

Managed Growth Tier System History

Glades Tier

The **Glades Tier** is the largest of the five tiers, covering the western two-thirds of the County. It contains several towns located along Lake Okeechobee, vast amounts of land devoted to sugar cane, rice and vegetables, the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, and the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area. This Tier's objective is to preserve and enhance the region's unique characteristics, protect the economically viable agricultural base, and revitalize its rural towns.

To prevent encroachment of incompatible uses, the County established the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative Overlay. The majority of this Tier allows only large scale agriculture and limits public services to those which support agricultural operations. To facilitate development within the towns, an urban service area was established to promote economic diversification, cultural preservation, and revitalization.