



Conservation Easements under 40 acres in size Application

Use of this form is required for applications to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for determination of whether a conservation easement under 40 acres in size fulfills a clearly delineated state conservation policy and yields a significant public benefit pursuant to section 196.26(4), Florida Statutes. When possible please submit application packages (including maps) either electronically (preferred) or in an 8.5 x 11 paper size format.

General Information

Owners Name:

Acres:

City or Town/Zip:

County:

Property Address:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Email:

Submit complete applications to:

ARC_Mailinglist@FloridaDEP.gov

Or by mail to:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of State Lands
Office of Environmental Services
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard., Mail Station 140
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000
Phone: 850-245-2555

Application Required Attachments

Attachment A

Copy of Executed and Recorded Conservation Easement

Attachment B

Copy of Easement Baseline Documentation Report
(Should contain at a minimum:)

1. A description of the project site including a general location map, and a specific property location map.
 2. A map delineating the community types (per Florida Natural Areas Inventory) on site with the estimated acreage of each.
 3. Identification of any listed species found on the property.
 4. Identification of unique features on the property (e.g. springs, caves, sinkholes, rookeries, eagle's nests, etc.)
 5. Summary of the type, location and aerial extent of invasive exotic plant species.
 6. Identification and location of man-made improvements, including buildings, roads, fences, ditches, etc.
 7. Identification and location of any agricultural or silvicultural areas and any other non-natural land use and land cover.
 8. Color photographs of all improvements, habitat types and, where practicable, listed species, all referenced with GPS location and compass direction and all located on maps.
-

Attachment C

Copy of Management Plan and Identification of Manager
(See attached Management Plan Template)

Attachment D

Explanation of How Property Fulfills a Clearly Delineated State Conservation Policy
and Yields a Significant Public Benefit

To meet the test that the conservation easement must fulfill a clearly delineated state conservation policy, the property as described in the baseline documentation report and as

Application Required Attachments continued

managed in accordance with the management plan, must meet at least one of the following requirements:

1. Contains a natural sinkhole or spring;
2. Contains a unique geological feature;
3. Located within a significant strategic habitat conservation area;
4. Provides nursery habitat for marine and estuarine species;
5. Provides for protection or restoration of fragile coastal areas;
6. Provides habitat for endangered or threatened species;
7. Provides habitat for imperiled species;
8. Contributes to a significant landscape, landscape linkage or conservation corridor;
9. Contains an underrepresented native ecosystem;
10. Protects natural floodplain functions;
11. Protects surface waters of the state;
12. Protects fragile coastal resources;
13. Protects functional wetlands;
14. Protects critically eroding beaches;
15. Provides groundwater recharge critical to springs, sinks, aquifers or other natural systems;
16. Provides retention of natural open space within densely built-up areas or urban service areas; or
17. Other state conservation policy existing in Florida Statutes or Florida Administrative Code.

To meet the test that a conservation easement must yield a significant public benefit, the Acquisition and Restoration Council must determine that the property as described in the baseline documentation report and as managed in accordance with the management plan would provide a meaningful, noticeable or measurable effect on one or more of the natural resources listed above.

If the property in question is adjacent to or surrounded by other lands that are permanently protected for conservation purposes, enhanced ability to protect and manage the natural resources of the existing conservation lands may be considered when determining whether a property yields a significant public benefit.

Identify which of the requirements listed above is fulfilled by your conservation easement property with an explanation of how it does so and how it provides a significant public benefit. This may be done in the space below or on a separate page.

Note: The Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) may provide assistance with the above criteria. For additional information write: Florida Natural Areas Inventory, 1018 Thomasville Road, Suite 200-C, Tallahassee, Florida 32303 (telephone 850-224-8207).