# **Alachua County Forever**

Land Acquisition Planning

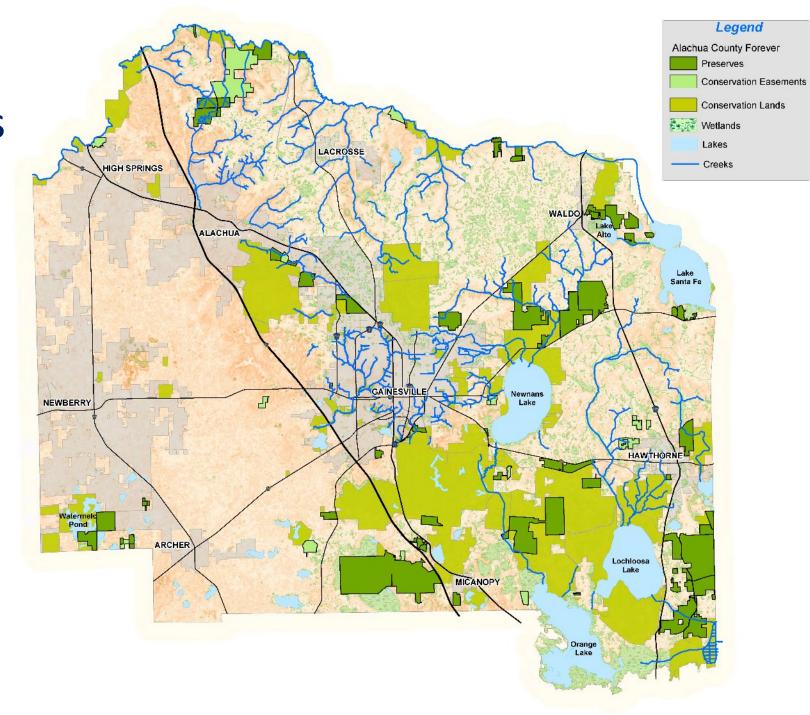


**Charlie Houder, Director** 

**Office of Land Conservation and Management** 



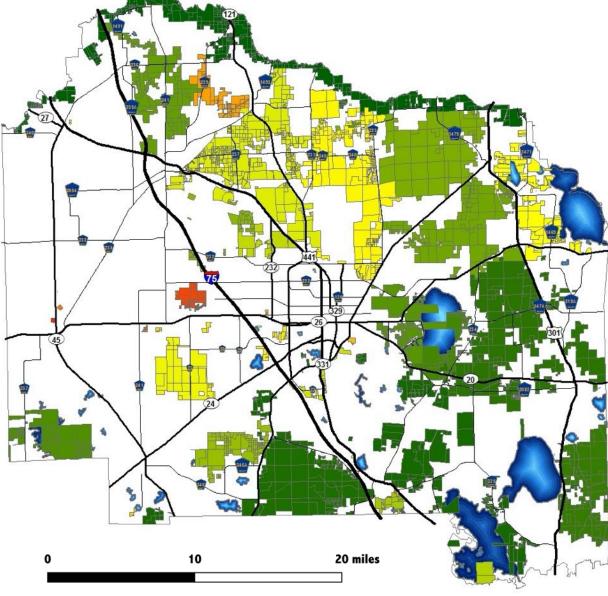
# Existing Conservation Lands January 2022







**Alachua County Forever Projects** 











CountyBoundary

# Regional Conservation Priorities

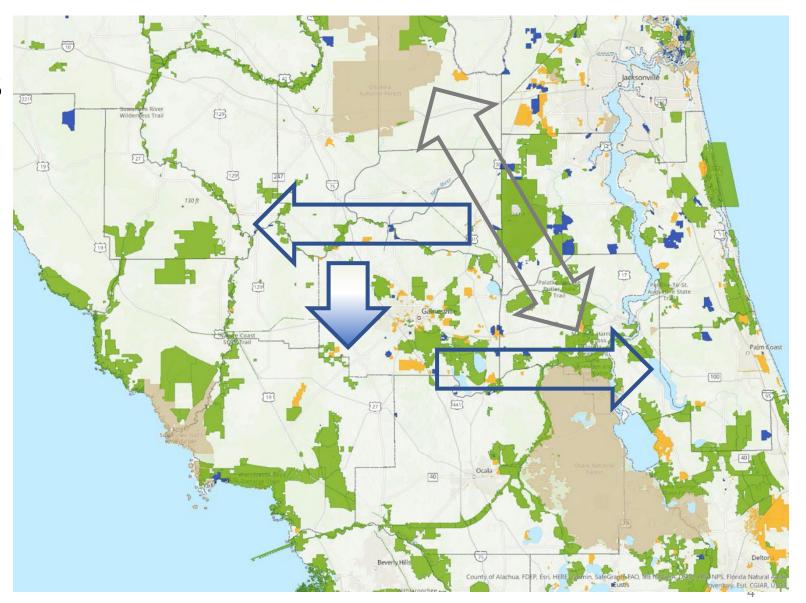
- Santa Fe/Suwannee
- Ocklawaha/St. Johns
- Springs/Aquifer
- O to O Corridor

### **Universal Drivers**

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change







### Florida Wildlife Corridor

**Lochloosa Forest** 

### **Opportunities** State of Florida



Florida Counties

Florida Wildlife Corridor

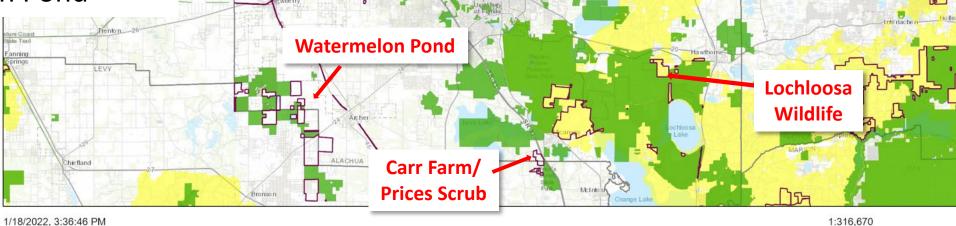
Lake Santa Fe

Carr Farm/Prices Scrub

Lochloosa Wildlife

Lochloosa Forest

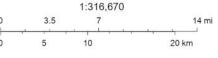
Watermelon Pond







FFBOT Projects - Unacquired Portions (Florida Forever Projects) Florida Conservation Lands FL Wildlife Corridor 2021 (FEGN Priorities 1-3) (FEGN=Florida Ecological Greenways Network)

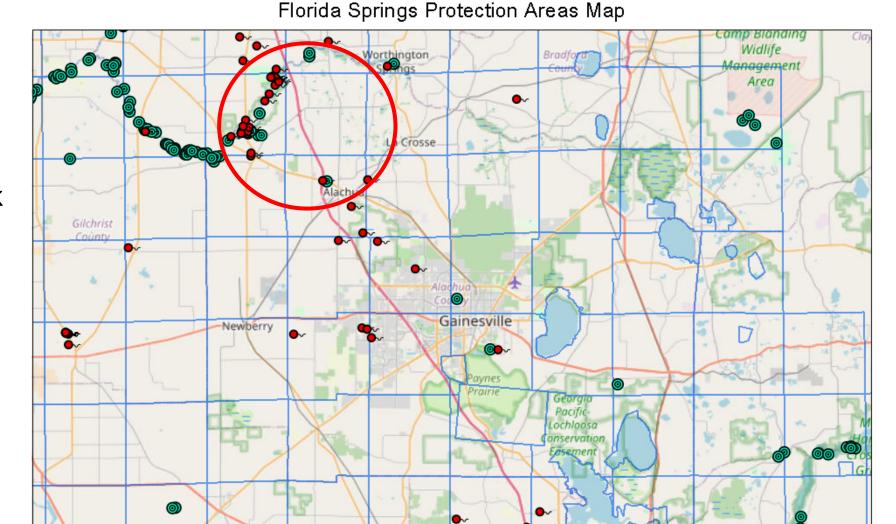


Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, NGA, EPA, USDA, NPS

**Lake Santa Fe** 

### **Opportunities Springs Protection**

- Mill Creek Sink Rembert CE
- High Springs Lime Rock
- ACT Projects





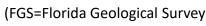


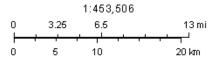




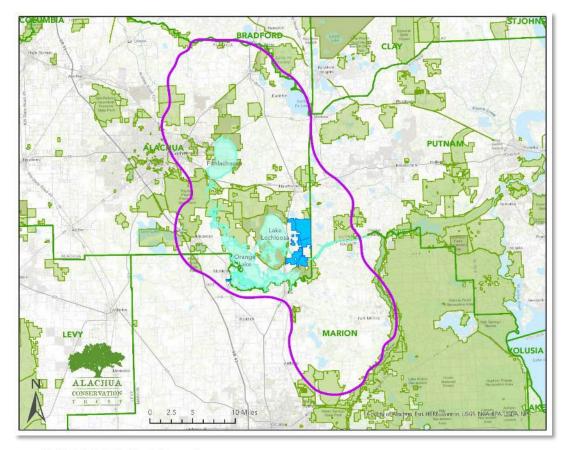
Florida Springs (2016)







@ OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SIA, FDEP , DEAR, FGS



### **NAWCA Project: North Florida** Wetlands Conservation **Connector Project**

- NAWCA Major Lakes and Waterways
- County Boundaries
  - Conservation Lands
- NFWCCP Project Area NFWCCP Parcels

### **RCPP Projects** in North Central Florida

**NEW Proposed RCPP** 

Surface to Springs- Alachua Conservation Trust

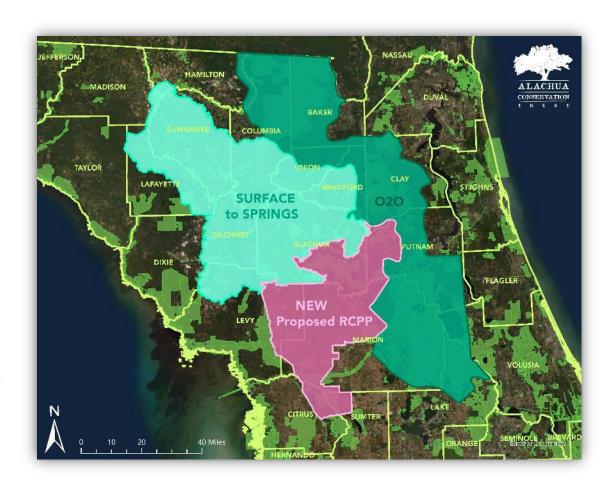
O2O (Ocala to Osceola) - North Florida Land Trust

Florida Counties

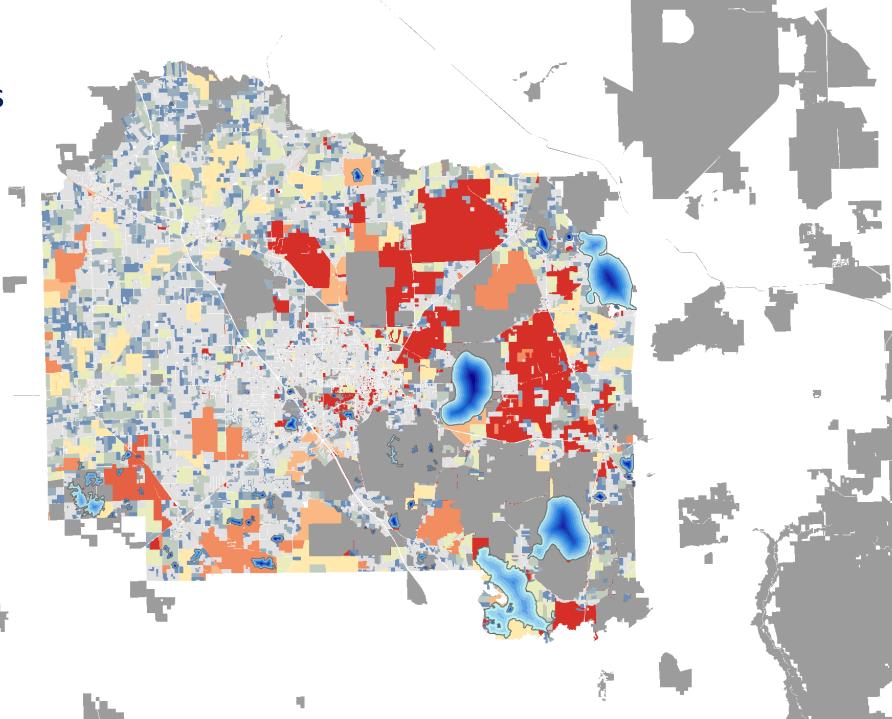
Conservation Lands

### **Opportunities ACT Sponsored Federal Projects**

- North American Wetlands Conservation Act
- Regional Conservation Partnership Projects



Feasibility
Ownerships > 40 acres





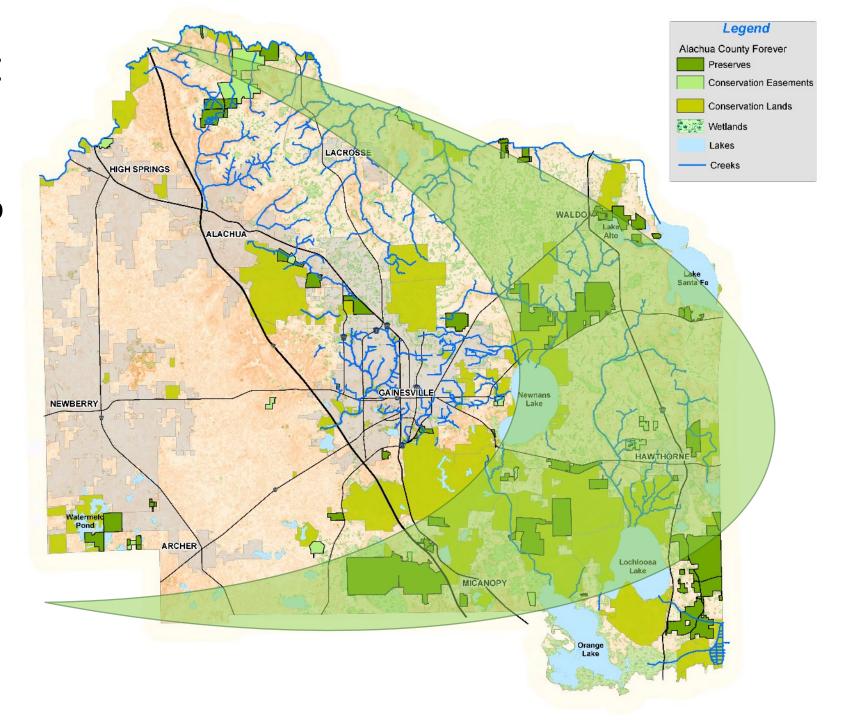


### The Green Crescent

- Hornsby Springshed
- Santa Fe River
- Lakes Santa Fe and Alto
- Austin Cary Flatwoods
- Lochloosa Creek
- Lochloosa Slough
- Barr Hammock
- Watermelon Pond







## Conclusions

- Alachua County Forever has been successful in addressing both local and state-level conservation priorities.
- There are opportunities to leverage County resources to complete key projects.
- Alachua County Forever should maintain its current focus, but can be used as a model for programs to address other resource protection needs.
- The Green Crescent represents a feasible strategy for the continuation of the Alachua County Forever Program.