



Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative

Isn't What
We Are
Doing Good
Enough?



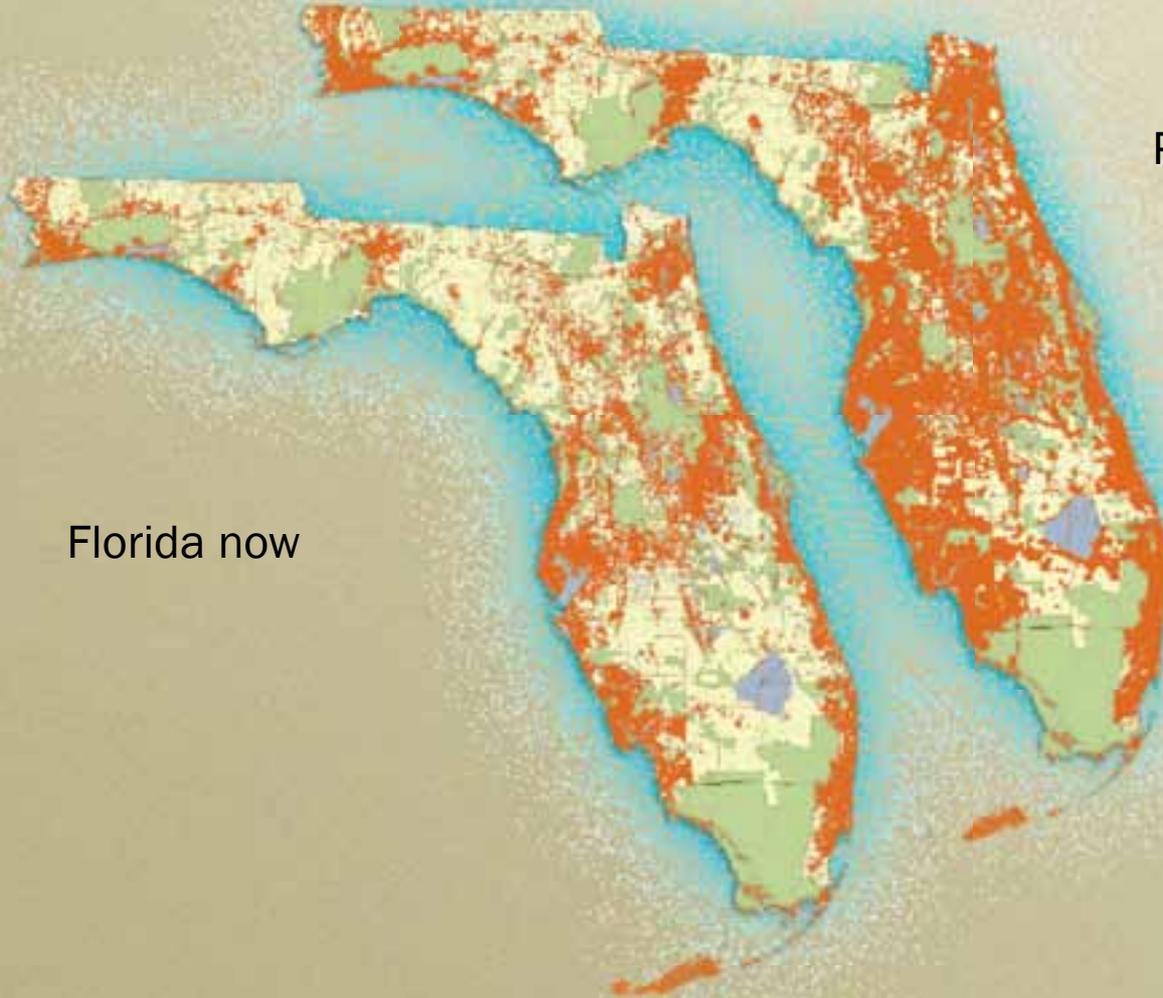


Wildlife 2060:

What's at stake for Florida?



What future do we want?



Florida now

Possible Florida
in 2060



Issues to consider

- Habitat loss
- Habitat isolation
- Coastal challenges
- Water quality and quantity
- Wildlife/Human interactions
- Access to land and water



Habitat loss



2.3 million acres of black bear habitat



2.1 million acres of wild turkey habitat



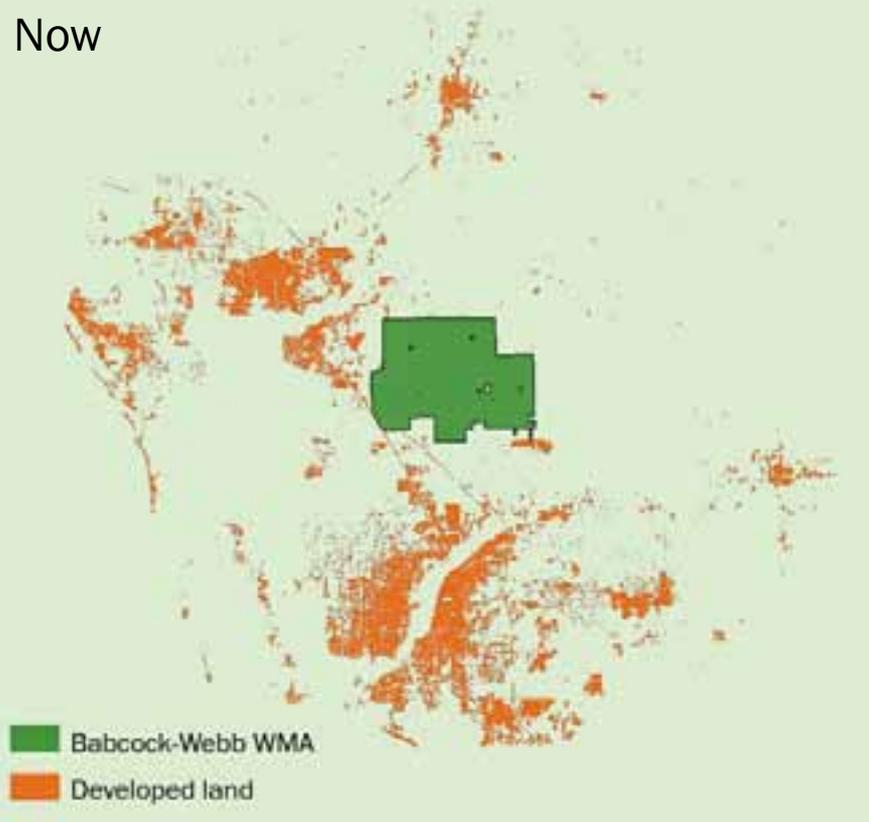
700,000 acres of gopher tortoise habitat



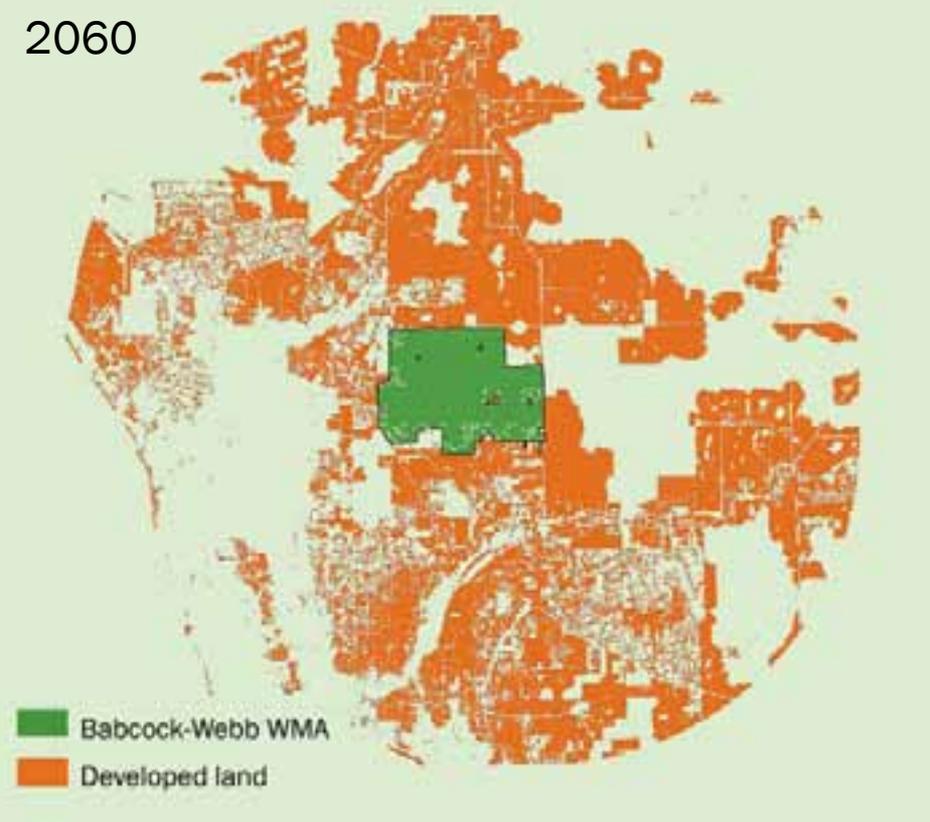
How important are fish and wildlife species to you?

Habitat isolation

Now

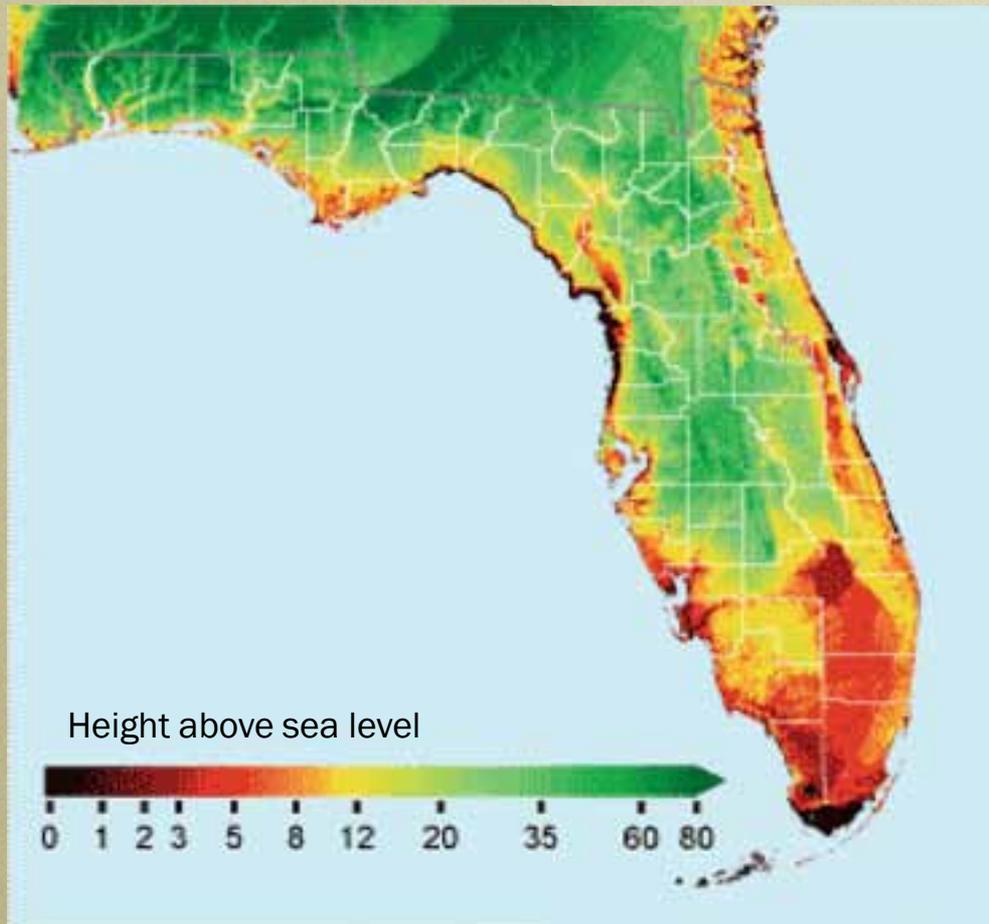


2060



How do you burn when you are surrounded by a sea of development?

Coastal challenges



What happens to our coasts if sea level rises?



Background



Filling the Gap



- Game, sportfish, and endangered species have dedicated funding mechanisms



- Many other species are currently in decline or “at risk”



- These other wildlife species have unmet conservation needs



State Wildlife Grants History

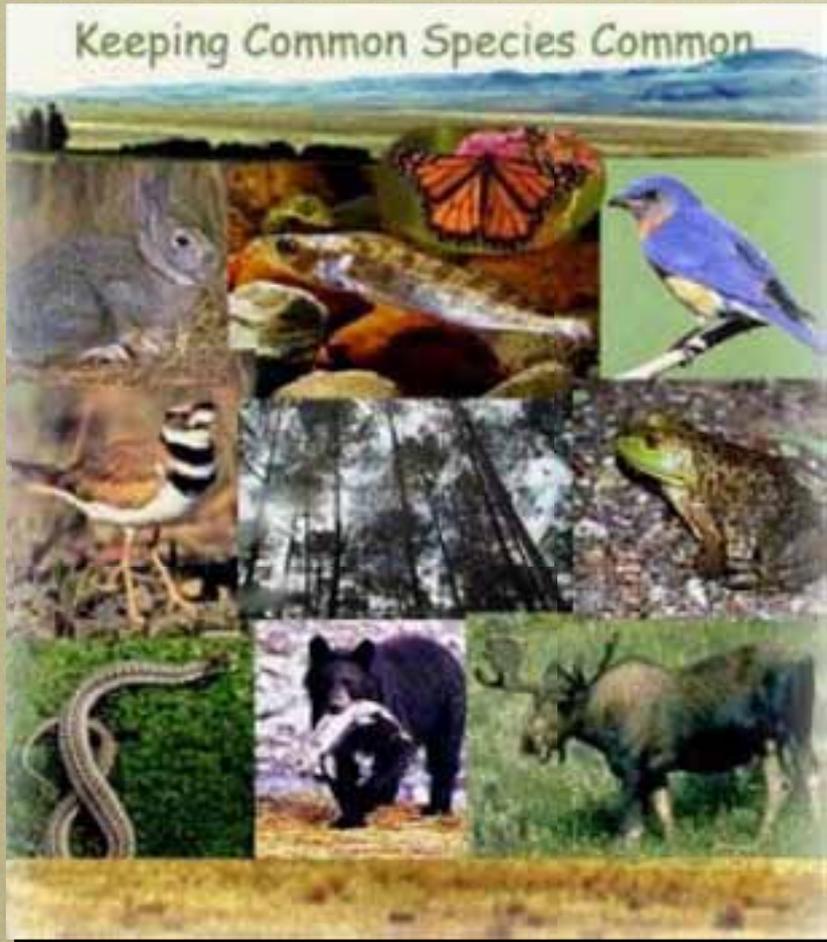
- Teaming with Wildlife Coalition
- Conservation and Restoration Act (CARA)
- Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program (WCRP)
- State Wildlife Grants (SWG)



TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE
a natural investment



State Wildlife Grants

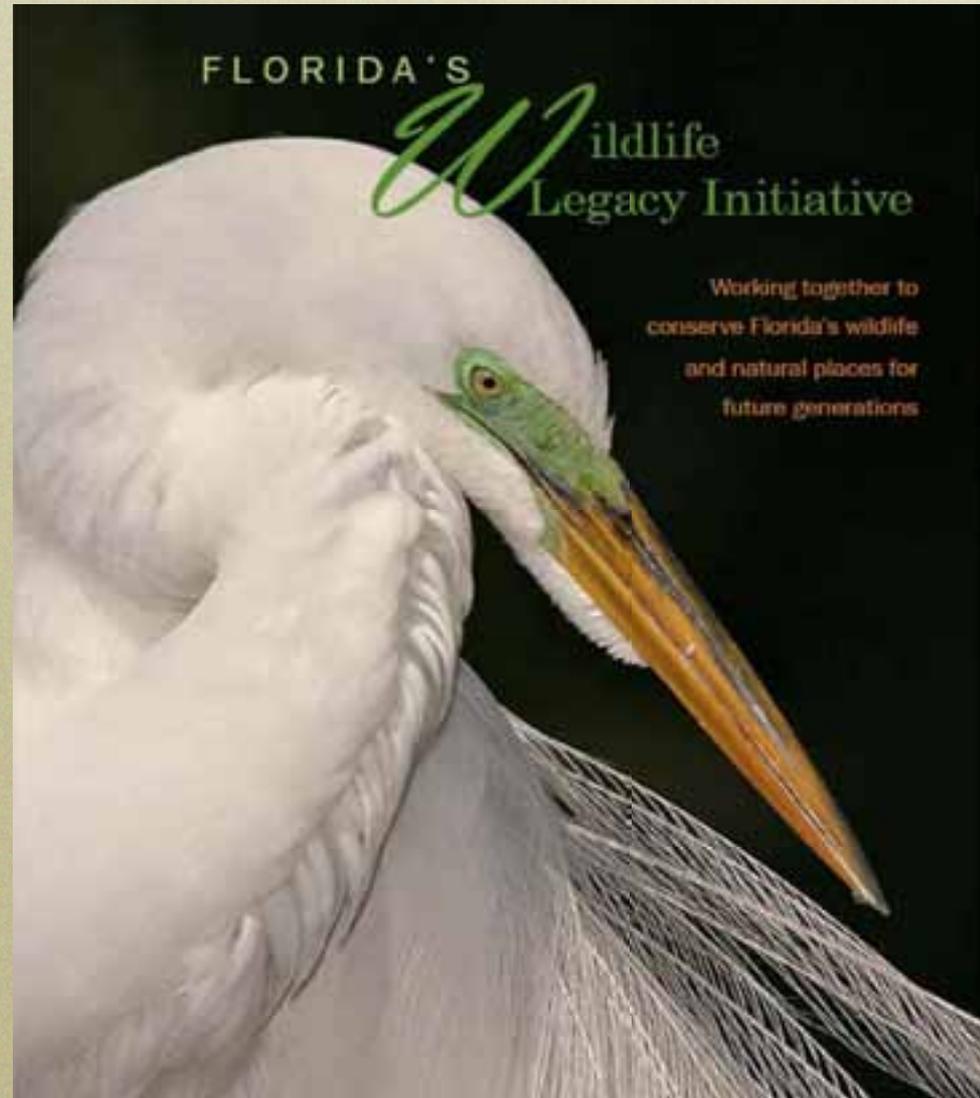


- U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Program
- \$50 - \$80 million in funding distributed to States each year since 2001
- Florida's share has been about \$2.5 million per year
- Plan requirement by Oct. 1, 2005



Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative

- 3 Main Components:
 - Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (Action Plan)
 - State Wildlife Grants
 - Partnerships



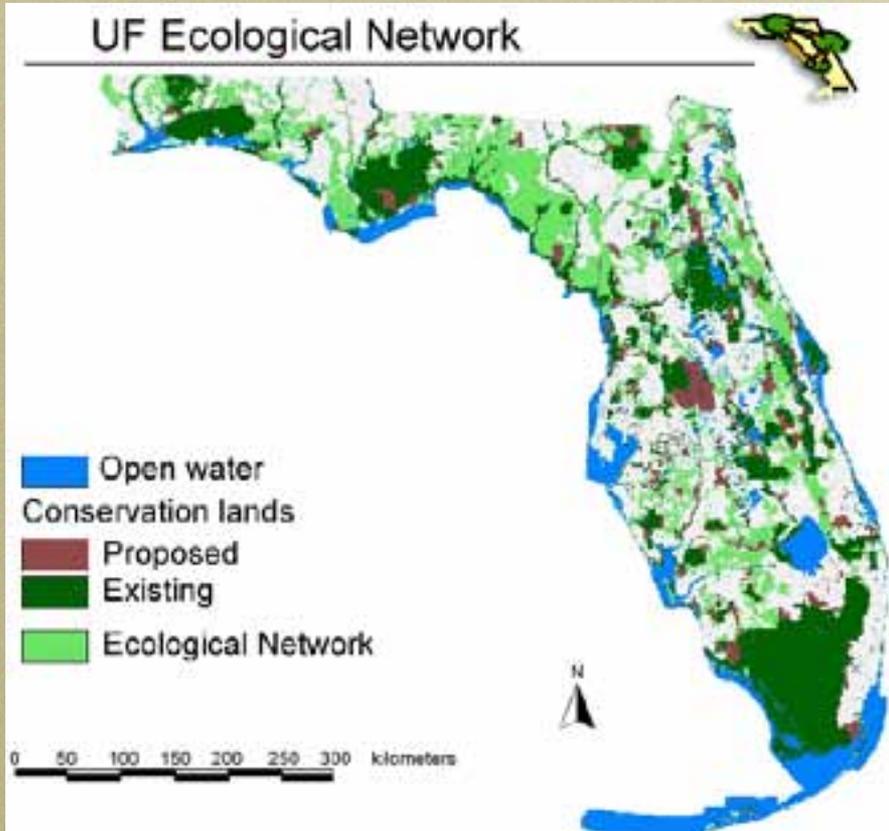
Guiding Principles



- Comprehensive approach for all fish, wildlife, and their habitats



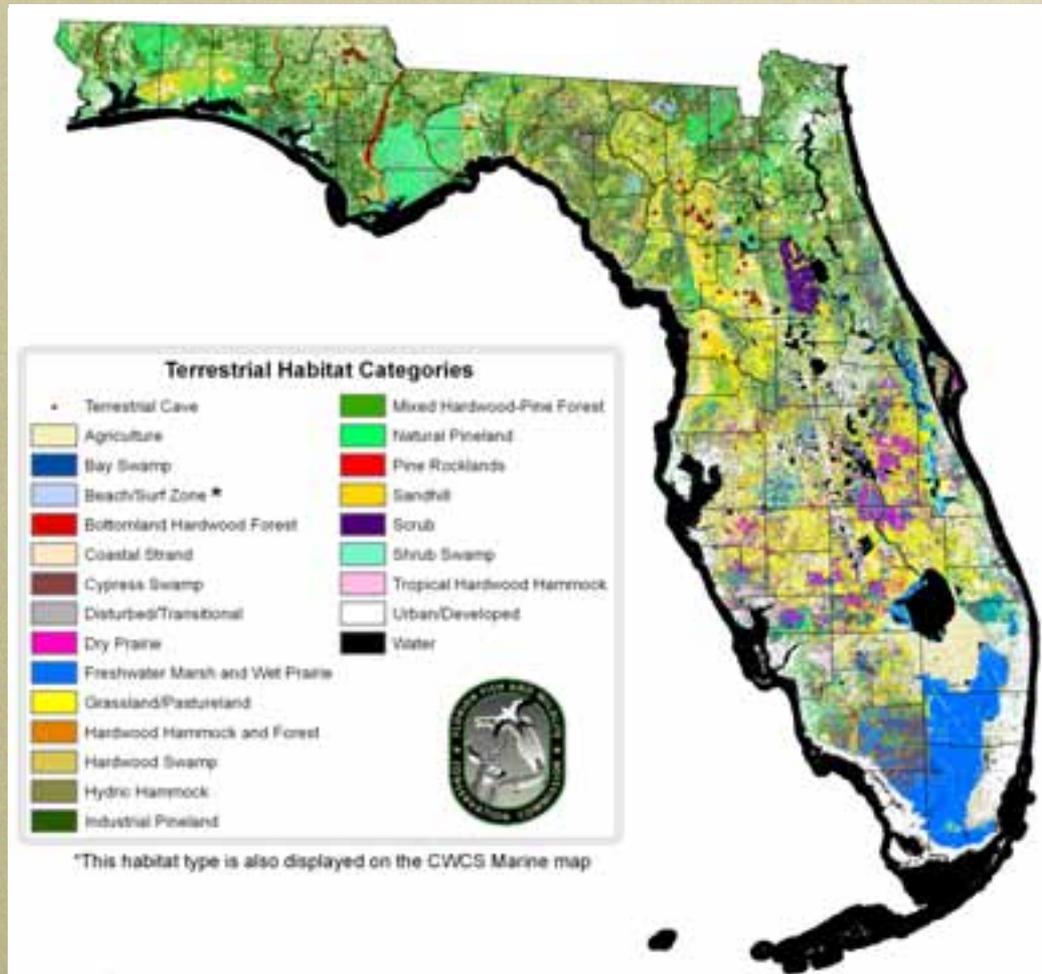
Guiding Principles



- Build upon existing information and plans



Guiding Principles



- Habitat category approach



Guiding Principles



- Species of Greatest Conservation Need



Guiding Principles



- Cooperative – all partners, not just FWC



Guiding Principles



- Incentive-based, proactive, non-regulatory effort



Guiding Principles



- Healthy wildlife = healthy people



Guiding Principles

- Meet or exceed 8 Elements
 1. Distribution and abundance of wildlife
 2. Locations and condition of key habitats
 3. Problems affecting wildlife habitats
 4. Conservation actions proposed
 5. Plans for monitoring species & habitats
 6. Procedures to revise the strategy
 7. Coordination of development, implementation, review and revision
 8. Ensure public input



FWC Organization

- Commissioners' Area of Emphasis
- FWLI Standing Team
 - 20 staff across agency
- FWLI Staff
 - 12 staff members
- FWC Staff & Partners



Florida's Action Plan



Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative



*Keeping Common
Species Common*



Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
Visit: MyFWC.com/wildlifelegacy



Strategy Development

2004

July	Strategy work plan meetings
September	Questionnaire
October	10 Staff and public meetings
November	2-Day Science Workshop

2005

Feb-May	12 TNC threats and actions workshops
June	Virtual Workshop
June	First Draft
June	Science Workshop II and Open House
July	Second Draft
August	Third Draft
October	Strategy submitted



Species of Greatest Conservation Need

- Full list of all 974 species
 - 56 Mammals
 - 104 Birds
 - 67 Reptiles and Amphibians
 - 378 Fish
 - 369 Invertebrates

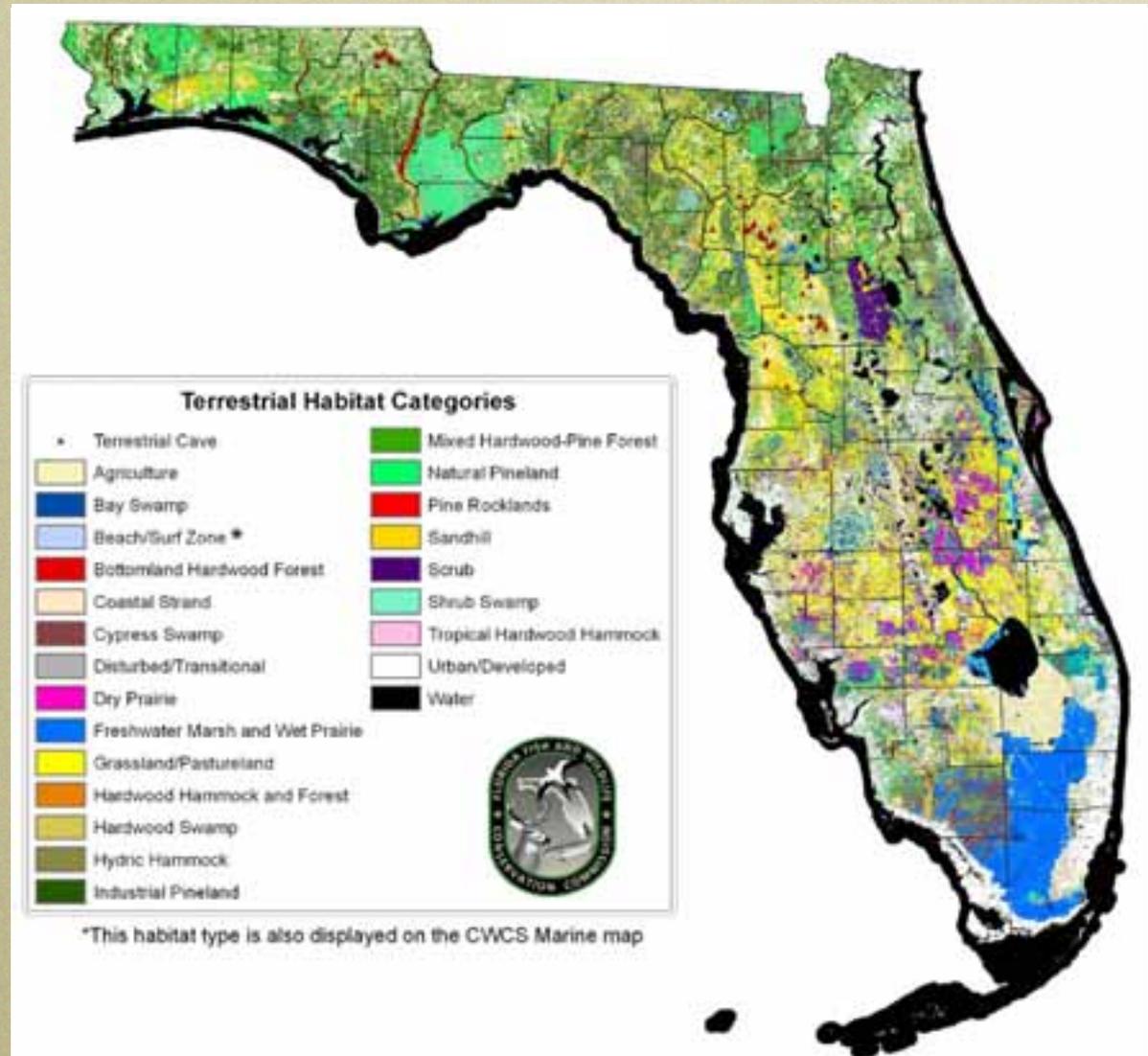


- Developed by wildlife experts and scientists



45 Habitat Categories

- 9 Freshwater
- 14 Marine
- 22 Terrestrial
- 45 total



Statewide Threats and Actions

■ Major Threats

- Habitat Loss and Fragmentation
- Degradation of Water Resources
- Incompatible Fire Management
- Invasive Plants and Animals
- Management of the Physical Environment

■ Major Actions

- Develop Incentive-based Programs
- Acquire Important Lands and Waters
- Coordinate Conservation Efforts
- Educate the Public
- Cooperative Conservation Blueprint



Habitat-based Threats and Actions

Fresh Water Threats Across Systems		Project	Aquatic cave	Calcareous streams	Coastal tidal river or stream	Large alluvial stream	Natural Lakes a.k.a. sand/silt-bottomed	Reservoirs and impoundments	Seepage / steephead stream	Softwater stream	Spring and spring run	All Projects
		Target	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank	Overall Threat Rank
1	Invasive plants	-	High	Medium	-	High	High	-	Medium	Very High	Very High	
2	Nutrient loads - urban	-	High	Medium	-	High	High	-	Medium	Very High	Very High	
3	Surface water withdrawal	-	-	High	Medium	Medium	-	-	High	Medium	Very High	
4	Invasive animals	-	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	High	Very High	
5	Nutrient loads - agriculture	-	High	Medium	-	Medium	Medium	-	High	High	Very High	
6	Dam operations	-	-	High	High	High	-	-	Medium	-	Very High	
7	Conversion to housing and urban development	-	Medium	High	-	High	-	Medium	High	-	Very High	
8	Channel modification / shipping lanes	-	-	High	High	-	-	-	-	-	Very High	
9	Roads	-	Medium	Medium	-	-	-	Medium	High	-	High	
10	Chemicals and toxins	-	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	-	Medium	-	High	
11	Incompatible recreational activities	Medium	-	-	Low	Low	High	-	Low	Medium	High	
12	Conversion to commercial and industrial development	-	-	Medium	-	Medium	-	Medium	Medium	Low	High	
13	Conversion to agriculture	-	-	-	-	Medium	-	-	High	-	High	
14	Management of nature - water control structures	-	-	-	High	-	-	Medium	-	-	High	
15	Incompatible resource extraction: mining / drilling	Medium	Low	-	-	-	-	Medium	Medium	-	High	
16	Shoreline hardening	-	-	High	-	-	-	-	-	-	High	
17	Management of nature - veg clearing/snagging	-	-	Medium	-	-	-	-	-	-	Medium	
18	Groundwater withdrawal	-	-	-	Low	Low	-	-	Low	Medium	Medium	
19	Inappropriate fire	-	-	-	-	-	-	Medium	-	-	Medium	
20	Incompatible forestry practices	-	Low	-	Low	-	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	
21	Incompatible agricultural practices	-	Low	-	-	Low	Medium	-	Low	-	Medium	
22	Incompatible construction practices	-	-	-	-	-	Medium	-	-	-	Medium	
23	Conversion to recreation areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Low	Low	
24	Sea level rise	-	-	Low	-	-	-	-	-	-	Low	
25	Solid waste	Low	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Low	
26	Incompatible residential activities	-	-	-	-	Low	-	-	-	-	Low	
27	Management of nature - aquatic plant treatment	-	-	-	-	Low	-	-	-	-	Low	
Threat Status for Targets and Site		Medium	High	Very High	High	High	High	High	Medium	Very High	Very High	Very High

Goals 2007 - 2009

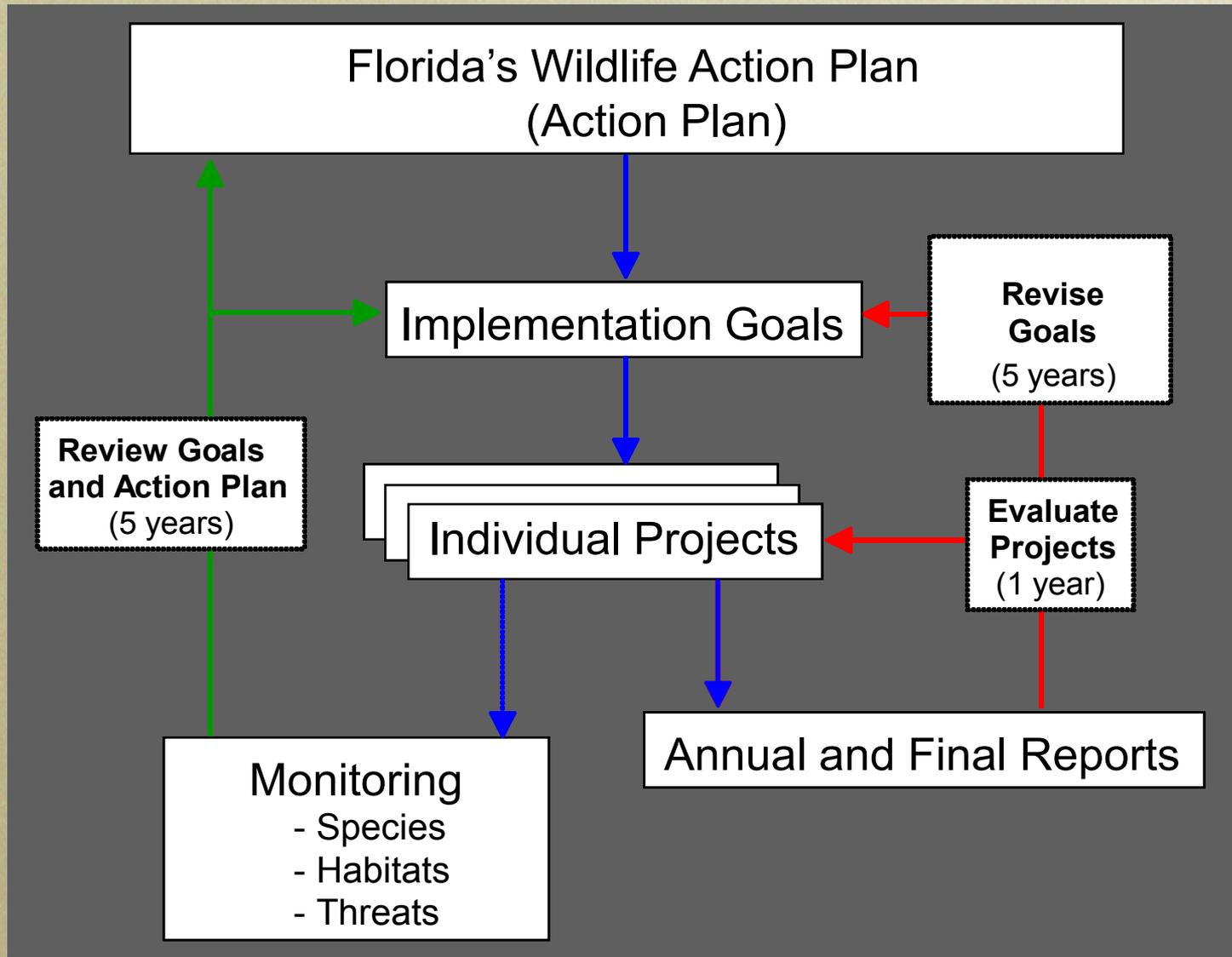
- Conservation Coordination via FWLI
 - Strategy Implementation
 - Partnership Development and Coordination
 - State Wildlife Grants Program
- Performance Measures and Monitoring
- Fill Data Gaps
- 6 Priority Habitat Categories
 - Scrub
 - Softwater Stream
 - Coral Reef
 - Sandhill
 - Spring and Spring Run
 - S.A.V. (Seagrass)
- Cooperative Conservation Blueprint



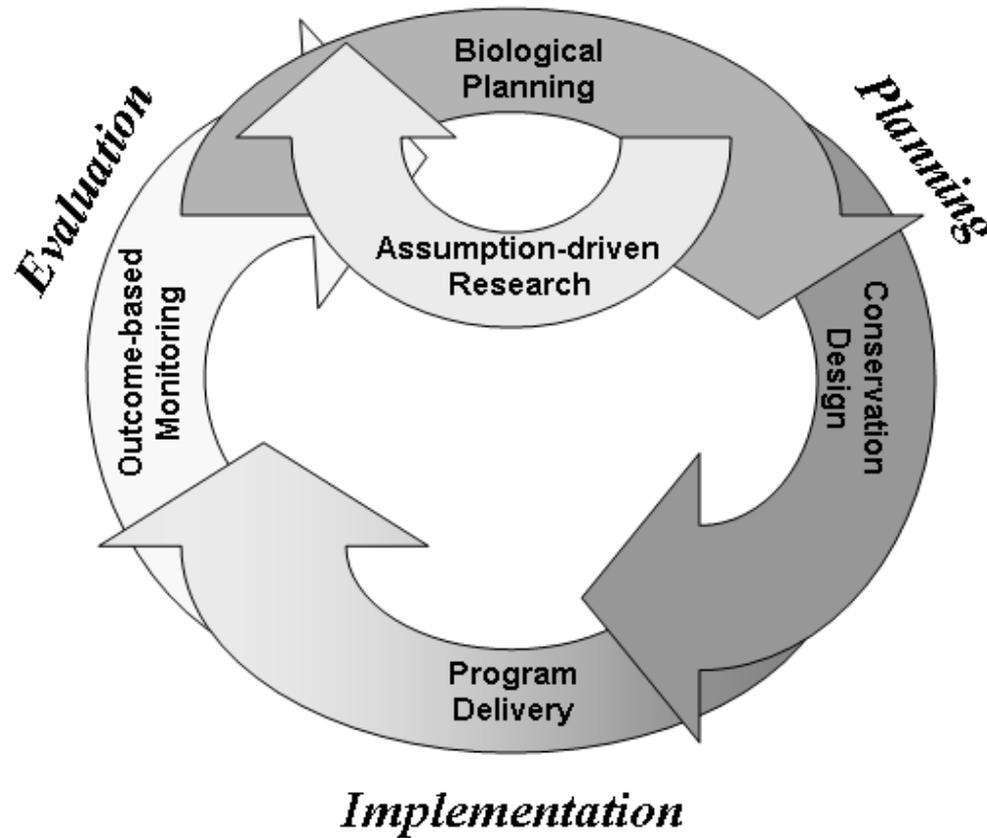
FWLI / SHC Crosswalk



FWLI Framework



SHC Framework



FWLI / HSC Linkage

■ FWLI

- Action Plan Development
- Implementation Goals
- Projects
- Monitoring
- Science-based

■ SHC

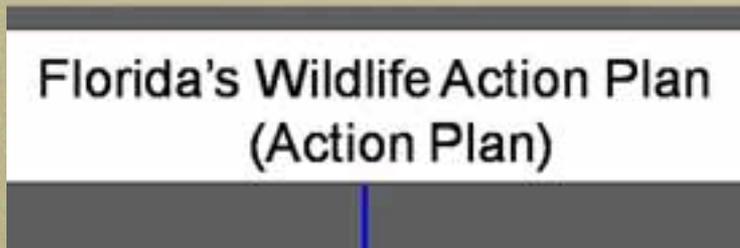
- Biological Planning
- Conservation Design
- Program Delivery
- Monitoring
- Assumpt.-Driven Research



Planning

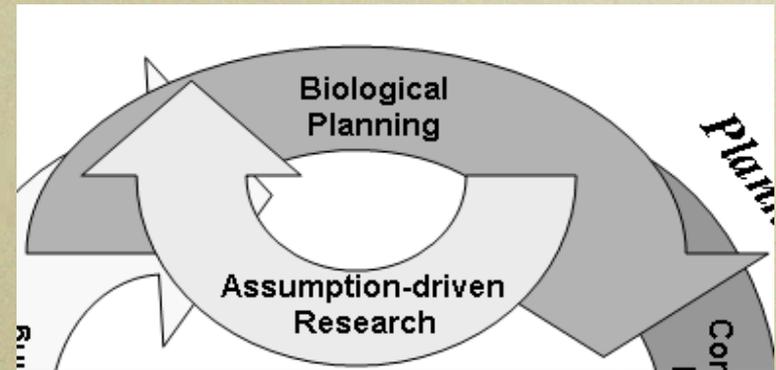
- FWLI

- Action Plan Development



- SHC

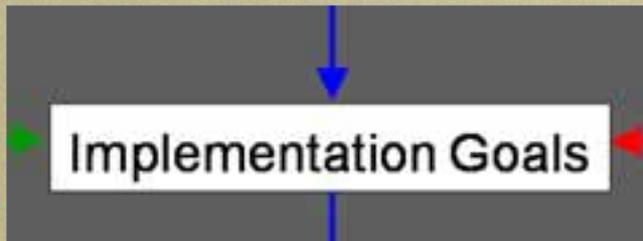
- Biological Planning



Conservation Targets

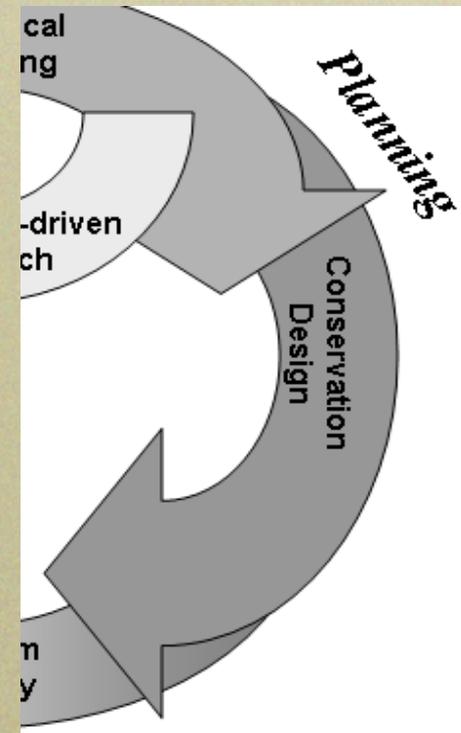
- FWLI

- Implementation Goals



- SHC

- Conservation Design



Implementation

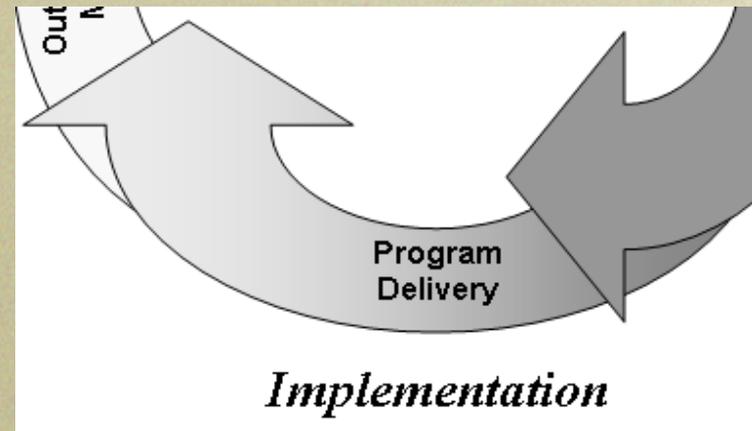
- FWLI

- Projects



- SHC

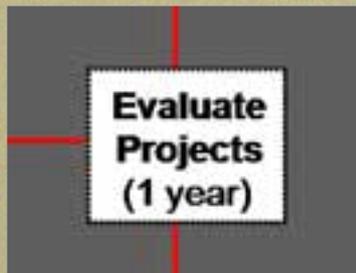
- Program Delivery



Monitoring

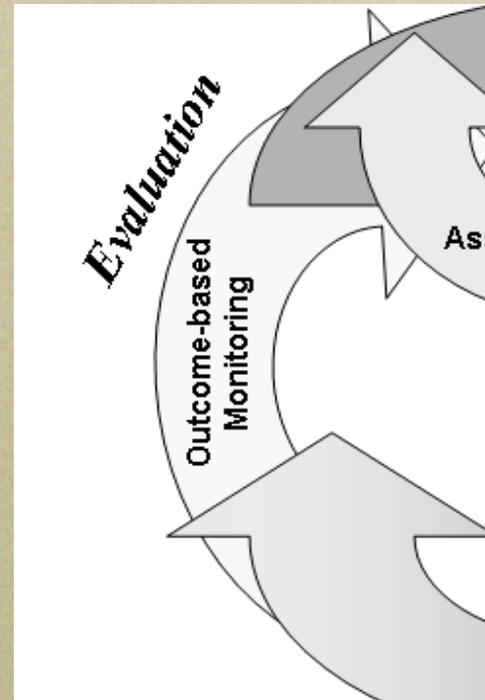
- FWLI

- Monitoring



- SHC

- Monitoring



Science Focus

- FWLI

- Science-based

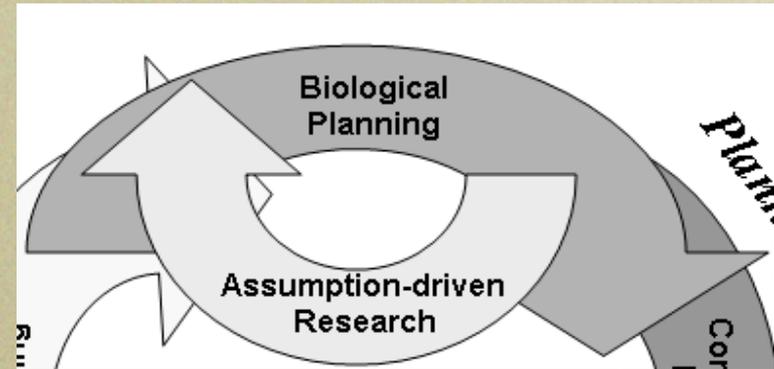
FWC Vision

Powered by science-based leadership, we will create a sustainable and healthy future for Florida's fish, wildlife, water and habitat resources.

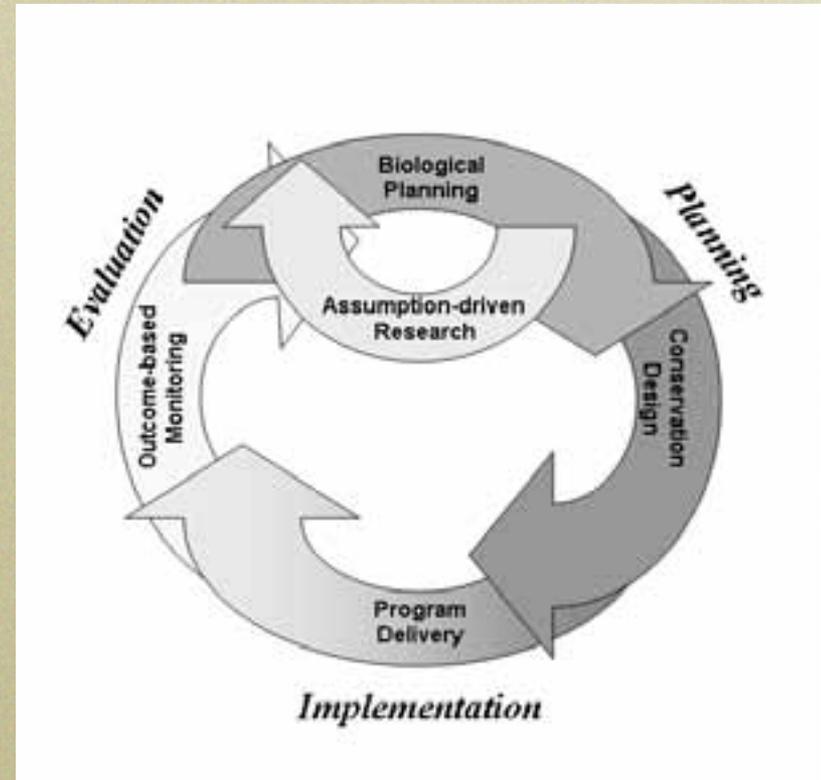


- SHC

- Assumpt.-driven Research



FWLI / SHC Linkage

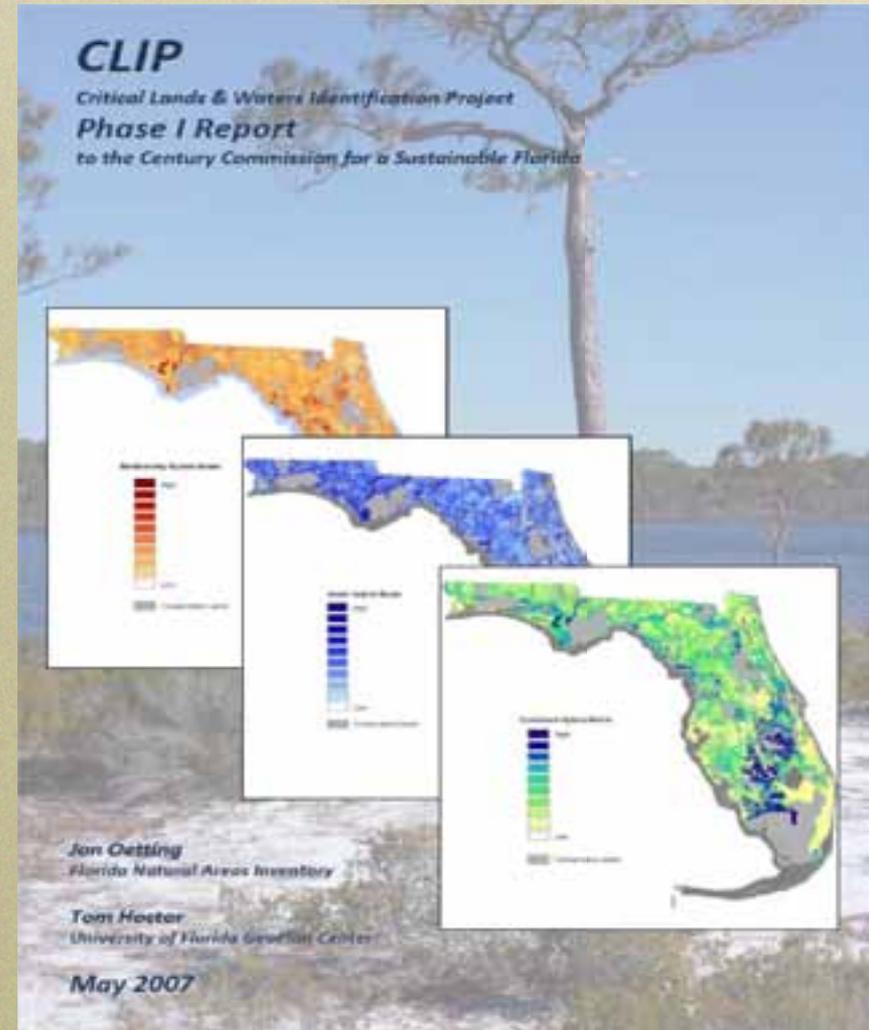


Landscape Modeling

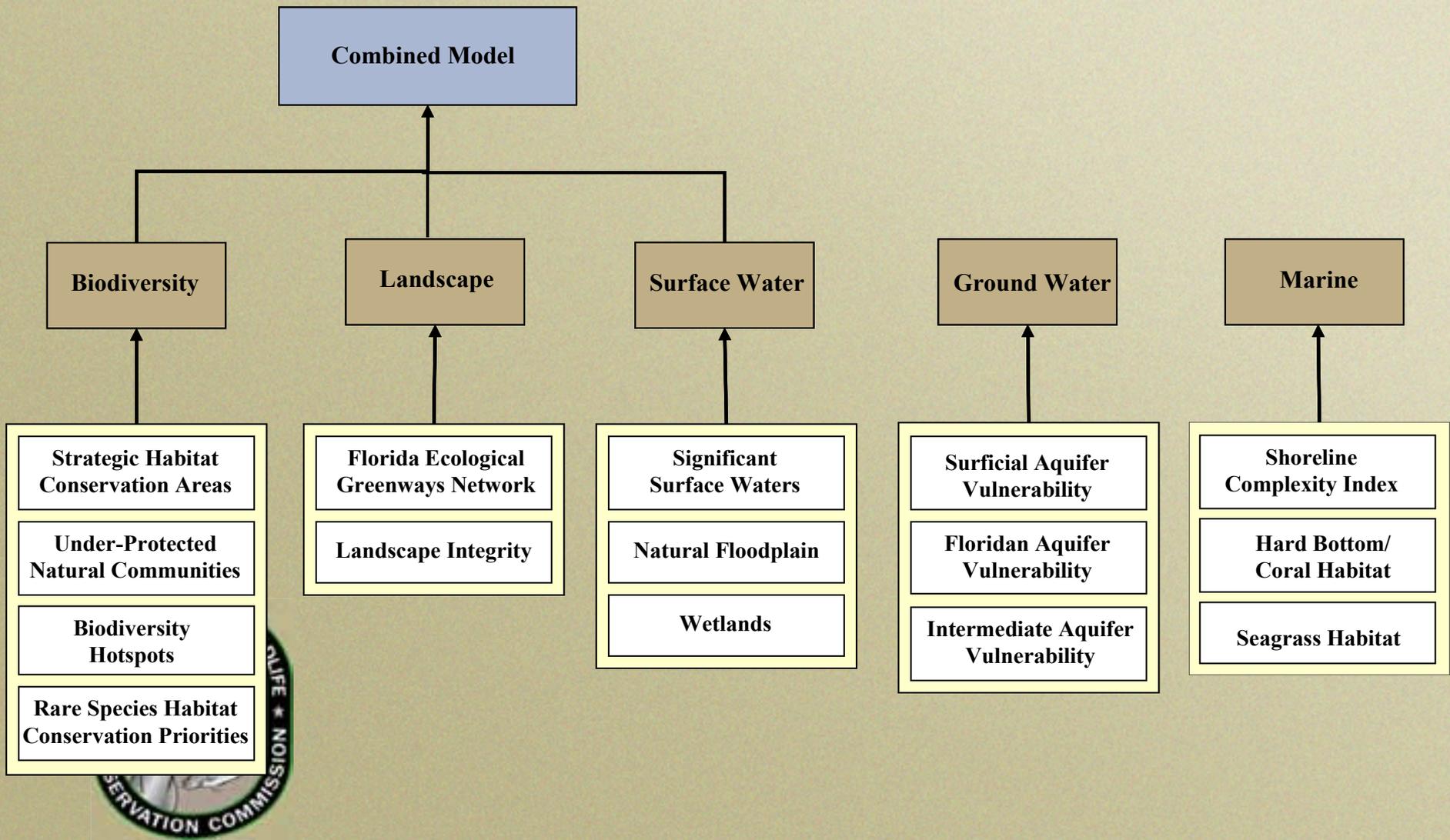


Critical Lands & Waters Identification Project (CLIP)

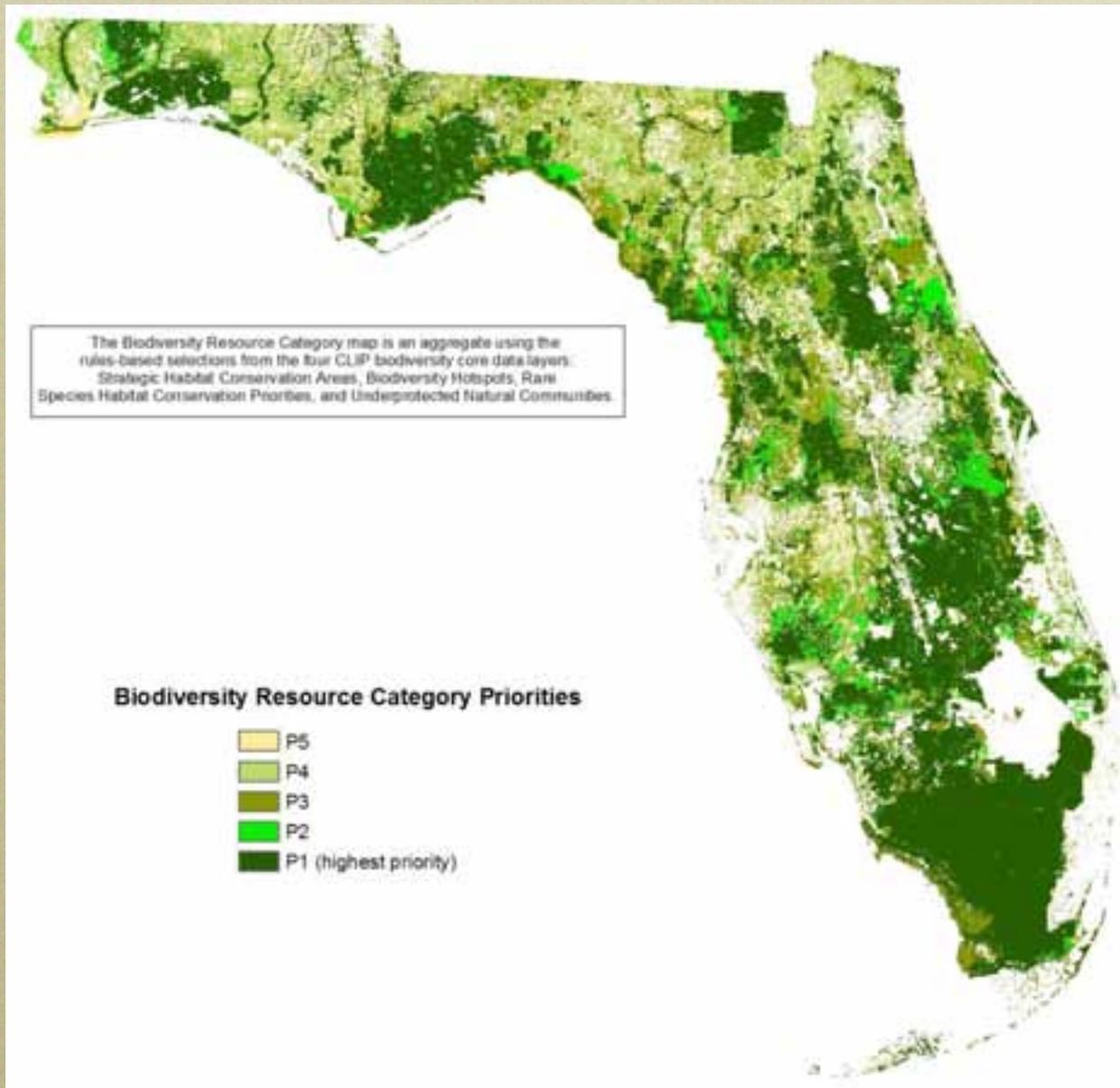
- Derived from and updates existing data sources
- Prioritizes biodiversity, landscapes, water
- Multi-agency technical advisory group



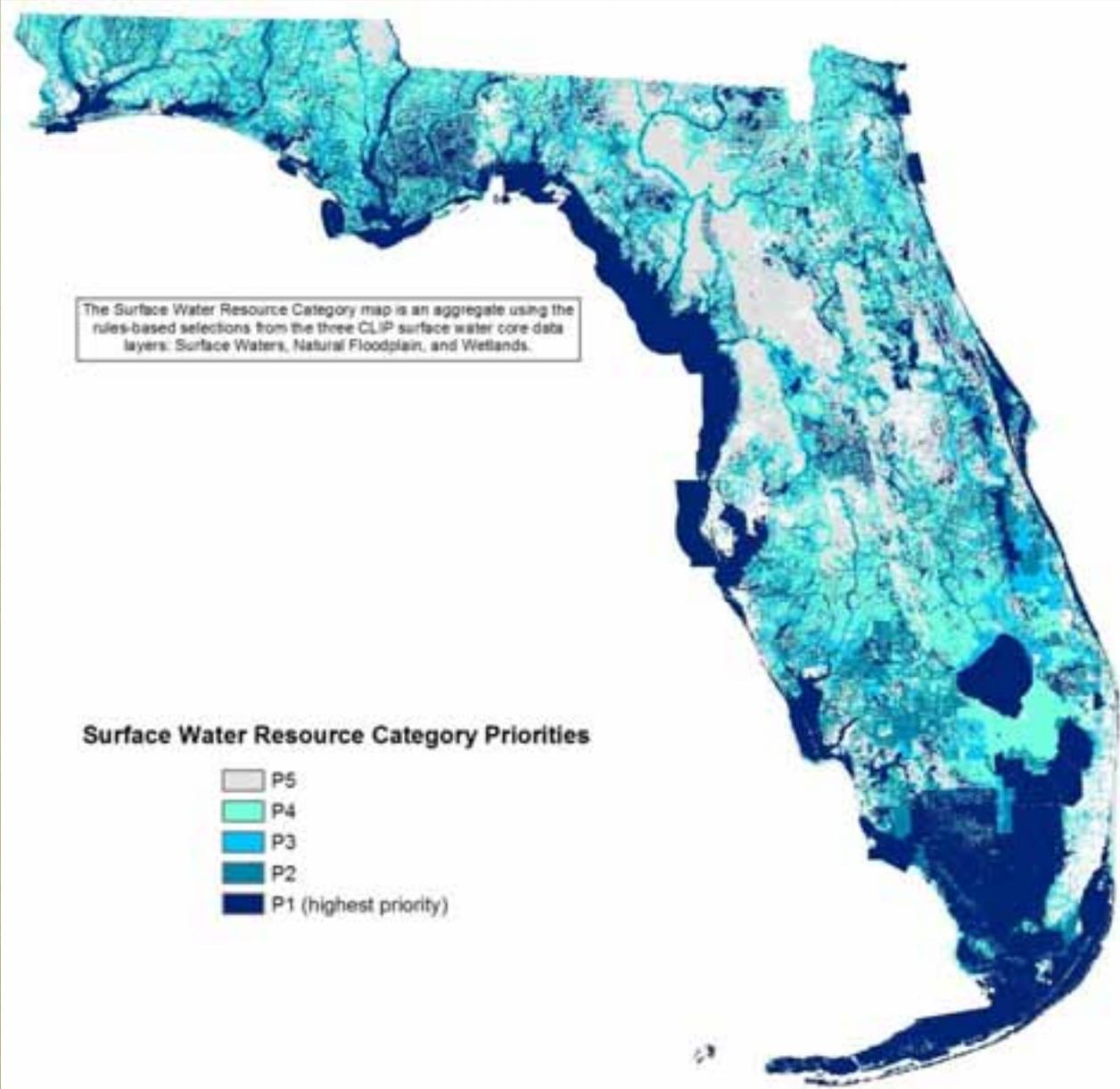
CLIP Data Structure



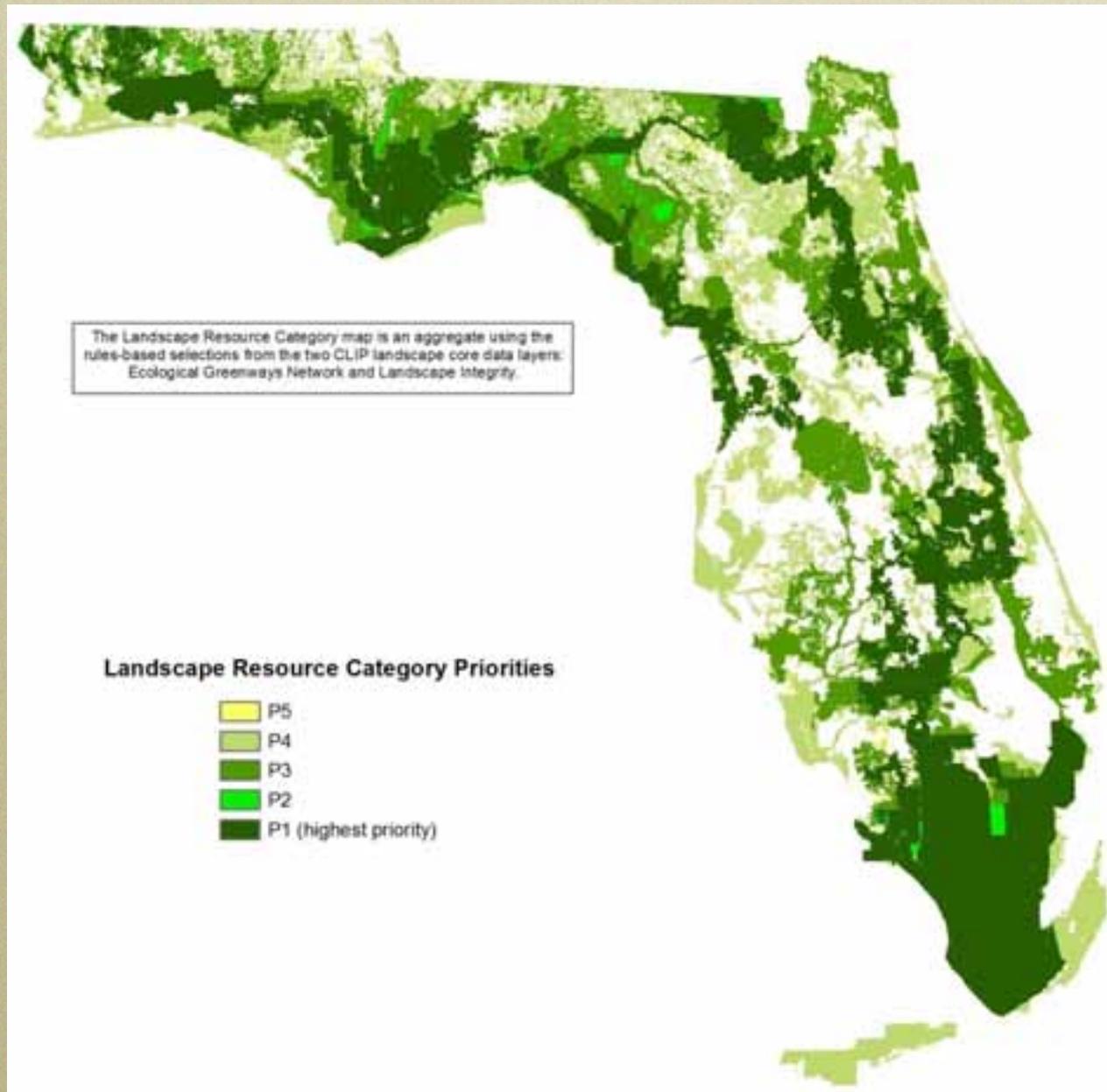
Biodiversity Category Priorities



Surface Water Priorities



Landscape Category Priorities



Consensus All CLIP Priorities



Cooperative Conservation Blueprint

CLIP is the first step

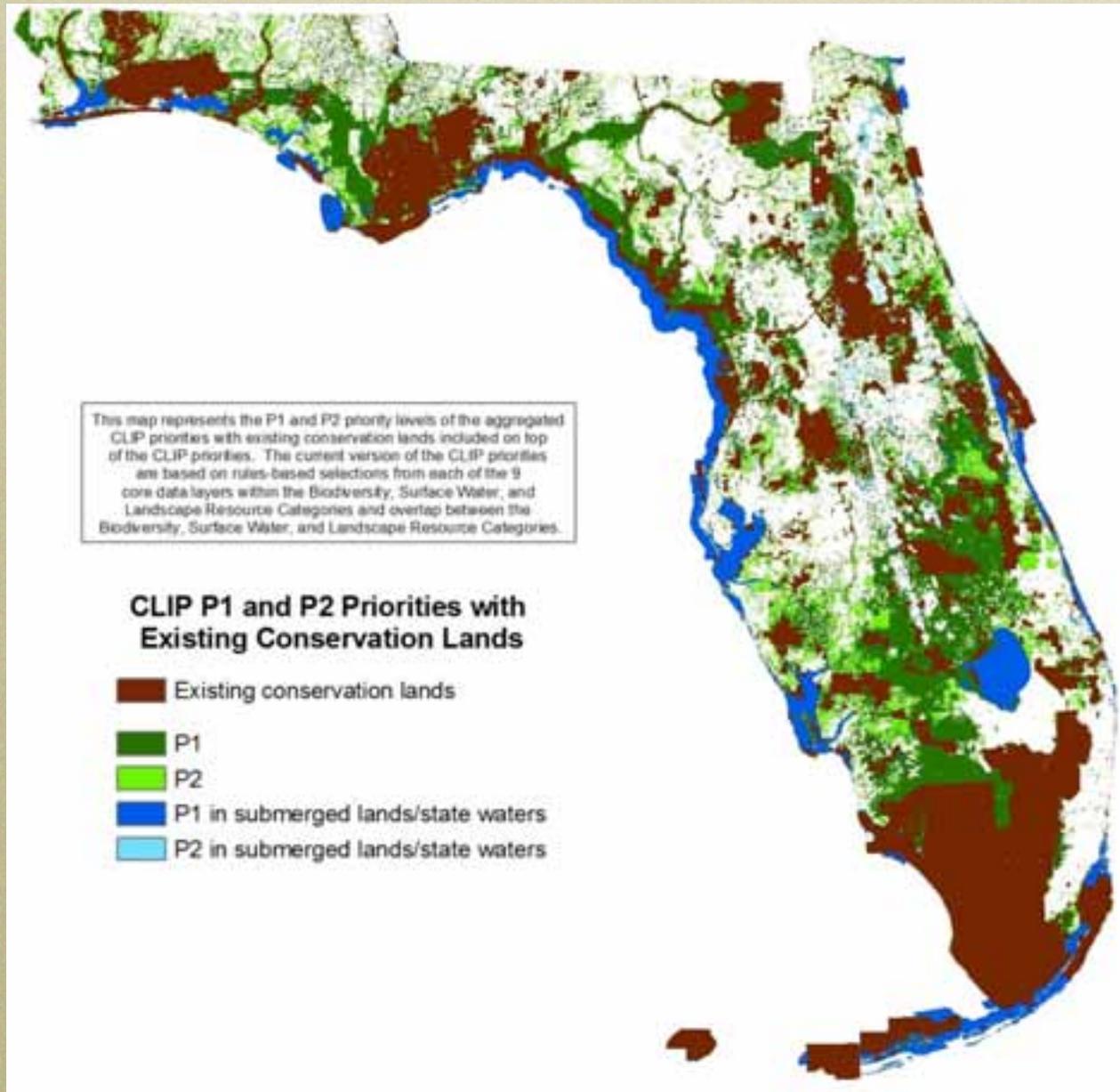
- Expert science product
- A unified GIS application
- Decision support tool

Blueprint

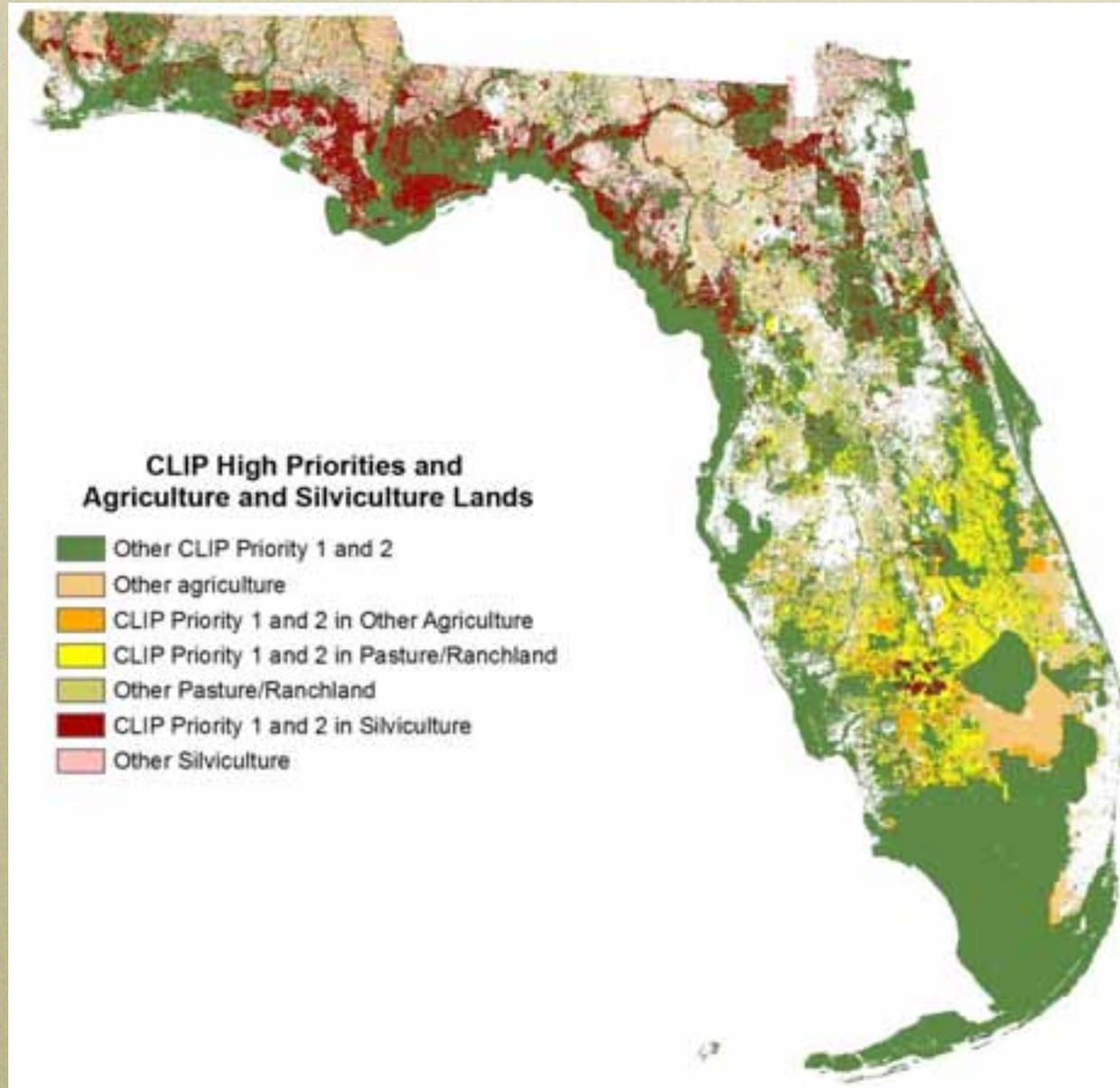
- Builds on CLIP
- Cross links with social and economic priorities
- Creates a consensus GIS overlay



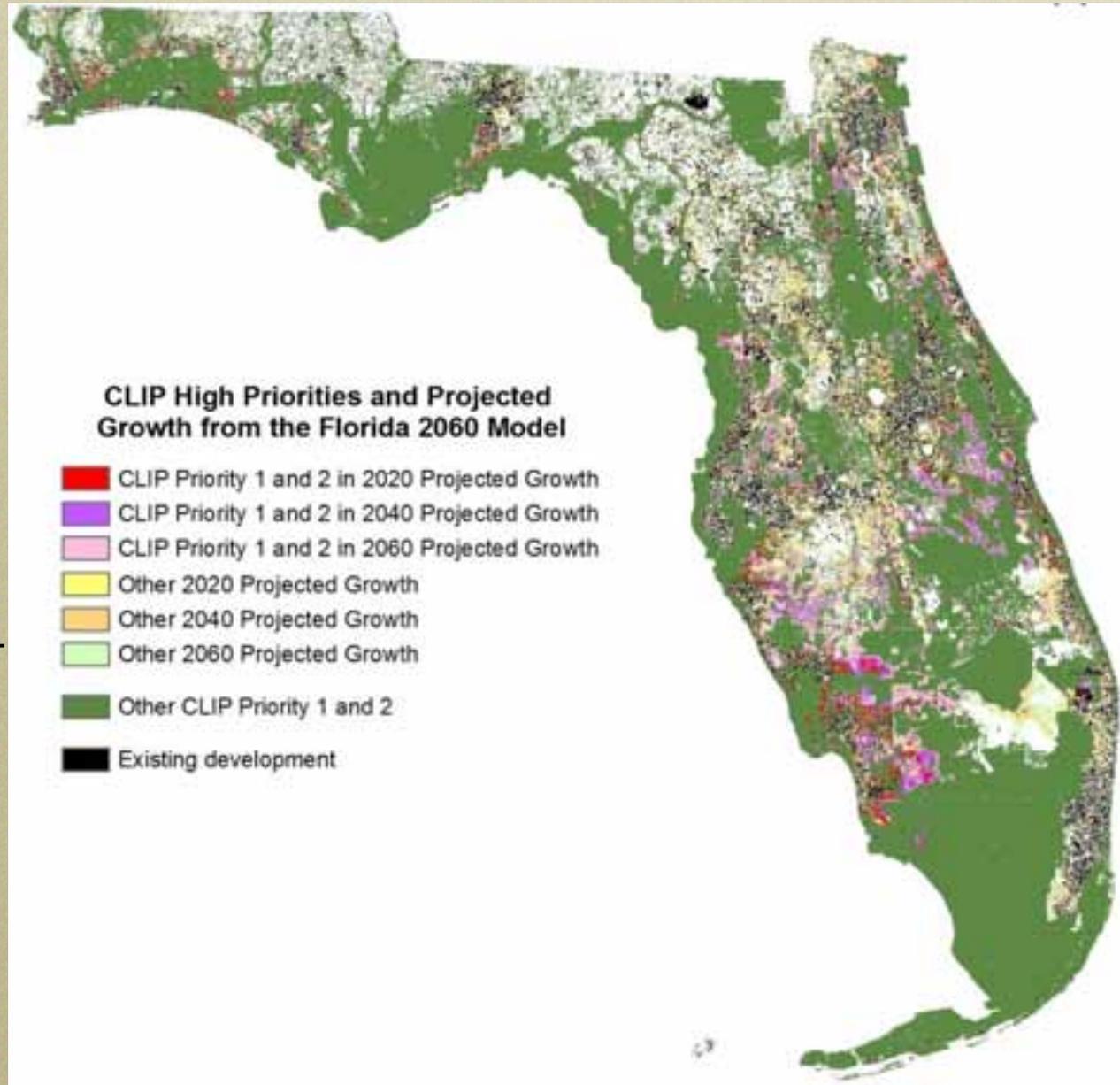
Consensus Priority 1 & 2



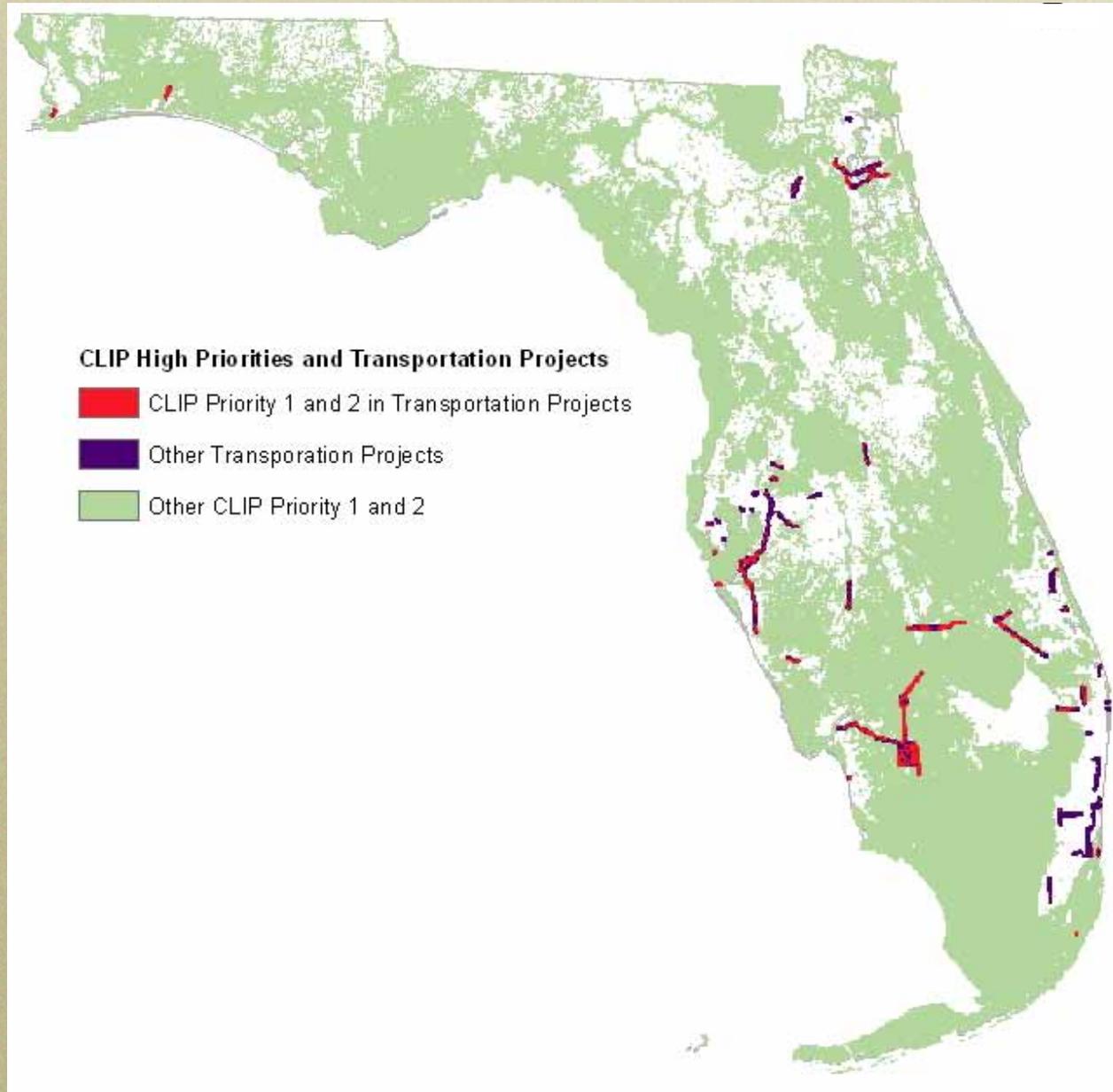
1 & 2 Priorities Overlay Agriculture and Silviculture



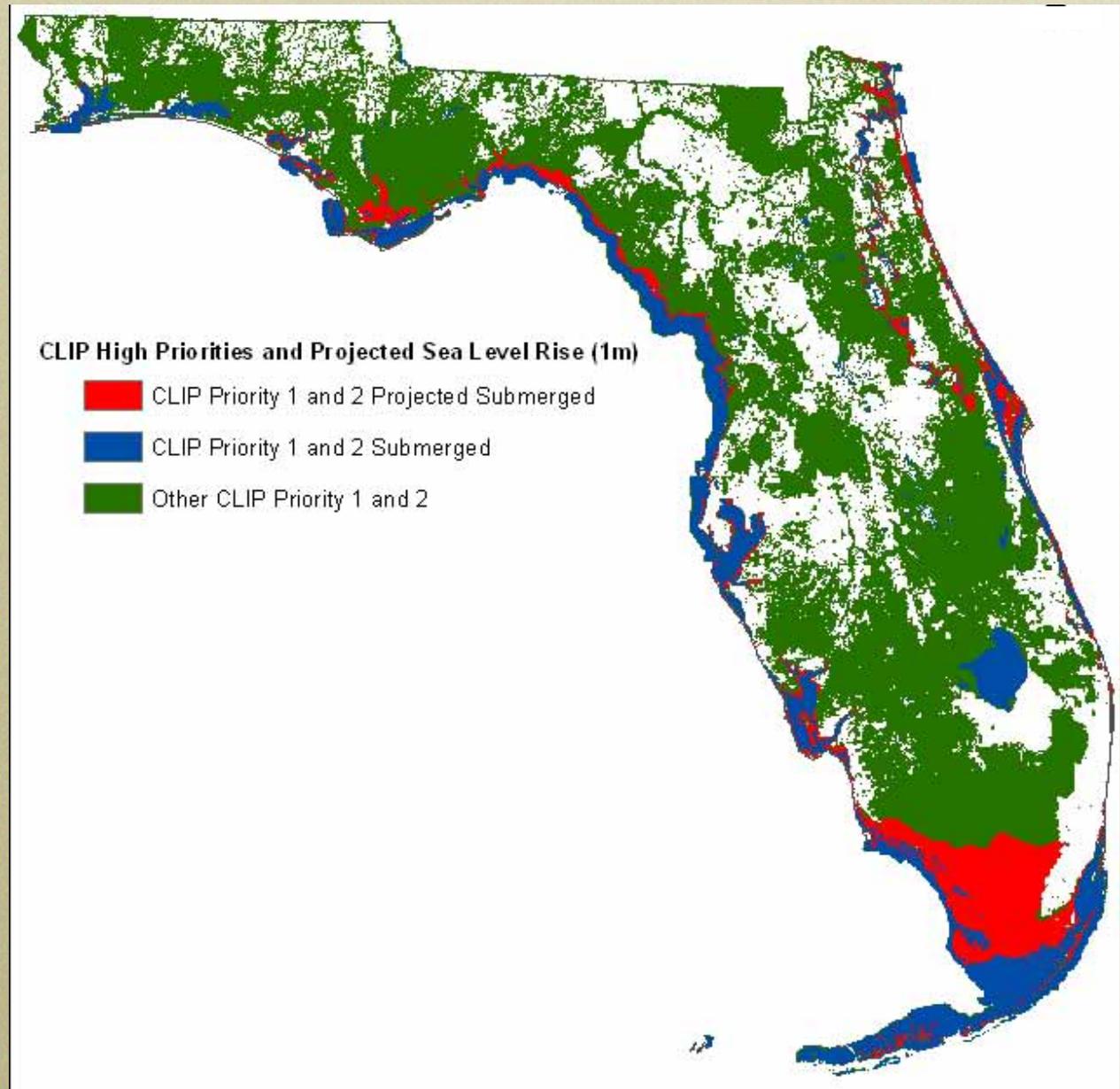
1 & 2 Priorities Overlay 2060 Growth Projection



1 & 2 Priorities FDOT Projects



1 & 2 Priorities 1 meter Sea Level Rise



Where from Here?



Legacy Initiative Goals 2010-2011

1. Conservation Coordination
 - **WAP Revision**
 - Coastal Wildlife Conservation Initiative
 - **Climate Change**
2. Performance Measures and Monitoring
3. Fill Data Gaps
4. 6 Priority Habitat Categories
 - Scrub
 - Sandhill
 - Softwater Stream
 - Spring and Spring Run
 - Coral Reef
 - Seagrass
5. **Cooperative Conservation Blueprint**

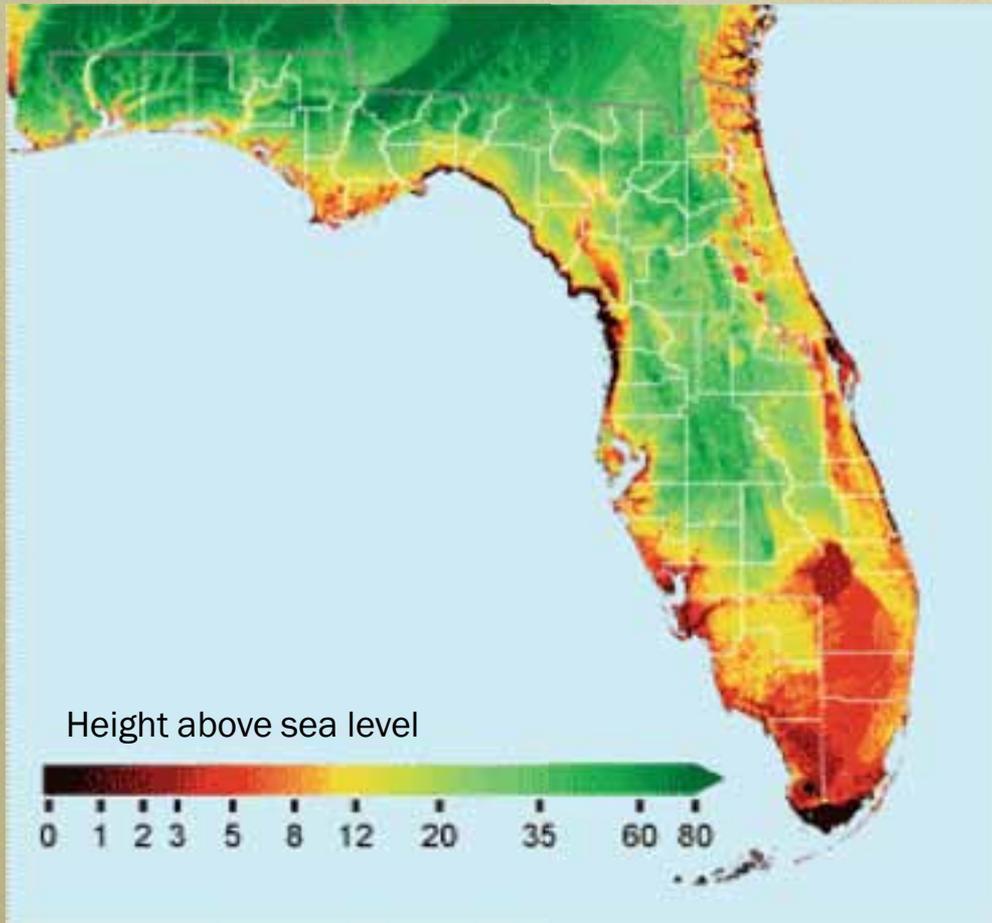


WAP Revision

- Topics
 - Add Climate Change
 - Update Habitat Maps
 - Revise Species of Greatest Conservation Need
 - Revise Threats and Actions
- Other Goals
 - FWC staff participation
 - Partner / Stakeholder participation
 - Making revision more usable



Climate Change Challenges



- Uncertainty
- Increased rate of change
- No-Analog future
- Interactions with existing issues
- Keeping a wildlife focus when human needs directly at risk



Climate Change 2100:

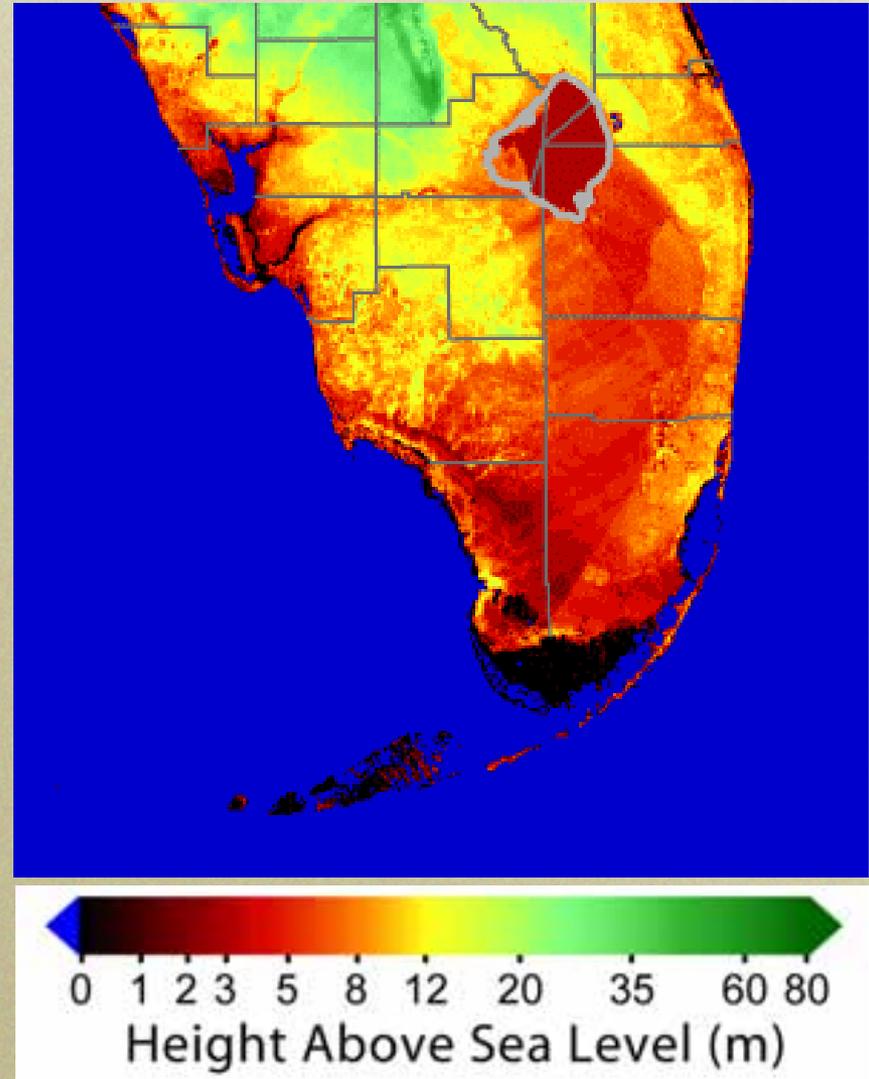
What's at stake for
Florida's Wildlife?



Everglades Inundated

Greenland ice shelf collapses
– sea level rises 25 feet!

- Billions sunk on re-plumbed Everglades
- River of grass now seagrass
- Shallow water wildlife flourishes



Captive Panthers

People retreat inland from rising surf

- Public lands used to settle displaced residents
- Last wild panther captured
- Zoos only remaining refuge for homeless cats



Migrating Manatees

Ocean temperatures warm to record levels

- Warming waters a welcome to manatees
- Manatee range expands northward to the Carolinas
- Manatees off endangered list



Cooperative Conservation Blueprint

A Bold vision of Florida's future

- If we can envision our future we can create that future

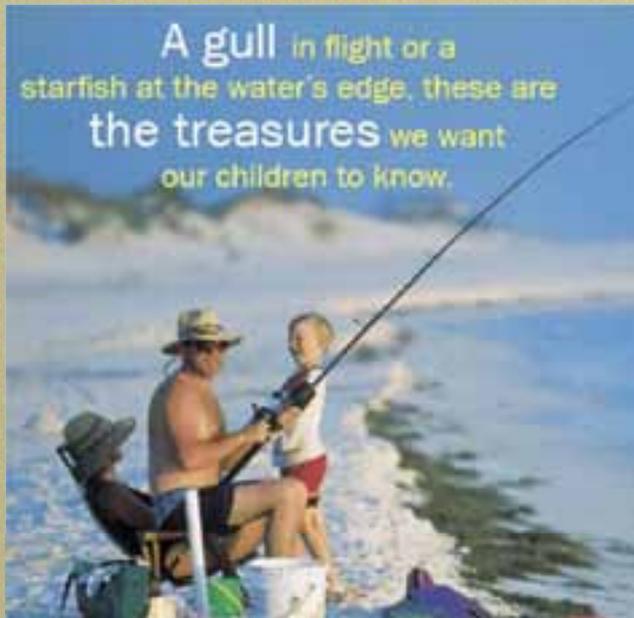


Closing Thoughts

- Focal Species
- Habitat-Based Approach
- Partners, Stakeholders, and the Public!
- Process Matters
- Inreach / Outreach



Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative



Working Together for Wildlife and People

