Florida Forever

# Five Year Plan 2004



Florida Department of Environmental Protection - Division of State Lands

# **FLORIDA FOREVER**

# FIVE YEAR PLAN

# 2004

# PREPARED FOR Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund Governor Jeb Bush

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Prepared By Division of State Lands Department of Environmental Protection In Cooperation With

# Acquisition and Restoration Council

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> > February 26, 2004

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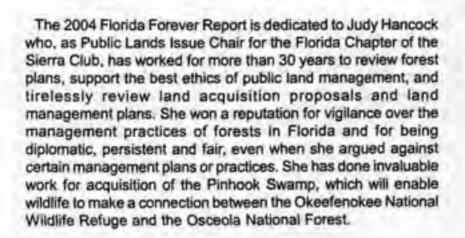
The Department of Environmental Protection's Division of State Lands maintains an Internet Web site for the Florida Forever Program. This site contains a complete version of this printed report in Adobe pdf format.

The site location is:

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/

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Our thanks to Bob Savannah of the US Fish and Wildlife Service for creating, and making available to us, his artwork of many of the birds and animals found on or around our Florida Forever projects.



# Abstract of the 2004 Florida Forever Annual Five-Year Report

The 2004 Florida Forever Five-Year Report was prepared pursuant to chapter 259, F.S., and rule 18-24, F.A.C. During the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) meetings of August 15, October 17 and December 5, 2003, ARC added nine new projects and amended the boundaries of 13 projects on the Florida Forever Priority List.

The Five-Year Plan includes the December 2003 Florida Forever Priority List of acquisition projects approved by ARC on December 5, 2003 and proposed for adoption by the Board of Trustees. The Report also includes the descriptions of the projects that were added to the Priority List: Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway (Baker, Bradford, Clay and Union Counties), Flagler County Blueway (Flagler County), Lake Santa Fe (Alachua and Bradford Counties), San Pedro Bay (Madison and Taylor Counties), Searcy Estate (Wakulla County), Upper Shoal River (Walton County), Lake Talquin-Rocky Comfort Creek Addition (Gadsden County), Mill Creek (Marion County) and The Harris School (Monroe County).

Project boundaries that were amended include Northeast Florida Blueway (Flagler and SL Johns Counties); Florida's First Magnitude Springs, Jackson Blue Spring Lafayette Blue Spring and the Silver Springs Recharge Site (Jackson, Lafayette and Marion Counties), Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve (Nassau County), Letchworth Mounds (Leon and Jefferson Counties), Bombing Range Ridge (Osceola County), Indian River Lagoon Blueway (Brevard County), Ichetucknee Trace (Columbia County), Apalachicola River (Liberty County), Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem (Highlands County), Okeechobee Battlefield (Okeechobee County), Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem (Brevard County), Nokuse Plantation (Walton County) and Florida Keys Ecosystem (Monroe County).

Four projects have been moved from the Group A list to the Group B list: Catfish Creek (Polk County), Lake Hatchincha Watershed (Osceola and Polk Counties), Three Chimneys (Volusia County) and Watermelon Pord (Alachua and Levy Counties).

Five projects have been moved from the Group B list to the Group A list: East Everglades (Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties), Florida Springs Coastal Greenway (Citrus County), Garcon Ecosystem (Santa Rosa County), Pumpkin Hill Creek (Duval County) and Southeast Maternity Bat Caves (Jackson, Marion, Sumter, Citrus and Alachua Counties).

Five projects have been removed from the Florida Forever list: Alderman's Ford Addition (Hillsborough County) and North Fork of the St. Lucie River (St. Lucie County) should be Florida Communities Trust projects; Emeralda Marsh (Lake and Marion Counties) is being acquired by a water-management district; and Fakahatchee Strand (Collier County) and the Tate's Hell/ Carrabelle Tract (Franklin County) are more than 90 percent complete.

All property within the boundaries of the Florida Forever projects, unless specifically noted otherwise, are proposed to be purchased, in fee-simple or a lesser interest, for conservation purposes.



# INTRODUCTION

# **Background & Status**

Florida Forever is the state's newest blueprint for conservation of our unique natural resources. It replaces the highly successful Preservation 2000 Program, the largest program of its kind in the United States and the world. Preservation 2000 was responsible for the public acquisition and protection of over 1.27 million acres of land. The Florida Forever Act, implemented in 2000, renewed Florida's commitment to conserve its natural and cultural heritage, provide urban open space, and better manage the land acquired by the state.

This new program is more than just an environmental land

acquisition mechanism. It encompasses a wider range of goals, including: restoration ofdamaged environmental systems; water resource development and supply; increased public access; public lands management and maintenance; and increased protection of land by acquisition of conservation. casements.

The additional \$3 billion investment over the next decade Acquisition and Restoration Council [§259.035(1), F.S.]

Secretary, Dept. Environmental Protection
 Director, Div. of Forestry, Dept. Agriculture & CS

- Executive Director, Fish and Wildlife Commission
- · Director, Div. Historical Resources, Dept. of State
- Secretary, Dept. Community Affairs

Governor's Appointees: Mr. Luther J. (Jack) Moller Mrs. Paula D. Sessions Dr. Hilary M. Swain Ms. Sandra B. Walters

other things, re-authorized bonds for land acquisition. The 1999 legislature responded with the new £3 hillion Florida Forever Program to acquire and manage land for conservation.

The legislature also authorized a new Florida Forever Advisory Council, appointed by the Governor to monitor the overall program. The nine-member council, which meets at least twice a year, includes a member from each of the State's five water management districts.

The remaining members represent various interest groups including agriculture, the development community, local

> government, the environmental community, and the scientific and technical community. All have substantial experience in areas of land, water, wildlife management or other related areas.

> The 1999 legislation also created the ninemember Acquisition and Restoration Council, which will make recommendations on the acquisition, management and disposal of state-owned lands. For the first time, this important advisory group includes private

demonstrates Florida's continuing unparalleled commitment to protecting and restoring our vital natural resources.

Our state continues to be the model for other states when developing land acquisition programs of their own. Florida is at the forefront of the nation's most progressive land protection efforts.

## Legislation & Policy

In 1998, Florida voters amended the state constitution with the ratification of a constitutional amendment, which among citizen members -- in addition to five state agency representatives with backgrounds in scientific disciplines related to land, water, or environmental sciences.

The Governor and Cabinet, as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, are responsible for acting on the Council's recommendations. The Board also controls funding allocations for pre-acquisition and acquisition costs, and has ultimate oversite on state lands leases and management plane.

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The Division of State Lands provides primary staff support for the Acquisition and Restoration Council. It coordinates Council meetings, prepares agendas and reports, prepares or obtains appraisal maps, title work, appraisals and closing documents for acquisitions and negotiates land purchases on behalf of the Board. The Division also provides staff support for administrating all leases, reviewing and approving management plans, and coordinating management review team functions for lands acquired through the Conservation and Recreation Lands, Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever Program.

# Management Strategy

The Florida Forever Program strategy as a whole combines land acquisition with a number of innovative approaches to conservation and resource management.

Acquisition. Acquisition of important conservation and recreation land to protect large ecosystems, greenways, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation space, wetlands, forests, coastal areas and significant historical sites;

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Grants. Matching grants to local governments for acquisition of lands for parks, trails, and greenspaces within urban areas;

Improvements. Investment of management funds for capital improvements on public lands, such as the initial removal of invasive plants, the construction of fire lanes, access roads and trails, and the construction, improvement, enlargement or extension of facilities' signs;

Restoration. Restoration of land and water areas,

Water Protection. Water resource development to safeguard Florida's groundwater and surface waters so that sufficient water is available for Florida's natural systems and its citizens;

Easements. Conservation easements to protect land from development while keeping it on the taxrolls, allowing the owner to continue managing it and realize an economic return.

#### Partnerships

The state's land acquisition programs have a long history of cooperative partnerships with local and national land trusts, counties, cities and other local governments, as well as the federal government. The successful acquisition of many Preservation 2000 projects was a direct result of these partnerships. Almost 90% of Conservation and Recreation Land Program projects have funding partners. More than 45% of Save Our Rivers projects are jointly funded and almost 90% of the Florida Communities Trust urban projects include funding partners. Some partners provide logistical or management support, as well as acquisition dollars. Private non-profits may act as intermediaries to facilitate the state's land acquisition programs.

Partnerships with local governments have increased in recent years. Voters throughout Florida have approved local referenda to raise nearly \$1.5 billion to acquire environmentally sensitive and recreation lands. Of Florida's 67 counties, 26 have land acquisition programs. These local government initiatives have dimmatically enhanced the state's ability to protect its remaining important natural areas.

#### Results

With the passage of the Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever Acts, the State of Florida has one of the most aggressive conservation and recreation land acquisition programs in the United States and the world. In the past thirty years, Florida has spent over \$3.7 billion to conserve approximately 3.8 million acres of land for environmental, recreational and related purposes. This has been accomplished through several programs, including Environmentally Endangered Lands, Outdoor Recreation, Save Our Coasts, Save Our Rivers, Conservation and Recreation Lands and Preservation 2000 programs.

#### Financing & Economics

Florida Forever's \$3 billion funding is distributed among several state agency programs. Its distribution formula is different from that of Preservation 2000. The Department of Environmental Protection receives 35% (vs. 50%), the water management districts 35% (vs. 30%), Florida Coromanities Trust (FCT) 22% (vs. 10%), each of the three Inholdings and Additions programs 1.5% (vs. 2.9%) and the Greenways and Trails Program 1.5% (vs. 1.3%), and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program 2% (vs. 0%).

#### To the Future

The Florida Forever Program continues what its predecessors began and will go even further to provide future generations of Floridians with a continuing high quality of life. For FY 03/04 Governor Bush recommends \$300 million to acquire, manage, and improve public acess to land. Residents and visitors will always be able to savor a glorious sunset from sugar-sand beaches, camp in cool, protected forests, and make their way across miles of connected trails.

Thanks to Florida Forever, millions of Americans can enjoy these experiences and know that we are continuing to protect and create safe havens for Florida's many endangered and threatened plants and animals.

# EXPLANATION of PROJECT SUMMARIES INFORMATION

The following project analyses summarize the information that is detailed more fully in the assessments and project designs for those projects that were recommended by the Acquisition and Restoration Council for the 2004 Florida Forever Priority List. Projects are grouped into two groups and three subgroups. Group A are those acquisition projects which received the highest priority for acquisition. Projects designated for Group A are so designated based on those which make the greatest contributions toward achieving the Florida Forever goals and measures, and the Florida Forever criteria. The number of projects designated for Group A is limited, as determined by the Council, based on the total estimated funds available for acquisition during the acquisition cycle for which the projects are scheduled, and the anticipated success rate of acquiring targeted projects. Group B are those acquisition projects that are important, but not of the highest priority.

Within Group A and Group B are three subgroups: Fee Simple/Large Holdings Subgroup: Projects made up predominately of large ownerships to be acquired in tee simple; Multi-Parcel or Small Holdings Subgroup: Projects made up predominantly of small ownerships with individual values not exceeding one million dollars each, or individual acquisitions that are determined to achieve the Florida Forever goals, measures and criteria enough to qualify for acquisition, but are valued at less than one million dollars; and Less-Than-Fee Acquisition Subgroup: Acquisition projects where the majority of the project is proposed to be acquired in less-than-fee, such as conservation easements. All acquisition projects were approved by the Board of Trustees and are eligible for funding, with available resources targeted initially toward projects in Group A. However, the Board of Trustees may approve the purchase of any project from any group or subgroup in furtherance of the intent expressed in 259.105(2)(e), Florida Statutes.

Each project summary contains: project name, listing group, subgroups, acreage, cost and general project information. The following represents a brief explanation of each of the sections contained in each project analysis: Purpose for State Acquisition - Summarizes the primary reason(s) the state is attempting to acquire the property.

Manager - The agency that is proposed to assume primary management responsibilities. If more than one agency is listed, then lead management responsibilities will be divided between agencies for portions of the project. Or, one agency may lead, the other cooperate in overall management.

General Description - Brief synopsis of the significant natural and cultural resources located on the tract, including; natural communities, endangered species, game and nongame species, hydrological systems, archaeological and historic sites, etc. Also describes the vulnerability and endangerment; that is, the susceptibility of the project to natural and anthropogenic disturbances and the imminence or threat of such degradation.

Public Use - The State designated use pursuant to §259.032(4), F.S., under which the project qualifies for state acquisition. Florida Forever projects may be managed as: State Parks, State Preserves, State Reserves, State Aquatic Preserves, State Botanical or Geological Sites, State Recreation Areas, State Archaeological or Historical Sites, Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife and Environmental Areas, Wildlife Refuges, and State Forests. Under certain circumstances, they may also be managed as County or City Nature Parks, Environmental Education Centers, etc., but they still must qualify for state designation and be managed accordingly. This section also includes a list of the potential recreational activities and public uses (e.g., timber management) that the project could readily accommodate.

FNAI Elements - A list of the most endangered or threatened "elements"—natural communities and species of animals and plants—in the project, from records in the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) data base. Natural communities are in CAPITAL LETTERS; animals are in standard typeface; and plants are in italics. The smaller the numbers in an FNAI rank, the more endangered the element is: for example, the most critically endangered elements have a rank of G1/S1. "G" equates to an element's Global ranking, while "S" equates to its State ranking.

Acquisition Planning and Status - Lists the number of acres and/or ownerships acquired by other public and nonprofit organizations, and the number of remaining owners. Describes acquisition activity during the past year, the general status of current negotiations, and other technical aspects of acquisition, if applicable. If the Legislature or the Board authorized acquisition of the project by eminent domain, or the Council recommended condemnation, relevant information will be provided under this section.

Coordination - Identifies acquisition parmers who are contributing to or facilitating the acquisition of project lands, and lists resolutions received by official entities.

Flaced on List - The first year that the project, or a portion thereof, was placed on the CARL Priority List or the Florida Forever List.

Project Area - The total size of the current project, based on GIS spatial analysis, including acres acquired or under option and acres remaining to be acquired.

Acres Acquired - Withm the project boundaries, the number of acres acquired by the state, federal government, water management district, or local government. If a nonprofit organization has acquired acreage within the project but has not yet transferred the property (in whole or in part) to the state, that acreage is excluded from the Acreage Acquired. Such cases are identified with an asterisk (\*) and are explained in the text of the project summary under Acquisition Planning & Status or Coordination. At a Cost of - The amount of funds spent by the state, federal government, water management district, or local government on the acquisition of a project. If a nonprofit organization has expended funds within a project, those funds are excluded from the Funds Expended or Encumbered. Such cases are identified with an asterisk (\*) and are explained in the text of the project summary under Acquisition Planning & Status or Coordination.

Acres Remaining - an estimate of the acres in the project not yet acquired.

Estimated Value of - Reflects the county's tax assessed value of the acreage not yet acquired. Not all values are the most recent tax assessed values. Values for larger acreage tracts and those with numerous ownerships, including recorded and unrecorded subdivisions, are sometimes estimates of tax values based on information from: (1) county property appraisers, or (2) average per acre and per lot tax values obtained from project evaluation reports, and/or the Real Estate Data, Inc., service.

Management Policy Statement - Briefly describes how the project meets selection criteria and public purposes pursuant to §259, F.S.

Management Prospectus - Identifies the rationale for the state designation under which the project will be managed; the lead and, if appropriate, the cooperating state or local agencies recommended to manage the tract if acquired; the conditions that may affect the intensity of management activities; a timetable for implementing specific management activities; the project's revenuegenerating potential; and the role(s) of potential management cooperators.

Management Cost Summary - Past, current, and projected management and development costs for projects which are currently being managed; estimated start-up and recurring costs for projects not yet under current management. Some costs may include areas outside the Florida Forever project boundary if the Florida Forever project is to be managed as a component of a larger tract, while others may not report additional management costs under the same circumstances. Cost information is categorized as: salary = salaries of permanent employees, including fringe benefits; OPS = other personnel services (i.e., temporary employee costs); expense = costs of office supplies, fuel, utilities, tools, implements, and other expendable items valued at less than \$500; OCO = operating capital outlay costs (i.e., costs for equipment and machinery valued at greater than \$500); and FCO = fixed capital outlay (i.e., costs for permanent structures, including buildings, paved roads, and other permanent facilities). The

primary or proposed sources of management funds are also indicated as follows: CARL = Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund; GR = General Revenue Fund; IITF = Internal Improvement Trust Fund; LATF = Land Acquisition Trust Fund; MRCTF = Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund; SPTF = State Park Trust Fund; TNC = The Nature Conservancy; WMLTF = Water Management Lands Trust Fund; or federal, local, or other funding sources that should be selfexplanatory.

Project Map(s) - Identifies the project boundary; the essential parcels pursuant to §259.035(2)(a), F.S.; property within the project boundary that is state owned or under option for state acquisition; and property within, adjacent, or near the project area that is owned by another public agency or non-profit conservation organization.



APR	OJECTS:
Project Name:	County
Aliapattah Flats (FF)	Martin
Apalachicola River (FF/LTF)	Liberty / Gadsden / Jackson / Calhoun
Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge (FF)	Brevard / Indian River
Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem (FF)	Martin
Babcock Ranch (LTF)	Charlotte / Lee
Baldwin Bay / St. Marys River (FF)	Nassau / Duval
Battle of Wahoo Swamp (FF)	Sumter
Belle Meade (FF)	Collier
Big Bend Swamp/ Holopaw Ranch (LTF)	Osceola
Bombing Range Ridge (FF/LTF)	Polk / Osceola
Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem (FF/ SH)	Brevard
Caloosahatchee Ecoscape (FF)	Hendry / Glades
Camp Blanding - Osceola Greenway (FF/ LTF)	Baker / Bradford / Clay / Union
Charlotte Harbor Estuary (SH)	Charlotte / Lee / Sarasota
Corkscrew Reg. Ecosystem Watershed (FF)	Collier / Lee
Coupon Bight / Key Deer (SH)	Monroa
Cypress Gardens (LTF)	Polk
Devil's Garden (FF)	Hendry / Collier
Dickerson Bay / Bald Point (FF)	Wakulla / Franklin
East Everglades (FF)	Miami-Dade / Broward / Palm Beach
Escribano Point (FF)	Santa Rosa
Estero Bay (FF)	Lee
Etoniah / Cross Fla. Greenway (LTF / FF)	Putnam / Marion / Clay / Levy / Citrus
Fisheating Creek (LTF)	Glades / Highlands
Florida Keys Ecosystem (FF)	Monroe
Florida Springs Coastal Greenway (FF)	Citrus
Florida's First Magnitude Springs (FF)	Bay / Hernando / Jackson / Lafayette / Leon / Levy / Marior / Suwannee / Washington / Wakulla / Wallon
Garcon Ecosystem (FF)	Santa Rosa
Green Swamp (LTF)	Lake / Polk
Half Circle L Ranch (FF)	Collier / Hendry
Harris School (FF)	Monroe
Heather Island / Oklawaha River (FF)	Marion
Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron Protection Zone (FF / LTF)	Gadsden / Liberty
chetucknee Trace (FF)	Columbia
Indian River Lagoon Blueway (FF)	Volusia / Brevard / St. Lucie/ Indian River / Martin
Kissimmee-St. Johns Connector (FF)	Okeechobee / Indian River
Lake Santa Fe (FF)	Alachua / Bradford
Lake Talquin/ Rocky Comfort Creek (FF)	Gadsden
Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem (FF/ LTF/ SH)	Highlands / Polk / Lake / Oscaola
Letchworth Mounds (FF)	Jefferson / Leon
Lower Perdido Rivar Buffer (LTF)	Escambia
Middle Chipola River (FF)	Jackson / Calhoun
Mill Creek (LTF)	Marion
Millstone Plantation (LTF)	Leon
Nokuse Plantation (LTF)	Walton
North Key Largo Hammocks (SH)	Monroe
Northeast Florida Blueway (FF)	Duvil / St. Johns
NE Florida Timberland & Watershed Reserve (FF / LTF)	Nassau / Duval / Clay / Putnam
Okeechobee Battlefield (FF)	Okaechobae
Osceola Pine Savannas (FF)	Osceola
Otter Mound (FE)	Collier
Pal-Mar (FF)	Palm Beach / Martin

# Acquisition & Restoration Council Recommended 2004 Florida Forever List

	A PROJECTS:
Project Name:	County
Panther Glades (FF/ LTF)	Hendry
Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie (FF)	Escambia
Pineland Site Complex (FF)	Loe
Pinhook Swamp (FF)	Baker / Columbia
Pumpkin Hill Creek (FF)	Duval
San Felasco Conservation Corridor (LTF)	Alachua
San Pedro Bay (FF)	Madison / Taylor
Save Our Everglades (SH)	Collier / Hendry
Searcy Estate (FF)	Wakulia
South Walton County Ecosystem (SH)	Walton
Southeast Bat Maternity Caves (FF)	Jackson / Marion / Sumter / Citrus / Alachua
Spruce Creek (SH)	Volusia
St. Joe Timberland (FF)	Gadsden / Gulf / Franklin / Leon / Wakulla / Liberty / Brevard / Bay
St. Johns River Blueway (FF)	St. Johns
St. Joseph Bay Buffer (FF)	Gulf
Terra Cela (FF)	Manatee
Figer Island / Little Tiger Island (FF)	Nassau
Twelvemile Slough (FF)	Hendry
Upper Shoal River (FF/LTF)	Watton
Upper St. Marks River Corridor (FF)	Leon / Jefferson / Wakulta
Joper Yellow River (FF)	Okaloosa
Volusia Conservation Comidor (FF / LTF)	Volusia
Wacissa / Aucilla River Sinks (FF)	Jefferson / Taylor
Wakulia Springs Protection Zone (FF)	Wakulla
Wekiva-Ocala Greenway (FF)	Lake / Orange / Volusia
Yellow River Ravines (FF)	Santa Rosa / Okaloosa
relidw River Ravines (FT)	B PROJECTS:
Annutteliga Hammock (FF)	Hemando / Citrus
Carr Farm / Price's Scrub (FF)	
	Alachua / Marion Polk
Catfish Creek (FF)	
Cedar Swamp (FF)	Duval Lee / Charlotte
Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods (FF)	
Dade County Archipelago (FF)	Miami-Dade
Dunn's Creek (FF)	Putnam Stratigical Company
Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem (FF)	Seminole / Orange
Flagler County Blueway (FF)	Flagler
Hall Ranch (FF)	Charlotte
Hixtown Swamp (FF)	Madison
Lake Hatchineha Watershed (FF)	Osceola / Polk
Lochloosa Wildlife (SH)	Alachua
Longleaf Pine Ecosystem (FF)	Gilchrist / Hamilton / Marion / Volusia
Old Town Creek Watershed (LTF)	Hardee / Polk
Pierce Mound Complex (FF)	Franklin
Ranch Reserve (LTF)	Osceola / Brevard / Indian River
Sand Mountain (FF)	Bay / Washington
Three Chimneys (FF)	Volusia
Twelve Mile Swamp (FF)	St. Johns
Upper Econ Mosaic (FF)	Osceola / Orange
Watermelon Pond (FF / LTF)	Alachua / Levy

Legend: (FF): (LTF): Full-Fee projects, purchased in Fee Simple Less-than-Fee: property stays with the owner, but conservation easements or other means preserve the environmental value of the land, Small Holdings; projects made of small ownerships with individual values not exceeding \$1,000,000.

(SH):

# FLORIDA FOREVER PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Each project in the Florida Forever list must be evaluated on 34 performance measures that are revised and approved by the Florida Legislature. These performance measures are grouped into eight major goals:

GOALA: ENHANCE THE COORDINATION AND COMPLETION OF LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS.

Measure A1: The number of acres acquired through the state's land acquisition programs that contribute to the completion of Florida Preservation 2000 projects or projects begun before Preservation 2000.

Measure A2: The number of acres protected through the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition.

Measure A3: The number of shared acquisition projects among Florida Forever funding partners and partners with other funding sources, including local governments and the federal government.

GOAL B: INCREASE THE PROTECTION OF FLORIDA'S BIODIVERSITY AT THE SPECIES, NATURAL COMMUNITY, AND LANDSCAFE LEVELS.

Measure B1: The number of acres acquired of significant Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (SHCA).

Measure B2: The number of acres acquired of highest priority conservation areas for Florida's rarest species.

Measure B3: The number of acres acquired of significant landscapes, landscape linkages, and conservation corridors, giving priority to completing linkages.

Measure B4: The number of acres acquired of under-represented native ecosystems.

Measure 85: The number of landscape-sized protection areas of at least 50,000 acres that exhibit a mosaic of predominantly intact or restorable natural communities established through new acquisition projects, or augmentations to previous projects.

Measure B6: The percentage increase in the number of occurrences of endangered species, threatened species, or species of special concern on publicly managed conservation areas.

GOAL C: PROTECT, RESTORE, AND MAINTAIN THE QUALITY AND NATURAL FUNCTIONS OF LAND, WATER, AND WETLAND SYSTEMS OF THE STATE.

Measure C1: The number of acres of publicly-owned land identified as needing restoration; acres undergoing restoration; and acres with restoration activities completed.

Measure C2: The percentage of water segments that fully meet, partially meet, or do not meet their designated uses as reported in the Department of Environmental Protection's State Water Quality Assessment 305(b) report.

Measure C3: The percentage completion of targeted capital improvements in surface water improvement and management plans created under s. 373.453 (2), regional or master stormwater management system plans, or other adopted restoration plans.

<u>Measure C4:</u> The number of acres acquired that protect natural floodplain functions. <u>Measure C5:</u> The number of acres acquired that protect surface waters of the State <u>Measure C6:</u> The number of acres identified for acquisition to minimize damage from flooding and the percentage of those acres acquired.

Measure C7: The number of acres acquired that protect fragile coastal resources. Measure C8: The number of acres of functional wetland systems protected. Measure C9: The percentage of miles of critically eroding beaches contiguous with public lands restored or protected from further erosion.

Measure C10: The percentage of public lakes and rivers in which invasive, non-native aquatic plants are under maintenance control.

Measure C11: The number of acres of public conservation lands in which upland invasive, exotic plants are under maintenance control.

GOALD: ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF WATER ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET THE CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS OF NATURAL SYSTEMS AND THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE.

Measure D1: The number of acres acquired which provide retention and storage of surface water in naturally occurring storage areas, such as lakes and wetlands, consistent with the maintenance of water resources or water supplies and consistent with district water supply plans.

<u>Measure D2</u>: The quantity of water made available through the water resource development component of a district water supply plan for which the water management district is responsible.

Measure D3: The number of acres acquired of ground water recharge areas critical to springs, sinks, aquifers, other natural systems, or water supply.

GOAL E: INCREASE NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED PUBLIC RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

Measure E1: The number of acres acquired that are available for natural resource-based public recreation or education.

<u>Measure E2:</u> The miles of trails that are available for public recreation, giving priority to those that provide significant connections including those that will assist in completing the Florida National Scenic Trail.

Measure E3: The number of new resource-based recreation facilities, by type, made available on public land.

**OBJECTIVE F:** PRESERVE SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR HISTORIC SITES.

Measure F1: The increase in the number of and percentage of historic and archaeological properties, listed in the Florida Master Site File or National Register of Historic Places that are protected or preserved for public use.

Measure F2: The increase in the number and percentage of historic and archaeological properties that are in state ownership.

OBJECTIVE G: INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF FORESTLAND AVAILABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Measure G1: The number of acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management.

Measure G2: The number of acres of state owned forestland managed for economic return in accordance with current Best Management Practices.

Measure G3: The number of acres of forestland acquired that will serve to maintain natural groundwater recharge functions.

Measure G4: The percentage and number of acres identified for restoration actually restored by reforestation.

OBJECTIVE H: INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF OPEN SPACE AVAILABLE IN URBAN AREAS.

Measure H1: The percentage of local governments that participate in land acquisition programs and acquire open



L





- San Pedro Bay
- Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway
- O Upper Shoal River

(Group A) Madison and Taylor Counties

(Group A) Bradford, Union, Clay and Baker Cournies

(Group A) Walton County



# Projects removed from the Florida Forever list in the 2003 Acquisition Cycle 2

# **REMOVED:**

- 0 Alderman's Ford Addition
- 0 Emeralda Marsh

0

- 0 Fakahatchee Strand
- 0 North Fork, St. Lucie River
  - Tate's Hell/Carrabelle Tract

Florida Communities Trust to acquire remaining acres St. Johns River Water Mgt. District to acquire remaining acres DEP Division of Recreation and Parks to acquire remaining acres Florida Communities Trust to acquire remaining acres Aquisition is 90 percent complete

NOT APPROVED:

# Allapattah Flats - Group A/Full Fee

# **Allapattah Flats**

# Martin County

# **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The vast area of marshes and flatwoods that once extended from the upper St. Johns River basin to the heads of the St. Lucie River, the Allapattah Flats, has become cattle ranches and citrus groves. The Allapattah Flats project will protect and restore a large part of this area, protecting habitat for rare wildlife like sandhill crane and game animals like deer and turkey, and providing the public with an area for hunting, hiking, and other recreational pursuits.

## Manager

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

# **General Description**

The project is a largely disturbed expanse of Bahiagrass pastures (making up over half the project area), South Florida slash pine flatwoods, and depression marshes with a forested wetland on the west side. Two rare plants are known from this wetland. The project is also an important habitat to rare animals, particularly sandhill cranes, wood stork, crested caracara, wading birds, and raptors, and to game species such as white-tailed deer and wild turkey. Canals drain the wetlands on much of the area.

No archaeological sites are known. The natural communities in the project are vulnerable to further drainage and conversion to improved pasture; growth pressures are low in this part of the county, so endangerment is low:

# Public Use

This project qualifies as a wildlife management area, with uses such as hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, and hunting, and possibly fishing and canoeing.

# Acquisition Planning and Status

The essential parcels are the Allapattah Ranch, Bessemer, Stuart 2000, and Bar-B Ranch tracts. The Allapattah Ranch was purchased by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) in 2002.

On April 6, 2001, the Council transferred this project to the full fee group.

# Coordination

Acquisition of this project is intended as a joint endeavor among the Florida Forever program, the SFWMD, Martin County, and the FWC.

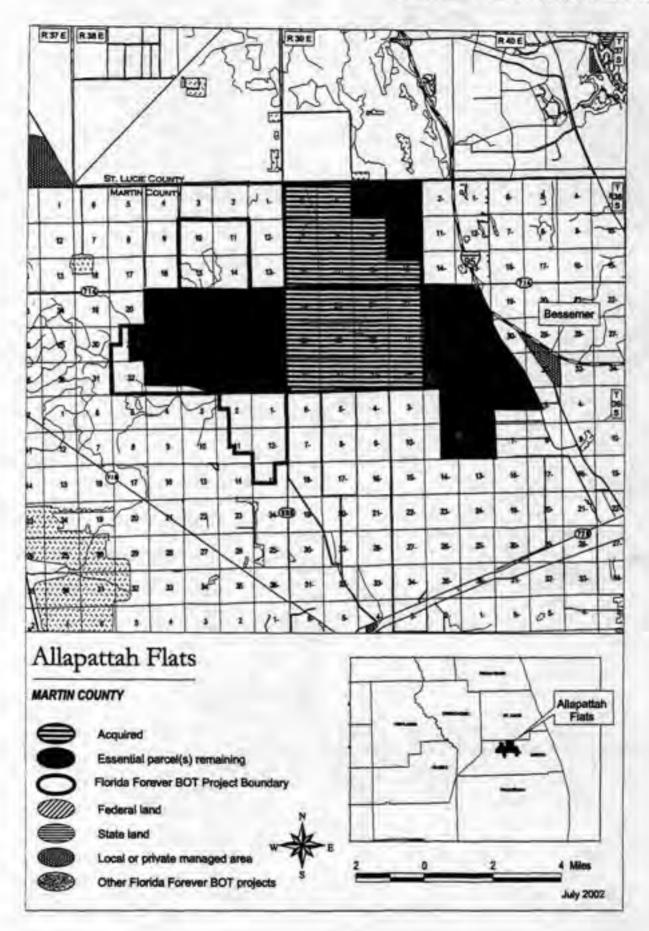
# Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Allapattah Flats project is to preserve and restore the mosaic of pine flatwoods and wetlands in northwestern Martin County. Achieving this objective will provide a refuge for threatened animals like the Florida sandhill crane, wood stork, and crested caracara, protect habitat for game species like white-tailed deer and turkey, and provide the public with a large area for natural-resource-based recreation.

FNAI Elemen	nts
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Wood stork	G4/S2
Crested caracara	G5/S2
Florida tree fern	G5/S2
Florida peperomia	G5/S2
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
Cooper's hawk	G4/S3?
21 elements known fr	rom project

Placed on list	1997
Project Area (Acres)	35,999
Acres Acquired	12,948*
at a Cost of	\$22,380,003
Acres Remaining	23,049
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$46,466,807
* Acquired by the SFWMD	

# Group A Full Fee



# Allapattah Flats - Group A/Full Fee

The project should be managed under the multiple-use concept: management activities should be directed first toward preservation of resources and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses such as hunting. Managers should control access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to one or a few main roads; thoroughly inventory the resources; restore hydrological disturbances as much as possible; burn the fire-dependent pine flatwoods in a pattern mimicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control; attempt to restore the groundcover of the extensive Bahia-grass pastures; strictly limit timbering in old-growth stands; and monitor management activities to ensure that the resources are being preserved. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, avoiding the most sensitive resources and siting them in already disturbed areas when possible.

The project includes almost all the land in northern Martin County not already planted in citrus. It consequently has the size and location to achieve its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Allapattah Flats project has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area. Priority will be given to the conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats and threatened and endangered species. The tract will also provide opportunities for hunting, fishing, camping, hiking and other natural resourcebased recreational activities. Fisheries management activities will be confined to the artificially created 80acre lake and surrounding dike. Management programs will strive to provide access and opportunity for quality fishing.

Manager The FWC is recommended as lead Manager. The Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is recommended as a cooperating agency.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Allapattah Flats proposal generally includes lands, which have been impacted by improving them for grazing cattle. Restoration of these areas will range from the introduction of a summer burning program to active planting and managing of Florida slash pines and saw palmettos to develop the basic structure for restoration. On portions of existing disturbed areas, native and non-native agronomic plantings will be used to benefit both game and nongame wildlife on the area and to promote special hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities for the general public. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a high quality recreational experience.

The Allapattah Flats floodplain supplies the lake with low-nutrient water. Natural fish productivity is expected to be low and therefore inadequate to meet the needs of anglers. An intense fisheries management program will be necessary to provide a quality fishing experience to multiple users.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, exotic plant control, resource inventory and removal of existing refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC describing the goals and objectives of future resource management.

Long range plans will stress ecosystem management and the protection and management of threatened and endangered species. Essential roads will be stabilized to provide for all-weather access for the public and for management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses will also be implemented. An all-season prescribed burning management plan will be developed and implemented using conventional and biologically acceptable guidelines. Management activities will strive to manage plant communities to benefit natural wildlife values.

Timber resources include pine flatwoods (19%) and variously impacted historical flatwood communities (up to 54%). Where appropriate and practical, these resources will be managed using acceptable ailvicultural practices as recommended by the DOF, including extensive efforts to reestablish the basic pineland structural habitat to the impacted areas.

Environmentally sensitive areas will be identified and appropriate protective measures will be directed to those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned or restored as practical. Minimal infrastructure development will be required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the property.

Infrastructure development for fisheries improvement will be limited to the artificial lake or nearby disturbed sites.

Revenue-generating potential Up to 94% of Allapattah Flats consists of pine flatwoods, depression marshes or disturbed areas that could be managed to offset operational costs, including limited timber management and light cattle grazing. Future revenue from timber resources will depend on successful reforestation and management of deforested areas. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of special opportunity access permits, hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps.

Cooperators in management activities The FWC will cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies in managing the area.

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$212,374	\$237,269
OPS	\$15,000	\$16,000
Expense	\$408,000	\$285,700
000	\$292,600	\$150,000
FCO	\$10,000	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$927,974	\$738,969

# Annutteliga Hammock

# Hernando and Citrus Counties

# **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Brooksville Ridge in west-central Florida supports some of the last large tracts of longleaf-pine sandhills in Florida, unique forests of northern hardwood trees, and many archaeological sites. The Annutteliga Hammock project will conserve the remaining fragments of the forests between the Withlacoochee State Forest and the Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area, thereby protecting habitat for black bear and many sandhilldwelling plants and animals and giving the public a large area for recreation in the original landscape of this fast-growing region.

# Manugers

Division of Forestry (DOF) (northeastern and southeastern parts) and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (western part).

## **General Description**

This project is defined by its excellent quality sandhill and very good upland hardwood forest natural communities (there is little upland hardwood forest protected in this ecoregion). Remnants of Annutteliga Hammock on steep-sided hills and in small valleys cover 15% of the project area. This hardwood forest resembles forests far to the north; in fact, several northern trees reach their southern limits near this area. Westward the hardwoods give way to drier longleaf-pine

# Group B Full Fee

sandhills on slightly lower and more level terrain. Remnants of these sandhill forests cover 64% of the project. It is an excellent habitat for many rare vertebrates adapted to xeric communities and several rare plant species. Twenty archaeological sites attest the long history of Native American occupation here. Limerock mines, golf courses, and residential developments are now seriously fragmenting these natural areas, but excellent examples of the original vegetation and wildlife, including the Florida black bear, remain. The Suncoast Parkway is planned to run through this project.

The Lecanto Sandhills is 1,889 acres of sandhills, xeric hammocks, and depression marshs.

## Public Use

This project is designated for use as a state forest and wildlife management area. Such uses as camping, picnicking, hiking, and boating will be compatible with the protection of the area.

# Acquisition Planning and Status

This project consists of several large tracts as well as large subdivided areas. Essential parcels include Sugarmill Woods (acquired), World Woods (acquired by the DOF), Florida Crushed Stone, Orange Meadow Corp./ Seville (acquired) Blackwell (westernmost tract—acquired by the SWFWMD), Tooke's Lake Joint Venture, and other large hammock and sandhill parcels.

FNAI Element	5
Cooley's water-willow	G1G2/S1S2
SCRUB	G2/S2
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
SANDHILL UPLAND LAKE	G3/S2
Florida mountain-mint	G3/52
17 elements known fro	m project

Placed on list	1995
Project Area (Acres)	31,249
Acres Acquired	11,511
at a Cost of	\$35,925,705
Acres Remaining	19,739
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) V	alue of \$36,241,171

On March 10, 1995, the LAMAC approved the addition of 900 acres to the project boundary.

On July 29, 1999, the Council combined Lecanto Sandhills (1,889 acres) in Citrus County with the Annutteliga Hammock project.

Lecanto Sandhills was acquired in 2001.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Annutteliga Hammock project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project has the size and resource diversity to qualify as a Wildlife Management Area and a State Forest.

Manager The DOF proposes to manage approximately 14,336 acres in the northeastern and southeastern portions of the project. The Fish and Wildhife Conservation Commission is recommended to be lead manager on the southwestern 14,048 acres next to the Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area.

# Conditions affecting intensity of management A. Division of Forestry

There are no known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention so the level of management intensity is expected to be typical for a state forest. B. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Annutteliga Hammock lies within 40 miles of the St. Petersburg/Tampa metropolitan area and is expected to receive heavy demand for wildlife oriented recreational use. The demand for bunting, camping, hiking, horseback riding and nature study is expected to be

## Coordination

A Memorandum of Understanding between FDOT and DEP regarding the future conveyance of a portion of the Annutteliga Hammock project within the proposed alignment for the Suncoast Parkway, was signed on August 3, 1998. This project is also included within SWFWMD's Five-Year Plan. Hernando County is an acquisition and management partner.

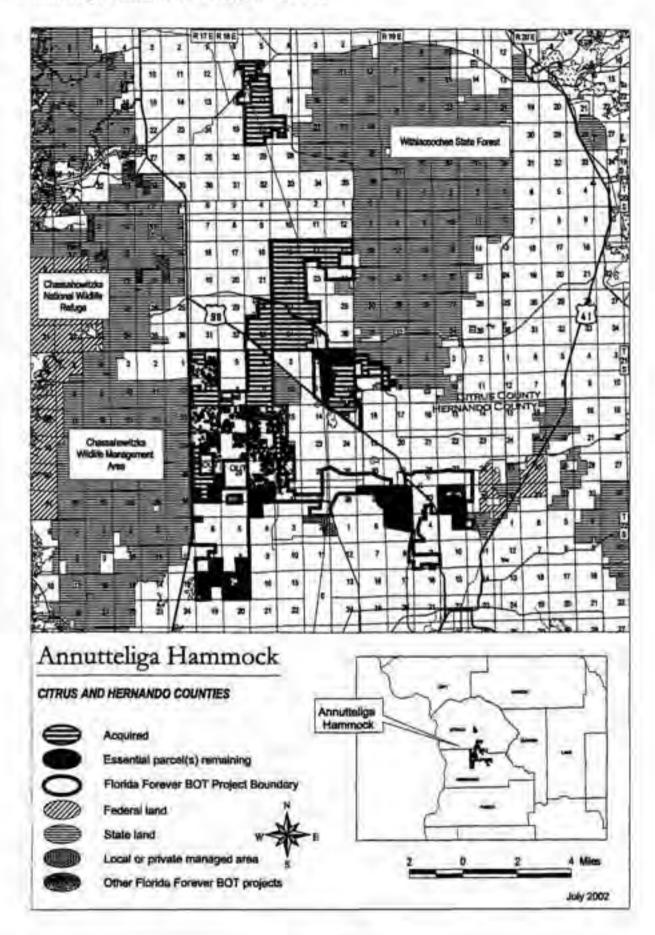
high. Additionally, the sandhill community will need the frequent application of fire to rejuvenate itself. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure A. Division of Forestry

The primary land management goal for the Division of Forestry is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. This total resource concept will guide the DOF's management activities on this project.

Once the core area is acquired and assigned to the DOF for management, public access will be provided for low intensity, non-facilities related outdoor recreation activities. Until specific positions are provided for the project, public access will be coordinated through Withlacoochee Forestry Center (WFC) Headquarters and management activities will be conducted utilizing personnel from WFC.

Initial or intermediate management efforts will concentrate on site security, public and fire management access, resource inventory, and removal of existing trash. Steps will be taken to insure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. Vehicular use by the public will be confined to designated roads and unnecessary access points will be closed. An inventory of the site's natural resources and threatened and endangered flora and fauna will be conducted to provide the basis for formulation of a management plan.

Prior to collection of necessary resource information, management proposals for this project can only be cooceptual in nature. Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and maintenance of natural communities. To the greatest extent practical, disturbed sites will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in naturally functioning ecosystems. Management ac



tivities will also stress enhancement of the abundance and spatial distribution of threatened and endangered species.

An all season burning program will be established utilizing practices that incorporate recent research findings. Whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks will be utilized to contain and control prescribed and natural fires.

Timber management activities will primarily consist of improvement thinning and regeneration harvests aimed at maintaining and perpetuating forest ecosystems. Plantations will be thinned to achieve a more natural appearance and, where appropriate, will be reforested with species that would typically be found in a naturally functioning ecosystem. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age but will be managed to maintain a broad diversity of age classes ranging from young stands to areas with old growth characteristics. This will provide habitat for the full spectrum of species that would be found in the natural environment.

The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management, and to locate areas that are appropriate for any recreational or administrative facilities. Infrastructure development will primarily be located in already disturbed areas and will be the absolute minimum required to allow public access for the uses mentioned above, to provide facilities to accommodate public use, and to administer and manage the property.

The Division will promote recreation and environmental education in the natural environment. As a general practice, if it is determined that a new recreation area is needed, low impact, rustic facilities will be the only kind developed. High-impact, organized recreation areas will be discouraged because of possible adverse effects on the natural environment. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent practical. B. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on securing and posting boundaries, assuring public access to the tract, surveying wildlife and plant communities, and restoring fire as a viable component of the ecosystem. A management plan for the tract will be prepared.

Longer-range plans for the property include securing and stabilizing necessary roads for public access, developing camping and nature interpretive facilities and developing hiking and horseback riding trails. Allweather access roads will be developed and maintained for use by the public and for management operations. An all-season prescribed burning program will be estublished using both aerial and ground ignition techniques. Whenever possible existing roads, trails and firebreaks will be used to control both prescribed and natural fires. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned or restored as appropriate. Environmentally sensitive areas will be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented to assure the areas are protected from abuse.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

#### A. Division of Forestry

The Division will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. Revenue from these sales will vary, but the revenue-generating potential of this project is expected to be low to moderate. B. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Harvest of pinelands could help offset operational costs. Any estimate of revenue from harvest of the pinelands will depend on a detailed timber cruise. Revenue may also be generated from the sale of Wildlife Management Area stamps to recreational users of the property.

Management Cost Summary/DOF			Management Cost Summary/FWC		
Category	Startup	Recurring	Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$85,020	\$85,020	Salary	\$78,353	\$78,353
OPS	\$0	\$0	OPS	\$10,500	\$5,250
Expense	\$25,000	\$25,000	Expense	\$52,500	\$42,000
000	\$116,800	\$10,000	000	\$124,000	\$10,000
FCO	\$0	\$0	FCO	\$150,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$226,820	\$120,020	TOTAL	\$404,958	\$135,603

# **Apalachicola River**

# Gadsden, Liberty, Calhoun, and Jackson Counties

# **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The high plateaus, steep hluffs and deep ravines of the northern Apalachicola River valley are some of the most significant natural features of the southeastern Coastal Plain. Covered with rich forests and dotted with unique sedgy glades, the area harbors many northern, rare, and endemic plants and animals, such as the nearly extinct Florida Torreya tree. By connecting Torreya State Park. with a Nature Conservancy preserve to the south and with limestone glades to the north, and by protecting forests on the west bank of the river, the Apalachicola River project will help preserve the water quality of the river-which feeds the productive Apalachicola Bayand the unique species and biological communities of the region, as well as provide the public with scenic areas for hiking, boat launching, and other recreational pursuits

## Managers

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The Division of Forestry (DOF) will be a cooperating manager for the Sweetwater Creek tract in managing the forest resources, and timber issues related to planning and implementation of forest management activities, and provide assistance in developing prescribed burn plans.

## **General Description**

This project includes much of Florida's upland glades natural community, currently not represented on conservation lands, and harbors several globally rare plant species as well as 16 species occurring nowhere else in Florida. It consists of three tracts of land along the upper Apalachicola River: 1) a large tract on the east

G1/S1
G1/S1
G1/S1
G1/S1
G1/S1
G2/S2
G2/S2
G2/S2

bank, running south from near Chattaboochee to Torreya State Park, includes rich upland and floodplain forests and most of the upland glades in the state. It shelters several extremely rare plants such as the Florida torreva; 2) The Land property, west of the former area. contains floodplain forest important for southeastern and gray bats; 3) The Sweetwater Creek tract, connecting Torreya State Park with a Nature Conservancy preserve, includes some of the deepest steephead ravines in the state, with unique hardwood forests harboring many rare plants and animals. The uplands between the steepheads are a sand pine plantation. The upper Apalachicola has a high potential for archaeological sites; several are already known. All these areas are threatened by timbering and unrestricted vehtcular access.

## Public Use

Portions of the project will be managed as state parks or preserves, wildlife management areas, and state forests. It will allow such uses as hiking, nature appreciation, limited hunting and fishing, and boat launching.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The original Gadsden County Glades (1,912 acres) tract consists of approximately 13 owners. The 1992 addition includes 30 additional owners. Neal Land & Timber Co., St. Joe and Soterra are the three major owners, Neal by far the largest. The largest parcels in the Aspalaga Landing (800 acres) tract consist of the same three ownerships, with Soterra owning the most acreage. The largest owner in Sweetwater Creek (9,145 acres) is St. Joe.

Placed on list	1991	
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	18,940	
Acres Acquired	637	
at a Cost of	\$912,000	
Acres Remaining	18,303	
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$7,485,842	

# Group A Full Fee

On July 14, 1995, the LAMAC added a 374-acre tract (Land property) to the project boundary. The tract is acress the Apalachicola River from the Gadsden Glades tract and almost adjacent to the Sneads Cave site of the SE Bat Maternity Caves project.

On December 5, 1996, the LAMAC transferred the Atkins/Trammell tract (3,210 acres) and the Hatcher tract (544 acres within the 9,145 acre Sweetwater site) to the Less-Than-Fee category.

On May 6, 1999, the Council designated an additional 11,800 acres as "essential".

On April 6, 2001, the Council removed the Atkins tract site from the project because the resources had been compromised and negotiations had reached an impasse.

On April 25, 2002 the Council added the Corbin/Tucker site (2,242 acres) to the project boundary.

The Hatcher parcel (681 acres) was acquired in 2002.

In August of 2002, the Council added the Trammell (Atkins) tract to the project.

On February 7, 2003 the Council added five tracts to the project boundaries. They are the Soterra Crooked Creek Tract (447 acres), the Soterra Connector Tract (117 acres), the Thompson Tract (304 acres), the Hatcher Tract (160 acres) and the TNC Dupuis/ Traveler's Tract (1,846 acres).

On October 17, 2003 the Council added 1,244 acres of the Glenn Summers tract to the project boundaries.

## Coordination

The Northwest Florida Water Management District and The Nature Conservancy have provided information and assistance with this project. It is not a Bargain/Shared project, however.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Apalachicola River project are: to conserve the nch bluffs and ravines along the upper Apalachicola River, unique in North America, that provide critical habitat for many rare plants and animals; to conserve and restore these important ecosystems and their plant and animal resources through purchase because regulation cannot

# Apalachicola River - Group A/Full Fee

adequately protect them; to provide areas for naturalresource-based recreation; and to preserve several significant archaeological sites. The project should be managed under the single-use concept, with management activities being directed toward the preservation of steephead streams, hardwood forests, glades, and archaeological sites, the removal of pine plantations, and restoration of natural pine forests. The project, when completed, will include most of the bluffs and ravines in private ownership and will link a Nature Conservancy preserve with Torreya State Park. It has the appropriate size and location to achieve the management goals.

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The unique and sensitive forests, glades, and streams on the east side of the Apalachicola River qualify these lands as state forests, parks, and preserves. The Atkins tract on the west side of the river has the size and wildlife resources to qualify as a wildlife management area.

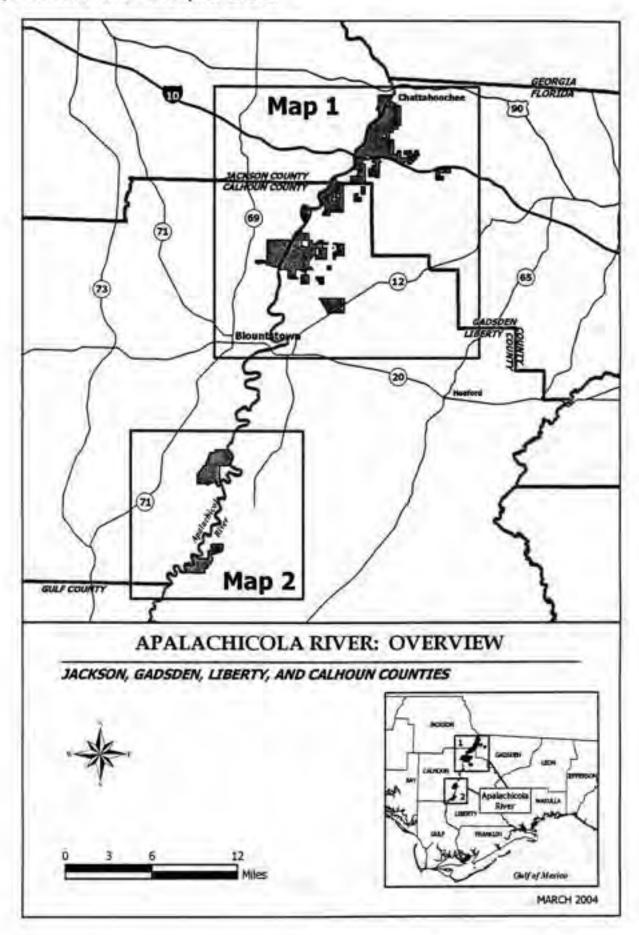
Manager The DRP should manage the areas cast of the Apalachicola River. The DOF, however, will manage the Sweetwater Creek tract for the first ten years after the state acquires it.

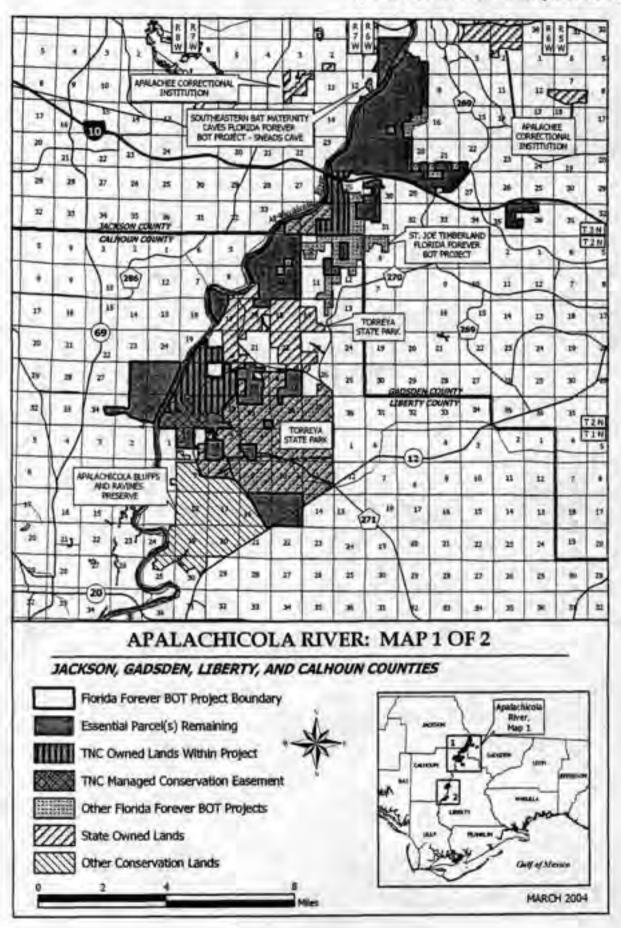
Conditions affecting intensity of management The portions of the project in the vicinity of the Torreya State Park and east of the river will be high-need management areas with emphasis on public recreational use and development compatible with resource protection and management. During an initial 10-year period in which the DOF will restore natural pine forests on the Sweetwater Creek tract, the site will be a lowneed management area.

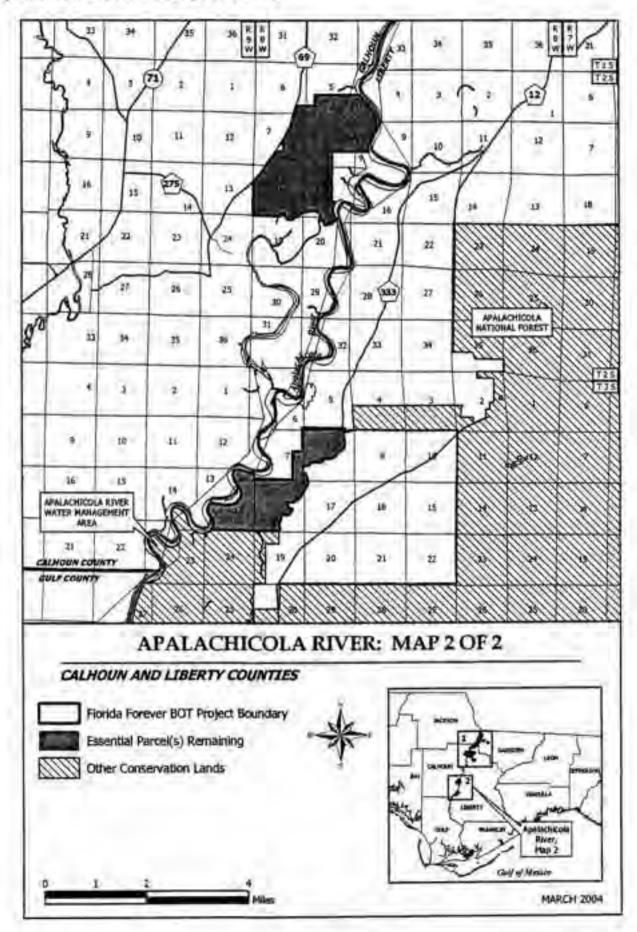
Timetable for implementing management Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and efforts toward the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially after the lands are placed under management of the DRP. It will probably be several years before any significant public facilities are developed. The degree of future revenue generated will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities.

Cooperators in management activities No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project area.







9	And the second sec		RP/				
	weetwater			Management Cost Summary DOF/			
C	ategory	Startup	Recurring	Sweetwater			
	ource of Funds	CARL	CARL	Category Source of Funds	Startup CARL	Recurring CARL	
S	alary	\$83,306	\$72,319				
C	PS	\$24,960	\$44,720	Salary	\$105,910	\$105,910	
E	xpense	\$16,800	\$49,730	OPS	\$0	\$0	
0	CO	\$101,252	\$1,000	Expense	\$30,000	\$30,000	
F	co	\$0	\$0	000	\$168,000	\$13,000	
т	OTAL	\$226,318	\$167,769	FCO	\$0	\$0	
т	OTAL	\$303,910	\$148,910				
N	anagement Cos	t Summary DF	RP/ North				
C	ategory	Startup	Recurring				
S	ource of Funds	CARL	CARL				
s	alary	\$72,319	\$72,319				
C	PS	\$44,720	\$44,720				
E	xpense	\$49,730	\$49,730				
C	CO	\$81,527	\$1,000				
F	co	\$0	\$0				
T	OTAL	\$248,296	\$167,769				

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# **Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge**

## **Brevard and Indian River Counties**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Although sea turtle nesting occurs from the southern tip of Texas to the southern coast of Virginia, this 20mile stretch of beach in Brevard and Indian River Counties is the second most significant nesting area for Loggerhead sea turtles in the world, one of the most significant nesting areas for Green Turtles in the western hemisphere, and an occasional nesting area for the Leatherback, the largest and rarest sea turtle. For thousands of years, these sea turtles have returned each year to these beaches to lay their eggs and continue the species. The Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge project is designed to help protect the habitat and assure the continued survival of these endangered sea turtles.

#### Managers

The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Brevard and Indian River Counties will be the cooperating managers.

#### **General Description**

This project will consolidate several small public ownerships and add to them substantially, protecting almost ten miles of undeveloped Atlantic Coast shoreline. Natural communities are in good condition and include beach, coastal strand, and maritime hammock, but the primary significance of this tract is its value as sea turtle nesting habitat. Stretches of quiet, undisturbed sandy beaches, with little or no artificial light, are essential to the reproductive success and survival of sea turtles. The project harbors several other rare plant and animal

## Group A Full Fee

species. The project is of particular importance to unique offshore reefs (sabellariid "worm" and hard coral) that have been proposed for listing as the focus of a *Florida Coral Grounds National Marine Sanctuary*. At least 30 archaeological sites (primarily shell middens) are located near or within the refuge. It is threatened by intense development pressure, both commercial and residential.

#### Public Use

The project is designated as a recreation area and a wildlife and environmental area. The designation will allow such uses as photography, swimming, fishing and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Appraisals on the remaining essential or core parcels are being reviewed. <u>Phase I</u>: 500 feet or more of contiguous beach frontage adjacent to publicly owned lands; <u>Phase II</u>: 500 feet or more of contiguous beach frontage in a single ownership or under the contract of a single agent; <u>Phase III</u>: less than 500 feet of beach frontage adjacent to publicly owned lands. The project excludes developed and undeveloped parcels situated between developed parcels. Acquisition efforts are ongoing.

The LAMAC approved the addition of 112 acres to the project boundary on March 10, 1995.

On April 6, 2001, the Council transferred this project to the full fee from the negotiated impasse group.

FNAI Eler	nents
Devil's shoestring	G1Q/S1
Coastal vervain	G2/S2
Prickly-apple	G2G3/S2S3
SHELL MOUND	G3/S2
Loggerhead turtle	G3/S2
Green turtle	G3/S2
Leatherback turtle	G3/S2
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
15 elements know	wn from site

Placed on list	1991
Project Area (Acres)	1,203
Acres Acquired	518
at a Cost of	\$35,895,365
Acres Remaining	685
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$21,169,751*

"The LAMAC directed that a \$10 million cap per year be set on acquisition expenditures within Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge.

On January 25, 2001, the Acquisition and Restoration Council added 5 acres to the project.

#### Coordination

This project was developed in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). In 2000, the federal government approved \$2 million for the acquisition of parcels within Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge. Indian River County is an acquisition partner on several tracts within the Indian River County portion of the project. The Richard King Mellon Foundation has made a substantial contribution to the overall protection and acquisition of the project area. The Foundation has acquired several tracts within the project boundary.

In 1994, individuals representing eleven government agencies, conservation groups, non-profit organizations and the local community formed the Archie Carr Working Group to enhance coordination, cooperation, and communication among the diverse interest groups involved in the protection of the refuge and barrier island ecosystem.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge project are: to conserve scarce, undeveloped Atlantic Coast shoreline that is globally important nesting habitat for threatened and endangered sea turtles; to conserve this important ecosystem and its wildlife resources through purchase because regulation cannot adequately protect them; and to provide areas for natural-resource-based recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge is recognized as the most important sea turtle nesting site in the United States and qualifies as a wildlife and environmental area.

Manager The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will manage most of the project as a National Wildlife Refuge. Primary management partners include the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Brevard County, and Indian River County. The portion of the project immediately north of the Sebastian Inlet State Recreation Area and west of the highway will be added to the state recreation area.

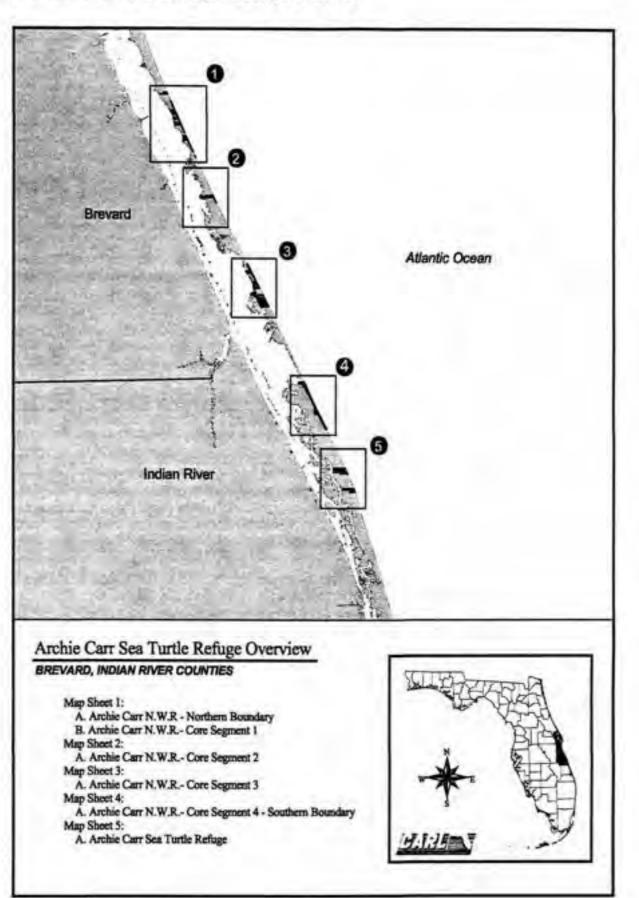
Conditions affecting intensity of management The project includes lands that are low-need, moderate-need and high-need tracts as defined by 259.032 (11)(c) F.S. About 30% of the lands are low-need, 50% moderateneed and 20% high-need properties.

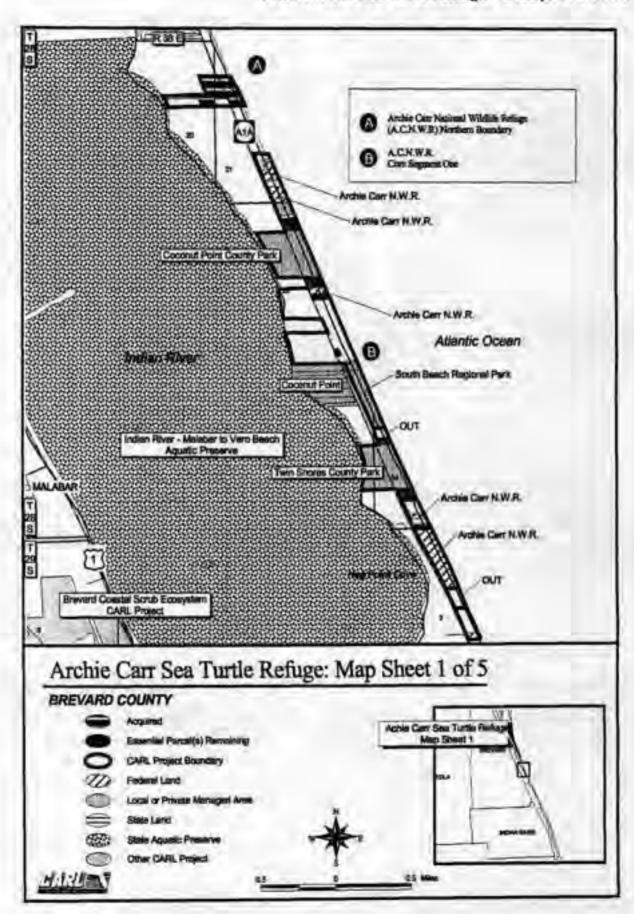
Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, activities will concentrate on site security, controlling public access, removing trash and resource inventory. A management plan will be formulated. Brevard County plans to develop an innovative environmental education program for the area. Long-range plans for the properties, beginning one year after acquisition, will be directed toward protecting the nesting beach, restoring disturbed areas, inventorying resources, and perpetuating natural communities and listed species. To the greatest extent practical, parking lots and dune crossovers will be confined to already disturbed sites.

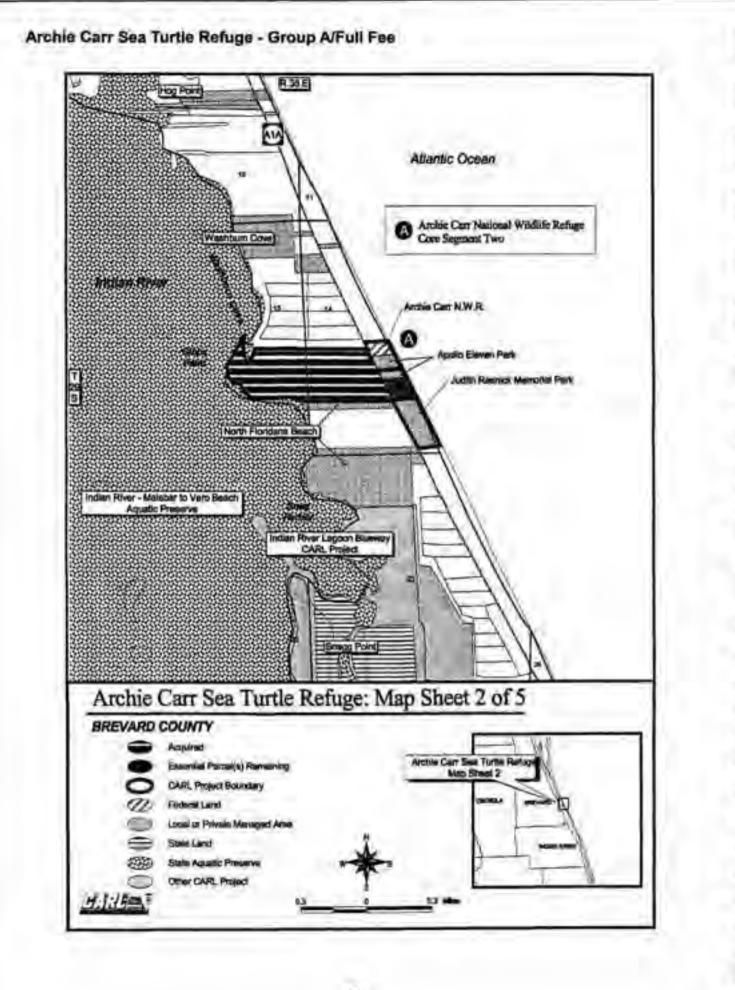
Revenue-generating potential Collecting parking or access fees is the only means of generating revenue from the tracts to be managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or local governments. The Florida Division of Recreation and Parks expects no significant revenue to be generated initially from the tracts to be added to the state recreation area.

Cooperators in management activities The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will collaborate in management with local governments. Non-profit organizations with active management and education interests include The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, Caribbean Conservation Corporation, Center for Marine Conservation and local non-profits and land trusts. A Brevard County volunteer warden program has been proposed to involve the local community in conservation, management and educational programs.

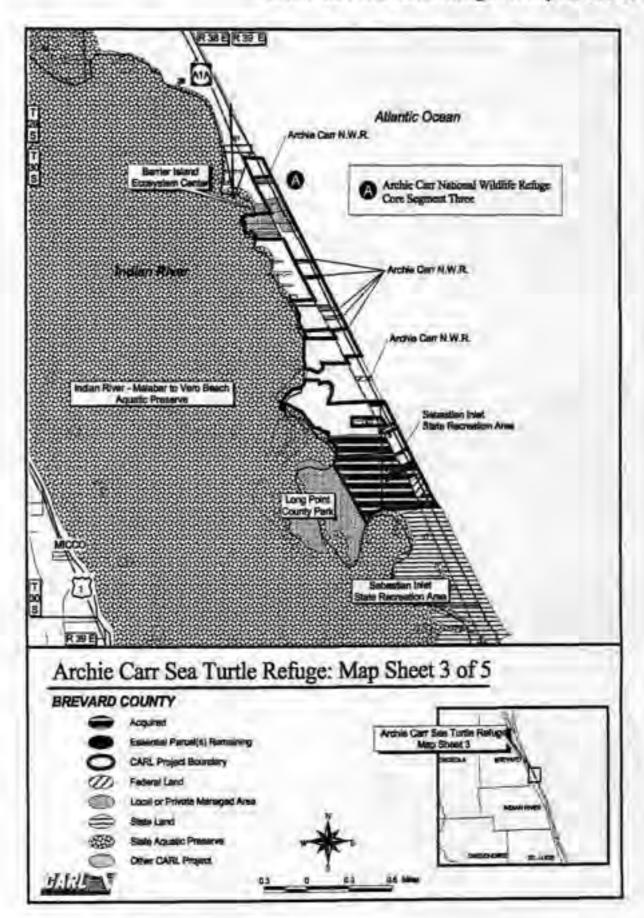


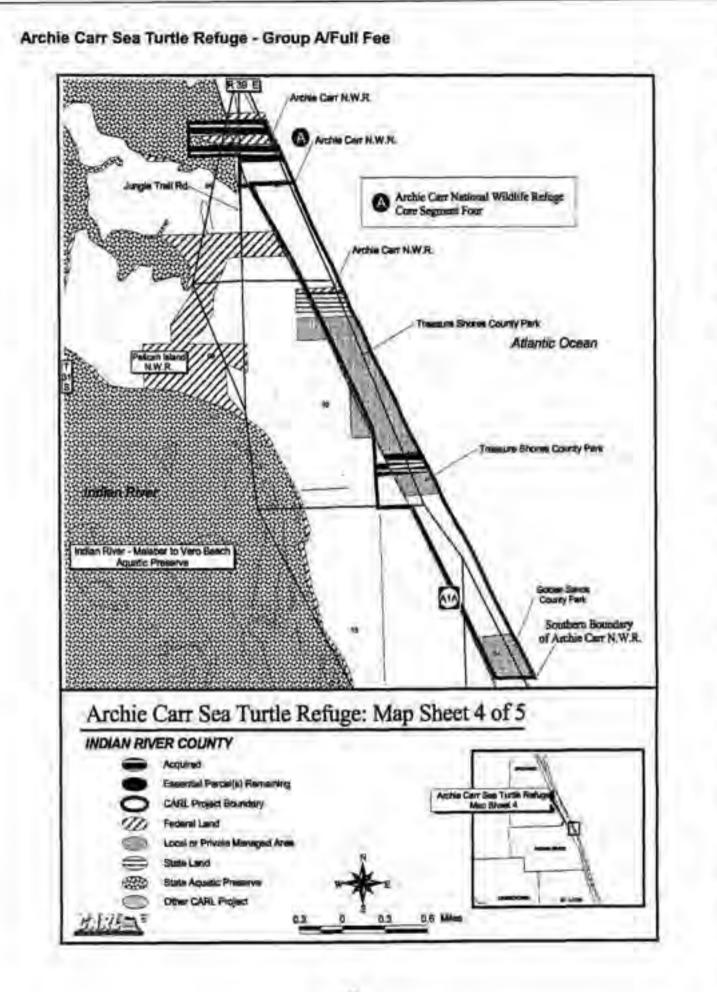


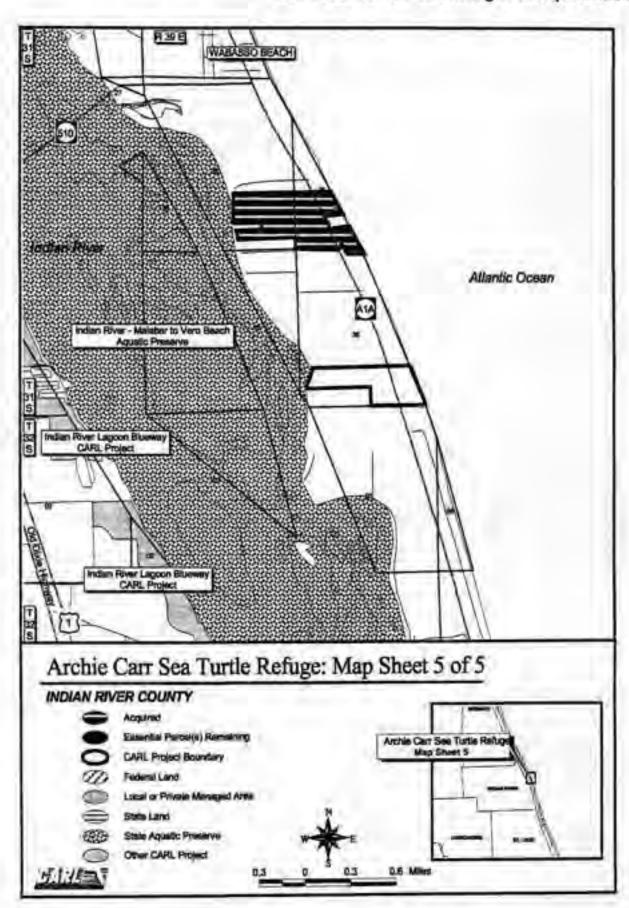




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## Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee

# Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem

## Martin County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Cities spreading north from Miami and Fort Lauderdale have all but eliminated natural areas, such as coastal scrub, near the southeast Florida coast. The Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem project will protect one of the largest patches of natural land left on this coast conserving an important scrub, pine flatwoods, marshes, and the floodplain of the South Fork of the St. Lucie River, protecting the quality of water in the St. Lucie and Loxahatchee River basins, and allowing the public to enjoy the original landscape of this fast-growing area.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

#### **General Description**

Mesic to Wet Flatwoods, which cover almost half (43%) of the project, extend from the floodplain forest along the South Fork St. Lucie River east to two ridges. One of the largest remaining islands of Atlantic Coastal Ridge scrub occupies these ridges. Most of the rare plants and animals known from the project inhabit the scrub, including the extremely rare and federally listed perforate reindeer lichen, and the Florida scrub jay. The area includes the headwaters of the South Fork St. Lucie River and part of the drainage basin of the Loxabatchee River, an Outstanding Florida Water, and is important for water supply to coastal Martin County. No archaeological sites are known from the project. The scrub, in particular, is being lost to development.

FNAI Elements	
Perforate reindeer lichen	G1/S1
Florida threeawn	G2/S2
SCRUB	G2/S2
Pine pinweed	G2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Florida scrub lizard	G3/S3
Scrub jay	G3/S3
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
10 elements known fr	om project

## Group A Full Fee

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a state park with uses such as picnicking, hiking, fishing and canoeing.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

This project consists of approximately 28 ownerships; five relatively large ownerships. Easential parcels are those on the eastern project boundary including Davis, Shaw, and Commercial Bank Medalist (acquired under contract by SFWMD). Mobil-Seawind (acquired) is also an essential tract.

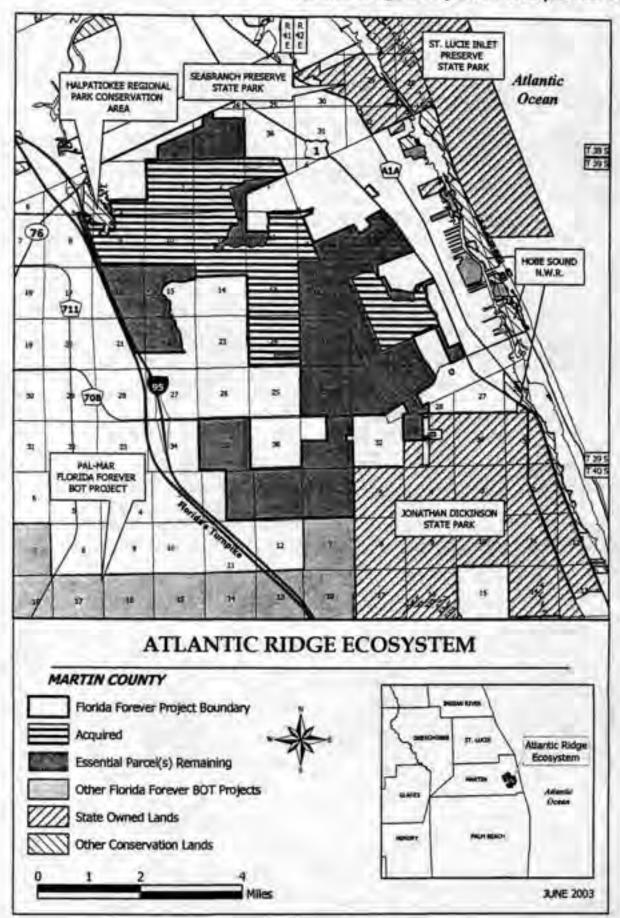
On February 14, 1995, the Governor and Cabinet directed the LAMAC to hold a public workshop with Martin County, South Florida Water Management District, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, interested environmental and economic development organizations, private landowners, and interested citizens to establish a workplan for this project. Further, the Governor and Cabinet directed that the "CARL committee report to the Cabinet with their determination prior to any purchases on that particular tract of land"

Public meetings were held on June 12, 1995, and October 5, 1995. As a result of the public meetings, the LAMAC deleted approximately 480 acres from the project boundary. The tracts had been recently developed.

On July 16, 1996, LAMAC added 41 acres to the project boundary and approximately 2,118 acres were delineated as the minimum acceptable acquisition boundary for the Mobil (Seawind) ownership within the project boundary.

Placed on list	1895
Project Ares (Acres)	15,698
Acres Acquired	5,816
at a Cost of	\$38,215,961
Acres Remaining	9,882
With Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$71,427,700

Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee



### Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee

On October 15, 1998, LAMAC designated the Phase II corridor to Jonathan Dickinson State Park as essential.

On October 21, 1999, the Council added 598 acres to the project boundary as essential parcels.

On August 22, 2000 the Acquisition and Restoration Council added 1,920 acres to the project.

## Management Policy Statement

The goals of management of the Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and faima representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation This project has the size and quality of resource desired for management under the state park system.

#### Manager The DRP

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem is a high-need management area requiring intensive resource management and protection. Depending on the nature and extent of public use determined by the management plan process, there might be additional needs for management of public use activities and facilities.

#### Coordination

South Florida Water Management District is an acquisition partner. The District is currently negotiating the purchase of several tracts within the project boundary under a "161" agreement with DEP.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural resource protection, and efforts toward the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management consistent with the stated goals and objectives of the approved Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem Project Assessment. Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. After the initial acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public-use facilities are developed. The degree of any future revenue generated would depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities. Revenue generated by the nearby Jonathan Dickinson State-Park for Fiscal Year 1993-1994 was \$364,711, Cooperators in management activities No local gov-

cooperators in management activities No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project.

Management Cost	Summary	
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$52,994	\$52,994
OPS	\$8,000	\$8,000
Expense	\$26,307	\$26,307
000	\$129,212	\$1,000
FCO	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$216,132	\$88,301

# **Babcock Ranch**

## Charlotte and Lee Counties

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The mixture of old-growth forests and mesic (wet) flatwoods in the Babcock Ranch area not only provides habitat for endangered species, but it also provides a vitally needed water-recharge area for the Southwest Florida area. As demand for water increases across the state, protection and management of ground water recharge areas will have to increase so that both natural systems and the citizens of the state have sufficient quantities of water. This project also provides significant natural habitat for the Florida panther, the black bear, the red-cockaded woodpecker, and for many other species of concern. Protecting the Babcock Ranch uplands and wetlands would also contribute to a large landscape-sized protection area of more than 400,000 acres, strategically closing the gap between conservation land projects that now extend from Charlotte Harbor east to Lake Okeechobee, Acquisition of the Babcock Ranch project would meet Florida Forever goals of ensuring sufficient quantities of water for Southwest Florida, and increasing protection of Florida's biodiversity of species. Varied public recreational uses could include camping, picnicking, nature appreciation. hiking and horseback riding. This would depend on how the project is acquired, and what management plan is adopted.

#### Manager

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), is the lead management agency. Division of

FNAI Elemen	ts
Gopher tortoise	G3/S2
Bachman's sparrow	G5/S3
Florida scrub jay	G3/S3
Short-tailed hawk	G4G5/S1
Swallow-tailed kite	G5/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Wood stork	G4/S2
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
Florida panther	G5T1/S1
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2

Babcock Ranch - Group A/Less Than Fee

## Group A Less Than Fee

Forestry (DOF), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) is the cooperating land management agency.

#### **General Description**

This 91,361-acre project covers cypress domes, swamps, extensive mesic flatwoods and wet prairies in a block that straddles the Telegraph Swamp. Some 43,621 acres is planned for less-than-fee acquisitions. The majority of the project is in southeastern Charlotte County. The property is a working ranch and timber operation. The mesic flatwoods are impressive in their extent and in their quality. In the past much of this area was logged for longleaf pine and for cypress, and some of the flatwoods were converted to pasture land. About 12 percent of the land within the Resource Planning Boundary of the project has been disturbed in flatwoods natural communities converted to pasture and croplands. The Babcock Family wishes to keep the Babcock Family Reserve, a block in the center of the project, in its current agricultural and protection. use. Gopher tortoises, burrowing owls; sandhill cranes, fox squirrels and bald eagles are reported on or near the site. The Babcock Family has proposed redesignating 19,000 acres in the southwest corner of the ranch from 1 unit per 10 cares to 1 unit per acre: No development has taken place on the property, although development in Lee County is taking place near the ranch.

#### Public Use

The Babcock Ranch project has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area, and will provide the public with natural resourcebased recreation opportunities such as hunting,

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (acres)	91,361
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost of	0
Acres Remaining	91,361
	which there are a property to be and

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of \$52,527,237

## Babcock Ranch - Group A/Less Than Fee

hiking, bicycle trails, horseback riding, camping and wildlife observation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Babcock Ranch project was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the December 6, 2001 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) as a Group A Less-than-Fee project. This project has one owner of 153 parcels, Babcock Florida Co. of Pittsburgh, PA. There is no acquisition phasing contemplated. The essential parcel is identified as the Babcock ownership.

#### Coordination

It is anticipated that this will be a shared acquisition with local, state and federal funding sources.

#### Management Policy Statement

Under FWC management, priority will be given to the conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and to habitat improvement or protection for threatened or endangered species. Management programs will be designed to conserve, protect, manage or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, forests and water resources. The tract will also be managed to provide opportunities for hunting, camping, hiking, environmental and cultural resource education and interpretation, and other natural resource-based activities. Because the principal purposes of the proposal are to protect habitat for the Florida panther and other species of concern, management goals will be oriented to conservation and protection of these species, and compatible natural resource-based public use.

### Management Prospectus Qualifications for state designation

The proposed fee title and conservation easement areas of the Babcock Ranch project contain land of high biological and ecological value, especially when considered in conjunction with adjacent public lands and with lands proposed for acquisition. Overall, the natural areas on Babcock Ranch are well maintained with current management practices. Little soil disturbance was seen in the natural areas visited.

#### Manager

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is recommended as the lead manager, with the Division of Forestry (DOF) to be a cooperating agency. Conditions affecting intensity of management Some portions of the Babcock Ranch project include lands that are low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since a large portion of the upland communities has been reserved for Babcock Family use, or is to be acquired as conservation casements or with developmental restrictions, close coordination with the Babcock Family and/or with local governments will be required when monitoring this acreage to be certain it is being managed for the stated public purposes.

### Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource-inventory exotic species control and the removal of any refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC to describe the management goals and the specific objectives necessary to implement the future resource management.

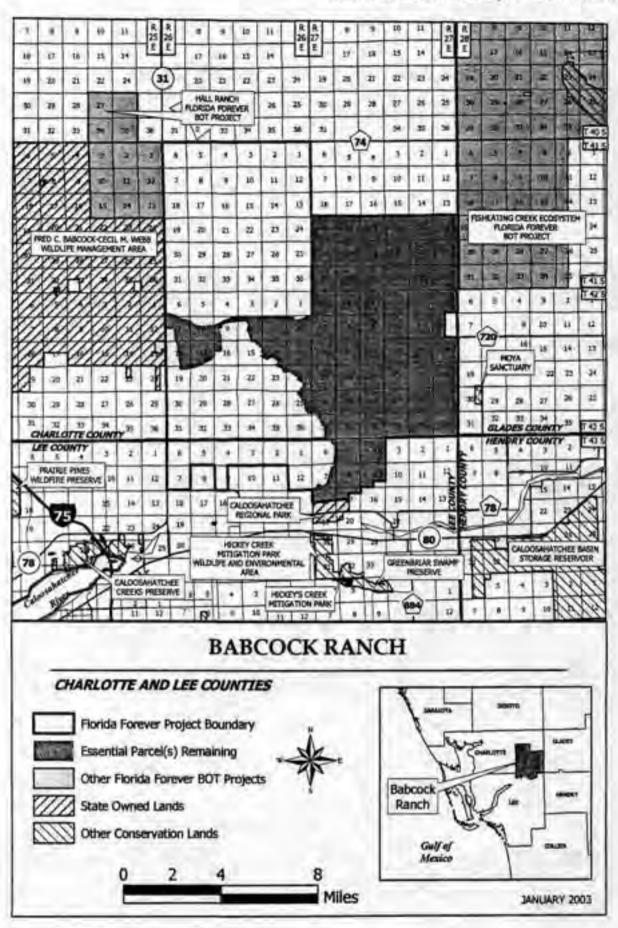
#### **Revenue-generating potential**

If the assessments of the managers indicate that it would be appropriate, some revenues might be generated from grazing contracts in the flatwoods or pastured areas not restored in the interest of habitat diversity, or due to lack of funding. Significant revenues might be generated from thinning of pine overstories in the flatwoods, and additional revenue would be generated from sale of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from continung ecotourism activity started by the Babcock Family, if they can be practically and economically developed.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

The FWC will cooperate with other state and local government agencies, including the Division of Forestry (DOF) and the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

## Babcock Ranch - Group A/Less Than Fee



## Babcock Ranch - Group A/Less Than Fee

## Management costs and sources of revenue

Management Cost Summary/FWC (including salaries for 3 full-time employees)

	Startup:	Recurring:
Resource Management		
Exotic Species Control	\$42,804	\$85,608
Prescribed Burning	\$6,529	\$13,057
Hydrological Management	\$40,000	\$4,475
Other	\$80,707	\$80,707
Subtotal	\$170,039	\$183,847
Administration		
Central Office/Headquarters	\$52,642	\$23,151
Districts/Regions	\$24,704	\$9,922
Subtotal	\$82,345	\$33,072
Support		
Land Management Planning	\$25,000	\$0
Land Management Reviews	\$0	\$500
Training/Staff Development	\$0	\$1,000
Vehicle Purchase	\$110,850	\$15,836
Vehicle Operation/Maintenance	\$13,230	\$13,230
Subtotal	\$149,080	\$30,566
Capital Improvements		
New Facility Construction	\$526,665	\$0
Facility Maintenance	\$0	\$113,105
Subtotal	\$526,665	\$113,106
Visitor Services/Recreation		
Operations	\$1,780	\$178
Subtotal	\$1,780	\$178
Law Enforcement		
All Activities	\$7,491	\$7,491
TOTAL:	\$937,401	\$368,259

Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River - Group A/Full Fee

# **Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River**

## Group A Full Fee

## Nassau and Duval Counties

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The 9,500 acres of the Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River project would preserve relatively intact forests and flatwoods of older growth trees. This project would also assist in the development of an ecological connector between Cary State Forest and Jennings State Forest, and provide a corridor from the Group A Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve Florida Forever project to the St. Marys River. The proposal will connect to the Jacksonville-Baldwin Rail Trail, and will increase the recreational opportunities for all trail users. The Jacksonville-Baldwin Rail Trail connection occurs in an area where the City of Jacksonville is developing its primary equestrian facility access point.

#### Manager

The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the project with a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system. Management would be designed to accomplish the goals and measures for this project.

#### **General Description**

The Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River project is located in Nassau and Duval counties and is approximately 9,500 acres in size. The proposal is characterized by its bottomland forests and wet flatwoods that contain numerous older growth trees. These communities exhibit high species diversity and should provide habitat for numerous rare plant and animal species. Portions of the property have been converted to pine plantation but several of these areas have intact ground cover. The project borders Cary State Forest and the Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve Florida

FNAI Elemen	ts
DRY PRAIRIE	G1/S1
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
DEPRESSION MARSH	G4?/S3
BASIN SWAMP	G47/S3
MESIC FLATWOODS	G?/S4
WET PRAIRIE	G?/S47
XERIC HAMMOCK	G7/S3
8 elements known from	n project

Forever project. The evaluation team visited the site on September 10, 2002.

#### **Public Use**

If public access of and through these properties is acquired, the project has potential for a variety of forest related recreational activities. Access to the St. Marys River could allow activities such as canoeing, swimming, bird watching, environmental education, nature study and photography.

Due to the connectivity with the Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve Florida Forever project and Cary State Forest, this project contributes to governmental efforts to protect and restore the regional land and water resources.

The project, as proposed, has potential for diverse forms of resource-based recreation. For those areas that would be acquired in fee title, the project can accommodate such activities as hiking, natural resource appreciation and education, picnicking, camping, bicycling and horseback riding. Depending on management emphasis, hunting is also supportable. For lands that might be acquired in less-than-fee, the degree of public use would be dependent on the willingness of the landowner to allow public access.

The general resource-based recreation potential for the project is considered low to moderate, depending on the extent of fee title acquisition. Hunting potential is considered medium to high.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	9,500
Acres Acquired	٥
at a Cost of	50
Acres Remaining	9,500
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$3,587,753

#### Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River - Group A/Full Fee

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River project was added to the 2003 Florida Forever project list at the December 5, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

The essential parcels are identified as the Baldwin Bay LLC, Brandy Branch LLC, International Paper, and International Paper Realty ownerships. The essential parcels should be mapped and appraised before the nonessential parcels.

#### Coordination

Portions of this project may be acquired in partnership with Daval County. The St. Johns River Water Management District is also interested in acquisition of the project.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary land management goal for the Division of Forestry is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. This ecosystem approach will guide the Division of Forestry's management activities on this project.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for State Designation

Based upon a review of the Florida Forever Act, this project meets the following Goals and Measures, as outlined in Statute, for significant landscapes, for mcneasing natural-resource based recreation, and for restoring such natural functions as protection of the floodplain, sorface waters, and functional wetland systems. This project also has a great prospect for sustainable forestry, *Manager* 

The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the project under a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system. Management would be designed to accomplish the goals and measures for this project.

#### **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

There are major restoration challenges that will need to be addressed if the Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River proposal is purchased. The entire site is affected by logging roads and ditches that have impacted hydrology. The decreased hydroperiod has allowed exotic and upland species to encroach into wetlands, particularly in the areas around Baldwin Bay and in the wet flatwoods and dome swamps that are surrounded by pine plantations. To restore normal hydrology, ditches will need to be filled and plugged and roads closed and lowered to grade.

Much of this site (59 percent) has been converted to intensive silviculture. Recent clearcuts and slash piles mur the landscape. Intensive site prep activities such as roller chopping and bedding have severely disturbed the ground vegetation and soils. Fire suppression has led to woody species encroachment and deep needle litter build-up in the understories of some of the pine plantations.

Invasive exotic plant and animals were documented on the Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River site, but if measures are taken soon, these invasives can be controlled with reasonable effort. Chinese tallow tree (Sapium sebiferum), Japanese climbing fern (Lygodium japonicum), and Cogon grass (Imperata cylindrica) were observed. There were also numerous signs of feral hog digging within the site.

#### Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

Once the project area is acquired and assigned to the Division of Forestry, public access will be provided for low intensity outdoor recreation activities. The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the site as a part of Cary State Forest, and the Jacksonville District personnel will carry out management activities and coordinate public access and use.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

As mentioned above, timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Due to the existing condition of the timber resource on the property, revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be low-medium.

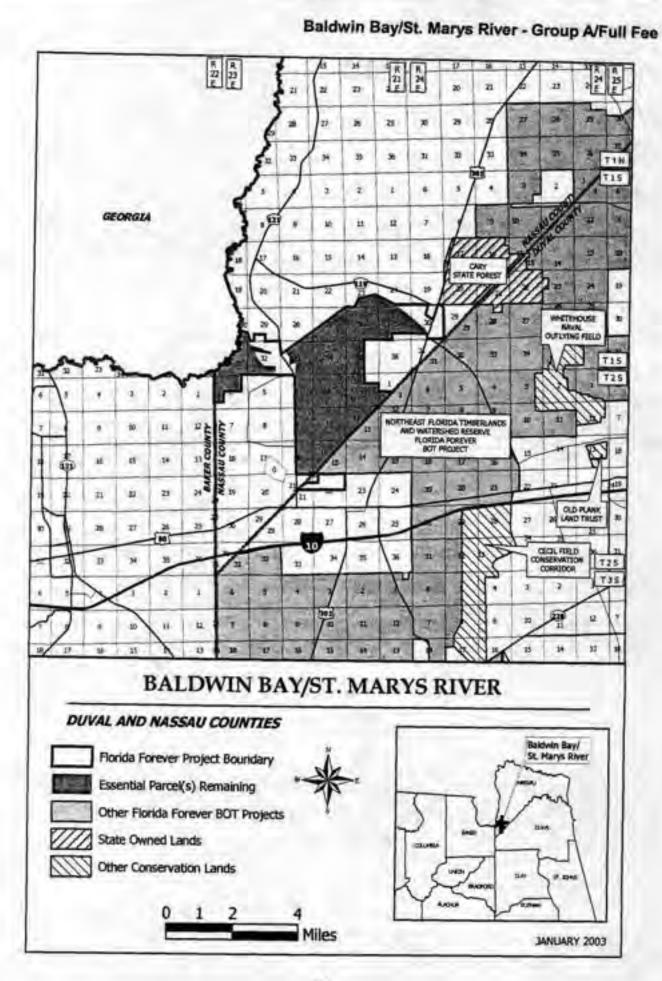
#### **Cooperators in management activities**

The Division of Forestry will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL trust fund. Budget needs for interim management are estimated as follows.

SALARY (X FTE)	\$231,839
EXPENSE	\$140,000
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$354,600
TOTAL	\$ 726,439



## Battle of Wahoo Swamp - Group A/Full Fee

# **Battle of Wahoo Swamp**

## Sumter County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Battle of Wahoo Swamp project is located in Sumter County, and consists of approximately 854 acres. The project, if acquired, will preserve a Second Seminole War battle site as well as protect habitat for several rare plant species. This battlefield may represent the best-preserved site of its kind, and would offer opportunities to increase public awareness of Florida history during the Second Seminole War (1835-1842). The battles that occurred here were in response to the 1835 ambush and annihilation by Seminole warriors of 100 men under the command of Major Francis Dade, now memorialized at the Dade Battlefield-located about 10 miles from Wahoo Swamp.

#### Manager

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Recreation and Parks proposes to manage the property.

#### **General Description**

The Battle of Wahoo Swamp site consists of 850 acres in eastern Sumter County, approximately four miles east of the Withlacoochee River and six miles west of I-75 and Bushnell. The northeast corner of the site that extends across County Road 48 lies only 0.2 mile from the extreme southwest corner of the Jumper Creek Tract of Withlacoochee State Forest. Dade Battlefield, a historical site managed by Florida DEP Division of Recreation and Parks, lies about five miles southeast of Wahoo Swamp. The natural communities on the Wahoo site largely include "islands" of hardwood hammock, or upland mixed forest, scattered throughout an extensive wetland matrix of freshwater marsh and cy-

Group	A
Full F	ee

press swamp. The project consists of a fee simple acquisition of the battlefield area and less-than-fee acquisition over the remainder of the project. The acquisition of development rights and the prohibition of any further conversion of existing natural areas to agricultural uses will likely be the primary focus of the conservation easement.

#### **Public Use**

The property has diversity for limited quantities of resource-based recreational pursuits. The project's most important resource is cultural as a Seminole war battle site. Primary emphasis should be placed on interpretation of the historic elements of this site to the public. Varied public recreational uses could include camping, pienicking, nature appreciation, hiking, and battle re-enactments. The project also provides opportunities for wildlife viewing and nature study.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

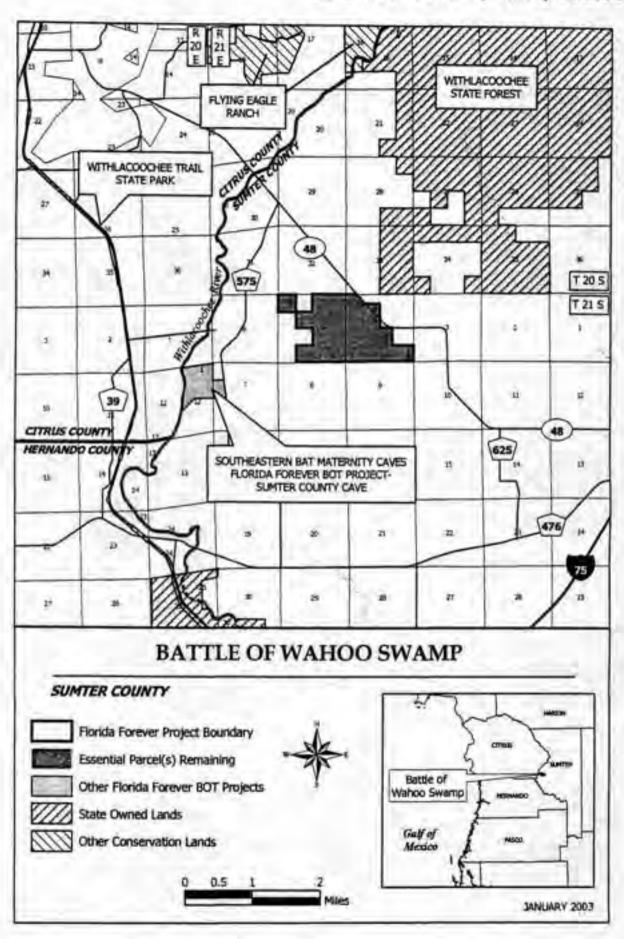
The Battle of Wahoo Swamp project was added to the 2003 Florida Forever project list at the December 5, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

The essential parcel is identified as the Hamilton ownership. This is a single-owner project, with five parcels that total 832.5 acres. The fee-simple portion of the project should be mapped and appraised before proceeding with the less-than-fee portion of the project.

FNAI Elements	Ş
Craighead's nodding-caps	G1/S1
Modest spleen wort	G1/S1
Curtiss's spleen wort	G1/S1
Rickett's nodding-caps	G1/S1
Hybrid spleen wort	G1/S1
Florida spiny pod	G2/S2
Long-horned rein orchid	G4/S1
11 elements known fro	m project

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	850
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	850
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$30,218

Battle of Wahoo Swamp - Group A/Full Fee



### Battle of Wahoo Swamp - Group A/Full Fee

#### Coordination

There are no parmership funding sources at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

Although proposed originally for its archaeological values, the Battle of Wahoo Swamp site also supports many rare plant and animal species and examples of intact natural communities. The rocky hardwood hammocks and surrounding wetlands on this proposal represent high quality examples of a landscape that has been heavily altered by conversion to pasture and residential development throughout central Florida. This site is one of the few remaining in Florida that support the suite of rare ferns and orchids associated with limestone outcrops and grottoes. Nearby similar sites have been drained and filled, mined for limerock, and invaded by exotic species.

## Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

Although the project evidences past uses, its present condition is good quality hardwood hammock, freshwater slough and mursh. The greater significance of the site is in the location of a battle between U.S. forces and Seminole Indians during the Second Seminole War. The battle was fought within the project and compliments the history of two nearby state parks, Dade Battlefield Historic State Park and Fort Cooper Historic State Park. It is the complimentary aspect of this property that makes the project desirable as a unit of the state park system. Management of the project as a unit of the state park system is contingent upon acquiring fee ntle.

#### Manager

The Florida DEP Division of Recreation and Parks proposes to manage the property.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

Management is generally expected to entail basic resource management, such as securing and protecting the property, while a management plan is completed. As the project is in a relatively natural state, there will not be a need for any high level resource restoration as can be the case with many projects. Prudent control of public access will be needed to protect and preserve any physical historic elements of the site. Management should provide for uses and recreational activities that are compatible with the protection of the rare and sensitive resources.

#### Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

Once the project is acquired and assigned to the Division of Recreation and Parks, the acquired lands will be secured and management planning implemented. There is no infrastructure on the site. Access for low intensity resource-based recreation will be initially accommodated and may include the installation of a starter kit at an appropriate time and location. At some future date, historic reenactment of the battle may be included within the interpretive element of the site.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. As public use is increased and interpretive programs, particularly a reenactment program, implemented, revenue is expected to be generated. The degree of any future revenue generated would depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities placed on the land.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project. The Division of Recreation and Parks will cooperate with and seek the advice of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue

The project is proposed for both fee simple and lessthan-fee acquisition. The purchase of development rights and the prohibition of any further conversion of existing natural areas to agricultural uses will likely be the primary focus of the conservation easement. Approximately 200 acres is to be acquired in fee, and approximately 650 acres is to be acquired less-than-fee.

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL Trust Fund. Estimated Budget needs for interim management are as follows:

Salary (1FTE)	\$28,000
Expense	30,000
Operating Capital Outlay	60,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	350,000
Total	\$468,000

# **Belle Meade**

**Collier** County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The cypress swamps and old-growth slash pine flatwoods in the Belle Meade project, extending to the fast-developing suburbs of Naples, are still important for such endangered wildlife as Florida panthers, redcockaded woodpeckers, and Florida black bear. Belle Meade is also the watershed for Rookery Bay. The Belle Meade project will conserve the westernmost large natural area in southwest Florida, protect some of the southernmost populations of several rare animals, and help protect the quality of the subtropical estuary of Rookery Bay, while providing a large area for recreation in a natural environment to residents of and visitors to rapidly urbanizing southwest Florida.

#### Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

#### **General Description**

This project includes some of the most extensive examples of old-growth wet flatwoods (hydric pine flatwoods) in southwest Florida, and high quality, undisturbed subtropical dwarf cypress savanna communities, a plant community type endemic to southern Florida not within other projects. The hydrology of the hydric pine flatwoods and dwarf cypress communities within the project is relatively intact. The project will protect habitat for at least 20 FNAI-listed plants and animals, including the Florida panther, red-cockaded woodpecker, and Florida black bear. Three archaeological sites have been recorded within the project is vulnerable to changes in the timing and amount of water flowing through it. Residential and commercial

FNAI Elements	
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G2/S2
Florida panther	G4T1/S1
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Bird's nest spleenwort	G4G5/S1
Cow-horned orchid	G57/S1
Delicate ionopsis	G4G5/S1
Ghost orchid	G?/S2
20 elements known from	project

## Group A Full Fee

development spreading from Naples is the primary threat.

#### Public Use

The project will provide a state forest with uses such as hiking, hunting and nature appreciation. Uses will be limited during the wet seasons.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

In 1995, the LAMAC approved the addition of 2,220 acres at the request of three willing sellers. The acreage was included in the original project boundary, but was deleted during the redefinition of the project boundary by the Belle Meade Work Group appointed by the Council in 1994.

The 1994 Work Group consisted of landowners, representatives of local government, the water management district, state agencies and others with local expertise. The boundary recommended by the Work Group included what were thought to be primarily willing sellers—approximately 500 ownerships.

On July 16, 1996, the LAMAC approved the addition of five of the eight tracts requested for addition by previously unwilling sellers. On October 30, 1996, the LAMAC approved a "Landowner Request Zone" (in effect, all tracts considered on July 16, 1996). The zone defined areas in which a landowner may request inclusion in the boundary in writing. The Division of State Lands is authorized to approve the request and proceed with acquisition work, subject to certain conditions. Highest priority must be given to parcels located within the LAMAC approved December 1994

Placed on list	1993
Project Area (Acres)	28,506
Acres Acquired	19,107
at a Cost of	\$37,769,203
Acres Remaining	9,399
with Estimated /Tay Assasso	Value of \$13.346.896

#### Belle Meade - Group A/Full Fee

boundaries. Developed parcels should not be acquired. Negotiations are ongoing.

#### Coordination

There are no acquisition partners at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Belle Meade project are to conserve and protect unaltered wet flatwoods and cypress swamps that provide significant habitat for many rare and endangered species of wildlife, including the Florida panther; and to conserve and restore these important ecosystems, their significant wildlife resources, and their critical hydrological connection to the Gulf Coast through purchase because regulation cannot adequately protect them. The project will be managed under the multiple-use concept, with management activities being directed toward protection of old-growth forests (using growing-season burns where necessary) and restoration of natural surfacewater flows. The project, when completed, will link Collier-Seminole State Park and the future Picayane Strand State Forest and will approach the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve; it will be large enough to achieve the primary management goals.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Belle Meade project has the forest resources (extensive areas of old-growth South Florida slash pine) and the location (twelve miles of common border with the Picayune Strand) to make it highly suitable for management as a state forest.

Manager The DOF is recommended as manager. Conditions affecting intensity of management Portions of the project may require hydrological restoration, but these activities will probably be conducted by the water management district. There are no other known disturbances that will require extraordinary attention, so the DOF expects its management efforts to be typical for a state forest.

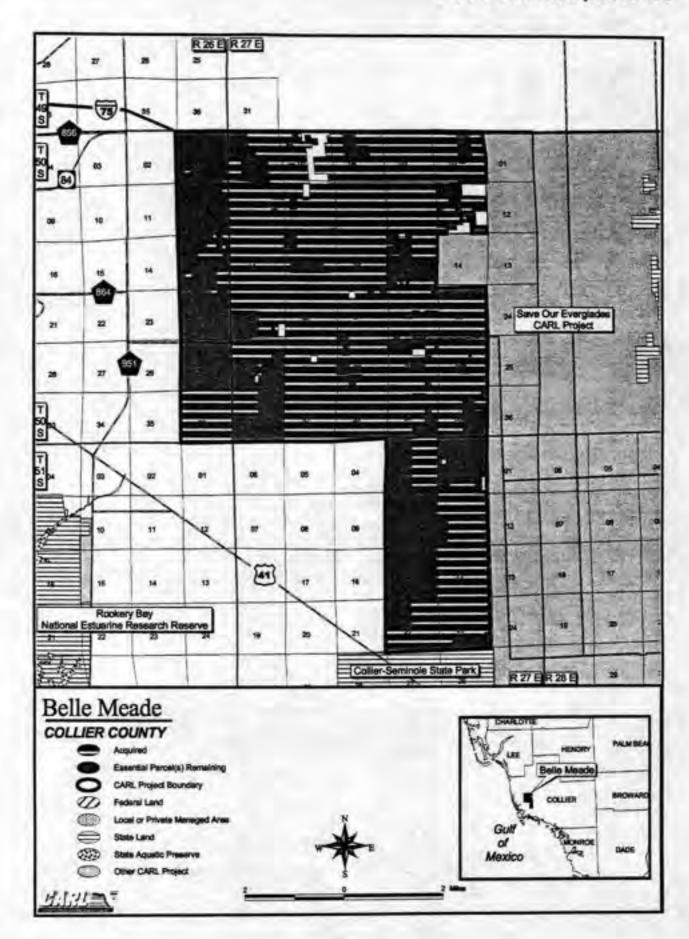
Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Once the core area is acquired, the DOF will provide access for low intensity outdoor recreation. Initial activities include securing the site, providing public and fire management access, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The sites' natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to develop a management plan. Long-range plans for this project will restore disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. Some of the pinelands have been degraded by timbering and require restoration. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

Revenue-generating potential The DOF will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The DOF will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

Management costs and sources of revenue It is anticipated that management funding for this project will be appropriated from the CARL management fund. Budget needs for interim management are covered under the Save Our Everglades/Golden Gate Project.

Category	mmary Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$9,140	\$9,140
Expense	\$0	\$0
000	\$44,000	\$0
FCO	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$53,140	\$9,140



## Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch - Group A/Less Than Fee

# **Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch**

### **Osceola** County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Many kinds of wildlife live in the expanses of palmetto prairies, pine flatwoods, and cypress swamps in Osceola County. The Big Bend Swamp project will acquire certain rights from landowners to maintain a link of natural lands between the Bull Creek and Three Lakes Wildlife Management Areas, and help to ensure the survival of caracara, red-cockaded woodpeckers, sandhill cranes, and other wildlife that require these large natural areas.

#### Manager (Monitor)

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (lead); Division of Forestry, (DOF) Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Servies (cooperating).

#### General Description

The Big Bend Swamp project includes a diverse sample of the natural environments of central Florida. Natural communities on the project are in good condition because the uplands have been burned regularly. Mesic flatwoods and dry prairie cover 40% of the project. These communities are interrupted by Big Bend Swamp, which is a large cypress-dominated strand swamp, and smaller dome swamps, depression marshes, wet prairies, and hydric hammocks. Fire-suppressed scrub also occurs in patches. Disturbed areas, largely improved pasture or sod farms, cover 18% of the project. No FNAI-listed plants are known from the project, but the Big Bend Swamp may be particularly important for up to 30 rare animal species that require large areas of flatwoods, prairie, and wetlands, such as red-cockaded woodpeckers, Florida sandhill cranes, Florida grasshopper sparrows, Sherman's fox squirrels, swallow-tailed kites, and crested caracaras.

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a wildlife management area, with uses such as hunting, hiking, and wildlife observation. Public use will depend on agreements with landowners.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Essential parcels are Bronson, Partin, Ridgewood Ranch, Oberry, Gannarelli, Whaley, Lee Ranch, and Smith. Conservation easements have been negotiated on three of the essential parcels. Negotiations are pending on the others.

On April 25, 2002 the Council added 5,714 acres to the boundary of the project.

#### Coordination

There are no acquisition partners at this time.

FNAI Elemen	ts
SCRUB	G2/S2
Eastern indigo snake	G4T3/S3
Short-tailed hawk	G47/S3
DRY PRAIRIE	G2/S2
Gopher Tortoise	G3/S3
Gopher Tortoise 11 elements known fr	

Placed on list	2000
Project Area (Acres)	64,502
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	50
Acres Remaining	64,502

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$38,884,024

## Group A Less Than Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

The Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch Lands protect includes nearly 50,000 acres and is comprised of a mosiac of upland and wetland natural communities that serve as important integral portions of a large southcentral Florida natural area. These communities include cypress strands, mesic flatwoods, dome swamp, wet prairie, scrub and baygall. Ownership and management of these communities is important to the protection of the natural system comprising the Kissimmer. River Basin and will form important adjunct lands for a public lands complex already under management (or proposed for management) by FWC. Additionally, this complex of natural communities serves as important habitat for such listed bird species as the Florida grasshopper sparrow, the Florida sandhill crane, redcockaded woodpecker, American swallow-tailed kite, and is of special importance to the burrowing owl. Most of the characteristic vertebrates of the Kissimmee Basin require vast tracts of land to support viable populations. This project, though largely contemplated for less-than-fee purchase, consists of a variety of wetland and upland habitats that support a broad diversity of wildlife, both common and rare. Several islands of scrub provide habitat for such species as gopher tortoises and Florida scrub jays. The Big Bend Swamp / Holopaw Ranch proposal has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area, and portions of the project have the potential to provide the public with opportunities for activities such as hunting, hiking and wildlife observation. The FWC is recommended as lead manager, with the DOF as cooperating managers.

#### Management Prospectus

Management goals and multiple-use activities contemplated Priority will be given to conservation and protection of native wildlife species' habitats, and especially to that of threatened and endangered species. Management actions on fee simple acquisitions will be designed to conserve, protect, and restore important ecosystems and plant communities. FWC will work with landowners on less-than-fee purchases to oversee conservation casement provisions negotiated for the Trustees' by the Division of State Lands and FWC. The lands within this project will provide a variety of multiple-use activities including hunting, fishing, camping, boating, hiking, horseback riding, environmental education, ecotourism and other natural resource-based recreational activities, as well as the opportunity to generate revenues from timber management, cattle-grazing and public recreational uses.

Conditions affecting the intensity of management The lands within this proposal are generally considered to be low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management, including the use of frequent prescribed fire. However, special precautions and frequent coordination will be necessary for any contemplated hydrological and plant community restoration projects, and for prescribed burning activities, since ranchers and other landowners will continue to maintain a presence on many of these properties. Additionally, if negotiated provisions allow, some low-level public-use activities may be allowed on lands acquired under conservation casements.

Timetable for implementing management, protecting infrastructure and ensuring security During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on securing and posting boundaries, assuring public access to the tract, surveying wildlife and plant communities, restoring fire regimes, and establishing relationships with adjacent landowners. A management plan for the tract will be prepared, to include formation of an appropriate Management Advisory Group that includes stakeholders in the management of these lands.

Long-range activities on the property will include securing and stabilizing roads for public access, developing hiking / horseback riding trails, and developing camping and nature interpretive programs that key on facilities being provided on the adjacent Three Lakes WMA. An all-season prescribed burning program will be established using both aerial and ground ignition techniques. Whenever possible, existing roads, trails and firebreaks will be used to control both prescribed and natural fires. Infrastructure development will be kept to the minimum required to allow public access, provide facilities and manage the property.

Also for the long-term, FWC will seek to maintain and establish rapport with landowners adjacent to the WMA; provide technical assistance and advice in order to assure the welfare of ecosystem components such as wetlands, and establish working relationships with local representatives of regulatory agencies (i.e., Water Management Districts, counties, DEP, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, etc.) so that if conflicts arise solutions can be quickly sought.

Floral and faunal inventories will be continually updated by Commission biologists through opportunistic

#### Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch - Group A/Less Than Fee

observations and systematic surveys. Inventory data will be supplemented as available with data from other sources which may include, but not be limited to, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Recreation and Parks, Division of Forestry, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, The Nature Conservancy, Water Management Districts, or other private contractors.

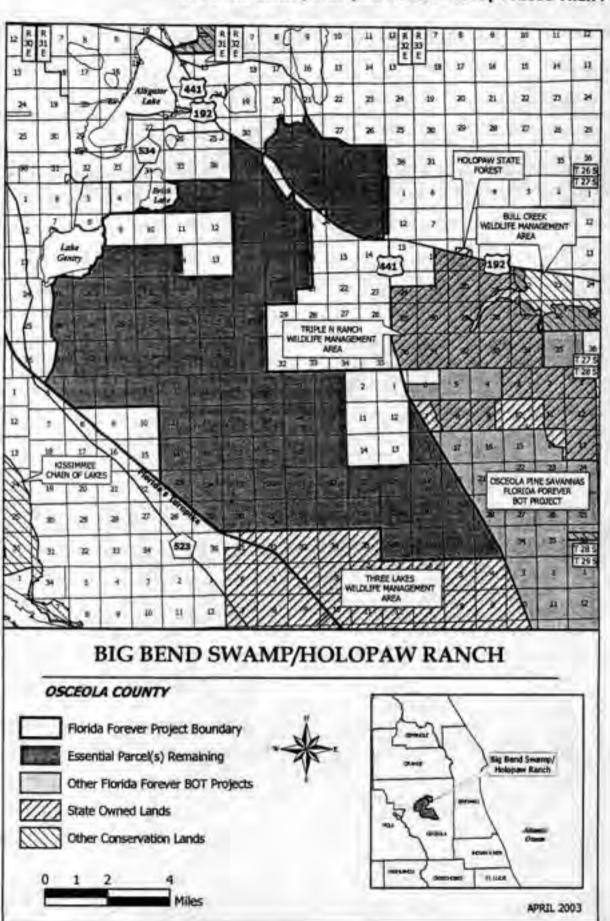
Over the long-term, some previously-disturbed sites will be restored or managed to specifically benefit wildlife species that thrive in early successional plant communities. Selected sites may be planted with native or non-invasive agronomic plants to: (1) provide dove hunting opportunities, (2) provide high quality forage for quail, dove, deer, and wild turkey, and / or (3) to enhance wildlife viewing opportunities.

Estimates of revenue-generating potential Much of the proposed area consists of present or former ranch lands and mesic flatwoods with scattered longleaf or slash pine. Some revenues might be generated on feesimple portions of the acquisition through judicious stocking of cattle, or through timber management by means of a wildlife-oriented forest management plan developed with the assistance of the Division of Forestry. Also, fees could be established for touring the area to view the plant and animal communities through ecotourism programs being developed on the adjacent WMA. A \$25 wildlife management area stamp would be required to hunt on the portions of the area acquired in fee simple. For areas where only conservation easements are acquired, FWC will be bound by negotiations between landowners and the Division of State Lands. However, if negotiated provisions allow, there may be some opportunities on these lands for generating revenues from low-level hunting activities such as quota hunts, or special-opportunity hunts.

Recommendations for other governmental agency involvement The FWC will cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies in managing the area, but will seek special assistance from the Florida Division of Forestry in management of forest resources and implementation of prescribed buruing programs.

Revenue sources, management costs and employees needed Funding of requisite positions, OPS, expenses and OCO would come from the Conservation and Recreationation Lands (CARL) Trust Fund, and the State Game Trust Fund as needed. Since these lands are adjacent to an existing land complex being managed by FWC, initial staffing would be limited to one Binlogical Scientist III and one Fish and Wildlife Technician.

Management Cos	t Summary	FWC		
Category	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL	
Salaries	\$72,311	\$74,480	\$76,714	
OPS	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500	
Expense	\$32,424	\$32,424	\$32,424	
000	\$72,500	\$0	\$0	
FCO	50	\$0	\$0	
TOTALS	\$182,735	\$112,404	\$114,638	
Source of Funds Salaries OPS Expense OCO FCO	CARL \$72,311 \$5,500 \$32,424 \$72,500 \$0	CARL \$74,480 \$5,500 \$32,424 \$0 \$0	CARL \$76,714 \$5,500 \$32,424 \$0 \$0	4



Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch - Group A/Less Than Fee

## Bombing Range Ridge - Group A/Full Fee

# **Bombing Range Ridge**

## **Polk and Osceola Counties**

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Public acquisition of this project would conserve and protect significant habitat for native species and endangered and threatened species. Additionally, public acquisition would provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource based recreation.

## Manager

The Division of Forestry and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will manage all but approximately 540 acres in the north portion of the project. The 540 acres, lying adjacent to Rosalie Creek, will be managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks.

## **General Description**

The 39,000-acre Bombing Range Ridge and Flatwoods project, with flatwoods, marshes, swamps, hammocks, and part of a scrub ridge, connects Avon Park Air Force Range, Lake Kissimmee State Park, and South Florida Water Management District land. It provides critical habitat for at least 20 rare animals, including redcockaded woodpeckers, snail kites, Florida scrub jays, and grasshopper sparrows. Water resources adjacent to the project include the Kissimmee River, Lake Rosalie, Tiger Lake, Lake Walk-in-Water, and several creeks and marshes; the scrub ridge is a recharge area. The remains of Sumica, a 19th-century town, are in the project, and there are probably more archaeological and historical sites in the area.

## Public Use

The area can support a range of recreation from hiking and primitive camping to canoeing, fishing, and hunting.

FNAI Elements	5
Cutthroat grass	G2/S2
Nodding pinweed	G3/S2
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
Florida scrub jay	G3/S3
Snail kite	G4G5T1/S1
Crested caracara	G5/S2
Swallow-tailed kite	G5/S2S3
Limpkin	G5/S3
21 elements known from	n project

# Group A Full Fee

### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project is divided into Priority I and Priority II areas. Essential parcels are Priority I, especially Wheeler, Avatar, Winter Haven Christian School, Lightsey, River Ranch Landowners Association Members, Polk County, and the Patrick Nee ownerships.

A resolution of the Polk County Board of County commissioners dated August 19, 1997 gives high priority to the Bombing Range Ridge project and supports the acquisition through the CARL program.

In 1998 Polk County and the SFWMD acquired the Sumica tract (4,167 acres).

In 2001 the ARC added 1,521 acres to the project at the request of the landowners.

In 2002 the ARC removed approximately 1,000 acres at various locations in the project owned by approximately 400 land owners who opposed being included in the state's acquisition list.

On August 15, 2003 the ARC added the 1,691-acre Brahma Island tract to the project boundaries.

The partner of the Division of State Lands is The Nature Conservancy (TNC), who has acquired an option agreement (2,351 acres). TNC will continue work on the state's behalf on other tracts in the project.

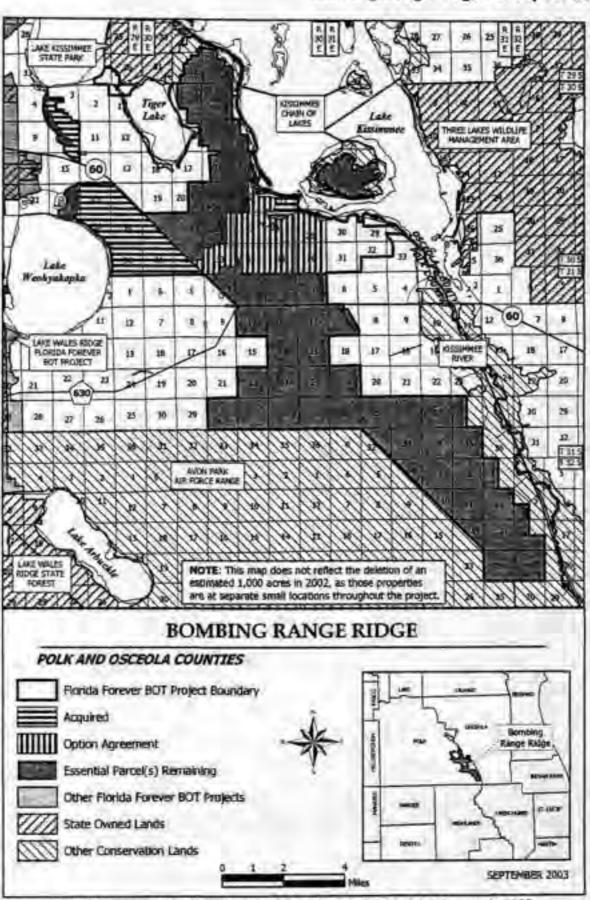
### Coordination

About 2 percent of the parcels within the project are either county owned or county tax certificates. The county has expressed interest in giving the land to the state and letting the state manage it, selling the parcels

Placed on list	1996
Project Area (Acres)	44,439
Acres Acquired	9,460
at a Cost of	\$15,953,388*
Acres Remaining	34,979
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$15,080,953

\* Including dollars spent and acres acquired by South Florids Water Mgt. District, and Polk County

Bombing Range Ridge - Group A/Full Fee



Note: This map does not reflect the deletion of an estimated 1,000 acres in 2002. as those properties are at separate small locations throughout the project.

#### Bombing Range Ridge - Group A/Full Fee

to the state, or exchanging the parcels with the state for other parcels outside the proposal. The Nature Conservancy is an intermediary on this project.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Bombing Range Ridge project are: to conserve and protect critical habitat for rare, endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Bombing Range Ridge and Flatwoods project is a vast area of good-quality flatwoods together with marshes, swamps, hammocks and scrub. The project contains valuable habitat for numerous listed bird species. Approximately 400 acres of the northwest corner of the project is adjacent to the Lake Kissimmee State Park. The area is largely a wetland through which Rosalie Creek flows. Rosalie Creek is a dramage joining Lake Rosalie with Tiger Lake. A portion of the creek is already a part of the park. Additionally, the project's size and diversity make it desirable for use and management as a state forest. Management by the Division of Forestry as a state forest is contingent upon the state obtaming legal public access to the site and acquiring fee simple title to the core parcels.

Manager The Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry (DOF) is recommended as lead manager. The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) is recommended for the Oglesby and Beerman parcels in the northeast section of the project.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The project includes a "high-need" management area. Public use and recreation facility development would be accomplished in a manner compatible with long-term resource protection.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The DOF proposes to manage the site as a unit of the Lake Wales Ridge State Forest (LWRSF), and consequently, management activities will be conducted utilizing district and LWRSF personnel. Initial or intermediate efforts of the Division of Forestry will concentrate on site security, public and fire management access, resource

inventory, and removal of existing trash. Steps will be taken to insure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. Vehicular use by the public will be confined to designated roads and unnecessary access points will be closed. An inventory of the site's natural resources and threatened and endangered flora and fauna will be conducted to provide the basis for formulation of a management plan.

Upon fee title acquisition, the DRP proposes to provide public access for low intensity, non-facility related outdoor recreation activities. Particular emphasis will be given to protection of Rosalie Creek and its surrounding ecological system. Resource management activities in the first year of each fee title acquisition will concentrate on site security including posting boundaries and development of a resource inventory in conjunction with the development of a comprehensive management plan. Long-term management of the 540 acres would include resource-based recreation and associated facilities compatible with the resources.

Revenue-generating potential Timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in upland pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be moderate.

Cooperators in management activities The DOF and the DRP will cooperate with local governments, other state agencies, and the water management district to further resource management, recreational and educational opportunities, and the use of the lands for state park purposes.

#### Management Cost Summary/DRP

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$1,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$1,000	\$0

Management Cost	Summary/DO	F
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$86,412	\$0
OPS	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$70,000	\$0
000	\$136,400	\$0
TOTAL	\$292,812	\$0

## Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee Small Holdings

## Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem Group A: Full Fee Brevard County Group A: Small Holdings

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The strip of coastal scrub that once paralleled the indian River in Brevard County is now a set of small fragments surrounded by housing developments. The Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem project will preserve a few of the best fragments, thus helping to ensure the survival of the endangered scrub jay and scrub itself in the county, and providing areas where the public can learn about and appreciate this unique landscape.

#### Manager

Brevard County will manage the original six sites, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will manage the six sites added in 1996.

#### **General Description**

Theproject includes twenty areas considered essential to the preservation of scrub, mesic and scrubby flatwoods, floodplain marsh and marsh lake along the Atlantic Coastal Ridge and St. John's River marshes. Acquisition and management of these core areas are

Full Fee FNAI Elements		
Scrub mint	G1/S1	
Coastal hoary-pea	G1T1/S1	
SCRUB	G2/S2	
Pine pinweed	G2/S2	
Wild coco	G2G3/S2	
Sand butterfly pea	G2G3Q/S2S3	
Hay scented fern	G4/S1	
FLOODPLAIN MARSH	G37/S2	
32 elements known	from project	

Small Holdings FNA	Al Elements
SCRUB	G2/S2
Florida scrub-jay	G3/S3
Curtiss' milkweed	G3/S3
Large-flowered rosemary	G3/S3
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
WET FLATWOODS	G3/S3
Bald eagle	G4/S3
DEPRESSION MARSH	G4?/S3
12 elements known t	from project

imperative for the survival of the Florida Scrub Jay on the East Coast of Florida. The tracts comprising this project also support several rare vertebrates and at least eight rare plant species, including a very rare mint. All of the tracts in the project are surrounded by development and several peripheral areas are already being destroyed. The rapid encroachment of housing developments is likely to completely eliminate any unprotected scrub and adjacent flatwoods communities of Brevard County in the very near future. No archaeological sites are known from the project.

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a wildlife and environmental area with limited public use, including picnicking and environmental education.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The original project (Scrub Jay Refuge) consisted of six sites. <u>Micco site is 1,322 acres. Tico site is 2,421</u> acres - Gran Central is major owner. <u>Rockledge site is</u> 2,591 acres with three larger ownerships - Barge and Tabacchi and Duda; the remainder is subdivided. <u>Condev site (removed from boundary 12/19/00) con-</u> sists of 52 acres and two owners - Nelson and SR 405 Ltd.

On July 14, 1995, the LAMAC approved the addition of four sites to the project boundary (Scrub Jay Refuge) - Dicerandra Scrub, Malabar Scrub Sanctusry, Canova Beach Scrub (removed from boundary 12/19/ 00) and Jordan Boulevard. The county has acquired the Dicerandra and Malabar sites.

Placed on list	1993*
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	38,691
Acres Acquired	17,247**
at a Cost of	\$30,346,081
Acres Remaining	21,444
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value	of \$37,404,360

"Original project

Includes acreage acquired by Brevard County & SJRWMD, Full Fee and Small Holdings

### Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem -Group A/Full Fee Small Holdings

During 1996, six new sites were evaluated and added to the existing project. The Fox Lake Complex is 9,189 acres, the <u>Titusville Wellfield</u> site is 972 acres, <u>Wickham Road</u> (removed from boundary 12/19/00) is 822 acres, <u>Micco Expansion</u> is 1,833 acres. The project was renamed Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem at the December 5, 1996, LAMAC meeting.

In 1997 the Scrub Jay Refuge and the Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem projects were combined.

The small holdings consists of four sites. The <u>Valkaria</u> Site is approximately 2,764 acres with multiple owners. The <u>South Babcock</u> site is 445 acres and contains multiple ownerships. The <u>Grissom Parkway</u> is 2,962 acres and the <u>Ten Mile Ridge</u> site is 529 acres. On December 3, 1998, the Council transferred the four sites from the Bargain group. Several of the sites are under active negotiations.

On December 19, 2000, the Acquisition and Restoration Council added 9,528 acres to the project (Malabar expansion and Valkaria/Micco expansion). The Canova Beach, Condev and Wickham Road sites (1,874 acres) were removed from the boundary. The sites are being developed or have become isolated or have had some habitat fragmentation. On May 17, 2001, the Council added 3,529 acres as essential.

On April 25, 2002, the Council added 112 acres to the boundary.

On February 25, 2003 the project was added to the A. List of Florida Forever projects.

On December 5, 2003, the Council added 7,444 acres to the boundary.

The Division of State Lands (DSL) partner is The Nature Conservancy (TNC) who continues a steady flow of acquisition within the project.

#### Coordination

Brevard County is an acquisition partner and has committed \$10 million towards the acquisition of the project and \$2.6 million for site management. The Nature Conservancy is under contract to the county to provide assistance with acquisition of the county's projects.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; and to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation Scrub on the Atlantic Coastal Ridge is one of the most endangered natural upland communities in North America. This unique scrub, with its many rare plants and animals, qualifies the Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem project as a wildlife and environmental area. Manager Brevard County proposes to manage the six original sites of the Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem Project. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commussion will manage the six sites added in 1996.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem Project includes lowneed, moderate-need and high-need tracts. All sites are fire-maintained communities with an immediate need for fire management.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The Brevard County EEL Program is preparing a Conceptual Natural Areas Management Manual for all sanctuary sites. Once these sites are acquired, the EEL Program will work with local, state and federal agencies to develop a Comprehensive Management Plan for longterm management. Initial management activities in this

## Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee Small Holdings

project will focus on site security, burn management, determination of status of listed species, location of a core area for resource protection, identification of passive recreation areas, and the development of innovative environmental education programs.

A management plan will be developed and implemented approximately one year after the completion of this multi-parcel acquisition project, or site-specific management plans will be developed as management units are acquired. The plan will detail how each of the FNAI special elements on each site will be protected and, when necessary, restored. Fire management will be a vital component of each plan.

Long-range plans for this project, beginning approximately one year after acquisition is completed, will be directed towards biodiversity protection, exotic species removal, wetland restoration and enhancement, and the maintenance of links between upland, wetland and estuarine areas. Management will protect biological diversity and listed species. Specific areas will be fenced as needed. Property signs will have appropriate language to enable protection of the property. Unnecessary roads and other disturbances will be identified as areas for restoration. Firebreaks will be cleared where necessary. Infrastructure development will be confined to already disturbed areas and will be low-impact.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue sources are anticipated at this time. Mitigation agreements with USFWS have generated some funds for management within the Valkaria Core area. Implementation and funding of the Scrub Conservation and De

velopment Plan provide a potential source of management funds for these sites. Timber might be sold on some sites where habitat restoration requires thinning. Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue sources are anticipated at this time. Mitigation agreements with USFWS have generated some funds for management within the Valkaria Core area. Implementation and funding of the Scrub Conservation and Development Plan provide a potential source of management funds for these sites. Timber might be sold on some sites where habitat restoration requires thinning Cooperators in management activities Brevard County will require support from the USFWS and other agencies (The Nature Conservancy, Division of Forestry, FWC, and others) to implement a quality management program for scrub communities.

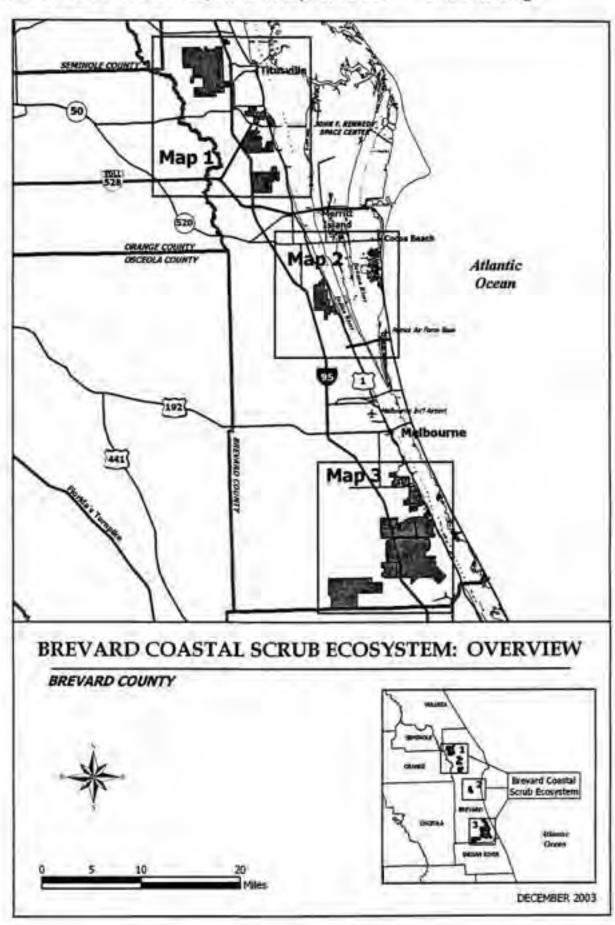
The EEL Selection Committee will aggressively seek matching funds for site management, development of environmental education programs, and for necessary research and monitoring.

Management costs and sources of revenue An interagency partnership among the participating agencies provides opportunities for revenue sharing. The Brevard County EEL Program proposed to act aside \$2.6 million dollars from their excess ad valorem revenues to begin a management endowment for the EEL Program sanctuary network. The EEL Program will work to increase funds for management to be consistent with or exceed State management appropriations.

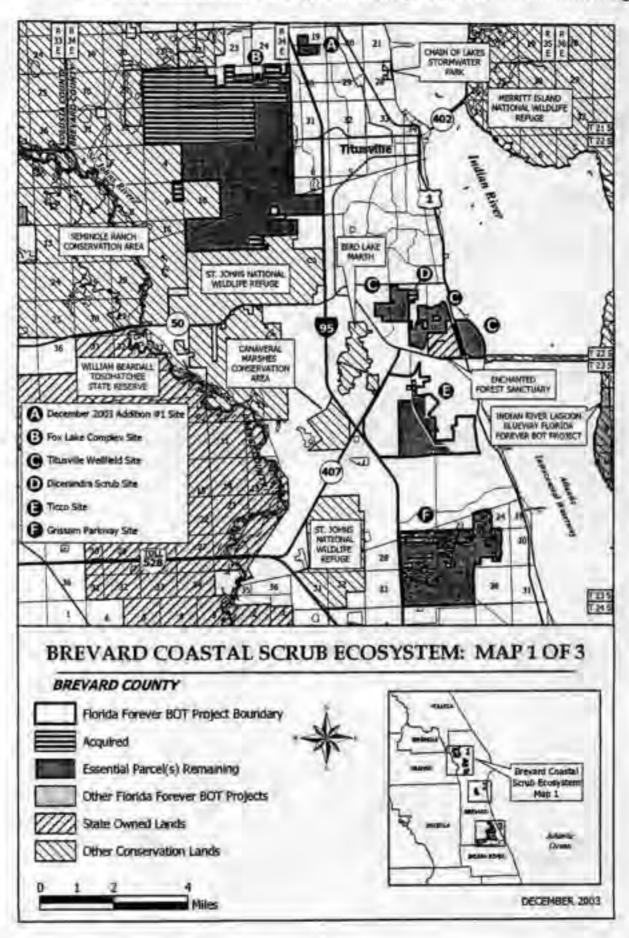
Summary		
1994/95	1995/96	1996/97
County	County	County/Grant
\$0	\$3,500	\$8,750
\$0	\$0	\$35,000
\$500	\$1,000	\$0
\$0	\$0	\$60,000
\$0	\$125,700	\$120,000
\$500	\$130,200	\$213,750
	1994/95 County \$0 \$0 \$500 \$500 \$0 \$0 \$0	1994/95         1995/96           County         County           \$0         \$3,500           \$0         \$0           \$0         \$1,000           \$0         \$1,000           \$0         \$0           \$0         \$100           \$0         \$1,000           \$0         \$1,000           \$0         \$1,000

## Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem -Group A/Full Fee

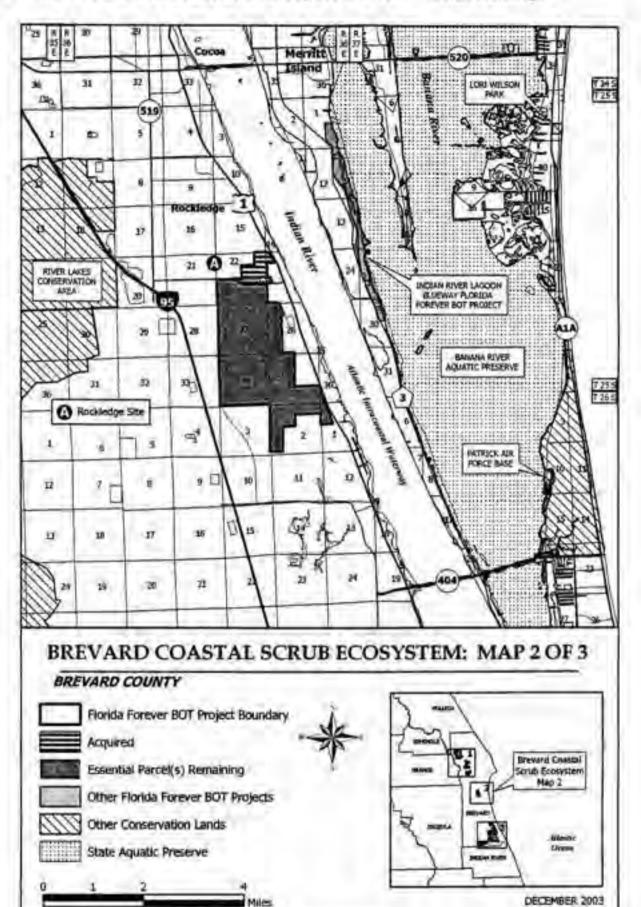
Small Holdings



## Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee Small Holdings

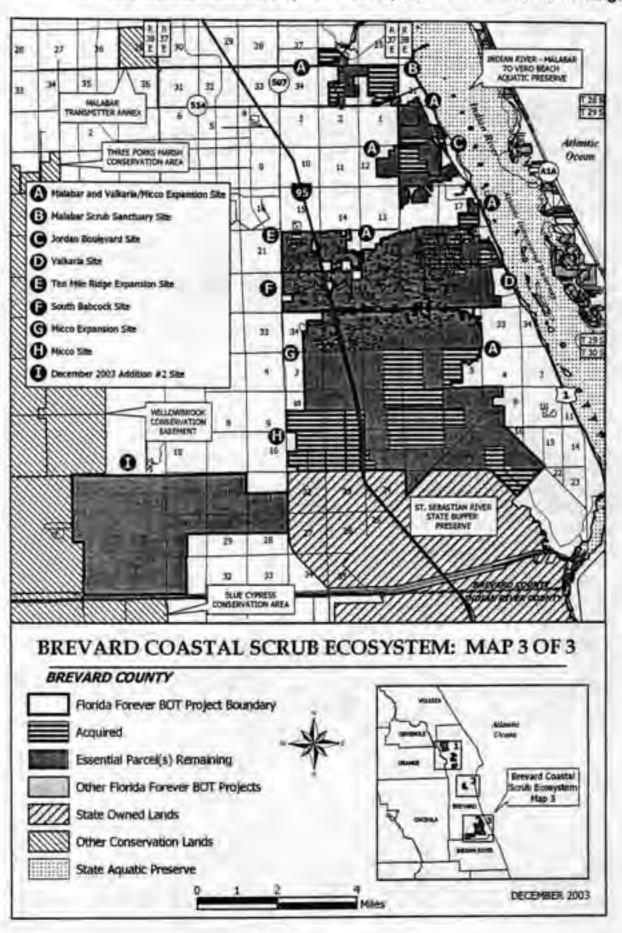






## Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee

Small Holdings



## Caloosahatchee Ecoscape - Group A/Full Fee

## Caloosahatchee Ecoscape Glades and Hendry Counties

## Group A Full Fee

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### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

In order to preserve Florida panthers and black bears large landscape linkages of land must be protected. Although large areas are protected to the south within Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park, both the panther and bear populations are dependent on much of the proposed ranch land in Hendry County. This project connects at its southern boundary by an abandoned rail corridor with the Okaloacoochee Slough project.

### Managers

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

### **General Description**

The project encompasses a mosaic of wet prairies, cypress basin and dome swamp, mesic flatwoods, wet flatwoods, depressional marches and acrub. The majority of the natural communities on the properties have been impacted by clearing and drainage from improved pasture development or farming. Despite the disturbed plant communities, the project provides important habitat for a variety of listed wildlife species. Most of the land is within the Barron Water Control District and canals have altered the natural hydrology to the extent that no significant natural water resources remain. Eleven archaeological sites are known from the project area, some with material dated to the Archaic period.

### Public Use

This project qualifies as a wildlife management area with uses such as hunting, various sorts of trails, camping, and pienicking, among other activities.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

The three largest ownerships, IMC Agrico, Floriland Dairy (Milicevic), and Atlantic Gulf Communities are the essential parcels. The owners of the Floriland Dairy tract (Milicevic) have indicated they would consider negotiating a Less-Than-Fee sale at some time in the future.

On March 26, 1999, the Council added 2,400 acres to the project.

A conservation easement was placed on the LaBelle Ranch (2,994 acres) in 2002.

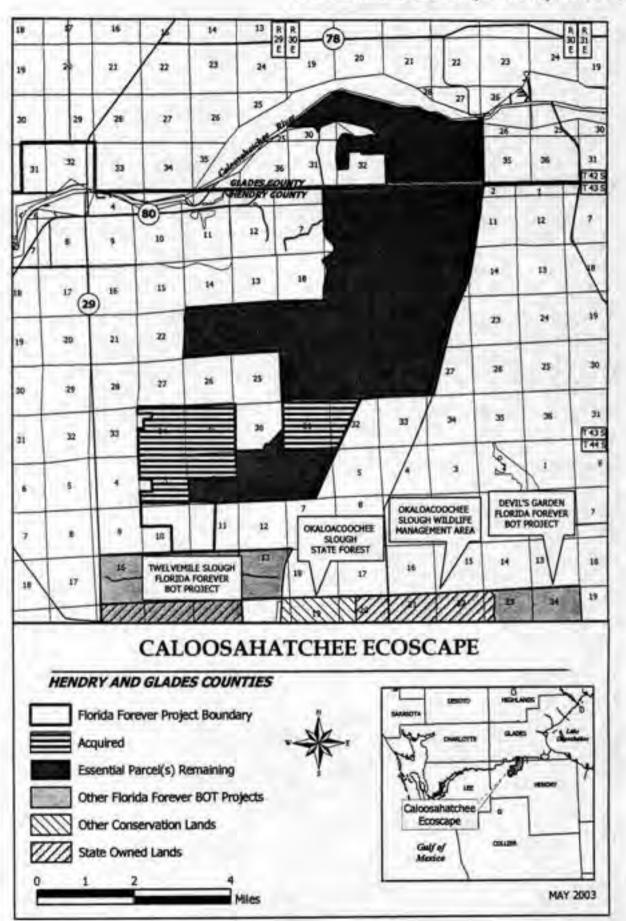
### Coordination

There are no acquisition partners at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

The project area has been highly impacted by timbering and other clearing for farming and grazing. A management goal will be to restore and maintain native plant and animal communities to the extent feasible. A secondary goal will be to provide compatible nature-based recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, camping, hiking and nature study.

FNAI Elements		Placed on list	1998
Florida panther	G5T1/S1		
Wood stork	G4/S2	Project Area (Acres)	18,497
Florida scrub-jay	G3/S3	Acres Acquired	2,994
Crested caracara	G5/S2	termine studention	
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3	at a Cost of	\$2,320,700
Bald eagle	G4//S3	Anna Demaktion	15,503
Yellow-crowned night-heron G5/S3?		Acres Remaining	15,505
18 elements known from project		with Estimated (Tax Assessed)	Value of \$15,333,269



Caloosahatchee Ecoscape - Group A/Full Fee

### Caloosahatchee Ecoscape - Group A/Full Fee

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project will provide a refuge for threatened animals like the Florida panther and black bear, sandhill crane, wood stork, and crested caracara, and a variety of other endangered species, as well as species of special concern. It will protect habitat for game species like white-tailed deer and turkey; and provide the public with a large area for natural-resource-based recreation. The project is also within an area where the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has conducted significant panther and bear research.

Manager Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Conditions affecting intensity of management Hydrologic manipulation and conversion of native range to improved pastures will necessitate habitat restoration. Urbanization within and adjacent to the proposed project boundary will require that any large-scale controlled burning efforts be coordinated between appropriate state and federal agencies and the local affected residents.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure During the first year after acquisition, posting the boundary, erecting entrance signs and resource inventory will be a priority. A conceptual management plan will also be written. Location and control of exotic plant species will be ongoing. The long-term management goals shall be to restore and maintain native plant and ammal communities to the extent feasible, with a secondary goal of providing compatible nature-based recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, camping, hiking and nature study. Establishment of access and other facilities necessary for approved nature-based recreational activities will be developed as funding permits.

Revenue-generating potential This property has historically provided timber and cattle production. Potential revenue sources may include bunting, fishing, eco-tourism, cattle grazing and sustainable timber production.

Cooperators in management activities The FWC will cooperate with other federal, state and local governmental agencies and non-profit organizations in managing the area. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers presently maintains a campground and the locks at Ortona, along the northeastern corner of the Caloosahatchee Ecoscape project boundary. Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway - Group A/Full Fee/Less Than Fee

## Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway Baker, Bradford, Clay and Union Counties Fu

ay Group A Full Fee / Less Than Fee

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Camp Blanding to Osceola project will provide a landscape connector between Camp Blanding on the southeast, the Northeast Florida Timberlands (when acquired) on the east, Raiford Wildlife Management Area on the south and Osceola National Forest on the northwest.

#### Manager

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will be co-managers.

### **General Description**

The Camp Blanding to Osceola National Forest Ecological Greenway project consists of approximately 153,000 acres of land from the northwest corner of Camp Blanding Military Reservation to the southeast boundary of the Osceola National Forest. It connects several managed areas in Baker, Bradford, Clay and Union Counties, resulting in a contiguous area of more than a half a million acres of publicly owned or managed lands in north-central Florida. It overlaps portions of the Northeast Florida Timberlands project. Physiographic features of interest include the Trail Ridge, the eastern boundary of the Cody Scarp and several large wetlands that have been ecologically devalued by silvicultural activities or mining.

#### Public Use

The Camp Blanding to Osceola National Forest project is an expansive area, which could have significant natural resource-based potential if portions of the project were available to the public. Most particular is the block of land west of SR 231 containing Palestine Lake. This

Most of the project is being offered as less-than-fee with limited public access. Through discussion relating to the less-than-fee areas, representatives of the landowner have indicated that they will consider allowing continued limited public uses that are being allowed today.

All trails throughout the project, whether in fee or lessthan-fee areas, have potential for being multiple-use trails with hiking, horseback riding and bicycling. Other recreational opportunities in fee-acquisition areas would include camping, picnicking, and hunting.

Of the activities mentioned, the 2000 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan identifies hunting within the Union and Bradford Counties portion of the project as having a high need for the year 2005 for the region in which these counties are located.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

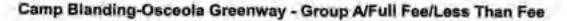
The project contains about 153,000 acres with multiple owners and multiple parcels, and a tax assessed value of \$28,508,089. The tracts in Plum Creek and Wachovia ownership are considered core parcels.

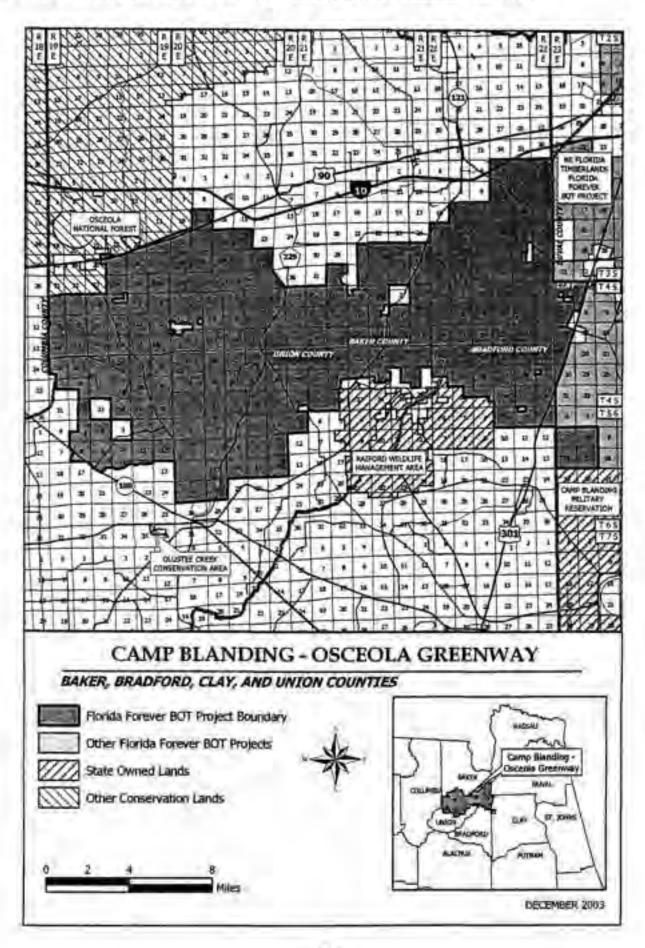
While every effort will be made to acquire the land and easements at the lowest possible price, no indications have been received that the owners are willing to sell for 80 percent of the appraised value or less. Portions of this project are proposed for less-than-fee. There are no acquisition partnerships or alternate funding sources. There are no plans for shared or joint title.

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	153,000
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost Of	0
Acres Remaining	153,000

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$28,508,089

FNAI Elemen	its
Bartram's ixia	G2/S2
Hartwrightia	G2S2
West's flax	G2/S2
Many-lined salamander	G5/S1
Timber rattlesnake	G4/S3
Eastern indigo snake	G3/S3
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
7 elements known from	n project





### Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway - Group A/Full Fee/Less Than Fee

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the project to the Florida Forever list.

### Management Policy Statement

Areas of the project purchased in fee simple will be managed to perpetuate natural communities and species. Prescribed fire regimes put in place.Management practices to reduce impacts to groundcover and potential cultural resources by firelines or other ground-disturbing activities will be implemented.

In less-than-fee areas of the project, activities will be controlled to preclude development and additional conversion of natural areas. Protection of water resources and minimization of impacts associated with silviculture and other permitted activities will be insured by requiring industry-accepted and formally adopted Best Management Practices.

Where purchased in fee simple, the managing agency will, to the extent practicable, restrict placing facilities or development to disturbed areas. Less-than-fee areas will preclude or minimize any future development.

#### Management Prospectus

### Qualifications for State Designation

Many important conservation lands have become increasingly isolated and no longer support viable populations of large widely ranging mammals. The CB-ONFEG would provide landscape connectivity that, if realized, should benefit fish and wildlife resources by linking large areas of natural habitat, and providing diverse outdoor recreational opportunities as well.

Property to be managed by the Office of Greenways and Trails (see Manager, below) is along the boundary of an identified critical ecological linkage. It is bordered on the entire northern and eastern boundaries by the Northeast Florida Timberlands project. It also lies within the buffer boundary identified by Camp Blanding. When protected, it will be part of a combined conservation lands network serving as a major greenway connection between Camp Blanding and Osceola National Forest.

#### Manager

The FWC is recommended as lead manager for portions of the project acquired in full fee. The FWC currently conducts wildlife management on the Camp Blanding Military Reservation, Osceola National Forest, and the Raiford Wildlife Management Area by agreements with the Florida Department of Corrections, Florida Division of Forestry, St. Johns River Water Management District, State Armory Board, Suwannee River Water Management District, and the U.S. Forest Service. The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies cited in managing the area.

The Office of Greenways and Trails proposes to manage 2,500 acres on the northwest corner of Camp Blanding, in coordination with Camp Blanding Military Installation.

#### **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

Some portions of the project include lands that are lowneed tracts, requiring application of resource management methods and tools, including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since an estimated 69% of the project area has been disturbed for silviculture or other purposes, additional methods and tools would be necessary for some management units in order to accomplish objectives for restoration to a desired future condition. The FWC would conduct historic vegetation analysis to determine appropriate desired future conditions, objectives, and restoration methods and tools. This is especially important for conservation of habitats and populations of listed species. The primary methods and tools for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities might involve, for example, the reintroduction of prescribed fire and control of human uses in certain management units.

Property to be managed by OGT has about 1,000 acres of the 2,500 acres formerly utilized as a stormwater treatment area for Dupont's mining operation. Future management may require topographic transformation and restoration of the area to make the property suitable for long term management. The majority of the remaining 1,500 acres was mined and has already been reclaimed.

### Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis would be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan

### Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway - Group A/Full Fee/Less Than Fee

would be developed by the FWC describing the management goals and specific objectives necessary to implement future resource management.

Long-range goals would emphasize ecosystem management and the conservation of fish and wildlife. Following completion of plant community inventory and historic vegetation analysis, quantified vegetation management objectives would be developed pursuant to the FWC objective-based vegetation management process. Essential roads would be stabilized to provide all-weather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses would also be implemented. Management activities would strive to manage natural plant communities to benefit native wildlife resources. Where appropriate, practical and in pursuit of wildlife habitat objectives, these resources would be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices. Archaeological and historic sites would be managed in coordination with the Division of Historical Resources (DHR). The DHR lists 127 of these sites in the project area.

Environmentally sensitive areas would be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented on those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances would be abandoned or restored as practical. Other existing infrastructure would be protected to the extent possible. Infrastructure development would be the minimum required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the project area.

The portion assigned to OGT for management will be coordinated with Camp Blanding to assess immediate management needs including safety, security, environmental restoration.

### **Revenue-generating potential**

Substantial revenue from forest products production, as currently occurs, should continue. Management would seek to improve the other revenue-generating potential of areas currently serving for forest products production by improving wildlife diversity and resourcebased recreation in such areas. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from recreational user fees and ecotourism activities, if such projects could be economically developed.

### MANAGEMENT COST SUMMARY

Category	Start-up	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Resource Management	\$1,697,686	\$2,345,384
Administration	\$75,494	\$25,133
Support	\$149,080	\$31,566
Capital Improvements	\$3,313,895	\$782,107
Visitor Services/Recreation	\$3,267	\$141
Law Enforcement	\$103,741	\$103, 741
TOTAL	\$5,343,163	\$3,288,071

\*includes employee salaries

# **Carr Farm/Price's Scrub**

### Alachua and Marion Counties

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Carr Farm/Price's Scrub in southwestern Alachua County includes Scrub, Upland Mixed Forest, Scrubby Flatwoods, Wet Flatwoods, Depression Marsh, Marsh Lake and Sinkhole Lake. This Scrub is one of the northernmost examples of the community in peninsular Florida. Sandhill cranes have been seen on the Carr Farm as have bald eagles and swallow-tailed kites. Kestrals have been found using experimental nest boxes close to the project site along CR 320. Wood storks (presumably from the River Styx rookery) have been observed feeding on the site, and gopher lortoises are present. The area is expected to provide good habitat for the gopher frog and other declining amphibians because it has so many isolated seasonal ponds in proximity to extensive upland habitat. Indigo snakes have been observed in the vicinity.

#### Manager

The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP)

### **General Description**

The Carr Farm/Price's Scrub in Alachua and Marion counties consists of three tracts totaling 1,260 acres owned by the family of the zoologist, Archie Carr. The property is in the Fairfield Hills physiographic unit and is underlain by the Miocene Hawthorne Formation of sandy clay mixed with phosphatic pebbles, capped in places by a sandy Plio-Pleistocene deposit. The property is predominantly Upland Mixed Forest on the northern half, and Scrub and Wet Flatwoods on the southern half. The division between hardwood-dominated communities in the northern half and the pine-dominated communities in the southern half is marked by a change in soil types. Soil types having subsoils of sandy clay

FNAI Eleme	ints
Big Brown Bat	G5/S3
Swallow-tailed Kite	G4/S2S3
Bald eagle	G3/52S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Scrubby	G3/S3
Depressed Marsh	G4/S3
Pond Spice	G3/S2
Florida Spring-Pod	G3/S2
?? elements known f	rom project

Group B Full Fee

loam mixed with phosphatic pebbles are found in the north below the170-foot contour; types with purely sandy subsoils are found in the south above the 170foot contour. The property slopes from an elevation of 200 feet on the southern boundary to 90 feet on the northeastern border. Topography of the southern half is flat, with an imperceptible downward slope to the north, whereas the northern portion consists of rolling hills with steep slopes separated by ponds and depression marshes.

### Public Use

The varied topography and resources of the site would provide opportunities for limited freshwater fishing and canoeing, primitive camping, nature trails, hiking trails, bicycle riding trails and horseback riding trails. Picnicking and environmental education would also be suitable for this property. The Carr Farm site has potential for interpretation of the life and times of one of the leading naturalists of Florida, Archie Carr.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

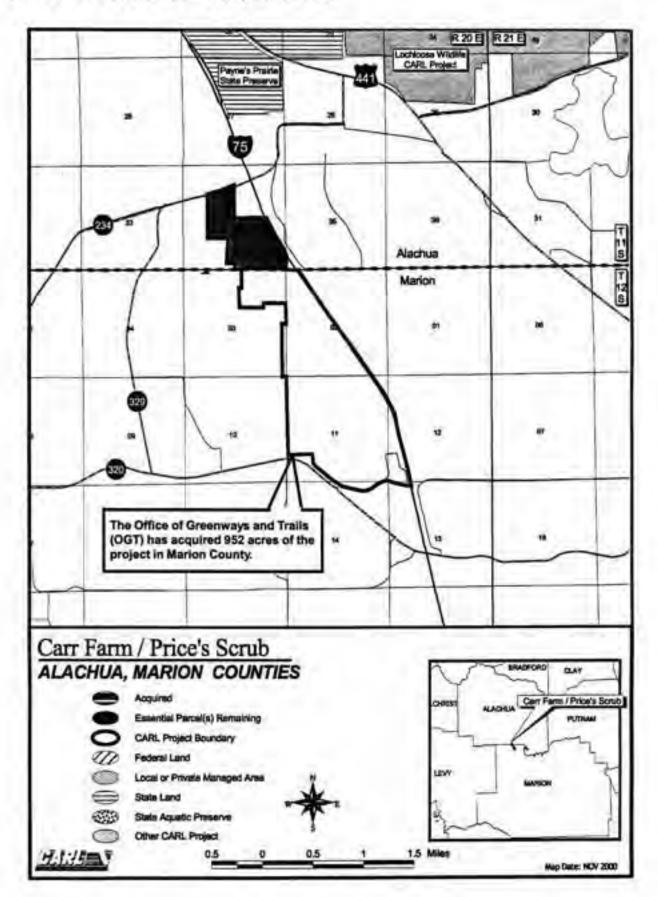
This project was ranked for the first time on April 6, 2001. The Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) has purchased the Price's Scrub portion of the project as part of the Marion County Greenway. The Division of State Lands (DSL) is not actively working this project.

### Coordination

Alachua County cannot commit funds at time, but is willing to consider funding toward the project at some time in the future. Mitigation funds from DOT may be available through the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Acres)	1,245
Acres Acquired	952*
at a Cost of	\$1,975.000*
Acres Remaining	293

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$ 86,144 Acquisition and expanditure was done by the Office of Greenways and Trails Carr Farm/Price's Scrub - Group B/Full Fee



### Carr Farm/Price's Scrub- Group B/Full Fee

### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management are to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable land that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of the state or a larger geographic area. To conserve and protect significant habitat for several rare species. To provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for State Designation The project has a number of historic and archaeological sites, including the home site of Archie and Marjorie Carr. As such, the project would qualify as a state historic site. The natural resource portions of the project will provide a variety of resource-based recreational opportunities to compliment the cultural-resource aspect of the site.

Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management The project will be a high need management area. Public recreational use and development of compatible cultural and resource-based facilities will be an integral aspect of management. The close proximity of I-75 and the long years since the scrub, scrubby flatwoods and wet flatwoods have burned will require more intensive preparation to burn in the short-term.

Timetable for Implementing Management Upon fee acquisition, management will concentrate on site security and development of a cultural and natural resource inventory. Hunting will not be allowed. Access to and within the project will be confined to designated points and routes. In the short-term, low-intensity, non-facility related outdoor recreation will be provided as soon as practical to allow for compatible public access. Emphasis will be given to developing a short-term burn program to begin restoration efforts in the scrub, scrubby flatwoods and wet flatwoods. Longterm management will include a range of resource-based recreation and associated facilities, together with resource management goals.

Cooperators in management activities The DRP will, as appropriate, cooperate with local governments, other state agencies, and the water management district to further resource management, recreational and educational opportunities and the development of lands for state park purposes.

Revenue Generating Potential The DRP expects no significant revenue from this property immediately after acquisition and the amount of any future revenue will depend on the nature and future extent of public use and facilities development.

### Management Costs and Sources of Revenue

Category	Startup	Recurring
FCO	\$298,000	
000	124,000	
Expense	and the second	\$ 28,000
OPS		15,000
FTE		87,500
Total	\$422,000	\$130,000

### Catfish Creek - Group B/Full Fee

# **Catfish Creek**

## **Polk County**

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The high, sandy Lake Wales Ridge, stretching south from near Orlando almost to Lake Okeechobee, was originally covered with a mosaic of scrub, flatwoods, wetlands, and lakes. The scrub is unique in the world it is inhabited by many plants and animals found nowhere else—but it has almost completely been converted to citrus groves and housing developments. The Catfish Creek project, with its scrub ridges overlooking the nearly pristine shore of Lake Pierce, will protect an especially scenic example of Lake Wales Ridge scrub and its associated ecosystems and allow the public to enjoy camping, fishing, and swimming in this unique and beautiful natural area. It will also protect an important archaeological site on Lake Pierce.

### Manager

The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Department of Environmental Protection will manage the project, less that portion known as Snodgrass Island.

### **General Description**

Catfish Creek is a diverse natural area extending over high scrub ridges, interspersed with lakes, next to the pristine shore of Lake Pierce. Natural communities include sandhill, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, mesic flatwoods, xeric hammock, bottomland hardwood forest, basin swamp, sandhill upland lake, wet flatwoods, blackwater stream, seepage slopes, and floodplain swamp, all in excellent condition. The tract harbors at least 19 rare plant and animal species state listed as endangered or threatened. Rare or endangered animal species include the bald eagle, wood stork, gopher tor-

FNAI Elements	
SCRUB	G2/S2
Britton's bear-grass	G2/S2
Lawton's polygala	G2/S2
Cutthroat grass	G2/S2
Scrub plum	G2G3/S2
SANDHILL UPLAND LAKE	G3/S2
Florida scrub lizard	G3/S3
Pygmy fringe-tree	G3/S3
20 elements known from	project

## Group B Full Fee

toise, and scrub jay. The 1993 addition on Snodgrass Island contains a potentially important archaeological site. The project is threatened by agriculture and eventual residential development.

### Public Use

This project is designated for use as a state preserve, with such uses as hiking, camping, fishing and nature study.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

Phase I: (essential) Rolling Meadows (acquired), TNC (acquired) and Palo Alto (acquired); Phase II: Imagination Farms, Progress Homes (acquired) and K-Rocker. Phase III: Section two which is subdivided (state has acquired all of section consolidated by Bowen).

On October 21, 1999, the Council added 6,991 acres and designated as essential.

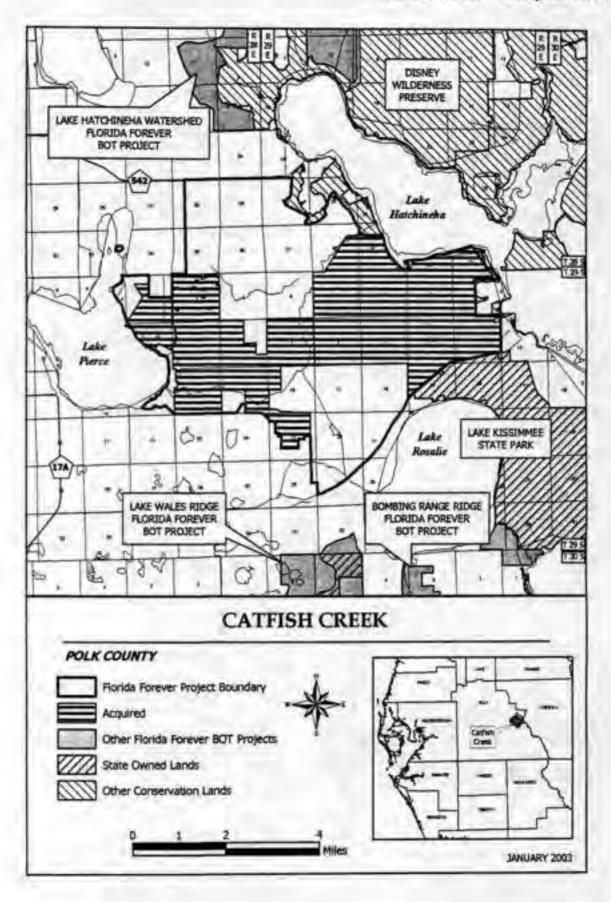
In August, 2002, the Council added the Rolling Meadows Ranch to the project.

On December 5, 2002, the Council added the K-Rocker Tract to the project.

On December 5, 2003 the Council moved the project to the Group B list.

Negotiations are at an impasse. Re-appraisals are in process for the remaining small lots.

Placed on list	1990
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	16,641
Acres Acquired	10,159
at a Cost of	\$47,414,766
Acres Remaining	fi,482
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$13,697,433



### Catfish Creek - Group B/Full Fee

### Coordination

TNC sponsored this project, assisted in providing information in the preparation of the project, and in discussions with some of the major landowners.

### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Catfish Creek project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The sensitive resources in the Catfish Creek project—sandhills, a large lake, and high-quality scrub with its rare plants and animals—qualify it as a state preserve.

Manager The Division of Recreation and Parks, Department of Environmental Protection, is the manager of the project, less that portion known as Snodgrass Island.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The project is a low-need management area emphasizing resource protection while allowing compatible public recreational use and development.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management. *Cooperators in management activities* No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project area.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public use facilities are developed. The amount of any revenue generated will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities. With emphasis on resource protection, and with minimal public use, future generated revenues are not expected to be high.

Management Cost	Summary
Category	Startup
Source of Funds	CARL
Salary	\$22,167
OPS	\$0
Expanse	\$5,712
000	\$6,978
FCO	\$8,640
TOTAL	\$43,497

# Cedar Swamp

## **Duval County**

### **Purpose of State Acquisition**

The Cedar Swamp project encompasses nearly 4,400 acres in northeast Florida, south of Jacksonville. Phase I is a substantial drainage for a large area of flatwoods and forested wetlands along the southeastern periphery of the developed portion of the City of Jacksonville. It will protect the integrity of the current wetland system and maintain and enhance the storage of surface waters for flood control and contribute to a higher level of water quality. The Cedar Swamp basin has unique environmental characteristics and contains the largest tracts of undeveloped land in the midst of the city's fastest growing area. Parts of the tract maybe especially important for red-cockaded woodpecker, American alligator, gopher tortoise, Sherman's fox squirrel and Florida black bear.

### Manager

Phase I will be monitored by the St. Johns River Water Management District. The City of Jacksonville will manage Phase II.

### **General Description**

Phase 1 contains significant areas of high quality longleaf pine, sandhill and mesic flatwoods and a section of Pablo Creek with its well developed floodplain swamp. The tract also supports at least one clan of red-cockaded woodpeckers. Much of the habitat has been fire suppressed but has intact ecotones between the natural communities and little disturbance other than a network of sand roads. Phase II contains areas of intact mesic flatwoods and a series of parallel northsouth narrow ridges with disturbed flatwoods and sandhill. Many of these ridges are planted with slash pines and separated by equally narrow swampy wetlands.

FNAI Elements	
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
American alligator	G5/S4
Gopher Tortoise	G3/S3
Florida Black Bear	G5T2/S2
Incised groove-bur	G3/S2
Florida three-awned grass	G2/S2
Southern Milkweed	G2/S2
Southern lip fern	G5/S3
45 elements known from	project

Cedar Swamp - Group B/Full Fee

## Group B Full Fee

These areas of greenspace are rapidly diminishing in size due to surrounding residential development.

### Public Use

The first phase of the Cedar Swamp project is proposed to be a conservation easement, which upon the death of the owner and his wife, will then be terminated and the property acquired in fee title by a public entity. During the life of the owners, it is understood that public use of the property will not be allowed. After that time, however, this property could become highly significant as a resource-based park. A range of resource-based recreation would be suitable once the property is acquired in fee title. Compatible activities would include bicycling, picnicking, camping, cabins, hiking, nature study and canoeing. Further study may reflect horseback riding also to be compatible.

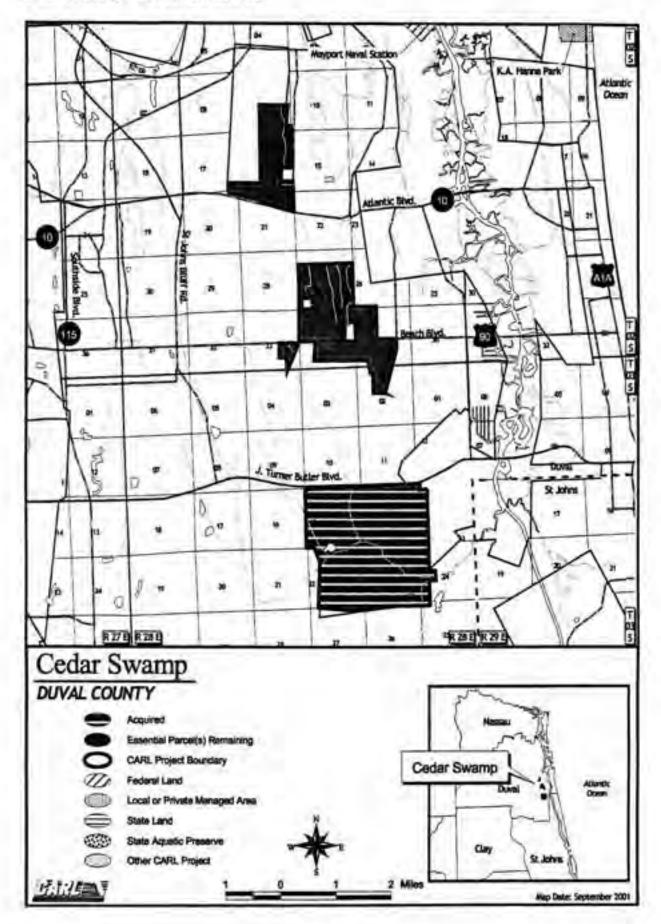
The second phase of the Cedar Swamp project us proposed for fee simple acquisition. Recreationally, it is suitable for resource-based recreational pursuits such as trails (walking and bicycling), natural resource appreciation and picnicking. Due to the altered character of the lands, the parcels would also be suitable for other types of recreation commonly found in municipal parks.

### **Acquisition Planning**

Phase I consists of approximately 2700 acres, already under a conservation easement with the St. Johns River Water Management District. This tract excludes 55 acres along the highway that the owner says he will not sell at this time. The conservation easement includes a provision where fee title can be acquired upon the death of the owner. Phase II will be fee simple acquisitions.

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Acres)	4,435
Acres Acquired	2,372
at a Cost of	\$36,785,000
Acres Remaining	2,064
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$2,598,503

Cedar Swamp - Group B/Full Fee



### Coordination

The City of Jacksonville and the St. Johns River Water Management District are partners.

For Phase II, the City of Jacksonville will partner with the State. The Trust for Public Lands will be the intermediary.

### Management Policy Statement

The goals of management of the Cedar Swamp project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect

significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and, in Phase II, to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

### Management Prospectus Management goals

There are two distinct management strategies for the Phase II properties based on the current characteristics of the property:

 Watershed protection. Because the City of Jacksonville will not own all of the properties within the watershed, its management strategy will be confined to eliminating exotic and invasive species and providing adequate buffers from development.

The City of Jacksonville anticipates working with adjacent landowners and the St. Johns Water Management District, through its existing easements, to develop a comprehensive strategy to adequately protect the watershed, including elimination of exotics and buffering runoff from surrounding subdivisions.

The City of Jacksonville will also seek permission, where it's appropriate, to develop walking/running trails in the corridors. If the corridors are too narrow, then resource protection will be the first concern. 2.Small scale environmental restoration and naturalresource-based recreation. Much of Phase II is in various states of harvesting and managing pine plantation. The initial management efforts in these areas will concentrate on site security, resource inventory and an immediate development of a fire suppression strategy. The City of Jacksonville proposes to timber where appropriate, eliminate exotic species and reintroduce native species in a small-scale habitat restoration. Any large-sale restoration would be impractical because of the density of nearby development and the size of the transportation corridors that run through the property. In addition, there are a series of decades old 100-foot wide drainage casements that have changed the historic character of the property in some places. The drainage ditches could not be filled without damaging adjacent properties. So the City of Jacksonville will focus its efforts on a small-scale restoration that will allow for the protection of existing species such as the gopher tortoise.

Acquisition of Phase II properties will ensure the City of Jacksonville will meet its 2010 Comprehensive Plan goals for "active/passive" recreation. It's anticipated that Phase II will serve as passive parkland for an additional 32,000 persons. The acquisition will ensure the city meets its level of service requirements for parks and trails. The recreation opportunities that will be developed on Phase II will be consistent with a naturebased resource program.

In addition, the Phase II properties are within walking distance of two elementary schools and a middle school. In addition, the Duval County School Board will build two more schools, including a high school, on land adjacent to Phase II. The schools have projected enrollments of more than 8,500 students.

#### Management responsibilities

The City of Jacksonville will be responsible for the management of the Phase II properties. Any facilities on the site will be low-impact and unnecessary roads, fire lines, and, where practical, hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent possible.

# **Charlotte Harbor Estuary**

### Charlotte, Lee and Sarasota Counties

### Purpose for State Acquisition

The Charlotte Harbor Estuary is a combination of three major Florida Forever projects: the Myakka River Estuary, the Cape Haze/Charlotte Harbor project, and the Charlotte Harbor project.

Charlotte Harbor, one of the largest and most productive estuaries in Florida, supports an important recreational and commercial fishery, but is rapidly being surrounded by cities and residential developments, which could harm this important resource. By conserving flatwoods and prai-

Myakka Estuary FNAI	Elements
SCRUB	G2/S2
West Indian manatee	G2?/S2?
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
SHELL MOUND	G3/S2
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
ESTUARINE TIDAL SWAMP	G3/S3
A CONTRACTOR OF	G3/S3
MESIC FLATWOODS	G?/S4
12 elements known fi	rom site
Cape Haze FNAI Ele	ements
DRY PRAIRIE	G2/S2
Manatee	G27/S27
ESTUARINE TIDAL SWAMF	G3/S3
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
Florida scrub jay	G5T3/S3
Bald eagle	G4/S3
ESTUARINE TIDAL MARSH	G4/S4
DEPRESSION MARSH	G4?/S3
10 elements known fro	m project
Charlotte Harbor FNAI	Elements
West Indian manatee	G2?/S2?
Florida sandhill crane	G4T2T3/
	S2S3
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
ESTUARINE TIDAL SWAMP	G3/S3
Florida long-tailed weasel	G5T3/S31
MESIC FLATWOODS	G7/S4
ESTUARINE TIDAL MARSH	G4/S4
Southern mink	G5T5/S2
13 elements known fro	m project

## Group A Small Holdings

ries behind the mangrove swamps and salt marshes along Charlotte and Placida Harbors, the Cape Haze/Charlotte Harbor project will help preserve the water quality of the estuary, protect habitat for the Florida manatee and other rare wildlife, and provide residents of and visitors to the area with opportunities for boating, fishing, and other recreational pursuits.

The Myakka Estuary project will protect the largest natural area left around northern Charlotte Harbor, conserving flatwoods, scrub, and salt marshes that support bald eagles, sandhill cranes, scrub jays, and manatees. The project will also help protect an important fishery and provide residents of and visitors to the rapidly growing Charlotte Harbor area with opportunities for hiking, camping, and other recreational pursuits.

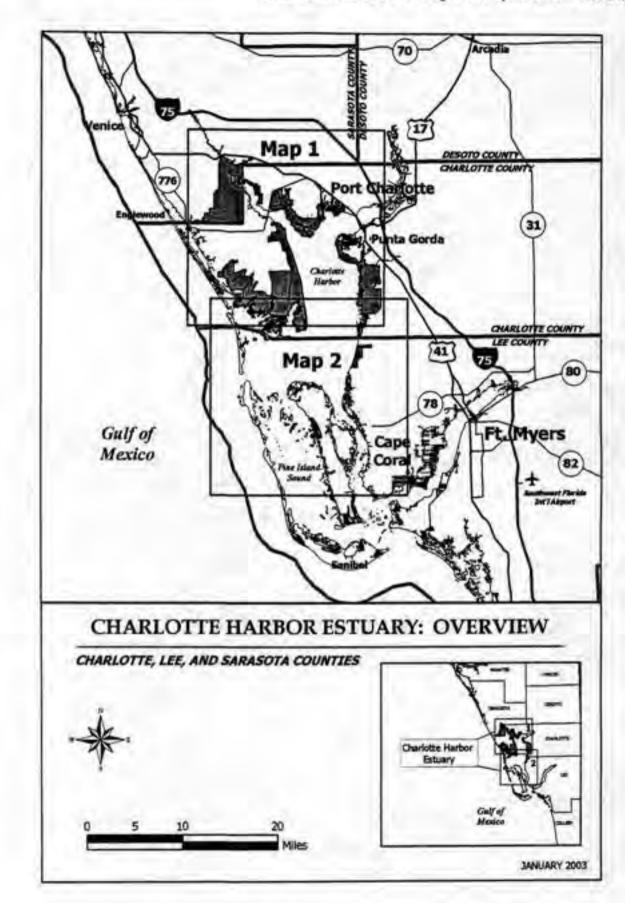
### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), will

Cape Haze	
Placed on list	1997
Project Area (Acres)	7,400
Acres Acquired	5,910
at a Cost of	\$8,850,264
Acres Remaining	1,490
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$1,937,000

Myakka Estuary	
Placed on list	1994
Project Area (Acres)	13,800
Acres Acquired	9,264
at a Cost of	\$6,666,650
Acres Remaining	4,536
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$17,552,100

Charlotte Harbor	
Placed on list	1986
Project Area (Acres)	27,520
Acres Acquired	22,952
at a Cost of	\$21,388,962
Acres Remaining	4,565
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$5,956,085



I

manage the majority of the project. The Division of Recreation and Parks will manage that portion of the project west of SR 775. Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will manage the western portion of the Myakka Estuary portion of the project, with the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) managing the east side.

### **General Description**

The project includes the ecotone of flatwoods and dry prairies, and the estuarine tidal marshes and mangrove swamps along Charlotte Harbor and Placida Harbor. Less than 10 percent of the area is disturbed. The area provides habitat for rare animals—the bald eagle, scrub jay, indigo snake, and gopher tortoise—and influences important manatee habitat offshore.

The project protects the water quality of the Charlotte Harbor estuary, designated as a series of Outstanding Florida Waters, and its recreational and commercial fisheries. The Coral Creek Mound is a possibly significant archaeological site; no other sites are known from the area. The area is vulnerable to development, invasive exotic plants, and damage by off-road vehicles. There are 12,000 platted lots in the project vested from most development restrictions, so endangerment is extremely high.

This project provides an easential addition to lands previously acquired through the EEL program. Most of the lands are wetlands, including mangrove, salt marsh, and salt flats, but there are some mesic flatwoods. The project area offers habitat for several rare species, and directly influences the water quality of Charlotte Harbor. There are two shell midden mound archaeological sites known from the project. Regulations notwithstanding, the area is threatened by dredging and filling from residential development.

The nearly intact uplands of the Myakka Estaury are are primarily Mesic Flatwoods, like those in the Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods project, 15 miles to the south, but different in that they include Scrub and the Florida scrub jay. The project provides habitat for nesting bald eagles and sandhill cranes and buffers the Tidal Marsh and waters of the Myakka River and Sam Knight Creek. Manatees use the adjacent waters heavily all year. The Myakka River estuary and the coastal wetlands associated with this project support valuable commercial and recreational fisheries. The Florida Site File records five archaeological sites in the project. The project is sur-

rounded by development and its uplands will inevitably be developed if not purchased.

### Public Use

This project qualifies as aforest and buffer preserve. Wetlands will limit outdoor recreation to such activities as fishing, canoeing, picnicking, hiking, and natural-resource education. The Myakka Estuary area has potential for such public uses as hiking, picnicking, camping and nature appreciation.

### Acquisition Planning and Status:

Essential tracts include Atlantic Gulf Communities (acquired) and Mariner Properties (unwilling seller but for wetlands).

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated additional acreage of Cape Haze/Charlotte Harbor as essential—approximately 174 acres consisting of Rotonda outparcels, and the Cole and Lemon Bay Partners parcels. The Council also designated an additional 1,390 acres of the Myakka Estaury as essential. Previously, essential parcels had included all acreage acquired up to January 26, 1995, and the Cayo Pelau, Lowe, Ansin, and Freeland ownerships. Additional acreage included approximately 100 acres adjacent to the Amberjack Scrub site, an FCT project that has been acquired.

On December 9, 1999, the Council transferred this project to the Substantially Complete group,

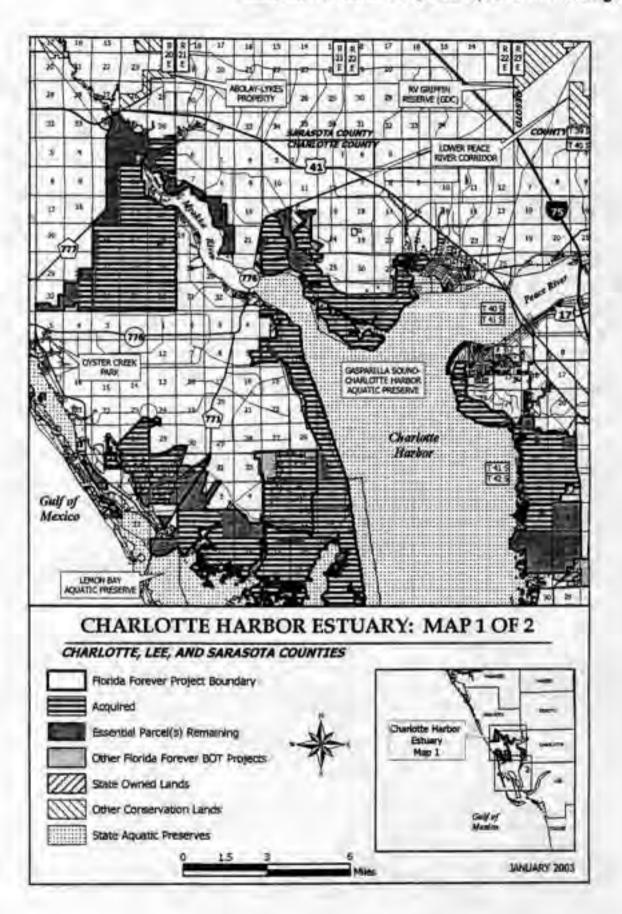
In Charlotte Habor, approximately 16,000 acres were acquired with EEL funds (\$5,115,956) and 936 acres through donations.

Nine ownerships were added in the June 1988 Project Design. On July 14, 1995, LAMAC approved two separate additions totalling 980 acres. Acquisition is in progress on remaining essential parcels.

On April 6, 2001, the Acquisition and Restoration Council combined the Charlotte Harbor project with the Cape Haze/Charlotte Harbor project.

On December 5, 2001 The Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) combined the Cape Haze/Charlotte Harbor project with the Myakka Estuary project, and renamed it the Charlotte Harbor Estuary.

This is an ongoing project and will be a very active one over the current year.



### Coordination

Southwest Florida Water Management District was an acquisition partner in the purchase of the Rotonda ownership (Cape Haze).

The Trust for Public Lands has been an intermediary in the state's acquisition of two large tracts within the Charlotte Harbor project.

In 1995, the Southwest Florida Water Management District negotiated the purchase (CARL program reimbursed half) of the Atlantic Gulf Communities Corp. ownership land within the Charlotte Harbor (704 acres) and Myakka Estuary (9,264 acres) projects.

### Management Policy Statement: Cape Haze/Charlotte Harbor/Myakka Estuary

The primary goals of management of the Charlotte Estuary project are to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered andthreatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems; landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical aites.

Achieving this objective will help to protect the water quality of Charlotte Harbor, its important nursery areas for fish and shellfish, its important recreational and commercial fisheries, and its manatee habitat. It will also provide the public with an additional area for naturalresource-based recreation.

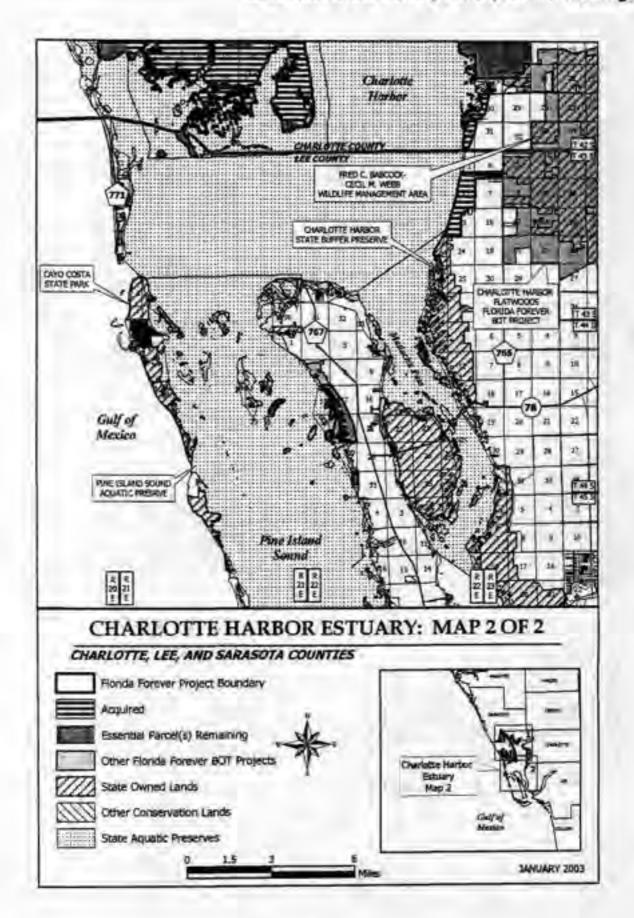
The project should be managed under the single-use language change made Oct '99. Managers should control access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to one or a few main roads; thoroughly inventory resources; restore hydrological disturbances; burn the fire-dependent pine flatwoods in a pattern minicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control; strictly limit timbering in old-growth stands; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually preserving resources.

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project provides essential additions to lands previously acquired through the EEL program of the 1970s and the SOC Program of the 1980s. Most of the lands are wetlands, including mangrove, salt marsh, and salt flats, with occasional uplands including pine flatwoods, and oak/sabal palm hammocks. The forest resources around the Myakka River estuary have the diversity and size to make a state forest. These lands will aid in the protection or buffering of state waters, primarily the Cape Haze, and Charlotte Harbor/Gasparilla Sound Aquatic Preserves, as well as improve the protection and recreanonal value of the existing state owned-lands. They will also provide a land base for public access to the Don Pedro Island State Park. These lands therefore qualify as an addition to the existing Charlotte Harbor State Buffer Preserve and the Don Pedro Island State Park.

Manager: The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection will manage these lands as an addition to the state park system The Division of Forestry (DOF) proposes to manage 12,800 acres north and west of Highway 776. Conditions affecting intensity of management The project is surrounded by rapidly developing areas. Development in the area may alter the flow of water and nutrients by dredging, filling, and shoreline armoring. Urbanization of surrounding lands is also increasing, thereby justifying the need for an increased patrol and law enforcement presence. Initially the project lands will be "high need," requiring management to control. exotic plants and animals and reduce illegal activities such as poaching and trash dumping. Thereafter, routine management activities will be at the "moderate need" level. Lands to be used and developed as a landbase to provide access to Don Pedro Island State Park will be "high need" areas. West of the Myakka River there are no know major disturbances, and the level of management is expected to be typical for that of a state forest. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year of appropriate funding, management activities will concentrate on; property security, including fencing, posting, and patrols, public access, staff access for management activities such as prescribed fire and restoration projects, trash removal, and exoticplant and animal eradication. The Division of Recreation and Parks will provide appropriate resource based public access while protecting critical resources. The site will be biologically inventoried and a management plan will be written within one year.

Long range goals will be established by the management plan and will provide for ecological restoration and habitat maintenance. Prescribed and natural fires



will be used to maintain the appropriate communities and associated wildlife populations.

The resource inventory will be used to identify appropriate uses for the property, including, management activities and public use. Areas disturbed by man and exotic plants will be restored to an "as natural as possible" condition. Infrastructure will be kept to a minimum and include only a sufficient amount of structures to provide for management facilities, public access, and resource interpretation. After the core of the Myakka River forests are acquired, the DOF and DRP will provide public access for low-intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities will include securing the sites, providing public and fire management access, inventorying resources, removing trash and eradicating exotic plants. The project's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan. The DOF's long-range plan is generally to restore disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests.

### **Revenue-generating potential**

The forest land in the Myakka River estuary portion of the project has potential for a variable source of revenue from timber sales, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low to moderate. The part of the project east of the river will provide indirect financial benefit to the state, including enhanced water quality, fisheries and public recreation opportunities. Limited revenue may be available through small timber sales to initially thin some stands and through some entrance and user permit fees in the future. Elsewhere, the project will benefit the state indirectly by enhancing water quality, fisheries and public recreation activities, and preserving natural and historical resources. Future user fees may also contribute limited tevenue.

Updated Information reflecting management by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is not yet available.

# **Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods**

## Group B Full Fee

### **Charlotte and Lee Counties**

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Northwest of Fort Myers lies the largest and highestquality slash-pine flatwoods left in southwest Florida. The pines are home to red-cockaded woodpeckers, black bears, and bald eagles, and an occasional Florida panther ranges the area. The largest population of the rare beautiful pawpaw grows here. Several drainage ditches flow through these flatwoods into the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserve. The Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods project will protect these flatwoods and connect the Charlotte Harbor State Buffer Preserve with the Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area, helping to protect both of these managed areas and the waters of the Aquatic Preserve.

### Manager

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

### **General Description**

This project encompasses the largest remaining tract of intact pine flatwoods in southwestern Florida. Oldgrowth South Florida slash pine forests on site are home to at least 10 rare animals including red-cockaded woodpeckers, baid eagles, and Florida panthers are known to use the site. The tract also provides important habitat for several rare plants, most notably a globally critically imperiled plant, the beautiful pawpaw, *Deeringothamnus pulchellus*. The project provides additional protection for the Outstanding Florida Waters of the Gasparilla Sound-Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserve and will also connect the Charlotte Harbor State Buffer Preserve and the Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area. This upland site is particularly suited

FNAI Elements	
Beautiful pawpaw	G1/S1
Florida panther	G4T1/S1
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Florida beargrass	G3/S3
18 elements known	from project

for development, especially considering the rapid growth of Charlotte and Lee counties. No archaeological sites are known from the project.

### **Public Use**

The project is designated as a wildlife management area, with such uses as hiking, environmental education and hunting.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

Phase I tracts include Ansin (essential-acquired), Zemel (essential-Phase I acquired), Bower (essential), Section 20 SE of Burnt Store Marina Road and Section 24.

On October 15, 1998, LAMAC removed 165 acres and added them to the Charlotte Harbor project.

On February 11, 1999, the Council added 333 acres, and on October 21, 1999, added 1,793 acres as essential parcels.

Large essential parcels have been acquired. The Division of State Lands (DSL) is not active in this project.

### Coordination

The FWC is acquiring small inholdings in the project.

### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in

Placed on list	1992
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	23,762
Acres Acquired	14,380
at a Cost of	\$36,287,279
Acres Remaining	9,382
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value	of \$12,712,610

### Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods - Group B/Full Fee

order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs can adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation

### Management Prospectus

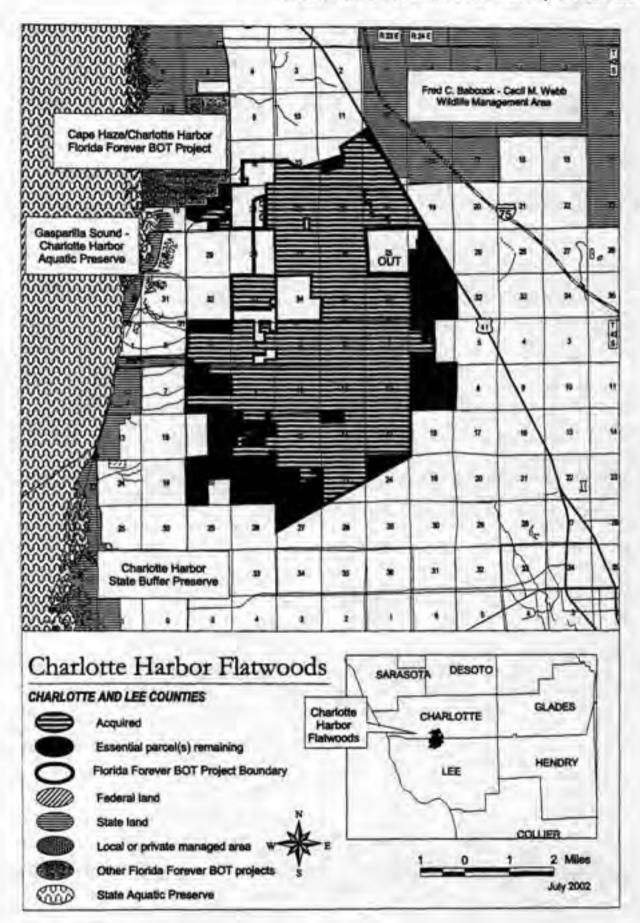
Qualifications for state designation The Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods project has the size (18,000 acres), location (adjacent to the Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area), outstanding wildlife habitat (the largest stand of undisturbed flatwoods in southwest Florida) and wildlife resources (red-cockaded woodpeckers, Florida panthers, and Florida black bears, among others) to qualify as a wildlife management area.

Conditions affecting intensity of management Development surrounding and within the project, and the intense urbanization of southwest Florida, suggest a broad array of management problems. Trash dumping, other illegal trespass and the presence of numerous inholdings will certainly increase the need for intensive and careful management. Law enforcement and fire-control issues are expected to be at the forefront. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The first year of management activity will entail controlling public access with gates and/or fencing, and controlling the littering and dumping problems. Additional emphasis will be placed on planning and on establishing an adequate and appropriate fire regime. Subsequent years should result in this project becoming an integral part of the management scheme for Babcock-Webb WMA. Revenue-generating potential Though this property contains significant timber resources, the timber revenue potential is low. There is little or no market for South Florida Slash Pine timber in Southwest Florida (in fact, very little timber market at all). Nevertheless, the potential for generating recreational revenue is significant, if new recreational user fees were to be implemented on this WMA.

Management costs and revenue source Revenues would likely come from the CARL Trust Fund and Pittman-Robertson return of excise tax.

Management Cost	Summary/FW	C	
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$54,200	\$54,200	\$55,000
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Expense	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$12,500
000	\$0	\$0	\$0
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$64,202	\$64,202	\$69,500

### Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods - Group B/Full Fee



### Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed - Group A/Full Fee

## Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed Group A Lee and Collier Counties Full Fee

### Lee and Comer Counties

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The large, interconnected swamps of southwest Florida must be preserved if such wildlife as the Florida panther and black bear are to survive. The Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) project will conserve connections between three conservation areas, providing this critical protection for rare wildlife; protecting the flows of water feeding the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Fakahatchee Strand, and other areas; and providing the public opportunities to learn about and enjoy these natural resources as southwest Florida develops rapidly around them.

### Manager

South Florida Water Management District

### **General Description**

The project, which mostly consists of excellent examples of cyptess swamps and marshes, will connect the Florida Panther National Wildhife Refuge and Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve with the National Audubon Society's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, thereby securing important habitat for the Florida panther and Florida black hear. These large expanses of wetlands are believed to be critical to the survival of these critically imperiled species. The project supports at least two species of rare and endangered orchids, and includes an unusual stand of dwarf bald cypress. No archaeological sites are recorded from the project. Upland areas are vulnerable to agricultural and residential development.

### Public Use

This project is designated as a wildlife and environmental area, with such uses as hiking, camping and environmental education.

FNAI Elements		
Florida panther	G4T1/S1	
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2	
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2	
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3	
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3	
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3	
23 elements known	from project	

### Acquisition Planning and Status

The initial focus of land acquisition was on the Camp Keis Strand Corridor consisting of approximately 18,205 acres. The largest owner in the strand is the Collier family. The LAMAC recommended a "cap" on funding of \$10 million. Conservation easements, if possible, were to be considered an option in protecting the corridor.

On 11/20/92, the LAMAC modified the project design by allowing matching funds anywhere in project for "new" acquisitions (those occurring after 11/20/92) by its partners.

On 10/30/95, the LAMAC approved the expansion of the project by 612 acres to match the WMD's boundary between Corkscrew Sanctuary and Lake Trafford. The \$10 million or 25 percent expenditure cap was eliminated. The project is now a shared acquisition with the South Florida Water Management District.

On December 5, 1996 the LAMAC approved a boundary modification to the project adding 3,040 acres.

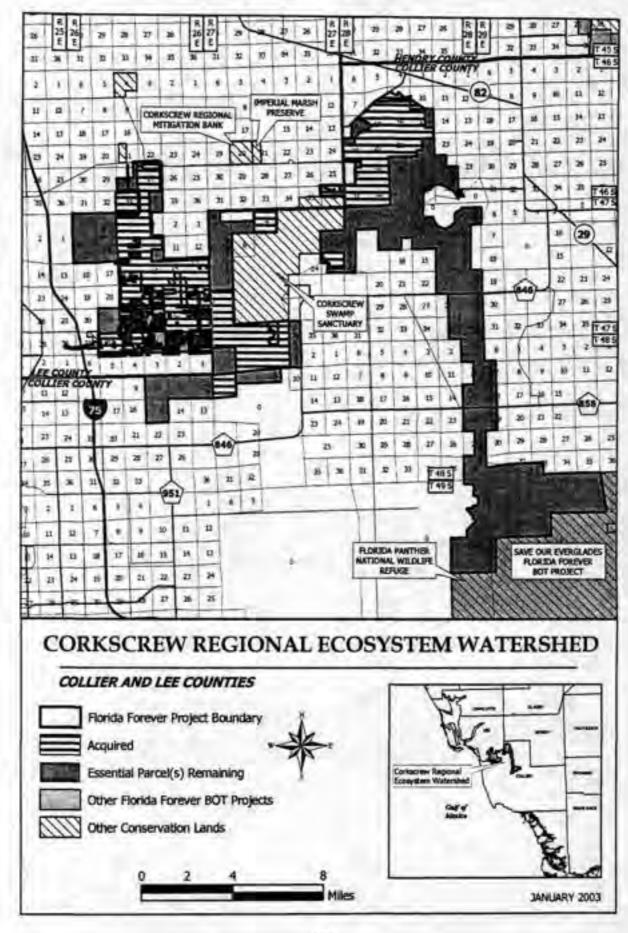
On December 9, 1999, the Council added 2,560 acres to the project boundary as essential parcels.

On June 6, 2002 the Council added 424 acres to the project.

The South Florida Water Management District continues to acquire parcels within this project.

Placed on list	1991	
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	69,500	
Acres Acquired	24,028	
at a Cost of	\$22,850,199	
Acres Remaining	45,472	
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$53,700,699	

## Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed - Group A/Full Fee



### Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed - Group A/Full Fee

### Coordination

Acquisition partners are South Florida Water Management District and Lee Counties. Both The Nature Conservancy(TNC) and the Trust for Public Land (TPL) have been intermediaries in the acquisition of some tracts. The District is currently negotiating the purchase of several tracts within the project boundary under a "161" agreement with DEP.

Resolutions in support of this project include: A pledge from Lee County for \$1.5 million.

### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project's size, natural communities, and extremely sensitive wildlife resources qualify it as a wildlife and environmental area.

Manager The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is lead Manager.

Conditions affecting intensity of management There are various intensities of management required for lands in CREW. There are low-need parcels such as virgin stands of cypress that require little or no management. Also within CREW are moderate-need tracts that need basic resource management such as prescribed burning, and high-need tracts that have been completely altered. Severely altered tracts, such as agricultural fields, must be ecologically restored.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The initial land management plan was implemented in February 1991. Planning and operational activities are ongoing. Public use guidelines, including public access, have been established and are constantly being revised.

Revenue-generating potential No revenue is expected to be generated for at least the next two and one half years. At that time recommendations by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC cooperating agency) may lead to activities such as hunting that will generate revenue through permit and license fees. No other revenue-producing practices are envisioned at this stage of the management program.

Cooperators in management activities A cooperative management agreement with the FWC was executed September 6, 1994. The project now receives regular inspections by SFWMD staff and law enforcement patrol by the FWC Reserve program. Under the agreement, the FWC will enforce all laws, rules and regulations applicable to the management of CREW. Additional lands acquired will be given the same protection.

Management Cost Su	mmary/SFWMD	Calarate	
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	WMLTF	WMLTF	WMLTF
Salary	\$107,238	\$117,961	\$123,859
OPS	\$35,000	\$38,500	\$38,500
Expense	\$197,250	\$216,915	\$238,606
000	\$0	\$28,000	\$20,000
FCO	\$0	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	\$339,448	\$401,436	\$420,965

# **Coupon Bight/Key Deer**

### Monroe County

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The subtropical pine forests of rapidly developing Big Pine Key and the islands around it are the home of the endangered Key deer and many Caribbean plants found nowhere else in the country. Rich coral reefs and other hardbottom communities flourish in shallow water around the islands. The Coupon Bight/Key Deer project will protect the remaining undeveloped land on Big Pine and No Name Keys (without which the Key deer will not survive), protect water quality of the Coupon Bight Aquatic Preserve and the other waters surrounding the islands, and provide the public an area to appreciate the unique natural world of this part of Florida.

### Manager

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### **General Description**

The project, within the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern, encompasses virtually all of the undeveloped land between the Coupon Bight Aquatic Preserve and the National Key Deer Refuge on Big Pine Key. It includes the only significant sources of fresh water in the lower keys, which are critical to the survival of the endangered Key Deer. The pine rocklands and associated communities in this project are the largest and the best remaining anywhere. No fewer than 36 FNAI special plant species (mostly West Indian, 28 of which are state-listed as endangered or threatened) are known from the project. Several will probably go extinct if this area is developed for residential uses. At least 17 FNAI-listed animal species (4 state-listed as endangered, threatened, or special concern) are known or strongly suspected from the project area. No cultural sites are known from the project. Residential development of Big Pine Key threatens this area.

FNAI Elements	
PINE ROCKLAND	G1/S1
Garber's spurge	G1/S1
Big Pine tree-cactus	G1T1/S1
Sand flax	G1G2/S1S2
Wedge spurge	G2T1/S1
Bahama sachsia	G2/51
inkwood	G2/S1
Blodgett's wild-mercury	G2/S2
59 elements known t	from project

# Group A Small Holdings

### Public Use

This project is designated as a buffer preserve; and a wildlife and environmental area. It will allow such uses as photography, nature appreciation, and hiking.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

### Coupon Bight

Phase I: the Strachley Tract (acquired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Trust for Public Lands) and the Brothers tract; Phase II: developable uplands (a few larger acreage tracts have been acquired by the state—the Pepper and Papps tracts, as well as some subdivision lots in Piney Point, Tropical Park, and Kinercha north of the bight); Phase III: jurisdictional wetlands. The Division of State Lands further refined acquisition phasing as follows: I: Large acreage tracts and recorded subdivisions; II: Unrecorded subdivisions; III: Improved or commercial properties.

On October 30, 1995, LAMAC added 11.38 acres to the project boundary.

### Key Deer

No phasing. Negotiations on remaining parcels continue. Acquisition activity is also focusing on tracts providing viable corridor between the Coupon Bight and Key Deer portions of the project. All of the owners have received an offer.

### Coordination

South Florida Water Management District and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are CARL acquisition partners in this site. The Nature Conservancy acted as intermediary in the negotiation of over 520 acres, expending approximately \$5,124,000 on behalf of the South Florida Water Management District and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The USFWS has included

Placed on list	1965
Project Area (Acres)	3,638
Acres Acquired	1,449
at a Cost of	\$15,235,174
Acres Remaining	2,189
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$27,592,345

### Coupon Bight/Key Deer - Small Holdings/Group A

this project as an addition to the National Key Deer Refuge.

### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Coupon Bight/ Key Deer project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect lands within areas of critical state concern; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The property will function as a buffer preserve to the Coupon Bight Aquatic Preserve and sovereign submerged lands.

Manager The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Key Deer Refuge.

Conditions affecting intensity of management Impediments to management are illegal dumping, vehicular trespass, poaching and clandestine drug related activities. Regular patrols, cleanup efforts and posting of the property would curtail these encroachments and require "moderate-need" management. The USFWS land would be open to the public but because of minimum facilities development would be classed under 259.032 Florida Statutes as a low-need tract requiring basic resource management and protection.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, the area north of US 1 would be posted in the same manner as existing National Key Deer Refuge (NKDR) lands and provided protection under Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations. NKDR law enforcement officers would routinely patrol the area. Permitted activities would be limited to uses such as hiking, bird watching and photography. There would be no night visits, pets, camping, use of motorized vehicles, and collection of plants and mimals. Long-range goals would include development of a detailed management plan for perpetuation and maintenance of natural communities. A prescribedburning plan would be formulated in pine rockland habitat: long-term monitoring and an active research program would be part of this program. An in-depth resource inventory would be carried out to identify and map all sensitive areas that warrant special consideration and management. There will be no infrastructure development in natural areas; unnecessary roads will be abandoned or removed. Long term management needs include exotic plant control and wetlands restoration. Public access will be provided on a limited basis. Acquisition has been primarily directed at unimproved properties. If the preserve acquires improved property, efforts would be made to make use of it for needed office, education facilities, and workshop and storage space.

Revenue-generating potential Given the sensitivity of the natural resources of the preserve, large-scale use by the public or private sector is not recommended. Low impact recreational and/or private commercial activities, such as canoe/kayak concessions, wildlife photography/filming may potentially generate some revenue.

Cooperators in management activities Security of the project area will depend upon the assistance and cooperation of state and local law enforcement. Regular patrols by preserve staff will assist detection of potential encroachments and/or violations.

Category	2000/2001	2001/2002
Salary		
OPS		Fat 600
Expense	\$12,048	\$21,000
000		
Special Category	\$1,445	
FCO Grant		
TOTAL	\$13,493	\$21,000



### Cypress Gardens - Group A/Less Than Fee

## **Cypress Gardens**

**Polk County** 

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Cypress Gardens, being one of Florida's first tourist attractions, is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Although much research and archival work still remains to be done to flesh out details about this resort, no one can argue that lourism has become the mainstay of Florida's economy and development during the past 70 years. Cypress Gardens, and its founder Dick Pope, Sr., played a monumental role in Florida's transformation from a regional hinterlands to a national and international destination. It opened in 1936 after four years of construction on the original 37-acre Gardens. Cypress Gardens also hosted elaborate water skiing shows starting during World War II, when the original goal was to entertain troops at nearby bases. Significant structures and attractions on the property include the Snively Mansion, built in the 1920's, and a pool shaped like the State of Florida, built to accommodate an Esther Williams television production in 1959. Cypress Gardens has been used as a locale for movie productions that featured such celebrities as Elvis Presley, Esther Williams and Ricardo Montalban. Full-length features such as "Moon over Miami" were produced here. Cypress Gardens expanded during the 70s and 80s in an attempt to compete with Disney and other parks. In the early 80s, Pope retired and passed the reigns of the company to his son Dick Jr. The park underwent several other changes in ownership after Pope Jr. sold his interest in 1985. Cypress Gardens closed in the spring of 2003.

### Manager

Cypress Gardens is to be protected by a less-than-fee arrangement that would allow private ownership while ensuring that its historical and cultural features would be maintained.

### **General Description**

Cypress Gardens is on the eastern shore of Lake Eloise and the southeastern shore of Lake Summit, about three miles south of Winter Haven. It is one of Florida's oldest tourist attractions, opening in 1936 after four years of construction on the original 37-acre Gardens. Various acreage figures have been used to describe this

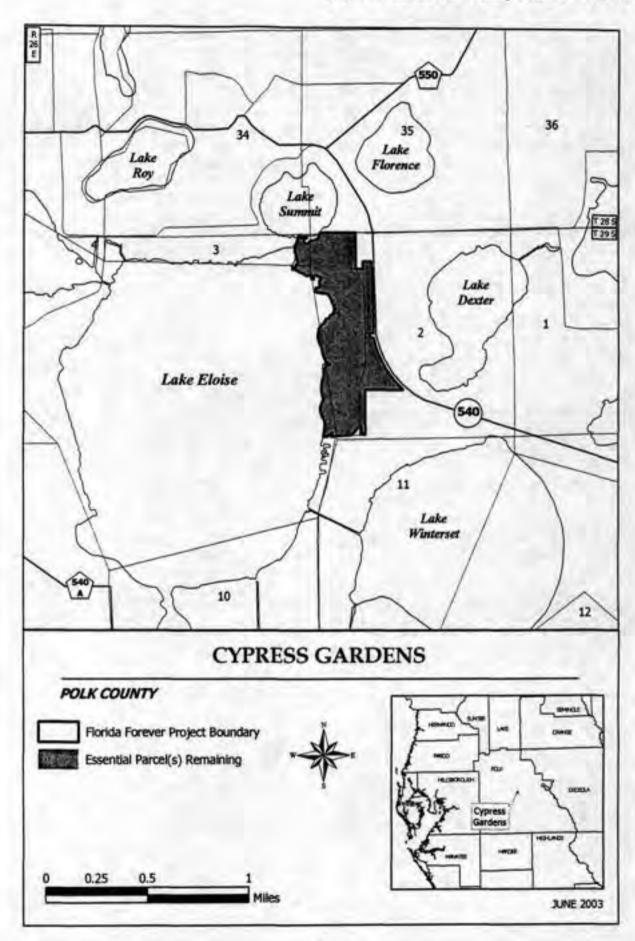
## Group A Less Than Fee

project, but a recent GIS analysis of the First Gardens LC property by the Polk County Property Appraiser concluded it is approximately 167 acres. The original Gardens contain more than 8,000 varieties of plants from 90 different countries and are traversed by canals constructed off of Lake Eloise in the 1930s by the federal Works Progress Administration. The property features approximately 6000 feet on Lakes Eloise and Summit, including a small cove in which ski shows were performed every day for more than fifty years. The shoreline of Lake Summit features a series of small islands constructed by the owners in 1956. The majority of both shorelines are minimally developed, with support structures including docks, and two stadiums for observing the ski show. Other structures developed over the years include an extensive administrative/shop complex containing offices and gift shops; a 50,000 square foot self-contained butterfly conservatory; the Cypress Gardens Theater, a 1000-seat theater in which ice shows were held; the "Island in the Sky" ride, a rotating platform that rises on an extension arm to a height of 153 feet and rotates 360 degrees; the "Living Forest", a large amphitheater complex where animal shows were held; the "Southern Crossroads", adapted from an early country club and including boutiques and attractions; a gazebo known as the "Love Chapel", where hundreds of weddings were held; "Nature's Arena", a complex of boardwalks and covered pavilions

2003
167
o
o
167

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: n/a

Cypress Gardens - Group A/Less Than Fee



#### Cypress Gardens - Group A/Less Than Fee

featuring exotic animals (all now gone to other homes); the "Flora Dome", a 10,000 square foot covered garden; the "Birdwalk Aviary", an enclosed walk-through bird display; "Wacky Water Park", a children's water park; "Carousel Cove" a children's playground; an outdoor concert arena with seating for more than 2,000; an extensively manicured floral garden featuring several large topiaries; and several large greenhouse, horticultural centers and maintenance facilities.

#### Public Use

Public use of Cypress Gardens would focus on its cultural and historic resources and traditional uses.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Cypress Gardens closed as an attraction in April, 2003. On June 6, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) voted to add Cypress Gardens to the list of Florida Forever projects. Cypress Gardens is proposed to be protected by a less-than-fee arrangement that would allow private ownership while ensuring that its historical and cultural features would be maintained. This proposal consists of a single owner. Although the entire acreage of this ownership is included, the state will concentrate on acquiring an interest in the 37 acre gardens and necessary support facilities.

On August 25, 2003 a contract betwen the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and the owners of Cypress Gardens, First Gardens L.C., was made for TPL to purchase the property with the goal of long-term protection of the site.

On December 16, 2003 the Florida director of TPL confirmed for the Florida Cabinet that TPL is working with Kent Buescher, owner of the Wild Adventures theme park in Valdosta, Georgia for Mr. Buescher to be a long-term owner/manager of Cypress Gardens.

On January 28, 2004 the Governor and Cabinet voted to place a conservation easement over 150 acres of Cypress Gardens. The nonprofit Trust for Public Land will acquire the property for \$20.5 million. The State of Florida will invest \$11 million, 74 percent of fee value, to protect the property. Polk County will invest \$2.5 million to purchase 30 acres, including the botanical gardens. Mr. Buescher will invest \$7 million in fee title on the other 120 acres, purchasing the land but not development rights.

On February 24, 2004 the Trust for Public Land (TPL) announced it has successfully completed the protection of 150 acres of Cypress Gardens by purchase, with Polk County acquiring the 30-acre gardens portion of the property, and Mr. Buescher purchasing the remaining acreage subject to a conservation easement.

#### Management Policy Statement

The goals of state management of Cypress Gardens would be to preserve existing traditional recreational uses, including nature trails, boating, outdoor education and historic interpretation, and to preserve significant archaeological or historic sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Under a conservation easement, the manager would be the private title owner with restrictions on its future land uses to protect the significant natural and historical resources.

# **Dade County Archipelago**

# Group B Full Fee

### **Miami-Dade County**

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

On a limestone ridge east of the Everglades, where Miami and Homestead and surrounding farms now stand, were subtropical pinelands and hardwood hammocks unique in the United States. Now only tiny pieces of these forests remain, the best of which the Dade County Archipelago project will protect. In so doing, the project will conserve habitat for rare animals and dozens of rare plants, many found nowhere else in the world, and will provide areas where residents and visitors can learn about and appreciate what was here before the cities.

#### Manager

Miami-Dade County.

#### **General Description**

This project contains some of the most outstanding examples of rockland hammock that remain in Florida, as well as the best remaining examples of the highly endangered pine rockland outside Everglades National Park. The pine rocklands are critical to the survival of at least 51 rare and endangered plant species found nowhere else, and several rare animal species occur within the project. Several of the hammocks contain significant archaeological sites. The urbanization of Dade County has nearly destroyed these ecosystems. The remaining sites are still threatened by agriculture and urban development.

#### Public Use

The project tracts are designated for use as botanical sites with passive recreational use.

FNAI Elements	
Florida thoroughwort	
brickell-bush	G1/S1
Tiny polygala	G1/S1
PINE ROCKLAND	G1/S1
Small's milkpea	G1Q/S1
Sand flax	G1G2/S1S2
Deltoid spurge	G2T1/S1
Carter's small-flowered flax	G2T1/S1
Rockland painted-leaf	G2/S2
Blodgett's wild-mercury	G2/S2
53 elements known from	n project

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Miami Rockridge Pinelands and Tropical Hammocks of the Redlands were combined to form Dade County Archipelago in 1994.

#### Tropical Hammocks of the Redlands

Phasing of the hammocks in order of priority: Silver Palm (two of three tracts purchased through TNC), Castello Extension, Loveland, Big and Little George, Meissner Ross, Southwest Island, Holiday, Lucille, Ross, Madden's. All sites are essential. Dade County has acquired acreage in Holiday and Lucille Hammocks.

#### Miami Rockridge Pinelands

Phasing of the pineland sites in order of priority: Site 12 (partially acquired), Site 2 (partially acquired), Site 6, Site 15 (majority acquired in 1992), Site 14, Site 13 (partially acquired), Site 8 (acquired in 1991), Site 1 (acquired in 1991), Site 16 (half acquired in 1992), Site 7 (majority acquired in 1992), FNAI addition to Site 10, Site 9. The Ludlam Pineland (10 acres) was added in 1994. Dade County has acquired the tract. All sites are essential.

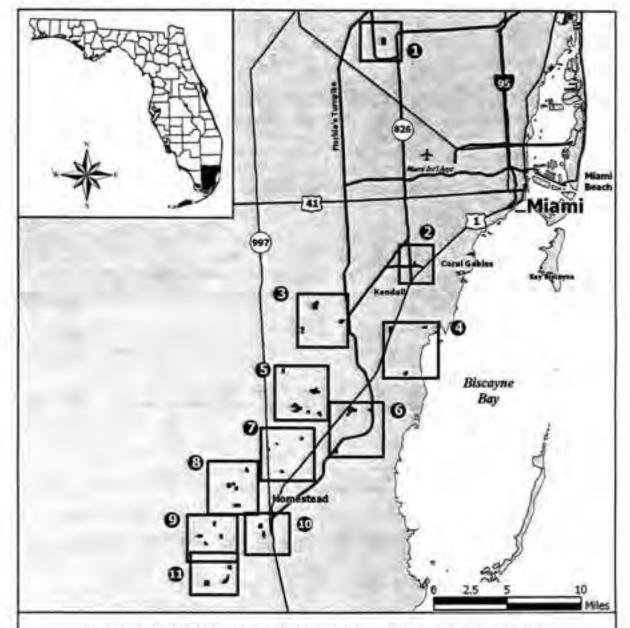
During 1995, Dade County proposed the addition of 16 sites to the project area. All of the sites were assessed during the 1995 cycle. The LAMAC approved the addition in December 1995.

The sites added are: Boystown (acquired-77 acres), Tannami Addition, Wilkins-Pierson Addition, Whispering Pines, Castellow Complex #28, Castellow Complex #31, Castello Complex #33, Goulds, Hardin,

#### (Continued on Page 122)

Placed on list	1994
Project Area (Acres)	858
Acres Acquired	558*
at a Cost of	\$35,133,346*
Acres Remaining	300
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$230,400

\* includes acquisitions by Dade County.



# DADE COUNTY ARCHIPELAGO: OVERVIEW

### MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

- Map 1 A. Maddens Hammock Site
- Map 2
- A. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 1
- Map 3
- A. Boystown Site
- B. Tamiami Addition Site
- C. Big and Little George Hammocks Site
- Map 4
- A. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 2
- B. Miami Rockridge Pinelands -
- Ludiam Pineland Site C. Whispering Pines Site

#### Map 5

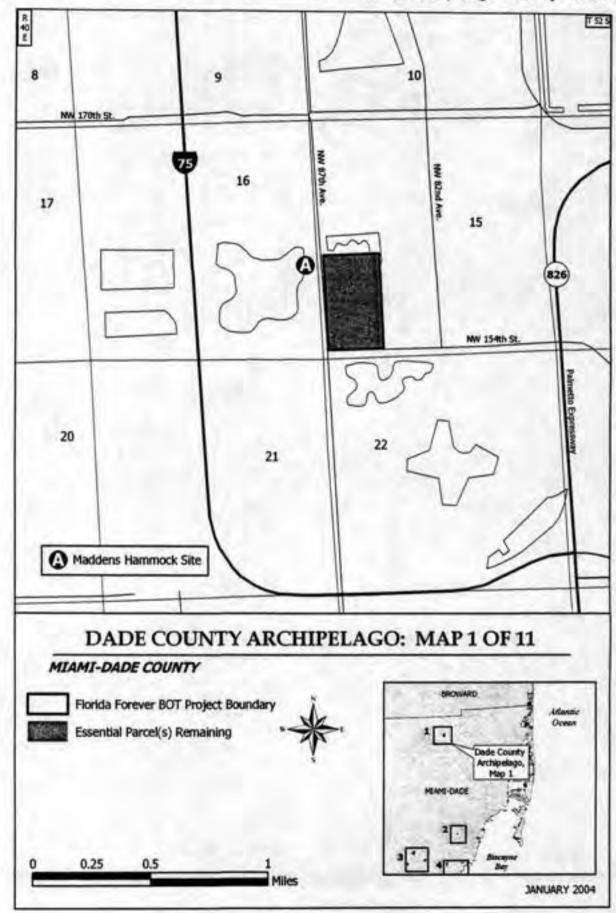
- A. Wilkins Pierson Pineland Site
- B. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 7
- C. Castellow #31 Site
- D. Castellow Hammock Extension Site
- E. Ross Hammock Site
- F. Castellow #28 Site
- G. Castellow #33 Site
- H. Silver Palm Hammock Site
- I. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 8 Map 6
- A. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 6
- **B. Goulds Addition Site**
- C. Hardin Hammock Site
- D. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 10 Map 7
- A. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 9 B. Ownissa Bauer Addition Site
- C. Bauer Drive Pineland Site
- D. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 12

- Map 8 A. Mam Rockridge Pinelands Site 13
- B. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 14
- C. Meissner Hammock Site
- **D. Fuchs Hammock Site**
- E. Navy Wells #2 Site
- Map 9
- A. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 16
- B. Lucille Hammock Site
- C. Navy Wells #39 Site D. Loveland Hammock Site

## Map 10

- A. Miami Rockridge Pinelands Site 15
- B. Navy Wells #23 Site
- Map 11
- A. Southwest Hammock Site
- B. Holiday Hammock Site
- C. Round Hammock Site

JANUARY 2004

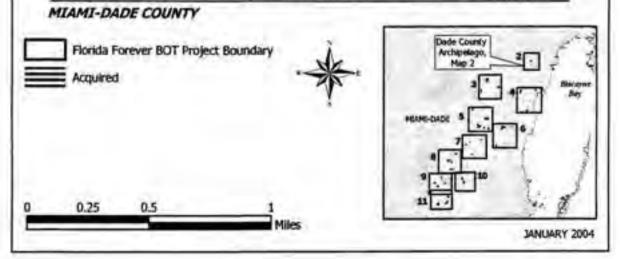


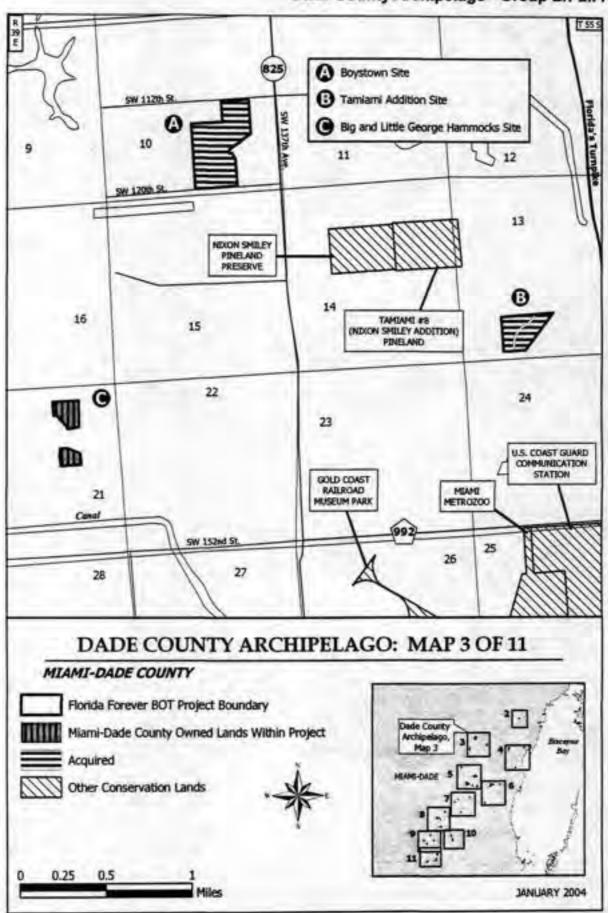




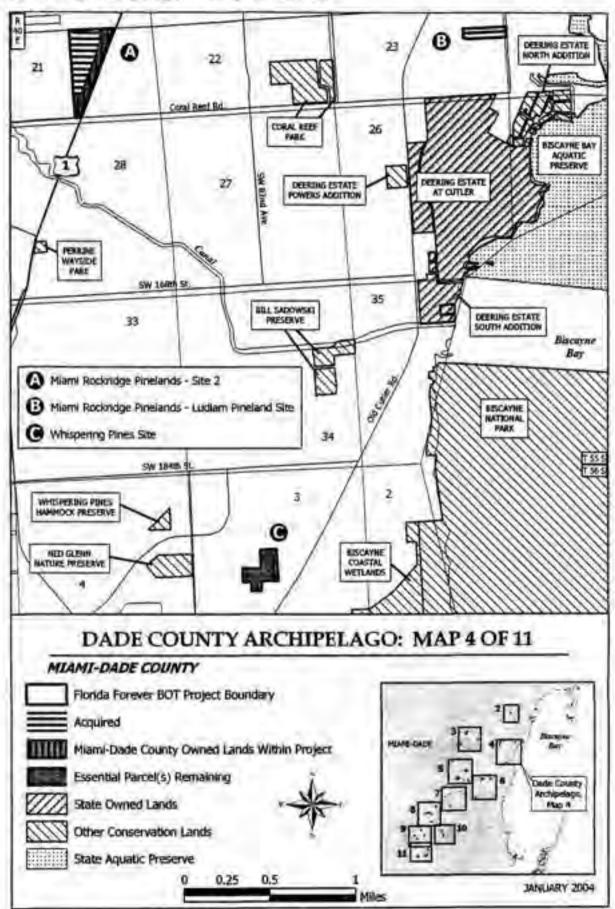
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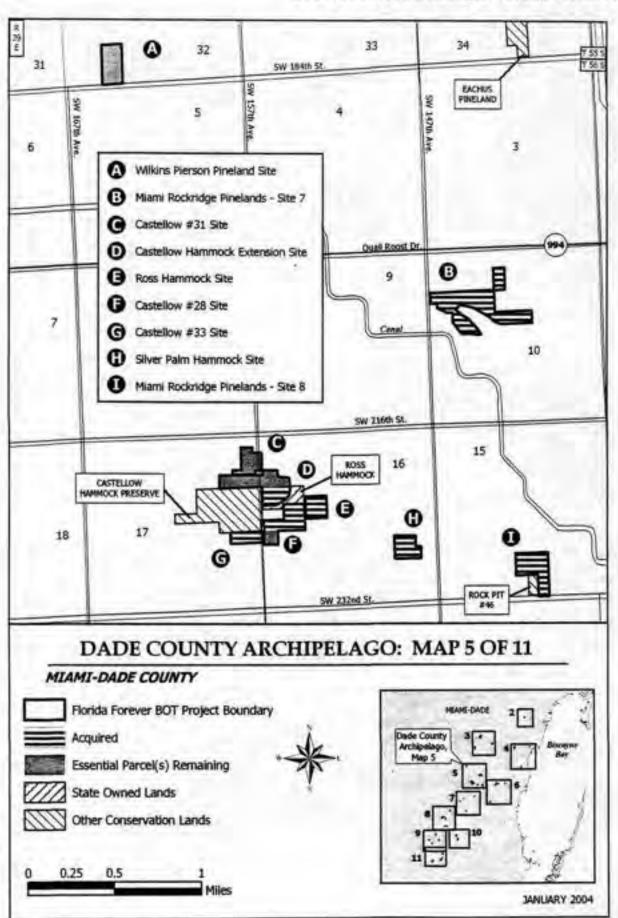
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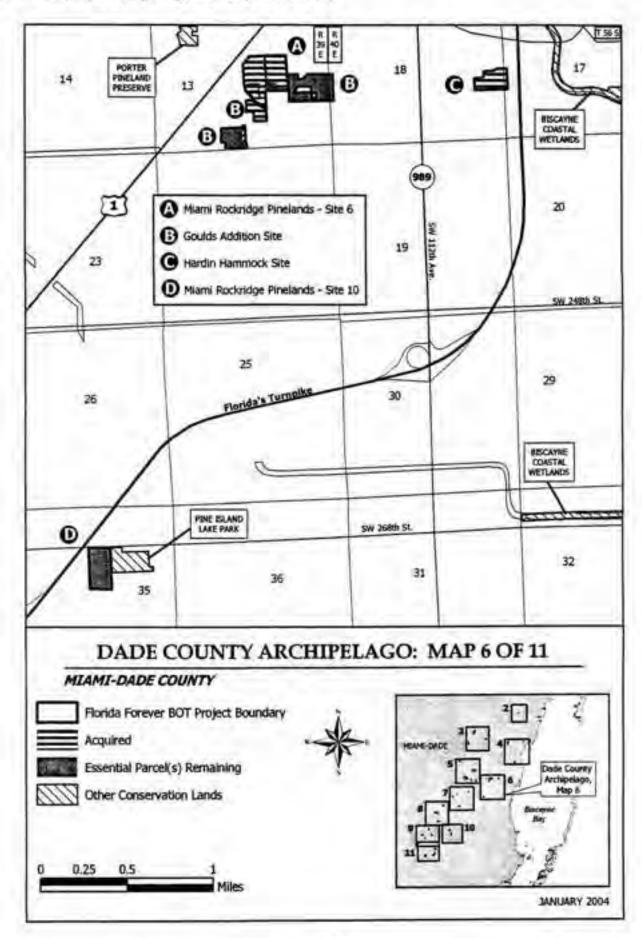


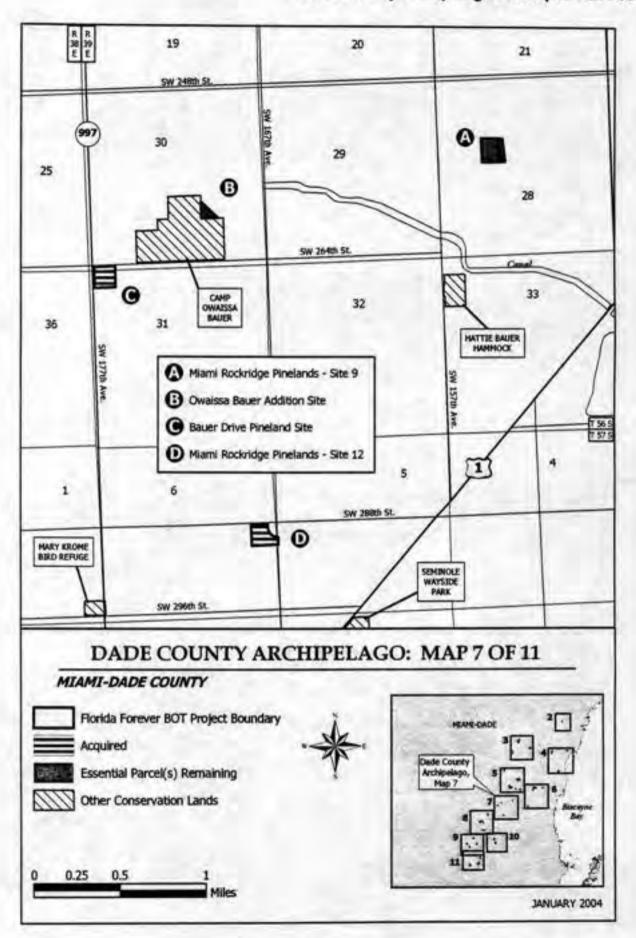


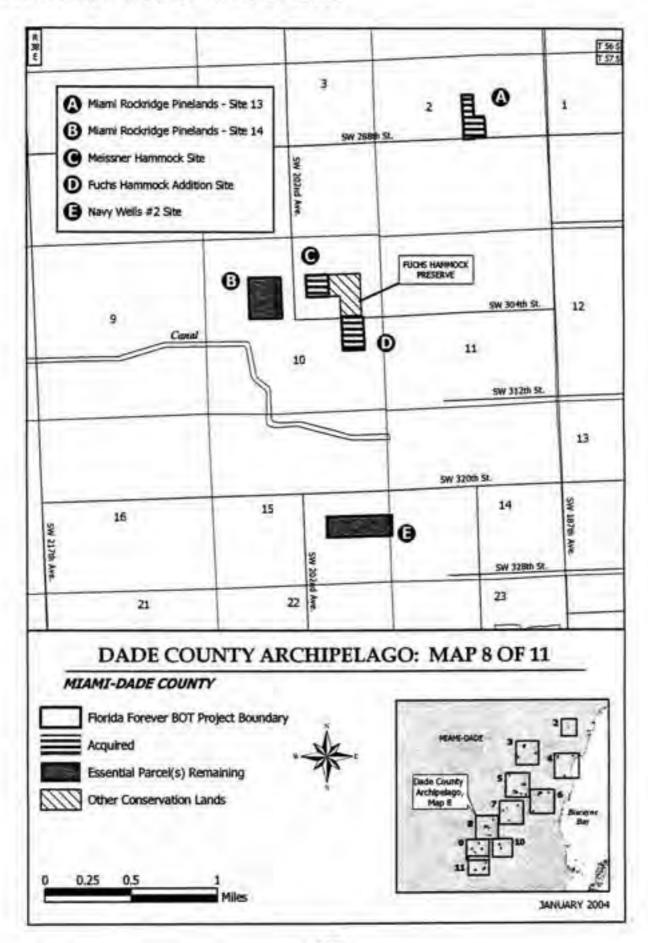


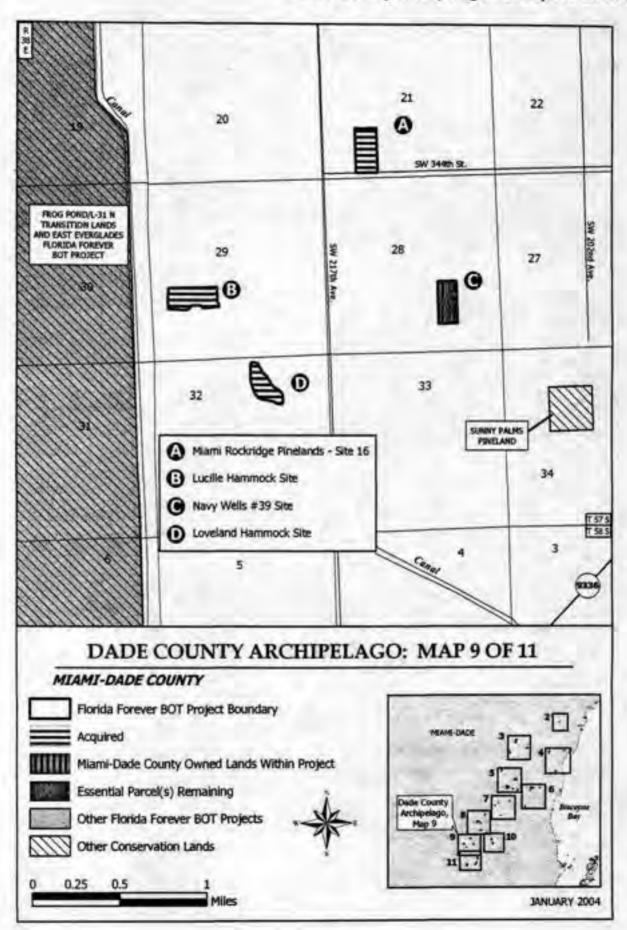


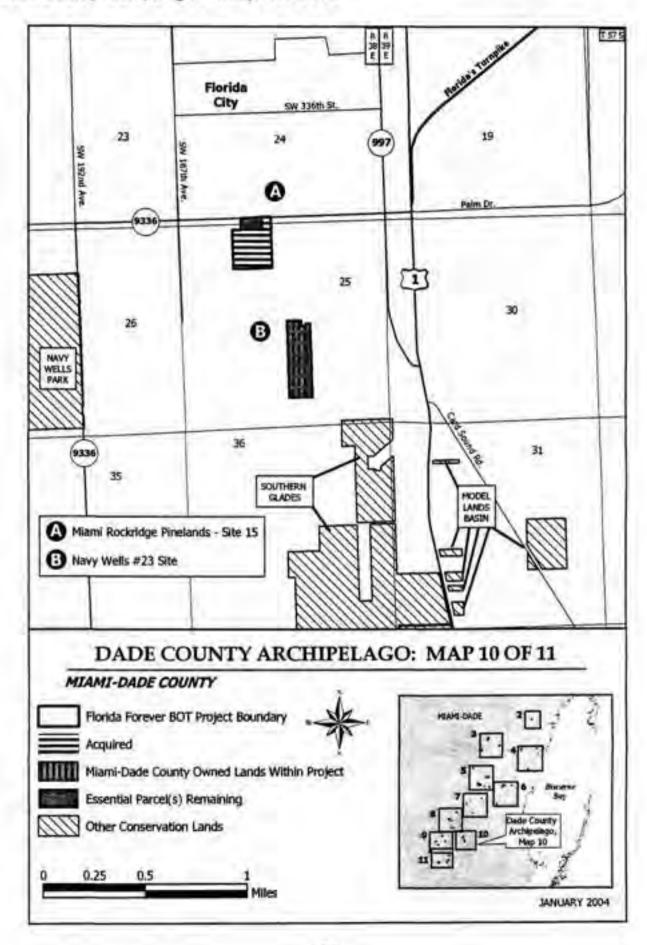


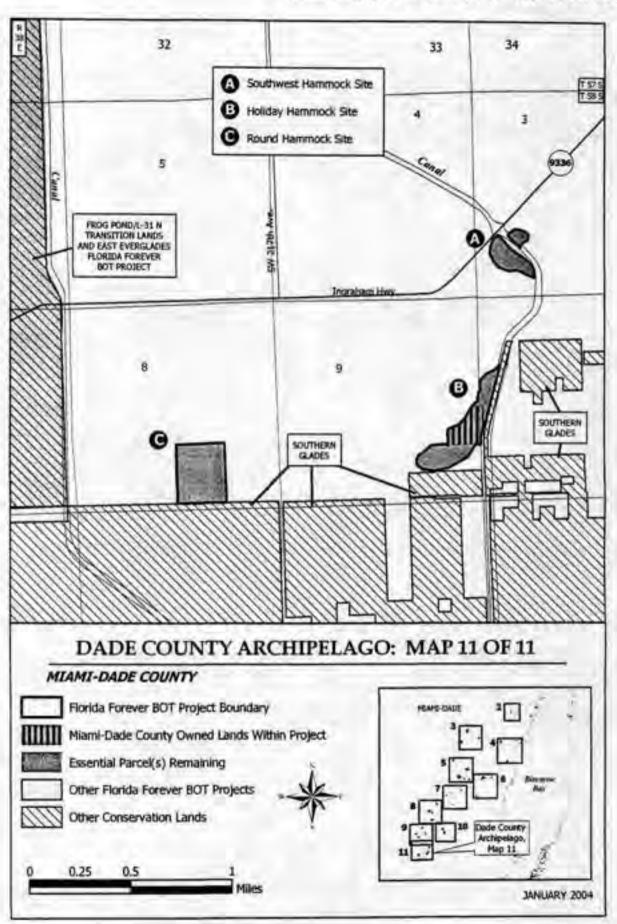












Owaissaa Bauer Addition, Fuchs, Navy Wells #2, Navy Wells #23, Navy Wells #39, Round Hammock. Bauer Drive Pineland. Dade County has acquired approximately 348 acres at a cost of \$21,889,314 within the project.

#### Coordination

Dade County is the acquisition partner. In May 1990, voters approved a referendum, which increased ad valorem tax by .75 mills for two years, generating approximately \$90 million specifically for the acquisition and management of environmentally endangered lands. The county participated in all phases of project development and paid for initial mapping and title work on all the hammock sites. TNC has been an intermediary in the acquisition of some sites. Dade County continues with acquisition of the remaining tracts.

Resolutions in support of this project include a pledge from Dade County Commission to participate in providing 50% of acquisition funds and to manage the acquired sites.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Dade County Archipelago project is to preserve and restore the best of the small areas of pine rockland and rockland hammock left in Dade County. Achieving this objective will protect over fifty rare plant species, several of which are found nowhere else in the world, and allow the public to learn about and appreciate the original landscapes of the Miarm Rock Ridge. The project should be managed under the single-use concept: management activities should be directed toward the preservation of resources. Consumptive uses such as hunting or logging should not be permitted. Managers should control public access to the sites; thoroughly inventory the natural and historical resources of the sites; work to eliminate invasive exotic plants; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually preserving the natural communities and their constituent species. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, such as interpretive trails, ensure that they do not harm the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

This project includes most of the high quality pine rockland and rockland hammock sites in Dade County and therefore, with intensive management, has the configuration to achieve its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Dade County Archipelago includes some of the best rockland hammocks and pine rocklands in Florida. Their rare West Indian and endemic plant species and their small size qualify these areas as state botanical sites.

Manager Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Dade County Archipelago generally includes lands that are high-need tracts, requiring site-specific resource management and protection.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, initial activities will concentrate on site security; removal of existing trash; public and fire management access; and resource inventory, including areas of special concern: archaeological sites, rare species, fern, vine, and exotic dominated areas. Long-range plans will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and the perpetuation and maintenance of natural communities. Management activities will also stress the protection of threatened and endangered species. The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent practical.

Management Cos	t Summary/L	Dade County
Category	1996/97	1997/98
Source of Funds	County	County
Salary	\$120,362	\$190,986
OPS	\$57,119	\$0
000	\$31,320	\$140,084
Expense	\$0	\$58,424
FCO	\$8,357	\$66,812
TOTAL	\$217,158	\$456,306

# **Devil's Garden**

### Hendry and Collier Counties

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Devil's Garden project is located in Hendry and Collier Counties, and is approximately \$2,000 acres. This vast project is being proposed to fill a gap in a corridor that will provide a large landscape for the federally endangered Florida panther. There are numerous records of panther use of the property for several years as well as numerous other rare and threatened plants and animals.

#### Manager

The high wildlife resource value of the Devil's Garden proposal indicates that the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is the suitable lead manager for most of the area (71,608 acres), with the two westernmost parcels (approximately 10,900 acres) adjoining the Okaloacoochee State Forest to be managed by the Division of Forestry.

#### **General Description**

The Devil's Garden proposal includes 82,508 acres (per digitized boundaries; 82,000 ac. per proposal) in Hendry and Collier counties. The proposal has a single owner and includes four "parcels". The major parcel (71,608 ac.) adjoins the eastern boundary of Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest and encompasses an area, roughly 18 miles long (east-west) and six miles wide (north-south); an additional parcel (6,445 ac.) is adjacent to the northeastern boundary of the State Forest and Okaloacoochee Slough Wildhife Management Area, and lies across Keri Road from the northwest Group A Full Fee

corner of the major parcel. Two smaller parcels (Tshaped parcel - 3,328 ac. and 1,127 ac.) abut the southwestern boundary of the State Forest.

Devil's Garden represents a huge tract of ranch land that has been heavily impacted by cattle ranching activities (conversion to pasture) and to a lesser extent agriculture. Non-forested wetlands, including basin/ depression marsh, swale, and wet prairie make up the dominant natural communities that are still present on the property. Mesic/wet flatwoods have been, to a large extent, cleared and converted to pasturelands. Prairie hammocks were scattered throughout the property and formed irregularly shaped forests, usually in association with basin/depression wetlands. In a helicopter survey, a few small (<15 acres) patches of dome swamp fringing swale systems could be seen in the southwestern T-shaped parcel. Both southern parcels have few remaining upland natural communities except for narrow fringes adjacent to wetlands; there is some hammock remaining in the southwest corner of the T-shaped parcel.

#### Public Use

The property can accommodate a diverse range of resource-based recreation, including camping, picnicking, hiking, natural resource appreciation (nature study), wildlife observation, bicycling, horseback riding and environmental education.

FNAI Element	S
DRY PRAIRIE	G1/S1
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
DEPRESSION MARSH	G47/S3
BASIN SWAMP	G4?/S3
MESIC FLATWOODS	G?/S4
WETPRAIRIE	G?/S4?
XERIC HAMMOCK	G7/S3
8 elements known from	n project

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	82,508
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	50
Acres Remaining	82,508
Contraction of the second s	10

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$9,483,649

### Devil's Garden - Group A/Full Fee

Depending on management emphasis, the land could provide significant hunting opportunities. Careful planning would need to be done if observable wildlife and hunting are to occur on the same areas. Since he project is so large, however, it may be possible to set areas aside where wildlife observation can be emphasized and encouraged.

#### Acquisition and Planning Status

The Devil's Garden project was added to the 2003 Florida Forever project list at the December 5, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

This project consists of multiple parcels under one owner, As such, the essential parcel is identified as the Alico ownership. The acquisition strategy calls for phased fee-simple acquisition over multiple years.

The parmer of the Division of State Lands is The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Appraisals are complete.

#### Coordination

There are no acquisition parmers at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management for the Devil's Garden project are: to Increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels, to Protect, restore, and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems of the state, Increase natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities including but not limited to wildlife viewing, hunting, hiking and camping, Increase the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation Due to the diversity, and connectivity to the Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest, the two western most parcels (approximately 10.900 acres) qualify State Forest designation. The high wildlife resource values and the designation of primary or secondary panther habitat zones on the project qualify the eastern parcel (approximately 71,608 acres) as a wildlife management area.

#### Manager

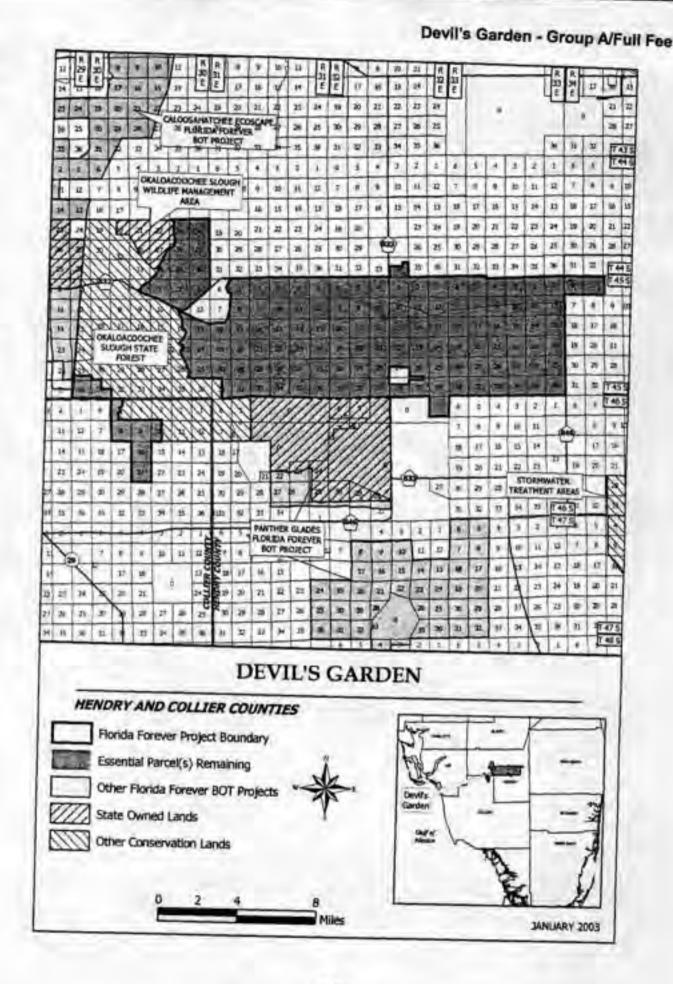
The Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) will mange the two western most parcels as part of the Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will manage the eastern parcel.

#### **Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management**

Much of the project's drier natural community types have been disturbed; many converted to some improved. form of agriculture. This conversion usually meant some type of hydrologic alteration to facilitate water management. This property contains vast areas of wetlands with sensitive natural resources; accordingly, land management and public use will specifically be structured to improve and protect these areas. Surrounding land uses are not expected to effect prescribed burning on this parcel. The level of management intensity and related management costs is expected to be initially high to obtain the necessary information and resources to restore and manage the system. Given the importance of this property to panther recovery, this link between habitat management and panther use will be critical to insuring the property is managed consistent with the primary purposes for acquisition.

#### Timetable for Implementing Management and Provisions for Security and Protection of Infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory, exotic species control and removal of refuse. Conceptual management plans will be developed describing the management goals and specific objectives necessary to implement future resource management. Once the area is acquired, steps will be taken to msure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. Public use will be limited to activities that will have little or no impact to these areas. Vehicular use by the public will be confined to designated roads. Unnecessary access points will be closed. Both agencies will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and



### Devil's Garden - Group A/Full Fee

interested parties as appropriate. Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and maintenance of natural communities. To the greatest extent practical, disturbed sites will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in naturally functioning ecosystems. Management activities will also stress enhancement of the abundance and spatial distribution of threatened and endangered species. Multiple use principles will be practiced where compatible with resource management goals and acquisition purposes. An all-season prescribed burning management plan will be developed and implemented to improve the habitat quality of native firedependent plant communities and wildlife habitats.

#### **Revenue** Generating Potential

Management will seek to improve revenue-generating potential by improving wildlife diversity and resourcebased recreation. Anticipated revenues from wildlife conservation will arise from sales of hunting licenses, wildlife management area permits and other special hunting permits. Additional revenues might be generated from eco-tourism and wildlife viewing activities. Timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Due to the existing condition of the timber resource on the property, revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be low. Some revenues might be generated from agricultural farming

contracts in areas currently being farmed as row crops until such areas can be restored in the interest of wildlife conservation.

#### **Cooperators in Management Activities**

The FWCC and DOF will cooperate with other federal, state and local government agencies, including the South Florida Water Management District in managing the area.

#### Management Costs and Sources of Revenue

The Devil's Garden proposal, when acquired by the state, will require 14 FTE positions to manage the project area. Certain activities may be privatized, which would reduce the number of FTEs required. Funding for natural-resource management and public use administration would come from the CARL Trust Fund. It is anticipated that revenue sources would include public use fees and timber harvests.

#### Management Costs (for interim management)

Salary (6 FTE)	\$216,639
Expense	\$725,000
<b>Operating Capital Outlay</b>	\$418,200

Total

\$1,354,839

# **Dickerson Bay/Bald Point**

# Group A Full Fee

# Franklin and Wakulla Counties

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

On the coast of Wakulla and Franklin Counties, the shallow, waveless Gulf of Mexico laps against the westernmost Big Bend salt marshes and the easternmost white sand beaches of the Panhandle. The St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge already protects much of this coast, the Dickerson Bay/Bald Point project will protect more, including areas critical to the survival of the endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle. In so doing, it will also protect the fishery in the area by protecting its foundation - rich mud flats and seagrass beds - and will add land to Mashes Sands County Park where people may enjoy the beauty of this little-disturbed coast.

#### Manager

The Division of Recreation and Parks, Florida Department of Environmental Protection will manage that portion of the project in Franklin County; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Wakulla County will separtely manage individual parcels in Wakulla County.

#### **General Description**

The project, comprising three separate areas, includes uplands around Dickerson, Levy, and Ochlockonee Bays. These bays provide foraging habitat for juvenile Kemp's ridley sea turtles, the world's most endangered sea turtle, and other state or globally rare birds (e.g., wood stork, bald eagle) and sea turtles (e.g., loggerhead). The uplands surrounding the three bays are an intricate mosaic of lakes, depression marshes, mesic flatwoods (high quality to disturbed) that support populations of such rare animals as Sherman's fox squirrel and gopher tortoise, scrubby flatwoods, and scrub connected with the marine communities by numerous tidal creeks, salt flats, and salt marshes. The Bald Point site includes

FNAI Elements	
Atlantic ridley	G1/S1
Godfrey's blazing star	G2/S2
Gulf lupine	G2/S2
Green turtle	G3/S2
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
Loggerhead	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
XERIC HAMMOCK	G?/S3
23 elements known from	project
	and the second second

beach dunes used by many species of shore birds. The condition of these uplands might be expected to play a larger role in maintaining the quality of the marine communities than would be the case with a straight shoreline. The natural upland communities adjoin similar communities in St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge to the north and west. Twelve archeological sites are known from Bald Point. The Bald Point site is threatened by development.

#### **Public Use**

The southern part of this project (i.e., Bald Point and southern Dickerson Bay) is designated for use as a state park that will augment the recreational opportunities of the adjacent Mashes Sands County Park with areas for picnicking, hiking, camping, and canoeing. The beaches of Bald Point are suitable for swimming and other activities. The northern part of this project will be incorporated into the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge. This portion is suitable for boating.

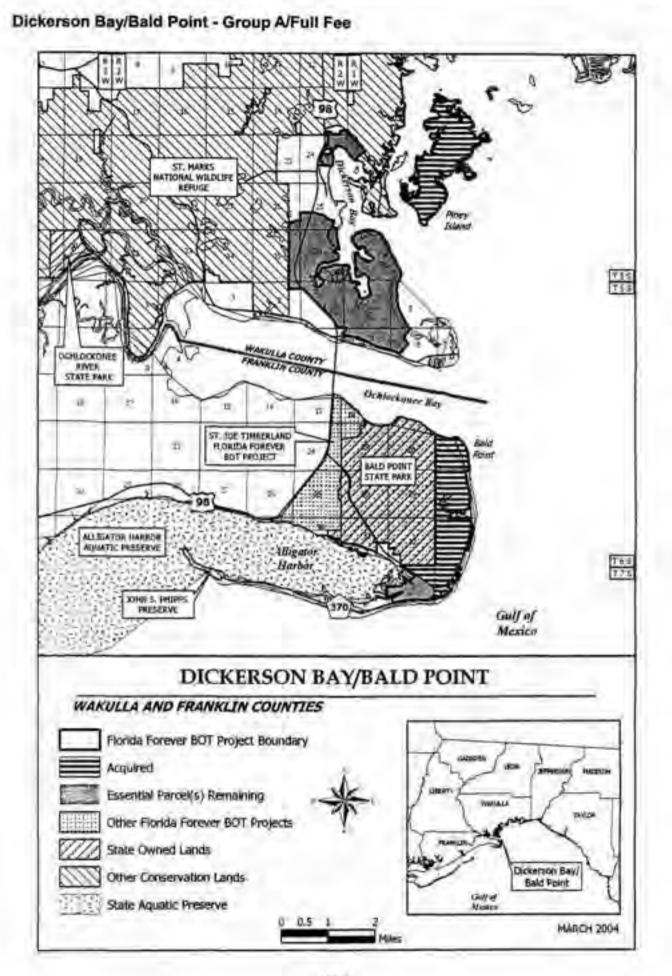
#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Dickerson Bay, Larger ownerships should be negotiated before the smaller ones. The essential parcels are McMillan, Brunstad, Nichols, JDN Enterprises, Meara, Cobleigh, Panacea Coastal Properties and Metcalf Piney Island, also an essential parcel, was donated to the USFWS in 1996.

Baid Point: All parcels are essential. The LGR. Investment Fund, LTD, has been acquired.

On October 15, 1998, the LAMAC redesignated the Jer Be Lou Development Co. parcel as essential. The parcel has been acquired.

Placed on list	1996
Project Area (GIS Acres)	5,851
Acres Acquired	1,386
at a Cost of	\$9,136,265
Acres Remaining	4,465
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$4,563,230



### Dickerson Bay/Bald Point - Group A/Full Fee

The project has been mapped and appraised. The Division of State lands (DSL) is soliciting willing sellers.

#### Coordination

The US Forest Service is an active land manager in this area, and although it is not an acquisition partner, coordination between the state and federal government should be maintained.

On August 27, 1998, a portion of the Bald Point project was selected to receive Florida Communities Trust grant money.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objectives of management of the Dickerson Bay/Bald Point project are to maintain and restore the natural communities around Dickerson and Levy Bays and to give the public an area for hiking, fishing, camping, and other recreation compatible with protection of the natural resources. Protecting the natural communities of the area is critical to the survival of the endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle and will also help protect habitat for wading birds and shore birds. It will also help protect a recreational and commercial fishery that depends on the marine life of the bays.

The project should be managed under the single-use concept: management activities should be directed toward the preservation of the salt marshes, flatwoods, and other communities around the bays. Consumptive uses such as hunting or logging should not be permitted. Managers should control public access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to one or a few main roads; thoroughly inventory the resources; burn the firedependent flatwoods in a pattern mimicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually maintaining or improving the quality of the natural communities. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, such as hiking trails, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

The project includes nearly all of the undeveloped, privately-owned land along Dickerson and Levy Bays and adjoints the Mashes Sands county park on its southeast border. It therefore has the configuration and location to achieve its primary objectives.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The large south parcel of the Dickerson Bay portion of the project has the capacity to provide an effective buffer for the protection of the marine communities of Levy and Dickerson Bays. The highly endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle frequents the waters of these bays. The parcel is also capable of providing resource based recreational opportunities, particularly in support of the adjacent county park at Mashes Island. For these reasons, the property would be suitable as a state park within the state park system.

Manager In Franklin County: Division of Recreation and Parks; in Wakulla County:U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Wakulla County.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The property will be a high need management area. Public recreational use and development compatible with resource management will be an integral aspect of management.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Upon acquisition and assignment to the Division, public access will be provided for low intensity, non-facility related outdoor recreation activities. Additionally, initial management efforts will concentrate on site security, fire management and development of a resource inventory and public use plan. Vehicular access by the public will be confined to designated points and routes. Protection of the adjacent marme environment will be a primary focus for the property. Over the long term, however, a wide range of resource-based recreation and environmental education facilities may be promoted. The nature, extent and location of mfrastructure will be defined by the management plan developed for the property. Restoration and maintenance of natural communities will be incorporated into long range management efforts and disturbed areas will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in natural systems, to the extent practical.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated from this property initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public facilities might be developed. The amount of any future revenue will depend on the nature and extent of public use identified in the management plan developed for the property. The property has potential for generating local economic benefits. The pine plantation that covers a large portion of the Bald Point project will be managed with the assistance of the DOF has considerable value and can be expected to provide significant revenue if acquired with the land. No other significant revenues would be expected over the short-term after acquisition. The amount of future rev-

### Dickerson Bay/Bald Point - Group A/Full Fee

enues from other than timber sales will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities developed. *Cooperators in management activities* Due to the potential for enhancement of the adjacent county park by this project area, coordination of management efforts may be desirable. On the Bald Point site, the DOF, will be consulted on forest management and timber issues related to planning and implementation of a forest resource management plan. Other federal, state, and local government agencies will be consulted, as appropriate, to further resource management, recreational and educational opportunities, and the development of the project lands for state park purposes.

Management Cost	Summary/US	SFWS	Management Cos	t Summary/Di	RP
Category Source of Funds	Startup USFWS	Recurring USFWS	Category Source of Funds	Startup CARL	Recurring CARL
Salary	\$7,800	N/A	OPS	\$7,092	\$7.092
OPS	\$0	N/A	Expense	\$13,269	\$13,269
Expense	\$500	N/A	000	\$80,000	\$1,000
000	\$0	N/A	FCO	\$13,269	\$0
FCO	\$0	N/A	TOTAL	\$262,132	\$72,361
TOTAL	\$8,300	N/A	000000		1000

# **Dunn's Creek**

# Dunn's Creek - Group B/Full Fee

# Group B Full Fee

### Putnam County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Where Crescent Lake feeds the St. Johns River are diverse natural lands ranging from sandhills and scrub, to seepage streams in unusually deep ravines, and swamps along Dunn's Creek. The Dunn's Creek project, by conserving these lands, will protect habitat for such wildlife as manatee—which occasionally use the creek—gopher tortoise and wading birds, and will give the public a scenic area in which to enjoy a host of activities, such as canoeing, camping, and hiking.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

#### **General Description**

The project includes longleaf pine/turkey oak/wregrass sandhills, xeric hammock, sand pine scrub, swamp, and several miles of frontage on Dunn's Creek and Crescent Lake. The mix of natural communities provides excellent wildlife habitat. West Indian manatees are occasionally sighted in the creek. One degraded archaeological site is known from the project. The uplands are threatened by timbering and will eventually be threatened by residential development.

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a state park.

Acquisition	Planning	and Status
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Phase I (essential): Former Sam Kaye tract has been acquired. Phase II: remaining tracts on the southwest side of the creek—approximately eight ownerships.

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated an additional 1,037 acre tract (Johnson-Malphurs, Inc.) essential.

#### Coordination

TNC consolidated the remaining interests in the former Sam Kaye tract and the state has acquired TNC's interest. The St. Johns River Water Management District is an acquisition partner. It acquired the largest ownership (Tilton) on the northeast side of the creek.

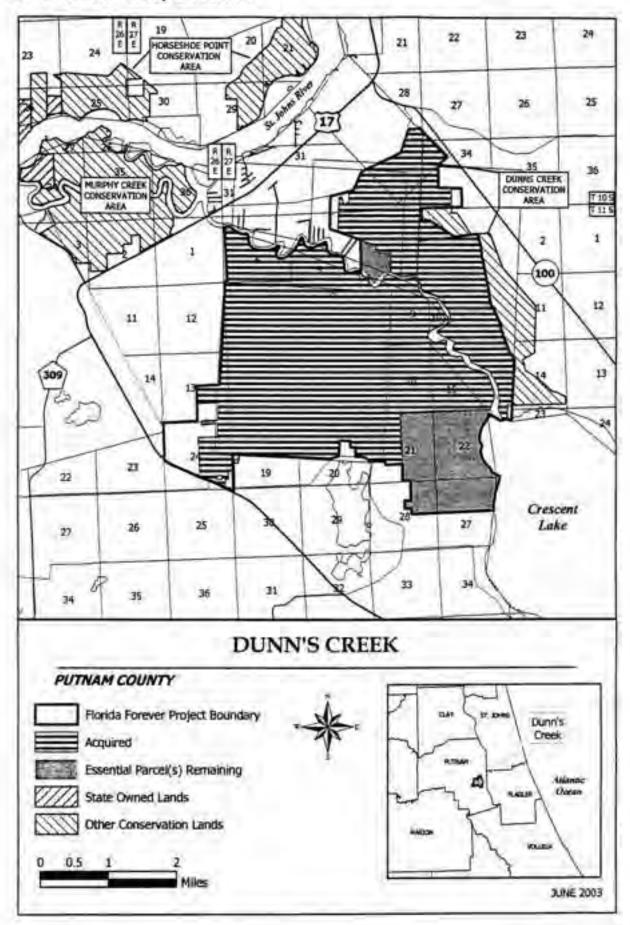
#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Dunn's Creek project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

FNAI Elements	
Rafinesque's big-eared bat	G3G4/S37
SCRUB	G2/S2
West Indian manatee	G2?/S2?
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
SINKHOLE LAKE	G3/S3
SANDHILL	G?/S2
UPLAND HARDWOOD	
FOREST	G?/S3
XERIC HAMMOCK	G?/S3
SEEPAGE STREAM	G4/S3
9 elements known from	project

Placed on list	1991
Project Area (Acres)	10,345
Acres Acquired	8,623*
at a Cost of	\$1,743,280*
Acres Remaining	1,732

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$1,247,796 Includes acreage acquired with funds spent by SJRWMD. Dunn's Creek - Group B/Full Fee



#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Dunn's Creek project has the mix of natural resources and the potential for natural-resource-based recreation to qualify it as a unit of the state park system.

Manager The DRP will manage the area.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Dunn's Creek project will be a high-need management area with emphasis on public recreational use and development compatible with resource management.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and efforts toward the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management.

**Revenue-generating potential** No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public use facilities are developed. The amount of any future revenue generated will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities.

Cooperators in management activities No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project area.

Management Cos	t Summary	
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$69,878	\$124,716
OPS	\$14,560	\$3,000
Expense	\$8,686	\$27,000
000	\$73,500	\$1,000
FCO	\$73,500	\$0
TOTAL	\$224,344	\$155,716

# East Everglades

# Dade, Palm Beach and Broward Counties

#### **Parpose for State Acquisition**

Cities and farms have damaged the eastern edge of the huge sawgrass marsh of the Everglades, threatening the health of Everglades National Park and Florida Bay. The East Everglades project will conserve and restore part of this eastern edge, adding land to the National Park, unproving the quality and timing of the flow of water through Taylor Slough to Florida Bay, protecting the habitat of many rare tropical plants, helping to prevent flooding of the developed areas to the east, and giving the public large areas in which to observe wildlife, hunt, and fish.

#### Manager

National Park Service (Everglades National Park Addition); South Florida Water Management District (remainder).

#### General Description

The project is divided into three major areas: a northem area of about 70,000 acres to be added to Everglades National Park, and a southern area (the C-111 Canal lands) of about 30,563 acres. These areas are connected by a narrow strip of land comprising the Frog Pond and Rocky Glades (or L-31N Transition Lands). A third major area, the East Coast Buffer, consists of approximately 66,400 acres of marshes, reservoirs, and groundwater recharge areas. These areas border, in part, the Everglades National Park and are considered critical to the park's ecosystems, particularly Shark River Slough. The project's water storage capacity helps to prevent excessive flooding and serves as a recharge area for well fields in south Dade County. The

Grou	p A
Full	Fee

area encompasses the habitats of numerous rare and endangered species. The project is considered to have potential for archaeological investigations. It is disturbed by drainage and flood-control projects and is vulnerable to development for farms and houses.

#### Public Use

This project is designated for a wildlife and environmental area. Public uses could include camping, hiking, and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The legislature approved \$25 million from the CARL program to be used as a match for SFWMD to acquire the Frog Pond/L-31N Buffer area. The district has acquired the major ownerships in this area. The National Park Service is continuing to acquire acreage m the 70,000 acres that was added to the Everglades National Park by the Everglades Expansion Act. The SFWMD has acquired all but approximately 500 acres in the C-111 canal area. All of the acreage in this project is considered "essential".

On March 15, 1996, the Council added 66,400 acres to the project boundary.

On October 15, 1998, the Council added approximately 5,830 acres to the project boundary at the request of the SFWMD, and deleted 13,142 acres.

On December 5, 2003 the Council moved this project to the Group A list.

FNAI Elements	
Carter's large-flowered flax	G2T2/S2
Florida panther	G4T1/S1
Florida royal palm	G2Q/S2
Coastal vervain	G2/S2
Blodgett's ironweed	G2/S2
ROCKLAND HAMMOCK	G?/S2
Ghost orchid	G?/S2
Banded wild-pine	G4/S3
21 elements known from	project

Placed on list	1982
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	205,230
Acres Acquired	127,196
at a Cost of	\$181,829,492
Acres Remaining	78,034
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$69,136,494

#### Coordination

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the National Park Service are acquisition partners. Resolutions in support of this project include a joint federal/state acquisition resolution from the Governor and Cabinet.

Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the East Everglades project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources

which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

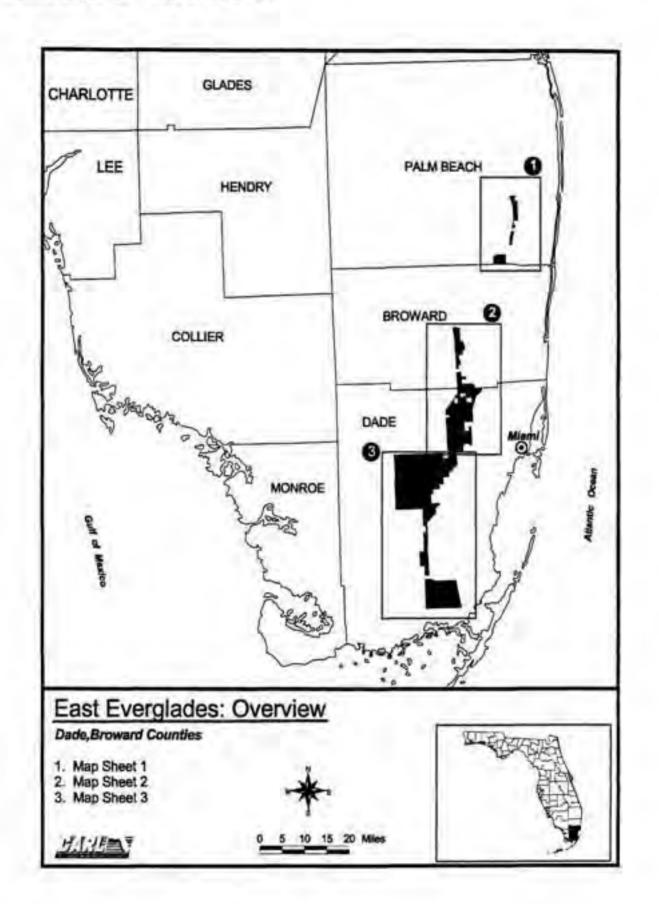
#### Management Prospectus

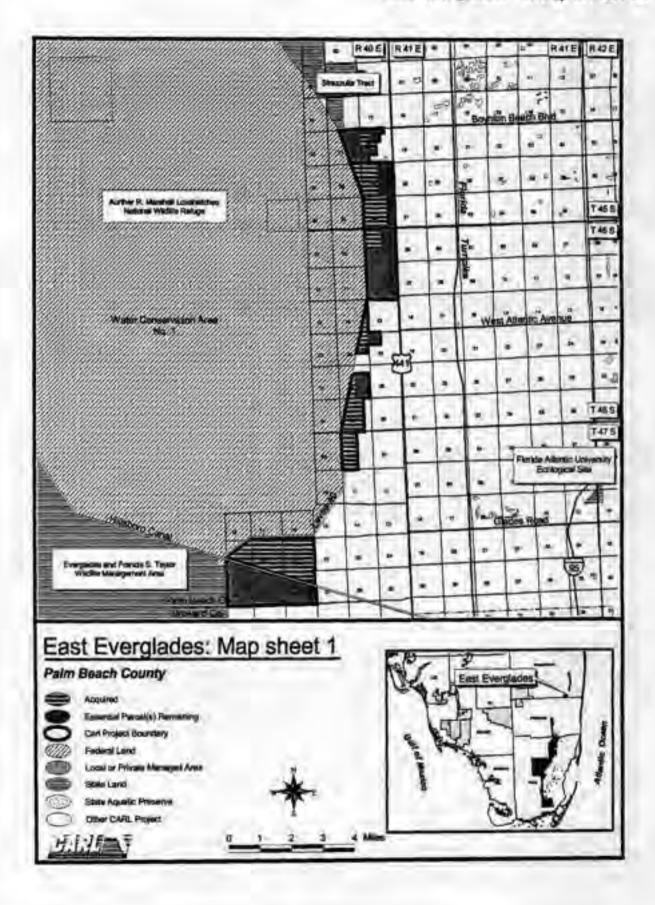
The Everglades National Park Management Plan has been approved by the LAMAC as the Prospectus for the portion of this project to be managed by The National Park Service. The management cost summary for the park service is listed below.

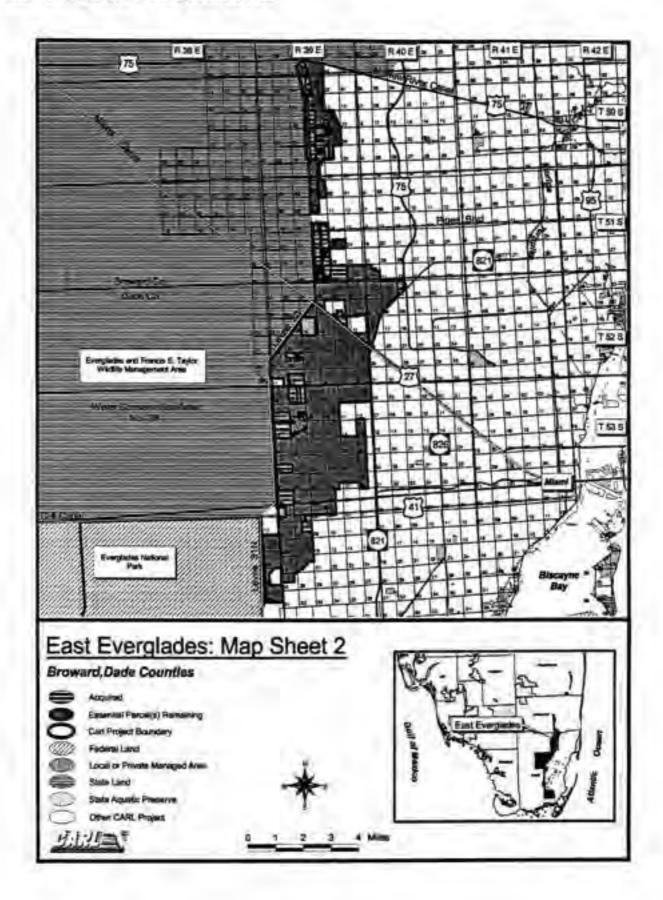
The remainder of this project is to be managed by the South Florida Water Management District. This prospectus is not available at this time; the management cost summary follows.

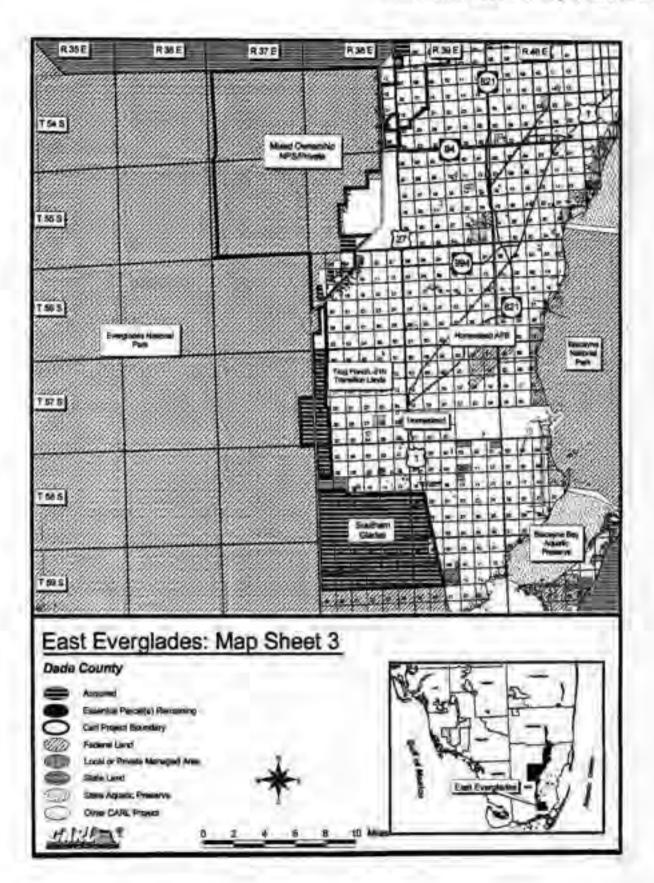
Management Cost	Summary/NPS
Category	1995/96
Source of Funds	Federal
Salary	\$355,500
OPS	\$141,300
Expense	\$0
000	\$14,200
FCO	\$39,000
TOTAL	\$550,000
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Management Cost	Summary/SFWM	D	and a state of the
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	WMLTF	WMLTF	WMLTF
Salary	\$165,000	\$165,000	\$165,000
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$61,500	\$61,500	\$61,500
000	\$0	\$0	\$0
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$228,000	\$226,500	\$226,500









### Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem - Group B/Full Fee

# Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem

### **Orange and Seminole Counties**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Between the growing cities of Orlando and Titusville is a near wilderness through which the middle St. Johns River flows. The Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem project will protect part of this undeveloped area along Puzzle Lake where the Econlockhatchee River flows into the St. Johns, adding to conservation lands already on the river, protecting habitat for bald eagle and other wildlife and rare plants, preserving several archaeological sites, and providing the public of this urbanizing region opportunities for canoeing, fishing, hunting, and other recreation.

#### Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consum er Services.

#### **General Description**

The Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem project will protect wetlands associated with the Econlockhatchee (a blackwater stream) and St. Johns Rivers, extensive hydric hammocks, and over nine miles of frontage on the St. Johns River. Other communities within the project include baygall, mesic/wet flatwoods, floodplain marsh, and scrub/scrubby flatwoods. They support several rare species such as Chapman's sedge, bald eagle, Curtiss' milkweed, and decurrent sedge. Much of the uplands have been converted to improved pasture; grazing and clearcutting have also impacted natural areas. This project, adjacent to the Seminole Ranch Save Our Rivers project, could ultimately be part of public land protecting a riparian corridor nearly 54 miles long along the Econlockhatchee and St. Johns Rivers. Fourteenarchaeological sites are known from the protect, with

FNAI Elements	
Chapman's sedge	G2G3/S2
SCRUB	G2/S2
Curtiss' milkweed	G3/S3
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
Decurrent beak-rush	G3G4/S2
SHELL MOUND	G3/S2
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
HYDRIC HAMMOCK	G?/S47
16 elements known from	n project

# Group B Full Fee

good potential for more. The area is threatened by unrestricted logging and residential development.

#### Public Use

The project is designated a state forest, with such uses as fishing, canoeing, hiking, camping, cultural education and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Econ-St. Johns—Phase I (essential): Hunters Development Fund; Lee Ranch (SJRWMD negotiations unsuccessful); Ray Fore (acquired by Seminole County). Phase II: Northernmost large ownership and remaining inholdings including Clonts, Henning, McLeod, Baker and Ritcher.

Lower Econlockhatchee—Phase 1: Demetree, the largest ownership buffering portions of both sides of river (essential—acquired—shared acquisition with the district). Phase II: Other large tracts including Kilbee (essential—acquired by district), Yarborough (essential - 3,462 acres acquired in less-than-fee by the SJRWMD), Clonts, Jones and others.

On January 17, 1990, LAMAC eliminated all phasing.

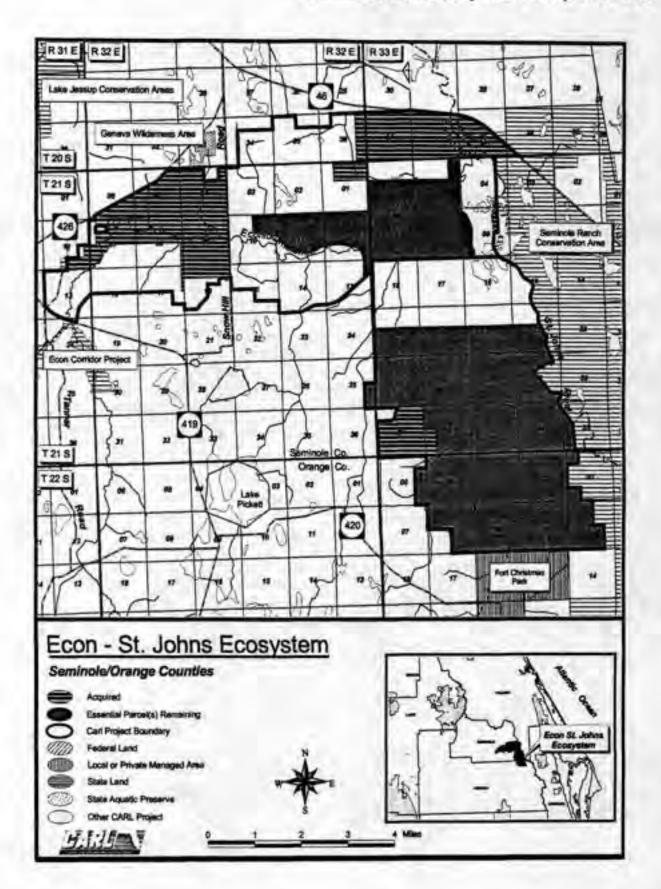
Essential parcels in the Lower Econ portion are acquared (fee and less-than-fee) either by, or in conjunction with, the St. Johns River Water Management District. Only one Phase I parcel in the Econ-St. Johns portion has been acquired (by Seminole County). Other owners are unwilling sellers. The Division of State Lands is not actively working this project.

Placed on list	1994*
Project Area (Acres)	27,409**
Acres Acquired	8,164**
at a Cost of	\$21,002,597
Acres Remaining	19,245

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$15,272,192 \* Econ-St Johns and Lower Econlockhatchee projects were

combined to create Econ-St. Johns Econystem in 1994

" Includes acreage acquired and funds expended by SJRWMD.



#### Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem - Group B/Full Fee

#### Coordination

The St. Johns River Water Management District is an acquisition partner in this project as are both Seminole and Orange Counties. The district's expenditures are reflected in the table on the previous page.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Econ-St Johns Ecosystem project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural resource based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The size and restorable forest resources of the Econ-St. Johns River Ecosystem make it highly desirable for management as a state forest.

Manager The DOF is recommended as Manager.

Conditions affecting intensity of management Other than the habitat restoration needs mentioned below, the management needs for this project are expected to be typical for a state forest.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Approximately 15% of the project has already been acquired. Although a full complement of positions has not yet been funded, the public is being provided access for low-intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation. Current management involves securing the site, providing public and fire management accesses, and removing trash. The Division will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. After enough of the project is acquired, the sites' natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan.

Long-range plans for this project will generally he directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. The project contains a considerable acreage of pasture and range that is suitable for reforestation. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

Revenue-generating potential 'The DOF will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The Division is cooperating with other state agencies, local government entities and other interested parties.

Management Cost	Summary/ D	OF	
Category	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$39,373	\$40,554	\$43,000
OPS	\$0	\$4,320	\$0
Expense	\$28,487	\$24,841	\$25,000
000	\$2,860	\$6,500	\$5,000
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$70,720	\$76,215	\$73,000

# **Escribano** Point

# Escribano Point - Group A/Full Fee

# Group A Full Fee

# Santa Rosa County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Escribano Point proposal consists of 2,914 acres in Santa Rosa County that would complete public land ownership of Escribano Point and the mouth of the Yellow River, thereby achieving the goals of the original 1994 Escribano Point CARL project. It encompasses three sets of parcels: a northern set at the mouth of the Yellow River that adjoins Yellow River Water Management Area (WMA) lands; a middle set around Catfish Basin adjoining Eglin Air Force Base lands on the east and Yellow River WMA lands on the north and south, and a southern set, encompassing Escribano Point, that adjoins Yellow River WMA lands on the north and Eglin lands on the north and east. If purchased, the proposal plus these public lands would provide recreation opportunities and natural resource protection for 10.4 miles of shoreline along East Bay and Blackwater Bay. Its purchase would contribute to the protection of the waters of Blackwater Bay along with that afforded by the Garcon Point Water Management Area, which borders 4.6 miles of the west shore. It would also contribute protection of 37 miles of the Yellow River by adding to the public shoreline of the Yellow River Water Management Area. Uplands south of the river floodplain are protected as part of Eglin Air Force Base.

#### Manager

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is the recommended lead manager for the area.

#### **General Description**

The Escribano Point project is located in Santa Rosa County and is comprised of 2,914 acres. Located along the eastern shore of Pensacola Bay, Escribano Point is

FNAI Elements Florida black bear G5T2/S2 Panhandle illy G2/S2 White-top pitcher plant G3/S3 FLOODPLAIN MARSH G3/S2 Spoon-leaved sundew G5/S3 7 elements known from project surrounded by Eglin Air Force Base to the east, and provides an upland buffer for the Yellow River Marsh Aquatic Preserve to the west. The proposal contains relatively intact examples of wetland communities, hammocks, and wet prairies that provide habitat for numerous rare and threatened plants and animals. The project is also very rich in archaeological and historical resources, containing nine recorded archaeological sites and two historic structures.

#### Public Use

The project has potential to provide a varied recreation experience by offering opportunities such as saltwater swimming, bicycling, picnicking, camping, saltwater fishing, hiking, hunting, nature appreciation and natural resource education. Some of the several archaeological and historical sites known to exist on the project may have interpretation ability. The wetlands in this project limit the placement of facilities, dispersal of activities and the quantity of activities. As access is through Eglin Air Force Base, access itself may be a limiting factor.

#### Acquisition and Planning Status

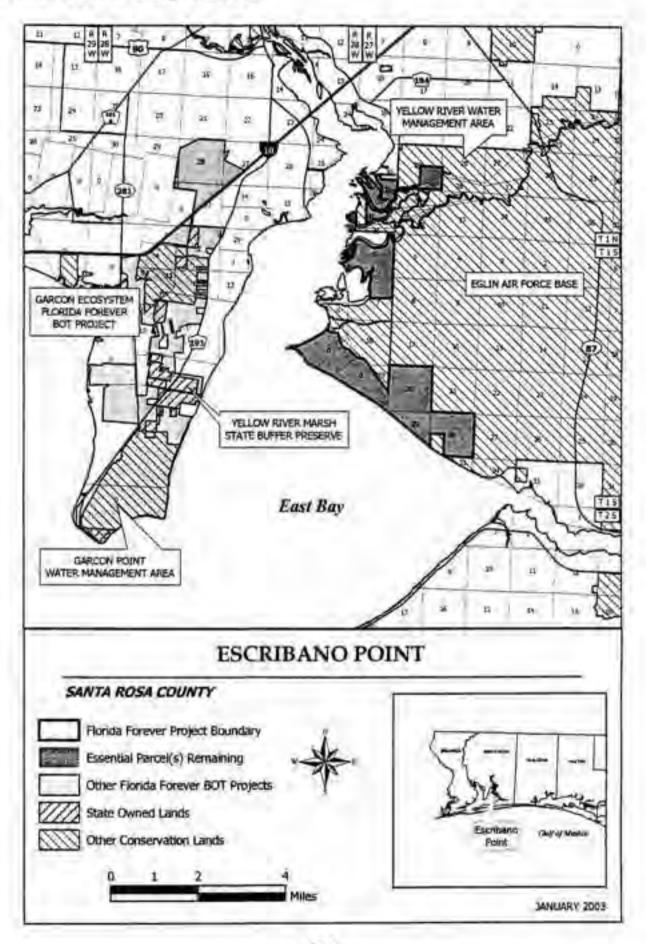
The entire proposal is identified as essential, and consists of 10 landowners. The project is proposed for fee simple acquisition.

In October, 2003 the state purchased 1,166 acres of the project.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	2,914
Acres Acquired	1,161
at a Cost of	\$1,591,000
Acres Remaining	1,753

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$1,341,556

Escribano Point - Group A/Full Fee



## Escribano Point - Group A/Full Fee

The Northwest Florida Water Management District is interested in the acquisition of the project, and has acquired approximately 3,100 acres within the original projects boundary.

On February 25, 2003 the Escribano Point project was added to the Group A list of Florida Forever projects. As of December, 2003 the Division of State Lands is negotiating prices with the landowners.

## Coordination

There are no alternative (partnership) funding sources.

#### Management Policy Statement

Priority will be given to the conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and threatened and endangered species. Management programs will be designed to conserve, protect, manage and/or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, wildlife populations, forests and water resources. The tract will also be managed to provide opportunities for camping, environmental and cultural resource education, fishing, hiking, hunting, and wildlife viewing.

The connection and proximity of this proposed project to other conservation lands, as well is its diversity of natural community types, provide important habitats for wildlife populations. Since the principal purposes of the proposal are to protect habitat for wildlife, management goals will be oriented to conservation and protection of these species, and to carefully control public uses.

## Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

Based on a review of the Florida Forever Act, this project meets the Goals and Measures, as outlined in Statute, for significant corridors, landscape linkages, for archeological and historic sites, and to increase nature-based recreation.

## Manuger

The high wildlife resource value of this project indicates that the FWC is the suitable lead manager for the area. The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies in managing the area.

## **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

Much of the Escribano Point proposal melude lands that are relatively undisturbed and representative of the natural ecology of the area. Such areas may require basic resource management practices, such as the use of prescribed fire, maintenance of natural hydrology, and control of access where appropriate. Biotic surveys should be a priority, since there are potentially many taxa of rare or listed species. In addition, the Escribano Point project may need some specific management measures to promote survival of listed species and other species of wildlife. As with all wildlife management areas, minimal infrastructure development will be required to provide for public access and use, site security, and management. Any such development will be confined to areas of previous disturbance.

## Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory, exotio species control and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC describing the management goals and specific objectives necessary to implement future resource management.

Long-range plans will emphasize restoration and maintenance of ecosystem functions; restoration of native wildlife populations and wildlife diversity including protection and management of threatened and endangered species; and management for sustainable public use of game wildlife populations balanced with other wildlife oriented recreational activities. Essential roads will be stabilized to provide all weather public access and management operations. An all-season prescribed burning management plan will be developed and implemented to improve the habitat quality of native fire-dependent plant communities and wildlife habitats. Where appropriate, practical and in pursuit of wildlife habitat objectives, forest resources will be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

Revenue will be generated from sales of hunting and fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and possibly other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized from recreational user fees and ecotourism activities.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies in managing the area. These agencies might include the Department of Defense (Eglin AFB), the Department of Environmental Protection, the Division of Forestry, and the Northwest Florida Water Management District.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue

The proposal, when acquired by the State, will require one FTE position to manage the project area, although

## Escribano Point - Group A/Full Fee

certain activities may be privatized which would reduce the number of FTEs required. Funding for natural resource management and public use administration would come from the CARL Trust Fund. See at-

tached table for anticipated costs. It is anticipated that revenues sources would include public use fees and timber harvests.

## FWC Prospectus: Projected Budget

Maximum expected		
single-year expenditure:	Startup	Recurring
Resource Management		
Exotic Species Control	\$14,329	\$28,658
Prescribed Burning	\$2,186	\$4,371
Hydrological Management	\$40,000	\$4,475
Other	\$34,435	\$34,435
Subtotal	\$90,950	\$71,939
Administration		
Central Office/Headquarters	\$52,845	\$17,593
Districts/Regions	\$22,648	\$7,540
Subtotal	\$75,494	\$25,133
Support		
Land Management Planning	\$25,000	\$1,000
Land Management Reviews	\$0	\$500
Training/Staff Development	\$0	\$1,000
Vehicle Purchase	\$110,850	\$15,836
Vehicle Operation/Maintenance	\$13,230	\$13,230
Subtotal	\$149,080	\$31,566
Capital Improvements	37547	
New Facility Construction	\$447,064	
Facility Maintenance	\$0	\$32,702
Subtotal	\$447,064	\$32,702
Visitor Services/Recreation		
Operations	\$1,668	\$141
Subtotal	\$1,668	\$141
Law Enforcement		5.6%
All Activities	\$2,508	\$2,508
TOTAL	\$766,763	\$163,988
Figures include salary for 3 FTEs.		

# Estero Bay

## Lee County

## Purpose for State Acquisition

Estero Bay is one of the most productive estuaries in the state. Its mangroves shelter important nesting colonies of water birds, and feed and protect many aquatic animals. These animals, in turn, are the foundation of a commercial and sport fishery. Important archaeological remains of the Calusa Indians dot the area. The Estero Bay project will protect the bay's water quality, its native plants and animals its archaeological sites, and will provide recreational opportunities to the people of the rapidly growing Fort Myers area.

## Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

## **General Description**

Much of the Estero Bay project area is composed of wetlands fronting Estero Bay (mangrove swamp, salt marsh, and salt flats). These communities provide nutrients to the bay, contributing substantially to its biological productivity. The bay area supports a diversity of wildlife, including the federally threatened bald eagle. The wetlands in a natural condition help maintain high water quality in the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve. Several archaeological sites attributed to the Calusa Indians and their prehistoric ancestors are known from the project area. The project is threatened by the rapid residential development in the area.

## Public Use

This project is designated as a buffer preserve to the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve and can provide opportunities for

FNAI Elements	5
Sanibel lovegrass	G2/S2
West Indian manatee	G2?/S2?
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2
SHELL MOUND	G3/52
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
ESTUARINE TIDAL SWAMP	G3/S3
MARINE TIDAL SWAMP	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Roseate spoonbill	G5/S2S3
23 elements known from	m project

## Estero Bay - Group A/Full Fee

# Group A Full Fee

fishing, hiking, nature appreciation, and primitive camping.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

Phase I: Windsor/Steven's tract (acquired) and the Estero Bay ownership (acquired). Phase II: developable uplands from Section 19 north. Phase III: developable uplands from Section 30 south. Phase IV: wetlands and islands. Other essential tracts more specifically identified by LAMAC in 1994 include the Chapel Ridge area and other high quality scrub areas in sections 19, 30, 31 and 5.

On October 15, 1998, the LAMAC revised the designation of the following parcels to essential: Boone, Haywood/ Staffile Trust, Zemel, TNC, Rubin, Kagin, Bigelow, C. Bigelow, Cape Corp., ADP Chimney, Marsh and Chitwood, Francisco, Goldberg, and Helmerich.

On February 5, 1998, and March 20, 1998, the Council added 302 acres and 1,586 acres, respectively. The Council deleted 932 acres at the March meeting.

On October 17, 2000, The Acquisition and Restroration Council added 160 acres to the project. The additions were made to complete ownerships that were partially included.

The majority of the large tracts have been acquired. A number of smaller tracts remain to be acquired.

## Coordination

Approximately 316 acres were acquired through donation from The Nature Conservancy in 1986.

On December 6, 2001, this project was moved from the Florida Forever "B" list to the "A" list.

Placed on list	1985
Project Area (Acres)	15,572
Acres Acquired	9,006
at a Cost of	\$44,202,807
Acres Remaining	6,569
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$8,257,233

## Estero Bay - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Estero Bay project are: to conserve and protect environmentally imique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area, to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Estero Bay project borders the state-owned submerged lands of the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve and includes swamps, marshes, and other natural communities that contribute to the productivity of the bay. These resources qualify it as a state buffer preserve.

Manager Lands acquired through this project will be included in the Estero Bay Buffer Preserve and managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Division of Historical Resources will participate in the management and protection of archeological and historical resources.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The project is surrounded by one of the most rapidly develOn December 6, 2001, this project was moved from the Florida Forever "B" list to the "A" list.

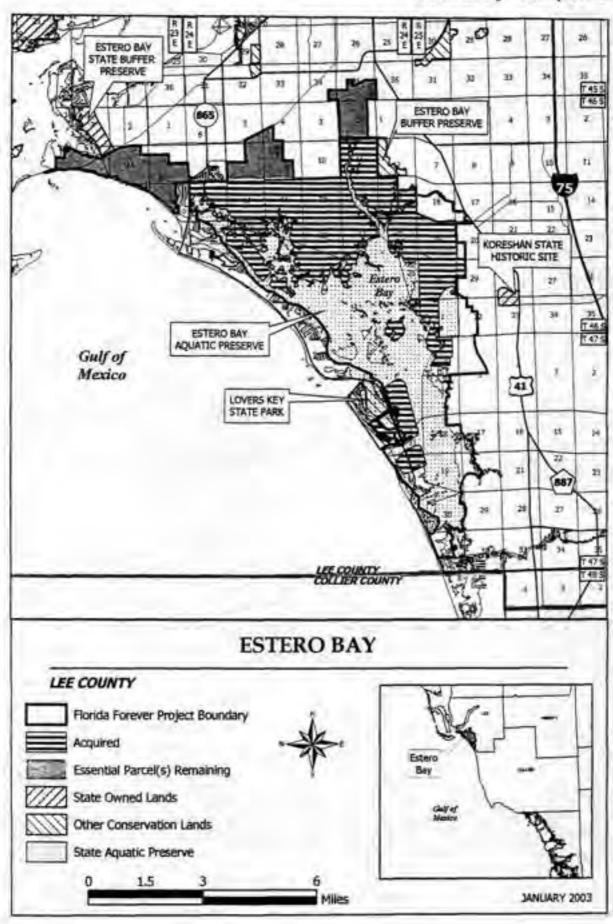
oping areas in the state. Development is also occurring within the project boundary. This urbanization requires immediate implementation of a patrol schedule and law enforcement presence. The control of exotic plants and animals and reduction of illegal activities, such as offroad vehicle use and poaching, will require "mediumneed" initial management followed by "low-need" routine maintenance.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrustructure Long-range goals will be established by the management plan for this property and will provide for ecological restoration and habitat maintenance. Prescribed and natural fires will be used to maintain natural communities with particular emphasis on the requirements of listed species. The resource inventory will belp identify site-specific management needs and appropriate uses for the property. Infrastructure development will be confined to already disturbed areas and will be the minimum required to allow appropriate uses identified in the management plan.

Revenue-generating potential Initially, the revenuegenerating potential of the project will be limited, with indirect financial benefits accruing to the state from increased public awareness and enhanced water quality, fisheries, and public recreation. In the future, user fees may directly generate revenue.

Updated Information reflecting management by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is not yet available.

Estero Bay - Group A/Full Fee



## Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/LessThan Fee

# **Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway**

## Putnam, Levy, Clay, Marion, and Citrus Counties

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Though partially logged and planted in pine, the large expanse of flatwoods, sandhills, and scrub in central Putnam County, extending to the Cross-Florida Greenway along the Oklawaha River, is important for the survival of many kinds of wildlife and plants. The Greenway itself is a unique strip of land for recreation and conservation that makes a cross-section of the peninsula from the Withlacoochee River to the St. Johns. The Etomah/Cross Florida Greenway project will conserve the Putnam County land as well as fill in gaps in the Greenway; ensure that wildlife such as Florida black bear and scrub jays and plants such as the Etomah rosemary will have areas in which to live; and provide recreation for the public ranging from long-distance hiking trails to fishing, camping, and hunting.

## Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Etoniah Creek tract) and Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT), Florida Department Environmental Protection (remaining tracts). DOF will monitor compliance with the terms of any less-thanfee purchase agreement.

Full Fee FNAI Elemen	nts
Etonia rosemary	G1/51
Bog spicebush	G2/S1
Florida willow	G2/S2
SCRUB	G2/S2
Black creek crayfish	G2/S2
Florida spiny-pod	G2/S2
Variable-leafed indian-plantain	G2/S2
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
26 elements known from ;	project

Less-than-Fee FNAI	Elements
SCRUB	G2/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
SLOPE FOREST	G3/S2
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
SEEPAGE STREAM	G4/S2
Bald eagle	G4/\$2\$3
6 elements known fro	om parcel

## **General Description**

The project consists of a large tract extending north from the Cross Florida Greenway to Clay County, and four smaller tracts designed to fill in gaps in state ownership along the Cross Florida Greenway. The original Etoninh/ Cross Florida Greenway project is important for the survival of black bear in northeast Florida, includes many acres of pine plantation and cut-over flatwoods, but also high-quality sandhill, a unique white-cedar swamp along Deep Creek, and patches of sand pine scrub near Etoniah Creek that harbor at least a dozen rare species including fox squirrel, gopher tortoise, indigo and pine snakes, rare cravfish, and seven rare plants including the only known site for federally listed Etoniah rosemary. The smaller tracts include high-quality floodplain swamps along the Oklawaha River; mixed forest land near U.S. 441 south of Ocala; and Inglis Island, disturbed pinclands between the old Cross Florida Barge Canal and the Withlacoochee River. Eight archaeological sites are known from the project. The greatest threat to the project area is intensive logging, but the uplands on the large tract are suitable for residential development. The smaller sites would lose their value as connectors if developed for residences.

## Public Use

The Cross Florida Greenway connectors will form part of a conservation and recreation area; the majority of the large (Etoniah) tract will become a state forest. The various parts of the project will offer opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing and nature appreciation.

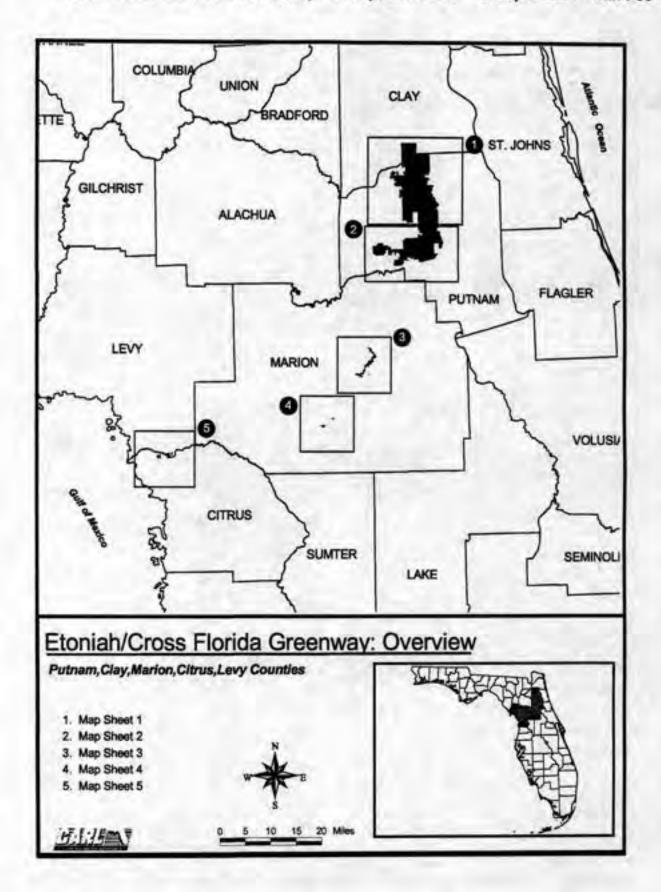
(Continued on Page 154)

Placed on list	1995*
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	89,822
Acres Acquired	21,426
at a Cost of	\$18,352,718
Acres Remaining	68,396
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$173,648,234

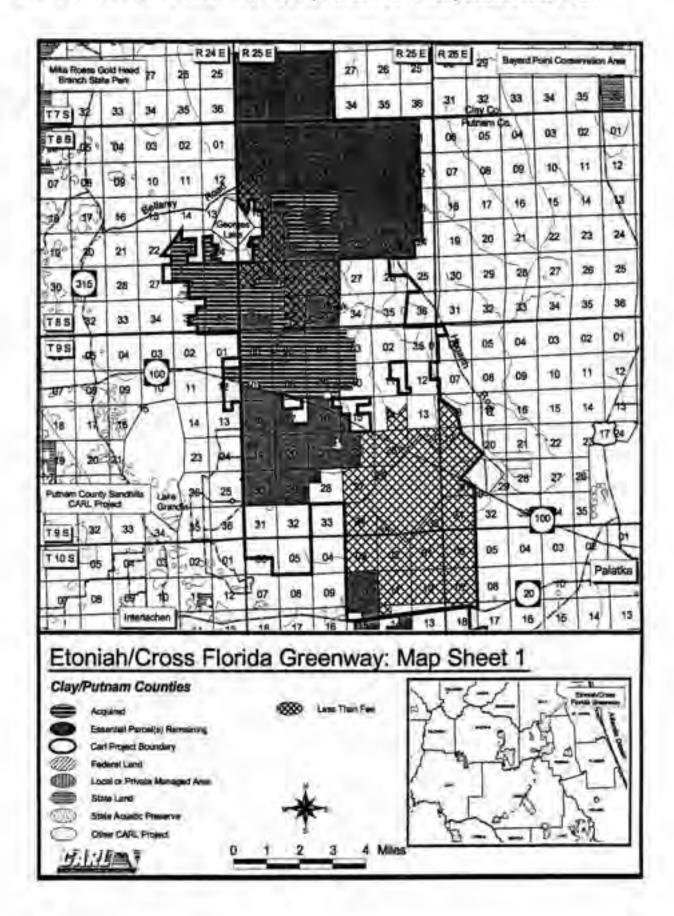
\*Etoniah Graek, Gross Florida Greenways and Cross Florida Greenways Phase II were combined in 1995 to create Etoniah/ Cross Florida Greenway, A Less-Then-Fee parcel of approximately 18,406 acres was added to the project in 1997.

Group A: Full Fee Group A: Less Than Fee

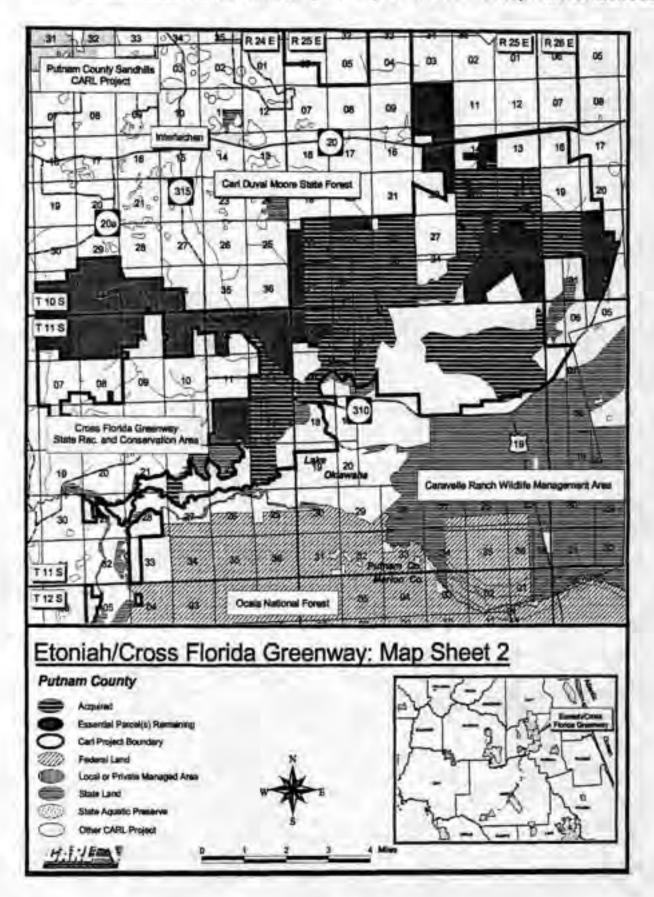
## Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/Less Than Fee



## Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/LessThan Fee



## Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/Less Than Fee



## Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/LessThan Fee

## Acquisition Planning and Status Etoniah Creek

Phase I tracts (essential) include Stokes and Agricola, formerly Deltona (acquired), Union Camp, Manning (acquired) and Interlachen Lake Estates Subdivision. Lifeof-the-South (Odom) is also an essential tract. Phase II includes other large ownerships, such as Roberts, as well as other smaller tracts and subdivisions.

## Cross Fl Greenway

Phase I (essential) includes westernmost segment (Deep Creek Corridor) consisting of a portion of the Miller family ownerships and approximately 14 other owners.

## Cross Fl Greenway Phase II

The priority tract (essential) within this portion of the project is the Inglis Island site (acquired by the Office of Greenways and Trails).

On July 20, 1994 the Council added 210 acres to the boundaries of the predecessor projects.

On December 7, 1995, the Council approved the addition of 2,664 acres to the project boundary. The addition included lakeshore and lake bottom associated with Rodman Reservoir. A second modification was made to allow the St. Johns River Water Management District to acquire, on the State's behalf, a large ownership (Odorn) not identified in the original Phase I area. Acquisition of the canal easement areas is also a priority.

On March 15, 1996 the Council approved adding 141 acres to the project boundaries.

On December 5, 1996, the Council transferred the Georgia-Pacific ownership (111,146 acres) to the Less-Than-Fee category.

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated as essential an additional 9,870 acres - Georgia-Pacific and seven smaller tracts in a corridor between two already acquired tracts, and portions of the Roberts ownership.

On August 22, 2000, the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added 2,110 acres (Florida Power ownership along the Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation areas) to the project.

On January 25, 2001, ARC added 1,543 acres to the project (boundary in the Deep Creek area).

On May 17, 2001, ARC added 1,110 acres to the boundaries of the project. On February 25, 2003 the project was added to the Group A list of Florida Forever proejects. The Division of State Lands is working with several landowners.

## Coordination

The SJRWMD was the intermediary in the acquisition of the Manning tract and has provided information and expertise on several other tracts. The Office of Greenways and Trails used additions and inholding funds to acquire Inglis Island. The Division of State Lands will assume the lead on acquisition of the remaining tracts.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The large size, restorable pine plantations, and diversity of the Etoniah Creek portion of this project make it highly desirable for management as a state forest. The Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation Area includes scenic and historic rivers, lakes, wetlands, and uplands. It is also near, or contiguous with, many other state-owned lands.

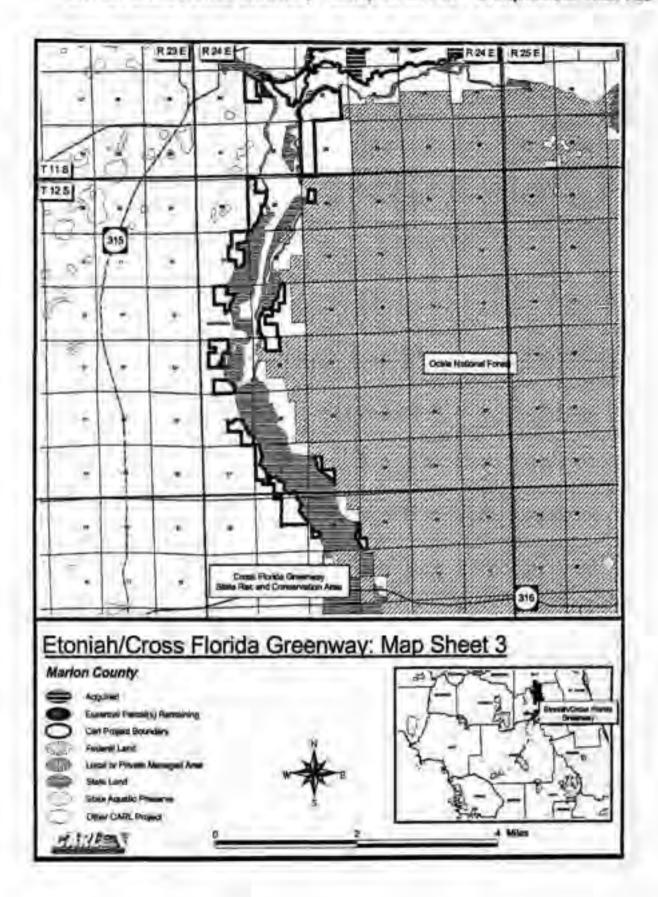
The Cross Florida Greenway portion of this project, together with the lands already in the Greenway, has the configuration, location, and resources to qualify as a state recreation area.

Manager The DOF proposes to manage the 57,000acre Etoniah Creek portion of the project and the OGT will manage the remaining lands in the vicinity of the old Cross Florida Barge Canal.

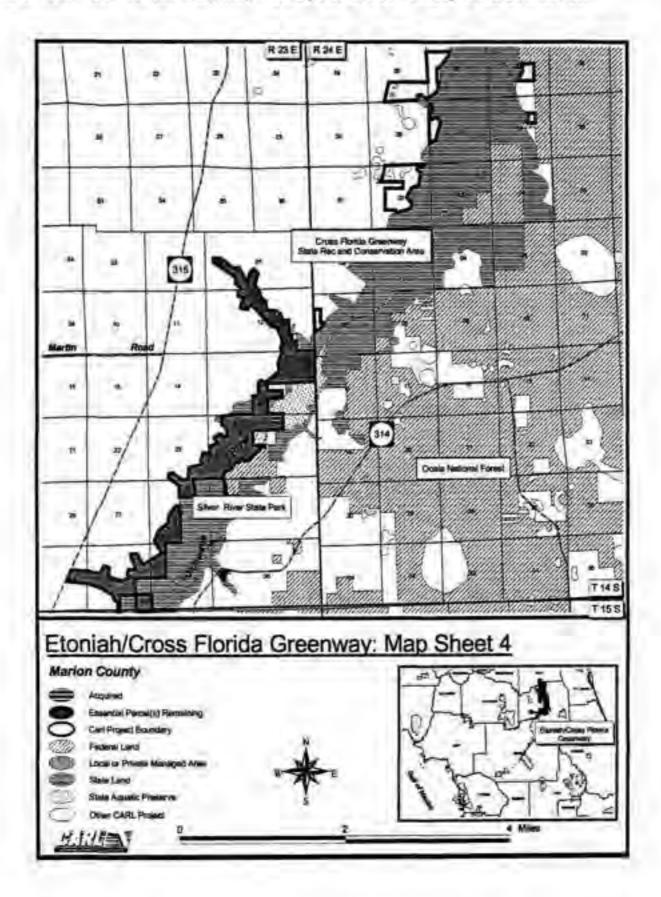
Conditions affecting intensity of management There are no known major disturbances in the Etoniah Creek portion that will require extraordinary attention, so management intensity is expected to be typical for a

(Continued on Page 158)

# Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/Less Than Fee

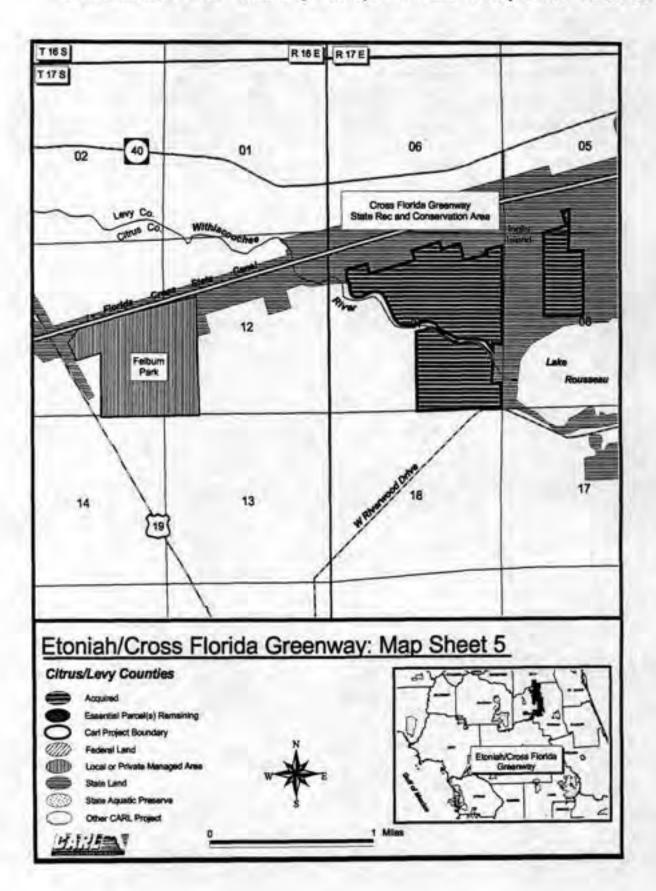


Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/LessThan Fee



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## Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/Less Than Fee



## Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway - Group A/Full Fee Group A/LessThan Fee

state forest. Lands in the Cross Florida Greenway portion are generally moderate-need tracts.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Once the core area of the Etoniah Creek portion is acquired, the DOF will provide access to the public for low-intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreanon. Initial activities will include securing the tract, providing public and fire management accesses, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The Division will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources.

The tract's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan.

Long-range plans for the Etoniah Creek portion will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. An allseason burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration barvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

For the Greenway portion, activities within the first year after acquisition will primarily consist of site security, resource inventory, removal of trash, and resource-management planning. Long-range activities proposed include a multipurpose trail and facilities for public access.

Revenue-generating potential In the Etoniah Creek portion, the DOF sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be moderate. In the Greenway portion, no revenues are expected to be generated within the first three years after acquisition. However, as the Greenway is developed during its 20-year facility development plan, revenues will be derived from user fees, the sale of products from the lands (limerock berm and timber), and the sale of surplus lands.

Cooperators in management activities The DOF will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate: Currently, properties along the Greenway are managed in partnership with Marion County, the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, and private individuals for recreational purposes.

Full Fee:			
The second se			
Management Cos	the second se		
Category	Startup	Recurring	
Source of Funds	LATE	LATE	
Salary	\$36,380	\$36,380	
OPS	\$72,660	\$72,660	
Expense	\$62,301	\$46,362	
000	\$3,167	50	
FCO	\$100,000	\$0	
TOTAL	\$274,508	\$185,402	
Management Cos	t Summary/D	DF	
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$45,337	\$56,489	\$58,183.67
OPS	50	\$3,000	\$7,650.00
Expense	\$11,225	\$22,825	\$58,203.75
OCO	\$43,320	\$50,500	\$128,775.00
FCO	50	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$99,882	\$132,814	\$252,612.42
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## Fisheating Creek -Group A/Less Than Fee

# **Fisheating Creek**

## Glades and Highlands County

## Purpose for State Acquisition

Fisheating Creek, the only undammed tributary to Lake Okeechobee, flows through vast prairies and flatwoods owned by Lykes Brothers, Inc. The Fisheating Creek Ecosystem project will acquire certain rights from the owner to help preserve this natural land, which links the Okaloacoochee Slough, Big Cypress Swamp, the Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area, and Lake Okeechobee, and help to ensure the survival of the Florida panther, swallow-tailed kite, and other plants and animals that require such natural lands.

## Manager (Monitor)

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (lead); Division of Forestry, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (cooperating).

## **General Description**

Natural communities in the project area include dry prairies and flatwoods interrupted by numerous freshwater marshes of various kinds, including seepage slopes, wet prairies, and depression marshes. Diverse prairie hammocks occur east of U.S. 27. Hydric hammocks, bottomland forests, and floodplam swamp along Fisheating Creek make up most of the remainder of the natural communities. Large areas of the project are improved pasture, former eucalyptus plantations, or current pine plantations. Invasive exotic plants are largely confined to the Hoover Dike system around Lake Okeechobee.

As one of the largest fairly natural areas in the Florida peninsula, with a strategic position between several other natural areas, the project is important for the protection of rare plants and animals. The area includes

FNAI Elements	
Florida scrub jay	G3/S3
Florida grasshopper sparrow	G5T1/S3
Crested caracara	G5/S2
Eastern indigo snake	G4T3/S3
Edison's ascyrum	G2/S2
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
Swallow-tailed kite	G4/S2S3
25 elements known from (	parcels

# Group A Less Than Fee

large populations of three plants endemic to central Florida: Edison's ascyrum (Hypericum edisonianum), cutthroat grass (Panicum abscission), and nodding pinweed (Lechea cernua). The proposal is extremely important as a Strategic Habitat Conservation Area for the Florida panther and the American swallow-tailed kite, as well for such animals as Audubon's crested caracara, snail kite, Florida grasshopper sparrow, Florida sandhill crane, mottled duck, red-cockaded woodpecker, and short-tailed hawk. At least six bald cagle nests are known from the project.

The water quality of Fisheating Creek and Gator Slough is good, but agricultural runoff has impaired the water quality of canals in the project.

The project area includes at least 31 archaeological sites, many associated with the important Fort Center Site Complex of the Belle Glades culture (500 B.C. to A.D. 1700). More recent sites are also known, and there could be many more in the project. The Fort Center Complex offers an opportunity for an interpretive center.

## Public Use

This project is designated as a wildlife management area, with uses such as hunting, hiking, and wildlife observation. Public use in easement areas will depend on agreements with the landowner, but the project could support such activities as hiking, horseback riding, fishing, and canoeing.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The project includes two owners, Lykes Brothers, Inc. and Smoak Groves.

Placed on list	2000
Project Area (Acres)	176,760
Acres Acquired	59,910
at a Cost of	\$55,628,000
Acres Remaining	116,850
	A R. Armanana

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$21,383,550

## Fisheating Creek - Group A/Less Than Fee

On December 19, 2000, the Acquisition and Restoration Council added the Venus Ranch to Phase II of the project. The 8,400 acres lies to the north of the boundary and at the southern end of the Lake Wales Ridge physiographic region.

On August 15, 2002 the Council added the Whiddon tract, a property seized by law enforcement, to the boundaries of the project.

The Division of State Lands is negotiating Phase III and will begin reappraisla of Phase II early in 2004.

## Coordination

There are no acquisition partners at this time. There may be some potential for joint acquisition with the South Florida Water Management District.

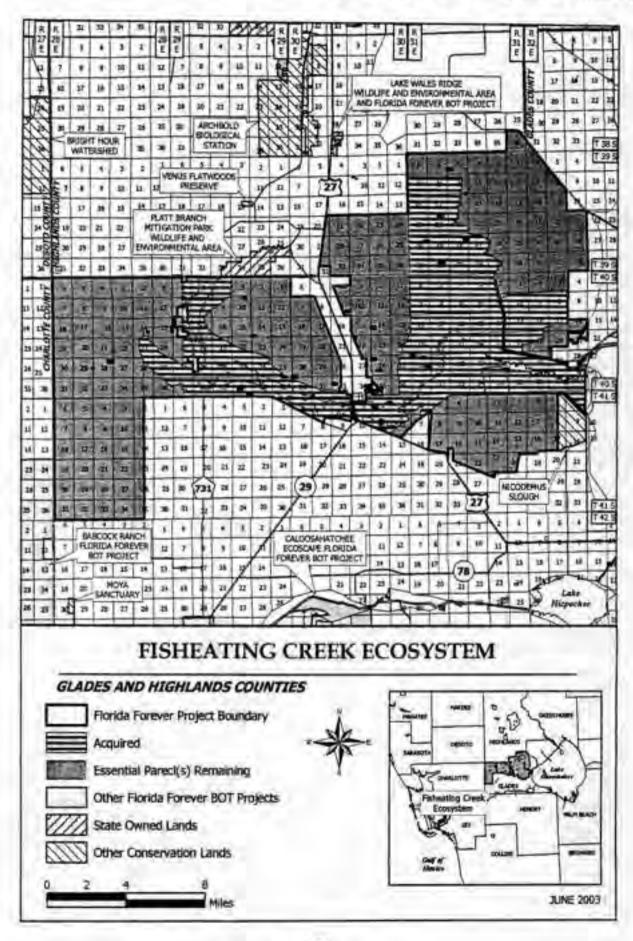
On May 25, 1999, the BOT approved a Settlement Agreement with Lykes Bros. Inc., which provided for settlement of the case *Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund v Lykes Bros. Inc.* The Settlement Agreement was contingent upon, among other things, a multiple-phase, combined less-than-fee acquisition.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary objectives of the acquisition of the Fisheating Creek project are to conserve and protect natural communities along the shores of Fisheating Creek, and thereby assist in maintaining and possibly improving the status of several rare plant and animal communities. Achieving this objective will help to secure the survival of the Florida panther in this state, as well as protect many other rare and endangered animals and a number of migratory bird species and provide for traditional public uses and recreational activities within sovereignty submerged lands and fee lands as specified in the Settlement Agreement.

## Management Prospectus

Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement the BOT will lease the sovereignty submerged lands and the fee lands to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission which was designated as the managing agency for sovereignty submerged lands and the fee lands and as the Easement Monitor over the conservation easement at this site. The sovereignty submerged lands and the fee lands will be managed as the Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area. The Settlement Agreement outlining specific management guidelines is on file with the Office of Environmental Services.



## Flagler County Blueway - Group B/Full Fee

# Flagler County Blueway

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The eastern coastal area of Florida is under significant. population and development pressure. Landscape diversity, while once abundant in this area, is becoming threatened. This project proposes to close gaps and gain public ownership of some remaining hammocks. marshes, flatwoods and swamps. It contains both Strategic Habitat Conservation Area and Habitat Conservation Priority Coverage. It augments existing conservation lands to improve habitat extent and provide support for a significant number of species of interest. This project is in an extremely fast-growing and increasingly densely populated area of the state. Demand for quality outdoor recreational opportunities will continue to increase as development of available land continues. It is expected that the lands within this proposal could add significantly to those existing opportunities in the region and provide quality outdoor experiences if managed carefully.

## Manager

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

## **General Description**

The Flagler County Blueways project has changed significantly during the evaluation phase, growing from its original 122 acres to over 8,000 acre clustered from south of Pelicer Creek on the north to the Flagler County line on the south. This assessment is for approximately 8,284 acres of private lands proposed for conservation acquisition under the DEP Florida Forever Program. The project essentially follows the Intracoastal Waterway and includes most undeveloped and available land east of 1-95 in Flagler County.

## Public Use

This project may be fee or less-than-fee acquisition. There are usable uplands within the project that will accommodate resource-based recreation activities, but the degree of ownership acquired will determine the degree of public access and use that can be assured.

Portions of the project include tidal marshes with numerous small creeks and hammock islands. Other areas have creeks associated with them. Boating, canoeing and knyaking can be accommodated on many of these creeks and there are opportunities to create a

# Group A Full Fee

water bome trail system that might accommodate limited facilities, especially for canoes and kayaks.

Where road access or connectivity with existing public lands exists, there are opportunities for upland activities such as short nature hikes, primitive camping, picnoking and shoreline fishing. RV camping may not be well suited for this project, due to the general wet nature of the lands and the disbursement of uplands within the project. Still, it is possible that a site might be located, should a demand for that activity become apparent and compatible with the purpose of acquisition. Off-road hicycling might be accommodated on the more upland sites that have access.

#### Location and Proximity to Other Managed Areas

The Flagler County Blueway proposal has tracts of land adjacent to or very near the following managed areas (in alphabetical order): Bulow Creek State Park, Faver-Dykes State Park, Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area, Graham Swamp Conservation Area Guana Tolomato Matanzas, North Peninsala State Park, Pellicer Creek Corridor Conservation Area, Princess Place Preserve, Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve, Washington Oaks Gardens State Park.

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	8,284
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost Of	0
Acres Remaining	8,284

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: n/a

FNAI Elements	
MacGillivray's seaside sparrow Gopher tortoise	G4T3/S2 G3/S3
2 elements known from pro	oject

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The first cluster of tracts proposed for acquisition is located north of Palm Coast along the Matanzas River at the northern end of Flagler County. Two tracts (1,806 acres) on the western side of the River abut the Pellicer Creek Corridor Conservation Area and Princess Place Preserve. The remaining tracts (235 acres) are on the west side of Highway A1A; their southern boundary is approximately 0.2 mile north of Washington Oaks Gardens State Park

The second cluster of three tracts is along the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) in the Palm Coast development. The largest tract (1,056 acres) is on the western side of the ICW and abuts the northern end of the Graham Swamp Conservation Area. Two smaller tracts (22 and 40 acres) are on the eastern side of the ICW north of the aforementioned parcel, and front the western side of Highway A1A.

The majority of the remaining tracts comprise 5,052 acres primarily on the western side of the ICW. They extend from the Graham Swamp Conservation Area to Bulow Creek State Park just south of the Flagler County line. Two small parcels (21 acres and 52 acres) are on the eastern side of the ICW.

While fee simple acquisition is the preferred acquisition method for this project, there may well be parcels that are not available in fee simple but lend themselves to conservation casements or other less-than-fee approaches.

On December 5, 2003, the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added this project to the Florida Forever project list.

## Coordination

The St. Johns River Water Management District has expressed interest in perhaps being a partner on parcels where boundaries coincide with District acquisition plans, as has Flagler County.

## Management Prospectus

## Qualifications for State Designation

Overall the Flagler County Blueways proposal comprises a landscape of three distinguishable groups of conservation lands. They are as follows: (1) Northern perimeter conservation lands include the northernmost extent of the project adjacent to Washington Oaks Gardens SP, Pellicer Creek CA, and Princess Place

## Flagler County Blueway - Group B/Full Fee

Preserve. (2) Southern perimeter conservation lands are at the southern end of the proposal boundary, including Bulow Creek SP, Gamble Rogers State Recreation Area and North Peninsula SP. (3) The central, connecting part of the proposed blueways project are those lands near the middle, connecting part of the blueway configuration, on the northern and southern borders of the Graham Swamp CA. This project is significant as an ecological greenway, with 94% (7,791 acres) of the project area qualifying as a priority 7 in potential importance, according to the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) Florida Forever Measures Evaluation.

#### Manager

The FWC is recommended as lead manager. The FWC conducts wildlife management on the Relay Wildlife Management Area in southwestern Flagler County, which is managed through a cooperative agreement with the Plum Creek Timber Company.

## Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis would be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan would be developed by the FWC describing the management goals and specific objectives necessary to implement future resource management.

Long-range goals would emphasize ecosystem management and the conservation of fish and wildlife. Following completion of plant community inventory and historic vegetation analysis, quantified vegetation management objectives would be developed pursuant to the FWC objective-based vegetation management process. Essential roads would be stabilized to provide all-weather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses would also be implemented. An all-season prescribed burning management plan would be developed and implemented using conventional and biologically acceptable methods and tools. Management activities would strive to manage natural plant communities to benefit native wildlife resources. Where appropriate, practical and m pursuit of wildlife habitat objectives, these resources. would be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices. Archaeological and historic sites would be managed in coordination with the Division of Historical

## Flagler County Blueway - Group B/Full Fee

Resources (DHR). The DHR lists 16 such sites as occurring in the project area.

## **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

Biotic surveys would be important to accomplish during the early part of plan development and implementation, because many rare or listed species are expected to occur in the project. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a high quality recreational experience, and any such development would be confined to areas of previous disturbance.

Some portions of the project include lands that are lowneed tracts, requiring application of resource management methods and tools, including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since 23% of the project area has been disturbed for silviculture or other purposes, additional methods and tools would be necessary for some management units in order to accomplish objectives for restoration to a desired future condition. The FWC would conduct historic vegetation analysis to determine appropriate desired future conditions, objectives, and restoration methods and tools. This is especially important for conservation of habitats and populations of listed species. The primary methods and tools for perpetuation. of the less disturbed natural communities might involve, for example, the reintroduction of prescribed fire and

control of human uses in certain management units. Brazilian pepper (Schinus terebinthifolius) has been observed in the project area. There will be surveillance for, and removal of such infestations of exotic invasive species.

## Cooperators in management activity

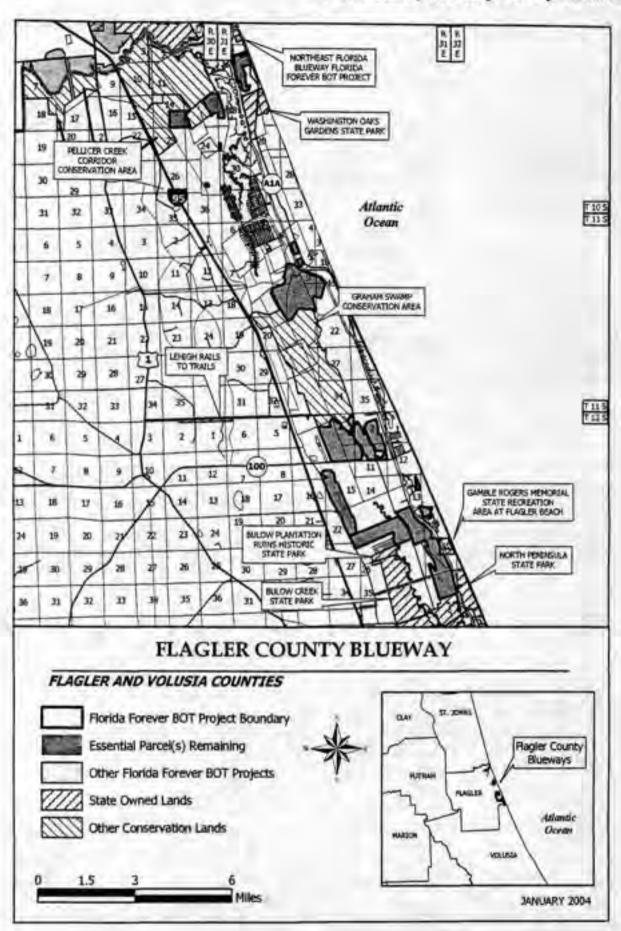
The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies, including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Division of Forestry, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the St. Johns River Water Management District.

## Management costs and sources of revenue

Substantial revenue from forest products production, as currently occurs, should continue. The FNAI indicates that 27% (2,260 acres) of the project area is available as priorities 2, 3, and 5 for sustainable forestry. FNAI estimates that about 1.34% (111 acres) of such forest provides aquifer recharge. Management would seek revenue-generating potential by improving wildlife diversity and resource-based recreation in such areas. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and daily use permit fees. Some revenues might be realized in the future from other recreational user fees and ecotourism activities, if such projects could be economically developed.

<b>REVENUE SOURCES, MANA</b>	GEMENT COSTS	AND EMPLOYEES NEEDED"
Category	Start-up	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Resource Management	\$143,168	\$145,854
Administration	\$75,494	\$25,133
Support	\$149,080	\$31,566
Capital Improvements	\$988,553	\$85,164
Visitor Services/Recreation	\$2,335	\$141
Law Enforcement	\$5,799	\$5,799
TOTAL	\$1,364,449	\$293,656
"includes employee salaries		

Flagler County Blueway - Group B/Full Fee



# Florida Keys Ecosystem

## Monroe County

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The unique hardwood hammocks of the Florida Keys, forests of West Indian plants that shelter several extremely rare animals, are being lost to the rapid development of these islands. The Florida Keys Ecosystem project will protect all the significant unprotected hardwood hammocks left in the Keys and many rare plants and animals, including the Lower Keys marsh rabbit and Key deer. It will also help protect the Outstanding Florida Waters of the Keys, the recreational and commercial fisheries, and the reefs around the islands, and also give residents and visitors more areas for enjoying the natural beauty of the Keys.

## Managers

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (16 sites); Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (10 sites: Key Largo Narrows, Point Charles Hammock, Newport Hammock, Pennekamp North, Largo Sound Hammock, North Creek Hammock, Teatable Hammock, Lower Matecumbe Hammock, North Layton Hammock and Grassy Key Site).

#### General Description

This project includes most of the remaining unprotected rockland hammocks (tropical hardwood hammocks) in the Keys from South Key Largo to Sugarloaf Key. It is important to many rare plants and animals and consists of 17 sites in the Upper and Middle Keys encompassing the remaining fragments of unprotected tropical hardwood hammock greater than 12.5 acres. The project includes habitat for migratory birds and virtually all remaining Lower Keys marsh rabbits, Key deer, and the state-threatened white-crowned pigeon. In all, it provides habitat for at least 34 species of rare vascular plants and 34 rare animals. Many archaeological and historical sites are recorded from the area. All the project sites are threatened by intense development in the Keys.

## Public Use

The tracts will become botanical sites, parks, and wildlife and environmental areas. Some will offer camping, swimming, hiking, and boating, while others will be suitable only for nature appreciation.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

Hammocks of the Lower Keys and Tropical Flyways, were combined to form the Florida Keys Ecosystem project in 1995.

Hammocks of the Lower Keys: No phasing is recommended; however, some sites are extremely vulnerable to immediate development: Cudjoe Key-Kephart tract; Big Torch Key-Outward Bound/Stelmok tract (acquired); Summerland Key-the area around the pond; and Little Torch Key-Torch Key Estates Subdivision (acquired). Estimated acreage for each site are: <u>Cudjoe Key</u>, 38 acres; <u>Big Torch Key</u>, 450 acres; <u>Little Torch Key</u>, 217 acres; <u>Big Torch Key</u>, 450 acres; <u>Sugarloaf Key</u>, 2171 acres; <u>Little Knockemdown Key</u>, 300 acres; <u>Middle Torch Key</u>, 811 acres; <u>Ranrod Key</u>, 615 acres; and <u>Wahoo Key</u>, added at the LAMAC's 12/ 3/93 meeting, 26 acres (acquired).

<u>Tropical Flyways</u>: No phasing is recommended; all 17 sites are extremely important and vulnerable. Several sites are being acquired with the Monroe County Land Authority (MCLA) as intermediary. The 17 sites are: North Creek (73 acres, two large ownerships, remaining subdivided—16 acres acquired through MCLA), Largo

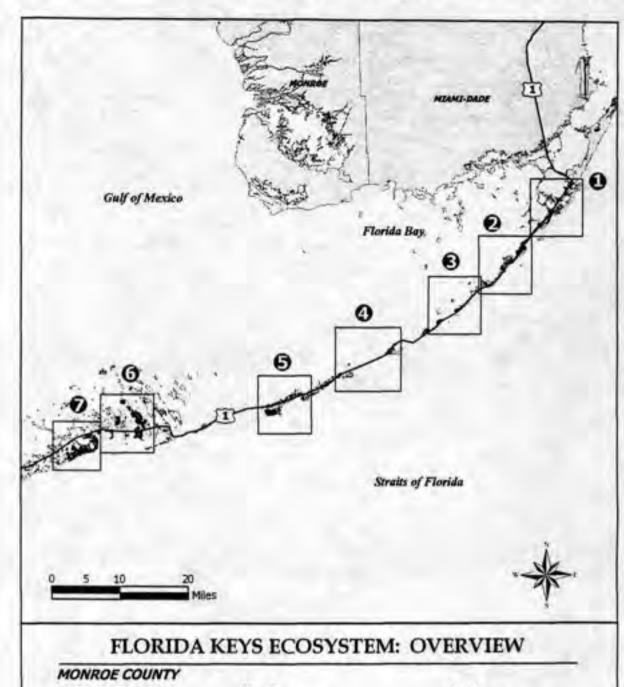
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Placed on list	1992
Project Area (Acres)	8,578
Acres Acquired	2,709
at a Cost of	\$36,956,444
Acres Remaining	5,869
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$29,586,456
a second s	162.24

FNAI Elements	
ROCKLAND HAMMOCK	G?/S2
Garber's spurge	G1/S1
Tree cactus	G1/S1
Sand flax	G1G2/S1S2
COASTAL ROCKLAND LAKE	G2/S1
Prickly-apple	G2G3T2/S2
Porter's broom spurge	G2T2/S2
Key deer	G5T1/S1
74 elements known from	project

166

# Group A Full Fee



#### Map 1

- A. North Creek Hammocks Site
- B. Largo Sound Hammock Site
- C. Pennekamp North Hammock Site
- D. Newport Hammocks Site
- E. Point Charles Hammock Site
- F. Key Largo Narrows Hammock Site
- Map 2
- A. Dove Creek Hammocks Site
- B. Tavernier Creek Hammocks Site
- C. Lake San Pedro Hammock Site
- D. Snake Creek Hammock Site

## Map 3

- A. Cotton Key Site
- B. Wilson Key Site
- C. Green Turtle Hammocks Site
- D. Teatable Hammock Site
- E. Lower Matecumbe Hammock Site Map 4
- A. North Layton Hammock Site
- B. Channel Key Site
- C. Grassy Key Hammocks Site

#### Map 5

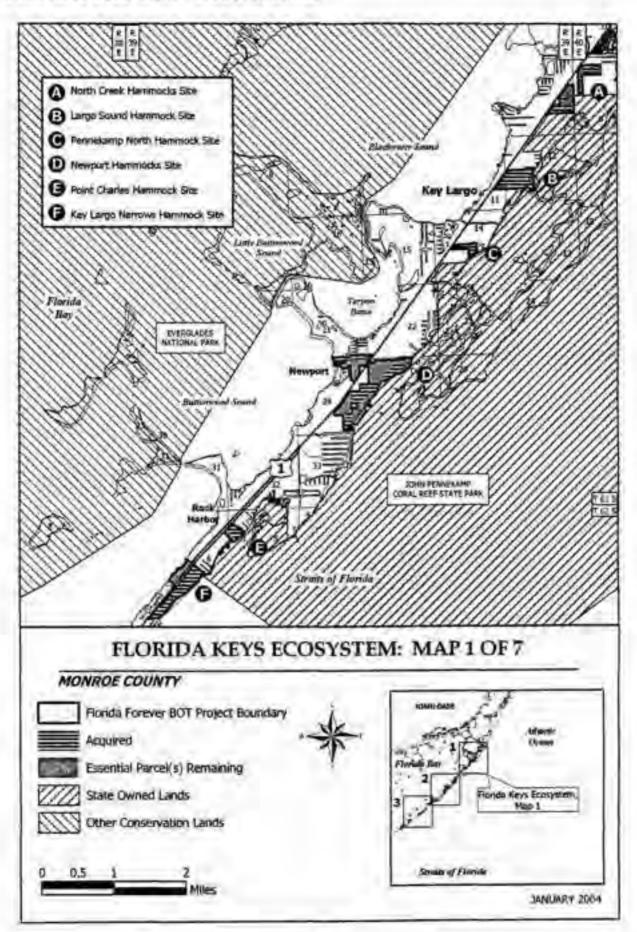
- A. Vaca Cut Hammock Site
- B. Stimup Key Hammocks Site
- C. Boot Key Site

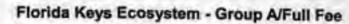
## Map 6

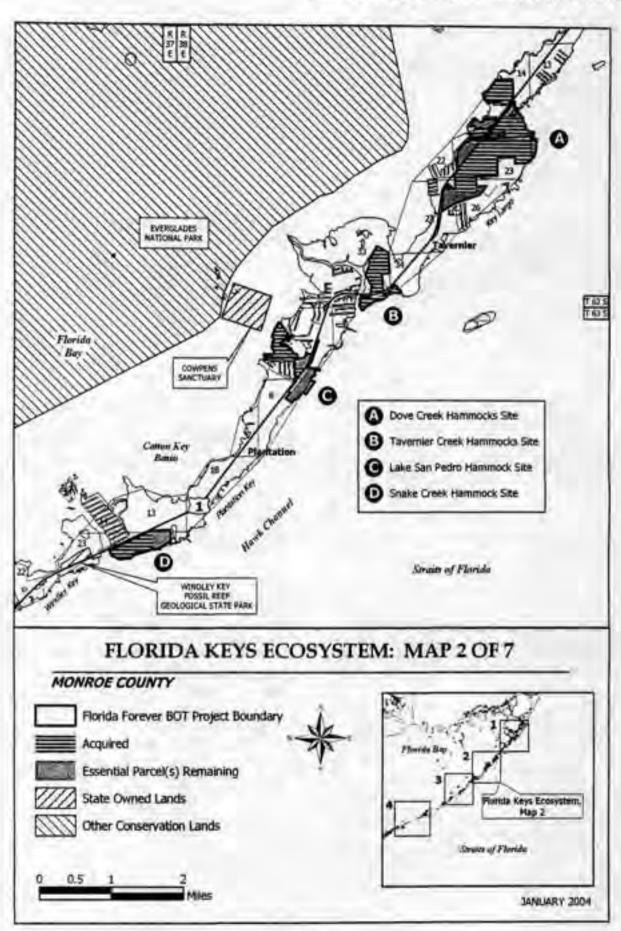
- A. Big Torch Key Site
- B. Middle Torch Key Site
- C. Little Torch Key Site
- D, Ramrod Key Site
- E. Wahoo Key Site
- F. Summerland Key Site
- G. Little Knockerndown Key Site
- H. Cudjoe Key Site
- Map 7

A. Sugarloaf Key Site

JANUARY 2004







Sound (69 acres, one major ownership-68 acres acquired through MCLA), Pennekamp North (21 acres-one major ownership - acquired through MCLA), Newport (191 acres, one major ownership, remainder subdivided), Point Charles (20 acres, one major ownership), Key Largo Narrows (79 acres, one major ownership-acquired through MCLA), Dove Creek (498 acres, several large ownerships, remaining subdivided-187 acres acquired through MCLA), Tavernier Creek (83 acres, one major ownership), Lake San Pedro (100 acres, several large ownerships). Snake Creek (77 acres, one major ownership - acquired through MCLA), Green Turtle (137 acres, one major ownership), Teatable (137 acres, one major ownership), Lower Matecumbe (71 acres, one major ownership), North Layton (108 acres, several large ownerships), Grassy Key (94 acres-several large ownerships), Vaca Cut (27 acres, one major ownership), Stirrup Key (60. acres, one ownership).

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or searce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect lands within areas of critical state concern; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The unique wildlife, plant, and recreational resources of the Florida Keys Ecosystem sites qualify them as wildlife and environmental areas, botanical sites or preserves, and state parks.

Manager The DRP, Department of Environmental Protection will manage ten sites; the FWC will manage the remaining sixteen sites.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Florida Keys Ecosystem project generally includes highneed tracts because of their small size and proximity to On June 11, 1998, LAMAC added Wilson and Cotton Keys (53) acres to the project.

On February 11, 1999, LAMAC added 955 acres to the project and on July 29, 1999 deleted 6 acres from the Ramrod Key site.

On December 5, 2003 the ARC added 11.5 acres at Channel Key to the project boundaries.

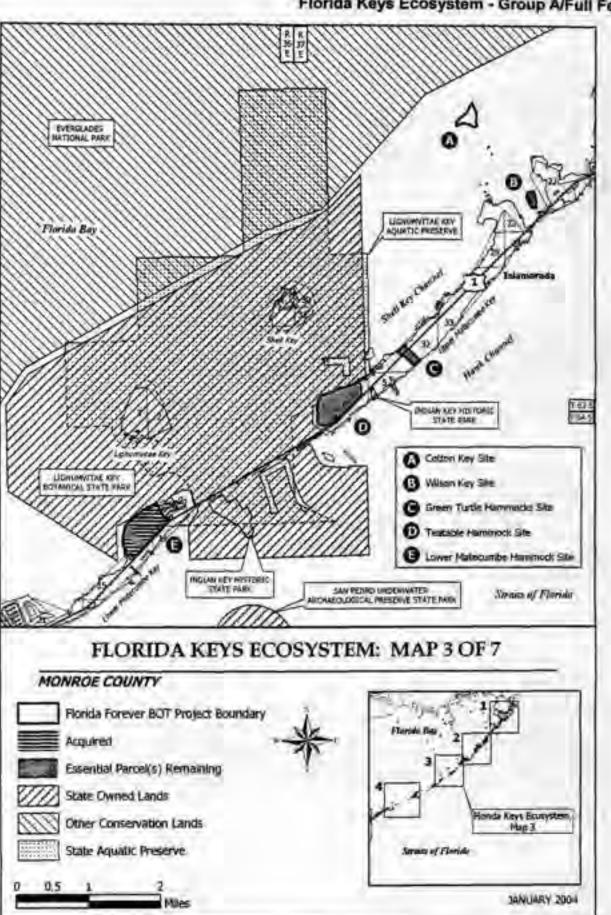
#### Coordination

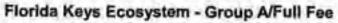
The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the National Audubon Society sponsored this project. TNC, the Monroe County Land Authority, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and South Florida Water Management District are participants and have been intermediaries in the acquisition of some of the sites within this project.

intensive residential and commercial development. They require basic natural areas land management including exotic-species removal, avoidance of actions that further fragment the hammocks, general trash and debris removal, posting and some fencing, and the establishment of some basic visitor amenates al selected sites. Special species may require specific management actions. The project areas are a high-need management area which, because of their location, size and nature, will require a high level of attention to maintain and perpetuate their individual resources.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, the FWC will give management priority to natural resource inventory and planning. Sites will be surveyed for rare and endangered species and management plans will be prepared. In future years, management will concentrate on implementing the plans with emphasis on exotic species eradication and maintenance, trash and debris removal, and posting and fencing for security. Long-range management will focus on using the sites to build public awareness and support for natural areas protection in general, and for tropical hardwood hammock preservation in particular. Most tracts will provide passive recreational activities for the general public. Longer range goals would include development

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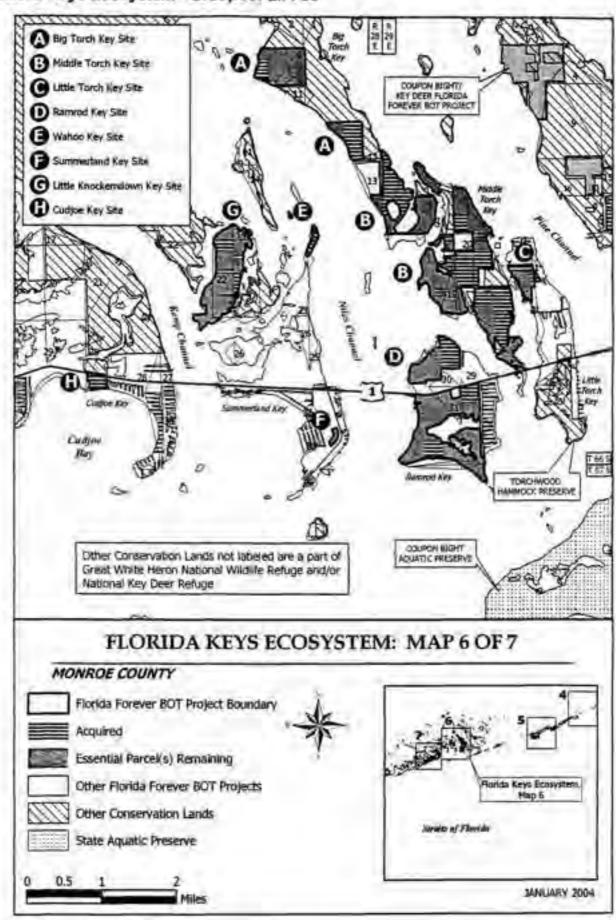


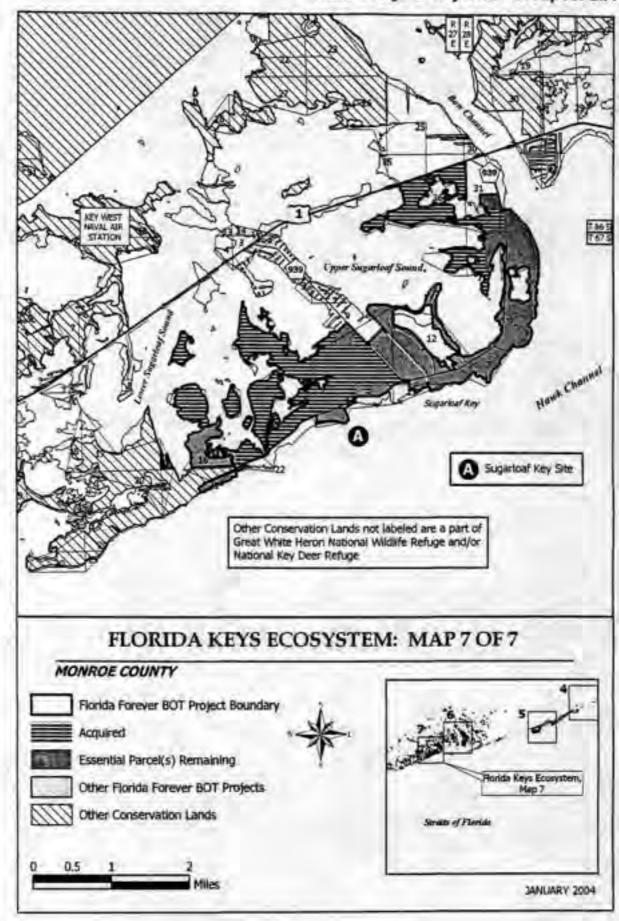












of a detailed management plan focused on perpetuation and maintenance of natural communities. An in-depth resource inventory would be carried out to identify and map all sensitive areas that warrant special consideration and management. Visitor amenities will be planned and constructed at appropriate sites within the project and public environmental-education programs will be developed. There will be no infrastructure development in natural areas; unnecessary roads will be abandoned or removed. Management activities of the DRP in the first year will include site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and efforts toward the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management. Revenue-generating potential Public use of sites managed by the FWC will be relatively low because no infrastructure will be provided. For the sites managed by the DRP, no significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant level of public use facilities is developed. The amount of any future revenue generated would depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities.

Cooperators in management activities The FWC will cooperate with and seek the assistance of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate,

Management Cost S	Summary/FWC		Manana	mant Cost Su	mmary/DRP	
Calegory	Startup	Recurring	Management Cost Su Category		Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL		of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$85,000	\$85,000	Safary		\$22,167	\$285,000
OPS	\$17,500	\$9,000	OPS		\$24,560	\$10,000
Expense	\$45,000	\$35,000	Expense		\$10,000	\$95,000
000	\$75,000	\$15,000	OCD		\$61,978	\$1,000
FCO	\$0	\$0	FCO		\$0	50
TOTAL	\$222,500	\$144,000	TOTAL		\$118,705	\$391,000
Management Cost	Summary/FWC					
Category	1996-97	199	7-98	1996-99		
Source of Funds	CARL		ARL	CARL		
Salary	\$0	\$10	,950	\$85,000		
OPS	50		\$0	\$17,500		
Expense	\$0	58	,010	\$45,000		
000	\$0	\$2	838	\$75,000		
FCO	\$0		\$0	\$0		
TOTAL	\$0	\$21	,798	\$222,500		
Management Cost	t Summary/DRP	1.00		Margine .		
Category	1996-97	1997-		1998-99		
Source of Funds	SPTF/GDTF/	SPTF/L	-10-12 V I	SPTF/CARL		
	LATF/CARL	GDTF/C	ARL			
Salary	\$424,040	\$436		\$449,684		
OPS	\$15,491		,000	\$14,000		
Expense	\$262,556	100 × 1, 1	.000	\$268,000		
000	\$18,829	\$8	,200	\$8,200		
INT.MGT.	\$1,698	\$1	,698	\$1,698		
HOSP	\$13,561		,561	\$13,561		
FCO	\$1,081,952	\$1,332	·	\$0		
TOTAL	\$1,818,127	\$2,074	,539	\$755,323		

# Florida Springs Coastal Greenway

**Citrus** County

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The ragged coastime of Citrus County, with its salt marshes, clear spring runs, hammocks, and flatwoods, is being affected by the explosive growth of this part of the state. The Florida Springs Coastal Greenway project will conserve the natural landscape of this coast, protecting the water quality of the spring runs and estuaries where endangered manatees congregate, preserving natural lands that link with conservation lands to the south, and providing scenic areas in which the public can enjoy fishing, hiking, or learning about the natural world of this coast.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Crystal River and St. Martins River); Division of Forestry (DOF) (Homosassa Reserve/Walker Property).

#### **General Description**

The project is a major link in efforts to preserve the northern peninsular Gulf Coast. It includes three tracts along the karst coastline of Citrus County. The Crystal River tract, a significant part of the headwaters of the Crystal River, is a crucial habitat for the Gulf Coast manatee population; it is also a prime nesting location for bald eagles and ospreys. Natural communities within the tract include floodplain marsh, freshwater tidal swamp, tidal marsh, and upland hammock. It also contains some pine plantations. The St. Martins River tract is predominantly hydric hammock, bottomland forest, salt marsh, mangrove islands, and spring-run streams, all in good to excellent condition. It borders the St. Martins Marsh Aquatic Preserve. Though much of its timber has been harvested, and a quarter is pasture, the Homosassa Reserve/Walker Property is important as a corridor between Chassahowitzka Water Management District and Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge and the conservation lands to the north. The archaeological significance of this area is high. Citrus County is one of the fastest growing in the state, and residential development is a serious threat to this project. Development will increase boat traffic, which is the greatest current threat to the manatee population.

Group A

**Full Fee** 

## Public Use

The project will be managed as buffer preserves and a state forest, providing such recreational opportunities as fishing, canoeing, hiking and camping.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

Crystal River (-14,758 acres) Phase 1: Crystal River II; Phase II: Crystal Cove—major owner is Burnip and Sims (acquired); Phase III: Crystal River State Reserve—major owner is Hollins (acquired). <u>St. Martins</u> (~14,040 acres) Phase I: Large ownerships within Area I as identified in Project Design; Phase II: Other ownerships within Area I and large ownerships within Area II; Phase III: Other ownerships within Area II; and Phase IV: ownerships in Area III. Major tracts have been acquired. Only smaller strategic tracts and offshore islands remain.

Homosassa Reserve (~8,577 acres) Phase I: Rooks tract (acquired); the Walker tract (acquired by the Southwest Florida Water Management District) and

(Continued on Page 179)

FNAI Eleme	nts
SCRUB	G2/S2
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
Manatee	G27/S2?
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
MARINE TIDAL SWAMP	G3/S3
39 elements known fr	rom project

Placed on list	1995*
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	41.113
Acres Acquired	27,034
at a Cost of	\$47,455,493
Acres Remaining	14.079

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$7,516,186 \* Crystal River, St. Martins and Homosessa Reserve projects combined in 1995.

## Florida Springs Coastal Greenway - Group A/Full Fee



## Florida Springs Coastal Greenway - Group A/Full Fee

other ownerships except in Sections 28, 33, 34 and 7; Phase II: minor ownerships in Sections 28 and 33, the 160-acre Villa Sites Add. to Homosassa Sub in Section 34, also the 134-acre Johnson parcel in Section 7. All large and strategic ownerships with willing sellers have been acquired with the exception of the Black ownership, an unwilling seller. This portion of the project is, in effect, complete.

On March 10, 1995, LAMAC approved a 424-acre addition to the project boundary (former Crystal River project) and on October 30, 1995, LAMAC approved a 200-acre addition to the boundary (also in former Crystal River project).

On October 30, 1996, LAMAC transferred this project to the Substantially Complete Category. At the March 14, 1997, LAMAC meeting, the council approved a request by the owner to add 80 acres addition to the project with a tax-assessed value of \$64,000.

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated an additional 156 acres "essential". Previous essential parcels included land acquired as of January 26, 1995, and the Black ownership (in former Homosassa Reserve project).

On December 5, 2003 the Council moved this project to the Group A Florida Forever list.

## Coordination

Although the CARL program has no 50% partners at this time, the Southwest Florida Water Management District has acquired a major ownership within a portion of the overall project, as well as tracts adjacent and south of the project area.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Florida Springs Coastal Greenway oject are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The proximity of the Crystal River and St. Martins River tracts of the Florida Springs Coastal Greenway project to the St. Martins Marsh Aquatic Preserve and its major freshwater sources qualifies them as a state buffer preserve. The size and restorable forest resources of the Homosassa Reserve/Walker Property tract make it suitable for a state forest.

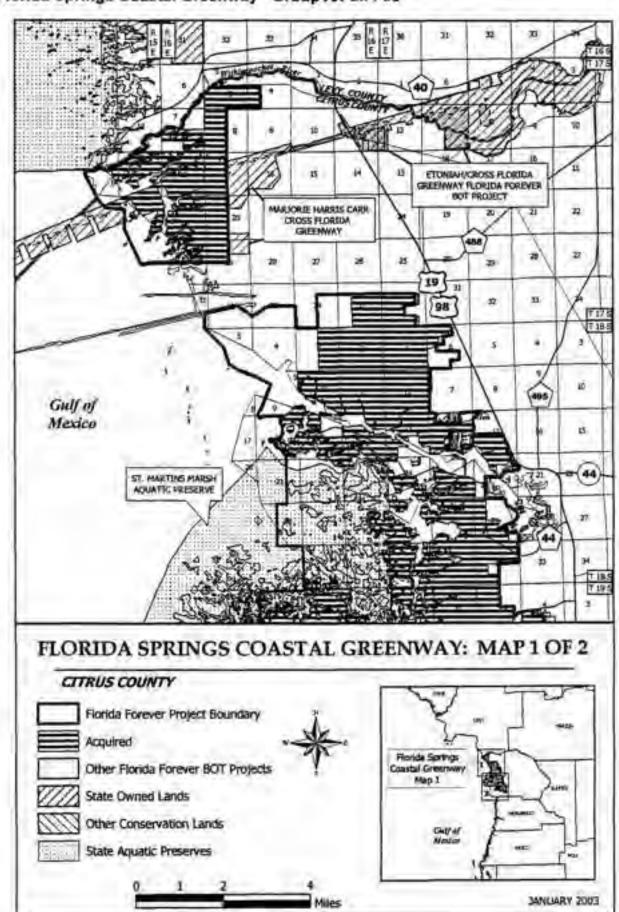
Manager Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), is recommended as the lead manager for the Crystal River and St. Martins River tracts. The DOF will manage the Homosassa Reserve tract.

Conditions affecting intensity of management Portions of the Florida Springs Coastal Greenway include lands that would be considered "low-need" tracts requiring basic resource management and protection. However, increasing public pressure for recreational access and a developing ecotourism industry may push portions of this project into the "moderate to high-need" category.

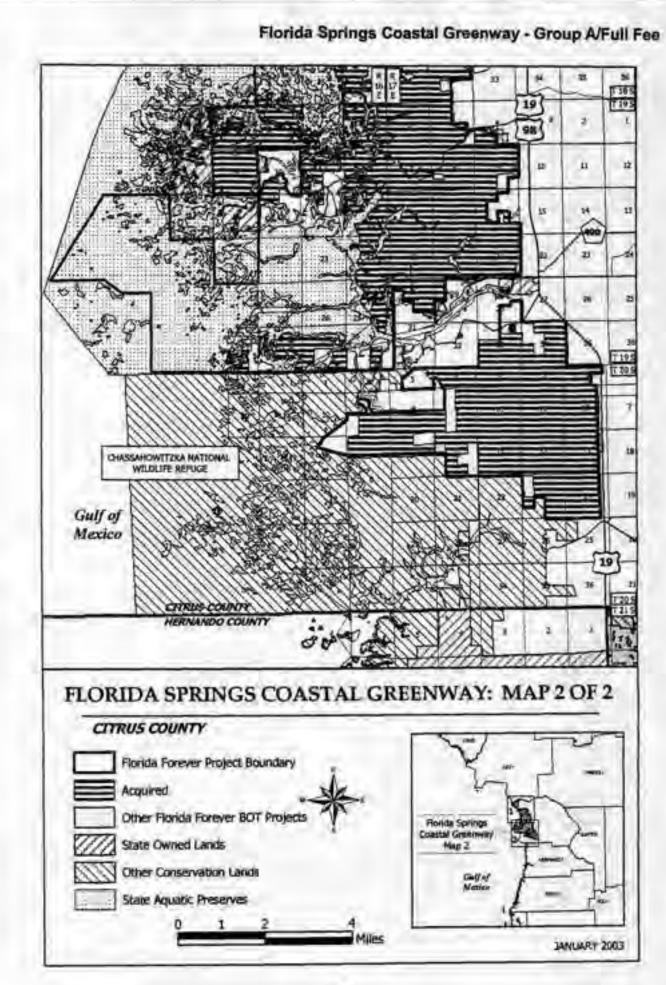
Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management will concentrate on site security, public and fire management access, resource inventory, and exotic removal. DRP and DOF will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The project's natural resources will be inventoried and a management plan developed within one year.

Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed at the perpetuation of natural communities and protection of listed species. An all-season burning program will use existing roads, black lines, foam lines, and natural breaks to contain fires. Areas of silviculture in the Crystal River project will be returned to their original character and species composition. About 25% of the Homosassa Reserve tract contains pasture suitable for reforestation and restoration. The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas and to locate any recreational or administrative facilities. Unnecessary roads, fire lines, and hydrological disturbances will be restored to the greatest extent practical. Infrastructure will be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum needed for public access and management.

(Continued on Page 182)



Florida Springs Coastal Greenway - Group A/Full Fee



### Florida Springs Coastal Greenway - Group A/Full Fee

Revenue-generating potential Initially, no revenue is expected to be generated. During restoration of pine plantations, some revenue to offset the cost of management may be generated from the sale of timber. Any estimate of revenue from this harvest depends upon a detailed assessment of the value of the timber. As the recreational component develops and additional staff is assigned, there may be a potential for revenue from this source. No potential revenue estimates are available at this time. On the Homosassa Reserve, the DOF will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide variable revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this tract is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is recommended as a cooperating manager for hunts to eliminate feral hogs and to manage certain species. Because of the proximity of certain parcels to the Cross Florida Greenway and the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge, the Office of Greenways and Trails and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can be cooperative managers on parts of the project. Citrus County and the City of Crystal River may also cooperate in management. The DOF will also cooperate with other state agencies, local governments and interested parties as appropriate.

The DOF is managing the Homosassa Reserve tract as an addition to the Withlacoochee State Forest.

Updated Information reflecting management by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is not yet available.

# Florida's First Magnitude Springs

Group A: Full Fee

Jackson, Levy, Wakulla, Bay, Washington, Lafayette, Suwannee, Walton, Leon, Marion and Hernando Counties

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Large springs of clear, continuously flowing water are among Florida's most famous and important natural and recreational resources. The cavernous, water-filled rocks of the Floridan Aquifer supply the largest springs. By preserving land around three of the largest (firstmagnitude) springs, this project will protect them—and the Floridan Aquifer—from the effects of commercial, residential, and agricultural runoff; clearcutting and mining; and unsupervised recreation. This project will ensure that Floridians and visitors from all over the world will be able to enjoy these springs for years to come.

#### Managers.

Group A: Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (Weeki Wachee Springs); Jackson County (Blue Springs). Office of Greenways and Trails (Troy Spring).

Group B: U.S. Forest Service (River Sink Springs); Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Department

FNAI Elements	
TERRESTRIAL CAVE	G3/S1
Chipola slabshell	G2Q/S1
Cedar elm	G5/S1
Marianna columbine	G5T1/S1
Gulf moccasinshell	G2/S?
Shiny-rayed pocketbook	G2/S?
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
AQUATIC CAVE	G3/S2
Woodville karst cave crayfish	G1/S1
Woodville karst cave amphipod	G1?/S?
Ashe's magnolia	G2/S2
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
BLUFF	G?/S2
Oval pigtoe	G2/S?
SANDHILL UPLAND LAKE	G3/S2
Alligator snapping turtle	G3G4/S3
38 elements known from p	roject

of Environmental Protection (St. Marks, Fanning, Troy and Gainer Springs).

#### **General Description**

Because of the thick, water-filled limestone underlying it, Florida has more large springs (including river rises and karst windows) than any other state or even country. Those discharging an average of 100 cubic feet of water per second or more are called first-magnitude springs. The 30 or so in Florida are scattered in the northern peninsula and the castern panhandle where the limestones of the Floridan Aquifer arch close to the surface. Each day, these 30 springs send out much more water than is used for drinking water by all the people in the state. The springs, with generally clear, continuously flowing waters, are among Florida's most important natural resources and some are famous tourist attractions. Group A includes three of these springs: Troy Spring in Levy County, Blue Springs in Wakulla County, and Weeki Wachee Springs in Heroando County. The tracts harbor at least seven FNAI-listed plants and eighteen FNAI-listed animals, and the Weeki Wachee tract includes one of the best remaining scrubs on Florida's West Coast. Several archaeological or historic sites are known from these springs, from remains over 2000 years old to an historic Sinclair gas station. All these springs are vulnerable to development and unsupervised use.

Placed on list	1991
Project Area (Acres)	13,975
Acres Acquired	1,508*
at a Cost of	\$11,981,055*
Acres Remaining	13,206
with Estimated (Tax Assessed)	Value of \$22,726,189

\* Includes acreage acquired and funds spent by the Suwannee River Water Management District

Group B includes four of these springs: St. Marks Springs in Leon County, River Sink Springs in Wakulla County, Fannin Springs in Levy County, and Gainer Springs in Bay and Washington Counties. The tracts harbor several FNAI-listed plants and animals. All these springs are vulnerable to development and unsupervised use.

#### Public Use

The project sites are designated for use as state parks, geological sites and wildlife and environmental areas, with high recreational potential for swimming, canoeing, camping and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Group A: <u>Blue Springs</u> (348 acres) consists of two longer ownerships—Fl Public Utilities (essential—acquired) and Reddock. Phasing of <u>Weeki Wachee</u> (1,302 acres) was removed by the LAMAC on 12/10/92. The Southwest Florida Water management District (SWFWMD) has acquired 1,063 acres of the Weeki Wachee tract. Major ownerships, however, are Lykes (essential—acquired) and City of St. Petersburg (essential), which includes long term lease to Leisure Attractions. Major ownerships north of the river are also essential—most have been acquired.

Group B: St. Joe (ownership transferred to St. Joe Timberlands Project) is major owner (essential) in <u>St. Marks</u> (945 acres); six others are within boundary as well. St. Joe is also the major owner (essential) in <u>River Sink</u> (105 acres); three others are within boundary. <u>Gainer</u> <u>Springs</u> (3,107 acres) was added to the Priority Category by LAMAC in 1996. Phase I: Largest tract with most significant spring system—Petronis tract (essential—negotiations unsuccessful); II: Harder (acquired by Northwest Florida Water Management District—214 acres) and remaining ownerships. Portions of the <u>Fanning Springs</u> and <u>Troy Springs</u> sites have been acquired. The remaining owers within these sites are unwilling sellers.

On December 3, 1998, the Council transferred the <u>St.</u> Marks, River Sink, Fanning Springs, and Gainer Springs sites to the Negotiation Impasse group.

On July 29, 1999, the Council added 65 acres.

On August 22, 2000 the Acquisition and Restoration Council added 40 acres (Cypress Springs in Washington County) to Group A. On April 6, 2001, the Council transferred the negotiation impasse project to Group B and the priority project to Group A.

On June 6, 2002 the Group B project was combined with the Group A project. On April 18, 2003 the Council added the 200-acre Morrison Springs site in western Walton County to the project.

On April 18, 2003 the Council also added the 4,552acre Silver Springs addition, north of Silver Springs in Marion County, to the project.

On August 15, 2003 the ARC added 171.5 acres, at Lafayette Blue Springs, to the project houndaries.

On October 17, 2003 the ARC added 365 acres at Silver Springs to the project boundaries.

On December 5, 2003 the ARC added 1,717 acres at Jackson Blue Spring to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

Hernando County has limited acquisition funds, but is very supportive of state acquisition efforts. The North West Florida Water Management District has acquired the 214 acre Harder tract in Gainer Springs.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Florida's First Magnitude Springs project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation Blue Spring has the diversity of resources and recreational opportunities to qualify as a state park. The location of the Weeki Wachee project adjacent to the Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area, as well as its sensitive natural resources, qualifies it as a wildlife and environmental area. River Sink spring is a first-magnitude karst window. This qualifies it as a state geological site. St. Marks, Fannin, Troy and Gainer Springs have the diversity of resources and recreational opportunities to qualify as a state park.

Manager Jackson County is recommended as manager of Blue Spring. The FWC will manage the Weeki Wachee Springs area, excluding the springhead, as part of the Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area. The United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, will manage River Sink as part of the Apalachicola National Forest. The Division of Recreation and Parks, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, is recommended as manager of St. Marks, Fannin, and Gainer Springs.

Conditions affecting intensity of management River Sink and Blue Spring are moderate-need tracts, requiring more than basic resource management and protection. River Sink is a moderate-need tract, requiring more than basic resource management and protection. Gainer Springs is a high-need management area including public recreational use and development compatible with resource management.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Blue Spring is now being used by the public and Jackson County has no plans to curtail activities. The County would continue to open the swim area in season and maintain yearround access for boating, fishing, and nature appreciation. The smaller second spring may need restrictions to ensure public safety and preservation of the limestone bluffs. A lifeguard will be on duty while the swim area is open. Access will be controlled primarily by fences.

River Sink would immediately fall under the National Forests in Florida's Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). Within the first few years after acquisition, management activities would focus on site security, resource inventory, removal of existing trash, and any necessary prescribed fire management.

In the first year after Gainer Springs is acquired, the Division of Recreation and Parks will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management.

Revenue-generating potential The Blue Springs swim area generated \$21,946 in revenue in fiscal year 1992-93 and \$13,045 in fiscal year 1993-94. The Division of Recreation and Parks expects Gainer Springs to generate no significant revenue initially. The amount of any revenue generated would depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities. As facilities are developed, River Sink may become a national recreational fee area. Fees collected from use of this area would be activities of the Federal Government. It is estimated that the area will receive more than 5,000 visits annually once it is developed.

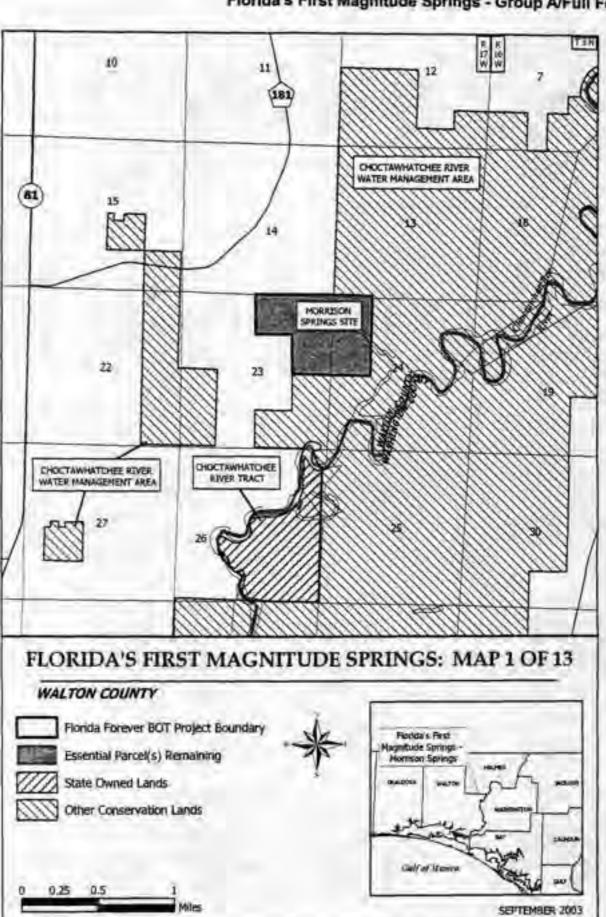
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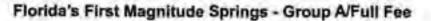
Cooperators in management activities Jackson County expects the FWC to cooperate in managing wildlife on the Blue Springs project area. Other appropriate agencies may wish to become involved in the project. As funds become available and subject to public approval, the USDA Forest Service may enter into a cooperative agreement to manage the property.

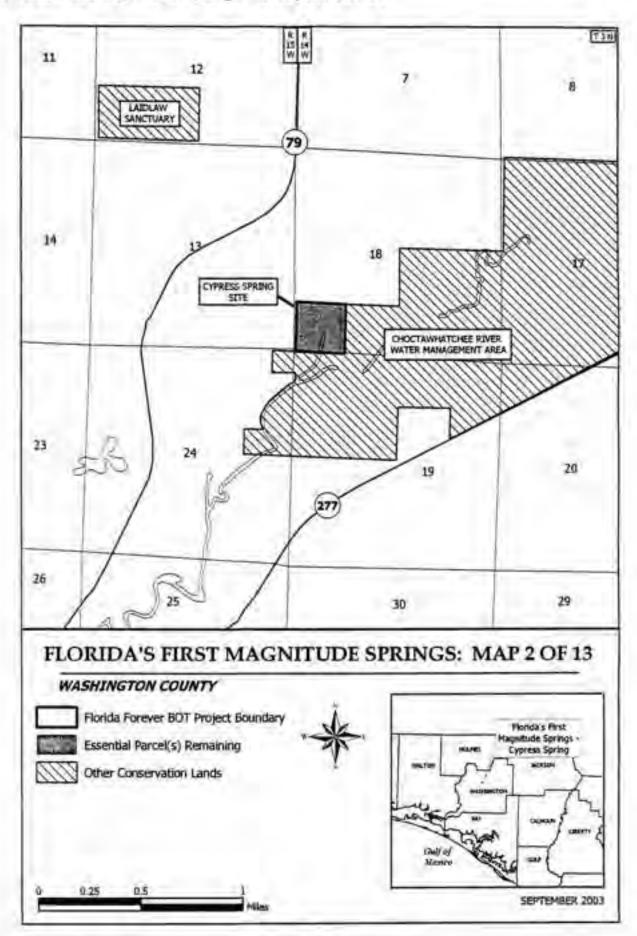
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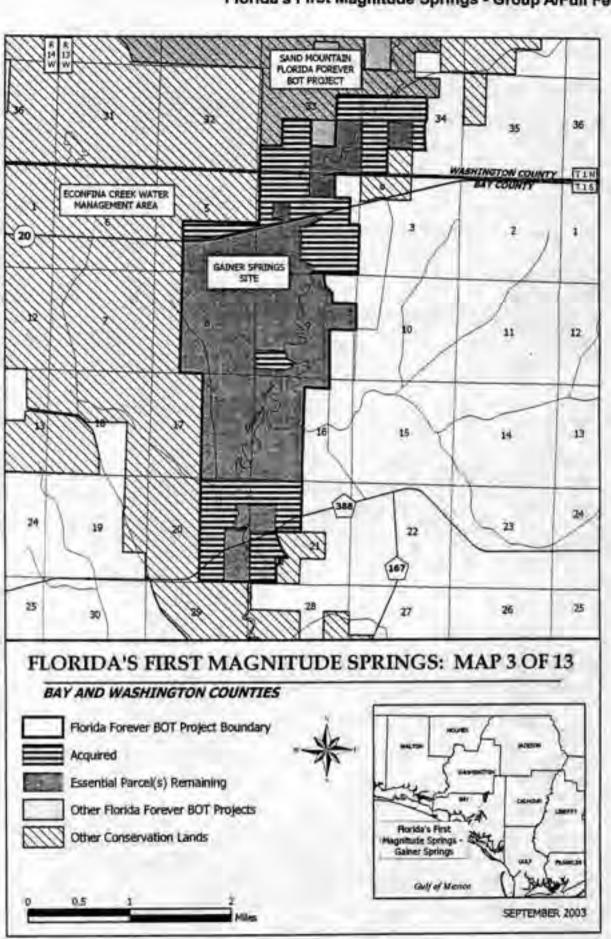


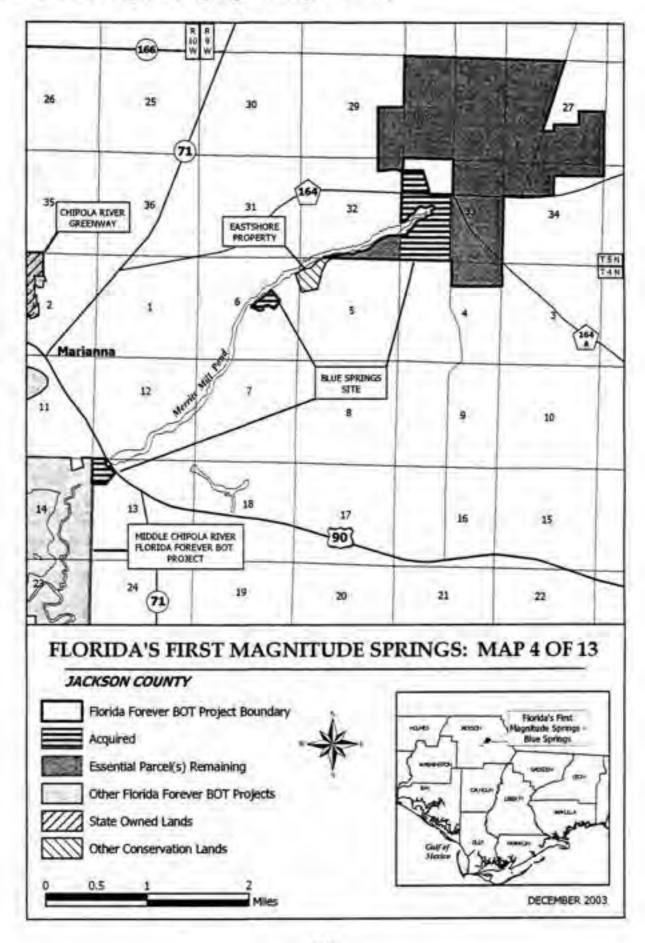


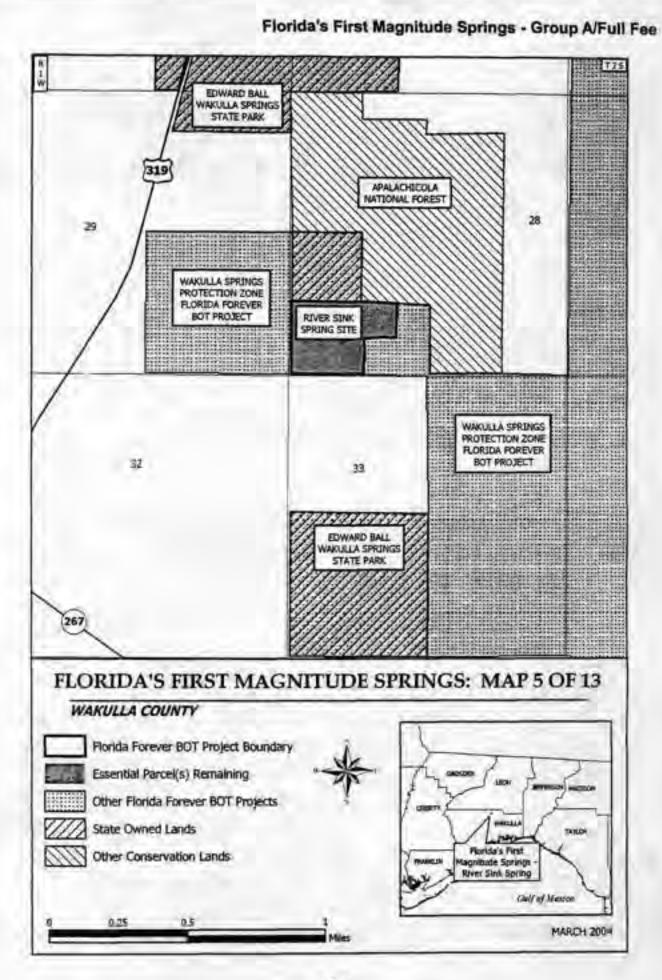




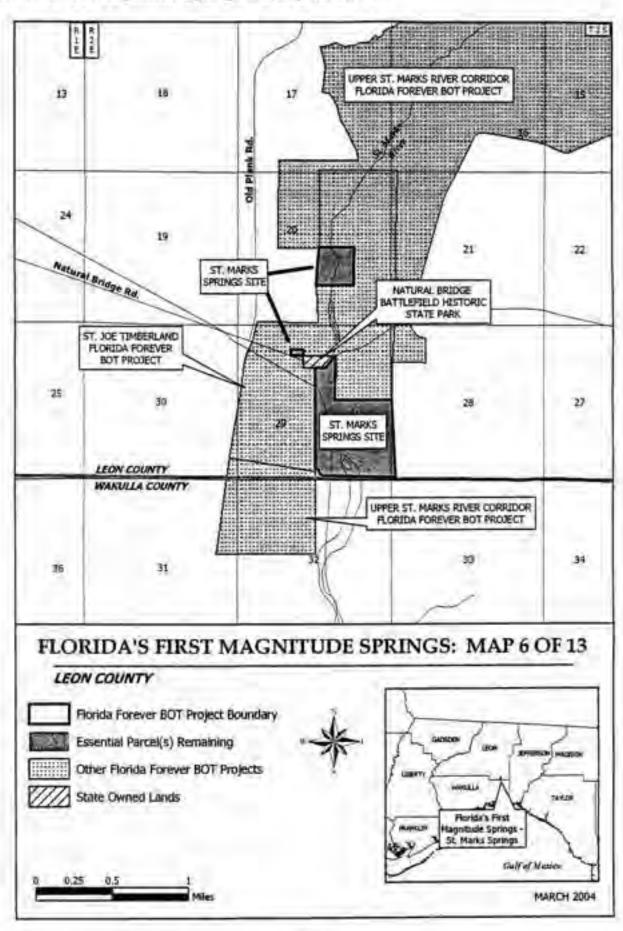




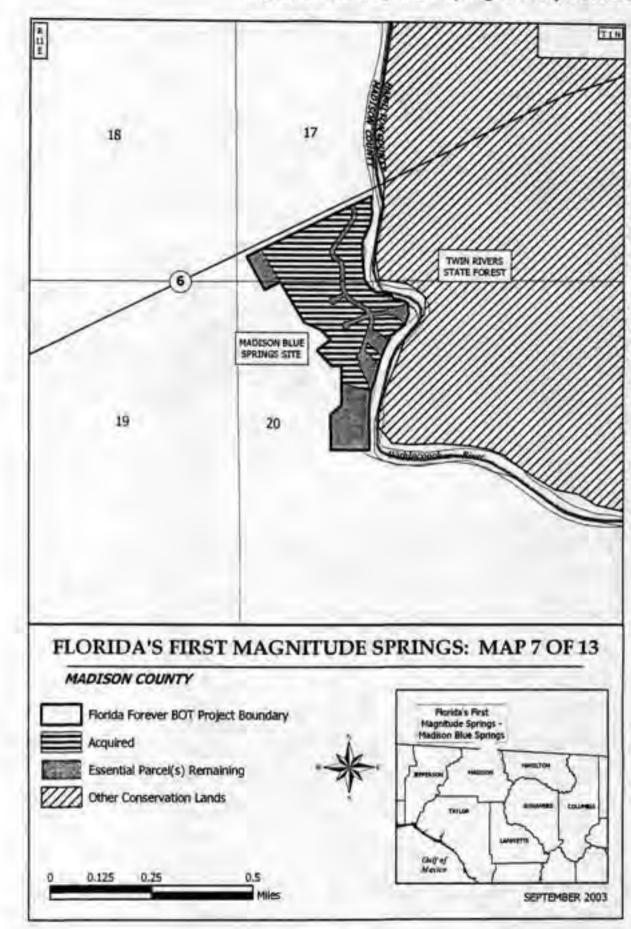


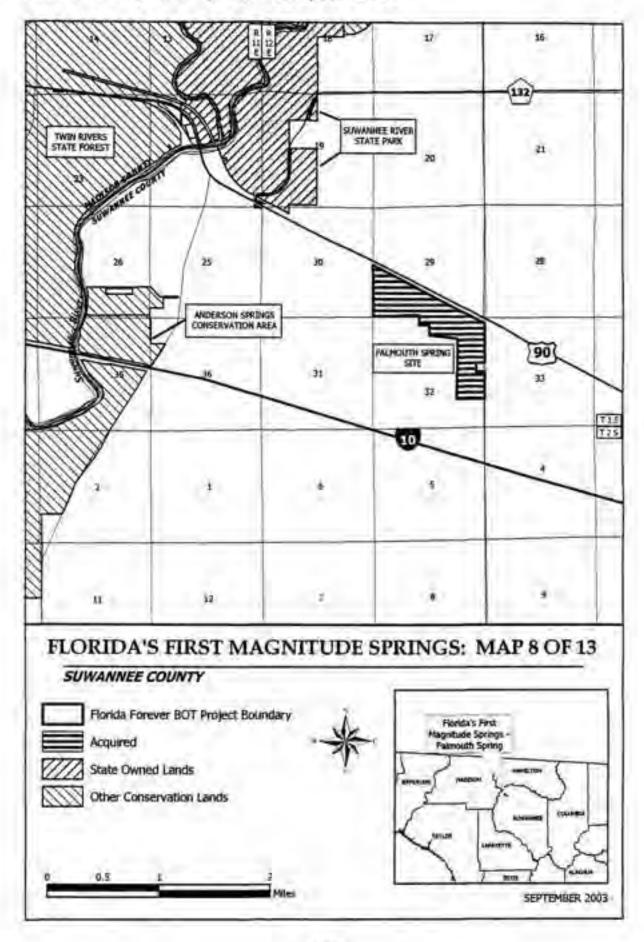


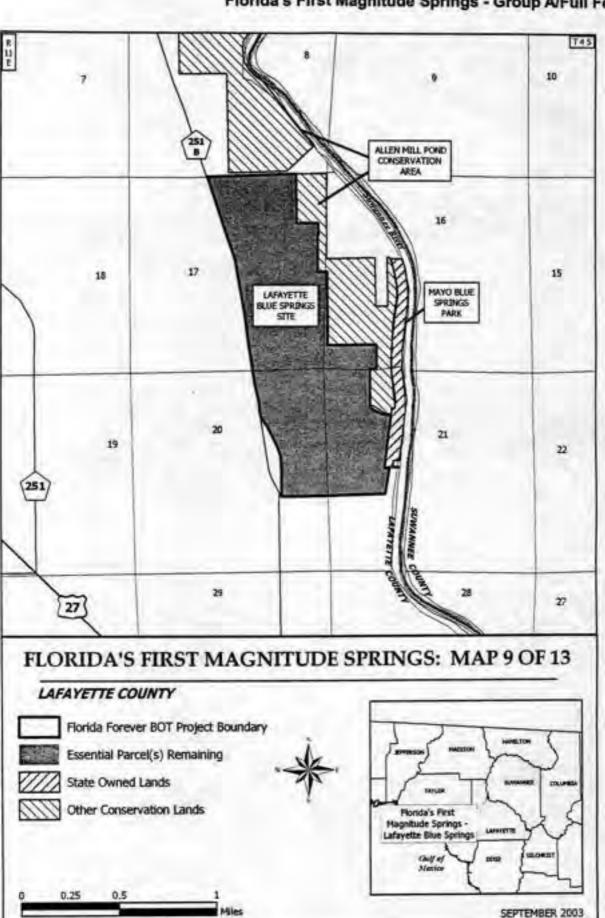


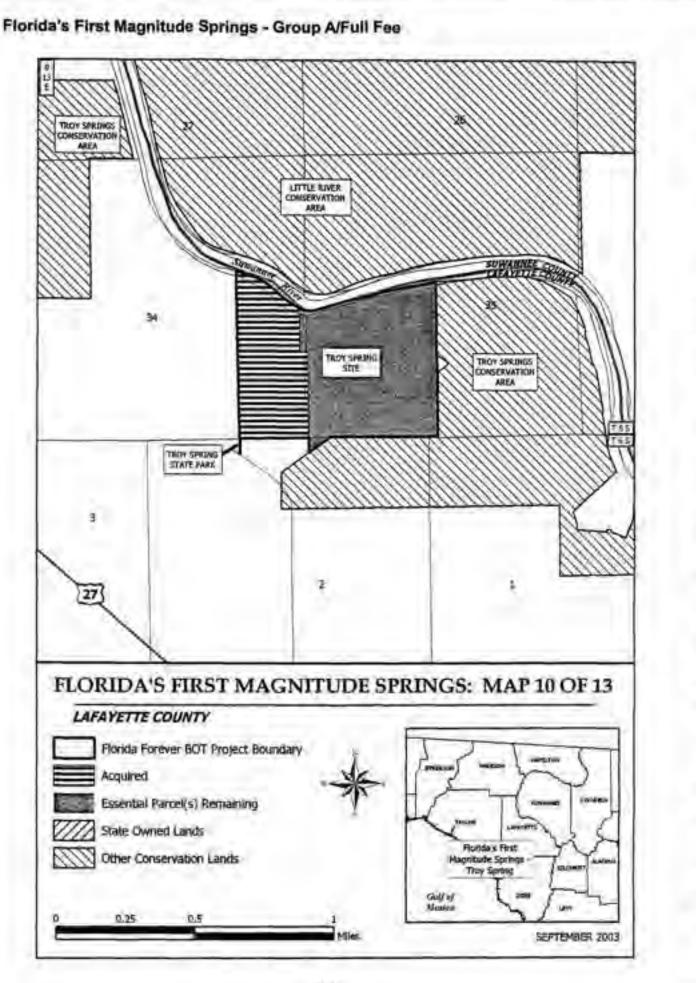


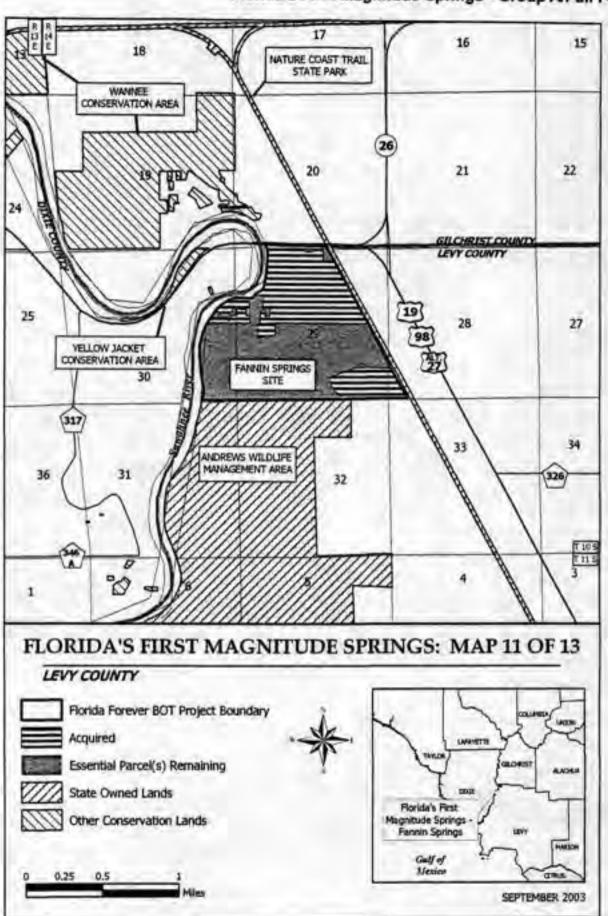




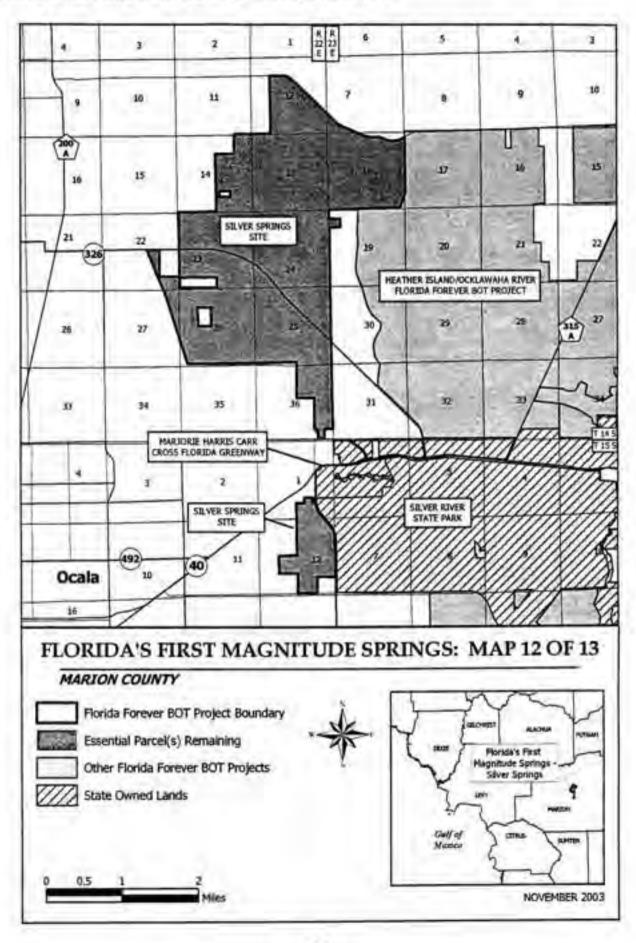




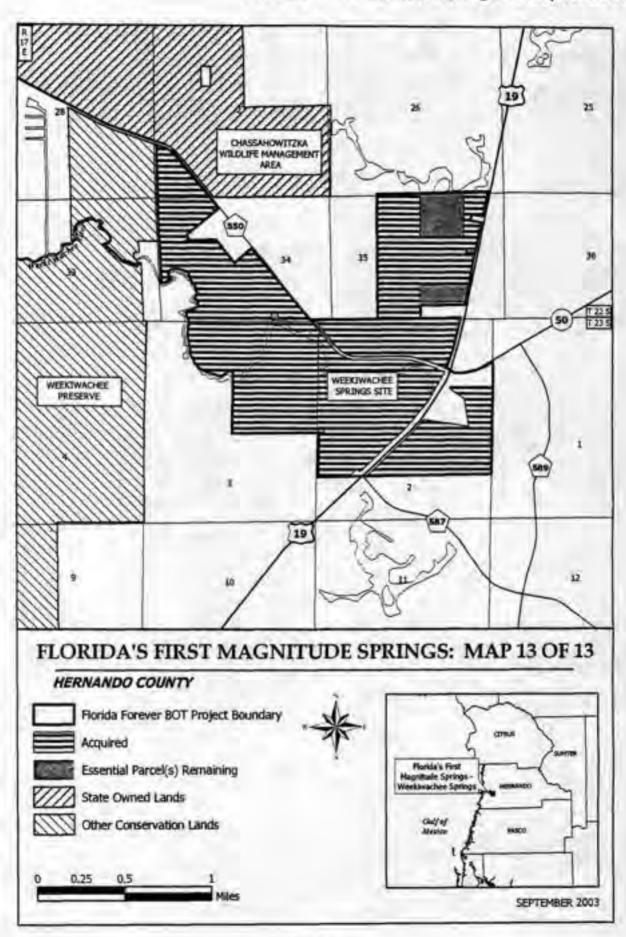












Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	County	County
Salary	\$20,000	\$20,000
OPS	\$60,000	\$25,000
Expense	\$25,000	\$15,000
000	\$30,000	\$30,000
FCO	\$50,000	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$185,000	\$100,000

Category	Start Up	1995/96
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$3,000	\$3,000
Expense	\$10,000	\$10,000
000	\$0	\$0

\$13,000

\$0

Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	LATF.	None	GR
	CFBCTF		
Salary	\$0	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$14,027	\$0	\$30,000
Expense	\$2,445	\$0	\$35,000
000	\$0	\$0	\$44,000
FCO	\$0	\$0**	\$220,000
TOTAL	\$16,472*	\$17,928***	\$329,000

"No appropriation was received for FY 1995/96, as such funds were taken from other projects to fund Troy Springs. "No appropriation was received for FY 1996/97.

\$0

\$13,000

\*\*\*This is the projected amount to be spent in 1996/97.

FCO

TOTAL

Estimated startup and recurring costs have not been developed by Hernando County.

\$229,155

\$430,000

\$77,162

\$49,414

Management Cost Summary USFS - River Sink Springs No additional funds are expected from the Forest Service. Each district ranger office will manage with its existing staff.

Management Cost	Summary/I	DRP-St. Marl	ks	
Category	Startup	Recurring	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	Federal	Federal	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$5,000	\$22,167	\$22,167
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$7,280	\$7,280
Expense	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$5,424	\$5,424
000	\$0	\$0	\$6,978	\$6,978
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$3,000	\$10,000	\$41,849	\$41,849
Management Cost	Summary/	OGT-Fanning	g Springs	
Category	19	96/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	LATF, C	FBCTF, GR	GR	GR
Salary		\$0	\$0	\$68,593
OPS	\$7	3,699	\$55,000	\$65,000

\$17,720

\$90,820

\$0

\$0

Expense

000

FCO

1

1

TOTAL

\$10,000

\$65,000

\$0

\$0

#### Garcon Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee

## **Garcon Ecosystem**

## Santa Rosa County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The peninsula jutting into the north end of Pensacola Bay is covered with wet grassy prairies dotted with carnivorous pitcher plants and other rare plants—some of the best pitcher-plant prairies left in Florida. The Garcon Ecosystem project will protect these prairies, thereby helping their rare plant and animal inhabitants to survive, maintaining the water quality of Pensacola Bay, and allowing the public to learn about and enjoy this unique natural environment.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Northwest Florida Water Management District will manage the southern portion.

#### **General Description**

Natural communities within this project are in good to excellent condition and include wet prairie, estuarine tidal marsh, and wet flatwoods. The prairie community is species-rich and includes orchids and insectivorous plants such as pitcher plants, sundews, butterworts, and bladderworts. Especially significant is the large population of state endangered white-topped pitcher plants (*Sarracenia leucophylla*), and the globally imperiled panhandle lily. The tracts are also habitat for the flatwoods salamander, a candidate for federal listing. Four cultural sites are known from the project. The sensitive prairies are threatened by ditching, plant collecting and residential development. Development pressure will increase when the bridge across Pensacola Bay is completed.

## Group A Full Fee

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a buffer preserve, with such uses as nature study, hiking, and fishing.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

LAMAC combined Prairies of Garcon and Garcon Point projects and renamed them Garcon Ecosystem in 1994.

Garcon Point - consists of approximately 21 owners. Phase I: FDIC (acquired by Northwest Florida Water Management District). Phase II: All other ownerships except in sections 24 and 25. Phase III: Ownerships in sections 24 and 25.

Prairies of Garcon - essential tracts include the larger ownerships of Jenkins (acquired by the Northwest Florida Water Management District), Henzelman, Culpepper, Thompson and other ownerships greater than 160 acres. Phase II tracts include smaller ownerships and lots within Avalon Beach Subdivision.

On February 5, 1998, the Council added approximately 845 acres to the project boundary, which will be managed by the NWFWMD.

On December 5, 2003 the Council moved this project to the Group A list.

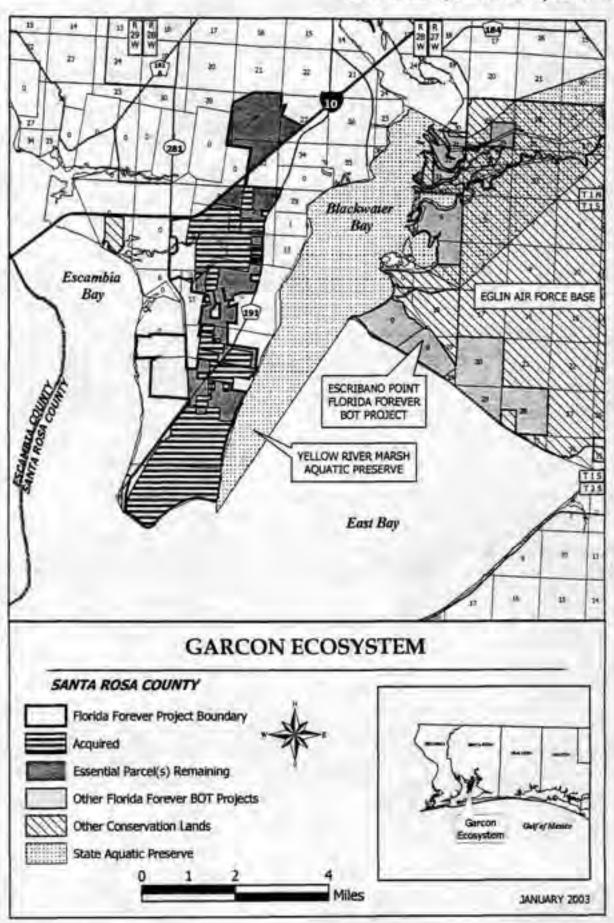
The Division of State Lands is currently in discussions with the owners of three small tracts. Appraisals need to be updated in unticipation of offers. The other owners have declined offers.

FNAI Elemen	its
Panhandle lily	G1G2/S1S2
Curtiss' sandgrass	G2/S2
Flatwoods salamander	G2G3/S2S3
Pine-woods bluestern	G3/S3
White-top pitcher-plant	G3/S3
Saltmarsh topminnow	G3/S2
Kral's yellow-eyed grass	G3?/S1
18 elements known fr	om project

Placed on list	1995
Project Area (Acres)	7,678
Acres Acquired	3,822*
at a Cost of	\$4,746,175*
Acres Remaining	3,855
with Estimated (Tax Assessed	Value of \$4,455,980

. BYNWFWMD

Garcon Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee



#### Garcon Ecosystem - Group A/Full Fee

#### Coordination

In November 1995, the Northwest Florida Water Management District accepted \$1,025,350 of mitigation funds from the Santa Rosa Bridge Authority to acquire land (Jenkins) within the project boundary.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Garcon Ecosystem project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project has the size, location, and quality of resources to qualify as a "State Buffer Preserve" to the Yellow River Marsh Aquatic Preserve and adjacent Class II shell fishing waters.

Manager Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as lead Manager for the northern portion. The Northwest Florida Water Management District is the Manager for the southern portion. This prospectus applies to the northern portion.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Garcon Ecosystem Project includes lands that require prescribed fire management. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, initial or intermediate activities will concentrate on site security, fire management planning, resource inventory, and a completed management plan.

Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and the perpetuation and maintenance of natural communities. Management activities will also stress the protection of threatened and endangered species. An all-season burning program will be established using conventional practices. Whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks will be used to contain and control prescribed and natural fires. An educational program for all age groups will be used in conjunction with a carefully designed hiking trail, to keep the public away from sensitive areas. Efforts to prohibit vehicle activity except in designated areas will be a major concern.

The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management and to locate areas that are appropriate for any recreational or administrative facilities. Infrastructure development will be confined to already disturbed areas and will be the absolute minimum required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and to manage the property.

Revenue-generating potential No revenue is expected to be generated for some years.

Cooperators in management activities The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry, or the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks, may help with fire management.

Updated Information reflecting management by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is not yet available.

# Green Swamp

## Lake and Polk Counties

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The mosaic of cypress swamps, pine forests, and pastures known as the Green Swamp is a vital part of the water supply of central Florida. It gives rise to four major river systems and, because it has the highest groundwater elevation in the peninsula, is important for maintaining the flow of water from the Floridan Aquifer. By preserving the mosaic of land use in this region, the Green Swamp Florida Forever project will protect the Floridan Aquifer and the several rivers, preserve a large area for wildlife; and provide areas for public recreation in the rapidly growing region between Tampa and Orlando.

#### Manager

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the Division of Recreation and Parks,(DRP) Florida Department of Environmental Protection (area near Lake Louisa State Park). The FWC will monitor compliance with any less-than-fee purchase agreement.

#### **General Description**

The project is a critical hydrological resource: it encompasses the headwaters of four major rivers; the Withlacoochee, Oklawaha, Hillsborough, and Peace; and has the highest ground water elevation in the Peninsula. It is therefore considered critical to the recharge of the Floridan Aquifer. For this reason, it has been designated an Area of Critical State Concern.

The area is a complex mosaic of disturbed uplands and wetlands intermixed with higher quality swamps. It is estimated that 90% of the native upland vegetation in the project has been disturbed by agriculture and de-

FNAI Elemen	ts
Clasping warea	G1/S1
Scrub leatherwood	G1Q/S1
Sand skink	G2/S2
Blue-tailed mole skink	G4T2/S2
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Bald eagle	G4/S3
Paper-like nail-wort	G2T3/S3
22 elements known fro	om project

Green Swamp - Group A/Less Than Fee

## Group A Less Than Fee

velopment, but the project does contain some uplands with natural communities such as flatwoods and sandhills. The project has a moderate potential for archaeological or historical sites. The wetlands are threatened by sand mining and the uplands are threatened by residential, commercial and high-intensity recreational development.

#### Public Use

The project will become a wildlife management area and a state park, providing for such activities as hunting, hiking and nature appreciation. The less than fee parcel qualifies as a wildlife management area. The amount and nature of public use will be negotiated with the landowners.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Two non-contiguous Phase I areas have been identified based on relative intactness of their natural communities. In general, priority areas are the relatively large contiguous parcels and strategic smaller parcels. In <u>Lake County</u>, the northern half of the western Phase I area extends south to the county line, less the subdivisions. Specifically in the <u>Lake Louisa</u> area, the Bradshaw ownership (acquired) is the most important tract. Black Bear Land Co., Ray and Oswalt have also been acquired and other large ownerships have been mapped and appraised. On October 30, 1996, the Council added 890 acres to Phase I and 2,708 acres to Phase II. Additionally, 19,000 acres were moved from Phase II to Phase I. The Council also approved the deletion of the priority areas designation within Phase I.

Placed on list	1992
Project Area (Acres)	279,224*
Acres Acquired	81,323
at a Cost of	\$54,431,344
Acres Remaining	197,901
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$196,865,339

\*Previously only Pitase 1 reported

### Green Swamp - Group A/Less Than Fee

On October 30, 1996, LAMAC adopted criteria for establishing a Less-Than-Fee acquisition category: 1) resource value of the project/tract can be adequately protected through a less-than-fee instrument; 2) seller is willing to accept a less-than-fee-simple instrument and LAMAC has determined that the project's or site's acquisition objectives can be met by acquiring a lessthan-fee interest; and 3) manager is willing to oversee less-than-fee-simple instrument.

On December 5, 1996, the Overstreet and portions of the Jahna ownerships (11,383 acres) were transferred to the Less-Than-Fee category. A conservation easement has been placed on the Jahna tract.

The Green Swamp Group B Full Fee project was comhined with the Group A Less-Than-Fee project on June

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Green Swamp Florida Forever project are: to conserve and protect lands within areas of critical state concern; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Green Swamp Florida Forever project has the size and wildlife resources to qualify as a wildlife management area. Manager The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is recommended as the manager for most of the project area. The Division of Recreation and Parks, Department of Environmental Protection will manage the area adjacent to Lake Louisa State Park, with Sections 3,4, and5, T24S, R26E being the southern extent of its management.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The primary management tools in the area to be managed by FWC involve prescribed introduction of fire and control of human access. Some pine forests will require restoration. The portion of the project adjacent to Lake Louisa is a high-need management area with emphasis on public recreational use and development 2002; however, parcels can still be acquired in full fee if appropriate.

The Division of State Lands is very active in this project.

#### Coordination

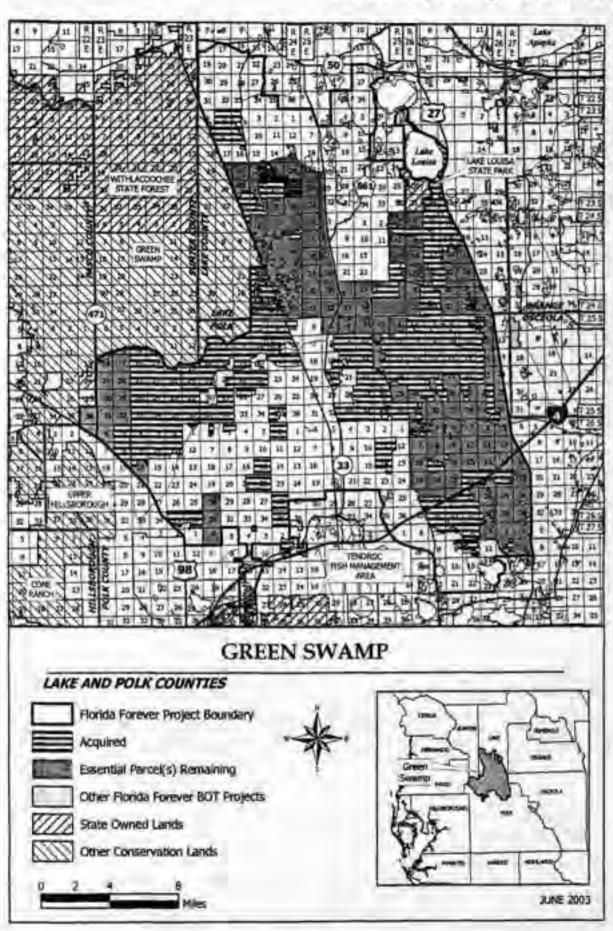
The Green Swamp Land Authority has acquired 17,948 acres within the project boundary and expended \$13,848,442. The SWFWMD has acquired considerable acreage adjacent to and partly within the overall project boundary. Section 51, ch. 99-2478, provided for the deletion of the provision setting out the membership of the Green Swamp Land Authority and that "[h]enceforth, the Green Swamp Land Authority shall mean the Department of Environmental Protection for purposes of [s. 380.0677] and statutes related thereto."

and major resource restoration. The majority of the properties in this area are or were citrus groves. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management that is consistent with the goals and objectives stated for this project. Long-term management will include restoration of natural pine forests. Growingseason fire will be important in this restoration. FWC will emphasize the provision of old-growth forest, but for game species will also provide areas of successional vegetation in pine areas adjacent to wetlands. FWC also plans to provide high-quality habitat and protection for listed wildlife species.

FWC will keep public facilities to a minimum—hiking and horseback trails in upland areas, and perhaps interpretive centers and wildlife observation towers in selected areas.

Revenue-generating potential FWC expects no significant revenue from this project mitially, but will continue to offer hunting opportunities. For the area next to Lake Louisa State Park, the Division of Recreation and Parks also expects no significant revenue to be generated initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public use facilities are developed in the Lake Louisa area, and the amount of any revenue generated will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities.

(Continued on Page 208)



Green Swamp - Group A/Less Than Fee

## Green Swamp - Group A/Less Than Fee

Management Cost	Summary/FWC		
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$18,290	\$43,100	\$77,650
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Expense	\$43,280	\$37,900	\$30,000
000	\$0	\$28,500	\$29,200
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$61,570	\$109,500	\$137,850
Management Cost	Summary/DRP		
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	SPTF/CARL	SPTF/CARL	SPTF/CARL
Salary	\$103,834	\$106,949	\$110,157
OPS	\$12,254	\$12,000	\$12,000
Expense	\$19,268	\$22,000	\$22,000
000	\$29,807	\$0	\$0
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$135,356	\$140,949	\$144,157

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# Half Circle L Ranch

## **Collier and Hendry Counties**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Located within primary habitat zones for both the Florida panther and the Florida Black bear the project compliments the ongoing conservation efforts in this region of the state for these and numerous other species. Protection of these and other endangered and threatened species is a primary concern. Habitat and hydrological restoration of disturbed areas is another goal of state acquisition of this project. Public recreation compatible with resource protection is also an acquisition goal. More information is cited below in the Public Uses description.

#### Manager

Management of the site has not yet been confirmed. Multiple agencies may be involved. All management activities on Florida Forever land should include a monitoring component so that managers can judge the effectiveness of their actions. Management plans, which are required for all Florida Forever land, should indicate specifically how and when the results of management activities will be monitored and how that information will be used to improve subsequent management activities.

#### General Description

Adjoining the southern boundary of the Devil's Garden Florida Forever project, the southwestern boundary of the Dinner Island Wildlife Management Area, and the southeastern boundary of the Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest/Wildlife Management Area in Collier and Hendry counties, this proposal contains approximately 10,500 acres.

The dominant communities on the property are basin and depression marshes, wet prairies, hydric/mesic hammocks, and wet/mesic flatwoods. Forty-five percent of the project has been converted to improved pasture, row crops, and citrus.

According to the Florida Natural Areas Inventory there are eight rare plants and animals recorded on the site. More than 60 percent of the lands within the Half Circle L Ranch project proposal are designated as Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas. In actuality, nearly all of the land in this project is classified as a Primary Zone Group A Full Fee

or Priority One for panther habitat (currently used by panthers), and the Florida black bear. The remainder of the site is identified as a Secondary Zone for panther habitat (buffer areas for dispersing cats or areas that could be converted to Primary Zone status with restoration), by the Panther Subgroup of the Multispecies/Ecosystem Recovery Implementation Team. Radio telemetry studies have confirmed panther use of the site.

#### Public Use

Due to extensive wetlands, the project is limited in its ability to provide year-round diverse resource-based recreational opportunities. Hiking and horseback trails would be traversable in limited dry season conditions. In the more upland sites, the project can accommodate, to one degree or another, camping, picnicking, wildlife observation (nature study), and environmental education. Depending on management emphasis, hunting can also be supported. Due to the wet conditions of the project, bicycling is questionable and would require

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	11,269
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost Of	0
Acres Remaining	11,269

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$2,811,833

FNAI Elements		
Narrow strap-leaf fern	G4G5/S1	
Hand fem	G4/S2	
Crested caracara	G5/S2	
White Ibis	G5/S4	
Fiorida sandhill cranes	G5T2T3/S2S3	
Wood stork	G4/S2	
Florida burrowing owl	G4T3/S3	
Florida panther	G5T1/S1	
8 elements known	from project	

### Half Circle L Ranch - Group A/Full Fee

further review. Should it be considered suitable, bicycling would be limited in its range throughout the property.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project consists of approximately 11.269 acres, multiple parcels and two owners. The 2002 tax assessed/ taxable value is estimated at \$2,811,833.00. On June 6, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added this project to the A List of Florida Forever projects.

#### Coordination

This project is adjacent to Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest (approximately 32,039 acres) and the Dinner Island Wildlife Management Area (approximately 19,639 acres). The Panther Glades and Devil's Garden Florida Forever projects are also adjacent.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary land management goal for the project is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to ensure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. An ecosystem approach will guide the management activities on this project.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for State Designation

The project's size and diversity makes it desirable for use and management as part of Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest, or the Dinner Island Wildlife Management Area. Management is contingent upon the state obtaining legal public access to the site and acquiring fee simple title to the parcel. Major communities represented on this project include swale, slough, basin marsh, depression marsh, wet prairie, strand swamp, dome swamp, hammock, mesic and wet flatwoods. These community types are consistent with the adjacent state forest and the wildlife management area.

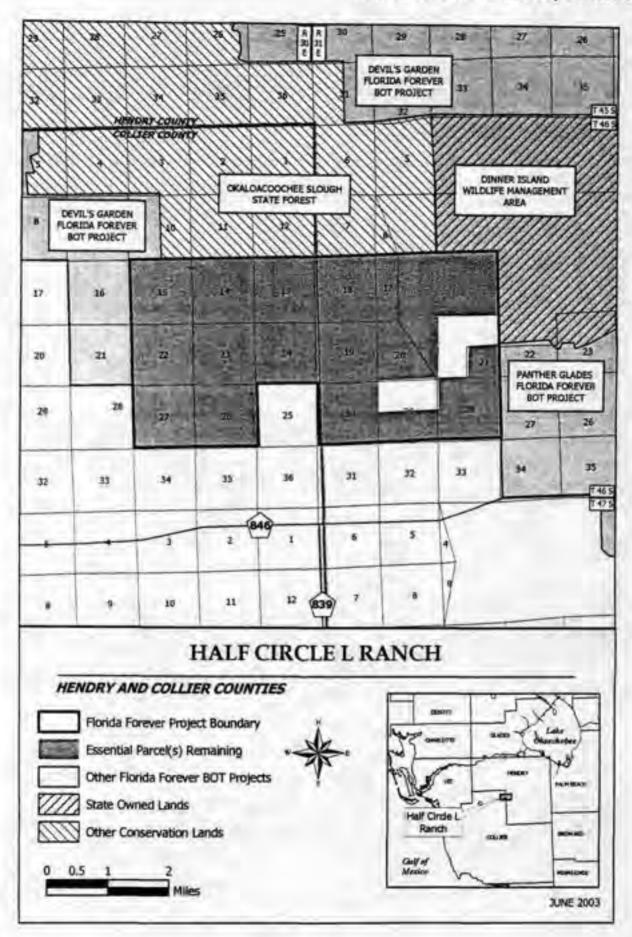
#### **Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management**

Much of the project's drier natural community types have been disturbed; many converted to some improved form of agriculture. This conversion usually means some type of hydrologic alteration to facilitate water management has occurred. This property contains vast areas of wetlands with sensitive natural resources; accordingly, land management and public use will specifically be structured to improve and protect these areas. The level of management intensity and related management costs is expected to be initially high to obtain the necessary information and resources to restore and manage this system as a part of Okaloacoochee State Forest and/or the Dinner Island Wildlife Management Area. Once this information is obtained and the resources are available, long-term management costs are expected to be moderate to maintain this area. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) reports that wildlife habitat values and habitat restoration on the semi-improved pasture and native range areas could be improved and potentially restored by removing cattle grazing and utilizing prescribed fire.

#### **Timetable for Implementing Management**

Restoration of the natural communities on this project. will be a priority. Initial or intermediate management efforts will concentrate on resource inventory, restoration planning, fire management and planning, site security, public access, and removal of exotic species. The inventory of the site's natural resources and threatened and endangered flora and fauna will be conducted to provide the basis for formulation of management goals. Restoration efforts will focus on water flow alterations, ditching, agriculture improvements to the land, and perpetuating natural communities that have historically been changed. Steps will be taken to ensure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. Public use will be limited to activities that will have little or no impact to these areas. Long-range goals will stress ecosystem management and the protection and management of threatened and endangered species. Essential roads will be stabilized to provide all weather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses will also be implemented. An allseason prescribed burning management plan will be developed and implemented using conventional and hiologically acceptable guidelines. Management activities will strive to manage natural plant communities to benefit native wildlife resources. Archaeological and historic sites will be managed in coordination with the Division of Historical Resources.

(Continued on Page 212)



#### **Revenue Generating Potential**

Timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Because of the existing condition of the timber resource on the property, revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be low. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from ecotourism activities which can be economically developed.

#### Capital Project Expenditures

Florida Forever capital project expenditures are going to be needed on this parcel for hydrological restoration, for public access and public use. This management prospectus is not intended to be an application for capital project expenditure; however, as more information is gathered and an analysis of the site is completed an application may be submitted for capital project expenditure funds. It is anticipated that some the existing roads will be used as multi-use trails for hiking, horseback riding and off-road bicycling.

#### Management Costs and Sources of Revenue

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL trust fund. Budget needs for interim management are estimated as follows.

SALARY (2 FTE)	\$ 70,751
EXPENSE	\$261,372
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$300,600
TOTAL	\$632,723

# Hall Ranch

## **Charlotte County**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Inland from the rapidly growing coast of southwest Florida are expanses of ranchland still in essentially natural condition. By adding some of this ranchland to the Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area, the Hall Ranch project will help preserve a corridor of natural land—slash pine flatwoods, marshes, and cypress swamps—from Charlotte Harbor to Telegraph Swamp, protect habitat for Florida black bear, and enlarge the area in which the public can hunt, hike, and camp.

#### Manager

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

#### **General Description**

Hall Ranch, adjacent to Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area, includes good quality South Florida slash pine flatwoods and depression marshes, with a few other natural communities. The area is more significant for rare animals like black bear than for plants (no rare plants are known). It includes part of Shell Creek (the water supply for Punta Gorda) and the head of the important Telegraph Swamp.

No archaeological sites are known. The area is vulnerable to development and conversion to intensive agriculture; since development pressures are low, endangerment is moderate.

#### Public Use

This project qualifies as a wildlife management area, with uses such as hunting, various sorts of trails, camping, and picnicking, among other activities.

FNAI Elements		
DRY PRAIRIE	G1/S1	
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2	
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2	
DEPRESSION MARSH	G47/S3	
BASIN SWAMP	G4?/S3	
MESIC FLATWOODS	G?/S4	
WET PRAIRIE	G?/S4?	
XERIC HAMMOCK	G?/S3	
8 elements known fro	m project	

### Hall Ranch - Group B/Full Fee

## Group B Full Fee

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

This project is at negotiated impasse because negotiations on the essential or core parcel have been unsuccessful and have reached an impasse (or the owners are not willing to consider a sale to the state).

This project consists of one major owner-the Hall Ranch Corporation. The essential parcel is the Hall ownership south of State Road 74. There are multiple small ownerships scattered throughout the Hall ownership north of SR 74. This project was ranked for the first time in December, 1996.

On April 6, 2001, the Council transferred this project to the "B" Grouping.

The Division of State Lands is not actively working this project.

#### Coordination

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is CARL's acquisition partner.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Hall Ranch project is to preserve and restore the mosaic of pine flatwoods, hammocks, and wetlands between the Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area and Telegraph Swamp. Achieving this objective will provide a refuge for threatened animals like the Florida black bear and red-cockaded woodpecker, preserve an area of natural lands extending from Charlotte Harbor to Telegraph Swamp, and, by expanding the wildlife management area, provide the public with a large area for naturalresource-based recreation.

Placed on list	1997
Project Area (Acres)	8,520
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	8,520
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$4,997,720

#### Hall Ranch - Group B/Full Fee

The project should be managed under the multiple-use concept: management activities should be directed first toward preservation of resources and second toward

integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses such as hunting and timber harvesting. Managers should control access to the project; limit public vehicles to one or a few main roads; thoroughly inventory the resources; restore hydrological disturbances; burn fire-dependent pine flatwoods in a pattern mimicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control: reforest pine plantations with original species; strictly limit timbering in oldgrowth stands; and monitor management activities to ensure that they actually preserve resources. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources. and site them in already disturbed areas when possible. The project includes much of the undeveloped land between the Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area and Telegraph Swamp and consequently has the size and location to achieve its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Hall Ranch project has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area and will provide the public with a large tract for activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking and wildlife observation.

Manager The FWC is recommended as Manager. Conditions affecting intensity of management The Hall Ranch proposal generally includes lands that will require moderate to intensive resource management including frequent fire, roller chopping and some timber management to open the thicker pine stands. The primany management needed for the perpetuation of the natural communities on the area would involve continuing the frequent fire regime already established and control of human access. Additional management projects will involve gradual restoration of improved pasture and agricultural fields into native habitat. On portions of existing disturbed areas, native and non-native agronomic plantings may be used to benefit both game and nongame wildlife on the area and to promote. special hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities for the general public. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure quality recreational experience for those members of the public interested in less infrastructure and other disturbance factors.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be

placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of existing refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC, describing the goals and objectives of future resource management.

Long-range plans will stress ecosystem management and protection and management of threatened and endangered species. Essential roads will be stabilized to provided all weather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses will be implemented. An all-season prescribed burn management plan will be developed and implemented with conventional and biologically acceptable guidelines. Management activities will strive to manage natural plant communities to benefit native wildlife resources.

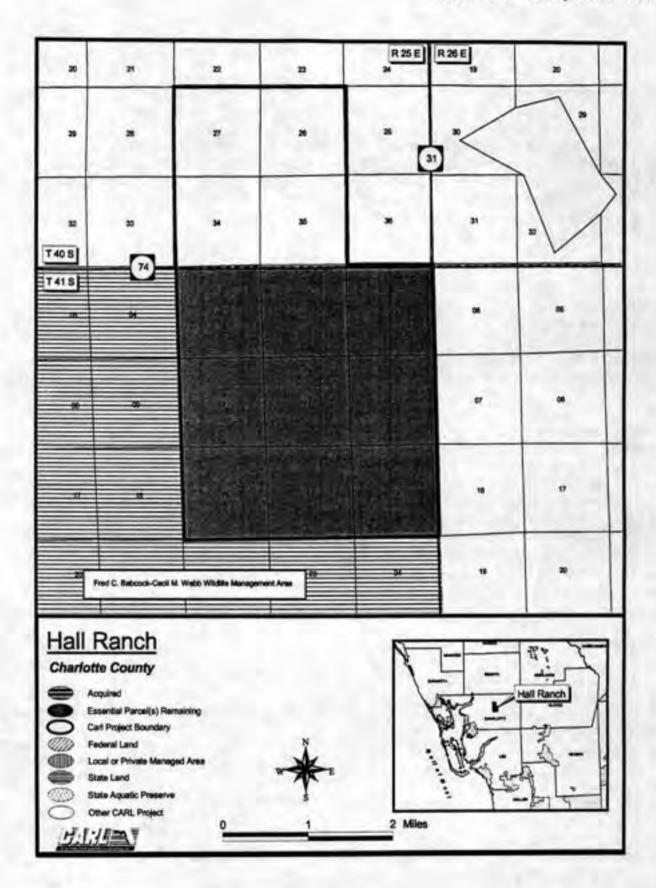
Timber resources include pine flatwoods (62%), cypress domes/strands (4%) and xeric hammock (2%). Where appropriate and practical, these resources will be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices as recommended by the Division of Forestry.

Environmentally sensitive areas will be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented to those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned or restored as practical. Minimal infrastructure development will be required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the property.

Revenue-generating potential About 62% of the Hall Ranch consists of pine flatwoods that could be managed to offset operational costs. Future revenue from timber resources will depend on successful reforestation and management of already existing pine stands. Another revenue source would include cattle grazing which would help reduce fuel loads and provide fire line maintenance by the lessee. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps and other user fees.

Cooperators in management activities The EWCC will cooperate with other state and local government agencies in managing the area.

Management	Cost Summa	ry/FWCC
Category	Startup	
Fund Source	CARL/SGTF	CARL/SGTF
Salary	\$59,415	\$59,415
OPS	\$5,000	\$5,000
Expense	\$32,000	\$32,000
000	\$48,128	\$0
FCO	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$139,543	\$86,415



## Harris School - Group A/Full Fee

# **Harris School**

## Monroe County

## Purpose for State Acquisition

Located in the City of Key West, protection of this site from more intensive development will increase the city's open-space offerings. Acquisition of this site also meets the Florida Forever goal of preserving significant archeological or historic sites. The Harris School was Monroe County's first public high school. It was built in 1909, and is considered the second most significant structure within the Key West Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Manager

Studio Key West, Inc. would manage the property as an artist's colony and community center. If the property does not become an artist's colony, The Rodel Charitable Foundation of Key West has pledged S6 million, plus an annual subsidy of \$500,000 for ten years, to rehabilitate the school and help with operations costs.

## **General Description**

The Jeptha Vinning Harns School is located in the center of the Key West Historical District just northwest of the city cemetery. Built in 1909, the Harris School was Monroe County's first public high school. The property also holds six other buildings, but none of them are more than 50 years old. Harris School is the earliest educational feature still standing in the Florida Keys. Its masonry vernacular architecture was in common use during the Spanish-American War. The school takes its name from Jepha Vinning Harris, a Confederate Civil War veteran and progressive educator. The property also contains some historically significant and endangered ornamental trees. Further, the Harris School is a contributing structure to the Key West Historic. District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, According to a local (from the Keys) architectural historian, it represents the second most, just behind the Key West Custom House (already in state ownership) significant building within the Key West Historic District.

## **Public Use**

Studio Key West, Inc. proposes to use the castle-like structure, and the six surrounding buildings built in 1957, 1969 and 1977, as an artist's colony and community center. The school would provide classes, workshops, lectures, gallery space and studio/guest quarters for aspiring writers and artists.

# Group A Full Fee

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The project consists of 7 huildings on 1.97 acres with a tax assessed value of \$3,700,000. There are no known title or legal-access issues. There has been no indication of willingness to sell at or below 80% of appraised value. This is a fee simple acquisition. There are no acquisition partners at this time. There are no alternative funding sources.

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the Harris School to the A Lait of Florida Forever projects.

## Coordination

There are no acquisition partnerships, or alternative funding sources. The Harris School, located in downtown Key West, is part of the Key West Historic District. It is a short distance from Ft. Zachary Taylor State Historic Site.

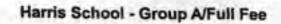
## Management Policy Statement

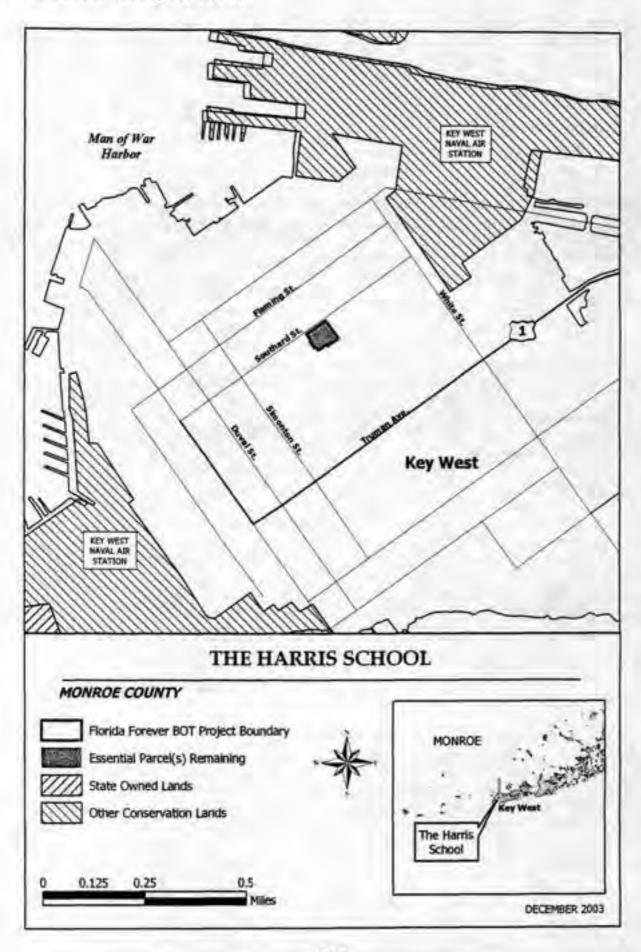
Located in Monroe County in downtown Key West and consisting of approximately 2 acres, the primary concept behind this proposal is to preserve an historic site. Secondarily, the applicant proposes that the old school building be restored and used as an educational arts facility and community center.

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	2
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost Of	o
Acres Remaining	2

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$3,700,000

FNAI Elements		
	0 elements known from project	





## Harris School - Group A/Full Fee

Management of this site will be conducted such that the qualities and character of the historically significant structure will not be denigrated. The Division of Historical Resources will be involved in decisions that affect management of the site.

This site contains no Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas or Biodiversity Conservation Areas coverage. Situated among several other structures, stands the Jeptha Vining Harris School. Surrounding the structures are several old tropical hardwood trees. Considering the size and urban character of this property, the habitat can only be classified as urban community with trees.

The project is located in the historic district of the City of Key West The parcel could provide some limited open space needs for the area.

#### Management Policy Statement

Studio Key West, Inc proposes to rehabilitate the building for use as an artists' colony and community center. The facility would provide art classes, workshops, lectures, and gallery space for Monroe County teachers and the public. This project's homage to the educational heritage of the site is that some art workshops will be provided free to Monroe County teachers. Residencies will be offered to prominent and promising artists utilizing the 1950's era buildings behind the school as studio/guest quarters. That building also contains a commercial kitchen, which would be used as a permanent internship site for high school students in the culinary arts program. This program, Pro-Start, already has 150 students enrolled, and will provide in-school and job site internships. Additionally, these students would be the in-house caterers for Harris School activities.

Studio Key West will be an artists community in the tradition of Yaddo and the MacDowell Colony, welcoming both aspiring and accomplished writers and artists. In keeping with Studio Key West's goal to be an integral part of the Key West community, local artists will be as welcome as those from off-island.

While Studio Key West will offer creative sanctuary for writers and artists, they also plan to be a part of the Key West community and its future. Through a partnership with the Monroe County Culinary Advisory Committee, Studio Key West will serve as a permanent internship site for the culinary students at Key West High School. Students in the culinary arts program will work under the direction of a chef/coach to provide food service to the artists' community. The goal of thispartnership is to give local high students the experience they need to get the best jobs in Key West restaurants. The culmary connection is one of several ways that the artists' community and the Key West community will come together. Through workshops, gallery and meeting space, and public programs, the community at large will be encouraged to partake of the benefits of having South Florida's only artists' community in their back yard.

Studio Key West proposes to restore and manage the Harris School building with the financial assistance of the Rodel Charitable Foundation of Key West. The Budinger family of Wilmington, Delaware founded the Rodel Foundation in 1999, when their company was sold to Rohm and Haas, a specialty chemical company. Currently, Studio Key West and the Rodel Foundation have the same persons serving as their Boards of Directors. In fiscal year 2002 the Rodel Foundation granted over \$1 million to Key West non-profits. Their top focus area is the establishment of an artists' colony in Key West, and to further that aim have pledged \$6 million to rehabilitate the Harris School if it is made available for that use. Additionally, the Foundation has pledged \$500,000 annually for 10 years as an operations subsidy.

# Heather Island/Oklawaha River

## Group A Full Fee

## Marion County

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Heather Island/Oklawaha River project offers important ecological benefits. Foremost among those benefits are linkages with existing public conservation lands, corridors for wildlife dispersal, preservation of habitat for rare species, corridors for wildlife dispersal and floodplain protection. Given its diversity of wildlife species, quality of plant communities, and strategic location, this proposal offers substantial conservation attributes.

## Manager

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is the suitable lead manager for most of the southern two parcels (Marshall Swamp and Cow Hammock: approximately 5,200 acres), with the remaining parcels (approximately 12,700 acres) to be managed by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Division of Forestry as lead agencies.

## **General Description**

The Heather Island/Oklawaha River project consists of approximately 19,828 acres in Marion County. The project area consists of a mosaic of upland and wetland communities with the majority being forested wetlands. Several conservation areas including the Ocala National Forest and the Cross Florida Greenway Recreation and Conservation Areas border the project. The project will protect and restore the floodplain and the adjacent upland forests along the Oklawaha River. The project area provides suitable habitat for the black bear and the rare plant pink root.

The Heather Island/Oklawaha River project was previously on the C.A.R.L acquisition list, but was removed due to an impasse reached with unwilling

FNAI Elements	
UPLAND MIXED FOREST	G4/S4
Gopher Tortoise	G3/S3

sellers in 2000. Recently the landowners have expressed an interest in selling to the state and/or the St. Johns Water Management District (District). To date the District has acquired approximately 4,465 acres within the original C.A.R.L. project boundaries.

## Public Use

The Heather Island/Oklawaha River project can accommodate a diversity of resource-based recreation opportunities, such as hiking, environmental resource appreciation and education, picnicking, camping, horseback riding and bicycling. Depending on management emphasis the property will also support hunting. The project abuts the Oklawaha River or public lands adjacent to the river that could accommodate shoreline freshwater fishing and or boat hunching sites.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The Heather Island/Oklawaha River project was added to the Florida Forever project list at the December 5,2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

The essential parcel is identified as the Rayonier ownership. The Rayonier ownership should be mapped and appraised before the Ala West ownership

On February 25, 2003 the project was added to the Florida Forever Group A list. The maps of the project are complete. At the owner's request, appraisal tours have been temporarily suspended.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	19,828
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	19,828
	and the state of the state of the

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$24,854,025

## Heather Island/Oklawaha River - Group A/Full Fee

## Coordination

This project will be acquired in partnership with St. Johns River Water Management District, with a mixture of state and WMD funding. Contribution percentages have not been determined.

## Management Policy Statement

Priority will be given to the conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and threatened and endangered species. Management programs will be designed to conserve, protect, manage and/or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, forests and water resources. The tract will also be managed to provide opportunities for hiking, camping, canoeing, environmental and cultural resource education, fishing, biking, hunting, and wildlife viewing.

The connection and proximity of this project to other conservation lands, as well is its landscape diversity and high quality wetlands, provide important habitats for wildlife populations and a unique environment for outdoor recreation in Florida. Since the principal purposes of the proposal are to protect habitat for wildlife, management goals will be oriented to conservation and protection of these species and careful management of public access.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

Based upon a review of the Florida Forever Act, this project meets the Goals and Measures, as outlined in Statute to increase nature-based recreation, to enhance the coordination and completion of land acquisition projects, to increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels, to protect, restore, and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems of the state, and to increase the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources.

#### Manager

The high wildlife resource value of the Heather Island/ Oklawaha River proposal indicates that the FWC is the suitable lead manager for most of the southern two parcels (Marshall Swamp and Cow Hammock: approximately 5,200 acres), with the remaining parcels (approximately 12,700 acres) to be managed by the DEP and the DOF as lead agencies.

## **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

Some portions of the project include lands that are lowneed tracts, requiring basic resource management including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since more than 53 percent of the proposal area has been disturbed for silviculture or other purposes, significant restoration activities are contemplated for some of the acreage on which fee title is acquired. FWC will use restoration techniques recommended by specialists in the field of ecological restoration, including the most recent advancements identified by on-going research and lessons learned on the ground through adaptive management. The primary management needed for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities will involve the introduction of prescribed fire and careful management of public use. Biotic surveys will be a priority, since many rare or listed species are expected to be present.

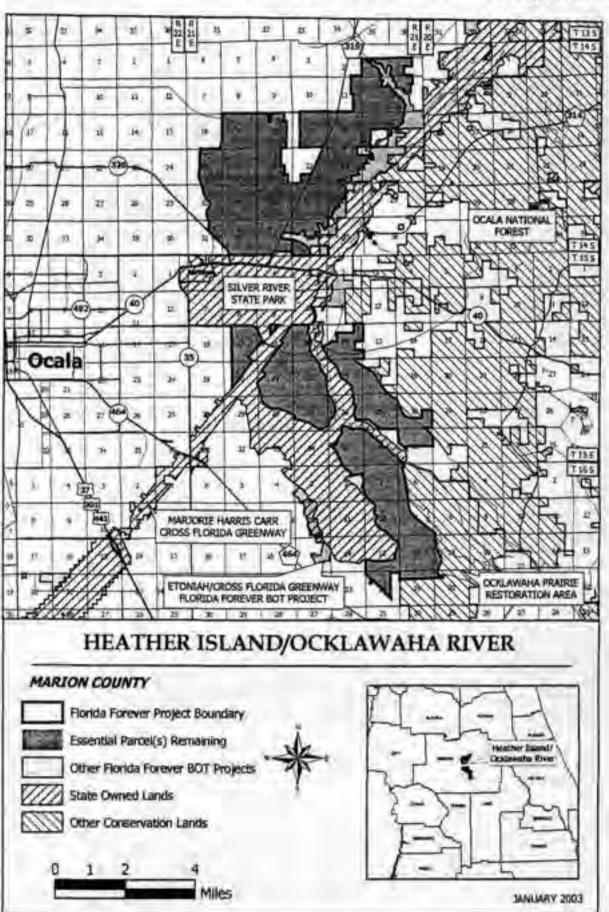
## Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC describing the management goals and specific objectives necessary to implement future resource management.

Long-range plans will emphasize restoration and maintenance of ecosystem functions; restoration of native wildlife populations and wildlife diversity including protection and management of threatened and endangered species; and management for sustainable public use of game wildlife populations balanced with other wildlife oriented recreational activities. Multiple use principles will be practiced where compatible with resource management goals and acquisition purposes.

## **Cooperators in management activities**

The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies, including the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Forestry (DOF) and the St. Johns River Water Management District in managing the area. The high wildlife resource value of the Heather Island/Ocklawaha River proposal indicates that the FWC is the suitable lead manager for



Heather Island/Oklawaha River - Group A/Full Fee

## Heather Island/Oklawaha River - Group A/Full Fee

most of the southern two parcels (Marshall Swamp and Cow Hammock: approximately 5,200 acres), with the remaining parcels (approximately 12,700 acres) to be managed by the DEP and the DOF as lead agencies.

## Management costs and sources of revenue

The harvest and sale of forest products should continue to provide revenues under State management, where silvicultural activities are consistent with wildlife habitat management objectives. The FWC, however, will seek to expand and enhance the revenue-generating potential of the property improving wildlife diversity and providing a broad spectrum of resource-based recreational opportunities. Additional revenue will be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from recreational user fees and ecotourism and wildlife viewing activities.

The Heather Island/Oklawaha River proposal, when acquired by the State, will require one FTE position to manage the project area, although certain activities may be privatized which would reduce the number of FTEs required. Funding for natural resource management and public use administration would come from the CARL. Trust Fund. See attached table for anticipated costs. It is anticipated that revenues sources would include public use fees and timber harvests.



# **Hixtown Swamp**

## Madison County

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The complex of cypress swamps, marshes, and ponds called Hixtown Swamp, an important overwintering and nesting site for wading birds, has been spared the intensive tree-farming practices of the surrounding uplands. The Hixtown Swamp project will conserve these swamps and marshes, thereby protecting wading-bird rookeries and wildlife habitat as well as a possible Spanish mission site and other important archeological remains, and giving the public a large area in which to hunt, hike, or simply observe wildlife.

## Manager

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

## **General Description**

Hixtown Swamp is one of the largest cypress-dominated basin swamps in northern Florida. The moderately disturbed core swamp is a mixture of cypress swamp, freshwater marsh, and open marsh ponds (50%), as well as shrub swamp (20%), and disturbed uplands, which are mostly silvicultural/agricultural land. There are no well-defined channels or streams associated with the swamp. At least during high water, the waters of Hixtown Swamp flow slowly southward, and the swamp is functionally a part of the much larger San Pedro Bay ecosystem. Hixtown Swamp is regionally significant as habitat for both game and nongame wildlife. It is particularly important as an overwintering area for waterfowl. It supports large numbers of sandhill cranes, some perhaps residents. Twenty-one

FNAI Elements	
Incised groove-bur	G3/S2
BOG	G?/S3
UPLAND HARDWOOD FOREST	G7/S3
BASIN SWAMP	G?/S47
BASIN MARSH	G47/S3
BAYGALL	G4?/S47
Canebrake rattlesnake	G5/S3
Great egret	G5/S4
11 elements known from pro	oject

## Hixtown Swamp - Group B/Full Fee

# Group B Full Fee

archaeological or historical sites have been recorded within this project, including perhaps a Spanish mission site. The project has high cultural-resource value. Timber harvesting is the greatest current threat to the area.

## Public Use

This project is designated as a wildlife management area, with uses such as hiking, picnicking, camping and wildlife observation.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

Phase I (essential): Mitchell (aka Musselwhite), G&G, Miller, Collins, Genecer, Muggee and Gillman (contingent upon 50% donation). Negotiation with the Mitchell ownership appears to have reached an impasse.

## Coordination

Suwannee River Water Management District is an acquisition partner.

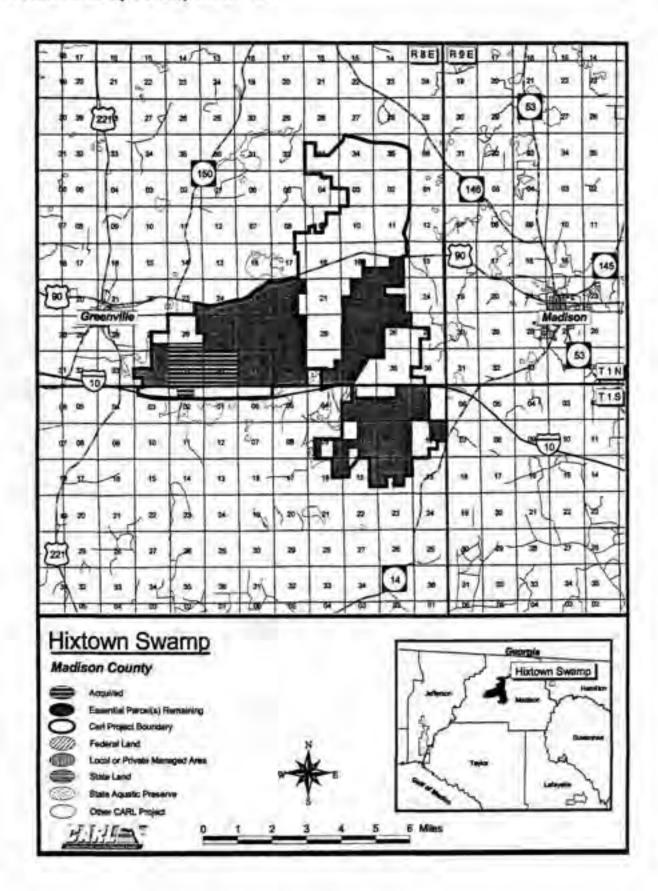
#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Hixtown Swamp project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

Placed on list	1993
Project Area (Acres)	24,344
Acres Acquired	2,037*
at a Cost of	\$200,331
Acres Remaining	22,305
	and a second second second

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$9,542,800 \*Acquired by SRWMD

Hixtown Swamp - Group B/Full Fee



## Hixtown Swamp - Group B/Full Fee

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The size of the Hixtown Swamp project, and its importance to wildlife, particularly its value as an over-wintering area for waterfowl, qualify it as a wildlife management area. Manager The FWC will manage the project.

Conditions affecting intensity of management This natural wetlands system now generally requires basic resource management and protection, but is in danger of being modified hydrologically in order to drain the area for timber and agricultural production. Pine plantations and agricultural areas on the uplands will require restoration. Depending on the nature and extent of public recreational use determined by the management planning process, there may be additional needs for management of public-use facilities. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural resource management and conceptual planning. Public-use facilities will be developed in succeeding years.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. As public use increases, modest revenue may be generated.

Cooperators in management activities The Division of Forestry is recommended as a cooperator to assist in reforestation of the upland areas.

Management Cost	Summary/FW	C
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$180,000	\$180,000
OPS	\$5,500	\$5,500
Expense	\$45,500	\$40,000
000	\$124,800	\$10,000
FCO\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$355,800	\$236,500

Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron - Group A/Full Fee Less Than Fee

# Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron Protection Zone

## Group A Full Fee Less Than Fee

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## Liberty and Gadsden Counties

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The purpose for this project is to preserve a habitat for one of only two core populations of the rare Chapman's Rhododendron, a federally listed plant that is found in the world only in three Panhandle counties of Florida (Gulf, Gadsden and Liberty counties). This proposal is for a conservation easement. On the western portion of the project, the easement that would cover about 70 percent of the known Hosford-area Chapman's Rhododendron. The eastern portion has greater potential for diverse forms of resource-based recreation. The project is located in an area the Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has identified as a priority ecological greenway area that would augment the value of the Lake Talgum State Forest, and help Gadsden County increase its resource-based recreational opportunities. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) identifies this area as potential habitat for a number of rare and imperiled species.

## Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS)

## **General Description**

The 3,262 acres of this proposal extends west from State Road 267 in an irregular-shaped block, on the west side of Lake Talquin. This project adjoins the Lines Tract of the Lake Talquin. This project adjoins the Lines side of Lake Talquin. The Wakulla Unit of the Apalachicola National Forest is approximately 2 miles to the south of this site. About half of this site is historically flatwoods but, over the years, most of this has been converted to pine plantations. About 75 percent of the site is now cultivated as pine plantations. About 15 percent of the site is pine flatwoods. The project

FNAI Elements	
Chapman's Rhododendron	G1/S1
1 element known from p	roject

has about 1,414 acres of functioning wetlands that would be protected by this acquisition.

## Public Use

The degree of public use that could be enjoyed will be determined by the degree of ownership and public access acquired. The majority of the property is proposed as a less-than-fee acquisition. Currently the property is within the Robert Brent Wildlife Management Area, and is open to hunting, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding and nature-appreciation activities. Such activities are, of course, dependent upon permission by the owner. If public access is acquired, the project has the potential for a variety of forest related management activities. The possibility of linking this project to Lake Talquin State Forest would provide activities such as bird-watching, environmental education, hiking, horseback riding, off-road bicycling, hunting, nature study and photography.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

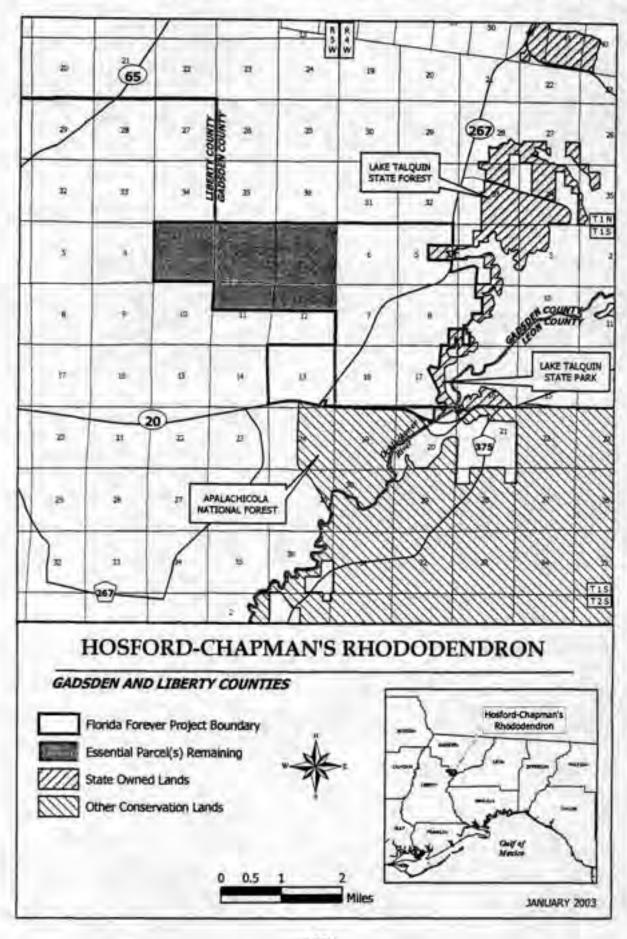
The Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron Protection Zone Florida Forever project was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the June 6<sup>a</sup>, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) as a Group B project.

The essential parcels are the St. Joe Timberlands and Blairwoods tracts, making a connection between Lake Talquin State Forest and the Apalachicola National Forest (3,249 acres)

On October 24, 2002 the Council added 3,648 acres to the project boundaries.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (acres)	6,910
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost of	D
Acres Remaining	6,910
With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of	\$469,718.50

Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron - Group A/Full Fee Less Than Fee



## Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron - Group A/Full Fee Less Than Fee

On December 5,2002 the Council moved this project to the Group A List; approved by the Board of Trustees on February 25, 2003. Mapping and appraisals of priority parcels are underway.

## Coordination

No acquisition partners or alternative funding sources have been identified for the project at this time.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of establishing the Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron Protection Zone project are to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity the native ecosystems, including the core population of the rare Chapman's Rhododendron. The Division of Forestry (DOF) proposes to manage the project under a multipleuse management regime consistent with the State Forest. system, and in a manner designed to accomplish the goals and measures for this project as approved by the ARC. The ecosystem approach will guide the management activities of the Division of Forestry (DOF) on the site.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

The major communities represented on this site are flatwoods and sandhills. The project's location and diversity make it desirable as an addition to the Lake Talquin State Forest. Its management as a state forest, or its oversight as a conservation easement, will depend upon the level of title acquired by the Board of Trustees. The highest level of protection for the rare species would be accomplished by fee simple acquisition. Parcels acquired in fee simple would be added to the state forest, contingent on obtaining some level of public access to the site.

#### Manuger

The Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) proposes to manage this site as part of the Lake Talquin State Forest, with personnel from Tallahassee District Headquarters carrying out management.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

Portions of the project have been disturbed, and will require restoration. Management on these sites would be structured toward creating optimal conditions for propagation of the rhododendrons. This would preclude

more intensive restoration, such as some types of mechanical understory control and site preparation. Certain types of public use, if acquired, may be reduced in the most sensitive areas of the project, Additionally, water-resource development projects, stormwater management projects and any linear facilities are considered incompatible with this ecosystem and with the resource value of this project.

## Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

If the site is a less-tan-fee acquisition, management and public use will be consistent with the terms of each conservation easement. Initial and intermediate management efforts will concentrate on site security, public access, fire management, resource inventory, reforestation of areas where off-site species have been harvested, natural regeneration of native species, and any restoration activity. Steps will be taken to ensure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources.

## **Revenue-generating potential**

Timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystems. These sales will primarily take place in upland pine stands and provide a variable source of revenue, dependent on a variety of factors. Due to the existing condition of the timber resource on this property, the revenue potential of this project is expected to be medium.

## Cooperators in management activities

The DOF will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and other interested parties as appropriate.

## Management costs and sources of revenue

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL trust fund. Budget needs for interim management are estimated as follows:

#### Management Cost Summary/DOF \$29,000 Salary (1 FTE) \$40,900 000 \$69,900

TOTAL

Group A Full Fee

# **Ichetucknee Trace**

## **Columbia County**

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

North and east of Ichetucknee Springs, a dry valley the Ichetucknee Trace—marks the route of a major underground conduit supplying the springs' clear water. Though a state park protects the springs and much of the Ichetucknee River that flows from them, limerock mines and sinks in the Trace threaten to rupture the conduit and pollute the spring water. The Ichetucknee Trace project will protect the water quality of the springs by removing the threat of further mining and groundwater contamination at six sites along the Trace. It also will provide the public with a park and a fishing area.

## Manager

Columbia County, the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

## **General Description**

The project includes two active limerock mines and five other sinkhole sites along the Trace. Over 80 percent of the 450-acre limerock mine has no natural communities on it, but a small area of upland mixed forest and floodplain forest remains northeast of the mines. The majority of the areas around the five sinkholes are highly disturbed, but includes some fair quality forests. No rare plants or animals are known from the project. The mines are believed to lie over a significant geologic feature, a major conduit to Ichetucknee Springs. The purchase of these mines and sinks will help protect the water supply to Ichetucknee Springs.

## Public Use

This project qualifies as a fish management area, recreation parks, and geologic sites. With appropriate contouring, the water-filled mine pits could serve as a recreational fishery or fish hatchery and as a county park.

FNAI Elemen	nts
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
XERIC HAMMOCK	G?/S3
2 elements known fr	om project

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The essential parcels are Anderson Mining (acquired) and Kirby (acquired) ownerships and all parcels within the addition. The Council amended the boundary to add 636 acres in 1999. This project was ranked for the first time on December 5, 1996. In January, 2000, the Board of Trustees (BOT) authorized the DSL to purchase 60 acres outside the project boundary. If the 60 acres tract is acquired, the Acquistion and Restoration Council (ARC) and ultimately the BOT will consider whether to retain owership or designate the tract surplus.

On July 29, 1999, the Council added 636 acres: Rose Sink (since acquired), Saylor Sink (acquired), and Clay Hole Creek.

On July 18, 2000, the Council added 200 acres to the project.

On August 9, 2002 the Trust for Public Land donated the 2-acre parcel around Rose Sink to the State of Florida.

On August 15, 2003 the Council added 7.8 acres to the project boundaries.

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is working on one last key parcel. The remaining pacels are mostly developed and will be difficult to obtain.

## Coordination

There are no acquisition partners for this project at this time. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is an intermediary.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Ichetucknee Trace project is to preserve the quality and quantity of water flowing into the first-magnitude Ichetucknee

Placed on list	1997
Project Area (Acres)	1,420
Acres Acquired	662
at a Cost of	\$33,433,774
Acres Remaining	758
with Estimated (Tax Assesse	d) Value of \$463,981

## Ichetucknee Trace - Group A/Full Fee

Springs by preventing mines from disturbing a major conduit to the springs and by preventing groundwater contamination through major sinkholes. Achieving this objective will help to ensure the public can continue to enjoy recreation in the scenic springs and spring run. It will also provide additional recreational opportunities and geologic education. The project should be managed under the multiple-use concept: management activities should be directed first toward conservation and restoration of resources and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses such as fishing. Managers should control access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to one or a few main roads; restrict the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and gasoline-powered boats to protect water quality; inventory the resources; contour the mine pits to provide shallow littoral zones for colonization by aquatic plants and animals, and recontour spoil piles so they can be revegetated with native trees, shrubs, and grasses; reforest cleared, but unmined, areas with original species; control exotic pest plants that may invade the disturbed parts of the site; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually preserving resources. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project has the potential for a family fishing park, and the site can be developed for a variety of other compatible recreational activities such as canoeing, hiking, biking, picnicking, environmental education and nature studies. It therefore qualifies as a fish management area.

Manager DRP is recommended as lead manager for the site adjacent to the existing state park, and Columbia County as lead manager for the other five sites. The FWC is recommended as co-manager on the inversek mine site.

Conditions affecting intensity of management Habitat restoration will require intense management activities involving extensive earth moving and some actual excavation of quarry pit perimeters to create desired gradual slopes and provide additional shallow littoral zones. Importantly, this excavation work will be vital from a public safety standpoint as existing quarry sides are perpendicular. It is anticipated considerable mining refuse will be present and will need to be removed. Some actual salvage or demolition may be necessary. Earthmoving to abolish some roads and to spread any available soil will be extensive but will then allow plant succession to proceed. Because no valuable habitats exist to manage, succession is the appropriate strategy. Earthmoving will allow creation of planned vehicle access/parking, etc., in areas where eventual erosion to lakes can be precluded. Some fencing to prohibit/direct vehicular and non-vehicular access will be necessary. Plant community inventory and restoration of disturbed mined areas by planting or other techniques will be secondary to major initial physical reconfiguration of the landscape and mine pits.

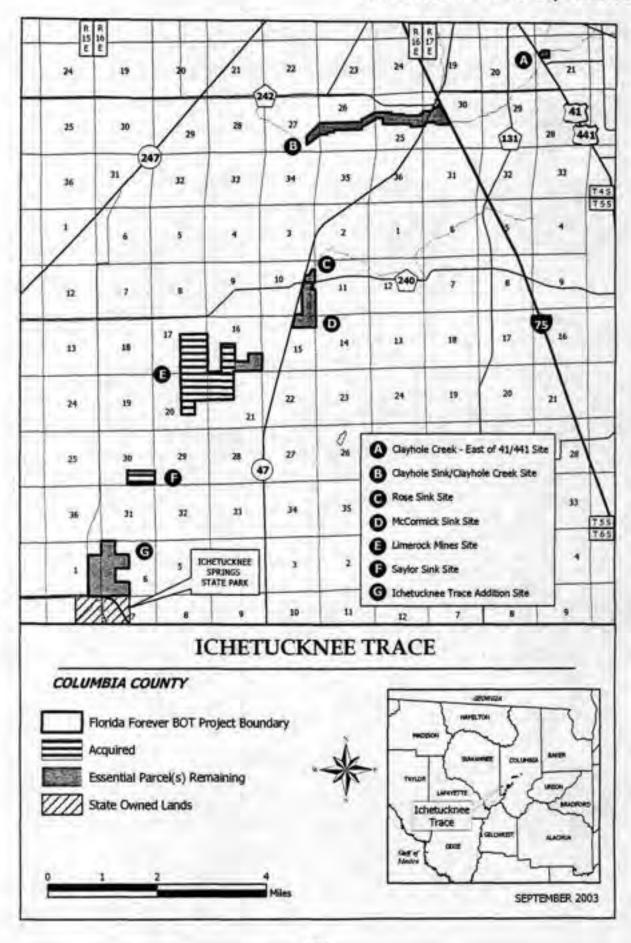
Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, fencing, public access, resource inventory and removal of existing refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the DRP, the County, and the FWC describmg future resource management. Because of the expense of excavating and earth moving and prerequisite planning/bidding, most of this actual work will not be scheduled for year one. Year two will concentrate on accomplishment of initial phases of conceptual plan (earth moving and excavation) This work will proceed mto year three, when some infrastructure work on facilities will commence. Long-range plans will stress fish and wildlife habitat creation/management and family fishing opportunities. Programs providing multiple recreational uses will also be implemented and all management activities will stress protection of water quality in the mine pits. Future infrastructure may include a handicapped fishing pier, docks for canoes and small boats, an education/information pavilion and designated hiking/biking trails

Revenue-generating potential Some potential for sale of timber exists on this property. Additional revenuegenerating potential would be the sale of fishing licenses, special use or entrance fees.

Cooperators in management activities The DRP, County, and FWC will cooperate with various offices of the Department of Environmental Protection and local government agencies in managing the area.

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL, SGTF	CARL, SGTF
Salary	\$40,000	\$75,000
OPS	\$10,000	\$10,000
Expense	\$20,000	\$200,000
000	\$35,000	\$20,000
FCO	50	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$105,000	\$325,000

Ichetucknee Trace - Group A/Full Fee



# Indian River Lagoon Blueway

Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, and Martin Counties

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Public acquisition would help preserve and improve the aquatic natural communities of the Indian River Lagoon, one of the country's most productive, diverse, and commercially and recreationally important estuaries. A third of the country's manatee population lives in the Indian River, and the area is important for many migratory birds as well as for oceanic and estuarine fishes. Additionally, public acquisition would provide natural resource based recreation in a developing area of Florida.

## Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The previous managing agency, CAMA, also requested that the lands purchased for this project within St. Lucie County be leased directly to the county. The county has gone ahead with purchases of parcels using county funds, Florida Communities Trust (FCT) money and other sources, and they would like to manage the lands under a single plan. Other agencies participating as cooperating managers are Brevard County EEL's Program, Brevard Mosquito Control, and Indian River Mosquito Control. Several of the previously listed cooperating Managers are currently managing some of the tracts within the project boundaries. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission wishes to participate in the management of some sites (including Phase II sites). Additionally the SJRWMD and SFWMD will likely be cooperating Managers on some sites as part of their SWIM programs.

FNAI Elements	
Manatee	G2?/S2?
Coastal vervain	G2/S2
Burrowing four-o-clock	G3/S2
Loggerhead	G3/S3
Florida scrub jay	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Black-crowned night-heron	G5/S3?
9 elements known from	project

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will manage that part of the project that was formally the North Indian River Lagoon project.

Group A Full Fee

## **General Description**

The roughly 5,000-acre Phase I of the Indian River Lagoon Blueway project includes 36 separate areas (combined into 20 sites) of land along the Indian River and Mosquito Lagoon from Volusia County to Martin County. Manne tidal marsh and maritime hammock, largely in good condition, cover roughly 60 per cent of the project; many of the marshes have been diked for mosquito control and require reconnection to the lagoon. Mangrove swamps, scrub, and flatwoods cover small portions of the proposal areas. A large part of the country's manatee population lives in the Indian River, and the area is important for many migratory birds as well as for oceanic and estuarine fishes. The Indian River Lagoon is a state aquatic preserve and an Outstanding Florida Water. It is also a SWIM priority waterbody, and an Estuary of National Significance. The commercial and recreational fisheries (based on estuarine-dependent species) in the Indian River are some of Florida's most important-over 100,000 saltwater recreational anglers are registered in the proposal area.

#### Public Use

Parcels within the project fall within or are adjacent to five aquatic preserves; Mosquito Lagoon, Banana River, Indian River—Malabar to Vero Beach, Indian River— Vero Beach to Ft. Pieroe, and Jensen Beach

Placed on list	1998
Project Area (Acres)	26,144
Acres Acquired	3,663*
at a Cost of	\$8,509,204
Acres Remaining	22,481
And the second se	Contraction of the Contraction

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$36,917,238 \*Includes acreage acquired and funds spent by the SJRWMD and by Brevard County



to Jupiter Inlet. It will be managed as a buffer to the squatic preserves.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

This project encompasses approximately 5,136 acres, multiple parcels, and 460 owners. It is located in five counties and lies within the jurisdictions of two water management districts. It spans approximately 150 miles along the east and west sides of the Indian River Lagoon. Phase 1 of the project includes 20 sites. All parcels are essential.

## Coordination

Acquisition of this project will be a coordinated effort between directly involved local governments and water management districts and the State. The five counties (Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin) and the water management districts (St. Johns River WMD and South Florida WMD) have sent resolutions in support of this project. The District and Brevard County have acquired more than 3,200 acres. The District has acquired the Snag Point tract (214 acres), an essential parcel. A "161" agreement has been formalized for the tracts in the St. Johns River WMD.

On June 17, 1999, the Council added 42 acres to the project boundary as essential parcels.

In 1999, North Indian River Lagoon was combined with this project.

On December 9, 2000, the Acquisition and Restoration Council added 186 acres to the project. The additional acres represent two new sites (Gomez and Hobe Sound) and an expansion of the Snagg Point site.

On August 15, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the 14.8-acre Old Oak Lodge tract to the project boundaries.

An acquisition plan is being developed by The Nature Conservancy for the Division of State Lands portion, in conjunction with the managing agencies.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of Indian River Lagoon Blueway project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native flora and fatma representing a natural area unique to or scarce within this state; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage or restore important ecosystems in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, fish and wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas for natural resource-based recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project will acquire numerous parcels adjoining the Indian River Lagoon. The habitats include freshwater marsh, salt marsh, mangrove fringe, maritime hammock, coastal strand, scrub, baygall, and pine flatwoods. Many of the wetland sites are impounded or otherwise hydrologically altered. Management and restoration of these habitats would provide protection for the Indian River Lagoon, increase estuarine habitat, and improve public access and recreational opportunities. The parcels fall within five aquatic preserves; Mosquito Lagoon, Banana River, Indian River—Malabar to Vero Beach, Indian River—Vero Beach to Ft. Pierce, and Jensen Beach—to Jupiter Inlet, and therefore is appropriate for designation as a State Buffer Preserve.

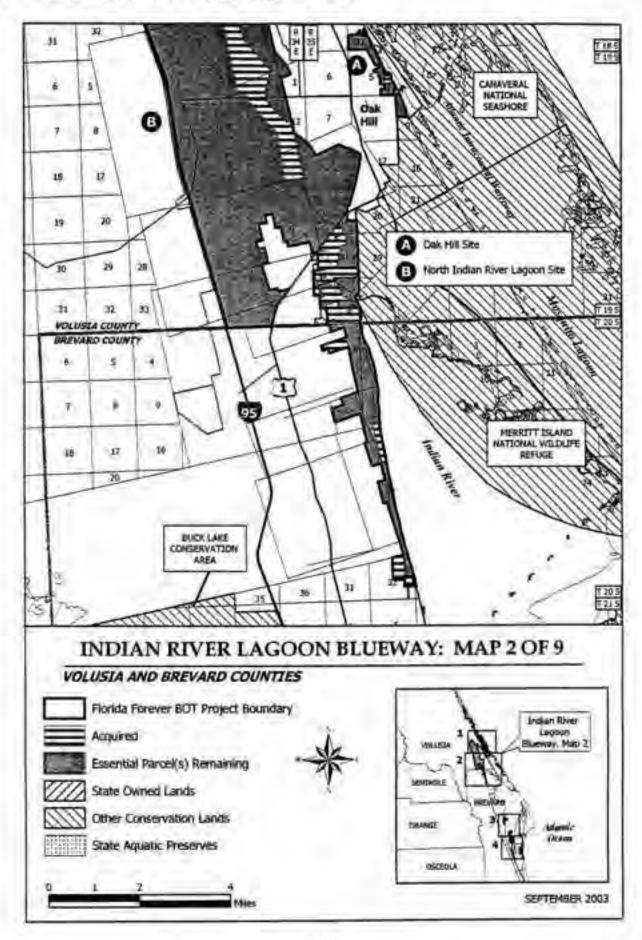
Manager Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will serve as the project Manager.

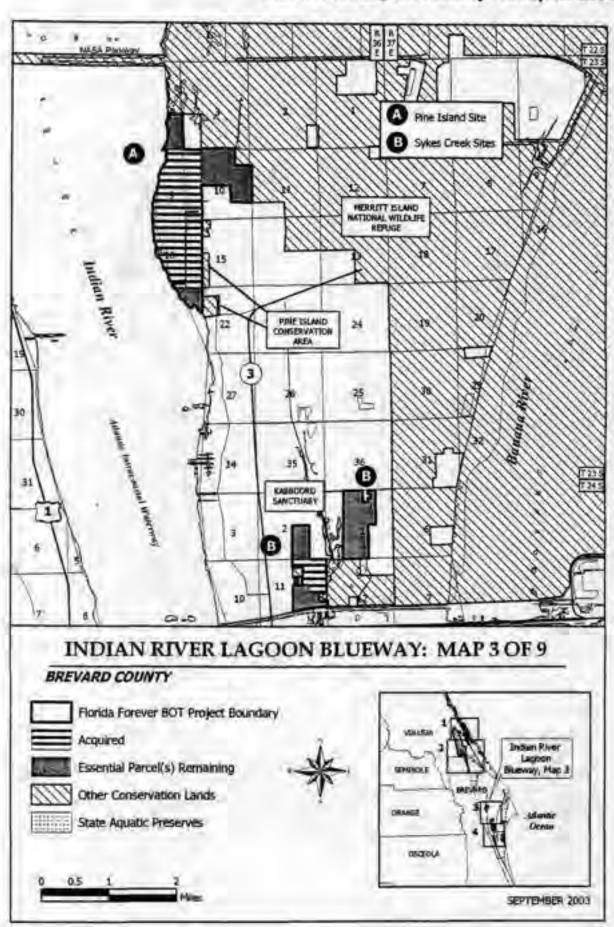
Conditions affecting Intensity of management Initially all acquisitions will be of "high need." Most of the wetlands are impounded, some are connected to the lagoon and managed, others are not. The long-term goal will be to reconnect all impoundments to the Lagoon through control structures. Structures will have to be installed and maintained in many areas and dikes repaired or removed where no longer functional. Most of the upland parcels have been unmanaged and have exotic plant infestations, and trash. Since most of the parcels are in urbanized areas the demand for water access will be high. Construction of several access points will be needed. Increased patrol and law enforcement presence will be necessary to prevent future dumping and vandalism.

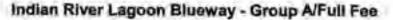
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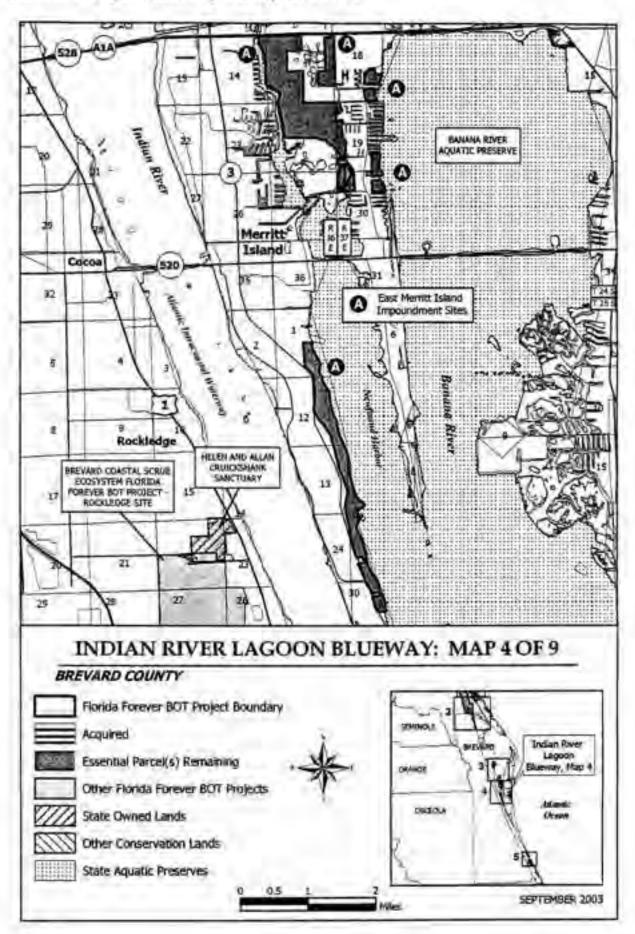




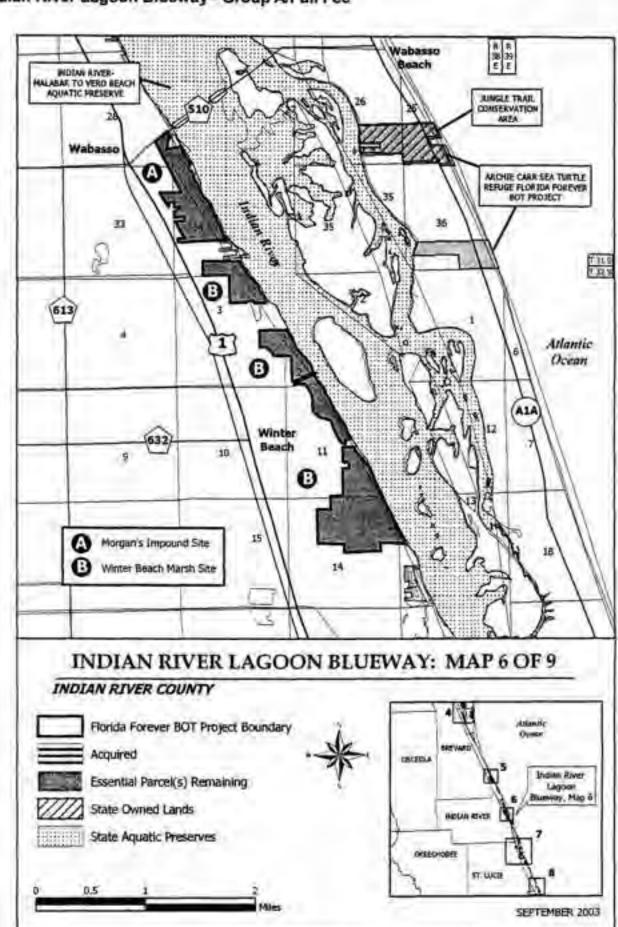




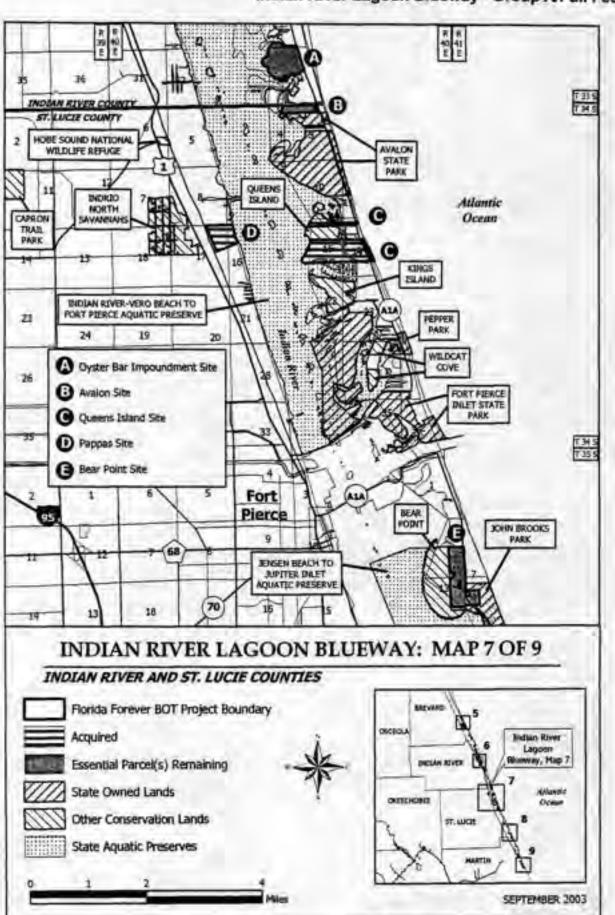


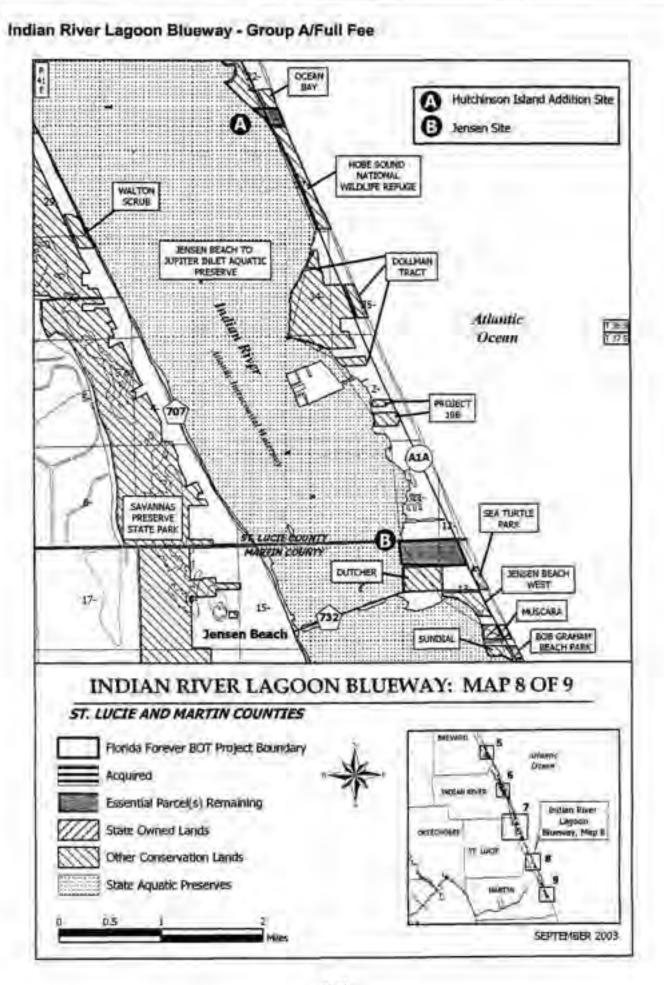


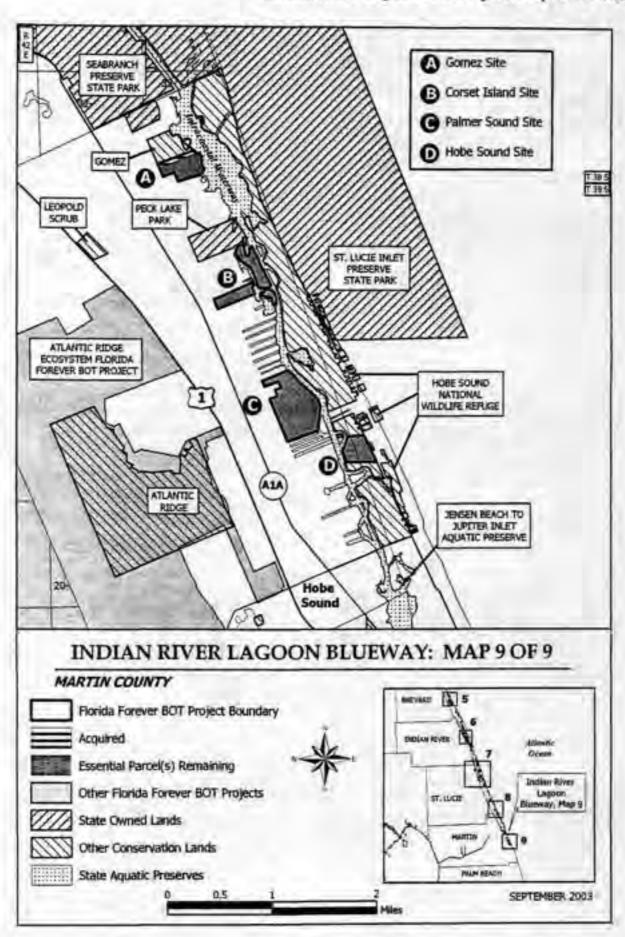




## Indian River Lagoon Blueway - Group A/Full Fee







Long-term routine management activities within the upland areas will be at the "moderate need" level. However, due to the maintenance needs of the dikes and water control structures, and the required management of water levels, the impoundments will continue to require "high need" management.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure. The management goals of this project are to utilize an ecosystems management approach: to enhance the protection of the adjacent Indian River Lagoon and its aquatic preserves; to conserve and restore coastal wetlands and uplands; to protect and manage native flora and fauna; to provide areas for boating, fishing, camping, hiking, bike riding, picnicking and nature appreciation; to protect archaeological and historical resources; to enhance public appreciation for natural diversity; and to cooperate with local mosquito control authorities to ensure that impoundments are properly managed.

Upon acquisition, initial activities will concentrate on the site security of the upland properties, including posting, fencing where needed, and patrols. Within the first year of appropriate finding, management activities will concentrate on trash removal, public access, and planning for management activities such as impoundment management, restoration projects, prescribed fire, and exotic plant and animal eradication. Appropriate access to the public will be provided while protecting sensitive resources on site.

The site's natural resources and threatened and endangered species will be inventoried and a management plan will be formulated. The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management and to locate areas that are appropriate for any recreational or administrative facilities. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent practical. Infrastructure development will be confined to already disturbed areas and will be the mmmmum required to allow public access, and to manage the property.

Long-range goals will be established by the management plan and will provide for ecological restoration, the removal of exotic species, and the perpetuation and maintenance of natural communities. Prescribed fives will be used to maintain the appropriate communities and associated wildlife populations. Management activities will also stress the protection of threatened and endangered species, and the preservation of the significant archaeological sites for professional investigation. Existing mosquito control impoundments will be reconnected to the Indian River Lagoon and rotational impoundment management implemented to meet both the goals of improved estuarine habitat and mosquito population management. Managed marshes offer excellent habitat for waterfowl and wading birds, and viewing opportunities for the public.

Revenue-generating potential No revenue is expected to be generated from this property. The project will benefit the state indirectly by protecting or enhancing water quality, fisheries and public recreation activities, and preserving natural and historical resources.

Cooperators in management activities This project will require a great deal of coordination between the affected parties. The St. Johns River and South Florida Water Management Districts, Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin Counties and Mosquito Control Districts have all expressed interest in some form of cooperative management of portions of the project. This level of cooperation is needed if the project is to successfully serve the multiple purposes for which it was designed. In a few cases intensive recreation or stormwater infrastructure have been suggested as management uses, which might not be compatible with the management approach or capabilities. Such parcels may be more appropriately managed directly by the interested agency.

Updated Information reflecting management by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is not yet available.

## Kissimmee - St. Johns River Connector Group A Full Fee

## Okeechobee and Indian River Counties

## Purpose for State Acquisition

The purpose of this project is to provide a habitat and hydrological connection between the Fort Drum Marsh Conservation Area to the east and the Kissimmee Prairie State Preserve and the Ordway-Whittell Kissimmee Prairie Sanctuary to the west. The land in this area is important habitat for the grasshopper sparrow, sandhill crane, mottled duck, wood stork, crested caracara, and numerous other wildlife species. Strategic habitat conservation areas (SHCAs) for some of these species comprise a large portion of the project lands. Acquisition and management of the lands in this project are particularly important to the long-term welfare of the wildlife species described above, as well as also being important for habitats for the red-cockaded woodpecker and wading birds. Acquisition of the project meets Florida Forever goals of increasing protection of Florida's biodiversity, protecting and restoring the natural functions of land, and increasing natural resource-based public recreation.

### Manager

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is the lead manager. Division of Forestry of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) is the cooperating manager.

## **General Description**

The 36,216-acre project consists of a landscape mosaic primarily of improved pasture. It also contains mesic flatwoods (approximately 500 acres, or 1 percent), scrub and scrubby flatwoods (approximately 480 acres,

FNAI Elements	
Bachman's sparrow	G5/S3
Limpkin	G5/S3
Great egret	G5/S4
Crested caracara	G5/S2
Gopher tortoise	G3/S2
Florida burrowing owl	G4T3/S3
Little blue heron	G5/S4
Large-flowered rosemary	G3/S3
Hand fern	G4/S2
Cutthroat grass	G3/S3
11 elements known from	n project

or 1 percent) and dry/wet prairie (approximately 1,800 acres, or 5 percent). With the exception of the hydric hammock/blackwater stream habitats (approximately 3,106 acres, or 9 percent), the natural communities on the project are largely fragmented and situated within a mosaic of improved pasture. The bottomland forest and blackwater stream communities appear intact and are generally located on the eastern portion of the project. The dry and wet prairie communities are confined to the southwestern portion of the proposal and are impacted by numerous ditches. The remaining natural communities are largely fragmented and scattered across the proposal.

## **Public Use**

The project has potential for a variety of forest related recreational activities, and the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area. Recreational activity might include bird watching, environmental education, hiking, horseback riding, off-road bicycling, hunting, nature study and photography.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector project was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the December 6, 2001 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) as a Group A project. The project consists of 91 parcels under 11 owners. The essential parcels are identified as the Okuechobee Partnership, Oliver, Callaway, LOR, Russakis Ranch, Wedgeworth, Padgett Creek, and the Triple S Cattle Company ownerships.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is actively negotiating parcels.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (acres)	36,216
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost of	0
Acres Remaining	36,216
Infide Produced of these successfully	

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of \$28,065,895

## Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector - Group A/Full Fee

## Coordination

TNC is partnering with the Divsion of State Lands.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of the project under FWC management will be given to conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and threatened and endangered species. Management programs will be designed to conserve, protect, manage and/or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, forests and water resources. The area will also be managed to provide opportunities for hunting, hiking, camping, environmental and cultural resource education, and other natural-resource based recreational activities.

## Management Prospectus

## Qualifications for state designation

The Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area, and would provide the public with a large tract for activities such as hunting, hiking and offroad bicycle trails, horseback riding, camping and wildlife observation. The project encompasses nearly 57 square miles.

#### Manager

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is recommended to be the lead managing agency, with cooperation from the Division of Forestry of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) and the St. Johns River Water Management District.

## **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

Some portions of the Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector include lands that are low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management, including frequent prescribed fires where appropriate. But because so much of the lands were converted to improved pasture, significant restoration activity is contemplated. This includes re-establishing native plants and a more natural hydrology. Eliminating exotic species, particularly cogon grass, is necessary. Development of facilities would be kept to a minimum to ensure the quality of recreation, and those developments would be in areas that are already disturbed.

## Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

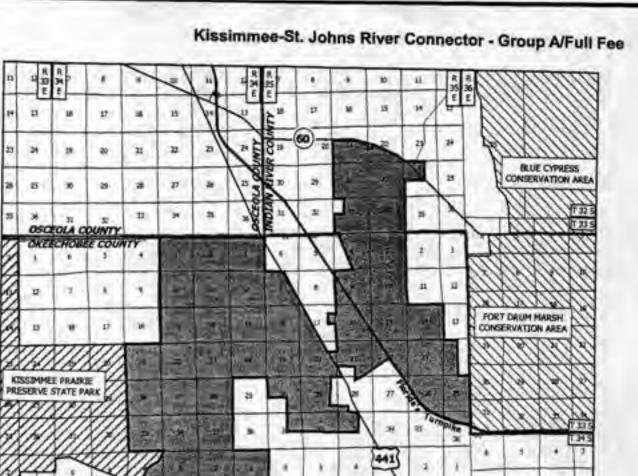
In the first year after acquisition the emphasis will be on site security, posting boundaries, arranging public access, fire management, resource inventory, control of exotic species and removing refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC that will describe the management goals and the specific objectives that are necessary to implement the future resource management.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

Little of the area is currently available for producing forest products, so any future revenue from timber resources would depend on successfully reforesting and managing the pasturelands and other disturbed areas. If managers indicate that it might be appropriate, some revenues might be generated by grazing contracts in the flatwoods and pastured areas that are not restored in the interest of habitat diversity, or because of lack of funds for reforestation. Additional revenue would be generated by sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife-management area permits, and other special hunting permits. Some revenue might be realized in the future by ecotourism activity, if such projects could be economically developed.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

The FWC will cooperate with other state and local government agencies, including the Division of Forestry (DOF) and the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD).



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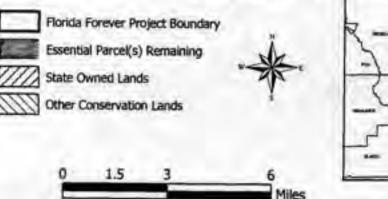
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# KISSIMMEE-ST. JOHNS RIVER CONNECTOR OKEECHOBEE AND INDIAN RIVER COUNTIES



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## Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector - Group A/Full Fee

## Management costs and sources of revenue:

Maximum expected single-year expenditure:

Management Cost Summary/FWC (including salaries for 3 full-time employees)

	Startup:	Recurring:
Resource Management	our up.	ressarring.
Exotic Species Control	\$23,758	\$47,516
Prescribed Burning	\$7,247	\$14,494
Hydrological Management	\$80,000	\$6,000
Other	\$88,364	\$88,364
Subtotal	\$199,369	\$156,374
Administration		
Central Office/Headquarters	\$52,845	\$17,593
Districts/Regions	\$22,648	\$7,540
Subtotal	\$75,494	\$25,133
Support		
Land Management Planning	\$25,000	\$0
Land Management Reviews	\$0	\$500
Training/Staff Development	\$0	\$1,000
Vehicle Purchase	\$80,850	\$11,550
Vehicle Operation/Maintenance	\$13,230	\$13,230
Subtotal	\$119,080	\$119,080
Capital Improvements		
New Facility Construction	\$426,766	\$0
Facility Maintenance	\$0	\$60,215
Subtotal	\$426,766	\$60,215
Visitor Services/Recreation		
Operations	\$1,405	\$141
Subtotal	\$1,405	\$141
Law Enforcement		
All Activities	\$8,315	\$8,315
TOTAL:	\$830,428	\$276,457

# Lake Hatchineha Watershed

## Group B Full Fee

## **Osceola and Polk Counties**

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

This project consists of approximately 6,500 acres in Osceola and Polk Counties that would preserve a rare continuum of natural communities from the high scrub on the edge of the Central Ridge to marsh, floodplain, lakeshore and blackwater streams in the lowland areas. Approximately 4,778 acres in the project area would protect surface waters of the state. Approximately 777 acres of the project are groundwater recharge areas. Proposed additions to this project could eventually bring it to 11,300 acres, which would create a natural-area connection between two watersheds. Acquiring the Lake Hatchineha Watershed would meet Florida Forever goals of increasing the amount of forest land for sustainable communities, increasing natural resourcebased public recreation and education opportunities. and increasing the protection of Florida's biodiversity by preserving the habitat of the rare species identified on this project.

## Manager

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

## **General Description**

The Lake Hatchineha Watershed Project consists of three separate parcels of land on the Osceola-Polk County line, north and northwest of Lake Hatchineha, and west of Reedy Creek Swamp in Osceola County. The northernmost parcel, named the Beagle Tract, is 3,350 acres of mesic flatwoods, dome swamps and some pasture that straddles State Road 580. The southeastern parcel, 1,970 acres, is dominated by a 260-acre dome swamp surrounded by former mesic flatwoods that have been cut and then used for rangeland. The southwest parcel, 1,132 acres, is about

FNAI Elements		
Florida scrub jay	G2/52	
Swallow-tailed kite	G5/S2	
Bald eagle	G4/S3	
Osprey	G5/S3S4	
Celestial lily	G2/S2	
5 elements known f	rom project	

3 miles south of the Beagle parcel and it includes a high scrubby ridge about 100 feet above sea level, with sudden changes in elevation through the site. The general site is about five miles east of Haines City, and the eastern boundary of the southeastern parcel adjoins the Disney Wilderness Preserve in Osceola County.

## Public Use

The project has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area, and may provide the public with many different recreational activities, including hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and group and primitive camping, and cultural resource education. Other uses of the forest resources that may be compatible with management of this area include cattle grazing and apiaries.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The Lake Hatchineha Watershed project was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the June 6, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) as a Group A project. This project is proposed for fee-simple ownership. The essential parcel has been identified as the Parker Poinciana ownership.

On December 5, 2003 the Council moved the project to the Group B list.

The Division of State Lands is not active in this project; all negotiations are at an impasse.

## Coordination

No acquisition partners or alternative funding resources have been identified at this time.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (acres)	6.437
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost of	D
Acres Remaining	5,437
With Estimated (tax assessed)	Value of \$1,023,936

## Lake Hatchineha Watershed - Group A/Full Fee

## Management Policy Statement

Priority will be given to the conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and threatened and endangered species. Management programs will be designed to conserve, protect, manage and/or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, forests, and water resources. The tract will also be managed to provide opportunities for hunting, campug, hiking, environmental and cultural resource education and other natural resource-based activity. Because one of the principal purposes of the proposal is water conservation, the FWC will cooperate with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and other water-conservation agencies to achieve that purpose.

## Management Prospectus

## Qualifications for state designation

This project has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife management area, and would provide the public with a large tract for activities such as hunting, hiking and offroad bicycle trails, horseback riding, camping and wildlife observation

#### Manager

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will manage the Lake Hatchineha Watershed Florida Forever project, in cooperation with other state and local agencies, including the DEP Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), and the SFWMD.

## Conditions affecting intensity of management

The primary management need of the Lake Hatchineha Watershed project to perpetuate the less-disturbed natural communities is to re-establish prescribed fires, and control human access. Some relatively small areas of xeric and mesic uplands have been converted to pasture or otherwise disturbed. Significant restoration is contemplated for some of these areas. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum necessary to assure a highquality recreation experience, and any such development would confined to areas of previous disturbance.

## Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory, control of exotic species, and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC describing management goals and specific objectives necessary to implement future resource management.

## **Revenue-generating potential**

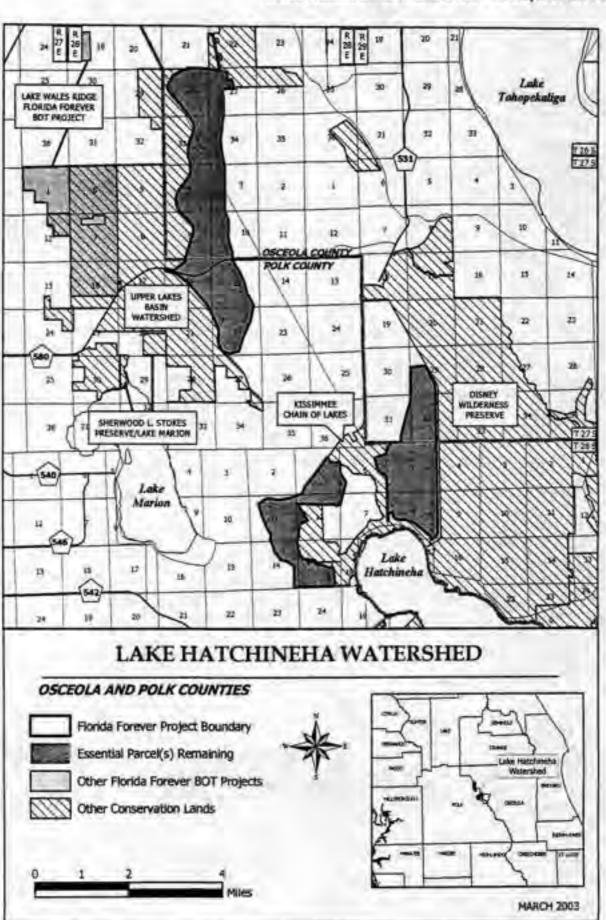
Because very little of this project is appropriate for producing forest products, future revenue from timber resources will depend on successful reforestation and management of restored pasturelands and other disturbed areas. If managers' assessments indicate it would be appropriate, some revenues might be generated from grazing leases in flatwoods or pasture areas not restored. Additional revenue would be generated from sale of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues in the future might be realized from ecotourism activity, if such projects can be economically developed.

## **Cooperators in management activities**

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will manage the Lake Hatchineha Watershed Florida Forever project, in cooperation with other state and local agencies, including the DEP Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), and the SFWMD.

## Management costs and sources of revenue

Funding for this project is anticipated from the Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL) Trust Fund pursuant to Chapter 259.032, F.S., along with supplemental funds from revenue-generating activities deemed compatible with the acquisition purposes.



Lake Hatchineha Watershed - Group A/Full Fee

Management Cost Summary/FWC	The second s	
	Startup:	Recurring:
Resource Management		
Exotic Species Control	\$25,748	\$51,496
Prescribed Burning	\$3,927	\$7,854
Hydrological Management	\$40,000	\$4,475
Other	\$52,991	\$52,991
Subtotal	\$122,666	\$116,816
Administration		
Central Office/Headquarters	\$57,642	\$23,151
Districts/Regions	\$24,704	\$9,922
Subtotal	\$82,345	\$33,072
Support		
Land Management Planning	\$25,000	50
Land Management Reviews	\$0	\$500
Training/Staff Development	\$0	\$1,000
Vehicle Purchase	\$83,900	\$11,986
Vehicle Operation/Maintenance	\$13,230	\$13,230
Subtotal	\$122,130	\$26,716
Capital Improvements		
New Facility Construction	\$498,865	\$0
Facility Maintenance	50	\$47,481
Subtotal	\$498,865	\$47,481
Visitor Services/Recreation		
Operations	\$1,625	\$178
Subtotal	\$1,625	\$178
Law Enforcement		
All Activities	\$4,506	\$4,506
TOTAL	\$832,137	\$228,768



Group A Full Fee

## Lake Santa Fe Alachua and Bradford Counties

## **Purpose for Acquisition**

This project will protect the only remaining shoreline of Lake Sante Fe that supports wading bird nesting and resting, natural shoreline fauna and historic cypress fringe. It includes significant swamps with attendant habitat qualities and mostly undisturbed wetlands. The areas of uplands away from the lake are mostly pine plantation.

The contributions of the lands within this project to the health and function of the Santa Fe Swamp will help to insure adequate surface water resources and water quality. Further de-watering that could be expected if these tracts are developed would adversely affect the character and quality of the swamp systems. Conversion of the upland areas to development could also reduce available water supply.

#### Manager

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

#### **General Description**

The Lake Santa Fe proposal includes 14 tracts in the Lake Santa Fe vicinity encompassing a total of 10,735 acres. This project is proposed as fee simple, with possible use of less-than-fee on some parcels, and would build upon the Suwannee River Water Management District's Santa Fe Swamp Conservation Area, which includes most of the Santa Fe Swamp and Lake Alto Swamp. It is designed to protect the surface headwaters of the swamps through prevention of further development and septic input, and to protect undeveloped portions of the Lake Sante Fe shoreline. The project is segmented due to lakefront residential development, resulting in limitations to lake edge protection and recreational opportunities.

### Public Use

Several of the parcels in the project qualify for passive recreational opportunities including picnicking, short trails and nature appreciation. One parcel may provide opportunity for more diverse (but passive) opportunities such as canoeing, fishing, and bird watching.

## Acquisition partnerships

Although the Suwannee River Water Management District has expressed an interest in buffering the Sante Fe Swamp Conservation Area, they are not listed as partners on this project.

## Aquisition Planning and Status

The Lake Santa Fe project was added to the Florida Forever acquisition list December 5, 2003 by the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

## Location & Proximity to Other Managed Areas

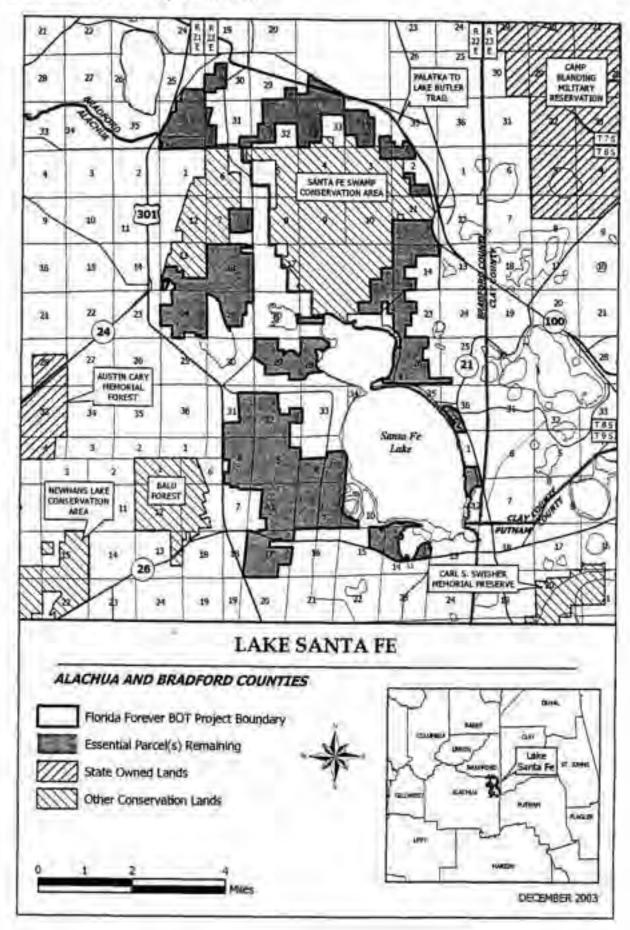
The Lake Santa Fe proposed project is in northeastern Alachua County and southeastern Bradford County, centered on Lake Santa Fe. It is 14 tracts, to protect the surface headwaters of the Santa Fe River by preventing further development and septic input. Tract sizes range from 47 to 3,768 acres and total 10,735 acres. The project is proposed as fee simple and would build upon the Suwannee River Water Management District's Santa Fe Swamp Conservation Area, which includes most of Santa Fe Swamp and Lake Alto Swamp. The project is fragmented because residential development has already occurred in the area. Balu

Placed on List	2003	
Projects Area (acres)	10,735	
Acres Acquired	0	
At a Cost Of	ø	
Acres Remaining	10,735	

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$3,914,013

FNAJ Elemen	ts
Narrowleaf Naiad	G1/S1
Gopher Tortoise	G3/S3
Bald Eagle	G4/53
Osprey	G5/S3S4
Wood Stork	G4/S2
Sherman's Fox Squirrel	G5T2/S2
9 elements known fro	





## Lake Santa Fe - Group A/Full Fee

Forest (Alachua County) and Austin Cary Memorial Forest lie within three miles to the west of the general project area; Camp Blanding Military Reservation lies three miles to the northeast; the (Ordway-) Swisher Memorial Nature Preserve lies approximately three miles to the southeast.

All of the parcels in this proposed project boundary are for the most part in, but also adjacent to and near a medium priority multi-use trail corridor.

## Management Prospectus Qualifications for State Management

The project provides protection for fish and wildlife habitat. The project area includes functional wetlands (32%, or 3,429 acres), and provides protection for surface water (67%, or 7,247 acres of project area) and natural floodplain function (26%, or 2,817 acres of project area). Part of the project area (25%, or 2,635 acres) provides recharge to the Floridan aquifer. The project enlarges and provides improved access to unique environments for outdoor recreation in Florida. Since principal purposes of the project include management and protection of fish and wildlife, and provision of resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities, programs would be oriented towards resource conservation and careful control of public uses.

Conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and threatened and endangered species should be an important management goal for the project. Management programs would conserve, protect, manage and/or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, wildlife populations, forests and water resources. The project area will be managed to provide opportunities for boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, kayaking, picnicking, and wildlife viewing. The Department of Environmental Protection and University of Florida Statewide Greenways System Planning Project shows 27% (2,937 acres) of the project area to be priority 1 or 2 recreational trails.

## Manager

The FWC is recommended as lead manager on those portions of the project acquired in full fee. The FWC currently conducts wildlife management on the Santa Fe Swamp Conservation Area through agreement with the Suwannee River Water Management District, and manages a portion of this area as a wildlife management area.

## **Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management**

Some portions of the project include lands that are lowneed tracts, requiring resource management methods and tools, including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since an estimated 65% of the project area has been disturbed for silviculture or other purposes, additional methods and tools would be necessary for some management units in order to accomplish objectives for restoration to a desired future condition. The FWC would conduct historic vegetation analysis to determine appropriate desired future conditions, objectives, and restoration methods and tools. This is especially important for conservation of habitats and populations of listed species. The primary methods and tools for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities might involve, for example, the introduction of prescribed fire and control of human uses in certain management units. There will be surveillance for, and removal of infestations of exotic invasive species.

Biotic surveys would be important to accomplish during the early part of plan development and implementation, because many rare or listed species are expected to occur in the project area. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a high quality recreational experience, and any auch development would be confined to areas of previous disturbance.

Timetable for Implementing Management Provisions The first year after acquisition, emphasis would be on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan would be developed by the FWC providing the management goals and objectives necessary to implement future resource management.

Long-range goals would emphasize ecosystem management and the conservation of fish and wildlife. Following completion of plant community inventory and historic vegetation analysis, quantified vegetation management objectives would be developed pursuant to the FWC objective-based management process. Essential roads would be stabilized to provide allweather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses would also be implemented. An all-season prescribed burning management plan would be developed and implemented using conventional and biologically acceptable methods and tools. Management activities would strive to

## Lake Santa Fe - Group A/Full Fee

manage natural plant communities to benefit native species of wildlife. Where appropriate, practical and in pursuit of wildlife habitat objectives, these resources would be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices. Archaeological and historic sites would be managed in coordination with the Division of Historical Resources (DHR). The DHR lists three of these sites in the project area.

Environmentally sensitive areas would be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented on those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances would be abandoned or restored as practical. Other existing infrastructure would be protected to the extent possible. Infrastructure development would be the minimum required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of public property.

## **Estimate of Revenue-Generating Potential**

Substantial revenue from forest products production, as currently occurs, should continue. The FNAI indicates that 56% (6,042 acres) of the project area is available as priorities 1, 2, 3, and 5 for sustainable forestry, and that 18% (1,901 acres) of the project area serves as forestland for aquifer recharge. However, management would seek to improve the other revenuegenerating potential of areas currently serving for forest products production by improving wildlife diversity and resource-based recreation in such areas. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from recreational user fees and ecotourism activities, if such projects can be economically developed.

### **Cooperators in Management Activity**

The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies, including the Division of Forestry and the Suwannee River Water Management District in managing the area.

Management Cost Summary	FWC	
Category	Start-up	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Resource Management	\$170,478	\$184,467
Administration	\$75,494	\$25,133
Support	\$149,080	\$31,566
Capital Improvements	\$1,412,903	\$124,743
Visitor Services/Recreation	\$2,404	\$141

# Lake Talquin/ Rocky Comfort Creek Addition

## Group A Full Fee

## Gadsden County

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Lake Talquin/Rocky Comfort Creek Addition was proposed primarily as an addition to the nearby Rocky Comfort Tract of Lake Talquin State Forest, which is managed jointly by the Division of Forestry (DOF) and the Florida Fish and WIldlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

## Manager

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will be co-managers.

## **General Description**

The Lake Talquin/Rocky Comfort Creek Addition proposal has approximately 400 acres of land in southcentral Gadsden County with 1 mile of lake frontage. According to the proposal the owner has plans to develop a large number of waterfront lots on this property. Historically, the area supported an upland pine forest that was cleared for timber or agriculture. Currently, 58 percent of the proposed acreage is upland mixed forest, with 40 percent evenly divided between upland hardwood forest and bottomland forest. The remaining 2 percent are pastures, roads and clearings.

## Public Use

Rocky Comfort Creek has resource and scenic amenities that would provide for modest resource-based recreational opportunities such as short distance nature hikes, picnicking, group camping, limited hunting and shoreline fishing. A small fish camp exists next to the property. Hence, a boat ramp facility on the property would probably not be needed. The property has a house and boat dock that are associated with a field. This general area of the property could be a hub for public use activities. This same area might also accommodate a put-in and take-out point for canoeing. The project does not satisfy any of the year 2005 needs reflected in the 2000 Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the region in which the property is located. The resource-based recreation potential for the project is low. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) advises that public

hunting potential is also low. The recreation potential of the project could be enhanced if the block of land between the project and the Lake Talquin State Forest/ Joe Budd Wildlife Management Area was to be added at some future date.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The project is proposed for fee simple acquisition. There are no partners for this acquisition, and no alternative funding sources. This project contains approximately 400 acres in a single parcel and single owner. The 2003 tax assessed value is \$120,968. Although every effort will be made to acquire this project at the lowest possible cost, there is no present indication that the owner is willing to sell at or below 80 percent of appraised value.

On December 5, 2003, the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added this project to the Florida Forever list.

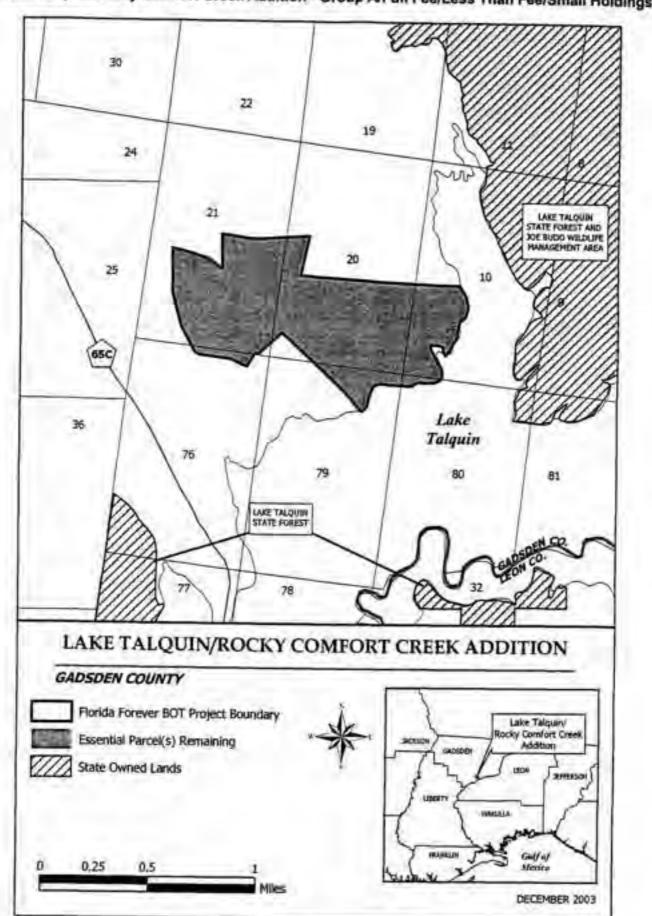
## Management Policy Statement

The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the project under a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system. Management would be designed to accomplish the goals and measures for this project. These goals and measures are hereby incorporated by

Placed on List	2003	
Projects Area (acres)	400	
Acres Acquired	0	
At a Cost Of	0	
Acres Remaining	400	

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$120,968

FNAI Elements 0 elements known from project



reference. The primary land management goal for the Division of Forestry is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. This ecosystem approach will guide the Division of Forestry's management activities on this project.

### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

This project provides protection for fish and wildlife habitat, functional wetlands, natural hydrology and water quality. The project enlarges and provides improved access to unique environments for outdoor recreation in Florida. Since principal purposes of the project include management and protection of fish and wildlife, and provision of resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities, such programs would be oriented towards resource conservation and careful control of public uses.

#### Manager

The FWC is recommended as lead manager, and is presently the lead manager on the Joe Budd WMA, located approximately one mile north of the project area.

### Conditions affecting intensity of management

Most of the project is a low-need tract, requiring resource management methods and tools, including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. Future goals and objectives identified in the conceptual management plan might require use of additional methods and tools for some management units. The FWC would conduct historic vegetation analysis to determine appropriate desired future conditions, objectives, and restoration methods and tools. This is especially important for conservation of habitats and populations of listed species. The primary methods and tools for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities might involve, for example, the introduction of prescribed fire and control of human uses in certain management units. There will be surveillance for, and removal of infestations of exotic invasive species

Biotic surveys would be important to accomplish during the early part of plan development and implementation, because many rare or listed species are expected to occur in the project. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a high quality recreational experience, and any such development would be confined to areas of previous disturbance.

## Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis would be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public. access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. Long-range goals would emphasize ecosystem management and the conservation of fish and wildlife. Following completion of plant community inventory and historic vegetation analysis, quantified vegetation management objectives would be developed for the FWC objective-based vegetation management. process. Essential roads would be stabilized to provide all-weather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses would also be implemented. An all-season prescribed burning management plan would be developed and implemented. using conventional and biologically acceptable methods and tools. Management activities would strive to manage natural plant communities to benefit native wildlife resources. Where appropriate, practical and in pursuit of wildlife habitat objectives, these resources would be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices. Archaeological and historic sites would be managed in coordination with the Division of Historical Resources.

Environmentally sensitive areas would be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented on those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances would be abandoned or restored as practical. Other existing infrastructure would be protected to the extent possible. Infrastructure development would be the minimum required to allow

public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the property.

## **Revenue-generating potential**

Notwithstanding its small size, revenue from forest products production may be possible. The FNAI indicates that 34 percent (135 acres) of the project area is available as priorities 2 and 3 for sustainable forestry. However, management would seek to improve the other revenue-generating potential of the project by improving wildlife diversity and resource-based recreation. Management would seek additional revenue from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from recreational user fees and ecotourism activities, if such projects can be economically developed.

## Cooperators in management activity

The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies, including the Division of Forestry, in managing the area.

## REVENUE SOURCES, MANAGEMENT COSTS AND EMPLOYEES NEEDED\*

Category	Start-up	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Resource Management	\$55,603	\$21,926
Administration	\$75,494	\$25,133
Support	\$149,080	\$31,566
Capital improvements	\$138,483	\$13,791
Visitor Services/Recreation	\$1,166	\$141
Law Enforcement	\$281	\$281
TOTAL	\$420,207	\$92,836

"includes employee salaries

# Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem

Lake, Osceola, Highlands, and Polk Counties

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The high, sandy Lake Wales Ridge, stretching south from near Orlando almost to Lake Okeechobee, was originally covered with a mosaic of scrub, flatwoods, wetlands, and lakes. The scrub is unique in the world it is inhabited by many plants and animals found nowhere else—but it has almost completely been converted to citrus groves and housing developments. The Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem project is designed to protect

Full Fee FNAI Elem		
Lake Wales Ridge tiger beet	e G1/	S1
Wedge-leafed button-	S1	
snakeroot		
Scrub lupine	G1/	
Scrub bluestem	G1/	
Clasping warea	G1/	
Carter's warea	G10	52/S1S2
Perforate reindeer lichen	G1/	S1
Scrub mint	G1/	
55 elements known fro	m site	s
Less Than Fee FNAI E	lemen	ts
Scrub bluestem	G1/	51
SCRUB	G2/	52
Sand skink G2/S		52
Britton's beargrass G2/S2		
Scrub plum G2G3/5		33/S2S3
crub holly G3/S?		S?
Paper-like nail-wort G3/S2		S2
Scrub bay G3/S3		
20 elements known from Boy	Scout	s parcel,
1 (bald eagle) from Morg	an par	rcel
Small Holdings FNAI E	lemer	
Scrub bluestem		G1/S1
Garrett's scrub balm		G1/S1
Scrub mint		G1/S1
Wedge-leaved button-snakeroot		G1/S1
Lake Wales Ridge tiger beetle		G1/S1
Carter's warea		G1/S1
Avon Park rabbit-bells		G1/S1
Highlands scrub hypericum		G2/S2
55 elements known from	m proj	ect

## Group A: Full Fee Group A: Less Than Fee Group A: Small Holdings

the best remaining tracts of this scrub and the ecosystems associated with it, thereby preserving numerous endangered species and allowing the public to see examples of the unique original landscape of the ridge.

## Managers

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Lake June West); Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agricul-

Full Fee Placed on list	1992*
Project Area (Acres)	22,993
Acres Acquired	14,326
at a Cost of	\$43,699,773
Acres Remaining	8,667

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$ 1,228,940 "Lake Wales Ridge sites and Warea Archipelage combined in 1994.

Less Than Fee Placed on list	1997	
Project Area (Acres)	4,737	
Acres Acquired	Ö	
at a Cost of	\$0	
Acres Remaining	4,737	

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$2,407,000

Small Holdings Placed on list	1992
Project Area (Acres)	20,201
Acres Acquired	9,428
at a Cost of	\$22,887,373
Acres Remaining	10,773
the server is the second second second	

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$12,399,463

ture and Consumer Services (Lake Walk-in-Water, Hesperides and five Warea sites) and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (remaining sites). The Division of Forestry will monitor the less than fee portion.

## **General Description**

Judging from its many unique species, Central Florida Ridge scrub may be among the oldest of Florida's upland ecosystems. This project consists of separate sites along the Lake Wales Ridge which are intended to be part of a system of managed areas that conserve the character, biodiversity, and biological function of the ancient scrubs of the Ridge. The sites contain the best remaining examples of unprotected ancient scrub as well as lakefront, swamps, black water streams, pine flatwoods, seepage slopes, hammocks, and sandhills. The project is the last opportunity to protect the highest concentration of narrowly endemic scrub plants and animals on the Lake Wales Ridge, many in jeopardy of extinction. Seventy-five rare elements are found in this diverse ecosystem, including a population of scrub mint that may be a new species. No archaeological or historical sites are known from the project. All the sites are fragments vulnerable to mismanagement and disturbance. They are also senously threatened by conversion to citrus groves or immediate development pressure.

## **Public Use**

Sites within this project are designated for use as state parks, state forests, botanical sites and preserves, providing opportunities for natural-resource education, hiking, and on some sites, camping, picnicking, hunting and fishing.

The Boy Scouts and Morgan less than fee parcels qualify as state forests. The amount and nature of public use will be negotiated with the landowners.

## Acquisition Planning and Status Full Fee

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is an intermediary in the majority of the ridge sites. <u>Lake Walk-in-Water</u> (8,615 acres): major owner, Alico, has been acquired; contracts have been approved/negotiations ongoing on other relatively large tracts; TNC working with Morgan (less-than fee) on details of less-than fee agreement. Lake June West (831 acres): acquired. Gould Road (419

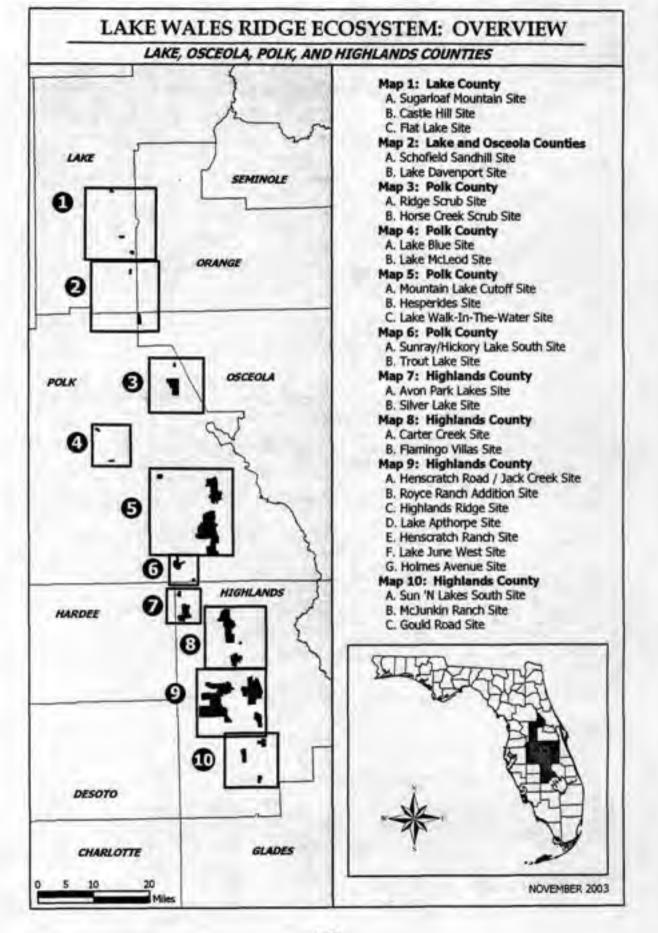
acres): major ownership acquired; discussions ongoing with owner of smaller inholding. Henscratch Road (2,869 acres): largest tracts acquired by the Southwest Florida Water Management District and CARL: TNC planned to negotiate a few other relatively large tracts in 1999. Silver Lake (2,020 acres): largest tracts acquired. Lake McLeod (55 acres): at least 45 acres acquired by USFWS. Mountain Lake Cutoff (217 acres); negotiations ongoing with owner of the one large tract. Lake Blue (65 acres): negotiations ongoing with owner of major tract. Hespendes (2,696 acres): negotiations ongoing with Babson, Acquisition of most other tracts dependent upon acquisition of these ownerships. Boy-Scouts West (335 acres); acquired. Horse Creek (1,325 acres): South Florida Water Management District has acquired the major ownerships within this site. Trout Lake (65 acres): appraisal completed. Eagle Lake (10 acres): removed from list - developed. Ridge Scrub (80 acres): on hold pending reanalysis by FNAL McJunkin Ranch (750 acres): acquired.

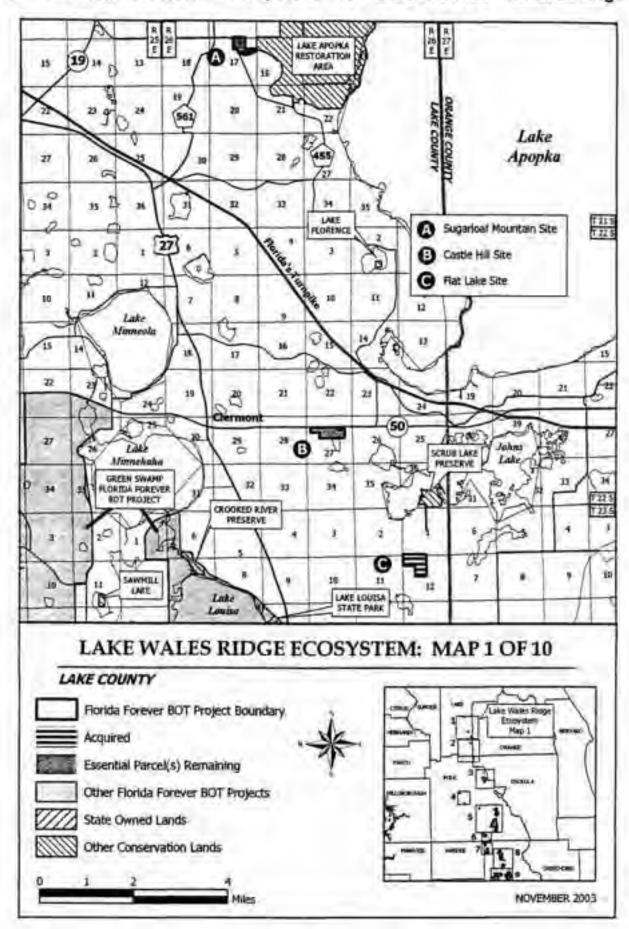
Priority phasing for the Warea Archipelago sites is: Scofield Sandhill (120 acres): negotiations were scheduled to begin in early 1999 on both ownerships. Lake Davenport (500 acres): appraisals on hold pending reanalysis of site. Flat Lake (120 acres): acquired. Castle Hill (75 acres): negotiations unsuccessful with major owner. Purchase of other tracts contingent on major owner. Ferndale Ridge (104 acres): removed from list due to site fragmentation and habitat destruction. Sugarloaf Mountain (52 acres): southernmost tract acquired by St. Johns River Water Management District. TNC has had no success with other large ownership at northern end; still trying to get responses from owners of small tracts in between

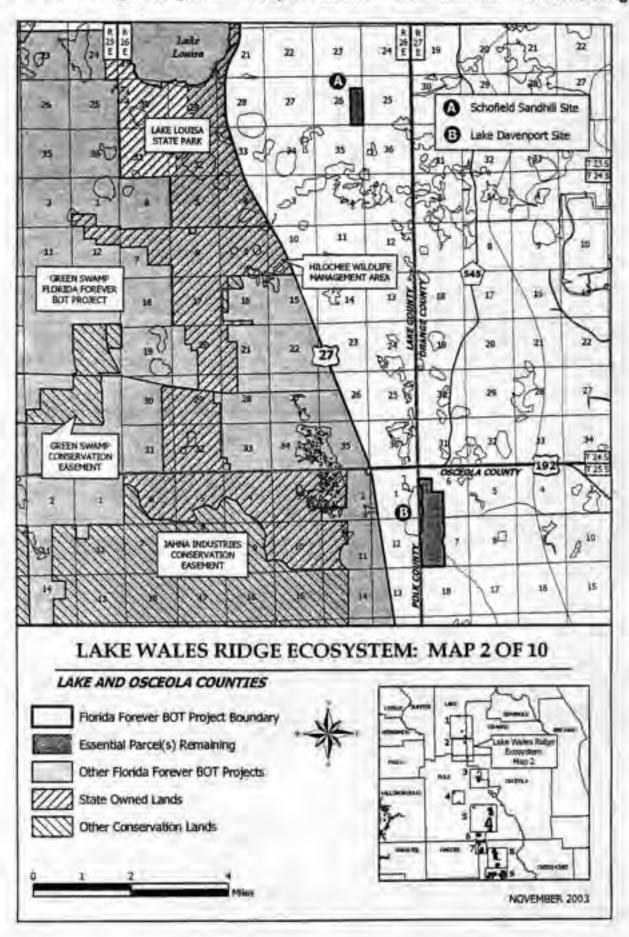
### Small Holdings

Carter Creek (4,630 acres); largest ownership acquired, approximately 50% of the subdivided area acquired, a few large ownerships on western project boundary also remain. <u>Elamingo Villas</u> (1,420 acres): USEWS acquired approximately 600 acres. <u>Holmes Avenue</u> (1,269 acres): approximately half of the site has been acquired, multiple ownerships remain. <u>Sunray</u> (1,970 acres): negotiations have begun on major owners. <u>Avon Park Lakes</u> (225 acres): subdivided, TNC projects a threeyear 70% success rate. <u>Highlands Park Estates</u> (232 acres) subdivided, acquisition activity not yet begun. Sun 'N Lakes South (570): over 200 acres acquired,

(Continued on Page 266)







remaining developed and fragmented. Lake Apthorpe (2,503 acres): larger ownerships acquired/being negotiated, several lots important for management acquired as well.

At the November 18, 1994, LAMAC meeting, the Council added 76 acres to the Gould Road site and added 400 acres to the Silver Lake site. The Council also added a new site McJunkin Ranch (1,860 acres).

On July 14, 1995, LAMAC added 850 acres to the project boundary (Holmes Avenue—70 acres and Lake Apthorpe—780 acres).

On December 7, 1995, LAMAC approved the project design and added the Highlands Ridge site (6,318 acres) to the project boundary. The largest ownership within this site has been acquired through TNC as an intermediary.

In 1996, the Council transferred two ownerships - Boy Scouts West in Hesperides and Morgan in Lake Walkin-Water - to the Less-Than-Fee category.

At the December 5, 1997, LAMAC meeting, the Council approved a proposal submitted by the TNC to delete approximately 3,724 acres from the project boundary entire 104 acre Ferndale Ridge site, 50 acres from Castle Hill, entire 10 acre Eagle Lake site, 177 acres from Hesperides, 1,070 acres from Sun Ray/Hickory Lake (small parcels), 1,116 acres from Henscratch Road, 66 acres from Lake June West, 145 acres from Holmes Avenue (small parcels) and 1,110 acres from McJunkin Ranch. The estimated tax assessed value of the deletion is approximately \$5,036,700.

At the October 15, 1998, LAMAC meeting, the Council approved the addition of the following tracts to the list of essential parcels: approximately 320 acres of the Saddleblanket Resorts II ownership in Lake Walk-in-Water, and approximately 3,200 acres (two large ownerships) in Highlands Ridge.

On October 17, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the 2,330-acre Henscratch Ranch to the project boundary.

## Coordination

The Lake Wales Ridge sites are included within the USFWS's Lake Wales Ridge National Wildlife Refuge which is the top priority endangered species project of the Service. The Service will also participate in management. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is an intermediary on this project.

## Full Fee

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystems project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, m order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The full fee sites of the Lake Wales Ridge project qualify as single-use Wildlife and Environmental Areas because of their high concentration of threatened or endangered species, particularly plants. The forest resources of the Lake Walk-in-Water, Hesperides and Warea sites make them desirable for use as state forests. The natural and recreational resources of the Lake June West parcel qualify it as a unit of the state park system.

Manager DRP is the recommended manager for the Lake June West site, DOF is the recommended manager for Lake Walk-in-Water, Hesperides and the Warea sites and The FWC is the recommended manager for the remaining sites.

Conditions affecting intensity of management This project is a high-needs area which will require additional funding to stabilize and protect the natural resources. Managing this ecosystem will require large prescribed burning crews that are well-trained and well-equipped to handle high intensity fires in close proximity to residential areas.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure During the first year after acquisition, management will focus on site security, conducting fuel reduction burns, conducting inventories of natural resources, and mapping of sensitive resources and conceptual planning. Public use facilities, if any, will be provided in succeeding years.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. As public use increases, modest revenue may be generated.

Cooperators in management activities It is recommended that the Archbold Biological Station and the Nature Conservancy serve as cooperators in the managing of some of the sites.

## Less Than Fee & Small Holdings Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The forest resources of the Lake Walk-in-Water, and Hesperides sites make them desirable for use as state forests.

The small parcels sites of the Lake Wales Ridge project qualify as single-use Wildlife and Environmental Area because of its high concentration of threatened or endangered species, particularly plants. Thirty percent of the plants and animals of the Lake Wales Ridge occur nowhere else in the world.

Manager The Division of Forestry is the recommended manager for the Lake Walk-in-Water, and Hesperides sites.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) is recommended as the project manager for the small parcels. Conditions affecting intensity of management This project is a high-need area, which will require additional funding to stabilize and protect the natural resources. Managing this ecosystem will require large prescribed burning crews that are well-trained and wellequipped to handle high intensity fires in close proximity to residential areas.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure During the first year after acquisition, management will focus on site security, conducting fuel reduction burns, conducting inventories of natural resources, and mapping of sensitive resources and conceptual planning. Public use facilities, if any, will be provided in succeeding years.

Revenue generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. As public use increases, modest revenue may be generated.

Cooperators in management activities It is recommended that the Archbold Biological Station and The Nature Conservancy serve as cooperators in the management of some of the sites.

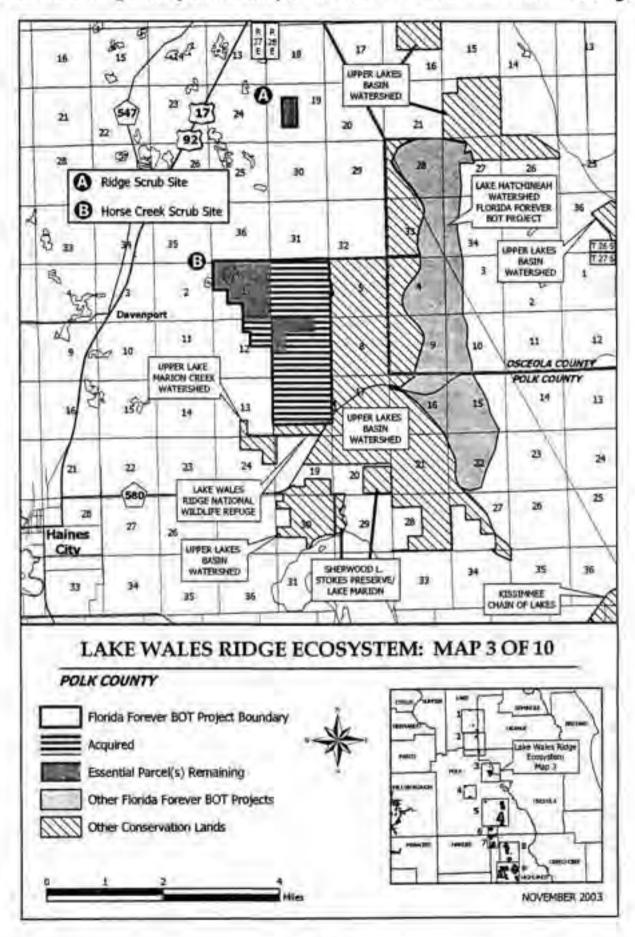
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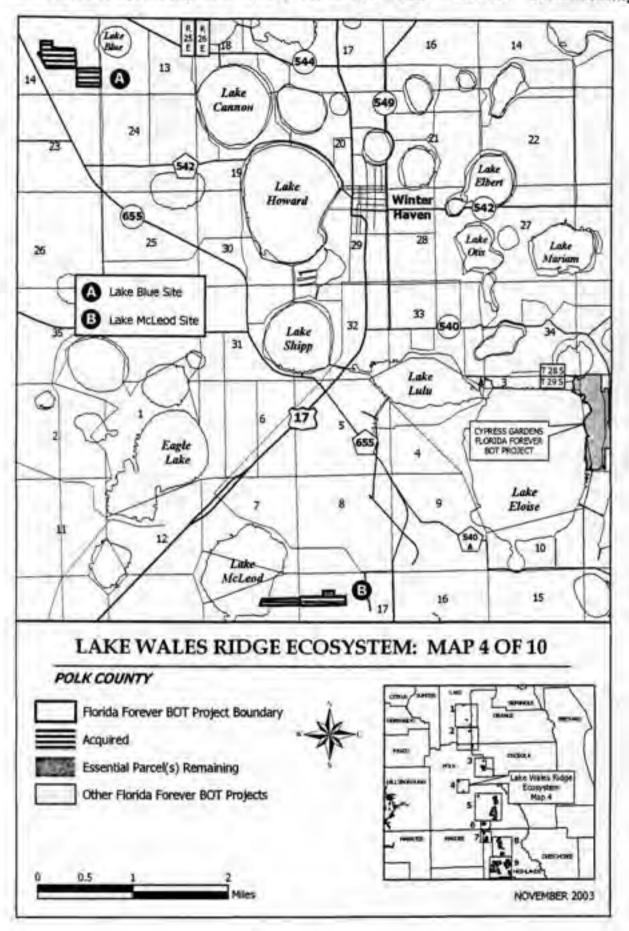
Management Cos	t Summary/Di	RP	Management Cost	Summary/DC	OF (Warea)
Category	Startup	Recurring	Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$44,334	\$97,575	Salary	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$14,560	\$12,000	OPS	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$23,000	\$24,000	Expense	\$5,000	\$4,000
000	\$67,000	\$1,000	000	\$0	50
FCO	\$57,720	\$0	FCO	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$206,614	\$134,575	TOTAL	\$5,000	\$4,000
Management Cost	Summary/DOF	(Hesperides)			
Category	Startup	Recurring			
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL			
Salary	\$63,440	\$63,440			
OPS	\$0	\$0			
	the second se	and the second se			

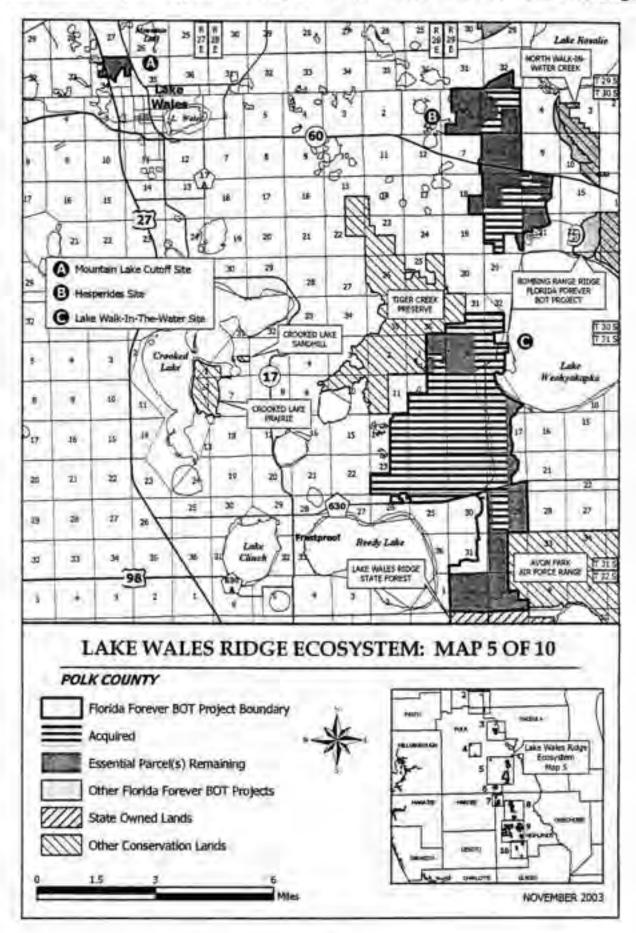
\$17,000

Expense

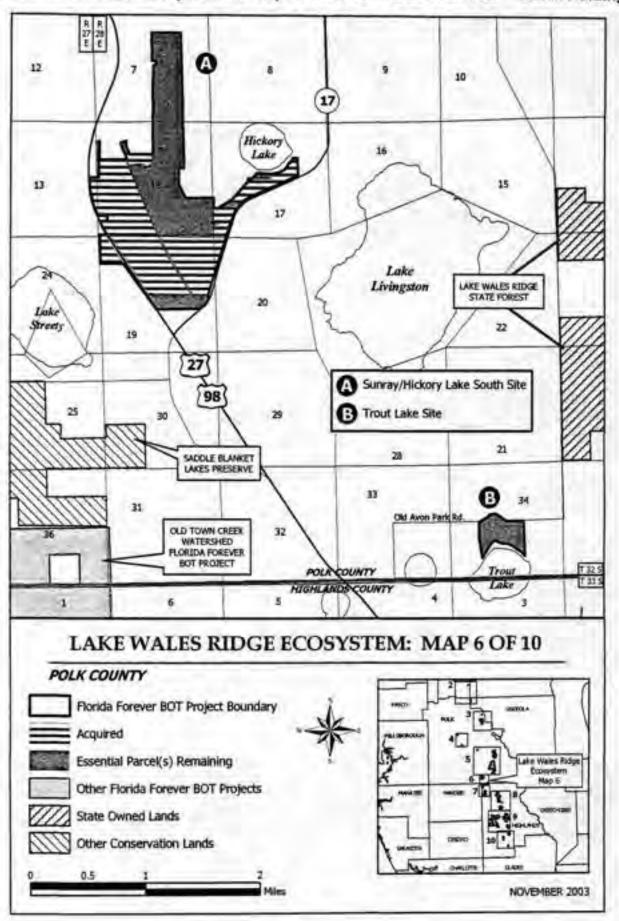
\$20,000



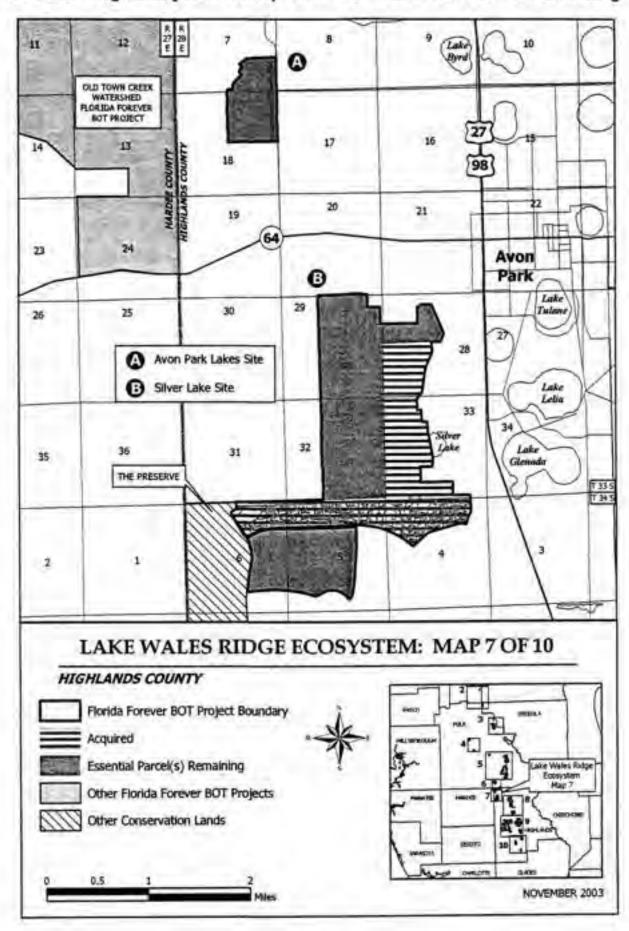


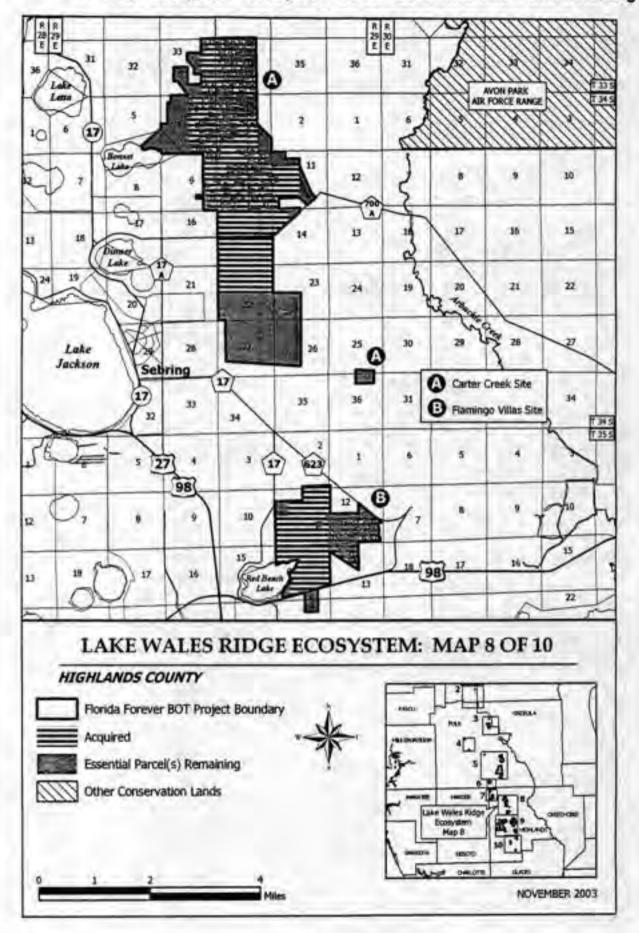




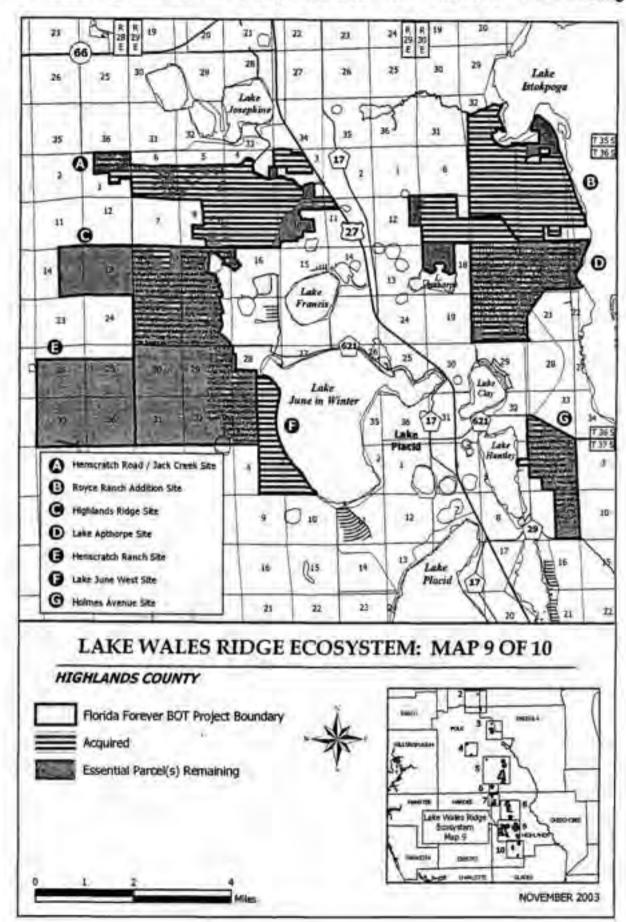


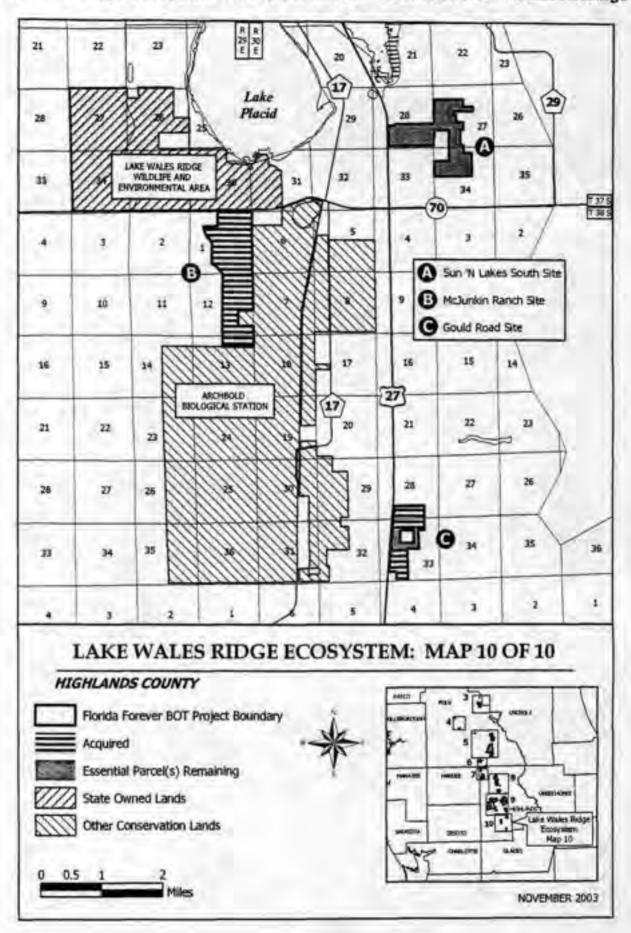












Management Cost	Summary/FWC		
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$45,339	\$87,235	\$122,840
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$32,555	\$27,653	\$31,800
000	\$57,800	\$0	\$28,900
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$135,694	\$114,888	\$183,540

Management Cost S	Summary/DOF (previou	sly Lake Arbuckle State Fo	rest and Walk-in-the-Water)
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$53,587	\$66,768	\$68,771.04
OPS	N/A	N/A	N/A
Expense	\$48,480	\$29,215	\$124,720.50
000	\$44,728	\$39,020	\$74,498.25
FCO	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	\$146,795	\$144,893	\$267,989.79

## **Letchworth Mounds**

**Jefferson County** 

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Letchworth Mounds is an important archaeological site east of Tallahassee, in an agricultural landscape that is gradually being covered with housing developments. The Letchworth Mounds project will protect the mounds and village site here and some land around them, giving researchers an opportunity to examine the site and the public a chance to learn the history of this area.

## Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

## **General Description**

Letchworth Mounds consists of a temple mound complex, numerous small burial or house mounds, and an associated village site. The site is relatively undisturbed and is considered to have high archaeological value. Much of the project area has been converted to improved pasture. Natural vegetation is a narrow corridor of floodplain forest along a small blackwater stream, and second-growth upland mixed forest. This area is susceptible to residential development.

### Public Use

This project is designated for use as an archaeological site, with opportunities for learning about the archaeological remains, hiking and picnicking.

## Group B Full Fee

## Acquisition Planning and Status

The project consists of two ownerships. The Letchworth ownership has been acquired.

On August 15, 2003 the Council added 1,033 acres to the project boundaries.

## Coordination

There are no acquisition partners at this time.

### Management Policy Statement

The primary goal of management of the Letchworth Mounds project is to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

## Management Prospectus

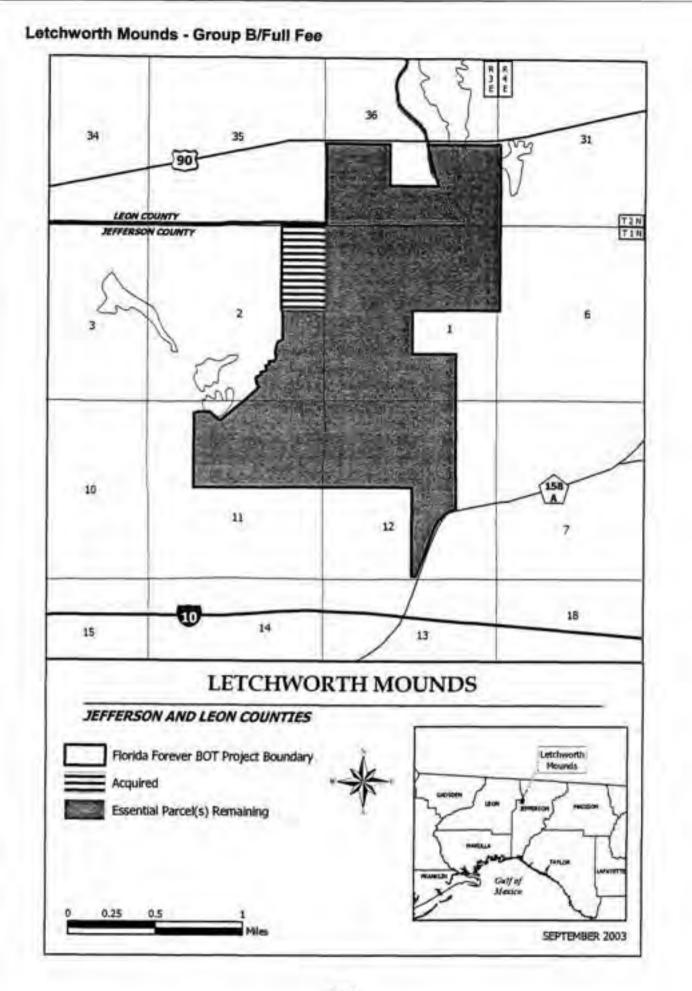
Qualifications for state designation The significant archaeological site on this project—Letchworth Mounds—qualifies it as a state historical site.

Manager The DRP will be the manager.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Letchworth Mounds project will be a high-need management area with emphasis on cultural resource preservation, interpretation and education, together with compatible public recreational use and development. *Timetable for implementing management and provi*sions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after the project is placed under the management of the DRP, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural

FNAI Elements	-
FLOODPLAIN FOREST	G?/S3
BLACKWATER STREAM	G4/S2
UPLAND MIXED FOREST	G?/S4
FLOODPLAIN SWAMP	G?/S4?
FLOODPLAIN SWAMP 4 elements known from	

Placed on list	1989
Project Area (Acres)	1,484
Acres Acquired	78
at a Cost of	\$400,000
Acres Remaining	1,406
with Estimated (Tax Assessor	Value of \$101 703



Letchworth Mounds - Group B/Full Fee

resource protection, and the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management. *Revenue-generating potential* No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. The amount of any future revenue generated will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities.

Cooperators in management activities No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project area.

t Summary	
Startup	1995/96
CARL	CARL
\$20,363	\$20,363
\$14,560	\$14,560
\$5,974	\$5,974
\$66,522	\$1,000
\$0	\$0
\$134,767	\$42,094
	CARL \$20,363 \$14,560 \$5,974 \$66,522 \$0



## Lochloosa Wildlife - Small Holdings/Group B

## Lochloosa Wildlife

## Alachua County

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The large lakes, flatwoods, and prairies in southeast Alachua County are still in good condition, though much of the flatwoods is now pine plantation and Gamesville and Ocala are growing. The Lochloosa Wildlife project will conserve a large part of this area, protecting forested lands linking Newnan's Lake, Lochloosa Lake, Orange Lake, and Paynes Prairie; protecting habitat for many kinds of wildlife, especially black bear, osprey, and wood storks; maintaining the high water quality of the lakes, streams, and marshes here; and providing a scenic natural area for people to boat, fish, hike, or hunt in.

## Manager

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

## **General Description**

The project encompasses the significant resources associated with Lochloosa Lake (particularly large populations of birds of prey), a bird rookery used by wood storks, and possibly the largest intact Mesic Flatwoods remaining in Alachua County. Tracts in intensive timber production account for more than half the project acreage. Magnesia Springs in the project supports the only known population in the world of the loose-coiled snail. Nineteen other rare or endangered species of animals are known to occur on site, including wood stork, bald eagle, Florida sandhill crane, and Florida black bear.

## Group B Small Holdings

The good-quality surface waters in the project are a significant hydrological resource and the project will also buffer several Outstanding Florida Waters in the vicinity.

## Public Use

The project is designated as a wildlife management area.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

Essential tracts within this project include: Georgia Pacific (St. Johns River Water Management District has acquired a conservation easement over 10,300 acres surrounding Lake Lochloosa); Franklin Crates; Concora (Container Corp./Wachovia); Goethe; and Brown.

The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) has a parcel under contract with Alachua County as a partner. The Division of State Lands is not currently working this project.

## Coordination

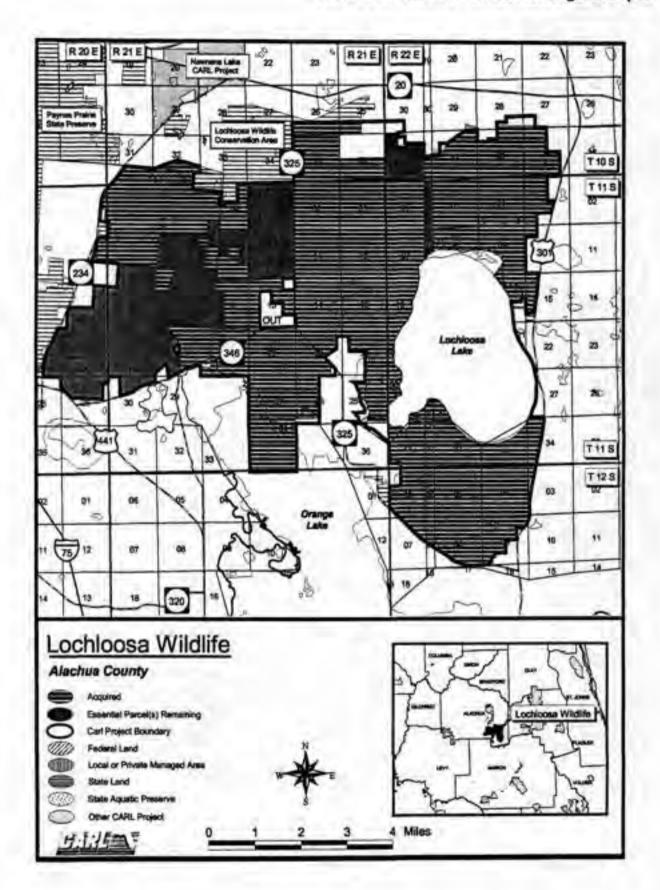
The St. Johns River Water Management District is an acquisition partner. The district's expenditures are reflected in the table below.

Resolutions in support of this project include: 93-023: St. Johns River Water Management District pledging up to 50% of the acquisition cost.

FNAI Elem	ents
Loose-coiled snail	G1/S1
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
Striped newt	G2G3/S2S3
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
15 elements known	from project

Placed on list	1994
Project Area (Acres)	31,507
Acres Acquired	26,943*
at a Cost of	\$6,524,446*
Acres Remaining	4,864
the second s	

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$5,147,285 "by SJRWMD



## Lochloosa Wildlife - Small Holdings/Group B

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Lochloosa Wildlife project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The significant wildlife resources of the Lochloosa Wildlife project, including such threatened species as bald eagles, wood storks, Florida sandhill erane, and Florida black bears, as well as good stocks of game animals, qualify it as a wildlife management area.

Manager The FWC is recommended as the project Manager.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Lochloosa Wildlife tract is an area in imminent danger of development and in high need of intense resource management and protection. The large pine plantations will require restoration. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management will concentrate on site security, natural resource management and conceptual planning. Public-use facilities will be developed in succeeding years.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. As public use is increased, modest revenue may be generated.

Cooperators in management activities The Division of Forestry is recommended as a cooperator to assist with forest management.

Management costs and sources of revenue Budget needs for interim management are estimated below. The CARL trust fund is the expected source of revenue.

Management Cost	Summary/F	WG		
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL	
Salary	\$0	\$0	\$140,00	
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$5,500	
Expense	\$50	\$0	\$35,900	
OCO	\$0	\$0	\$98,200	
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0	
TOTAL	\$50	\$0	\$279,600	

## **Longleaf Pine Ecosystem**

## Group B Full Fee

## Hamilton, Marion, Gilchrist and Volusia Counties

## **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Though they once covered much of north and central Florida, old-growth longleaf pine sandhills are now only distant memories, replaced by pine plantations, pastures, and housing developments. Nevertheless, fragments of good sandhills still remain. The Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project will conserve two of the largest and best of these fragments, in so doing helping to ensure the survival of several rare animals like the red-cockaded woodpecker as well as some plants, and giving the public an opportunity to see and enjoy the original, and increasingly rare, natural landscape of Florida's uplands.

Bell Ridge: The primary goal is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use: and to insure longterm viability of populations and species considered rare. The Bell Ridge is a small xeric upland physiographic feature lying just north of the much larger Brooksville Ridge. The gently rolling hills and ridges of the Bell Ridge represent relict beach dunes now at elevations of 60-100 feet and consist of excessively welldrained sands of generally low fertility. It is predominantly sandhill of variable quality. The Bell Ridge Sandhills can be expected to support most of the fauna, both game and nongame, typical of sandhill habitat. Evidence of one rare species, the gopher tortoise was

## Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Ross Prairie, Blue Spring Longleaf).

FNAI Elements	
Longspurred mint	G1/S1
SCRUB	G2/S2
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
Giant orchid	G2G3/S2
Incised groove-bur	G3/S2
Florida scrub-jay	G3/S3
Short-tailed snake	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
30 elements known from	project

Bell Ridge: The DOF will manage the project under a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system.

## **General Description**

Longleaf Pine Ecosystem sites (Ross Prairie Sandhill, Ross Prairie Addition, Bell Ridge, and Blue Spring Longleaf) are some of the highest quality longleaf pine sandhills in Florida. Longleaf pine sandhills are one of Florida's most distinctive and endangered forest types, and have declined by more than 80% in the last century. The project will protect nearly 20 plants, animals, and natural communities listed by Florida Natural Areas Inventory. Archaeological sites are known from the Ross Prairie site. These sites are vulnerable to logging and fire suppression as well as development.

## Public Use

The project will provide state forests, with opportunities for hunting, hiking, horseback riding, camping and nature appreciation.

## Acquisition Planning and Status

Largest property owners south of canal lands (essential) within the <u>Ross Prairie</u> (8,216 acres) site are Janet Land Corp. (acquired) and Deltona-Marion Oaks Sub. (unwilling seller). North of the canal lands are seven relatively large ownerships: Intersection 200/484 LTD, Rudnianyn, Kingsland Estates (essential), Maverick (essential), Ocala Waterway Estates (essential), Guy (essential), Davis, and less than 35 other smaller tracts. Acquisitron work is scheduled to begin in early 1999 on the Maverick, Davis, and Guy tracts. The <u>Blue</u>

Placed on list	1993
Project Area (Acres)	25,637
Acres Acquired	10,164
at a Cost of	\$30,408,180
Acres Remaining	15,471
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$26,775,131

Spring site (1,978 acres) site consists of one owner, (acquited, through TNC).

On December 3, 1998, LAMAC transferred the Deland Ridge and Chassahowitzka Sandhill sites to the Negotiation Impasse group.

On July 29, 1999, the Council combined the 3,040 acres Ross Prairie Addition project to the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project (Priority Group).

On December 9, 1999 the Council approved the Bell Ridge project and added it to the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project.

The Division of State Lands is not actively working this project.

## Coordination

There is no acquisition partner.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauma representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

## Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation. The quality of the pine forests on the Blue Spring Longleaf and Ross Prairie sites, and their size and diversity, make them suitable for state forests.

### Manager DOF

Conditions affecting intensity of management On the Blue Spring tract, there are no known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention, so management intensity is expected to be typical for a state forest. On Ross Prairie, however, the construction of an extension of the Florida Tumpike may hinder fore management activities and public access to the forest. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The Blue Spring Longleaf tract and part of the Ross Praine tract have been acquired. The Division is now providing public access to these tracts for low-intensity, nonfacilities-related outdoor recreation.

Management on the Blue Spring Longleaf tract will concentrate on maintaining the existing open conditions and seeds will be collected with as little disturbance as possible to the resources. On all three tracts, the Division will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The sites' natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan. Long-range plans for these tracts will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

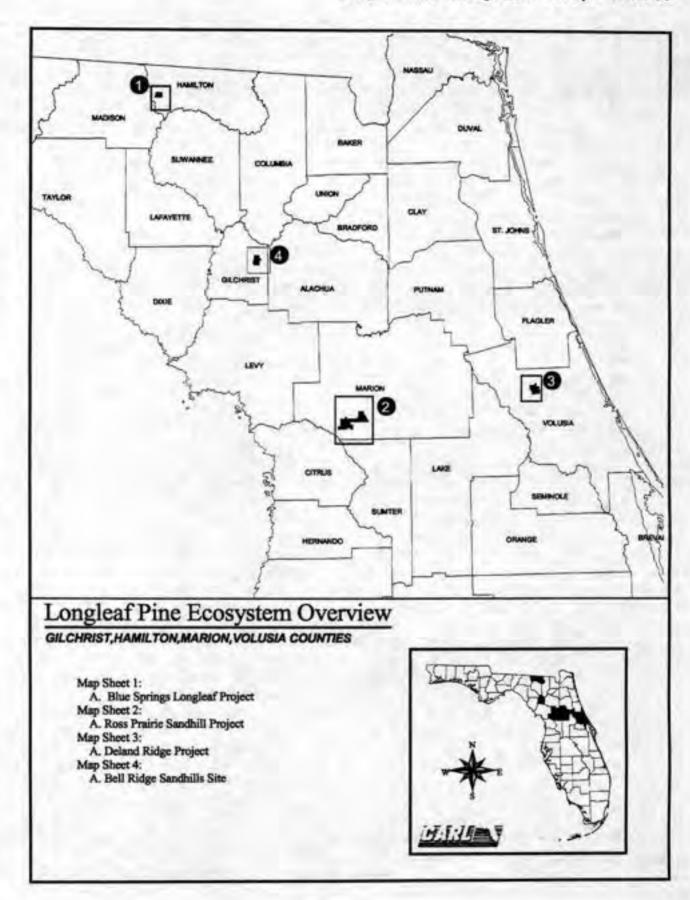
Revenue-generating potential The Division of Forestry will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for these tracts is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The DOF will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

#### Bell Ridge:

#### Management Policy

The primary objective of management of the Bell Ridge Sandhills is to protect and restore the threatened Sandhill natural community. A secondary objective is to provide resource-based recreational activities that are compatible with protection of the natural and cultural resource values of the project. The site will be managed under the multiple-use concept—management activities will be directed first toward conservation of resources and second toward



integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses. Managers will control access to the proposal; thoroughly inventory the resources; restore hydrological disturbances; conduct prescribed burning of firedependent communities in a manner minicking natural lightning-season fires, using existing firelines, natural firebreaks, existing roads, or foam lines for control, when possible; strictly limit timber harvesting in mature stands; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually conserving resources. Managers will limit the number and size of recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

The proposal includes over 3,000 acres of relatively undisturbed land adjacent to an existing area of conservation lands. It consequently appears to have the size and location to achieve its primary and secondary objective.

## Management Prospectus Management Goals

The Bell Ridge Sandhill encompasses approximately 3,500 acres in Gilchrist, Florida. The site is located approximately 9 miles north east of Trenton, seven miles east of Bell, seventeen miles north of the Watermelon Pond Unit of Goethe State Forest, and twenty miles west of Gainesville. The DOF proposes to manage the project under a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system, and in a manner designed to accomplish the acquisition goals and measures for this project as approved by the Acquisition and Restoration Council. These goals and measures are hereby incorporated by reference.

The primary land management goal for the DOF is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. This ecosystem approach will guide the DOF management activities on this project.

## Qualifications for State Designation

The major community represented on this project is sandhill. The project's size and diversity makes it desirable for use and management as a State Forest. Management by the DOF as a State Forest is contingent upon the state acquiring fee simple title to the entire project and obtaining some level of legal public access to the site, which is likely since the eastern and northern property boundaries are county maintained graded roads.

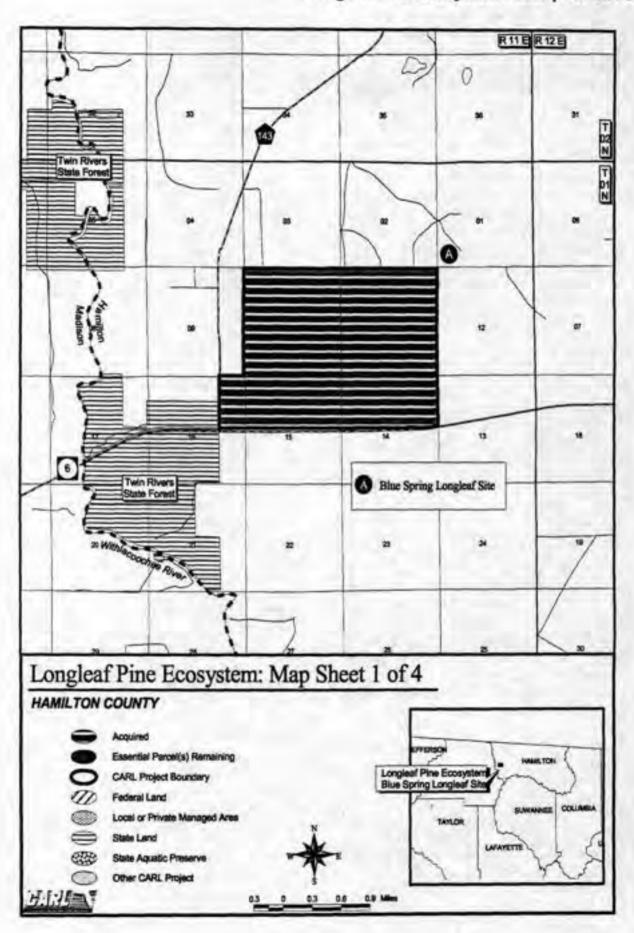
Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management There are portions of the parcel that have been dis-

turbed that will require restoration efforts. There is at least one linear facility that bisects the parcel, which will be an area of management concern for monitoring unauthorized uses and introduction of invasive exotic species. The sandhill community is considered imperiled and as such may be sensitive to certain uses and the intensity of use. As such, water resource development projects, water supply development projects. stormwater management projects and any additional linear facilities, other than those that already exist on the project, are considered incompatible with this type. of ecosystem and with the resource values on this project. The adjacent residential developments will pose a management concern associated with prescribed burning, public use, unauthorized uses, and other natural resource management activities. There are areas that have refuse and debris and which should be removed prior to closing on the core parcel. Other than those above-mentioned points, there are no other known mafor disturbances that will require extraordinary attention. The level of management intensity and related management cost is expected to be moderately high imtially to establish this as a state forest.

#### Timetable for Implementing Management

Once the core area is acquired and assigned to the Division of Forestry, public access will be provided for low intensity outdoor recreation activities. The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the site as a new unit of the State Forest system, and the Waccasassa Forestry Center personnel will carry out initial management activities and coordinate public access and use. The Division of Forestry will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

Initial and intermediate management efforts will concentrate on site security, public and fire management access, resource inventory, reforestation of areas where off-site species have been harvested, natural regeneration of the native species in the areas with low densities, and any restoration activities. Steps will be taken to insure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. There are many roads throughout the property, and as such a road plan will need to be developed to determine those to be used for vehicular use by the public, those that are required for administrative use, and unnecessary access points and roads that should be closed. An inventory of the site's natural resources and threatened and endangered flora and fauna will eventually be conducted to provide a basis for formulation of a management plan.



Prior to collection of necessary resource information, management proposals for this project can only be conceptual in nature. Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and maintenance of natural communities. To the greatest extent practical, disturbed sites will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in naturally functioning ecosystems. Any existing pine plantations will be thinned to achieve a more natural appearance. Off-site species will eventually be replaced with species that would be expected to occur naturally on those specific sites. Management activities will also stress enhancement of the abundance and spatial distribution of threatened and endangered species.

Portions of the area can sustain an all season prescribed burning program utilizing practices which incorporate recent research findings. The objective is to eventually establish an all season prescribed burning program on all of the fire dependent community types. Whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks will be utilized to contain and control prescribed and natural fires.

Timber management activities will primarily consist of improvement thinning and regeneration harvests aimed at maintaining and perpetuating forest ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age but will be managed to maintain a broad diversity of age classes ranging from young stands to areas with old growth characteristics. This will provide habitat for the full spectrum of species that would be found in the natural environment and enhance and maintain biodiversity.

The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management, and to locate areas that are appropriate for any recreational or administrative facilities. Recreation and administrative infrastructure development will primarily be located in already disturbed areas and will be the absolute minimum required to allow public access for the uses mentioned above, to provide facilities to accommodate public use, and to administer and manage the property.

The Division will promote recreation and environmental education in the natural environment. It is anticipated that interpretative and user services recreational facilities will be developed and the use of low impact, rustic facilities will be stressed. High impact, organized recreation areas are not planned because of possible adverse effects on the natural environment. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent practical.

#### Florida Forever Performance Measures

The DOF has reviewed the project and believes that following Florida Forever Performance Measures appear to apply to this parcel:

- Measure G1: Acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management.
- Measure G2: Acres of state owned forestland managed for economic return in accordance with current Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- <u>Measure G4</u>: Percentage and number of acresidentified for restoration actually restored by reforestation. Note: In some areas, this may be accomplished by natural regeneration in areas of low density and once off-site species are harvested.

There is the possibility that other measures apply, however, that muy be determined by an inventory of the resources on the project.

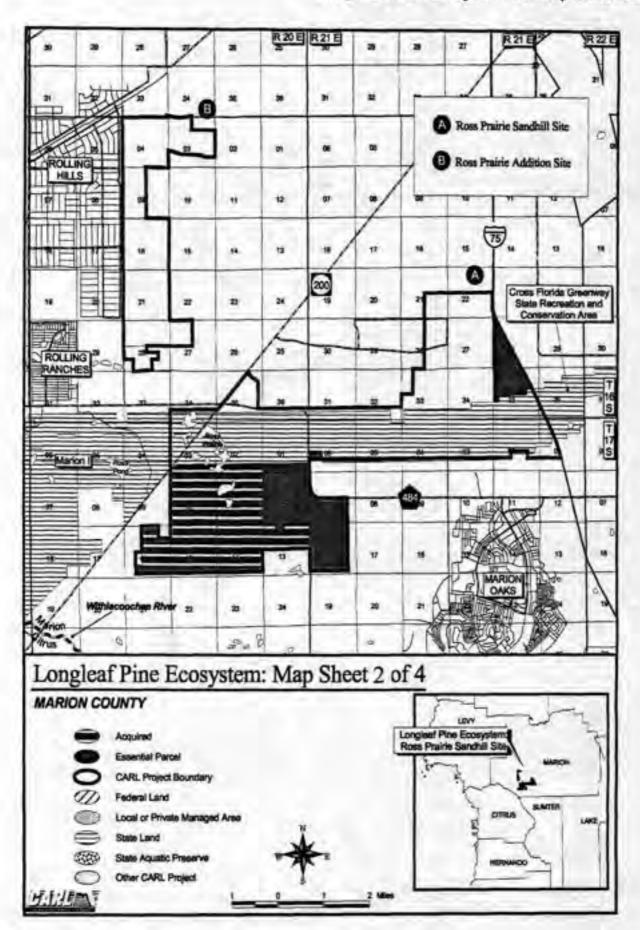
#### **Revenue Generating Potential**

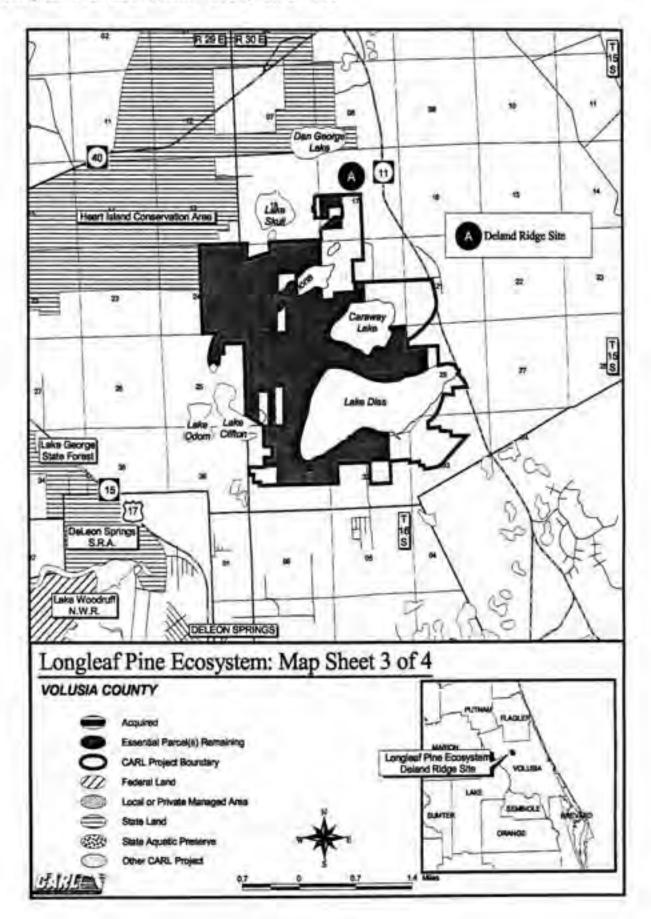
As mentioned above, timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in upland pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Due to the existing condition of the timber resource on the property, revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be medium.

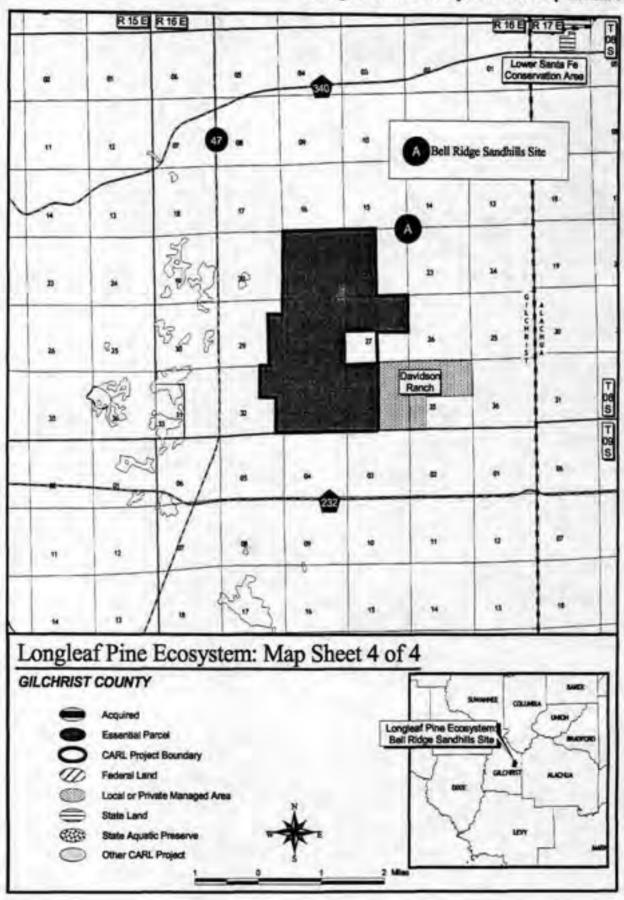
### **Capital Project Expenditures**

There are capital project expenditures that are going to be needed on this parcel and they are listed below. They include relocation of the Trenton Work Center to this site to provide site management, security and public service. The existing Trenton Work Center is currently leased from the private sector and this lease is due to expire in 2005. It is not anticipated that the lease will be renewed. The existing house and barn on the property can be used for these facilities so that the expense associated with it can be reduced, although, they will require renovation. Reinforcing the fencing in the areas of residential development will be necessary to clearly establish the boundary with resources that cannot be easy burned or altered. It is anticipated that some the existing roads will be used as multi-use trails for hiking, horse back riding and off road biking. As such, visitor services in the disturbed area will be provided.

(Continued on Page 292)







Management Costs and Sources of Revenue It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL trust fund. Budget needs for interimmanagement are estimated as follows.

Longleaf Pine Eco	system:		
Management Cost	Summary/DOF		
Category	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$31,080	\$41,013	\$44,000
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$25,505	\$11,302	\$13,000
000	\$40,626	\$0	\$10,000
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$97,211	\$52,315	\$67,000

Management Cost Summary/DOF (Deland Ridge		
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$7,000	\$5,000
000	\$0	50
FCO	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$7,000	\$5,000

# **Lower Perdido River Buffer**

## Group A Less Than Fee

## **Escambia County**

### Purpose for State Acquisition

This project is to preserve a riverine area along one of the state's "Outstanding Florida Waters" that has low levels of development while providing recreational access points for canoeing and kayaking. A conservation easement approach is planned for this project, keeping land ownership in private hands while shielding the area from development and ensuring public access, within a managed framework, for outdoor recreation. The small access points will be acquired in fee simple. and provide recreational access points to the river where none exist today. This project meets the Florida Forever goal of increasing natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities by enhancing access to the Perdido River. Use of a conservation easement allowing silviculture would meet the Florida Forever goal of preserving forest land for sustainable management of natural resources, contingent on what management plan was developed.

### Manager

Escambta County will manage the access points once they are determined. The Office of Environmental Services (OES) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is to oversee monitoring of the conservation easement when such a plan is developed.

### **General Description**

The Perdido River is a medium-size sand-bottom blackwater stream that starts in southern Alabama. It has a low relief that is typical of many rivers in the lower Gulf Coastal Plain. It has no first-magnitude or second-magnitude springs, but depends on rainfall for most of its water. As a result, its flow has substantial fluctuations. The high flows have caused erosion upstream that created large and medium-size sandbars – suitable for camping - along many of the river's inner bends upstream of State Road 184. The river is

FNAI Element	S
Kral's yellow-eyed grass	G5T3/S1
3 elements known from	n project

exceptionally winding, with few straight stretches of more than 200 yards. There are plenty of fallen tress, usually Atlantic white cedar, but below Barrineau Park most of the fallen trees have been cut to allow small boats to pass. The river is about 100 yards wide at the mouth on Perdido Bay, but is only about 30 yards wide near Barrineau Park. The Lower Perdido River Buffer includes land on the eastern, or Florida, side of the river from roughly the center of Escambia County (near the Barrineau Park community) downstream to the river's mouth on Perdido Bay. This project has approximately 5,053 acres of functional wetlands that will be protected by acquisition. Approximately 2,094 acres have been identified that provide groundwater recharge, and approximately 1,056 acres of forest have been identified that would maintain natural groundwater recharge functions.

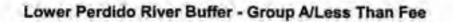
### **Public Use**

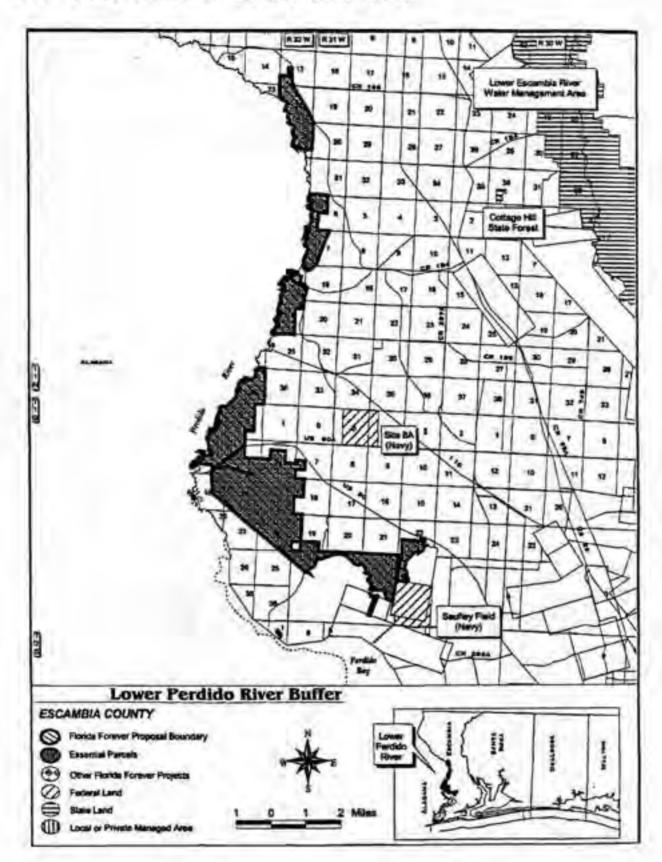
The potential for public-resource recreation for this project has been limited by the indicated unwillingness of the current owners of the land to allow general public access. However, the owner is willing to sell limited access points to the Perdido River. These access points would allow access to the river for launching and for landing canoes and small boats.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Lower Perdido River Buffer Florida Forever project was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the June 6, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) as a Group A project.

Placed on list	June 6, 2002
Project Area (acres)	7,900
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost of	0
Acres Remaining	7,800
With Estimated /tax assess	adi Value of \$723 200





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### Lower Perdido River Buffer - Group A/Less Than Fee

Manager

This is a single owner project, with the property held by International Paper. The specific locations of the small access sites, to be acquired in fee-simple, are to be determined during the negotiation process.

The Division of State Lands is working with the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD) to acquire a conservation easement on 7,800 acres of this project.

### Coordination

The Division of State Lands, Office of Environmental Services (OES) will oversee monitoring of the easement, and Escambia County will manage the access points once they are determined. The acquisition partnership is expected to include local, state and NWFWMD funding sources. Contribution funding percentages have not been determined.

### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of this project are to increase the natural-resource based public education and recreational opportunities along the Perdido River. Acquisition of access to the river by way of the Lower Perdido River Buffer would be a benefit to those activities because there is now little to no public access to the river.

### Management Prospectus

### Qualifications for state designation

Protecting the Lower Perdido River Buffer with a combination of a conservation easement and the outright purchase of select access points will benefit the public in several major ways – 1) This project will keep wetland and marsh habitats located within a major metropolitan statistical area (MSA) free from the pressures of development; 2) The use of the conservation easement for the project will keep the majority of the land in private hands; 3) This project will allow, at selected points, riverine access for the public for boating and fishing. Escambia County will manage the access points once they are determined and acquired in fee simple. At this time Escambia County has not submitted a management prospectus for the project to the Division of State Lands. The Office of Environmental Services (OES) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is to oversee the monitoring of the conservation easement.

### **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

The Perdido River itself appears to be free of major structural alterations and point sources of pollution that substantially affect either flow or water quality. Hence, no major restoration efforts along the immediate river corridor are necessary. Nonetheless, all areas of minor structural alterations (e.g., houses, boat ramps, highway crossings) should be examined in the future to determine whether any of them are contributing erosion, siltation, or pollution.

Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Management of the property would depend on the nature and the provisions of the conservation easement that would be used to secure riverine access in this project.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

The proposal for the Lower Perdido River Buffer is to acquire a conservation easement over the area of the project, and acquire fee simple title to selected points for public access to the Perdido River. The access points would be managed by Escambia County with the Division of State Lands overseeing the conservation easement. This limits or negates potential for generating revenue from this site.

### **Cooperators in management activities**

Escambia County would manage the access points to the river.

### Middle Chipola River - Group A/Full Fee

# **Middle Chipola River**

## Calhoun and Jackson Counties

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Flowing through a landscape of farm fields, the Chipola River exposes the limestone bedrock of Jackson and Calhoun Counties on its way to join the Apalachicola River in a swampy wilderness. The Middle Chipola River project will protect remnants of the unique hardwood forests of this region for 30 miles along the high banks of the river, maintaining the water quality of the river; providing habitat for several rare plants and many rare animals, from mussels to turtles and cave-dwelling crayfish; helping to preserve the abundant archaeological remains in and along the river; and ensuring that the public will always have access to the river for fishing, swimming, and simple enjoyment of the beauty of this unique stream.

### Manager

The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Department of Environmental Protection, will manage (1) that portion of the project lying between Florida Caverns State Park and the SR 167 bridge and (2) an approximate 7-mile section of the project known as the McRae Property that lies adjacent to and north of "Look and Tremble Shoals".

### **General Description**

The project encompasses a strip of land on either side of the Chipola River from Florida Caverns State Park to highway 20, totaling almost 8,000 acres of mostly second-growth hardwood forest. The river is a major mibutary and drainage basin of the Apalachicola River. The river itself has an interesting combination of alluvial and spring-run characteristics. Its high banks un-

FNAI Elements	A DOCTOR OF
Dye-flower	G1G2/S1
Marianna columbine	G5T1/S1
Gulf moccasinshell	G2/S7
Shiny-rayed pocketbook	G2/S?
Shoal bass	G2/S1
Georgia blind salamander	G2/S2
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
Dougherty Plain cave crayfish	G2/52
40 elements known from p	roject

## Group A Full Fee

derlain by limestone support several rare plants, one of which is the globally imperiled dye-flower. It is among eight plants of conservation concern on the site. Rare to imperiled animal species include alligator snapping turtle, at least four bivalve mollusks, five rare fishes, three rare salamanders, and Barbour's map turtle. The project will help protect the water quality of the river (an Outstanding Florida Water and state cance trail) and preserve public access to the river.

Forty-three archaeological sites, mostly underwater scatters, are known from the project, and the potential for more is high. The scenic riverbanks are attractive for development and the river is vulnerable to intensive agriculture and mining.

### Public Use

The project will be managed as an addition to Florida Caverns State Park and as a canoe trail, with opportunities for canoeing, boating, fishing, hiking, and camping.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

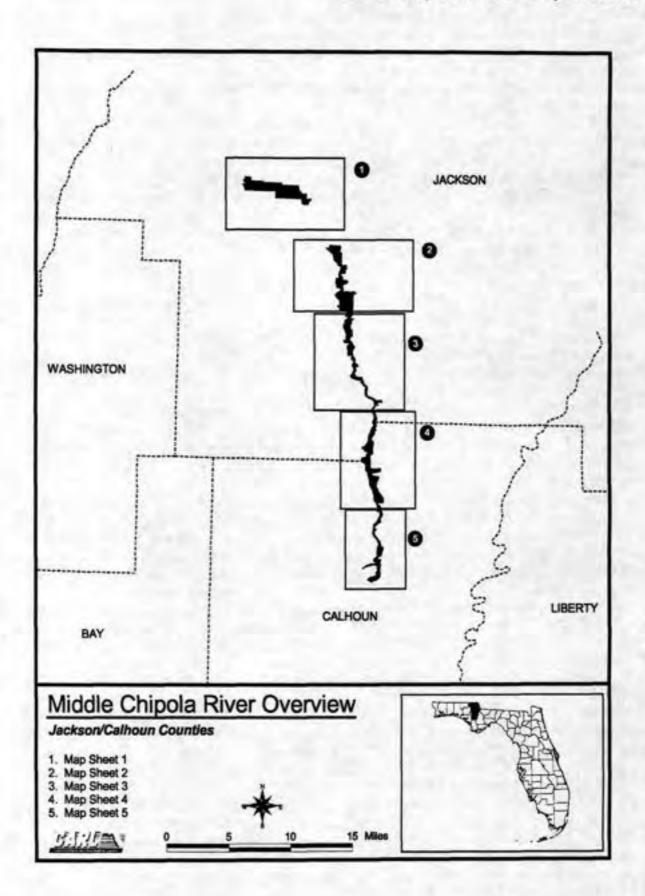
Middle Chipola: Essential tracts are Land (acquired), Trammell (impasse), and Florida Public Utilities Co. (acquired).

Waddells Mill Pond: Essential tracts are Waddell Plantation ownership and smaller archaeologically significant parcels west and adjacent to Waddell Plantation.

On October 30, 1996, LAMAC adopted enteria for establishing a Less-Than-Fee acquisition category: 1) resource value of the project/tract can be adequately

Placed on list	1996*
Project Area (Acres)	13,538
Acres Acquired	556
at a Cost of	\$743,600
Acres Remaining	12,981

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$5,806,553 \*Project combined with Waddelis MIII Pond (1991) Dec. 1996



### Middle Chipola River - Group A/Full Fee

protected through a less-than-fee instrument; 2) seller is willing to accept a less-than-fee-simple instrument and LAMAC has determined that the project's or site's acquisition objectives can be met by acquiring a less-than-fee interest; and 3) manager is willing to oversee a less-than-fee-simple instrument.

In 1996, the Council combined the Middle Chipola project with the Waddells Mill Pond project, and added 170 acres to the Middle Chipola boundary.

On December 5, 1996, the Council transferred the Rex Lumber/McRae (impasse), Trammell, Myers, Manor, Myrick and Waddell Plantation ownerships (3,633 acres) to the Less-Than-Fee category. None of the less than fee parcels have been acquired.

On February 11, 1999, the Council added 5 acres. The addition includes two entrances to the Hollow Ridge Cave sysytem and is adjacent to other public land.

### Management Policy Statement

The primary objectives of management of the Middle Chipola River project are to conserve a corridor of natural commanities along the Chipola River and to provide the public with controlled recreational access to the river. Achieving these objectives will protect the unique collection of rare plants and animals, ranging from rare mussels and fish to cave crayfish and gray bats, in this part of the Apalachicola River basin. It will also help to protect the significant archaeological resources of the riverbed and shores.

The project should be managed under the single-use concept: management activities should be directed toward the preservation of resources. Consumptive uses such as hunting or logging should not be permitted immodiately adjacent to the river. Managers should control public boat access to the river, thoroughly inventory the natural and archaeological resources of the river; burn fire-dependent pine flatwoods in a pattern mimicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control; reforest pine plantations along the river with original species; strictly limit timbering in natural hardwood forests adjacent to the river; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually protecting the water quality and scenic values of the river. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, such as boat ramps and camp sites, ensure that they do not harm the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

On June 6, 2002 the Council combined the Less-Than-Fee Middle Chipola project with the Full Fee Middle Chipola project, and moved both projects to Group A.

The Division of State Lands is active in this project.

### Coordination

The Northwest Florida Water Management District has acquired portions of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York (Waddells Mill Pond project—approximately 70S acres within the project Phase II boundary), as well as approximately 1,217 acres east/southeast of the project connecting with the Florida Caverns State Park and ultimately the Middle Chipola Project. The district will retain title to the Mutual Life Insurance Company parcels. There are no acquisition partners for the less than fee portion.

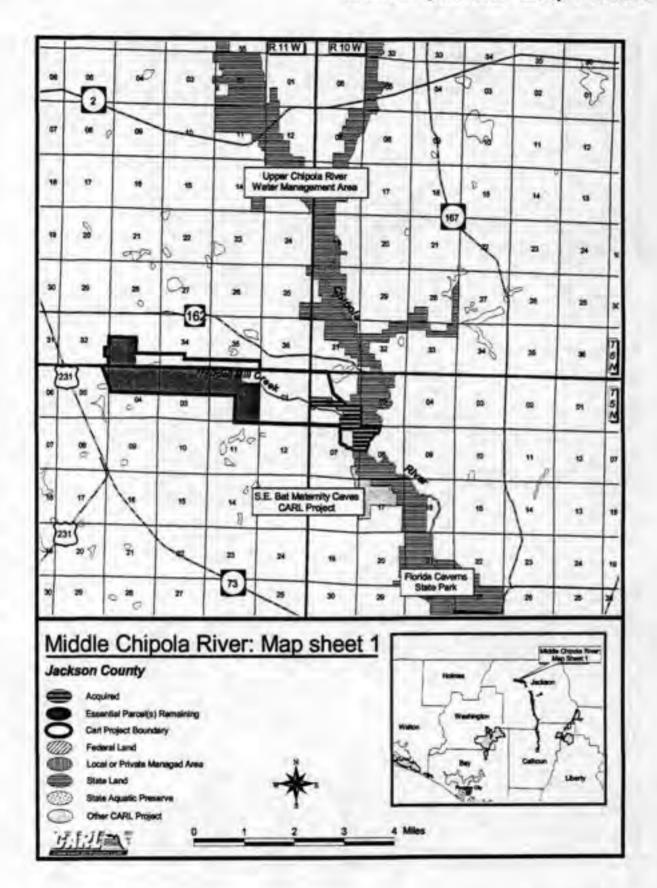
This project includes all the undeveloped land along the Chipola River from Florida Caverus State Park to State Road 20 and therefore has the configuration, location, and size to achieve its primary objectives.

Manager The DRP will manage (1) that portion of the project between Florida Caverns State Park and SR 167 bridge and (2) an Approximately 7-mile section of the project know as the McRae Property that hes adjacent to and north of "Look and Tremble Shoals"

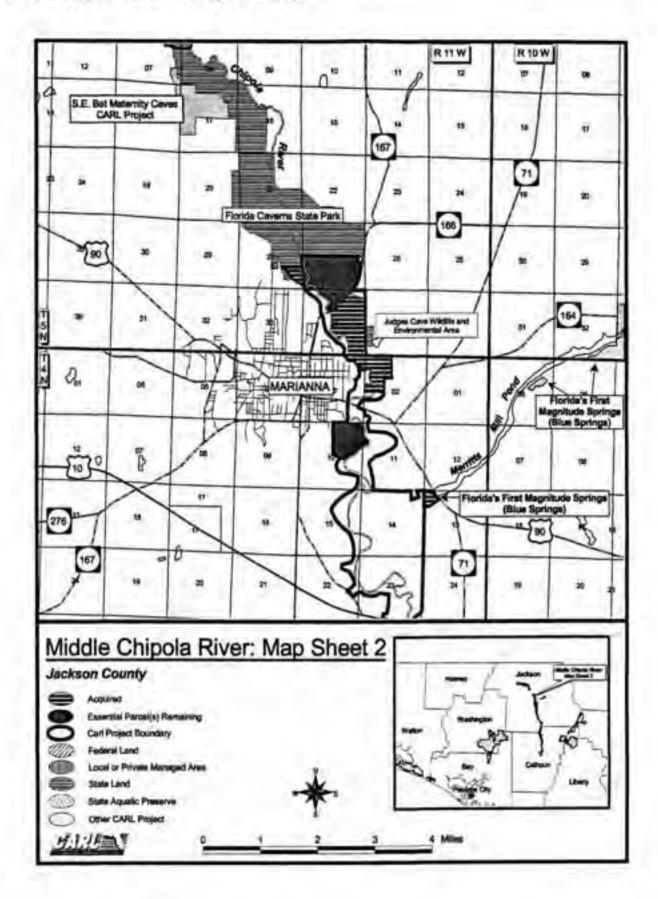
Conditions affecting intensity of management The property will be a high need management area. Protection and perpetuation of the property's resources, particularly as related to caverns, bats and restoration of logged areas, will be the primary emphasis. Compatible resource-based recreation is expected to be emphasized in the long-term.

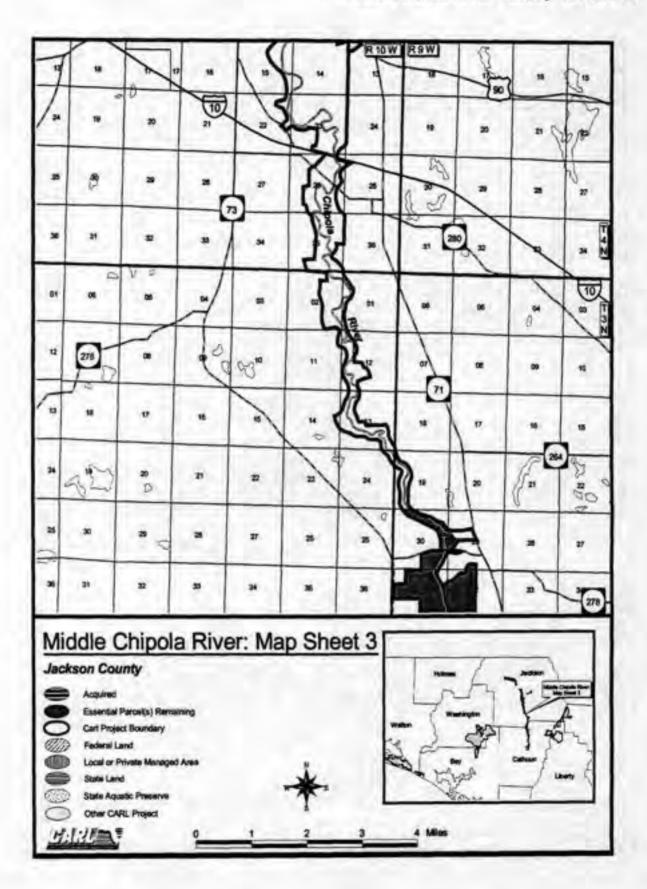
Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Upon acquisition and assignment of that portion of the project to be managed by the DRP, as described under "Manager" above, short term management efforts will concentrate on site security, control of vehicular access and the development of a resource investory and public use plan. Public use will be allowed for low intensity, non-facility related outdoor recreation activities in the short term.

(Continued on Page 204)

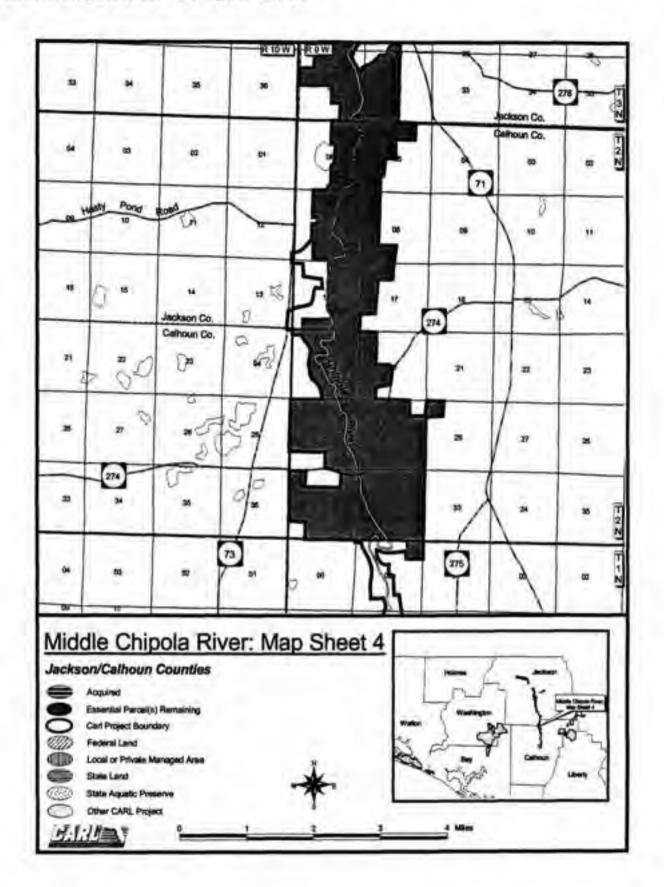


## Middle Chipola River - Group A/Full Fee





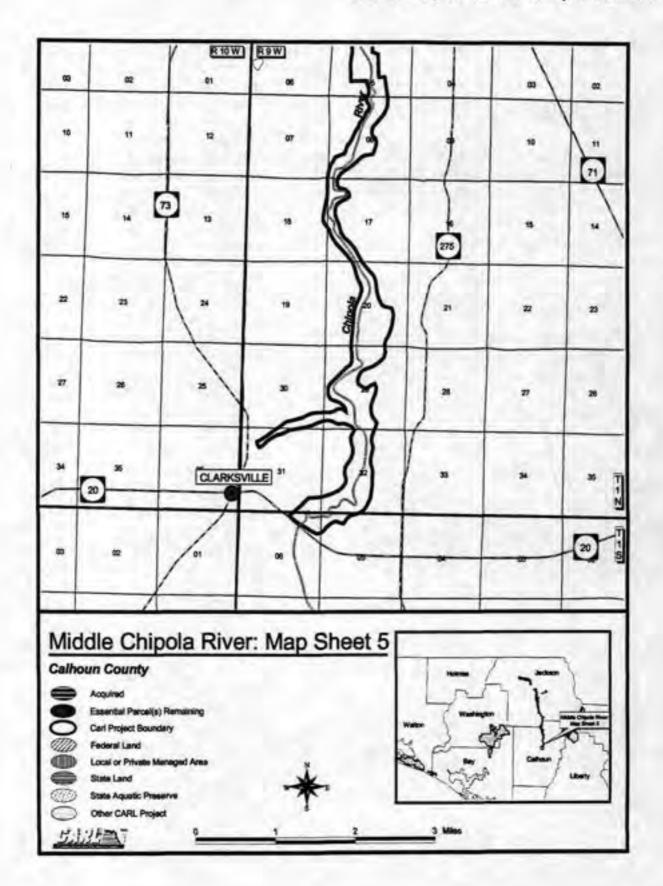
Middle Chipola River - Group A/Full Fee



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### Middle Chipola River - Group A/Full Fee

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The portion of the Middle Chipola River project lying between the Florida Caverns State Park and the SR 167 bridge down river from the park would complement the park in its resource and management goals.

Restoration and maintenance of natural communities will be incorporated into long range management efforts and disturbed areas will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in natural systems, to the extent practical.

The Division will encourage resource-based recreation and environmental education in conjunction with overall public use in the park. The management plan developed to define resource management and public use of the property will define the extent and placement of compatible infrastructure. Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated from this addition initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public facilities might be developed. The amount of any future revenue will depend on the nature and extent of public use identified in the management plan developed the property.

Cooperators in management activities No cooperators are recommended for this tract. However, consultation with the Northwest Florida Water Management District on water related matters and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on wildlife issues will be enlisted as needed.

### Management Cost Summary/DRP

Startup	Recurring
CARL	CARL
\$9,750	\$9,750
\$2,400	\$2,400
\$6,700	\$6,700
\$5,600	\$1,000
\$15,600	\$0
\$40,050	\$19,850
	\$9,750 \$2,400 \$6,700 \$5,600 \$15,600

# Mill Creek

Marion County

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

As a less-than-fee acquisition, a conservation easement over the Mill Creek project will preserve a working Florida landscape and protect existing natural areas from conversion to alternative uses. Existing wetlands will be enhanced through the prohibition of future harvesting of timber.

Acquiring the conservation easement for the Mill Creek/ Moxon Property could also have a positive affect on one of the major spring systems located within Marion County. Due to the karst topography of Florida, ground water that percolates through the soil during rain events travels great distances through fissures in the limestone rock. Some of this water re-emerges as springs. The Mill Creek/Moxon Property is located in the upper reaches of the spring-shed or recharge area of Silver Springs (headwater of the Silver River) a first magnitude spring (>64 mg/d) located in the city of Ocala, Marion County.

Two rare plants and eight rare animals are documented to occur on the property. A conservation easement will address, to the extent possible, permitted activities that enhance and protect habitat for these species.

### Manager

Monitoring of a conservation easement on this tract will be conducted by the Office of Environmental Services, or its successor.

### **General Description**

The Mill Creek proposal includes over 12,000 acres of land in northern Marion County. It is proposed for lessthan-fee acquisition and is owned by four entities, but controlled by the Moxon family. Several conservation lands lie within five miles of the Mill Creek property including Orange Lake, Lochloosa Lake, Ocklawaha River, Orange Creek Restoration Area, Lochloosa Wildlife Conservation Area, Black Sink Prairie, Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway and the Ocala National Forest. The Mill Creek property has been impacted by cattle and timber operations, including conversion to pasture, pine plantation and cypress harvesting.

### Mill Creek - Group A/Less Than Fee

## Group A Less Than Fee

### Public Use

As a less-than-fee project, public resource-based recreation potential is severely limited. However, the eastern portion of the property is leased for hunting. There was no indication at the time of the field investigation that the owners would allow hunting by the general public. Willingness for other public uses was also not indicated.

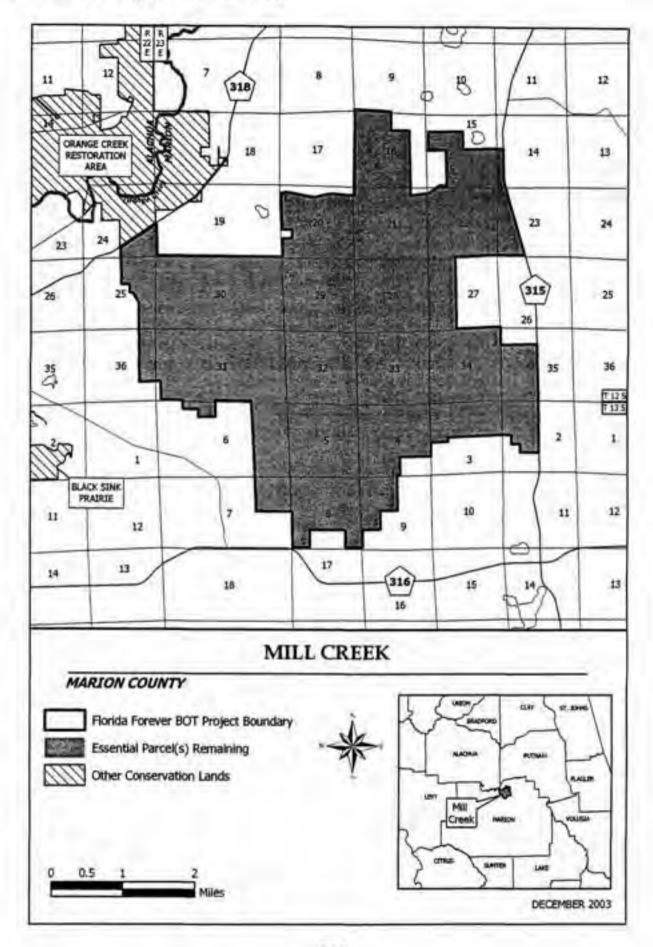
The project, as offered, does not satisfy any of the year 2005 needs reflected in the 2000 Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the region. The resource-based recreation potential for the project, as offered, is low. However, it could potentially increase significantly, should public access and use of the land be allowed. Due to an indicated lack of general public access for hunting, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission advises that the public hunting potential of this project is low.

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	12,285
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost Of	0
Acres Remaining	12,285

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$13,694,672

FNAI Elements		
Hooded pitcher plant	- 1-	
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3	
Great egret	G5/S4	
White ibis	G5/S4	
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2	
10 elements known	from project	

Mill Creek - Group A/Less Than Fee



### Acquisition Planning and Status

This project is proposed for a less-than-fee acquisition There are no acquisition partnerships or alternative funding sources. The project consists of 12,195 acres, thirteen parcels and four landowners. Its tax assessed value is \$13,694,672.

While the conservation easement will be negotiated to acquire the interest at the lowest possible cost, there is no indication that the owner is willing to sell at 80% or less of appraised easement value. The easement is expected to be purchased from all landowners simultaneously.

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the Mill Creek project to the Florida Forever list.



## Millstone Plantation - Group A/Less Than Fee

## **Millstone Plantation**

## Leon County

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The proposal includes part of Lake McBride, which is reported to have low nutrient and pollutant levels and a nesting pair of hald eagles. According to the Nature Conservancy, the lakes of Leon County comprise one of the most important groups of solution lakes in the northern hemisphere. Most of these lakes hold sinkholes that breach the Floridian aquifer so it is important that they are afforded some protection from runoff.

### Manager (Monitor)

The Apalachee Land Conservancy

### **General Description**

The property consists of a mosaic of vegetated communities, a deeply incised Seepage Stream, some open pasture and a portion of Lake McBride. It falls within the "Red Hills" physiographic region, which consists of pine-dominated uplands and numerous karst sinkholes and lakes. It ranges in elevation from 140 to 225 feet above sea level, and is a critical recharge area for the Floridan aquifer. The Seepage Stream and karst lake serve as breeding, nesting and foraging areas for numerous wildlife species. The lands of Millstone Plantation are rich in archaeological sites recorded in The Division of Historic Resources Master Site File.

### Public Use

Visitation of the project will be by invitation for environmental and cultural learning purposes on a limited basis. A limited walking trail exists throughout the project.

### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project consists of approximately 190 acres and one owner. The landowner is willing to consider a conservation easement with limited public access. The

FNAI Elements	
Florida scrub jay	G3/S3
Florida grasshopper sparrow	G5T1/S3
Crested caracara	G5/S2
Eastern indigo snake	G4T3/S3
Edison's ascyrum	G2/S2
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
Swallow-tailed kite	G4/S2S3
25 elements known from p	parcels

## Group A Less Than Fee

public access would include access for public education for school children, environmental researchers, organic agriculturist, artists and writers. The money from the conservation easement will go for management and outreach programs for the Millstone Institute. The entire parcel is essential.

### Coordination

The Trust for Public Lands will be the intermediary for acquisition of the conservation easement.

On April 6, 2001, the Acquisition and Restoration Council placed this project on the new Florida Forever list.

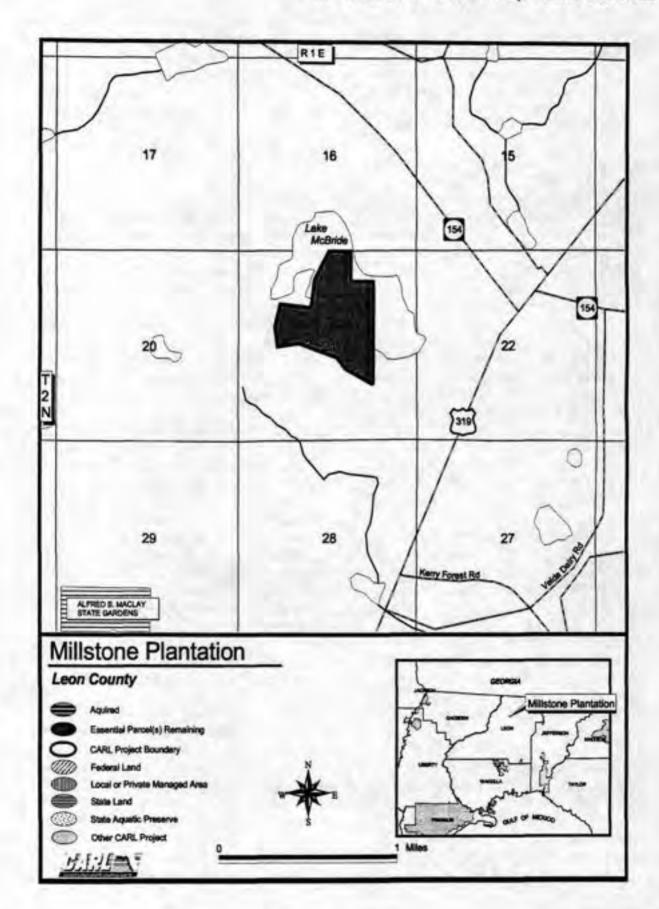
Acquisition negotiations are being conducted.

### Management Policy Statement

Millstone Plantation is proposed as a less-than-fee acquisition; therefore, specific management activities and public access would be limited by the terms of the purchase. A conservation easement would preclude the eventual development pressure from the Tallahassee area. The Millstone Institute of Preservation, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit, was founded in 1995 to promote the use of the property for educational purposes. The Institute has and will continue to sponsor scientific aquatic research of Lake McBride and its surrounding area. It is expanding its nature trails and implementing a management plan for the property that will include longleaf pine and native groundcover restoration on the uplands, wildlife habitat management, wetlands management and enhancement and the protection of the many historical century-old live oaks. Further archaeological investigations and surveys are also planned.

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Acres)	166
Acres Acquired	93
at a Cost of	\$892,000
Acres Remaining	63
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$69,970

Millstone Plantation - Group A/Less Than Fee



### Millstone Plantation - Group A/Less Than Fee

### Management Prospectus

The Millstone Plantation Florida Forever project encompasses nearly 200 acres in northwestern Leon County, at the southern edge of the Red Hills region. Millstone is a highly significant archaeological site containing Florida Master Site File sites representing a continuous pattern of settlement for over 10,000 years, including the Paleo-Indian, Early Archaic, Late Archaic, Deptford, Weeden Island, Fort Walton, Apalachee, Spanish Mission, Seminole, English, and Colonial periods. The Millstone Plantation House, an example of late 19st century Colonial revival architecture, and related structures and out-buildings, are also of great historical significance, eligible for listing as a National Register of Historic Site. The Millstone project also includes significant shoreline on Lake McBride, (Class III. Waters of the State) one of the last unpolluted Sinkhole or Clastic Upland Lakes in Leon County, and Millstone Creek, a Seepage Stream, which form the headwaters of the Lake Lafayette Basin. Millstone encompasses significant recharge areas for the Floridan Aquifer. Additionally, the project contains a Basin Swamp and Upland Mixed Forest and Upland Pine Forests suitable for restoration. Primary goals of management of the Millstone Plantation project are: investigation, protection, interpretation, and educational activities for the site's archaeological resources; conservation and protection of and continued aquatic, biological, and geologic research into the waters of Lake McBride and Millstone Creek; conservation, protection, sustainable management and restoration of the Upland Pine Forests; and historic preservation, restoration, and interpretation of the Millstone Plantation House and related structures

Qualifications for state designation Due to the site's unique archaeological resources representing a continuous pattern of human settlement and the importance of the Millstone Plantation House and related structures, the site may qualify for designation as a State Historical Site.

Manager The Apalachee Land Conservancy would be responsible for the monitoring and enforcing of the conservation casement.

Management goals The primary management goal of Millistone Plantation is continued protection, preservation, investigation, and interpretation of the property's rich archaeological resources and stabilization, preservation, and restoration of the Millistone Plantation House and related structures. The Institute will also continue efforts to foster the protection of the water quality of Lake McBride and Millstone Creek and continue aquatic research, as well as begin restoration of the project's natural upland communities. Central to all of these efforts is continuation of the Institute's public education activities and community outreach programs, including continued limited public access to the property for outdoor educational and recreational activities.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The greatest challenge facing the management of Millstone is the tremendous amount of archaeological resources on the property. Developing a plan for ongoing systematic survey, investigation, and interpretation of the site's archaeological resources will be essential. The proximity of highways and residential and commercial development to the site may pose fire and smoke management problems for restoration of Millstone's natural communities. Due to development pressure in the Lake McBride Basin, accelerating the timeline for aquatic research is important.

Timetable for implementing management Archaeological surveys and investigation are ongoing; initial management activities should concentrate on identifying and researching these resources. In subsequent years, the Institute plans to implement a management plan for the property that will include longleaf pine and native groundcover restoration on the uplands, wildlife management, wetlands management, and enhancement and protection of the many centuryold live oaks on the property. Restoration of natural communities will require eradication of exotic and pest plants (Chinese tallow, Japanese climbing fern, and tropical soda apple), as well as prescribed burning and re-vegetation. The Institute has and will continue to sponsor scientific aquatic research into Lake McBride. Existing nature trails on the property will be improved and expanded to enhance public access. The Institute will also continue and expand it's existing public education programs, including traditional, sustainable, organic agricultural practices and North Florida farm arts, such as spinning and weaving. Plans will also be made for historically accurate and appropriate preservation and restoration of the Millstone Plantation House and related structures.

Management costs and sources of revenue The Millstone Institute will seek funding through both public and private (foundations, corporations, and individuals) grant sources to support management activities.

Group A Full Fee

# Northeast Florida Blueway

## **Duval, St. Johns and Flagler Counties**

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Northeast Florida Blueway is a chain of marshes and tidal lands extending from Mayport south through much of St. Johns County. Estuarine Tidal Marsh covers much of the proposal. These marshes and open water areas of the Blueway provide important nurseries for many species of game fish and shrimp, and ultimately support a recreational and commercial fishery. Acquisition of this proposal would protect fragile marshes, tidal creeks, and the associated uplands that buffer these fragile resources. The intention of the project is to connect existing natural areas and greenspace to form a conservation lands corridor along the north-south waterway.

### Manager

The City of Jacksonville, the Division of Forestry (DOF of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS), and the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

### **General Description**

The project is comprised primarily of estuarine tidal marshes interspersed with slightly elevated islands, bordered on the east and west by flatwoods and hammocks. Higher lands generally hold maritime hammocks and xeric hammocks, whereas lower elevations are made up of hydric hammocks and mesic and wet flatwoods. In St. Johns County many of these lands are already publicly owned for by the state or by local governments, but not managed as conservation land. According to FNAI seven rare/endangered species are recorded with the project area. The project area

FNAI Elements	and the second second
MacGillivay's seaside sparrow	G4T2/S1
Great Egret	G5/S4
Marsh Wren	G5T3/S2
Little Blue Heron	G5/S4
Snowy Egret	G5/S3
Estuarine Tidal Marsh	G4/S4
Maritime Hammock	G4/S2
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods	G?/S4
20 elements known from p	roject

contains at least 14 sites listed in the Division of Historical Resources' Florida Master Site File.

### Public Use

This project would support primitive camping opportunities in association with canoeing and kayaking taking place within the waterway and associated creeks. Some of the larger parcels may have potential for archaeological interpretation and nature study trails, depending on the ability of the public to gain access.

The Division of Recreation and Parks proposes to manage the St. Johns County portion north of Faver-Dykes State Park and south of a haul road between US Highway 1 and a spoil site on the Matanzas River. This is about 5,000 acres. As a part of Faver-Dykes State Park, hunting would not be allowed. The property would expand the quality and quantity of recreational activity at the park including bicycling, hiking, horseback riding, camping (RV and primitive camping) environmental education and picnicking.

The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the remainder of the project under a multiple-use management regime consistent with the State Forest system. A portion of the project will become part of the Deep Creek State Forest, managed for multiple uses including, but not limited to, timber management and restoration, low impact recreational opportunities, and protection of archeological and historic sites.

Phase I (Duval) Placed on list	2001
Phase II (St. Johns) placed on list	2002
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	35,019
Acres Acquired	8,671
at a Cost of	\$30,404,950
Acres Remaining	25,348
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value	of \$25,821,040

### Acquisition Planning and Status

Phase I was added to the Florida Forever project list in 2001. The City of Jacksonville has agreed to pay for a mean high water survey up front as the first step in identifying critical parcels that could be developed. In addition, the City and the Trust for Public Land, who is working with the city on the Blueway, have begun identifying parcels on aerial photographs that appear developable and may not have significant state sovereign lands issues. The entire project is essential.

Phase II, in St. Johns County, was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the December 6, 2001 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) as a Group A project. This portion has 48 parcels, held by seven owners. The essential parcels are Rayonier Timberlands, Ponce de Leon Resort, Flagler Development, Roberts, Rayland, Wadsworth, and Swan Development.

On August 15, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council added the 20.3-acre Jacoby-Marineland addition to the project, and added 70 acres to the boundaries of Phase II of the project.

### Coordination

The City of Jacksonville is an acquisition partner in Phase I, in Duval County. The city has contacted FEMA and they may contribute \$250,000 towards acquisition. Florida Communities Trust has already contributed acquisition fimds with the City for several parcels, the SJRWMD has purchased some conservation easements and the Jacksonville Transportation Authority has mitigation funds to contribute towards acquisition. The Trust for Public Land will be the intermediary for negotiations.

Portions of Phase II, in St. Johns County, will likely be acquired through other conservation programs. St. Johns County, the Florida Communities Trust Program and the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) may be partners on portions of the project.

### Management Policy Statement

To conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of the state or a larger geographic area. To conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species. To conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources. Finally, to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for State Designation

The lands in Phase I are rapidly disappearing as Duval County grows. The Preservation Project, the city's land acquisition program, seeks to protect and preserve the existing habitat and waterway as it exists today. It is the goal of the City of Jacksonville to manage this project to conserve, protect or restore important ecosystems while providing opportunities for naturalresource-based recreation. The City of Jacksonville proposes to manage the lands in accordance with the standards of the Acquisition and Restoration Council.

Phase II is of a size and diversity that makes it desireable for use and management as a state forest. Management by the DOF as a state forest is contingent upon acquiring fee simple title to the parcels of interest to DOF. The portion of the project of interest for management by the DRP is largely disturbed land that has been managed for silviculture. While much restoration work will be required over time, the quality of the property when restored will make it suitable for state park purposes.

### Manager

The City of Jacksonville will manage that portion of the project within Duval County. The Division of Recreation and Parks proposes to manage that portion of the Northeast Florida Blueway – Phase II project, approximately 5,000 acres, lying north of Faver-Dykes State Park, south of a haul road from US 1 to a spoil site on the Matanzas River, east of US 1 and west of the Matanzas River. The Division of Forestry (DOF) proposes to manage the Rayonier parcel north of the spoil haul road (approximately 4,000 acres) plus two additional parcels, one adjoining Deep Creek State Forest and an adjoining Florida Natural Areas Inventory Addition 1 (approximately 2,500 acres).

### **Conditions affecting intensity of management**

Initial management efforts of Phase I by the Ciry of Jacksonville will concentrate on site security, resource inventory, removal of trash and limited public access to the property. Steps will be taken to ensure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources.



Intensive restoration will be needed on the portion of Phase II managed by DRP to restore natural communities disturbed by timber operations. Intensity of restoration will be dictated by study of the site. Any immediate action, such as prescribed burning, would increase the early intensity of management. The lands bordering the river are in relatively good shape and will not require intensive management.

The portions of Phase II managed by DOF can be restored with the help of carefully prescribed fires and hydrologic restoration. The use of fire must be carefully applied because of the fuel load and type of fuel in this forest system. An inventory of the forest roads in this area would determine which stay open for public use, which would be used for management, and which would be closed.

### Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

Jacksonville's land-acquisition program, Preservation Project Jacksonville, will be responsible for developing and implementing the management plans for Phase I. The Preservation Project set aside \$950,000 to hire a program manager to develop and implement management plans. As properties are acquired, the City will inventory natural resources and develop first a plan to protect and restore resources, including the removal of invasive and exotic species, before developing access plans.

The DRP plans for its portion of Phase II that, upon fee title acquisition, public access will be provided for low-intensity, non-facility outdoor recreation. Within the first year after acquisition, management will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and developing a plan for longterm public use and resource management.

The DOF timetable for management of the remainder of Phase II also provides initial public access for diverse, low-intensity outdoor recreation. Management would be carried out by the DOF Bunnell District until additional personnel were available for resource management and restoration activity. Initial and intermediate management will concentrate on site security, public and resource management access, prescribed fire, reforestation, and removal of any trash.

### **Revenue-generating potential**

Phase II: No significant revenue to the DRP is expected to be generated initially. After acquisition and addition of the land to Faver-Dykes State Park, it will probably be several years before significant public use facilities are developed. The amount of revenue generated will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities developed. The DOF plans to conduct timber sales as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystems. These sales will primarily be from merchantable pine stands and provide a variable revenue depending on a variety of factors. The condition of the timber stands on the property is such that the revenue generating potential is expected to be moderate.

### **Cooperators in management activities**

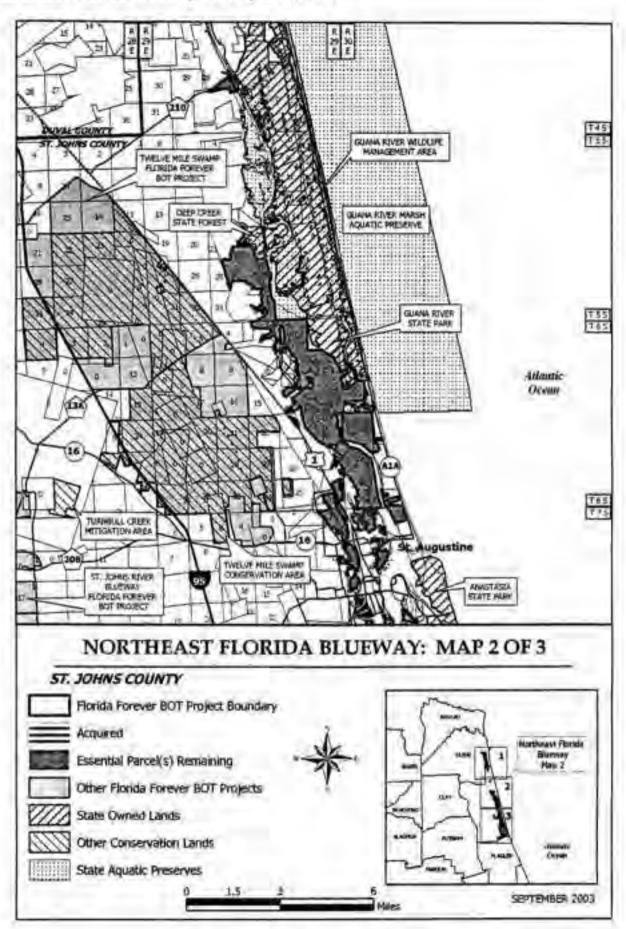
Although not required, the City of Jacksonville commits to submitting management plans for city-controlled properties in the Blueway to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review and comment, even though properties may have been acquired with other sources. Doing so will ensure that the Preservation Project takes a system-wide approach to managing Blueway properties.

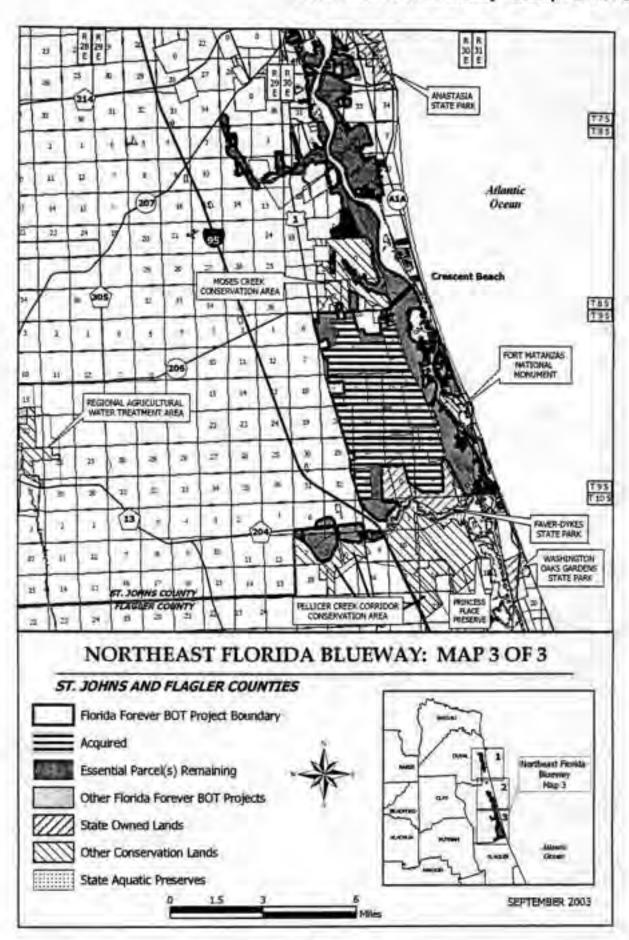
In Phase II, DRP will consult other federal, state, and local government agencies, as appropriate, to further resource management, recreational and educational opportunities and the development of the property for state park purposes. DOF plans to cooperate with, and seek the assistance of, local government entities, interested parties as appropriate and the Florida Natural Areas Inventory. The DOF also intends to coordinate the recreational use of the Rayonier parcel with the DRP because of the potential for a recreation trail on the eastern portion of the property. The DOF will work with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) in game and non-game management and related public use of the property.

(Continued on Page 318)









<sup>317</sup> 

The Blueway also includes a substantial amount of property owned by other government agencies. It is not the intent that the City or State acquires these properties. However, it is hoped that the Blueway boundary will be the catalyst for a voluntary, joint management approach to publicly owned lands within the corridor. Other agencies that own lands within the Blueway include the U.S. Navy, the National Park Service, Florida Inland Navigation District, the cities of Jacksonville Beach and Atlantic Beach, the City of Jacksonville, the Jacksonville Electric Authority and the St. Johns River Water Management District.

Management costs and sources of revenue

Phase I Management Costs and Sources of Revenue

Projected annual cost (FY 2	001):	
Management plans/	5	200,000
Security:	5	25,000
Invasion/exotics control:	\$	25,000
One-time capital outlay	52	2,500,000
TOTAL	\$2	,750,000

The DRP has made general management estimates that would be adjusted based on approval of a unit management plan. Costs for fencing are included. Restoration costs are estimated at \$500 per acre, and until further study, the total of acres to be restored is not known.

### Phase II Management Cost Summary/DRP

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds:	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$29,000
OPS	\$15,000	\$5,000
Expense	\$18,000	\$12,000
000	\$25,000	\$0
FCO	\$20,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$81,000	\$49,000

The DOF anticipates that revenue funding will come from the CARL Trust Fund. Budget needs for interim management are estimated as follows:

Phase II Management Cost Summary/DOF

\$79,518
\$215,000
\$37,800
\$333,318



Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve - Group A/Full Fee

# Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve Nassau, Duval, Clay and Putnam Counties

## Group A Full Fee

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The three-county corridor of the Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve would create a conservation landscape connecting several high-quality managed areas. The original 114,650 acres of pine woods, bottomland forests and the basin swamps in this project have been combined with a 17,800-acre addition to the Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway to make this a 132,450-acre project. The project would connect and enhance the protection of the Jennings State. Forest, the Cecil Field Conservation Corridor, the Cary State Forest, and the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve. The project will also touch two military reservations in this area, Camp Blanding and the Whitehouse Naval Outlying Field. At the south end, the project will adjoin the existing Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway. The project's size and diversity makes it desirable for use and management as a state forest.

### Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS)

#### General Description

This project describes a northeast-southwest diagonal along the west side of Duval County, stretching from the Nassau River north of Jacksonville to Trail Ridge in Clay County, near the town of Lawtey. Another section of the project makes a north-south connection about 12 miles long, between the Camp Blanding Military Reservation and the Etoniah Creek State

FNAI Elements		
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3	
Southeastern weasel	G5T4/S3?	
Flatwoods salamander	G2G3/S2S3	
Eastern indigo snake	G4T3/S3	
Bartram;s ixia	G2/S2	
Hartwrightia	G2/S2	
St. John black-eyed susan	G2/S2	
Pondspice	G2/S2	
8 elements known	from project	

Forest. About 75 percent of this land is used, or has been used, for silviculture. It also includes mesic flatwoods, cypress and hardwood swamp, sandhills and associated plant communities.

### **Public Use**

The Division of Forestry will promote recreation and environmental education in the natural environment. There is a possibility of an intermediate and long-term need for some type of developed recreation facilities. If such facilities are developed, the use of low-impact, rustic facilities will be stressed. If an organized recreation area is desired, it will be assessed and evaluated to minimize any possible adverse effects on the natural environment. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/ or restored to the greatest extent practical.

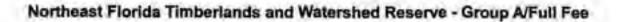
### Acquisition Planning and Status

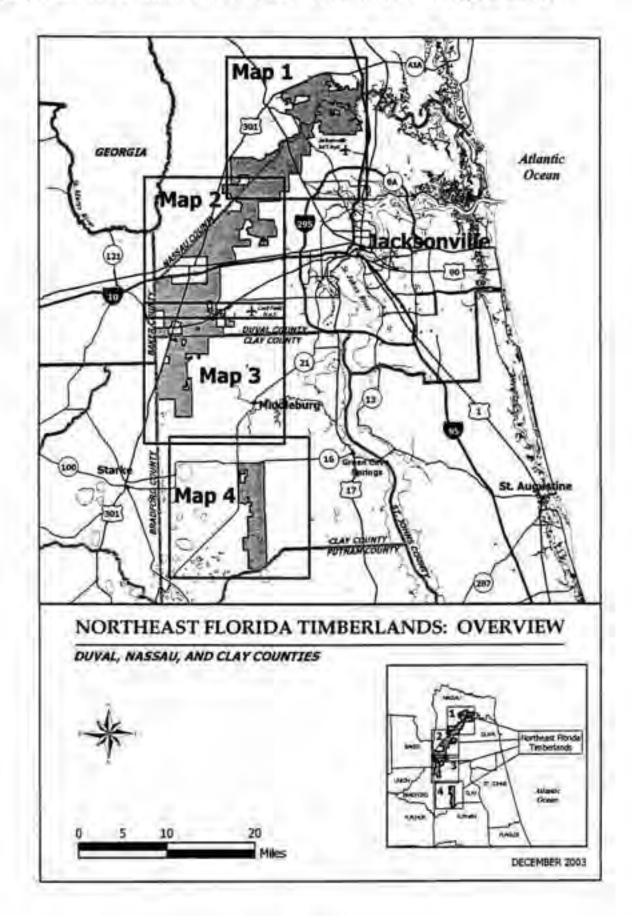
The Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the December 6, 2001 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council. The 139,847 acres in this project are divided among more than 150 owners and several hundred parcels over a four-county area (Nassau, Duval, Clay and Putnam counties). The following 37 ownerships have been identified as essential parcels: Gilman, Jackson, Carter, Owen, Nemours, Miller, Bostiwick, Klieg, Bullock, 1st Bank and Trust, Rayonier, International Paper, Motes, Boyd, S. Regional Industrial Realty,

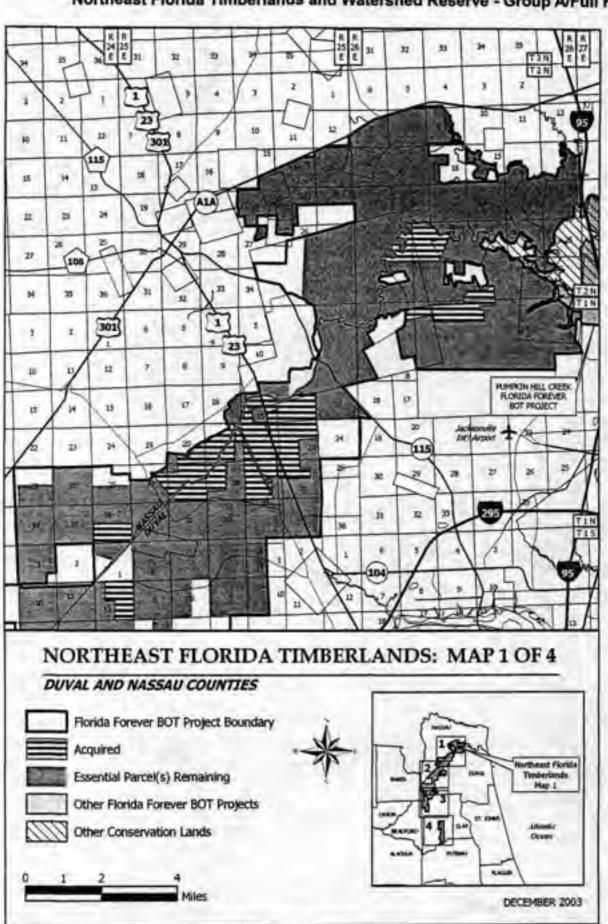
(Continued Page 325)

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (acres)	139,847
Acres Acquired	25,088*
At a Cost of	\$72,827,735*
Acres Remaining	114,759
With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of	\$41,442,723

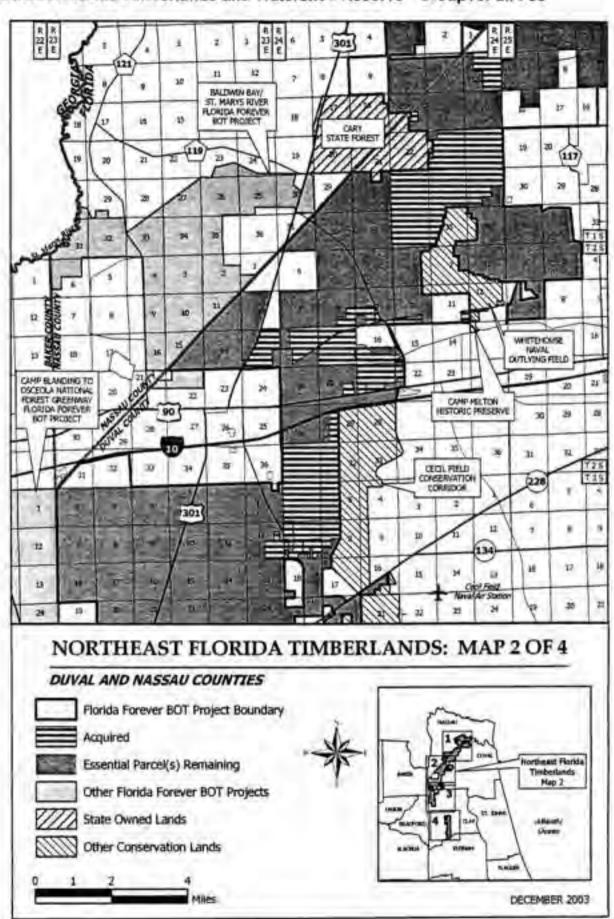
"Includes acreage and expenditures by the City of Jacksonville, JEA and St. Johns River Water Mgt. District



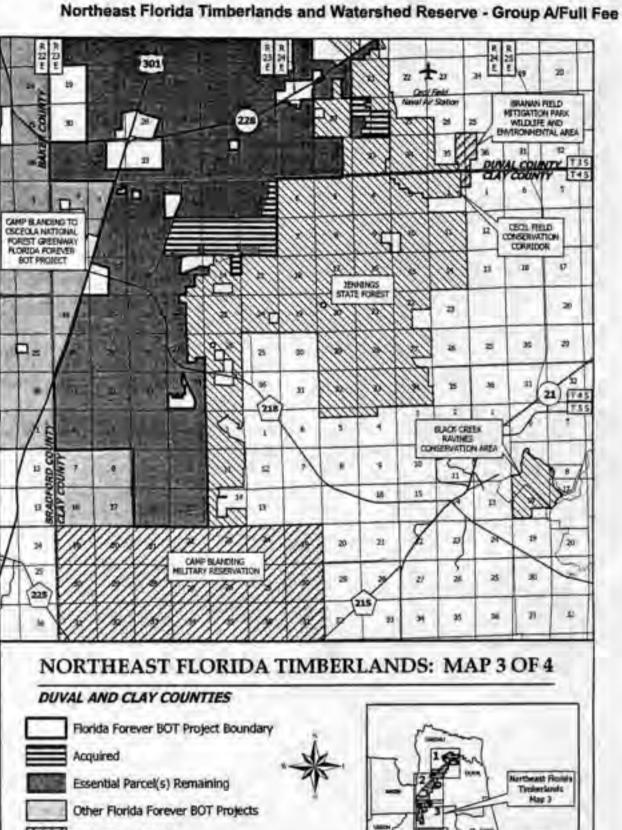




Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve - Group A/Full Fee



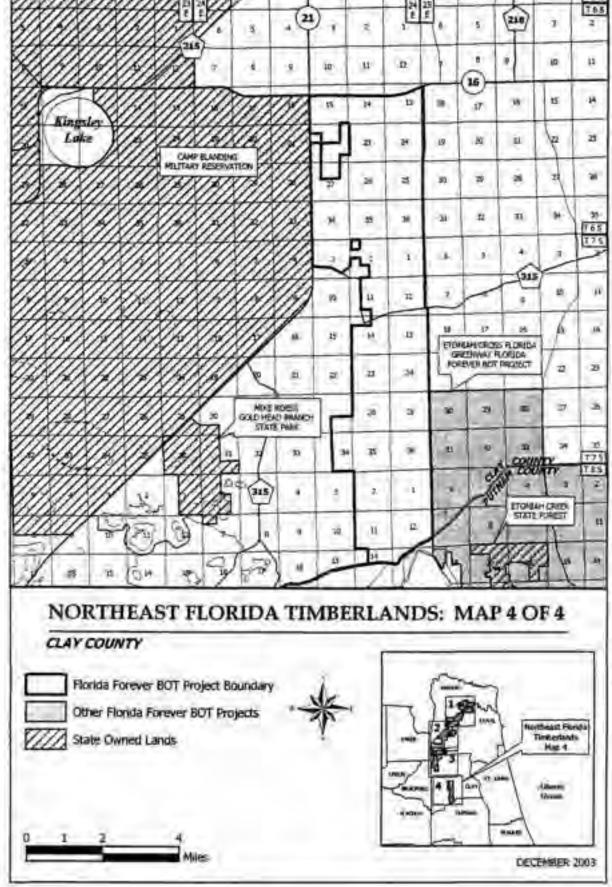
## Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve - Group A/Full Fee



m. 4 State Owned Lands 12.00 (Comm) Other Conservation Lands 1 2 DECEMBER 2003 Miles



Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve - Group A/Full Fee



## Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve - Group A/Fuli Fee

East Fiftone Partners, Monticello Drugs, St. Joe, Barnett Bank Trustee, Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Travelers Ins., Foster, Tison, Castleton, Wright, Buck, Logan, Higgenbotham, Betz, Ogilvie, Milne, Kaleel & Roberts, Grey, Sythe, Pharr, Wilkinson, and Helmer.

On June 6, 2003, ARC added the 506-acre Norfolk Southern Tract in Duval County to the project boundaries.

On December 5, 2003 ARC added the 7,043-acre Four Creeks Forest Tract to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

This project will be acquired in partnership with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and Duval County. The SJRWMD and Duval County will likely take the lead under a 161 Agreement and/or a Multi-Party Acquisition Agreement.

#### Management Policy Statement

The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the project under a multiple-use management regime consistent with the DOF management of the Cary State Forest, the Jennings State Forest and the Cecil Field Conservation Corridor, all of which are adjacent to this project. The acquisition goals and objectives as approved by ARC would include timber management and restoration, low-impact diverse recreation uses, and management of archeological and historic sites, habitat and other biological resources.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

The project's size and diversity makes it desirable for use and management as a state forest. Management by the Division of Forestry as a state forest is contingent on acquiring fee-simple title to the core parcels adjacent to the existing state forests and to approximately 60 percent of the project.

#### Manuger

The Division of Forestry of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is recommended to be the lead managing agency.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

Much of the parcel has been disturbed by past pine plantings and will require restoration work. This area of Florida is experiencing rapid urban growth, so that any prescribed burning to restore the forest will have to be carefully planned. The level of management and the related management costs are expected to initially be high to obtain necessary information to restore and manage portions as a state forest. It is recognized that a portion of the project will be less-than-fee simple. This technique is valuable on the fringes of urban growth because it allows the landowners to manage the property as they have been managing it, and continuing to produce forest products for Florida's economy, while protecting the property from conversion to urban growth.

#### Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

Once the core areas of the project are acquired and assigned to the Division of Forestry, initial public access will be provided for diverse, low-intensity outdoor recreation activities. Initial and intermediate management efforts will concentrate on site security, public and resource management access, prescribed burns, reforestation, and restoration activity.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

Timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or to maintain the desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in the marketable pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue, depending on a variety of factors. The existing condition of the timber stands on the property is such that the revenue-generating potential is expected to be moderate. Other compatible state forest sources of income will be considered.

#### **Cooperators** in management activities

The Division of Forestry will cooperate with, and seek the assistance of, other state agencies, local government agencies, other interested parties as appropriate, and with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). The Division intends to coordinate with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) regarding game and non-game management activity and related public use of the property.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL Trust Fund. Budget needs for interim management are estimated as follows.

Management Cost Summary/FWC (including salaries for 4 full-time employees)

Salary (4 FTEs)	\$154,357
Expense	\$620,000
Operating Capital Outlay	\$148,075
TOTAL	\$887,007

## Nokuse Plantation - Group A/Less Than Fee

# **Nokuse Plantation**

Walton County

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

The primary purposes for state acquisition of a conservation easement are to protect significant natural communities, restore disturbed areas and to protect native wildlife, especially the Florida black bear, while allowing continued timber management and other land uses that are not detrimental to the current resource values.

#### Manager

As a proposed conservation easement this project will be managed by the private landowner and monitored and overseen through the Office of Environmental Services, Division of State Lands

#### **General Description**

The Nokuse Plantation project consists of approximately 23,895 acres in Walton County. This large landscape consists of numerous basin and dome swamps, floodplain swamps, and mesic/wet flatwoods interspersed between pine plantations.

Nearly 80 percent of Nokuse Plantation has been converted to intensive silviculture, with densely stocked slash pine stands and clearcuts accounting for more than 12,000 acres of what was primarily sandhill and mesic and wet flatwoods. Other disturbances, such as pasture, impoundments, and powerline rights-of-way comprise an additional 5 percent of the site. Although most of the plantation areas retain very limited native groundcover, the Miller Tract, 530 acres of relatively intact natural communities in the western portion of the plantation, has a natural vegetation composition and structure. The Miller Tract contains approximately 200 acres of good to high quality wet to mesic flatwoods with inclusions of wet prairie. Pond cypress-dominated dome and basin swamps are scattered throughout the site and represent approximately 1,700 acres. Some of the dome swamps have been impacted by bedding and pine planting in the ecotones and through the shallower areas. Zones of Upland Hardwood Forest line some of the slopes and bluffs above Black Creek and its larger tributaries. Although the project area has not been subjected to a cultural resource assessment survey, 40

archeological sites are recorded in the Florida Site File within the project.

#### Public Use

As a less-than-fee (LTF) project, public resource-based recreation potential of this project is severely limited. However, the property is currently being hunted under lease conditions and the owner has indicated a willingness to consider public opportunity hunts. The number of such hunts and the extent of such hunts across the property would need to be negotiated. Due to the uncertainty of the extent of public hunting that will be allowed, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission advises that the public hunting potential of this project is low.

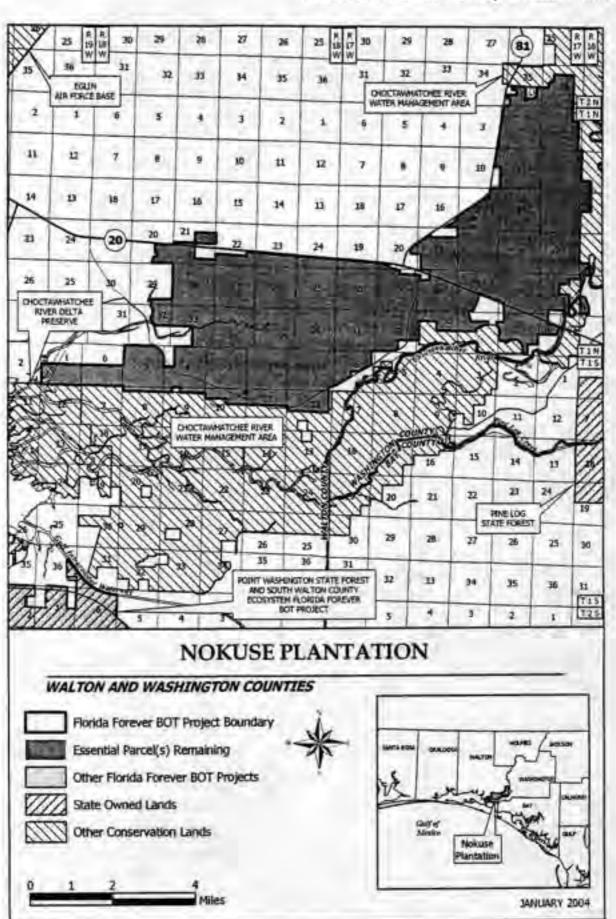
Although proposed as a conservation easement, the owner indicated a willingness to allow limited resourcebased public outdoor recreation and environmental education activities including hiking.

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	23,895
Acres Acquired	Q
At a Cost Df	Q
Acres Remaining	23,895

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$1,919,334

FNAI Elements	
Mountain laurel	G5/S3
Ashe's magnolia	G2/S2
Florida flame azalea	G3/S3
Cooley's meadow-rue	G1/S1
Eastern diamondback rattlesnake	G4/53
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Coal skink	G5/S3

## Group A Less Than Fee



Nokuse Plantation - Group A/Less Than Fee

#### Nokuse Plantation - Group A/Less Than Fee

and special opportunity hunts to manage deer, turkey, and hog populations.

As a potential route for the Florida National Scenic Trail, a specific provision to allow the development of a public recreation trail on suitable portions of the property should be a component of the easement or as fee-title, whichever is feasible.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project consists of approximately 23,895 acres, multiple parcels, and one owner. The 2002 tax assessed value is estimated at \$1,919,334. On June 6, 2003, the Acquisition and Restoration Council added this project to the A List of Florida Forever projects The project is proposed for less-than-fee acquisition. The purchase of development rights and the prohibition of any further conversion of existing natural areas to agricultural uses will be the primary focus of the conservation easement, while public access for recreational trails and hunting are secondary considerations. Since the project is a single owner project, the entire project is essential, and phasing is not contemplated.

On December 5, 2003 the ARC added 9,085 acres to the project boundary.

The Division of State Lands is currently negotiating a conservation easement for this project.

#### Coordination

This project is adjacent to the Northwest Florida Water Management District's Choctawhatchee River Water Management Area (53,444 acres), and The Nature Conservancy's Choctawhatchee River Delta Preserve (2,760 acres). There are no acquisition partners at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

As a proposed conservation easementor other less-thanfee interest, this project will be managed by the private landowner with restrictions on land conversions and developments that might impact the natural or archeological resources. Public access for recreation trails and bunting may be compatible with the objectives of the land owner and should be included in the final boundaries of the managed area.

## Management Prospectus

### Qualifications for State Designation

Conceived as a "less than fee" acquisition or conservation easement area, the concept behind the Nokuse South proposal is twofold. First, the landowner is planning an ecological restoration of the tract to enhance the biodiversity of the fauna and flora of the site consistent with its historical composition. Secondarily, the acquisition project is designed as a entical link in a proposed system of contiguous state, federal and non-profit conservation areas in the central Florida Panhandle, extending from the Choctawhatchee River and Holmes Creek, to East Bay in Santa Rosa County. The current owner is committed to restoring the pine plantations back to a natural condition, and has already started the restoration effort throughout portions of the project. In the future special opportunity hunts and other forms of public access may be provided by the owner.

Portions of the project are located within the ecological greenway network "Eglin to Econfina" critical linkage identified by the Office of Greenways and Trails and the University of Florida. The project is also located within the planning corridor for the Northwest Florida Greenway, which is a joint effort between DEP. The Nature Conservancy, Okaloosa County and Eglin Air Force Base to create a conservation corridor/military base buffer from Eglin Air Force Base to the Apalachicola National Forest: Restoration activities planned by the landowner under a conservation easement, which include the reduction of pine basal area to more historic levels, reintroduction of longleaf pine along with a frequent prescribed fire regime, and the enhancement of the herbaceous stratum of several isolated wetlands will help create habitat conditions conducive to numerous imperiled species noted above and wildlife in general. Conservation of these lands would also help to preserve the migration and spawning habitat and recovery goals of the gulf sturgeon, as well as aiding in the protection of the Choctawahatchee River and hay system.

#### **Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management**

Restoration of the property to historic composition is the overall goal of the Nokuse project. Mechanisms to be employed include: timber harvesting to reduce the pine canopy coverage, replanting with native (longleaf pine), and prescribed fire management to control hardwoods and stimulate herbaceous groundcover. *Timetable for Implementing Management* There is no timetable for managing the property because, under the less-than-fee acquisition, the property would remain in private ownership.

## North Key Largo Hammocks - Group A/Small Holdings

# North Key Largo Hammocks

## Group A Small Holdings

## Monroe County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The West Indian hardwood forest of the Florida Keys, unique in the United States, is shrinking as development intensifies. The North Key Largo Hammocks project will protect the largest stand of this forest left, with its many tropical plants and rare animals; help protect the irreplaceable coral reef in John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary from the effects of uncontrolled development; and conserve an area where the public can enjoy the original landscape of these subtropical islands.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection will manage the small parcels and monitor the less-than-fee parcels.

#### **General Description**

The hammocks of North Key Largo form the largest stand of West Indian tropical forest in the United States, with numerous plant and animal species that are rare and endangered. The project also has over ten miles of shoreline that directly influence the adjacent waters of John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park. Natural communities include marine tidal swamp, coastal rock barren, and rockland hammock. The majority of the project is hammock or upland. No archaeological sites are known from the project.

As in other parts of the Keys, development seriously threatens this area.

The Kaufman parcel occupies a small part of North Key Largo, which supports the largest stand of West

ENAI Elements	
PINE ROCKLAND	G1/S1
Mahogany mistletoe	G7/S1
Inkwood	G2/S1
Prickly-apple	G2G3/S2
Key Largo woodrat	G5T1/S1
Key Largo cotton mouse	G5T1/S1
Florida Keys mole skink	G4T2/S2
Rimrock crowned snake	G1G2Q/S1S2
ROCKLAND HAMMOCK	G?/S2
42 elements known fr	rom project

Indian tropical forest in the United States, with numerous plants and animal species that are rare and endangered. The parcel fronts on State Road 905 and is surrounded on three sides by the North Key Largo State Botanical Site. The property is developed as a shrimp farm.

#### Public Use

This project is designated for use as a botanical site, with such uses as hiking and nature appreciation. The amount and nature of public use will be negotiated with the owner for the less than fee parcel.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

In general, Phase I consists of all tracts in the project area before 1986 project design additions. Phase II consists of contiguous tracts in the addition from north to south. Phase III consists of the northernmost islands—Palo Alto being the largest and most ecologically valuable. Phase IV consists of privately owned submerged tracts. Phase V consists of Port Bougainville/ Garden Cove.

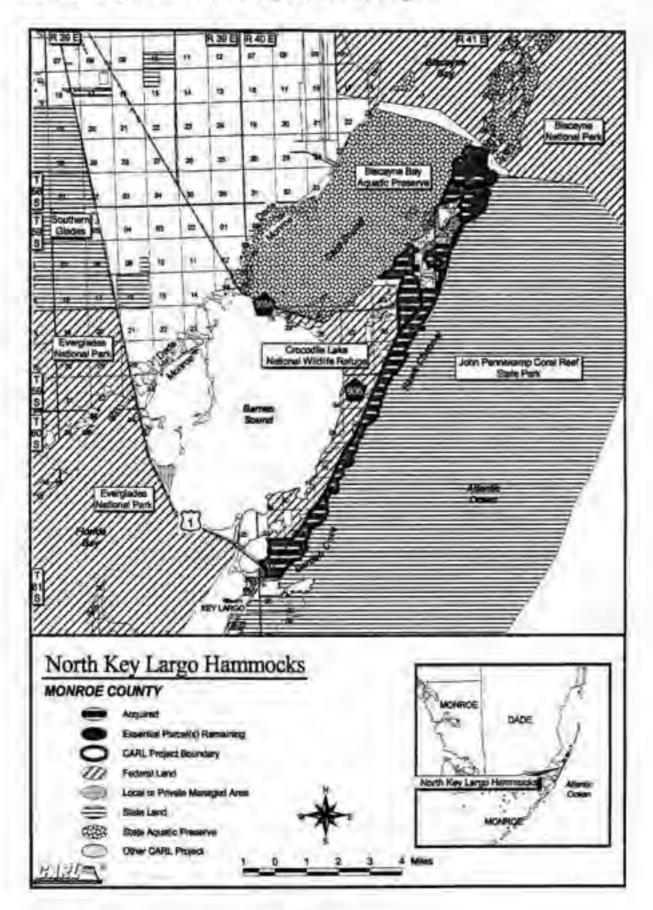
All tracts owned by willing sellers have been acquired. The Governor and Cabinet have authorized condemnation of the remainder of the project. Proceedings are in progress.

On March 10, 1995, LAMAC approved the addition of 3.25 acres to the project boundary.

On October 30, 1996, LAMAC adopted criteria for establishing a Less-Than-Fee acquisition category: 1) resource value of the project/tract can be adequately

Placed on list	1983
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	4,513
Acres Acquired	4,269
at a Cost of	\$73,110,967
Acres Remaining	244
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$2,631,083

## North Key Largo Hammocks - Group A/Small Holdings



#### North Key Largo Hammocks - Group A/Small Holdings

protected through a less-than-fee instrument; 2) seller is willing to accept a less-than-fee-simple instrument and LAMAC has determined that the project's or site's acquisition objectives can be met by acquiring a less-than-fee interest; and 3) manager is willing to oversee a less-than-fee-simple instrument.

On December 5, 1996, LAMAC transferred the 4,7acre Sea Critters (Kaufman/Maxwell) ownership, to the Less-Than-Fee acquisition category.

At the December 5, 1997, LAMAC meeting, council approved a request by the Division of Recreation and Parks for a 25-acre addition, with a \$714,000 tax as-

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the North Key Largo Hammocks project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect lands within areas of critical state concern, if the proposed acquisition relates to the natural resource protection purposes of the designation; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, if the protection and conservation of such lands is necessary to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which cannot otherwise be accomplished through local or state regulatory programs.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The North Key Largo Hammocks project includes the largest West Indian tropical forest in the United States. This qualifies it as a state botanical site.

Manager The DRP will manage the project.

sessed value. The addition is composed of multiple ownerships and lots within the Knowlson Colony (55 lots) and Gulfstream Shores (64 lots) subdivision.

On June 6, 2002 the Council combined the Group B Less-Than-Fee project with the Group A Small Holdings project.

The project is more than 90-percent complete. Of the 94 remaining parcels (68 owners), 87 are in the eminent-domain process.

Coordination There are no acquisition partners at this time.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The project is a low-need management area emphasizing resource protection and perpetuation while allowing compatible public recreational use and development. Much of the project has already been acquired.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Future acquisitions will be incorporated into the Key Largo Hammock State Botanical Site. When the Division of Recreation and Parks brings each parcel under its management, it will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and inclusion of the parcel in a plan for long-term public use and resource management of the overall Botanical Site.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated for individual parcels. The amount of revenue generated will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities for the Botanical Site. Since management emphasizes resource protection, with limited public use, future revenues are not expected to be high. The Site does not presently generate any significant amount of revenue.

Cooperators in management activities No local goverriments or others are recommended for management of this project area.

Management Cost S	ummary/DRP		
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	CARL/SPTF	CARL/SPTF	CARL/SPTF
Salary	\$86,299	\$88,888	\$91,554
OPS	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Expense	\$24,702	\$28,261	\$28,261
000	\$0	\$5,200	\$5,200
INT. MGT.	\$498	\$498	\$498
HOSP	\$46,235	\$46,235	\$46,235
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$100,535	\$174,082	\$176,748

## Okeechobee Battlefield - Group A/Full Fee

# **Okeechobee Battlefield**

### **Okeechobee County**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Okeechobee Battlefield represents the site of one of Florida's most significant events during the Second Seminole War. On Christmas Day in 1837, more than 1,000 U.S. Army and Missouri Volunteer soldiers led by Colonel Zachary Taylor attacked several hundred Seminoles and Miccosukees north of Lake Okeechobee: Sam Jones, Alligator and Wildcat led the Indians, and the battle resulted in the loss of 26 U.S. forces killed and 112 wounded, while 14 Indians lost their lives. The battlefield, recorded in the Florida Master Site File as 80B10, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in the 1960s and later became a National Historic Landmark. The 55-acre project consists of improved pasture and freshwater marsh, and provides the backdrop for a yearly reenactment of the battle. State acquisition of Okeechobee Battlefield would meet Goal F of the Florida Forever program by adding a site listed in the Florida Master Site File. The battlefield site is described by the National Park Service as one of the 11 most endangered historic sites in the United States.

#### Manager

The Archeologucal and Historical Conservancy proposes to manage the property in cooperation with Okeechobee County and the Friends of the Okeechobee Battlefield, a Florida not-for-profit corporation.

#### **General Description**

The 55-acre project consists of improved pasture and freshwater marsh, and provides the backdrop for a yearly reenactment of the battle. The site is home to bald eagles, and offers potential habitat for the created caracara and wood stork. The project is situated adjacent to U.S. Highway 441/98 along the northeastern rim of Lake Okeechobee, approximately five miles southeast of the town of Okeechobee in southern

FNAI Elem	ents
Bald eagle Short-tailed hawk	G4G5/S1 G4/S3
2 elements known f	rom project

## Group A Full Fee

Okeechobee County. There are no adjacent or close by conservation lands in the FNAI database, however South Florida Water Management District lands Paradise Run and Kissimmee River are approximately 8 and 12 miles to the west, respectively. St. Lucie County's Bluefield Ranch and St. Lucie Pinelands are approximately 8.5 miles to the east, and 12 miles to the northeast, respectively.

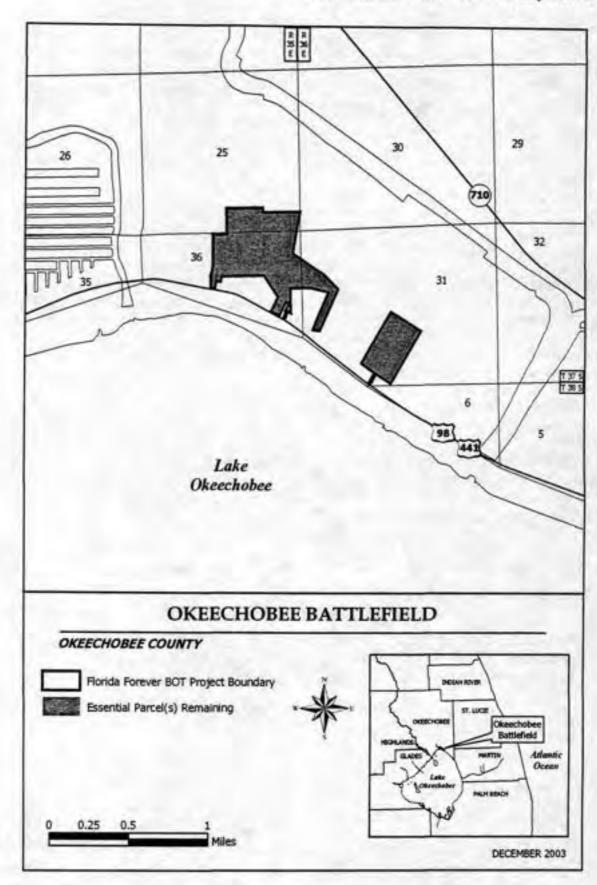
#### Public Use

The project is proposed as the site for an interpretive center/museum and a place to conduct a yearly commemorative re-enactment of the battle. The small size of the project limits the relative diversity and quantity of resource-based recreational opportunities. The site's importance is in its cultural significance as a smaller part of a larger battlefield site. Further study will be needed to determine the degree and nature of facilities suitable for the interpretation of the battle. Conceptually, management and development of the project could be similar to that of Olustee Battlefield State Historic Site with an interpretive facility and an annual enactment, but on a smaller scale. The ability In interpret and enhance enactment capabilities would be enhanced by bringing more of the battlefield site into the project. In addition to cultural interpretation and activities, picnicking would be a suitable secondary USARE.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Okcechobee Battlefield project was added to the 2002 Florida Forever project list at the December 6, 2001 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (acres)	178.6
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost of	0
Acres Remaining	178.6
With Estimated (tax assessed) Value	of \$113,970



#### **Okeechobee Battlefield - Group A/Full Fee**

The project consists of 55 acres in one parcel with one owner, the First Bank of Indiantown in Indiantown, FL. Because this is a single-owner project, a discussion about acquisition strategy is not applicable.

On December 5, 2003 the Council added 123 acres to the project boundary.

The Division of State Lands has terminated negotiations on the primary parcel, and is beginning the appraisal process on the addition.

#### Coordination

There are no partnership funding sources at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Okeechobee Battlefield are to preserve a historical site of true state and national significance and the various archeological and environmental features associated with it. A secondary goal is to interpret the battlefield by providing controlled public access and living history events, establishing the battle site as a community educational resource and heritage tourist destination.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

The historical significance of the Okeechobee Battlefield is reflected by its inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, and by its "endangered" status as a National Landmark. Currently no portions of the battlefield are in public ownership.

#### Manager

The Archeological and Historical Conservancy proposes to manage the property in cooperation with Okeechobee County and the Friends of the Okeechobee Battlefield, a Florida not-for-profit corporation.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

The property is a low-need management area that emphasizes historic resource protection while allowing compatible public access and site interpretation.

Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

Within the first year after acquisition the management will concentrate on protection of cultural and environmental resources, and on developing a long-term management plan.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

Okecchobee County and the Friends of the Okecchobee Battlefield will cooperate in management activities, including developing and implementing a long-term plan for the battlefield site. The Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Miccosukee Tribe will be included in all phases of planning for preservation, protection and appropriate improvement of the site for public use and benefit.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue

The long-term plan is anticipated to include recurring costs for wetlands restoration and site development to be determined, based on available public and private resources.

#### Management Cost Summary:

Startup Recurring Salary manager (half-time) \$26,500 \$26,500 Maintenance \$5,500 \$5,500

# **Old Town Creek Watershed**

## Group B Less Than Fee

## Hardee and Polk Counties

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Old Town Creek Watershed proposal is proposed as a less-than-fee-acquisition. A primary purpose of less-than-fee acquisitions is to preserve existing, low intensity use of large tracts of private land, where such protection will complement management objectives on adjacent public conservation land. Management objectives would be directed to conserve the mosaic of natural habitats and improved/working landscapes that constitute the Old Town Watershed, and protect significant habitat for native species or rare species, and integrate carefully controlled consumptive uses.

#### Manager (Monitor)

The conservation easement will be monitored by the Nature Conservancy.

#### **General Description**

The northeastern corner of the site includes part of the Lake Wales Ridge, a physiographic region of the state that is rich in rare plant and animal species. The site supports many natural communities characteristic of south-central Florida. Although a large percentage of the former flatwoods have been converted to improved pasture, they nevertheless remain important for several rare animals in the region.

#### Public Use

Most of the project is proposed as a less than fee acquisition. The property is a working ranch and the owner has indicated that unsupervised public access would not be desirable, but occasional visitation on a prearranged basis may be possible for natural resource education and nature appreciation purposes.

FNAI Elemen	nts
Bachman's Sparrow	G3/S3
SE American Kestral	G5T3/S3
Gopher Tortoise	G3/S3
Cutthroat Grass	G2/S3
Pigmy Fringe Tree	G3/S3
Scrubby	G3/S3
Scrub Holly	G5T3/S3
?? elements known fr	om parcels

The owner has indicated a willingness to consider a fee sale of the scrub in the north part of the project. This area is adjacent to The Nature Conservancy's Saddle Blanket Lake Preserve, which allows public visitation. If this scrub area were managed as an extension of that preserve, nature appreciation, natural resource education and nature trails could be made more readily available.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The essential parcel is Crews. The SWFWMD is an acquisition partner.

On April 6, 2001, the Acquisition and Restoration Council placed this project on the new Florida Forever list.

The Division of State Lands is not actively working this project.

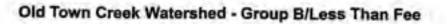
#### Coordination

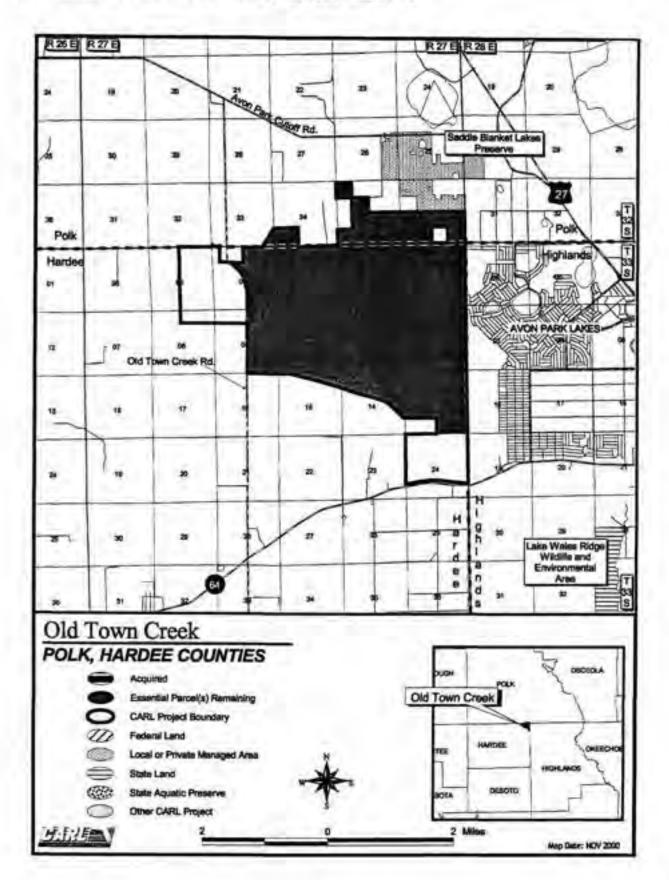
This project has been submitted to SWFWMD for a Save Our Rivers proposal.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation: Protecting this area will benefit the public in at least three major ways - 1) This project consists of a matrix of wetland and upland habitats, including a globally imperiled natural community, that supports a variety of common and rare plant and animal species and is of a size to qualify as a wildlife management area; 2) Protecting the watershed and natural habitats surrounding Old Town Creek,

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Acres)	7,285
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	7,285
with Estimated /Tax Assessed) Value of	\$788,200





#### Old Town Creek Watershed - Group B/Less Than Fee

which feeds into Charlie Creek and ultimately into the Peace River, from continued conversion to more intensive uses, particularly dairies or residential development, will help protect the water quality within the region; 3) The ranches in this region contain large areas of natural lands that should be protected if an ecological connection between the Big Cypress and the Osceola National Forest/Okefenokee Swamp is to be achieved.

Manager (Monitor): The Nature Conservancy, Southwest Florida Water Management District or Florida Park Service (Highlands Hammock State Park)

Conditions affecting intensity of management: This less-than-fee project includes lands requiring monitoring only. The Crews Ranch is a working cattle ranch that is and will continue to be managed by the private land owner. The Nature Conservancy and other land managing agencies will provide management advice and guidance to the landowner as necessary to maintain and enhance the resource management program.

#### Timetable for implementing management, protecting infrastructure and ensuring security:

During the first year after acquisition, management activities will focus on securing and posting the property and developing a management plan. Existing management activities will continue throughout the management planning process. The property owner will develop a management plan which will include fire management, exotic control and restoration components. Prior to the development of the management plan, the tract's natural resources and threatened/endangered plants and animals and any archaeological and cultural sites will be inventoried and mapped (Easement Documentation Report) to provide the basis for the management plan. Protection and security of infrastructure and the property will be the responsibility of the private landowner.

Revenue-generating potential: It is not anticipated or expected that any revenue will be generated from this easement.

Cooperators in management activities: No cooperators are recommended for this site. However, consultation with the Southwest Florida Water Management, The Nature Conservancy and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission could be helpful to the landowner.

Expected costs to monitor easement: Approximately \$1000 per year.

## Osceola Pine Savannas - Group A/Full Fee

# **Osceola Pine Savannas**

### **Osceola** County

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

Many kinds of wide-ranging wildlife use the open rangelands—pastures, pine flatwoods, and palmetto prairies—of Osceola County. The Osceola Pine Savannas project will conserve a large part of these lands, maintaining a link of natural lands between the Bull Creek and Three Lakes Wildlife Management Areas, helping to ensure the survival of wildlife like swallow-tailed kites and caracara, and, together with the two wildlife management areas, providing a large area for the public to enjoy hunting, wildlife observation, and other activities.

#### Manager

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

#### **General Description**

The project covers an area of old beach ridges and intervening swales, with high-quality, longleaf-pine flatwoods interrupted by cypress strands, cypress domes, and wet prairies. There are also extensive dry prairies and patches of oak or sand pine scrub, all of which are natural communities of the Kissimmee Prairic. No FNAI-listed plants are known from the site, but several are likely to occur. It is an important habitat to wildlife, especially birds, requiring extensive natural areas. Six FNAI-listed animals occur, including sandhill crane, wood storks, and crested caracara, and several more, including the federally endangered Florida. grasshopper sparrow, are possible. Much of the land is used as unimproved range; seriously disturbed areas are mainly improved pastures in the south end. Two archaeological sites are known. Any construction of roads or ditches will destroy the unique character of the project, but development pressure is low,

FNAI Elements	
DRY PRAIRIE	G2/S2
SCRUB	G2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
Bachman's sparrow	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Eastern indigo snake	G4T3/S3
22 elements known fr	om project

#### Public Use

The project will be designated as a wildlife management area, with such uses as hiking, wildlife observation and hunting.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Essential tracts are those owned by Robertson, McNamara, Equitable Life (acquired), Donovan, Montsococa, Redding, Keen, Kennedy, Henderson, Campos and the Mormon Church. Canaveral Acres Subdivision is also essential to acquire when Dr. Broussard consolidates a significant number of parcels.

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated two additional parcels "essential": a 229-acre tract adjacent to the Equitable ownership and a 17-acre tract between two other large tracts.

On June 6, 2002, the Council added 2,278 acres to the project boundary.

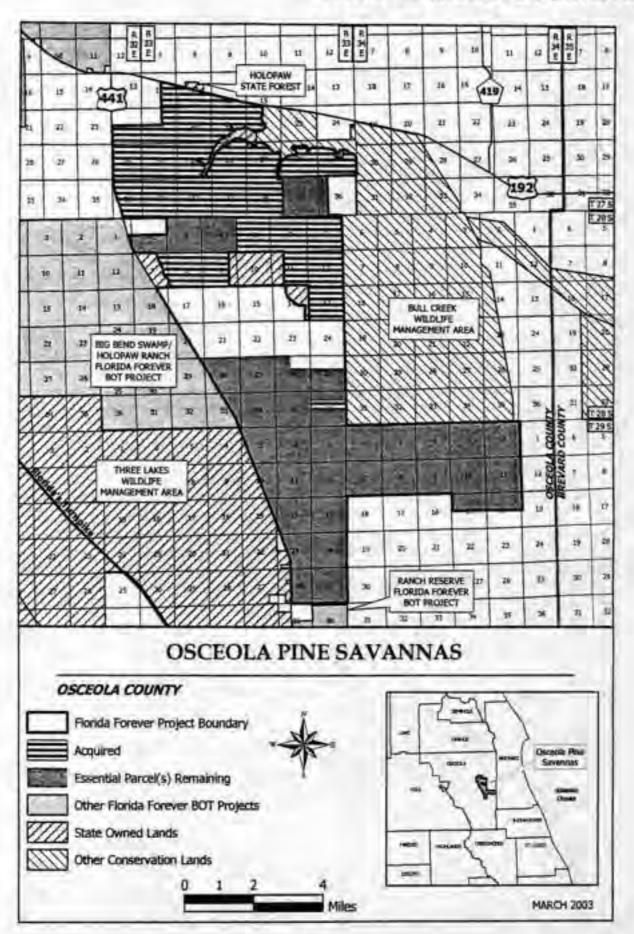
Negotiations have been terminated on the 2002 addition; the owners are pursuing a Development of Regional Impact (DRI) and plan to deevlop the land.

#### Coordination

St. Johns River Water Management District and the FWC have acquired over 19,007 acres (Triple N Ranch) in the northern one-third of the project area. The FWC has also acquired 1,920 acres adjacent to the southern boundary and has completed a 1,921-acre acquisition centrally located within the project boundary. They have also acquired a large "essential" tract in the central portion of the project (Equitable Life).

Placed on list	1995
Project Area (Acres)	43,602
Acres Acquired	16,839*
at a Cost of	\$19,901,936*
Acres Remaining	26,763
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$19,433,047

Includes acreage and expenditures by the St. Johns River Water Mpl. District and the Wildlife Conservation Commission



Osceola Pine Savannas - Group A/Full Fee

#### Osceola Pine Savannas - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Osceola Pine Savaimas project is to preserve and restore the integrity of the extensive functional ecosystems, ranging from pine flatwoods, dry prairie, and scrub to marshes and cypress swamps, that now extend from the Bull Creek to the Three Lakes Wildlife Management Areas. Achieving this objective will protect habitat for several endangered species of wildlife that need large natural areas to survive, such as Florida grasshopper sparrows, Florida sandhill cranes, Audubon's crested caracanas, and American swallow-tailed kites. It will also provide to the public over 100,000 acres in which to enjoy natural-resource-based recreation, such as hiking and hunting.

The project should be managed under the multiple-use concept: management activities should be directed first toward preservation of resources and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses such as hunting and logging.

Managers should control access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to one or a few main roads; thoroughly inventory the resources, restore hydrological disturbances; burn the fire-dependent pine flatwoods in a pattern mimicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control; reforest pine plantations and improved pastures with original species; prohibit timbering in old-growth stands; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually preserving resources. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible. This project includes most of the undeveloped land between Bull Creek Wildlife Management Area and Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area and consequently has the size and location to meet its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation 'The Osceola Pine Savannas project has the resource diversity to qualify as a Wildlife Management Area. Manager The FWC is recommended as lead manager. Conditions affecting intensity of management The project generally includes lands that are low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management and protection.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, activities will concentrate on site security, public access, fire management, resource inventory, and the removal of any existing trash. A concephaal management plan will be developed that describes the goals of future resource management on the site. Longrange plans for this property, beginning one year after acquisition, will stress the protection and management of threatened and endangered species. Programs providing multiple recreational uses will also be implemented. A burn management plan will be developed and implemented using conventional and biologically acceptable guidelines. Management activities will also strive to manage natural plant communities for the benefit of native wildlife. Where appropriate and practical, forest resources will be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices as recommended by the Division of Forestry. A resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection, or management. Unnecessary roads, firelines and ditches will be abandoned or restored. Infrastructure will be kept to the minimum necessary for public access and management.

Revenue-generating potential While the pinelands have significant economic value, their value to the area's wildlife may be even greater. A \$25 management area stamp would be required to hunt on the area. A management area stamp could also required for all users. Additional revenue would be generated by sales of hunting licenses and special hunting stamps (i.e., archery stamp, turkey stamp, etc.).

Cooperators in management activities The St. Johns River Water Management District and the Division of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, are recommended as cooperating managers.

Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$74,645	\$114,485	\$223,565
OPS	\$0	\$30,500	\$30,500
Expense	\$55,473	\$131,525	\$131,525
000	\$0	\$308,148	\$135,648
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$130,118	\$584,658	\$521,238

# Otter Mound

## **Collier County**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Otter Mound is proposed for state acquisition primarily because it is a large shell mound with a deep deposit of cultural materials. The midden is comprised of 15 feet of shell deposits that represent periods dating back 1500 years. This property is a site listed on the Florida Master Site File due to its archaeological significance. It contains a large mound of significant deposits that represent prehistoric activity. The potential for this land to be developed for residential uses is high. Neither the County's comprehensive plan nor its master plan for Marco Island includes policies which would ensure the protection of this site. Development of the site would destroy the mound and its contents; therefore, its potential to further the state's knowledge of prehistoric culture in southwest Florida would be completely lost.

#### Manager

The Archeological and Historical Conservancy (AHC) proposes to manage the property in cooperation with the Marco Island Historical Society.

#### **General Description**

The Otter Mound project is located in Collier County and consists of 1.78 acres. It is approximately 0.5 miles west of Deltona Lands, state-owned conservation lands that serve as mitigation for development on Marco Island; and approximately 3 miles west of Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Otter Mound is a shell midden located within a neighborhood on Marco Island. A multi-level shell wall constructed during the early 20th century surrounds portions of the mound. A mature tropical hammock dominated by a mixture of native and non-native species covers it. The current land use is vacant residential.

FNAI Eleme	ints
SHELL MOUND	G3/S2
1 element known	from project

### Otter Mound - Group A/Full Fee

## Group A Full Fee

#### Public Use

Public resource-based recreation potential of this project is severely limited due to the very small size of the project and its location within a residential community. Too, the project represents only a small portion of what was a much larger archaeological site in the past. Resourcebased activities would be limited to potential interpretation through a historic or educational element.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Otter Mound project was added to the Florida Forever project list at the December 5, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

The project is proposed for fee acquisition. There is no acquisition phasing contemplated. The essential parcel consists of one lot in the Caxambas Subdivision. It is identified as the Gionet ownership.

#### Coordination

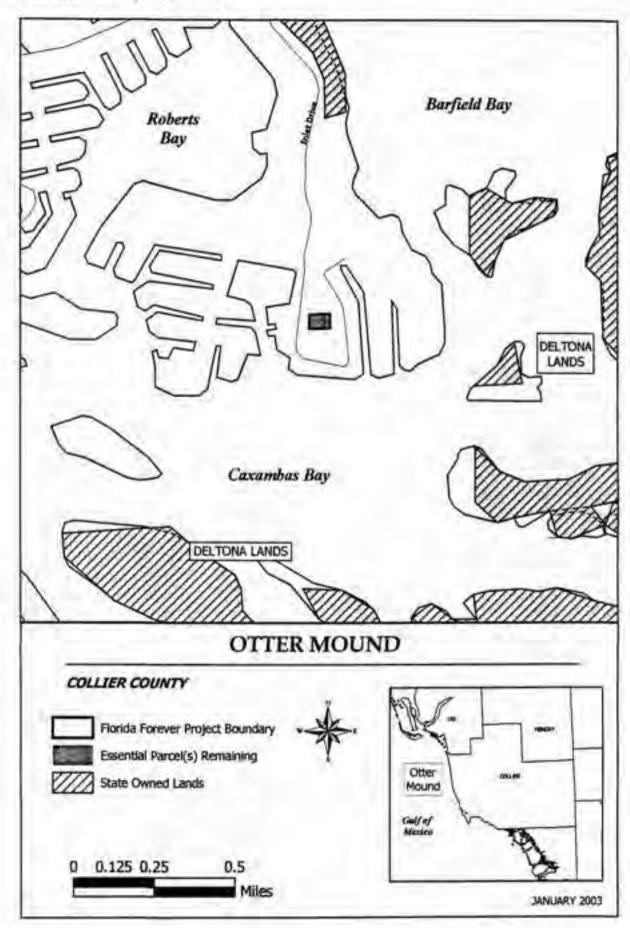
There are no acquisition partners identified at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of the management of the Otter Mound are to preserve a historic site of true state significance and the various archeological and environmental features associated with it. A secondary goal is to interpret the mound by providing controlled public access, establishing the site as a community educational resource and a heritage tourist destination.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	1.78
Acres Acquired	٥
at a Cost of	50
Acres Remaining	1.78
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$254,610

Otter Mound - Group A/Full Fee



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#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

the National Register of Historic Places under criteria (d), which includes sites "that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory."

#### Manager

The Archeological and Historical Conservancy (AHC) proposes to manage the property in cooperation with the Marco Island Historical Society.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

The property is a low-need management area emphasizing historic resource protection while allowing compatible public access and site interpretation. Otter mound is heavily infested with numerous invasive exotic species and many other non-invasive, non-native species.

The Otter Mound is potentially eligible for listing on To restore the hammock to its native condition will require a significant long-term commitment to invasive species eradication.

#### Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protections of infrastructure

Within the first year after acquisition, management will concentrate on cultural and environmental resource protection, and the development of a long-term management plan.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

The Archeological and Historical Conservancy (AHC) and the Marco Island Historical Society will cooperate in management activities, including development and implementation of a long-term plan for the site.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue:

Startup

Management Cost Summary

Category

Recurring

Source of funds:

**Resources** provided by AHC, Marco Island Historical Society, and the City of Marco Island

Maintenance:

\$7,500

### Pal-Mar -Group A/Full Fee

# Pal-Mar

### **Palm Beach and Martin Counties**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Agriculture and residential development have reduced natural areas in the interior of southeast Florida to fragments. One of the largest and best fragments, part of what was once a transition zone between pine flatwoods and the sawgrass marshes of the Everglades, will be protected by the Pal-Mar project. This project, by protecting these flatwoods and marshes, will protect habitat for the endangered Florida panther and snail kite, among other kinds of wildlife, will preserve natural lands linking the J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area with Jonathan Dickinson State Park, and will provide land to the public of this fast-growing region for hiking, bicycling, camping, hunting, and learning about the original nature of this part of Florida.

#### Manager

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (west of I-95) and Division of Recreation and Parks (DRF), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (east of I-95).

#### **General Description**

The project includes some of the highest quality, most intact pine flatwoods in southern Florida in an ecotone between pine flatwoods and the treeless Everglades and also includes high-quality examples of wet praine and savanna with exceptional ground-cover diversity. The project provides habitat for at least five federally endangered or threatened animals including the snail kite and wood stork. It is contiguous with the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area and the private Pratt-Whitney Wildlife Refuge—and includes a nule-wide connector to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. The

FNAI Elements		
Florida panther	G4T1/S1	
Snail kite	G4?T1/S1	
Florida threeawn	G2/S2	
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3	
Piedmont jointgrass	G3/S3	
WET FLATWOODS	G?/S4?	
HYDRIC HAMMOCK	G?/S47	
WET PRAIRIE	G?/S4?	
15 elements known	from project	

## Group A Full Fee

project has low archaeological or historic value. Urbanization is rapidly isolating the State Park and growth pressures on the uplands in this project are intense.

#### Public Use

Most of this project has been designated for use as a wildlife management area. The easternmost portion of the project area will be added to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. Public uses will include hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

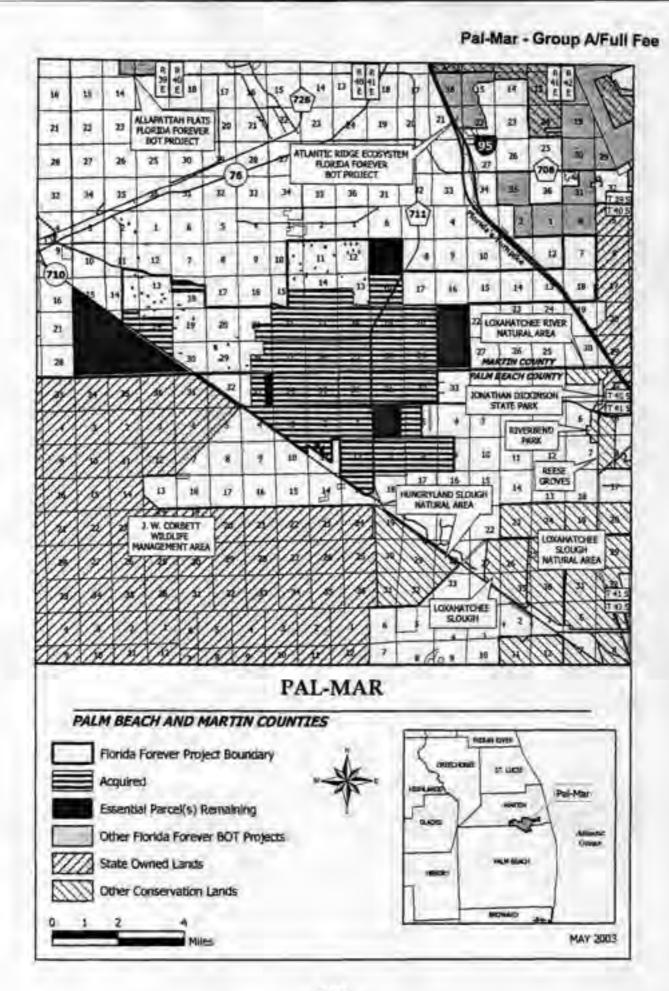
Phase I of this project consists of approximately five larger ownerships, including tracts adjacent to J.W. Corbett WMA, FDIC (acquired by South Florida Water Management District and Martin County), MacArthur (acquired), Pal-Mar Water Control District (acquired), Lara and Florida National Bank.

Phase II consists of subdivided areas and a corridor to Jonathan Dickinson State Park.

On October 21, 1999, the Council added 1.280 acres to the project boundary as essential parcels.

There is very little property remaining to acquire in the Palm Beach County side of the project Martin County and the South Florida Water Management District are working to acquire the property on the Martin County side of the project.

Placed on list	1992	
Project Area (Acres)	35,668	
Acres Acquired	16,995	
at a Cost of	\$1,442,750	
Acres Remaining	18,693	
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$31,961,160	



#### Pal-Mar -Group A/Full Fee

#### Coordination

South Florida Water Management District, Palm Beach and Martin Counties are acquisition partners in this project.

Most of the larger ownerships have been acquired. Palm Beach County is to begin acquiring smaller parcels.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Pal-Mar CARL project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resourcebased recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation Preventing isolation of natural lands is important in enabling genetic interchange among plant and animal populations. This project is a large natural area connecting the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area on the west with Jonathan Dickinson State Park on the east. The size, quality of wildlife resources and location next to the Corbett WMA of the western part qualify it as a wildlife management area. The part of the project east of Interstate 95 is adjacent to Jonathan Dickinson and is a logical addition to that park. Manager The FWC is recommended as Manager for the area west of I-95. The DRP is recommended as Manager for the area east of I-95.

Conditions affecting intensity of management For the project area west of 1-95, there are no known conditions that would result in the need for intensive management. The land could be managed as a normal component of the WMA system. The portion of the project east of 1-95 will be added to Jonathan Dickinson State Park, which is a high-need management area.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Initial management of the area west of I-95 would involve. posting and otherwise securing the tract against trespassing and vandalism, preparing roads and other infrastructure for public recreation, performing resource inventories and initiating the planning process. These activities could be carried out totally, or in part, during the first year. Subsequent resource and recreation management could proceed immediately in the second year, particularly since Pal-Mar would represent an addition to an existing WMA (J.W. Corbett). In the first year after acquisition of the eastern part, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management.

Revenue-generating potential Revenue potential for the western part would be moderate to low since it does not contain significant upland (timber) resources. However, some revenue could be generated from recreational use (over and above licenses and permits sold by FWC), if the Legislature could approve user fees for non-consumptive activities. The eastern part is to be added to a larger developed park. No significant revenue is expected to be generated by the parcel on its own.

Cooperators in management No local governments or others are recommended for cooperating in management of this project area.

Management Cost Summary/DRP		Management Cost Summary/FWC				
Category Source of Funds	Startup	Recurring CARL	Category Source of Funds	1996/97 CARL	1997/98 CARL	1998/99 CARL
Salary	50	\$0	Salary	\$0	\$0	\$45,000
OPS	\$3,640	\$3,640	OPS	\$0	50	\$5,000
Expense	\$0	\$0	Expense	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
000	\$58,212	\$1,000	000	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
FCO	\$0	\$0	FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$61,852	\$4,640	TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$110,000

# **Panther Glades**

**Hendry County** 

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

The Panther Glades project is important to many wildlife species, particularly those that require extensive areas of habitat to maintain viable populations. This project, adjoining the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation, would expand the contiguous area reserved for such species habitat, with a mix of ecosystems. The ecosystem encompassed by the proposal is a large landscape and watershed in south-central Hendry County that includes portions of both the Big Cypress and Kissimmee Billy Strand.

#### Manager

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is recommended as lead manager. The Division of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOF) is recommended as a cooperating agency.

#### **General Description**

The project is a mosaic of forested uplands interspersed among forested wetland communities. Ranging 6 miles north to south and nine miles east to west, the project includes some portion of the Big Cypress and Kissimmee Billy Strand. The far west southern boundary shares one mile with a part of Save Our Everglades project site and the eastern third of the south boundary borders the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation.

#### Public Use

The Panther Glades proposal encompasses a wide range of natural resources. A majority of owners wish to sell conservation easements, but a few wish to sell fee title.

FNAI Eleme	ents
Great Egret	G5/S4
Crested Caracara	G5/S2
Little Blue Heron	G5/S4
Snowy Egret	G5/S4
Tricolored Heron	G5/S4
Hand fem	G5/S2
Mock vervain	G3/S3
Delicate ionopsis	G4G5/S1
23 elements known	from project

## Group A Full Fee Less Than Fee

Less Than Fee

Less-than-fee acquisition areas may have no, or at best very limited, public recreation depending on whether public access is allowed. However, fee acquisition areas have the potential for varied natural resource recreation such as hunting, hiking, picnicking, camping, nature study trails, horseback riding trails, freshwater fishing and bicycle riding trails.

For fee areas, environmental education and potentially ecosystem tourism tied in with nearby public lands may be accommodated. Ecosystem tourism may be appealing to landowners willing to consider conservation easements. Cabins may be appropriate in both cases, particularly if overnight accommodations are to be a part of environmental and ecosystem tourism programs. Further study will need to be accomplished to determine the desirability of cultural resource interpretation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) was an intermediary in the acquisition of the Hilliard parcel (19,639 acres). Property owners are being contacted.

On December 5, 2002 the Council added 3,860 acres to the project boundaries.

On June 6, 2003 the Council added the 3,710-acre Crow's Nest Tract to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

There are no acquisition partners for the project at this time. All possible efforts should be made to coordinate

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Acres)	57,604
Acres Acquired	22,536
at a Cost of	\$39,250,000
Acres Remaining	35,068
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Valu	ue of \$5,684,426

#### Panther Glades - Group A/ Full Fee

phases of acquisition with the FWC and SFWMD.

#### Management Policy

The principal purposes of the project are to protect

significant natural habitat important to the Florida panther and numerous other species of concern, as well as to preserve the hydrological connection with protected lands to the south. This part of the state is rapidly being converted to agricultural and residential/ commercial uses.

The project should be managed under the multiple-use concept whenever possible -management activities should be directed first toward conservation of resources and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses. Managers should control access to the project; thoroughly inventory the resources; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually conserving both the archaeological and natural resources. Managers should limit the number and size of educational and recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

#### Management Prospectus

Management Goals The following purposes should guide development of management goals: (1) assessment of current land use and natural resources to determine existing conditions and future requirements for inventory and monitoring; (2) conservation, protection, and resignation of cultural resources, landscapes, forests, water resources, and other elements important to ecosystem functions; (3) conservation, protection and restoration of the characteristic biological diversity original to natural communities, including protection of, maintenance, or enhancement of conditions for rare, threatened and endangered species; (4) development and adaptation of project plans, procedures and techniques for improved success in meeting management goals, including the Florida Panther Habitat Preservation Plan: and (5) establishment of multiple-use natural resourcebased recreational opportunities that are mutually compatible, and which are consistent with the other resource conservation purposes and management goals. for the area.

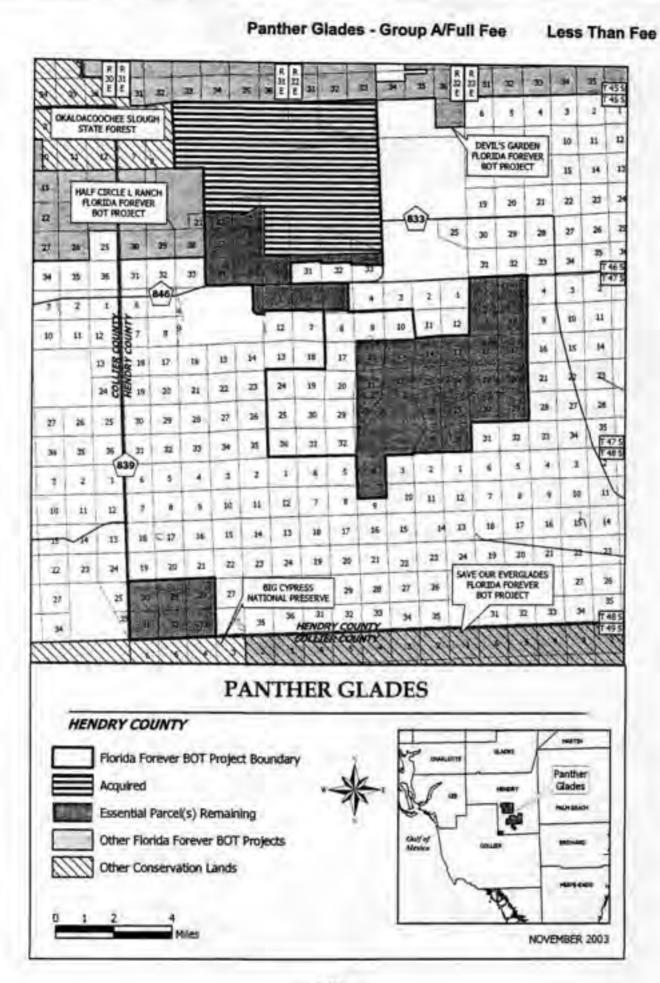
Qualification for State Design The Panther Glades project has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife and environmental area.

#### Less Than Fee

Conditions Affecting Intensity Of Management An estimated 70% of the project area is proposed for lessthan-fee purchase. Therefore, management levels and types will be in accordance with the terms and distribution of less-than-fee ownership. Biotic surveys should be a priority, since there are potentially many taxa of rare or listed species. Some portions of the Panther Glades project include lands that are low-need tracis, requiring basic resource management including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since 42% of the uplands have been developed for agriculture or other purposes, significant restoration activities are proposed for the acreage on which the fee title is acquired. The primary management needed for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities would involve hydrological restoration, re-establishment of native groundcover, exotic vegetation control, prescribed fire and control of conservation-compatible access by the user community.

Proposed uses of the area would include opportunities for hunting, camping, hiking, environmental and cultural resource education, and other natural resourcebased recreational activities. Since the principal purposes of the acquisition project are to protect habital for the Florida panther and other species of concern, management goals will be oriented to conservation and protection of these species, and to education and regulation of the user community. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a high quality recreational experience, and any such development would be confined to areas of previous disturbance. Restoration activities would be guided by established procedures and techniques, improved through use of adaptive management themes, and will emphasize re-establishment of native plant communities on pasturelands and hydrological restoration, pending detailed analysis of the necessity and feasibility of such activities. Infestations of invasive exotic species, including Melaleuca and Brazilian pepper, occur locally within the area. Therefore, efforts to eradicate or control such infestations will be undertaken to reduce the potential for further spread.

Timetable For Implementing Management Provisions During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, relationships with stakeholders, public use



#### Panther Glades - Group A/ Full Fee

Less Than Fee

assessments, fire management, resource inventories, exotic species control and removal of refuse. An easement documentation report will be prepared for the less-than-fee portion of the project. A conceptual management plan, to be developed by the FWC meoordination with a stakeholder-based management advisory group, shall specify the management goals and objectives necessary to accomplish the purposes which the management area is to serve.

Longer-range activities would focus on implementing goals and objectives specified in the conceptual management plan. Such goals and objectives should address, at a minimum: prescribed fire, habitat restoration, protection or propagation of critical habitat for listed species, and expanding recreational opportunities. Essential roads would be stabilized and maintained for public and management access. Floral and faunal inventories and evaluations of the efficacy of management projects would be continually updated by FWC biologists and would be supplemented as available with data from other sources. Easement monitoring efforts will ensure that natural resource values are maintained. Timber resources consist of South Florida slash pine in areas of mesic flatwoods. Pursuant to wildlife habitat management objectives, sustainable timber harvests will be conducted using acceptable silvicultural practices in consultation with the DOF.

Environmentally sensitive areas will be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented on those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned or restored as practical. Minimal infrastructure development will be required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the property. Estimate Of Revenue-Generating Potential Currently, forest products production is limited on the project area. Revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might also be realized from other nature-based recreational opportunities, and eattle-grazing contracts. Since very little of the project is currently suitable for forest products production, future revenue from timber resources will depend upon appropriate plant-community and hydrological restoration. Since approximately 70% of the tract will be acquired less-than-fee, revenue generation will likely be limited to the area owned in fee.

Recommendations As To Other Governmental Agency Involvement The FWC shall cooperate with federal, state, and local governmental agencies, and nongovernmental organizations, to the greatest extent possible in the interest of serving management purposes of mutual interest. It is anticipated that the FWC shall be in greatest need of assistance and cooperation from the following: (1) Florida Division of Forestry; (2) South Florida Water Management District; (3) the Florida Natural Areas Inventory; (4) the Florida Division of Historical Resources; (5) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and (6) the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Such assistance shall relate to management of biological resources, cultural resources, fire, timber and water.

The FWC will require two positions (FTEs) to manage this area. The FWC will contract with various private entities to procure services and materials to conduct resource management, capital improvements and visitor services on the area. Funding sources include the CARL Trust Fund and Florida Forever Trust Fund.

#### **Revenue Sources and Management Costs**

Category	Start up	Recurring
Resource Management	\$251,32	\$ 211,961
Administration	76,448	76,448
Support	135,451	22,386
Capital Improvements	659,684	53,130
Visitor Services/Recreation	77,200	4,484
Law Enforcement	13,830	13,830
Total	\$1,213,942	\$ 382,240

# **Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie**

## Group A Full Fee

### **Escambia County**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The pine flatwoods and swamps west of Pensacola are interrupted by wet grassy prairies dotted with carnivorous pitcher plants—some of the last remnants of a landscape unique to the northern Gulf coast. The Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie project will conserve these prairies and the undeveloped land around them, helping to protect the water quality of Perdido Bay and Big Lagoon, and giving the public a wealth of opportunities to learn about and enjoy this natural land.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

#### **General Description**

The project covers a large undeveloped area of undulating topography where low ridges, remnants of ancient dune lines, alternate with slightly lower intervening swales that drain east or west, parallel to the Gulf coast; and includes 2.5 miles of frontage on Perdido Bay. The Wet Prairies in this area are some of the last examples of perhaps the most diverse plant community in the southeast. They support one of the largest stands of white-topped pitcher plants in Florida along with almost 100 other plant species.

The prairies still have intact ecotones to basin swamp, scrub, sandhill, and mesic flatwood communities. The large expanses of flatwoods and Basin Swamps in the proposal provide habitat for many species of animals. No archaeological sites are known from the project. The uplands on the site are moderately vulnerable to development, particularly in the Tarkiln Bayou area.

FNAI Element	8
Large-leafed jointweed	G2/S2
White-top pitcher plant	G3/S3
Sweet pitcher-plant	G3/S3
Chapman's butterwort	G37/S2
WET FLATWOODS	G7/S4
Alligator snapping turtle	G3G4/S3
STRAND SWAMP	G47/S47
MESIC FLATWOODS	G?/S4
12 elements known fro	m project

#### Public Use

This project is designated for use as a state park, providing opportunities for swimming, fishing, boating, camping, hiking and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Several large ownerships exist within the project boundary, including Duckett, Carr and Henning. The Perdido Bay Partnerships has been acquired. Larger ownerships should be acquired first. Additionally, the important pitcher plant prairies in sections 11, 12, 20, 21 and area C, the area surrounding Tarkiln Bayou (area B), including Dupont Point, and Garcon Swamp (area D) are important first priorities. One of the primary ownerships—Trilogy Corp. (Tarkiln Bayou)—has been acquired as well as other large ownerships. Acquisition work is proceeding on other priority areas.

On October 15, 1998, the Council redefined the essential parcels to include all areas but "A" (see Project map.)

On December 3, 1998, the Council approved the addition of approximately 385 acres in section 11 with an estimated tax assessed value of \$380,371.

This project is nearing completion, and it should be possible to complete the project in two to three ranking cycles.

#### Coordination

The Nature Conservancy is an intermediary, working on the state's behalf, in this project.

This acquisition is essential to the US Navy's antiencroachment initiative.

Placed on list	1995
Project Area (Acres)	7,661
Acres Acquired	3,684
at a Cost of	\$24,708,368
Acres Remaining	3,977
with Estimated (Tax Assessed	Walue of \$729 620

#### Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect. Secondary goals are: to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project has the size and resource diversity to provide for uses and natural-resource-based recreational activities that are compatible with the protection of rare and sensitive resources under the state park system.

Manager The DRP is recommended as manager.

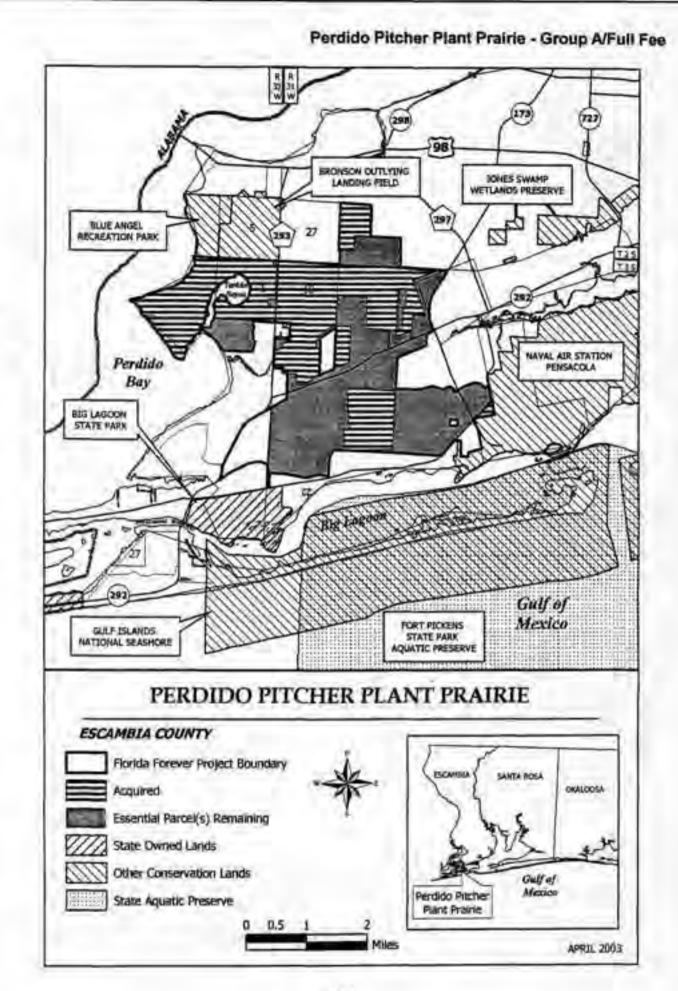
Conditions affecting intensity of management The Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie Project is a high-need management area requiring intensive resource management and protection. Depending on the nature and extent of public use determined by the management plan process, there may be additional needs for management of public-use activities and facilities.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and efforts toward the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management consistent with the stated goals and objectives of the approved Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie Project Assessment.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. After the initial acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public-use facilities are developed. The amount of any future revenue generated would depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities. Revenue generated by Big Lagoon State Recreation Area for Fiscal Year 1993-1994 was \$127,895.

Cooperators in management activities. No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project.

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	GARL
Salary	\$50,515	\$50,515
OPS	\$10,000	\$10,000
Expanse	\$61,307	\$61,307
000	\$106,000	\$1,000
FCO	\$178,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$405,822	\$122,822



### Pierce Mound Complex - Group B/Full Fee

# **Pierce Mound Complex**

## Franklin County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The group of mounds near the salt marsh north of Apalachicola, left by people who lived here for over a thousand years, is one of the most important archaeological sites in Florida. The Pierce Mound Complex project will preserve this site and the pinelands, hammocks, and marshes around it, giving archaeologists opportunities to examine it and the public opportunities to learn about the prehistory of this region and to enjoy the scenic natural landscape.

#### Manager

Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA), Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The Division of Recreation & Parks (DRP) will manage the Orman site.

#### **General Description**

The Pierce Mound Complex site served as both a secular and ritual center during its centuries of use. It has the potential to yield considerable data to researchers using present-day methodology. An aspect of the site not previously considered is the potential for normally perishable organic artifacts of wood and fibers in the saturated anaerobic wetland soils adjacent to the uplands portion of the site. The extensive shell midden contains subsistence data and artifacts, and reflects changing environmental conditions over a thousand-year period. Salt marsh covers nearly three fourths of the project. Hydric Hammock and dense Mesic Flatwoods and Scrub, overgrown with shrubs in some places from suppression of fire, cover most of the southern quarter. The upland is threatened by residential development.

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The project will be designated as an archaeological site. It will give the public an opportunity to learn about the archaeological remains, hike and picnic.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The essential parcel to acquire is the George Mahr tract.

On June 27, 2000 the Council added 10 acres, the Orman site, to the project boundary. The historic Orman house (1 acre) has been acquired.

On April 6, 2001, the Council transferred this project to the full fee group.

There is no acquisition activity at this time, due to unwilling sellers.

#### Coordination

The portion of the project within the City of Apalachicola is in the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern.

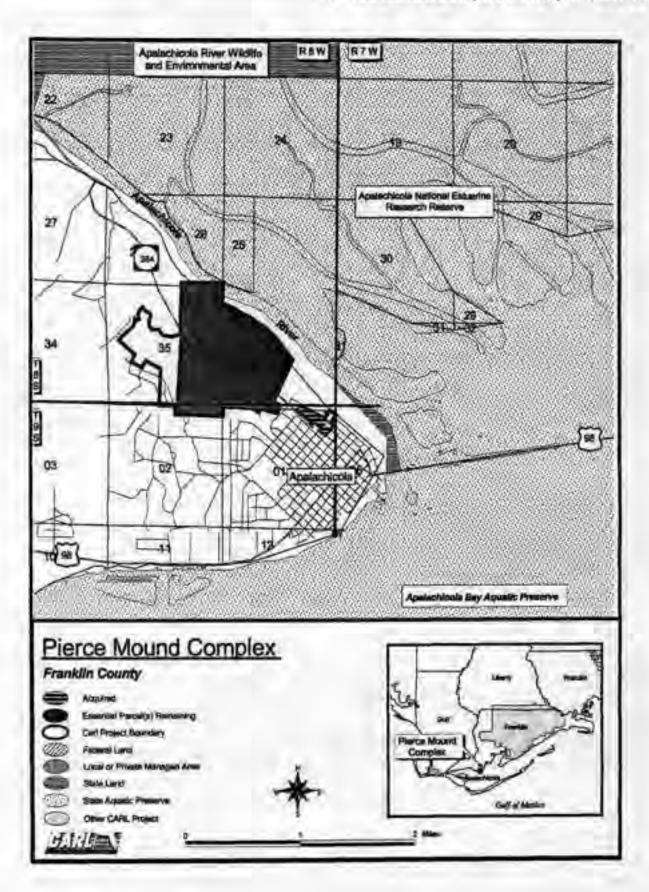
#### Management Policy Statement

Management should provide for uses and recreational activities that are compatible with the protection of any rare and sensitive resources, particularly the mounds. The major activity will be interpretation of the cultural resources on the site in such a way that they are not degraded. The old railroad grade is suitable for a hiking mail.

FNAI Elements	
SCRUB	G2/S2
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
MESIC FLATWOODS	G?/S4
HYDRIC HAMMOCK	G?/S4
MARITIME HAMMOCK	G4/53
ESTUARINE TIDAL MARSH	G4/S4
6 elements known from p	roject

Placed on list	1994
Project Area (Acres)	557
Acres Acquired	1
at a Cost of	\$810,000
Acres Remaining	556
with Estimated (Tax Assessed)	Value of \$1,011,804

## Group B Full Fee



#### Pierce Mound Complex - Group B/Full Fee

#### Management Prospectus

The Pierce Mound Complex is one of the most important archaeological sites on the Gulf Coast of Florida. Major natural communities in the project include estuarine tidal marsh, hydric hammock, mesic flatwoods, and scrub.

Qualifications for state designation The Pierce Mound Complex has the archaeological resources to qualify as a state archaeological site.

Manager The CAMA, Department of Environmental Protection, is recommended as lead manager. Staff of the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will serve as on-site managers. The Division of Historical Resources is recommended as the cooperating manager.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, initial or intermediate activities will concentrate on site security, resource inventory, and removal of existing trash. The CAMA will provide appropriate access to the public while protecting environmental and archaeological resources on-site. Management of the site will be incorporated into the existing management plan of the Research Reserve. Long-range plans for this property involve its use for research and education activities. A future trail will link the property with the environmental education complex of the reserve. The habitat diversity (estuarine tidal marsh, mesic flatwoods, hydrie hammock, scrub, maritime hammock and scrubby flatwoods) combines with one of the most important archaeological sites on the Gulf coast of Florida to produce an exceptional opportunity for public education. Revenue-generating potential There are no plans for revenue generation from this site.

Cooperators in management activities The Division of Historical Resources will cooperate in managing the archaeological resources of the site.

### Management Cost Summary/CAMA

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$8,000
OPS	\$14,500	\$6,500
Expense	\$0	\$6,500
000	\$0	\$0
FCO	\$50,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$64,500	\$21,000

Group A

**Full Fee** 

# **Pineland Site Complex**

## Lee County

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

Among the rich remains of the Calusa and earlier peoples around Charlotte Harbor, the Pineland Site Complex, with its large mounds and canals and well-preserved remains dating back almost 2000 years, may be the most important—but it is also one of the more desirable areas for development on Pine Island. The Pineland Site Complex project will protect the archaeological site and mangrove swamps near it, preserving a link of natural land to the Charlotte Harbor State Reserve, giving archaeologists the opportunity to continue their research at the site, and giving the public an opportunity to learn how the ancient inhabitants of this fast-growing area lived.

#### Manager

The Florida Museum of Natural History.

#### **General Description**

This internationally significant archaeological site was inhabited by the Calusa for over a thousand years, and includes substantial midden mounds, a burial mound, remnants of an Indian-engineered canal, and buried deposits containing organic remains. Natural habitats within the project area include tidal saltern, a tidal creek, intertidal shoreline, and a large tract of mangrove wetland. Ponds on the property are important to white ibis, egrets, herons, and wood stork. The intertidal shoreline has an eastern oyster bar community, numerous species of gastropods and bivalves, and black and red mangroves. Shoreline shell mounds exhibit a distinctive plant community. A third of the project area is pasture land. There are several species of exotic plants in the project. It is threatened by residential construction on the mounds. The project is adjacent to the Charlotte Harbor Aquanic Preserve.

#### Public Use

The Florida Museum of Natural History plans to provide a research and educational center on the site.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Essential parcels include all ownerships <u>except</u>: American Bible Church, Sapp, Samadani, and Celec. Several houses, built on significant archaeological mounds, are included within the project boundary. These tracts with improvements should be acquired, if possible. If not, lifeestates should be pursued. One tract has been acquired with Emergency Archaeological Trust funds. Another is being negotiated as a conservation easement. Negotiations on the core parcel have begun.

On October 15, 1998, the LAMAC revised the designation of the following parcels to essential: The Cloisters and Jessy Chris.

The remaining owners are unwilling sellers at this time.

#### Coordination

The University of Florida Foundation owns the Randell tract (56 acres) and has pledged all proceeds (less expenses) of the sale to the State to the Randell Research Center Endowment Fund for the management of the tract. Negotiations on this tract are ongoing.

FNAI Elements	
SHELL MOUND	G3/S2
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
ESTUARINE TIDAL SWAMP	G3/S3
XERIC HAMMOCK	G?/S3
Wood stork	G4/S2
ESTUARINE TIDAL MARSH	G4/S4
Roseate spoonbill	G5/S2S3
7 elements known from p	roject

Placed on list	1996
Project Area (Acres)	206
Acres Acquired	57
at a Cost of	\$1,355,000
Acres Remaining	149
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with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$1,308,148

#### Pineland Site Complex - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Pineland Site Complex project is to preserve the Pineland Site Complex, an archaeological site of national significance. Achieving this objective will allow further scientific research on this site and provide the public with opportunities to learn about the prehistone inhabitants of Pine Island.

The project should be managed under the single-use concept management activities should be directed toward the preservation of the archaeological resources of the site. Consumpt ive uses such as harting or logging should not be permitted. Managers should control public access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to a small part of the area; thoroughly inventory the resources; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually protecting the archaeological resources and maintaining or improving the quality of any natural communities, such as mangrove swarops, on site. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, such as hiking trails, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources; and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

The project area includes the known components of the Pineland Site Complex and therefore has the configuration to achieve its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation. The Pineland Site Complex is an internationally significant archaeological site listed on the National Register of Historic Places; it qualifies as a state historic site.

Manager The Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, is recommended as the lead manager. The Southwest Florida Aquatic and State Buffer Preserves, Florida Department of Environmental Protection is recommended as the cooperating manager. Conditions affecting intensity of management needs will include maintenance (fences, week and exotic plant control, etc.) and security (periodic patrol of the more remote wellands areas, active surveillance of the central site area). Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, initial or intermediate activities will concentrate on site security, resource inventory, and property maintenance (clearing up of dumped materials, exotic plant eradication, etc.). A master plan (now being drafted) will be in place to guide a phased development process leading to a permanent research/education center open regularly to the pub-

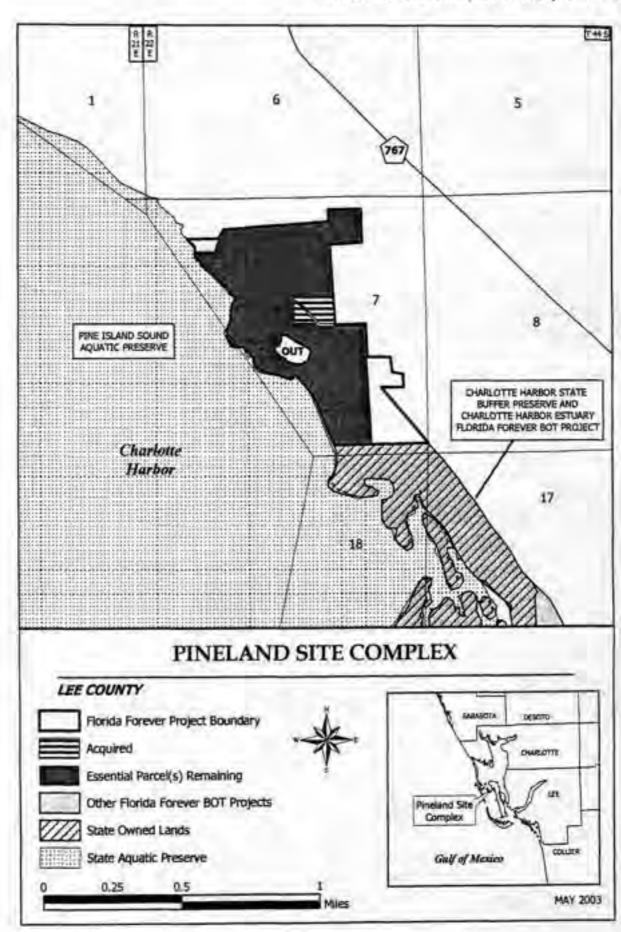
lic within five years. Initial development will concentrate on public safety, security, and resources assessment, including inventory of endangered and threatened species. A plan for conservation and enhancement of significant habitats identified in this process will be developed.

Revenue-generating potential in addition to the income produced by the invested endowed funds, the Center's director will be responsible for bringing in grant funds from public and private sources and for establishing and maintaining reciprocal relationships with local and regional schools, colleges, universities, museums, nature centers, and conservation societies. With the establishment of a visitor's center, a book store and gift shop will be operated to offset expenses of center operation and provide funds to enhance center programs. A local support organization has already been formed and is operating under the auspices of the University of Florida Foundation. It will continue to raise funds to support specific center programs and initiatives.

Cooperators in management activities Activities to enhance natural resources will be undertaken in consultation with qualified conservation personnel, including staff from the Lee County Division of Environmental Sciences and the cooperating manager, the DEP Aquatic and State Buffer Preserve.

Management Cost	Summary		
Category	Startup	Development	Implementation
Source of Funds	Grants	Grants	Grants
Salary	\$44,450	\$45,809	\$71,752
OPS	\$0	50	\$0
Expense	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,500
000	\$0	50	50
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$45,450	\$47,009	\$74,252

Pineland Site Complex - Group A/Full Fee



# **Pinhook Swamp**

## **Columbia and Baker Counties**

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

Pinhook Swamp: The pine flatwoods and swamps between the Osceola National Forest and the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge have been logged, but are otherwise undisturbed. The Pinhook Swamp project will protect and restore a natural area linking those two conservation lands and the Suwannee River, providing a huge unpopulated tract of land for such wildlife as the Florida black bear and sandhill crane; maintaining the water flows from this area to the Okefenokee Swamp, Suwannee River, and St. Mary's River, and giving the public a large, near-wilderness tract in which to enjoy various recreational activities, from simple nature appreciation to active hunting and fishing.

Suwannee Buffers (Deep Creek Site): The Suwannee River, for all its beauty, flows through pine plantations and farms for much of its course, and only its high limestone banks are in close to a natural state—and they are prime sites for residential development. The

Pinhook Swamp: FNAI Elements	
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
FLOODPLAIN FOREST	G?/S3
FLOODPLAIN SWAMP	G?/547
WET PRAIRIE	G?/S4?
BLACKWATER STREAM	G4/S2
Many-lined salamander	G5/S1
10 elements known fr	rom project

Suwannee Buffers: FNAI Elements	
Wood stork	G4/S2
Suwannee bass	G2G3/S2S3
Spotted bullhead	G3/S3
Suwannee cooter	G5T3/S3
White ibis	G5/S4
Snowy egret	G5/S4
Little blue heron	G5/S4
Great egret	G5/S4
9 elements known	

# Group A Full Fee

Suwannee Buffers Negotiation Impasse project will protect two natural areas along the river or its tributaries, protecting the highest waterfall in the peninsula and the highest bluffs on the river. In doing so, the project will help protect the water quality of the river and its tributaries; protect northern plants that grow along the river and rare fish that live in the river; and give the public scenic areas to enjoy for years to come.

#### Manager

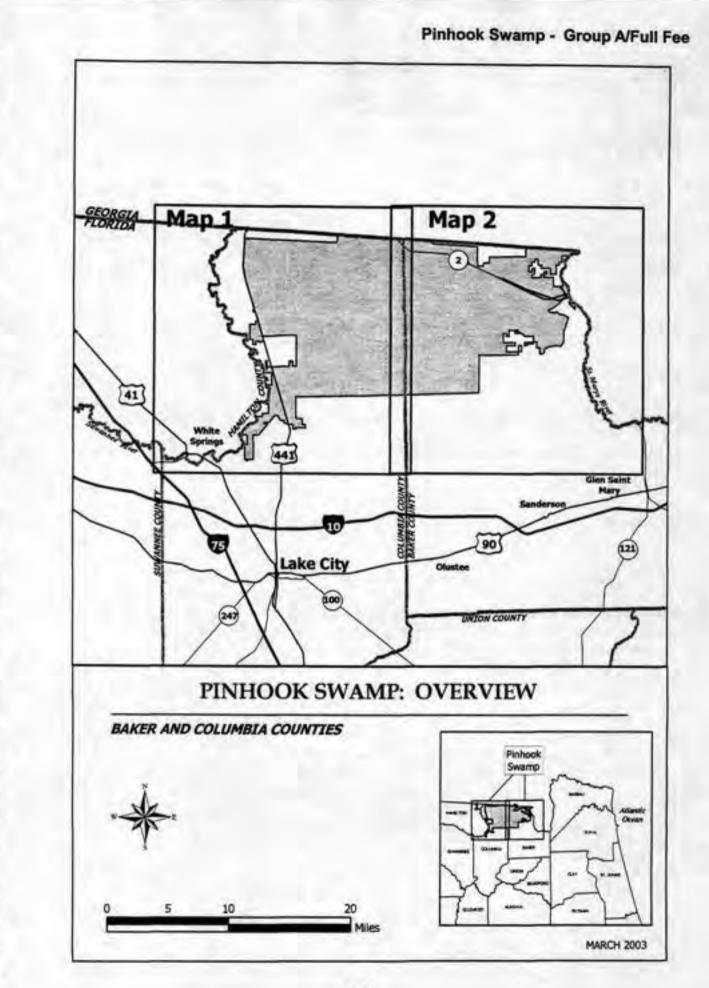
Pinhook Swamp: United States Forest Service (USFS) and The Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (southern Deep Creek); the DOF (northern Deep Creek).

#### **General Description**

Pinhook Swamp: The project consists of a large tract of mostly wet flatwoods, floodplain swamp, and floodplain forest between Osceola National Forest and Okefenokee Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. It provides a linkage between these managed areas as well as increased protection for this wetlands/flatwoods ecosystem, which is important for the long-term conservation of the state-threatened Florida black bear and other animals. Pinhook Swamp also provides excellent habitat for other wetland-dependent species such as the state-threatened Florida sandhill crane. The Swamp is connected to the Suwannee River, St. Mary's River and the Okefenokee Swamp. The archaeological and historic value of the project is low to moderate.

Placed on list	1992
Project Area (Acres)	183,991
Acres Acquired	116,616
at a Cost of	\$62,825,856
Acres Remaining	67,375
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$19,432,570



The greatest threats to the area are intensive silviculture and mining.

The Deep Creek Drainage Tract protects buffer areas of four tributaries of the Suwannee River and much of the watershed of Deep Creek and serves as a corridor between the Osceola National Forest, Big Shoals State Park, and Suwannee River Water Management District lands along the River.

#### Public Use

The Pinhook Swamp is designated as a forest with such uses as fishing, hunting, canoeing, camping and hiking.

The Deep Creek site will be designated for use as a state park and a state forest, with such public uses as fishing, boating, hunting, camping, hiking and environmental education.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The large Rayonier tract connecting the Osceola National Forest to the Okeefenokee National Wildlife Refuge has been acquired by the state. It will be used as the basis for a land-and-minerals exchange (projected to close in 2003) with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service.

Pinhook Swamp: Phase I (essential) consists of large tracts adjacent to Okefenokee National Wildlife Refoge and Osceola National Forest—J.W. Langdale Woodlands, Inc. and Jefferson Smurfit Corp./Carnegie US Steel Pension Funds. Phase II is the "Impassable Bay" tract—ITT Rayonier/Sam Summers (acquired by USFS through The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and all remaining owners.

On July 16, 1996, the LAMAC added 18,100 acres to the project boundary. Additionally, the LAMAC approved the addition of federal mineral rights under stateowned lands to the Pinhook project for exchange purposes.

On August 22, 2000, the Acquisition and Restoration Council added 25,000 acres to the Pinhook Swamp project At the April 6, 2001, Council meeting, the Suwannee Buffers, Deep Creek Site was combined with the Pinhook Swamp Project.

On October 24, 2002 the Council added 4,585 acres to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

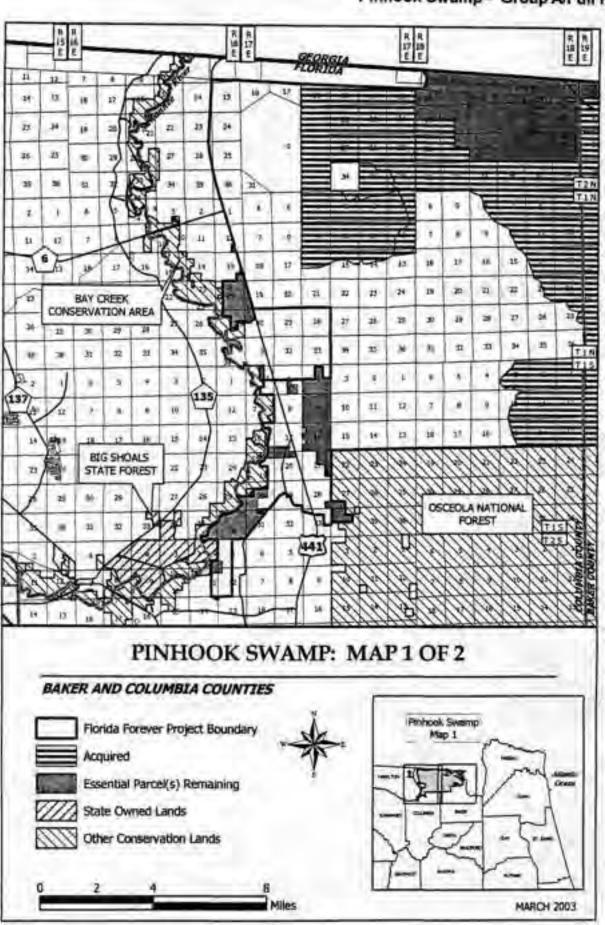
Pinhook Swamp is a shared acquisition with the USFS. TNC is an intermediary in the purchase of some tracts for the federal government.

The Deep Creek site is on the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) five-year plan for land acquisition.

#### Management Policy Statement

Pinhook Swamp: The primary goals of management of the Pinhook Swamp project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

Suwannee Buffers (Deep Creek): The primary goals of management of this part of the project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.



## Management Prospectus

#### Pinhook Swamp:

Qualifications for state designation The Pinhook Swamp is a large area of timbered flatwoods and swamps between the Osceola National Forest and the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. Its large size, strategic location, and forest and wildlife resources qualify it as a state forest and state wildlife management area.

Manager The DOF and the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service are the recommended Managers.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management Pinhook is a low-need (moderate need) tract.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure A portion of the site would immediately fall under the National Forests in Florida's Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) and a portion under state protection. Management activities will focus on site security, resource inventory and management, plus any necessary prescribed fire management.

Revenue-generating potential In cooperation with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission this area may one day provide revenues from quota hunts. The Forest Service and DOF will soon be working with this agency to obtain a projected revenue. State and National Forest user fees are other sources of revenue. Cooperators in management activities The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which manages the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge adjacent to Pinhook's northern boundary, will be cooperators in managing the area.

#### Suwannee Buffers:

Qualifications for state designation The southern part of the Deep Creek Drainage tract has unique resources that qualify it as a unit of the state park system. The project's size and diversity also makes it highly desirable for use and management as a state forest.

Manager The DRP is recommended as Manager of Deep Creek. The DOF is recommended as Manager of the northern three-quarters of the Deep Creek Dramage tract.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

The southern portion of the Deep Creek Drainage tract is a high-need management area including public recreational use and development compatible with resource management. On the areas to be managed by the DOF there are no known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention, so the level of management intensity is expected to be typical for a state forest.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition of the areas to be managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and efforts toward the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management.

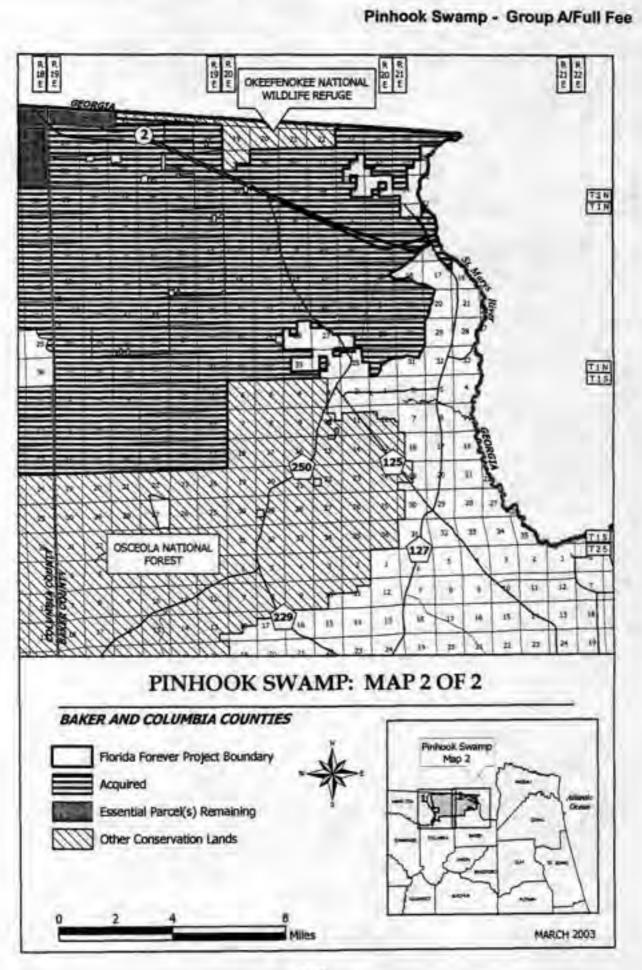
The DOF will provide public access for low-intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities will include securing the site, providing public and fire management accesses, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The Division will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The project's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan.

Long-range plans of the DOF will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrsstructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

Extimate of revenue-generating potential The Division of Recreation and Parks expects no significant revenue to be generated initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any significant public facilities are developed. The amount of any future revenue generated would depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities.

The DOF will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenuegenerating potential for this project is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities No local governments or others are recommended for management of these project areas.



Management Cost Summary/DRP		RP
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$22,167	\$22,167
OPS	\$14,560	\$14,560
Expense	\$11,400	\$11,400
000	\$55,000	\$1,000
FCO	\$85,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$188,127	\$49,127

Management Cost Summary/DOF		OF
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$28,140	\$28,140
OPS	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$13,000	\$5,000
000	\$81,100	\$2,000
FCO	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$122,140	\$35,140

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# **Pumpkin Hill Creek**

## **Duval County**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The growth of the city of Jacksonville and its outlying developed areas has inevitably reduced the natural lands in Duval County to a fraction of their original extent. The Pumpkin Hill Creek project will protect one of the larger natural uplands left in the county, helping to maintain the water quality of the Nassau and St. Johns Rivers and their fringing marshes—the foundation of an important fishery—protecting wading bird rookeries, and giving the public in this urban area opportunities to fish, hunt, hike, and canoe.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

#### **General Description**

As a remnant of relatively intact natural communities in the urban landscape of Duval County, the Pumpkin Hill Creek project will protect upland buffer to the Nassau River-St. Johns River Marshes Aquatic Preserve, an Outstanding Florida Water that supports a significant commercial and recreational fishery. Besides sandhill, large areas of scrubby flatwoods of diverse quality, wet flatwoods, and salt marsh, the project contains nearly pristine maritime hammock. It provides habitat for several rare species and contains two colonial wading bird rookeries, one of which is used by the federally endangered wood stork. Manatees frequent both the St. Johns and Nassau Rivers and move into tidal creeks, such as Hill Creek and Clapboard Creek, adjacent to the project. Fourteen archaeological sites are known from the project, including the ruins of the early 19th century Fitzpatrick Plantation house. The cultural resource value of the

FNAI Elements	
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
WET FLATWOODS	G?/S4?
Wood stork	G4/52
MARITIME HAMMOCK	G4/S3
ESTUARINE TIDAL MARSH	G4/S4
DOME SWAMP	G4?/S3?
Black-crowned night-heron	G57/S37
10 elements known from project	

Pumpkin Hill Creek - Group A/Full Fee

## Group A Full Fee

project is high. The area is threatened by urban development.

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a buffer preserve,

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

This project consists of several large tracts (essential) including North Shore (acquired by TNC using Cedar Bay Cogeneration Project mitigation funds), Verdie Forest and Penland (acquired jointly with SJRWMD), Tison and Birchfield (acquired by the SJRWMD).

On March 14, 1997, the LAMAC approved a 635-acre addition to the Pumpkin Hill Creek project. The tract has a tax value of \$995,638. The property is primarily undisturbed floodplain swamp and mesic flatwoods. The transition from swamp to uplands is predominately pond pine-dominated baygall. The flatwoods are currently being used for timber production.

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated an additional 1,419 acres essential, including Sample Swamp, City National, Beasly, Wingate, and two small "connecting" parcels.

On October 17, 2000 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added 18,995 acres to the project.

On February 7, 2003 the Council added 73 acres in Duval County to the boundaries of the project.

On December 5, 2003 the Council moved this project to the Group A list.

Placed on list	1994	
Project Area (Acres)	23,301	
Acres Acquired	4,175*	
at a Cost of	\$9,387,230*	
Acres Remaining	19,126	

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$15,740,761 Includes expenditures of SJRWMD

#### Pumpkin Hill Creek - Group A/Full Fee

#### Coordination

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is an intermediary in the project

St. Johns River Water Management District and the City of Jacksonville are acquisition partners.

Resolutions in support of this project include St. Johns River Water Management District in support of a shared acquisition.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Pumpkin Hill Creek project are: to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Puropkin Hill Creek project includes uplands centrally located in the Nassau River-St. Johns River Marshes Aquatic Preserve. The project qualifies as a state buffer preserve because it will protect uplands important to the hydrology of the sensitive tidal marshes of the aquatic preserve. Manager Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), is recommended as the lead Manager.

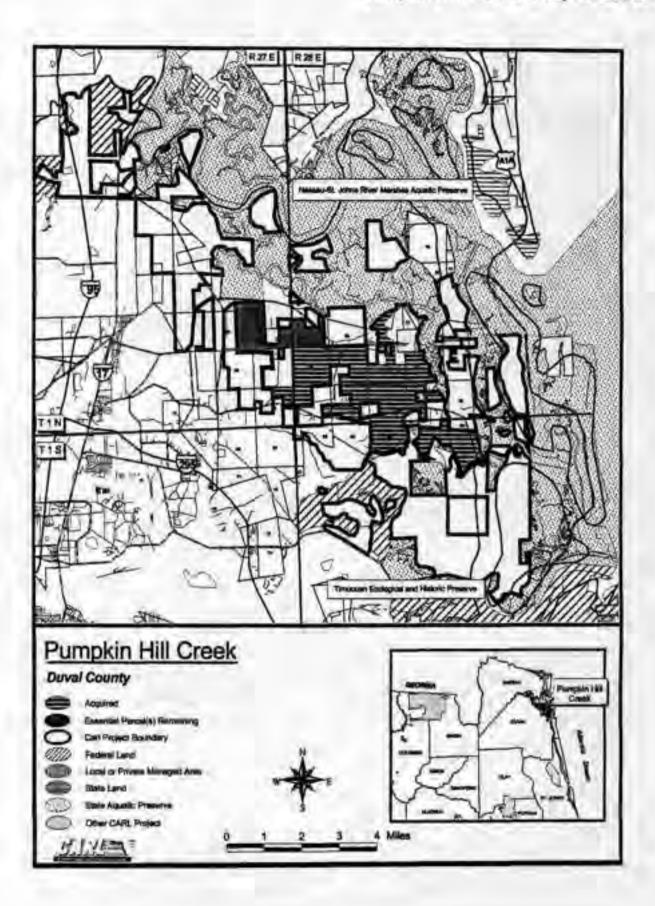
Conditions affecting intensity of management The Pumpkin Hill Creek Project generally includes lands that are "low-need" tracts, requiring basic resource management and protection.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Long-range plans for this project will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. An all-season huming program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Infrastructure will be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum needed for management and public access.

Revenue-generating potential Portions of this project are composed of manageable pinelands that could be used to help offset operational costs. Any estimate of the revenue from the harvest of these pinelands depends upon a detailed assessment of the value of the timber and upon the amount of harvesting that is consistent with protection of natural resources on this project. No revenue is expected to be generated for some years.

Cooperators in management activities The St. Johns River Water Management District will cooperate m managing the project.

Updated Information reflecting management by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Is not yet available.



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## Ranch Reserve - Group B/Less Than Fee

# **Ranch Reserve**

### Brevard, Indian River and Osceola Counties

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Large cattle ranches in Osceola County conserve a vast area of open lands—pastures, pine flatwoods, palmetto prairies, and marshes—west of the St. Johns River. These flatlands are important for wildlife like sandhill cranes, caracara, red-cockaded woodpeckers, and an experimental group of extremely rare whooping cranes. The Ranch Reserve project will acquire certain rights from ranch owners to ensure that a large part of these lands will remain as they are today, to preserve a connection of open land with public lands to the north and east, and to maintain or increase the diversity of wildlife on this wide plain.

#### Manager (Monitor)

The St. Johns River Water Management District will monitor compliance with the terms of the less-thanfee-simple purchase.

#### **General Description**

The four cattle ranches in the project lie on the Osceola Plain west of and above the St. Johns River marshes. Mesic flatwoods interrupted by depression marshes cover about 40% of the project area. Swamps and hammocks make up much of the remaining natural communities. Improved pastures cover about 30% of the area. At least 24 FNAI-listed animals are known or reported from the project, including red-cockaded woodpeckers and one of the best populations of sandhill cranes in Florida. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has released whooping cranes on Escape Ranch in an attempt to reestablish the species in Florida. The project includes the headwaters of several streams that flow into the St. Johns

FNAI Element	s
SCRUB	G2/S2
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
Bachman's sparrow	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Florida burrowing owl	G4T3/S3
18 elements known fro	m project

Group B Less Than Fee

River marsh. No archaeological sites are known. The wildlife habitat in the project is threatened by harvest of old-growth pines and conversion to more intensive agriculture or to non-agricultural use.

#### Public Use

This project qualifies as a wildlife management area; the amount and type of public use will be negotiated with the landowners.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

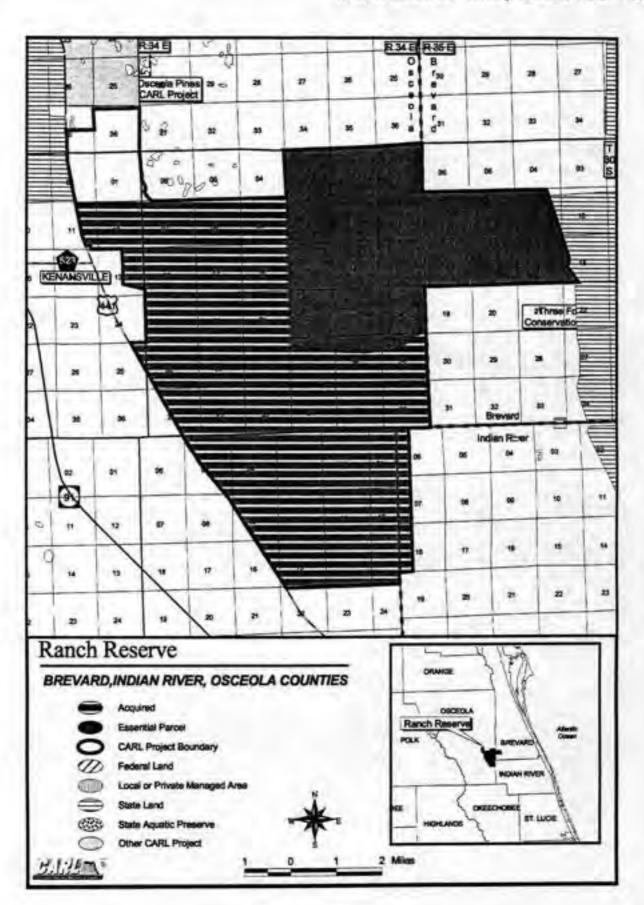
On October 30, 1996, LAMAC adopted criteria for establishing a Less-Thun-Fee acquisition category: 1) resource value of the project/tract can be adequately protected through a less-than-fee instrument; 2) seller is willing to accept a less-than-fee-simple instrument and LAMAC has determined that the project's or site's acquisition objectives can be met by acquiring a lessthan-fee interest; and 3) manager is willing to oversee a less-than-fee-simple instrument.

The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) has acquired the large central tract—Escape Ranch. The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has acquired the Mills Ranch.

On December 5, 1996, LAMAC transferred the remaining ownerships within the Ranch Reserve project boundary—Campbell (acquired), Mills (acquired), Kelly/Bronson and Kaup—to the Less-Than-Fee group.

Placed on list	1997	
Project Area (Acres)	36,116	
Acres Acquired	19,435*	
at a Cost of	\$10,773,500*	
Acres Remaining	16,681	
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$11,566,678	

"by SJRWMD



## Ranch Reserve - Group B/Less Than Fee

## Ranch Reserve - Group B/Less Than Fee

### Coordination

St. Johns River Water Management District is an acquisition partner with the state and has acquired substantial acreage within the project area.

## Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Ranch Reserve project is to preserve and restore the mosaic of pine flatwoods and wetlands in southeastern Osceola County (and contiguous portions of Brevard and Indian River counties), along with the populations of wildlife that use these lands. Achieving this objective will provide a refuge for threatened animals like the red-cocked woodpecker, sandhill crane, and many others.

The project should be managed to foster, preserve and protect in perpetuity the natural, ecological, wildlife and plant life features and values of the property and to prevent any use of the property that will significantly impair its conservation values. The conservation easement allows the landowner to continue to use the property for commercial cattle operation, hunting, fishing and other activities that are not inconsistent with the terms of the conservation values of the property.

The project includes 35,300 acres of contiguous property, including nearly 23,800 acres of the highest-quality land in the southeastern Osceola and adjacent areas of Brevard and Indian River counties. Consequently, it has the size and location to achieve its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The size of the Ranch Reserve project and its importance to wildlife, particularly to birds such as sandhill cranes and redcockaded woodpeckers, quialify it as a wildlife management area. Manager The St. Johns River Water Management District will monitor to ensure compliance with the conservation easement.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The project generally includes lands requiring monitoring only and minimum-intensity management.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, the District will take aerial photographs to record the condition of each ranch and begin to inventory natural resources on site. Landowners will develop management and monitoring plans to address site security, monitor and control public access, and implement fire management. Long-range plans will stress ecosystem management and the protection and management of rare species. Forest communities will be managed using techniques recommended by the Division of Forestry. Appropriate protections will be provided to environmentally sensitive areas. Minimal infrastructure development will be required.

Revenue-generating potential The underlying fee ownership will remain with the present landowners, so no public revenue is anticipated from this area.

Cooperators in management activities The District will cooperate with other state and local government agencies in monitoring land in the project.

#### Management Cost Summary

Water Management District funding is available to develop detailed management plans and to monitor compliance with those plans.

# San Felasco Conservation Corridor

Alachua County

Group A Less Than Fee

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The primary purposes for acquiring conservation easements from landowners in this project are to facilitate the development of a greenway conservation corridor in northeast Alachua County, and to protect significant natural and cultural resources.

#### Manager

As a proposed less-than-fee acquistion project, the project will be managed by the private landowner and monitored and overseen by Alachua County or by a local land trust.

#### **General Description**

The San Felasco Florida Forever proposal consists of three separate tracts of land totaling approximately 379 acres. Alone these three parcels do not create a viable project, but when combined with a larger Conservation Corridor project the importance of these pieces is seen. The tracts proposed for this Florida Forever project include a narrow fringe of hardwood forest bordering (but not including) a shallow lake, a small parcel of hardwood forest along a blackwater stream bordered by development and a four-lane highway, and a pine plantation with a few isolated wetlands and a blackwater stream. The western tract (roughly 30 acres), the undeveloped Burnett Lake Subdivision property, consists principally of a narrow strip of land bordered on the northwest by a railroad and partially surrounding, but only very narrowly abutting, the north and west sides of Burnett Lake. About two-thirds of the tract supports a predominantly second-growth hardwood forest. The small (roughly 15-acre) central parcel lies between U.S. 441 on the south, a railroad on the north, Mol-Tech battery manufacturing plant on the west, and the small residential area of Hague on the east. The south flowing Cellon Creek flows through this parcel from state owned IFAS property. The tract supports second-growth hardwood forest and other hardwoods, growing along the small floodplain and slopes of a blackwater stream. Though narrow and disturbed, this tract may have some, though certainly limited, value as a wildlife corridor.

#### Public Use

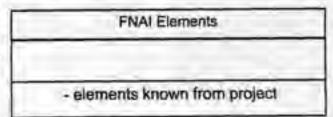
Its small size, separation into three disjunct parcels, limited uplands and the fact that it is a less-than-fee (LTF) acquisition limit the public resource-based recreation potential of this project. Generally, owners do not allow public recreation on LTF lands. However, there is an indication that limited fishing and nature appreciation may be allowed on the project. Some environmental education potential may also be possible as part of the nature appreciation aspect. As a part of a larger multiple agency cooperative effort to protect forests and wetlands connecting San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park with the Gainesville Wellfield and the Santa Fe River, these properties would also lend support to any trail that might eventually be made possible through other acquisitions.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project consists of multiple parcels and multiple owners. The project has been proposed for less-thanfee acquisition. On June 6, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added this project to the A list of Florida Forever projects.

Placed on List	2003	
Projects Area (acres)	379	
Acres Acquired	Ó	
At a Cost Of	0	
Acres Remaining	379	

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: n/a



### San Felasco Corridor - Group A/Less Than Fee

The Division of State Lands is currently working on a conservation easement for this project.

### Coordination

The San Felasco Land Trust has created a large 25,000acre Corridor project and brought together the Department of Environmental Protection, the Suwannee River Water Management District, The Florida Communities Trust, and the Alachus Forever land acquisition program to cooperatively acquire the Conservation Corridor. There are no adjacent land acquisition projects begun under the CARL, P2000 or Florida Forever programs. The San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park and the TTC/Gainsville Wellfield Conservation Easement are adjacent to the larger 25,000-acre Corridor project.

#### Management Policy Statement

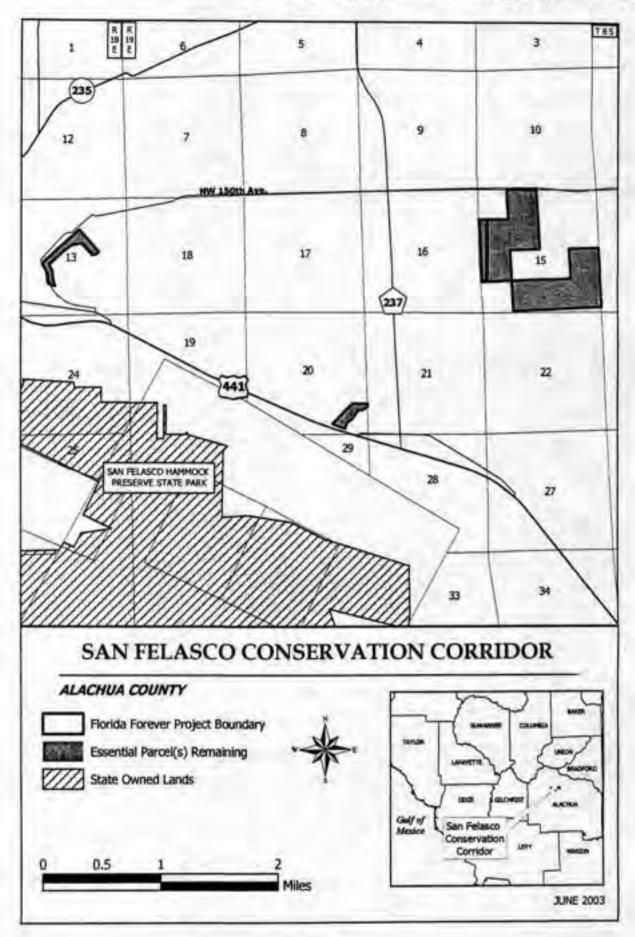
As a proposed conservation easement or other less-thanfee interest, the project will be managed by the private landowner with restrictions. The purchase of development rights, the prohibition of any further conversion of existing natural areas to agricultural uses, and limited public access to some sites will likely be the primary focus of the conservation easement.

#### Management Prospectus

As a less-than-fee acquisition, the San Felasco Conservation Corridor will likely be monitored and overseen by Alachua County or by a local land trust. As such, questions about intensity of the management of the property, a timetable for implementing management, cooperators in the management activities or revenue-generating potential of the project cannot be detailed at this time.



San Felasco Corridor - Group A/Less Than Fee



## San Pedro Bay - Group A/Full Fee

## San Pedro Bay Madison and Taylor Counties

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### **Purpose for Acquisition**

This project constitutes one of the largest undeveloped areas of the state not in public ownership and is essentially unoccupied by humans. It is clearly a landscape scale system and would constitute a significant wilderness. A large part of this project is within the existing San Pedro Bay Wildlife Management Area. Acquisition would expand that area and broaden hunting opportunities in the region.

#### Managers

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

#### **General Description**

This fee simple acquisition proposal is owned by Wachovia and the Foley Timber and Land Company, and consists primarily of wet timberland interspersed with basin swamps and baygalls. The proposal has been revised to include two parcels: a large parcel in Taylor and Madison counties between CR 14 and CR 53, and a smaller, 3,000 acre parcel in Taylor County. Conservation lands in close proximity to the proposal include the Hixton Swamp Florida Forever project and several Conservation Areas of the Suwannee River Water Management District.

#### **Public Use**

Current consumptive recreational uses on the area consist primarily of hunting with a limited amount of bank fishing. The game species hunted are primarily deer, hog, and turkey hunting. Deer populations are low, but could increase with added protection and habitat improvement. Protection could be improved by securing boundaries, limiting access roads, and installing entrance gates. Wading birds and aquatic animals such as amphibians and reptiles that are present would benefit from applied management such as prescribed burning. State ownership would offer potential for wildlife viewing and nature study that could be improved with viewing towers or elevated walkways to offer vistas of the swamp habitat. Resource-based outdoor recreation activities that can be accommodated on the property would be hunting, camping, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling and picnicking. The extent of these uses will greatly depend on the wet and dry conditions of the property.

## Group A Full Fee

The 2000 Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan reflects hunting as having a high need for the year 2005 for the region in which the project is located.

The resource-based recreation potential for the project is generally low, except for the hunting potential, which the FWC advises is moderate to high.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The San Pedro Bay project is approximately 48,765 acres in tracts in Madison and Taylor counties. The Wachovia ownership includes the Madison tract (about 19,742.42acres) and the Taylor tract (about 3,120.69 acres), and the Foley tract is about 25,900 acres. This proposal is being offered for a fee simple acquisition from the two ownerships. The Wachovia tract was acquired from the Gilman Trust in 1999, and has historically managed the pine timber for chip-n-saw rotations. The Foley tract is adjacent to the Wachovia Madison tract on the western border. Currently the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has a lease over this area for a Wildlife Management Area. The taxassessed value is \$7,898,471.

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the project to the Florida Forever project list.

Placed on List	2003	
Projects Area (acres)	44,783	
Acres Acquired	ø	
At a Cost Of	0	
Acres Remaining	44,763	

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$7,898,471

FNAI Elements	
G1/S1	
G4/54	
G5/S4	
G5T2/S2	

## San Pedro Bay - Group A/Full Fee

#### Coordination

No acquisition parmers have been identified for this project.

#### Management Policy Statement

This project is part of San Pedro Bay, a distinct wetland system extending between the Suwannee and Econfina rivers. It is the largest area of privately owned roadless land remaining in Florida. The San Pedro Bay project includes two owners, and is designed to protect a large wetland system and the waters that receive its flow. Two parcels are proposed for fee simple acquisition: The first has two owners, and is 41,666 acres in Madison and Taylor counties, stretching 16 miles from east to west between County Road 14 and County Road 53. The second parcel has one owner, and is 3,121 acres in Taylor County, 2 miles south of the first parcel. One part of the proposed project drams westward to the Gulf of Mexico via the Fenholloway and Econfina Rivers; the other part drains eastward via canals to the Suwannee River. Much of the central area of the proposed project has no clear drainage pattern. The proposed project is approximately 5 miles south of Madison, 7 miles northeast of Perry, and 45 miles east. of Tallahassee.

Although lands within the project are not within a designated Strategic Habitat Conservation Area (SHCA), the project area provides habitat for larger, more widely ranging species such as the Florida black bear. This area provides a large area of escape cover habitat known to support black bears. This project is significant as an ecological greenway, with the entire project area (44,787 acres) qualifying as either priority 3 or 7 in potential importance, according to the FNAL Purchase of this area would improve feasibility of establishing a landscape linkage with coastal publicly owned bear habitat on the Aucilla and Big Bend WMAs, and the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. Other nearby conservation lands include: Hixtown Swamp Florida Forever project 3 miles northeast of the project; Twin Rivers State Forest along the Suwannee River, 6 miles to the east; and the Econfina Conservation Area along the Econfina River, 5 miles to the west.

The rare plant species occurring in the project area include pitcher plants (Sarracenia spp.) within smaller areas of herbaceous wetlands. It is expected that additional rare and imperiled biota, yet to be documented, occur in the project area. The San Pedro Bay project is of sufficient size for largescale ecosystem management and restoration programs, if considered in the context of the larger San Pedro Bay wetland system. Successful restoration might require additional project design in the future. Such hydrological restoration would be expected to increase its value for fish and wildlife resources, as well as certain types of outdoor recreation. However, in such a scenario, certain types of public access could be diminished due to increased water levels and wetland restoration.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is recommended as lead manager. The FWC currently conducts wildlife management on the San Pedro Bay WMA through agreement with the Foley Timber and Land Company and Buckeye Florida.

#### Management Goals

The landscape ecology of this project provides a large area of connectivity among existing and proposed conservation lands, large areas of forest, functional wetlands (71%, or 31,936 acres of project area), and protection of surface water (57%, or 25.379 acres of project area) and natural floodplain function (11%, or 4,833 acres of project area). This project provides protection for fish and wildlife habitat, functional wetlands, natural hydrology, water quality, and also enlarges and provides access to unique environments for outdoor recreation in Florida. Programs would be focus on resource conservation and careful control of public uses.

Conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and threatened and endangered species should be an important management goal for the project. Management programs would conserve, protect, manage and/or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, wildlife populations, forests and water resources. The project area will be managed to provide opportunities for boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hanting, kayaking, and wildlife viewing. The Department of Environmental Protection and University of Florida Statewide Greenways System Planning Project shows 66% (29,340 acres) of the project area to be priority 1 recreational trails.

#### **Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management**

Most of the project is a low-need tract, requiring application of resource management methods and tools, including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. Future goals and objectives identified in

### San Pedro Bay - Group A/Full Fee

the conceptual management plan might require use of additional methods and tools for some management units. The FWC would conduct historic vegetation analysis to determine appropriate desired future conditions, objectives, and restoration methods and tools. This is especially important for conservation of habitats and populations of listed species. The primary methods and tools for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities might involve, for example, the introduction of prescribed fire and control of human uses in certain management units. There will be surveillance for, and removal of infestations of invasive exotic species.

Biotic surveys would be important to accomplish during the early part of plan development and implementation, because many rare or listed species are expected to occur in the project. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a high quality recreational experience, and any such development would be confined to areas of previous disturbance.

#### **Timetable for Implementing Management**

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis would be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan would be developed by the FWC describing the management goals and objectives.

Long-range goals would emphasize ecosystem management and the conservation of fish and wildlife. Following completion of plant community inventory and historic vegetation analysis, vegetation-management objectives would be developed for the FWC objectivebased vegetation management process. Essential roads would be stabilized to provide all-weather public access and management operations. Programs for multiple recreational uses would also be started. An all-season preacribed burning management plan would be developed and started using conventional and biologically acceptable methods and tools. Environmentally sensitive areas would be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented on those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances would be abandoned or restored as practical. Other existing infrastructure would be protected to the extent possible. Infrastructure development would be the minimum required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the property.

#### Estimate of Revenue Generating Potential

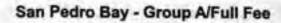
Substantial revenue from forest products production, as currently occurs, should continue. The FNA1 indicates that 44% (19,834 acres) of the project area is available as priorities 1, 2, 3, and 5 for sustainable forestry. However, management would seek to improve the other revenue-generating potential of areas of forest products production by improving wildlife diversity and resource-based recreation in such areas. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from recreational user fees and ecotourism activities, if such projects can be economically developed.

### Recommendations for other Government Agency Involvement

The FWC should cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies, including the Division of Forestry and the Suwannee River Water Management District in managing the area.

Category	Start-up	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Resource Management	\$548,732	\$719,677
Administration	\$75,494	\$25,133
Support	\$149,080	\$31,566
Capital Improvements	\$2,187,189	\$316,190
Visitor Services/Recreation	\$3,756	\$141
Law Enforcement	\$31,351	\$31,351
TOTAL	\$2,995,601	\$1,124,056

#### REVENUE SOURCES, MANAGEMENT COSTS AND EMPLOYEES NEEDED (Including employee salary)





## Sand Mountain - Full Fee/Group B

# Sand Mountain

## **Bay and Washington Counties**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Until the early part of this century, the country north of St. Andrews Bay was a high longleaf-pine sandhill interrupted by deep depressions holding shallow sand-bottomed lakes. The lakes still pock the area, but pine plantations and residential developments have replaced most of the sandhill. The Sand Mountain project will conserve and restore part of this land, still one of the largest tracts of sandhill in the Florida panhandle; protect the watersheds of the lakes and of Econfina Creek (the source of Panama City's water); maintain habitat critical to the survival of several rare plants that grow only around these lakes; and provide a large scenic area where the public can enjoy many recreational activities, from hiking to hunting.

#### Manager

Division of Forestry, Florida (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

#### **General Description**

This project protects the largest remaining tract of high quality, natural xeric uplands of Florida's New Hope Ridge and Fountain Slope physiographic regions. The high rolling pinelands drop down to classic examples of steephead ravines, unique Sandhill Upland Lakes, and a portion of a nearly pristine stream. Much of the sandhills are of excellent quality, having a nearly intact ground cover of wiregrass and dropseed, but those owned by the Rosewood Timber Company have been cleared and planted in sand pine. At least 18 species of rare or endangered plants inhabit the project. The Slope Forests in the steepheads shelter several species, while around the Sandhill Upland Lakes are four globally imperiled plant species found nowhere else in the world.

FNAI Elements	
Rock Springs cave isopod	G1/S1
Shaggy ghostsnail	G1/S1
Karst pond xyris	G2/S2
Smooth-barked St. John's wort	G2/S2
Panhandle meadowbeauty	G2/S2
Gulf coast lupine	G2/S2
Baltzell's sedge	G2/S2
Coville's rush	G2G3/S1
28 elements known from p	roject

## Group B Full Fee

The project also contains a large part of the watershed of Econfina Creek, nearly pristine in terms of water quality. Three archaeological sites are known from the project and there is moderate potential for more. Development threatens the northern part and the lakes in the southern part.

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a state forest with such uses as hiking, hunting, fishing, swimming, camping and environmental education.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The larger longleaf pine sandhill tracts (essential)— Deltona, St. Joe and John Hancock Mutual Life Ins. Co.—should be acquired first. The Northwest Florida Water Management District has acquired the Rosewood ownership in Phase II and a portion of the Deltona ownership. The owners of the remaining core parcels are unwilling sellers.

#### Coordination

The Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD) is an acquisition partner.

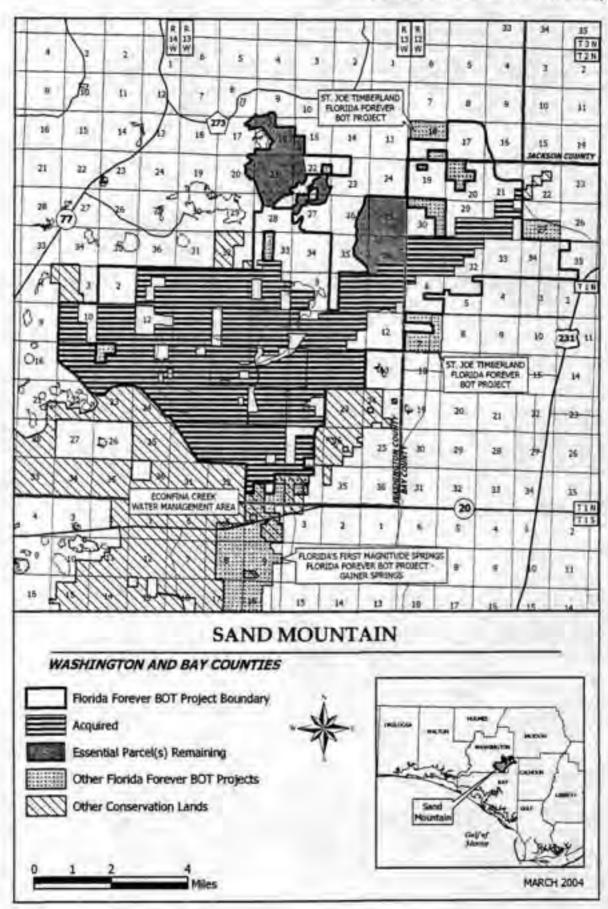
#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Sand Mountain project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or

Placed on list	1994
Project Area (Acres)	34,361
Acres Acquired	19,326
at a Cost of	\$26,637,412*
Acres Remaining	15,035
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$10,363,475

\*By the Northwest Florida Water Mgt. District





## Sand Mountain - Full Fee/Group B

restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The large areas of natural longleaf pine sandhills and restorable pine plantations in the Sand Mountain project make it desirable for management as a state forest.

Manager The DOF is recommended as the lead Manaper.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The pine plantations in the project will require restoration. Other than this, there are no known disturbances that will require extraordinary attention so management intensity is expected to be typical for a state forest.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Once the core area is acquired, the Division of Forestry will provide public access for low-intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities will include securing the site, providing public and fire management accesses, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The Division will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The project's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan.

Long-range plans for this project will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. Much of the pinelands has been cleared and planted in sand pine and requires restoration. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contam fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinnings and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural acosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructures will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

Revenue-generating potential The Division of Forestry will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide variable amounts of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The Northwest Florida Water Management District has purchased land along Econfina Creek within the project boundary. The District will cooperate with the DOF in the management of this corridor. The DOF will also cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies. local government entities and other interested parties as appropriate,

Management Cos	t Summary/DOF		1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.
Category	Startup	Recurring	
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	
Salary	\$148,370	\$148,370	
OPS	\$0	\$0	
Expense	\$70,000	\$50,000	
000	\$234,900	\$15,000	
FCO	50	50	
TOTAL	\$453,270	\$213,370	
Management Cos	t Summary/NWFV	MMD	
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	WMLTF	WMLTF	WMLTF
Salary	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
OPS	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Expense	\$39,222	\$49,028	\$61,284
000	\$27,838	\$34,798	\$43,498
FCO	\$36,000	\$34,750	\$43,438
TOTAL	\$143,060	\$183,576	\$213,220

# Save Our Everglades

## **Collier and Hendry Counties**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

West of the huge sawgrass marsh of the central Everglades spreads a landscape of cypress swamps, marshes, slash-pine flatwoods, and tropical hammocks, through which water slowly flows to the mangrove swamps of the Ten Thousand Islands. The Save Our Everglades project will conserve three large pieces of this landscape, connecting and extending existing conservation lands, helping to save the last of the Florida panthers and a host of other rare animals and tropical plants, preserving the flow of water to the rich estuaries of the Gulf coast, and allowing the public to enjoy this unique landscape for years to come.

#### Manager

National Park Service (Big Cypress Addition), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge), Division of Forestry (all of the Golden Gate Estates South, less that portion east of the the Fakaunion Canal to be managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks), And the Division of Recreation and Parks (that portion of the Golden Gate Estates South lying east of the Fakaunion Canal, less the old resort hotel, its associated compound and the sewage treatment plant.

#### **General Description**

This project includes important hydrological connections among Big Cypress National Preserve, Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve, and Everglades National Park. It serves as the headwaters of the largest strand swamp in the nation—the Fakahatchee Strand. It is also an excellent natural area in its own right. Natural communities on the property include

FNAI Elements				
Tampa vervain	G1/S1			
Coastal vervain	G2/S2			
Florida panther	G4T1/S1			
Narrow-leaved Carolina scalystem	G4T2/S2			
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2			
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3			
SHELL MOUND	G3/S2			
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3			
24 elements known t	from project			

Group A Small Holdings

cypress forest, pine forest, hammock, mixed swamp forest, wet and dry prairies and freshwater marsh. The area is known to support many endangered, threatened or rare species including a large variety of rare orchids and other epiphytes, as well as the endangered Florida panther. There is believed to be good potential for archaeological sites here. The project is threatened by drainage and other changes in water flow through the area, by oil and gas exploration, and perhaps by limerock mining.

#### Public Use

The project will provide a preserve/reserve, wildlife and environmental area, and a forest, allowing such uses as fishing, hunting, hiking, camping and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The finalization of the Collier Exchange on December 18, 1996, resulted in public protection of an additional 83,070 acres in the Big Cypress Addition and an additional 4,110 acres in the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge.

The National Park Service continues to pursue consolidation efforts in the Big Cypress Preserve Addition. The CARL Program continues to focus on acquiring land in Golden Gate Estates South. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has acquired and manages 28,410 acres (including Collier Exchange lands). The CARL Program received \$25 million of Federal "Farm Bill" funds for the Golden Gate portion of this project. All of the acreage in this project is considered "essential".

Placed on list	1984
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	222,691
Acres Acquired	210,011
at a Cost of	\$119,394,498
Acres Remaining	12,680
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$11,285,200

#### Coordination

The NPS, USFWS, and FDOT are all acquisition partners in this project area. Resolutions in support of this project include EO 88-25: Governor's Executive Directive for Interagency Joint Participation Agreement.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Save Our Everglades project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect lands within areas of critical state concern; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The sensitive resources of the Big Cypress National Preserve qualify it as a state preserve. The extremely rare Florida panther and the undisturbed habitat needed to protect it qualify the Panther National Wildlife Refuge as a wildlife and environmental area. The size and diversity of Golden Gate Estates South, and its twelve miles of common border with the Belle Meade project (to be managed by the Division of Forestry), make it highly suitable for use and management as a state forest.

Manager National Park Service (Big Cypress Addition), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge), Division of Fotestry (all of the Golden Gate Estates South, less that portion east of the the Fakaunion Canal to be managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks), And the Division of Recreation and Parks (that portion of the Golden Gate Estates South lying east of the Fakaunion Canal, less the old resort hotel, its associated compound and the sewage treatment plant.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Panther National Wildlife Refuge is a low-need management area, requiring basic resource management and protection. Portions of Golden Gate Estates may require hydrological restoration, but the local water

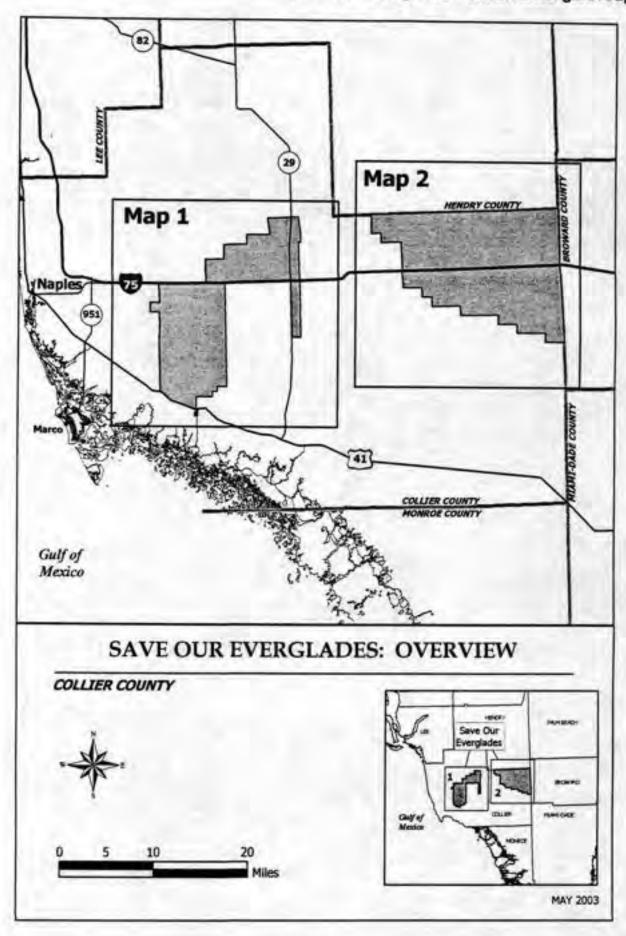
management district will probably conduct these activities. There is a major road network that might eventually require partial removal. If this restoration effort is attempted, it will probably require funding beyond what is typically expected for a state forest.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The Panther National Wildlife Refuge was established m 1989. In 1991, the USFWS began management programs of protection, prescribed burning and food plot management. The area is not open for public use. For the first four years, the refuge was burned to reduce accumulated fuel loads. Burns were confined to the winter and spring. The refuge will experiment with early summer burns in the future. Approximately 6,000 acres of Golden Gate Estates South have already been acquired within the project boundaries; however, this acreage is composed of thousands of lots scattered throughout the area so management for public access and use is not feasible at this time. Once sufficient area has been acquired, the Division of Forestry will provide public access for low-intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities will include securing the access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The project's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan. Long-range plans for this project will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as fast as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species.

Revenue-generating potential No revenue is expected from the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge. In Golden Gate Estates, the Division of Forestry will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide variable amounts of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low.

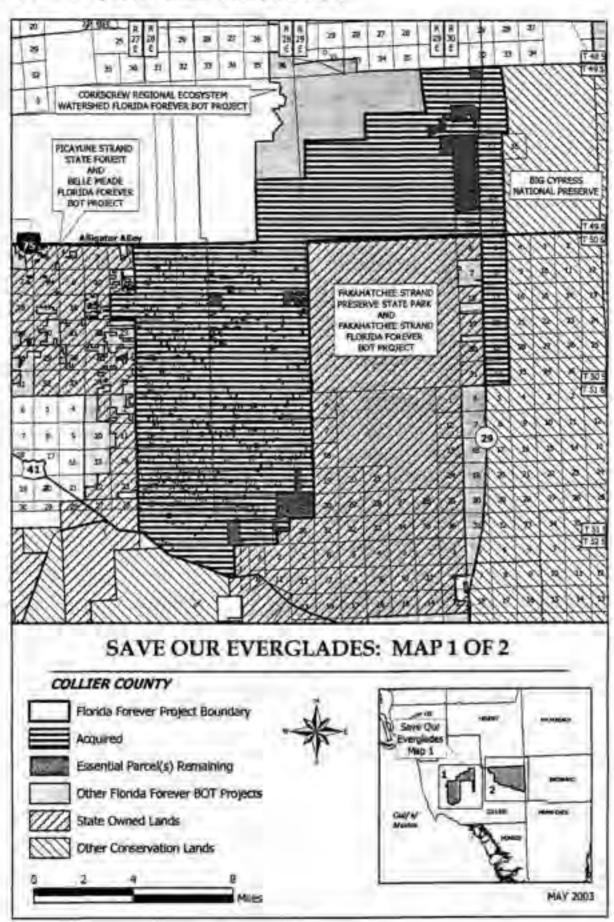
Cooperators in management activities The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, South Florida Water Management District, Florida Division of Forestry, CREW, Collier County, and the National Park Service are cooperators in the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge.

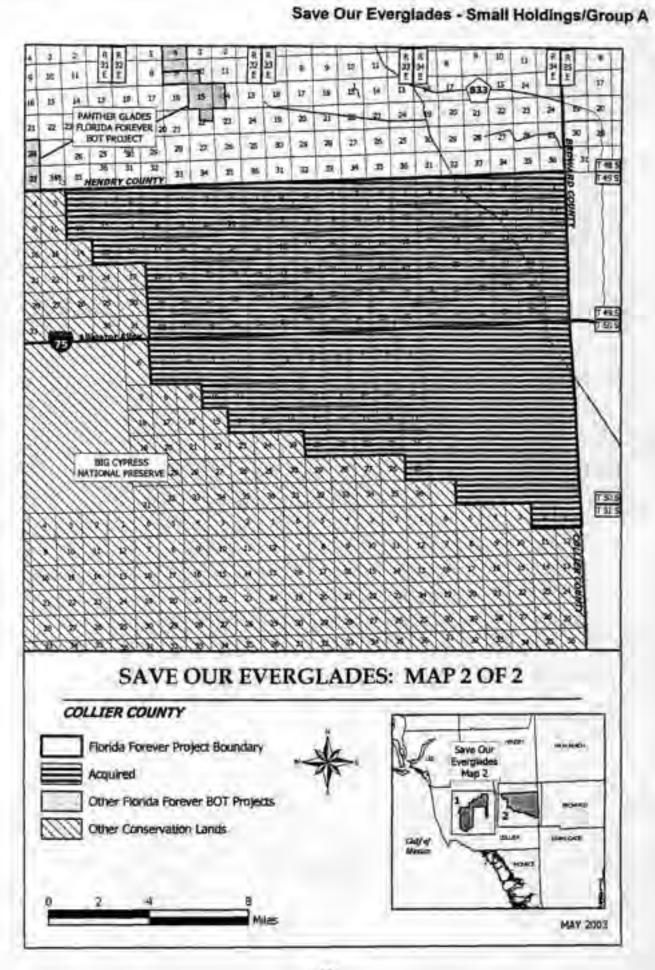
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Ministration and Print	San Training		
Management Cost Si		and and a	(Jacoba)
Category	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$35,376	\$50,658	85,000
OPS	\$0	50	50
Expense	\$24,975	\$34,125	\$60,000
000	\$4,190	\$40,000	\$46,000
FCO	\$0	\$0	50
TOTAL	\$64,541	\$124,783	\$191,000
Management Cost Si	ummary/NPS		
Category	Startup	Recurring	
Source of Funds	NPS	NPS	
Salary	\$110,000	\$110,000	
OPS	\$0	\$0	
Expense	\$115,000	\$70,000	
000	\$0	\$0	
FCO	\$0	\$0	
TOTAL	\$225,000	\$180,000	
Management Cost Se	ummary/SFWMD		
Category	Startup	Recurring	
Source of Funds	WMLTF	WMLTF	
Salary	\$3,265	\$3,265	
OPS	\$0	\$0	
Expense	\$0	\$0	
000	\$0	\$0	
FCO	\$0	\$0	
TOTAL	\$3,265	\$3,265	
Management Cost S	ummary/USFWS		
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	FWS	FWS	FWS
Salary	N/A	N/A	N/A
OPS	N/A	N/A	N/A
Expense	N/A	N/A	N/A
000	N/A	N/A	N/A
FCO	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	\$642,600	\$747,300	NA

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## Searcy Estate Wakulla County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The Searcy Estate lies in a gap that, when filled, will help with the continuity and manageability of the Apalachicola National Forest. The prescribed burning regime of the National Forest should incorporate this site and minimize individual impacts that could be associated with managing it separately.

Although the site offers habitat for only one FNAI-listed species (The Florida black bear), it contains potential foraging habitat for the red cockaded woodpecker and provides watershed protection for the Ochlockonee River, which contains three protected species. 82% of the site is rare species habitat and it should be managed to maintain and enhance that habitat.

#### Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS)

#### **General Description**

The Searcy Estate proposal contains just less than 600 acres of land in Wakulla County. It is bordered by the Apalachicola National Forest and the Ochlockonee River and is located within 30 miles of Lake Talquin State Forest, Tate's Hell State Forest and Ochlockonee River State Park. Forested wetlands, including floodplain swamp, floodplain forest, bottomland forest, and baygall, constitute 55 percent of the proposal. Forty percent is comprised of sandhill and flatwoods with varying amounts of pine canopy and shrub density. Although the flatwoods have experienced timbering throughout the last 60 years of Searcy family ownership, they have not experienced intensive site preparation or planting and the persistence of native groundcover is likely. The remaining 5 percent of the proposal includes upland hardwood forest and a floodplain lake.

#### Public Use

The proposal could support a diversity of resource-based outdoor recreational opportunities such as hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, camping, shoreline freshwater fishing, nature appreciation, hunting and picnicking. There is a small hunt camp parcel next to the river that is not owned by the Searcy Estate. This Group A Full Fee

parcel should be part of the project. It sits on a high point next to the river that could accommodate a boat ramp. While the proposal has a considerable length of river frontage, all but this point appears to have a wide band of floodplain along the river that would not provide for as logical a location for boating facilities as the hunt camp site.

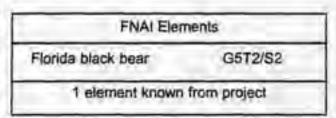
The resource-based recreation potential of just the project is low. Its potential could become greater as a part of the larger Apalachicola National Forest, with connective trails and planning to use the amenities of the National Forest. While not reflected in the plan as having a need, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission advises the project has low potential.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

This project is proposed for fee simple acquisition. There are no alternative (partnership) funding sources. The project has approximately 600 acres, in one parcel. The 2002 tax assessed value is \$358,000. All attempts will be made to acquire this parcel at the lowest possible

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	600
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost Of	D
Acres Remaining	600

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$358,000



#### Searcy Estate - Group A/Full Fee

sale price, but there are no indications that the owner is willing to sell at 80% of the appraised value.

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the Searcy Estate to the Florida Forever project list.

#### Management Policy Statement

Generally, the addition of this tract to the Apalachicola National Forest (ANF) would protect and preserve habitats utilized by multiple wildlife species including black bear, and with proper management could aid in the conservation of rare and imperiled species such as the red-cockaded woodpeckers (RCW) and gopher tortoise. The Ochlocknee River flood plain is a known travel corridor for black bear and the addition of this tract to the ANF will ensure that another piece of the corridor remains undeveloped and intact. None of the pine stands observed on the area appeared old enough to provide cavity trees for RCWs at this time. The closet known RCW cluster to this tract is approximately 1.5 miles, suggesting the area is not currently used as a foraging area either. However, it could be utilized as the RCW population expands on ANF. The scrubby sand hill habitats presently provide limited habitat for gopher tortoises but the use of prescribed fire would improve the habitat immensely for gopher tortoises and their commensally associated species.

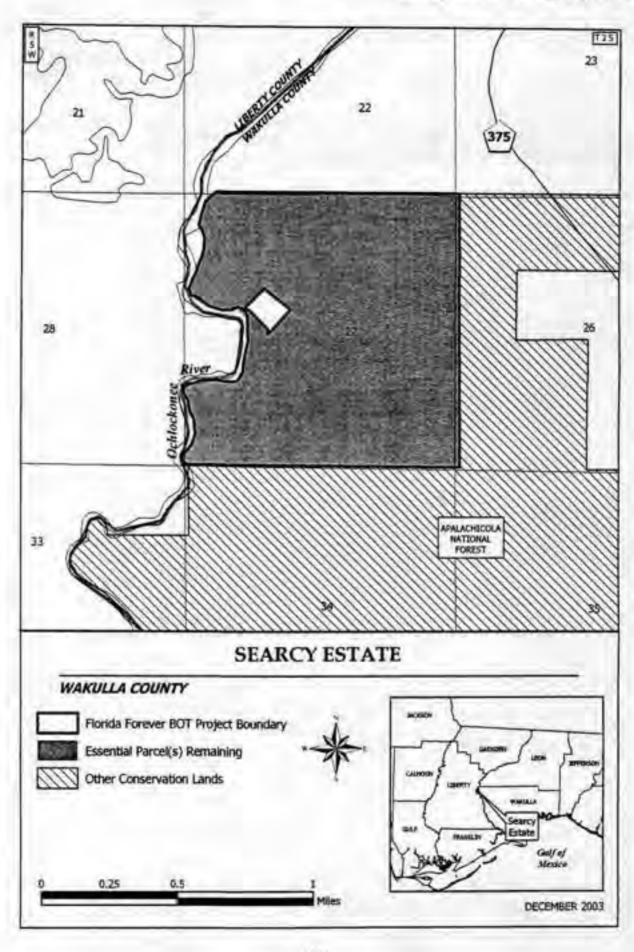
## Management Prospectus

## Qualifications for state designation

Parcels within this project that are acquired as conservation easements or other less-than-fee interests will be monitoroed and overseen through the Office of Environmental Services, Division of State Lands. The interests acquired by the Trustees through such agreements will complement and be compatible with the acquisition objectives of the project.



Searcy Estate - Group A/Full Fee



## South Walton County Ecosystem - Small Holdings/Group A

# South Walton County Ecosystem

## Group A Small Holdings

## Walton County

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Where the Gulf of Mexico meets the coast of Walton County is a line of some of the most beautiful beaches and dunes in the world, backed by sparkling freshwater lakes and pine flatwoods and marshes spreading to Choctawhatchee Bay—one of the largest natural areas on the northern Gulf coast. The South Walton County Ecosystem project will conserve a part of this unique coast and the forests behind it, linking three state parks; protecting several rare plants and rare animals such as the Choctawhatchee beach mouse and red-cockaded woodpecker; and providing residents and tourists a scenic area in which to enjoy many recreational activities, ranging from hunting and flahing to hiking, pienicking, and sunbathing.

#### Managers

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Topsail Hill, Grayton Beach and Deer Lake), and Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Point Washington).

#### **General Description**

This project includes much of the undeveloped land in Walton County south of Choctawhatchee Bay. This land is covered with a diverse mix of flatwoods, sandhills, and wetlands in the interior and superb sandpine scrub, unique coastal dune lakes (occurring only in Florida and globally critically imperiled), and beach dunes on the Gulf Coast. Most of the interior has been logged and planted in slash pine, but is restorable. The Topsail Hill and Deer Lake tracts are some of the most scenic and ecologically intact coastal areas in the pan-

FNAI Elements	Law and the
Panhandle spiderlily	G1Q/S1
Southern milkweed	G2/S2
Curtiss' sandgrass	G2/S2
Godfrey's golden aster	G2/S2
COASTAL DUNE LAKE	G2/S1
Gulf coast lupine	G2/S2
Large-leaved jointweed	G2/S2
SCRUB	G2/S2
33 elements known from	n project

handle, and shelter the endangered Choctawhatchee beach mouse and red-cockaded woodpecker, as well as several other rare plants and animals (13 rare plant species, six rare animal species, and 14 natural communities). Seven archaeological sites are known from the project. The explosive coastal development of Walton County is a serious threat to this project, particularly the sensitive coastal areas.

#### Public Use

The interior will be managed as a state forest, and the Topsail Hill and Deer Lake tracts will become state parks. The project will provide many recreational opportunities, including hiking, hunting, freshwater and saltwater fishing, camping, picnicking, nature appreciation, and beach activities.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

On July 16, 1996, LAMAC directed staff to hold two public hearings to receive public input on the potential revision of the South Walton County Ecosystem project boundary. Public hearings were held on August 23, 1996, and August 30, 1996. As a result of the public hearings and input from other interested parties and managing agencies, LAMAC modified the project boundary on December 5, 1996, by adding approximately 41 acres and removing 820 acres from the project boundary.

Point Washington: inholdings (approximately 1,150 acres) within the State forest and parcels connecting Topsail to the Choctawhatchee Bay remain in be acquired. Acquisition of parcels (approximately 210 acres) along the State Forest to State Park trail/ greenway is needed to better connect portions of the trail/greenway.

Placed on list	1995*
Project Area (Acres)	22,674
Acres Acquired	19,635
at a Cost of	\$184,991,505
Acres Remaining	3,083

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$8,095,243 \* Point Washington and Topsail Hill projects combined in 1995

### South Walton County Ecosystem - Small Holdings/Group A

Topsail: most tracts have been acquired but the remainder are extremely vulnerable. Several ownerships were acquired through eminent domain.

Deer Lake: a 172-acre tract was acquired through eminent domain. The remaining property in the Deer Lake project was removed from the overall project boundary as part of the court settlement.

Grayton Beach: a small 20-acre inholding remains to be acquired in the Grayton Beach State Recreation Area. Not included in the totals on the previous page are the acres acquired (1,129) and funds spent (\$38,709,943) for the acquisition of the state recreation area. On December 9, 1999, the Council added 90 acres to the project boundary as an essential parcel. The addition included several hundred feet on Choctawatchee Bay.

On August 15, 2002 the Council added 75 acres(the Coldeway Tract) to the project boundaries.

On October 24, 2002 the Council added 90 acres (the Davie Tract) to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) was an intermediary in the acquisition of the RTC tract.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the South Walton County Ecosystem project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Point Washington project has the large size and forest resources—flatwoods and sandhills, some cutover but restorable—to qualify as a state forest. The exceptional flatwoods, dunes, and coastal dune lakes of the areas around Deer Lake, Grayton Beach and Topsail Hill have the diversity of resources and recreational opportunities to qualify as units of the state park system.

Manager The DOF is managing the majority of the project. The DRP is recommended as the manager for the Deer Lake tract, areas next to Grayton Beach State Recreation Area and Topsail Hill.

Conditions affecting intensity of management Large cutover areas in the project will require reforestation and restoration efforts beyond the level typical for a state forest. Consequently, management intensity and related management costs might be slightly higher than normal for a state forest. The portions to be managed by the DRP are high-need management areas with an emphasis on public recreational use and development compatible with resource conservation.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The DOF is providing public access for low-intensity, nonfacilities-related outdoor recreation, while protecting sensitive resources. Initial activities include securing the site, providing public and fire management accesses, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The project's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan. Long-range plans for this project will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. Large areas of pinelands have been degraded by timbering and require restoration. An allseason burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinnings and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

In the first year after acquisition of its parcels, the DRP will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and efforts toward the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management.

#### South Walton County Ecosystem - Small Holdings/Group A

Revenue-generating potential The DOF will sell tim- facilities. Revenues for fiscal year 1993-1994 for the ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide vari- more than \$162,000. able amounts of revenue, but the revenue-generating Cooperators in management activities The DOF will enue generated will depend on the extent of these. Deer Lake, Grayton Beach or Topsail Hill tracts.

ber as needed to improve or maintain desirable nearby Grayton Beach State Recreation Area were slightly

potential for this project is expected to be low. The cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agen-DRP expects no significant revenue to be generated ini- cies, local governments and interested parties as tially. Any significant public use facilities will take appropriate. The DRP does not recommend that any loseveral years to develop, and the amount of any rev- cal governments or others assist in management of the

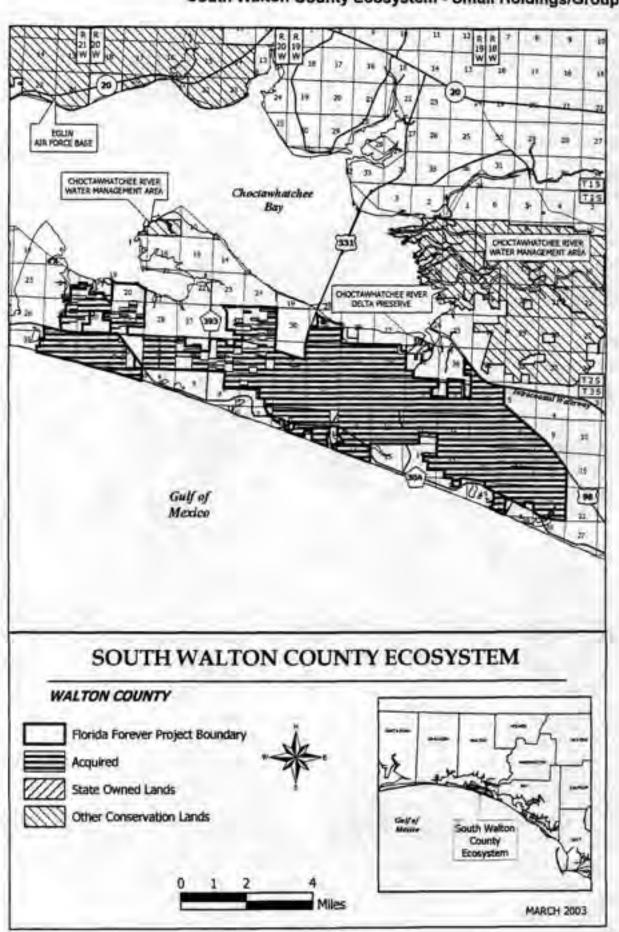
Management Cost 5	ummary/DRP		Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Category	Startup	Recurring	Source of	SPTF/	SPTF/	SPTF/
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$47,711	\$47,711	Salary	\$0	\$0	50
OPS	\$24,500	\$24,500	OPS	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$6,000	\$6,000	Expense	\$1,197	\$745	\$745
000	\$15,000	\$1,000	000	\$0	50	\$0
FCO	\$44,000	\$0	FCO	\$10,918	\$0	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$137,271	\$195,277	TOTAL	\$12,116	\$745	\$200,745

Management Cost Summary/DRP

Management Cost Summary/DOF 1994/95 Category

1995/96

1996/97			
Source of Funds	CARL/GR	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$61,016	\$99,676	\$102,667
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$48,550	\$68,152	\$45,777
OCO	\$89,702	\$11,500	\$0
FCO	50	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$199,348	\$179,328	\$148,444



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## South Walton County Ecosystem - Small Holdings/Group A

## Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves

### Alachua, Citrus, Jackson, Marion, and Sumter Counties

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Caves where southeastern bats rear their young also protect several other rare animals, such as the gray bat and cave-dwelling crayfish, and are easily damaged by vandals. The Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves Priority project will limit access to six of these caves by protecting land around them, helping to ensure the survival of the bats and the other unique denizens of these lightless worlds.

#### Manager

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will manage the full fee acquisitions and monitor the less than fee.

#### **General Description**

Every spring, adult female southeastern bats leave their colonies and move to certain caves where they bear and raise their young. For the species to survive, these maternity roosts must be protected from human disturbance. The six caves in this project are or were used as maternity roosts by the bats. The caves also harbor several other rare and endangered animals and plants, including the federally endangered gray bat and rare cavedwelling crayfish and amphipods. The sites are generally too small to have important vegetative communities, but the Gerome's Cave site has an outstanding example of Upland Hardwood Forest, the Jenning's Cave site has intact Sandhill, and the Sneads Cave site supports good Floodplain Forest and Floodplain Swamp.

BARRY B. SAL	
Sray bat	G2/S1
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
Dougherty Plain cave crayfish	1 G2/S2
McLane's cave crayfish	G2/S2
Georgia blind salamander	G2/S2
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
Hobbs' cave amphipod	G2G3/S2S3
Marianna columbine	G5T1/S1
TERRESTRIAL CAVE	G3/S1
Southeastern bat	G4/S?

Three archaeological sites are known from Gerome's Cave. Vandalism is the greatest threat to the caves.

Group A Full Fee

#### Public Use

The caves will be managed as wildlife and environmental areas. They are generally not suitable for recreation, but some could have nature trails. Grant's Cave, the less than fee parcel, qualifies as a wildlife and environmental area. Any public use will be negotiated with the landowner, but this cave is probably not suitable for public recreation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Overall, acquisition efforts should concentrate on purchasing occupied caves first. Snead's Cave-Occupied; Catacombs—Occupied; Sumter County Cave—Vacant; Sweet Gum Cave—Vacant; Gerome's Cave—Vacant; Jenning's Cave—Vacant.

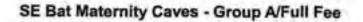
On October 30, 1996, LAMAC adopted criteria for establishing a Less-Than-Fee category: 1) resource value of the project/tract can be adequately protected through a less-than-fee instrument; 2) seller is willing to accept a less-than-fee-simple instrument and LAMAC has determined that the project's or site's acquisition objectives can be met by acquiring a less-than-fee interest; and 3) manager is willing to oversee a less-than-fee-simple instrument.

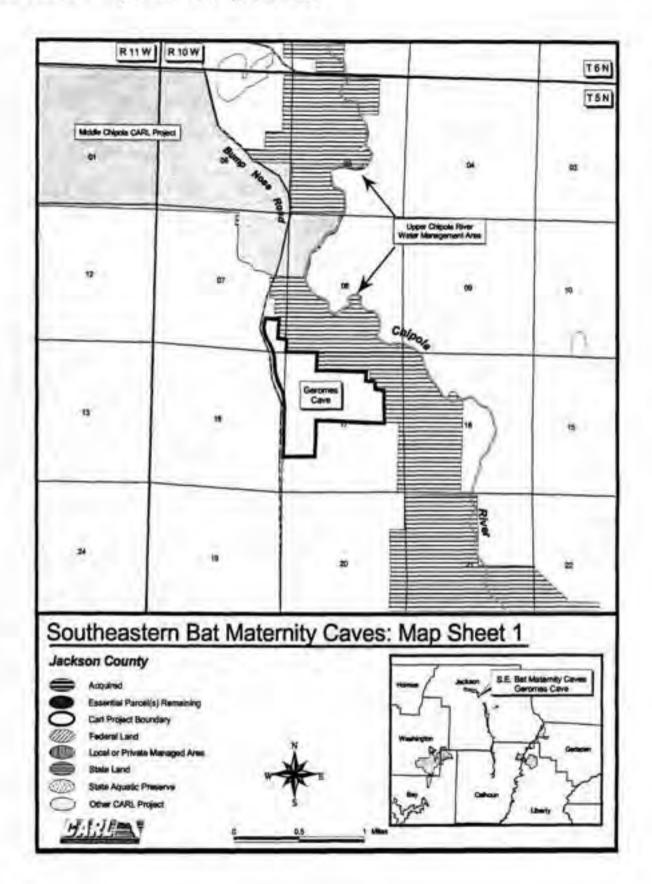
On December 5, 1996, LAMAC transferred Grant's Cave, consisting of two ownerships, to the Less-Than-Fee category.

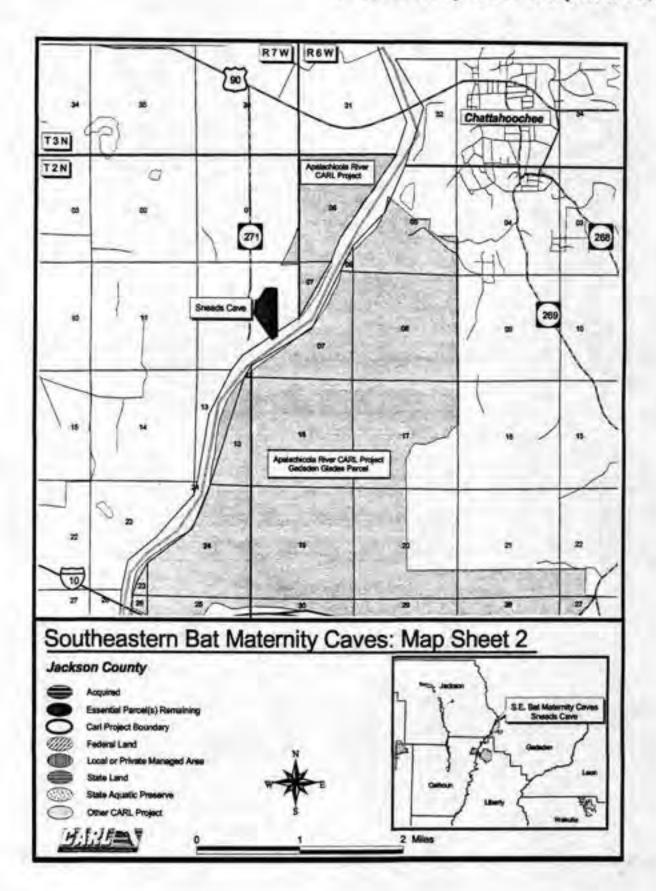
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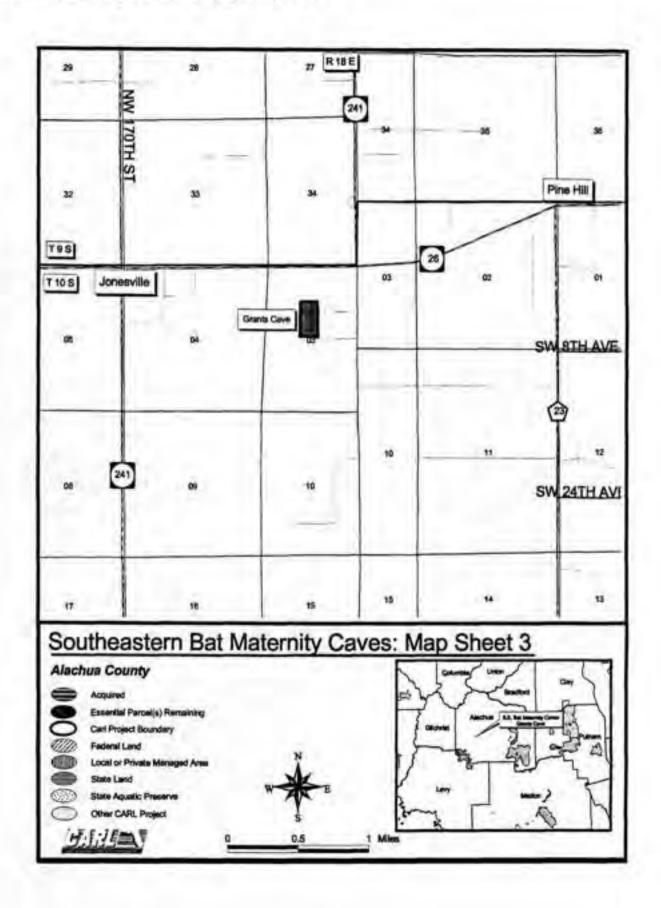
Placed on list	1994
Project Area (Acres)	590
Acres Acquired	o
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	590
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$1,931,170

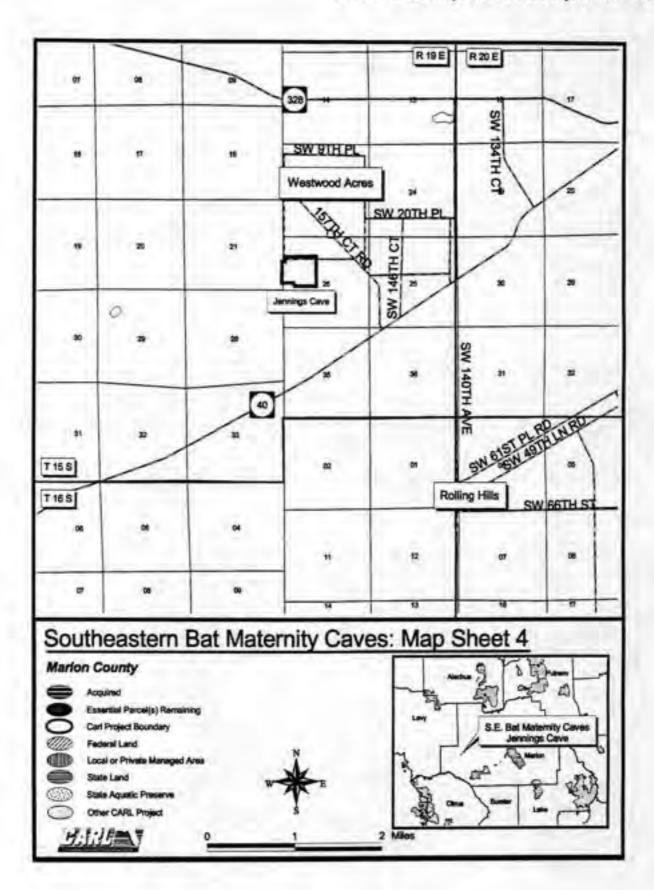


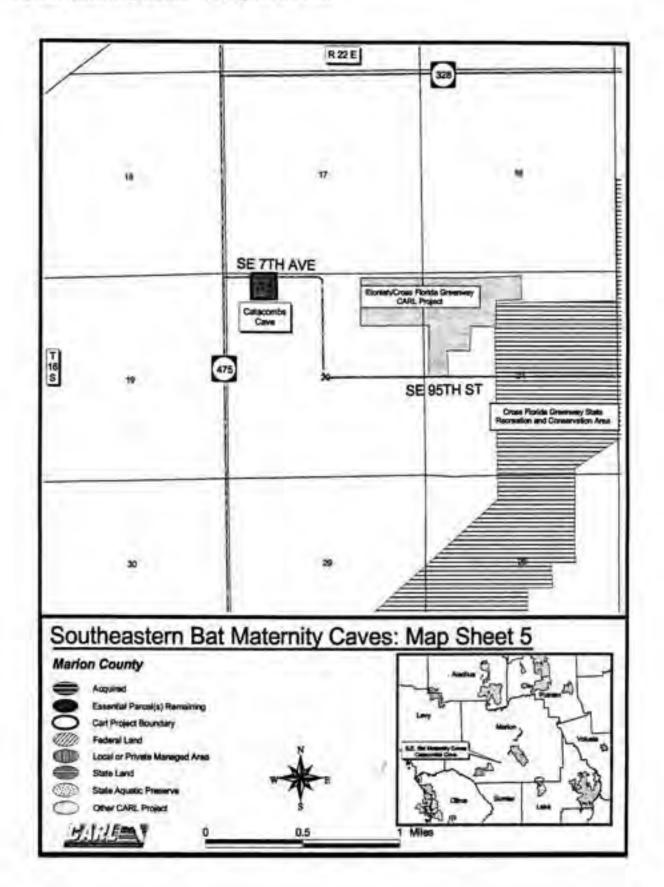


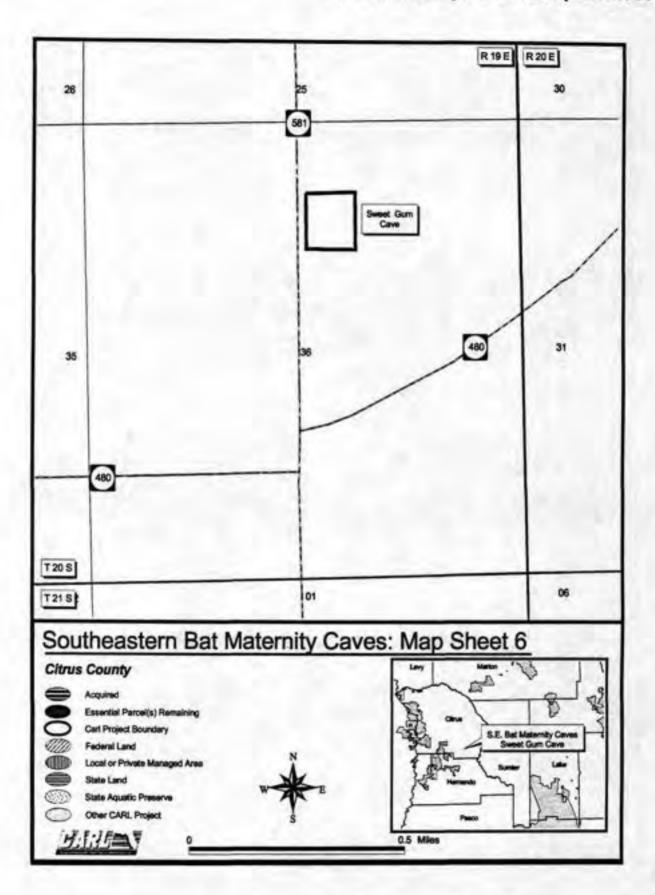


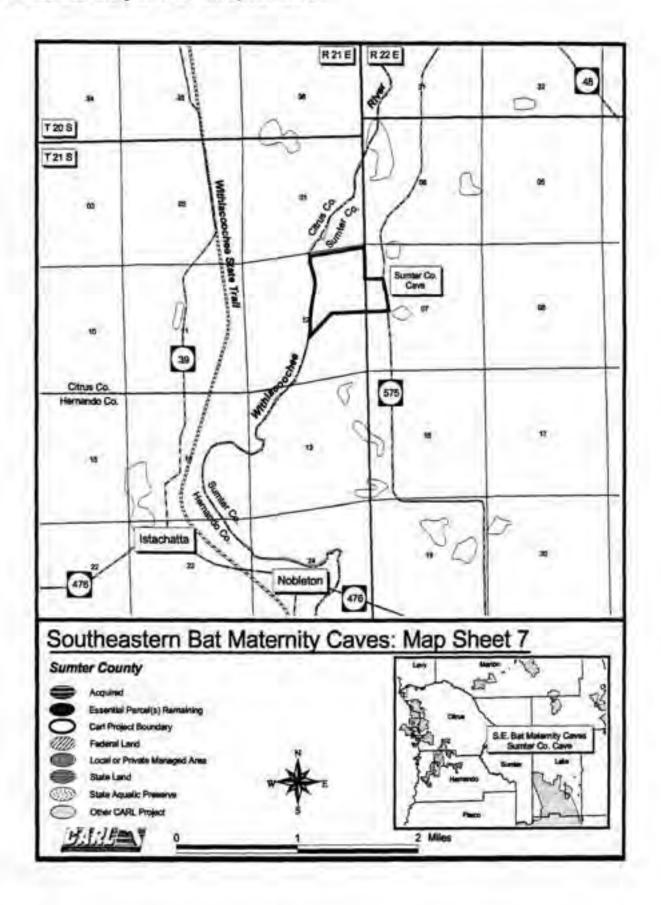












On June 6, 2002 the Council combined the Less-Than-Fee project to the Group B Full Fee project.

On December 5, 2003 the Council moved the project to the Group A list.

Sweet Gum Cave (Citrus County)—the site consists of approximately 10 acres, 1 parcel and 1 owner. Gerome's Cave (Jackson County)—the site consists of approximately 160 acres, 5 parcels, and 4 owners. Snead's Cave (Jackson County)—the site consists of approximately 80 acres, 1 parcel, and 1 owner. <u>Cata-</u>

#### SE Bat Maternity Caves - Group A/Full Fee

combs Cave (Marion County)—the site consists of approximately 10 acres, 2 parcels, and 2 owners. Jenning's Cave (Marion County)—the site consists of approximately 89 acres, 79 parcels, and 70 owners. <u>Sumter County Cave</u> (Sumter County)—the site consists of approximately 362 acres, 4 parcels, and 3 owners.

#### Coordination

The Northwest Florida Water Management District will be an acquisition partner on the Gerome's Cave site. There are no acquisition partners for the less-than-fee parcels

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goal of management of the Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves project is to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The sensitive wildlife resources of the Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves—southeastern bats and other rare cave-dwelling animals—qualify them as wildlife and environmental areas.

Manager The FWC will manage the project.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The caves will require protection from vandalism. Natural communities around some of the cave entrances will require restoration.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Initial management activities will concentrate on securing each cave site with chain link fencing, posting signs, and removing trash and debris from the caves and surrounding areas. Each cave also will be monitored to determine its current usage by bats and each site's natural resources, including listed species of flora and fauna, will be inventoried. Current management is based on ongoing and previous monitoring information. A management plan will be developed outlining long-term management strategies for the project on a cave-by-cave basis. Management considerations will include, but will not be limited to, site protection, biological monitoring, educational and recreational opportunities, and habitat restoration or enhancement.

Revenue-generating potential No significant revenue is currently being generated. However, future management activities will include educational and recreational opportunities that could possibly generate revenue.

Cooperators in management activities No other local, state or federal agencies are currently participating in the management of this project. The Northwest Florida Water Management District proposes to cooperate in the management of Gerome's Cave in Jackson County.

Management Cost S	Summary/FWC	
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	rce of Funds CARL CA	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$14,784	\$14,784
Expense	\$4,725	\$4,725
000	\$30,240	\$0
FCO	\$0	50
TOTAL	\$49,749	\$19,509

### Spruce Creek - Small Holdings/Group A

## Spruce Creek

### Volusia County

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

Natural areas along the coast of Volusia County are becoming scarce as residential developments expand from Daytona Beach and New Smyrna Beach. The Spruce Creek project will protect one of the largest tracts of undeveloped land left in this region, along the estuary of Spruce Creek; help to maintain the water quality of the creeks and bays here, thus protecting a fishery; conserve what may be the site of Andrew Turnbull's 18th-century plantation; and provide a recreational area where people can do anything from hiking and fishing to simply learning about the plants and animals of this scenic landscape.

#### Manager

Volusia County:

#### **General Description**

The original Spruce Creek project area, north and west of Strickland Bay, contains good estuarine tidal swamps, hammocks, scrub, and flatwoods. It protects habitat for such endangered or threatened species as bald eagles, wood storks and manatees. The addition, between U.S. I and Turnbull Bay, contains good Maritime or Xeric Hammock, with live oaks, cabbage palms, and several tropical shrubs near their northern limits. Flatwoods also cover a large part of the addition, and tidal marsh with remnants of black mangrove fringes it. Disturbed areas include an historic house at the north end and the remains of a fish camp and marina east of U.S. 1. No FNAI-listed plants are known from the addition; of FNAI-listed animals, gopher tortoises have been found. The area is adjacent to several Outstanding Florida Waters, and the aquatic resources are important to both recreational and commercial fisheries. There are two

FNAI Elements	
SCRUB	G2/S2
SCRUBBY FLATWOODS	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
MESIC FLATWOODS	G?/S4
XERIC HAMMOCK	G7/53
ESTUARINE TIDAL MARSH	G4/S4
MARITIME HAMMOCK	G4/S3
Florida scrub jay	G5T3/S3
8 elements known from p	project

## Group A Small Holdings

archaeological sites recorded within the project area: Spruce Creek Mound site, a prehistoric and historic burial mound; and J. D. site, a prehistoric and historic shell midden and burial site. The project may also contain historic archaeological sites related to the British Colonial Period occupation in this area of NE Florida (ca. 1763–1783 AD). The area is experiencing significant growth, so developable acreage is likely to be lost relatively soon.

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a recreation area with uses such as cultural and environmental education, hiking, fishing, camping and picnicking.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Larger important tracts, the Diocese of Orlando and Bolt tracts, are essential and have been acquired. The state and county acquired approximately 1,152 acres of the original Sprace Creek project. Negotiations are ongoing with several remaining landowners.

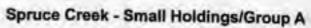
The remainder of the project was removed from the CARL priority list in 1993 after negotiations were suspended on the portions of the tract left unacquired because of unwilling sellers, who are again within the current project boundaries.

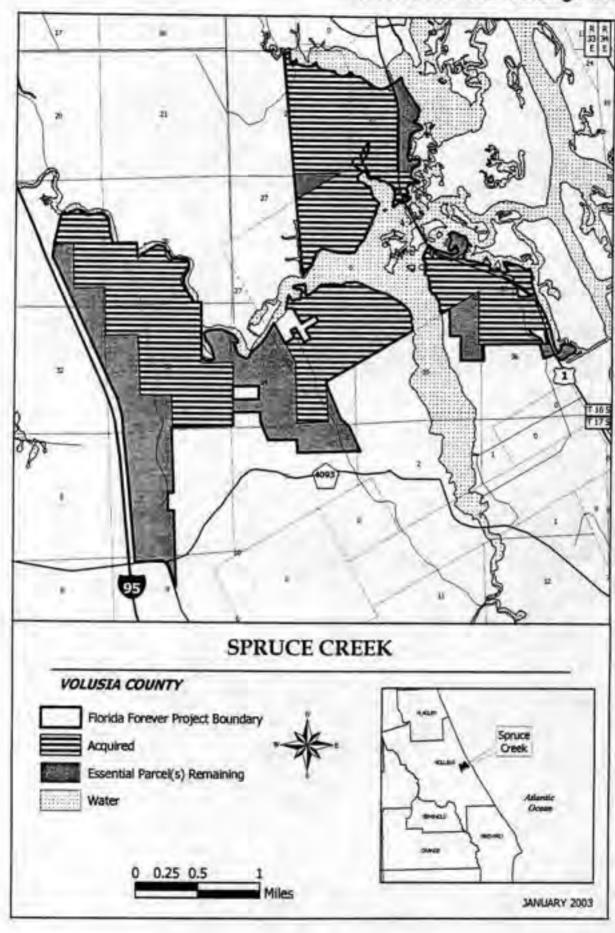
On October 15, 1998, the Council designated the remainder of the project essential.

On October 24, 2002 the Council added 646 acres to the project boundaries.

Placed on list	1990*
Project Area (Acres)	2,928
Acres Acquired	1,493
at a Cost of	\$7,922,090
Acres Remaining	1,435

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value o(\$25,669,762 \* Combined with Spruce Creek Addition in 1994





I

### Spruce Creek - Small Holdings/Group A

#### Coordination

Volusia County is a partner in the acquisition of this tract and has committed to manage it.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Spruce Creek project are: to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Spruce Creek Recreation Area has the size, natural, cultural, and recreational resources, and surrounding population density to qualify as a State Recreation Area.

Manager Volusia County in cooperation with the State of Florida.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The project includes moderate-need tracts requiring more than basic resource management and protection. These lands will contain more highly developed resource-related recreation facilities. Large portions of the property, however, would be considered low-need tracts requiring only basic resource management and protection. Recreation use will be incorporated but in a more dispersed and less intensive manner.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security and resource inventory. Volusia County will provide appropriate access to the site to maintain existing and historic uses while protecting sensitive resources on the site. The site's natural resources and listed plants and animals will be inventoried, recreational opportunities and uses identified, and a management plan formulated. Long-range plans for Spruce Creek will be specified in the management plan and will generally be directed as follows: Development of recreational facilities, a comprehensive trail management program, a comprehensive educational and interpretive program, and a comprehensive historic resource nanagement program, restoration of disturbed areas, maintenance of natural communities through a program of selected harvest and fire management; and habitat enhancement for listed species.

Revenue-generating potential will be determined by the concepts in the Management Plan. Some revenues will probably be generated by user and concession fees at recreation sites. Some revenues may be generated through sale of forest products, but any such revenues will be minimal. Use of small portions of the area as mitigation for development elsewhere would not only restore damaged areas on-site, but would yield revenue as well. It will be several years before potential revenue sources could be fully developed.

Cooperators in management activities Port Orange and New Smyrna Beach both will be involved in the planning of the project.

The Museum of Arts and Sciences and the Atlantic Center for the Arts may prove to be valuable partners in optimizing the educational and interpretive opportunities on this site.

The Nature Conservancy still owns the 150 acres that is managed by the Museum of Arts and Sciences. The Environmental Council and Sierra Club have played important roles in the early protection of the creek including sponsoring OFW status in 1986. The Southeast Volusia Historical Society and Volusia Anthropological Society have had long-standing interest in protection and interpretation of the cultural, historical and archaeological resources located on the project site. Volunteers will be invaluable in developing, managing, and interpreting this site.

#### Management Cost Summary

And the second sec	
olusia County	Volusia County
\$6,240	\$6,240
50	\$7,712
\$0	\$0
\$0	\$0
\$0	\$0
\$6,240	\$13,952
	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$0

### St. Joe Timberland - Group A/Full Fee

# St. Joe Timberland

**Multi-Counties** 

## Purpose for State Acquisition

The St. Joe Company is one of the largest landowners in Florida. The St. Joe Timberlands project will consolidate the St. Joe ownerships already included in other projects, thus helping to preserve large undeveloped tracts of land for native plants and animals and giving the public an opportunity to experience large natural areas throughout north Florida.

#### Manager

The sites will be managed by various agencies. See the summaries for the projects listed below.

#### **General Description**

The St. Joe Timberlands project includes the St. Joe Company ownerships in the following projects: Apalachicola River (Sweetwater Creek 7,040 acres, Gadsden Glades 360 acres, and Aspalaga Landing 600 acres sites); Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem (Tico site 1,780 acres); Dickerson Bay/Bald Point (Bald Point site 3,840 acres); Florida's First Magnitude Springs (River Sink 40 acres and St. Marks 700 acres springs sites); Lake Powell 600 acres; St. Joe Bay Buffer 250 acres; Sand Mountain 1,680 acres: Tates Hell/Carrabelle Tract 16,000 acres; Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks 19,840 acres; and Wakulla Springs Protection Zone 2,240 acres. The sites lie in the Panhandle from Bay and Washington County to Taylor County, except for the Tico site in Brevard County. They include samples of almost all the natural communities of north and central Florida, from scrub to swamps and springs. See the general descriptions for the projects listed above.

### Public Use

The sites are designated for various public uses. See the summaries for the projects listed above.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project includes multiple parcels and one owner, St. Joe Company.

#### FNAI Elements

See St. Joe ownership in each of the projects listed under General Description. On December 9, 1999, the Council approved the creation of St. Joe Timberland project, and added 1,318 acres to the boundary as essential parcels (Lake Wimico site).

On August 22, 2000, the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added 1,593 acres (Wacissa/Aucilla site) and 12,360 (Lake Wimico site) to the project.

In July, 2001 the 2,463-acre Ward Ridge property was added to the boundaries of the project.

On June 6, 2003 the Council added 49,520 acres in the Box R Ranch tract and St. Vincent tract to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

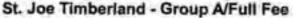
The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is an acquisition intermediary for this project.



Placed on list	2000
Project Area (Acres)	162,032
Acres Acquired	76,411
at a Cost of	\$88,866,000
Acres Remaining	85,621
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$53,827,000

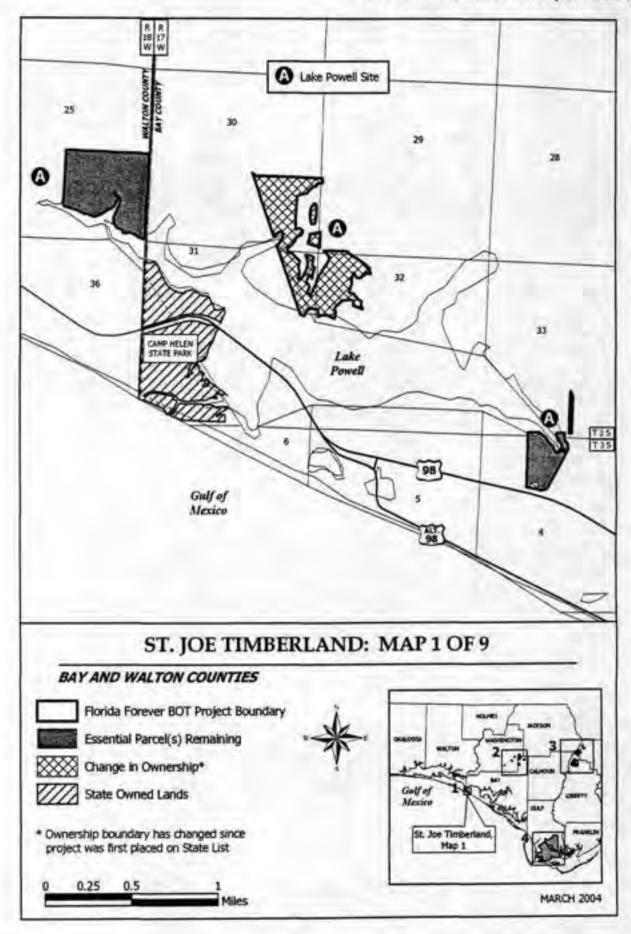
Group A

**Full Fee** 

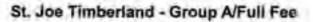


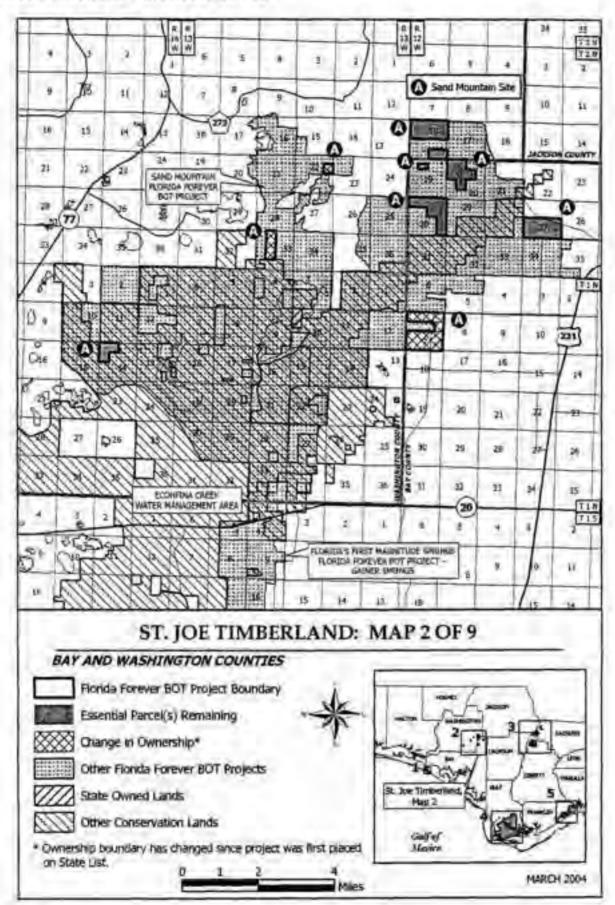


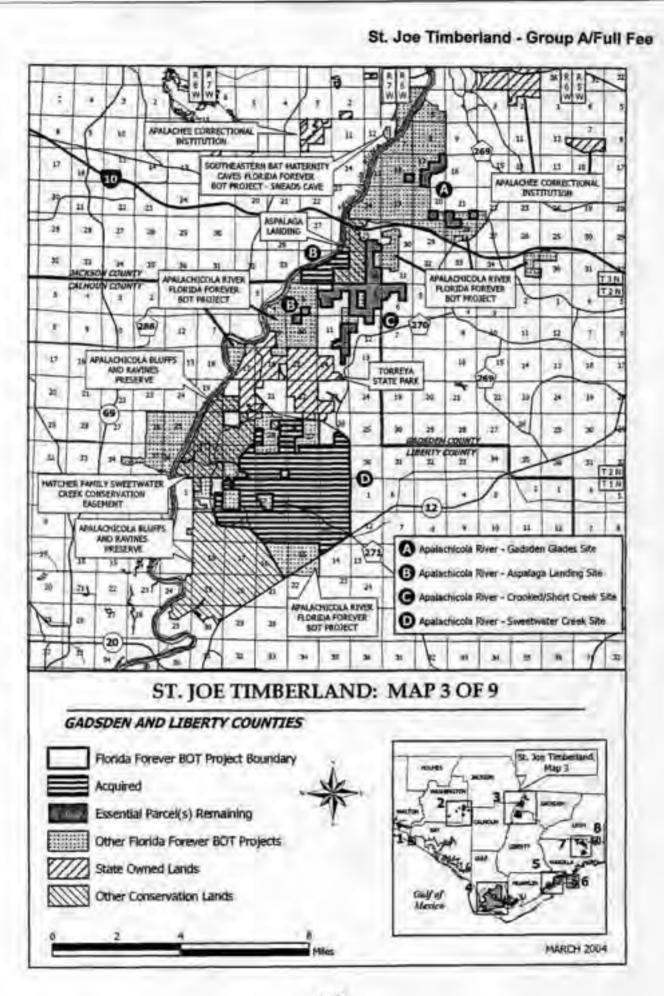
St. Joe Timberland - Group A/Full Fee



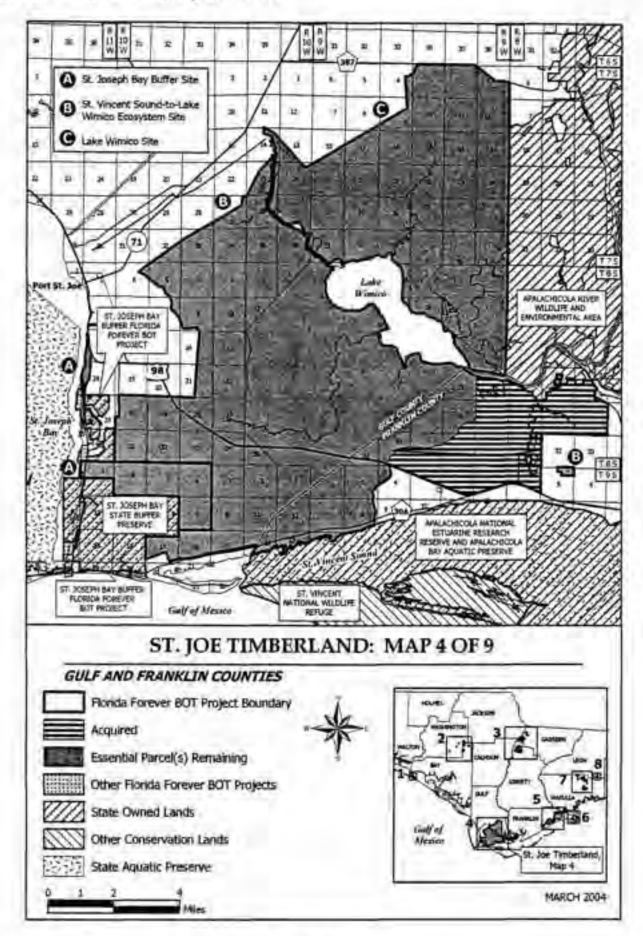
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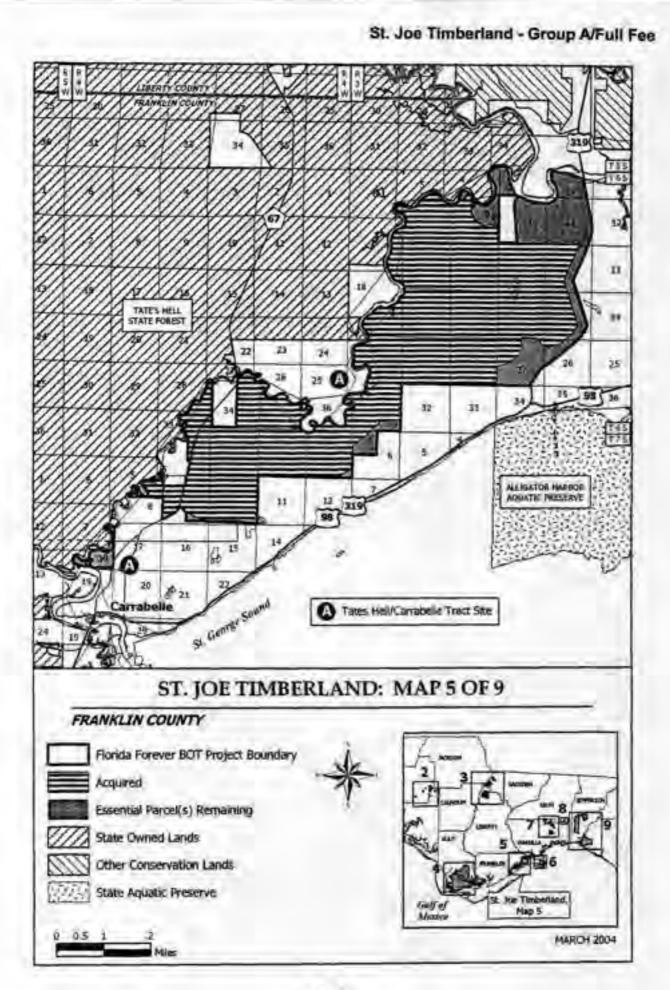




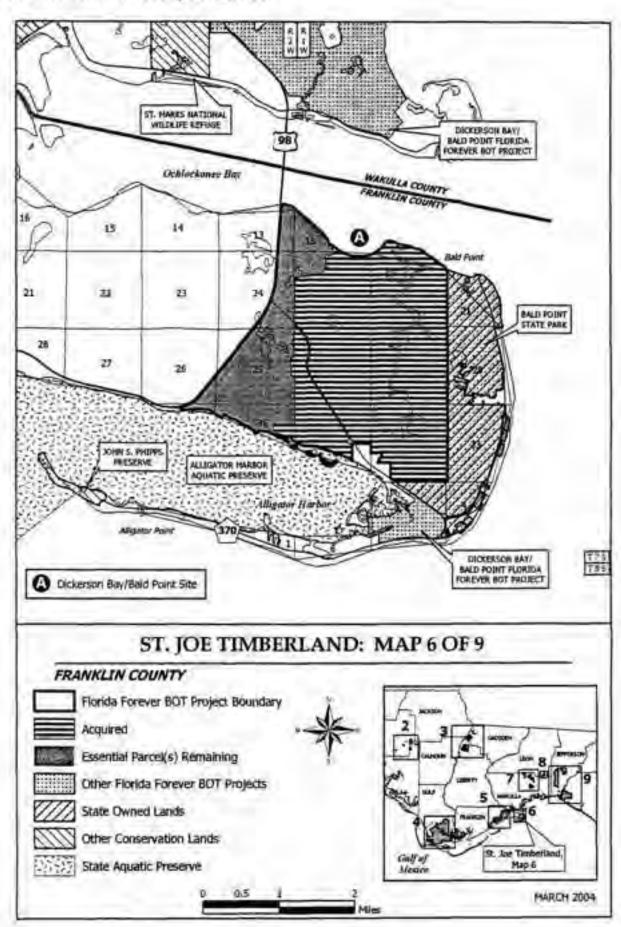


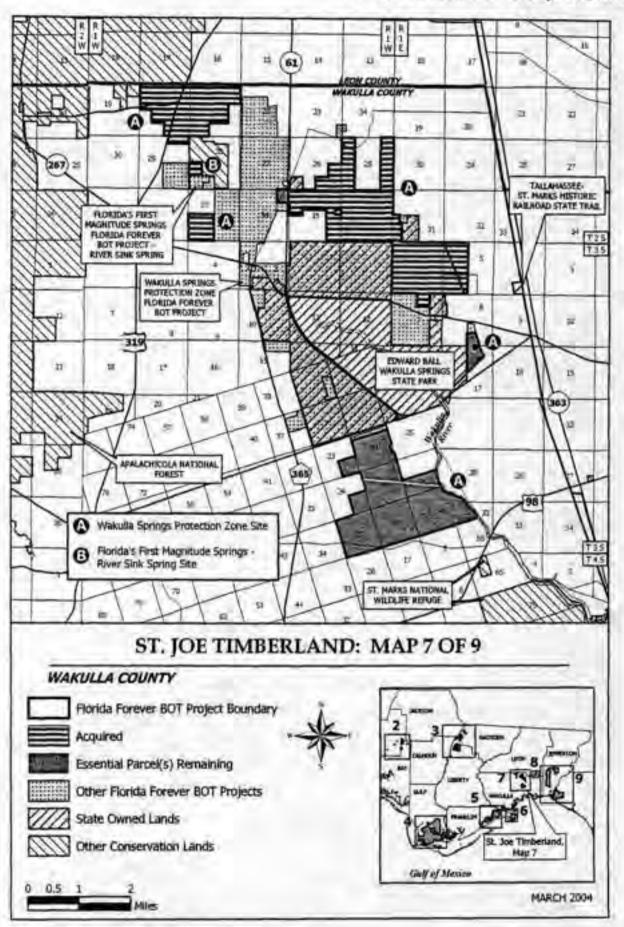
St. Joe Timberland - Group A/Full Fee



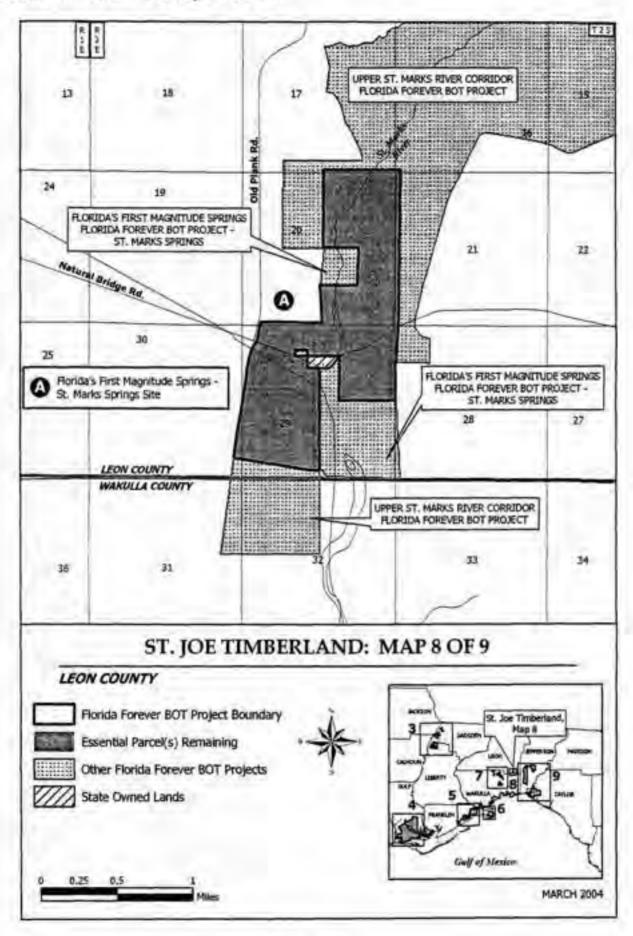


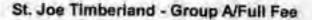
St. Joe Timberland - Group A/Full Fee

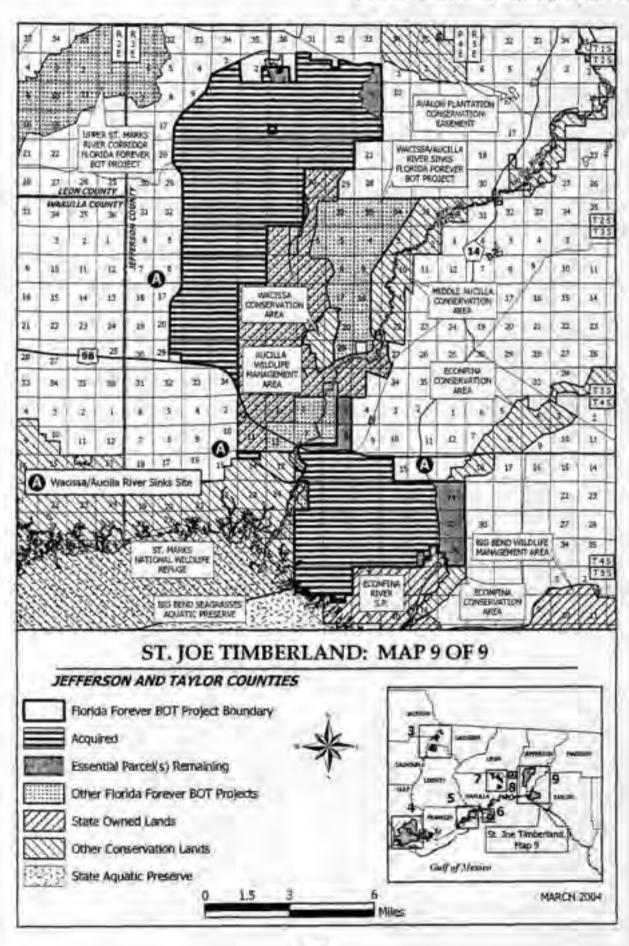




St. Joe Timberland - Group A/Full Fee







## St. Johns River Blueway - Group A/Full Fee

## St. Johns River Blueway

## St. Johns County

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

This project is located in one of the fastest areas of growth in the state. The project is designed to preserve the last remaining shorelines of the St. Johns River and several of its tributaries. The project also has numerous recorded archaeological and historical resources, and has the potential for many more.

#### Manager

The Division of Forestry (DOF) proposes to manage a portion of the site as part of Watson Island State Forest, and the remainder as a new state forest. Bunnell District personnel will carry out management activities and coordinate public access and use for all areas.

#### **General Description**

The St. Johns River Blueway project is located in St. Johns County and consists of approximately 27,997 acres. The majority of the project is comprised of floodplain swamp and forest and these communities are generally of high quality. This project bounds the Watson Island State Forest, on the west bank of the St. Johns River, on the three sides that are not waterfront.

#### Public Use

The degree of ownership acquired and whether there are usable uplands that will accommodate resourcebased recreation activities will determine the degree of public access and use that can be assured. Both fee and less-than-fee acquisition approaches are recommended in the proposal. The resource-based recreation potential for the project is considered low to moderate, depending on what title rights and uplands can be obtained. Much of the project area is wetland or floodplain adjacent to the St. Johns River and its tributary creeks. These public waterways have boating and canoeing opportunities. Acquiring adjacent lands

FNAI Elements	
Bartram's Ixia	G2/S2
Bald Eagle	G4/S3
FLOODPLAIN SWAMP	G4/54

## Group A Full Fee

will help to ensure the preservation of the quality recreational experience that presently exists. If there is success in acquiring upland sites along these waterways, these uplands could provide access for the boating public and/or opportunities for environmental education and wildlife viewing. Success in acquiring lands with relatively dry upland areas will determine the ability to provide any kind of comprehensive hiking or bicycle trail system, or facilities to accommodate camping or picnicking. Creating a comprehensive bicycle trail system between parcels will require use of the public road system. Lands adjacent to existing public areas may enhance access, usability and the recreational experience of those public areas.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The St. Johns Blueway project was added to the Florida Forever project list at the December 5, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

The project is proposed for both fee and less-than-fee acquisition. The acquisition of development rights and the prohibition of any further disturbance of existing natural areas to will likely be the primary focus of the conservation easement.

#### Coordination

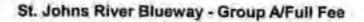
Portions of the project may be acquired in partnership with St. Johns County. The St. Johns River WMD is also interested in the acquisition of the project. The acquisition partnership may include local and state funding sources. Contribution percentages have not been determined.

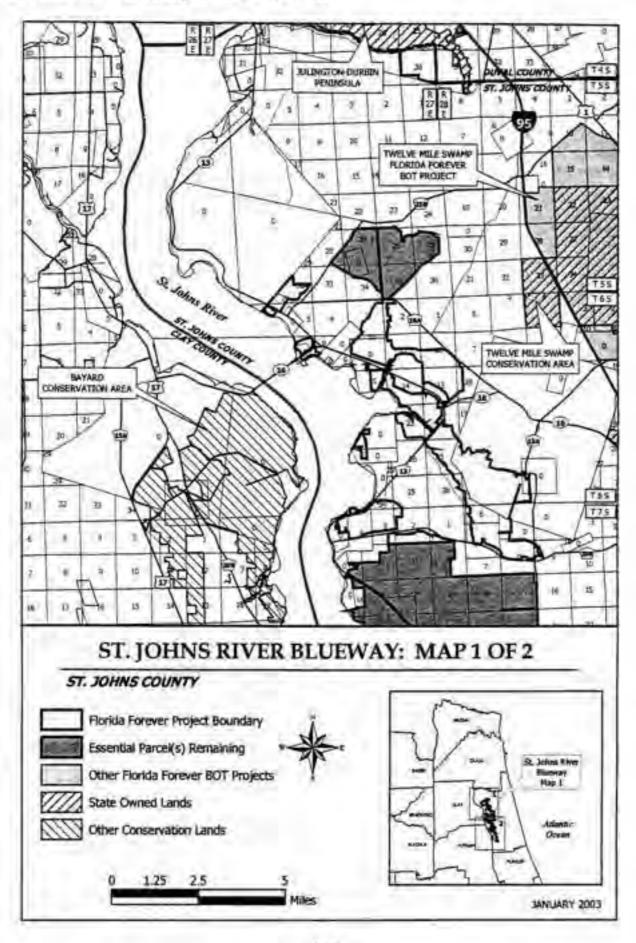
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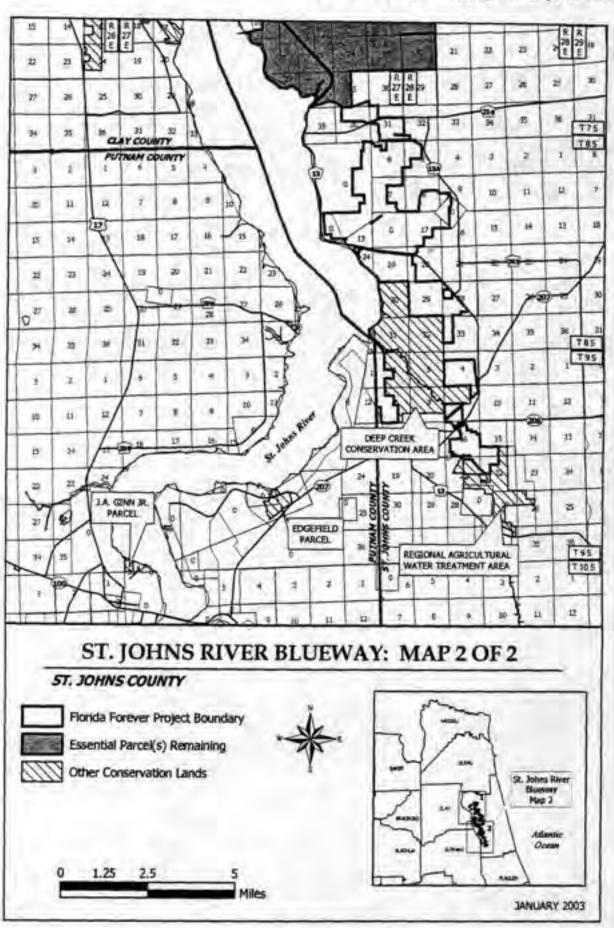
Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	27,997
Acres Acquired	o
at a Cost of	50
Acres Remaining	27,997
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) V	alue of \$58,229,721

St. Johns River Blueway - Group A/Full Fee









St. Johns River Blueway - Group A/Full Fee

#### St. Johns River Blueway - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the project under a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system. Management would be designed to accomplish the goals and measures for this project. These goals and measures are referenced later in this prospectus. The primary land management goal for the Division of Forestry is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. This ecosystem approach will guide the Division of Forestry's management activities on this project.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

The project's location, size, and diversity make it desirable for use and management as a state forest. State Forest designation requires that certain criteria be met: such as public access and acreage available for many types of recreational activities. Designation as a state forest is contingent upon acquiring property rights which are consistent with these criteria.

#### Manager

The Division of Forestry proposes to manage a portion of the site as part of Watson Island State Forest, and the remainder as a new state forest. Bunnell District personnel will carry out management activities and coordinate public access and use for all areas.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

Much of the project's upland areas have been disturbed, and will require various levels of restoration dependant upon the degree and type of disturbance. Natural communities that have been converted to pine plantation will require removal of off-site species and reforestation with native species.

Protection and restoration of wetland communities will be a priority for the DOF. Restoration efforts will concentrate on the removal or filling of ditches and corrections of other hydrological alterations. Public use will be limited to activities that are compatible with any sensitive resources.

#### Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

Once the project area is acquired and assigned to the Division of Forestry, public access will be provided for low intensity outdoor recreation activities. Initial and intermediate management efforts will concentrate on resource inventory, restoration and reforestation of areas where harvesting has occurred, hydrological restoration, as well as site security, public and fire management access. Inventories of the site's natural resources, threatened and endangered flora and fauna will be conducted to provide a basis for formulation of a management plan.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

Timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Due to the existing condition of the timber resource on the property, revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be low-medium.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

The Division of Forestry will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL trust fund. Budget needs for interimmanagement are estimated as follows.

SALARY (X FTE)	\$173,346
EXPENSE	\$125,000
<b>OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	\$361,000
TOTAL	\$659,346

## St. Joseph Bay Buffer

## **Gulf County**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The pine flatwoods, swamps, and scrub on the shore of St. Joseph Bay, with their concentration of rare plants, have largely escaped the residential development that is filling the nearby coast with vacation homes. The St. Joseph Bay Buffer project will protect the water quality and productive seagrass beds of the bay by protecting the undeveloped land around and in it, in so doing also ensuring the survival of dozens of rare plants, protecting one of the best preserved archaeological sites in northwest Florida, and giving the public opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty of the bay.

#### Manager

Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA), Department of Environmental Protection.

#### **General Description**

The project includes a narrow strip of uplands and wellands that fronts one of the least disturbed coastal bay systems in Florida, comprising the waters of St. Joseph Bay, a small area of privately held bay bottom, and a contiguous natural system of great botanical significance. Natural communities, in very good to excellent condition, include mesic flatwoods, wet flatwoods, scrub, baygall, shell mounds, saltmarsh (estuarme tidal marsh), and beach dune. Wet flatwoods in the vicinity of Wards Ridge harbor numerous rare plant species. The project contains three very rare and endemic species that are not protected on public lands. St. Joseph Bay, an Outstanding Florida Water, supports a diverse, healthy marine ecosystem of statewide significance and is an important nursery ground for many recreational and commercially valuable species. Richardson Ham-

FNAI Elements	
Pine-woods aster	G1/S1
Telephus spurge	G1/S1
Florida skullcap	G1/S1
Panhandle spiderlily	G2/S2
Chapman's rhododendron	G1Q/S1
SCRUB	G2/S2
Tropical waxweed	G1/S1
Southern milkweed	G2/S2
26 elements known fro	m project

## Group A Full Fee

mock in the project area, a shell midden with human burials, is one of the largest and best preserved of its kind in Northwest Florida. The myriad drainages within the project affect the waters of Apalachicola Bay via Depot Creek and Lake Wimico, the Gulf of Mexico via the Money Bayou drainage, and direct runoff to St. Vincent Sound and Indian Lagoon. The project is vulnerable to residential development and clearcutting part was clearcut in 1991.

#### Public Use

The project will become a buffer preserve, allowing such uses as hiking, nature study, fishing, canoeing, swimming and primitive camping, Facilities will include a "preserve center" for public education and outreach.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

Phase I (essential): All ownerships except subdivision lots in Section 23 at southern boundary. Phase II (essential): All other ownerships. Acquisition of Deal (Richardson Hammock) and the remainder of Treasure Shores II still viable. Thirty lots along the golf course are currently being appraised.

On July 14, 1995, the Council added Blacks Island (11 acres).

On October 15, 1998, the Council approved the inclusion of lots in section 23 as "essential", in effect designating the entire project "essential".

In July 2001 the Council added Ward's Ridge (2,463 acres) to the project area.

Placed on list	1990
Project Area (Acres)	6,382
Acres Acquired	5,563
at a Cost of \$	13,296,907
Acres Remaining	819
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$323,505

#### St. Joseph Bay Buffer - Group A/FullFee

#### Coordination

The Nature Conservancy was an intermediary in the acquisition of the Treasure Shores ownership and will hold the conservation easement on the portion of Treasure Shores not acquired in fee-simple by the state.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the St. Joseph Bay Buffer project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

water marshes and seagrasses. These areas are major spawning and nursery grounds and are critical in protecting the water quality of the St. Joseph Bay Aquatic Preserve, They qualify the project as a state buffer preserve.

Manager The recommended manager is the CAMA, Department of Environmental Protection.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The project generally includes lands that are "low-need" tracts, requiring basic resource management and protection.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Long-range plans for this property involve its use for research and education and the fulfillment of the management requirements determined by first-year analysis.

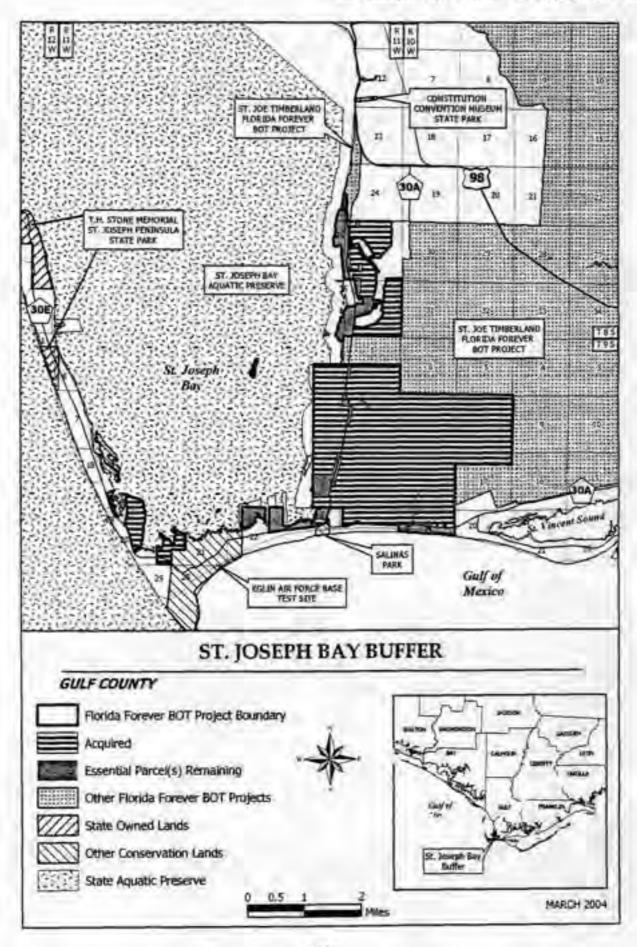
Revenue-generating potential There are no plans for revenue generation at this site.

Cooperators in management activities The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may be involved in public hunting and fishing on this project.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The St. Joseph Bay Buffer project contains extensive salt and fresh

Category	2004/05	2005/06
Source of Funds	CARL/LATF	CARL/LATF
Salary	\$110,000	\$115,000
OPS	\$101,000	\$110,000
Expense	\$140,000	\$80,000
000	\$50,000	\$45,000
FCO	\$300,000	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$701,000	\$380,000



## Terra Ceia - Group A/Full Fee

# Terra Ceia

### Manatee County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The mangrove swamps and flatwoods on the islands and mainland around Terra Ceia Bay are some of the last natural lands left on the southeast shore of Tampa Bay. The Terra Ceia project will protect and restore this natural area, helping to preserve the fishery and manatee feeding grounds in Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve and giving the public an area in which to fish, boat, and enjoy the original landscape of Tampa Bay.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

#### **General Description**

The Terra Ceia project is two-thirds mangrove swamp and one-third a mix of xeric hammock, and flatwoods and old fields colonized by Brazilian pepper. The area is particularly significant for the protection it offers to bird rookeries (including nearby Bird Island, one of the top two rookeries in Florida) and to the adjacent Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve (an Outstanding Florida Water), with its seagrass beds used heavily by manatees, its nursery areas for fish and invertebrates, and its important fishery. Sixty-nine archaeological sites, mostly middens, are known from the project, and more are likely. The natural resources of the project are vulnerable to alteration or destruction by development and invasion by exotic plant species. Growth pressures are intense, so endangerment is high.

#### **Public Use**

This project qualifies as a buffer preserve, with uses such as boating and fishing, and—in accessible uplands—activities like picnicking and hiking.

# Acquisition Planning and Status

The essential parcels are Hendry Corp., Huber, Blalock, and First Union/Larson. The largest tract, Terra Ceia Isles, was pre-acquired by SWFWMD. The District has also acquired the Reeder and Schater parcels. The state contributed half of the funding for these tracts.

Group A Full Fee

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated an additional 843 acres "essential."

In 2000 the SWFWMD acquired two more parcels, adding 60 acres to the project.

#### Coordination

Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) is an acquisition partner.

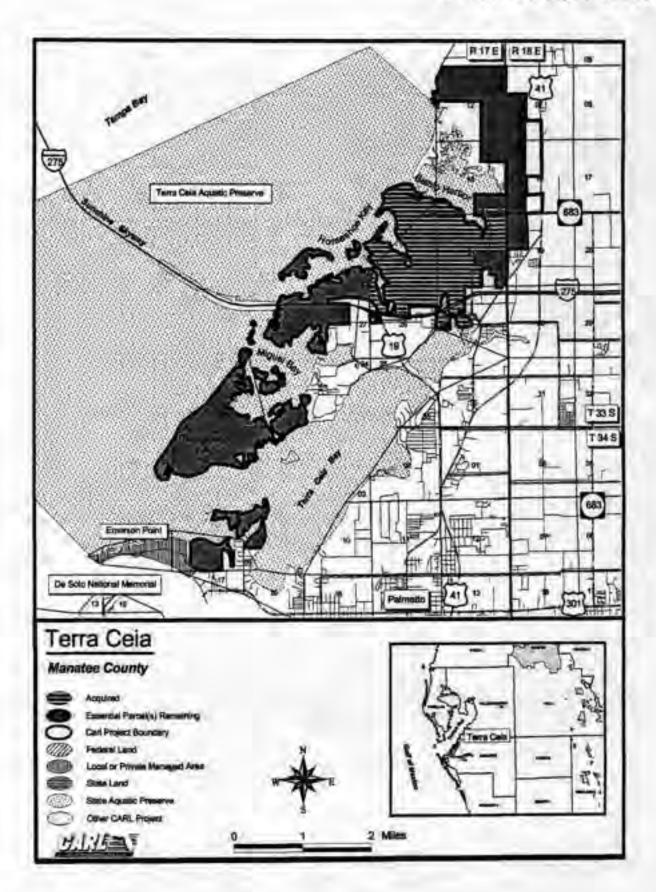
The Department of Environmental Protection received a grant of \$504,731 from the USFWS for the acquisition of Rattlesnake Key and Joe's Island.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Terra Ceia project is to preserve and restore the coastal natural communities, ranging from xeric and maritime hammocks to coastal strand and mangrove swamps, that remain around the Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve. Achieving this objective will protect the resources of the aquatic preserve: its seagrass beds used heavily by manatees, its nursery areas for fish and invertebrates, and its fishery. It will also play an important part in the protection and restoration of the Tampa Bay estuary, the largest open-water estuary in Florida.

FNAI Elements	
Manatee	G2/S2
ESTUARINE TIDAL SWAMP	G3/S3
COASTAL STRAND	G3?/S2
Hairy beach sunflower	G5T2/S2
Banded wild-pine	G4/S3
MARITIME HAMMOCK	G4/S3
XERIC HAMMOCK	G?/S3
American alligator	G5/S4
8 elements known from p	roject

Placed on list	1996	
Project Area (Acres)	4,187	
Acres Acquired	1,371	
at a Cost of	\$1,937,000	
Acres Remaining	2,816	
with Estimated (Tay Assessed) Value of	52 185 809	



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#### Terra Ceia - Group A/Full Fee

The project should be managed under the single-use concept: management activities should be directed first. toward preservation of resources and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses such as fishing. Managers should control access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to one or a few main roads; thoroughly inventory the resources; restore hydrological disturbances; hurn any fire-dependent communities in a pattern mimicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control; strictly limit timbering; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually preserving the resources of the aquatic preserve. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible. The project includes nearly all the coastal undeveloped land south of Port Manatee and around Terra Ceia Bay. and consequently has the size and location to achieve its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The Terra Ceia Project qualifies as a state buffer preserve to protect the resources of the Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve.

Manager Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is recommended as the lead Manager.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Terra Ceia Project generally includes lands that are "low-need" tracts, requiring basic resource management and protection. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The goals of management of the Terra Ceia Project are: 1) to protect the water quality and the highly productive marine habitat of the aquatic preserve by maintaining the project area in a substantially natural condition; 2) to preserve and protect significant endangered and threatened species which include the West Indian manatee, Roseate Spoonbill, Little Blue Heron, Tricolored Heron, Least Tern, Snowy Egret, Reddish Egret, American Oystercatcher; 3) to preserve and protect significant archaeological sites; 4) to restore islands to a natural state which will include removal of exotic vegetation and habital restoration activities; and 5) to establish a self-guided canoe trail between the islands for use by the general public.

Within the first year after state acquisition, initial and intermediate activities will concentrate on the site security of the mainland property and resource inventory. The site's natural resources will be inventoried and a management plan will be formulated.

Long-range plans for this property will be directed toward exotic plant removal/restoration of disturbed areas and the perpetuation and maintenance of natural communities. Management practices will also stress the protection of the water quality of the aquatic preserve by maintaining the project area in a substantially natural condition, the protection of threatened and endangered species and the preservation of the significant archaeological sites for professional investigation. *Revenue-generating potential* No revenue is expected to be generated from this property.

Updated Information reflecting management by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is not yet available.

## **Three Chimneys**

Volusia County

### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

An old live-oak hammock in the City of Ormond Beach protects the remains of a British sugar and rum factory from the 1700's. The Three Chimneys project will protect the hammock and these remains—some of the few from the British period in Florida—and will give the public an opportunity to see and learn about this site.

#### Manager

Ormond Beach Historical Trust.

#### **General Description**

High-quality, old-growth hydric hammock, dominated by live oak, laurel oak, sweetgum, hackberry, elm, cabbage palm, and other trees, occupies nearly all the site. No FNAI-listed plants or animals are known from the site, but migrating songbirds may use the hammock as a stopover.

The site includes the ruins of a sugar and rum factory from the 18<sup>th</sup>-century British period, with two of the original three chimneys remaining. Few sites from Florida's British period are now publicly owned. There are also early 20<sup>th</sup>-century remains on the site.

The site is vulnerable to further neglect and is surrounded by development. It is in danger of development.

#### Public Use

This project is designated as a state historic site; with uses such as historic interpretation and possibly picnicking or walking.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project includes eight parcels and five owners. The Segev parcel is essential. It is currently being negotiated.

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) moved this project to the Group B list

FNAI Element	5
HYDRIC HAMMOCK	G?/S4?
1 element known from	m project

#### Three Chimneys - Group B/Full Fee

## Group B Full Fee

#### Coordination

There are no acquisition partners at this time.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for State-designation The Three Chimneys project, designated 8 Vo196, encompasses 54.5 acres of land currently owned by four private owners. Prehistoric Indian middens have been unearthed on the property as well as an historic coquina repository. Likewise, archaeological ruins of America's first rum distillery (circa 1764) have been excavated and over 50 large trees and rare plants identified which will enhance the quality of the project. The tract is a mature mosic hardwood hammock of massive live oaks—some up to 22 feet in circumference and over 200 years old—elms, hickories and magnolias located on the north side of State Road (SR) 40, or West Grenada Boulevard, in urban Ormond Beach, Volusia County, Florida.

Consisting of jurisdictional wetlands with elevations of 4-7 feet, the proposed park is situated one mile west of US 1. The site was originally included in King George III's 20,000 acre land grant to Richard Oswald, dated Wednesday, July 23, 1763, and it was the first settlement in what was to become Ormond Beach. The subject area is the only large green space remaining in the six miles between 1-95 and the Atlantic Ocean, a rapidly developing commercial and residential district.

This Management Prospectus is based on a 1995 archaeological study paid for by the Ormond Beach Historical Trust (OBHT) and city of Ormond Beach, aerial photographs, a site visit by FNAI ecologist Dr. A.

Placed on list	2000
Project Area (Acres)	62
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	62

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$1,120,248

#### Three Chimneys - Group B/Full Fee

Johnson on May 19, 1999, and a July 7, 1999 Preservation Plan prepared by Dr. L. Wayne of SouthArc in Gamesville. In addition to the unique historic ruins and large trees, introduced exotics include air potato, bamboo, camphor, Chinese tallow, grapefruit and Cherokee rose. The invasive exotics will be removed, (see ¶ 4 below).

The size and diverse resources of the Three Chimneys site will provide a much-needed green-space buffer of state-owned lands in a busy commercial corridor which conforms with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan developed pursuant to §375.021, the state management plan §253.03(7), state land acquisition plan §259.04(1)(a), and, lastly, the site qualifies under Rule 18-8.009(6)(c). Once the state obtains tile to the property, the OBHT is recommended as lead manager. The Division of Recreation and Parks and Department of Environmental Protection is recommended as the cooperating manager.

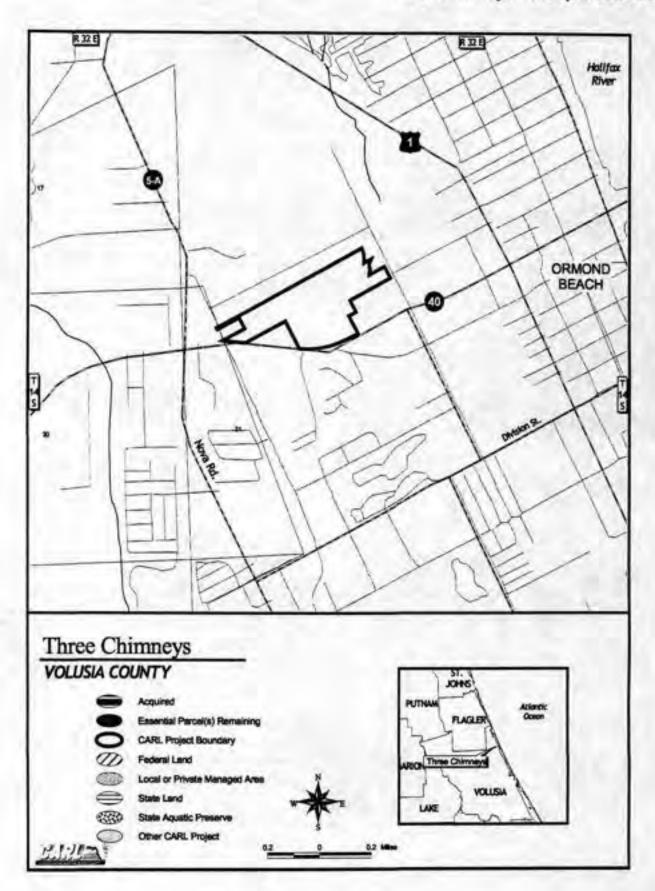
Management Goals The management goals of the Three Chimneys project are threefold. First, to stabilize, preserve, restore, protect, maintain, interpret and manage in perpetuity the prehistoric middens and archaeological resources of the site, dating from the British Period. The OBHT aims to enhance public education, visitor appreciation and simultaneously allow compatible passive guest access. Sun-driven salt intrusion and tree root-caused damage has caused significant decay at Three Chimneys and must be stopped immediately. Next, it is our goal to enhance conservation and protection and perpetuate an irreplaceable oldgrowth hardwood forests, a natural hammock growing ever more scarce in Florida today. This action will melude the development of a plan to protect and restore surface water resources and encourage wild life. Lastly, we will provide recreational activity areas and walking trails to be connected to the state/county/city and East Coast Greenway Association's (ECGA) network of hilang/biking trails extending along the east coast of America, Maine to Key West and promote this first settlement of slaves in Volusia County.

Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management Although most of the Three Chimneys Project includes a hardwood hammock that is a low-need tract requiring only basic resource management and protection, there is a more costly aspect to this proposal. The archaeological areas containing extant runs, has a subsurface nail scatter, glass and metal objects to be studied. In addition, areas around the prehistoric Indian middens and coquina pits will require prudence to preserve their intrinsic value and shelter them, in tact, for future generations to experience. These factors will result in higher than typical costs than that of management of only a state forest devoid of an archaeological site.

Timetable for Implementing Management Within a year after the 54.5 acres is acquired and assigned to the OBHT to manage, initial activities will concentrate on site security from vandals and looters, i.e., installing a security fence around the boiling house, two-kettle distillery and large upright chimney and Indian midden. The site will immediately be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, removing tree roots, stumps and all encroaching vegetation from the masonry ruins will begin at once. Deteriorated masonry joints will be re-pointed with tabby or mortar of matching composition and colors and root-damaged sections of the distillery will be reconstructed by a trained mason. A temporary protective roof will be installed over all ruins once they have been stabilized. A dilapidated 20th-century farm house and out buildings will be removed along with all other trash, and an open cesspool will be filled. A resource inventory will be completed using the OBHT's Preservation Plan, completed by SouthArc, Inc. in June, 1999. This Plan also identified many biologic species on the site. Invasive exotic plants such as air potato, Chinese tallow, camphor and bamboo will removed. Public and fire management access will be addressed.

As soon as possible, the OBHT will provide appropriate, albeit limited, access to the public while protecting sensitive resources and site work continues.

Future goals include firmly establishing and promoting Three Chimneys as a heritage resource similar to those found in St. Augustine and at Bulow State Park. This work will begin by the cataloging of recovered material and documenting of the completed professional archaeologist's excavations since 1995 along the south side of the boiling house; excavations north of the boiling house to identify pier locations of other structures such as the grinding mill and fermentory; investigation of the existing well to identify any old well beneath it and placing on-site signage with pictures, schematic drawings and interpretive displays, to be installed along with a demonstration cane field and miniature sugar works, a living history display, in an area used as cattle pasture 30 years ago. Other on-site usages will in-



### Three Chimneys - Group B/Full Fee

earthen berm along SR 40 to buffer the site from traffic picnic grounds. noise. Finally, Three Chimneys will be tied into the East Coast Greenway Association's network of hiking/ Management Costs and Sources of Revenue biking trails.

value of the 54.5-acre parcel in the project is \$1.3 mil- neys. lion, indicative of its choice location in the busy commercial corridor of Ormond Beach. This high value also has a positive advantage. The Three Chimneys Park will be the eighth state-owned Florida British Period site and a valued addition to this inventory of cultural resources as it is located in an urban location. A similar-sized historic park in Barberville, 25 miles to the west on SR 40, attracts over 31,000 visitors a year. Given Three Chimneys locale and tremendous educational opportunities for central Florida-area school children and tourists, substantial visitors' revenues are anticipated.

clude building a vandal-proof Interpretive Center, park- There will be a small amount of revenue obtained from ing lot, picnic area/playground, nature trails and an stumpage sold in areas designated for public parking and

The new mayor and commissioners of Ormond Beach have indicated a positive attitude toward assisting the OBHT Revenue Generating Potential The approximate tax, with the development and management of Three Chim-

Management Cost Summary	
Salary (2 FTE)	\$62,000
OCO - Park design	\$100,000
Expenses stabilizing ruins	\$10,000
Fixed capital - Parking lots, trails	\$500,000
Total	\$672,000



# **Tiger Island/Little Tiger Island**

## Group A Full Fee

### Nassau County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The acquisition of the Tiger and Little Tiger Island proposal would provide a missing link in a network of national and state preserves and parks that stretch from St. Andrews Sound in Georgia to the St. Johns River in Florida. Roughly three-quarters of the proposal appears to be estuarme tidal marsh along the St. Mary's River, Amelia River, and a network of smaller connecting rivers and creeks. The remainder primarily represents upland maritime hammock on the elevated islands in the extensive tidal marsh ecosystem. The marsh and adjoining sand and mud flats are important feeding and nesting areas for many species of shorebirds, wading birds, and songbirds. A recent survey by FNAI biologists showed Little Tiger Island to have one of the highest nesting concentrations of Worthington's marsh wren and MacGillivray's seaside sparrow along the Florida Coast. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed to designate the Cumberland Sound side of Tiger and Little Tiger Islands as critical habitat for the wintering populations of the piping plover. The Tiger Islands have been occupied since aboriginal times and archaeological excavations in the area show that pottery-making aboriginal populations inhabited the coastal islands as early as the second millennium B.C.

#### Manager

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Department of Environmental Protection.

#### **General Description**

Natural communities include: Estuarine Tidal Marsh, Maritime Hammock, Coastal Strand and Beach Dune The Tiger Islands have been occupied since aboriginal times. Archaeological excavations in the area show that pottery-making aboriginal populations inhabited the coastal islands as early as the second millenmum B.C. The primary problems on the islands have been rampant looting of archaeological sites.

#### Public Use

Potential recreational or other public uses of the land include: walking trails, picnicking, primitive camping, shoreline fishing and environmental education.

The surrounding marshes with their intertwining creeks could provide a system of canoe or kayak trails. The islands could be a part of that trail system for primitive overnight visitation and provide limited trails on each

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

All parcels are considered essential except the east half of New Island, which has been used as a spoil site. The west half of the island was donated to the state by The Nature Conservancy in the 70's.

Negotiations have begun on the Martin's Island parcel.

#### Coordination

The City of Fernandina voted April 10, 2001 to approve a \$6 million bond initiative for conservation lands. Nassau County will have a November initiative for \$3 million a year bond issue to be spent on conservation lands. As a consequence, both may be able to contribute some funding.

FNAI Elements	
Roseate spoonbill	G5/S2
Great egret	G5/S4
Piping plover	G3/S2
White Ibis	G5/S4
Southern lip fern	G5/S3
Atlantic Coast FI Lantana	G2T2/S2
Terrestrial peperomia	G5/S2
23 elements known from	n project

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Acres)	1,280
Acres Acquired	D
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	1,280
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$ 68,835

#### Tiger Island/Little Tiger Island - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Policy

To conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area

unique to, or scarce within, a region of the state or a larger geographic area. To conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species. To conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources. Finally, to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for State Designation Composed of a number of islands interspersed within a salt march system just west of Fort Clinch State Park and partially adjacent to Fort Clinch State Park Aquatic Preserve, the project has the capacity to provide protection of marine communities and provide resource-based recreational opportunities. As such the project would be suitable as an extension of Fort Clinch State Park.

Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management The project will be a high-need management area. Public recreational use and development of compatible facilities on the islands will be an integral aspect of management.

Timetable for Implementing Management Upon fee acquisition, management will concentrate on site security and development of a resource inventory. As a part of Fort Clinch State Park, hunting, an activity presently allowed on the uplands, will not be allowed. Access to the islands will be confined to designated points and routes. Low-intensity, non-facility related outdoor recreation will be provided to allow for compatible public access. Long-term management may include a range of resource-based recreational and associated facilities. High impact recreational areas will be discouraged because of possible adverse effects on the natural systems.

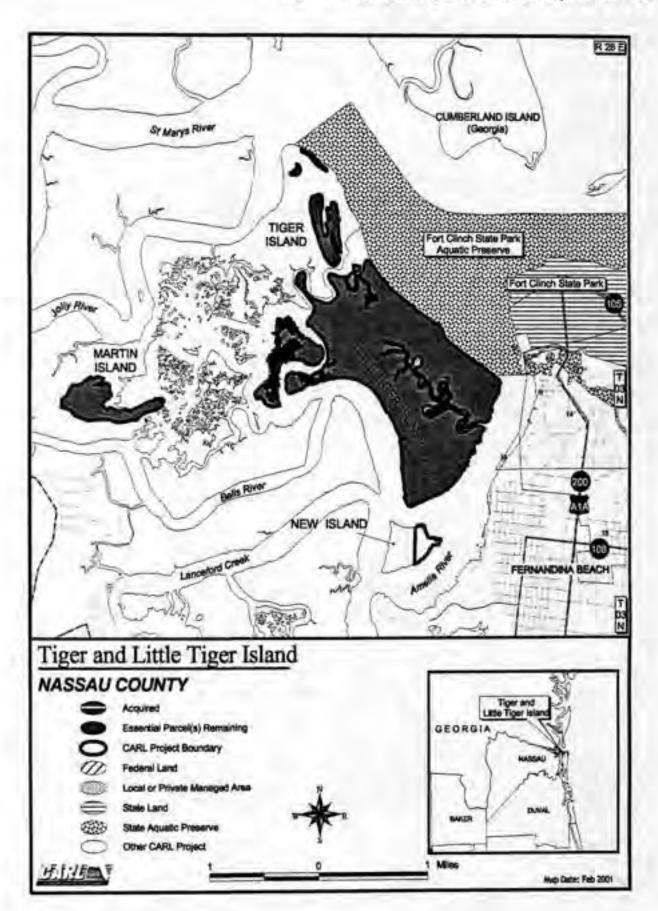
Revenue Generating Potential The DRP expects no significant revenue from this property immediately after acquisition and the amount of any future revenue will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities developed.

Cooperators on management activities The DRP will, as appropriate, cooperate with local governments, other state agencies, and the water management district to further resource management, recreational and educational opportunities, and the development of the lands for state park purposes.

#### Management Costs and Sources of Revenue

Category		
Source of Funds	Startup	Recurring
Expense	\$20,000	\$25,000
000	50,000	
22,000	1.0	
OPS	4,500	32,500
Total	\$79,500	\$79,500

Tiger Island/Little Tiger Island - Group A/Full Fee



## Twelvemile Slough- Group A/Full Fee

# **Twelvemile Slough**

Hendry County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The most prominent feature of the proposal is the Twelvemile Slough. Swale, or "river of grass" natural community, forms the broad band of emergent sedges, grasses, and herbs that runs east through the southern part of the proposal. Twelvemile Slough proposal is important to many wildlife species, particularly those that require extensive areas of habitat to maintain viable populations.

#### Manager

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is recommended as lead manager. The Division of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOF) is recommended as a cooperating agency.

#### **General Description**

The drainage basin of the proposal flows into the Okaloacoochee Slough project acquired by the South Florida Water Management District and the DOF. The Okaloacoochee Slough and its associated watershed ultimately flow into the Fakahatchee Strand.

#### Public Use

The Twelvemile Slough is prunarily a wetland system joining with the Okaloacoochee Slough that could provide excellent opportunities for wildlife and natural resource observation. To achieve maximum potential for these activities, however, airboats and other motorized equipment that disrupt the quiet atmosphere of the site or infringe on the sensitivity of the wetlands should not be allowed. This is not to say that a manager should not be allowed to make appropriate use of such

FNAI Elements	1 March 1997
Roseate Spoonbill	G5/S2
Limpkin	G5/S3
Great Egret	G5/S4
Crested Caracara	G5/S2
Little Blue Heron	G5/S4
Snowy Egret	G5/S4
Tricolored Egret	G5/S4
Carter's Lrge-flowering flax	G2T2/S2
23 elements known from	project

## Group A Full Fee

equipment in a controlled fashion, if such were to enhance management and public use programs without causing undue damage or disruption. Other natural resource-based recreational opportunities supportable on the project would include picnicking, camping, nature study trails, hiking trails and non-boat freshwater fishing. Hunting might also be considered appropriate if further review of the effect of hunting on observable wildlife indicates this activity will not have an adverse impact on this activity.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is an intermediary for the state, and has acquired the A&M of Hendry County, Ltd. parcel (7,487 acres). Appraisals of other parcels are in progress.

#### Coordination

The South Florida Water Management District, Twelve Mile Slough, Save Our Rivers project includes the Roberts ownership. There may be some potential for cost sharing with the District.

#### Management Policy Statement

The principal purposes of the project are to protect significant natural habitat important to the Florida panther and numerous other species of concern, as well as to preserve the hydrological connection with protected lands to the east and south.

The project should be managed under the multiple-use concept whenever possible -management activities should be directed first toward conservation of resources

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	15,653
Acres Acquired	7,530
at a Cost of	\$11,605,000
Acres Remaining	8,123
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value	of \$1.056,428

and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses. Managers should control access to the project, thoroughly inventory the resources, and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually conserving both the archaeological and natural resources. Managers should limit the number and size of educational and recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

#### Management Prospectus

This project is part of the larger Okaloacoochee (OK) Slough wetlands that partially serve as the headwaters of the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve and the Big Cypress National Preserve. The land in this project serves to protect or recharge groundwater, and is important habitat for the Florida Panther, snail kite and many other wildlife species. Strategic habitat conservation areas (SHCAs) for some of these species comprise roughly a quarter of the project lands. The entire length of the eastern boundary of the project area is contiguous with the 32,162-acre Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest/Wildlife Management Area.

#### Management Goals

The following purposes should guide development of management goals: (1) assessment of current land use and natural resources to determine existing conditions and future requirements for inventory and monitoring; (2) conservation, protection, and restoration of cultural resources, landscapes, forests, water resources, and other elements important to ecosystem functions; (3) conservation, protection and restoration of the characteristic biological diversity original to natural communities, including protection of, maintenance, or enhancement of conditions for rare, threatened and endangered species; (4) development and adaptation of project plans, procedures and techniques for improved success in meeting management goals, including the Florida Panther Habitat Preservation Plan; and (5) establishment of multiple-use natural resource-based recreational opportunities that are mutually compatible, and which are consistent with the other resource conservation purposes and management goals for the area.

The following purposes should guide development of management goals: (1) assessment of current land use and natural resources to determine existing conditions and future requirements for inventory and monitoring;

#### Twelvemile Slough- Group A/Full Fee

(2) conservation, protection, and restoration of cultural resources, landscapes, forests, water resources, and other elements important to ecosystem functions; (3) conservation, protection and restoration of the characteristic biological diversity original to natural communities, including protection of, maintenance, or enhancement of conditions for rare, threatened and endangered species; (4) development and adaptation of project plans, procedures and techniques for improved success in meeting management goals, including the Florida Panther Habitat Preservation Plan; and (5) establishment of multiple-use natural resource-based recreational opportunities that are mutually compatible, and which are consistent with the other resource conservation purposes and management goals for the area.

#### Qualifications for State Designation

The Twelvemile Slough project has the resource diversity to qualify as a wildlife and environmental area.

#### **Conditions Affecting Intensity Of Management**

Biotic surveys should be a priority, since there are potentially many taxa of rare or listed species. Some portions of the Twelvemile Slough proposal include lands that are low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since 57% of the uplands have been developed for agriculture or other purposes, significant restoration activities are proposed for at least some of this acreage. The primary management needed for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities would involve hydrological restoration, re-establishment of native groundcover, exotic vegetation control, prescribed fire and control of conservation-compatible access by the user community.

Proposed uses of the area would include opportanities for hunting, camping, hiking, environmental and cultural resource education, and other natural resource-based recreational activities. Since the principal purposes of the acquisition project are to protect habitat for the Florida panther and other species of concern, management goals will be oriented to conservation and protection of these species, and to education and regulation of the user community. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a

#### Twelvemile Slough- Group A/Full Fee

high quality recreational experience, and any such development would be confined to areas of previous disturbance. Restoration activities would be guided by established procedures and techniques, improved through use of adaptive management themes, and will emphasize re-establishment of native plant commanities on pasturelands and hydrological restoration, pending detailed analysis of the necessity and feasibility of such activities. Infestations of invasive exotic species, including Brazilian pepper, water hyacinth and tropical soda apple, occur locally within the area. Therefore, efforts to eradicate or control such infestations will be undertaken to reduce the potential for further spread.

Timetable For Implementing Management Provisions During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, relationships with stakeholders, public use assessments, fire management, resource inventories, exotic species control and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan, to be developed by the FWC in coordination with a stakeholder-based management advisory group, shall specify the management goals and objectives necessary to accomplish the purposes which the management area is to serve.

Longer-range activities would focus on implementing goals and objectives specified in the conceptual management plan. Such goals and objectives should address, at a minimum: prescribed fire, habitat restoration, protection or propagation of critical habitat for listed species, and expanding recreational opportunities. Essential roads would be stabilized and maintained for public and management access. Floral and faunal inventories and evaluations of the efficacy of management projects would be continually updated by FWC biologists and would be supplemented as available with data from other sources. Timber resources consist of South Florida slash pine in areas of mesic flatwoods. Pursuant to wildlife habitat management objectives, sustainable timber harvests will be conducted using acceptable silvicultural practices in consultation with the Division of Forestry.

Environmentally sensitive areas will be identified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented on those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned or restored as practical. Minimal infrastructure development will be required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the property.

Estimate Of Revenue-Generating Potential Currently, forest products production is limited on the project area. Revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from other nature-based recreational opportunities, and cattle-grazing contracts. Approximately 13% of the Twelvemile Slough Acquisition Project consists of pine flatwoods that could be managed to offset operational costs. However, future revenue from timber resources will depend on appropriate plantcommunity and hydrological restoration.

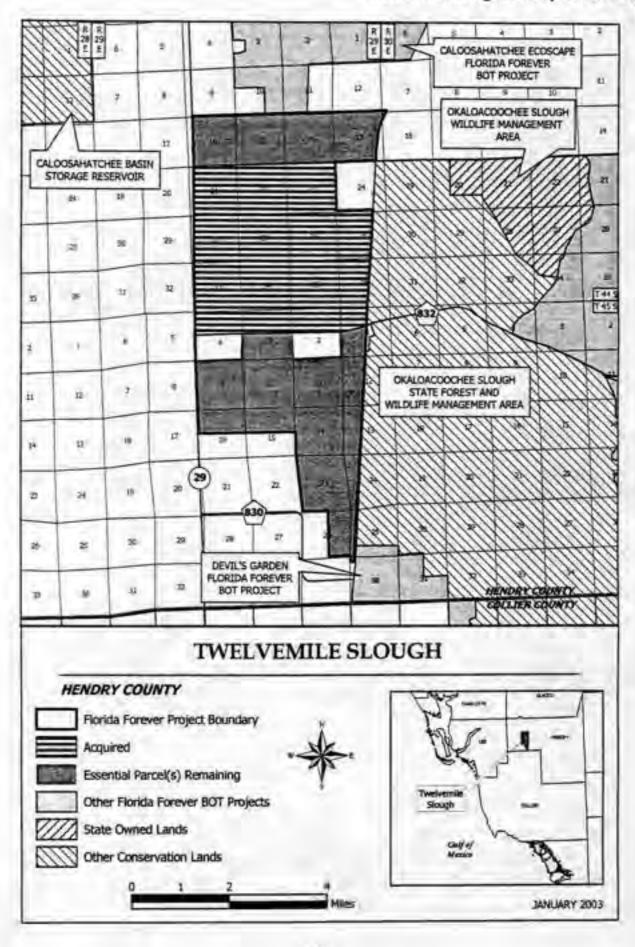
Recommendations. As To Other Governmental Agency Involvement The FWC shall cooperate with federal, state, and local governmental agencies, and nongovernmental organizations, to the greatest extent possible in the interest of serving management purposes of mutual interest. It is anticipated that the FWC shall be in greatest need of assistance and cooperation from the following: (1) Florida Division of Forestry; (2) South Florida Water Management District; (3) the Florida Natural Areas Inventory; (4) the Florida Division of Historical Resources; (5) U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and (6) the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Such assistance shall relate to management of biological resources, cultural resources, fire, timber and water.

#### Management Cost Summary/DOF

Category	Startup	Recurring
Resource Managemen	t\$ 273,692	\$ 328,199
Administration	125,926	125,926
Support	106,207	25,441
<b>Capital Improvements</b>	565,196	51,763
Visitor Services/Recr		
	192,565	10,323
Law Enforcement	9,350	9,350
Total	\$1,272,936	\$ 551,002

The FWC will require three positions (FTEs) to manage this area. The FWC will contract with various private entities to procure services and materials to conduct

Twelvemile Slough- Group A/Full Fee



## Twelvemile Slough- Group A/Full Fee

resource management, capital improvements and visitor services on the area. Funding sources include the CARL Trust Fund and Florida Forever Trust Fund.

## Management Cost Summary/DOF

Category	Startup	Recurring
Resource Management	\$ 273,692	\$ 328,199
Administration	125,926	125,926
Support	106,207	25,441
Capital Improvements	565,196	51,763
Visitor Services/Recreation	192,565	10,323
Law Enforcement	9,350	9,350
Total	\$1,272,936	\$ 551,002

Group B Full Fee

# **Twelve Mile Swamp**

## St. Johns County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Between Jacksonville and St. Augustine a large swamp, though logged, has escaped the development spreading from those cities. The Twelve Mile Swamp project will protect this swamp, conserving a large area for such wildlife as black bear and wading birds, and ensuring that the people of this growing region will have a natural area to enjoy for years to come.

#### Manager

St. Johns Water Management District will manage until the land use agreement is terminated, at which time it will be managed by the Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

#### **General Description**

The project consists of a large wetland basin surrounded largely by pine plantation. Natural communities present include bottomland forest, floodplain swamp, mesic flatwoods, depression marsh, dome swamp and scrubby flatwoods. Much of the tract has been altered by extensive silvicultural activities. The large expanse of relatively undisturbed wetlands near the center is known to support many plant species including the globally critically imperiled Bartram's ixia, and animal species such as the state threatened Florida black bear. A bird rookery has been documented from the project. Twelve archaeological or historic sites or structures are known from the project. Logging and particularly residential development are threats to this area. It is surrounded by large developments of regional impact.

#### **Public Use**

This project is designated as a state forest, with such uses as camping, hiking, hunting and horseback riding.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Cummer Trust ownership has been acquired. The project consists of approximately 22 other smaller tracts.

On July 18, 2000 the Acquisition and Restoration Council added 2,900 acres to the project. The boundary addition includes a relatively small portion of the Cummer Trust ownership outside the original boundary.

#### Coordination

The St. Johns River Water Management District is an acquisition partner.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Twelve Mile Swamp project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

FNAI Element	s		
Bartram's ixia	G1/S1	Placed on list	1992
Florida black bear WET FLATWOODS	G2G3T1/S1 G?/S4?	Project Area (Acres)	30,562
FLOODPLAIN SWAMP	G?/S4?	Acres Acquired	21,717
HYDRIC HAMMOCK DEPRESSION MARSH	G?/S4? G4?/S3	at a Cost of	\$22,477,599
BOTTOMLAND FOREST	G4/S4	Acres Remaining	8,845
Great egret	G5/S4		and the second second
11 elements known fro	om project	with Estimated (Tax Assessed)	Value of \$1,012,865

#### Twelve Mile Swamp - Group B/Full Fee

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The size and restorable pine plantations of the Twelve Mile Swamp project make it desirable for management as a state forest.

Manager The SJRWMD is recommended as Manager until the termination of the land use agreement, at which time it will be managed by the DOF.

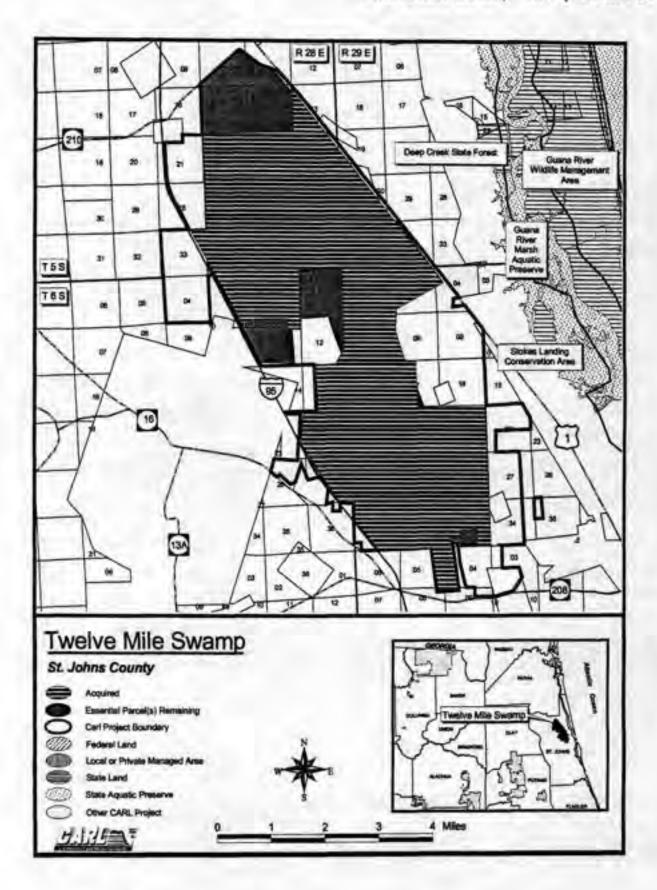
Conditions affecting intensity of management There are no known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention so management intensity is expected to be typical for a state forest.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Once the core area is acquired, the DOF will provide public access for low intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities will include securing the site, providing public and fire management accesses, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The Division will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The sites' natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan. Long-range plans for this project will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. Some of the pinelands have been degraded by timbering and require restoration. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructures will primanily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

Revenue-generating potential The DOF will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The DOF will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

Management Cost 5	Summary/DOF	
Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$28,240	\$28,240
OPS	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$21,000	\$13,000
000	\$85,900	\$2,500
FCO	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$135,140	\$43,740



### Upper Econ Mosaic - Group B/Full Fee

# **Upper Econ Mosaic**

## **Osceola and Orange Counties**

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

A broad expanse of flatwoods, scrub, swamps, marshes, and lakes east of St. Cloud is important for the survival of such wildlife as scrub jays, caracara, sandhill erane, and wading birds. The Upper Econ Mosaic project, by protecting much of this land, will preserve natural lands around existing conservation areas, maintain habitat that the diverse wildlife here needs to survive, and ensure that the public will still be able to enjoy this natural landscape as Orlando and St. Cloud continue them rapid growth.

#### Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

#### **General Description**

This project, together with Split Oak Mitigation Park and Moss Park, will protect about 35,000 acres in a region facing overwhelming threats from residential and commercial growth. It is a large expanse of habitat in the upper Kissimmee Basin region supporting a mosaic of high quality natural communities. The project encompasses the Econlockhatchee River Swamp, an Outstanding Florida Water and headwaters of the Econlockhatchee River, which flows north and east into the St. Johns through Orange and Seminole Counties. West of the river swamp the project includes all of four large lakes and has frontage on six others. The project is the site of several plants of conservation concern including scrub bay, nodding pinweed and Florida bear-grass. Rare animals include red-cockaded woodpecker, Sherman's fox squirrel, Florida sandhill crane, Florida scrub jay, and a large population of gopher tortoise.

FNAI Elements	
SCRUB	G2/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Florida scrub jay	G5T3/S3
Red-cockaded woodpecker	G3/S2
Scrub bay	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Nodding pinweed	G3/S3
19 elements known fro	om project

# Group B Full Fee

One non-significant archaeological site is known from the project. Development is the greatest long-term threat to the area.

#### Public Use

The project will be managed as a state forest, offering opportunities for fishing, boating, hunting, hiking and camping.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The essential parcels are the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and Holland Properties.

#### Coordination

The Donovan (972 acres) property in the project at the southwestern boundary is a Florida Communities Trust project selected for funding during cycle 5A/6A.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objectives of management of the Upper Econ Mosaic project are to maintain and restore the mosaic of natural communities, ranging from scrub to flatwoods and marshes, along the upper reaches of the Econlockhatchee River basin and to provide naturalresource-based recreation to the public in the rapidlygrowing Orlando area. Preserving the natural communities of the area will preserve one of the largest populations of red-cockaded woodpeckers in Florida, as well as other threatened wildlife such as Sherman's fox squirrels, and will enhance the conservation and recreation value of the adjacent Split Oak Mitigation Park and Moss Park.

Placed on list	1996
Project Area (Acres)	32,140
Acres Acquired	928*
at a Cost of	\$2,817,895*
Acres Remaining	31,212

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$34,993,257 \*Acquisitions by local poversment and Florida Communities Trust

#### Upper Econ Mosaic - Group B/Full Fee

The project should be managed under the multiple-use concept: management activities should be directed first. toward preservation of resources and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses such as hunting and logging. Managers should control access to the project; limit public motor vehicles to one or a few main roads; thoroughly inventory the resources; restore hydrological disturbances; burn fire-dependent communities such as pine flatwoods and scrub in a pattern mimicking natural lightning-season fires, using natural firebreaks or existing roads for control; where appropriate, reforest pastures and pine plantations in the project area with original species; strictly limit timbering in old-growth stands and the hardwood swamps; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually preserving resources. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

The project, which is 20 miles or less from Orlando and Kissimmee, includes most of the higher-quality undeveloped land from the Econlockhatchee River Swamp south and west to U.S. Highway 441, and is adjacent to an existing county park. It therefore has the size, configuration, and location to fulfill its primary objectives.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation Major communities represented on this project include mesic and wet flatwoods, strand swamp, dome swamp, depression marsh, basin marsh, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, flatwoods lake, seric hammock, and blackwater stream. The project's size and diversity makes it desirable for use and management as a state forest. Management by the Division of Forestry as a state forest is contingent upon the state obtaining legal public access to the site and acquiring fee simple title to the core parcels.

Conditions affecting intensity of management There are no known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention so the level of management intensity and related management costs is expected to be typical for a state forest.

Timetable for Implementing Management Once the core area is acquired and assigned to the Division of Forestry for management, public access will be provided for non-facilities related, low mtensity outdoor recreation activities. Until specific positions are provided for the project, public access will be coordinated through the Division of Forestry's Orlando District Headquarters and management activities will be conducted utilizing district personnel. The Division of Forestry will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

Initial or intermediate management efforts will concentrate on site security, public and fire management access, resource inventory, and removal of existing trash. Steps will be taken to insure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. Vehicular use by the public will be confined to designated roads and unnecessary access points will be closed. An inventory of the site's natural resources and threatened and endangered flora and fauna will be conducted to provide the basis for formulation of a management plan.

Prior to collection of necessary resource information, management proposals for this project can only be conceptual in nature. Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and maintenance of natural communities. To the greatest extent practical, disturbed sites will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in naturally functioning ecosystems. Management activities will also stress enhancement of the abundance and spatial distribution of threatened and endangered species.

An all season burning program will be established utilizing practices that incorporate recent research findings. Whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks will be utilized to contain and control prescribed and natural fires.

Timber management activities will primarily consist of improvement thinnings and regeneration harvests aimed at maintaining and perpetuating forest ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age but will be managed to maintain a broad diversity of age classes ranging from young stands to areas with old growth characteristics. This will provide habitat for the full spectrum of species that would be found in the natural environment.

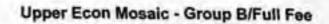
The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management, and to locate areas that are appropriate for any recreational or administrative facilities. Infrastructure development will primarily be located in already disturbed areas and will be the absolute minimum required to allow public access for the uses mentioned above, to provide facilities to accommodate public use, and to administer and manage the property. The Division will promote recreation and environmental education in the natural environment. Due to the

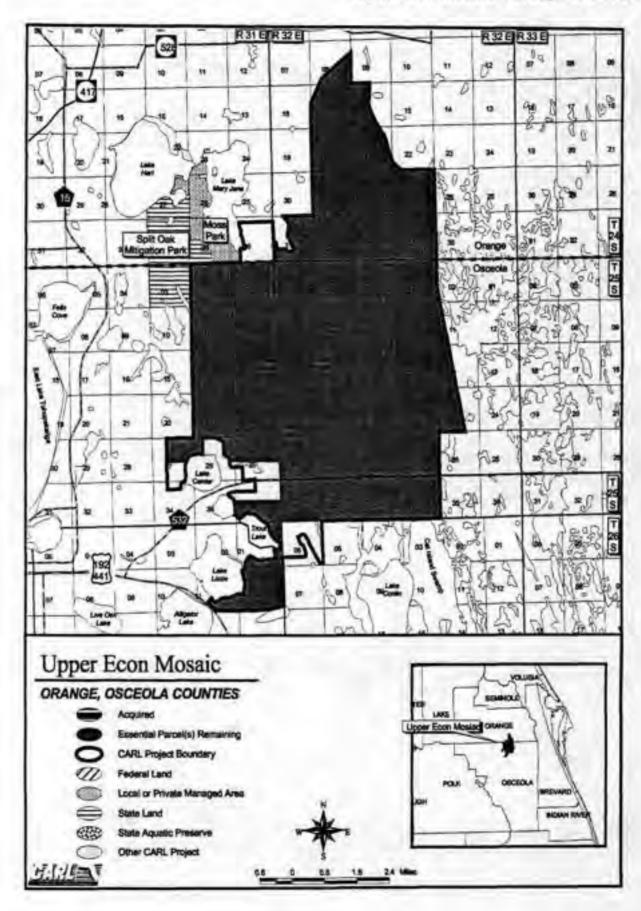
## Upper Econ Mosaic - Group B/Full Fee

wet nature of the project, it is not anticipated that recreational facilities will be developed. However, if it is determined that facilities are needed, the use of low impact, rustic facilities will be stressed. High impact, organized recreation areas will be discouraged because of possible adverse effects on the natural environment. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent practical.

Revenue-generating potential As mentioned above, timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in upland pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be moderate.

Clarken	Recurring
CARL	CARL
\$91,580	\$91,580
\$0	\$0
\$26,000	\$21,000
\$134,700	\$5,000
\$0	\$0
\$252,280	\$117,580
	\$0 \$26,000 \$134,700 \$0





## Upper Shoal River- Full Fee/Less Than Fee/Group A

# **Upper Shoal River**

## Walton County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The two parcels that make up this proposal have been managed for silviculture in a less obtrusive manner than is often found on commercial timberlands. The resulting scatter of intact groundcover provides good opportunity for restoration of habitat and attendant biota. Although an exhaustive survey has not been conducted, and the FNAI database contains no rare plants on site, five rare plants and two rare animals are documented to occur. The applicant reports one additional rare plant and three additional rare animals. Both sites in this project have the potential for the restoration of natural functions. Drainages and creeks on the sites appear to be unaltered and intact. Activities that may be undertaken on the sites should be restricted to those that do not interfere with existing function or prevent the restoration of any impaired upland function. Both of these sites have potential to provide quality outdoor recreational opportunities. Portions of these parcels lie within the Eglin to Blackwater Critical Ecological Linkage area and the Northwest Florida initiative combining the protection of buffer lands surrounding Eglin Air Force Base and the connection of conservation lands in the Florida Panhandle.

#### Manager

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will be co-managers.

#### **General Description**

The Upper Shoal River proposal does not include the river or its floodplain; however, it is comprised of two tracts of land that are within the river's watershed. The first of the two tracts, The Pine Log Creek tract (PLC), is about 3.5 miles north of the river and abuts the Okaloosa County line. The PLC contains 9,735 acres. The remaining 2,300 acres are included in the Gum Creek tract (GC), which is about 5 miles southeast of the PLC tract. Both tracts are characterized by high, rolling sandy hills that drain downward through former mesic flatwoods and wet flatwoods and slope forests into bottomland and floodplain forests. Combined, the two tracts contain approximately 20 miles of headwater tributary streams. Most of the site's original pinelands

## Group A Full Fee/Less Than Fee

have been disturbed by conversion to pme plantations that comprise the majority of the proposal. Some of this acreage includes natural understory and ground cover vegetation that may be sufficient for reclassification as appropriate natural communities.

#### Public Use

The Upper Shoal River has the potential of providing a diverse resource-based recreational experience. Both parcels have good boundary configurations that will enhance management efforts and they are easily accessible from paved and unpaved public roads. Both tracts can support a diversity of resource-based outdoor recreational opportunities. Greater effort will be required to enhance the aesthetic qualities of the Pine Log Tract, than will be needed for the Gum Creek Tract. As the resources recover, however, the natural experience will be more and more enjoyable. Hiking, off-road bicycling and horseback riding can be accommodated on both tracts. Horseback riding may be more appropriate for the larger Pine Log Tract. Depending on management emphasis, bunting would be suitable on the larger Pine Log Tract. The smaller

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	12,035
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost Of	0
Acres Remaining	12,035

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$1,395,031

White-top pitcher plant	G3/S3
Purple pitcher plant	N/N
Arkansas oak	G3/53
Pine barrens treefrog	G4/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3

## Upper Shoal River - Full Fee/Less Than Fee/Group A

Gum Creek Tract is closer to residential areas and would not be as suitable for this activity. Other activities supportable by both tracts could include camping, natural resource appreciation and camping. Two small man-made ponds exist on the Gum Creek Tract that could provide limited fishing in addition to the properties' main creeks. Neither tract is expected to provide extensive opportunities for this activity.

Of the activities mentioned, the 2000 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan identifies bicycling, hiking and natural resource appreciation through short nature hikes (nature study) as having needs for the year 2005 in the region in which the project is located.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

This project is contemplated for fee-simple acquisition. There are no acquisition partners currently in place for this project. This project consists of two owners with multiple parcels totaling 12,035 acres. The tax-assessed value is \$1,395,031.

While every effort will be made to acquire this project at the lowest possible purchase price, there is no present indication of the owner's willingness to sell at or below 80 percent. There appear to be no title or legal access issues.

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) placed this project on the Florida Forever project list.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary land management goal for the Division of Forestry is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. This ecosystem approach will guide the Division of Forestry's management activities on this project.

#### Management Prospectus Qualifications for State Designation

The landscape ecology of this project improves connectivity among existing and proposed conservation lands. This would conserve forests. Functional wetlands comprise 8 percent (1,216 acres) of the project area, and help conserve areas for aquifer recharge (35 percent, or 5,148 acres of project area), and provide for natural floodplain function (13 percent, or 1,895 acres of project area). The FNAI Florida Forever Measures Evaluation also indicates that the entire project area (100 percent, or 14,483 acres) would serve for surface water protection. It includes important habitats for fish and wildlife populations, and unique environments for outdoor recreation in Florida. To protect biodiversity, and provide resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities, programs would be oriented towards conservation and protection of wildlife species, and careful control of public uses.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

Some portions of the project include lands that are lowneed tracts, requiring application of resource management methods and tools, including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since an estimated 77% of the project area has been disturbed for silviculture or other purposes, additional methods and tools would be necessary for some management units in order to accomplish objectives for restoration to a desired future condition. The FWC would conduct historic vegetation analysis to determine appropriate desired future conditions, objectives, and restoration methods and tools. This is especially important for conservation of habitats and populations of listed species.

The primary methods and tools for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities might involve, for example, the introduction of prescribed fire and control of human uses in certain management units. Reintroduction of a prescribed of fire regime, an important ingredient to restoring a more natural system on both tracts, is more feasible on the larger of the two tracts, since it is situated farther from Interstate 10, US Highway 90 and densely populated neighborhoods. An adequate road system on both sites provides equipment access and portions timber blocks into areas sized and sited for prescribed burning. Recreational trails on the parcels could function to provide back up firelines and access for prescribed burning equipment, and could also provide an opportunity for wildlife viewing. There would be surveillance for, and removal of infestations of invasive exotic species.

Biotic surveys would be important to accomplish during the early part of plan development and implementation, because many rare or listed species are expected to occur in the proposed project. Development of facilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level necessary to assure a high quality

#### Upper Shoal River- Full Fee/Less Than Fee/Group A

recreational experience, and any such development would be confined to areas of previous disturbance.

#### Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis would be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan would be developed by the FWC describing the management goals and objectives necessary to implement future resource management.

Long-range goals would emphasize ecosystem management and the conservation of fish and wildlife. Following completion of plant community inventory and historic vegetation analysis, quantified vegetation management objectives would be developed pursuant to the FWC objective-based vegetation management process. Essential roads would be stabilized to provide all-weather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses would also be implemented. An all-season prescribed burning management plan would be developed and implemented using conventional and biologically acceptable methods and tools. Management activities would strive to manage natural plant communities to benefit native wildlife resources. Where appropriate, practical and in pursuit of wildlife habitat objectives, these resources would be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices as recommended by the Division of Forestry. Archaeological and historic sites would be managed in coordination with the Division of Historical Resources.

Environmentally sensitive areas would be identified and appropriate protective measures would be implemented on those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances would be abandoned or restored as practical. Other existing infrastructure would be protected to the extent possible. Infrastructure development would be the minimum required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, and provide security and management of the property.

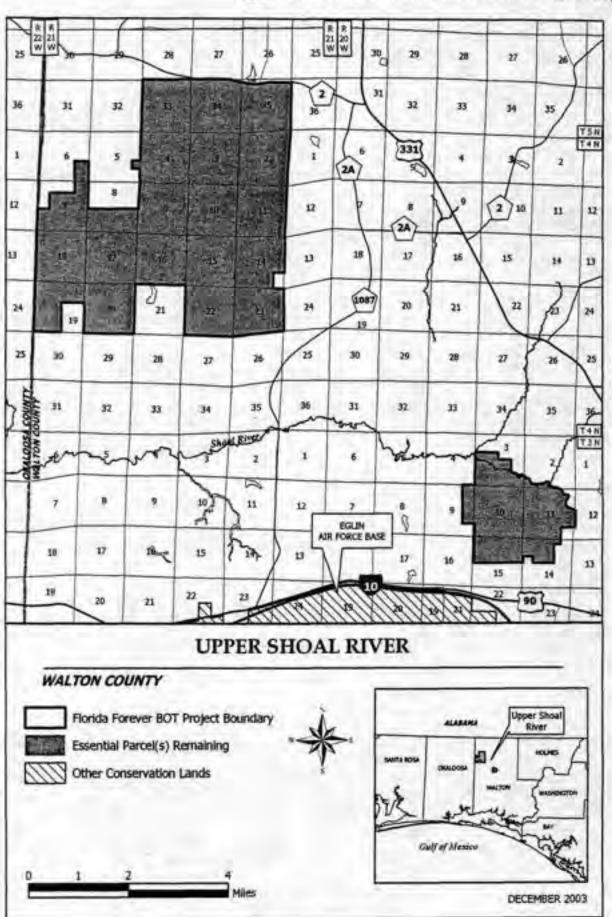
#### **Revenue** generating potential

Substantial revenue from forest products production, as currently occurs, should continue. The FNAI indicates that 76% (11,054 acres) of the project area is available as priorities 1, 2, 3, and 5 for sustainable forestry, and that 19% (2,829 acres) of the project serves as forestland for aquifer recharge. However, management would seek to unprove the other revenuegenerating potential of areas currently serving for forest products production by improving wildlife diversity and resource-based recreation in such areas. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licenses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps. Some revenues might be realized in the future from recreational user fees and ecotourism activities, if such projects can be economically developed.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

The FWC is recommended as lead manager. The Division of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Northwest Florida Water Management District are recommended as cooperators.

MANAGEMENT COST SU	MMARY/FWC	
Category	Start-up	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Resource Management	\$212,891	\$244,479
Administration	\$82,345	\$33,072
Support	\$149,080	\$31,566
Capital Improvements	\$2,187,189	\$58,179
Visitor Services/Recreation	n \$1,636	5141
Law Enforcement	\$10,191	\$10,191
TOTAL	\$2,643,331	\$377,628



Upper Shoal River - Full Fee/Less Than Fee/Group A

### Upper St. Marks River Corridor - Group A/Full Fee

# **Upper St. Marks River Corridor**

Wakulla, Jefferson and Leon Counties

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The conception of this proposal is to preserve a contiguous river corridor system, protect old growth cypress stands, black bear habitat, habitat for other threatened and endangered species, and the water quality of the St. Marks River and Springs. Resource-based outdoor recreation is also a purpose for acquiring this project (please see the Public Use section).

#### Manager

The Division of Recreation and Parks of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is recommended as lead manager. The Division of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOF) and Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD) are recommended as cooperating agencies.

#### **General Description**

This project covers approximately 13,376 acres located in Wakulla, Jefferson and Leon Counties that extend from U.S. Highway 27, along both sides of the St. Marks River, south to the Natural Bridge Battlefield State Historic Site. Upper St. Marks River Corridor proposal includes 13,376 acres in eastern Leon and western Jefferson counties, all of which is owned by the St. Joe Company. The corridor ranges from 1 to 3 miles wide along 14 miles of the upper St. Marks River (from US 27 on the north to just north of the Natural Bridge Road on the south). Approximately fifty percent of the proposal is in natural condition and consists of forested wetland communities, and upland hardwood forest/mesic hammocks. The natural communities are considered to be in good condition, and include an old-growth stand of cypress. The majority of the remaining uplands are in pine plantations of varying ages. Acquisition of the project would also assist with the protection of the water quality in the river and numerous springs in the area.

The majority of the project is located within the ecological greenways network identified by the Office of Greenways and Trails and the University of Florida.

#### Public Use

The landscape connectivity and diversity provided by the Upper St. Marks River Corridor project has the potential for many resource-based public outdoor recreation activities, including canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting and wildlife viewing. This project is an excellent recreational trail opportunity, which would help facilitate a possible connection to other conservation and recreation lands in Leon County, such as the JR Alford Greenway.

Group A

Full Fee

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The project consists of approximately 13,376 acres, multiple parcels and one owner. The 2001 tax assessed value is estimated at \$1,915,147. This aunumary describes Phase I and II of a potential threephase project that would eventually connect to the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, On June 6, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added this project to the A list of Florida Forever projects.

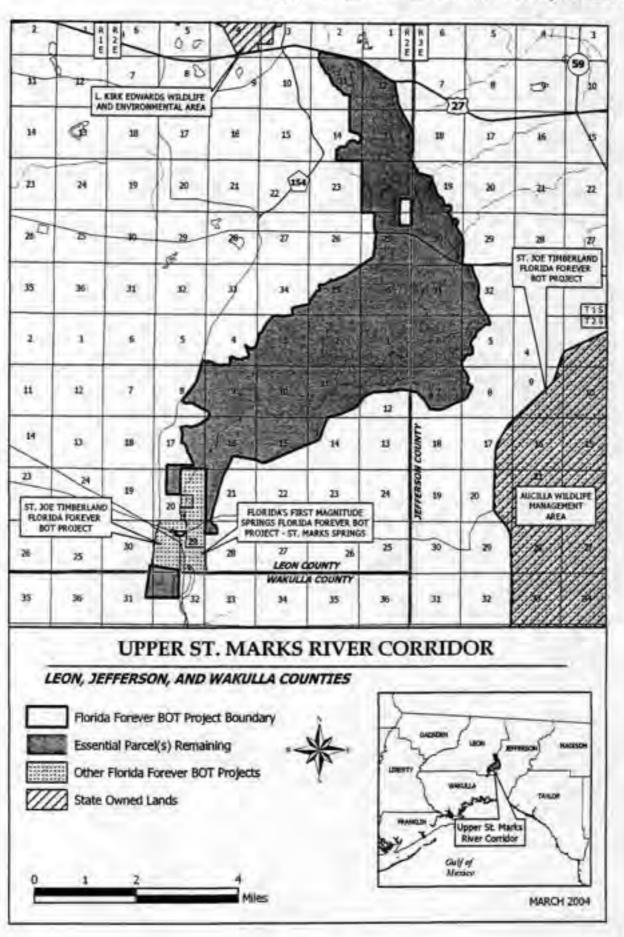
#### Coordination

This project was proposed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for fee-simple acquisition. Phase I 92,882 acres) is north of Tram Road (CR 259) and Phase II (10,494 acres) is south of Tram Road.

Placed on List	2003
Projects Area (acres)	13,376
Acres Acquired	o
At a Cost Of	O
Acres Remaining	13,376

With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of: \$1,915,147

Dusky shiner	G5/S4
diamondback rattles	nake G4/S3
Sopher tortoise	G3/S3
lorida black bear	G5T2/S2



## Upper St. Marks River Corridor - Group A/Full Fee

### Upper St. Marks River Corridor - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

A primary goal of the Upper St. Marks River Corridor proposal is to buffer the upper St. Marks River from development and preserve its water quality, while also protecting the natural communities in its floodplain. Presumably this would also protect. at least to some extent, the water quality of the first magnitude St. Marks Spring just south of the proposal boundary. The proposal encompasses all but 270 acres of the 940-acre Florida Forever First Magnitude Springs project surrounding St. Marks Spring. The Florida black bear, a threatened species, is also known to occur on the project area. Black bears need large contiguous tracts of land in order to ensure a viable breeding population of more than 200 individuals (COX et al. 1994). Special deliberation should be given to this fact when considering the value of this property as conservation lands. Considering the importance of the Upper St. Marks River Corridor as black bear habitat, together with its diverse plant and animal communities and the potential for resource-based public outdoor recreation, acquisition of this tract is warranted.

#### Management Prospectus Qualifications for State Designation

Priority will be given to the conservation and protection of environmentally unique native habitats, and threatened and endangered species. Management programs will be designed to conserve, protect, manage and/or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, wildlife populations, forests and water resources. The tract will also be managed to provide opportunities for canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, and wildlife viewing.

#### **Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management**

Some portions of the proposed project include lands that are low-need tracts, requiring basic resource management including the frequent use of prescribed fire where appropriate. However, since over 52 percent of the project area has been disturbed for silviculture or other purposes, significant restoration activities are contemplated for some of the acreage on which fee title is acquired. The primary management needed for perpetuation of the less disturbed natural communities will involve the introduction of prescribed fire and control of human access. Sparse infestation by the invasive exotic cogon grass (*Cylindrica imperata*) occurs in the project area. There will be surveillance for, and removal of such infestations of exotic invasive species.

#### Timetable for Implementing Management

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the DRP describing the management goals and specific objectives necessary to implement future resource management. Longrange goals will stress ecosystem management and the protection and management of threatened and endangered species. Essential roads will be stabilized to provide all weather public access and management operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses will also be implemented.

#### **Revenue Generating Potential**

Some revenues might be realized in the future from recreational user fees and ecotourism activities, if such projects can be economically developed.

#### Management Costs

The Upper St. Marks River Corridor proposal, when acquired by the State, will require three FTE positions to manage the project area.

Group A Full Fee

# **Upper Yellow River**

## **Okaloosa** County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The upper Yellow River region encompasses some of the highest elevations (>100 m) in Florida. Erosive dissection of the uplands by the river and its tributaries has produced dramatic physiographic relief, with a resulting transition from relatively high uplands through forested/seepage slopes to floodplain communities. Although impacted by silvicultural activities, ground cover over the property is considered restorable. The project's size, topographic diversity, and the river make it desirable as a core parcel for use and management as a state park. Management in the short term as a state park is contingent upon acquiring fee title. Effective management for this purpose over the long term is dependent on completing. acquisition of adjacent lands to tie disjunct parcels together, improve internal accessibility, and gaining improved access from highways.

#### Manager

The DEP Division of Recreation and Parks proposes to manage the property.

#### **General Description**

The Upper Yellow River project is located in Okaloosa County. This project (8,259 acres) is adjacent to the Blackwater State Forest (189,394 acres), and the Yellow River Water Management Area. The Yellow River is described as one of the most pristine rivers in the Southeast, and the proposal encompasses approximately 15 to 20 miles of the river. Acquisition of the project would provide

additional miles of protection to this beautiful river
due to its connectivity to the Northwest Florida
WMD Yellow River Water Management Area. The
majority of the project area has been disturbed by
silvicultural activities, but the natural communities
along the river appear to be in good condition. The project is proposed for fee simple acquisition.
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#### Public Use

The Upper Yellow River project has the potential of providing a diverse recreational experience of a regional context. The project can support a wide diversity of resource-based recreational opportunities. To maximize the full potential of those opportunities, however, the project boundaries need to include additional lands to tie disjunct parcels together, make boundaries more uniform and improve public accessibility. The impacts from silviculture activities, however, will have a significant impact on the quality of resource-based recreation for many years to come. As the resource recovers, the natural experience will be more and more enjoyable for the naturalist at heart. The Yellow River is a designated canoe trail in the Statewide System of Greenways and Trails.

The high bluffs on the east side of the river offer significant vistas and the river offers canoe opportunities along several miles of undeveloped shoreline on both sides of the river. Both sides of the river can accommodate hiking, bicycling and horseback riding trails, as well as picnicking. Other public lands exist

FNAI Element	s
Gulf sturgeon	G3T2/S2
Escambia map turtle	G2/S2
Great egret	G5/S4
Pine barrens tree frog	G4/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
Eastern chipmunk	G5/S2
Heartleaf	G5/S3
Mountain laurel	G5/S3
8 elements known from	n project

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (Acres)	9,259
Acres Acquired	0
at a Cost of	\$0
Acres Remaining	8,259
with Estimated (Tay Assassed) Value of	\$1.042.587

## Upper Yellow River - Group A/Full Fee

south and west of the project on the west side of the river. Trails within the project area could be tied into these other public lands to offer expanded opportunities. There are many activities such as nature appreciation and wildlife observation that would be enjoyed at the same time as one is enjoying trail or canoe opportunities. Camping would bolster the project as a destination point and is supportable. Scientific research and environmental education are also supportable. Depending on management emphasis, hunting can also be supported.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Upper Yellow River project was added to the 2003 Florida Forever project list at the December 5, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

The project is proposed for fee simple acquisition. The essential parcel is identified as the Rayonier ownership.

#### Coordination

The Northwest Florida WMD is interested in the acquisition of the project, but is not a partner at this time. There are no alternative (partnership) funding sources.

#### Management Policy Statement

The proposal aims to provide partial protection to the Yellow River by protecting adjacent floodplam uplands that are mostly planted in pine plantation. Blackwater River State Forest already protects substantial acreage within the region though offers minimal protection to the Yellow River. Because the river emanates in Alabama, full protection of the river will require interstate cooperation. Additional protection efforts downstream of the proposal as well as in the Shoal River, a major tributary, will also be important. Downstream portions of the drainage receive some protection from the Yellow River Water Management Area and Eglin Air Force Base.

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for state designation

A significant portion of the acreage within this project has been converted to silviculture or been impacted by timbering activity. The project has frontage on both sides of the upper reaches of the Yellow River. Most of the frontage along the river remains in a relatively natural condition. The lands east of the river offer high scenic bluffs from which one can look over several miles of territory. It is the combination of vista, the river and the potential of significant future natural resource-based outdoor recreation that makes the property desirable as a unit of the state park system.

#### Manager

The DEP Division of Recreation and Parks proposes to manage the property.

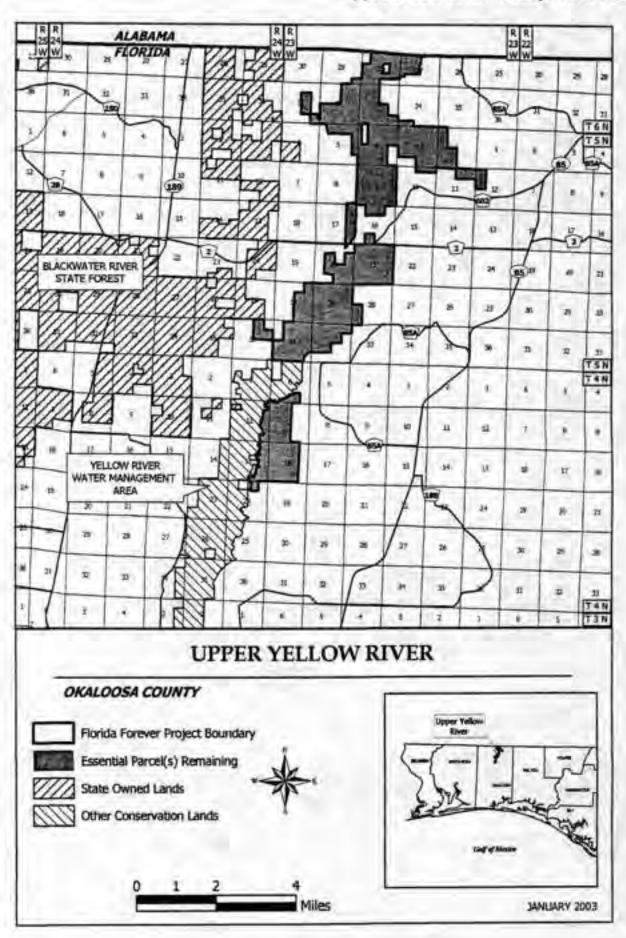
#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

Much of the project area has been disturbed and will require significant restoration efforts. Large areas have been planted over recent years. As these areas mature, the planted timber will be harvested and/or thinned to allow for a more natural looking landscape. Where the trees are still very young and not of the type not naturally found at their respective locations, consideration will be given to the practicality of an early removal of the trees and replanting with species expected to be located on the land. The level of management intensity and related management costs is expected to be high in the short term to allow for resource studies and restoration efforts.

There are a few inholdings within the core parcel for which access will need to be allowed. Although all areas of the project are accessible at least at a management level, full public access will be dependent on additional lands being acquired to connect parcels and improve access within and to individual areas.

#### Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

Once the project is acquired and assigned to the Division of Recreation and Parks, the acquired lands will be secured and management planning implemented. Access for low intensity resource-based recreation will be initially accommodated with starter



Upper Yellow River - Group A/Full Fee

#### Upper Yellow River - Group A/Full Fee

kits at suitable locations. The project will be managed as a new state park.

#### **Revenue-generating potential**

No significant revenue is expected to be generated initially. As timber sales are conducted, these sales will provide a variable source of revenue. It will be several years before any significant public-use facilities are developed. The degree of any future revenue generated would depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities placed on the land.

#### **Cooperators in management activities**

No local governments or others are recommended for management of this project. The Division of Recreation and Parks will cooperate with and seek the advice of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

### Management costs and sources of revenue

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL Trust Fund. Estimated budget needs for interim management are as follows:

\$ 79,500
20,000
89,000
561,650
\$750,150



# **Volusia Conservation Corridor**

## Group A Full Fee

Volusia County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The opportunity exists to conserve a continuous corridor of environmentally significant land from the Tiger Bay State Forest, through the central wetlands and flatwoods of Volusia County, to the marshes of the St. Johns River. A significant portion of the land in the project serves as habitat for endangered. threatened species and serves to protect natural communities that are listed by the FNAI as critically imperiled, or rare, or as excellent quality occurrences of natural communities. The northern border of the proposal adjoins the Port Orange wellfield, an approximately 13,000-acre natural area composed of similar habitats owned jointly by the City of Port Orange and Volusia County. This wellfield in turn adjoins Tiger Bay State Forest to the north, a roughly 23,000-acre tract of similar habitats which continues north to SR40. Together these parcels preserve a natural landscape of swamps and flatwoods that is home to several endemic plant species, as well as populations of Florida black bear and numerous wading birds.

#### Manager

St. Johns River Water Management District

#### **General Description**

The property is generally low and wet, consisting of alternating flatwoods and swamp, which occupy the northwest/southeast-trending ridge and swale topography that borders the eastern edge of the DeLand Ridge. It includes the parallel, southward-flowing drainages of Deep Creek and Lake Ashby canal, which empty into the St. Johns River. Natural communities

FNAI Elements	
Bachman's Sparrow	G3/S3
Florida Black Bear	G3/S4
Bald eagle	G4/S3
Florida Sandhill Crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Woodstork	G4/S2
Florida three-awned Grass	G3/S3
Large flowered rosemary	G3/S3

include: Basin Swamp and Hydric Hammock, Mesic flatwoods, Scrub, and Dome Swamp.

#### Public Use

The Volusia Conservation Corridor is proposed for partial fee title acquisition and partial less-than-fee acquisition.

Fee acquisition areas have the potential of providing a variety of resource-based outdoor recreation opportunities such as, but not necessarily limited to, hiking, nature study, horseback riding, bicycling, camping, picnicking, freshwater fishing and hunting, Further review may reflect cabins to be suitable, particularly if a combination of lands is acquired that would allow for a more complete park or environmental education center atmosphere.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The following parcels are essential: Leffler Co., Lefils Corporation, Julia Menard, GJPS Lukas Inc., Jonathan S. Lukas, Gertrude G. Lukas, Donald Ray Fore, Norman N. Fore, Marvin Kelley Fore, Mark Fore et al., Lynda Russell Schroeder, and JAS Properties LTD. The LeFils Corporation, Marvin Fore, Donald Fore, Louis & Melissa Tulp, JAS properties and Lukas are interested in conservation easements.

In August 2002 the Council added the Plum Creek and the Rayonier tracts to the project.

On June 6, 2003 the Council added the 26,470-acre Plum Creek tract in Flagler County to the project boundaries.

Placed on list	2001
Project Area (Acres)	79,850
Acres Acquired	24,567*
at a Cost of	\$17,924,118*
Acres Remaining	55,283

with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of \$18,691,274 "includes acreage and expenditures by the St. Johns River Water Mgt. District

On August 15, 2002 the Council approved adding 19,369 acres to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

The SJRWMD and Volusia County will be acquisition partners. Volusia County passed two bond measures in 2000 that will generate approximately \$80 million for open space land acquisition, historic preservation and improvements over the next twenty years.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Volusia Conservation Corridor project are: to conserve and protect significant water resources in a priority water resource caution area; and to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant timber, recreation, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The need to protect water resources within the caution area, combined with the restorable pine plantations, make it desirable for management by the St. Johns River Water Management District.

Manager The St. Johns River Water Management District is recommended as Manager.

#### Conditions affecting intensity of management

The wildfires of 1998 did impact properties within the boundaries of the project, but most of the affected areas have been salvaged and replanted. Consequently, there are no known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention so management intensity is expected to be typical for water management district lands.

#### Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

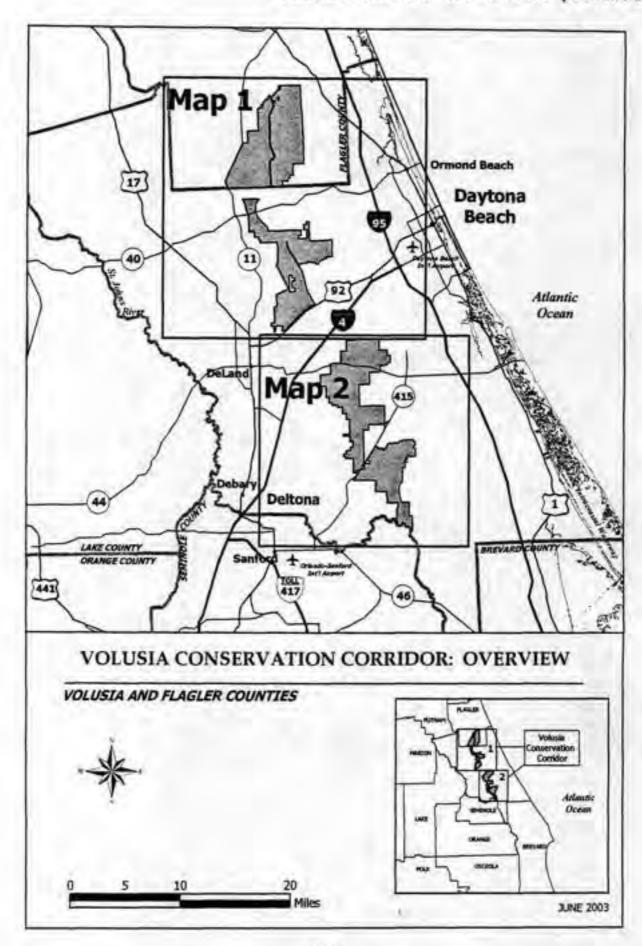
Once the core area is acquired, the St. Johns River Water Management District will provide public access for low intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities will include securing the site, providing public and fire management accesses, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The District will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The sites natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan. Long-range plans for this project will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. Some of the pinelands have been degraded by timbering and wildfire and will require restoration. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructures will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access.

Revenue-generating potential The District will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The District will cooperate with Volusia County and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

#### Management Cost Summary/SJRWMD

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds WMLTF	WMLIF	
Salary	\$45,000	\$45,000
OPS	0	0
Expense	\$80,000	80,000
000	\$20,000	60,000
FCO	\$100,000	0
TOTAL	\$345,000	\$185,000

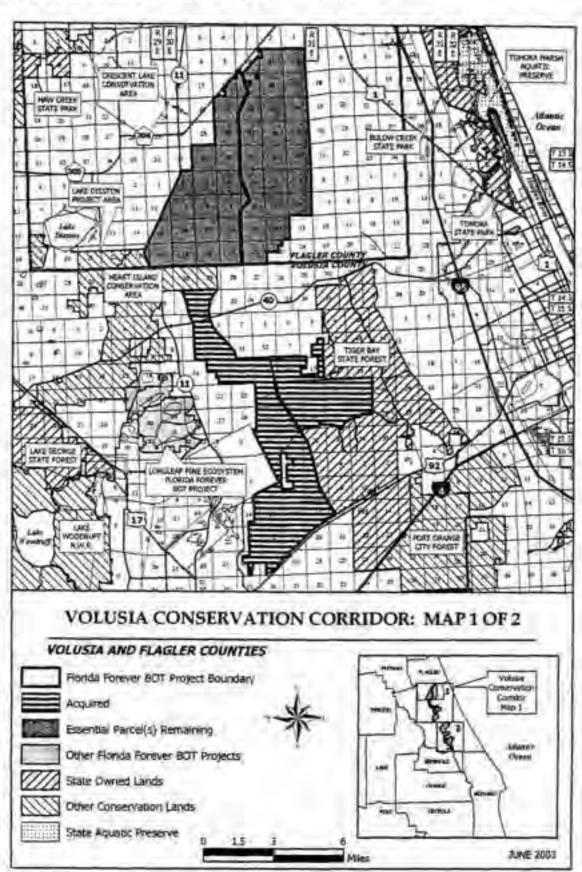


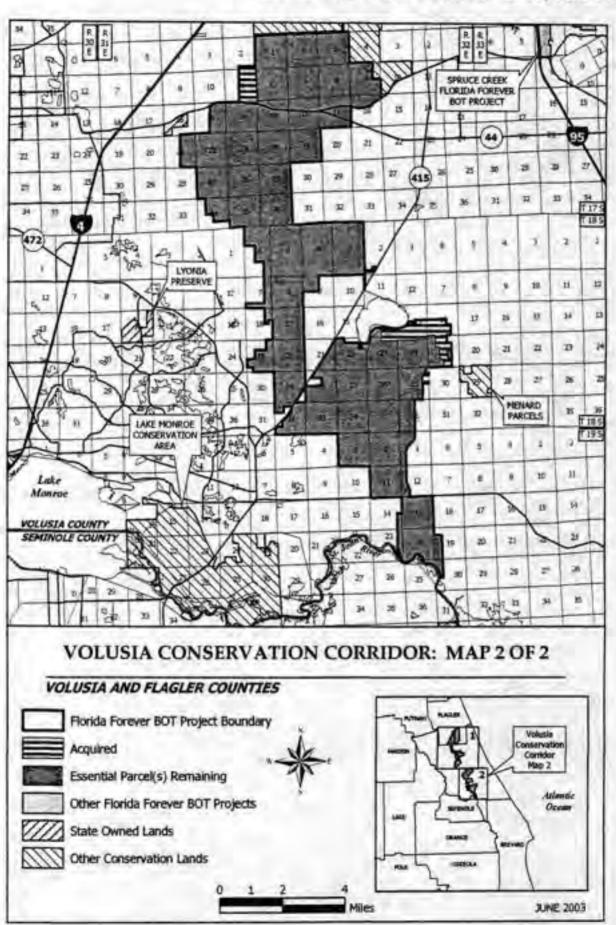
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## Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks - Group B/Full Fee

# Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks

## **Taylor and Jefferson Counties**

## Group A Full Fee

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

The tea-colored Aucilla River and the crystal-clear Wacissa River flow through rich swamps and marshes on their way to meet each other before emptying into the Gulf. The Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks project will protect the Wacissa River and the lower course of the Aucilla River, thereby maintaining the water quality of these streams, protecting aquatic caves and sinkholes, preserving important archaeological sites, and giving the public the opportunity to enjoy these rivers in their natural state for years to come.

#### Manager

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

#### **General Description**

This project comprises parcels needed to protect the headwaters of the Wacissa River to the north and provide a link to St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge on the south. It encompasses much of the Aucilla River, a blackwater stream, and the Wacissa River, a springfed stream. Both are in good condition and are popular canoe trails. Although the surrounding areas are part of a commercial timber operation, the natural resources at the site remain in good condition. Ten natural communities in the project, some rare in Florida, create a diverse natural area with an abundance of water birds, and rare invertebrates and turtles. The project boasts several unique geological features including the Aucilla River Sinks, where the Aucilla River alternately flows through subterranean passageways and reappears at the surface. Numerous aboriginal sites are known from both rivers. Twelve-thousand-year-old mastodon tusks from the Aucilla are the oldest evidence of butchering in North America. The project is threatened by riverfront development.

#### Public Use

This project is designated for use as a wildlife management area, providing opportunities for canoeing, swimming, fishing, hunting and nature appreciation.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

<u>Phase I (essential)</u>: Buckeye Cellulose ownership - original proposal (acquired); <u>Phase II</u>(essential): (a) Northern additions to original proposal. (b) Conservation easement on Aucilla; <u>Phase III</u>: Southern additions to original proposal; <u>Phase IV</u>: Yeager ownership.

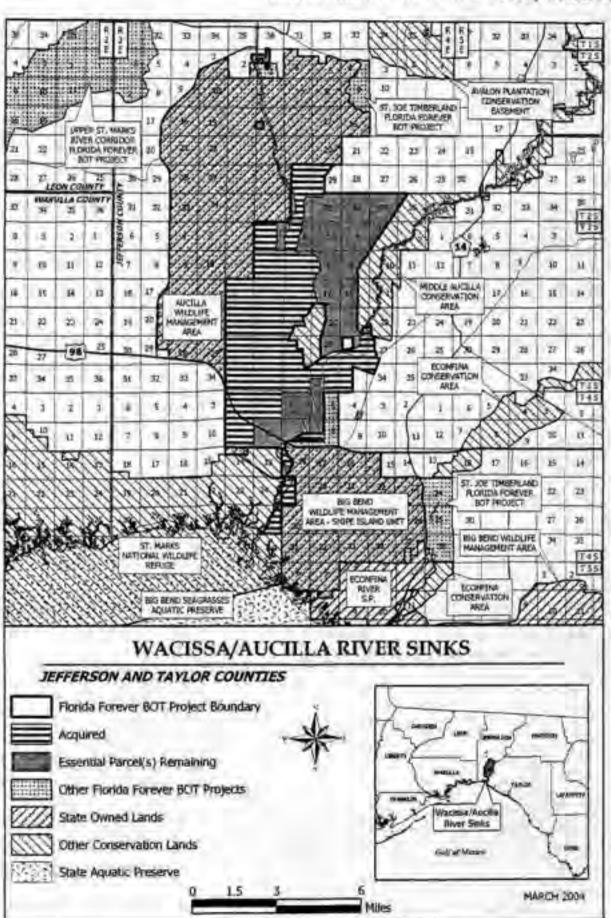
Portions of the original project owned by the St. Joe Company were removed and placed in the new (2000) St. Joe Timberlands project.

#### Coordination

Aucilla and Wacissa River Corridors are also projects of the Suwannee River Water Management District.

FNAI Elemen	ts
Horst's cave crayfish	G1/S1
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
Florida willow	G2/S2
AQUATIC CAVE	G3/S2
FLOODPLAIN MARSH	G3?/S2
Alligator snapping turtle	G3G4/S3
SINKHOLE	G7/S2
FLOODPLAIN FOREST	G?/S3
29 elements known fra	om project

1985	
34,463	
24,443	
\$20,652,300	
10,020	
\$3,262,565	
	34,463 24,443 \$20,652,300 10,020



Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks - Group B/Full Fee

#### Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks - Group B/Full Fee

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Wacissa/ Aucilla River Sinks project are: to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation Much of the Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks project is within the Aucilla Wildlife Management Area (WMA). This, together with the rivers' value as wildlife habitat, qualifies the project as a wildlife management area.

Manager The FWC is the recommended project manager.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The nature of these two river corridors and their attendant floodplains indicates a relatively low need for intense management. The unique beauty of the area, and the presence of numerous cultural sites indicate a need for intense protective measures and a need to focus on control of public access. Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Most public-access points are already in place, including a county park at the head spring of the Wacissa. Therefore, immediate management control could be assumed by FWC. First-year activities would include posting the boundaries, establishing control at publicaccess points, and beginning the planning process. Long-term management (second year and following) would entail management of these lands as an integral part of the Big Bend/Aucilla WMA recreational complex.

Revenue-generating potential Without new WMA fees charged for non-consumptive uses of this area, the revenue potential appears low, while recreation values are quite high. If a method for charging canoeists, nature enthusiasts, fishermen and hikers could be devised, the revenue potential would be moderate.

Cooperators in management The Division of Historical Resources and the Division of Forestry are expected to cooperate in the management of this property. Jefferson County may also be involved since it manages a county park at the head spring.

Management Cost Su	Immary/FWC			
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL	
Salary	\$0	\$11,133	\$63,575	
OPS	\$0	\$0	\$5,500	
Expense	\$126	\$2,000	\$25,000	
000	\$0	\$0	\$83,600	
FCO	\$0	\$0	50	
TOTAL	\$126	\$13,133	\$177,675	

## Wakulla Springs Protection Zone

## Full Fee Group A

#### Wakulla County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

Just south of Tallahassee. Wakulla Springs - one of the largest and deepest artesian springs in the world - is now protected by a state park, but the enormous caverns that feed the spring spread far to the north and west of the park. The Wakulla Springs Protection Zone will protect the spring by protecting the land above the conduits that feed it, connect the state park with the Apalachicola National Forest, and provide the public an area for camping, hiking, and hunting.

#### Managers

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Department of Environmental Protection; Division of Forestry (DOF), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). See Management Prospectus for areas of management.

#### **General Description**

Over 70 percent of the project is in intensive silviculture or pasture; remnant natural areas include floodplain swamps and forests, upland pine or upland mixed forests, and unique features like sinkholes, aquatic caves, and spring-run streams. The project is important to protecting the subterranean headwaters of Wakulla Springs, the state's largest first magnitude spring and source of the Wakulla River. It is one of the largest and deepest artesian springs in the world and an Outstanding Florida Water. At least five rare animals, including three crustaceans in the aquatic caves, have been found here. Eight archaeological sites, including four mounds, are known from the site, and more can be expected. There is also an historic cemetery in the project. The sinkholes in the project are vulnerable to trash dumping and development, which may degrade the quality of water flowing into Wakulla Spring; endangerment of the area is moderate.

#### Public Use

Portions of the project qualify as state park, state forest, and wildlife management area. Hiking or bicycling trails could link the park with the Apalachicola National Forest, and the project could also be suitable for camping, horseback riding, and perhaps hunting.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The essential parcels are the Ferrell tract, McBrides Slough tract and smaller tracts between the Edward Ball—Wakulla Springs State Park and Ferrell Tract. The McBrides Slough tract has been mapped previously as a DRP Inholdings and Additions project.

On October 15, 1998, the LAMAC revised the designation of the following area to essential: approximately 1,004 acres that would connect the Ferrell tract with the Apalachicola National Forest.

On October 25, 2001 the Council added 59 acres to the project boundaries.

#### Coordination

There are no acquisition partners at this time.

FNAI Elements	
Woodville karst cave crayfish	G1/S1
River Sinks cave amphipod	G1?/S?
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
Hobbs' cave amphipod	G2G3/S2S3
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
AQUATIC CAVE	G3/S2
SINKHOLE LAKE	G3/S3
18 elements known from	project

Placed on list	1997
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	6,562
Acres Acquired	3,434
at a Cost of	\$8,225,678
Acres Remaining	3,132
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$2,153,000

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary objective of management of the Wakulla Springs Protection Zone project is to preserve the water quality of Wakulla Spring by protecting the land above the underground conduits that supply the apring. Achieving this objective will provide a refuge for extremely rare cave-dwelling crustaceans, preserve wildlife habitat in this developing region, and provide various recreational opportunities, such as camping and hilong, to the public.

If the state is to buy fee-sumple title in the project, it should be managed under the single-use concept as part of Wakulla Springs State Park: management activities should be directed toward the protection of surface-water and groundwater quality. Consumptive uses such as hunting should not be permitted, and only such silvicultural uses as contribute to the restoration of rative vegetation on distarbed areas. Managers should control public access to the project, limit public motor vehicles to one or a few major roads and route them away from sinkholes, thoroughly inventory the resources, and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually preserving the quality of the groundwater. Managers should limit the number and size of recreational facilities, such as hiking trails, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, particularly sunkholes and spring runs, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible.

If the state or other government acquires less-than-fee-simple interest in the project, any activities, such as silviculture, road improvements, or any development, should be strictly monitored to ensure that surface-water and groundwater quality in the project area is maintained or improved.

The project includes most of the land between the Apalachicola National Forest and Wakulla Springs State Park that is known to overbe conduits leading toward Wakulla Spring, and therefore has the size and configuration to achieve its primary objective.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation its unique subterranean resources connected with Wakaila Springs, one of Florida's most significant artesian springs and already managed as a state park, qualify this project as a unit of the state park system. The project's size and diversity of resources makes portions of it also desirable for use and management as a state forest and a wildlife management area. Management by the Division of Forestry as a state forest is contingent upon the state's acquiring fee-simple title to the core parcels.

Manager The DRP will manage areas south of State Road 267 and west of State Road 61, except for that portion of the Ferrell property in sections 22 and 27, T2S, R1W, consisting of approximately 120 acres of agricultural fields. The FWC is recommended as lead manager for the part of the Ferrell property described above. The DOF is recommended as lead manages for the remainder of the project. Conditions affecting intensity of management A. Division of Recreation and Parks

Under fee title acquisition, the Wakulla Springs Protection Zone will be a high-need management area. Resource restoration, public recreation, environmental education and development compatible with long-term resource protection will be an integral aspect of management. The areas around larst windows, springs and associated sloughs are often, and m some cases currently are being, subjected to inappropriate uses and levels of use that degrade the resource. In particular, the lands between the park and the national forest, west of State Road 61, contain a significant number of hydrological features which will require intensive management of people. to ensure against resource degradation and allow for restoration where needed. Springs, karst windows and sinks are popular recreation sites. Hence, there will be a demand for their use. Close monitoring and study will be needed to decide which are suitable for public use and at what levels, followed with appropriate management measures.

The Ferrell Property represents a relatively intact long-leaf pine/wire grass community. Land uses in the general area have severely impacted this community type. Close attention will need to be paid to ensure the perpetuation of this community through appropriate burning and other management practices, if acquired in fee title. This concept also applies to other areas of the project managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks where the natural regime has been distarbed by silviculture and other hand uses.

#### B. Division of Forestry

Many areas of the project will require considerable restoration efforts. Until these efforts are completed, the level of management intensity and related management costs is expected to be somewhat higher than what would be expected on a typical state forest.

#### C. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The proposal generally includes lands that are low-need tracts requiring basic resource management, including the frequent use of prescribed fire. The primary management needed for perpetuation of the natural communities on the area is the introduction of all-season prescribed fire and control of haman access. On portions of existing disturbed areas such as the agricultural fields, native and non-native agronomic plantings will be used to benefit both game and non-game wildlife on the area and to promote special hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities for the general public. Development of ficilities, as on all wildlife management areas, would be kept to the minimum level to assure a high-quality recreational experience for those members of the public interested in less infrastructure and other disturbance factors.

#### Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure

#### A. Division of Recreation and Parks

Upon fee title acquisition, public access will be provided for low-intensity, non-facility-related outdoor recreation. As a part of the Wakulla Springs State Park, huming would not be permitted. Vehicular access by the public will be confined to designated points and routes. Particular emphasis will be given to protection of springs and associated sloughs, sinks and karst windows. Resource management activities in the first year of each fee title acquisition will concentrate on site security (including posting boundaries) and development of a resource inventory in conjunction with the development of a comprehensive management plan.

Long-term management may include a wide range of resourcebased recreation and associated facilities. The integration of appropriate public uses will create wildlife and recreational linkages between the State Park and the national forest. B. Diversion of Forestry

Once the core area is acquired and assigned to the DOF, public access will be provided for non-facilities-related, low-intensity outdoor recreation. Until specific positions are provided for the project, public access will be coordinated through the Division of Forestry's Tallahassee District Headquarters and management activities will be conducted with district personnel.

Initial or intermediate management efforts will concentrate on site security, public and fire management access, resource inventory, and removal of existing trash. Steps will be taken to insure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. Vehicular use by the public will be confined to designated roads and unnecessary access points will be closed. An inventory of the site's natural resources and threatened and endangered flora and fauna will be conducted to provide the basis for formulation of a management plan.

Prior to collection of necessary resource information, management proposals for this project can only be conceptual in nature. Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and maintenance of natural communities. Management activities will also stress enhancement of the abundance and spatial distribution of threatened and endangered species. To the greatest extent practical, disturbed sites will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in naturally functioning ecosystems. Pine plantations will be thinned to achieve a more natural appearance. Off-site species will eventually be replaced with species that would be expected to occur naturally on the site.

An all-season burning program will be established utilizing practices that incorporate recent research findings. Whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks will be utilized to contain and control prescribed and natural fires.

Tunber management activities will primarily consist of improvement thinnings and regeneration harvests anned at maintaining and perpetuating forest ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age but will be managed to maintain a broad diversity of age classes ranging from young stands to areas with old growth characteristics. This will provide habitat for the full spectrum of species that would be found in the natural environment. The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management, and to locate areas that are appropriate for any recreational or administrative facilities. Infrastructure development will primarily be located in already disturbed arcas and will be the absolute minimum required to allow pubhe access for the uses mentioned above, to provide facilities to accommodate public use, and to administer and manage the property.

The DOF will promote recreation and environmental education in the natural environment. It is not anticipated that recreational facilities will be developed. However, if it is determined that facilities are needed, the use of low impact, rustic facilities will be stressed. High impact, organized recreation areas will be discouraged because of possible adverse effects on the natural environment. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent practical.

#### C. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

During the first year after acquisition, emphasis will be placed on site security, posting boundaries, public access, fire management, resource inventory and removal of existing refuse. A conceptual management plan will be developed by the FWC, describing the goals and objectives of future resource management.

Long-range plans will stress ecosystem management, the protection and management of threatened and endangered species and the management of small game and small game hunting opportunities. Essential roads will be stabilized to provide all weather public access and manage operations. Programs providing multiple recreational uses will also be implemented. An all-season prescribed burning management plan will be developed and implemented using conventional and hiologically acceptable guidelines. Management activities will strive to manage natural plant communities to benefit native wildlife resources.

Where appropriate and practical, timber resources will be managed using acceptable silvicultural practices as recommended by the DOF. These practices will include reforesta

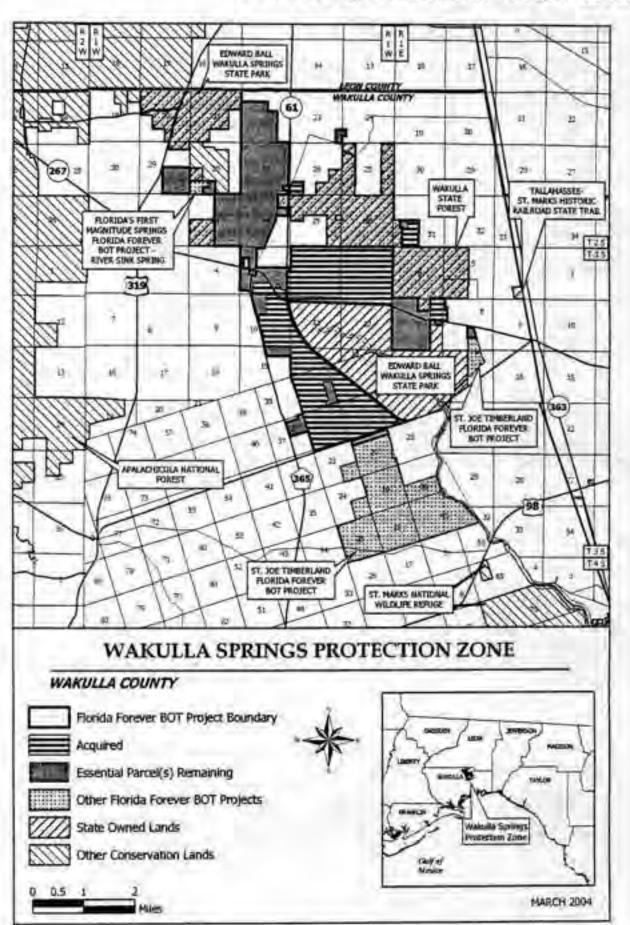
tion of cleared pinelands and natural regeneration of pine plantations.

Environmentally sensitive areas such as sinkholes will be dentified and appropriate protective measures will be implemented to those areas. Unnecessary roads, fire lanes and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned or restored as practical. Minimal infrastructure development will be required to allow public access, provide facilities for the public, provide secunity and manage of the property.

Revenue-generating potential The DRP expects no significant revenue from this property unmediately after fee title acquisition, and the amount of any future revenue will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities developed. The Division of Forestry will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in upland pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential of this project is expected to be moderate. The FWC may also sell timber to help offset operational costs. Future revenue from timber resources will depend on successful reforestation and management of cleared pinelands. Additional revenue would be generated from sales of hunting licenses, fishing licen\_ses, wildlife management area stamps and other special hunting stamps or permits.

Cooperators in management activities The DRP will, as appropriate, cooperate with local governments, other state agencies, and the water management district to further resource management, recreational and educational opportunities, and the development of the lands for state park purposes. The DOF and the FWC will also cooperate with other state and local governmental agencies in managing the area.

ummary/DF	RP	Management Cost 5	Summary/DO	F Management Cost :	Summary/FW	C
		Category Source of Funds	Startup	Category Source of Funds	Startup	Recurring CARL
\$48,840	\$48,840	Salary	\$65,343	Salary	\$37,170	\$74,340
\$10,000	\$10,000	OPS	\$0	OPS	\$7,000	\$7,000
\$86,342	\$6,342	Expense	\$90,000	Expense	\$45,000	\$60,000
\$58,956	50	000	\$129,000	000	\$38,500	\$38,500
50	50	FCO	50	FCO	\$75,000	\$0
\$204,138	\$65,142	TOTAL	\$284,343	TOTAL	\$202,670	\$179,840
	Startup CARL \$48,840 \$10,000 \$86,342 \$58,956 \$0	\$48,840 \$48,840 \$10,000 \$10,000 \$86,342 \$6,342 \$58,956 \$0 \$0 \$0	StartupRecurring CARLCategory Source of Funds\$48,840\$48,840Salary\$10,000\$10,000OPS\$86,342\$6,342Expense\$58,956\$0OCO\$0\$0FCO	Startup         Recurring CARL         Category CARL         Startup Source of Funds         Startup CARL           \$48,840         \$48,840         Salary         \$65,343           \$10,000         \$10,000         OPS         \$0           \$86,342         \$6,342         Expense         \$90,000           \$58,956         \$0         OCO         \$129,000           \$0         \$0         \$0         \$0	StartupRecurring CARLCategory Source of FundsStartup CARLCategory Source of Funds\$48,840\$48,840Salary\$65,343Salary\$10,000\$10,000OPS\$0OPS\$86,342\$6,342Expense\$90,000Expense\$58,956\$0OCO\$129,000OCO\$0\$0FCO\$0FCO	Startup Recurring CARL         Category Source of Funds         Startup CARL         Category Source of Funds         Startup CARL         Category Source of Funds         Startup CARL           \$48,840         \$48,840         Salary         \$65,343         Salary         \$37,170           \$10,000         \$10,000         OPS         \$0         OPS         \$7,000           \$86,342         \$6,342         Expense         \$90,000         Expense         \$45,000           \$58,956         \$0         OCO         \$129,000         OCO         \$38,500           \$0         \$0         FCO         \$0         FCO         \$75,000



#### Watermelon Pond - Group A/Full Fee

## Watermelon Pond

#### Alachua and Levy Counties

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

In southwestern Alachua County, the original landscape of dry longleaf-pine sandhills pocked with marshes and lakes, important for wildlife, has been much reduced by agriculture and encroaching ranchettes. The Watermelon Pond project will conserve part of this original landscape for wildlife such as fox squirrels and sandhill crane and for plants like the scrub bay, for the protection of the groundwater supply of the county, and for the public to enjoy for years to come.

#### Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

#### **General Description**

The project is important for its extensive tract of xeric uplands (sandhill and scrub natural communities) and seasonally interconnected wetlands of the Brooksville Ridge physiographic province. The complex of these uplands with their marshes and lakes is regionally significant to vertebrate fauna in an area of the state subject to extensive development pressures. No comparable complex is protected in north-central Florida. The project is also the major aquifer recharge area in Alachua County. No archaeological sites are known from the project. The uplands are threatened by subdivision for agriculture and ranchette developments.

#### Public Use

This project will be designated as a state forest with such public uses as hiking, fishing, horseback riding and camping.

FNAI Elements	5
SANDHILL	G2G3/S2
Sherman's fox squirrel	G5T2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2
SANDHILL UPLAND LAKE	G3/S2
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
Gopher frog	G3/S3
Scrub bay	G3/S3
Gopher tortoise	G3/S3
18 elements known from	n project

# Full Fee

Group B

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

<u>Phase I:</u>(essential) Loncala (acquired) and other large sandhill and xeric tracts including Gladman, Burch, Matson, Hart, Barry, O'Steen and Outler. <u>Phase II</u>: Remaining tracts.

On October 15, 1998, the Council designated the unsubdivided portion of section 36 and 11 other "corridor" parcels as essential.

On February 7, 2003 the Council added 250 acres in Alachua County to the project boundaries.

On December 5, 2003 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) moved this project to the Group B list.

#### Coordination

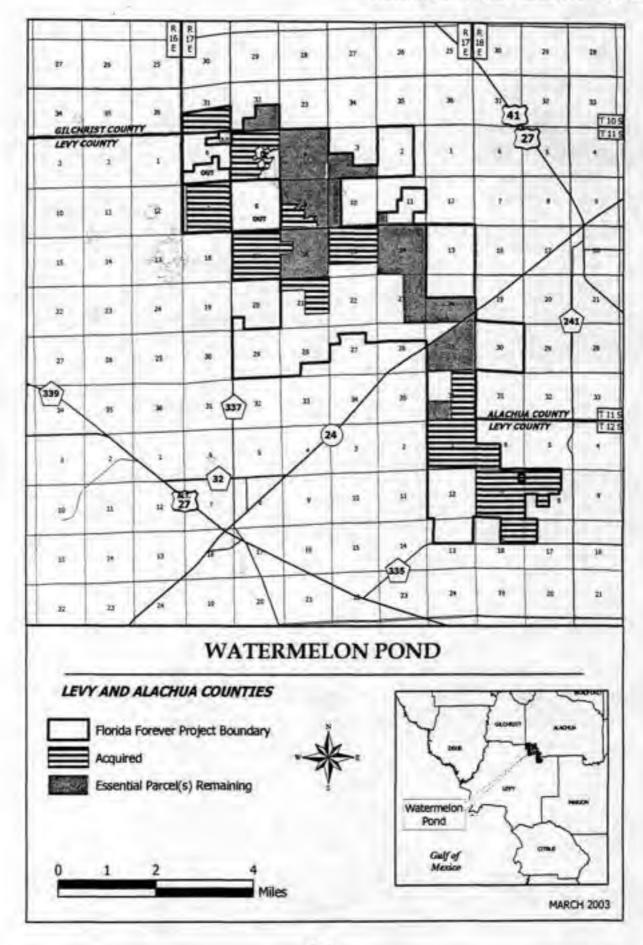
There are no acquisition partners at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Watermelon Pond CARL project are: to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species, to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests,

Placed on list	1994	
Project Area (Acres)	15,486	
Phase I Only	8,250	
Acres Acquired	5,827	
at a Cost of	\$3,851,019	
Acres Remaining	10,200	
Phase I Only	3,234	
with Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$8,715,289	
Phase I Only:	\$2,389,592	

Watermelon Pond - Group A/Full Fee



#### Watermelon Pond - Group A/Full Fee

in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The natural pine forests and the restorable pine plantations of the Watermelon Pond project make it desirable for management as a state forest.

Manager The DOF is recommended as manager.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The areas of pine plantation and agricultural land in the project will require reforestation and restoration efforts beyond the level typically expected on a state forest. Consequently, management intensity and related management costs might be slightly higher than what would normally occur on a state forest.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Once the core area is acquired, the Division of Forestry will provide public access for low-intensity, nonfacilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities will include securing the site, providing public and fire management access, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The Division will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The project's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan.

Long-range plans for this project will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. Some of the pinelands have been degraded by timbering and require restoration.

An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote environmental education.

Revenue-generating potential The DOF will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low to moderate.

Cooperators in management activities The DOF will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and other interested parties as appropriate.

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$80,530	\$80,530
OP5	\$0	\$0
Expense	\$30,000	\$20,000
000	\$112,500	\$6,000
FCO	50	\$0
TOTAL	\$223,030	\$106,530

## Wekiva-Ocala Greenway

#### Lake, Orange and Volusia Counties

#### Purpose for State Acquisition

The springs, rivers, lakes, swamps, and uplands stretching north from Orlando to the Ocala National Forest are an important refuge for the Florida black bear, as well as other wildlife such as the bald eagle, swallowtailed kite, Florida scrub jay, and wading birds. The Wekiva-Ocala Greenway will protect these animals and the Wekiva and St. Johns River basins by protecting natural corridors connecting Wekiwa Springs State Park, Rock Springs Run State Reserve, the Lower Wekiva River State Reserve, and Hontoon Island State Park with the Ocala National Forest. It will also provide the people of the booming Orlando area with a large, nearby natural area in which to enjoy camping, fishing, swimming, hiking, canoeing, and other recreational pursuits.

#### Managers

Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (BMK Ranch, Seminole Springs, St. Johns River and portions of the Wekiva-Ocala Connector); Division of Forestry (DOF), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Seminole Springs and portions of the Wekiva-Ocala Connector).

#### **General Description**

This project provides an important link between Ocala National Forest and the extensive state holdings along the Wekiva River. It is habitat for many rare animal species including the Florida black bear, the Florida sandhill crane, bald eagle, Eastern indigo snake, Florida scrub jay, Sherman's fox squirrel, Florida scrub lizard and gopher tortoise. It incorporates most of the for-

FNAI Eleme	ents
Seminole Spring snail	G1/S1
SCRUB	G2/S2
Florida sandhill crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
Florida black bear	G5T2/S2
Florida scrub jay	G3/S3
SPRING-RUN STREAM	G2/S2
Eastern indigo snake	G4T3/S3
Bald eagle	G3/S2S3
33 elements known t	from project

## Group A Full Fee

ested wetlands along the St. Johns and Wekiva Rivers between Orlando and the Ocala National Forest. The St. Johns River site consists of three large bottomlands and adjacent uplands between three existing state ownerships. The Seminole Springs/Woods site is reported to have 50-75 springs within its boundary. The Wekiva-Ocala Connector site provides a wildlife movement corndor between the Ocala National Forest and the other portions of the project along the Wekiva River.

#### Public Use

The project sites are designated as state reserves or preserves and state forests, offering opportunities for canoeing, hiking, fishing and camping.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

This project includes the former Seminole Springs/ Woods, Wekiva-Ocala Connector, St. Johns River, and BMK Ranch projects. The projects were combined in 1995.

Seminole Springs/Woods: Seminole Springs—core tracts include Strawn Tract, M.S. Carter (acquired), and Brumlick parcels (acquired through eminent domain). The Strawn tract is the largest and most significant ownership remaining to be acquired.

Welova-Ocala Connector: Core Tracts West—Maxwell and Holman (acquired), Shoekley (acquired), Harper (acquired by SJRWMD 2,228 acres/2.1 million), Alger Enterprises (acquired), Fisch (acquired by SJRWMD), Southland Gardens (contingent upon the acquisition of Harper and Fisch), Clemmons (acquired), Blaskovic (acquired), Kittridge (acquired). Core Tracts East— Stetson University (acquired), Stein, Lenholt Farms, Francolino (acquired), Jung (acquired), and Hollywood Pines, Inc.

Placed on list	1995
Project Area (Not GIS Acreage)	76,118
Acres Acquired	40,931
at a Cost of	\$120,603,920
Acres Remaining	35,187
with Estimated (Tay Assassed) Val-	an of \$32 210 587

St. Johns River: New Garden Coal is the largest ownership remaining to be acquired.

The BMK Ranch parcel has been acquired.

On October 30, 1995, the Council added approximately 5,616 acres to the project boundary, and removed phasing. All tracts are considered to be essential.

During 1996, the Council added 450 acres to the project boundary.

At the July 18, 1997, LAMAC meeting, the Council approved a 128-acre addition. The addition was proposed by the owner who already has 20 acres within the project's boundary. The portion of the addition that is not needed for resource protection or management will be surplussed.

On December 3, 1998, the Council added 1,507 acres to the project boundary.

December 6, 2001 the Council added 5,455 acres to the project boundaries. Other acquisitions in the Wekiva Basin are: Wekiva Buffers, Wekiva Springs State Park, Rock Springs Run, Lower Wekiva River State Park, Hontoon Island State Recreation Area, and Blue Spring State Park. These acquisitions total 18,400 acres.

#### Coordination

Acquisition partners include the Lake Co. Water Authority and St. Johns River Water Management District.

In 1994, the Wekiva River Basin Working Group was created to further coordination and communication among the government agencies, conservation groups, non-profit organizations and the local community involved in the Wekiva basin protection effort.

The Wekiva River Task Force recommendations resulted in 1988 legislation directing the Department of Natural Resources to negotiate all CARL projects in the Wekiva River area.

Resolutions supporting shared acquisition of this project include Lake County Commission and St. Johns River Water Management District.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary goals of management of the Wekrya-Ocala Greenway project are: to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs. cannot adequately protect; to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural-resource-based recreation; and to preserve significant archaeological or historical sites.

#### Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The large size, variety of forest resources, and diversity of the former Seminole Springs project and the western Wekiva-Ocala Connector make them highly desirable for management as a state forest. The quality of resources on the remainder of the project make them suitable for state preserves.

Manager The DOF proposes to manage the Seminole Springs and western connector portions of the project. The remainder will be managed by the DRP. The DRP may elect to assume management of the western portion of the Strawn property at a later date if it is purchased.

Conditions affecting intensity of management On the portion to be managed by the DOF, there are no known disturbances that will require extraordinary attention, so the level of management intensity is expected to be typical for a state forest. On the portion to be managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks, the BMK Ranch is a high-need management area, while the Eastem Connector of the former Wekiva-Ocala Connector project and the former St. Johns River project are lowneed management areas. The BMK Ranch project annicipates a higher level of recreational use and develop-



ment compatible with resource management than does the other properties.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure About 8,000 acres have been purchased by the State of Florida and the St. Johns Water Management District and have been assigned to the DOF for management as the Seminole State Forest (SSF). The Division is currently providing for public access for low-intensity, nonfacilities-related outdoor recreation. Initial activities include securing the site, providing public and fire management access, inventorying resources, and removing trash. The project's natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan.

Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for management and public access. The Division will promote recreation and environmental education.

For the DRP, within the first year after acquisition, management activities will concentrate on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management.

Revenue-generating potential The Division of Forestry will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for this project is expected to be low. The Division of Recreation and Parks expects no significant revenue to be generated initially. After acquisition, it will probably be several years before any sigmificant public facilities are developed on the BMK Ranch properties, and public facilities will probably not be a major emphasis on the eastern connector properties. The amount of any future revenue will depend on the nature and extent of public use and facilities.

Cooperators in management activities The DOF will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate. The DRP recommends no local governments or others for management of its project area.

Management Cost Sur	mmary/DRP		
Category	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Source of Funds	SPTF/LATF/ CARL	SPTF/CARL	SPTF/CARL
Salary	\$0	\$0	50
OPS	\$425	\$425	\$425
Expense	\$5,739	\$5,739	\$5,739
oco	\$0	\$0	\$0
FCO	\$38,798	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$44,962	\$6,164	\$6,164
Management Cost Sur	mmary/DOF (Seminole	State Forest)	
Category	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$35,440	\$64,440	\$105,000
OPS	\$0	\$4,500	\$5,000
Expense	\$22,600	\$40,225	\$51,000
oco	\$0	\$29,270	\$48,000
FCO	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$58,040	\$138,435	\$209,000
Management Cost Sur	mmary/DOF (Wekiva-Od	cala Connector: West C	Corridor)
Category	Startup	Recurring	
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL	
Salary	\$28,140	\$28,140	
OPS	\$0	\$0	
Expense	\$20,000	\$15,000	
000	\$90,400	\$4,500	
FCO	\$0	\$0	
TOTAL	\$138,540	\$47,640	

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#### Yellow River Ravines - Group A/Full Fee

## **Yellow River Ravines**

#### Santa Rosa and Okaloosa County

#### **Purpose for State Acquisition**

This project would protect a high quality example of an imperiled natural community and threatened and endangered plant and animal species. Combined with the 183,000 acres of the Blackwater River State Forest, it will form a continuous corridor of public land from the Eglin Air Force Base through the Conecuh State Forest in Alabama, Acquisition of the project would meet Florida Forever goals of restoring natural habitat and ensuring biodiversity by restoring prescribed fire to areas that would benefit from it, and of increasing natural resource-based recreation by providing areas for camping, picnicking, nature appreciation, hiking and horseback riding. Acquisition of the Yellow River Ravines has also been endorsed by representatives of the U.S. Navy's Pensacola Naval Air Station. Navy officers said at the June 6, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council that preserving undeveloped land around their satellite airfields enhances military training by preventing encroachment on military reservations.

#### Manager

Division of Forestry (DOF), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS)

#### **General Description**

This 16,652-acre project consists of two parcels of land, one on the Yellow River about nine miles east of Milton, and the other being an "infill" parcel in the existing Blackwater River State Forest. The main parcel stretches from the Blackwater River State Forest south to the Yellow River. This project includes a mix of floodplain swamp and floodplain forest, sandhill, mesic flatwoods, wet prairie, dome swamp and seepage stream. About 1,061 acres would protect natural floodplain functions. Much of

FNAI Elen	nents
Panhandle lily Hairy wild indigo Sweet pitcherplant	G2T3/S3 G2S2
3 elements known	from project

## Group A Full Fee

the floodplain in this project is second-growth forest. The project includes approximately 2,501 acres of functional wetlands and approximately 10,033 acres of land that would provide protection to the surface waters of the state. About 70 percent of the project was originally sandhill, but has been disturbed in the past by being used for silviculture.

#### **Public Use**

The DOF will promote recreation and environmental education in the natural environment. It is anticipated that interpretive and user services recreation facilities will be developed and the use of low-impact rustic facilities will be stressed.

#### Acquisition Planning and Status

The Yellow River Ravines project was added to the Florida Forever project list at the June 6, 2002 meeting of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC). This project has 16,652 acres in 41 parcels held by five owners. The essential parcels are those held by International Paper Co.

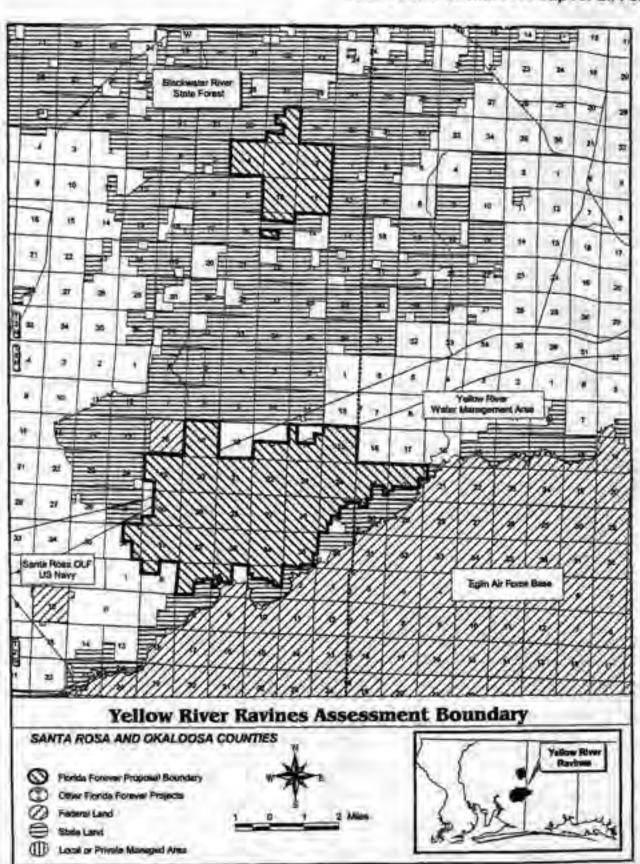
#### Coordination

There are no acquisition partners or alternative funding sources identified at this time.

#### Management Policy Statement

The primary land management goal for the Division of Forestry is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare. This ecosystem approach will guide the Division of Forestry's management activities on this project.

Placed on list	2002
Project Area (acres)	16,652
Acres Acquired	0
At a Cost of	0
Acres Remaining	16,652
With Estimated (tax assessed) Value of	\$12,227,546



Yellow River Ravines - Group A/Full Fee

#### Yellow River Ravines - Group A/Full Fee

#### Management Prospectus

#### Qualifications for State Designation

The majority of the acreage of this project consists of what appears to be disturbed sandhill, which has been converted to planted pines of various ages. This acreage has been estimated at 70% of the project, or 9,190 acres. Floodplain swamp represents the second largest land type, and occupies about 2,360 acres. There are lesser acreages of mesic flatwoods, baygalls, seepage streams, wet prairies, and dome swamps. The project's size and diversity makes it desirable for use and management as a state forest. Management by the Division of Forestry as a state forest is contingent upon acquiring fee simple title to the property.

#### Manager

The Florida Division of Forestry (DOF) of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) is recommended to be the managing agency. **Conditions affecting intensity of management** Much of the project's plantable areas has been. disturbed, and will require restoration efforts. There are approximately 1,200 acres of active timber sales or areas previously harvested that have not been site prepared and planted. Over the next couple of years, these acres will be harvested and will not be replanted by the current landowner. This acreage will require some level of restoration activity. There is at least one linear facility that bisects the parcel, which will be an area of management concern for monitoring unauthorized uses and introduction of invasive exotic species. Additionally, water resource development projects, water supply development projects, storniwater management projects and any linear facilities are considered incompatible with this ecosystem and with the resource values of this project. The activities of Eglin Air Force base may restrict prescribed huming in this area. The level of management intensity and related management costs

is expected to be initially high to obtain the necessary information and resources to restore and manage this system as a State Forest. Once this information is obtained and the resources are available, long-term management costs are expected to be moderate to maintain this area as a State Forest, as the Division of Forestry currently manages approximately 189,600 acres in this area.

Timetable for implementing management, and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Once the project area is acquired and assigned to the Division of Forestry, public access will be provided for low intensity outdoor recreation activities. The Division of Forestry proposes to manage the site as a part of Blackwater River State Forest, and the Blackwater Forestry Center personnel will carry out management activities and coordinate public access and use. The Division of Forestry will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies. local government entities and interested parties as appropriate.

#### Revenue-generating potential

Timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in upland pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Due to the existing condition of the timber resource on the property, revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be medium.

#### Management costs and sources of revenue

It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL trust fund. Budget needs for interim management are estimated as follows:

SALARY (5 FTE) EXPENSE **OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY** \$510.000

\$164,000 \$375,000

TOTAL

\$1,049,000



## Ranking History of all Florida Forever Projects, 1995 - 2004

the second se	1			Prio	my Rank	By Vea	74		1.1	5.5
Project Name	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Aldeman's Ford Addition	298	32B	34B	348	30B	218	BF	BF	BF	
Alford Ami	1.000					138		1.00		-
Atlapattah Flats		100	158	14B	138	81	BF	BF	AF	AF
Andrews Tract		-	-		acquired	in 1990	-		0.0	-
Annuttaliga Hammock	206	4P	5P	59	4P	3P	BF.	BF	BF	BF
and a strange of the	100		BL	π	1	1.00	12.24	1.01	1.1.1	
Apatechicola Bay			-	>9	% comp	siete in t	991	-		
Apalachicola River	15P	25P	25P	25P	23P	21P	ĐF	AF	AF	AF
			9	10L	9L	BL.			27 R.A	1.1
the second s				11 -1	1.23	15N	100	1		-
Apalachicola River & Bay		10	t into Ap	alachio	dia Fliver	& Apala	chicola E	lay in 19	91	2.10
Archie Can Sea Turtie Refuge	39	29	2P	79	211	111	BF	AF	AF	AF.
Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem	148	28	28	88	88	38	ar	BF	AF	AF
Atsena Otie Key	329	42P					1.1.1			-
Avalon Tract		-		>90	Y% comp	lote in 15	192	_		-
Babcock Ranch				1			1.0	AL	AL	AL
Bald Point Road		-	renan	ned Dick	erson B	y / Bak	Point w	1999		-
Baldwin Bay / St. Marys River			2.00	1	100		1		AF	AF
Balm-Boyette Scrub		-	-	>90	% comp	liete in 15	992	-	-	-
Barnacie Addition, The	218 268 296 298 268 198					-				
Battle of Wahoo Swamp				1.1.1		1.713			AF	AF
Beavendam / Sweetwater Creeks				dified to	Apalachi	cola Rive	er in 199	4	-	-
Belle Meade	49	3P	3P	2P	2P	5P	AF	AF	AF	AF
Big Band Coast Tract	105	105	115	1.0					100	-
Big Bend Swamp / Holopaw Ranch				1	1	51	BL	AL	AL	AL
Big Mound Property		-	-	100	% comp	elled in 1	386	-	-	-
Big Shoals Comidor / Brown Tract		-	-	>90	% comp	iete in 19	385	-	1	
Blackwater River			rena	med Jun	iper Cre	ek Water	shed in	1995	-	-
Bluehead Ranch				1	last on lis	t in 1967	·	-		
BMK Ranch	Come of Second		rena	med We	kiva-Oca	ila Green	way in 1	1995		-
Bombing Range Ridge			1	9P	7P	11P	AF	AF	AF	AF
Bower Tract (axa Double Branch Bay)			-	100	W comp	iene in 15	386			
Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecceysiem		1.1	58	68	68	4B	BF	BF	AF	AF
		1.1			8M	714	BSm	ASm	Asm	Asm
Brevard Turtie Beaches			added	io Anchie	Carr Se	a Turtie	Refuge	in 1991		
California Swamp		30P	31P	33P	31P	32P	BF	204	100.0	1.1
Caloosahatchee Ecoscape			1.000	26P	24P	31P	BF	AF	AF	AF
Camp Blanding - Oscenla NF Greenway			1.1	1.1	11.5		10.23	1.1.1		AF
Canaveral Industrial Park (aka St. Johns River Marshes)		-		211	ast on la	d in 1988				

Footnotes:

Projects ranked in one or more of six groups in 1986-2000:

\* Projects are ranked in the following Groups in 2001-2004:

S = Substantially Complete P = Priority

B = Bargain / Shared L = Less-Than-Fee

AF / BF = Full Fee project in "A" or "B" group

AL / BL = Less-Than-Fee project in "A" or "B" group

M = Mega / Pultiparcel N = Negotiation Impasse

ASm / BSm = Small Parcels project in "A" or "B" group Notes: (1) Ranking is based on Council annual voting @ December, interium vote not included.

(2) Projects 90% or more complete qualify for continued funding pursuant to Section 259.032(8), F.S.

		_	_	Prior	thy Rank	By Yea	4.0			
Project Name	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	200
Cape Haze / Chanode Harbor (renamed Charlotte Harbor Estuary)	2012		48	3B	38	45	Asm			
Caravelle Ranch	1.1	-		>90	% comp	iete in 19	991			
Canton Half-Moon Ranch			-	> 90	% comp	iete in 1	989	-		
Cart Farms / Price's Scrub							BF	BF	BF	BF
Catfish Creek	10P	18P	229	27P	25P	22P	BF	AF	AF	BF
Cayo Costa Island / North Captiva Island	54	6M	6M	6M	6M	6M	1.1		-	-
Cedar Key Scrub / Cedar Key Additions	31P	31P		1	-		1		-	-
Ceder Swamp	-	-	-	-	-	-	BF	BF	BF	ØF
Charlotte Harbor	-55	55	38	35	35	58	-	-	-	-
Charlotte Harbor Estuary							1000	ASm	Alm	Asi
Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods	17P	16P	14P	13P	11P	10P	BF	BF	BF	BF
Chassahowitzka Swamo		101	- Get 1		mpieted				Dr.	Dr
Cockroach Bay Islands	318		-	Ĩ	ALL PROVIDED	in teac	-	1	-	-
Consolidated Ranch (aka Rock Springs Run)	510	-	-	-	ompleter	f in 108.	-		-	-
Cooper's Point	_	-	-		ompleted		-	-	-	_
Confiscence Regional Ecosystem Watershed	128	98	88	118	108	_	AF	AF	AF	AS
Collection regional Ecception management	120	90	00	_		_	_	- AF	N	- 14
		-		_	est on list	_	_	100	1	-
Coupen Bight / Key Deer	214	2M	254	2M	2M	2M	ASm	ASm	Asm	As
Cross Florida Greenway (added to Etoniah / Cross Florida Greenway).	29P		5.0				10.00	1.00	2.0	-
Crystal Cove	-	-			o Crysta				-	_
Crystal River	-	1	CHAMBER OF	Florida S		_	_	y in 1995	-	-
Crystal River State Reserve			-		o Crysta		_	-	_	-
Curry Hammock	-	_	-		Ni comp	-	991	-	-	-
Cypress Creek	_	-	_	16B	158	9N	-		-	-
Cypress Creek / Loxahaschee	_	-	-	-	1		1	AF	1	_
Cypress Gardens		-	-		1.251	1-11	11.11	1	1	AL
Dade County Archipelago	228	58	38	28	28	18	哥	BF	BF	Bf
Deering Estate Addition		_	-	> 90	% comp	lete in 1	991	_	-	_
Deering Hammock		_		100	% comp	elé in 19	385		-	- 2
DeSoto Site		-		100	N comp	lete in 18	886		-	-
Devil's Garden			0	1.1	1				AF	A
Devils Hammock		37P	288	125			1			
Dickerson Bay / Bald Point		21P	15P	129	10P	13P	AF	AF	AF	A
Dog Island		1	-	1	ist on its	t in 1982	-		1.5	(2)
Dunn's Creek	238	138	98	178	168	108	BF.	BF	BF	E5
East Everglades	БM	3M	4M	3M	3M	4M	BSm	BSmi	BF	AF
Econ-SL Johns River Comidor		-	renan	ned Ecor	St. Joh	ns Ecos	ystem in	1995	-	
Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem	158	278	25B	258	238	168	BF	BF	BF	BF
El Destino					on list in	1988		200		
Emerald Springs (aka Gainer Springs)	-	ranke	d in 198	7; added	to FL's	tst Mag	nitide S	prings in	1991	
Emeralda Marsh	288	298	328	328	268	208	BF	BF	BF	1
Emerson Point		-		_	AL COMP			-		
Enchanted Forest	2.1	-		< 90	% comp	lete in 1	994			
Escambia Bay Blufts		-		_	ompletes	_	_			
Escribano Point	37P	38P	33P	30P	-	28P			AF.	AS
Estero Bay	22P	19P	69	11P	9P	80	BF	AF	AF	A
Etoniah Creek		_		Etoniah						
	119	120	172	18P	16P	14P	BF	BF	AF	AS
Etoniah / Cross Fiorida Greenway	315	10	10L	91	BL	91	BL	AL	1	-
		-	248		58	44	20	1.00	-	-

and the second sec			-	Prio	nty Rank	By Year	41		-	01
Project Name	1995	1995	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Fakahalchee Strand	3M	5M	514	554	5M	5M	8Sm	ASm	Asm	1
Fechtel Ranch		renam	ed St. Jo	ins Rive	r Forres	Estates	Feche	Ranch i	n 1985	-
Faheating Creek			- 1	1.1.1	1.000	1L	AL	AL	AL	AL
Flagler County Blueway						1.00				BF
Porida Keys Ecosystem	121.1214	5P	(P	4P	3P	29	AF	AF	AF	AF
Florida Springs Coastal Greenway	28	20P	4S	65	65	35	BSm	BSm	BF	AF
Florida's First Magnitude Springs	14P	13P	13P	19P	17P	15P 3N	AF BF	AF	AF	AF
Fort George Island	100	100	-	-	ast on la	_		-	-	-
Fort San Luis		_		100	% comp	Nete in 19	982	-		
Freedom Tower				3P	IN	41				-
Gadaden County Glades	-	-		dded to	Apalachi	cola Rive	er in 199	1	-	
Gall Island		-	-	1	ast on fis	t in 1988	1	2.7	-	-
Garcon Ecosystem	27P	128	128	128	118	88	BF	BF	BF	AF
Garcon Point			n	mamed	Garcon I	cotyste	m in 195	5		
Gaspantia Island Port Property		_	-	_	ast on lis	-	-			
Galaway	10		-	100	% comp	lete in 15	985	-		-
Gills Tract				>9	0% cons	isle in 1	990			
Golden Aster Scrub	338				-				1.00	1
Goldhead Branch Addition		-	-	1	ast on fea	t in 1990	1		_	
Goldy / Bellemead				-	ast on its	t in 1990	1			
Goodwood	last on list in 1987									
Grayton Dunes				>9	0% corre	iele in 1	984			-
Green Swamp	18P	15P	20P	20P	18P	25P	BF	AL.	AL	AL
			11.	11	HL.	2	AL	Pro 11	1	
Grove, The (aka Governor Collins' Mansion)	-	-	-	100	% comp	lete in 19	984	-		-
Guana River					acquired	in 1985			773	-
Half Circle L Ranch			1		1					AF
Hall Ranch		1.0	185	248	218	12N	BF	BF	BF.	BF
Hammocks of the Lower Keys (added to Florida Keys Ecosystem)	top	1.000			1000			- 1	1	1
	28						1			
Hams School, The		1000	1.00		1.1				1.0	AF
Heather Island / Oklawaha River	168	258	265	308	-7N	11N			AF	AF
Highlands Hammock Addition	24P	27P		1011	1994	11.14	1.11		100.2	11
Hixtown Swamp	278	288	31B	27B	248	158	BF	BF	BE	BF
Homosassa Reserve/Walker Property		ranke	d in 199	4.8 rena	med Flor	ida Sprin	ngs Coar	stal Gree	oway	
Homosaasa Springs				>9	0% com	dete in 1	965			
Hon's Island / Barteld Bay			-		ist on its	it in 1988	1			
Horse Creek Scrub (added to Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem)	38	122)	1-11			1.0		-		1
Horton Property					ast on its	t in 1980	0		_	
Husford Chaoman's Rhododendron Protection Zone		1	1	1.000				BF	AF	AF

Footnotes:

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Projects are ranked in the following Groups in 2001-2004:

P = Priority S = Substantially Complete AF / BF = Full Fee project in "A" or "B" group

B = Bargain / Shared L = Less-Than-Fee

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M = Mega / Pultiparcel N = Negotiation Impasse

ASm / BSm = Small Parcels project in "A" or "B" group \* Notes: (1) Ranking is based on Council annual voting @ December, Interium vote not included.

(2) Projects 90% or more complete qualify for continued funding pursuant to Section 259.032(8), F.S.

				Pric	nty Rank	By Yea	A.B			
Project Name	1995	1995	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	200
Hutchinson Island-Blind Creek	412	198	68	9B	1000	5000	1.000	1000		
Ichetucknee Trace Limerock Mines (aka Ichetucknee Trace)			29P	34P	32P	17P	AF	AF	AF	AF
Indian River Lagoon Blueway	1000	50	125	158	148	98	BF	BF	AF	AF
ITT Hammock (aka Snapper Creek; R. Hardy Matheson Preserve)				100	% comp	iele in 15	086	-		-
Jordan Ranch	248	88			1	140		1.000		-
Jossiyn Island	241 6.25	200	-	>9	7% comp	lets in 1	989	-	-	-
Julington / Durbin (Creeks) Peninsula	38P	44P	1.11	2-1		1.000	1.00		1.271	1.1
Juniper Creek Watershed (aka Biackwater River)	139	24P		1000		1.00			100	
Juna Hills	268	308	30B	338	298	1004	1	1000	5110	
Jupiter Ridge	Dist. V.	-	-	1	ast on its	i in 1993		-		-
Key West Customs House	100			100	% comp	lete in 15	92	1	-	
Key West Salt Ponds			-		ast on its	t in 1988			-	-
Kissimmee Prains / River Ecosystem	1 1 N 1 2	邮			100	Terra	1201	1000		10
Kissimmee - St. Johns River Conidor	1000				-	1000	1000	AF	AF	AF
Lake Arbuckle			-		ast on its	t in 1986		-		
Lake Forest	100 B		-		ast on H	t in 1986		-	00	
Lake George	75	75	75		-	1.11	1	15.11	100	1
Lake Hatchineha Watershed			1			and a	1	AF	AF	BF
Lake Powell (aka Camp Halen)	259	6P	8P	10P	89	SN				
Lake Santa Fe	11.1.1.1		1.71	1.0	10.00	1.01	1000	1.10	1.0-0+	AF
Lake Talquin/Rocky Comfort Cresk	- 1123		1.2.1	100	-	1000	100	122	191	AF
Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem	2P	1P	1P	1P	1P	1P	AF	AF	AF	AF
	114	114	111	1M	111	114	AL	AL	AL	AL
a sub-	18	18	2	4L	4L	31	ASm	ASm	Asm	Ast
Largo Narrows				100	Ni comp	iele in 19	164	-	-	
Latt Maxoy Tract	1.1	-	-	100	ast on he	t in 1980	)	-	250	-
Letchworth Mounds	429	43P	36P	36P	9N	10N	BF	BF	BF	AF
Levy County Forest / Sandhills	85	9S	95				1		1.00	110
Little Gator Creek / Wood Stork Rookery	100 March 100		-	100	% comp	iele in 19	82		1000	-
Liverpool Park	10 A 10				318	228	BF	11.11	1	
Lochioosa Wildlife	208	248	27B	288	258	85	BSm	BSm	BSm	BS
Longleaf Pine Ecosystem	69	gp	11P	54P	12P	12P	AF	AF	BF	BF
No. of Street of	1.00	1.1		1.000	3N	21	1	1.1	12-12	
Lower Apalachicols		-	1	enamed	Apalach	icola Ba	y in 199	1		
Lower Econlockhalches River			reisan	ned Eco	n-St Joh	na Ecos	vstern in	1995		_
Lower Perdido River Buffer	- 1 N S	22	1.20		-			AL	AL	AL
Mallery Swamp	0.10			6L	6L	14.5	1. I.I.	12.11	1000	
Manatee Estech				100	% comp	iets in 15	87	-	-	
Martime Hammock Initiative	138	118	118		-	1.000		41.14		111
Mashes Sands			-	100	7% comp	lete in 15	63	1		
McKeithan Site			-			110	AL	100	1.0	
M.K. Ranch	100	100	Ni como	lete in 1	984: late	r added		chicola l	Bay	-
Mami Rockridge Pinelands	211-				le Count	_	_	_		
Middle Chipola River	100	26P	23P	21P	19P	23P	BF	5 8	AF.	AF
	-		5L	3L	3L	6L.	BL.	28-21	100	
Mill Creek		1000					1.000	40.14	10.00	AL
Milistone Plantation					-	161	AL	AL	AL	AL
Auliet Creek Islands		-	-		ast on its	t in 1988			-	-
Myakka Estuary (renamed Charlotte Harbor Estuary	110	85	AS	85	85	75	BSm		1-22	
Myakka Estuary penamed Unankite neroor Estuary Myakka Pranies / MacArthur Tract	110					lete in t		-	-	-

				Price	rty Rank	By Yea	,u		1	_
Project Name	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
New Mahogany Hammock	1111		added	to North	Key La	rgo Ham	mocks in	1984		-
Newnant's Lake	35P	32P	27P	198	188	14B		1		
Nokuse Plantation	11.1	1	100	1.1	100	1.000	101		1	AL
North Beach	1.1.1.1		-	100	% comp	lets in 1	982	-	-	
North Fork St. Lucie River/North Port Marina (aka North Fork St. Lucie River)	115	25	208	188	17B	128	BF	BF	BF	BF
North Indian River Lagoon (added to Indian River Lagoon Blueway)	178	208	228	258	22B			1		1.1
North Key Largo Hammooks	15	15	15 3L	15 8L	15 7L	15	BL BSm	ASm	Asm	Aste
North Key Largo Hamnocks Additions		-			KeyLa	rpo Ham		1987		-
North Layton Hammook		_		_	Тюрка	-		_		_
North Peninsula		-	-	_	% com	_		-	-	
Northeast Florida Blueway							AF	AF	AF	AF
Northeast Florida Timberlands & Watershed Reserve	-		-			1.1		AF	AF	AF
Oeka, The	-		-	1.1	ast on la	1 in 198	0			
Ohio Key South	-		-		ast on its	_		-		-
Okaloacoochee Slouth		218	148	138	128				-	
Oknechobee Battlefield		-	-	-			-	AF	AF	AF
Old Leon Mose Ranch	-	-	-		est on H	t in 198	5		-	
Old Town Creek Watershed		-		1			BL	BL	BL	B.
Oscar Scherer Addition	-	-	-	>9	0% coint	dete in 1	-	-	-	
Osceola Pine Savannas	230	229	24P	22P	20P	260	BF	AF	AF	AF
Otter Mound		1							AF	AF.
Owens-Illinois Property	1.0	-	-	-	last on H	at in 198	6			-
Pal-Mar	98	38	18	18	18	28	AF	AF	AF	AF
Panther Glades				-	1		AF	AF	AF	AF
Parimer Glades	10.000	1.0	1.00				AL	AL	AL	AL
Paynes Prairie (Additions)	38	35	65	1.00	1	1		1		
Peacock Slough	188	238	218	228					1.0	100
Perdido Pitcher Plant Praine	28P	28P	<u>9</u> 0	6P	8P	40	BF	AF	AF	AF
Pieros Mound Complex	tep	36P	342	35P	8N	13N	AF	AF	BF	BF
Pine Island Ridge	1 1		-	>9	0% com	pleto in 1	989			
Pinelant Site Complex		11P	10P	17P	15P	20P	BF	AF	AF	AF
Pineola Ferri Grotto	34P	33P		1	1.000		100			
Pinhook Swamp	258	158	108	108	9B	78	BF	BF	AF	AF
Placid Lakes Tract	-			>9	0% com	plete in 1	992	100	224	1.1
Point Washington (aka Deer Lake) (added to South Walton County Ecosystem)	65	22.0					1	-		
Ponce de Leon Springs	1		-		latt on lit	at in 198	0			
Princess Place					last on la	st in 198	6			
Pumpkin Hill Creek	198	228	178	206	198	118	BF	BF	BF	AF
Putnam County Sandhila:			30P	31P	29P	34N				
Rainbow River	1				ast on B	st in 199	0			

Footnotes:

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AF / BF = Full Fee project in "A" or "B" group

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AL / BL = Less-Than-Fee project in "A" or "B" group ASm / BSm = Small Parcels project in "A" or "B" group

M = Mega / Pultiparcel N = Negotiation Impasse

\* Notes: (1) Ranking is based on Council annual voting @ December, interium vote not included.

(2) Projects 90% or more complete quality for continued funding pursuant to Section 259.032(8), F.S.

				Prio	nty Rank	By Yea	AR			
Project Name	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Ranch Reserve		1111	4	2	21	41	BL	BL	BL	BL
Rookery Bay (Additions II added to Rookery Bay in 1983)	\$P	8P	16P	45	45	100	1100	1000		
Rotenberger / Holey Land / Seminole Indian Lands	7M	7M	714	7M	7M		1277	1	1.000	
Saddle Blanket Lekes Scrub	- 11 Jan			1	ast on Es	t in 1994	1			_
St. George Island, Unit 4		-		100	% comp	iete in 11	82			-
St. Joe Timberland	1.14					7P	AF	AF	AF	AF
St. Johns River (added to Wekiva-Ocala Greenway)	1.1.01		tena	med We	kiva-Oca	ita Greet	way in t	1995		-
St. Johns River Blueway		1.11	12-4	200		121	1-1	1100	AF	AF
St. Johns River Forrest Estates		rename	ed SL Jo	hns Rive	Formes	Estates	Fechiel	Ranch k	n 1986	
St. Johns River Forrest Estates / Fechtel Ranch	211.0		-	renames	d SL Joh	ns River	in 1987			
St. Joseph Bay Butter	21P	179	21P	15P	13P	9P	BF	AF	AF	AF
St. Martins River	-	1	enamed	Fiorida S	Springs (	oastal C	-teenwa	v in 1995		1.1
St. Michael's Landing	392	40P					1.004			
Samson Point			-	-	est on lis	t in 1982		-		-
San Felasco Additions		-	-	_	accounted	_	_	-	-	-
San Felasco Conservation Combor	171	-	-			121	12.3			AL
San Felasco Hammock State Preserve Addition		-	-	>90	% comp	iele în t	991		-	
San Pedro Bay		1.00	1			11.11			1	AF
Sand Mountain	78	178	238	218	5N	7N	BF	BF	BF	BF
Sandpiper Cove		-	-	_	est on Es		-	-		-
Save Our Everylades	4M	4M	3M	44	4M	3M	ASm	ASm	Asm	Asn
Scrub Jay Refugin (added to Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem)	58	78	-		-					
Seatwarch				>5	90% com	plete 19	91	-		-
Searcy Estate			1			1	101	100	1	AF
Sebastian Croek	48	48	78	55	55	1.0	1	1		
Seminale Springs / Woods		-	rena		kiva-Oca	ila Gree	nway in	1995	-	-
Shell Island	200 1000			_	% comp	_	-		-	
Silver River		-	-	-	0% comp	_	_	-	-	
Six Mile Cypress Swamp	-	-		_	ast on lis	_			_	
South Savannas	45	45	55	75	78					
South Walton County Ecosystem		65	25	25	25	2S	ASm	ASm	Asm	Ast
Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves	26P	29P	28P	250	27P	27P	BF	BF	BF	AF
Security and and		-	n	5L	5L	TL	BL			
Spring Hammock	2.11 200	-	-		ast on its	i in 1985	1	-	-	
Spruce Creek	68	188	198	4B	48	65	BSm	ASm	Asmi	Ast
Stark Tract	C 1 1	-	-	100	% comp		_	-	-	-
Stoney-Lane Tract			_	_	The comp		_	100	-	-
Suwannee Butters	88	14B	168	238	208	178	1.000	01	1	
					EN	6N	1.0			
Tate's Hell / Carrabelle Tract	gp	10P	18P	24P	22P	24P	AF	AF	AF	-
Tequesta Site (added 99' Interim #1; aka Miami Circle)	THE LOCK		1.1	200	18		1.1	1.00		
Terra Cela	1.1.1		13B	78	78	68	BF	AF	AF	AF
Three Chimneys			100	1.00		190	BF	AF	AF	B
Three Lakes / Prairie Lakes Addition		-	-	>9	0% comp	lete in t	992			
Tiger Island / Little Tiger Island						121	BF	₩.	AF	AF
Topsait Hill (added to Hammocks of Lower Keys)	1P	1.1	-		1			-		
Tropical Flyways (added to Fiorida Keys Ecosystem)	SP				1.201	100	1000			
Tropical Hammocks of the Rediands	-	-	rena	med Day	de Court	y Archip	elago in	1995	-	
Tsain Apopka Lake		-		-	M comp	_	_	-	-	

	200		0	Prio	ny Rank	By Yea	. W.	-		
Project Name	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Twelve Mile Swamp	309	31B	338	318	27B	158	₿ <b>F</b>	9F	BF	BF
Twelvemie Skuph			1			-	AF	AF	AF	AF
Upper Black Creek		_	-	100	% comp	iala in 15	992			
Upper Econ Mosaic		23P	26P	28P	26P	30P	BF	BF	野	BF
Upper St. Marks River Contidor				1			1000			AF
Upper Shoel River		1.000	(En)		1111	100			6. L.	AF
Upper Yallow River	131	100	1.2	155	1-55	1000			AF	AF
Volusia Conservation Comdor		1					BF	AF	AF	AF
	in the second	125	(ching)	1.5	125-1	2.4	BL	1.55	-	1
Volusia EEL Addition (Woody Property)			_	- 1	ast on la	t in 1958	1		-	
Wabasso Beach			man	ed Archie	Carr Se	e Turbe	Refuge	in 1991		
Waccesassa Flats	40P	41P	350				1		1	1.1
Wacissa / Aucilia Rivers Sinks	359	34P	32P	329	30P	29P	BF	AF	AF	AF
Waddell's Mill Pond (added to Middle Chipola River)	30P	39P	1.1.1	1.1		1.1	-		0	
Wakula Springs (added to Wakula Springs Projection Zone)			added t	o Wakul	a Spring	Protecti	on Zone	in 1997	1.	-
Wakula Springs Protection Zone			19P	23P	21P	18P	AF	AF	AF	AF
Warea Archipelago			added	to Lake	Wales R	idge Ecc	system	in 1995	-	-
Warm Mineral Springs				( )	ast on R	d in 1961	(		-	1
Watermelon Pond	炉	14P	12P	16P	14P	16P	BF	AF	AF	BF
Wekva-Ocala Connector	1.1		rena	med We	kiva-Oc	ris Green	nway in	1995	0.0	
Wextva-Ocala Greenway	7P	7P	79	8P	6P	62	AF	AF	AF	AF
Wekiya River Buffers		-		100	% comp	lete in 1	993			-
West Lake-			-	100	% comp	iele in fi	986		_	
Wetstone / Berkovitz				100	% comp	iese in 1	992			
White Belt Ranch				100	% comp	alate in 1	986			-
Windley Key Quarty			1	100	1% comp	iele in 1	986			
Withiacoochee EEL Additions (aka Mondelko/Caccestone/Jumper Crk)	95	115	105				1.2	1.00	1.11	
Yamato Scrub	32B	33B	11					10.0	1141	
Ybor City Addition				>9	0% com	siele in 1	989	-		
Yallow River Ravines	33P	35P					1.1	AF	AF	AF



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#### Public Hearing and Council Meeting Summaries of the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) for Cycle 2 of 2003

#### August 14, 2003, Public Hearing, Tallahassee, FL:

Public testimony was taken about Florida Forever proposals for the 2004 Priority List. The new proposals included Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway, Lake Santa Fe, San Pedro Bay, Searcy Estate, Upper Shoal River, Lake Talquin-Rocky Comfort Creek Connector, Mill Creek, Flagter County Blueway, the Harris School in Key West, and Orange Lake Overlook. All projects, except for the Orange Lake Overview, were moved forward for full review.

Public testimony about management plans was received for the Fred C. Babcock-Cecil M. Webb Wildlife Management Area, the Suwannee Ridge Mitigation Park Wildlife and Environmental Area, and the J.R. Alford Greenway. The plans were moved forward on the Consent agenda.

ARC moved forward on four boundary-amendment land-acquisition issues: multiple parcels for the Northeast Florida Blueway, the Lafayette Blue Springs parcel for the Florida's First Magnitude Springs project, the Old Fields Tract of Letchworth Mounds, and the Brahma Island tract of Bombing Range Ridge. Three of the acquisitions were moved forward on the Consent agenda, and the remaining for Northeast Florida Blueway, was moved forward on the Consent agenda with stipulations.

Additional items not on the original agenda included the Old Oak Lodge Preserve of the Ichetucknee Trace, the Indian River Lagoon Blueway, and multiple parcels of the Northeast Florida Blueway Phase II. All were moved on Consent, with stipulations for the Northeast Florida Blueway Phase II, and for discussion for the Ichetucknee Trace.

#### August 15, 2003, ARC Meeting, Tallahassee, FL:

ARC voted to select acquisition proposals that will proceed through the Project Evaluation process under the Program during the 2003 evaluation cycle, for potential addition to the 2004 Florida Forever Priority List.

The Division of Forestry briefed ARC about its prescribed fire program. A presentation to the ARC was made by the Florida Cattleman's Association.

## October 16 and October 17, 2003, ARC Meeting, Archbold Biological Station, Venus, FL:

Public testimony about management plans was received for the Twelve Mile Swamp Conservation Area and the City of Miami Beach Beachfront Management Plan. The plans were moved forward on the Consent agenda. The scheduled testimony for the management plan of Dunns Creek State Park was deferred.

The Annual Land Management Review Team findings for 10 sites were received.

ARC moved forward on three boundary-amendment land-acquisition issues: the Henscratch Ranch site for Lake Wales Ridge, for adding 1,244 acres to the boundary of the Apalachicola River Florida Forever project, and for adding 365 acres to the boundary of the Florida's First Magnitude Springs project.

#### December 4, 2003, Public Hearing, Tallahassee, FL:

ARC received public testimony on the 2003 Cycle 2 Florida Forever priority list and considered the project evaluation reports for the proposed projects.

ARC moved forward on six boundary-amendment land-acquisition issues: the Blue Springs addition to Florida's First Magnitude Springs, amending the Okeechobee Battlefield project, the Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem Project, the Four Creeks Forest Tract of the Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve, the Nokuse Plantation and Channel Key in the Florida Keys Ecosystem project. All of the boundary amendments were approved.

#### December 5, 2003, ARC Meeting, Tallahassee, FL:

ARC revised the 2004 Florida Forever Priority List, adding nine new projects for the 2004 Florida Forever priority list. The new projects are the Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway (Baker, Bradford, Clay and Union Counties), Flagler County Blueway (Flagler County), Lake Santa Fe (Alachua and Bradford Counties), San Pedro Bay (Madison and Taylor Counties), Searcy Estate (Wakulla County), Upper Shoal River (Walton County), Lake Talquin-Rocky Comfort Creek Addition (Gadsden County), Mill Creek (Marion County) and the Harris School (Monroe County).

Four projects have been moved from the Group A list to the Group B list: Catfish Creek (Polk County), Lake Hatchineha Watershed (Osceola and Polk Counties), Three Chimneys (Volusia County) and Watermelon Pond (Alachua and Levy Counties).

Five projects have been moved from the Group B list to the Group A list: East Everglades (Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties), Florida Springs Coastal Greenway (Citrus County), Garcon Ecosystem (Santa Rosa County), Pumpkin Hill Creek (Duval County) and the Southeast Maternity Bat Caves (Jackson, Marion, Sumter, Citrus and Alachua Counties).

Five projects were removed from the Florida Forever project list. They are: Tate's Hell/ Carrabelle Tract (project is 90 percent complete), Alderman's Ford Addition, Emeralda Marsh, Fakahatchee Strand, and North Fork of the St. Lucie River. ACQUISITION AND RESTORATION COUNCIL – VOTE SHEET Vote for initiating Full Review for the 2003 Cycle 2 Projects of the Florida Forever list August 15, 2003

	DHR	Walters	DOF	Moller	DEP	FWC	Sessions	Swain	DCA	Select
Baker, Bradford, Clay and Union Counties	HC.M		No of			+	1000	6	1000	1111
1. Camp Blanding - Osceola Greenway	×	٢	×	٢	*	٢	٢	۲	*	٢
Alachua and Bradford Counties	1000	でいる	30 - C	ALL CAL		( Caller	"Wells	the second	11 Intern	
2. Lake Santa Fe	٢	٢	×	٢	٢	٢	٨	×	٢	٢
Madison and Taylor Counties	See. 15	12 51	政公司		やいい	14		11241	II. Land	Car In
3. San Pedro Bay	٢	٢	×	٢	٢	٢	٨	٢	Y	٢
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4. Searcy Estate	z	٢	٢	٢	7	٢	7	٢	٢	*
Waiton County	T SHA	100 - 100	15.2.2	1220	in the	No. 1	law to the	- allow	Total L	1.11
5. Upper Shoal River	٢	٢	٢	٢	٢	٢	٨	٢	z	×
Gadsden County	an in	155.90	Sealth	al al al al		1. all	All and	1212	1.4.10	- und
6. Lake Talquin-Rocky Creek	z	٢	×	Y	×	٨	٢	×	٢	×
Marion County	the second	L'and	King (S	1111	The second	2 11 2	Sou Bat	Contraction of the second	1 - 1 - 1 1 - 1 - 1	101 10
7. Mill Creek	×	٢	٢	٢	٢	X	X	Y	٢	٢
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8. Northeast Florida Blueway	×	۲	×	٢	7	×	X	Y	X	7
Monroe County	the second	in states		1000	1000	100	10 10 M	1 Conte	11/2	Wells.
9. The Harris School	7	¥	×	٨	×	X	X	Y	×	٢
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10. Orange Lake Overlook	z	z	z	z	z	z	z	z	z	z

ACQUISITION AND RESTORATION COUNCIL – VOTE SHEET Vote for inclusion on the 2004 Florida Forever list December 5, 2003

	DHR	¥	Walters	ers	ă	DOF	Moller	le.	DEP		FWC	Ses	Sessions	Sw	Swain	DCA	A	to list
Baker, Bradford, Clay and Union Counties			1	-		1	1			1		1			11		10	
<ol> <li>Camp Blanding - Osceola Greenway</li> </ol>	7	A	×	A	٢	A	*	×	×	<	X A	>	A	×	۷	7	×	4
Alachua and Bradford Counties	- 1	1		1			9	1	1							16	1	1
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3. San Pedro Bay	7	4	×	m	×	4	z	¢	z	1	YA	z	•	z	1	۲	4	۲
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6. Lake Talquin-Rocky Creek	×	A	7	۲	×	4	×	<	z	5	XA	>	A	7	80	z		A
Marion County	1	1	-	5		0	-0	10	18	1	3	11201	100	2			1	1
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Flagler County	1		1h		110	1		The second	10	Re	10.00	2	17					
8. Northeast Florida Blueway	7	4	7	×	7	8	×	8	×	8	Y B	7	8	7	۲	×	8	8
Monroe County	17.		-	14	1	-	1.	P	1000		The second	-		10	in the second se		B	112-
9. The Harris School	>	A	>	A	>	A	>	A	7	A	Y I A	>	A	7	A	×	A	A

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## Projects in 2003 Cycle 2 Not Added to the Florida Forever Program

#### Orange Lake Overlook:

This 325-acre proposal was sponsored by the Conservation Trust for Florida, based in Micanopy, Florida. It was located in northern Marion County east of US Highway 441, on the south side of the town of McIntosh, on a hill overlooking the lake to the east. It is the site of a former orange grove destroyed in the freeze of December, 1983. Advocates for the project said the hilltop views of Orange Lake and the surrounding area make it a possible Florida Forever acquisition.

On August 15, 2003 this proposal was rejected by the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).

#### San Pedro Wetlands:

This 465,000-acre proposal was sponsored by Tom Gardner, Ron Richmond and Dan Whitehurst. It covered an area extending more than 40 miles north from the Big Bend Wildlife Management Area on the gulf coast, into Madison, Taylor, Dixie and Lafayette Counties, with the majority of the project in Taylor County. An evaluation by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) said the project had potential habitat for wood storks, Florida black bear, eastern indigo snakes, manatees, and the bald eagle.

This project was withdrawn by the sponsors before the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) could vote on it.



## Florida Forever Partnerships for 2004, Indexed by Project Name

		Pariners
		List (ConL)
	and the second sec	No Partners
a second production of the second s		NPS, UBFWS, FDOT
		No Parmeni
	and the second of the second se	TNC, DRP, DOF, FCT
the second se	Southeast Bail Maternity Caves	INVERIAD, THE
the second se	Spruice Creek	TPL, FCT, Volusia Co.
	and the statement of th	TNC, FWC
		SURWAID, FCT, St. Johns Co.
the second s		TNC
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70 -		TPL.
		TNC
And a second	Upper St. Marks River Conidor	TNC, NWFWMD, Leon Co.
SFWMD, TNC, TPL. Lee Co.	Upper Shoal River	No Farthers
	Upper Yellow River	INWEWMELTING
City of Winter Haven, TPL, Wild Adverture	Volusia Conservation Corridor	SJRWMD, Volusta Co.
No Partners	Weceaa / Aucilia River Sinks	SRWMD, FWC, TNC
TPL, USEWS, PCT	Waxula Springs Protection Zone	DRP, TNC, TPL
SFWMD, USFWS, USACOE, NPS	Wektive-Ocale Greenway	FCT, Lake Co. Weer Automy, SJRWMD
NWEWMO	Yellow River Ravees	NWFWMD
		B List
SJRWMD, OGT	Annuteliga Hammusk	FDOT, Hemanda Co., SWFWMD, TNC
TNC	Carr Farm / Price's Scrub	OGT, Alactana Co
TNC, SFWMD, USFWS, FCT, Matroe Ca	Califsh Creak	TNC. SFWMD
USEWS, SWEWID, ECT	Getar Swamp	SJRWMD
SRWMD, NWFWMD, FCT, SWFVMD	Charlots Hartor Flawcods	FWC, FCT
NWFWMD, Santa Resa Bay British Authority	Dade County Archipelago	FCT, Miam Dade Co.
SWEWMID SJEWMD FWC FCT	Durin's Creek	TNC. SJRWMD
No Partners	Econ-St. Johns Ecosystem	SJRWMD. Seminole & Orange Cos.
Stadio Key West inc	the second se	SJRWMD, Flagler Co.
		FWC
and comentary	and the second	SRWMD
No Partners		TINC
Columbia Co. TB	the second se	SJRWMD
		TNC, DOF TPL
the second se		SWEWAD
The second se		
TNC, Alachua Conservation Fund	Pierce Mound Complex	City of Apstachicsia
No Partners	Rench Reserve	SJRWMD, TNC
USEWS, THE SWEWND SEWAD	Sand Mountain	NWEWNES
	Three Chimneys	Cily Ormond Bch. Ormond Baach Historical
		SJRWID
a contract of the second se		FCT, SJRWMD
A CONTRACTOR OF		Alachua Co. Foreve: Program
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	the projection for an other by any time	in a non-real process. In the local days
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	assession.	
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		SJRWMD - SL Johns Water Migt Dist
Aronaesiogical & Historical Conservancy SFWMD, FCT, Palm Beach & Martin Cos.	DRP - Dept. Rec. & Parks FCT - Fibrida Conservation Trust	SRWMD - Suwannea River Water Mgt. Dist ISWFWMD - SW FL Water Mgt. Dist.
	SFWMD, USFWS, TNC. FCT. Momor Co. City, of Winter Haven, TPL, Wild Adventuse No Partners TPL, USFWS, FCT SFWMD, USFWS, USACOE, NPS NWFWMD TNC, CAMA, USFWS, USACOE, NPS NWFWMD, OGT TNC TNC, CAMA, USFWS, FCT, Momor Co. USFWS, SWFWMD, FCT, SWFWMD NWFWMD, OGT TNC, SFWMD, USFWS, FCT, Momor Co. USFWS, SWFWMD, FCT, SWFWMD NWFWMD, Same Rosa Bay Bridge Automay SWFWMD, SIRUMAD, FWC, FCT No Partners Columbia Co., TPL Brev and, Ind. R., Martin & St. Lucie Cos SJRWMD TNC, Alachua Conservation Fund	A List     SPWMD, USACOE, Martin Co.     San Felicisc Donservation Condenservation Condense

#### Conservation Land Acquisition Programs of Local Government

County/City Year		Revenues	Source			
Alachua	2000	\$29	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Boca Raton	1991	\$12	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Brevard	1990	\$55	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Broward	1989 & 2000	\$75 + \$200 <sup>2</sup>	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Charlotte	1992	\$1.2	1/20 mill ad valorem			
Collier	2002	\$75	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Fernandina Beach	2001	\$4.75	ad valorem 3			
Flagler	1988 & 2002	\$7.8 & \$6.7	? mill ad valorem & 3/10 mill ad valorem			
Hernando	1993	\$0.3/yr	annual appropriation (ad valorem)			
Hillsborough	1987 & 1990	\$100 + \$21	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Indian River	1990	\$26	1/2 mill ad valorem			
Jacksonville-Duval	1990 & 2000	\$13.5 + \$0.3 +\$50	general revenue & utility assessment & 1/3¢ sales tax			
Lake Co. Water Authority	2002	\$1.5	.5 mill max ad valorem (changes yearly)			
Lee	1996	\$80-90	.5 mill ad valorem			
Leon	2000	\$50	1¢ sales tax			
Manatee	1984	\$37	\$500,000 annually			
Marion	1989	\$20	1/2 mill ad valorem			
Martin	1988, 1998	\$20, \$47	7 mill ad valorem & 1cent sales tax <sup>4</sup>			
Miami-Dade	1990	\$80	3/4 mill ad valorem			
Monroe	1987	\$1.5/yr	resort tax & state park surcharge (s. 380.0685, F.S.) & land authority (s. 380.0663, F.S.)			
Orange	1992	\$25 + \$2	? & \$2 million utility tax			
Palm Beach	1989, 1999 & 2002	\$100 + \$150 + \$50	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Pinelias	1972, 1981, 1987, 1990 & 2000	\$15.9 + \$7.9 +\$24 + \$35.2 +\$78.4	1 mill + ½ mill + ½ mill ad valorem + 1¢ + 1¢ sales tax			
Polk	1995	\$20	1/5 mill ad valorem			
Sarasota	1999	\$53	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Seminole	1992	\$20.3	1/2 mill ad valorem			
St. Lucie	1995 & 2002	\$20 & \$56.9	1/4 mill ad valorem			
Venice	2003	\$10	???			
Volusia	1986 & 2000	\$20 + \$40	1/4 mill + 2 mill ad valorem			

Revenues in millions; non-bonded revenues are italicized-bold. ١

<sup>a</sup> Set aside from city's general ad valorem revenues. <sup>a</sup> Split between County and 4 municipalities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Additional \$30 million approved for acquiring active recreational parks, and another \$170 million approved for capital improvements to construct or improve facilities on existing and new parks.

Addendum: Criteria for Boundary Modifications

#### **Criteria for Considering Proposed Boundary Modifications**

Proposals for expanding a Florida Forever project boundary would be presented to the LAMAC for consideration if any one of the following criteria is met:

- Tax valuation of the proposed addition is less than \$1/2 million; or
- The Council directs or has directed that a project design be prepared for an older project that has never undergone project design analysis; or
- The Council previously approved a project design which identified areas for "possible future expansion" or otherwise indicated an intent to modify project boundaries at some future time; or
- The proposed addition meets the criteria for emergency acquisitions pursuant to §259.041(14), Florida Statutes; or
- (a) Acreage of proposed addition [prorated if proposed for joint acquisition] is less than 10% of the size of the existing project boundary, including areas previously acquired; and

- (b) Tax valuation or estimated acquisition cost, whichever is less, of the proposed addition is less than 10% of the existing tax valuation, including a pro-rated tax valuation for areas within the boundary which are in public ownership; or
- Two or more Council members write the Chairman requesting consideration of a proposed boundary modification.
- By majority vote, the Council may direct staff to prepare, revise, or update a project boundary for a project already on the approved list. Modifications to the project boundary must be justified in writing and include an assessment of the resources.

Proposals not meeting one of the six criteria could be considered by the Council as a new proposal during the next Florida Forever evaluation cycle if properly submitted pursuant to Rule 18-24, F.A.C.

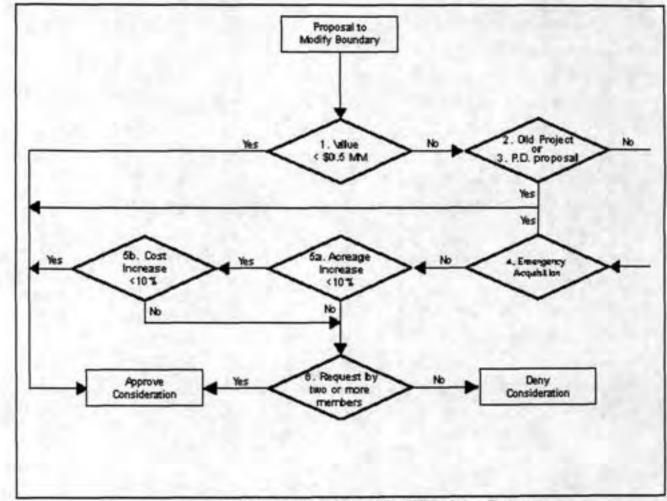
#### Factors to Consider when Developing Staff Recommendations:

In developing recommendations for proposals approved for consideration by the Council staff would analyze each proposal using the following factors:

- The quality and importance of the resources within the proposed addition.
- The designated management agency's recommendations regarding the addition and its necessity to accomplish a specific management objective.
- · The size, ownership, and estimated cost of the proposed addition.
- The availability of other funds to acquire the property.
- The adequacy of resource description and ownership information (including tax I.D. numbers, parcel acreages, and tax valuations).

Approved by LAMAC on August 20, 1992

Addendum: Criteria for Boundary Modifications



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#### **Proposed Boundary Modifications Process**

#### Florida Forever Project Evaluation Summary Table, November 2003

URRENT	GRO	UP A PROJECTS		Resources Included in Resources Not Included in 2010 Scenario 2010 Scenario
emaining Project Acres	1	Project Name	1 de	
16,240	20.44	Additional History	0	
16,419	and the second second	Apolochicole Rover	*	0 8 * 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
687	418	Archive Cdrf Sen Turtle Refuge	*	0000 00000
9719			. 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 KEY
91.523	0%	Babcock Rench	0	00000 * 0000 * Vary High
D'FID	05	Beldwin Birs St. Minys Row	0	00000 3000 040
811		Battle of Wahoo Swamp	0	00000 0 * 000 0 Midum
9,817 64,650	00%	See & Monto Big Band SwampHolopew Ranch	0	• • • • 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
The second se		a second s	0	
27.655		Bombing Kange Ridge Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem	*	* 0 0 0 0 * 0 0 0 0
15,447		Calooustatichine Ecologie	•	00000000
9,260	100.000	Catrish Creek		* 8 6 6 8 * 0 0 8 0
8,159			-	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
45,476	35%		0	* 6 6 * 0 * 6 0 0 0
and the second se		Caupon Bight Key Deer	*	and the same the second s
159		Cypress Gardens		
82,707		Divits Garden	0	
4,577	52%	Dickerson Bay/Bald Pont	0	88008 00000
3,421	0%	Escribero Port	i i i	0 0 + 0 0 + 0 0 0
5,099	Contraction of the local division of the loc	Estero Bay	0	00000 00000
56.987		Etonish/Cross Florida Generality	0	00000 + 00 + 0
117-480	34%	Fisheithing Creak Ecosystem		0000 +0000
6,078	28%	Flonda Keys Ecosystem	10.015	
9.354	26%	Flonda's First Magnitude Springs	0	00000 0000
190.579	and the state of a	Green Swamp	. 0	
11,186	0%	Hall Circle L Rench	e	00000 0000
18 968	0%	Heather Island/Coldawaha River	10	9 3 5 8 6 9 8 0 0 0 0
8 907	0%	Hostord-Chapman's Rhododendion	0	00000 00000
830		Chebuckstee Trace	I O	00000 00000
22 437	14%	Indian River Lagoon Blueway	ŏ	00000 0 0000
35 678	a later and	Kissmmee St. Joms River Comedia	G	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
6.464	15.	Law Hatchinetta Vigershed	l o	00000 00000
23,294	50%	Lake Water Ridge Ecosystem	*	** 6 8 8 0 8 0 0 *
1,386	59	Letchworth Mounds	1 6	80880 0 0 +000

CONTINUES OF REXT DRIVE

#### EXPLANATION:

The 2010 Scenam is a statewide mode protection that protects the molt resources in the amount of area lakely to be acquired by the Florida Forever program Lamm outsion of the 2010 portions may still contain inductal resources, but acquiring those lands will ident lead to itset overall resource protection.

NOTE. The individual resource values are based on the actual encounces on each project. The 2018 Sciencing is based on a comprise efficiency apprism, exercise individual resource values will not precisy add up to the 2018 Portoko value for any oven project.

ALSO was an resources were included in the Obio Scenero. Some researces could not be adequately addressed in the mode environment. All resources should be considered in provide resources

Landnumper insource values are based on interm scoring criteria. First a working with greatways experts to tradue there externs for future resolute Anthenological and Historic resolute values ware provided by the Pionas Dept. of State, Division of Historical Revolution

Remarking acres and Plettert Complete based on FNAI inbruged areas database as if July 2000.

Prepared by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory

CURRENT GROUP A PROJECTS						Resources included in 2010 Scenario			Resources Not Included is 2010 Scenario	
Remaining Project Acres	1	Project Name	13	ACC AND					a start	
7,815	0%	Lowist Pardido River Butler	. 0		0.0.0	0.0	0.00	0 0		
12,897	5%	Middle Chipole River	0	1	00.		0.0	0 .	-	
168	0%	Militatione Planfation	0	100	000	0 0	0 0 0	00	HEY	
15,553	D%	Nekuse Plantation	0		000	0 *			+ Very High	
1,046		North Key, Largo Hammocks		1		0 0	0.00	and the second se	High	
19,435		Northwast Ronda Blueway			000				O Medium	
and the second se	10000	Northwest Recide Timbertands	0	1	0.0.0		0.0		@ Meaumil.or	
53	0%	Okeechobee Batkefield	0		000	0 0	0 * 0	0 0	O Low Is None	
36,571		Osceole Pine Sevennes	0	100	0 0 0		* 0.0	_		
1	0%	Otter Mound	0	in the	000	the second second second second	0.0			
18,093	and the second s	Pil-Mar	0	123	0 0 0		000			
36,123	35%	Paraher Glades Paradido Pacher Paral Preide	0	-	And in case of the local division of the loc	0 0				
198	47%	Finetand Ste Complex		120		* 0	000			
12,450	61%	and a set of the set o	0	l in	000	• •	0 * 0	and the second se		
371	0%	San Felasco Conservation Contidor	0	100	and the second se	0 0	000	_		
6,695		Som Our Everglades		100	AND INCOMENDATION OF TAXABLE PARTY.	0 0	0 0.0	and the second se		
3.738	86%	South Waton County Ecosystem	1 *	1		0 *	000			
983	87%	Spruce Creek		120	of Contract of Contract of Contract	0 0		and the second se		
74,294	0%	St. Joe Timberland	0		000		000			
27,827	0%	St. Johns River Ekseway	. 0	170	and the second	0.0	000			
3,840	59%	St. Joseph Bay Butter				0 0	0.0			
22,921	89%	Tate's Hol/Carrabelle Trect	0	1	and the second sec	0.0	0 0.0			
2,816	33%	Terra Cola	0			0 0	0.0	0 0		
162	0%	Three Chimonys	0	123	000	0 0	. 0 × 0.	0.0		
1,194	7%	Tiger/Little Tiger Island	0		0 0 0	* 0		and the second se		
8.542	47%	Twolvente Slough		1	* 0.0	3 0				
12,695	0%	Upper S. Marks River Comidat	*	-	00*	0 0	0.0	and the second se		
8,139		Upper Yellow River	. 0	12	the second second second	0.	0 0 0			
57,668		Volusa-Riegler Conservation Comidor	0	-	NAME AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY.	0 0				
15,580		Watese Aucie Revel Sinks'		100	and the second se		0 * 0			
5,645		Wakula Springs Protection Zone	0	1	the second se	0 0	000			
10,475		Welemvelon Pond	. 0	150	and the second se	0 0	6 0 0			
29.551 16,407		Welava-Ocala Greenway Yelawa River Ravines		1	00*	NAME AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE	800			

1,626,029 1,915,685

Current A List Remaining Acres

Remaining Acres of All Current Projects

#### EXPLANATION:

The 2010 Schemol is a scalewise model portions that protects the ministressances in the annuals of ency to be acquired by the Plonds Ponever program. Lands autiside of the 2010 portions may still contain natural resources, but acquiring those laws will lively lead to lead overall resource protection.

NOTE: The individual resource values are based on the actual amount of resources on each project. The 2010 Scenario is based on a complex efficiency ago(#### therefore intividual resource values will not directly add up to the 2010 Portfolio value for any given project.

AUSO: Hot all resources were included in the 2010 Scenario. Some resources could not be adequately addressed in the model environment. All resources should be considered in project evaluation

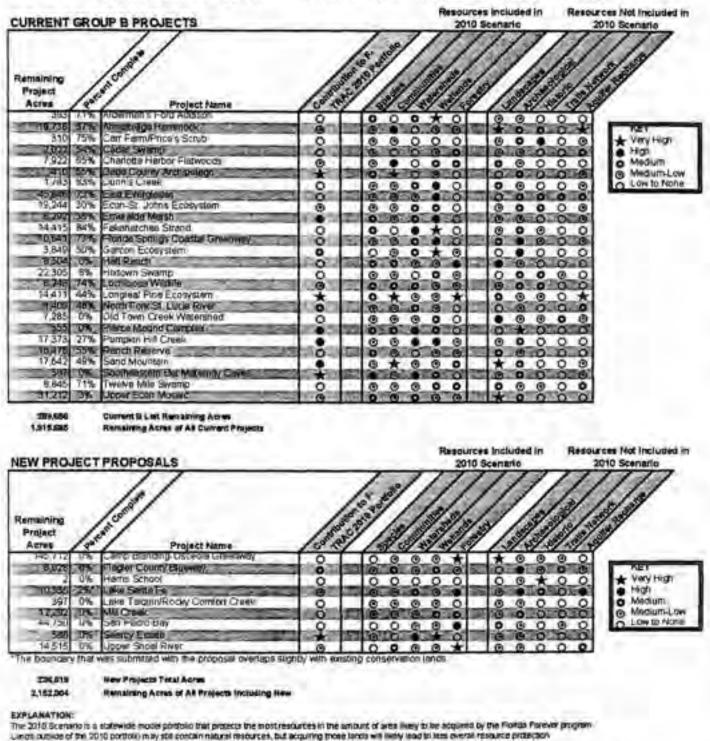
Landscapes resource values are based on intervin scoring citatra. Final is working with grainways experts to finalize these criteria for future report: Archaeological and Historic resource values were provided by the Fibrida Clept. of Basie, Owston of Heitanical Resources

Pemanong acres and Percent Complete based on PNAI managed areas database as of July 2003

continued on next page

Prepared by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Florida Forever Project Evaluation Summary Table, November 2003 (continued)



NOTE: The includual resource values are based on the actual amount of respondes on each project. The Zinto Scenario in based on a sumplex efforming ago The

benefure individual resource values will not directly was up to the 2010 Porticio value for any given project

ALSO. Not all resources were included in the Q10 Scenario. Some resources could not be executed in the model environment. All resources thanks be considered in project evaluation.

Liventuples resolute values are based on viteran scoring criteria. Fi/Ai is woning with greenways experts to finance them a for future resolut. Anotherological and Historic resource values were provided by the Parital Dept of State. Owners of Historical Resources

Persawing acres and Percent Covining cased on FNAL managed areas database as of July 2005

Prepared by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory

#### FLORIDA FOREVER RESOURCE EVALUATION DOCUMENTATION 28 May 2002

In February, the Florida Forever data analysis work group recommended several revisions to the data analysis including grouping data sets into functional groups, eliminating redundancy among data, improving prioritization methods for some data layers, and working with a statistician to ensure that the evaluation method is scientifically sound. The work group also recommended that we evaluate the existing Florida Forever projects by selecting the highest-ranking projects for each resource type. The following description represents the outcome of these efforts.

#### RESOURCE TYPES

The original Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment data sets are now combined into functional groups. Grouping the data serves to eliminate redundancy among similar data and provides a more concise picture of the natural resources within projects. Table 1 shows the original data sets and the new resource types into which they are combined.

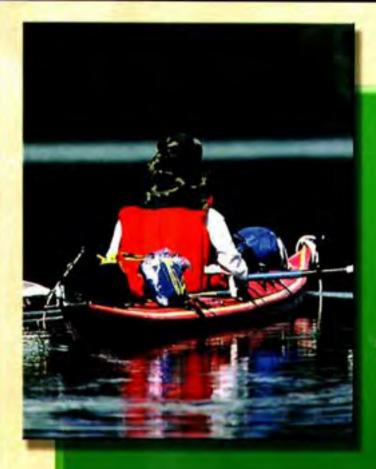
Table 1: Original Conservation Needs Assessment data layers

	grouped into new primary Florida Forever resource types.	
FL Forever		and the state of t
Measure	Original Data Sets	Resource Type
B1	Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas	Species
B2	FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities	
B4	Under-represented Natural Communities	Communities
C7	Fragile Coastal Resources	
B3	Significant Landscapes, Linkages, and Conservation Corridors	Landscapes
B5	Landscape-sized Protection Areas	
C4	Natural Floodplain	Surface Water
C5	Significant Surface Waters	
C8	Functional Wettands	Wetlands
E1	Natural Resource-based Recreation	Recreation
E2	Recreational Trails	
F1	Significant Archaeological & Historic Sites	Cultural
G1/G2	Sustainable Forestry	Forestry

We also evaluated projects based on three other data sets that are currently undergoing review or revision: 1) Recreation. The expert work group recognized that the current recreation evaluation does not fully capture recreation potential of a site and recommended that the recreation data be revised;

Aquifer recharge. Recharge is not prioritized, limiting its use for ranking projects in a meaningful way.
 We are working to incorporate recharge information for springs into this layer;

3) Development pressure. Although development pressure is not a specific Florida Forever measure, we have included it in the evaluation because it is identified in the Florida Forever Act and members of ARC have expressed interest in an evaluation of development pressure on Florida Forever projects. The University of Florida is planning to update this data in the near future.



# Florida Department of Environmental Protection

## **Division of State Lands**

www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/



