

FDACS BMP Program Overview

Rich Budell, Director
Office of Agricultural Water Policy

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Commissioner Adam H. Putnam



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?



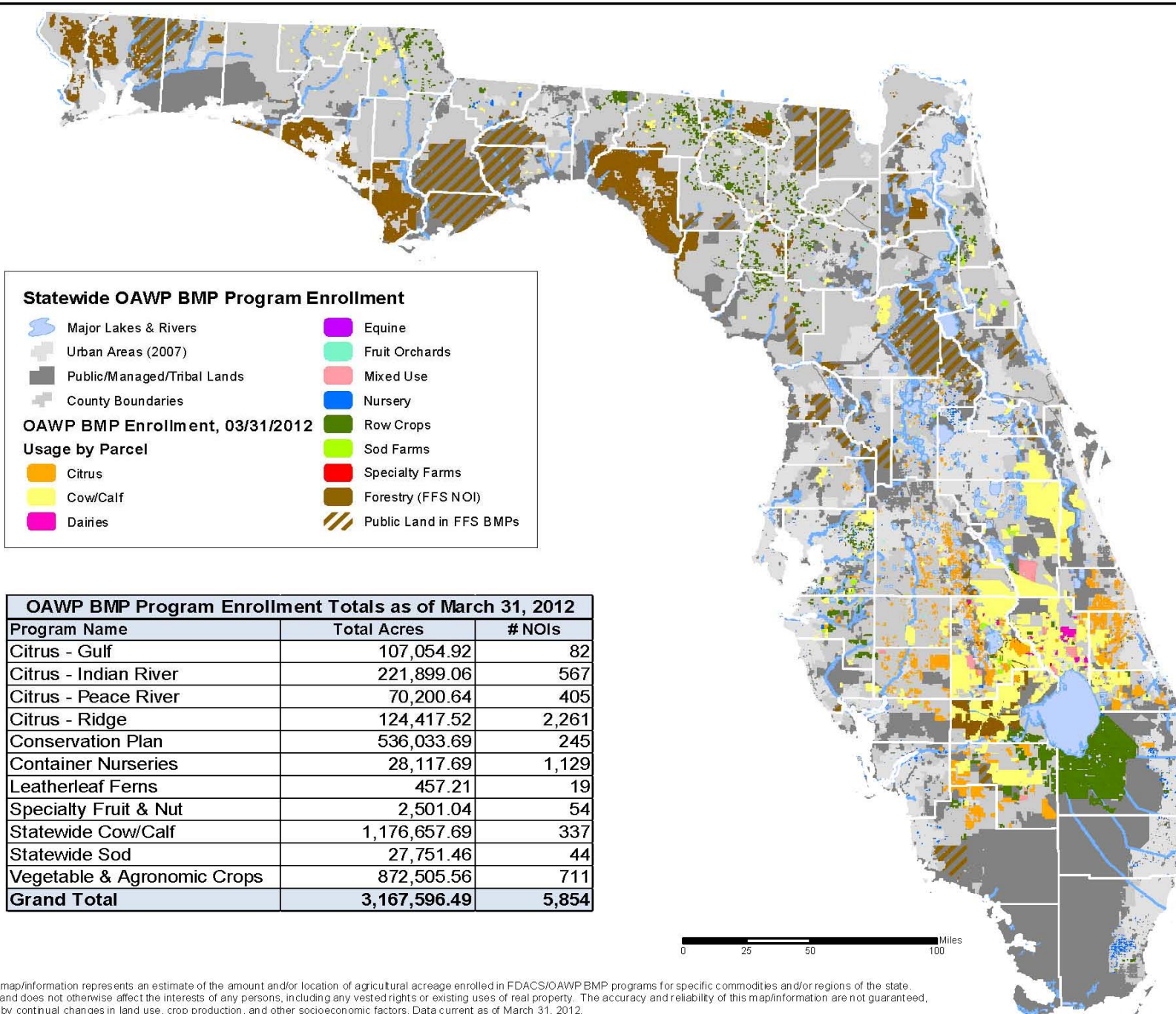
Critical Area Fencing



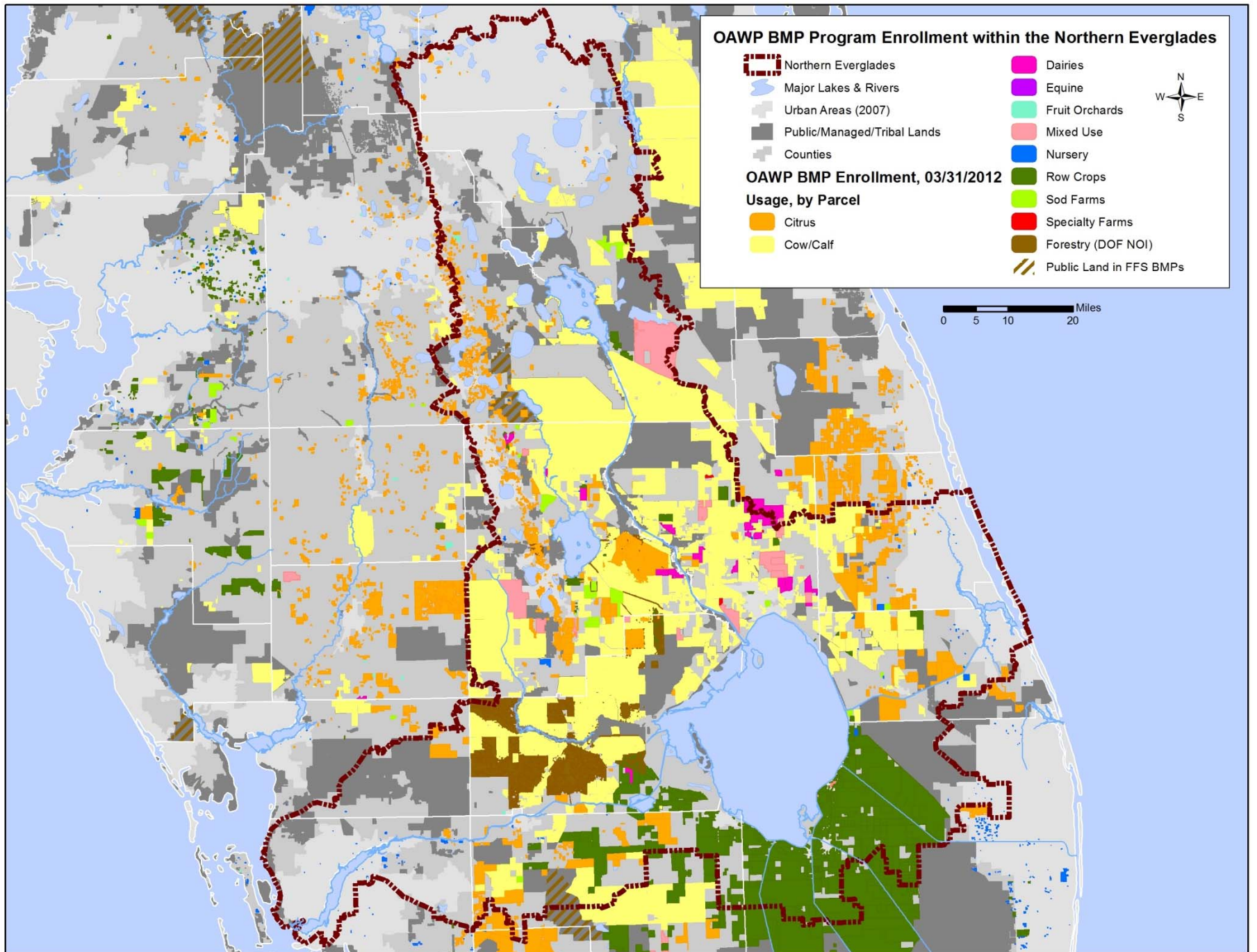


Water Quantity

- 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



Disclaimer: This map/information represents an estimate of the amount and/or location of agricultural acreage enrolled in FDACS/OAWP BMP programs for specific commodities and/or regions of the state. It is not binding, and does not otherwise affect the interests of any persons, including any vested rights or existing uses of real property. The accuracy and reliability of this map/information are not guaranteed, and are affected by continual changes in land use, crop production, and other socioeconomic factors. Data current as of March 31, 2012.





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