

Little River Conservation Area

Less-Than-Fee

Gadsden County

<i>Year Added to Priority List</i>	2004
<i>Project Acres</i>	2,293
<i>Acquired Acres</i>	0
<i>Remaining Project Acres</i>	2,293
<i>2024 Assessed Value of Remaining Acres</i>	\$11,674,112

Purpose for State Acquisition

The Little River Conservation Area project would aid in the protection 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. Due to its proximity to the Lake Talquin State Forest and Joe Budd Wildlife Management Area, acquiring Little River Conservation Area will enhance the coordination and completion of other land acquisition projects.

General Description

The Little River Conservation Area project is in the Tallahassee Red Hills region. This project 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. Currently, approximately two-thirds 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 project also contains an upland ridge about 2.4 miles long and 0.75 miles wide. The remainder of the project is occupied by floodplain, bottomland forest and floodplain swamp. 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

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

Public Use

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

Acquisition Planning

2004

In 2004, the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) approved the project for addition as a Less-Than-Fee project. The project had a tax-assessed value of \$355,820.

2011

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

2021

On June 11, 2021, 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, Little River Conservation Area would be managed by the landowner as outlined in the conservation easement.

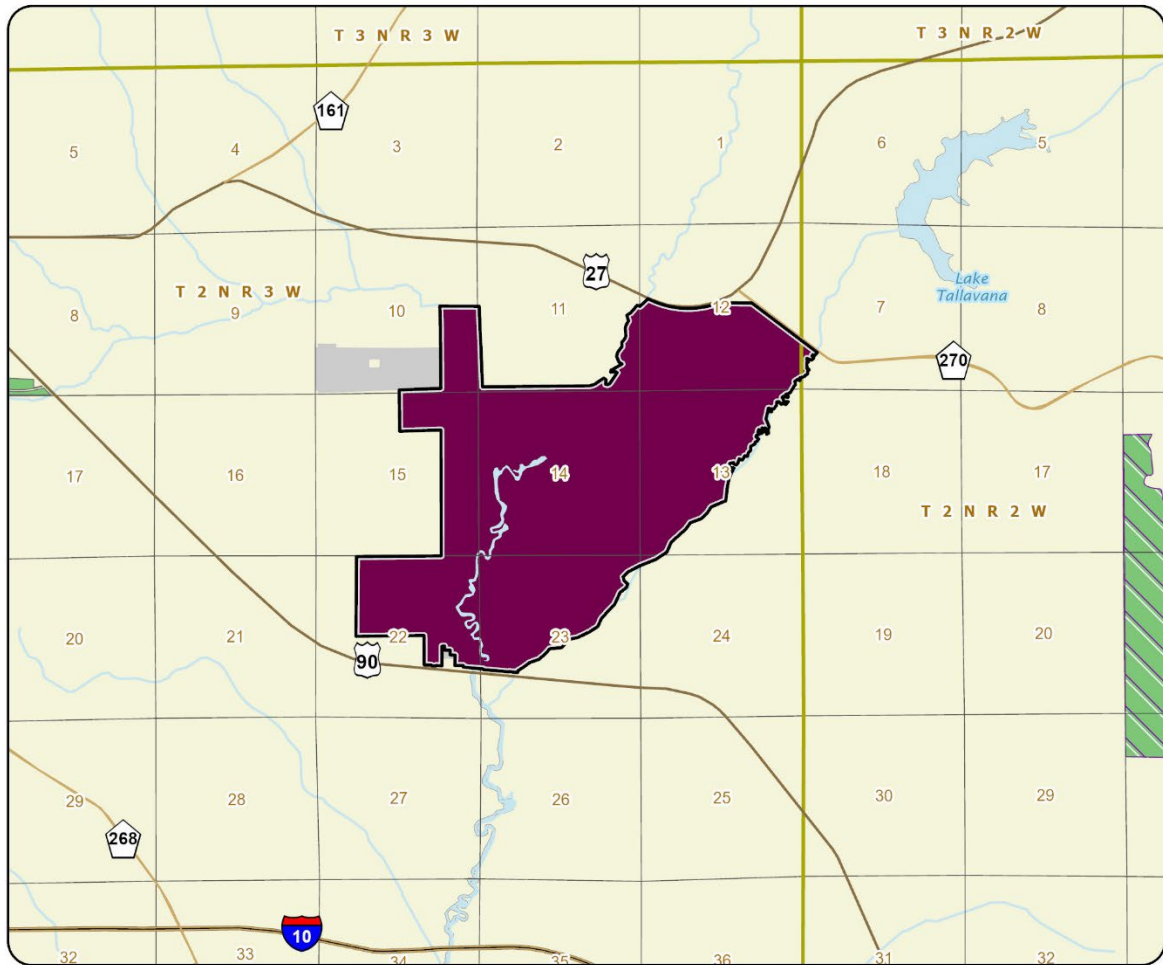
Manager(s)

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 Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP) Division of State Lands.

Management Prospectus

DEP’s Division of State Lands will periodically monitor the conservation easement, while the management will be conducted by the property owner.





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