



A Passion for Public Lands

Public Lands Belong to all of us





Understanding the FNPS Mission

The Mission of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.





Why are we here?

- We have a vested financial interest in the health and the future of public lands;
- Other groups are voicing their opinions and FNPS members should also;
- We can contribute to the management conversation of our public lands; and
- We understand and recognize the form and functioning of Florida's diverse ecosystems.
- WE ARE A STAKEHOLDER



Conserving Plant Diversity

- ❑ Public lands are comprised of intact ecosystems or landscapes in need of restoration.
- ❑ Both use management strategies to improve the site's ecological structure, function and diversity.



Florida Statute (253.034 & 259.032 and Administrative Code Ch. 18-2

- 259.032 Conservation and recreation lands.—
 - (1) It is the policy of the state that the citizens of this state shall be assured **public ownership** of natural areas for purposes of maintaining this state's unique **natural resources**; protecting air, land, and water quality; promoting water resource development to meet the needs of natural systems and citizens of this state; promoting restoration activities on public lands; **and providing lands for natural resource-based recreation.**



Natural Areas



Natural Community Guide

A detailed guide to the standard classification system of 81 natural communities





Natural Areas

FNAI 2010 Natural Community Overview

HARDWOOD FORESTED UPLANDS
HIGH PINE AND SCRUB
PINE FLATWOODS AND DRY PRAIRIE
COASTAL UPLANDS
SINKHOLES AND OUTCROP COMMUNITIES
FRESHWATER NON-FORESTED WETLANDS
FRESHWATER FORESTED WETLANDS
MARINE and ESTUARINE VEGETATED WETLANDS
PONDS and LAKES (LACUSTRINE)
RIVERS and STREAMS (RIVERINE)
SUBTERRANEAN
MARINE and ESTUARINE





Ruderal = Altered Landcover Types

Examples:

- Abandoned field
- Artificial pond
- Pasture - improved
- Pine plantation
- Successional
hardwood forest



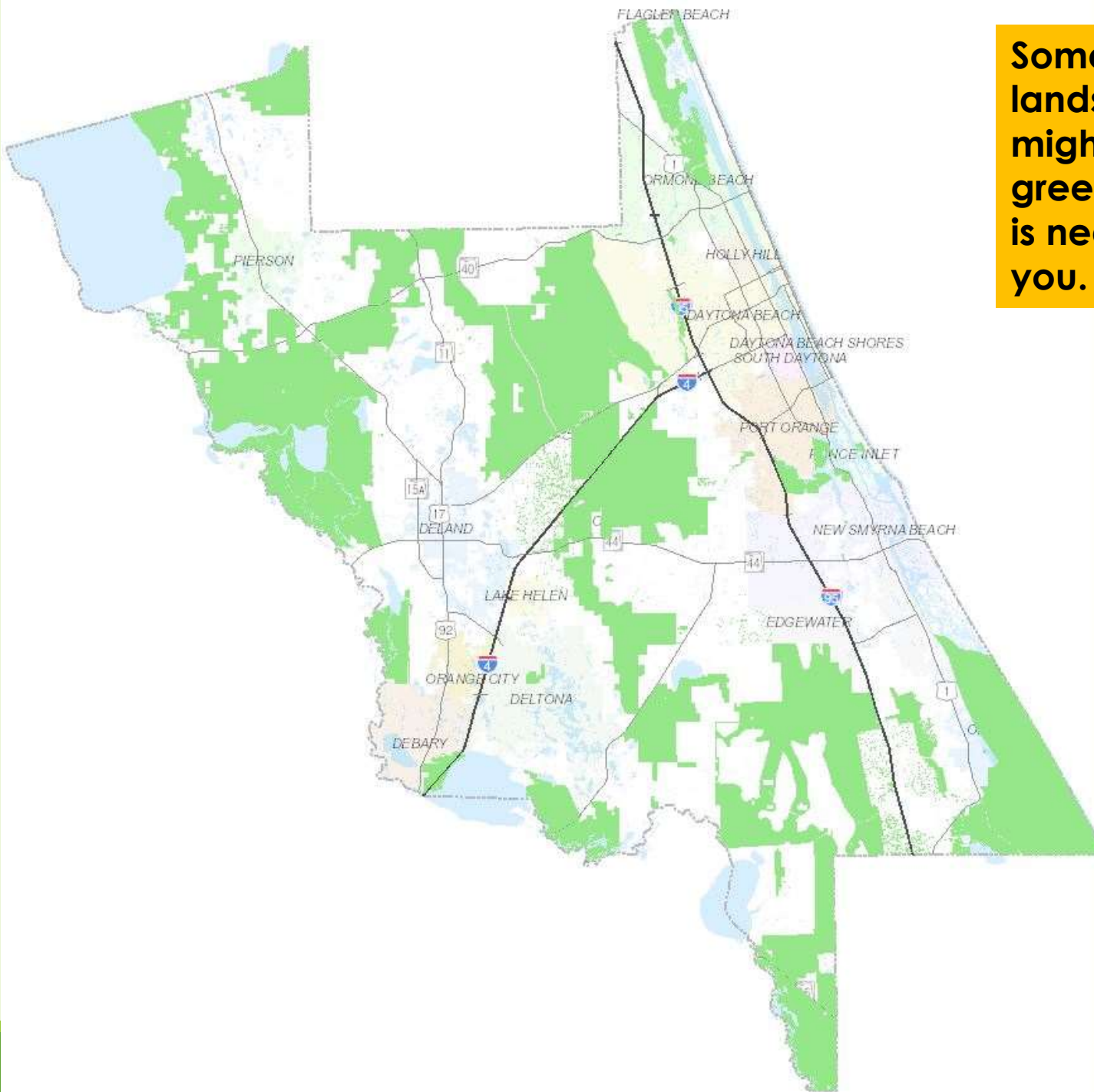
Sandhill





Scrub





Somewhere in this landscape you might recognize a green space that is near and dear to you.



Who Manages Florida's Natural Resources?

- Individual and corporate landowners
- Tribes
- States – national forest, national parks
- Federal
 - Military bases
 - NOAA – Coastal Zone Management
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

- Florida
 - Cities
 - Counties
 - Water management districts
 - Florida FWCC/ US Fish & Wildlife
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Local Conservation Lands

LANDSCAPE SCALE PROTECTION

Volusia County Conservation Areas

1. Deep Creek Preserve
2. DL SC Preserve
3. Hickory Bluff Preserve
4. Lk. George Forest & WMA
5. Longleaf Pine Preserve
6. Lyonia Preserve
7. Scrub Oaks Preserve
8. Wiregrass Prairie Preserve

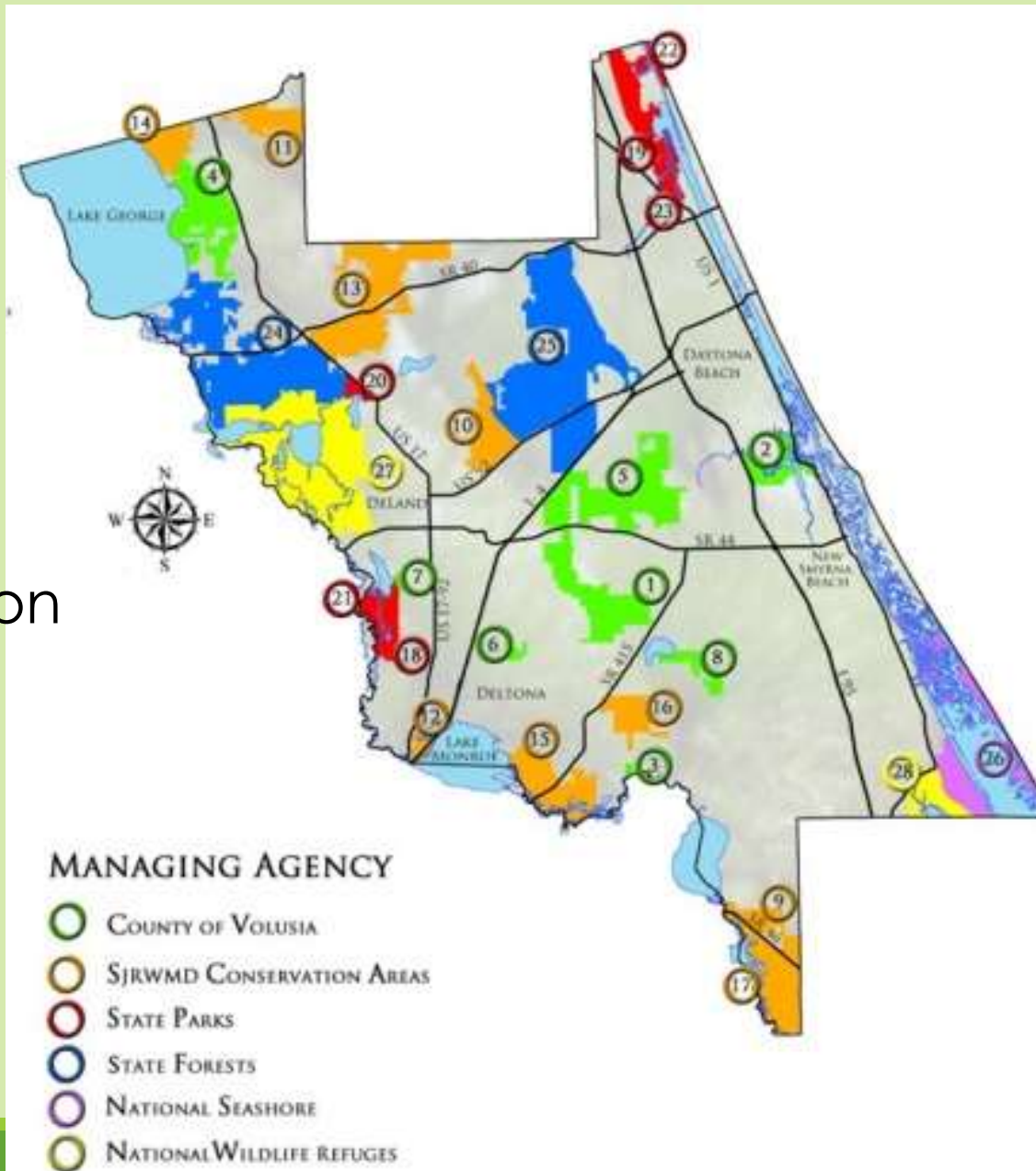


Local Conservation Lands

LANDSCAPE SCALE PROTECTION

St. Johns River Water Management District

- 9. Buck Lake CA
- 10. Clark Bay CA
- 11. Crescent Lake CA
- 12. Gemini Springs Addition
- 13. Heart Island CA
- 14. Lake George CA
- 15. Lake Monroe CA
- 16. Palm Bluff CA
- 17. Seminole Ranch CA



Local Conservation Lands

LANDSCAPE SCALE PROTECTION

Florida State Parks (FDEP)

- 18. Blue Spring SP
- 19. Bulow Creek SP
- 20. DeLeon Springs SP
- 21. Hontoon Island SP
- 22. North Peninsula SP
- 23. Tomoka (Regional) SP



Local Conservation Lands

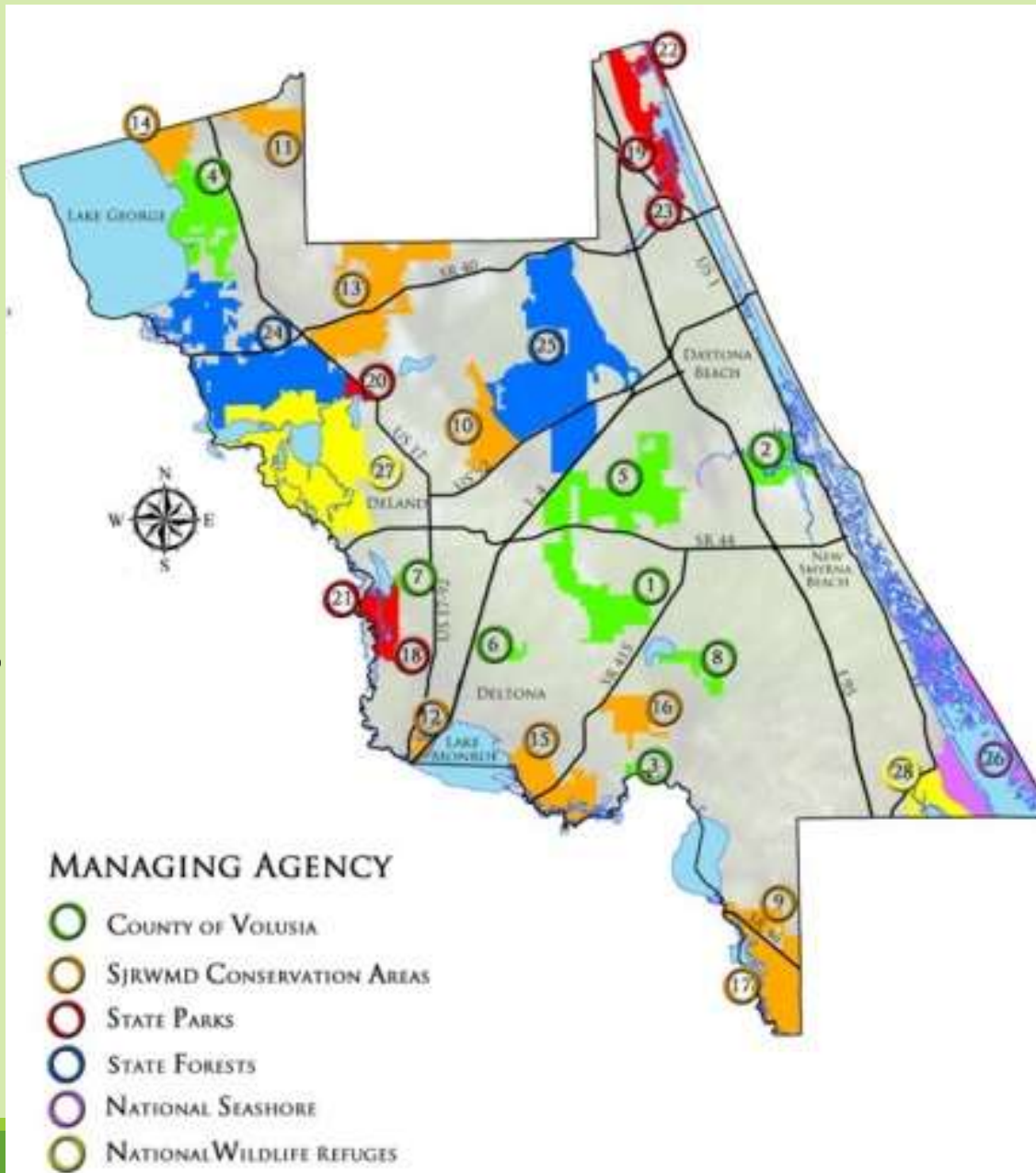
LANDSCAPE SCALE PROTECTION

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- 18. Blue Spring SP
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Florida State Forests (FFS)

- 24. Lake George State Forest
- 25. Tiger Bay State Forest



Local Conservation Lands

LANDSCAPE SCALE PROTECTION

Federal Lands

26. Canaveral National Seashore (National Park Service)

27. Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge (US Fish & Wildlife Service)

28. Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge (US Fish & Wildlife Service)





Decisions are based on input from many stakeholders

For State Lands, review teams are:

- 1) The land manager,
- 2) FDEP DSL / ARC (for Plans),
- 3) Florida Forestry Service,
- 4) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
- 5) Local county or community representative,
- 6) Local Soil and Water Conservation District,
- 7) Private land manager and
- 8) Local conservation organization - FNPS.



Decisions are based on process

Land Management Reviews –

- Conducted Every 5-years
- Attended by stakeholders
- Review implementation of the **Plan**
- Checklist and (re)commendations

Unit Management Plans –

- Updated Every 10-years
- Reviewed by stakeholders
- Approved by ARC



What You Can Do!

Get your Chapter to become a local park Partner

Become a Reviewer

Get involved in Plan updates (MPAG)

<http://www.fnps.org/committee/partners>

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/faq.htm>