

# GIS technology and the water management districts

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Early water management

in Florida









# History of water management districts

- 1949 Creation of the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District
- 1961 Creation of the Southwest Florida Water Management District





### Florida Water Resources Act of 1972

- Renamed the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District to the South Florida Water Management District
- Retained the Southwest Florida Water Management District
- Created the St. Johns River, Suwannee River and Northwest Florida water management districts



# Florida's water management districts





# Water management district governance

- Independent special districts with specific authority derived from the Florida Legislature
- Citizen Governing Board appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate
- Specific constitutional and statutory authority to levy ad valorem taxes
- Employ an executive director and professional staff
- General supervisory oversight by the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection





# Water management district programs and areas of responsibility

- Manage and protect the state's water resources and related natural systems, water supply, water quality and flood protection
- Six major programs
  - > Management and administration
  - > Outreach
  - > Regulation
  - > Water resources planning and monitoring
  - > Acquisition, restoration and public works
  - Operation and maintenance of lands and works



# Water management districts today

- Total budget for all five districts
  - >\$2.2 billion
- Total staffing for all five districts
  - >3,340





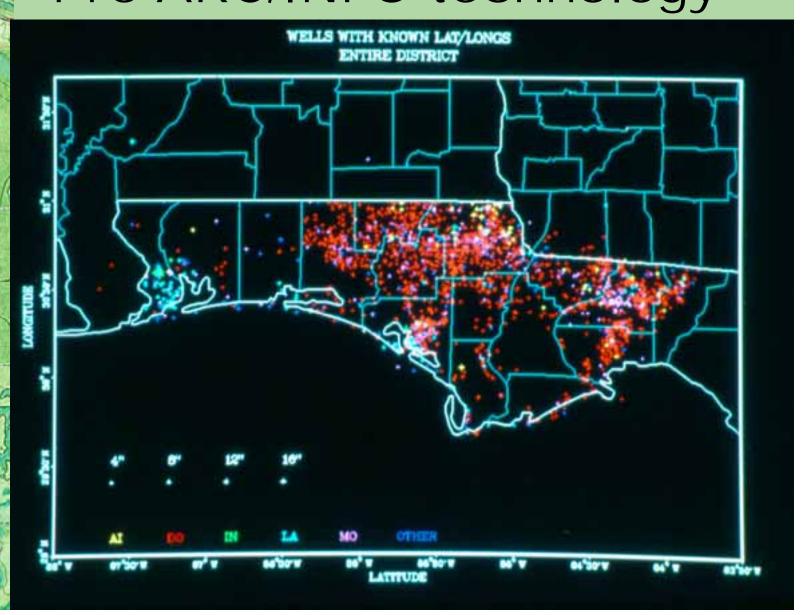


## Protecting water



Blue Cypress Conservation Area

## Pre ARC/INFO technology







# Evolution of GIS technology at the water management districts

- As early as the mid-1970s, SFWMD began digitizing files using ComputerVision, performing area calculations and outputting maps
- SWFWMD had begun working with Intergraph to adapt its CAD packages to include geographic analysis tools

## First Florida ESRI license



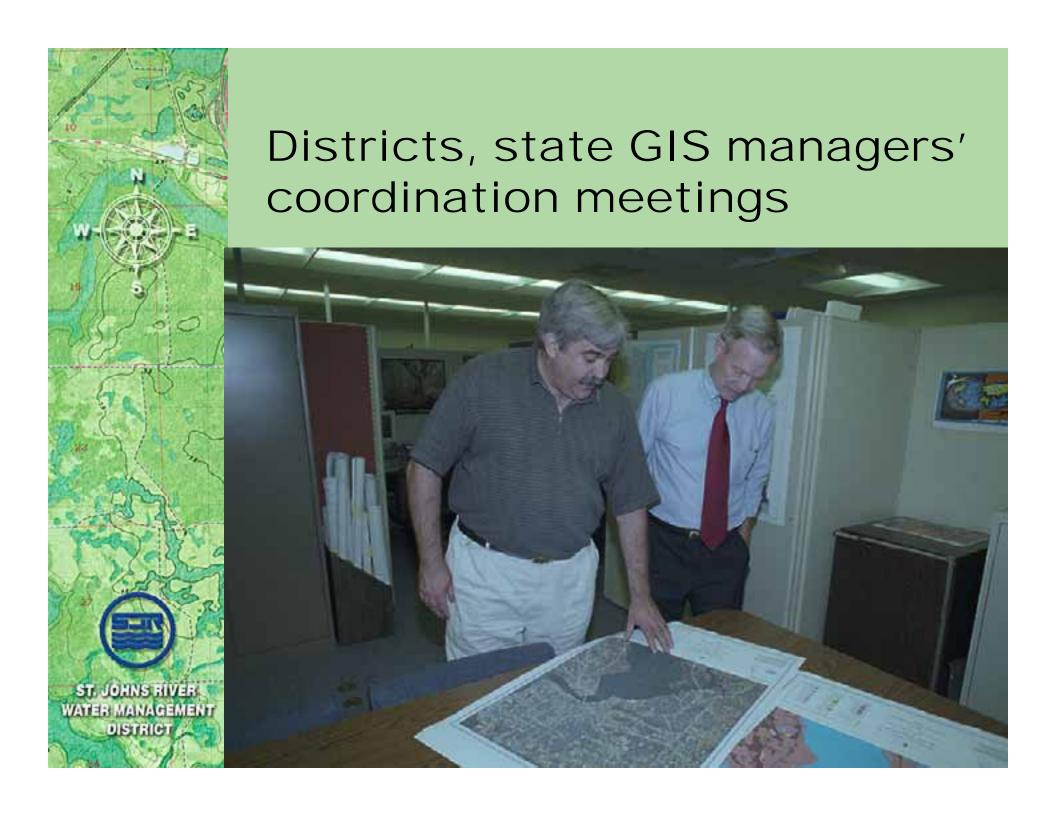


DISTRICT



# ARC/INFO revolutionizes GIS

- 1983 St. Johns River Water Management
   District purchases ARC/INFO and embarks on a
   wetlands mapping project in Seminole County,
   Florida
- 1987 The Southwest Florida Water Management District installs ARC/INFO and hires a GIS programmer
- 1988 The Northwest Florida Water Management District purchases ARC/INFO
- 1989 The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) introduces ARC/INFO
- 1990 The South Florida Water Management District converts to ESRI to take advantage of spatial analysis functions





# St. Johns River Water Management District



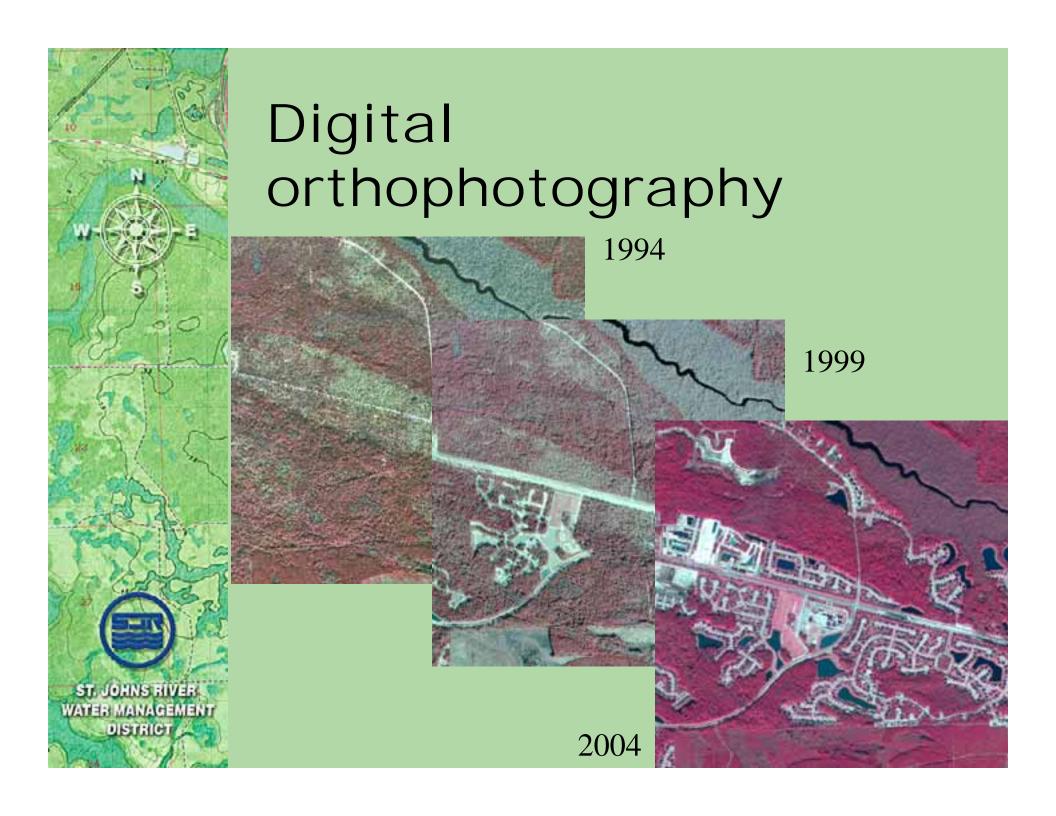
- 12,283 square miles
- Headquarters in Palatka
- 18-county service area
- Service centers in Jacksonville, Altamonte Springs and Palm Bay



#### District mission

- "We will ensure the sustainable use and protection of water resources for the benefit of the people of the District and the state of Florida."
- Core missions include water supply, surface water resource protection, flood protection and organizational effectiveness







## Old technology







### GIS in Arc Hydro





#### Floridawaterpermits.com

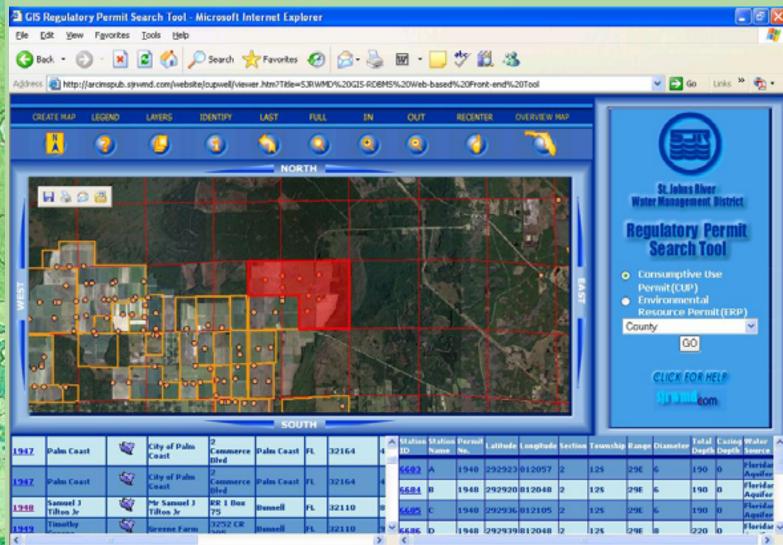
• A central hub for the public regarding permits

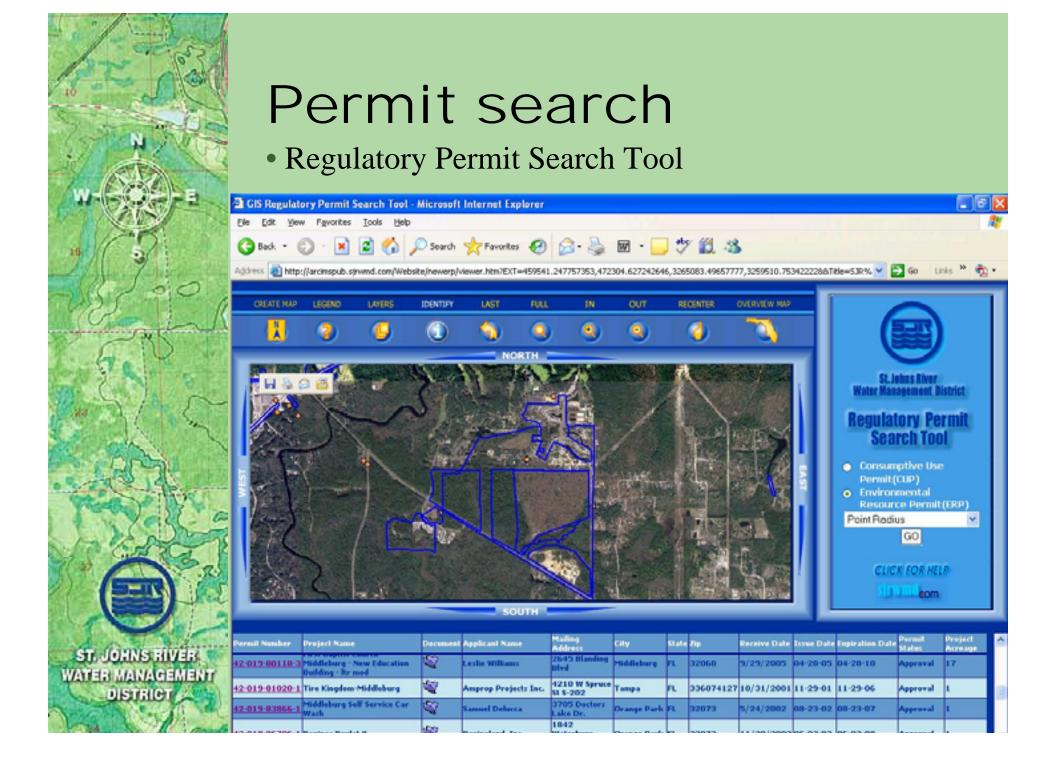


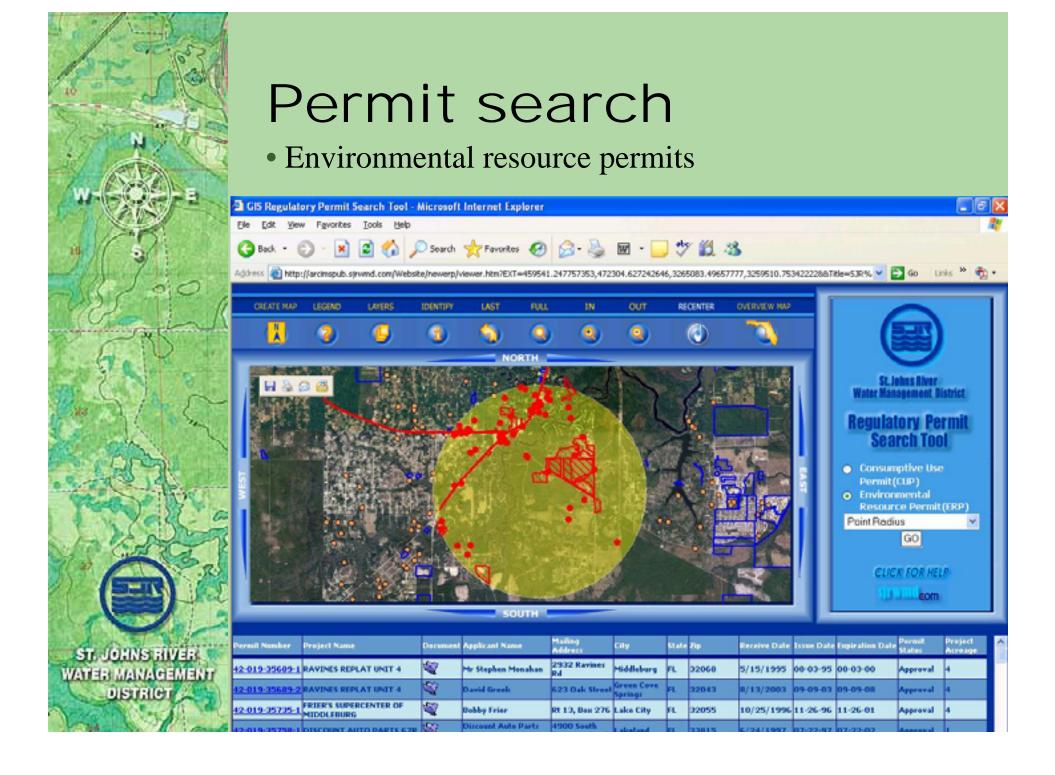


## New technology

Regulatory Permit Search Tool



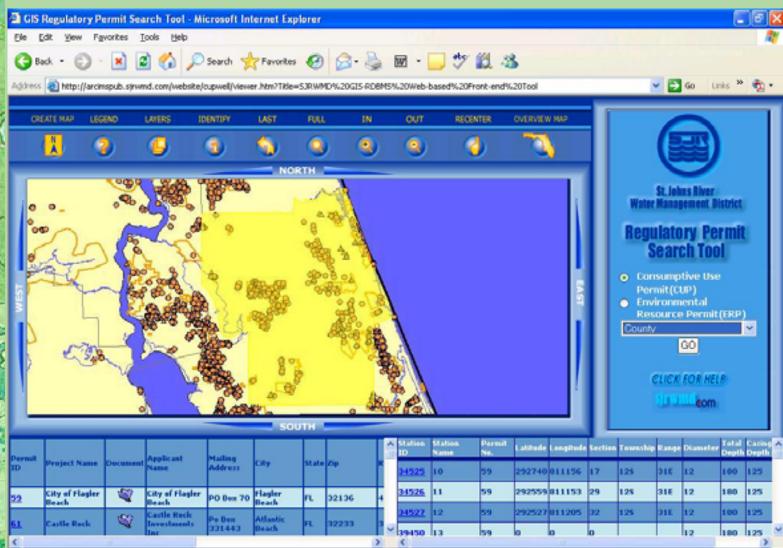






#### Permit search

• Functionality allows numerous views





### Thank you

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