

# ***FDACS BMP PROGRAM OVERVIEW***

**UF/IFAS and FDACS/Office of  
Agricultural Water Policy**



# Florida Watershed Restoration Act

- Authorizes FDACS to develop water quality and water quantity BMPs to address agricultural nonpoint sources to meet Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLS) and otherwise protect water quality.
- Implementation of FDACS BMPs, according to rule, provides “presumption of compliance” with state water quality standards for the pollutants addressed by the BMPs.



# Benefits of Implementing BMPs

- Demonstrates environmental stewardship and strengthens support for BMP approach
- Provides presumption of compliance with state water quality standards
- Right to Farm Act protection – for activities addressed by implemented BMPs
- Eligibility for state-funded cost share
- May satisfy some WMD permit requirements
- Voluntary program, unless in an impaired area



# Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)

- Strategy to address a TMDL or group of TMDLs
- Facilitated by FDEP with input from stakeholder groups
- Participation in FDACS BMP programs is agriculture's method of compliance
- Agriculture must implement FDACS BMPs or monitor water quality to show compliance

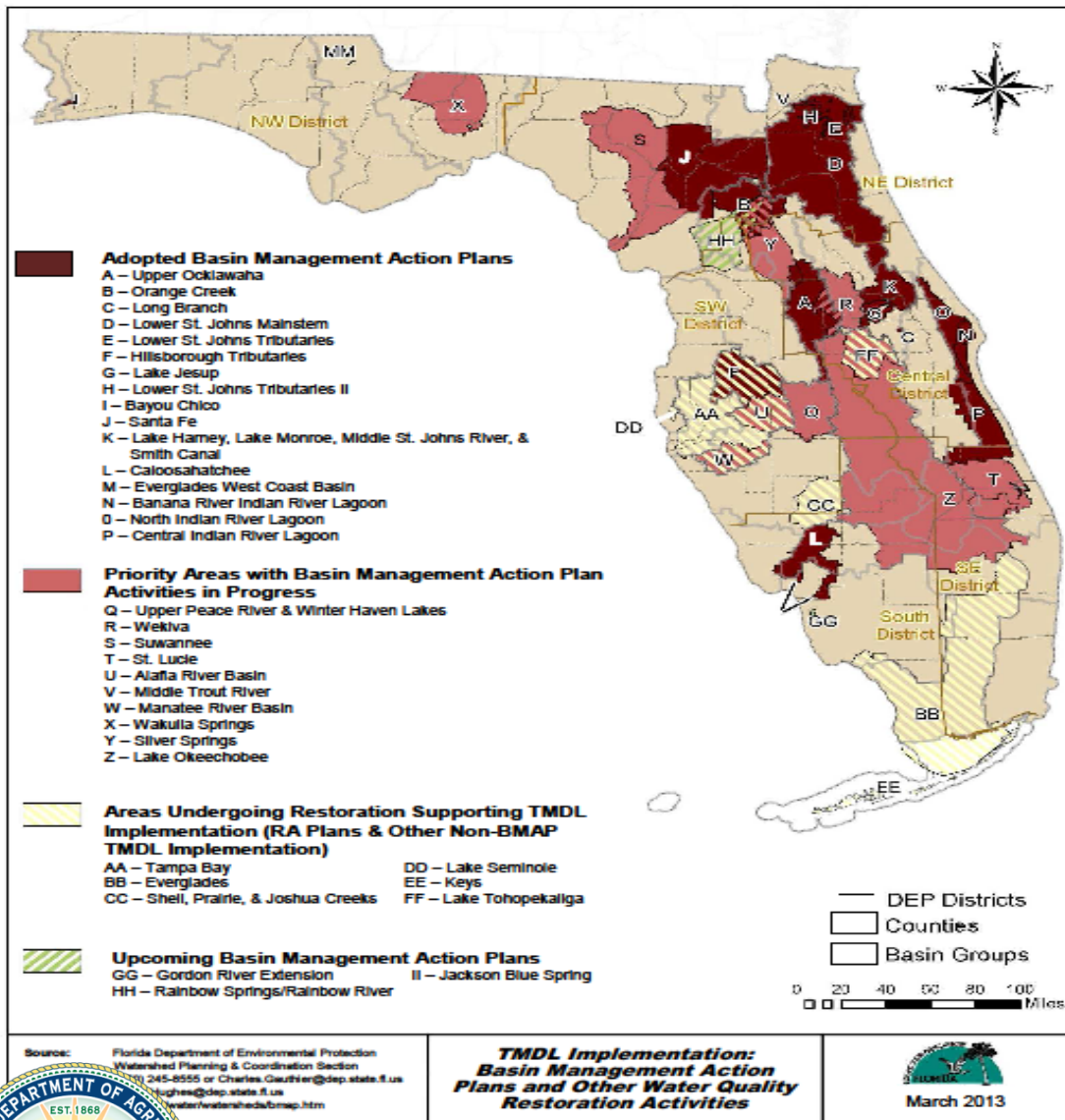


## Adopted BMAPs in SWFWMD

- Hillsborough River Tributaries

## BMAPs in Progress

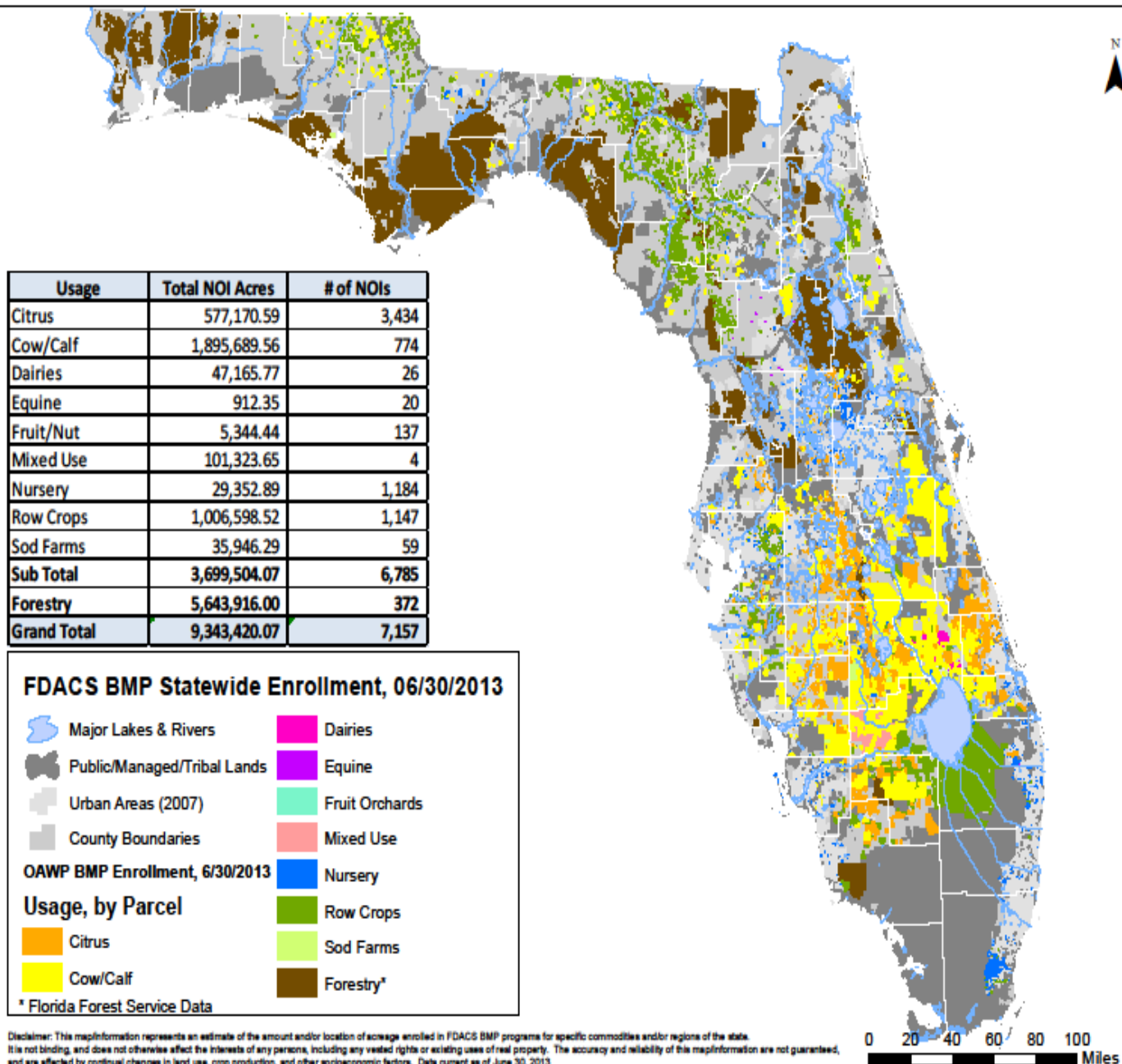
- Upper Peace River
- Winter Haven Chain of Lakes
- Alafia River
- Manatee River
- Rainbow River
- Rainbow Springs
- Silver Springs



# FDACS BMP Programs

- **Citrus** (*new, statewide manual*)
- **Vegetable & Agronomic Crops** (*to be updated*)
- **Container Nursery** (*new, statewide manual, pending adoption, conducting field test soon*)
- **Sod**
- **Cow/Calf**
- **Specialty Fruit & Nut**
- **Commercial Equine**
- **Conservation Plan Rule** (*for livestock and multi-commodity operations*)





**Total Ag  
Acres, 9.25  
million**

**Total Acres  
Enrolled,  
4.2 million**

**45 %  
Enrolled**

Disclaimer: This map information represents an estimate of the amount and/or location of acreage enrolled in FDACS 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 June 30, 2013.



# BMP Program Participation

- ***Technical assistance*** provided to producers via field staff and contracted implementation staff
- ***What Happens On-site:***
  - Implementation teams and staff work one-on-one with producers to assess natural resource concerns and identify BMPs that are implemented or planned, non-applicable, technically or economically not feasible
  - Implementation teams and staff assist producer with completion of BMP checklist and Notice of Intent (NOI)





# Notice of Intent (NOI) Form

## Official record of:

- Who is implementing the BMPs
- Number of acres operating under BMPs
- Where BMPs are being implemented (through listing of parcel identification #'s)





# NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPLEMENT WATER QUALITY BMPs FOR FLORIDA FLORIDA SPECIALTY FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Rule 5M-13.004, F.A.C.

- Complete all sections of the Notice of Intent (NOI). Each NOI may list only properties that are within the same county and are owned or leased by the same person or entity, and on which applicable BMPs will be identified and implemented under this manual.
- Submit the NOI, along with the BMP Checklist, to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), at the address below.
- Keep a copy of the NOI and the BMP checklist in your files as part of your BMP record keeping.

You can visit <http://www.freshfromflorida.com/onestop/forms/01548.pdf> to obtain an electronic version of this Notice of Intent to Implement (NOI) form.

If you would like assistance in completing this NOI form or the BMP Checklist, or in implementing BMPs, contact FDACS staff at (850) 617-1727 or [AgBmpHelp@freshfromflorida.com](mailto:AgBmpHelp@freshfromflorida.com).

Mail this completed form and the BMP Checklist to:  
FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy  
1203 Governor's Square Boulevard, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

## Person To Contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Relationship to Landowner/Leaseholder: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Landowner or ☐ Leaseholder Information (check all that apply)

NOTE: If the Landowner/Leaseholder information is the same as the Contact Information listed above, please check: ☐ Same as above. If not, complete the contact information below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the following information for the property on which BMPs will be implemented under this NOI. You may list multiple parcels if they are located within the same county and are owned or leased by the same person or entity.

Operation Name: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

## Tax Parcel Identification Number(s) from County Property Appraiser

Please submit a copy of your county tax bill(s) for all enrolled property, with owner name, address, and the tax parcel ID number(s) clearly visible. If you cannot provide a copy of the tax bill(s), please write the parcel owner's name and tax parcel ID number(s) below in the format the county uses. Attach a separate sheet if necessary (see form provided).

Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Additional parcels are listed on separate sheet. (check if applicable)

Total # of acres of all parcels listed (as shown property tax records): \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of acres on which BMPs will be implemented under this NOI: \_\_\_\_\_

In accordance with section 403.067(7)(c)2, Florida Statutes, I submit the foregoing information and the BMP Checklist as proof of my intent to implement the BMPs applicable to the parcel(s) enrolled under this Notice of Intent.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(check all that apply) ☐ Landowner ☐ Leaseholder ☐ Authorized Agent (see below)\*

\*Relationship to Landowner or Leaseholder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Staff Assisting with NOI: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTES:

- You must keep records of BMP implementation, as specified in the BMP manual. All BMP records are subject to inspection.
- You must notify FDACS if there is a full or partial change in ownership with regard to the parcel(s) enrolled under this NOI.
- Please remember that it is your responsibility to stay current with future updates of this manual. Visit the following website periodically to check for manual updates: [www.floridaagwaterpolicy.com](http://www.floridaagwaterpolicy.com)

# BMP Checklist

BMP #	BMP Group (See body of manual for full description)	In Use/ CP# Check below / Enter FOTG #	Planned  Enter month / year	Will not implement Check reason below			
				NA	TNF	ENF	Other
<b>1.0 Nutrient Management</b>							
<b>1.1 Level I - Fertilizer Management</b>							
1.	Use Mehlich-1 soil test results or equivalent to determine P application rate						

## Official record of:

- What BMPs are currently implemented
- What BMPs producer is planning to implement and when
- Why certain BMPs were not implemented



# Key BMP Categories

- Nutrient Management
- Irrigation Management
- Water Resources Protection
  - Riparian, Wetlands, and Springs Protection
- Erosion Control



# Examples of BMPs – Nutrient Management

- Choosing appropriate fertilizer sources
- Conducting soil/tissue testing
- Utilizing fertilizer recommendations
- Applying fertilizer appropriately
- Maintaining setbacks to sensitive features



# Examples of BMPs – Irrigation Management

- Using available tools for irrigation/freeze protection decision
- Understanding field capacity
- Minimizing irrigation losses due to evaporation and irrigating beyond field capacity
- Maintaining and evaluating irrigation components



# BMP Follow-up

- ***90-day follow-up check*** – to see whether there are questions or assistance is needed
- ***On-Farm Record Keeping*** is an important component of maintaining some BMPs
- ***BMP Implementation Assurance***
  - Condensed version of BMP Checklist to assess what new BMPs have been implemented and ensure that growers are still participating in the program
  - Field staff and contracted implementation teams conduct questionnaire with grower on-site





<b>Section</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Cost Range</b>
Monitoring Plan Development	Initial Monitoring site selection report for– surface water and/or groundwater. PG or PE required	<b>\$25,000 to \$45,000</b>
Well Installation	Groundwater Monitoring Well installation 25 feet deep or less	<b>\$1,500 per well</b>
Well Installation	Groundwater Monitoring Well installation 70 feet deep or less	<b>\$6,000 per well</b>
Surface Water Monitoring Station	Installation/calibration of station	<b>\$10,000 per station</b>
Sampling Wells	Monitoring Well Sampling Dependent on depth of well	<b>\$400 to \$600 per well</b>
Sampling Wells	Groundwater analytical costs	<b>\$400 to \$800 per sample</b>
Sampling Report	Water quality monitoring report	<b>\$1,500 to \$3,000</b>
QA/QC Protocol	Determination of adherence to state or federal requirements	<b>\$0 - \$1,000</b>
Data Management & Assessment	Data interpretation and statistical analysis	<b>\$1,000 - \$3,000</b> <b>Plus cost of software</b>
Reporting Schedule	Annual Report	<b>\$0 - \$2,500</b>
Evaluation of Monitoring Plan	FDEP or WMD review	<b>No cost to grower</b>
Continued Monitoring	Annual Report	<b>\$0 - \$2,500</b>

# FDACS BMP Cost Share Program

- Reimbursement program
- Enroll in an FDACS adopted BMP manual
- Water quality and quantity implementation projects
  - Examples include: irrigation upgrade, variable rate spreaders, fertigation, irrigation controls and technologies
- 75% project cost up to a maximum of \$15,000 or \$50,000 depending on the type of project

# Eligible BMP Items

- Items eligible for **75%** or **\$15,000** max reimbursement:
  - Soil moisture probes
  - Closed pipeline water delivery
  - Culverts/riser board structures
  - Chemigation/fertigation systems
  - Automation
  - Other water resource enhancement projects

# Eligible BMP Items Continued

- Items eligible for **75%** or **\$50,000** maximum reimbursement:
  - Tailwater recovery systems
  - Detention/Retention systems
  - Soil roller for covercrops

# Example Projects





# Application and Approval Process

- Enroll in the BMP Program
- Provide itemized budget or quotes
- Fill out application
- Sign cost share agreement
- Can do in conjunction with NRCS funding or SWFWMD/FARMS funding
  - We will need to see contract

# Reimbursement Process

- Provide canceled checks, paid invoices, or receipts
- Sign reimbursement form
- Take pictures
- Reimbursed from Hardee Soil and Water Conservation District



# My Florida Farm Weather Program

- We reimburse for installation of on-site weather stations that connect to the FAWN network
- Display data on the FAWN website
- Reimburse **75%** up to **\$5,000** per **300** acres

<http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu/mffw/>

<http://www.highlandsswcd.org/>

# Thank You!

UF/IFAS

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