

ITEM 2:

Overview of Acquisition and Restoration Council duties and introduction of new Council members.

DSL STAFF REMARKS:

On May 2, 2025, Governor Ron DeSantis announced the appointment of Joshua Gamblin and Will Watts to the Acquisition and Restoration Council.

Mr. Gamblin is manager of Stolen Saddle Ranch in Arcadia, Florida. Previously, he served as the land manager, wildlife biologist, and Private Land Burn Team coordinator for the Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy. Mr. Gamblin holds a bachelor's degree in natural resource management in wildlife from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and a master's degree in forest resources and species conservation from the University of Florida.

Mr. Watts is the Assistant Secretary of Engineering and Operations for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). He oversees environmental mitigation and wildlife crossings, and coordinates FDOT's activities under the Federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Mr. Watts holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Florida State University and is a member of the Florida Engineering Society and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

DSL Staff Recommendation:

Not required.

ARC Recommendation:

Not required.