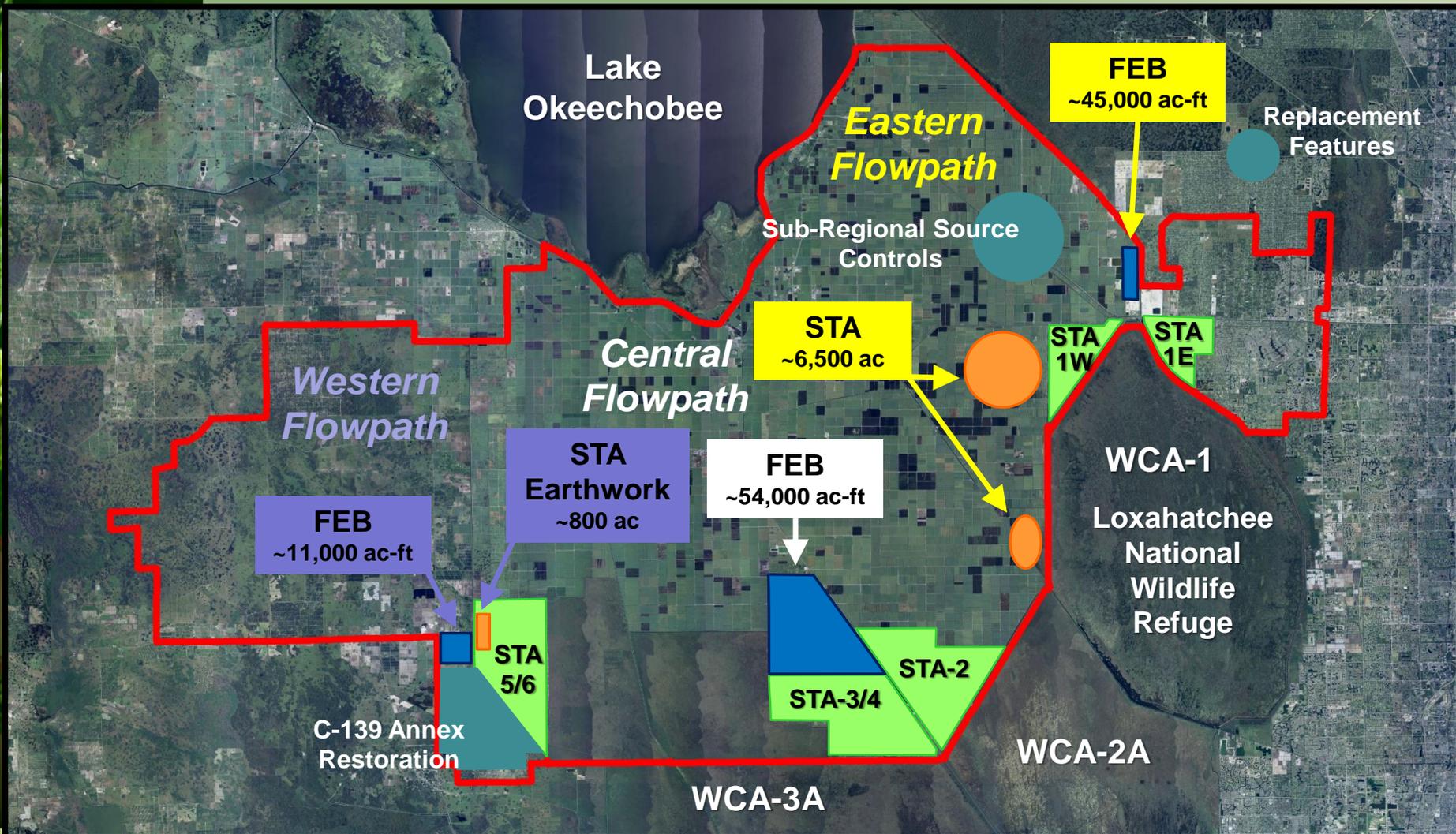




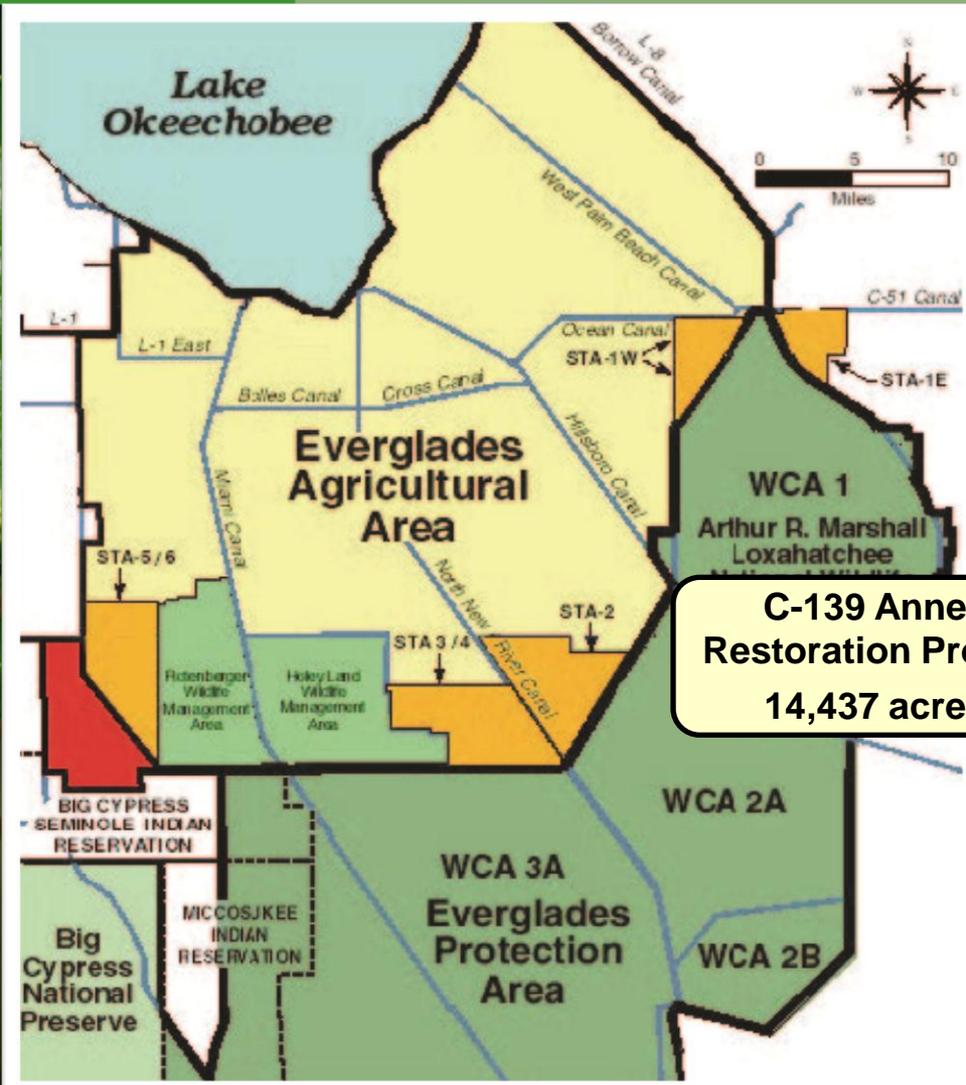
WRAC
C-139 Annex Restoration Project Overview
September 4, 2014

Marjorie Moore, Lead Scientist
Land Stewardship Division

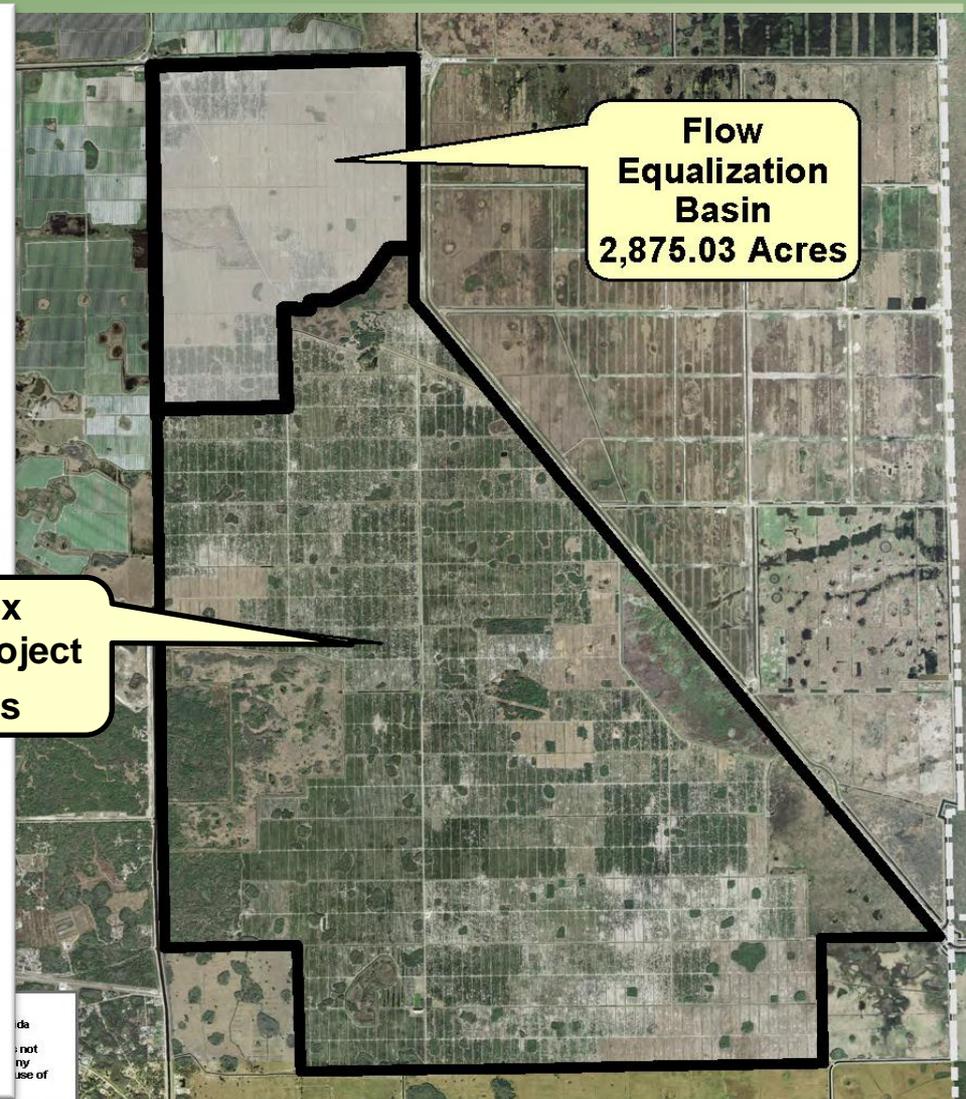
Restoration Strategies



C-139 Annex Restoration Project

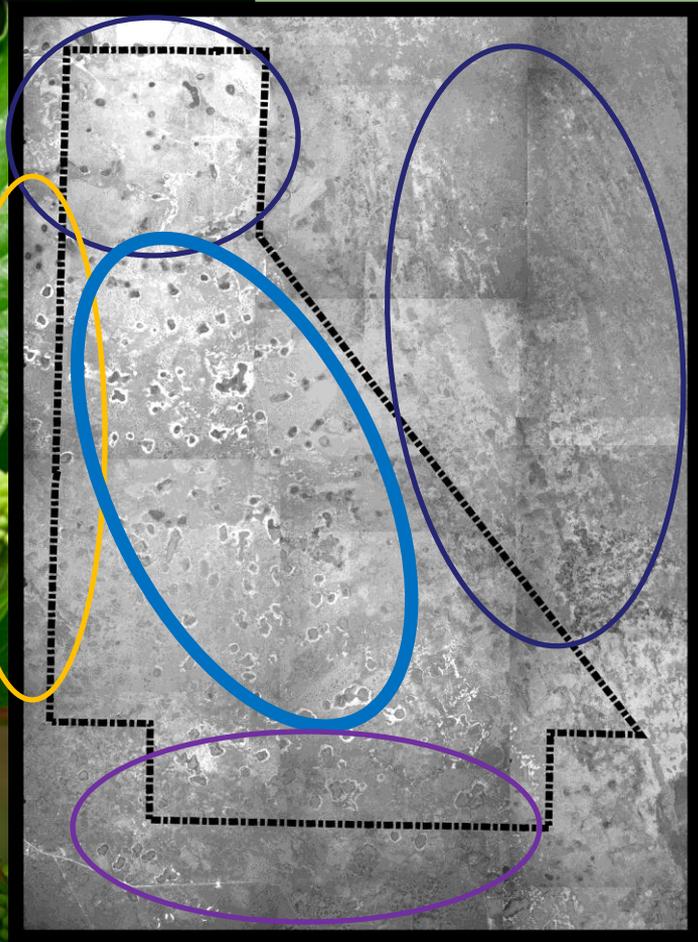


**C-139 Annex
Restoration Project
14,437 acres**



**Flow
Equalization
Basin
2,875.03 Acres**

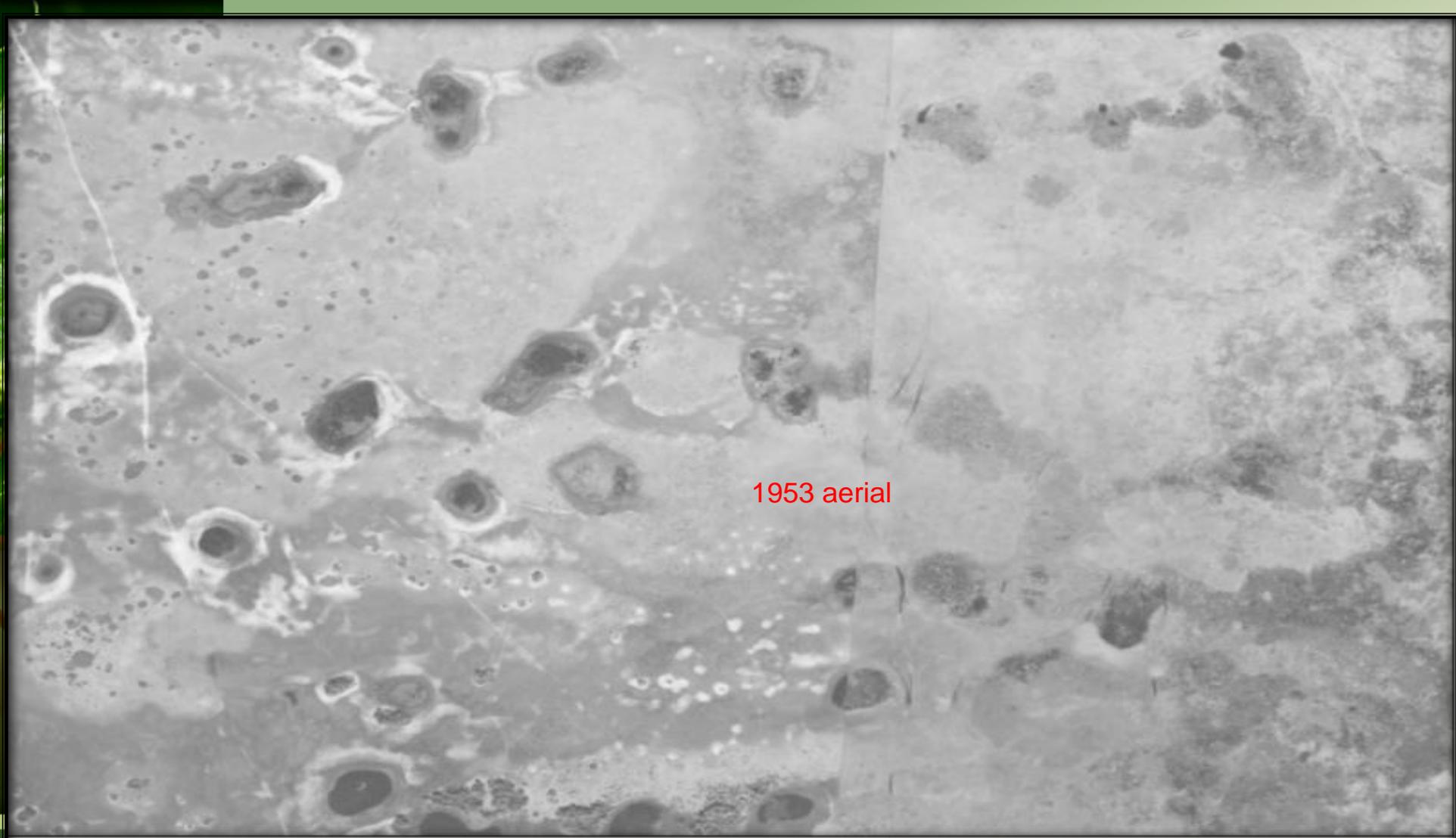
Historic Site Conditions



1953

- Everglades mosaic, east
- Wet prairie with depression marshes, and a couple tree islands
- Dry prairie, north
- Cypress swamp, south
- Wet flatwoods, west

Historic Site Conditions



1953 aerial

C-139 Annex Restoration Mitigation Project Goals

- Restore historic Everglades conditions to ~14,000 acres
- Contribute to improved water quality in the Everglades
- Restore/enhance historic wetlands and upland habitat
- Expand habitat area for listed species
- Promote restoration of a self-sustaining ecosystem
- Maintain current level of flood protection for surrounding properties

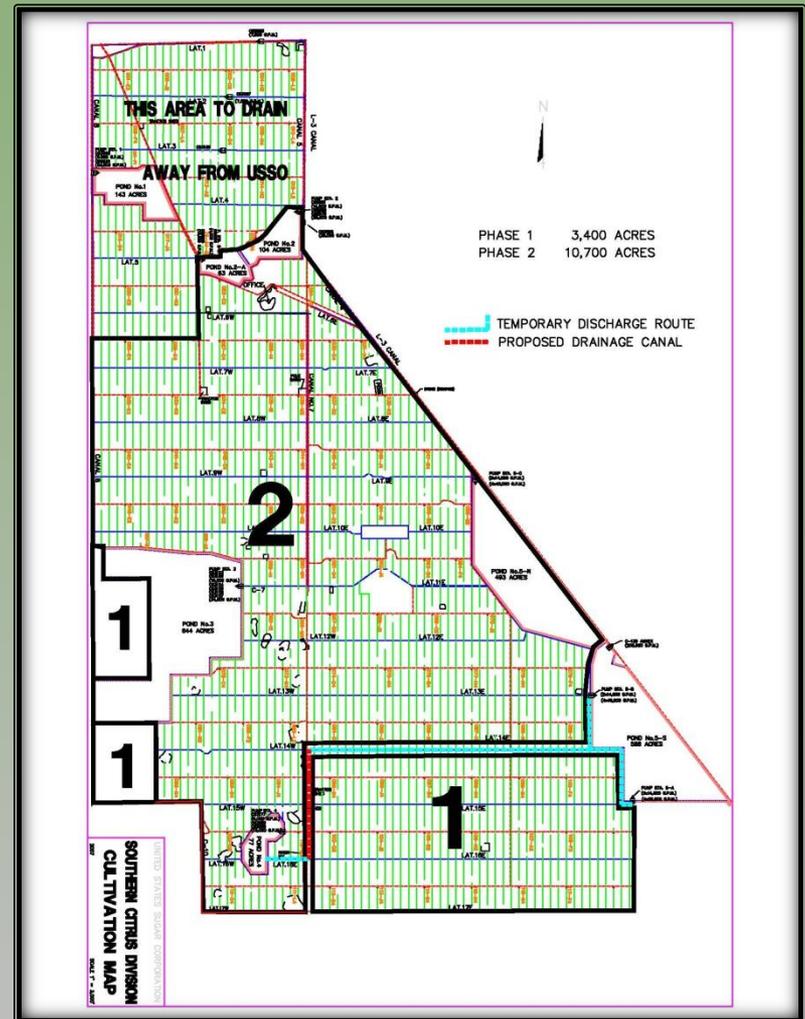


Project Phases

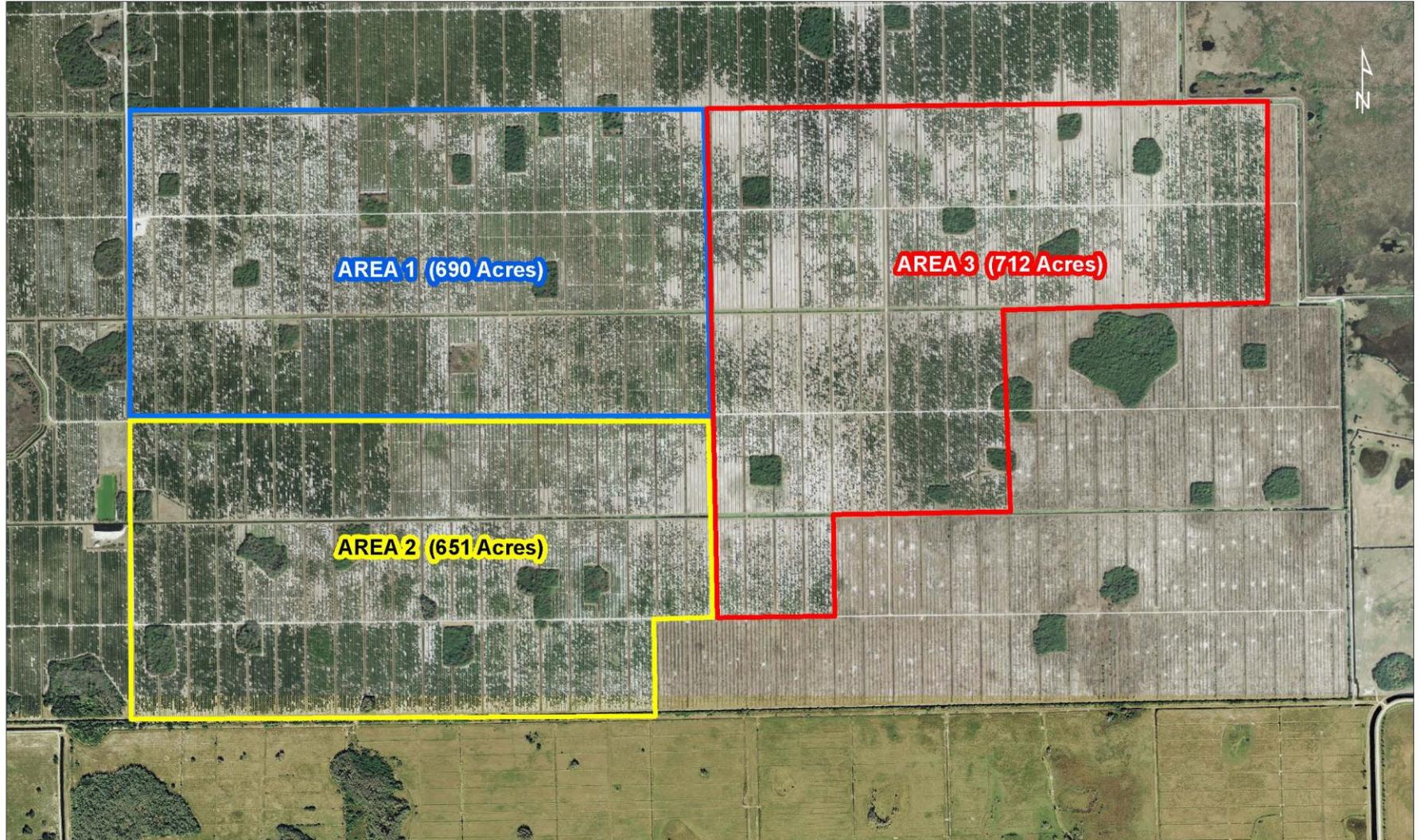
Phased US Sugar Lease Termination/ Implementation Plan

Total Project Area = 14,437 ac

- Phase 1 = 3,400 ac (7/1/14)
Construction through Spring 2017
- Phase II = 10,700 ac (7/1/18)
Construction through Winter 2022



C-139 ANNEX RESTORATION SITE - COVER SHEET



AREA 1 (690 Acres)

AREA 3 (712 Acres)

AREA 2 (651 Acres)

Phase I Site Preparation

- April 30 - May 1 – Aerial treatment of torpedo grass in fallow areas within the Phase I area (500 acres)
- May 29 - Phase I citrus clearing operations (2,050 ac) included cultural resource and threatened and endangered species training
- June 9 - Full-time land manager hired
- Late June - Site prep permit app submitted and aerial treatment of remaining fallow field Phase I (150 ac)
- July - Remove polypipe fallow farm fields (571 ac)
- Mid-July - 100% citrus trees removed, 75% burn piles completed

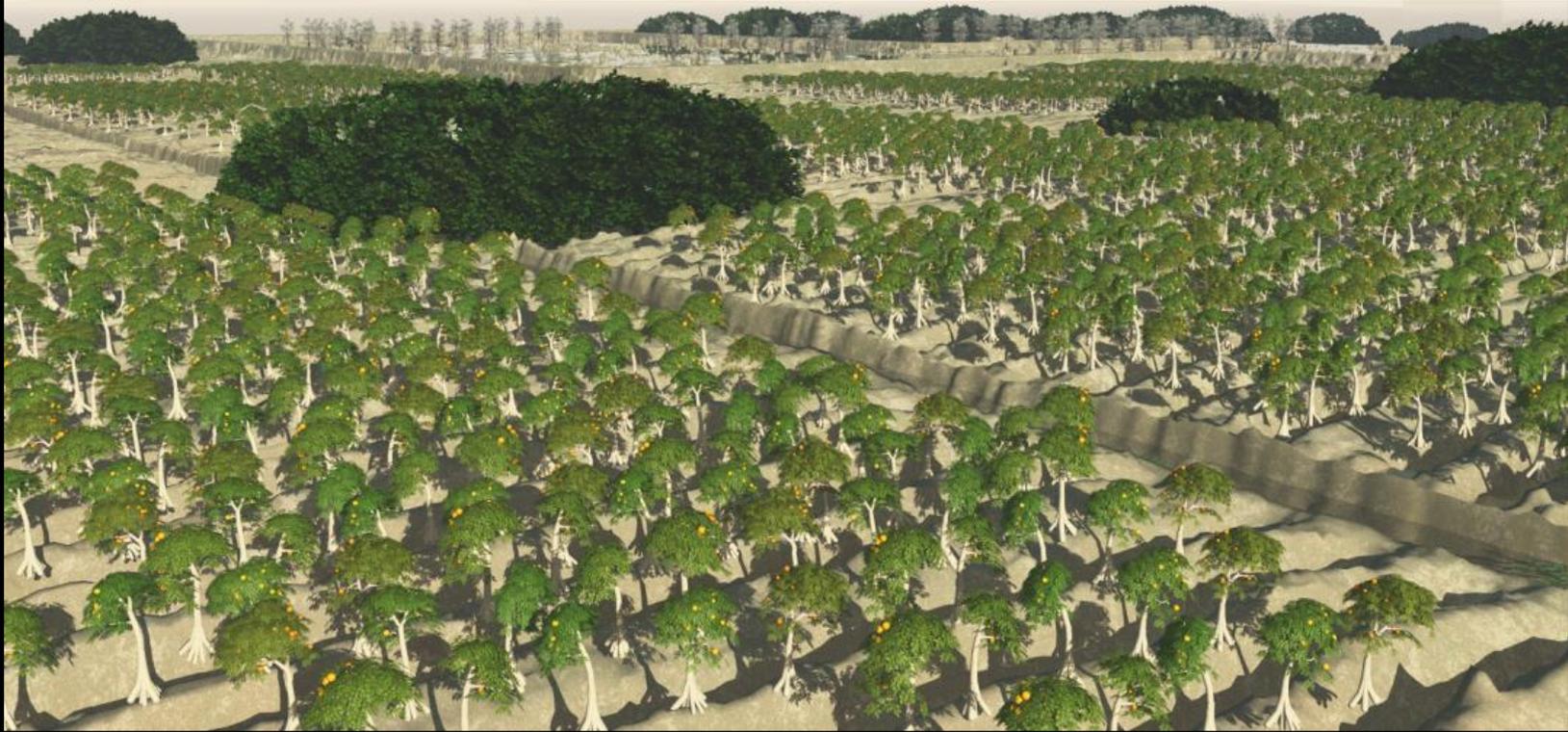
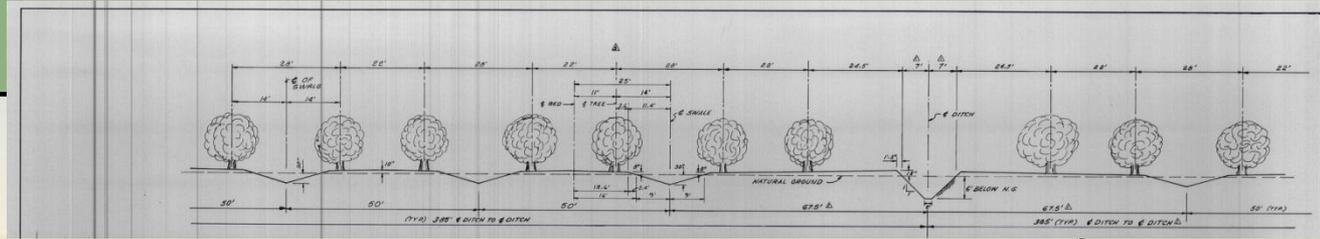


Phase I Site Preparation - Citrus Tree Removal and other upcoming vegetative treatments

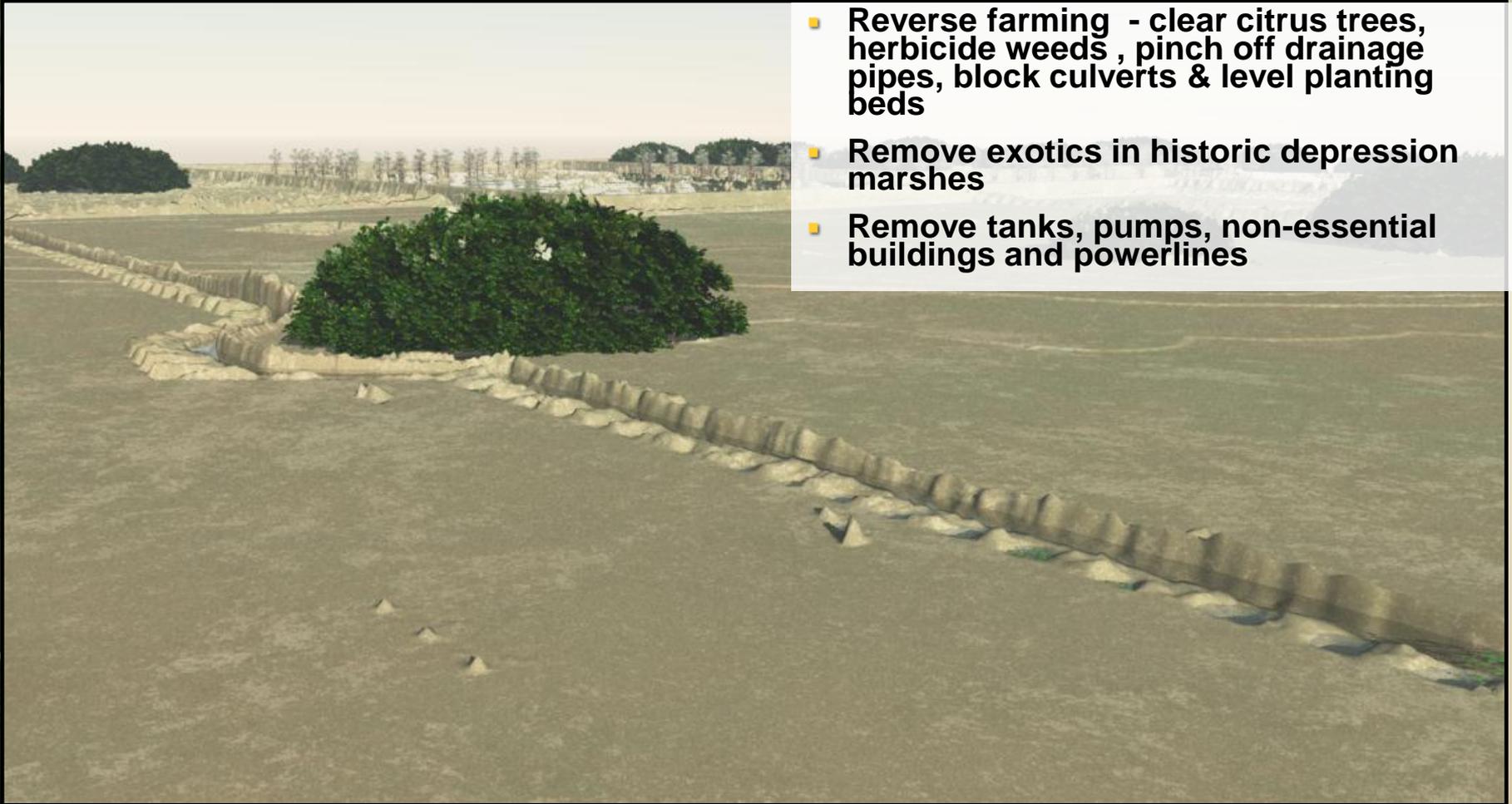
- August – Mow/excavate vegetation in ditches to prepare for exotic treatment
- September - Initial exotic treatment 2,050 ac (where citrus trees removed), follow-up treatment of 650 ac fallow fields
- November - Follow-up exotic treatment of 2700 ac
- Late 2014/early 2015 - Treatment of 133 acres exotics in depressional areas, remove above ground infrastructure e.g. pumps
- 2015 – Continue exotic treatments to prepare for construction (filing in of ditches, microtopo) in Fall 2015
- 2016 – Start planting maidencane



Existing Conditions



Project Summary – Restoration Components



- Reverse farming - clear citrus trees, herbicide weeds , pinch off drainage pipes, block culverts & level planting beds
- Remove exotics in historic depression marshes
- Remove tanks, pumps, non-essential buildings and powerlines

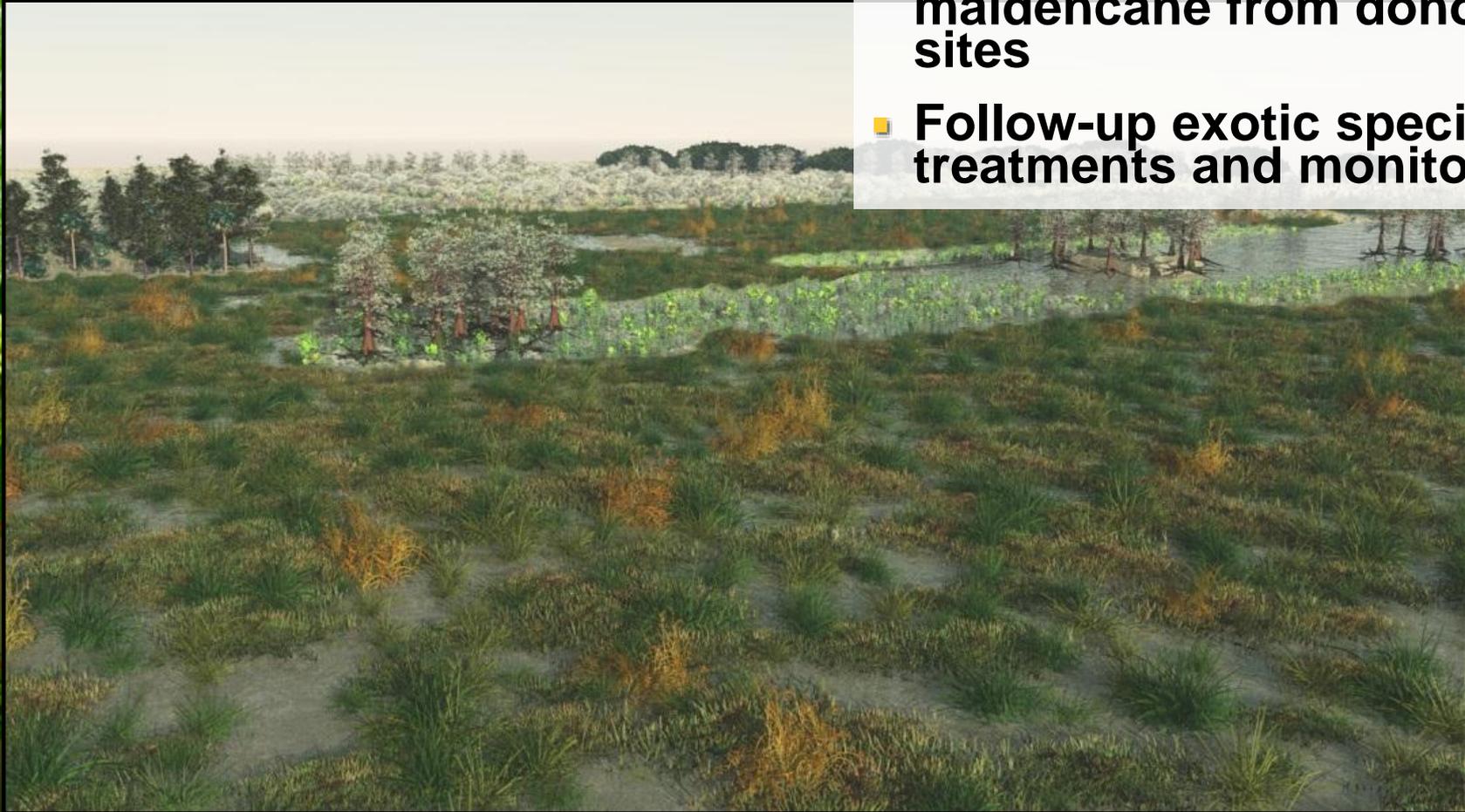
Project Summary – Restoration Components

- **Microtopography involves earthwork expanding historic depression marshes and interconnecting wetlands with wet season flow-ways**
- **Backfill canals & degrade roads & levees to restore sheet-flow**

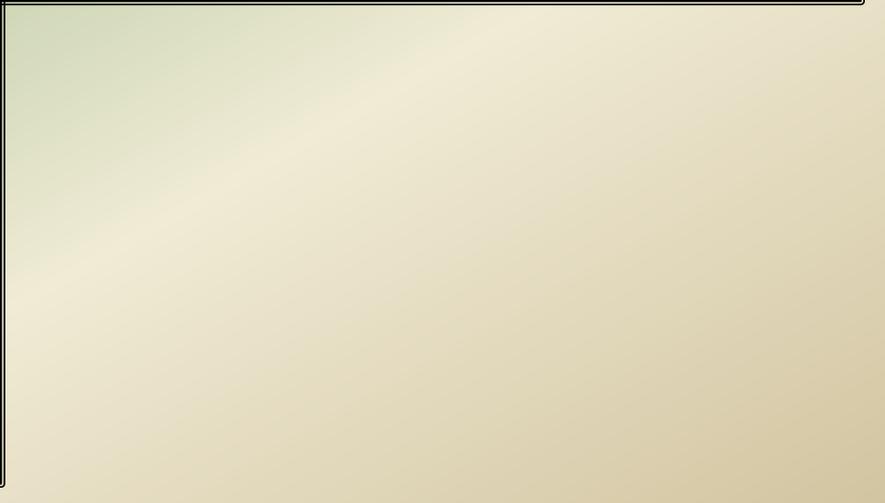


Project Summary – Restoration Components

- Replanting using harvested maidencane from donor sites
- Follow-up exotic species treatments and monitoring



Future Condition



Restoration Progress - Donor Site

- Establishment of a 20-acre donor crop / nursery site underway in the future FEB
- Donor crop will be expanded to 300-acres
- Vegetation will propagate Phase 1 beginning 2016
- Experimental planting techniques – planting nursery crop and harvesting from onsite ponds using two types of equipment



Recreational Opportunities

- Incorporate passive, nature-based activities consistent with the permitting requirements and project purposes
- Utilize management roads and levees for public access
- Site will be evaluated upon completion of the restoration (2022)



Restoration Project to be known as the Sam Jones / Abiaki Prairie

Based on the Seminole Tribe's history on the site, SFWMD asked them to name the project

- Sam Jones / Abiaki was a medicine man and powerful Seminole Tribe spiritual leader.
- His 19th century village was at the crossroads of numerous historical trails located on the site.
- He worked in the background leading warriors in battle and moving elders, women and children to safety.
- When the fighting concluded, he was the only major Seminole leader still remaining in Florida.



Sam Jones / Abiaki



Questions?