FDACS BMP Program
Overview
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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.)
- Implementation of FDACS adopted Best Management Practices (BMPs) provides a presumption of compliance with state water quality standards (e.g., Numeric Nutrient Criteria, Total Maximum Daily Loads).
- Implementation Assurance – Recordkeeping
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?
Critical Area Fencing
Water Quantity

- Agriculture is second 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
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.