

Little River Conservation Area

Less-Than-Fee

Gadsden

<i>Year Added to Priority List</i>	2004
<i>Project Acres</i>	2,293
<i>Acquired Acres</i>	0
<i>Cost of Acquired Acres</i>	\$0
<i>Remaining Project Acres</i>	2,293
<i>2020 Assessed Value of Remaining Acres</i>	\$6,141,438

Purpose for State Acquisition

The Little River Conservation Area project would protect a portion of the Little River watershed while maintaining a scenic and undeveloped rural area outside an expanding urban area. The project will preserve habitat for wildlife and game species, protect forested land, and provide support for the owner's ongoing efforts to restore the property to a natural longleaf pine community. This will increase protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels through protection, restoration and maintenance of the quality and natural functions of the land, water, and wetland systems of the site while increasing the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources. Due to its proximity to the Lake Talquin State Forest, managed by FFS, and Joe Budd WMA, managed by FWC, acquiring Little River Conservation Area will enhance coordination and completion of other land acquisition projects.

General Description

The Little River Conservation Area is situated within the Tallahassee Red Hills region and consists of an upland ridge about 2.4 miles long and 0.75 miles wide. This area forms the drainage divide between the Little River on its northwest side and its tributary, Hurricane Creek, on the southeast side. The original upland natural community was upland pine forest or sandhill. Approximately sixty-three percent of the southern end of the property is pine plantation. Hardwood slope forest occupies the steeper slopes that extend for nearly a mile above the Little River. The remainder of the project is occupied by floodplain/bottomland forest and floodplain swamp along the drainage ways with the higher transitional areas in baygall and wet flatwoods. The western portion of the project encompasses about 375 acres of floodplain along Little River at its confluence with Quincy Creek.

FNAI Element Occurrence Summary

FNAI Elements	Score
Florida black bear	G5T4/S4
<i>pyramid magnolia</i>	G4/S3
<i>mountain laurel</i>	G5/S3

Public Use

Little River Conservation Area is proposed for less-than-fee acquisition and does not provide for public access.

Acquisition Planning

2004

The project has 2,057 acres in east-central Gadsden County under a single ownership and is proposed for less-than-fee acquisition. The Woodlands Company, Inc. of Quincy Florida, submitted this project. The Gadsden County Property Appraiser's office lists the tax assessed value of the entire project as \$355,820 in 2004. The easement would be a single purchase.

2011

On December 9, 2011, this project was placed in the Less-than-Fee category of Florida Forever projects.

2021

On June 11, 2021, the ARC approved an addition of 208 acres in Gadsden County to the project boundary.

Coordination

There are no acquisition partnerships.

Management Policy Statement

As a less-than-fee acquisition, the Little River Conservation Area would be managed for conservation purposes by the landowner as outlined in the conservation easement.

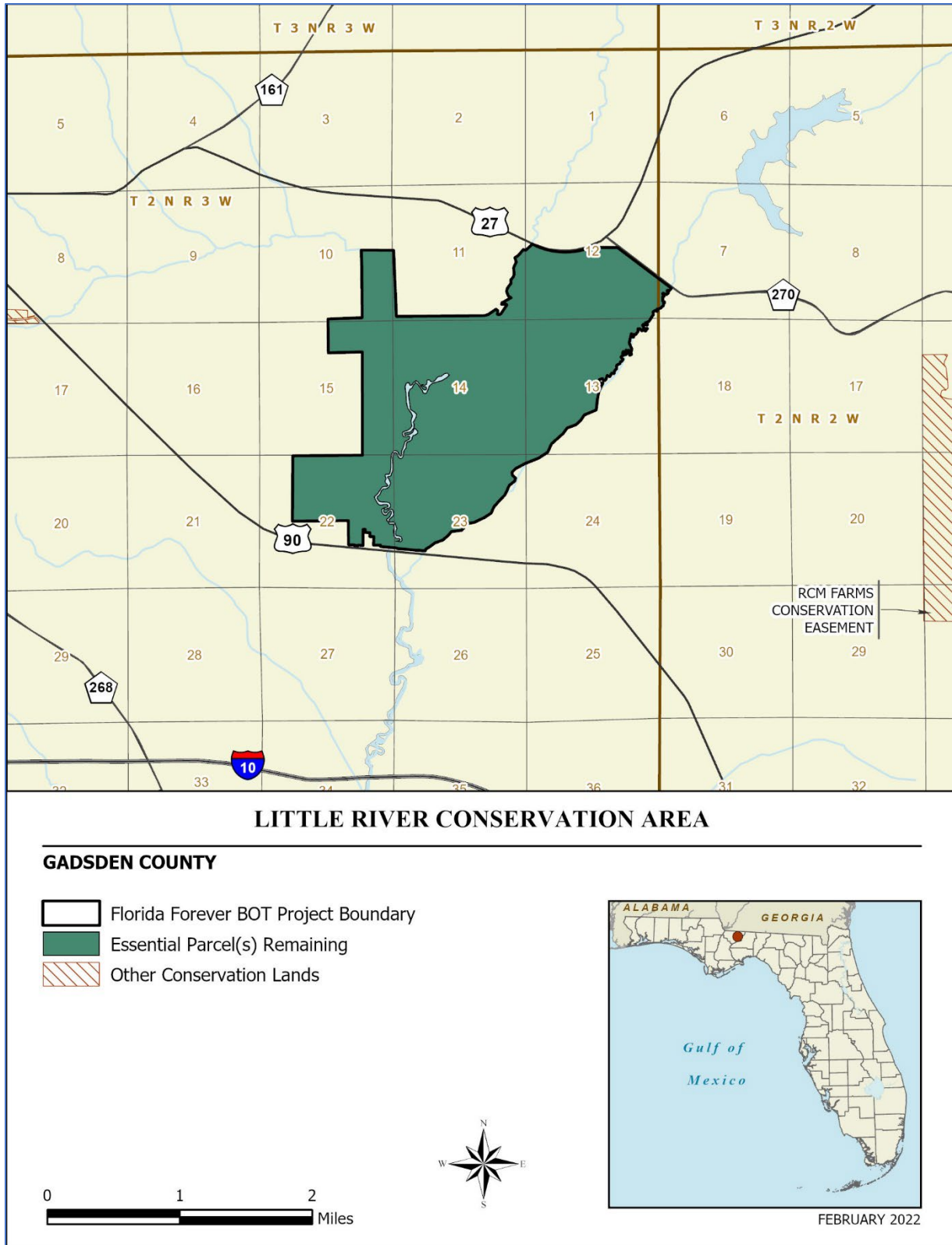
Manager(s)

If acquired as less-than-fee, management responsibility of Little River Conservation Area would remain with the landowner. Periodic monitoring of the site's management to confirm continued compliance with the conditions of the conservation easement would be coordinated by the Office of Environmental Services (OES).

Management Prospectus

OES will periodically monitor the conservation easement, while the management will be conducted by the property owner.





Map 1: FNAI, February 2022