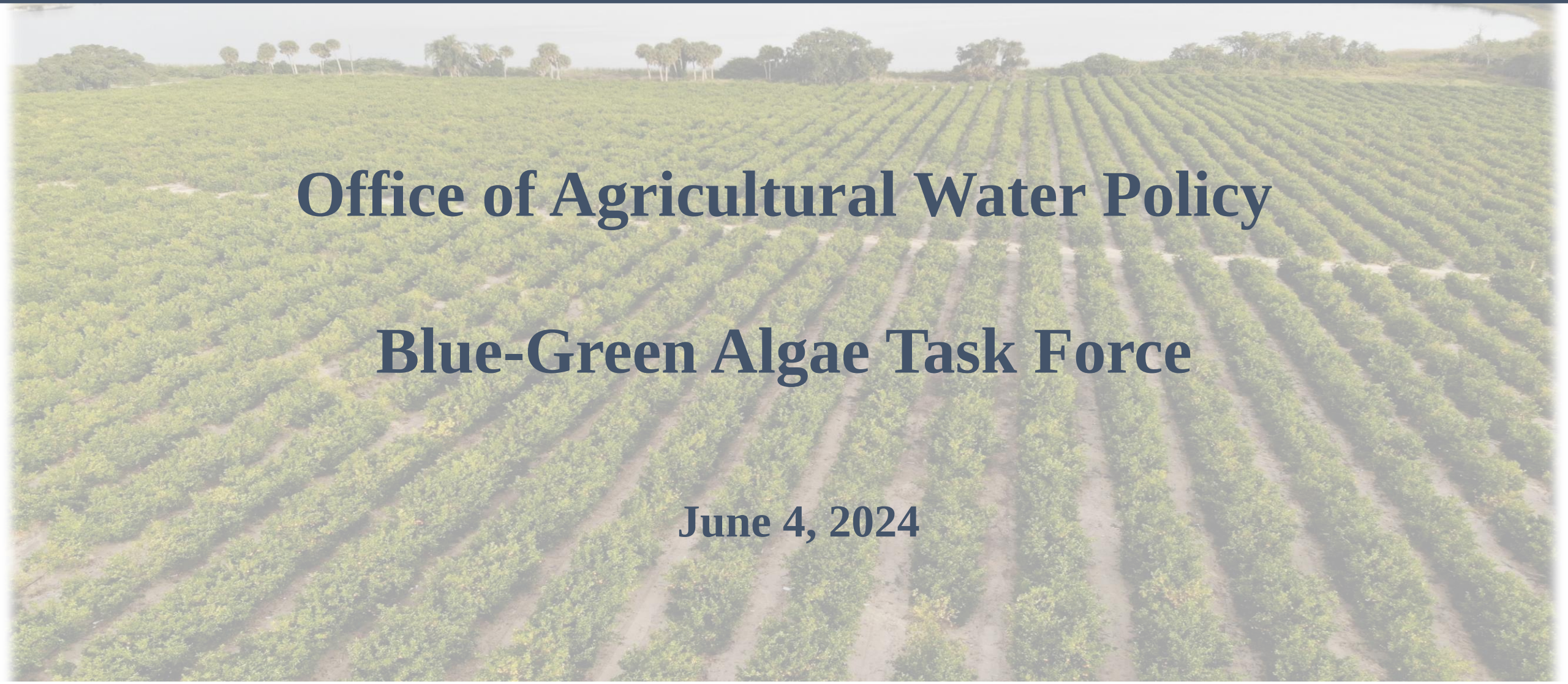


Office of Agricultural Water Policy

Blue-Green Algae Task Force

June 4, 2024

OAWP Responsibilities

- Development and implementation of agricultural best management practices (BMPs)
- Implementation of cost share programs
- Water supply and water quality planning and coordination
- Scientific and technical research
- Other policy development and statutory responsibilities
- Binding determinations

BMPs

- Management strategies, tools and practices that improve water quality, conserve water, and protect water resources (Efficiency)
- Initially based on best professional judgment upon review of available science and technology
- Technical and economic feasibility (Manual)
- Balance Productivity with Water Quality Improvement
- Proper implementation confirmed through implementation verification site visits

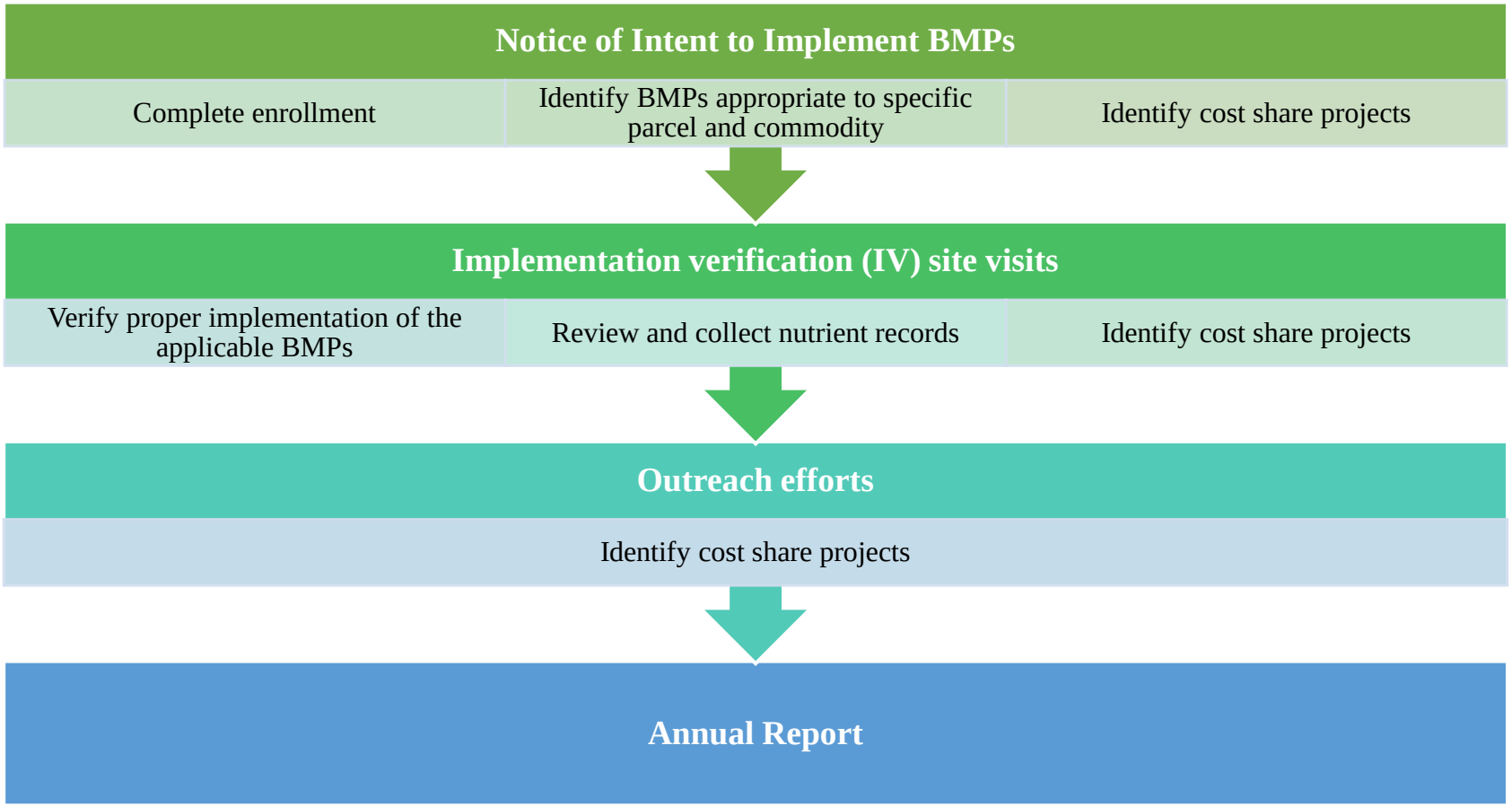
When are BMPs Required?

Within BMAP areas, agricultural producers or landowners are required to:

- Enroll in the BMP program and implement applicable best management practices **OR**
- Demonstrate their compliance with state water quality standards by conducting water quality monitoring prescribed by DEP or a water management district

How are BMPs Developed? 403.067(7)(c)

BMP Enrollment and Verification Process



Cost Share Programs

Prioritization

- "Bang for the buck"
- Targeted areas
- Economic feasibility
- Regional Projects

Collaboration & Leveraging

- Water management district programs
- Statutory requirements as a collaborative agency
- Federal agency programs (Natural Resources Conservation Service - USDA)

Scientific and Technical Research

- **Scientific and technical foundation for BMP development and improvement**
- **OAWP Research Priorities**
  - https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Water/Agricultural-Best-Management-Practices/BMP-Research

OAWP Outlook: 5 Goals

- Improve Perception of BMPs
- Increase Enrollment
- Update Manuals
- Implement Regional Projects
- Improve Relationships

5 Goals: Improve Perception of BMPs

- Engage Enrollees
- Update Research
- Present Successes

Improve Perception of BMPs Status

Thank you for helping protect Florida's water resources!

Florida's farmers and ranchers play an important role in conserving water resources and ecosystems across the state by implementing FDACS Best Management Practices (BMP).

In 2022, producers worked with FDACS staff to:

- Maintain over 12,000 BMP enrollments
- Complete 2,043 BMP implementation verifications including 93% of all enrollments within Basin Management Action Plan areas
- Implement new BMPs assisted by more than $12.5 million in cost share funds

Help tell the industry's story by sharing this with those who would benefit from learning more about agriculture's contribution to Florida's environmental health.

Scan here for more on Agricultural BMPS

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
407 S. Calhoun St.
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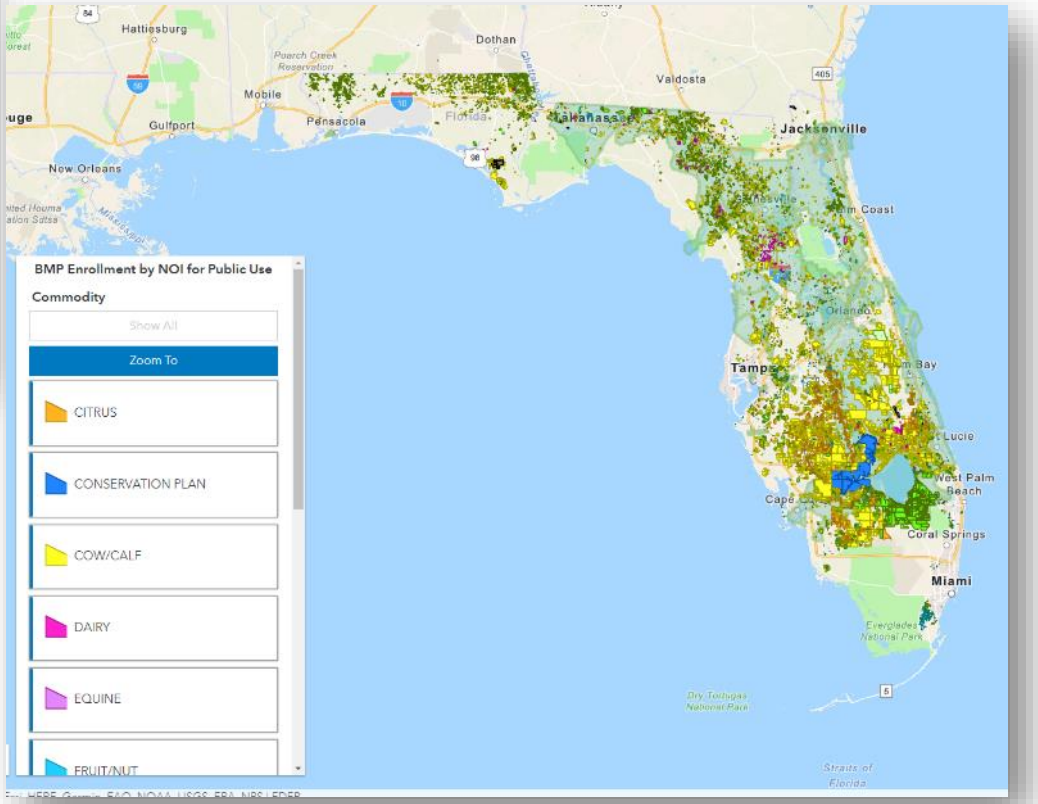
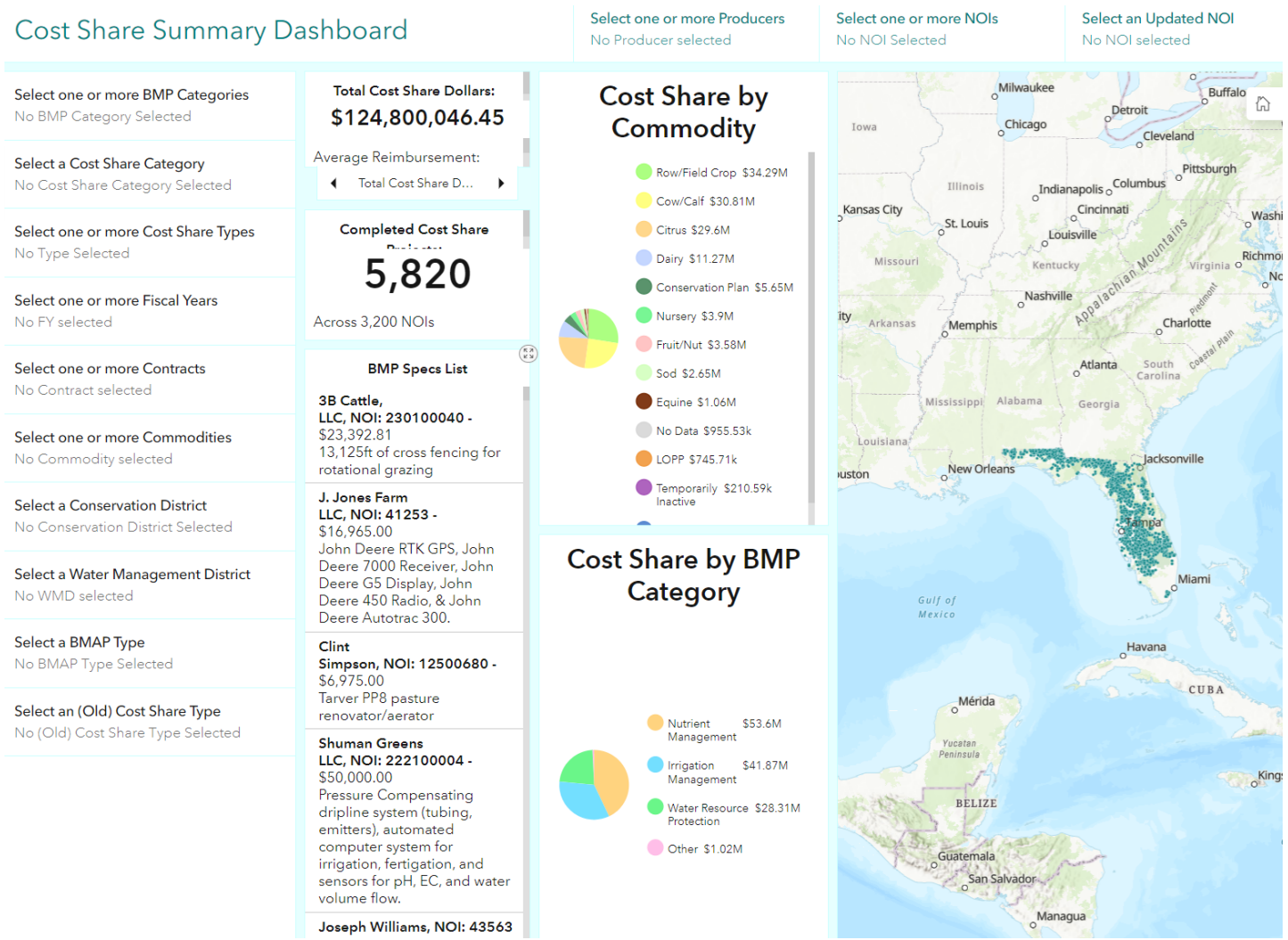


Improve Perception of BMPs Status



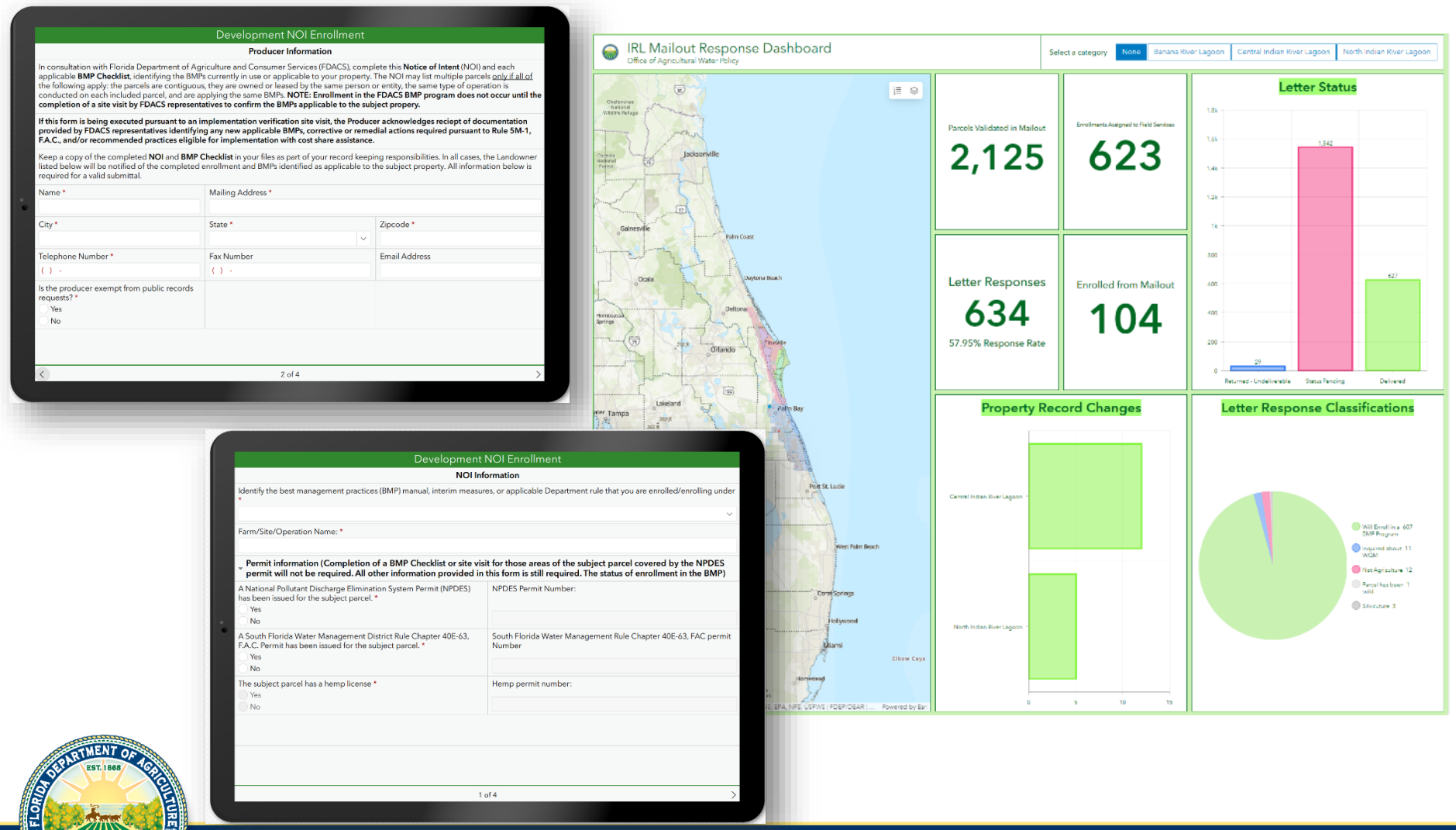
Improve Perception: Status

- **Cost Share Revamp:**
  - Increased clarity and transparency
  - Regional-specific project types
  - Greater emphasis on data collection and spatial mapping

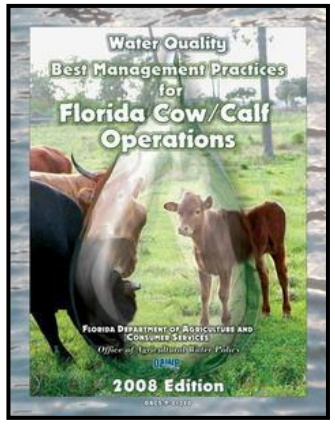
5 Goals: Increase Enrollment

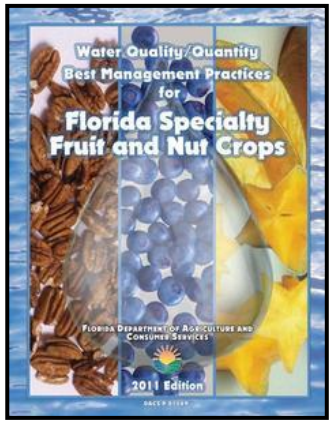
- Enrollment Mail Out Process
- Digital Tool for Staff
- Update Implementation Assistance
- Continue Implementation Verification Success

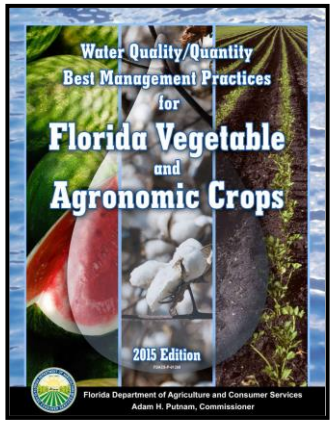
Increase Enrollment: Status

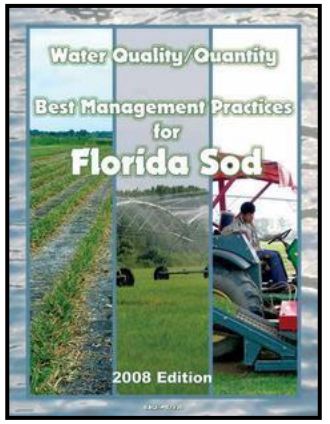


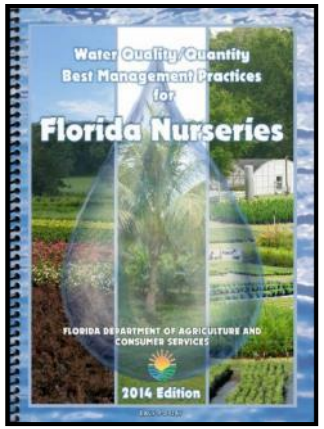
5 Goals: Update BMP Manuals

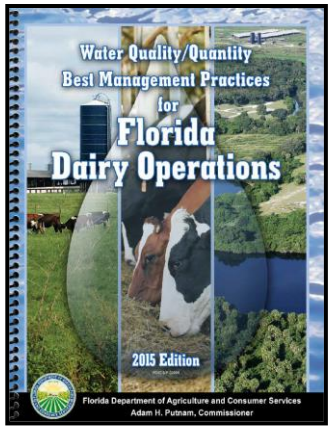


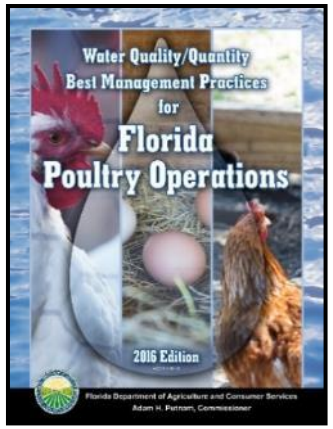


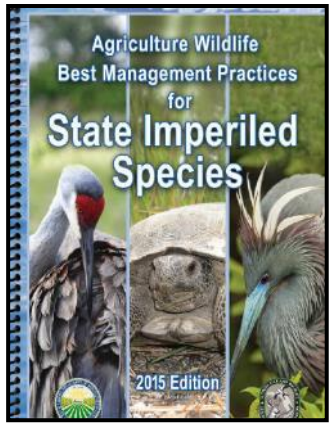










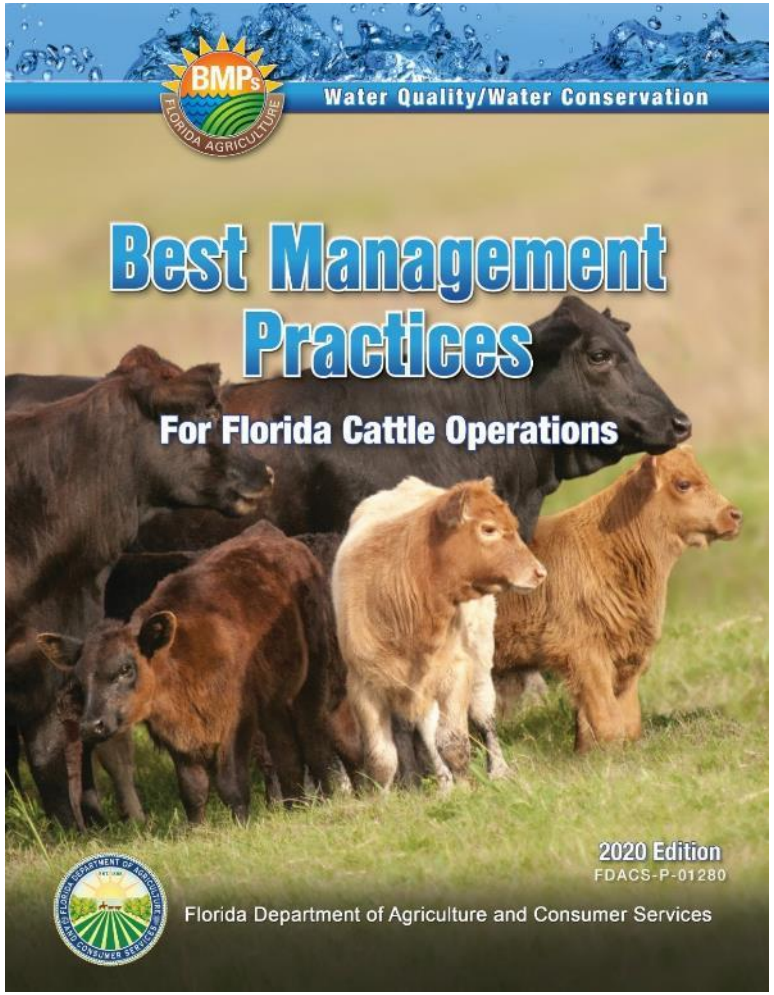


Update BMP Manuals: Status

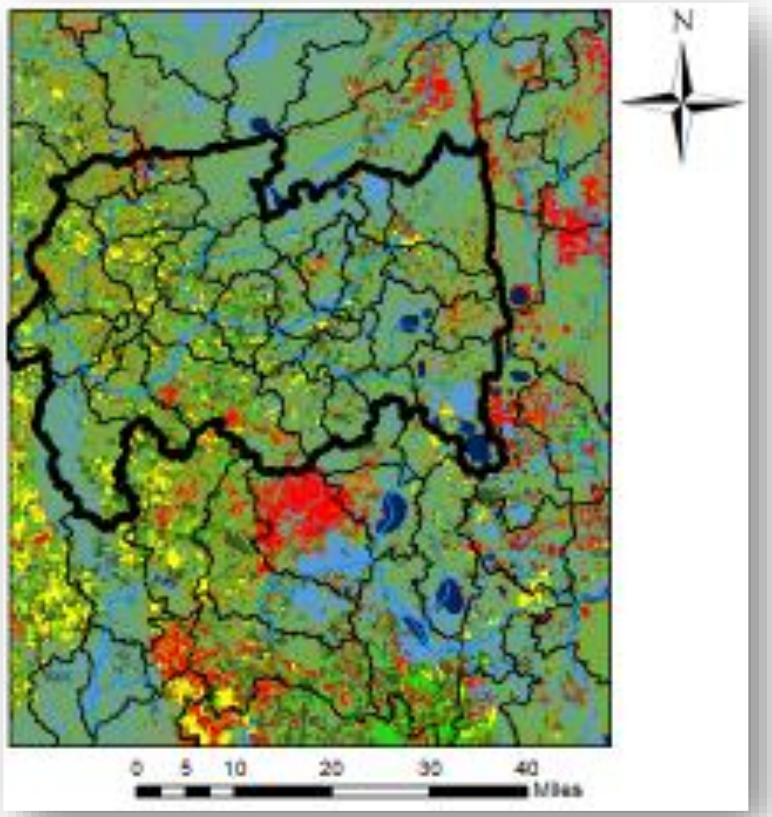
Best Management Practices (BMPs)

The producer agrees to perform the following items either checked as "In Use" or "Planned:

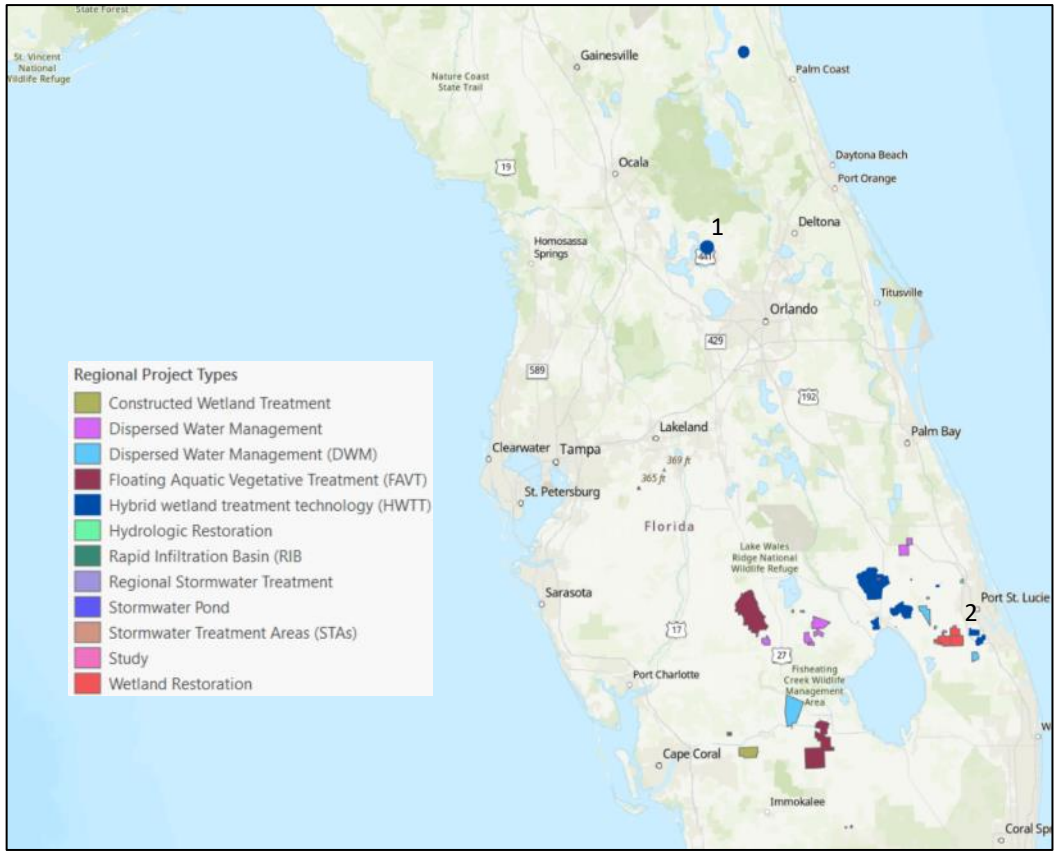
Nutrient Management					
Do you apply nutrients or plan to apply nutrients in any form on the operation associated with this NOI?			Yes	No	-
			In Use	Planned	N/A
1.1	Right Source				
	1	If using commercial fertilizer (including Class AA biosolids), identify and document the nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) concentrations using the guaranteed analysis or product label information prior to application.			
	2	If using manures, poultry litter, compost, or other sources, determine and document the N, P, and K concentrations of those materials prior to application. Acceptable alternatives to laboratory analysis include supplier analysis, NRCS guidelines or values established in scientific literature.			
	3	If using Class A or Class B biosolids, account for the nutrient concentrations and follow the requirements of the FDEP permit.			
1.2	Right Rate				



5 Goals: Implement Regional Projects



Regional Projects



Implement Regional Projects: Status

5 Goals: Improve Relationships

DEP	• Shared Goals with Chief Science Officer • Agency Coordination
Water Management Districts	• Regional Projects • NEEPP Implementation • Visit Governing Boards
Universities	• Contracting Process • Shared Goals for Research

Improve Relationships: Status

BMP Research Updates:

- Standardized Application and Award Process
- Request for applications closed on March 11, 2024.
- Working on Uniform Data template
- One or two project highlights from research summary

BMP Research

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) develops, adopts and assists with the implementation of agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect and conserve Florida's water resources. Each year, FDACS considers applications for BMP research funding that supports current BMPs or evaluates potential BMPs for water quality and water conservation.

Research Spotlight

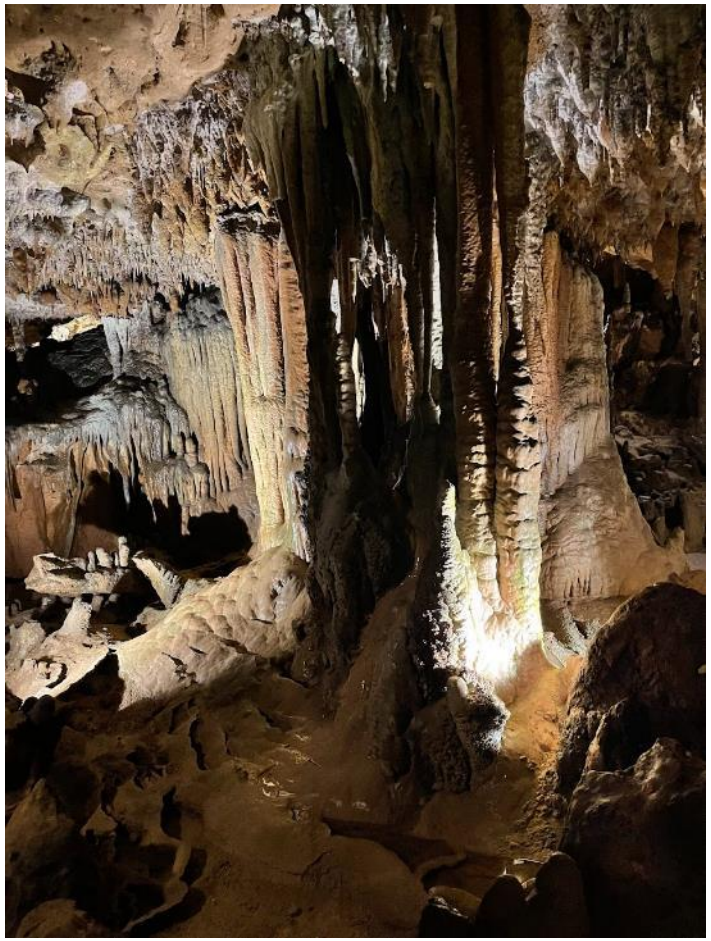
During a tomato field day at the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Wimauma, Dr. Joao Cardoso discusses differences between water-soluble and controlled-release fertilizers and the potential benefits of fertilizer coating technology to improve nitrogen use efficiency of tomato plants.

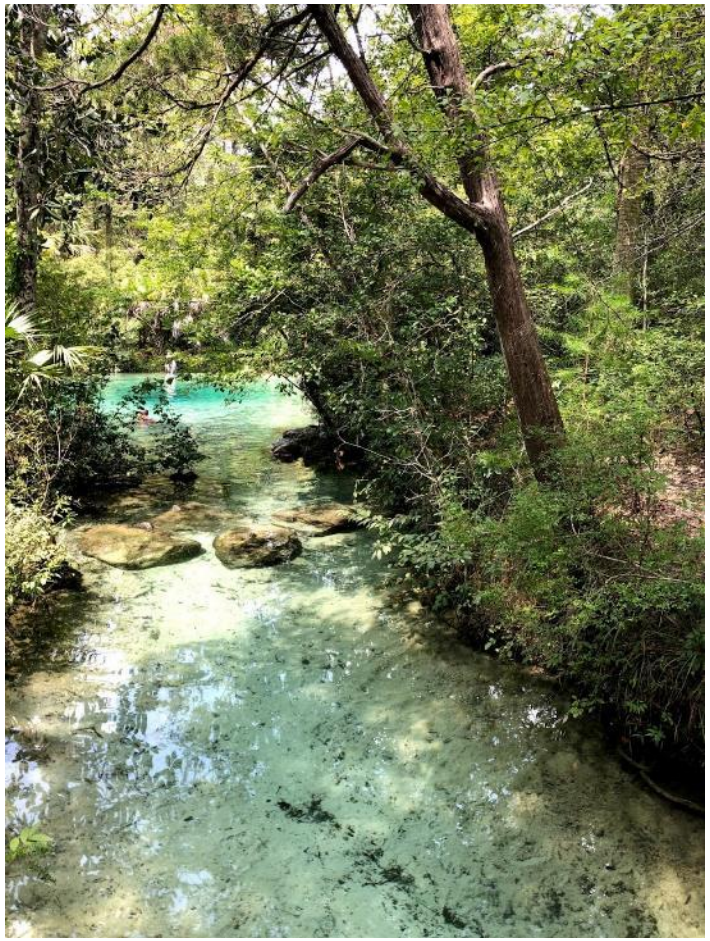
Photo: Dr. Shinsuke Agehara, UF/IFAS

Request for BMP Research Applications Is Closed

The FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy accepted BMP research and demonstration project applications through **March 11, 2024**. We are not accepting additional applications. The next request for applications is anticipated in January 2025.

Connection Between BMPs and Water Quality





Thank You!

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http://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Water-Policy