



FARMS
Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems



Southwest Florida Water Management District

***Facilitating Agricultural Resource
Management Systems (FARMS) Program***

FARMS Program

FARMS is a Best Management Practice (BMP) cost-share reimbursement program for agricultural projects

- Created in 2003 as a cooperative program with FDACS
- Five Program Goals
 - Shell, Prairie, Joshua Creek
 - Upper Myakka River/Flatford Swamp
 - Southern Water Use Caution Area
 - Northern District
 - Dover/Plant City
- New Goal Consideration
 - Springs Protection/Restoration



FARMS Program

- Key Program Elements
 - Provide between 50-75% funding reimbursement
 - Eligible cost-share items are equipment/hardware
 - Pumps/Pipe
 - Precision irrigation systems
 - Surface water control structures
 - Must meet cost-benefit criteria
 - Must enter into cooperative agreement with District
 - 5-20 years
 - Modify Water Use Permit to reflect project changes



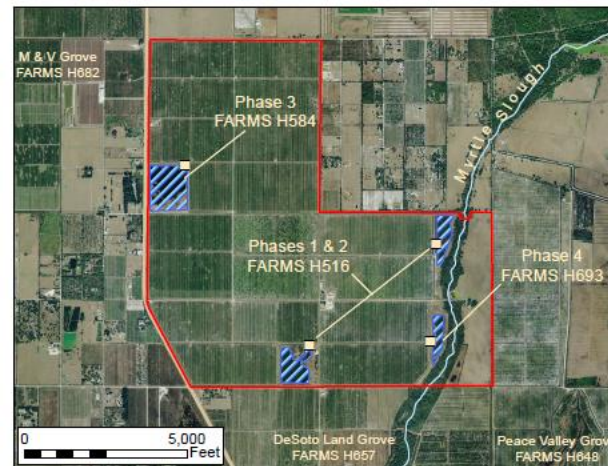
Hancock Grove – DeSoto County

- 1,556 acre citrus grove
- Permitted amount = 1,398,900 gpd
- Estimated groundwater savings = 734,980 gpd
- Total project cost = \$1,950,873
- FARMS cost = \$1,336,743



2006.05.26

FARMS Project Location Map Hancock Grove - Blue Goose Growers Phases 1& 2 (H516), Phase 3 (H584), Phase 4 (H693)



LEGEND

- ★ SWFWMD Boundary Area & FARMS Project Location
- Boundary Hancock Grove Property & WUP 6765
- ▨ Irrigation Reservoir & Project Pump Station

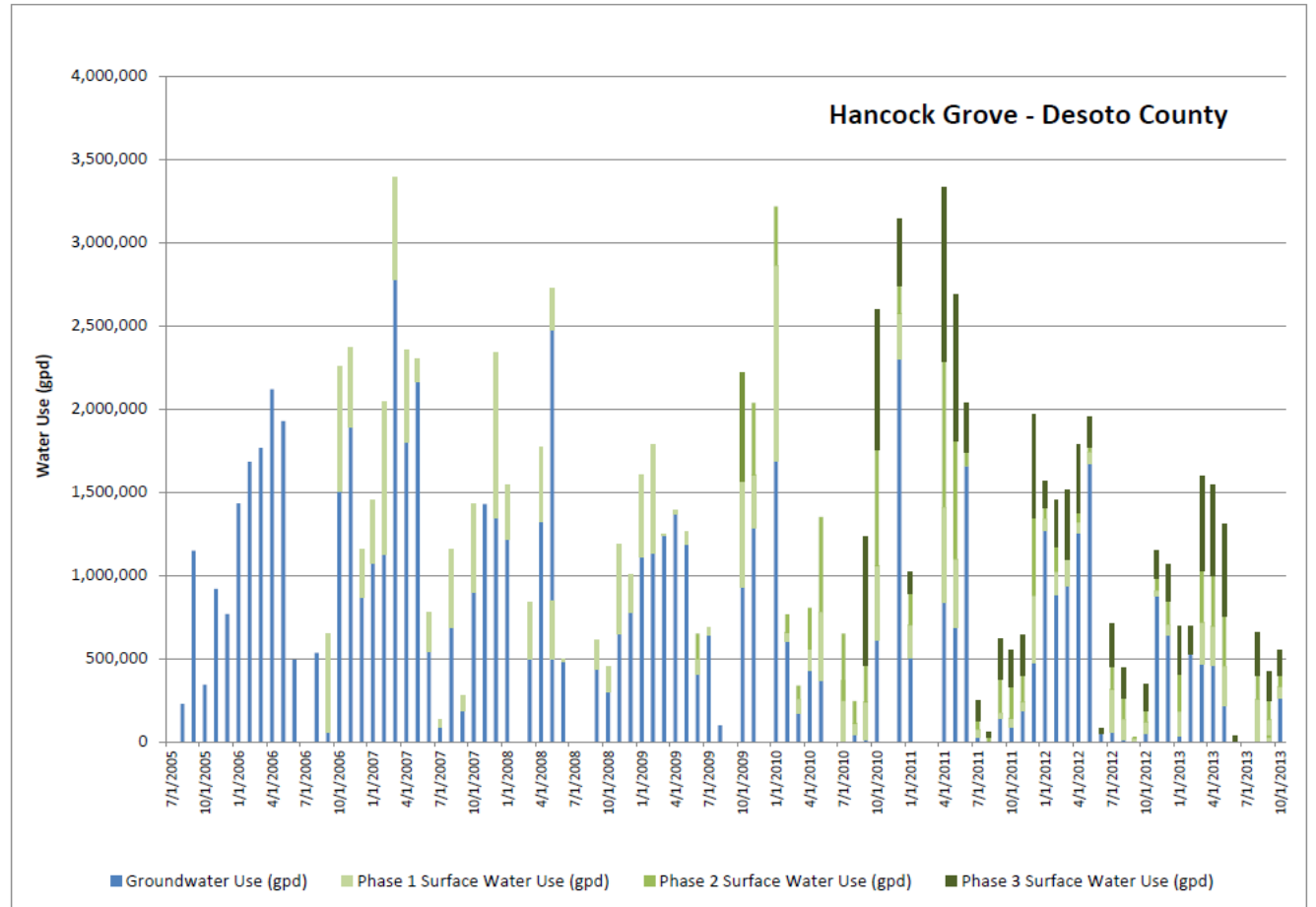
DeSoto County



Southwest Florida
Water Management District

DLB 1/28/2014
2011 Aerial
2009 NAVTEQ

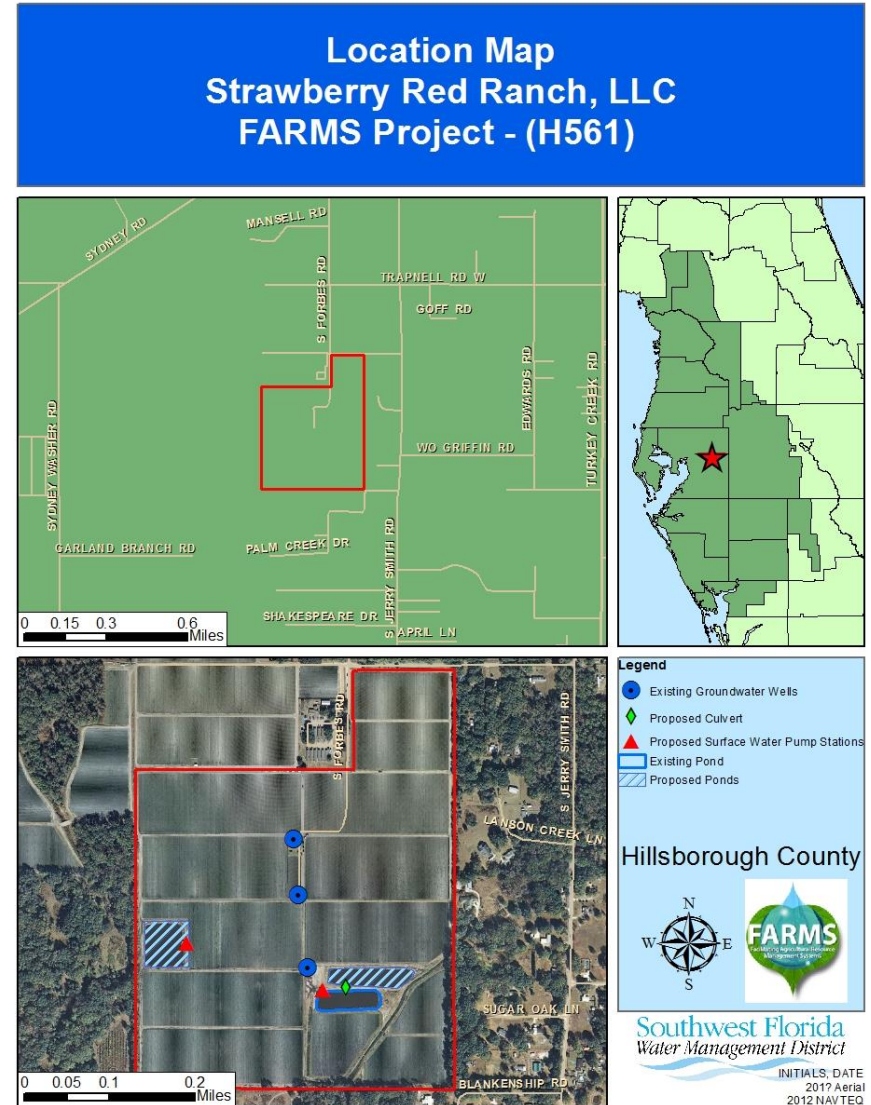
Hancock Grove – DeSoto County



Actual groundwater use reduced to date is 737,045 gpd

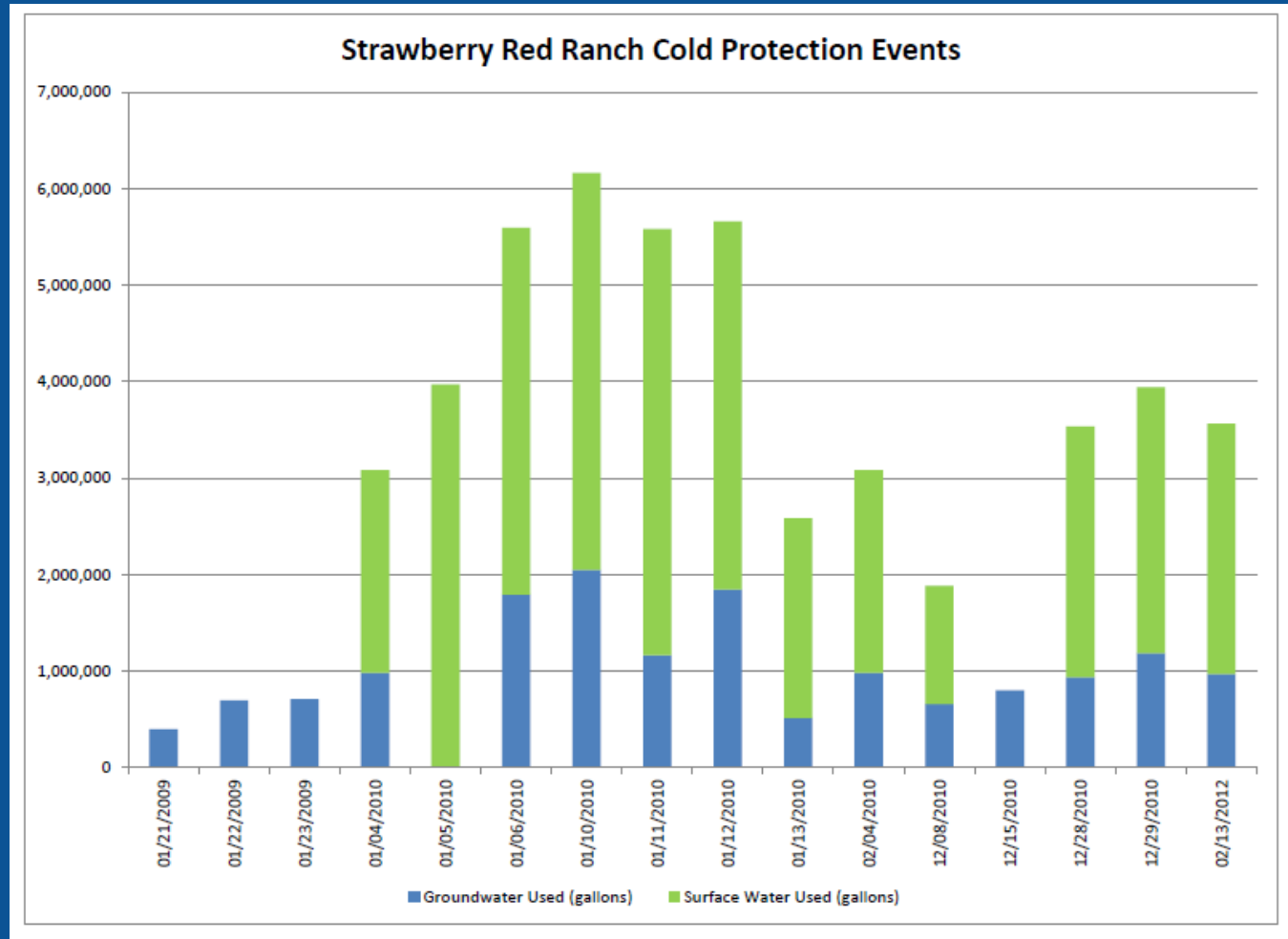
Strawberry Red Ranch, LLC

- 100 acre strawberry farm
- Permitted amount = 307,900 gpd
- Estimated groundwater savings = 60,800 gpd
- Total project cost = \$335,000
- FARMS cost = \$167,500



Strawberry Red Ranch, LLC

68% of all frost/freeze protection now provided by surface water



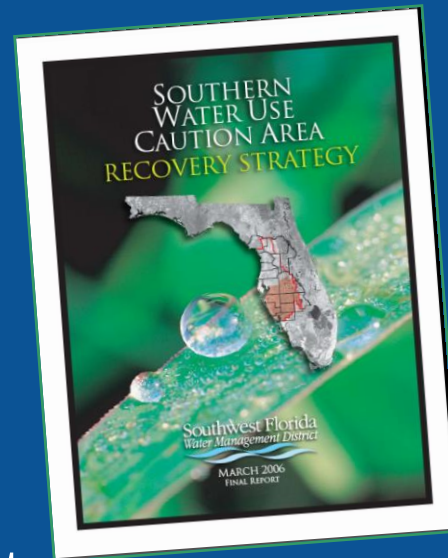
FARMS Program ...by the Numbers...

158 Governing Board approved projects

- ~24.7 MGD projected groundwater offset

130 complete and operational projects

- ~ 20.9 MGD measured offset
- Average total project cost
~\$349,165
- Average District/State funding
~53%
- Average farmer funding
~47%
- Average actual groundwater offset
~125,763 gallons per day

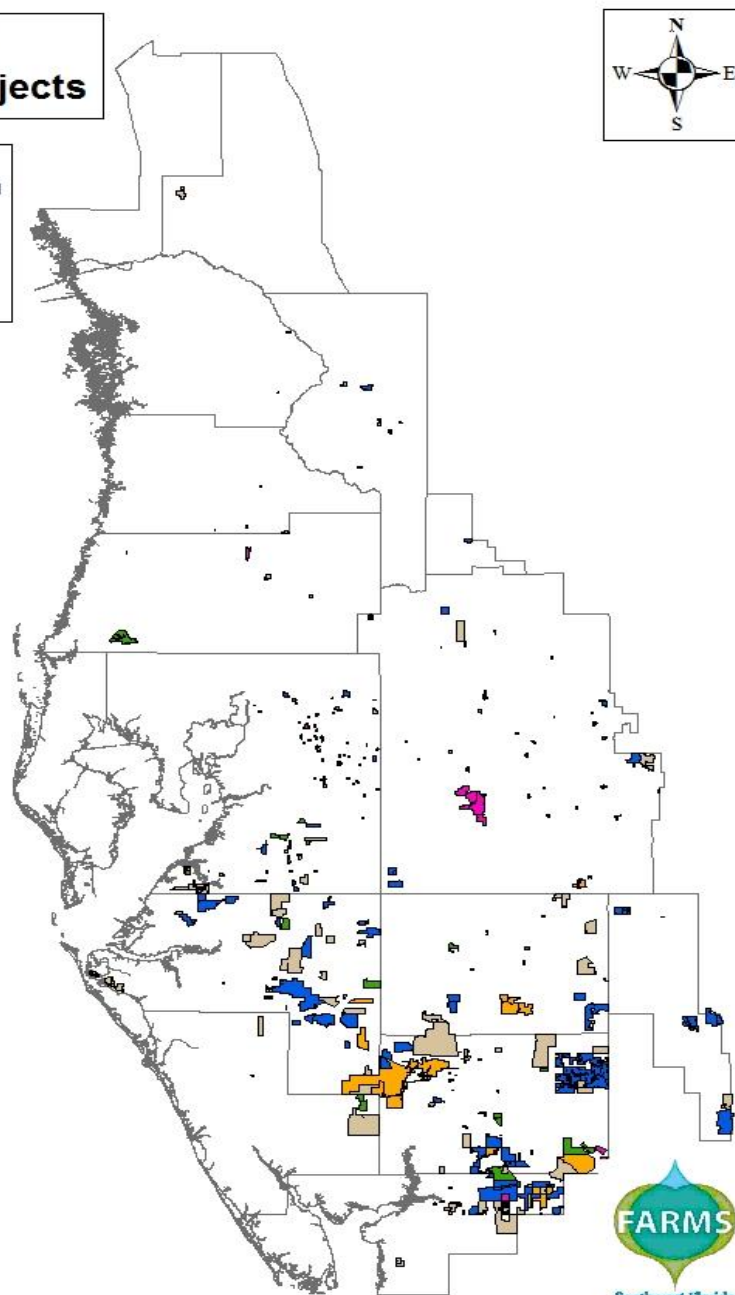




Board Approved and Potential FARMS Projects

Legend

- FARMS Projects - Pending Board Approval
- FARMS Projects - Operational
- FARMS Projects - Under Construction
- FARMS Projects - Potential
- FARMS Projects - Dormant
- SWFWMD Boundary



FARMS Program

- Grower Incentives
 - Improved crop yield
 - Improved crop quality
 - Reduced costs
 - Resource protection and recovery





District Ag Conservation Programs

- **FY2014 District funding for agricultural programs includes:**
 - **FARMS = \$6,630,325**
 - **MiniFARMS = \$100,000**
 - **IFAS Research = \$762,023**
 - **AGSWM = \$244,375**
 - **MIL = \$50,000**
 - **PrOMIL = \$40,000**
 - **CPSS = \$6,000**
 - **QWIP = \$350,000**
 - **SPJC Back-Plugging = \$30,000**