

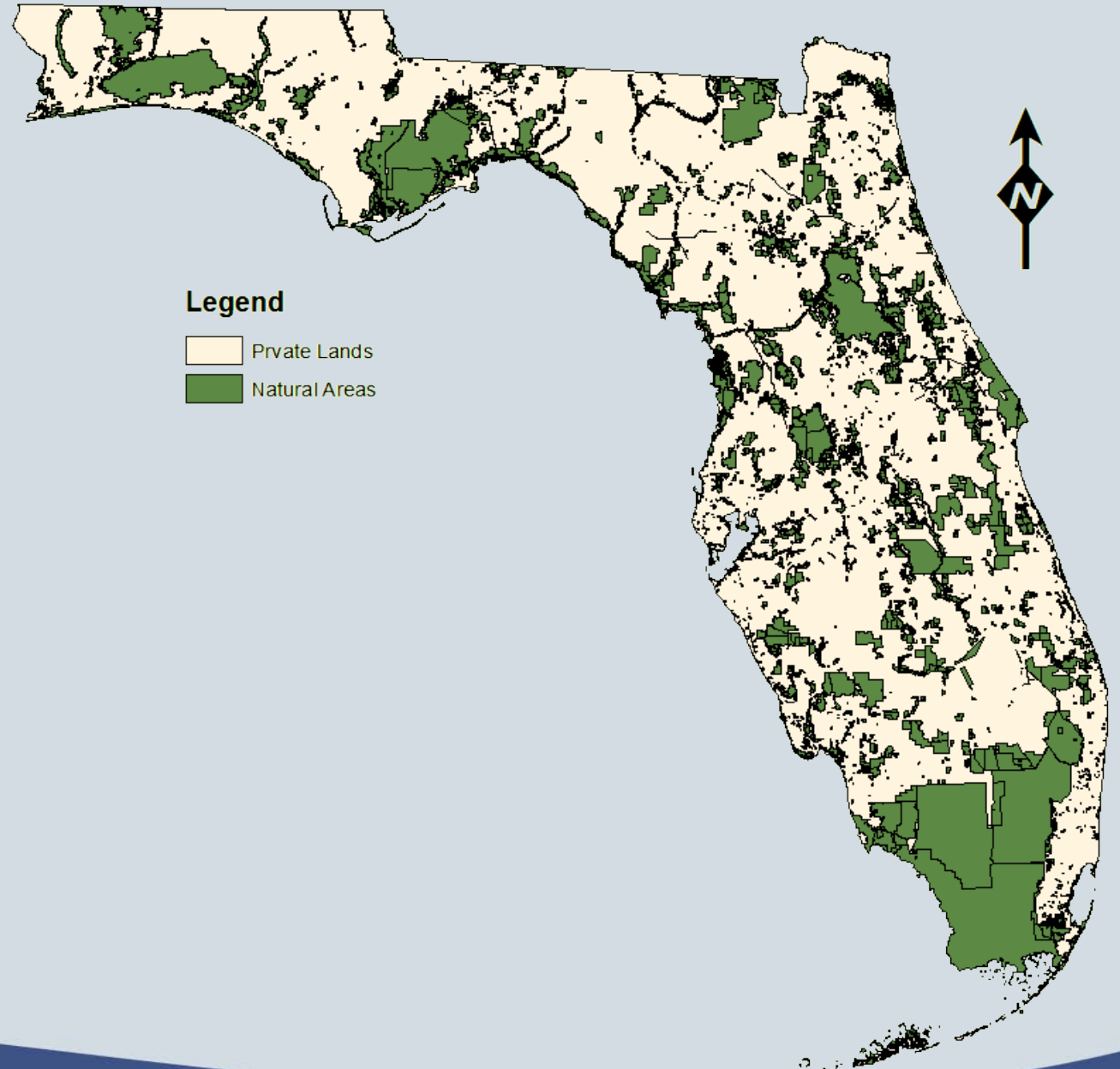
# Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission- Landowner Assistance Program



**Jess Rodriguez, Private Lands Biologist**  
Office of Conservation Planning Services  
Landowner Assistance Program



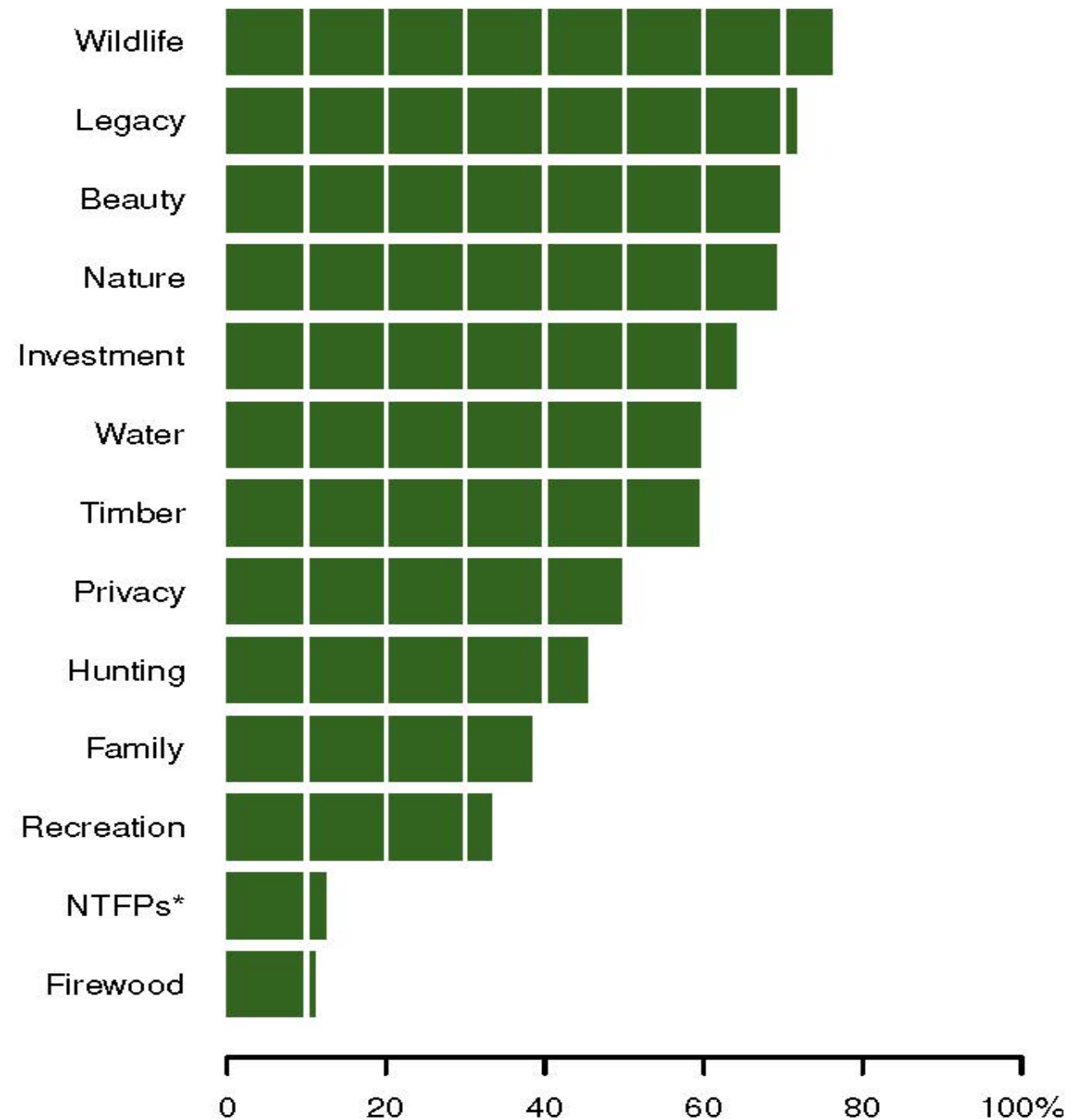
More than 20 million acres of Florida's nearly 35 million acres are in private ownership as farm or forest.



# Reason for Owning Woods

Roughly 75% of Florida woodland owners of 50 acres or more listed wildlife as an important or very important reason for owning their woods.

2013 National Woodland Owner Survey, US Forest Service

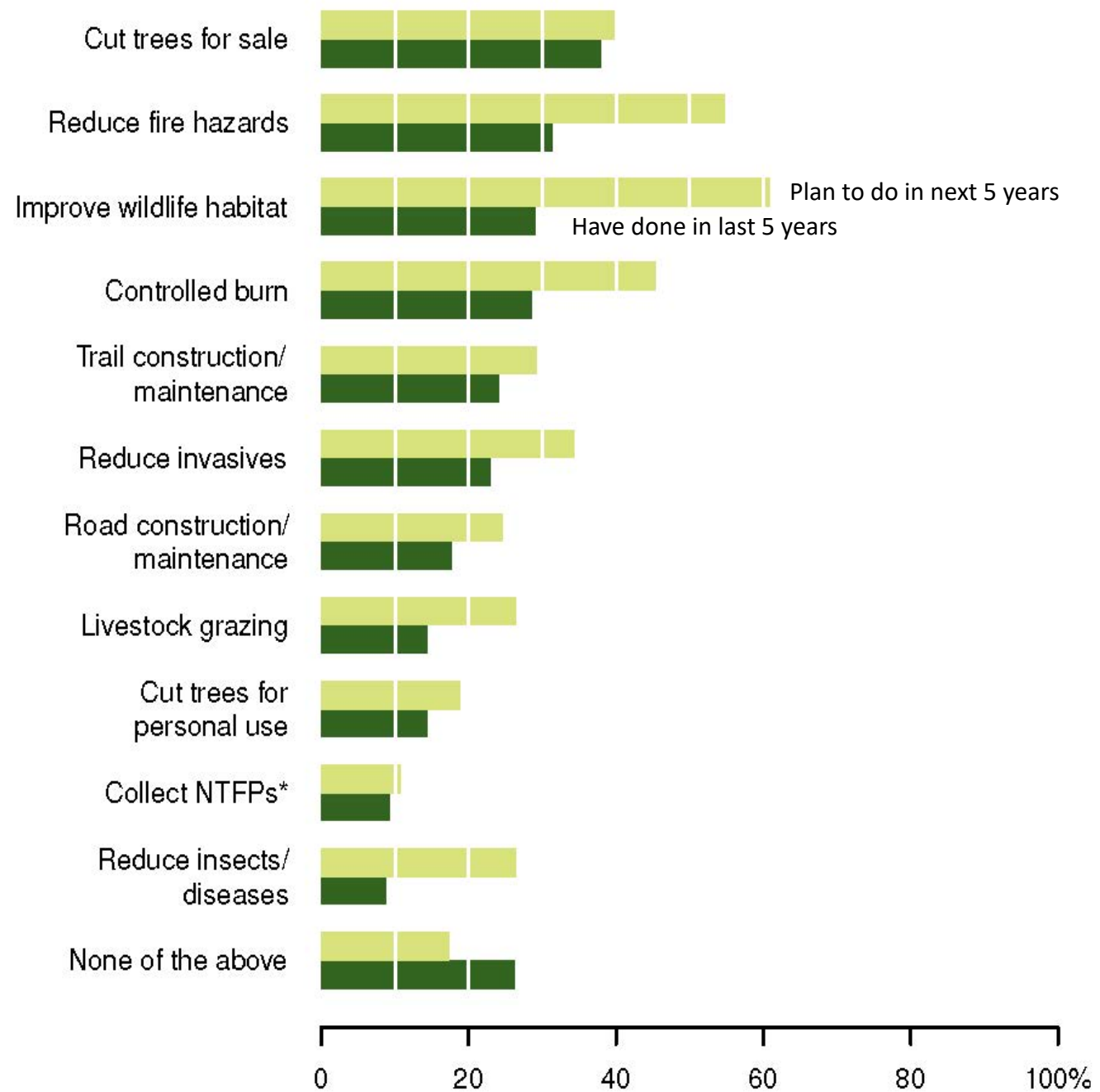


\* Non-timber forest products

# Management Activities

Nearly 30% have worked to improve wildlife habitat during last 5 years.

More than 60% plan to improve wildlife habitat during next 5 years.



\* Non-timber forest products

# FWC Landowner Assistance Program

## Conservation Planning Services

What do we do?

LUP

### Land Use Planning

Private Sector  
State and Local Government  
Review Wildlife Impacts  
Avoidance and Minimization  
Site Design

LAP

### Landowner Assistance Program





# FWC Landowner Assistance Program

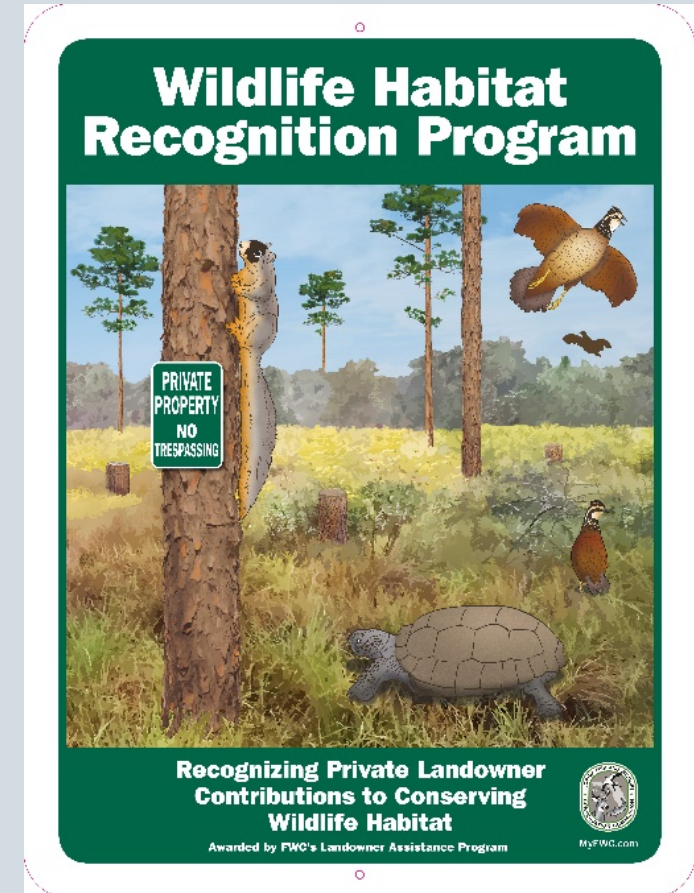


- Assist private landowners to manage their land for fish and wildlife
- Provide fish and wildlife related technical assistance
- Develop habitat-based management plans
- Provide information about incentive programs
- Provide educational workshops
- Support locally-led conservation efforts
  - NF PBA, Madison Co. LCA
- Landowner recognition

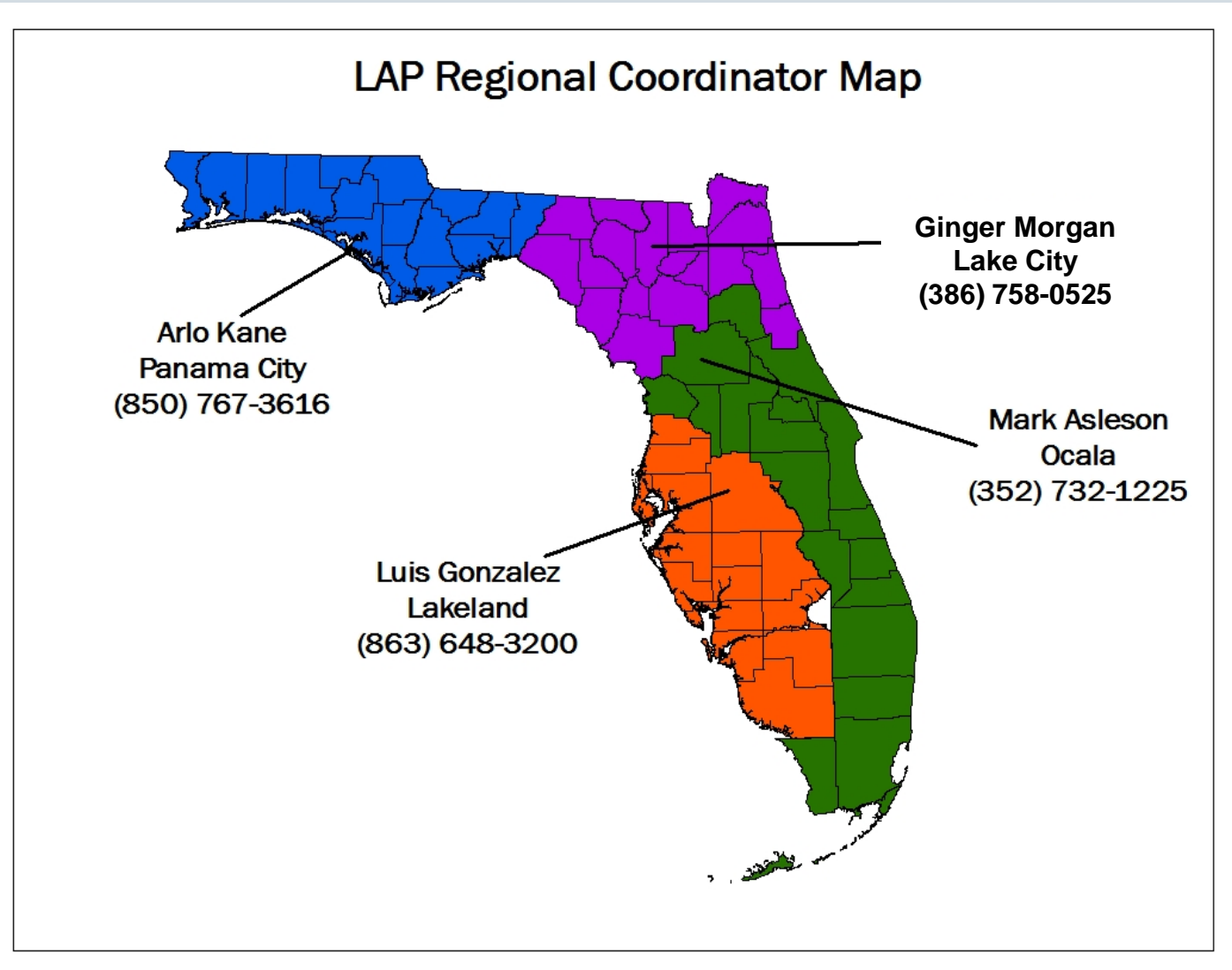


# FWC Wildlife Habitat Recognition Program

- Recognize and honor private landowners in Florida for their accomplishments in habitat management and wildlife conservation.
- Encourage private landowners to manage their habitat in ways that optimize the conservation of wildlife.
- Increased awareness among the general public of the contribution private landowners make to the conservation of wildlife in Florida.
- Sign and certification



# FWC Landowner Assistance Program





# FWC Landowner Assistance Program

## Invasive Plant Management on Private Lands:

- Identify invasive species
- Provide technical assistance
- Outreach-explain the threat of invasive species
- Conservation plans-Invasive plant management
- Provide information about cost-share opportunities
- LAP participation in working groups and CISMAs



# Invasive Plant Control on Private Lands

- FWC low-cost contract to purchase herbicides
- O2LIT funding for LLP restoration and invasive plant management
- Working group-contact Ginger Morgan

Ginger Morgan

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Thank you!

