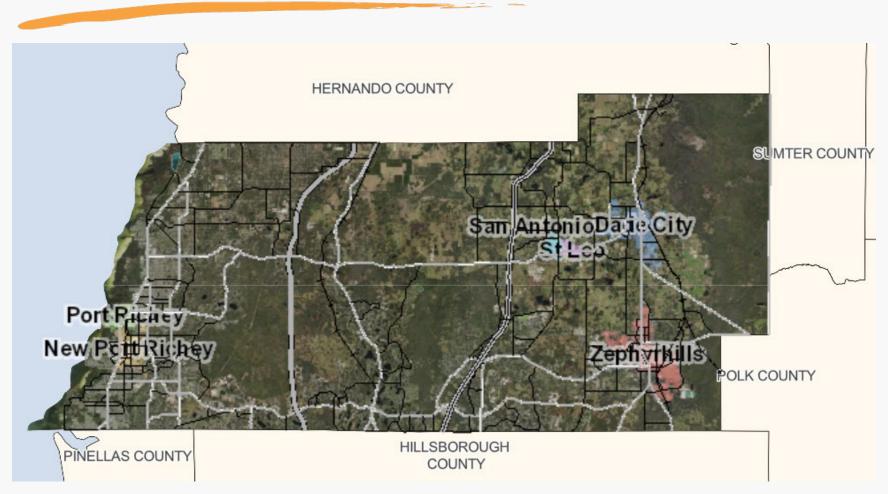
# WETLANDS AND REGULATIONS FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

Natural Resources Division
Parks, Recreation, & Natural Resources



### Pasco County Map





### Florida Wetlands



Slide courtesy of FDEP

#### Wetland Definitions

- Per subsection 373.019(17), F.S., a "wetland" is defined as an area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and a duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils.
- ➤ Pasco County Comprehensive Plan: Chapter 3 Conservation Flement
  - Category I, II, and III Definitions
- ➤ Pasco County Land Development Code Section 805
  - Category I receives highest priority
  - Category II and III impacts defer to responsible State agency
- ▶If a wetland is within or adjacent to a property, a clear wetland line will be required on development site plans

### Category 1 Wetlands

- >Shall meet at least one of the following:
- ➤a. Any wetland of any size that has a hydrological connection (not man-made or by floodplains) to natural surface water bodies, such as natural lakes, rivers, and springs.
- b. Any wetland of any size that has a direct connection to the Floridian aquifer by way of an open sinkhole or spring.
- >c. Any wetland of any size that is within a lake littoral zone.
- ▶d. Any isolated uninterrupted wetlands 100 acres or larger.
- e. Any wetland of any size that provides critical habitat for Federal and/or State-listed threatened or endangered species.

### Category 1 Wetlands (cont.)

- Pasco County shall limit the removal, alteration, encroachment, dredging, filling, or changes to the natural hydro period or water quality (hereinafter collectively referred to as impacts) within Category I Wetlands to cases where no other feasible and practicable alternative exists that will permit a reasonable use of the land.
- A minimum of a twenty-five (25) foot upland buffer is required around postdevelopment Category I wetlands unless the applicant has an unexpired SWFWMD, FDEP, or ACOE Permit and/or a County site development plan issued prior to January 26, 2007. These upland buffers are integral to maintaining wetland structure and function and are necessary to protect the natural wetland ecosystem from significant, adverse impacts.



### Category II Wetlands

- ➤ Meet any of the following criteria:
- ➤a. Consists of isolated wetlands or formerly isolated wetlands which by way of man's activities have been directly connected to other surface water drainage and are greater than five (5) acres.
- ▶b. Are less than 100 acres and do not otherwise qualify as a Category I wetland.
- Impacts to Category II wetlands may be authorized as part of a construction plan approval where SWFWMD rule criteria for impacts to wetlands are met.
- Wetland mitigation may be required



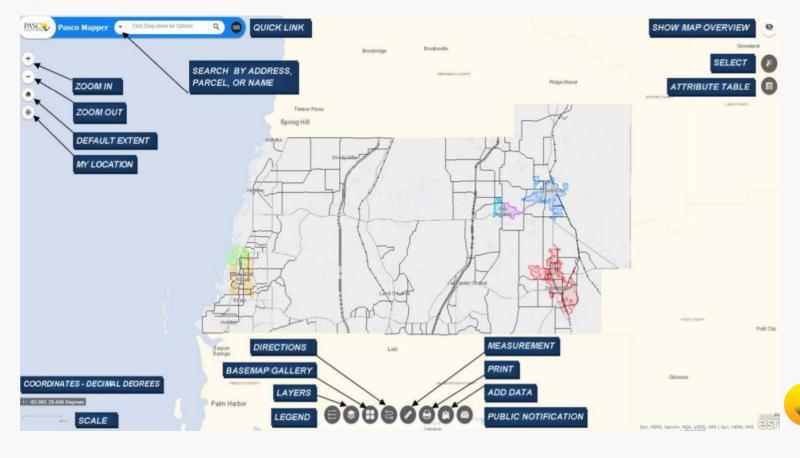
### Category III Wetlands

- ➤ Meet any of the following criteria:
- ▶a. Isolated wetlands of less than five (5) acres.
- b. Do not otherwise qualify as Category I or Category II Wetlands.
- Impacts may be allowed in Category III Wetlands with SWFWMD approved permit.
- Wetland mitigation may be required



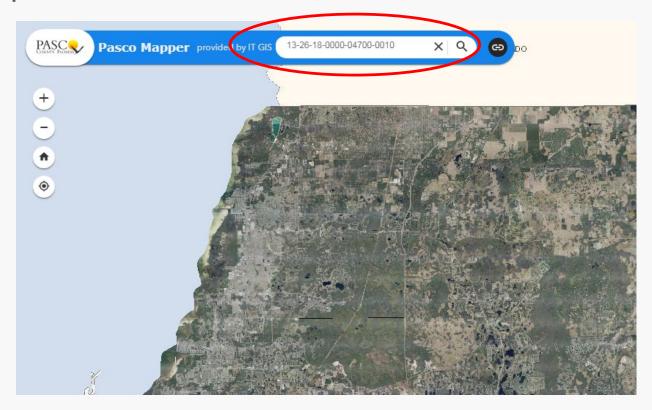
### Conceptual Wetlands—Pasco Mapper

➤ To get an idea of what wetlands may be within or adjacent to your property, use Pasco Mapper



### Conceptual Wetlands—Pasco Mapper (Cont.)

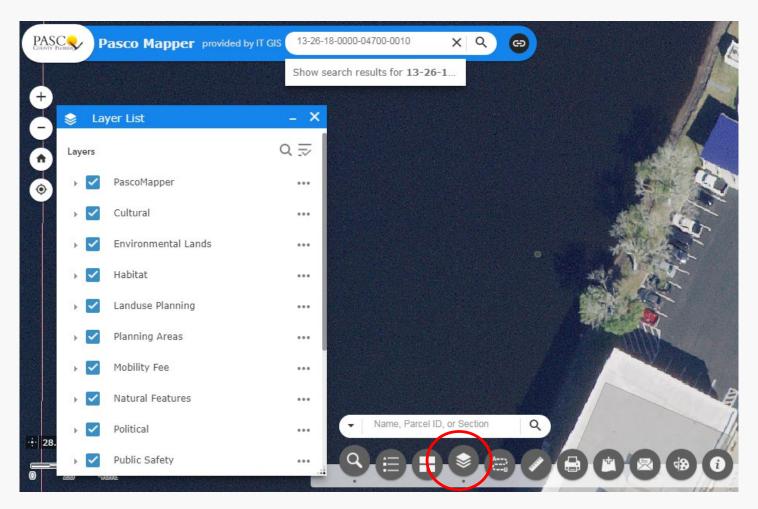
- https://pascocounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer /index.html?id=16d0b8ac89b44da18a2aa2b1104232dd
- >Enter parcel number





### Conceptual Wetlands—Pasco Mapper (Layers List)

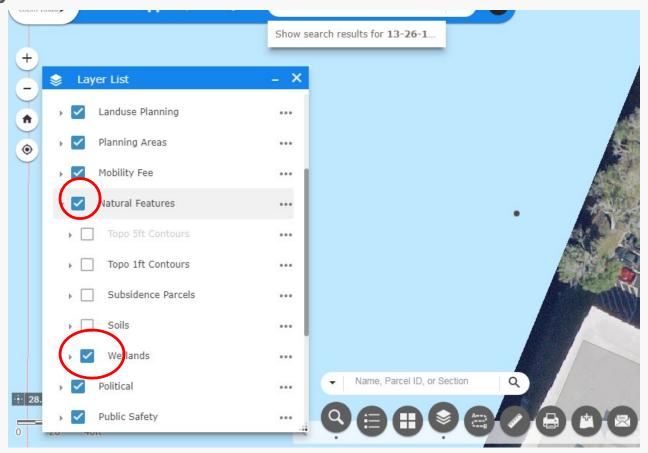
### >Select layers





### Conceptual Wetlands—Pasco Mapper (Layers List Cont.)

Check "Natural Features" layer; check "Wetlands" sublayer





### Conceptual Wetlands—Pasco Mapper (Wetland example)

- This is only to be used as a conceptual indicator of wetlands and their categories
- A true wetland line must be determined in the field (or on the ground) by qualified professional





#### **Jurisdictional Wetland Lines**

The landward extent (i.e., the boundary) of wetlands as defined in subsection 62-340.200(19), F.A.C., shall be determined by applying reasonable scientific judgement to evaluate the dominance of plant species, soils, and other hydrologic evidence of regular and periodic inundation and saturation as set forth below. In applying reasonable scientific judgement, all reliable information shall be evaluated in determining whether the area is a wetland as defined in subsection 62-340.200(19), F.A.C.



### Jurisdictional Wetland Lines (Cont.)

- ➤ Visible water does not necessarily indicate a wetland
- Jurisdictional wetland line must be set by a qualified environmental professional to satisfy Chapter 62-340 F.A.C.
- Wetland delineations must be performed in the field by qualified scientists to examine hydric soils, vegetation, and hydrological indicators



### Wetland Delineation Methods

# ➤ Hydric Soils







### Wetland Delineation Methods – Example 1

# ▶ Vegetation







### Wetland Delineation Methods – Example 2

### >Hydrological Indicators





### **Obtaining Wetland Delineations**

- Pasco County personnel do not have the delegation by the state to set wetland lines
- Wetland delineations for a master planned development or a commercial property will need to be obtained by contacting the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
- Wetland delineations for single family lots will need to be obtained by contacting the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
- ➤ To hire a qualified scientist to delineate a wetland, please search online using the keywords "delineate" "wetlands" "Pasco County."

#### **Property Appraiser**

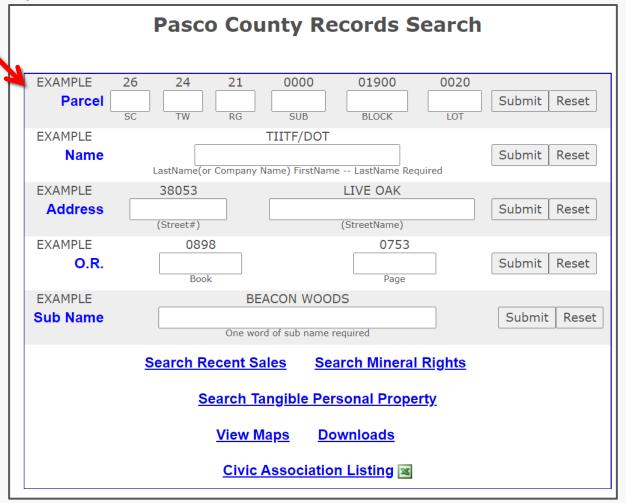
- ➤ By using the Property Appraiser website, you can also observe wetlands through historic aerials
- https://www.pascopa.com/
- Click "records search"





### Property Appraiser (Records Search)

➤ Type in parcel #





## Property Appraiser (Map)

# ≻Click "Map" —

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### Property Appraiser (Basemap Gallery)

➤ Click "Basemap Gallery" icon





### Property Appraiser (Historic aerials)

➤ Historic aerials will now display by year





### Property Appraiser (Cont.)

#### Ex. Historic aerial from 1941





#### Additional Resources

- Section 805: Wetlands of Pasco County's Land Development Code <a href="https://www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/3855/LDC-Section-805-Wetlands?bidld">https://www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/3855/LDC-Section-805-Wetlands?bidld</a>
- Chapter 3: Conservation Element of Pasco County's Comprehensive Plan <a href="https://www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/113">https://www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/View/113</a> <a href="https://www.pascocountyfl.net/Document-7">https://www.pascocountyfl.net/Document-7</a> <a href="https://www.pascocountyfl.net/Document-7">https://www.pasc
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) <a href="https://floridadep.gov/">https://floridadep.gov/</a>
- Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) <a href="https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/">https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/</a>

