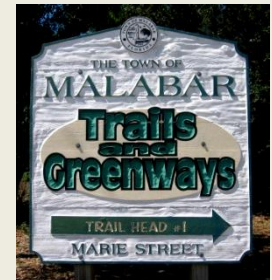


**Town Council Meeting**  
**Trails and Greenways Committee Status – Proposed “Twin  
Lakes” Trail Alignment**  
**Monday May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

**Malabar T&G Committee Presenters:**  
**Drew Thompson, Chair, T&G**  
**Murray Hann, Chair, BPTAC**



# Brevard Greenways and Trails: Showcase Projects

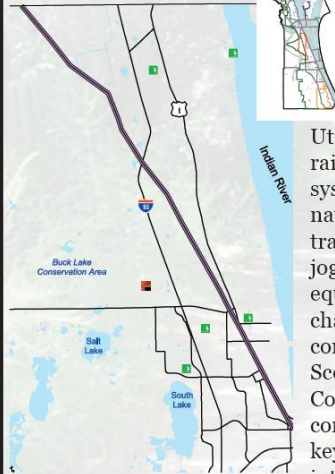
- **Showcase Projects represent the best of Brevard County**
- **The Brevard County Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (SCTPO), has defined 5 Showcase projects, one of which is the South Brevard “Al Tuttle” trail**
- **Goal of this presentation is to introduce a proposed trail alignment connecting Malabar southward to Grant-Valkaria**

## Benefits of Greenways and Trails

- Provide outdoor recreation and opportunities to exercise close to home.
- Help conserve native ecosystems and landscapes by maintaining space that sustains the biodiversity of native plants and animal communities.
- Offer opportunities to support economic growth without sacrificing environmental quality.
- Provide “outdoor classrooms” where students can learn about native plant and animal species, ecosystems, and ecological processes.
- Provide (non-motorized) alternative transportation routes for commuting to work, school, local businesses, recreation sites and community destinations.
- Can help reduce air pollution and roadway congestion.

# Four Of the Showcase Trails...

## East Central Florida Regional Rail Trail



**STATUS:** Office of Greenways and Trails is currently conducting parcel appraisals of the corridor for acquisition.

Utilizing a historic abandoned rail line, traversing natural ecosystems, the trail will include natural and paved multi-use trails with amenities for hikers, joggers, bicyclists, roller bladers, equestrians, and the physically challenged. The trail will link the communities of Titusville, Mims, Scottsmoor and southern Volusia County to existing parks and conservation areas. The trail is a key component in a multi-county, inter-regional trail system and the East Coast Greenway.

## Brevard Zoo Trail



**STATUS:** Trail design is currently being conducted from the Brevard Zoo south to Turtlemound Road.

A natural and paved multi-use trail with amenities for hikers, joggers, bicyclists, roller bladers, equestrians, paddlers and the physically challenged. The trail will link the communities of Rockledge, Viera, Suntree, and north Melbourne to existing parks, conservation areas, community destinations and the St. Johns River.

## St Johns River Eco-Heritage Trail

**STATUS:** Coordination with DEP, St. Johns River Water Management District and the St. Johns River Alliance to begin prioritization process.



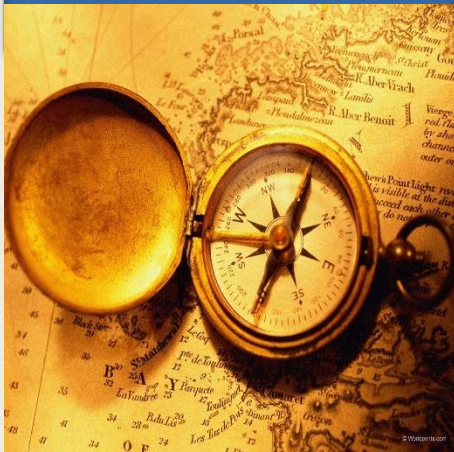
Stabilized trails and blueways along the St. Johns River with amenities for hikers, joggers, bicyclists, equestrians, naturalists, paddlers and the physically challenged. Trail users will be offered to experience the cultural, historical, recreational and natural beauty of the St. Johns, an American Heritage River.

## North Merritt Island Trail



**STATUS:** Trail planning is being conducted in existing parks and conservation areas.

A natural and paved multi-use trail with amenities for hikers, joggers, bicyclists, roller bladers, equestrians, and the physically challenged. The trail will link the North Merritt Island community to existing parks, conservation areas, and community destinations.







# The Fifth of the Showcase Trails

## South Brevard Al Tuttle Trail

*STATUS: Trail design is currently being conducted from Valkaria Road south to Grant Road.*

A natural and paved multi-use trail with amenities for hikers, joggers, bicyclists, roller bladers, equestrians, and the physically challenged. The trail will link the communities of Malabar, Palm Bay, Valkaria, Grant and Micco to existing parks, conservation areas, and community destinations.



**Area of interest**

**Working  
together for  
mutual benefit**



- **Planning session held Jan 12, 2017 in a joint workshop between the Malabar Trails and Greenways Committee, and the Grant-Valkaria Greenways and Trails Board**
- **Summary: After extensive review and discussion of alternatives, the Twin Lakes Alignment is believed to be the best trail connections between the two towns**



# Trail Connectivity – Malabar’s Trail System South of Malabar Road

**Al Tuttle Trail  
(FDOT OGT, Complete)**

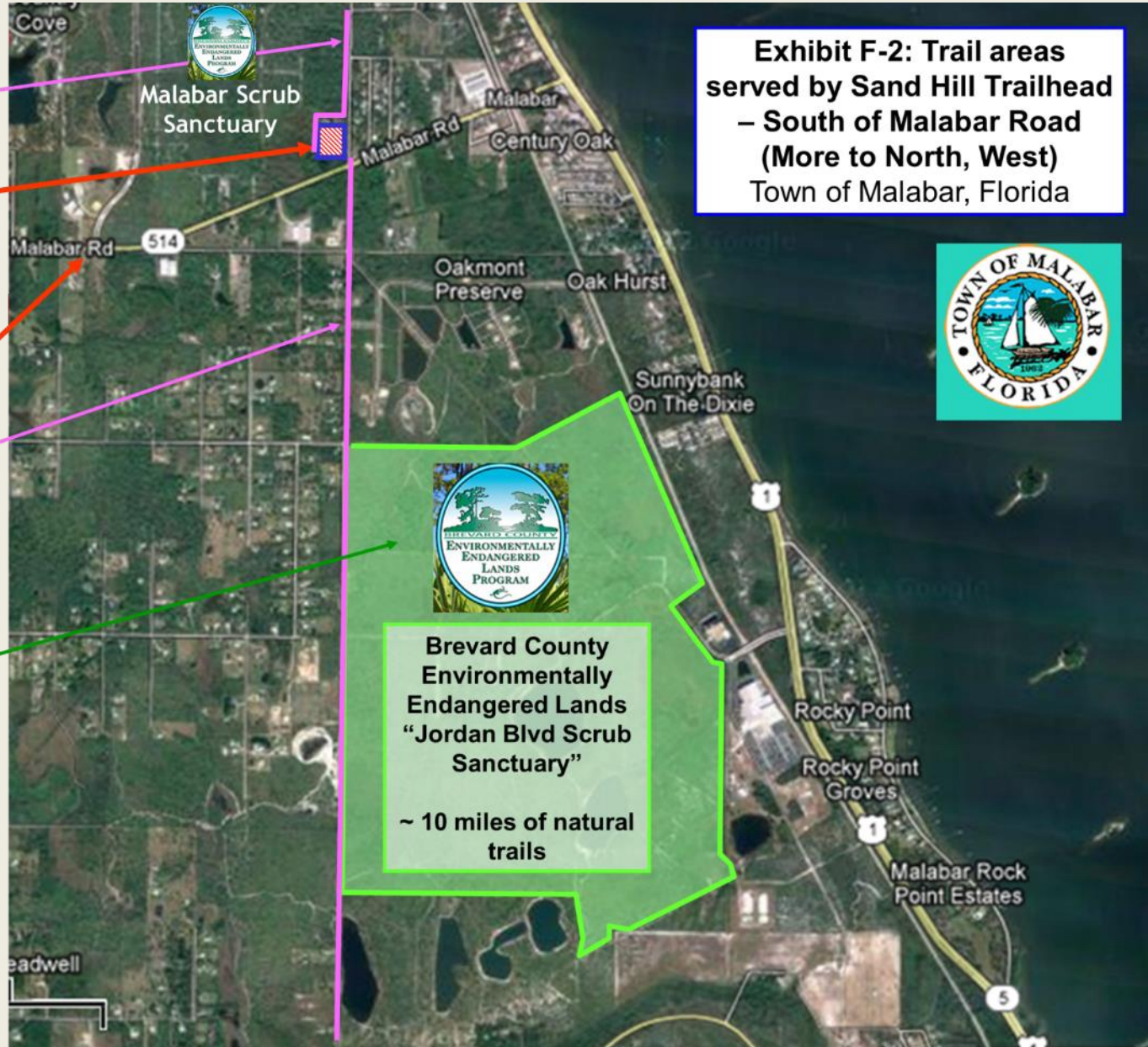
**Malabar Sand Hill Trailhead  
1400 Marie Street  
Malabar, FL**



**Malabar Road SR 514**

**Brevard County Greenway  
& ROW (natural surface)**

**Jordan Scrub Sanctuary  
has many local, natural  
loop trails - one shown  
below**



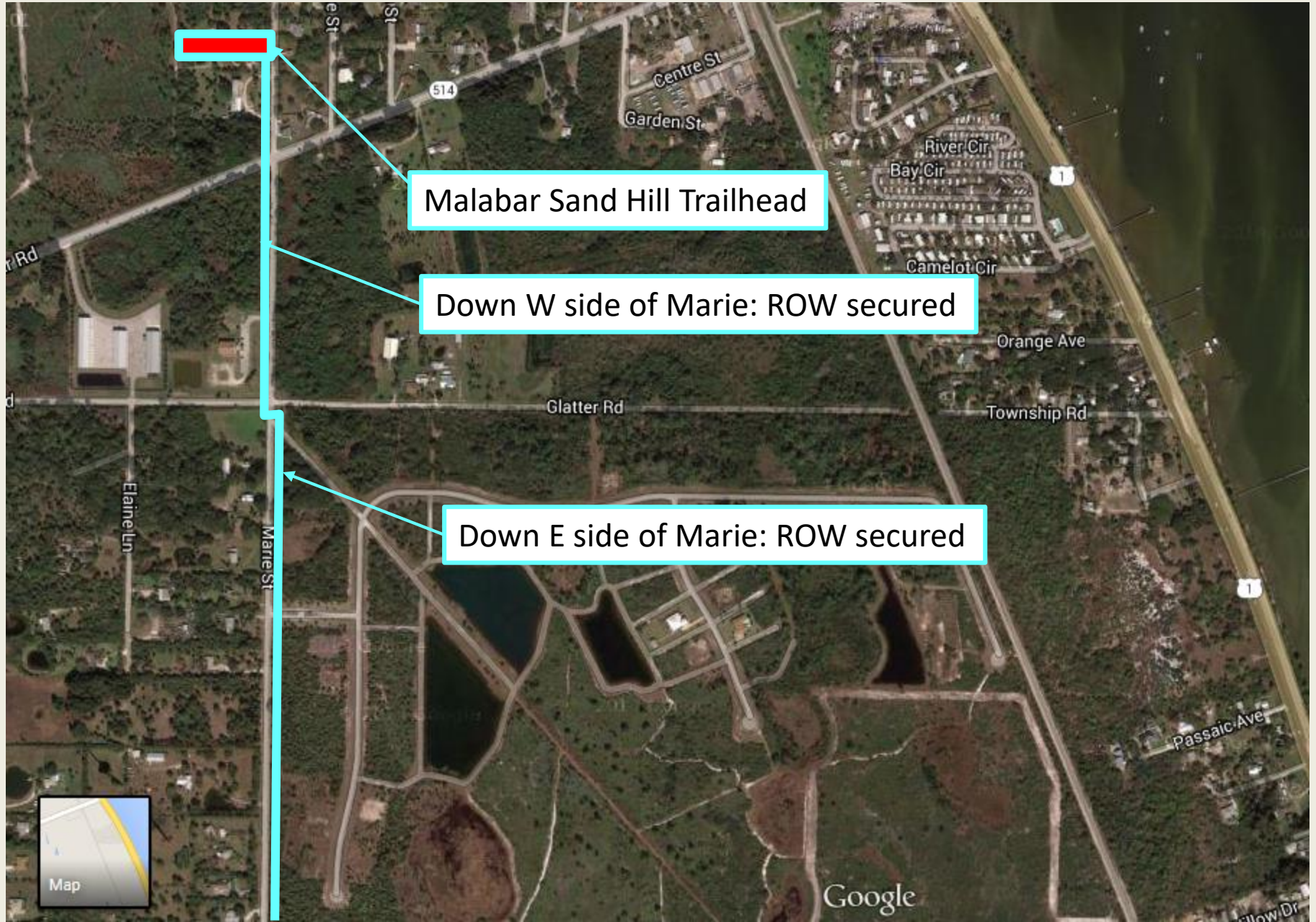
**Exhibit F-2: Trail areas served by Sand Hill Trailhead – South of Malabar Road (More to North, West) Town of Malabar, Florida**



# Malabar to Grant-Valkaria “Town Connector” Trail – Twin Lakes Alternative

- Currently the South Brevard Linear Trail Alignment (Defined by the SCTPO) runs down the Marie Street ROW, and encounters ~1000-1200 feet of wetlands in the Jordan Scrub area
- The current alignment would necessitate a very long boardwalk section, which is not compatible with equestrian use
- An alternative route, through the EEL Pgm Jordan Scrub preserve would offer a much more appealing route, for several reasons:
  1. Utilize mostly existing double-trac trails
  2. Much less boardwalk required
  3. Much better experience for the user.
- The EEL Pgm Jordan Scrub Management Plan envisioned that the South Brevard Linear Trail may need to run through Jordan Scrub, and this is included in the current management plan
- The Greenways and Trails Committee/Board of both Malabar and G-V believe the alternative shown here is a much better route: It would have far less environmental impact, less boardwalk, and would provide a better user experience.





Malabar Sand Hill Trailhead

Down W side of Marie: ROW secured

Down E side of Marie: ROW secured



Google





Street View Search nearby

Passaic Ave

Willow Dr  
Juniper Dr



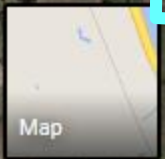
Down W Firebreak of Coastal Jewel: On easement included in Management plan

On ROW of Jordan Blvd (Malabar). Option shown to connect Harris plant to trail system

Harris Malabar

Marte St

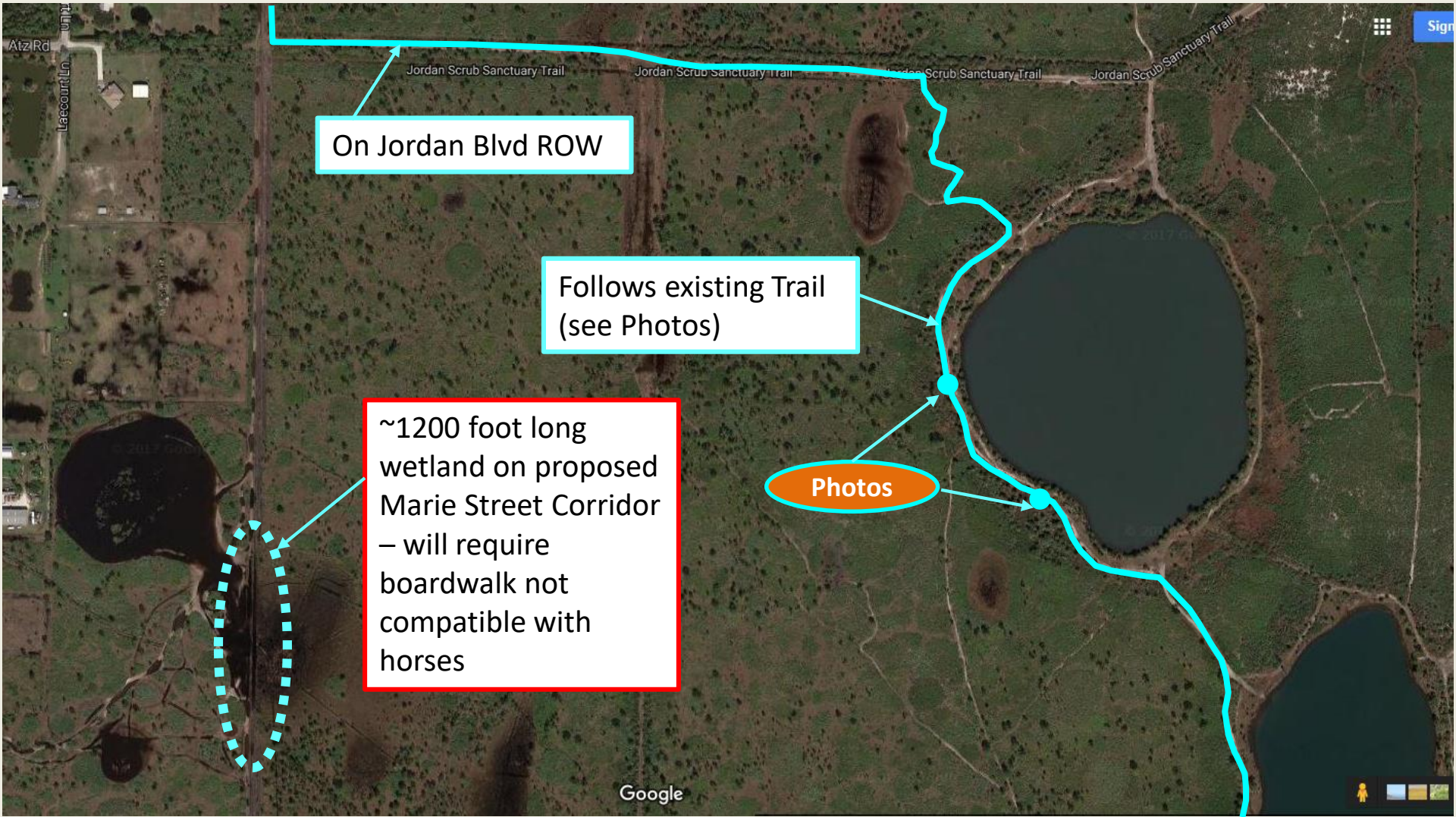
Lacourt Ln



Map

Google





On Jordan Blvd ROW

Follows existing Trail  
(see Photos)

~1200 foot long  
wetland on proposed  
Marie Street Corridor  
– will require  
boardwalk not  
compatible with  
horses

Photos











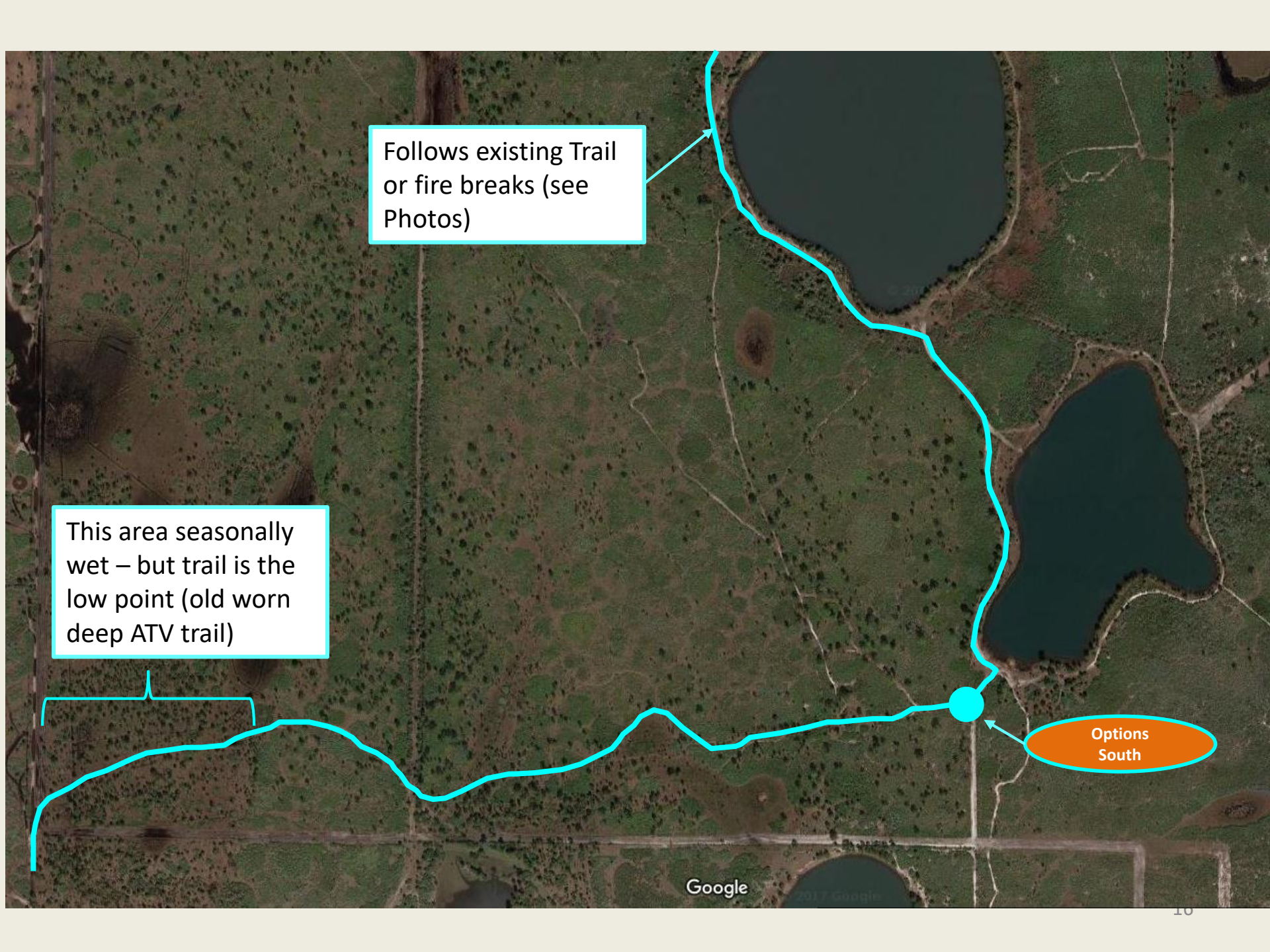










A satellite map showing a landscape with green fields, brown patches, and several ponds. A cyan line traces a path across the terrain. Two callout boxes with cyan borders and arrows point to specific features on the path. One box is at the top, pointing to a section of the path near a pond. The other is on the left, pointing to a section of the path that crosses a horizontal road. A cyan circle marks a junction point on the path, with an orange oval callout box pointing to it. The word 'Google' is visible at the bottom center of the map.

Follows existing Trail  
or fire breaks (see  
Photos)

This area seasonally  
wet – but trail is the  
low point (old worn  
deep ATV trail)

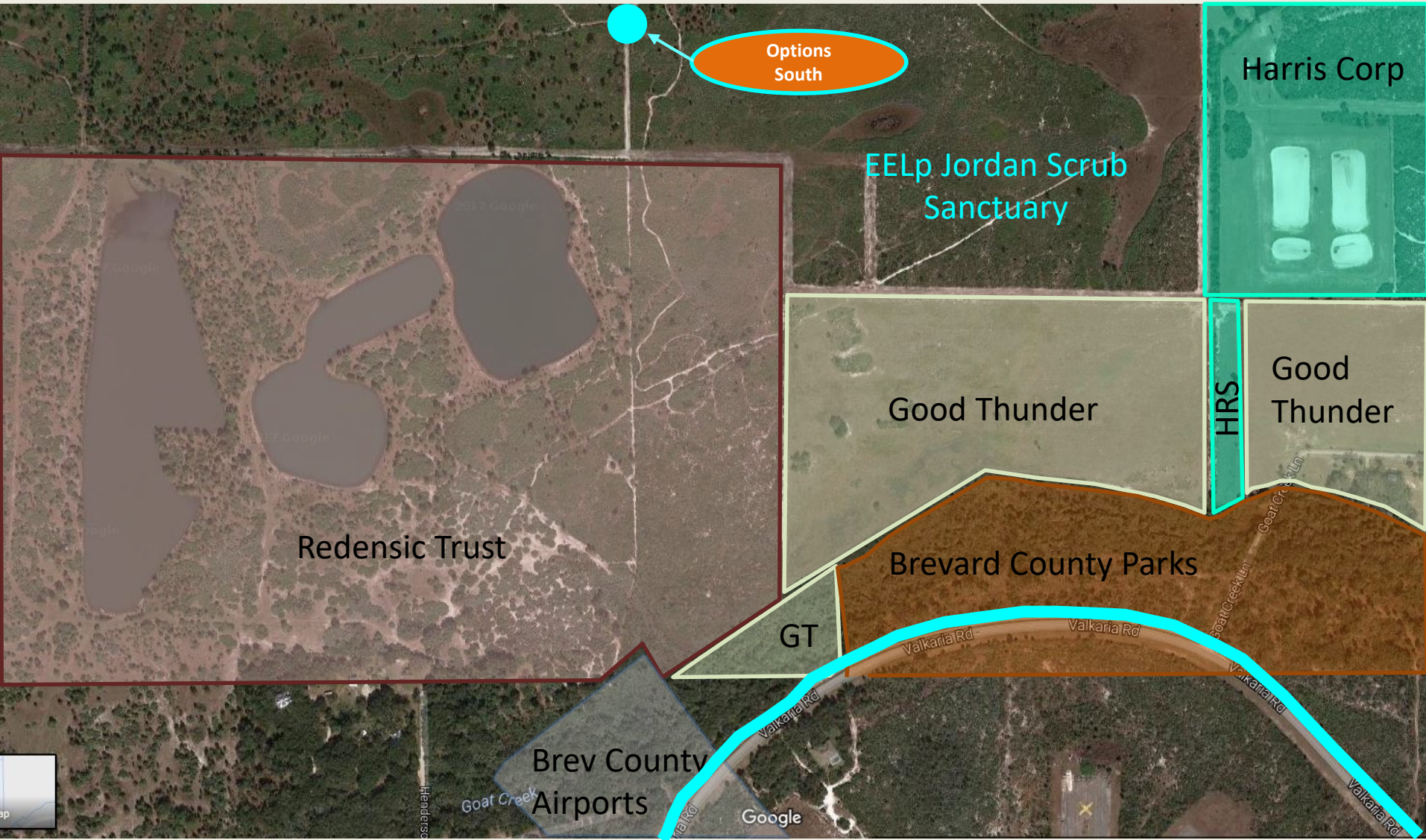
Options  
South

# Twin Lakes Trail Alignment Summary

- This shows an all public property trail, which will result in a better user experience, and especially serve equestrian riders better – with less environmental impact
  - Please consider the draft resolution for a future meeting – we believe Malabar should establish the Twin lakes Alignment as the preferred alignment moving forward
  - The G-V Greenways and Trails Board has expressed that they wish to take a similar resolution to their Town Council, in Support of Malabar’s Twin Lakes Alignment
  - Moving forward, we would likely be requested to present this Alignment to the EEL Pgm Recreation and Education Advisory Committee (REAC), and then further to the EEL Pgm Selection and Management Committee (SMC)
  - Also, consider appointing someone to brief our County Commissioner (John Tobia), so that he is aware of this matter, as it will come before the BOCC.
- 
- Options exist for better connectivity to the South from the S end of Jordan Blvd, but require ROW acquisition via some method – see options that follow



# Options South: Goal is to Reach Existing G-V Bike path on Valkaria Rd



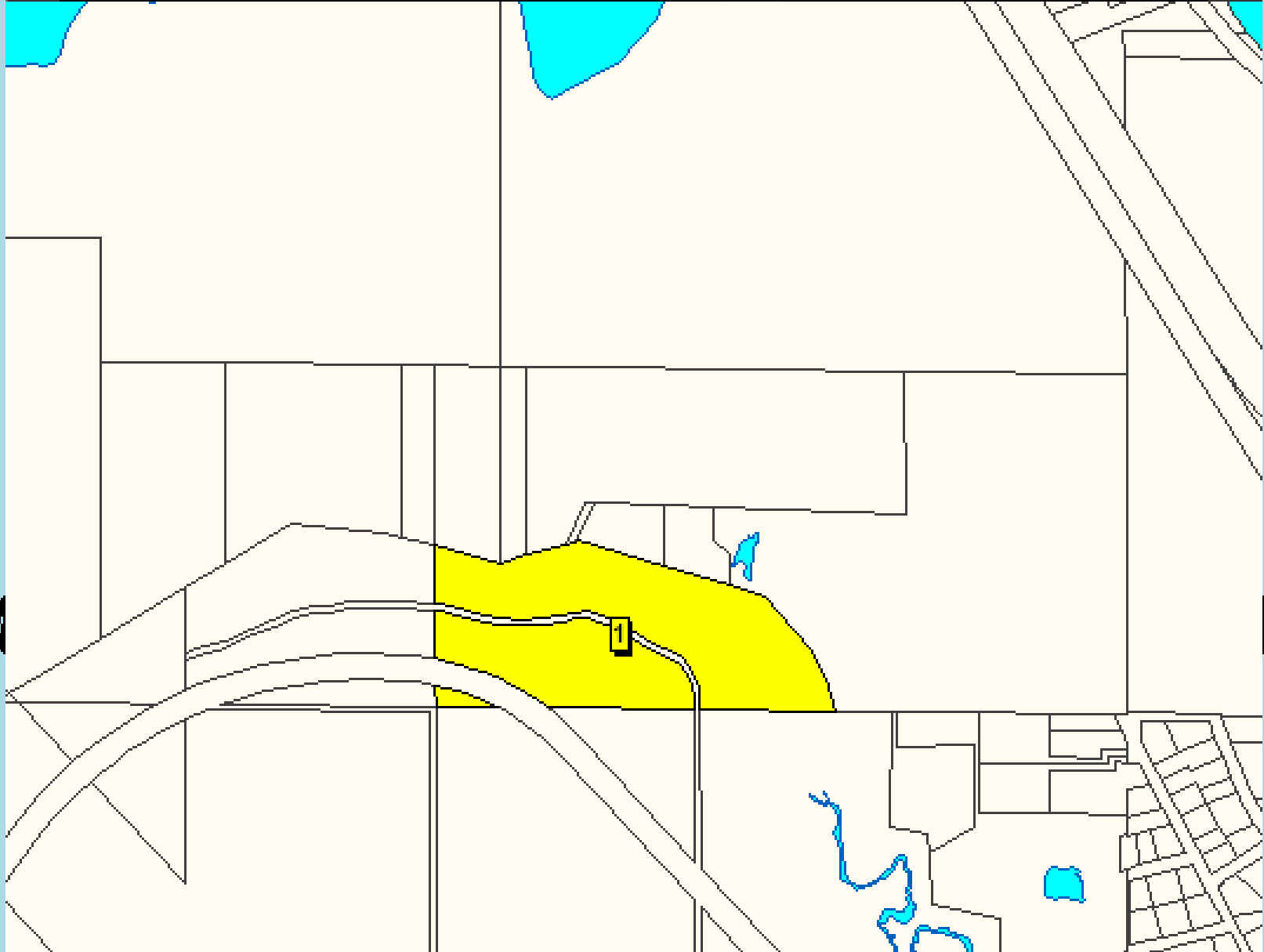
Click Action: Parcel Info

Distance 0

Decrease

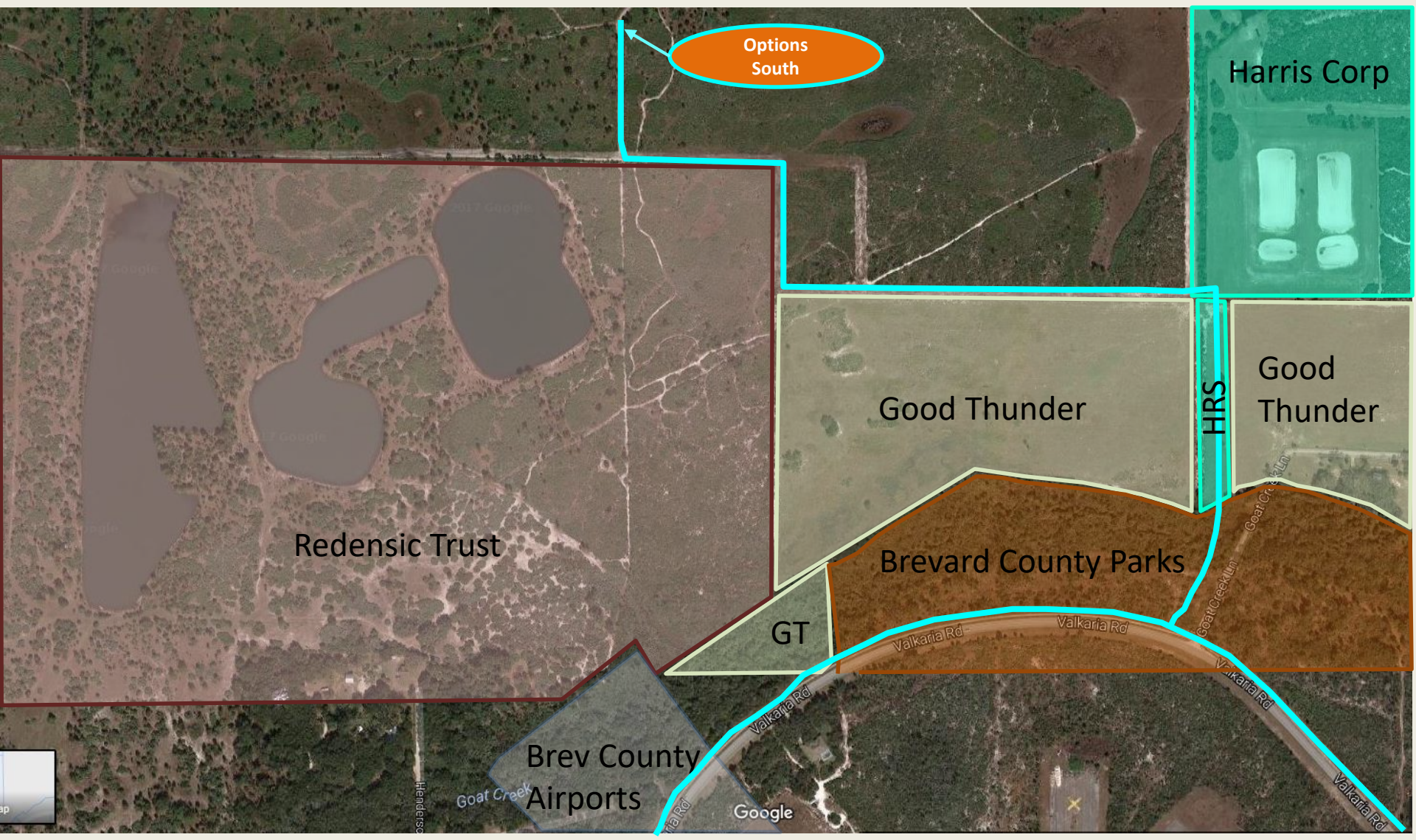
Zoom Bar | Aerial View Range

Increase



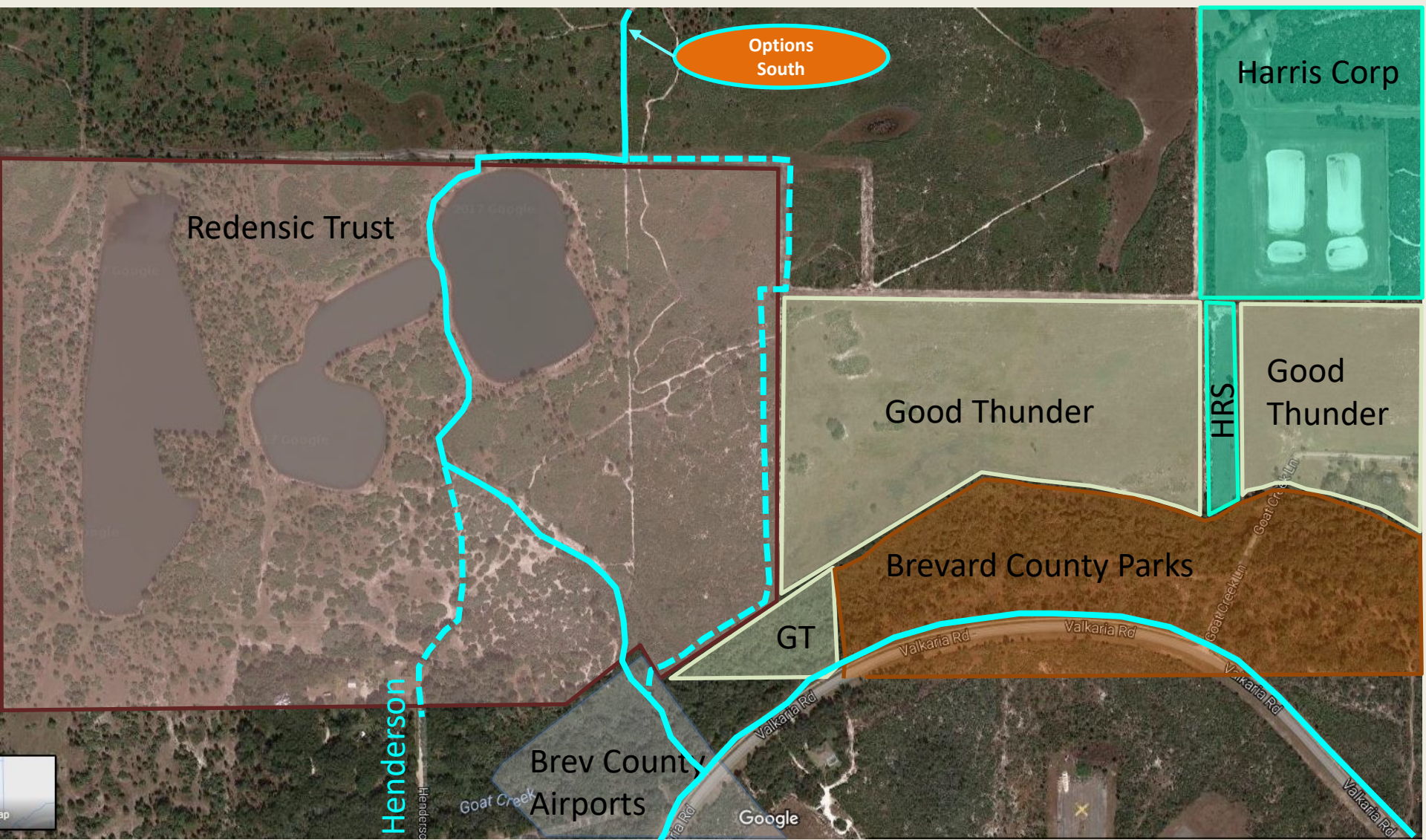


# Harris Option: Harris Owns Property that Jumps to Brevard Parks Property on Goat Creek



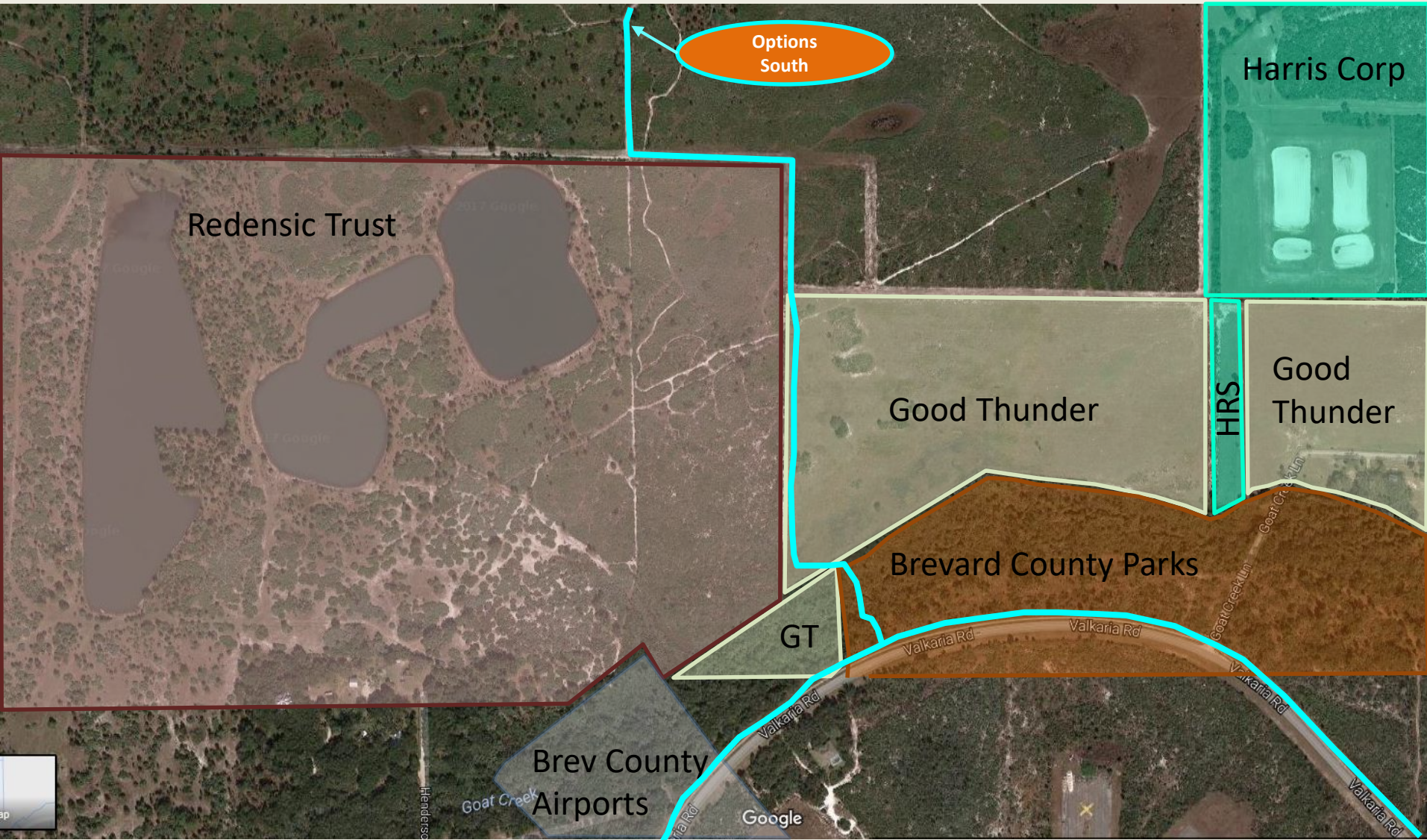


Redensic Option: Any Route to Henderson Blvd, Graddic, or the Bike Path  
(Possibly adding this feature to a development option for this property ?)





# Good Thunder Option: Any Route to the Bike Path





# Path Forward

- The Malabar Trails and Greenways Committee would like to continue looking for the best option South to Grant-Valkaria
- Suggest that members of the Trails and Greenways Committee make informal inquiries to determine if there is any interest, or if more appropriate, ask if Doug Hoyt could make those inquiries more formally.

# Backup: Trail Going Into Jordan Scrub is Allowed Per Management Plan Now, As a Natural Road-base Trail

## 2) Hiking

Hiking trails will be designed to follow existing firebreaks, roads and older firelines and will be located to give visitors the opportunity to experience the diverse habitats within the Sanctuary. Trails will be split between short trails and longer, more difficult trails. These hiking trails will bring visitors through the diverse habitats of the JSS, from mesic pine flatwoods to scrubby flatwoods. Informative signs will be placed along the trails, and information on any research or restoration projects that are ongoing will be included in the signage.

In the future the trails at JSS may become a part of the Brevard County Spine Trail that is proposed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization along the Marie Street right of way. All trail surfaces within the sanctuary boundary are proposed as natural non-hardened foot paths.

## 3) Horseback riding and bicycling

These are acceptable passive recreational activities within the JSS and will be allowed on the trail system. However, biking and horseback riding will be allowed strictly within the designated trail to avoid damage to the natural communities. The EEL Program retains the ability to close off trails to these and other activities if negative impacts are observed.