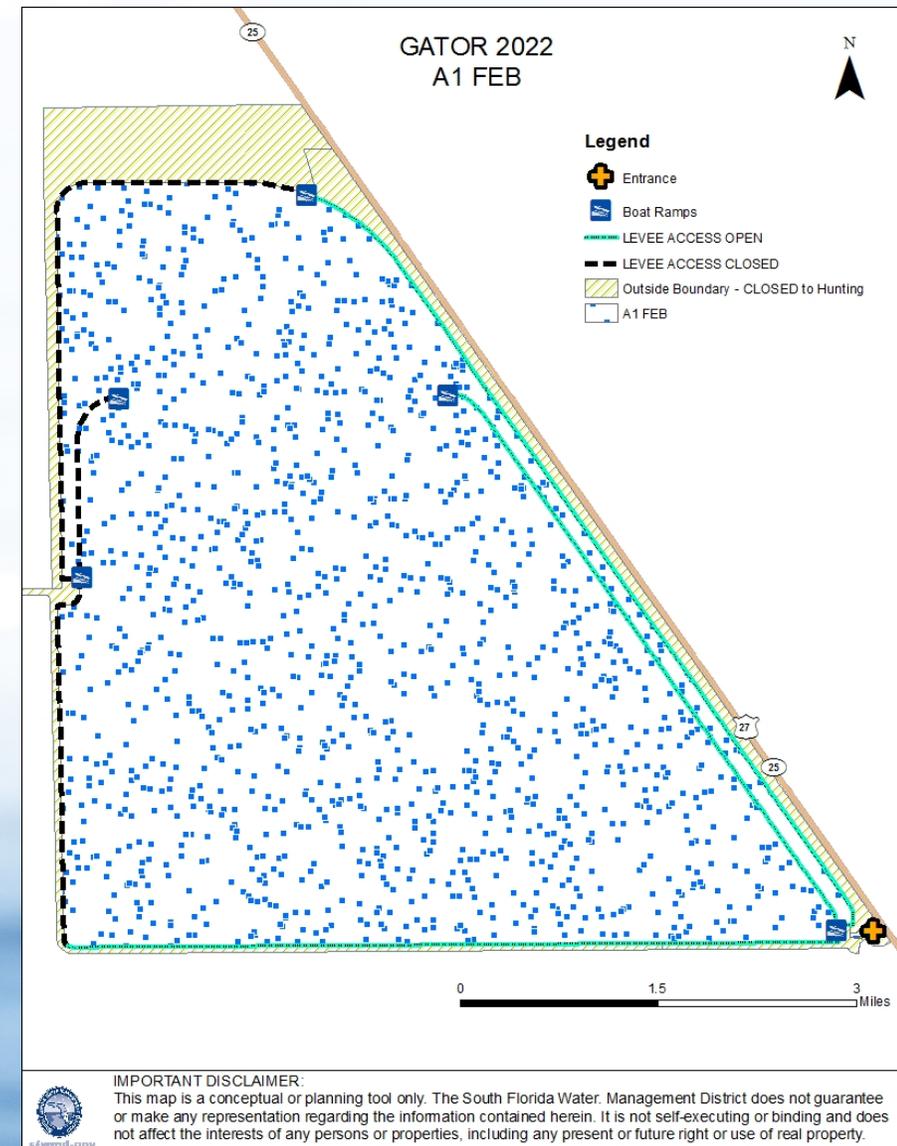
- Quota same as 2021-2022
- W & N levee closed due to A2 construction



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A1 FEB Alligator

- Quota same as 2021
- Same levee access open as waterfowl
- Hunting hours consistent with STA's



STA 1E Alligator 2023

- Governing Board approved May 2022
- 1st quota season 2023
- Specialty Hunts 2022
- Highly urbanized area – unique for STA's



Questions

James Harbaugh

jharbaug@sfwmd.gov





Public Use Project Updates

Recreational Forum

June 13, 2022

Dan Cotter
SFWMD, Land Stewardship Section





Shingle Creek Management Area

- Shingle Creek is approx. 2,400 acres located in Orange County.
 - New picnic shelter with picnic tables constructed.





Loxahatchee River Portages

- Loxahatchee River located in Palm Beach & Martin Counties
 - Portage ramps for canoeing / kayaking at Masten & Lainhart Dam have been replaced with composite wood.



New composite wood decking





Site 1 Restoration

- Site 1 is located in southwestern Palm Beach County just north of Lox Road:
 - Area has been popular for hiking, biking, and wildlife viewing.
 - This past year extensive invasive plant control and debris removal has taken place.





Site 1 Restoration



Site 1

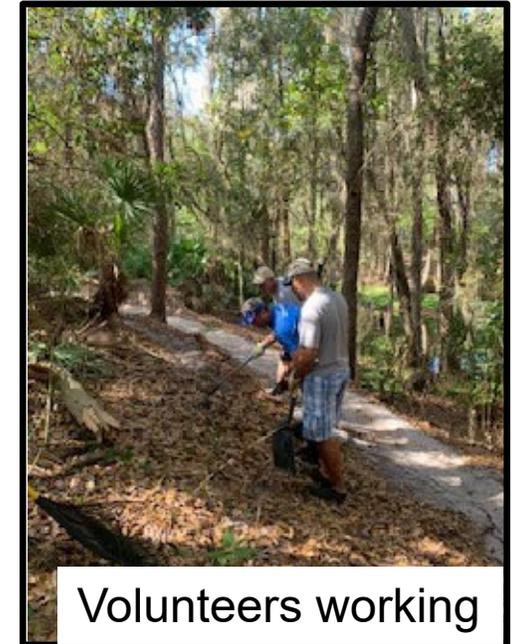


Shingle Creek Volunteer Workday

- Volunteers continuing to work on trails at Shingle Creek Management Area in Orange County.
 - SORBA (Southern Off-Road Bike Association) recently had volunteers trim trails and make repairs to trail bridges at the property.
 - Thank you!



Trail repairs



Volunteers working



Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Volunteer Workday

- BBCW located in Miami-Dade County.
 - Volunteers conducted debris cleanup, weeding, and planting of over 400 native plants and trees.
 - Thank you!



Volunteers working



DuPuis Equestrian Volunteer Workdays

- DuPuis is located in Martin and Palm Beach Counties.
 - Volunteers from the equestrian community have recently volunteered on several occasions to work on the equestrian campground and equestrian trails.
 - Thank you!

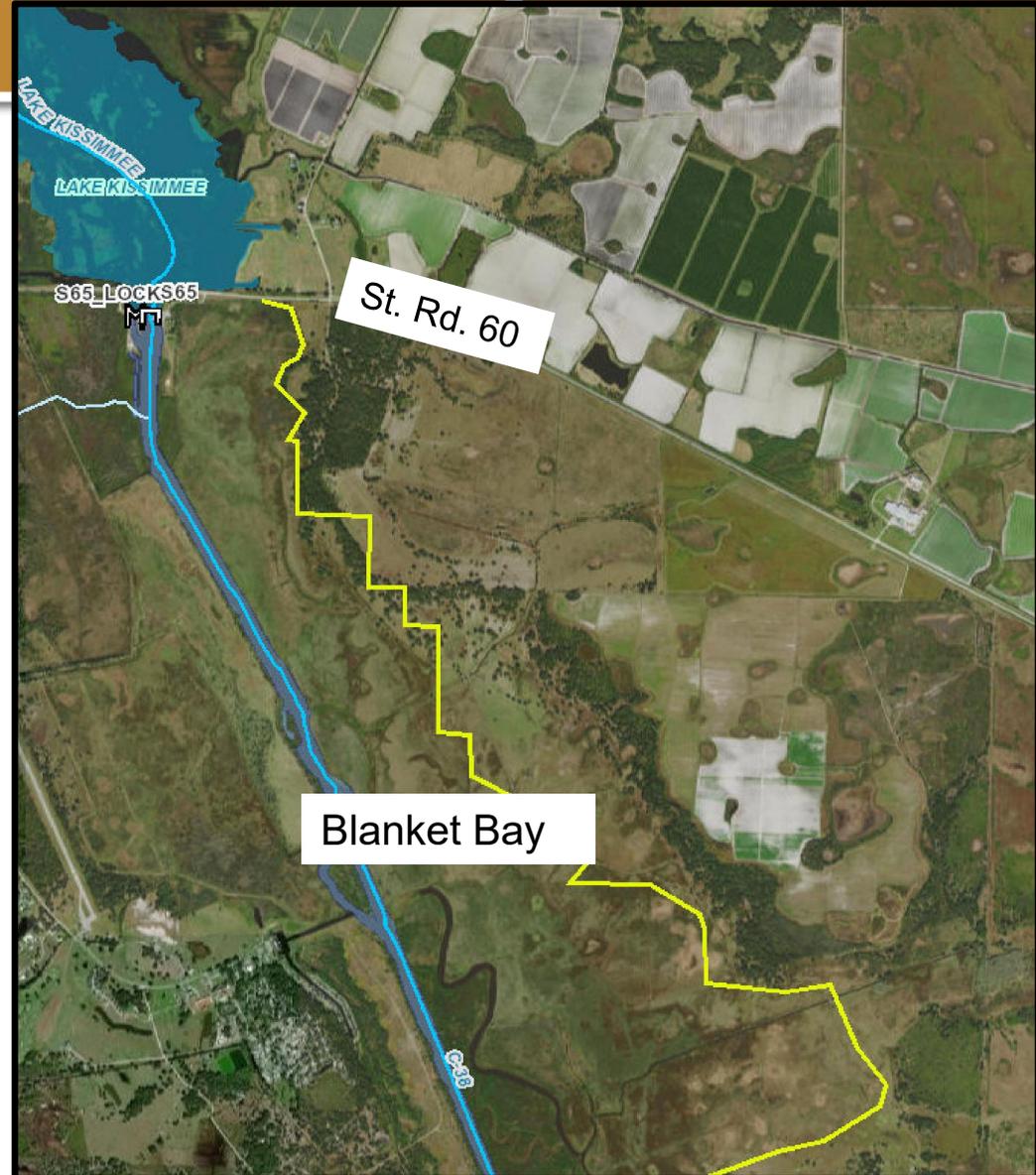




Kissimmee River Volunteer Project

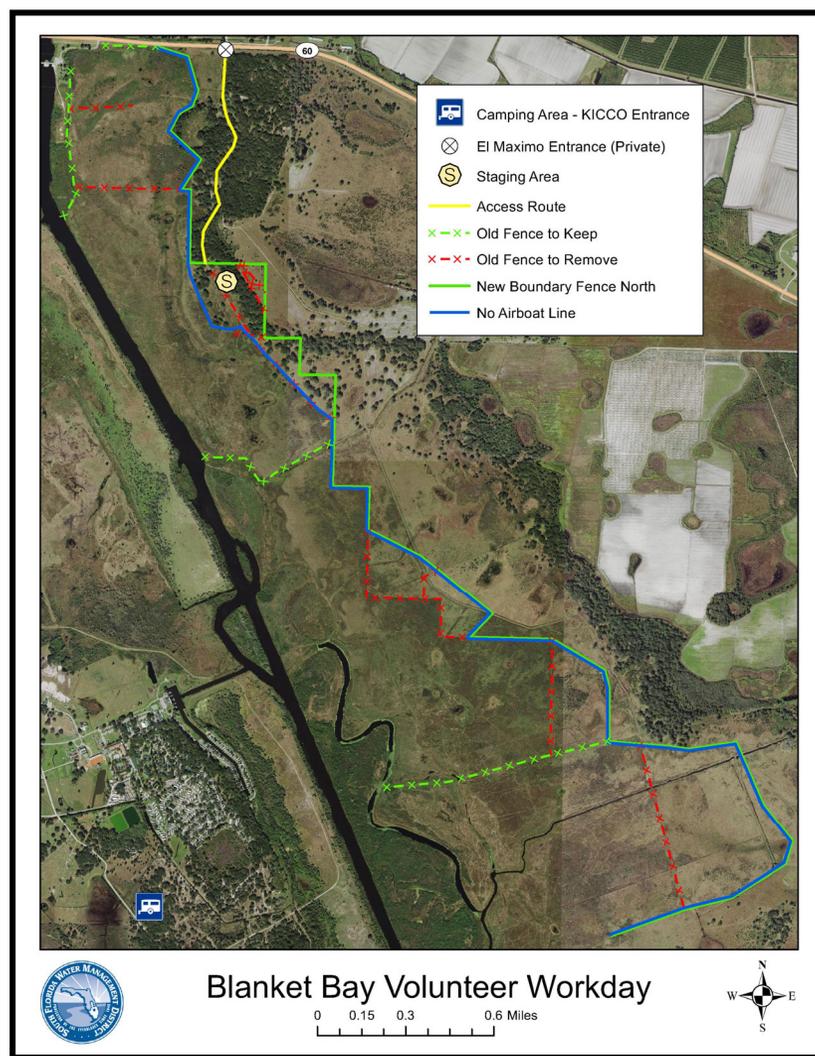
➤ KR Volunteer Project

- Located on east side of Kissimmee River, just south of St. Rd 60 in property known as Blanket Bay.
- On Saturday April 30th volunteers removed old cross-fencing and debris, and assisted with the installation of public use signage.





Kissimmee River Volunteer Project





Kissimmee River Volunteer Project



Volunteers posting signage



Volunteers pulling out old fencing



Kissimmee River Volunteer Project



Skid steer pulling old fencing and posts out



Airboat signs posted by volunteers



Kissimmee River Volunteer Project

➤ KR Volunteer Project

- Numerous fence posts, several hundred yards of fence wire, and many other pieces of debris were removed including a very large abandoned metal pipe.
- Included volunteers supplying 13 swamp buggies, 2 skid steers, 2 side-by-sides, tools and equipment.



Debris pile stacked by volunteers



Kissimmee River Volunteer Project

➤ KR Volunteer Project

- 54 volunteers, including several families and their kids, participated.
- Approx. 486 hours of volunteer service equating to in-kind services valued at \$13,452.
- Thank you to the Lake Okeechobee Airboat Association and the Florida Sportsmen's Conservation Association for organizing the event.





Want to comment?

Zoom:

- If you're participating via Zoom – use the Raise Hand feature

Phone:

- If you're participating via Phone –
 - *9 Raises Hand
 - *6 Mutes/Unmutes

