



2022 Florida Forever Plan

Summary of Recommendations and Status as of December 2021

Division of State Lands

Florida Department of Environmental Protection



As submitted to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund

May 26, 2022



2022 Florida Forever Plan

Executive Summary

Introduction

Florida Forever is the state's blueprint for conserving our natural and cultural resources. It replaced the highly successful Preservation 2000, the largest program of its kind in the United States. The Florida Forever Act, implemented in 2000, reinforced the importance of conserving Florida's natural and cultural heritage, providing urban open space, and the quality stewardship of the lands acquired.

Florida Forever is more than an environmental land acquisition mechanism. The program addresses a range of statewide conservation goals including the protection of water resources; preservation of working landscapes, sustainable forestry, protection of biodiversity and ecological greenways, environmental restoration, public recreation, public lands management and maintenance; and increased protection of land by acquisition of conservation easements.

The \$3 billion investment over the past decade demonstrates Florida's continued commitment to protecting and restoring our vital natural resources. Florida has been at the forefront of the nation's land protection efforts and continues to be the model for other land acquisition programs across the nation.

Legislation and Policy

In 1998, Florida voters amended the state constitution by ratifying a constitutional amendment that re-authorized bonds for land acquisition. The 1999 legislature responded with the ten-year \$3 billion Florida Forever program to acquire and manage land for conservation. This was extended another 10 years in 2008 for a total of \$6 billion.

In 2014 Florida voters amended the state constitution again, ratifying a constitutional amendment that dedicated 33 percent of documentary stamp taxes to:

"finance or refinance acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests, including conservation easements, in order to conserve wetlands, forests, and fish and wildlife habitat; protect water resources and drinking water sources, protect the water quality and quantity of rivers, lakes, streams, springsheds, and lands providing recharge for groundwater and aquifer systems; conservation of lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area and the Everglades Protection Area, as defined in Article II, Section 7(b); protect beaches and shorelines; provide outdoor recreation lands, including recreational trails, parks, and urban open space; protect rural landscapes, working farms and ranches, and historic or geologic sites; and provide for the management and restoration of natural systems, and the enhancement of public access or recreational enjoyment of conservation lands."



The Florida Ecological Greenways Network (FEGN) and the Florida Wildlife Corridor Act

The FEGN is a statewide database that identifies and prioritizes a functionally connected statewide ecological network of public and private conservation lands. The FEGN has been a key component of the evaluative criteria for Florida Forever land acquisitions since 2003. In April 2021, the Florida Legislature passed the Florida Wildlife Corridor Act which was signed into law in July 2021. This legislation encouraged DEP to prioritize conservation land acquisition for the benefit of wildlife, Floridians and the economy. The Act defines the Florida Wildlife Corridor as those critical habitat linkages that are identified as Priority 1, Priority 2 or Priority 3 areas within the FEGN.

Over 16,000 acres within the Florida Wildlife Corridor were acquired through Florida Forever in 2021:

- 6,665 acres – Kissimmee-St. Johns River Florida Forever Project
- 1,661 acres – Hardee Flatwoods Florida Forever Project
- 4,381 acres – Corrigan Ranch Florida Forever Project
- 2,115 acres – Coastal Headwaters Longleaf Forest Florida Forever Project
- 1,638 acres – Devil’s Garden Florida Forever Project

Partnerships

The state’s series of successful land acquisition programs is also a long history of cooperative partnerships with state agencies, water management districts, local and national land trusts, national and statewide conservation organizations, local governments, and federal agencies. Each Florida Forever proposal is evaluated by an interagency team of professionals that represent DEP, FFS, FWC, DEO, DHR, and the regional WMD. Partner agencies at the state-level provide valuable contributions to the Florida Forever evaluation and selection process.

The Division of State Lands (DSL) is an active participant in the Southeastern Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) and works closely with the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) through the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) and Sentinel Landscape program. The REPI Program protects these military missions by helping remove or avoid land-use conflicts near installations through the use of buffer partnerships among the Military Services, private conservation groups, and state and local governments that share the cost of acquisition of easements or other interests in land from willing sellers to preserve compatible land uses and natural habitats near installations and ranges.

The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership is a coalition of federal agencies, state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations that works with private landowners to advance sustainable land management practices around military installations and ranges. Designation is made by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, DoD and the U.S. Department of the Interior. Of ten federally designated sentinel landscapes, two are in Florida; the Avon Park Air Force Range Sentinel landscape was designated in 2016 and the new, Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape designated in 2021.

Other non-profit and federal partnerships help Florida Forever achieve success on a broader, landscape scale. In 2021, the DSL was awarded nearly \$33 million from the National Fish and



Wildlife Foundation's Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF), with additional funding from Walmart's Acres for America program to acquire and manage approximately 32,000 acres of wetlands and floodplain habitat along 38 miles of the Apalachicola River. Funding from the RESTORE Act Council will also be leveraged to acquire an additional 12,000 acres in the northern reaches of the river basin. Funding provided by GEBF and the RESTORE Act Council is a legal result from the impacts caused by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Acquisition of this land will provide permanent protection to approximately one-third of the entire non-tidal floodplain and ensure continued ecological benefits to Apalachicola Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. These critical natural lands are to be acquired through the Florida Forever program and be managed by the FWC as part of the Apalachicola River Wildlife and Environmental Area.

The Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC)

The ten-member ARC makes recommendations about acquisition, management and disposal of state-owned lands. This important advisory group includes private citizen members with backgrounds in scientific disciplines of land, water, or environmental sciences as well as wildlife management, forestry management, and outdoor recreation, in addition to four state agency representatives.

The Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, are responsible for acting on ARC's recommendations. The Board also approves the acquisition of each parcel and has ultimate oversight over all state-owned land.

The DSL provides primary staff support for ARC and the Board of Trustees (BOT); coordinating ARC meetings and preparing agendas and reports. DSL staff prepares or obtains appraisal maps, title work, and appraisals for acquisitions and negotiates and closes on land purchases on behalf of the BOT. DSL also provides staff support for managing all leases, reviewing and approving management plans, and coordinating management review team functions for state-owned lands titled to the Board.

The Florida Forever Plan

The 2022 Florida Forever Plan provides an overview of the current status of each of the 125 land acquisition projects approved by ARC and included on the Florida Forever Priority List. The plan includes a description of how each project will conserve, protect and restore environmentally endangered lands and ecosystems; and contribute lands for the provision of public outdoor recreation. This plan is kept current through annual reevaluation and revision.

Although updated annually, the information provided in the Florida Forever Plan guides implementation of land acquisition projects over the long-term, as work on any individual Florida Forever project may span multiple years.

Explanation of Project Information

A comprehensive project evaluation report is approved by ARC for each project as part of the process and vote to be included on the Florida Forever Priority List. These evaluation reports contain extensive resource and planning information compiled from our partner agencies and a management prospectus from the recommended land manager (for proposed fee simple projects) that includes a management cost summary. To summarize the pertinent information from the



project evaluation reports and track acquisition progress/changes over time, each project description in this plan includes:

- a general overview of significant natural and cultural resources;
- the recommended land manager;
- the purpose for state acquisition;
- whether the project would allow public use;
- FNAI element occurrences;
- project/parcel acres, acquisition history and boundary modifications;
- a management policy statement and summary of anticipated management costs (fee simple), and;
- a project map showing project boundaries and essential parcels.

The project acres, acres acquired and acres remaining included with each summary are based on the initial project proposal and are an approximation. Acres within a project may be refined over time as improved data (ArcGIS) are available and once parcels are acquired. Acres presented at the beginning of a project summary, may fluctuate slightly throughout the life of a project. Therefore, acreage from this report should be cited as an approximation until such time actual parcels are fully acquired and final acres are determined as part of the official closing process.

Florida Forever Priority List changes

ARC approved the following changes to the 2022 list:

- added one new project
- added two new projects to existing project boundaries
- amended boundaries of 13 existing projects boundaries
- removed one projects from the list

<u>New Projects Added to the List</u>	<u>Acres +/-</u>	<u>County</u>
Wilson Ranch	450	Polk
<u>New Projects Added to Existing Project Boundaries</u>	<u>Acres +/-</u>	<u>County</u>
Big Pine Preserve (Longleaf Pine Ecosystem)	541	Marion
Adams Ranch II (Adams Ranch)	27,342	Osceola/St. Lucie
<u>Projects with Boundary Amendments</u>	<u>Acres +/-</u>	<u>County</u>
Annutteliga Hammock	15	Hernando
Bombing Range Ridge	-1.27	Polk
Carr Farm/Price's Scrub	125	Marion
Flagler County Blueway	-19.26	Flagler
Florida Keys Ecosystem	1.3	Monroe
Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem	913.2	Polk
Little River Conservation Area	208	Gadsden
Maytown Flatwoods	554.75	Volusia
Myakka Ranchlands	1,572	Manatee
Rainbow River Corridor	47.78	Marion





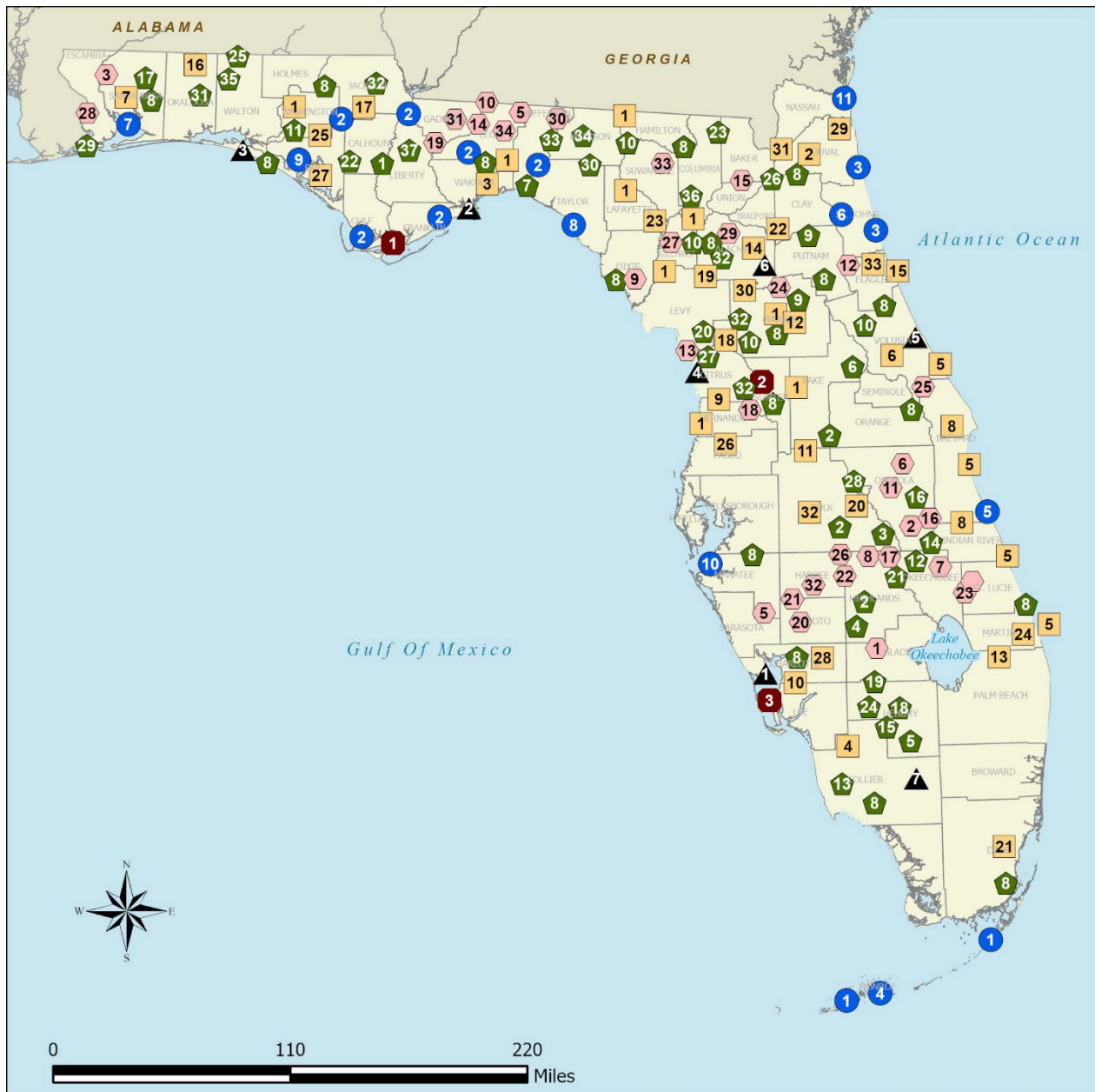
<u>Projects with Boundary Amendments</u>	<u>Acres +/-</u>	<u>County</u>
St. Joe Timberlands	370.41	Franklin
Strategic Managed Area Lands List	158	Charlotte
Strategic Managed Area Lands List	198.51	Collier
Strategic Managed Area Lands List	184	Columbia/Sumter
Strategic Managed Area Lands List	2.86	Flagler
Strategic Managed Area Lands List	-40	Taylor
Strategic Managed Area Lands List	-91	Washington
Wolfe Creek Forest	757	Santa Rosa

The following project was removed from the list because it is considered 90% or more complete:

- Seven Runs Creek Final Phase (Bay, Washington).

Consistent with section 259.032(8), F.S. and rule 18-24.002(2)(b), F.A.C, removing projects from the list does not prevent Florida Forever funds from being used to purchase the remaining acres.





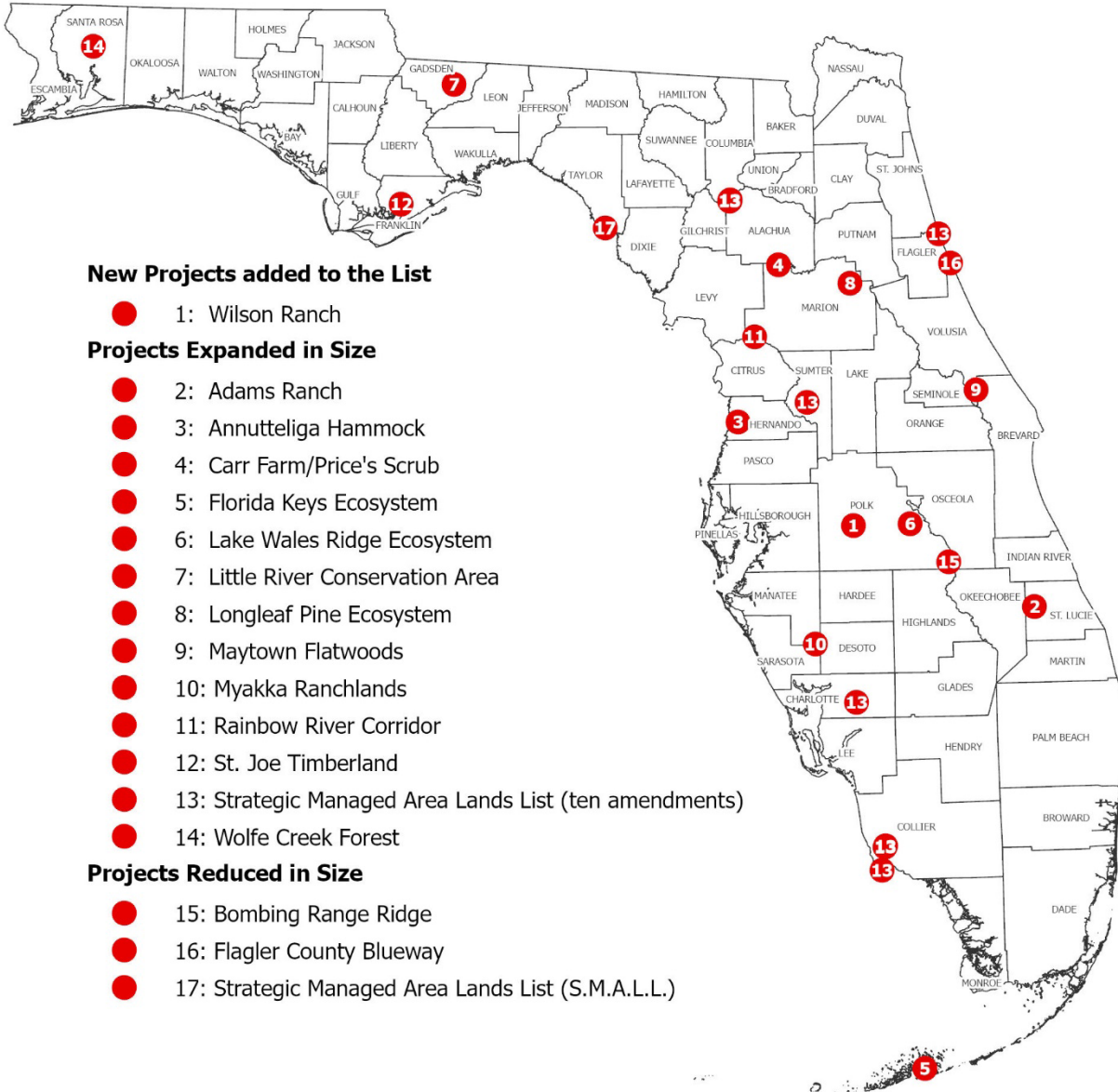
STATEWIDE DISTRIBUTION OF FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS JANUARY 2022

Florida Forever Project Categories

- | | |
|--|---|
| ● Climate Change Lands Category | ◊ Less-Than-Fee Category |
| ■ Critical Historical Resources Category | ■ Partnerships and Regional Incentives Category |
| ◆ Critical Natural Lands Category | ▲ Substantially Complete Category |

NOTE: Numerals within the symbols represent the project rank within each category. See priority list for project name and details.

Florida Forever projects newly added to the priority list, expanded, or reduced during 2021.



Florida Forever projects removed from the priority list during 2021.





2022 Florida Forever Priority List for Land Acquisition Projects

The 2022 Florida Forever Priority List was adopted by the Board of Trustees on March 29, 2022 and includes 125 projects. Each project was ranked within one of following six categories: Critical Natural Lands, Partnerships & Regional Incentives, Less-Than-Fee, Climate Change Lands, Substantially Complete and Critical Historical Resources.

Pursuant to section 259.04(1)(c), F.S., "...the board shall approve, in whole or in part, the list of projects in the order of priority in which such projects are presented" [see also s. 259.105(14), F.S.]

Critical Natural Lands

Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
1	Apalachicola River	Calhoun, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Liberty	48,860	48,860	High
2	Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem	Highlands, Lake, Osceola	29,702	78,562	High
3	Bombing Range Ridge	Highlands, Osceola, Polk	29,262	107,824	High
4	Blue Head Ranch	Highlands	43,051	150,875	High
5	Panther Glades	Hendry	39,382	190,257	High
6	Wekiva-Ocala Greenway	Lake, Orange, Seminole, Volusia	22,386	212,643	High
7	Wacissa/Aucilla River Sinks	Jefferson, Taylor	14,908	227,551	High
8	Strategic Managed Area Lands List	Alachua, Bay, Broward, Charlotte, Clay, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Flagler, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lake, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Orange, Palm Beach, Putnam, Santa Rosa, St. Lucie, Sumter, Union, Volusia, Wakulla	11,518	239,069	High
9	Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway	Citrus, Clay, Levy, Marion, Putnam	52,558	291,627	High/Medium
10	Longleaf Pine Ecosystem	Gilchrist, Hamilton, Marion, Volusia	9,915	301,542	Medium
11	Forest and Lakes Ecosystem	Bay, Washington	54,862	356,404	Medium
12	Triple Diamond	Okeechobee	5,336	361,740	Medium
13	Belle Meade	Collier	4,925	366,664	Medium
14	Pine Island Slough Ecosystem	Osceola	21,895	388,559	Medium
15	Half Circle L Ranch	Collier, Hendry	11,182	399,740	Medium
16	Osceola Pine Savannas	Osceola	23,239	422,979	Medium
17	Wolfe Creek Forest	Santa Rosa	4,613	427,592	Medium





Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
18	Devil's Garden	Collier, Hendry	49,244	476,836	Medium
19	Caloosahatchee Ecoscape	Glades, Hendry	9,594	486,430	Medium
20	South Goethe	Levy, Marion	11,355	497,785	Medium
21	Corrigan Ranch	Okeechobee	6,211	503,996	Medium
22	Bear Creek Forest	Bay, Calhoun, Gulf	97,434	601,429	Medium/Low
23	Pinhook Swamp	Baker, Columbia	53,737	655,167	Low
24	Twelvemile Slough	Hendry	8,036	663,203	Low
25	Natural Bridge Creek	Walton	1,967	665,170	Low
26	Camp Blanding to Raiford Greenway	Baker, Bradford, Clay, Union	32,282	697,452	Low
27	Bear Hammock	Marion	4,689	702,141	Low
28	Lake Hatchineha Watershed	Osceola, Polk	3,592	705,733	Low
29	Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie	Escambia	2,389	708,123	Low
30	San Pedro Bay	Madison, Taylor	44,999	753,122	Low
31	Shoal River Buffer	Okaloosa	2,188	755,309	Low
32	Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves	Alachua, Citrus, Jackson, Marion, Sumter	598	755,907	Low
33	Econfina Timberlands	Jefferson	1,665	757,572	Low
34	Hixtown Swamp	Madison	22,186	779,758	Low
35	Upper Shoal River	Walton	12,035	791,793	Low
36	Ichetucknee Trace	Columbia	1,717	793,509	Low
37	Telogia Creek	Liberty	12,428	805,937	Low

Partnerships & Regional Incentives

Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
1	Florida's First Magnitude Springs	Bay, Citrus, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Jackson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Wakulla, Walton, Washington	6,040	6,040	High
2	Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve	Clay, Duval, Nassau	74,518	80,557	High
3	Wakulla Springs Protection Zone	Leon, Wakulla	3,969	84,526	High
4	Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed	Collier, Lee	31,188	115,714	High
5	Indian River Lagoon Blueway	Brevard, Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie, Volusia	18,145	133,859	High
6	Volusia Conservation Corridor	Flagler, Volusia	17,819	151,678	High
7	Clear Creek/Whiting Field	Santa Rosa	2,867	154,545	High





Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
8	Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem	Brevard	20,658	175,203	High/Medium
9	Annettella Hammock	Citrus, Hernando	8,796	183,999	Medium
10	Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods	Charlotte, Lee	6,786	190,785	Medium
11	Green Swamp	Lake, Pasco, Polk	161,213	351,997	Medium/Low
12	Heather Island/Ocklawaha River	Marion	13,666	365,663	Low
13	Pal-Mar	Palm Beach, Martin	9,333	374,996	Low
14	Lochloosa Forest	Alachua	4,693	379,689	Low
15	Flagler County Blueway	Flagler	3,891	383,580	Low
16	Welmanee Watershed Forest	Okaloosa	8,378	391,957	Low
17	Middle Chipola River	Calhoun, Jackson	12,356	404,313	Low
18	Rainbow River Corridor	Citrus, Marion	1,059	405,372	Low
19	Watermelon Pond	Alachua, Levy	5,355	410,726	Low
20	Catfish Creek	Polk	3,231	413,958	Low
21	Dade County Archipelago	Miami-Dade	303	414,261	Low
22	Lake Santa Fe	Alachua, Bradford	8,876	423,137	Low
23	Lafayette Forest	Lafayette	10,253	433,390	Low
24	Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem	Martin	8,175	441,566	Low
25	Sand Mountain	Bay, Washington	14,534	456,099	Low
26	Crossbar/Al Bar Ranch	Pasco	12,440	468,539	Low
27	Crayfish Habitat Restoration	Bay	2,348	470,887	Low
28	Hall Ranch	Charlotte	7,503	478,390	Low
29	Pumpkin Hill Creek	Duval	6,951	485,341	Low
30	Carr Farm/Price's Scrub	Alachua, Marion	428	485,769	Low
31	Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River	Duval, Nassau	8,397	494,166	Low
32	Wilson Ranch	Polk	451	494,617	Low
33	Pringle Creek Forest	Flagler	8,446	503,062	Low

Less-Than-Fee

Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
1	Fisheating Creek Ecosystem	Glades, Highlands	122,213	122,213	High
2	Adams Ranch	Osceola, St. Lucie	32,990	155,204	High
3	Coastal Headwaters Longleaf Forest	Escambia, Santa Rosa	97,346	252,549	High/Medium
4	Myakka Ranchlands	DeSoto, Manatee, Sarasota	30,634	283,183	Medium
5	Red Hills Conservation	Jefferson, Leon	16,916	300,099	Medium
6	Conlin Lake X	Osceola	3,522	303,622	Medium





Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
7	Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector	Indian River, Okeechobee	37,851	341,473	Medium
8	Arbuckle Creek Watershed	Highlands	3,428	344,900	Medium
9	Lower Suwannee River and Gulf Watershed	Dixie	25,339	370,239	Medium
10	Ochlockonee River Conservation Area	Gadsden, Leon	3,881	374,119	Medium
11	Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch	Osceola	40,848	414,967	Medium
12	Matanzas to Ocala Conservation Corridor	Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns	96,707	511,674	Medium/Low
13	Gulf Hammock	Levy	25,611	537,285	Low
14	Ayavalla Plantation	Leon	5,788	543,073	Low
15	Raiford to Osceola Greenway	Baker, Union	67,678	610,750	Low
16	Ranch Reserve	Brevard, Indian River, Osceola	12,519	623,269	Low
17	Eastern Scarp Ranchlands	Highlands	2,214	625,483	Low
18	Withlacoochee River Corridor	Citrus, Hernando	3,286	628,770	Low
19	Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron Protection Zone	Gadsden, Liberty	6,923	635,693	Low
20	Peace River Refuge	DeSoto	3,033	638,726	Low
21	Horse Creek Ranch	DeSoto, Hardee	16,316	655,042	Low
22	Hardee Flatwoods	Hardee	1,836	656,878	Low
23	Bluefield to Cow Creek	Okeechobee, St. Lucie	10,996	667,874	Low
24	Mill Creek	Marion	10,135	678,009	Low
25	Maytown Flatwoods	Brevard, Volusia	1,619	679,628	Low
26	Old Town Creek Watershed	Hardee, Polk	1,264	680,892	Low
27	North Waccasassa Flats	Gilchrist	14,153	695,045	Low
28	Lower Perdido River Buffer	Escambia	2,338	697,383	Low
29	San Felasco Conservation Corridor	Alachua	376	697,759	Low
30	West Aucilla River Buffer	Jefferson	710	698,468	Low
31	Little River Conservation Area	Gadsden	2,293	700,761	Low
32	Limestone Ranch	Hardee	6,382	707,144	Low
33	Suwannee County Preservation	Suwannee	1,254	708,398	Low
34	Millstone Plantation	Leon	83	708,481	Low

Climate Change Lands

Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
1	Florida Keys Ecosystem	Monroe	5,817	5,817	High





Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
2	St. Joe Timberland	Bay, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, Washington	56,612	62,429	High/Medium
3	Northeast Florida Blueway	Duval, Flagler, St. Johns	10,971	73,400	Medium/Low
4	Coupon Bight/Key Deer	Monroe	1,157	74,557	Low
5	Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge	Brevard, Indian River	174	74,732	Low
6	St. Johns River Blueway	Clay, St. Johns	17,194	91,926	Low
7	Garcon Ecosystem	Santa Rosa	3,252	95,177	Low
8	Taylor Sweetwater Creek	Taylor	3,742	98,919	Low
9	West Bay Preservation Area	Bay	4,511	103,430	Low
10	Terra Ceia	Manatee	2,292	105,722	Low
11	Tiger Island/Little Tiger Island	Nassau	655	106,376	Low

Substantially Complete

Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
1	Charlotte Harbor Estuary	Charlotte, Lee, Sarasota	5,886	5,886	High
2	Dickerson Bay/Bald Point	Franklin, Wakulla	3,077	8,963	High/Medium
3	South Walton County Ecosystem	Walton	2,657	11,620	Medium
4	Florida Springs Coastal Greenway	Citrus	8,885	20,506	Medium/Low
5	Spruce Creek	Volusia	358	20,864	Low
6	Lochloosa Wildlife	Alachua	4,446	25,310	Low
7	Save Our Everglades	Collier	24	25,334	Low

Critical Historical Resources

Rank	Project	County ¹	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres ²	Work Plan Priority ³
1	Pierce Mound Complex	Franklin	562	562	High/Medium
2	Battle of Wahoo Swamp	Sumter	853	1,415	Medium/Low
3	Pineland Site Complex	Lee	144	1,559	Low

¹ Counties with no remaining acreage to acquire in a project not listed here. See project summaries for counties in which acquisitions are complete.

² Cumulative acres used to calculate which Priority Group of the Acquisition Work Plan each project will qualify.

³ Work Plan Priority Groups pursuant to Rule 18-24.006(6), F.A.C.

High Priority = top 1/3 acreage within each Category	High/Medium Priority = portion of project in High Priority Group & portion in Medium Priority Group	Medium Priority = middle 1/3 acreage within each Category	Medium/Low Priority = portion of project in Medium Priority Group & portion in Low Priority Group	Low Priority = bottom 1/3 acreage within each Category
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Program Accomplishments

For decades, Florida has been one of the most successful states in acquiring and conserving critical natural resources and providing lands for public recreation. Since 1963, Florida has invested approximately \$8.4 billion to conserve more than 4 million acres of land for environmental, recreational and preservation purposes. This has been accomplished with a series of programs including Environmentally Endangered Lands, Outdoor Recreation, Save Our Coasts, Save Our Rivers, Conservation and Recreation Lands, Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever. Because of Florida Forever and its predecessor programs, residents and visitors have benefited from the protection of land and natural resources, including Florida's abundant flora and fauna.

Since its inception in July 2001, the state's Florida Forever land acquisition program provided protection for the following:

- 844,360 acres of strategic habitat conservation areas
- 689,530 acres within rare species habitat conservation areas
- 859,120 acres within ecological greenways
- 167,260 acres of rare natural communities
- 654,660 acres within landscape-size protection areas (contiguous conservation lands \geq 50,000 acres)
- 498,100 acres of natural floodplain
- 868,540 acres important to the protection of surface waters
- 503,660 acres to minimize damage from flooding events
- 10,400 acres of fragile coastline
- 349,4200 acres of functional wetlands
- 838,050 acres of significant groundwater recharge areas
- 490 miles towards the completion of priority recreational trails
- 456,330 acres of sustainable forest land
- 1,207 archaeological/historic sites
- 12,270 acres within designated urban service areas

These acreages were derived from the updates of the Florida Forever data layers, which are continuously updated by Florida Natural Areas Inventory to reflect the most current scientific analyses of Florida's natural resources. The acreages include properties acquired under the Florida Forever program, as well as donations and acquisitions by other entities with funding from other sources that were within Florida Forever project boundaries. Additionally, the acreages recorded for each measure often overlap, and thus should not be added together. Collectively, under the Florida Forever program the State of Florida has protected over 897,785 acres of land with approximately \$3.3 billion in Florida Forever funds.

Accounting for donations and lands acquired with non-Florida Forever program funding, the total acreage protected within Florida Forever projects is more than 977,143 acres. All property within the boundaries of the Florida Forever acquisition projects, unless specifically noted, is proposed to be purchased, in fee simple or a lesser interest, for conservation purposes. The 2022 Florida Forever Priority List of land acquisition projects is consistent with section 187.201(9), F.S., the Natural Systems and Recreational Lands section of the State Comprehensive Plan.



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