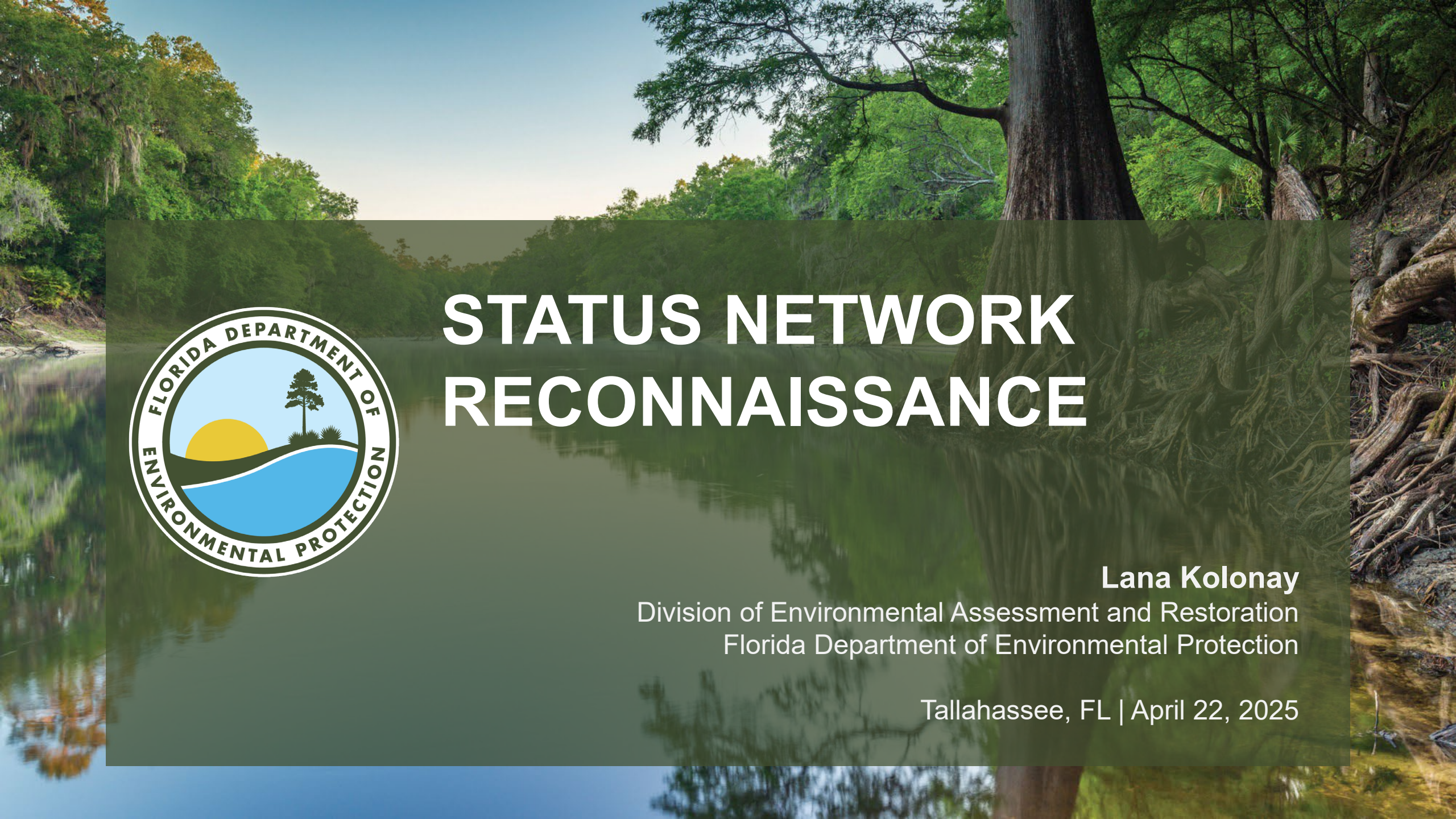


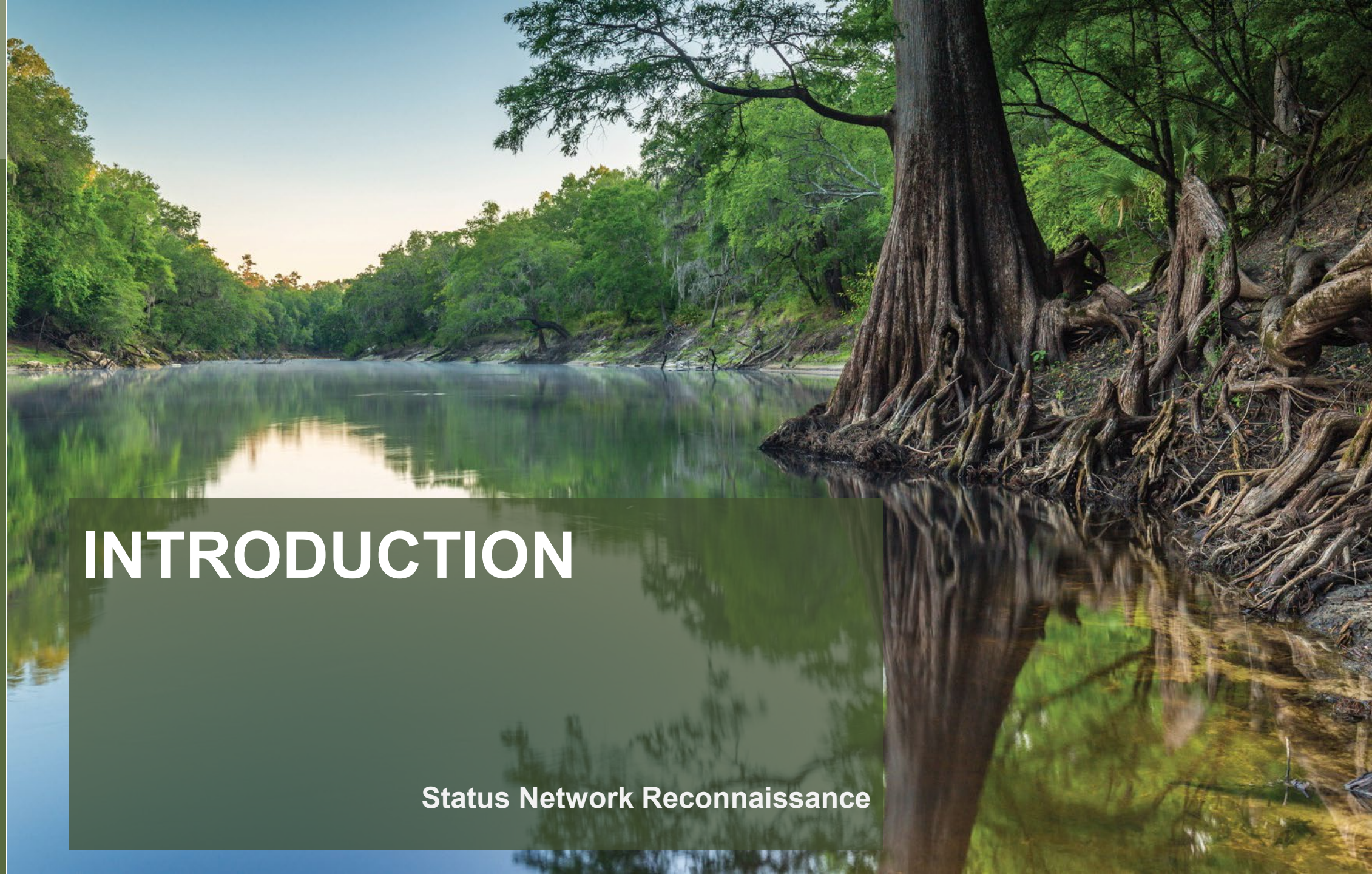
STATUS NETWORK RECONNAISSANCE

Lana Kolonay
Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Tallahassee, FL | April 22, 2025

TOPICS

- Introduction.
- Process Steps.
- Exclusions.
- Documentation.
- Public Interaction.

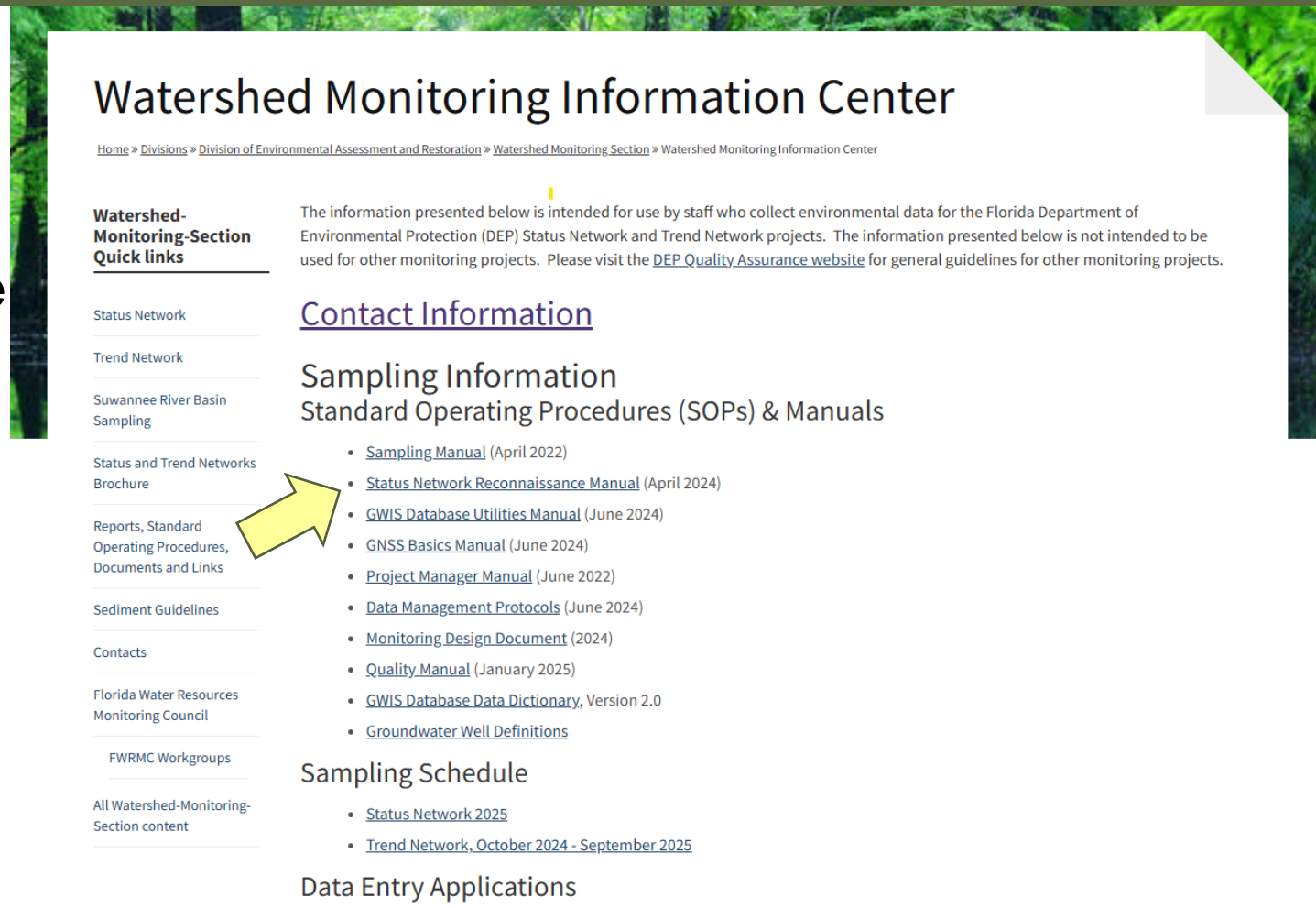


INTRODUCTION

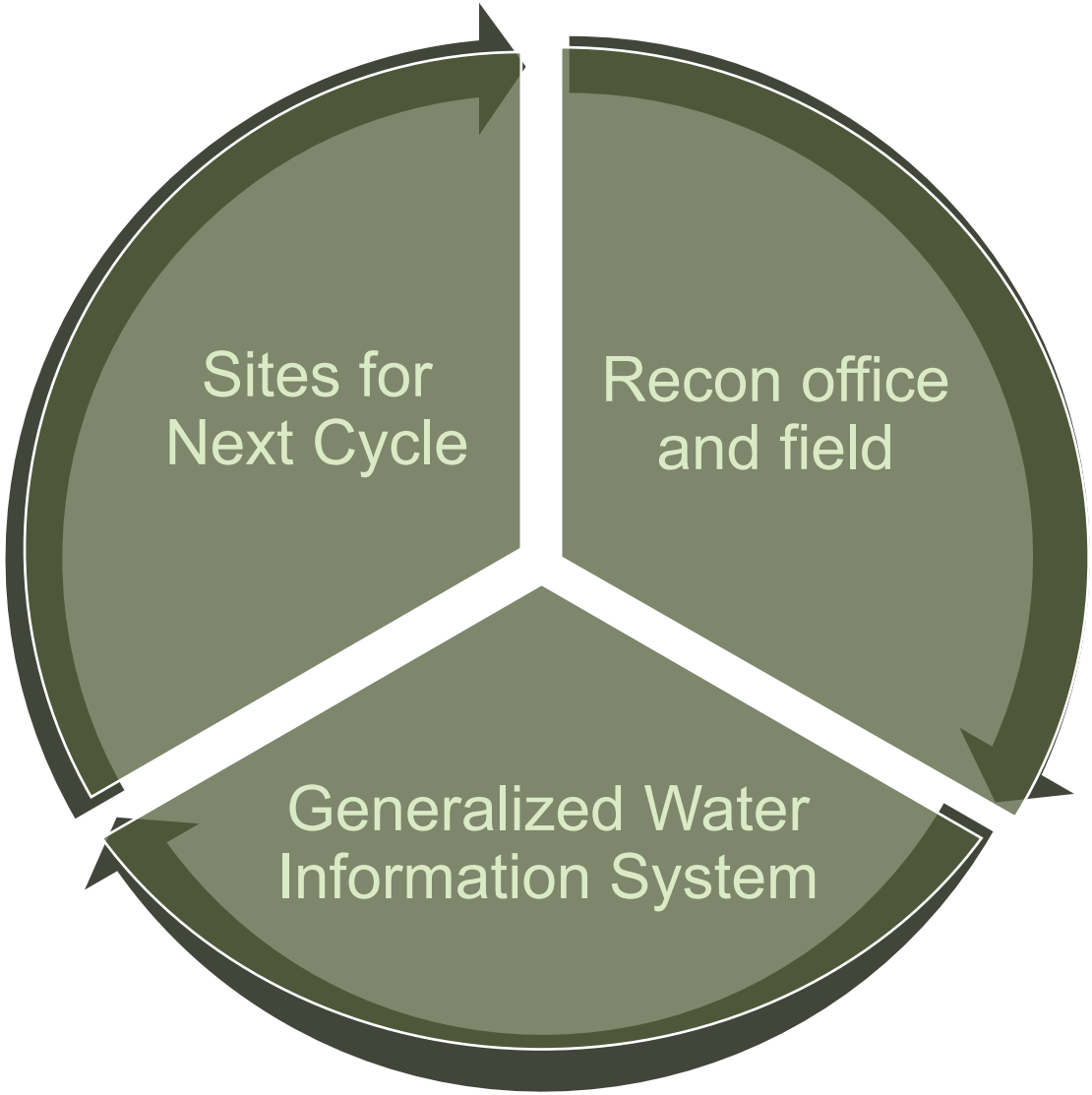
Status Network Reconnaissance

WATERSHED MONITORING INFORMATION CENTER

- Status Network Reconnaissance Manual.
  - Provides more detail than can be presented today.
  - Please review and become familiar with the manual.
- Review the Status Network Reconnaissance Manual
  - Updated in April 2024.



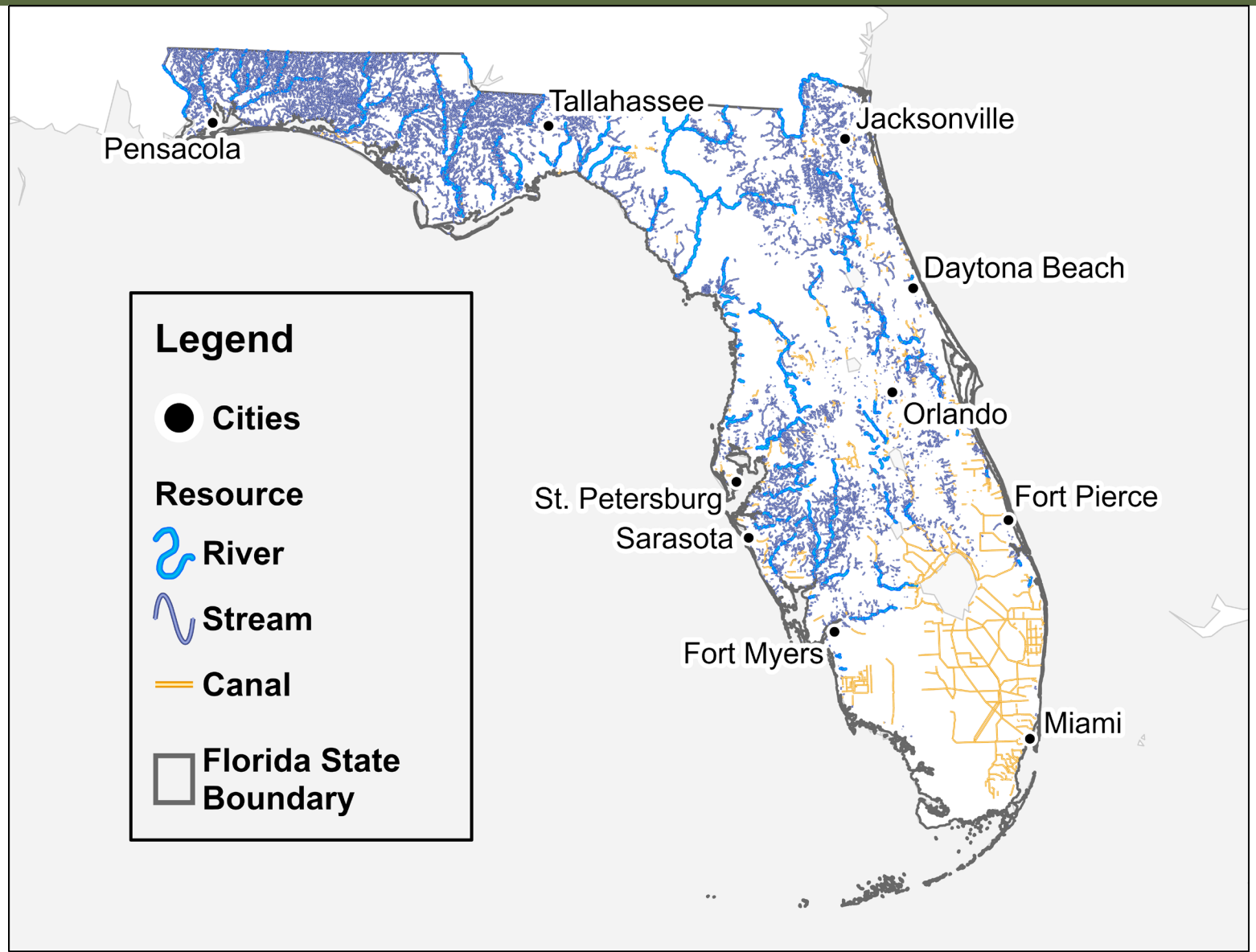
THE RECONNAISSANCE PROCESS



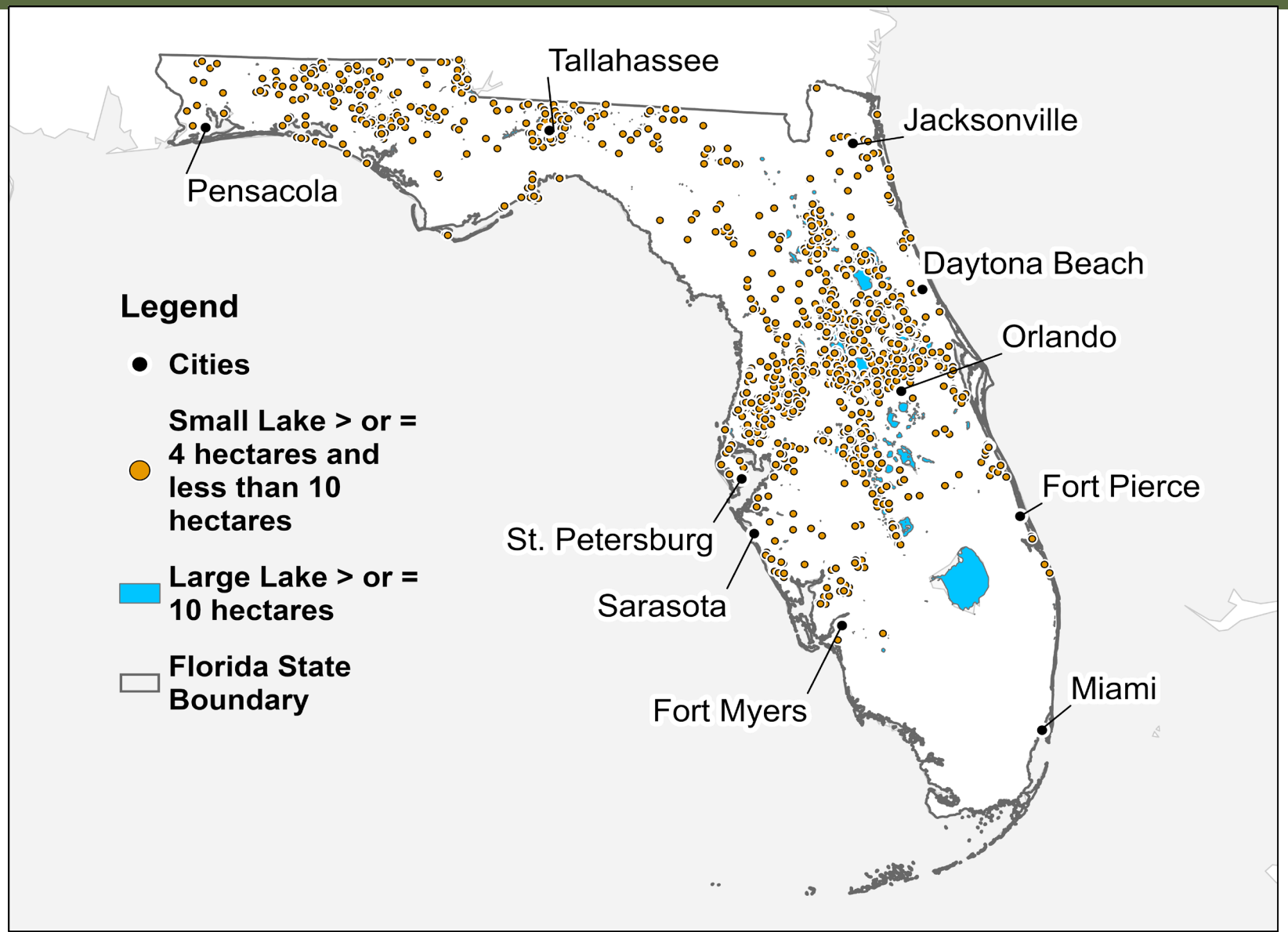
Why conduct Reconnaissance (Recon)?

- Verify the correct resource is sampled.
- Ensure sampling can be performed safely.
- Assist resource analysts in improving coverage.

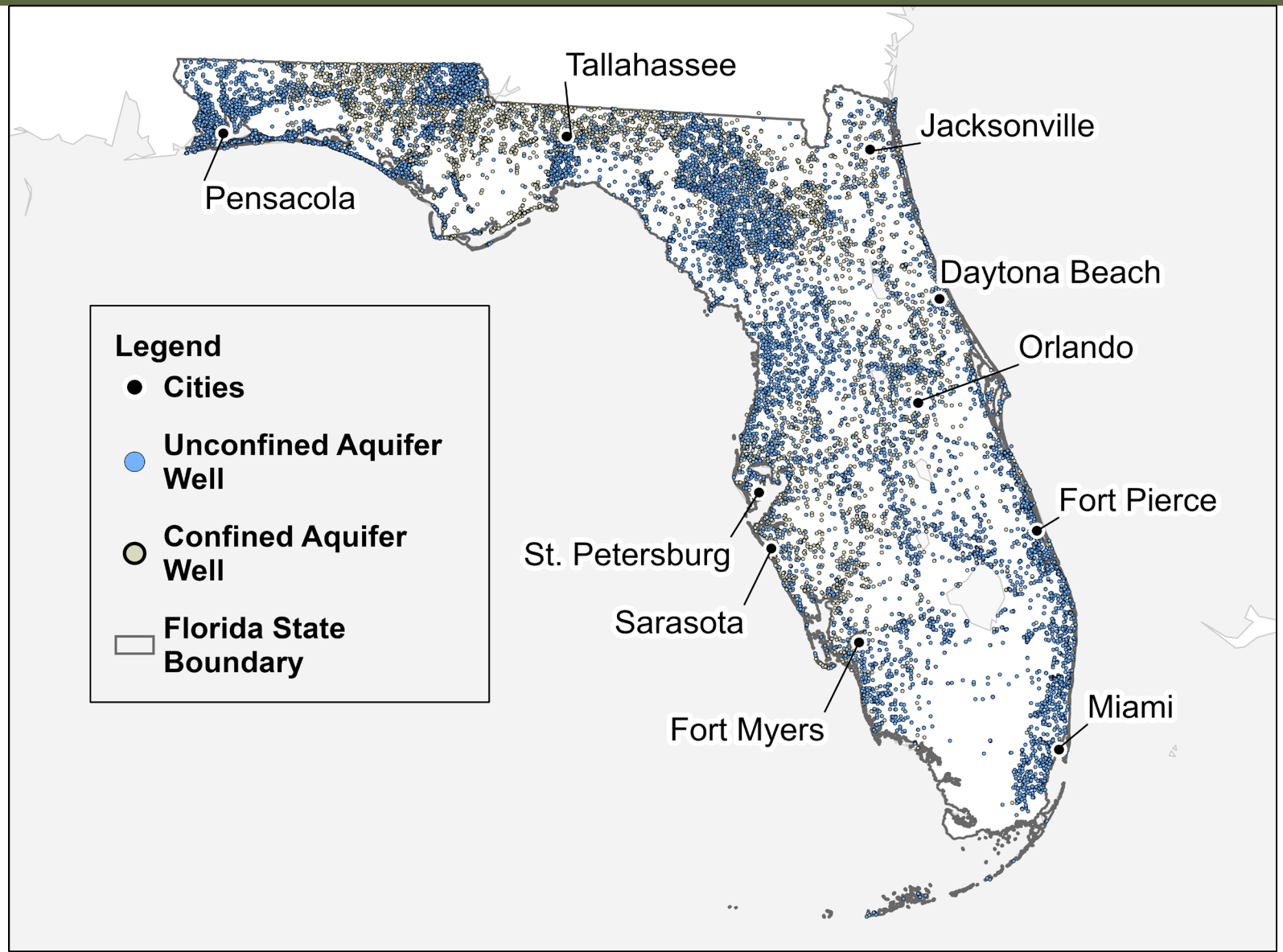
STATUS FLOWING WATERS COVERAGE



STATUS LAKES COVERAGE

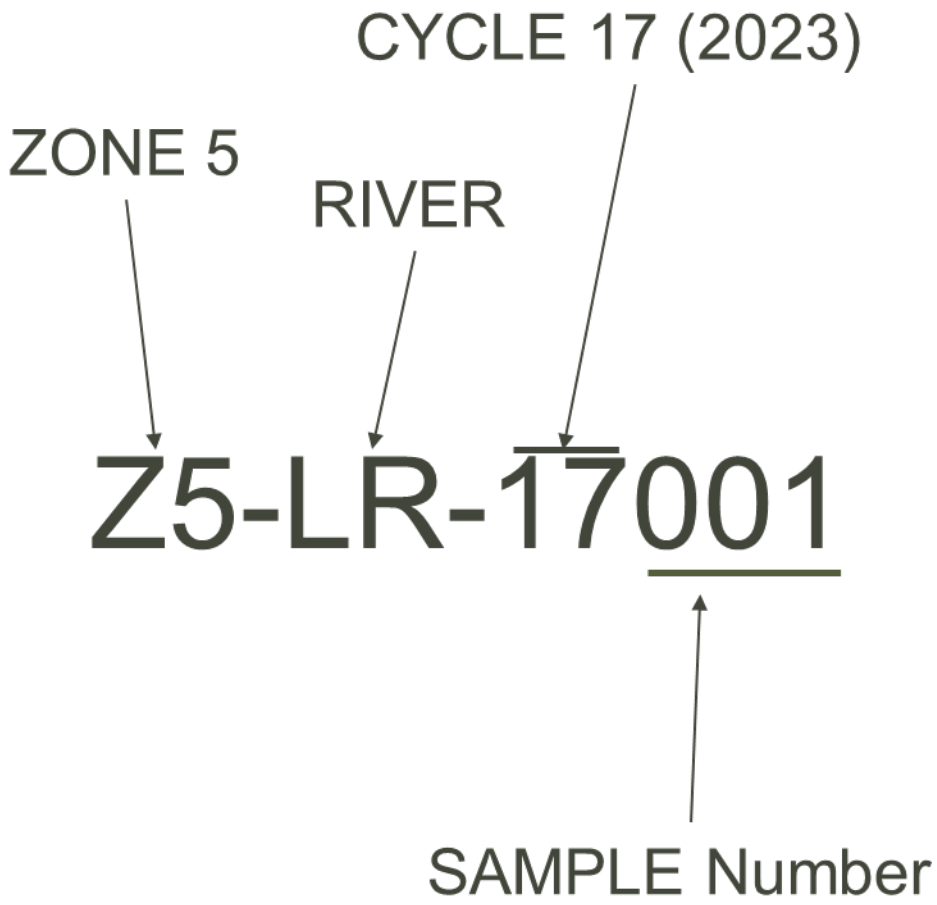


STATUS WELLS COVERAGE

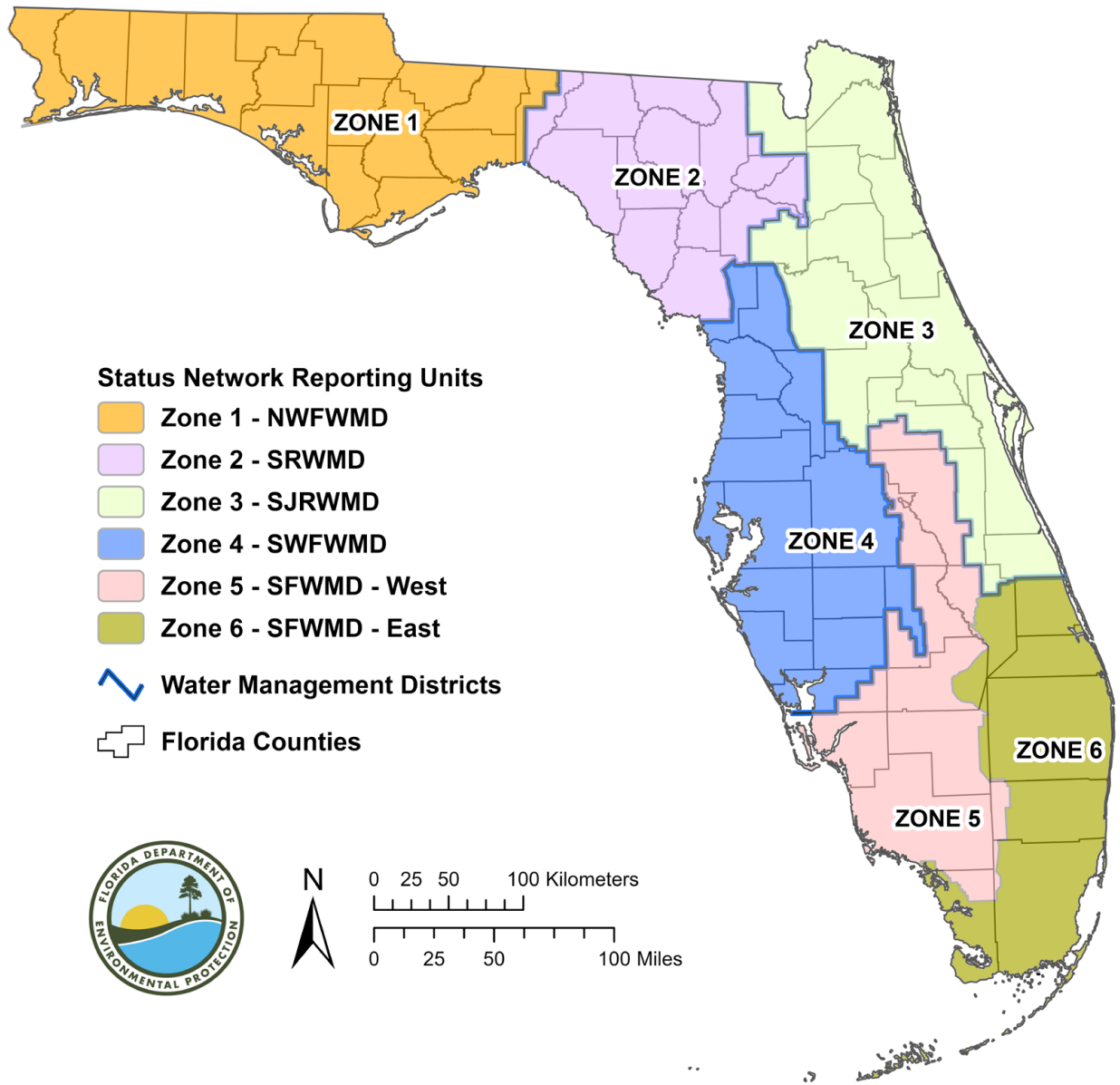


RESOURCE ACRONYMS

- CN – Canals.
- SS – Streams.
- LR – Rivers.
- SL – Small Lakes.
- LL – Large Lakes.
- CA – Confined Aquifers.
- UA – Unconfined Aquifers.



Watershed Monitoring Reporting Units



PROCESS STEPS

Status Network Reconnaissance

OFFICE RECON

- Office recon should be completed one month prior to the sampling index period.
- Get list of sites.
  - Generalized Water Information System (GWIS) Database Utilities.
- Launch Map Direct from GWIS Database Utilities to view sites.

ACCESSING GWIS DATABASE UTILITIES

GWIS Database Utilities: https://prodapps.dep.state.fl.us/gwis/

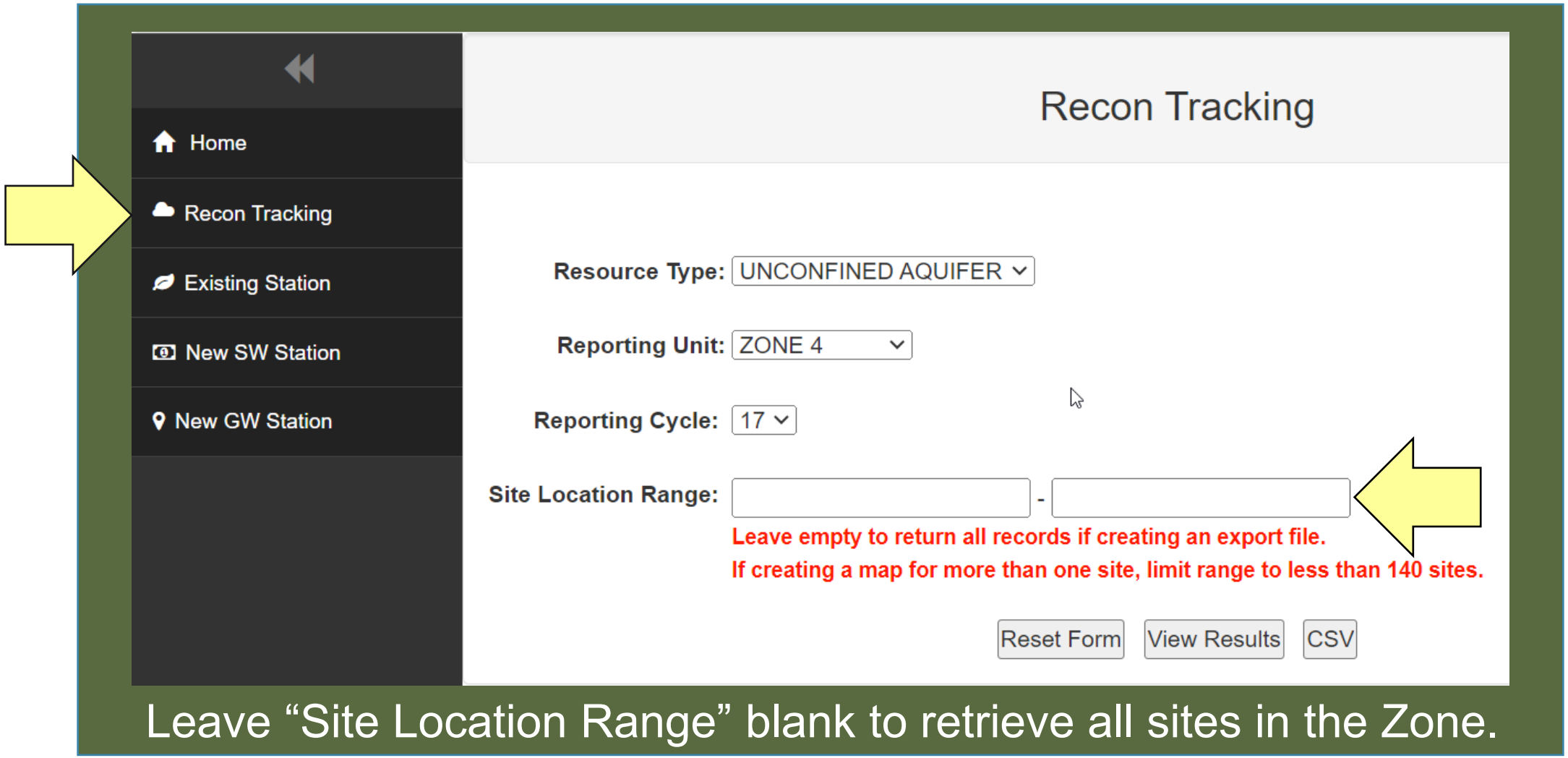
External staff (e.g., NWFWMD).

- Tommy Adams, WMS Data Coordinator.
  - 850-245-8512.
  - Thomas.L.Adams@FloridaDEP.gov.

DEP staff.

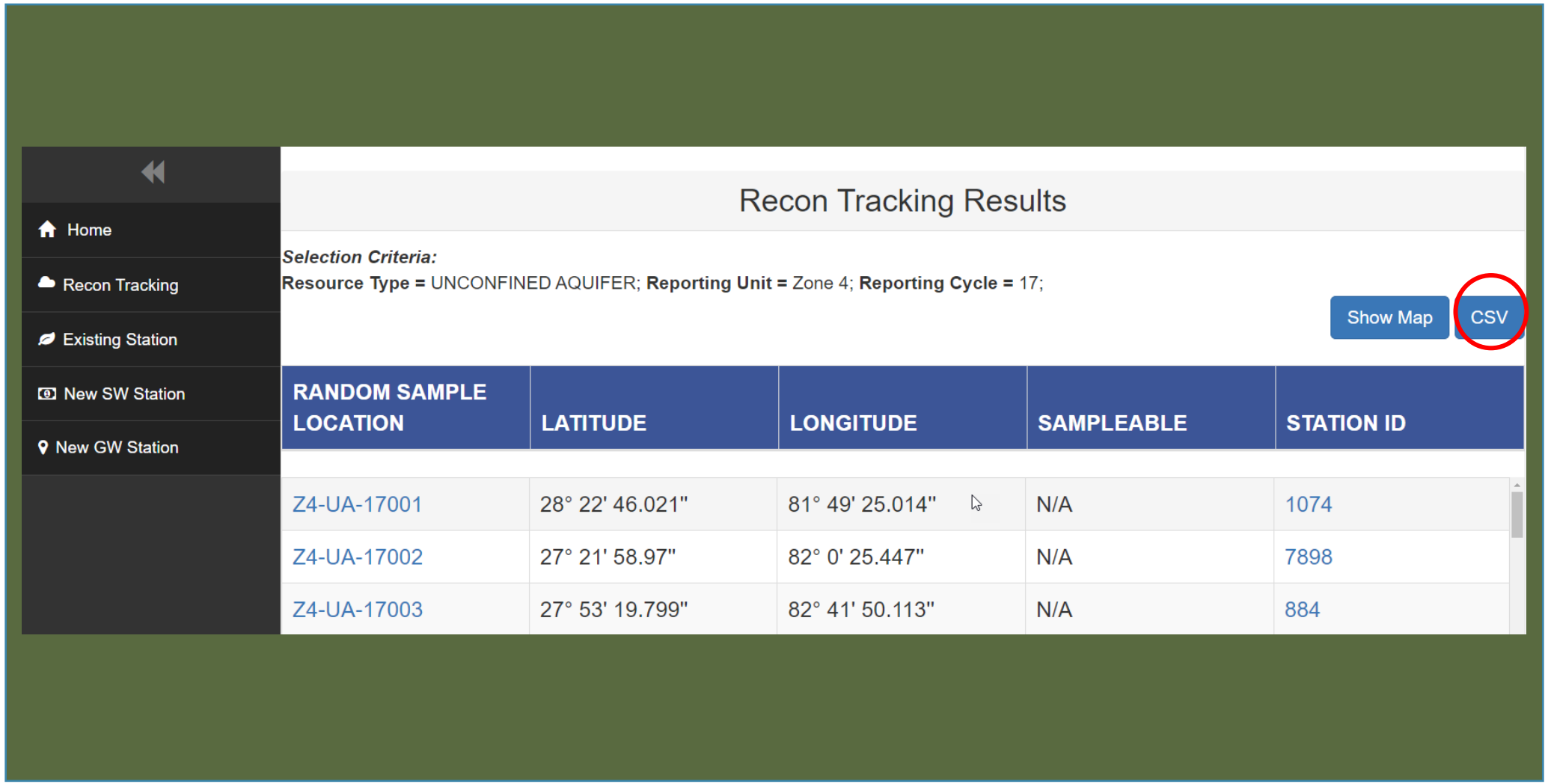
- Use DEP username and password.
- Contact Tommy Adams if you need permissions updated to enter recon information.

RECON TRACKING



Leave “Site Location Range” blank to retrieve all sites in the Zone.

RECON TRACKING



RECON TRACKING

Key:	Sampleable	Sampled	Field Recon	Contact Owner	Excluded
Site Number	NAME	COUNTY	SAMPLED_DATE	Recon Notes	Access
Z4-SL-18001		CITRUS			
Z4-SL-18002	GLASS LAKE	HILLSBOROUGH			
Z4-SL-18003		HILLSBOROUGH		Streetview is blurry, but there should be a path. There is a lake office if neither of those work	**Option 1:** 28 07 11.88, -82 30 30.65, **Option 2:** 28 07 04.35, -82 30 29.89, **Lake Office:** 28 07 04.58, -82 30 14.05
Z4-SL-18004		SARASOTA		Access off of Forbes Trail, in the Deer Prarie Creek Preserve. SWFWM key should work, if not talk to the office	27 06 28.43, -82 19 08.36
Z4-SL-18005		SUMTER		WETLAND	
Z4-SL-18006		PASCO		Point appears to be dry? Lake has been shrinking over time and as of June 2023 the point appears to be located in a dry	
Z4-SL-18007		HILLSBOROUGH		Contact Lakeview at Citrus Park. There is a sidewalk leading to a dock (long way to carry canoes) and possibly a spot at the end of a roundabout, depending on vegetation thickness	
Z4-SL-18008	LAKE CHILTON	HIGHLANDS		Easy access off of N Priester Rd.	28 37 59.45, -81 33 27.64
Z4-SL-18009		PASCO		Might be able to drive behind construction site to access. If not, will	
Z4-SL-18010	EAST LAKE ELLIS	PASCO		Access from parking lot of Ukelele Brand's. Might need to talk to an	4805 Land O' Lakes Blvd Land O' Lakes, FL 34639
Z4-SL-18011	CRYSTAL LAKE	POLK		Should be able to access off the side of Hgwy 27, behind billboard	28 09 36.75, -81, 38 25.29
Z4-SL-18012		POLK		WETLAND	
Z4-SL-18013	MILLS SMOKEHOUSE POND	HERNANDO		Might just be a wetland, contact owner	
Z4-SL-18014		PASCO		WETLAND	
Z4-SL-18015	LAKE SILVER	HILLSBOROUGH		Mostly houses, some buisnesses. May be able to access behind Midflorida Credit Union	
Z4-SL-18016		HIGHLANDS		Private, will need to contact homeowners	
Z4-SL-18017	LITTLE CLEARWATER LAKE	MARION		Deep in agricultural property, will need to contact	
Z4-SL-18018		PASCO		Deep in Starkey, but should be able to access though trails. Should contact park to be sure.	
Z4-SL-18019	LAKE WASTENA	HILLSBOROUGH		Only private access, contact	
Z4-SL-18020		SARASOTA		In the Lincer Preserve, Looks very difficult to acces, probably requires offroading. May be able to access off of Border Road. In the floodzone of Myakka River so do not do right after heavy rains.	Boarder Road Entrance: 27 07 21.39, -82 20 34.00 Possible Trail? : 27 07 21.37, -82 19 32.06
Z4-SL-18021	BIRD ISLAND LAKES	PASCO		DRY AS A BONE	
Z4-SL-18022	COOL KELL LAKE	HILLSBOROUGH		Accessable behind stormwater pond	28 09 57.86, -82 27 02.09
Z4-SL-18023		HERNANDO		Looks like a wetland	
Z4-SL-18024		POLK		Private, will need to contact homeowners	

- Open comma-separated values (CSV) file with Excel.
- Document recon progress.
- Project manager will review your comments and exclusions.

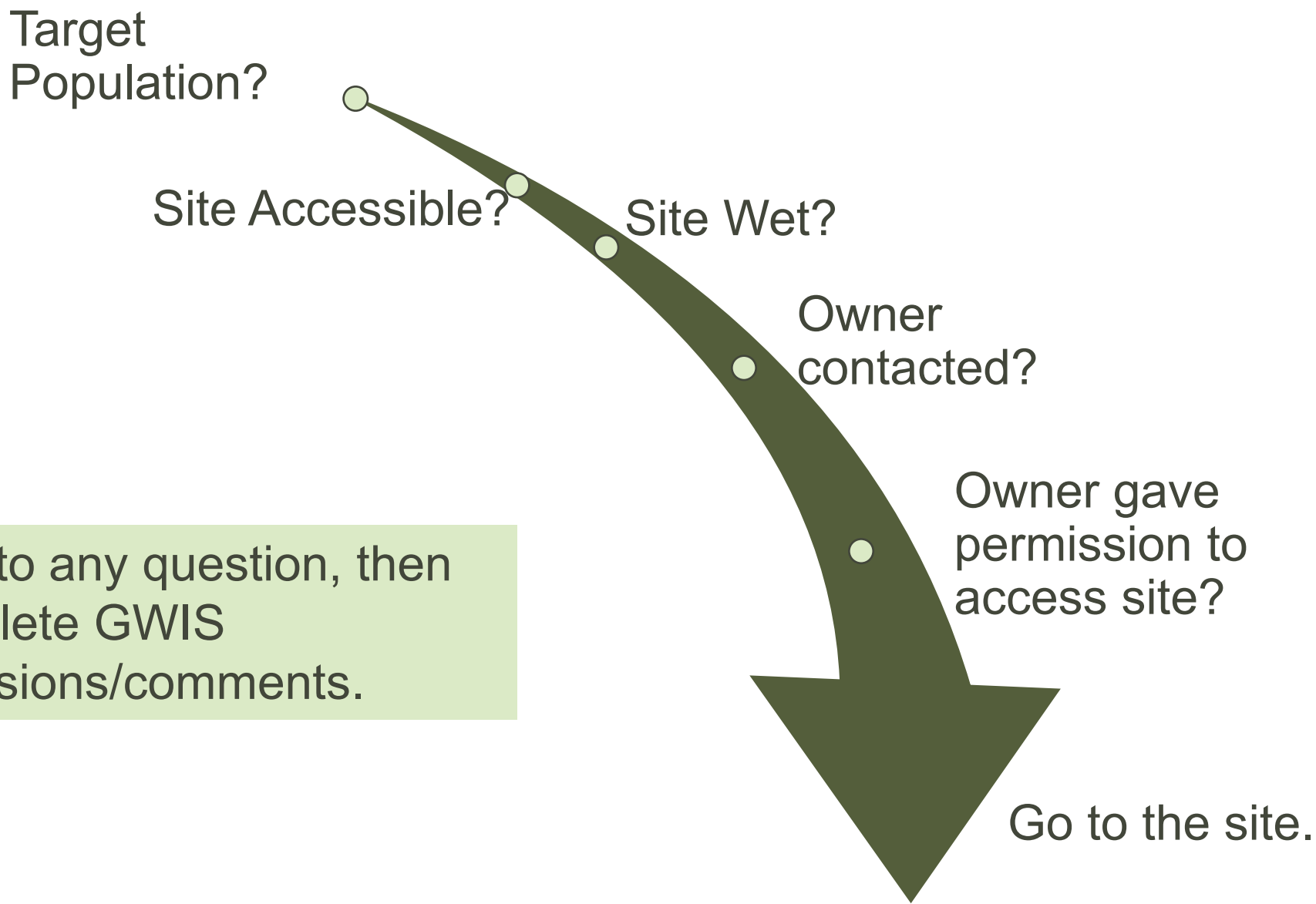
TEAMWORK

- You may be part of a recon team for a specific resource.
  - Communicate with each team member.
  - Track completion of assigned tasks.
  - Work efficiently.

STATUS NETWORK RECON

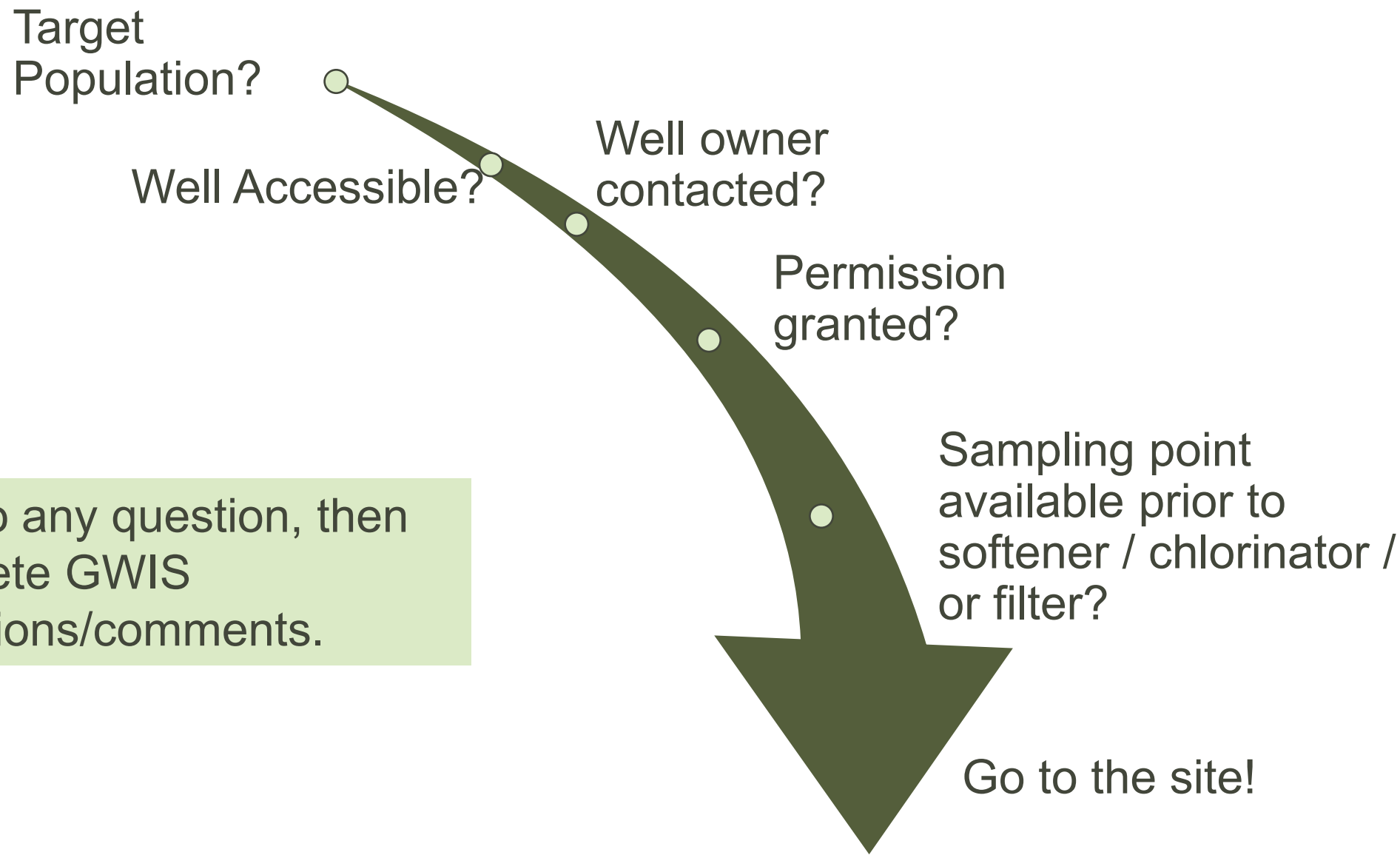
- Presents unique challenges for site access logistics and obtaining permission from property owners.
  - Sites often have not been previously visited.
  - Sites are only sampled once.

OFFICE RECON FOR SURFACE WATER



If **no** to any question, then complete GWIS exclusions/comments.

OFFICE RECON FOR GROUNDWATER



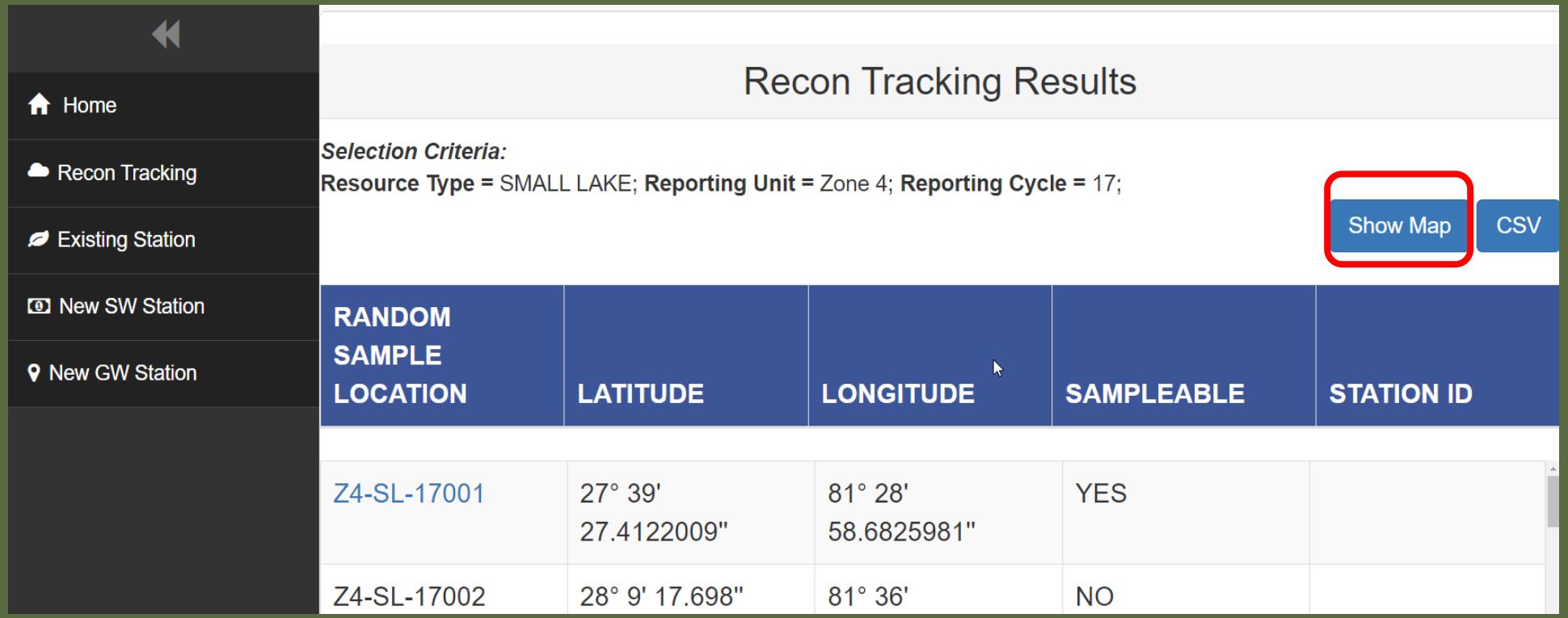
If **no** to any question, then complete GWIS exclusions/comments.

STATUS NETWORK RECON

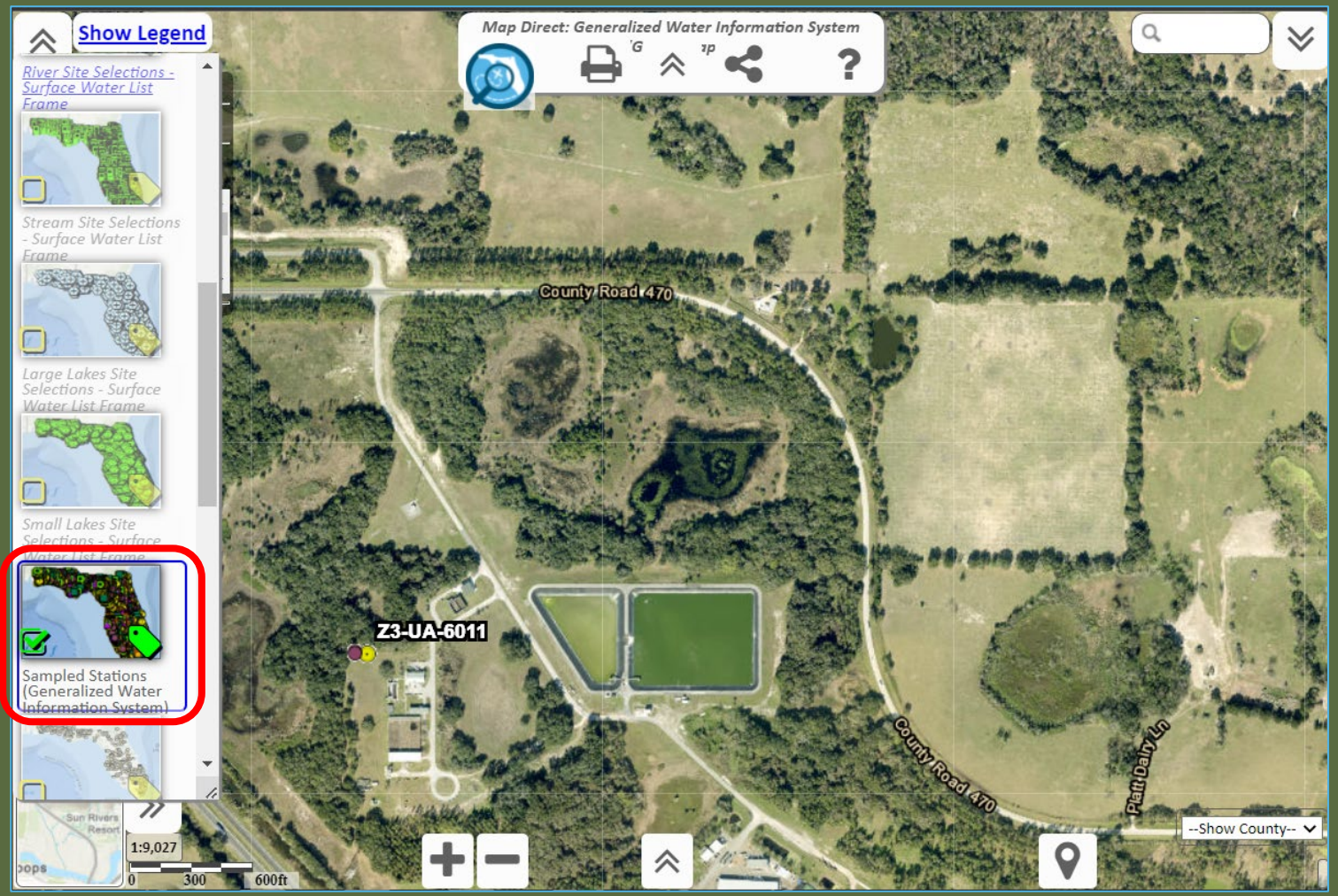
FIND YOUR SITE AND ITS OWNER

- Open Map Direct from GWIS Database Utilities.
  - Previously sampled sites.
  - Cadastral layer.
    - Property owner information.
- Search for property owner contact information.
  - Spokeo.
  - Sunbiz.
  - Internet search.
  - Large landowners.

RECON WITH MAP DIRECT



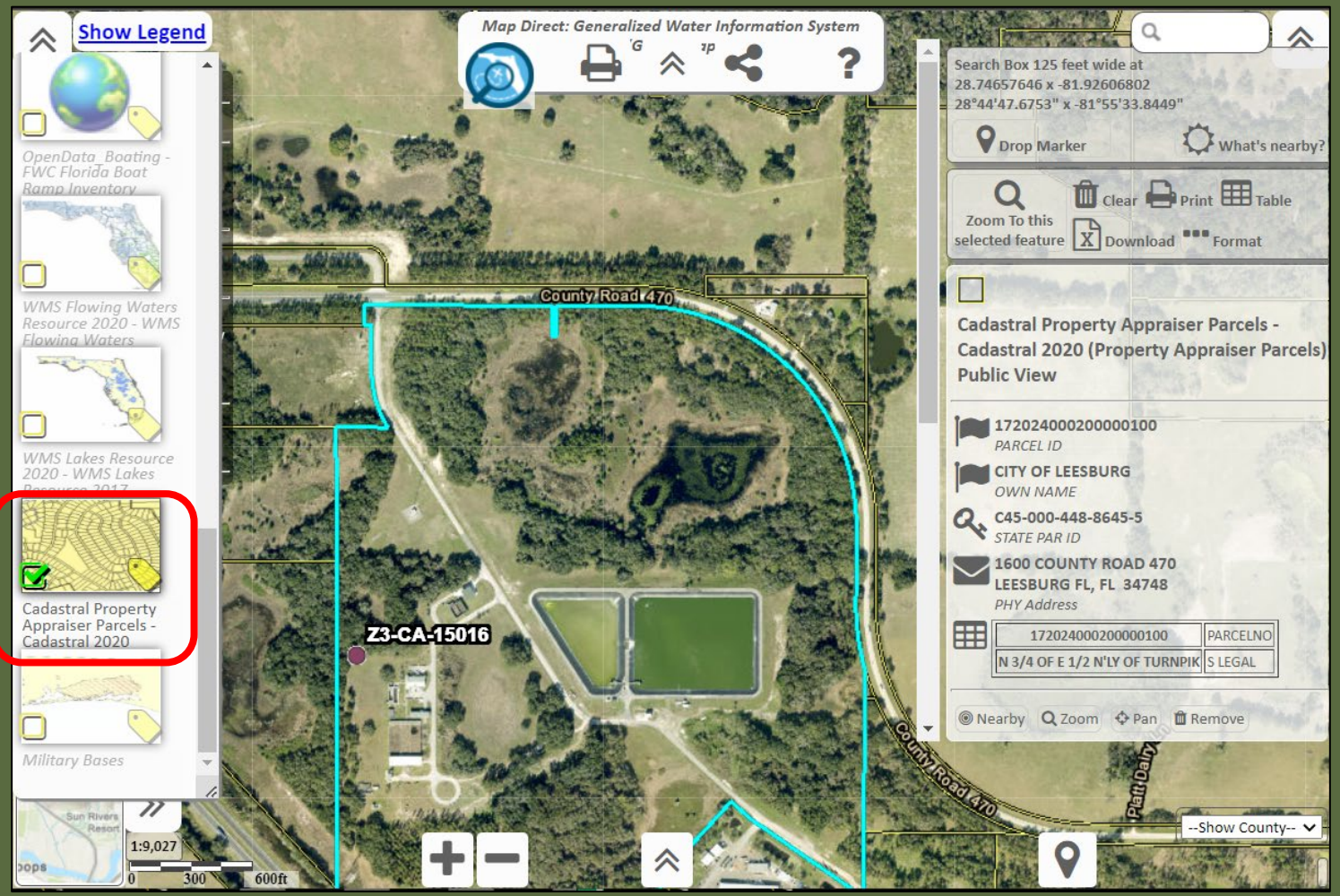
RECON WITH MAP DIRECT



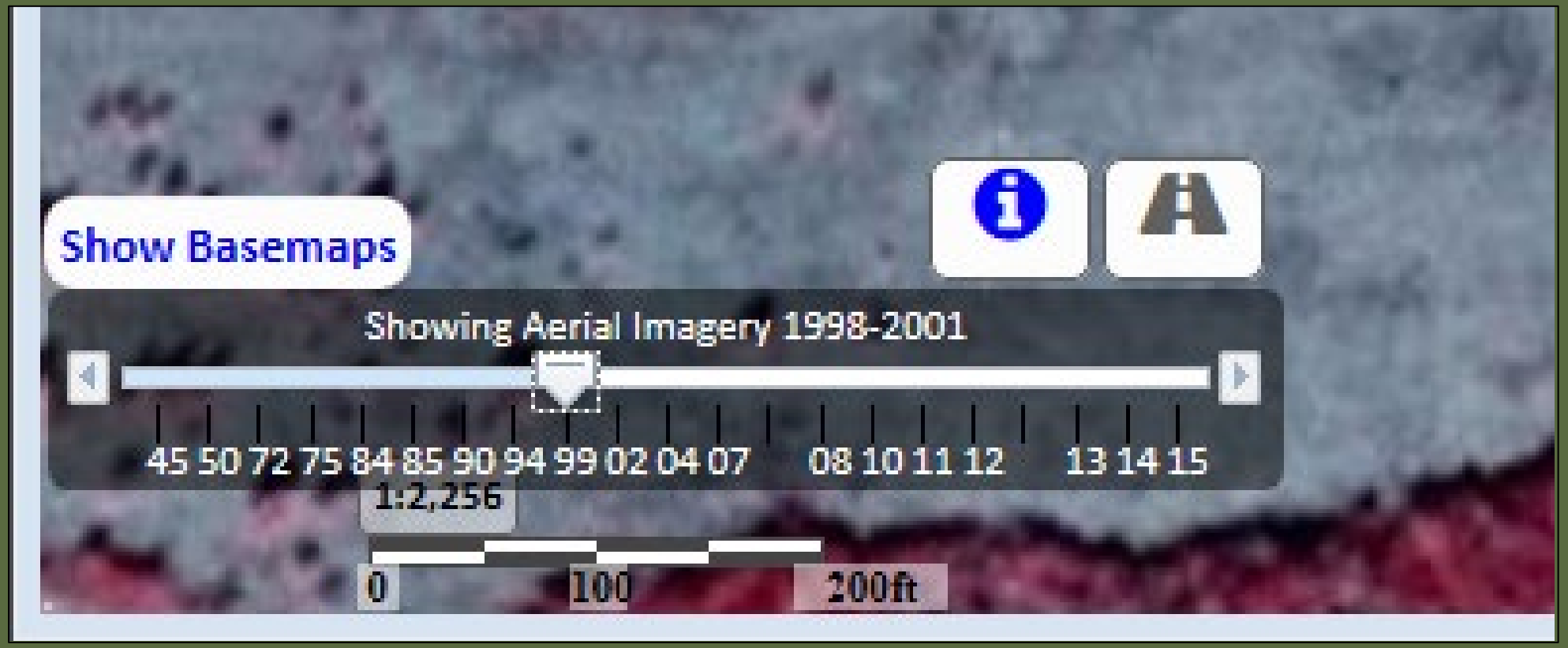
Sampled stations (GWIS) layer contains previous sampling locations.

RECON WITH MAP DIRECT

Cadastral layer contains property owner information.



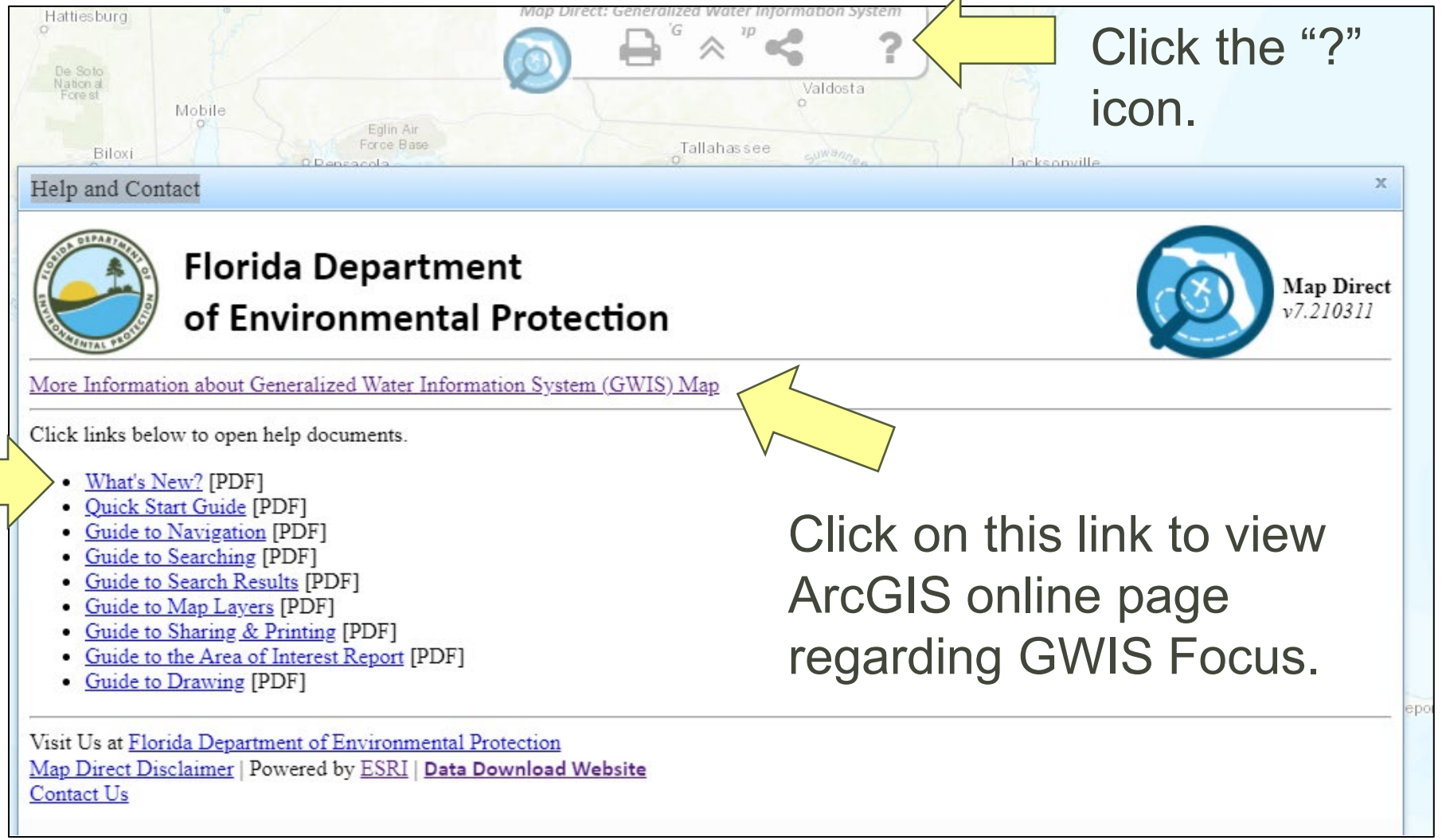
RECON WITH MAP DIRECT



Use imagery slider to review available historic aerial photo layers.

MAP DIRECT HELP PAGES

Click “What’s New” to find out what is updated in Map Direct.



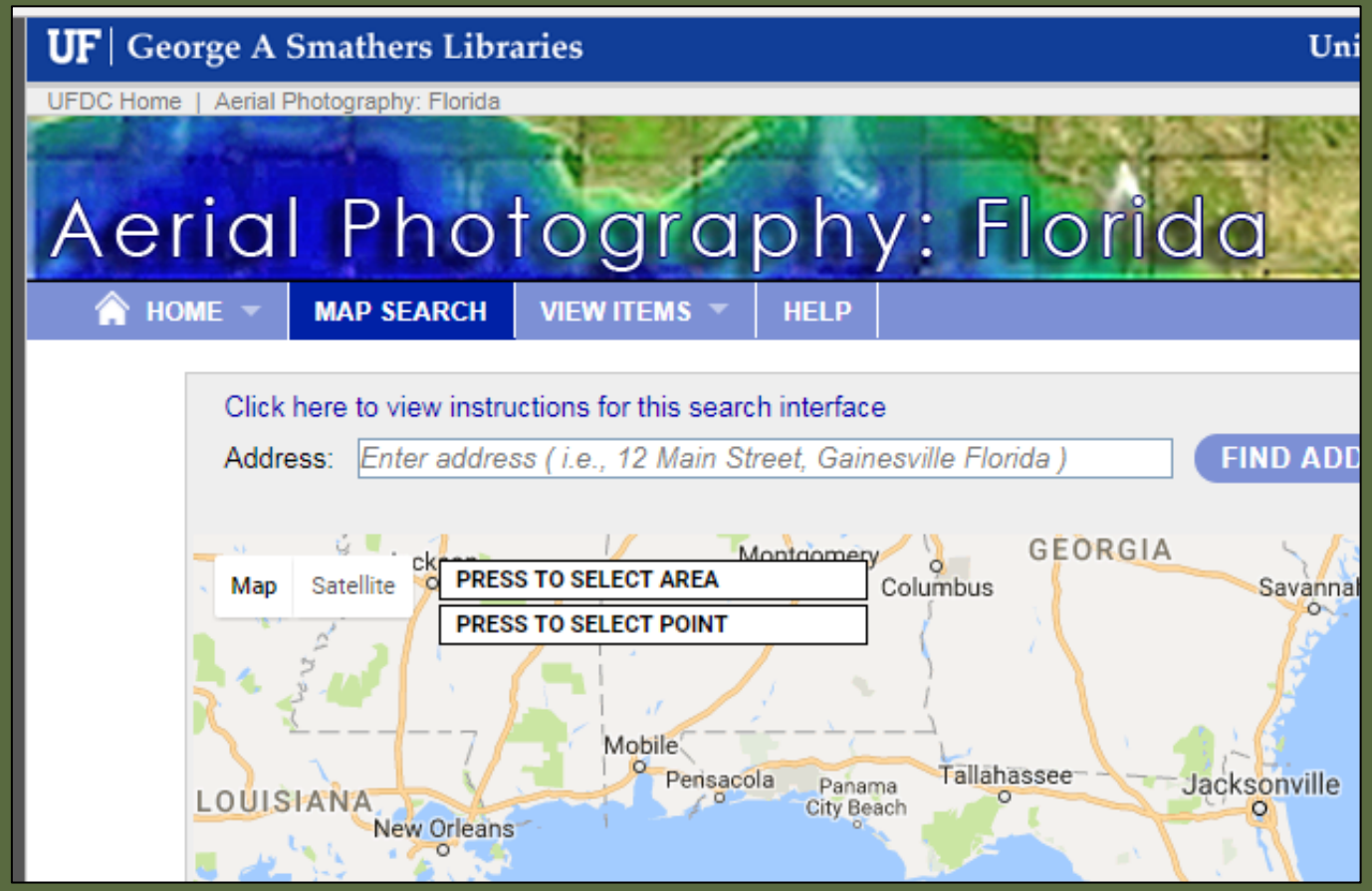
Click the “?” icon.

Click on this link to view ArcGIS online page regarding GWIS Focus.

WATERSHED MONITORING INFORMATION CENTER

- Map Direct resources.
- Custom files for Status Network Recon.
- Learn and customize Map Direct handout.

ADDITIONAL RECON RESOURCES



Historical aerial photographs are available at the George A. Smathers library (UF).

ADDITIONAL RECON RESOURCES

HISTORICAL DATA FOR WELLS

- Well drilling reports.
- Well owner.
- Previous photos of the well.
  - Check sampled stations layers.
- Check with the water management district, U.S. Geological Survey, wastewater treatment and/or water treatment facilities.
- Review Recon Manual: Appendix B: Aquifers and Ground Water Programs.

STATUS NETWORK RECON

FIND YOUR SITE AND ITS OWNER

- Open Map Direct from GWIS Database Utilities.
  - Previously sampled sites.
  - Cadastral layer.
    - Property owner information.

- Search for property owner contact information.
  - Spokeo.
  - Sunbiz.
  - Internet search.
  - Large landowners.

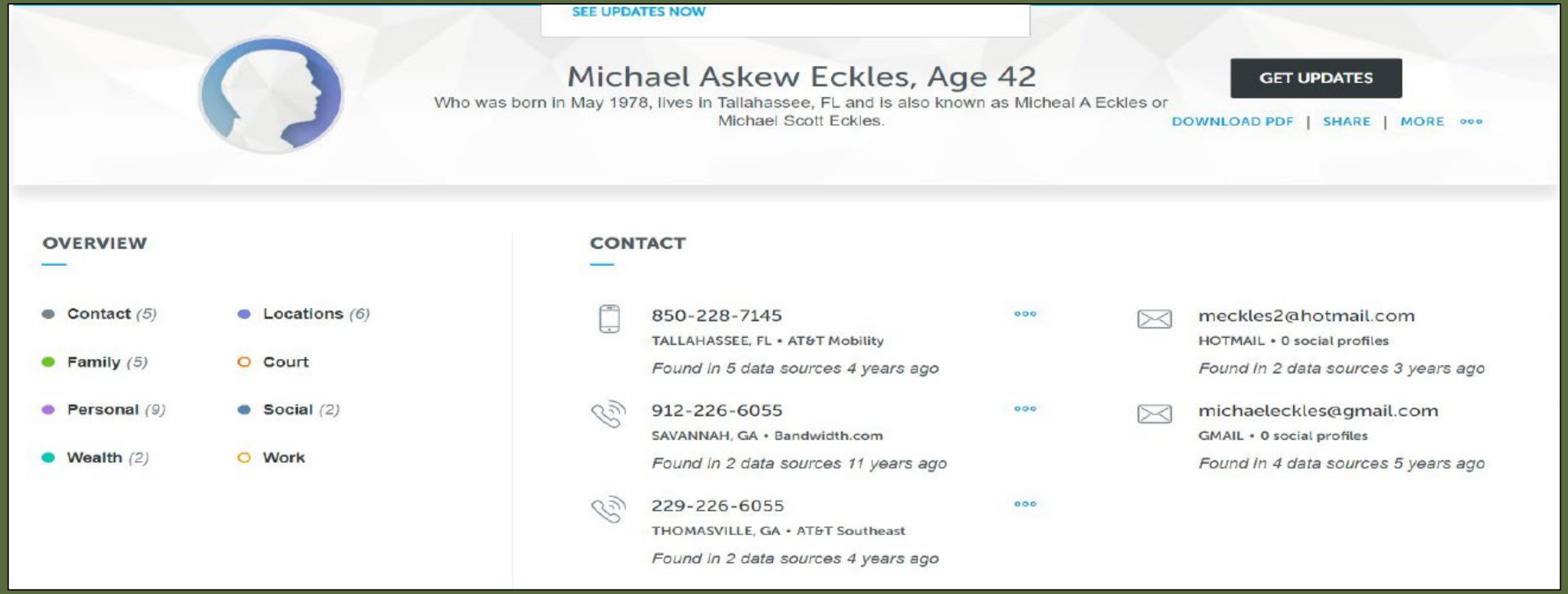
PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

SPOKEO

- Provides past phone numbers, addresses and relatives' names.
- Please contact Ken Weaver for access and username.
  - Kenneth.Weaver@FloridaDEP.gov.
  - 850-245-7609.
- DEP pays per search to use this service.

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

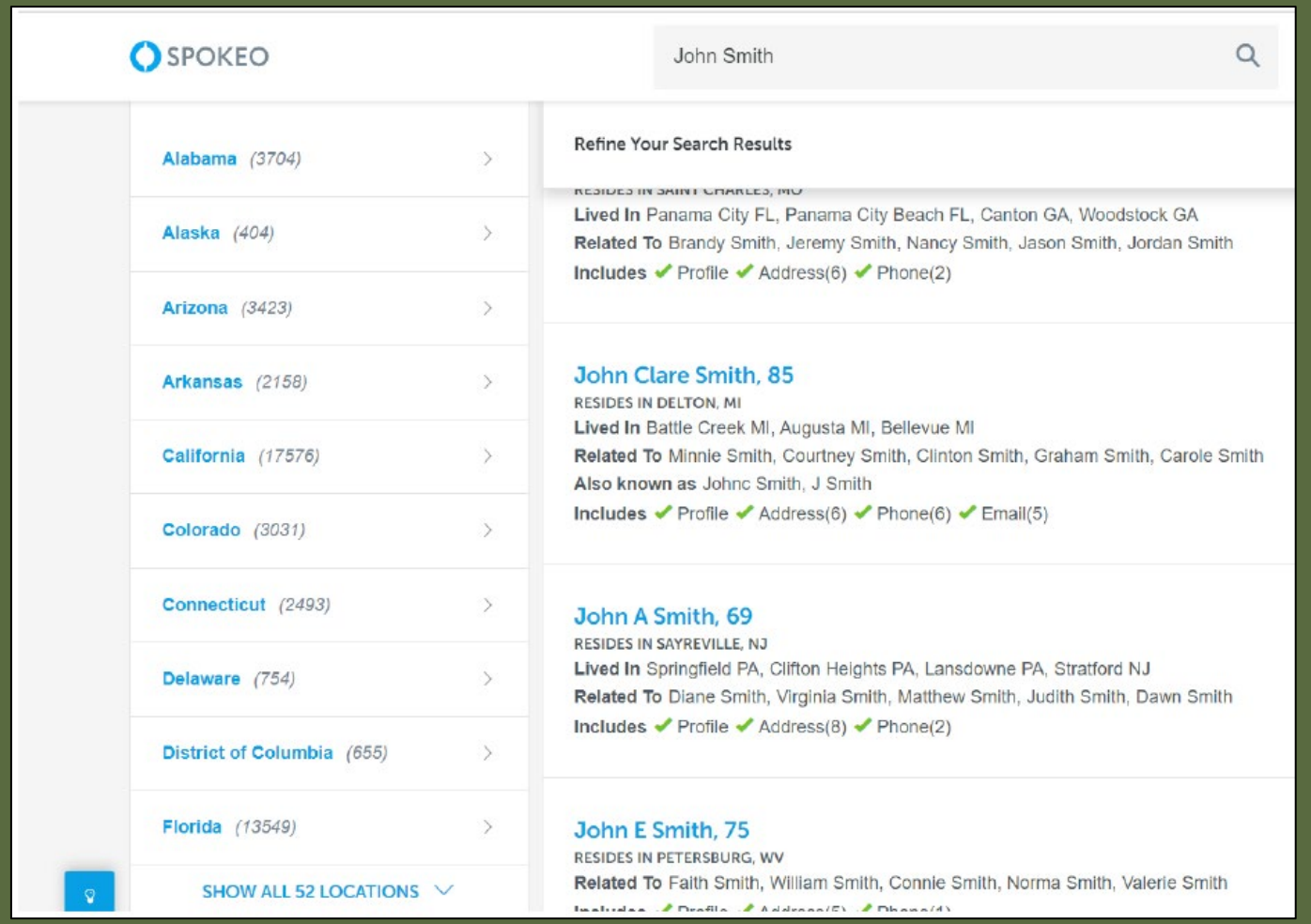
SPOKEO



PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

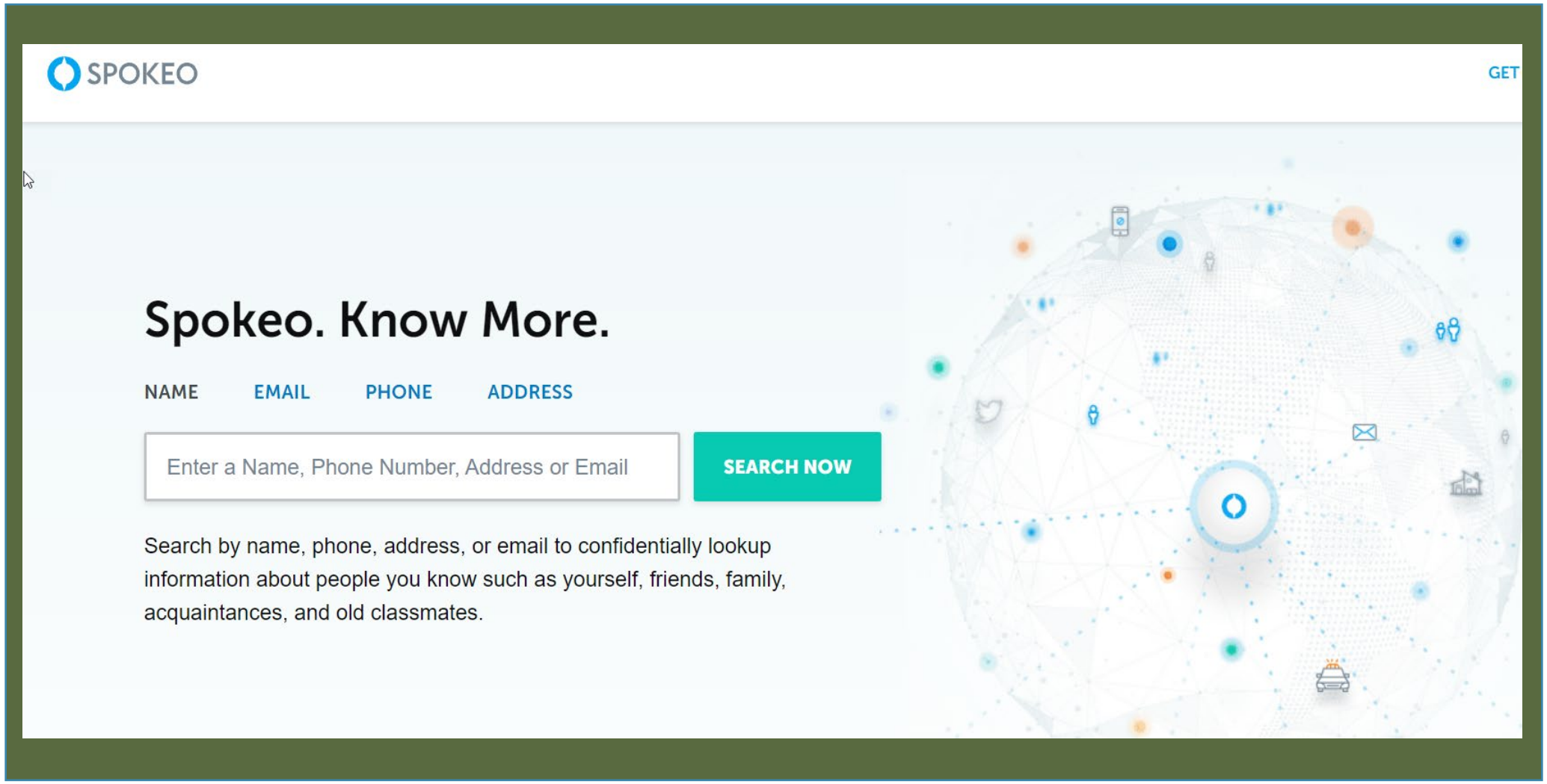
SPOKEO

Will need to refine searches.



PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

SPOKEO



PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

SUNBIZ

- State of Florida official business entity index and commercial activity website.
- Look up Limited Liability Companies (LLCs) and other business entities often used by large landowners.

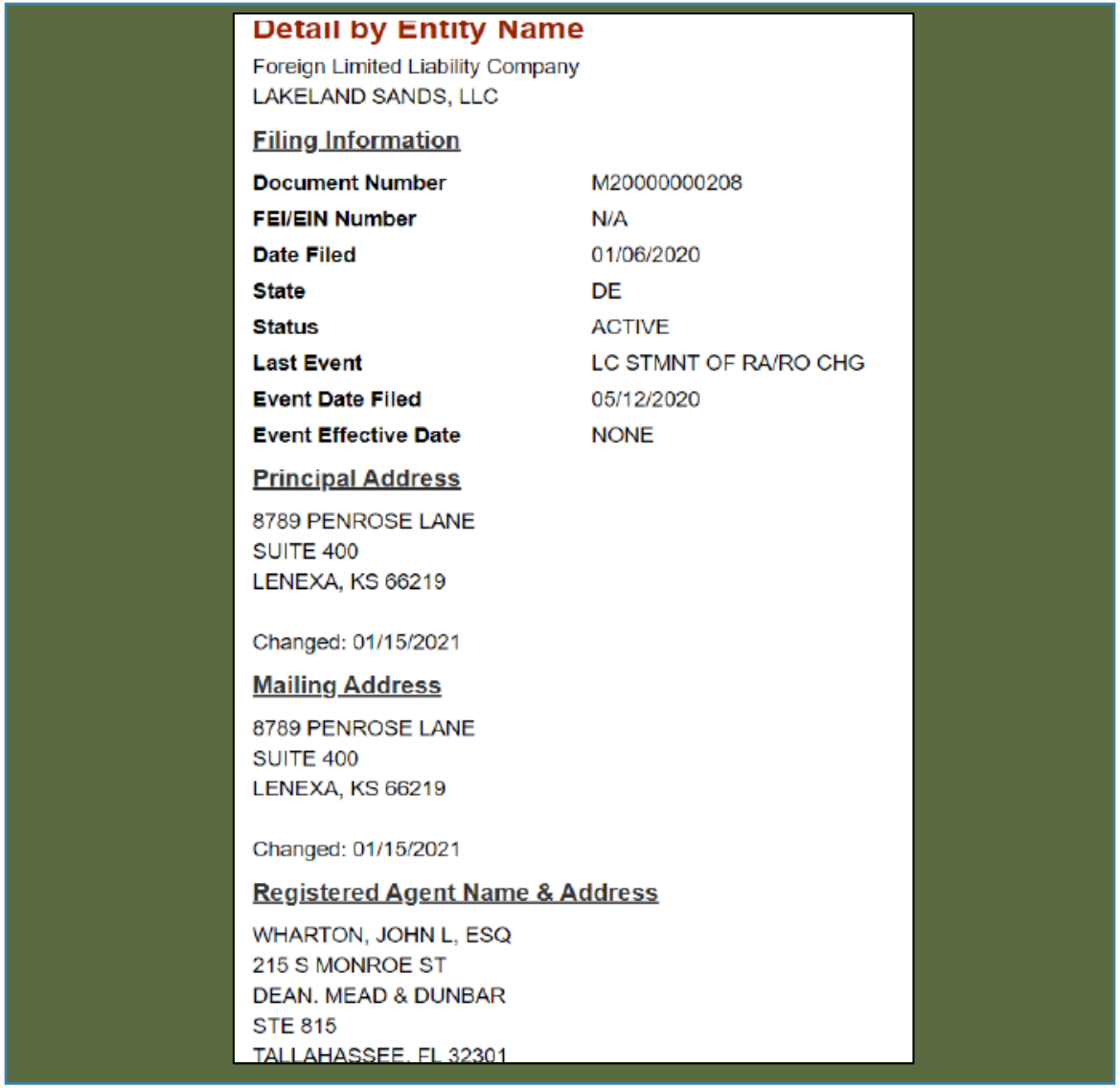
https://dos.myflorida.com/sunbiz/search/

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION

SUNBIZ

Lakeland Sands, LLC.

- Large Landowner.
- Owner is Bill Gates.
- Sunbiz shows a lawyer (ESQ) as the LLC contact.



Detail by Entity Name

Foreign Limited Liability Company
LAKELAND SANDS, LLC

Filing Information

Document Number	M20000000208
FEI/EIN Number	N/A
Date Filed	01/06/2020
State	DE
Status	ACTIVE
Last Event	LC STMNT OF RA/RO CHG
Event Date Filed	05/12/2020
Event Effective Date	NONE

Principal Address

8789 PENROSE LANE
SUITE 400
LENEXA, KS 66219

Changed: 01/15/2021

Mailing Address

8789 PENROSE LANE
SUITE 400
LENEXA, KS 66219

Changed: 01/15/2021

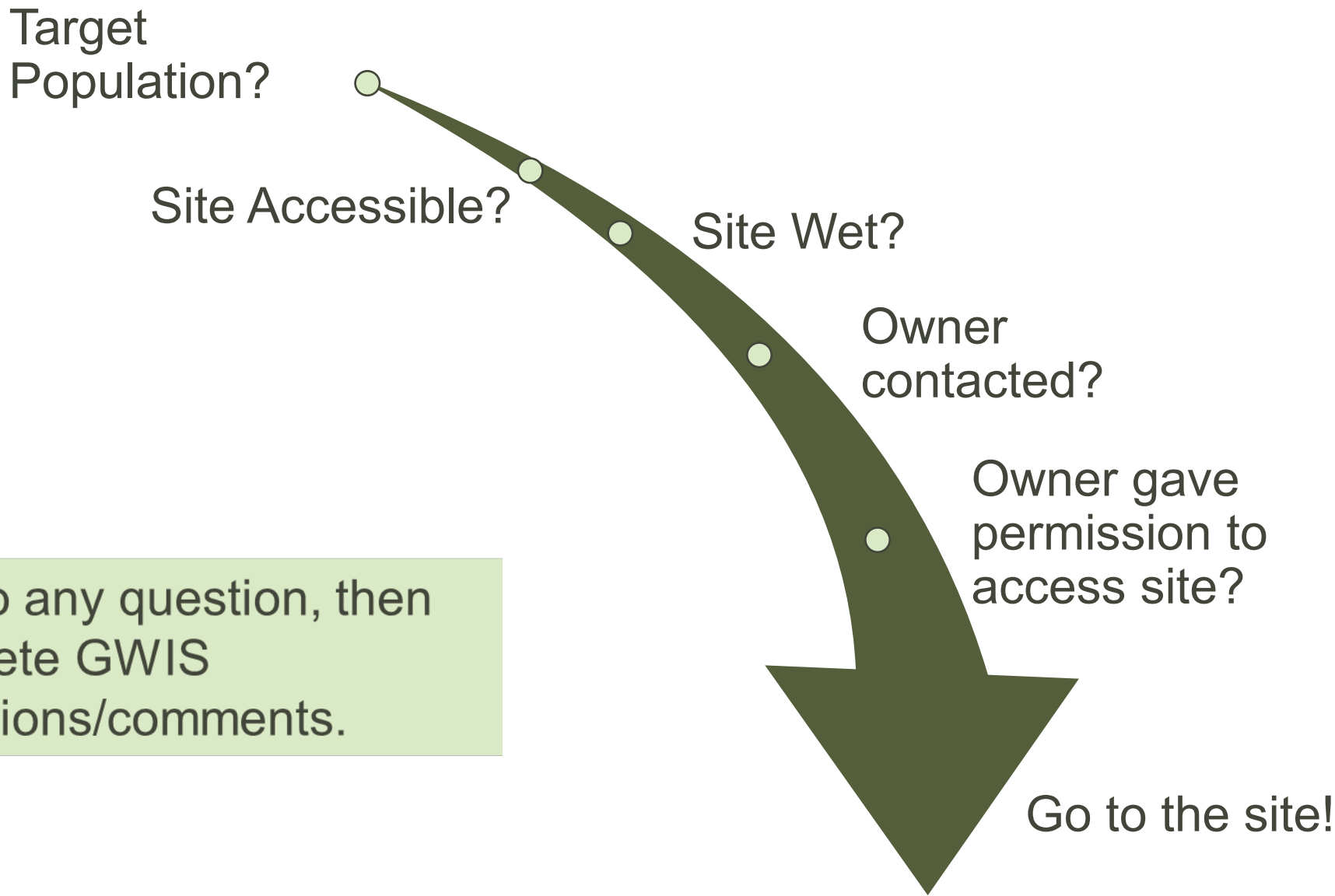
Registered Agent Name & Address

WHARTON, JOHN L, ESQ
215 S MONROE ST
DEAN. MEAD & DUNBAR
STE 815
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION
LARGE LANDOWNERS

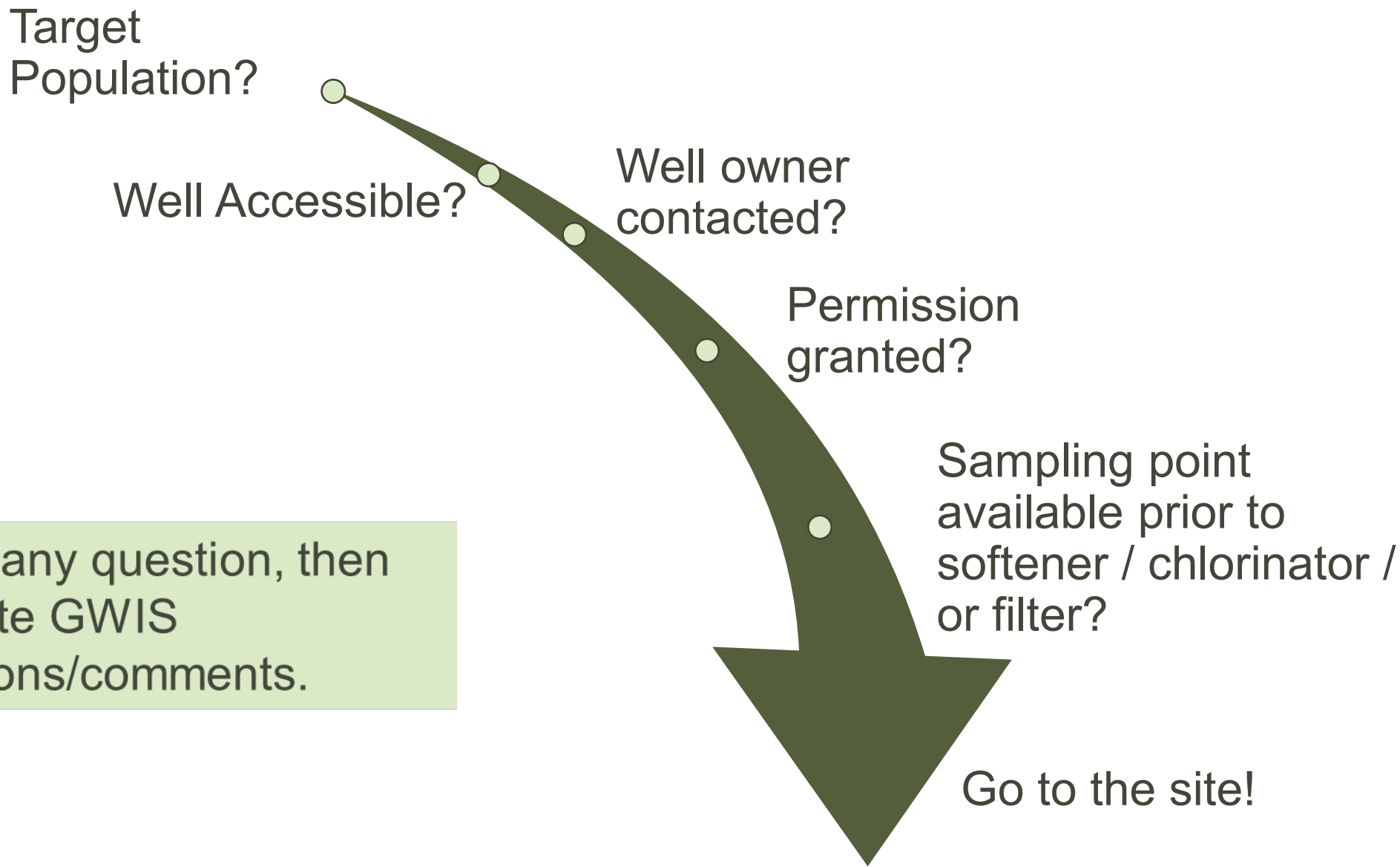
- Many properties are owned by irrevocable trusts.
  - Often managed by other companies.
- Helpful to keep a list of land management companies for areas visited frequently.
- Some large landowners will allow sampling for some resources, but not others.
  - Confirm restrictions at least once per year.

OFFICE RECON FOR SURFACE WATER



If no to any question, then complete GWIS exclusions/comments.

OFFICE RECON FOR GROUNDWATER



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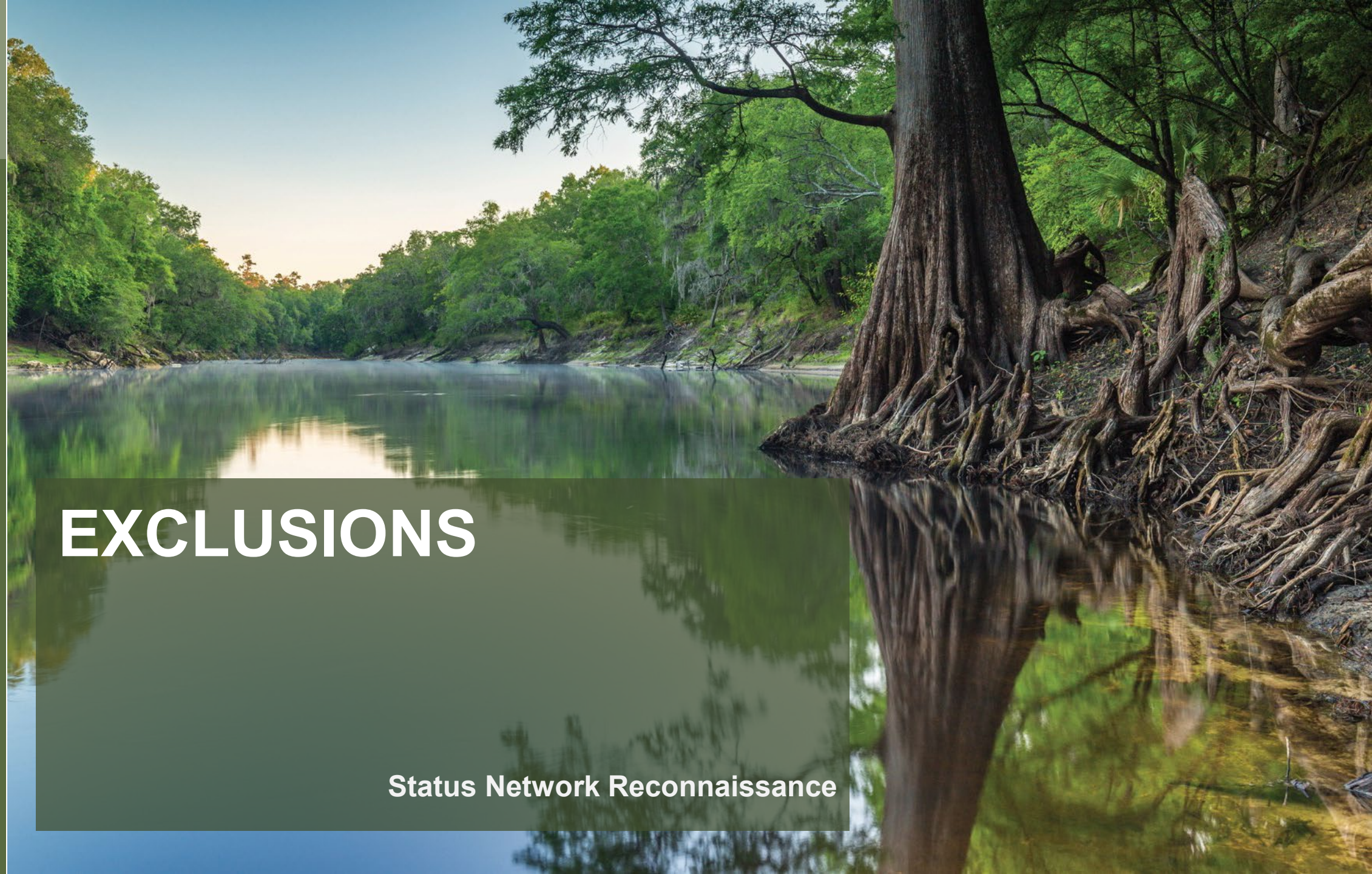


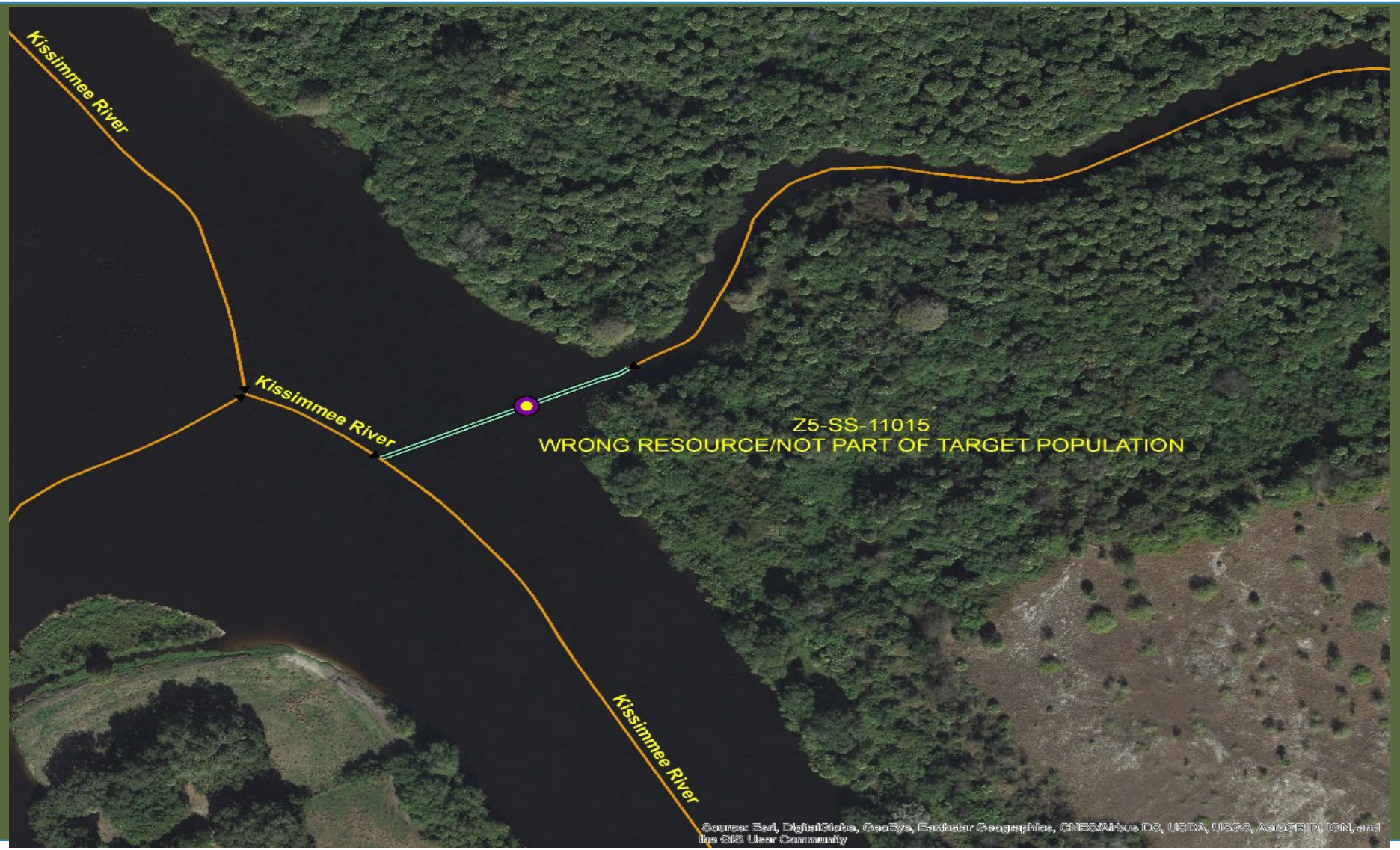
EXCLUSIONS

Status Network Reconnaissance

EXCLUSION CATEGORIES
RANKED BY IMPORTANCE

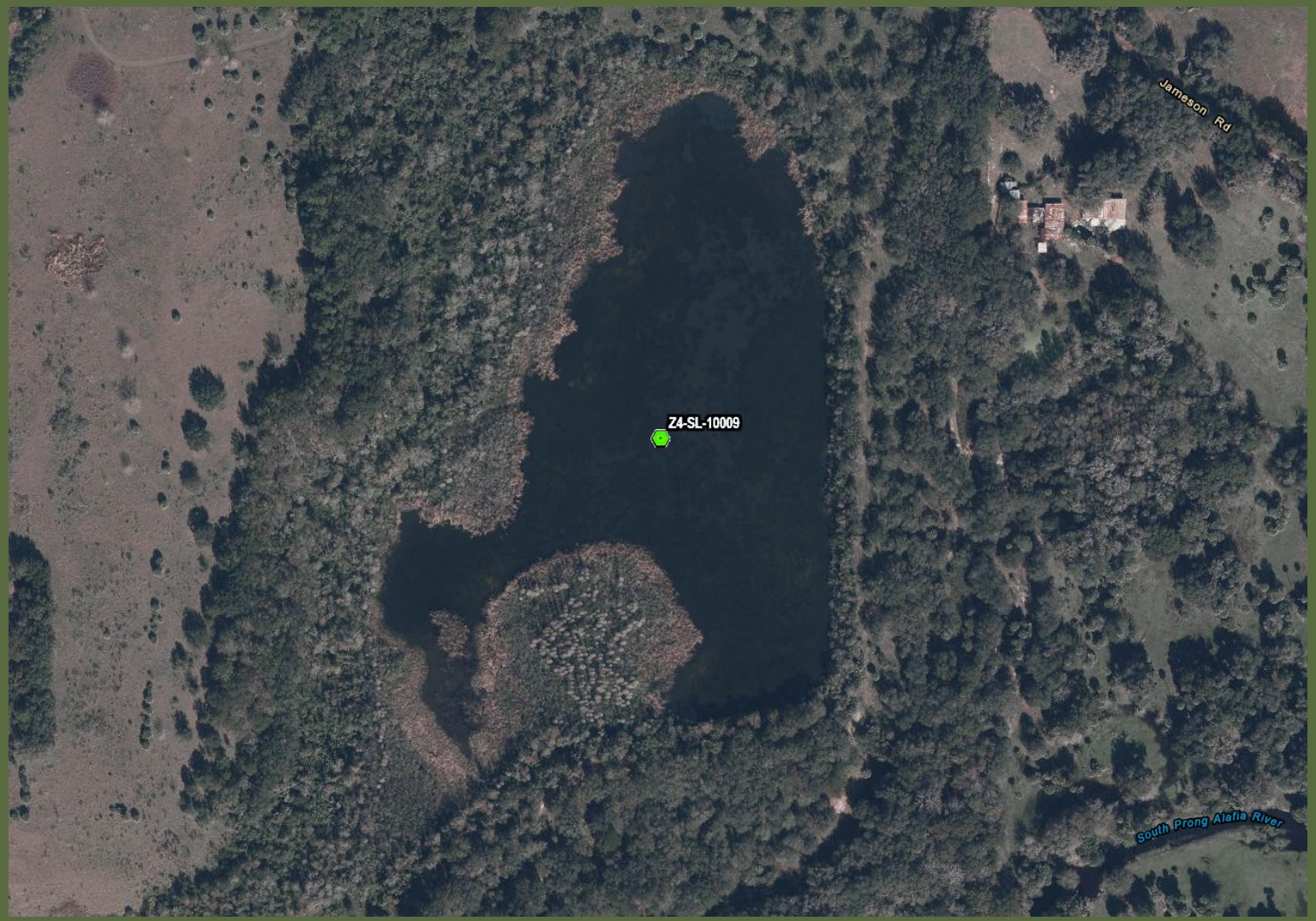
- Wrong Resource
  - Highest priority.
  - Likely not available for selection in future cycles.
  - For anything deemed not a water of the state, contact your manager.
- Otherwise Unsampleable.
  - Depends on comments and exclusion criteria.
- No Permission From Owner.
  - Likely to be included in next cycle.
- Unable to Access.
  - Likely to be included in the next cycle.
- Dry
  - Likely to be included in the next cycle.

EXAMPLE
WRONG RESOURCE



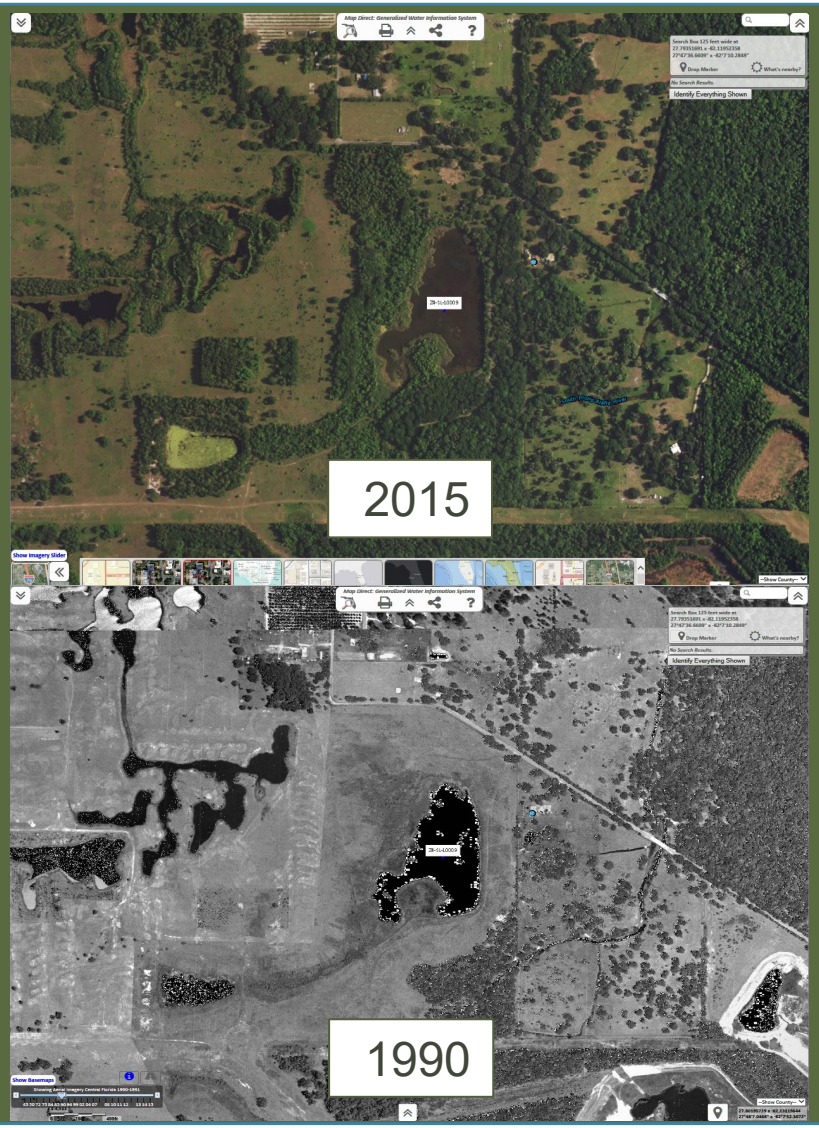
EXAMPLE

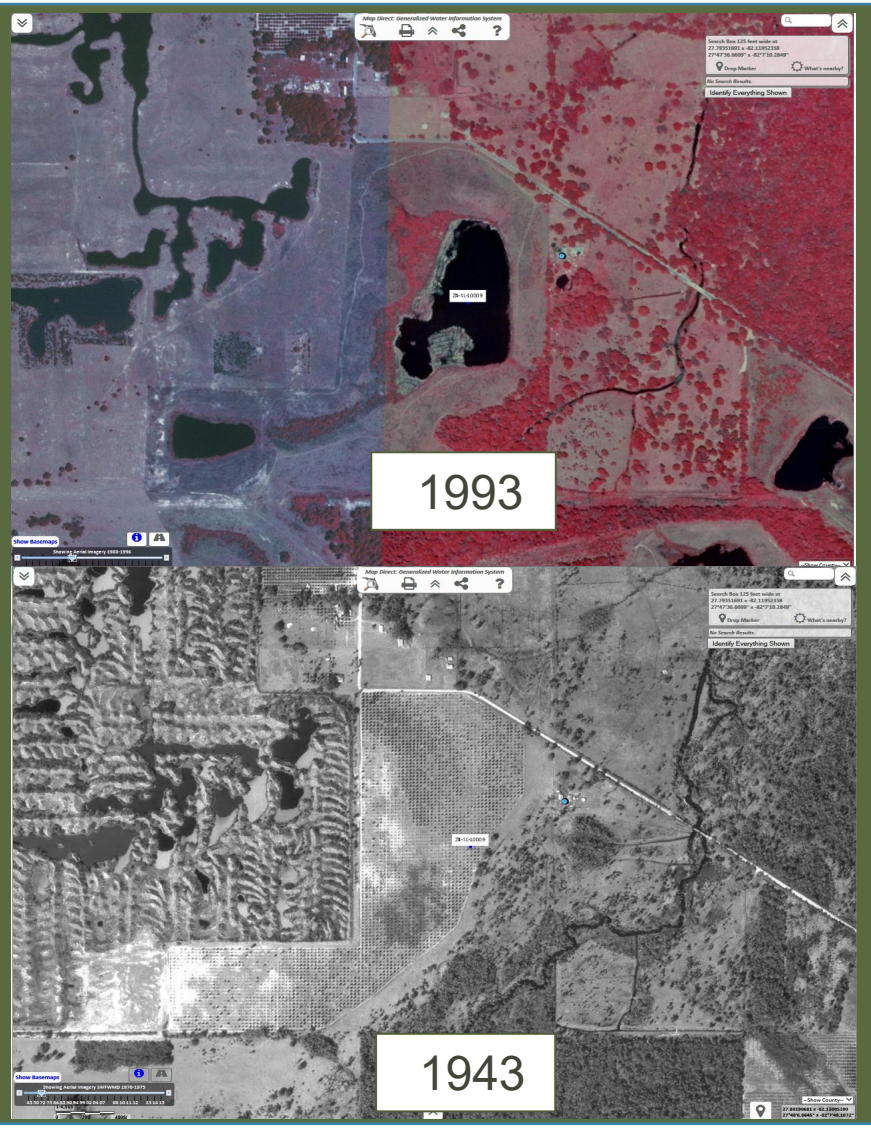
NATURAL OR MAN MADE



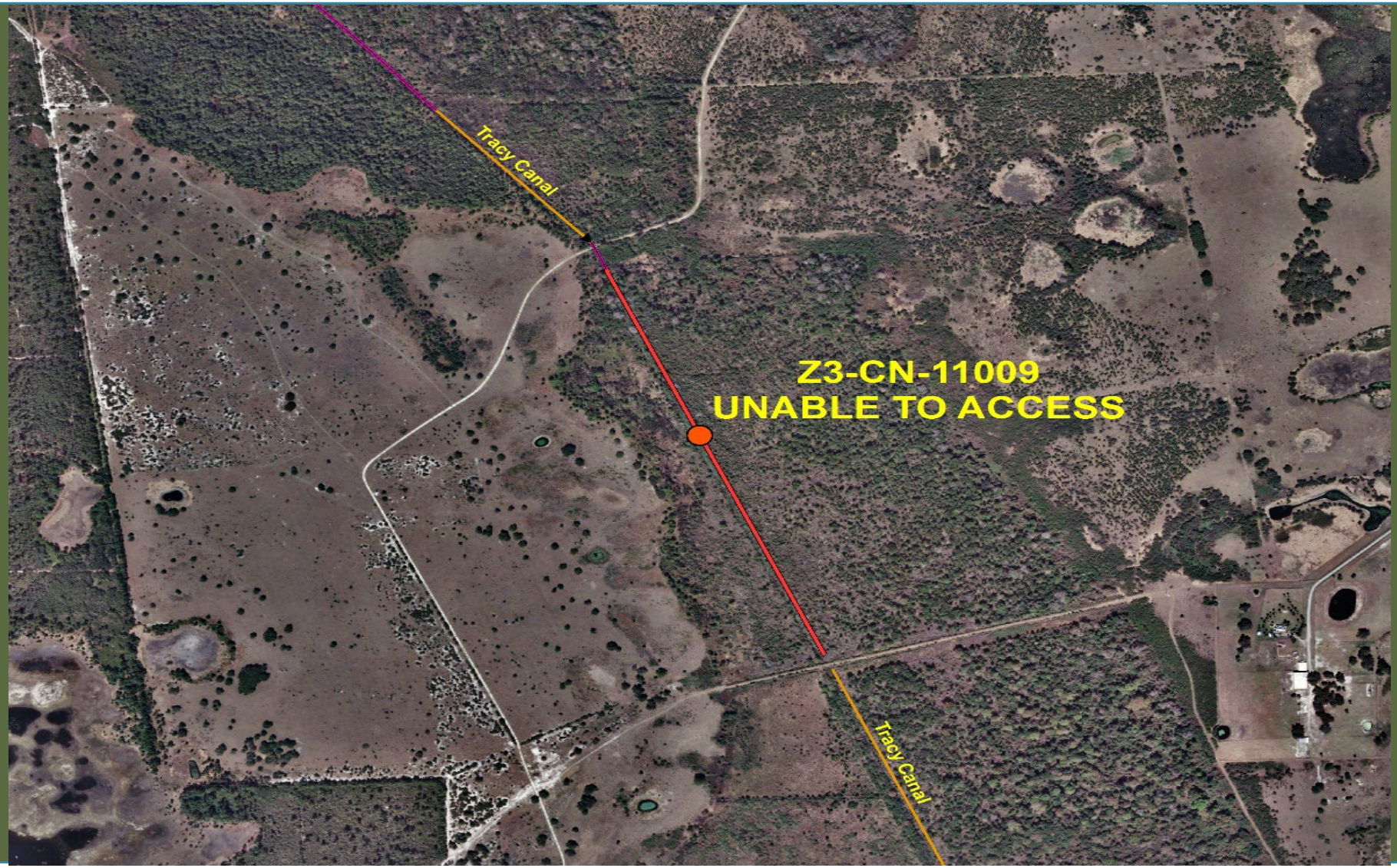
EXAMPLE

REVIEW AERIAL IMAGERY



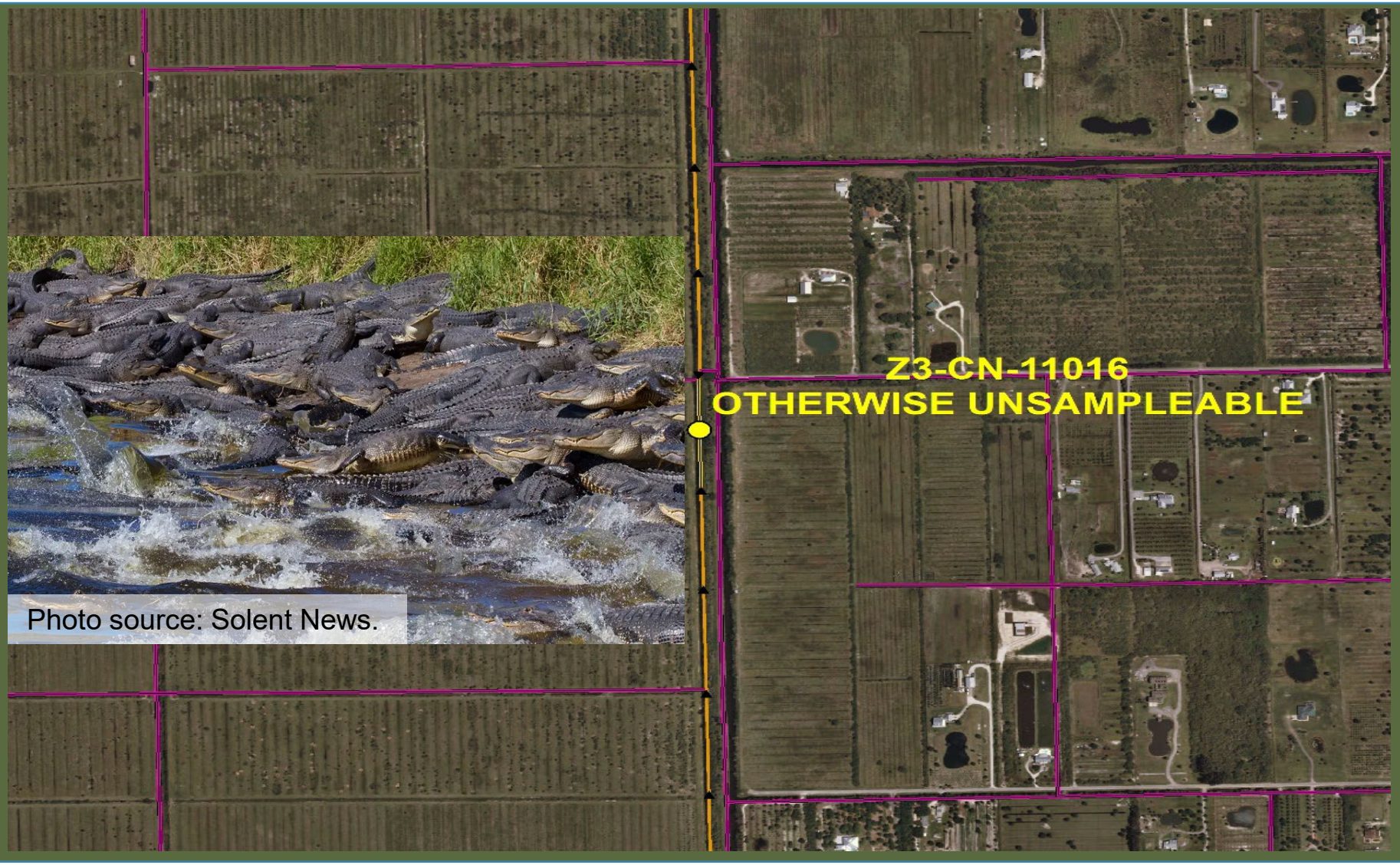


EXAMPLE
UNABLE TO ACCESS



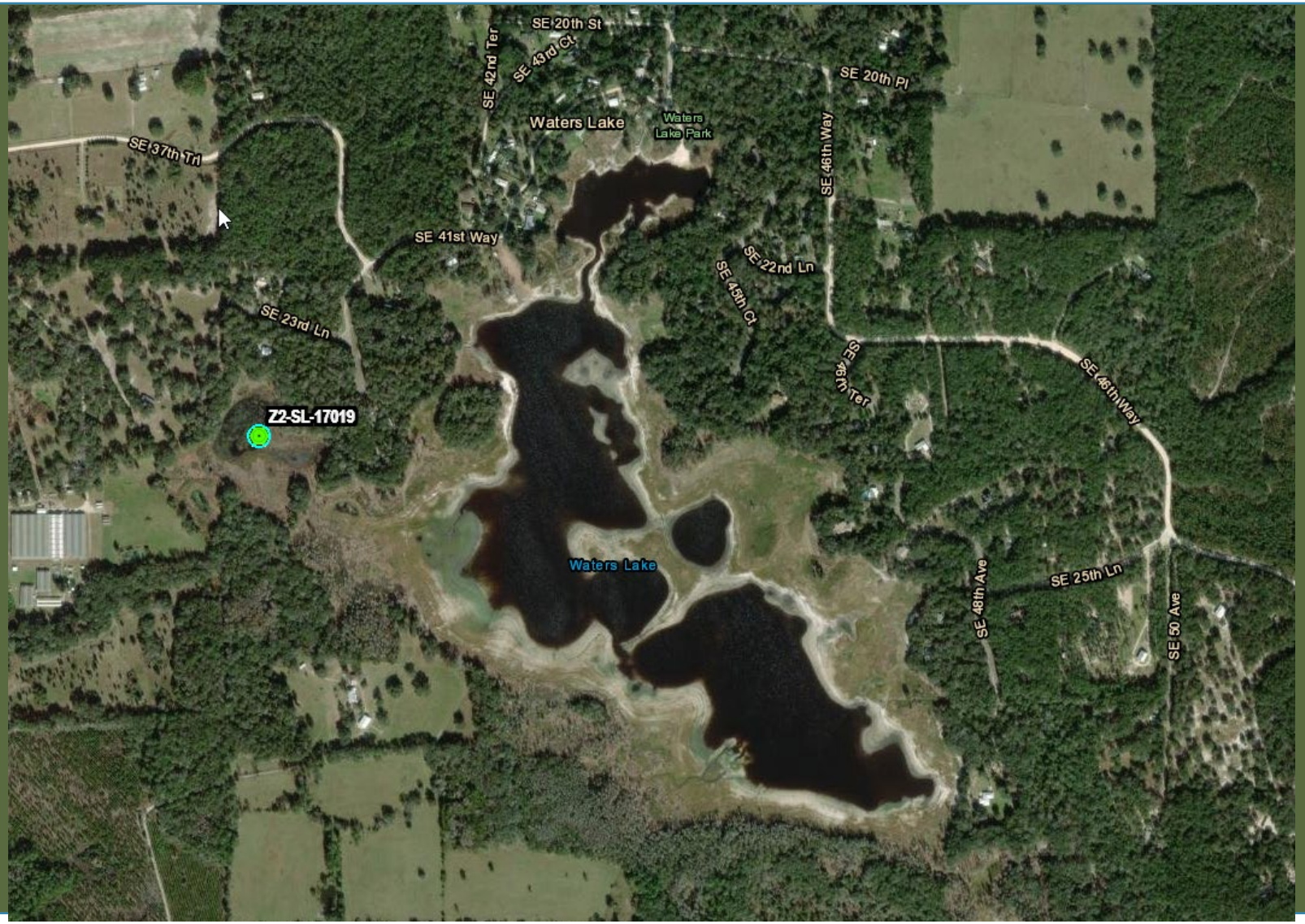
EXAMPLE
UNABLE TO ACCESS

EXAMPLE
OTHERWISE UNSAMPLEABLE



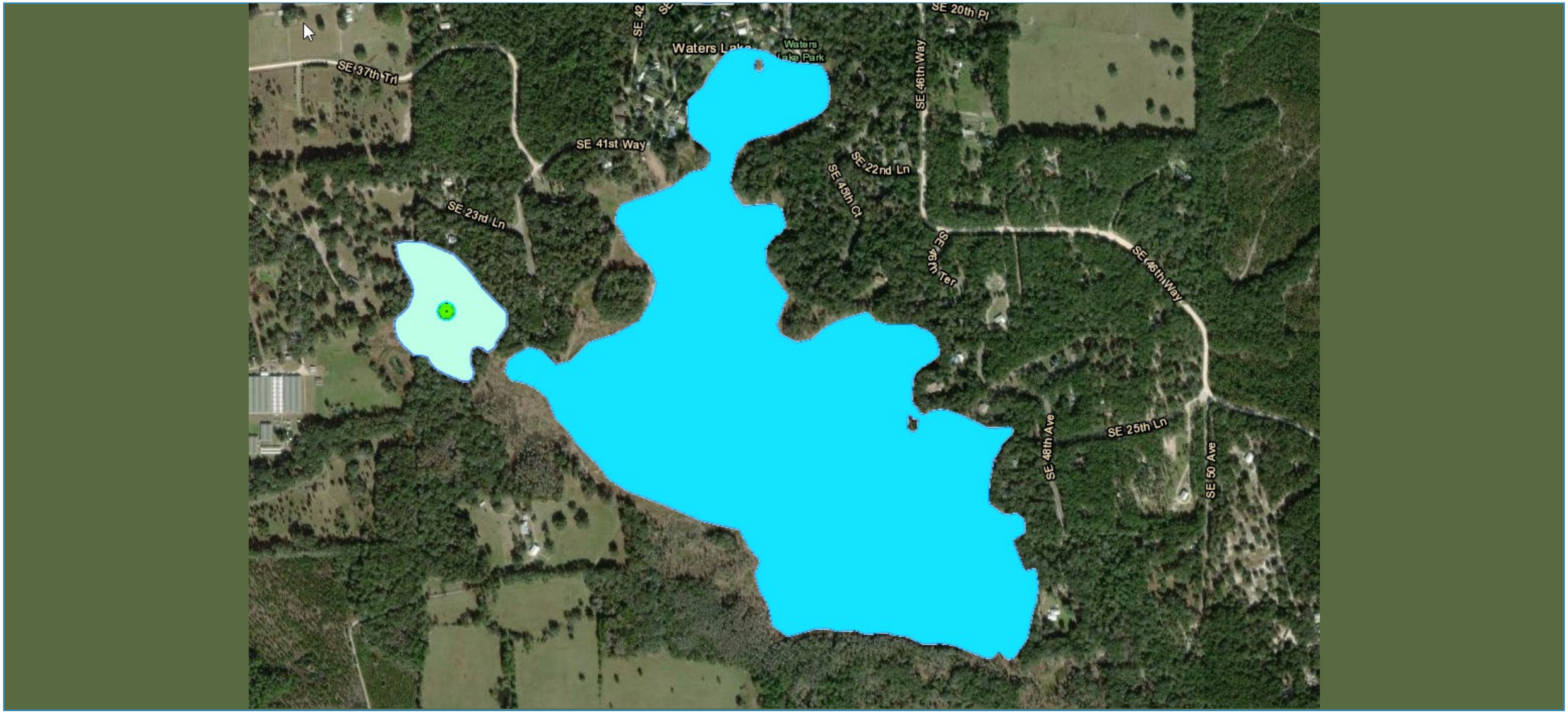
EXAMPLE

UNSURE



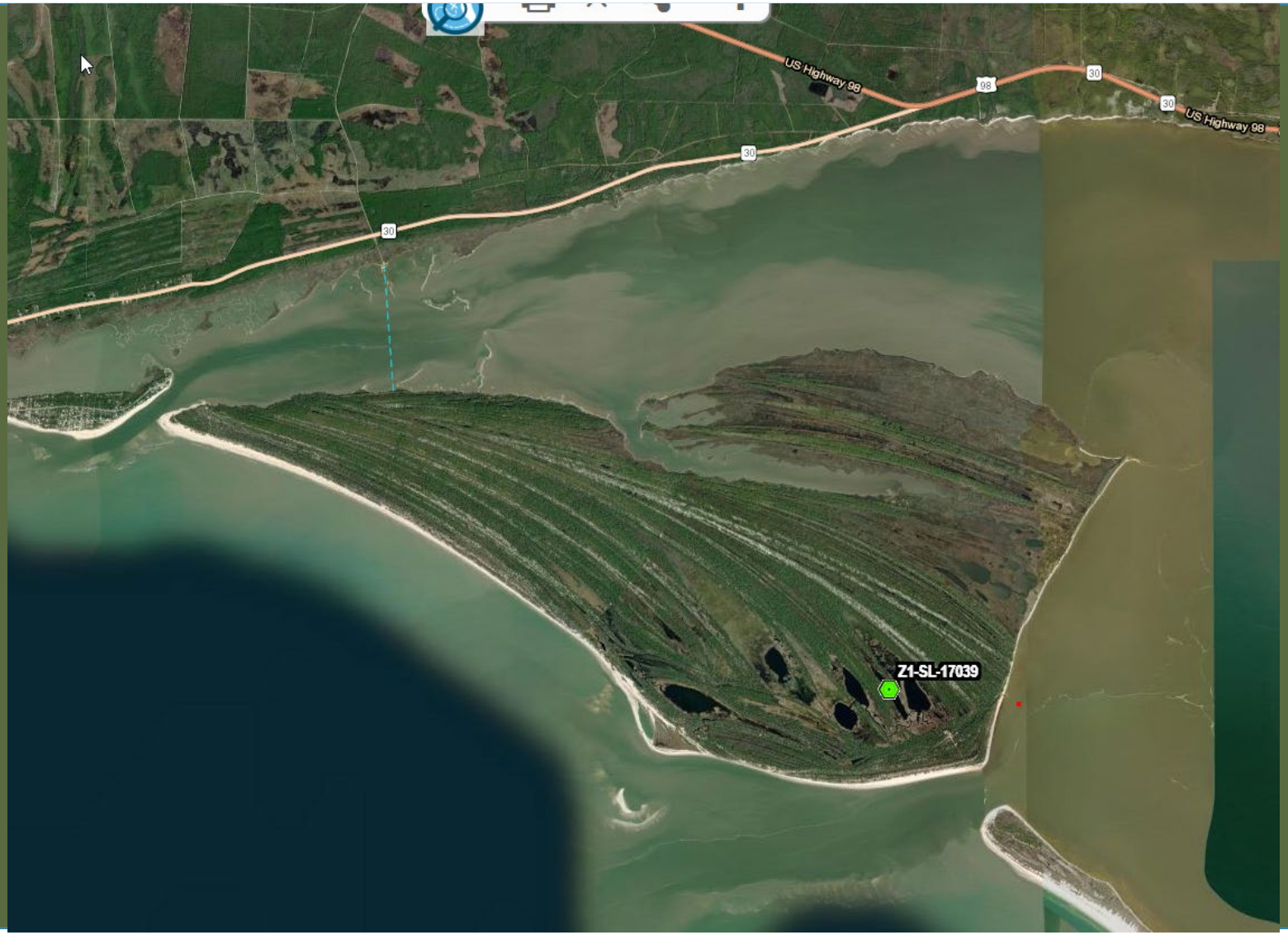
EXAMPLE

UNSURE



EXAMPLE

UNSURE

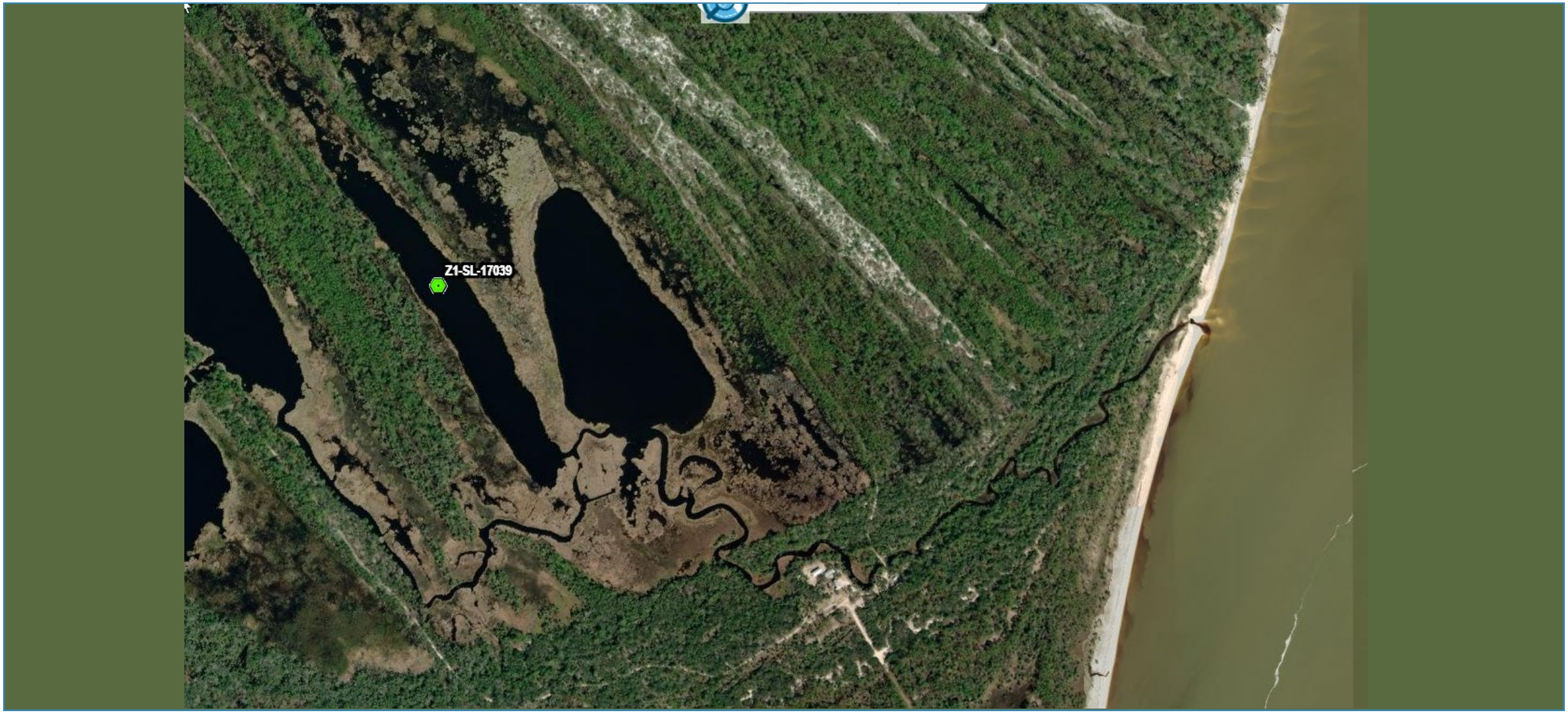


EXAMPLE

UNSURE

EXAMPLE

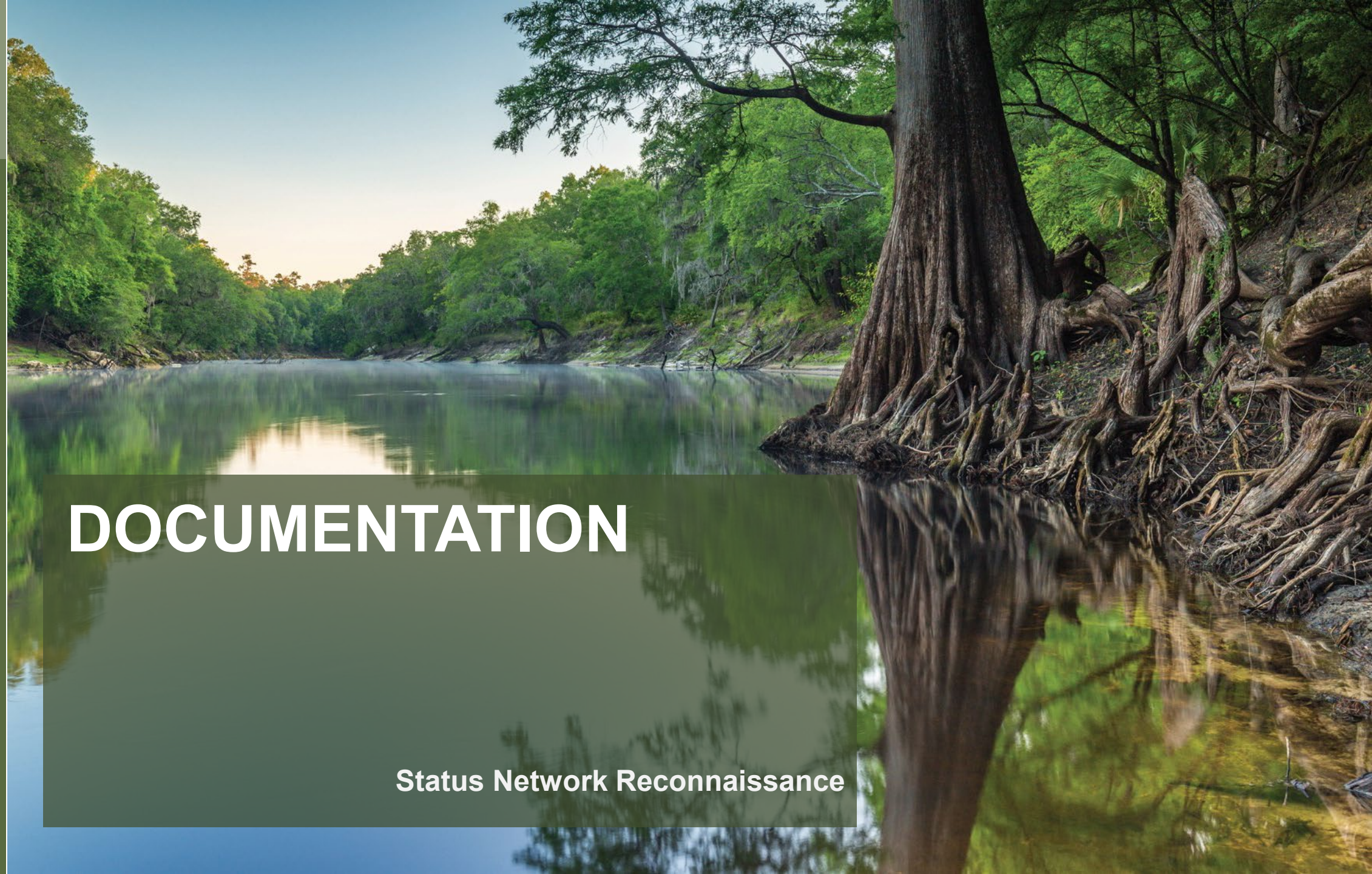
UNSURE



MINIMUM STATION DATA REQUIRED FOR A WELL

If data are unavailable or the well lacks these minimum requirements, exclude as Otherwise Unsampleable/Required Physical or Geological Information Not Available.

- Station name.
- County.
- Agency.
- Waterbody name.
- Water resource.
- Latitude.
- Longitude.
- Location method.
- Locational datum.
- Casing diameter.
- Casing material.
- Casing depth.
- Total depth.
- All contact information.



DOCUMENTATION

Status Network Reconnaissance

RECON DOCUMENTATION

ENTER RECON INFO INTO GWIS DATABASE UTILITIES

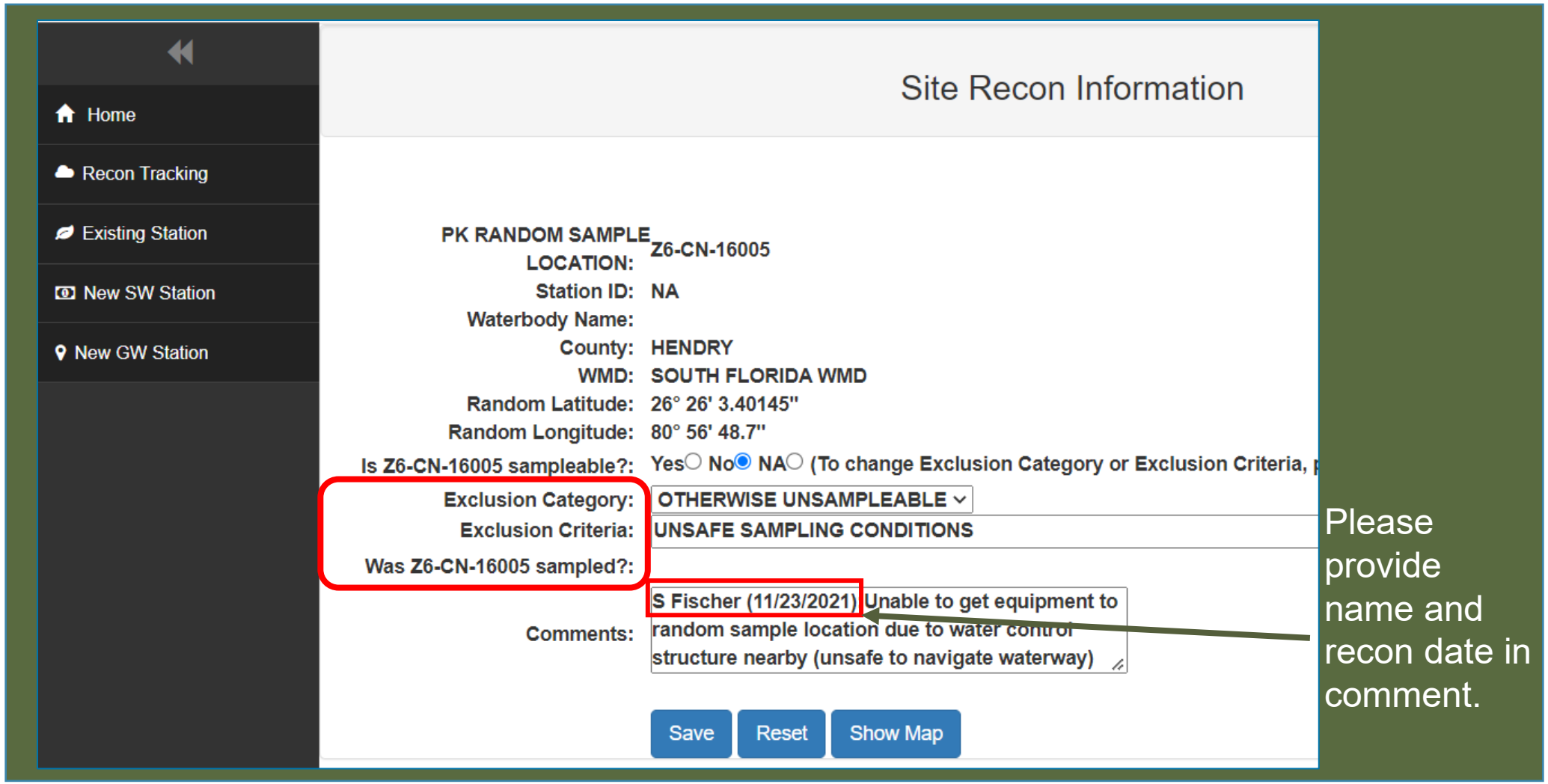
- Ability to sample.
  - “CAN BE SAMPLED”, yes or no.
- If excluded.
  - Select Exclusion Category and Criteria.
  - Add Detailed Comments.
    - Include initials and date.
    - Indicate how decision was made.
      - Office or field recon.
    - Reason why a resource is excluded.

RECON DOCUMENTATION

ADDITIONAL REMINDERS

- Keep notes on access, ownership and sampleability.
- Submit recon documentation to project manager two weeks before the primary sampling period begins.
- Remember to add required comments for exclusions to provide feedback to project manager and GIS analyst.
- Contact your project manager with any questions or concerns.

RECON DOCUMENTATION



RECON DOCUMENTATION

SAMPLING ORDER

- Primary sites must be evaluated first.
  - Sampled in any order.
  - Surface Water 1 – 15.
  - Groundwater 1 – 20.

- Alternate sites must be evaluated in consecutive order.
  - Sampled in any order, but no gaps in evaluation.
  - Surface Water 16 – 150.
  - Groundwater 16 – 200.

PUBLIC INTERACTION

Status Network Reconnaissance

PUBLIC INTERACTIONS

- Bring copies of the Status and Trend brochure with you on field visits.
  - Recon and sampling.
- Be prepared to ask questions when meeting a contact.
  - Keys to access gates.
  - Hazards/concerns.
  - Expected time on/off property.
- Be courteous and get to the point with any questions.
- Be prepared to hear “no.”
- Always thank the contact for allowing access to property.

THANK YOU

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Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION