

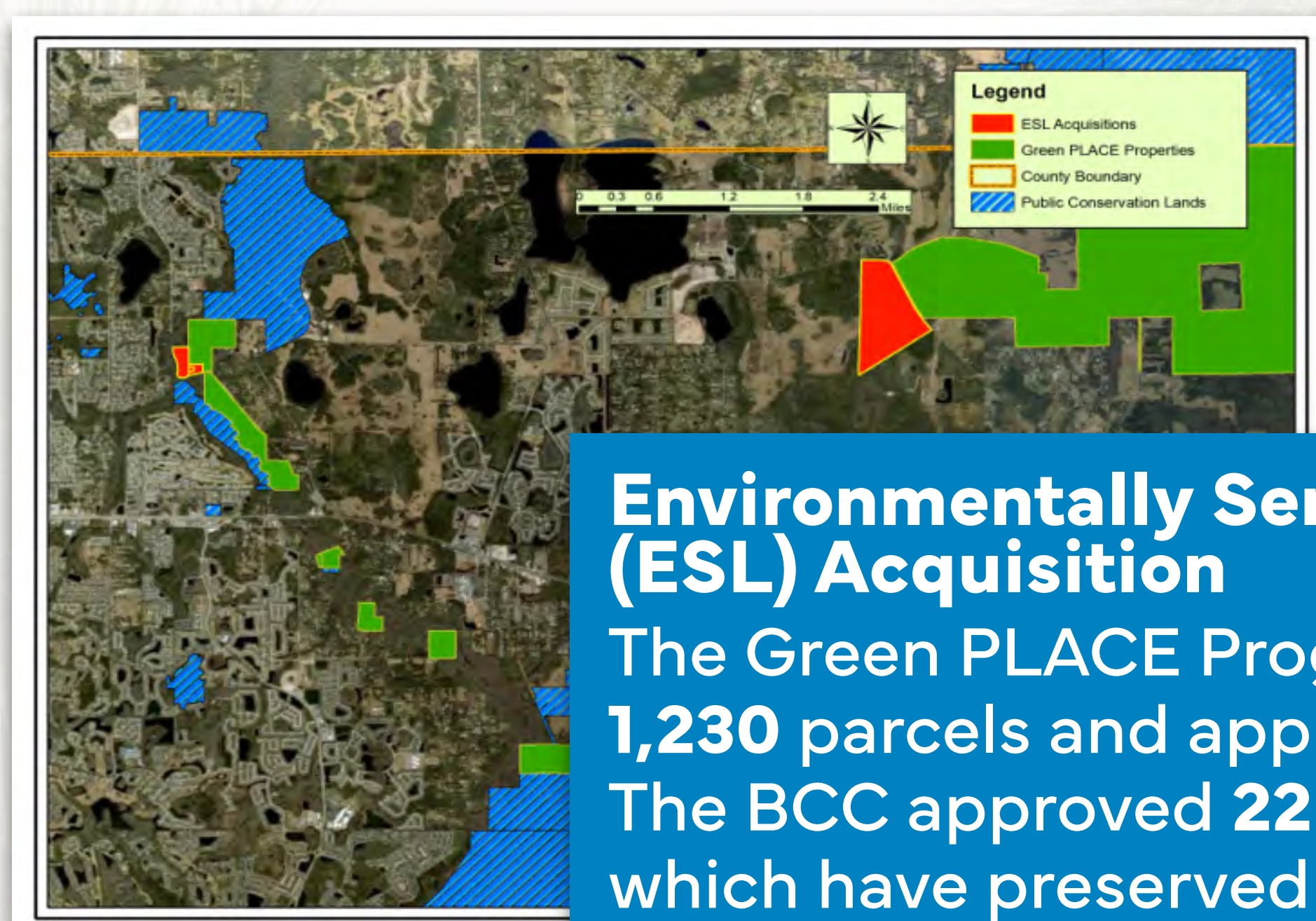
Green PLACE Program

The program protects natural and water resources in Orange County and provides nature-based recreational opportunities. Green PLACE (Park Land Acquisition for Conservation and Environmental Protection) enhances habitats through the preservation of environmentally sensitive lands and land management activities.

STAFF

4 Full-time

2 On-calls



Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) Acquisition

The Green PLACE Program assessed **1,230** parcels and appraised **77** parcels. The BCC approved **22** contracts which have preserved **405.18** acres, including 52.86 donated, to expand environmentally sensitive lands.



14 Properties are open for nature-based recreational activities such as: hiking, picnicking, fishing, kayaking, horseback riding, birdwatching and wildlife observation.



Events at the New Dell Property

Mayor Jerry L. Demings, Commissioner Emily Bonilla, Orange County staff and partners were on hand to celebrate Earth Day as volunteers removed invasive species and cleaned up debris. The event included gopher tortoise trivia and burrow observations.

In honor of National Public Lands Day, EPD staff, volunteers and partners spent **168** hours clearing invasive plants, debris, a **1/4**-mile trail and removing **300** ft of fencing.

The Green PLACE Advisory Board, comprised of seven members, was established to provide guidance to the Board of County Commissioners on Green PLACE Program administration and environmentally sensitive land acquisitions. Meetings are held bi-monthly.



Land Management

Activities include invasive species management, controlled burning, forest management and more.

30 miles of trail for hiking and horseback riding allow visitors to experience the native habitats of Central Florida.

2022 Annual Report



The Green PLACE Annual Report

Ongoing ESL acquisition is backed by the Mayor's *Transition Team Report* and the *Sustainable Operations & Resilience Action Plan*, targeting an additional **23,000** acres of preservation by 2030. The inaugural *Green PLACE Annual Report*, released this year, highlights program goals, funding and progress via data-driven metrics.

