FLORIDA FOREVER

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Creek Ranch
Drew McDougall

APPLICANT WEBINAR
10:00 am
September 22, 2026

AGENDA

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Florida Forever Program Overview**
- **Florida Forever Projects and Evaluation Criteria**
- **Florida Forever Application Process**
- **Adjourn**



Great Egret
Paul Marcellini

Florida Forever Program

- The Florida Forever Act (s. 259.105, Florida Statute) was implemented in 2001.
- Florida Forever is a willing seller program that supports fee simple or less-than-fee land acquisition for a wide range of statewide conservation goals.
- Many lands purchased through Florida Forever are now enjoyed as state wildlife management areas, state parks and trails, state forests, or as locally managed parks and conservation lands.
- Funding is appropriated annually by the Legislature.



Lake Wales Ridge
John Moran

Florida Forever Program

- Lands proposed to be acquired are recommended to the Board of Trustees (BOT) by the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC).
- Florida Forever projects are prioritized within six categories:
    - Critical Natural Lands
    - Critical Historical Resources
    - Partnership and Regional Incentives
    - Less-Than-Fee
    - Climate Change Lands
    - Substantially Complete
- Explore with the Florida Forever Plan Dashboard.

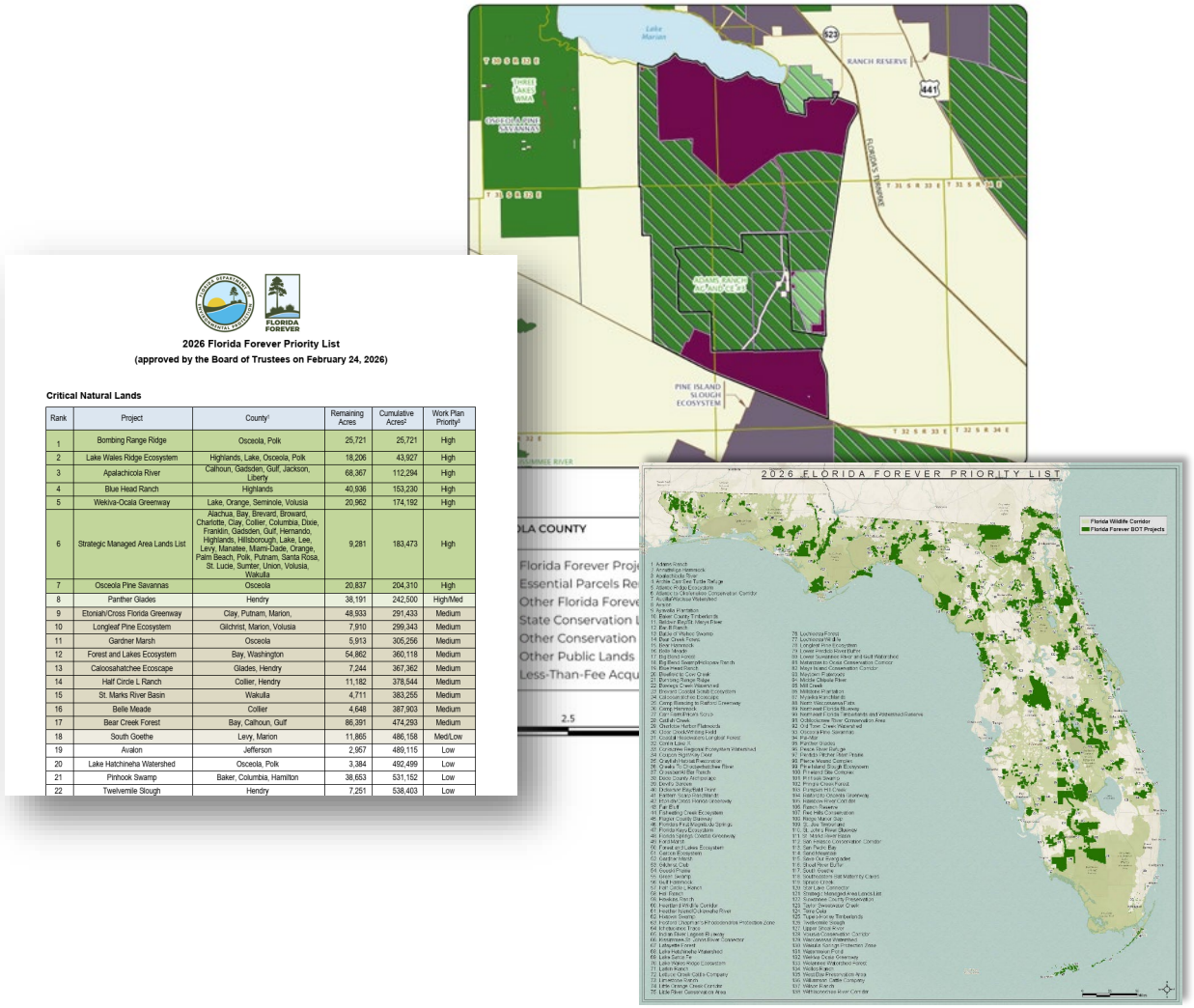


Gopher Tortoise
Lauren Yoho

Florida Forever Program

- The Florida Forever Priority List, the Florida Forever Plan and the Annual Workplan guide the implementation of the Florida Forever program.

- These three important documents are developed by ARC and approved by the BOT in the spring of each year.



2026 Florida Forever Priority List
(approved by the Board of Trustees on February 24, 2026)

Critical Natural Lands

Rank	Project	County[1]	Remaining Acres	Cumulative Acres[2]	Work Plan Priority[3]
1	Bombing Range Ridge	Osceola, Polk	25,721	25,721	High
2	Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem	Highlands, Lake, Osceola, Polk	18,206	43,927	High
3	Apalachicola River	Calhoun, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Liberty	68,367	112,294	High
4	Blue Head Ranch	Highlands	40,936	153,230	High
5	Wekiva-Ocala Greenway	Lake, Orange, Seminole, Volusia	20,962	174,192	High
6	Strategic Managed Area Lands List	Alachua, Bay, Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Clay, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Orange, Palm Beach, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, St. Lucie, Sumter, Union, Volusia, Wakulla	9,281	183,473	High
7	Osceola Pine Savannas	Osceola	20,837	204,310	High
8	Panther Glades	Hendry	38,191	242,500	High/Med
9	Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway	Clay, Putnam, Marion,	48,933	291,433	Medium
10	Longleaf Pine Ecosystem	Gilchrist, Marion, Volusia	7,910	299,343	Medium
11	Gardner Marsh	Osceola	5,913	305,256	Medium
12	Forest and Lakes Ecosystem	Bay, Washington	54,862	360,118	Medium
13	Calcoosahatchee Ecoscape	Glades, Hendry	7,244	367,362	Medium
14	Half Circle L Ranch	Collier, Hendry	11,182	378,544	Medium
15	St. Marks River Basin	Wakulla	4,711	383,255	Medium
16	Belle Meade	Collier	4,648	387,903	Medium
17	Bear Creek Forest	Bay, Calhoun, Gulf	86,391	474,293	Medium
18	South Goethe	Levy, Marion	11,865	486,158	Med/Low
19	Avalon	Jefferson	2,957	489,115	Low
20	Lake Hatchinehа Watershed	Osceola, Polk	3,384	492,499	Low
21	Pinhook Swamp	Baker, Columbia, Hamilton	38,653	531,152	Low
22	Twelvemile Slough	Hendry	7,251	538,403	Low

Florida Forever Priority List

- All projects in each of the six categories are ranked annually by ARC and approved by the BOT.
- Priority rankings are informed by analysis from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) and multiple state agencies.
- A project must be on the Florida Forever Priority List to be eligible for funding, but this does not guarantee acquisition.



2026 Florida Forever Priority List
(approved by the Board of Trustees on February 24, 2026)

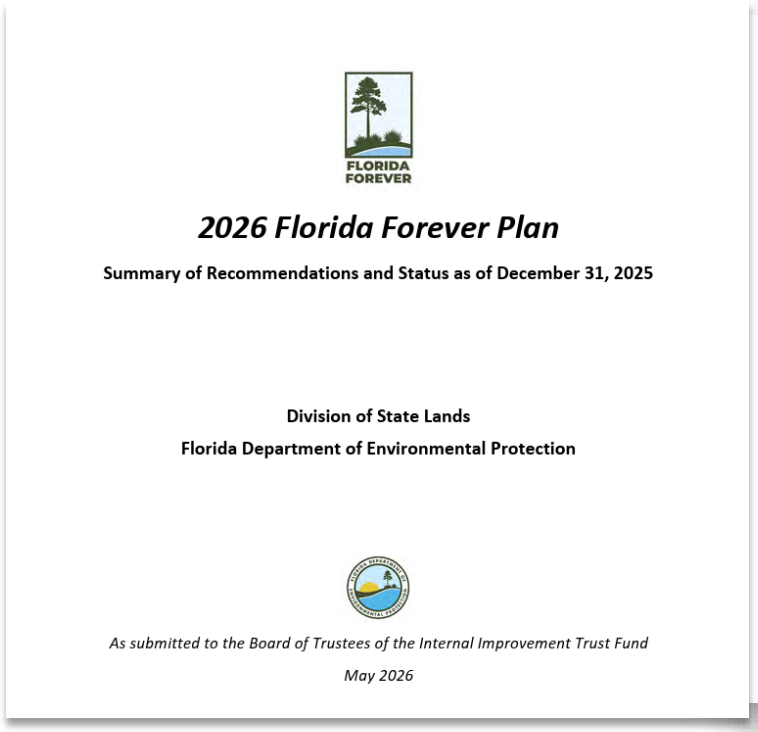
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Florida Forever Plan

- The Florida Forever Plan provides detailed descriptions, maps, acquisition data and project histories for all current Florida Forever projects.

- The Plan is now available as an interactive Dashboard that allows the user to explore Florida Forever projects geospatially and filter by project, county and category.



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2026 Florida Forever Plan

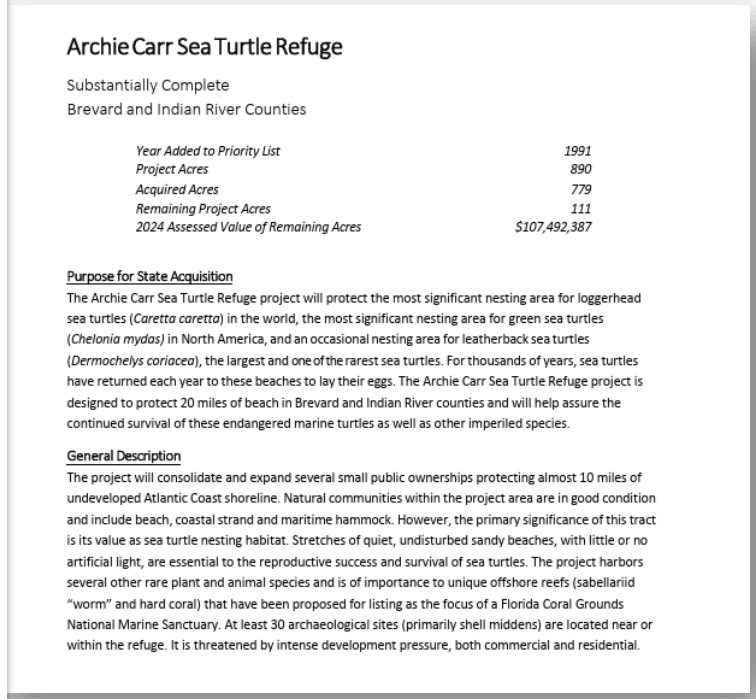
Summary of Recommendations and Status as of December 31, 2025

Division of State Lands

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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

May 2026



Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge

Substantially Complete

Brevard and Indian River Counties

Year Added to Priority List	*1991*
Project Acres	*890*
Acquired Acres	*779*
Remaining Project Acres	*111*
2024 Assessed Value of Remaining Acres	*$107,492,387*

Purpose for State Acquisition

The Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge project will protect the most significant nesting area for loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the world, the most significant nesting area for green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas)* in North America, and an occasional nesting area for leatherback sea turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*), the largest and one of the rarest sea turtles. For thousands of years, sea turtles have returned each year to these beaches to lay their eggs. The Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge project is designed to protect 20 miles of beach in Brevard and Indian River counties and will help assure the continued survival of these endangered marine turtles as well as other imperiled species.

General Description

The project will consolidate and expand several small public ownerships protecting almost 10 miles of undeveloped Atlantic Coast shoreline. Natural communities within the project area are in good condition and include beach, coastal strand and maritime hammock. However, 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 species and is of 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.

Florida Forever Plan Dashboard

2026 Florida Forever Plan Dashboard

Florida Forever BOT Project
None

Florida Forever Subsite

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The project acres, acres acquired and acres remaining included on this dashboard reflect the project status as of Dec. 31, 2025. Project acreage figures may be refined over time as improved data are available and as parcels are acquired. Acreage from this plan 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.

Total Florida Forever Projects
138

2026 Updates



- Newly Added Projects 8
- Removed Projects 3

Click on donut chart to sort map and project table.

Florida Forever Project Category Distribution



- Climate Change Lands 10
- Critical Historic Resources 3
- Critical Natural Lands 35

Click on donut chart to sort map and project table.



Florida Forever BOT Projects

- Adams Ranch
- Annutteliga Hammock
- Apalachicola River

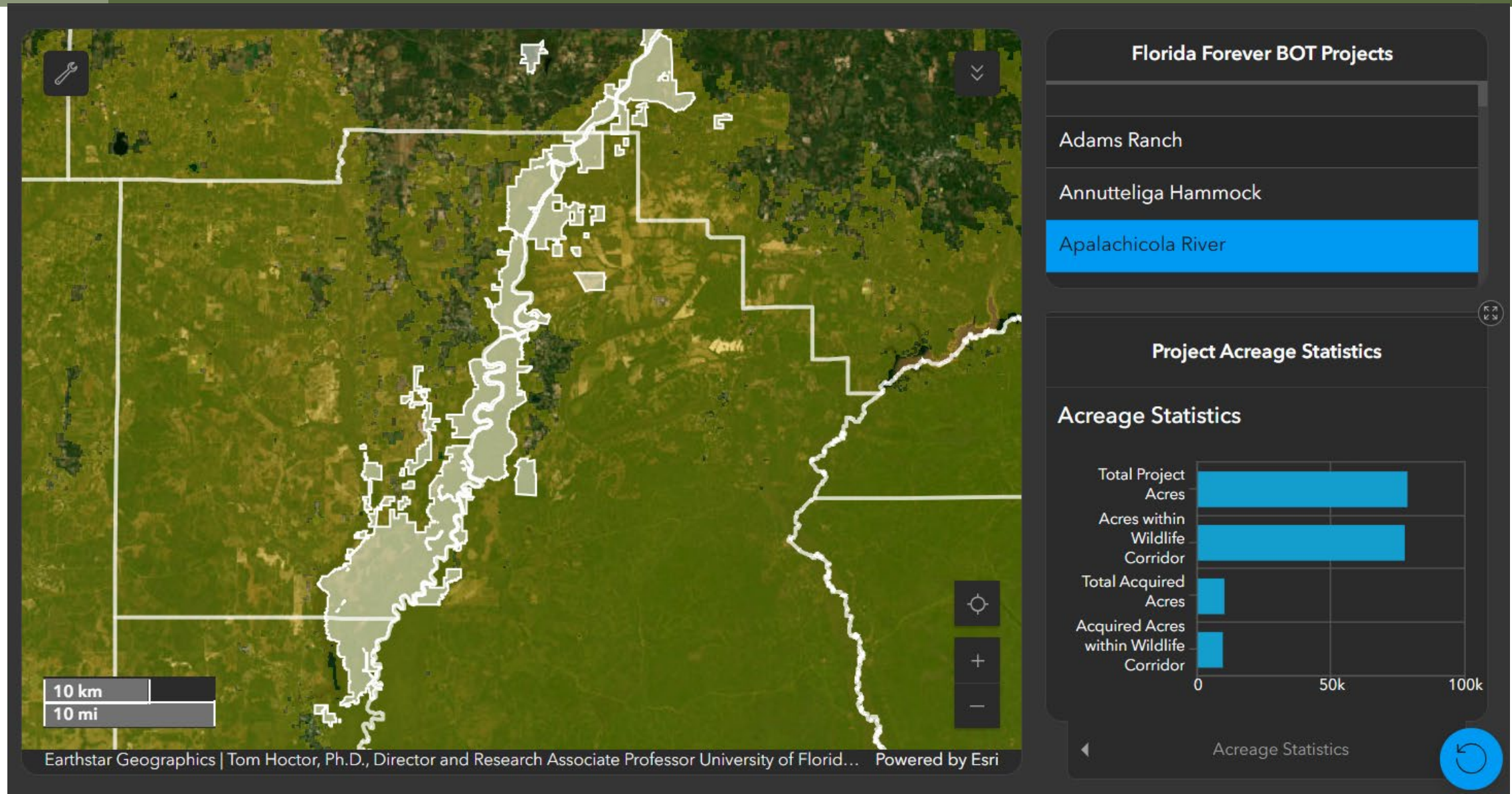
Project Acreage Statistics

Acreage Statistics

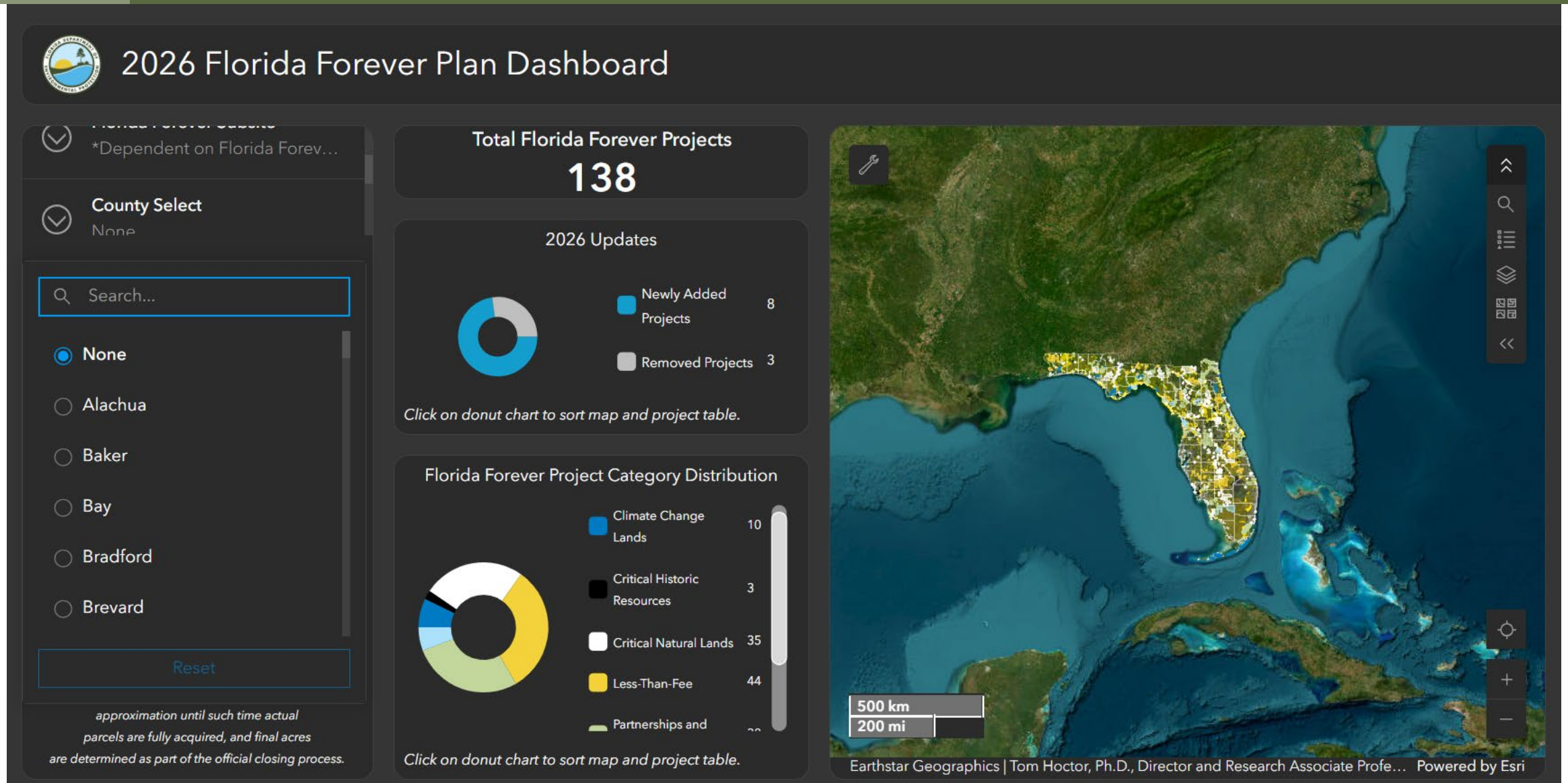


Acreage Statistics

Florida Forever Plan Dashboard

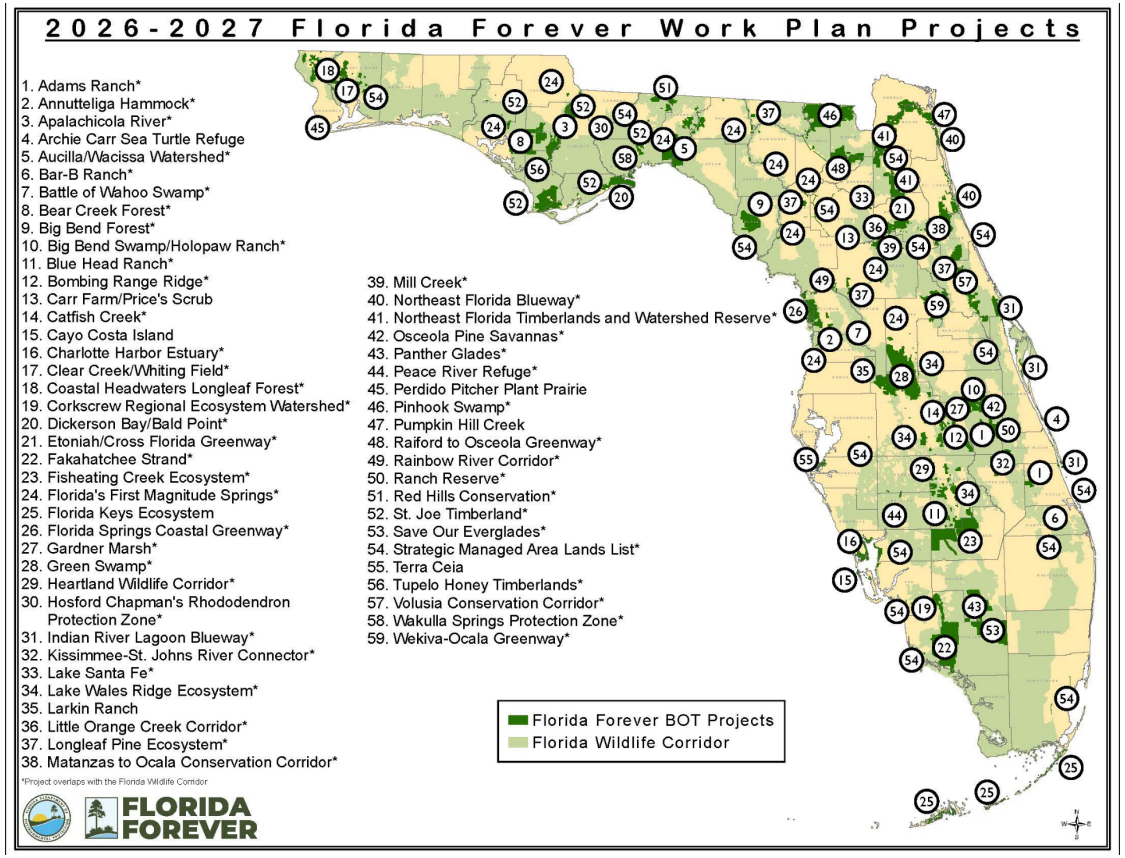


Florida Forever Plan Dashboard



Florida Forever Workplan

- Developed annually from the high/medium priority projects on the Priority List.
- Guides the annual expenditures of Florida Forever funding.
- Reports the balance of appropriations and identifies funding commitments and set asides for the upcoming fiscal year.



Current Status

- 138 projects on the Florida Forever Priority List
- Representing over 2 million acres statewide at a tax assessed value of almost $15.7 billion.
- Since 1963, Florida has conserved more than 4 million acres of land for environmental, recreational and preservation purposes.
- Over 1 million acres of land within Florida Forever has been protected!



Charlotte Harbor
Paul Marcellini

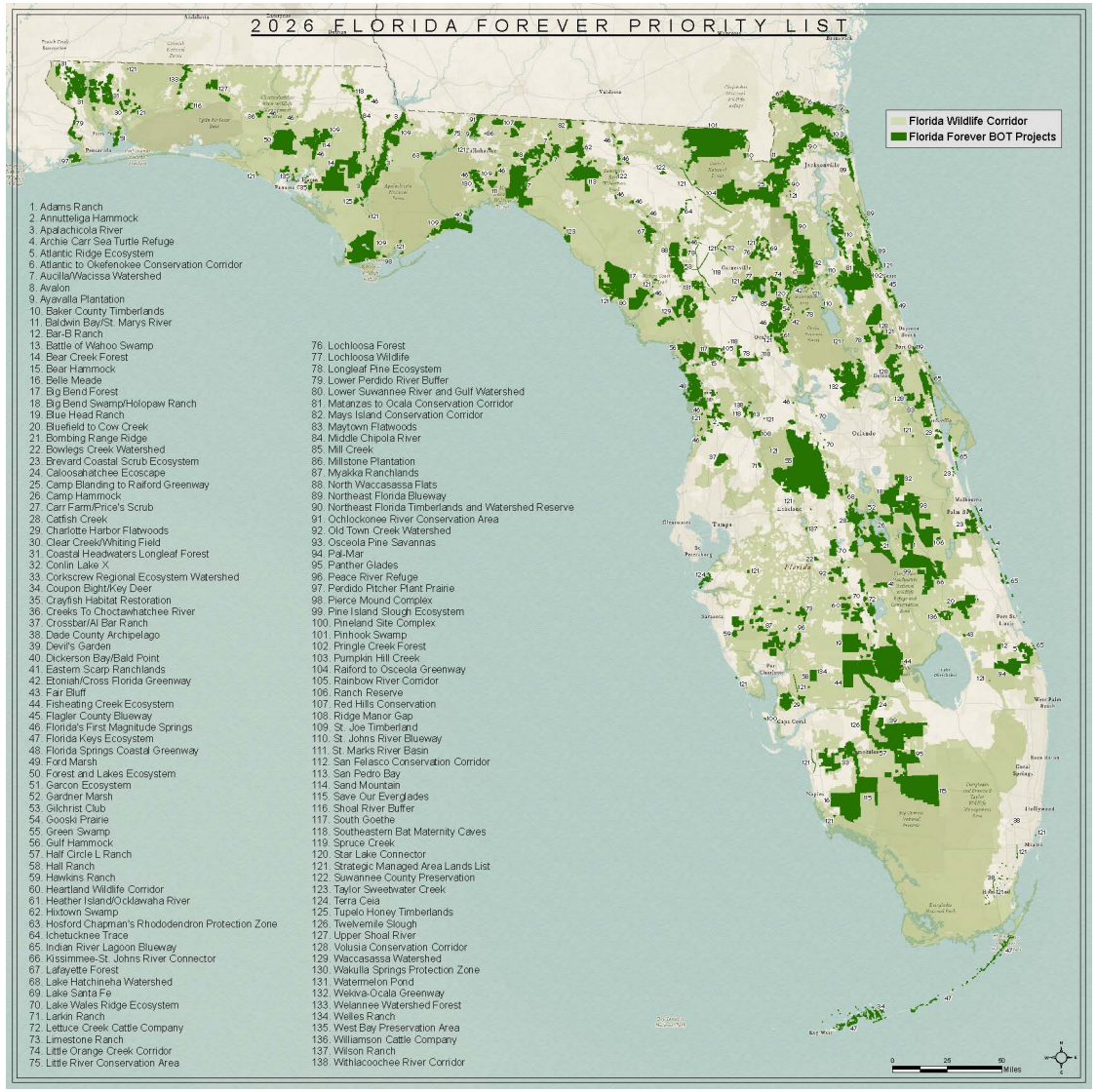
The Florida Wildlife Corridor Act

- The Florida legislature passed the **Florida Wildlife Corridor Act** (F.S 259.1055) in 2021.

- **<u>107</u> Florida Forever projects (77%)** currently fall within FEGN Priorities 1,2,3.



American alligator
George Mackenzie Jr./ Wildpath

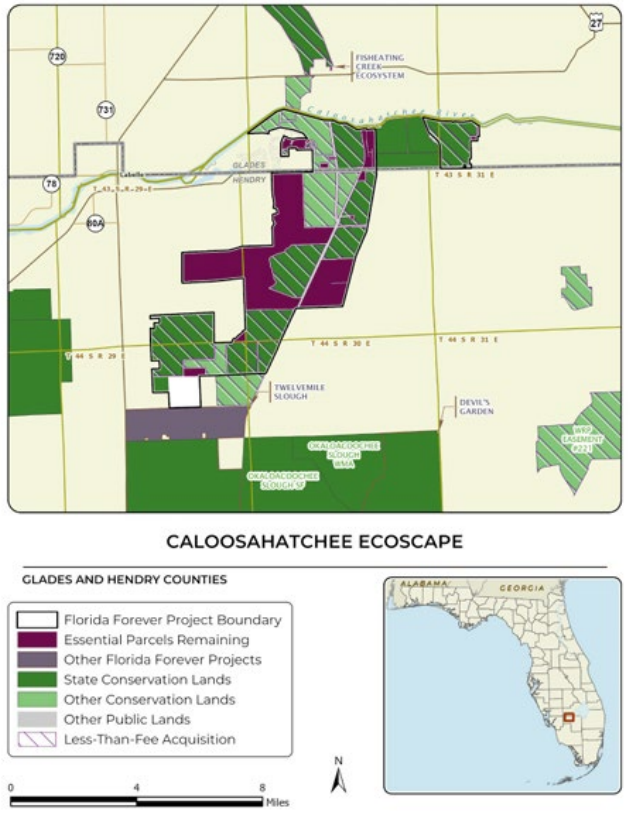


REVIEW

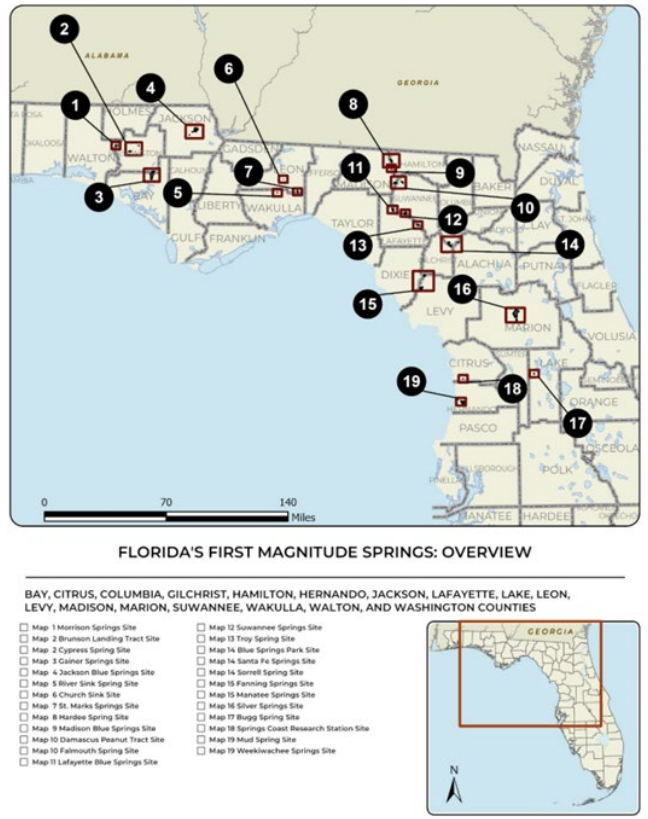
- Florida Forever is a willing seller program.
- Supports resource conservation and protection through fee simple or less-than-fee land acquisition.
- Fee-simple acquisitions are managed as state or local public conservation and recreation lands.
- Conservation easements are held by the Board of Trustees and monitored by the Division of State Lands.
- To be eligible for acquisition, a project must be on the Florida Forever Priority List.
- The Florida Forever Priority List is developed annually in December by the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) and submitted for final approval to the Board of Trustees (BOT).
- The Florida Forever Dashboard allows one to explore projects geospatially.

Florida Forever Projects

- A defined area that may contain a single parcel or multiple parcels with a single willing landowner or multiple willing landowners.
- Properties within projects do not need to be adjacent and can vary widely in size and condition.
- Cohesively the project will promote conservation at the landscape scale and/or contain resources of statewide or regional significance.



CALOOSAHATCHEE ECOSCAPE

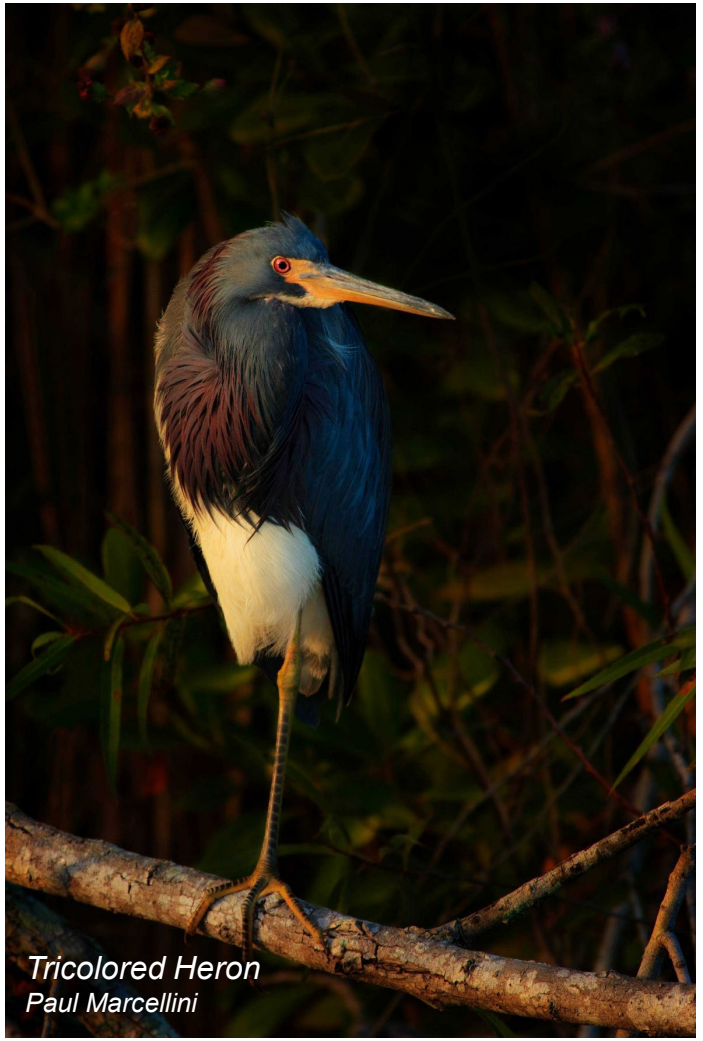


FLORIDA'S FIRST MAGNITUDE SPRINGS: OVERVIEW

Florida Forever Projects

- The Florida Forever Act (s. 259.105, Florida Statute) requires that land acquisition efforts be based on a comprehensive science-based assessment.

- Top ranked projects will meet multiple Florida Forever goals and criterion and therefore are given greater consideration for priority ranking and funding.



Tricolored Heron
Paul Marcellini

Florida Forever Goals, Measures & Criteria

Each project proposal must be evaluated on a series of numeric performance measures grouped into eight major goals:

- Connect existing conservation lands.
- Increase Florida's biodiversity and protect wildlife habitat.
- Protect and restore natural communities.
- Protect water quality and water quantity.
- Increase public outdoor recreational opportunities and public open space.
- Preserve archaeological and cultural sites.
- Increase the amount of forestland.
- Mitigate the effects of natural disasters.



Myakka River
Paul Marcellini.

Florida Forever Project Evaluation

- Quantitative evaluation based on the number of acres within the project that contribute to each numeric performance measure.
- The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) is prepared for each project by our partners at FNAI.
- Scores on individual measures are used for individual project evaluations and the annual priority ranking of all Florida Forever Projects.
- The process allows all projects to be prioritized based on a uniform set of data.

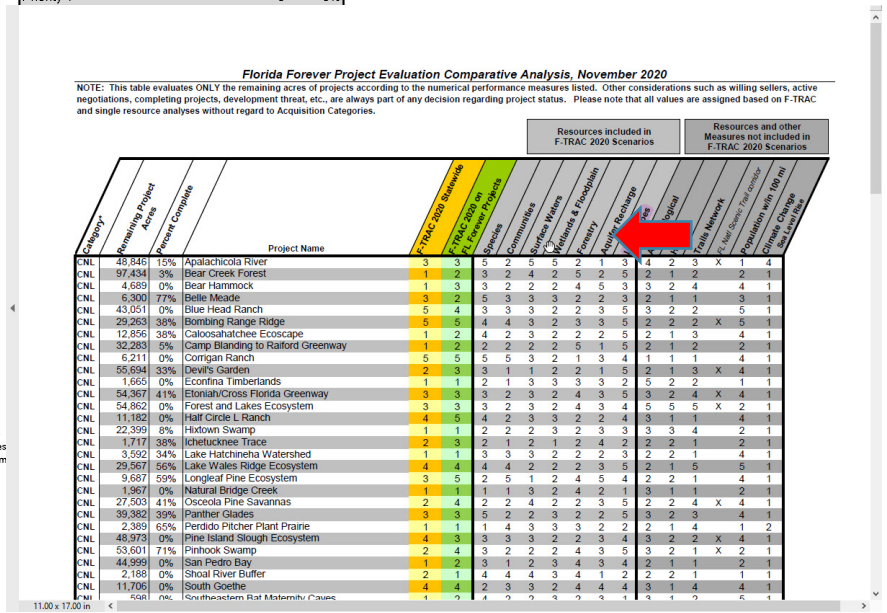
Adams Ranch II : Florida Forever Measure Evaluation 20210823

GIS ACRES = 27,387

MEASURES	Resource Acres[a]	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	9	< 1%
Priority 2	5,707	21%
Priority 3	4,352	16%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	339	1%
Total Acres	10,407	38%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	26	< 1%
Priority 3	3	< 1%
Priority 4	1,009	4%
Priority 5	2,239	8%
Priority 6	13,358	49%
Total Acres	16,635	61%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	9,794	36%
Priority 2	7,475	27%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	267	1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	17,535	64%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	40	< 1%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	1,253	5%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	895	3%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	2,188	8%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	1	
G4	1	
G5	11	
Total	13	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	104	< 1%
Priority 2	858	3%
Priority 3	2,427	9%
Priority 4	2,476	9%
Priority 5	2,151	8%
Priority 6	590	2%
Total Acres	8,605	31%

[a]Acres of each resource in the project and percentage of project repres
converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres[a]	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	2,877	11%
Priority 3	11	0%
Priority 4	10,257	37%
Priority 5	135	< 1%
Priority 6	13,961	51%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	27,242	99%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	92	< 1%
Priority 2	722	3%
Priority 3	1,666	6%
Priority 4	1,290	5%
Priority 5	713	3%
Priority 6	61	< 1%
Total Acres	4,544	17%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%



Florida Forever Project Evaluation Comparative Analysis, November 2020

NOTE: This table evaluates ONLY the remaining acres of projects according to the numerical performance measures listed. Other considerations such as willing sellers, active negotiations, completing projects, development threat, etc., are always part of any decision regarding project status. Please note that all values are assigned based on F-TRAC and single resource analyses without regard to Acquisition Categories.

Resources included in F-TRAC 2020 Scenarios | Resources and other Measures not included in F-TRAC 2020 Scenarios

Category*	Remaining Project Acres	Percent Complete	Project Name	F-TRAC 2020 Statewide	F-TRAC 2020 on FL Forever Projects	Species	Communities	Surface Waters	Wetlands & Floodplain	Forestry	Aquifer Recharge	Trails Network	Population within 100 mi	Climate Change Sea Level Rise
CNL	48,846	15%	Apalachicola River	3	3	5	2	5	5	2	1	3	4	1
CNL	97,434	3%	Bear Creek Forest	1	2	3	2	4	2	5	2	2	2	1
CNL	4,689	0%	Bear Hammock	1	3	3	2	2	2	4	5	3	3	2	4	4	1
CNL	6,300	77%	Belle Meade	3	2	5	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	1	1	3	1
CNL	43,051	0%	Blue Head Ranch	5	4	3	3	3	2	2	3	5	3	2	2	5	1
CNL	29,263	38%	Bombing Range Ridge	5	5	4	4	3	2	3	3	5	2	2	2	5	1
CNL	12,856	38%	Caloosahatchee Ecoscape	1	2	4	2	3	2	2	2	5	2	1	3	4	1
CNL	32,283	5%	Camp Blanding to Raiford Greenway	1	2	2	2	2	2	5	1	5	2	1	2	2	1
CNL	6,211	0%	Corrigan Ranch	5	5	5	5	3	2	1	3	4	1	1	1	4	1
CNL	55,694	33%	Devil's Garden	2	3	3	1	1	2	2	1	5	2	1	3	4	1
CNL	1,665	0%	Econfina Timberlands	1	1	2	1	3	3	3	2	5	2	2		1	1
CNL	54,367	41%	Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway	3	3	3	2	3	2	4	3	5	3	2	4	4	1
CNL	54,862	0%	Forest and Lakes Ecosystem	3	3	3	2	3	2	4	3	4	5	5	5	2	1
CNL	11,182	0%	Half Circle L Ranch	4	5	4	2	3	3	2	2	4	3	1	1	4	1
CNL	22,399	8%	Hixtown Swamp	1	1	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	4	2	1
CNL	1,717	38%	Ichetucknee Trace	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	4	2	2	2	1	2	1
CNL	9,592	34%	Lake Hatchinena Watershed	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	4	1
CNL	29,567	56%	Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	3	5	2	1	5	5	1
CNL	9,687	59%	Longleaf Pine Ecosystem	3	5	2	5	1	2	4	5	4	2	2	1	4	1
CNL	1,967	0%	Natural Bridge Creek	1	1	1	1	3	2	4	2	1	3	1	1	2	1
CNL	27,503	41%	Osceola Pine Savannas	2	4	2	2	4	2	2	3	5	2	2	4	4	1
CNL	39,382	39%	Panther Glades	3	3	5	2	2	3	2	2	5	3	2	3	4	1
CNL	2,389	65%	Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie	1	1	1	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	4	1	2
CNL	48,973	0%	Pine Island Slough Ecosystem	4	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	4	3	2	2	4	1
CNL	53,601	71%	Pinhook Swamp	2	4	3	2	2	2	4	3	5	3	2	1	2	1
CNL	44,999	0%	San Pedro Bay	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	3	4	2	1	1	2	1
CNL	2,188	0%	Shoal River Buffer	2	1	4	4	4	3	4	1	2	2	2	1	1	1
CNL	11,706	0%	South Goethe	4	4	2	3	3	2	4	4	4	3	1	4	4	1
CNL	598	0%	Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves	1	2	4	2	2	3	2	3	1	3	1	2	5	1

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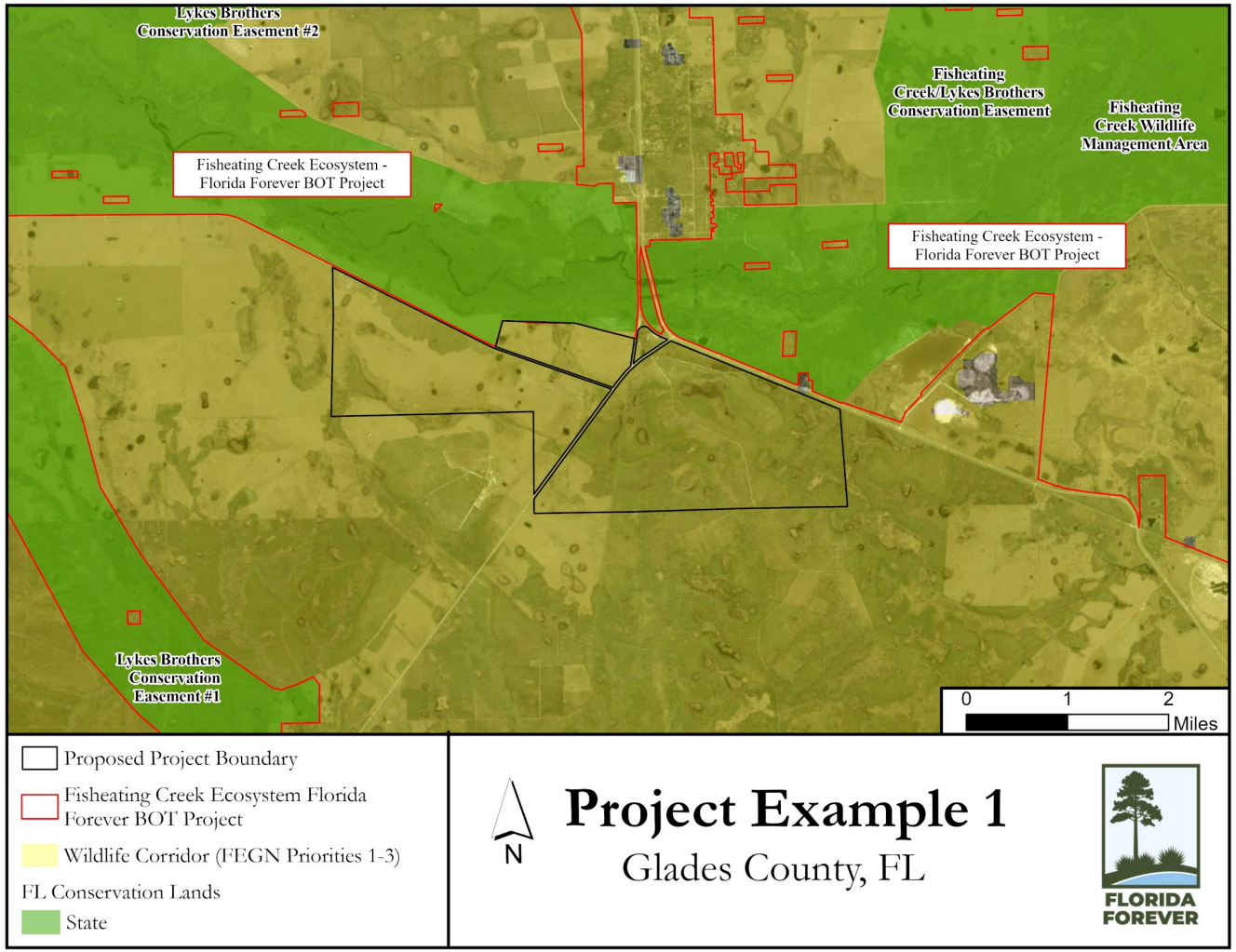
Florida Forever Goals, Measures & Criteria

ARC gives weight to additional specific criteria such as:

- Does the project enhance or facilitate management of properties already under public ownership?
- Does the project have significant archaeological or historic value?
- Is the project in imminent danger of losing its natural attributes or value as recreational open space?
- Does the project overlap with the US military's need to protect lands, water, and habitat and ensure the sustainability of military missions?



Project Example



- ±4,255 acres located in Glades County
- Priority 1 of the Florida Ecological Greenways Network
- Located adjacent to the Fisheating Creek Ecosystem Florida Forever project
- Current Uses: cattle grazing, hunting, recreation
- Proposed for less-than-fee acquisition

Florida Forever Measures Evaluation

B1 – Strategic Habitat Areas – 99%
B2 – Habitat Conservation Priorities – 98%
B3 – Ecological Greenways – 100%
B4 – Rare Natural Communities – 18%
C4 – Natural Floodplain Function – 28%
C5 – Surface Water Protection – 100%
C7 – Fragile Coastal Resources – 0%
C8 – Functional Wetlands – 30%
D3 – Aquifer Recharge – 100%
E2 – Recreational Trails – 11%
G1 – Sustainable Forestry – 24%
G2 – Forestland for Recharge – 3%

Landowner Stewardship

Once a conservation easement is purchased, Florida Forever encourages landowners to:

- Manage invasive species
  - Florida Invasive Species Council
- Balance natural and working landscapes
- Use prescribed fire
- Practice sustainable forestry
- Restore natural areas
- Work with our partners at FFS and FWC for assistance



Florida's 1st Magnitude Springs (Yana Spring)
John Moran

Additional Resources for Land Conservation and Acquisition

State

- Land and Recreation Grants
  - Florida Communities Trust
  - Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program
- Land and Water Conservation Fund "LWCF Stateside"
- Rural and Family Lands Protection Program

Federal

- Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund
- Forest Legacy (U.S. Forest Service)
- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Everglades to Gulf Conservation Area
- Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program

Local Government Conservation Programs – Private/Non-Profit

- Land Trust Alliance



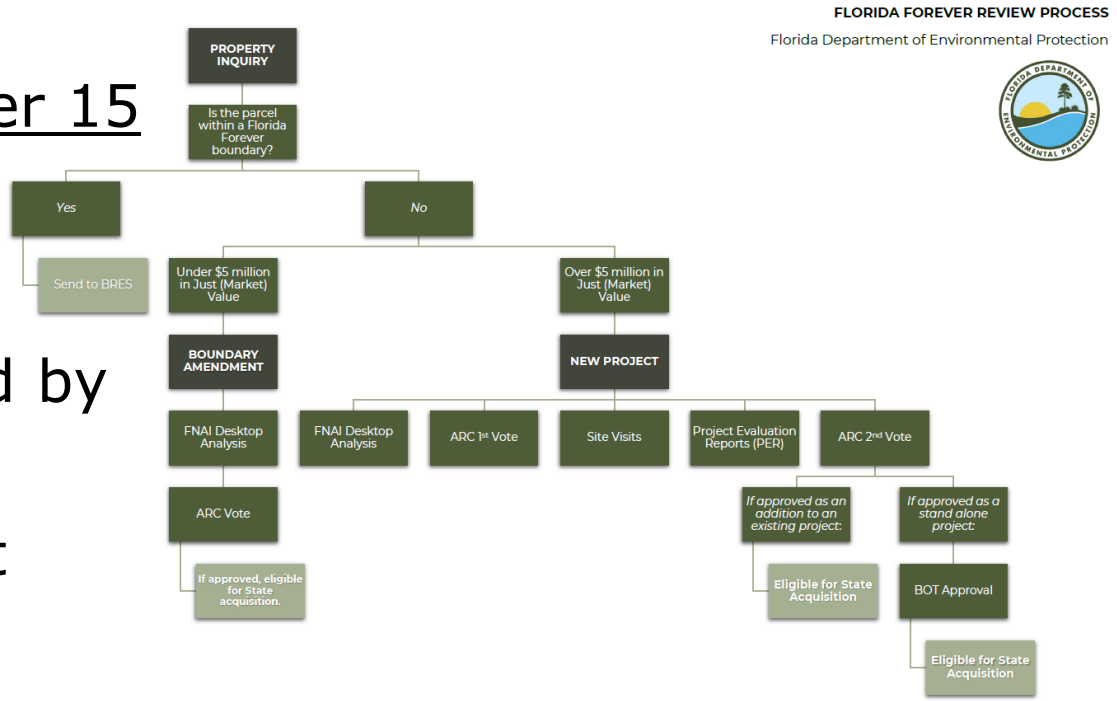
Ranch Reserve
Lauren Yoho

REVIEW

- Take the time to evaluate your projects based on the Florida Forever Goals, Measures and Criteria.
- Florida Forever projects can vary in size, condition and geographic distribution.
- Projects may contain multiple ownerships and properties do not need to be adjacent.
- Projects promote conservation at the landscape scale and/or contain resources of statewide or regional significance.
- Landowner stewardship is an important consideration when reviewing a Florida Forever proposal.
- Alternative land conservation programs may be appropriate for your project.

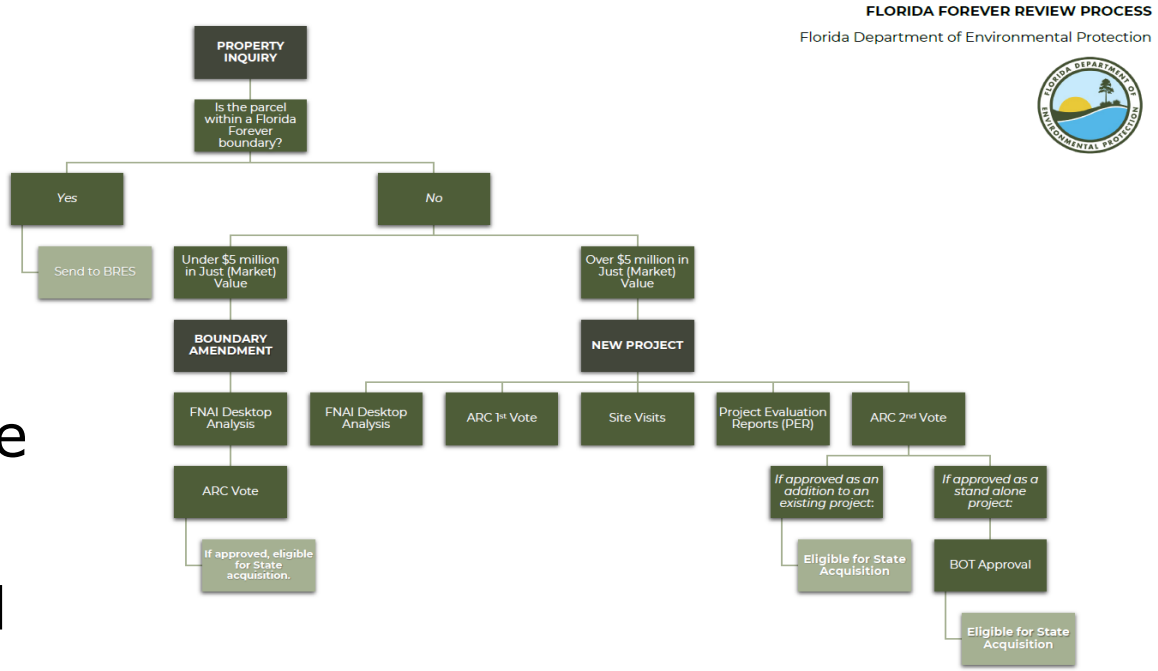
Florida Forever Process – New Projects

- Two Florida Forever project application cycles a year.
- New project applications are due by October 15 (Cycle One) and April 15 (Cycle Two).
- Preliminary evaluation and **1st vote**.
- An on-site project assessment is conducted by an interagency team.
- Regional Public Hearings are held to accept public testimony.
- A Project Evaluation Report (PER) is compiled and vote to add the project(s) to the Florida Forever Priority List , **2nd vote**.



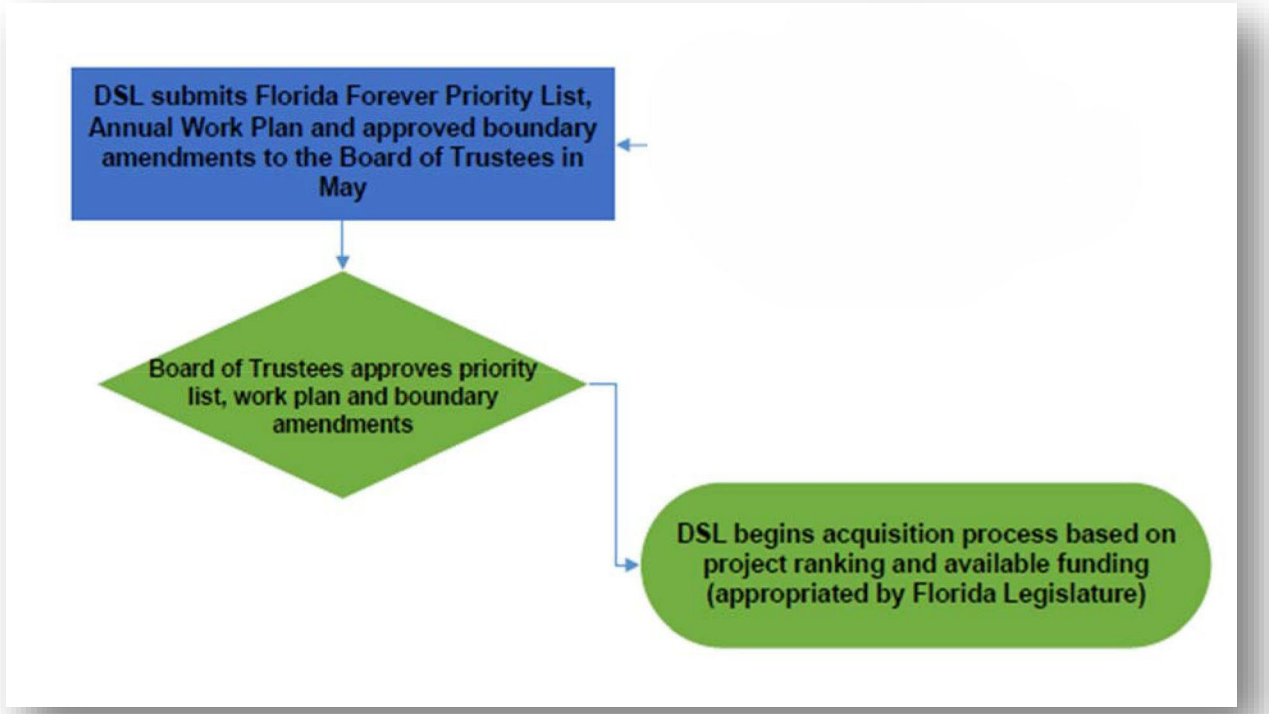
Florida Forever Process – Boundary Amendments

- Current Florida Forever projects may be modified via the expedited boundary amendment process.
- Boundary amendments may not exceed $5,000,000 in tax assessed value (just market value).
- Can be considered by ARC throughout the year.
- ARC members vote on whether to amend the project boundary, **1st and final vote**.



Florida Forever Process – Approval for Acquisition

- Each December, ARC members rank all projects by category to develop the Florida Forever Priority List.
- In the spring of each year following ranking, the Florida Forever Priority List and Annual Work Plan are submitted to the BOT for final approval.
- Subject to appropriation by the Florida Legislature, projects may be pursued for acquisition, according to rank and available funding.



Florida Forever Application

- Applicants can be landowners, private citizens, local governments, non-profit organizations, real estate professionals, etc.
- Project sponsors may partner with others in order to complete the application.
- Florida Forever is a willing seller program. The application **must** contain a landowner signature.
- Florida Forever requires a management commitment for fee-simple acquisitions. The application **must** identify a proposed land manager.



Limpkins
Paul Marcellini

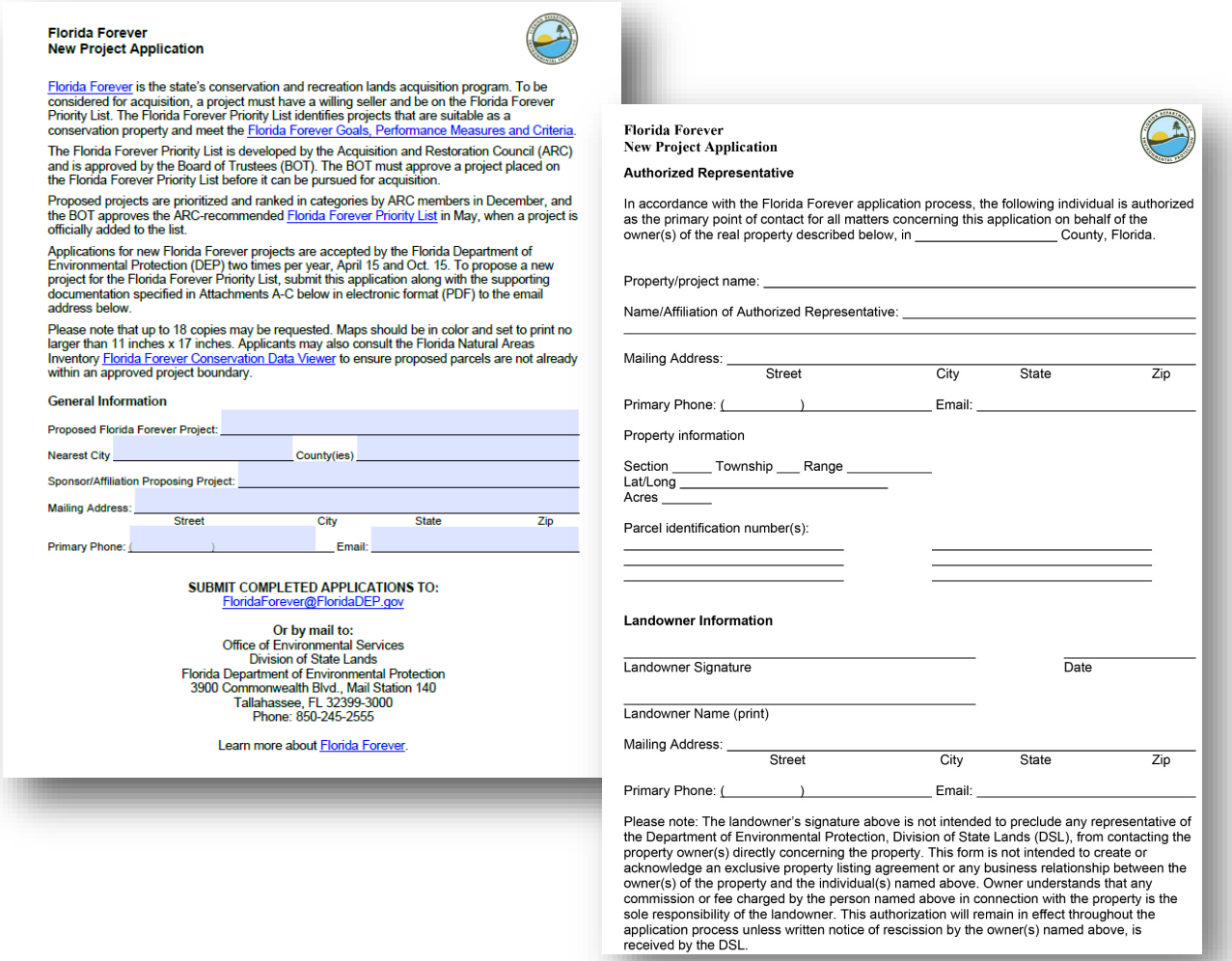
PLEASE CONTACT US BEFORE YOU APPLY!

Florida Forever Applications

Download the application form(s):

Link to New Project Application:
https://floridadep.gov/lands/environmental-services/forms/application-new-florida-forever-project

Link to Boundary Amendment Application:
https://floridadep.gov/lands/environmental-services/forms/application-boundary-amendment-existing-florida-forever-project



Florida Forever
New Project Application

Florida Forever is the state's conservation and recreation lands acquisition program. To be considered for acquisition, a project must have a willing seller and be on the Florida Forever Priority List. The Florida Forever Priority List identifies projects that are suitable as a conservation property and meet the Florida Forever Goals, Performance Measures and Criteria.

The Florida Forever Priority List is developed by the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) and is approved by the Board of Trustees (BOT). The BOT must approve a project placed on the Florida Forever Priority List before it can be pursued for acquisition.

Proposed projects are prioritized and ranked in categories by ARC members in December, and the BOT approves the ARC-recommended Florida Forever Priority List in May, when a project is officially added to the list.

Applications for new Florida Forever projects are accepted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) two times per year, April 15 and Oct. 15. To propose a new project for the Florida Forever Priority List, submit this application along with the supporting documentation specified in Attachments A-C below in electronic format (PDF) to the email address below.

Please note that up to 18 copies may be requested. Maps should be in color and set to print no larger than 11 inches x 17 inches. Applicants may also consult the Florida Natural Areas Inventory Florida Forever Conservation Data Viewer to ensure proposed parcels are not already within an approved project boundary.

General Information

Proposed Florida Forever Project: _____

Nearest City _____ County(ies) _____

Sponsor/Affiliation Proposing Project: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Primary Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:
FloridaForever@FloridaDEP.gov

Or by mail to:
Office of Environmental Services
Division of State Lands
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Mail Station 140
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000
Phone: 850-245-2555

Learn more about Florida Forever.

Florida Forever
New Project Application

Authorized Representative

In accordance with the Florida Forever application process, the following individual is authorized as the primary point of contact for all matters concerning this application on behalf of the owner(s) of the real property described below, in _____ County, Florida.

Property/project name: _____

Name/Affiliation of Authorized Representative: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Primary Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Property information

Section _____ Township ___ Range _____
Lat/Long _____
Acres _____

Parcel identification number(s):

_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

Landowner Information

_____ _____
Landowner Signature Date

_____
Landowner Name (print)

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

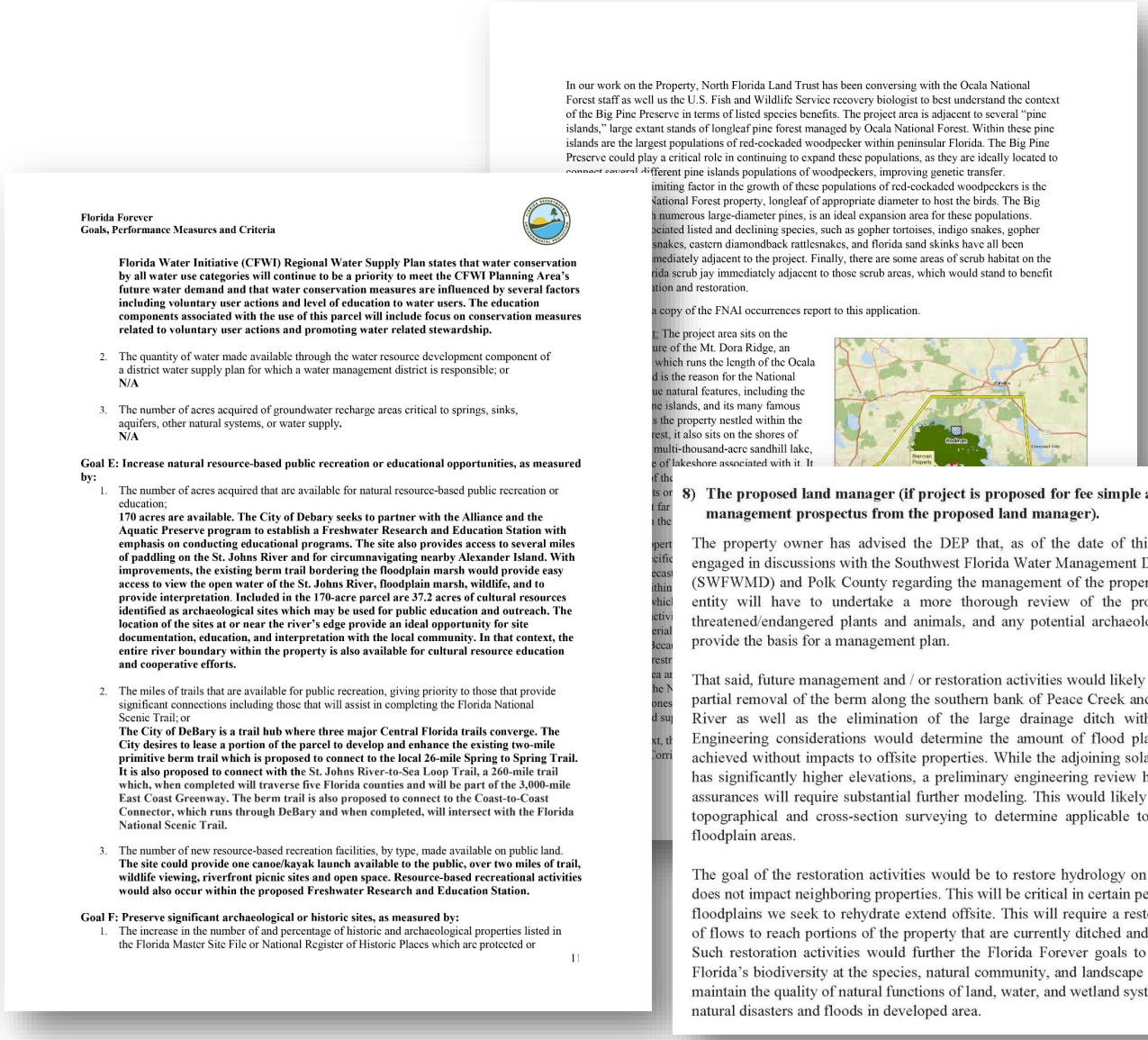
Primary Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Please note: The landowner's signature above is not intended to preclude any representative of the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands (DSL), from contacting the property owner(s) directly concerning the property. This form is not intended to create or acknowledge an exclusive property listing agreement or any business relationship between the owner(s) of the property and the individual(s) named above. Owner understands that any commission or fee charged by the person named above in connection with the property is the sole responsibility of the landowner. This authorization will remain in effect throughout the application process unless written notice of rescission by the owner(s) named above, is received by the DSL.

Florida Forever Application – Supporting Documentation

Attachment A.
A general narrative of the land proposed for acquisition.

- Complete resource description.
- Address the Florida Forever Goals, Measures and Criteria.
- The proposed land manager and proposed land management activities for fee-simple acquisitions.
- Amendment to s. 253.0251, F.S., requires justification for full fee simple interest in acquisition plans.



In our work on the Property, North Florida Land Trust has been conversing with the Ocala National Forest staff as well us the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recovery biologist to best understand the context of the Big Pine Preserve in terms of listed species benefits. The project area is adjacent to several "pine islands," large extant stands of longleaf pine forest managed by Ocala National Forest. Within these pine islands are the largest populations of red-cockaded woodpecker within peninsular Florida. The Big Pine Preserve could play a critical role in continuing to expand these populations, as they are ideally located to connect several different pine islands populations of woodpeckers, improving genetic transfer.

limiting factor in the growth of these populations of red-cockaded woodpeckers is the National Forest property, longleaf of appropriate diameter to host the birds. The Big numerous large-diameter pines, is an ideal expansion area for these populations. ociated listed and declining species, such as gopher tortoises, indigo snakes, gopher snakes, eastern diamondback rattlesnakes, and florida sand skinks have all been mediately adjacent to the project. Finally, there are some areas of scrub habitat on the rida scrub jay immediately adjacent to those scrub areas, which would stand to benefit tion and restoration.

a copy of the FNAI occurrences report to this application.

t; The project area sits on the ure of the Mt. Dora Ridge, an which runs the length of the Ocala d is the reason for the National ue natural features, including the ne islands, and its many famous s the property nestled within the rest, it also sits on the shores of multi-thousand-acre sandhill lake, e of lakeshore associated with it. It

Florida Forever
Goals, Performance Measures and Criteria

Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) Regional Water Supply Plan states that water conservation by all water use categories will continue to be a priority to meet the CFWI Planning Area's future water demand and that water conservation measures are influenced by several factors including voluntary user actions and level of education to water users. The education components associated with the use of this parcel will include focus on conservation measures related to voluntary user actions and promoting water related stewardship.

2. The quantity of water made available through the water resource development component of a district water supply plan for which a water management district is responsible; or
N/A

3. The number of acres acquired of groundwater recharge areas critical to springs, sinks, aquifers, other natural systems, or water supply.
N/A

Goal E: Increase natural resource-based public recreation or educational opportunities, as measured by:

1. The number of acres acquired that are available for natural resource-based public recreation or education;
170 acres are available. The City of Debary seeks to partner with the Alliance and the Aquatic Preserve program to establish a Freshwater Research and Education Station with emphasis on conducting educational programs. The site also provides access to several miles of paddling on the St. Johns River and for circumnavigating nearby Alexander Island. With improvements, the existing berm trail bordering the floodplain marsh would provide easy access to view the open water of the St. Johns River, floodplain marsh, wildlife, and to provide interpretation. Included in the 170-acre parcel are 37.2 acres of cultural resources identified as archaeological sites which may be used for public education and outreach. The location of the sites at or near the river's edge provide an ideal opportunity for site documentation, education, and interpretation with the local community. In that context, the entire river boundary within the property is also available for cultural resource education and cooperative efforts.

2. 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; or
The City of DeBary is a trail hub where three major Central Florida trails converge. The City desires to lease a portion of the parcel to develop and enhance the existing two-mile primitive berm trail which is proposed to connect to the local 26-mile Spring to Spring Trail. It is also proposed to connect with the St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop Trail, a 260-mile trail which, when completed will traverse five Florida counties and will be part of the 3,000-mile East Coast Greenway. The berm trail is also proposed to connect to the Coast-to-Coast Connector, which runs through DeBary and when completed, will intersect with the Florida National Scenic Trail.

3. The number of new resource-based recreation facilities, by type, made available on public land.
The site could provide one canoe/kayak launch available to the public, over two miles of trail, wildlife viewing, riverfront picnic sites and open space. Resource-based recreational activities would also occur within the proposed Freshwater Research and Education Station.

Goal F: Preserve significant archaeological or historic sites, as measured by:

1. 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 which are protected or

11

8) The proposed land manager (if project is proposed for fee simple acquisition, also provide a management prospectus from the proposed land manager).

The property owner has advised the DEP that, as of the date of this application, they remain engaged in discussions with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and Polk County regarding the management of the property. The final management entity will have to undertake a more thorough review of the properties natural resources, threatened/endangered plants and animals, and any potential archaeological and cultural sites to provide the basis for a management plan.

That said, future management and / or restoration activities would likely include the complete or partial removal of the berm along the southern bank of Peace Creek and the eastern bank of Peace River as well as the elimination of the large drainage ditch with associated water pump. Engineering considerations would determine the amount of flood plain restoration that can be achieved without impacts to offsite properties. While the adjoining solar farm property to the east has significantly higher elevations, a preliminary engineering review has indicated that "no-rise" assurances will require substantial further modeling. This would likely involve substantial on site topographical and cross-section surveying to determine applicable tolerances to re-hydrate the floodplain areas.

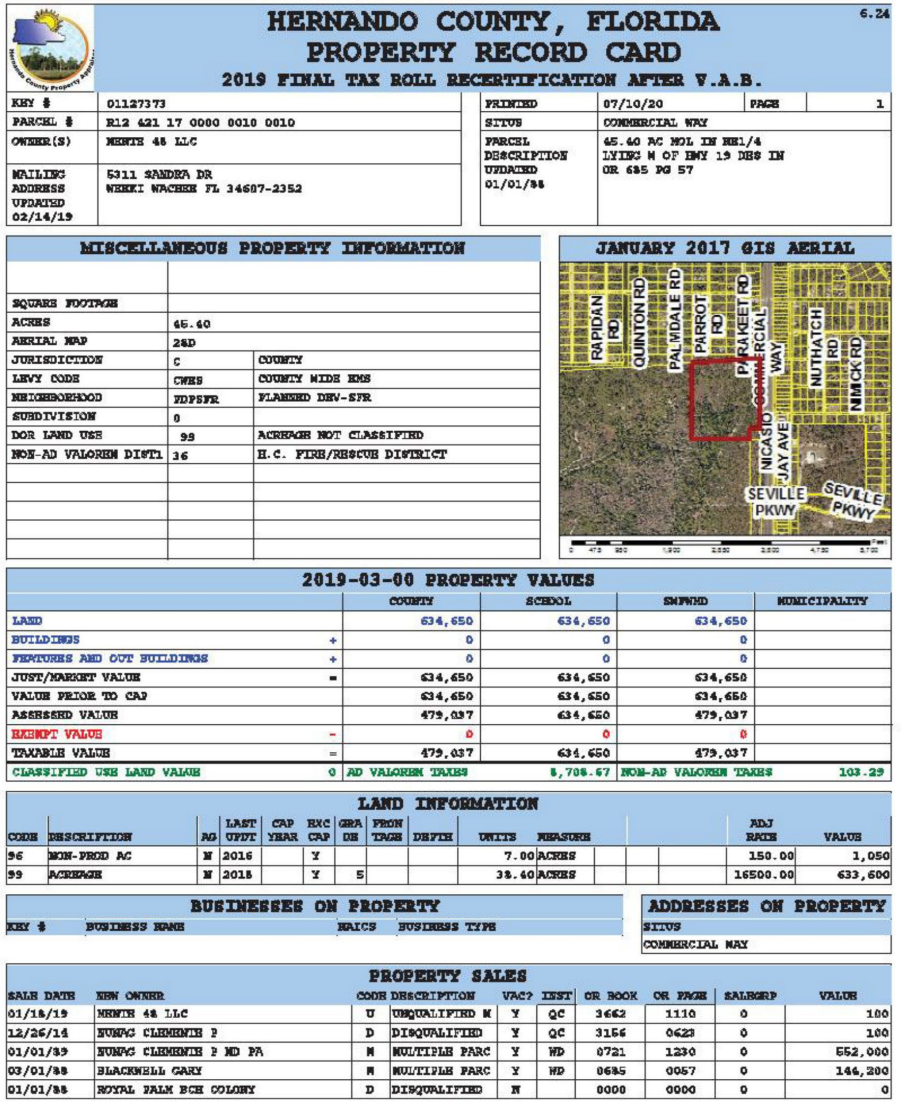
The goal of the restoration activities would be to restore hydrology on the property in a way that does not impact neighboring properties. This will be critical in certain peripheral areas where the floodplains we seek to rehydrate extend offsite. This will require a restoration plan with diversion of flows to reach portions of the property that are currently ditched and routed to the Peace River. Such restoration activities would further the Florida Forever goals to increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels; protect, restore, and maintain the quality of natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems; mitigate the effects of natural disasters and floods in developed area.

Florida Forever Application – Supporting Documentation

Attachment B.
Ownership and tax information

- Copy of the county property appraiser's property tax card for each parcel of land within the proposal.

- A letter from each property owner confirming their willingness to sell or a statement from the applicant asserting that each owner has been contacted.



HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROPERTY RECORD CARD
2019 FINAL TAX ROLL RECERTIFICATION AFTER V.A.B.

6.24

KEY #	01127373	PRINTED	07/10/20	PAGE	1
PARCEL #	R12 421 17 0000 0010 0010	SITUS	COMMERCIAL WAY		
OWNER(S)	MENTE 48 LLC	PARCEL DESCRIPTION UPDATED 01/01/88	65.40 AC MOL IN NE1/4 LYING N OF HWY 19 DES IN OR 685 PG 57		
MAILING ADDRESS UPDATED 02/14/19	5311 SANDRA DR WESKI WACHEE FL 34607-2352				

MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTY INFORMATION

SQUARE FOOTAGE		
ACRES	65.40	
AERIAL MAP	28D	
JURISDICTION	C	COUNTY
LEVY CODE	CWHS	COUNTY WIDE HMS
NEIGHBORHOOD	PDPSFR	PLANNED DEV-SFR
SUBDIVISION	0	
DOR LAND USE	99	ACREAGE NOT CLASSIFIED
NON-AD VALOREM DIST1	36	H.C. FIRE/RESCUE DISTRICT

JANUARY 2017 GIS AERIAL

2019-03-00 PROPERTY VALUES

		COUNTY	SCHOOL	SWFWMD	MUNICIPALITY
LAND		634,650	634,650	634,650	
BUILDINGS	+	0	0	0	
FEATURES AND OUT BUILDINGS	+	0	0	0	
JUST/MARKET VALUE	=	634,650	634,650	634,650	
VALUE PRIOR TO CAP		634,650	634,650	634,650	
ASSESSED VALUE		479,037	634,650	479,037	
EXEMPT VALUE	-	0	0	0	
TAXABLE VALUE	=	479,037	634,650	479,037	
CLASSIFIED USE LAND VALUE	0	AD VALOREM TAXES	8,708.67	NON-AD VALOREM TAXES	103.29

LAND INFORMATION

CODE	DESCRIPTION	AG	LAST UPDT	CAP YEAR	EXC CAP	GRA DE	FRON TAGE	DEPTH	UNITS	MEASURE				ADJ RATE	VALUE
96	NON-PROD AC	N	2016		Y				7.00	ACRES				150.00	1,050
99	ACREAGE	N	2018		Y	5			38.40	ACRES				16500.00	633,600

BUSINESSES ON PROPERTY

KEY #	BUSINESS NAME	NAICS	BUSINESS TYPE

ADDRESSES ON PROPERTY

SITUS
COMMERCIAL WAY

PROPERTY SALES

SALE DATE	NEW OWNER	CODE	DESCRIPTION	VAC?	INST	OR BOOK	OR PAGE	SALEGRP	VALUE
01/15/19	MENTE 48 LLC	U	UNQUALIFIED M	Y	QC	3662	1110	0	100
12/26/14	NUNAG CLEMENTE P	D	DISQUALIFIED	Y	QC	3156	0623	0	100
01/01/89	NUNAG CLEMENTE P MD PA	M	MULTIPLE PARC	Y	WD	0721	1230	0	552,000
03/01/88	BLACKWELL GARY	M	MULTIPLE PARC	Y	WD	0685	0057	0	146,200
01/01/88	ROYAL PALM ECH COLONY	D	DISQUALIFIED	N		0000	0000	0	0

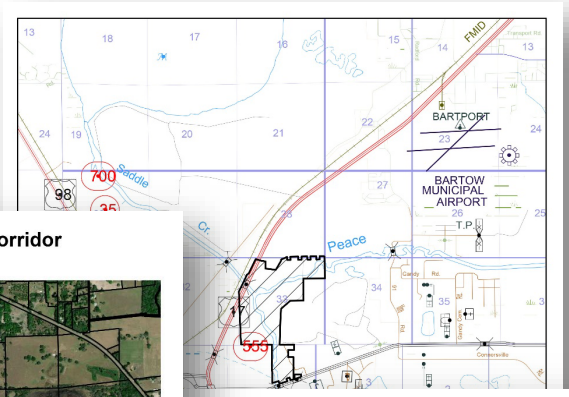
Florida Forever Application – Supporting Documentation

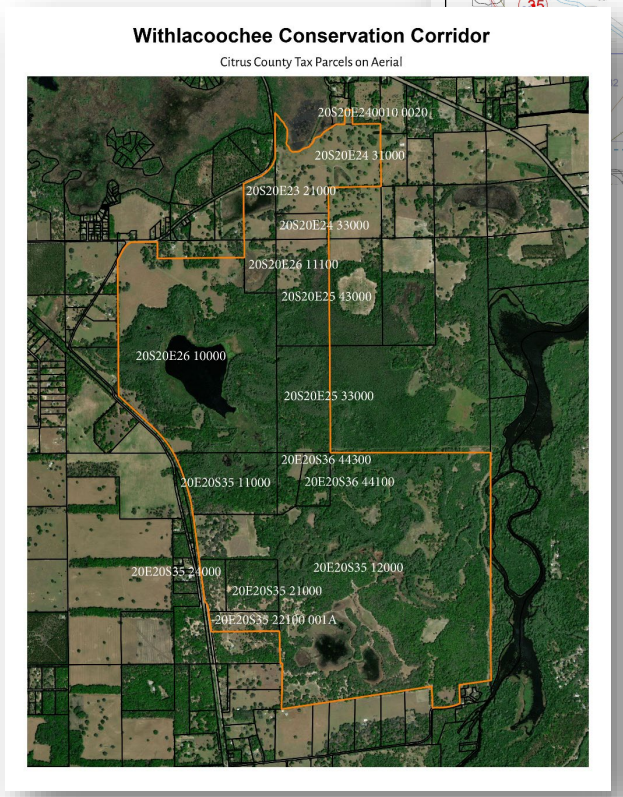
Attachment C.
Maps and Aerial Photographs

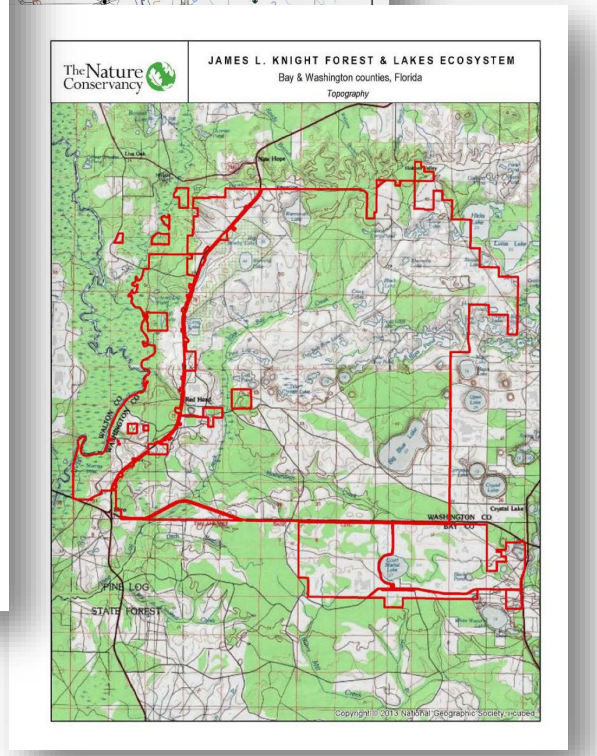
- Provide shapefiles, if you can.
- U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle map.
- County tax maps, overlain on aerials if available.
- Florida Department of Transportation county highway maps.

RESOURCES:

- DEP Map Direct
- FNAI Conservation Lands Interactive Map
- County Property Appraiser Website







REVIEW

- The process may take up to 18 months from the date of application until the property is eligible for acquisition.
- New project proposals are due by **October 15** and **April 15** of each year. Boundary amendments may be submitted throughout the year.
- Anyone may sponsor a project.
- Florida Forever is a willing seller program; landowner signatures are required.
- Fee-simple projects must identify an appropriate land manager and provide a justification for why full fee-simple interest is desired.
- If the proposal is on another state acquisition list, please state which one.
- A complete application is expected by the deadline and includes a *thorough* discussion on the Florida Forever Goals Measures and Criteria.

CONTACT US

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FloridaForever@FloridaDEP.gov

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Paige.Kraker@FloridaDEP.gov
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Thank you for attending!