



## Overview of South's Situation

- Year-round fire season
- Significant wildfire activity
  - Over half ignitions and 40% of large fires
- Large and expanding WUI
  - Over half of all WUI in the country
- Smoke management is a challenge with ↑ WUI
- 89% private land bring 5 million reasons for owning land
- Fragmentation
- Invasive species



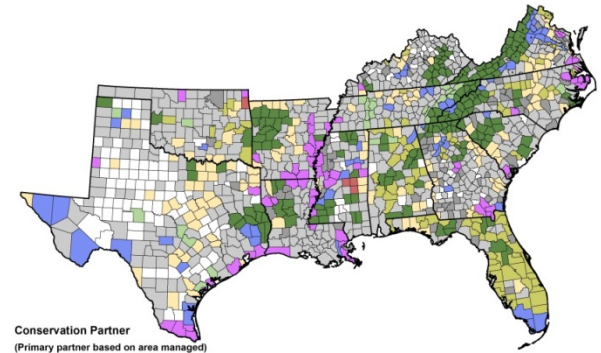
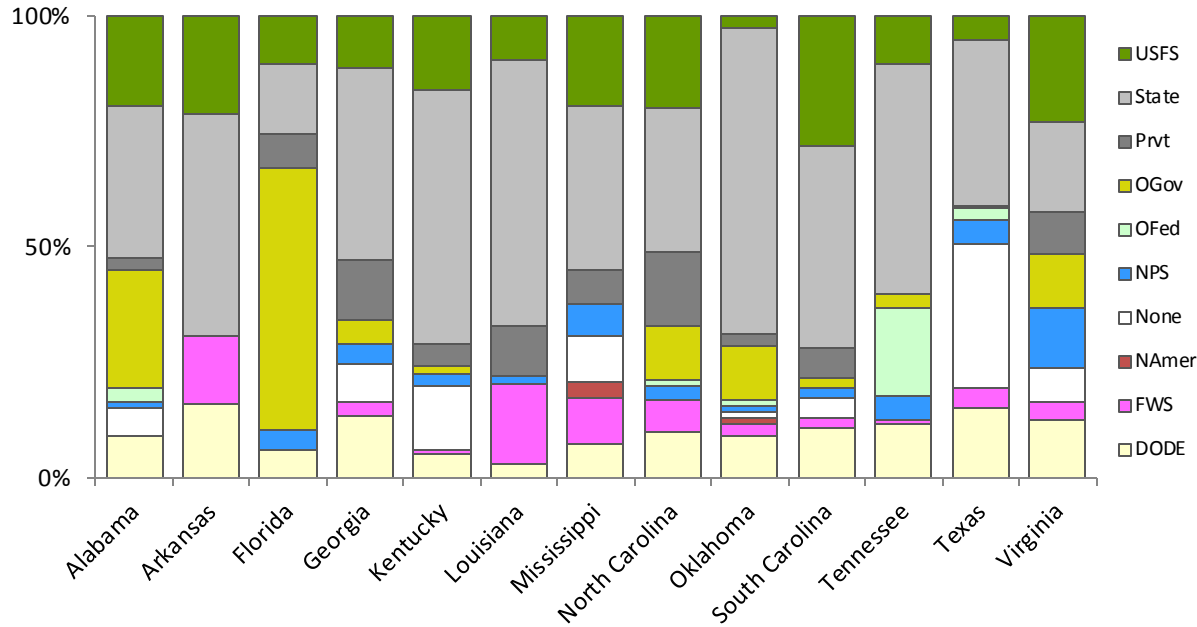
**Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy**  
National Goals; Collective Solutions

*Response to Wildfire*  
*Fire Adapted Communities*  
*Resilient Landscapes*  
*Supported by Science*

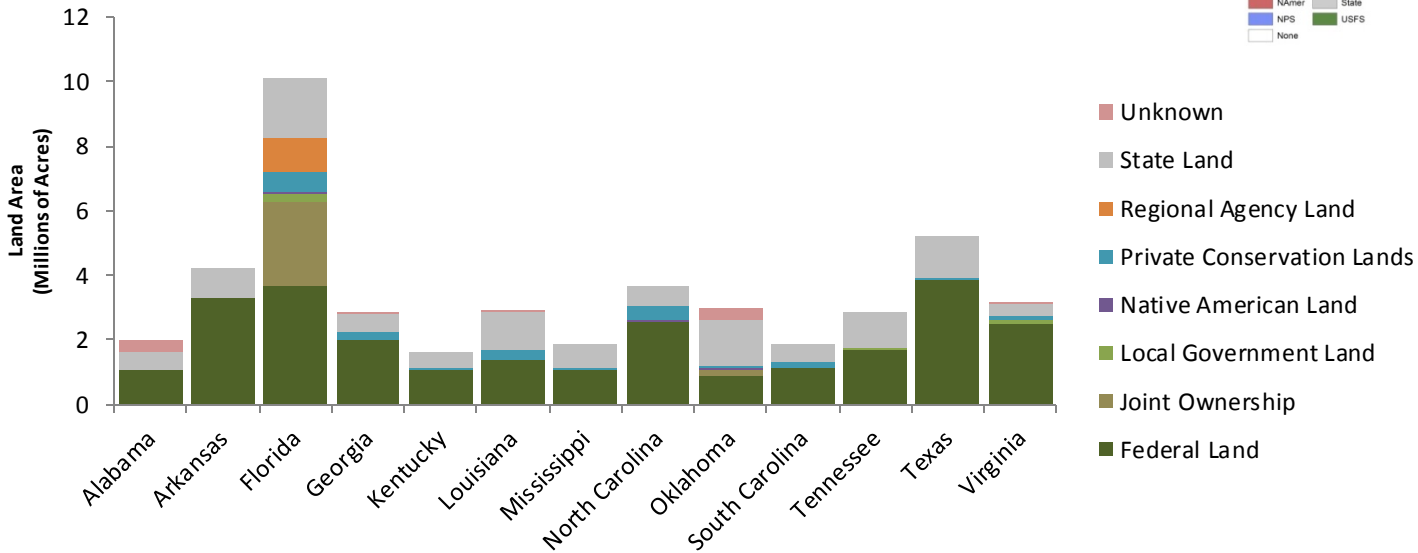
## **Overview of South's Situation**

- Strong collaboration already – excellent history of cooperation
- Working forests and relatively strong market infrastructure
- Private landowners, many motivated to manage land
- Active prescribed burning throughout the region
- Fairly extensive road system allows for rapid IA from RFDs

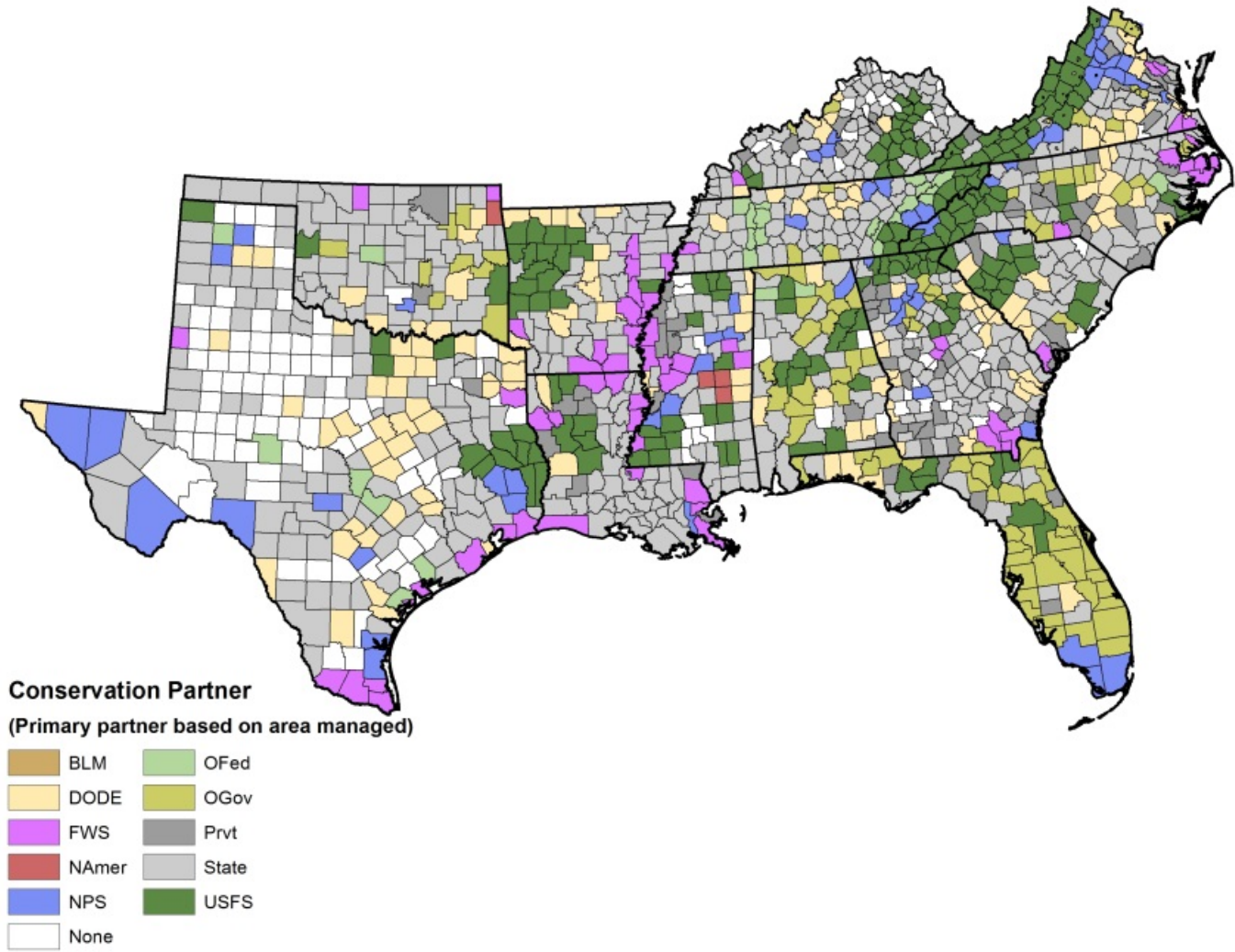
## Primary Conservation Partners for States in Southeast



## Total Conservation Land Area for States in the Southeast



# Spatial Prioritization around Conservation Partners





# Training on Data Utilizing Multiple Tools

BBNs and NSAT data - Determining areas of opportunity  
- Fire and resource management options

SWRA / SouthWRAP – Define areas of highest risk

Forest Action Plans – Show state ecological and resource priorities  
and current activities. (assessment and strategy)

Agency Specific Management Plans / Fire Plans etc.

# Southeast Fires, Fuels, and Homes BBN

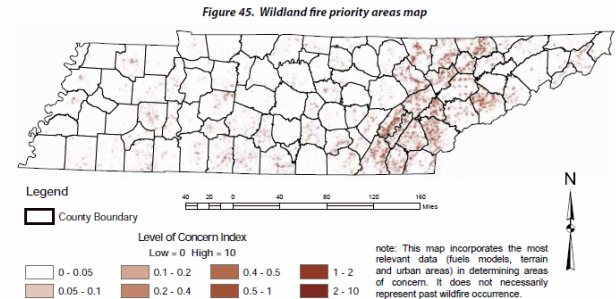
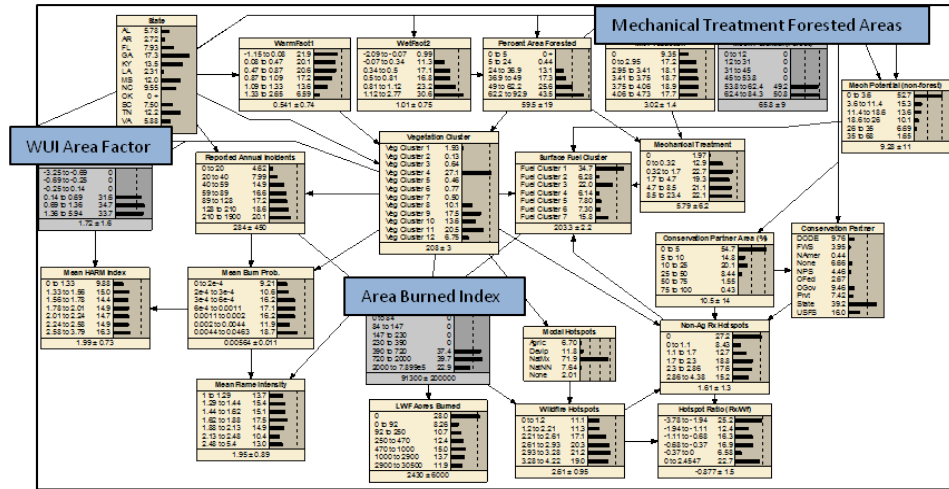
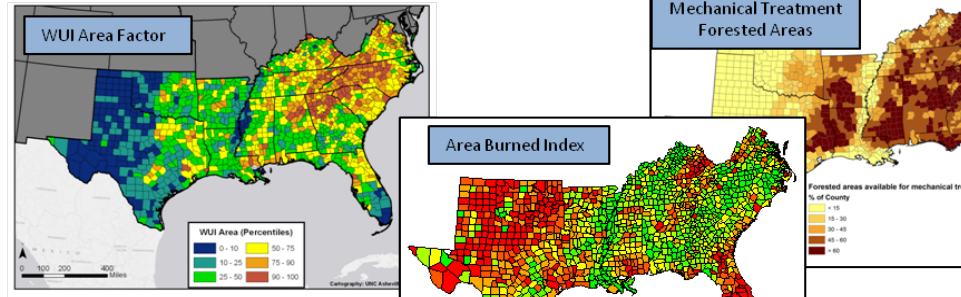


Figure 45. Wildland fire priority areas map



**Figure 22 -** By using the BBN for Fire, Fuels and Homes that the NSAT generated, the SE RSC was able to determine the primary areas that faced a high risk of fire and that could effectively use mechanical treatments to reduce fuel loads in the WUI.

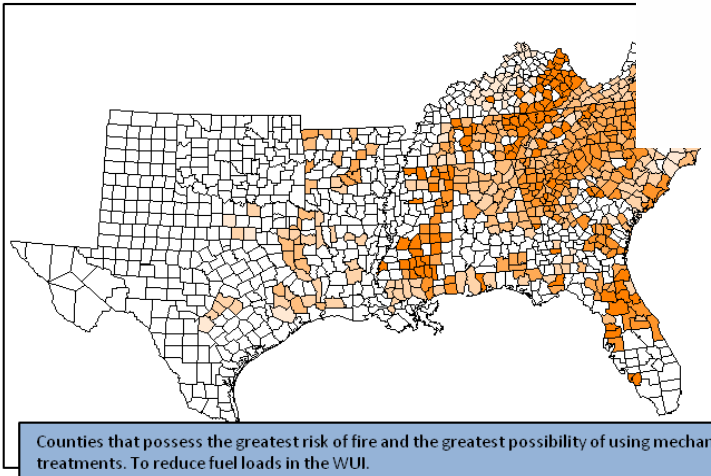
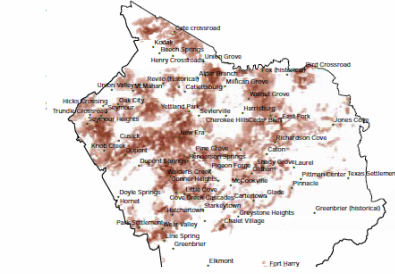


Figure 46. Sevier County wildland fire priority map



- Issue: Fire Prevention in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)**
- 6.4. Homeowners residing in forested settings, and the public at large, are not well-informed of the dangers of wildfire, its impact on the environment, the expense of suppression, and how to avoid it. Forest fire protection begins with the public (Pgs 71-72).
- GOAL: Educated Residents and Public Officials of the Dangers in WUI.**
- Strategies:**
- 6.4.1. Develop and implement fire prevention activities to reduce the frequency and severity of wildfire.
    -
  - 6.4.2. Encourage at risk communities to engage in community level fire prevention planning.
    -
  - 6.4.3. Develop and implement new tools for management of forests within the wildland-urban interface.
    -
  - 6.4.4. Educate state and local planning officials on development issues at the wildland-urban interface.
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# Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy National Goals; Collective Solutions

*Response to Wildfire*  
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3H

Community Cluster.....3

Landscape Class.....H

Summary sheets have been prepared for each combination of community cluster and landscape class

Georgia Forestry Commission  
Outreach to all 159 Counties

### Description

These heavily forested counties mostly fall within the southeastern United States in Coastal Plain and Piedmont. There is small federal and state ownership, and extensive private industry. This area is characterized by significant Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and is more urbanized than the national average.

There is a history of prescribed fire, but conflicts may arise due to the proximity of the human population.

### Challenges and Opportunities

#### Vegetation and Fuels

These counties have a history of using prescribed fire and could expand or maintain use of this fuel management option. There may be an active forest products industry nearby, which could support fuel treatments. Treatments may be economical as a precursor to prescribed fire.

#### Homes, Communities and Values at Risk

Individual homeowners can be proactive on home defensive actions. These counties could adjust building and construction codes in non-municipal areas.

#### Human-Caused Ignitions

Human-caused ignitions are a problem in these counties. Reduce human-caused ignitions through enforcement or outreach.

#### Effective and Efficient Wildfire Response

Protect structures and target prevention of ignitions.

### Example of a Typical County

*Jones County, North Carolina:* This rural county includes longleaf pine in the ~~Croatan~~ Croatan National Forest and Hofmann State Forest.



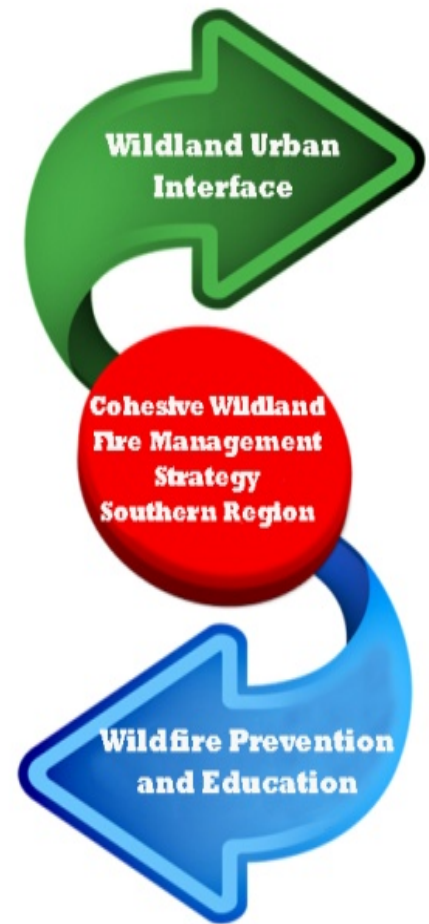
### National Priorities

Vegetation and Fuels	High
Homes, Communities and Values at Risk	High
Human-Caused Ignitions	Moderate

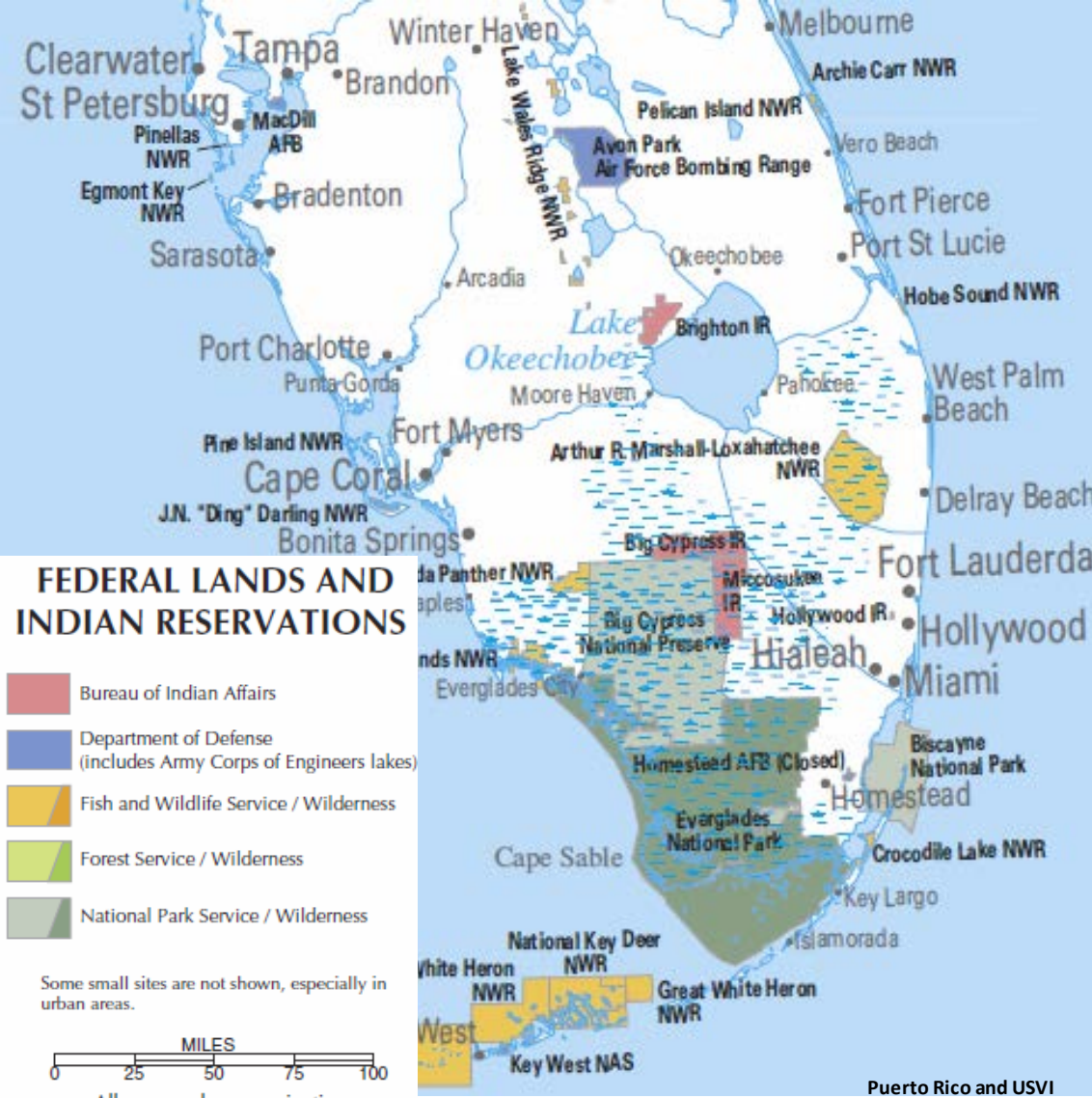
Effective and efficient response:  
There is moderate risk of large wildfires, less potential for resource benefits

# WUI/Prevention Exchange for the Southern Region

- Research demographics and social changes
- Improve internal communications
- Promote and enhance the use of fire prevention education (FPETs)
- Collaborate to develop and implement hazard mitigation plans for Fire Adapted Communities

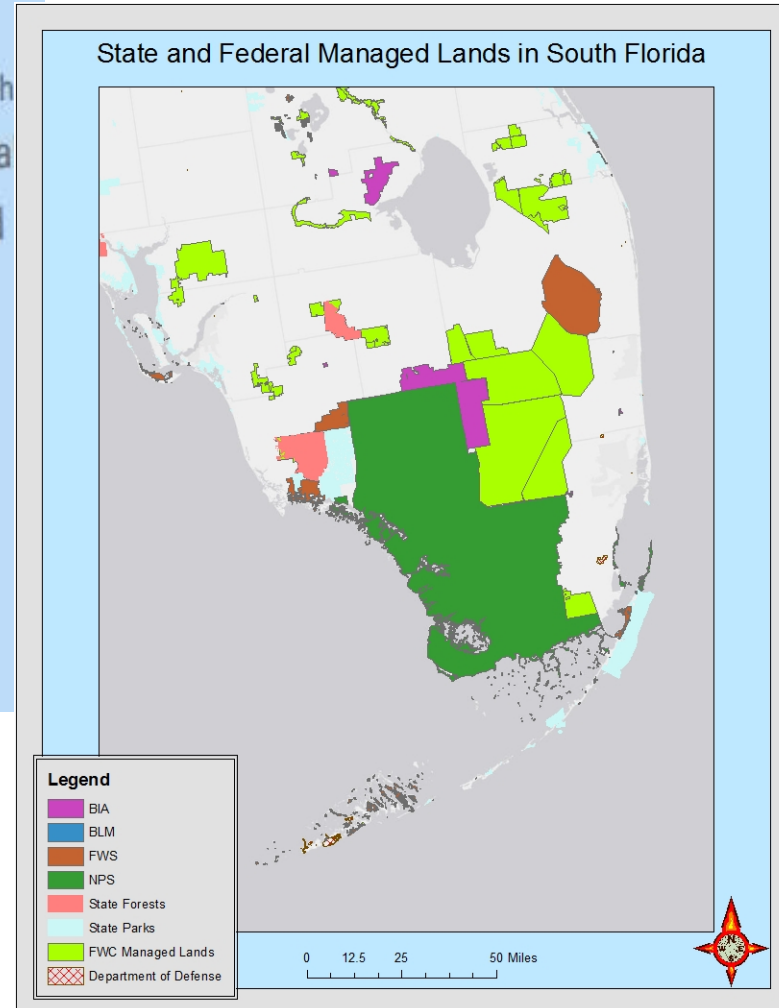






## Opportunities

- Response – Type 3 Int.
- Prescribed Fire – reim. agree
- Training – adv. classes locally
- Shared Aircraft / Dispatch
- Shared Resources - equip. & people (ecologist and contracting spclst)



## Challenges

- Removing Disincentives
- Agency Policies Differ
- Smoke Management
- Loss of Capacity



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***QUESTIONS?***