

# *Annual Land Management Review Team Report*

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of State Lands  
Office of Environmental Services**

**July 2010 – June 2020**



**Table of Contents**

Introduction..... 4

Acronyms ..... 7

Management Planning ..... 8

Conservation Lands Management Planning ..... 9

Management Implementation ..... 10

Conservation Lands Management Implementation ..... 11

Cumulative Acreage Reviewed..... 12

Effect of Management..... 13

Overview of LMR site locations..... 14

Joe Budd Wildlife Management Area..... 15

St. Marks River State Park..... 23

Escribano Point Wildlife Management Area ..... 28

Box-R Wildlife Management Area..... 32

Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area..... 36

Triple N Ranch Wildlife Management Area..... 41

Belmore State Forest..... 45

Four Creeks State Forest..... 50

John M. Bethea State Forest ..... 55

Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway SRCA..... 59

Rainbow Springs State Park..... 64

Half Moon Wildlife Management Area..... 69

Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area..... 73

Little Big Econ State Forest..... 77

Spring Hammock Preserve ..... 82

Little Manatee River State Park..... 87

Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve ..... 92

Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area ..... 97

Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem ..... 101

Estero Bay Preserve State Park..... 107

Cayo Costa State Park..... 112

Florida Caverns State Park..... 118

Torrey State Park..... 122

Appendix A. Scoring System Detail..... 126

***Introduction***

**INTRODUCTION TO LAND MANAGEMENT REVIEW  
TEAM REPORTS AND ANALYSES:  
REVIEWS CONDUCTED FROM JULY 2019-JUNE 2020**

Section 259.036, F.S., requires the Board of Trustees, acting through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), to conduct land management reviews of selected conservation, preservation and recreation lands titled in the Board of Trustees. The team assesses whether those lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired, and whether they are being managed in accordance with their adopted management plans.

The 2003 Florida Legislature amended chapter 259.036, F.S., to require that all conservation lands greater than 1,000 acres in size be reviewed at least every five years. The properties reviewed were selected from a database of the Board of Trustees' lands based on the following factors: size of the property; plan due dates; managing agency; previous land management review date; and geographic location.

Regional review team members were selected in accordance with the requirements of the legislation, to include representatives of the following: (1) county or local community in which the parcel is located, (2) Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), (3) Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Florida Forest Service (FFS), (4) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), (5) DEP's regulatory district office, (6) private land manager, (7) local Soil and Water Conservation District board of supervisors or water management district, and (8) a conservation organization.

Participating state agencies, soil and water conservation districts, local governments, and conservation groups have had continual input into the development and ongoing evolution of the review process. The Division of State Lands (DSL) staff is engaged in a continual process of developing new, more objective methodology for reviewing conservation lands and management plans, and more effective measures to provide uniform accountability. Additionally, DEP coordinates with representatives of the Water Management Districts (WMD) to integrate land management reviews where WMD lands are adjacent to Board of Trustees' lands, and when the Board of Trustees has joint ownership of parcels with a WMD.

Thirty-three reviews were originally scheduled, but consistent with recent precautionary guidance provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Governor DeSantis and the Florida Department of Health regarding COVID-19, the Department of Environmental Protection postponed nine land management reviews that were scheduled from April through June of 2020. Twenty-four reviews were conducted during the 2019-20 fiscal year, involving more than 367,000 acres of managed lands. Reports of the management review team findings were provided to the managing agency, and the Acquisition and Restoration Council. The reports are also made



available on the DSL web site. The management activities are scored on a 1 to 5 range. Applying the criteria that a score of 3.5 and above is considered excellent, a score of 2.5 to 3.49 is considered adequate, and a score of less than 2.5 is considered inadequate, the management review team provides the following:

- **Public access:** Public access was excellent on 24 (100 percent) of the sites the teams visited.
- **Prescribed fire scope:** Prescribed burning is considered an appropriate management tool on 23 of the 24 sites reviewed. On three sites (12.5 percent of sites), over 30 percent of the fire dependent lands had been treated according to prescription. On 19 sites (79.2 percent) over 60 percent of the fire dependent lands had been treated according to prescription. On one site (4.2 percent) less than 30 percent of the fire dependent lands had been treated according to prescription. One site (4.2 percent) have no fire dependent lands.
- **Prescribed fire frequency:** On 23 of the 23 sites requiring prescribed fire (95.8 percent), the teams found the burn frequency adequate or excellent.
- **Fire quality:** On 23 of the 23 sites where prescribed fire has been implemented (95.8 percent) the teams found fire quality to be excellent.
- **Invasive species control:** Control of non-native invasive plants was a management issue on all the lands reviewed. Control and maintenance measures were adequate on one site (4.2 percent), and excellent on 23 (95.8 percent) of the sites reviewed.
- **Surface water quality:** Lands that have significant hydrological resources should be monitored to ensure protection. Fourteen sites (58.3 percent) had plans that adequately covered testing for degradation of surface waters, and three sites (12.5 percent) had plans that provided insufficient surface water testing information. Seven sites had no surface water testing needs.
- **Groundwater quality:** Thirteen sites (54.2 percent) had adequate monitoring for groundwater quality and quantity. Eleven sites had no groundwater monitoring needs.
- **Species protection:** Twenty-two sites (91.7 percent) were found to be excellent, two sites (12.5 percent) were adequate, in actual management practices to protect listed plants and animals on site. The plans were deemed adequate or excellent to ensure protection on 24 sites (100 percent).
- **Law enforcement:** On 23 sites (95.8 percent), law enforcement was adequate or excellent to protect the resources, and one site (4.2 percent) demonstrated a need for improvements in law enforcement.
- **Public education and outreach:** Twenty-four sites (100 percent) demonstrated adequate or excellent public education and outreach programs.

Many of the management challenges noted in the findings may be directly related to the following:

- **Staffing Levels:** On 7 sites (29.2 percent) the teams found that staffing levels were less than adequate to protect the resources, while on 17 sites (70.8 percent) the staffing levels were adequate or excellent;
- **Funding Levels:** On 14 sites (58.3 percent) the teams found funding levels were adequate or excellent for proper management of resources, while on 8 sites (33.3 percent) funding levels were less than what the review team thought is needed for proper management;
- **Equipment:** On 21 sites (87.5 percent) the team found adequate or excellent equipment to properly manage the property, while on three sites (12.5 percent) the team found equipment to be inadequate.

Pursuant to section 259.036, F.S., if the land management review team determines that reviewed lands are not being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation or in compliance with the adopted land management plan, DEP shall provide the review findings to the Board of Trustees, and the managing agency must report to the Board of Trustees its reasons for managing the lands as it has.

All twenty-four properties reviewed were found to be managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation; and actual management practices, including public access, were found to be in compliance with the adopted management plans.

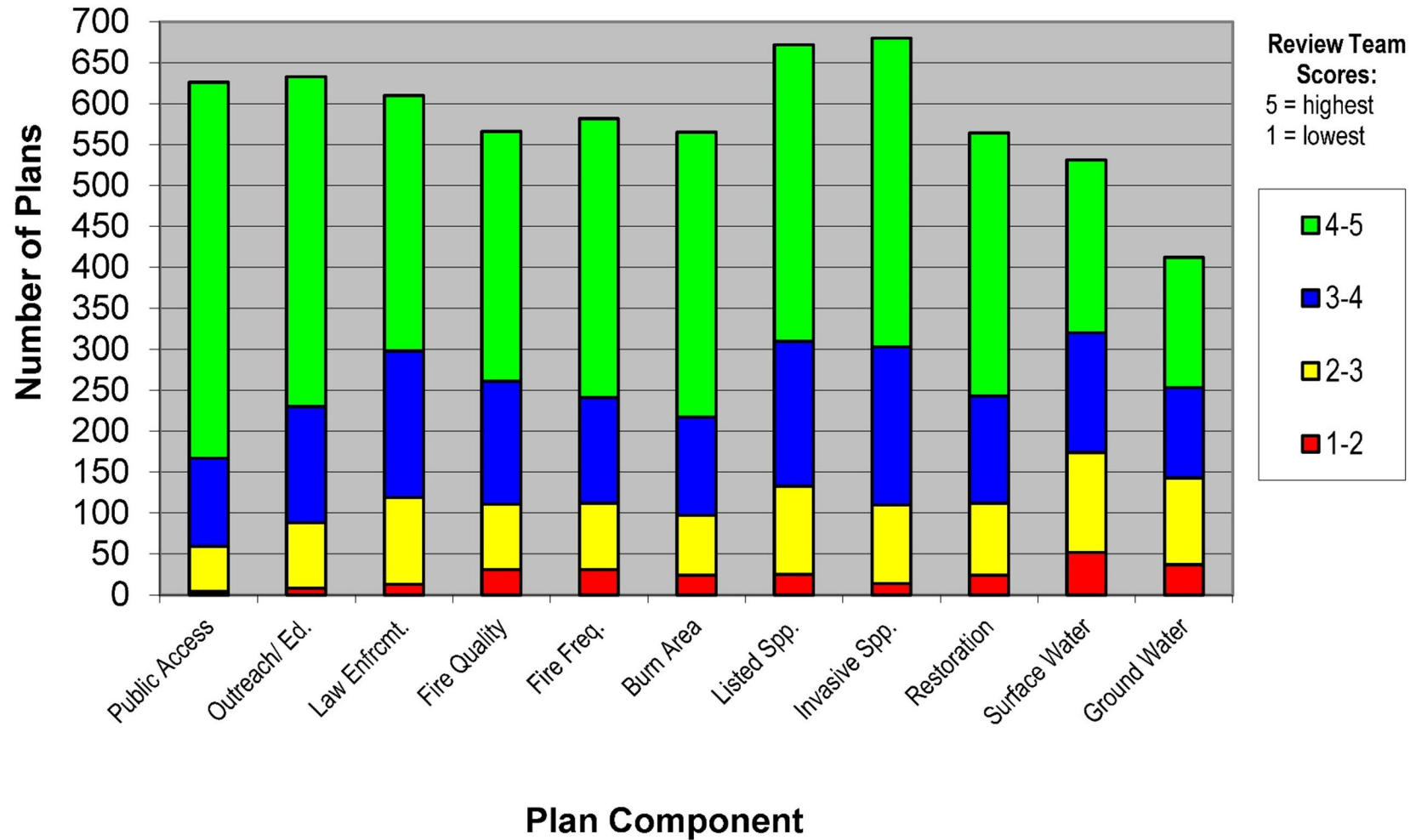
Reports of the management review team findings have been provided to the managing agency for their review and response and to the Acquisition and Restoration Council. The reports can be accessed on the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands web site. Evaluations of management plans and management activities in the field over the last 22 years are presented here in addition to the review team reports.

***Acronyms***

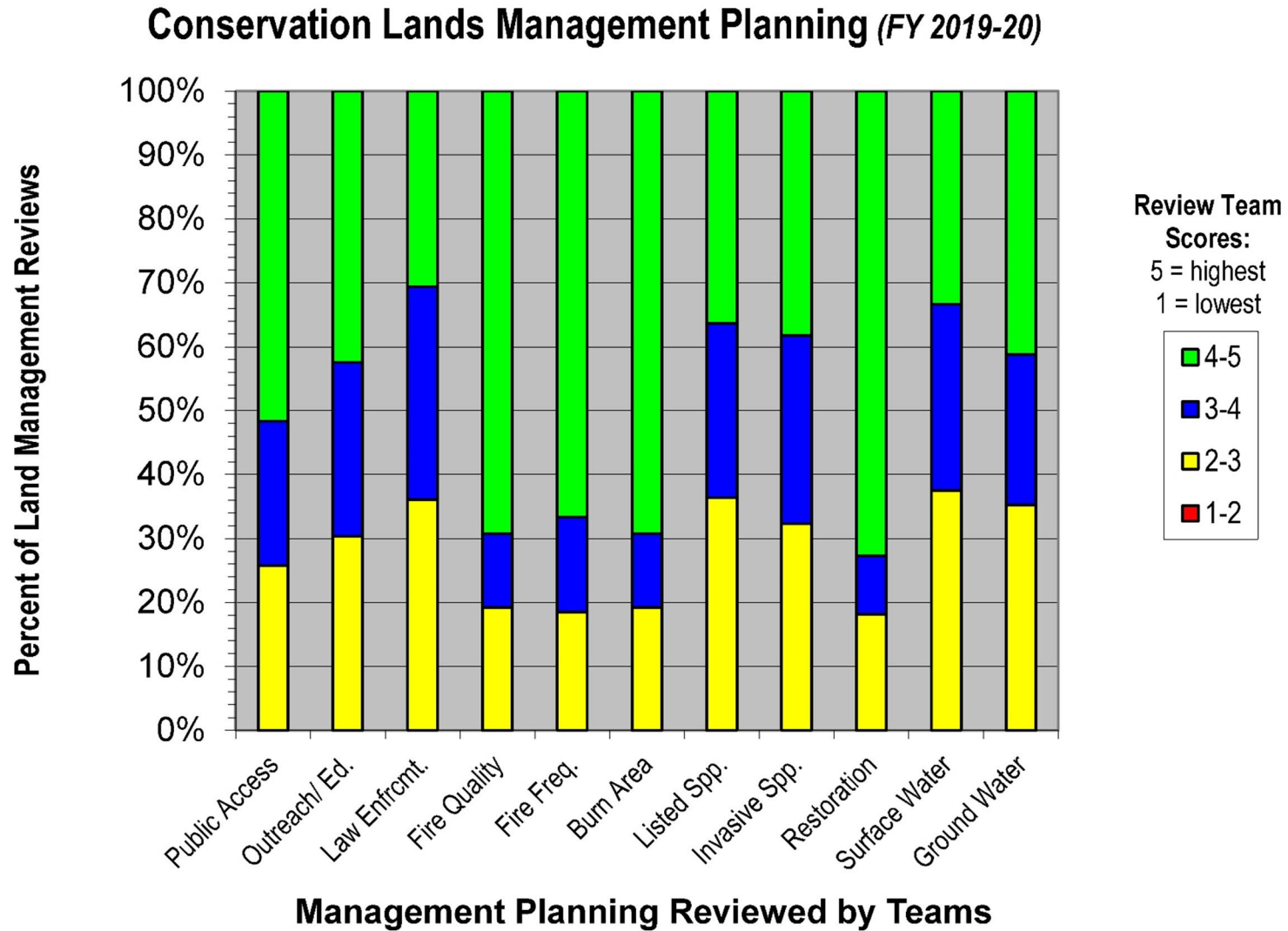
<b>ACOE</b>	United States Army Corps of Engineers
<b>ARC</b>	Acquisition and Restoration Council
<b>CSO</b>	Citizen Support Organization
<b>DEP</b>	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
<b>DHR</b>	Division of Historical Resources, Department of State
<b>DOT</b>	Florida Department of Transportation
<b>DRP</b>	Division of Recreation and Parks, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
<b>DSL</b>	Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
<b>FCO</b>	Florida Coastal Office, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
<b>FFS</b>	Florida Forest Service, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
<b>FNAI</b>	Florida Natural Areas Inventory
<b>FNPS</b>	Florida Native Plant Society
<b>FWC</b>	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
<b>IPM</b>	Invasive Plant Management Section, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
<b>NERR</b>	National Estuarine Research Reserve
<b>OES</b>	Office of Environmental Services, Division of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
<b>SF</b>	State Forest
<b>SP</b>	State Park
<b>WEA</b>	Wildlife and Environmental Area
<b>WMA</b>	Wildlife Management Area
<b>WMD</b>	Water Management District

Management Planning

**Management Planning (Fiscal Years 1997-2020)**

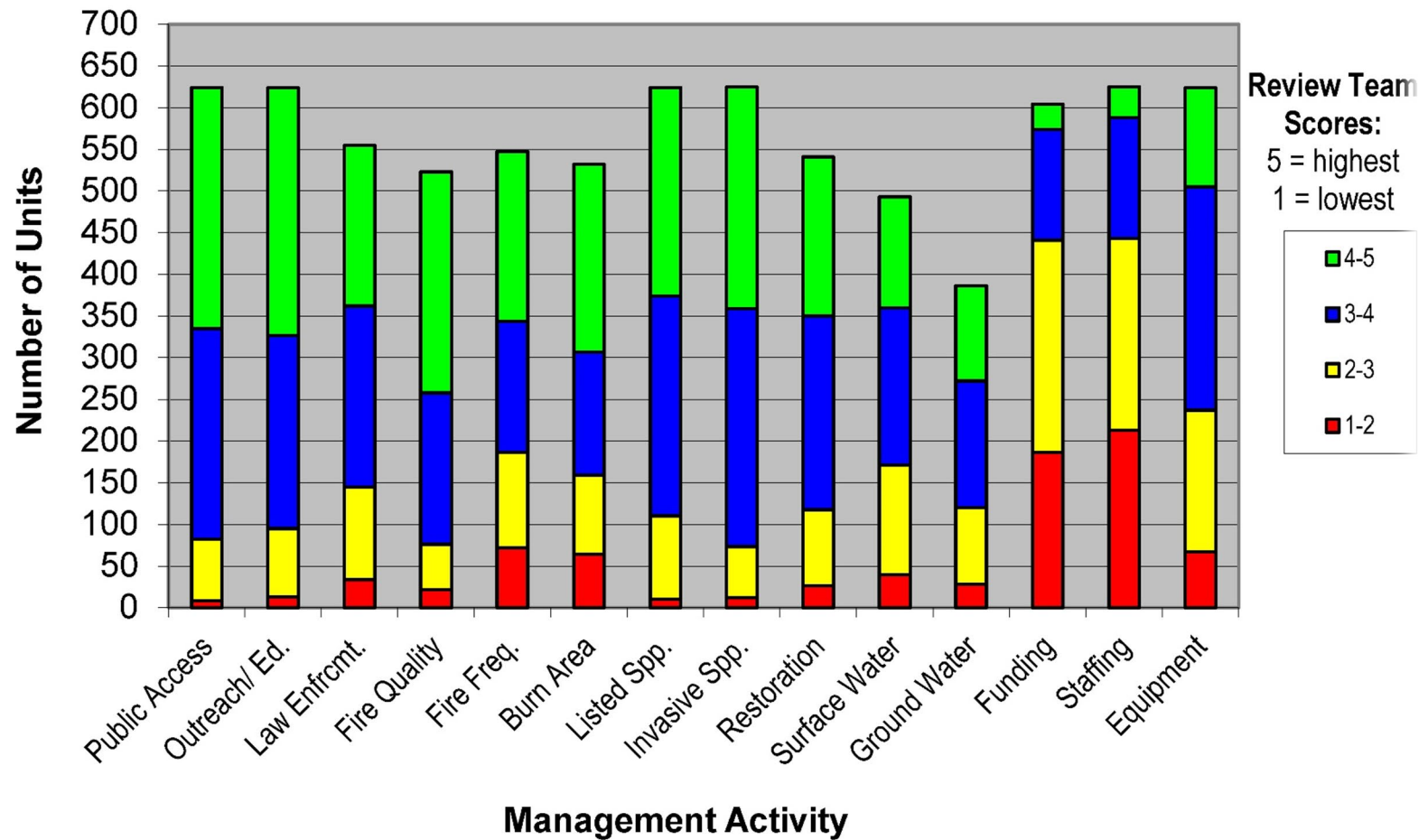


Conservation Lands Management Planning



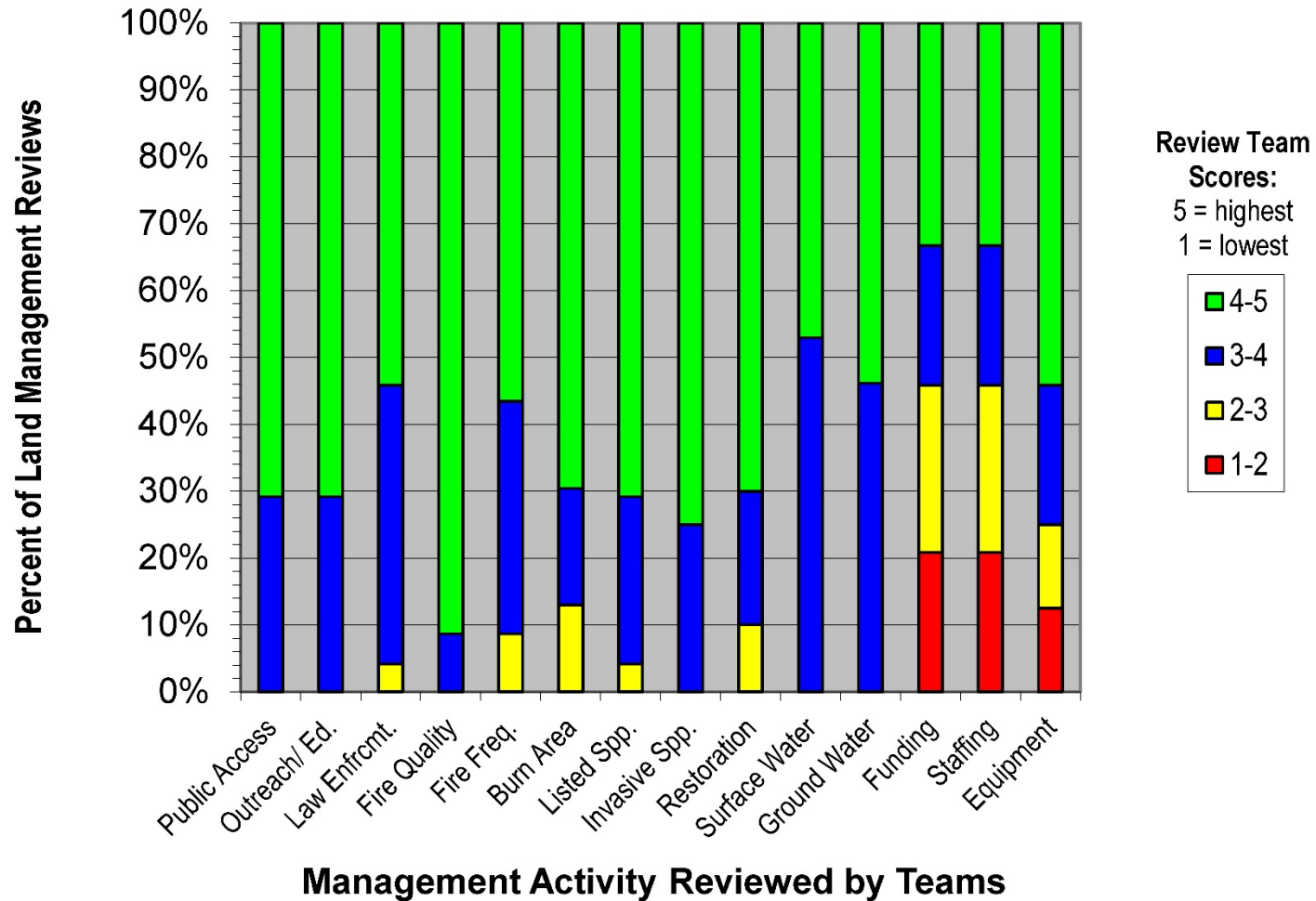
Management Implementation

Management Implementation (Fiscal Years 1997-2020)



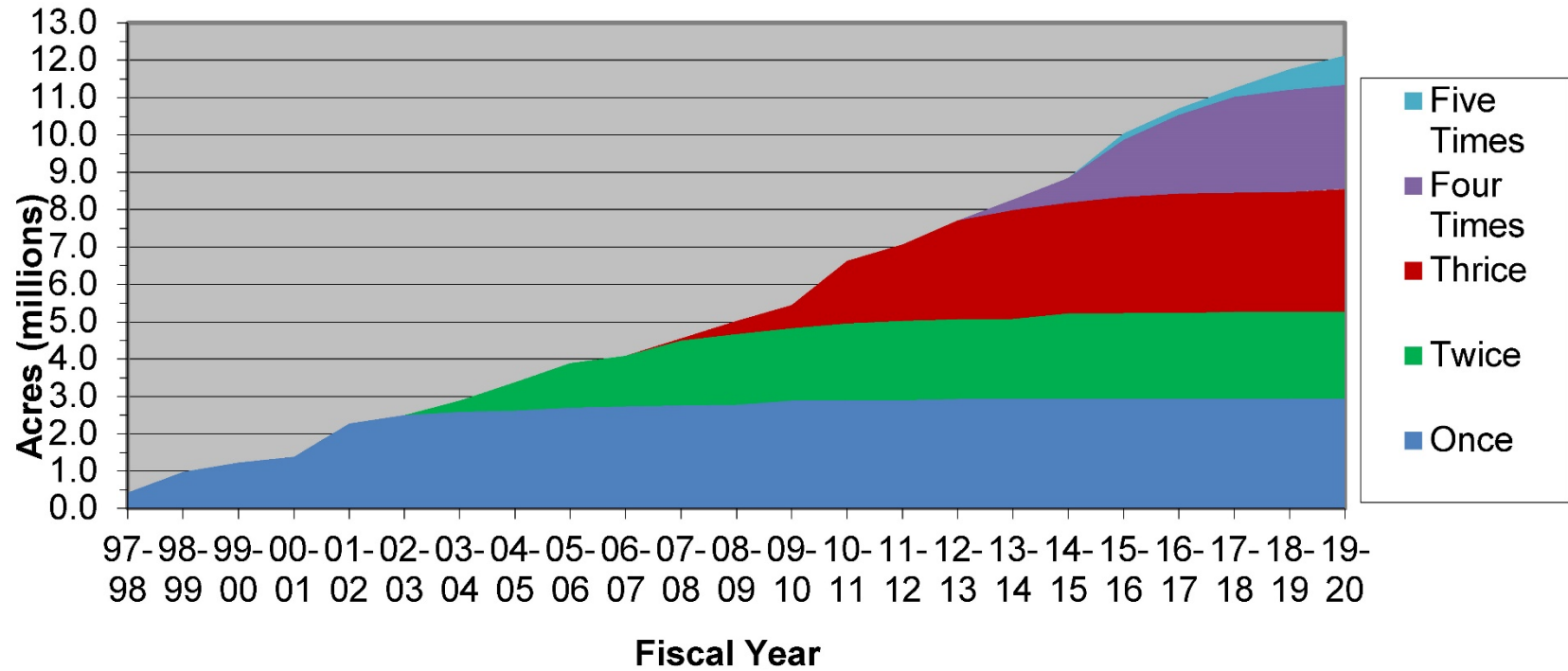
Conservation Lands Management Implementation

Conservation Lands Management Implementation (FY 2019-20)



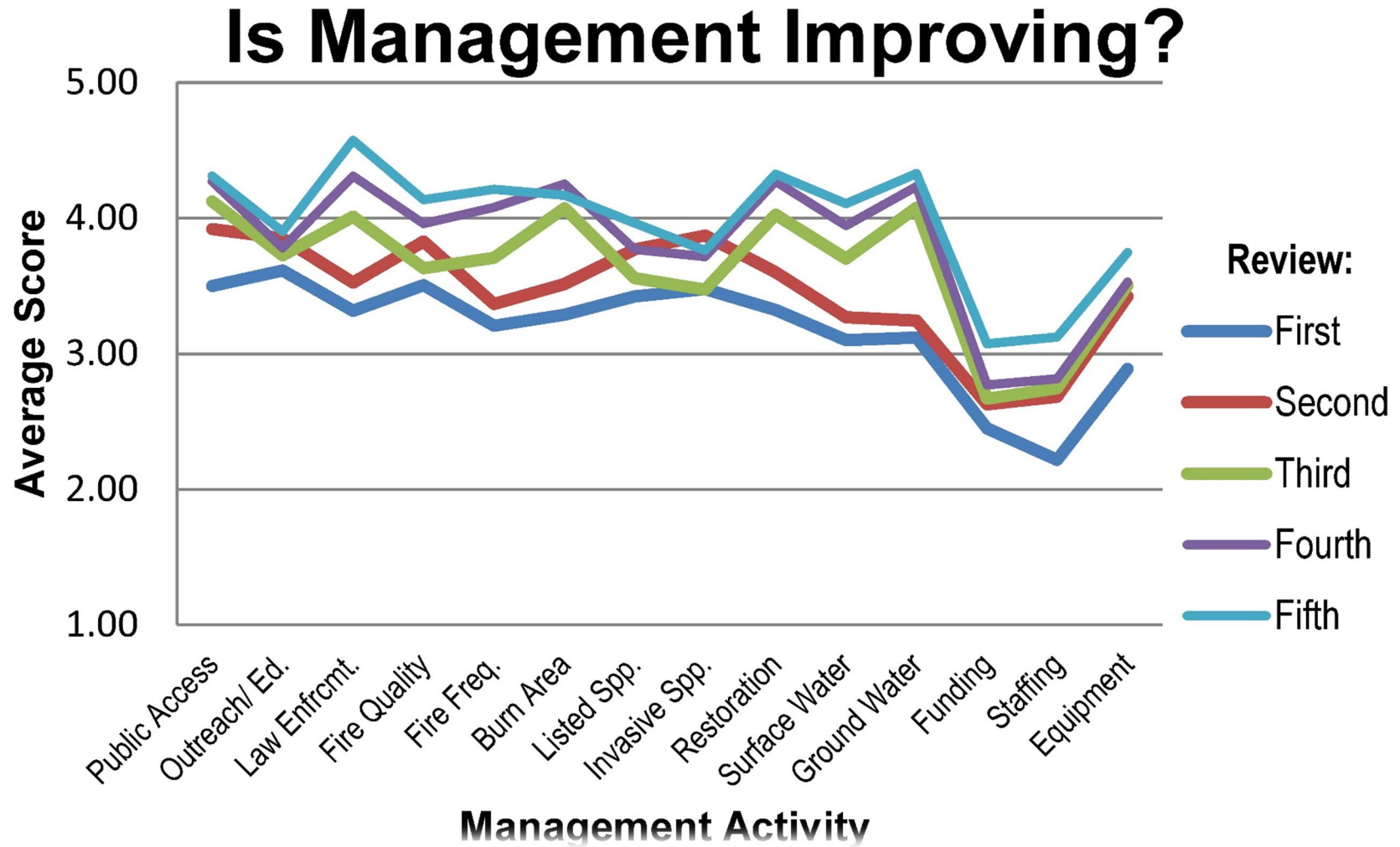
Cumulative Acreage Reviewed

# Cumulative Acreage Reviewed

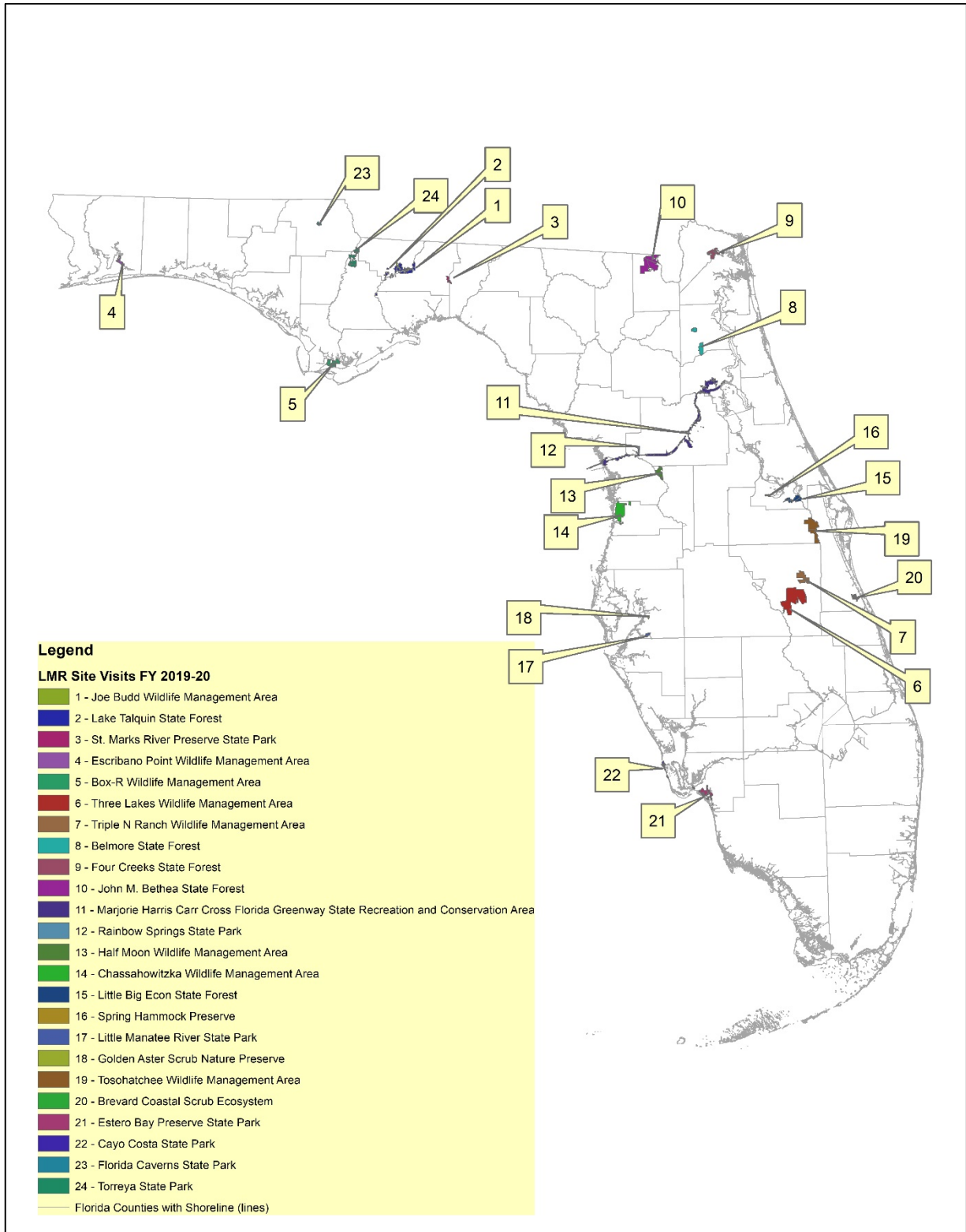




Effect of Management



Overview of LMR site locations



**Joe Budd Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 11,039

**Counties:** Gadsden

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** P2000, Pitman-Robertson

**Original Acquisition Date:** 1975

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 8/21/2015

**Review Date:** 7/16/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Clint Peters, Manager
- Justin Davis
- James Alleman
- Philip Manor
- Robert Wielgus

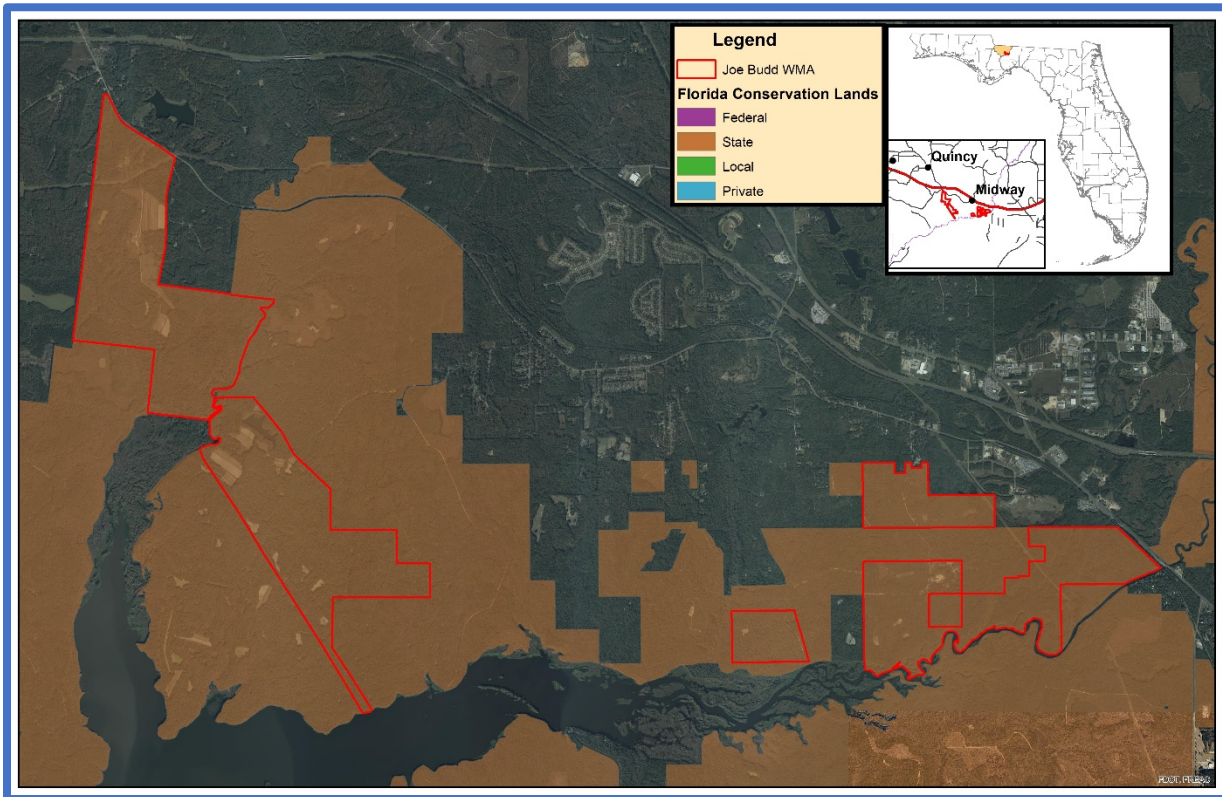
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- DRP District, None
- Pamela Revels, Local Gov't.
- Diana Pepe, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Heather Schmiede, FFS
- Tyler Macmillan, NFWFMD
- Jody Wood-Putnam, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Dwight Kingsbury, FNPS
- Dylan Imlah, FWC
- Jennifer Paredes, FWC

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.86	4.49	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.92	4.63	
Hydrology	4.44	3.97	
Imperiled Species	4.71	4.45	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.64	4.17	
Cultural Resources	4.67	4.30	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.94	4.53	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.58	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) staff for managing Joe Budd WMA in a manner to preserve and conserve while providing a suite of recreational and educational opportunities. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC for implementing an effective prescribed fire program. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC staff for implementing an aggressive feral hog control program which includes trapping. (6+, 0-)

**Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends FWC contact Florida Natural Areas Inventory for an updated listed species survey. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC has plans in place to make a budget request for contracting with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) to conduct a comprehensive area-wide survey for listed plant species during fiscal year 2020-2021.

2. The team recommends and encourages regular surveying of listed plant populations. Consider enlisting local Florida Native Plant Survey members and university personnel to assist in surveys. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FNAI listed plant species survey, mentioned in the response to the previous recommendation, will be conducted on a regular 5-10 year interval.

3. The team recommends restroom facilities for the youth center to accommodate day students and weekend users. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC is currently in the planning phase for the construction of a new bath house which will include 6 new bathrooms. New restroom facilities will be accessible to the public during open season, and day students during yearlong educational programming.

4. The team recommends expanding enhancements to the education center, as envisioned in the long-range plan. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** As described the Management Plan, the FWC is currently in the planning phase for the expansion of the youth center facilities. This will include a new classroom building which will enhance the educational programming for day students during yearlong programming.

### Field Review Details

#### Field Review Checklist Findings

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically blackwater stream, bottomland forest, depression marsh, dome swamp, floodplain marsh, floodplain swamp, mesic/wet flatwoods, upland hardwood forest/slope forest, upland pine forest, and sandhill.**
2. **Listed species, plants and animals in general, and specifically gopher tortoise and slope forest suite.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically sport fish or their habitat monitoring, listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically, cultural resource survey and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically upland pine/ground cover.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, ditches, dams, reservoirs or other impoundments, and erosion control.**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
11. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**



- 15. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
- 16. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

**Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation.

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

**Land Management Plan Review Details**

**Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**Lake Talquin State Forest**

**Name of Site:** Lake Talquin State Forest

**Managed by:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service

**Acres:** 11,039

**Counties:** Leon, Gadsden

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To conserve, protect, manage and restore important ecosystems, landscapes and forests, especially if the protection and conservation of such lands is necessary to enhance or protect significant surface water, ground water, coastal, recreational, timber, or fish and wildlife resources which cannot otherwise be accomplished through local and state regulatory programs.

**Acquisition Program(s):** P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 10/18/73

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/24/2011

**Review Date:** 7/17/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Ryan Slyter, Manager
- Chris Colburn
- Randall Gregory

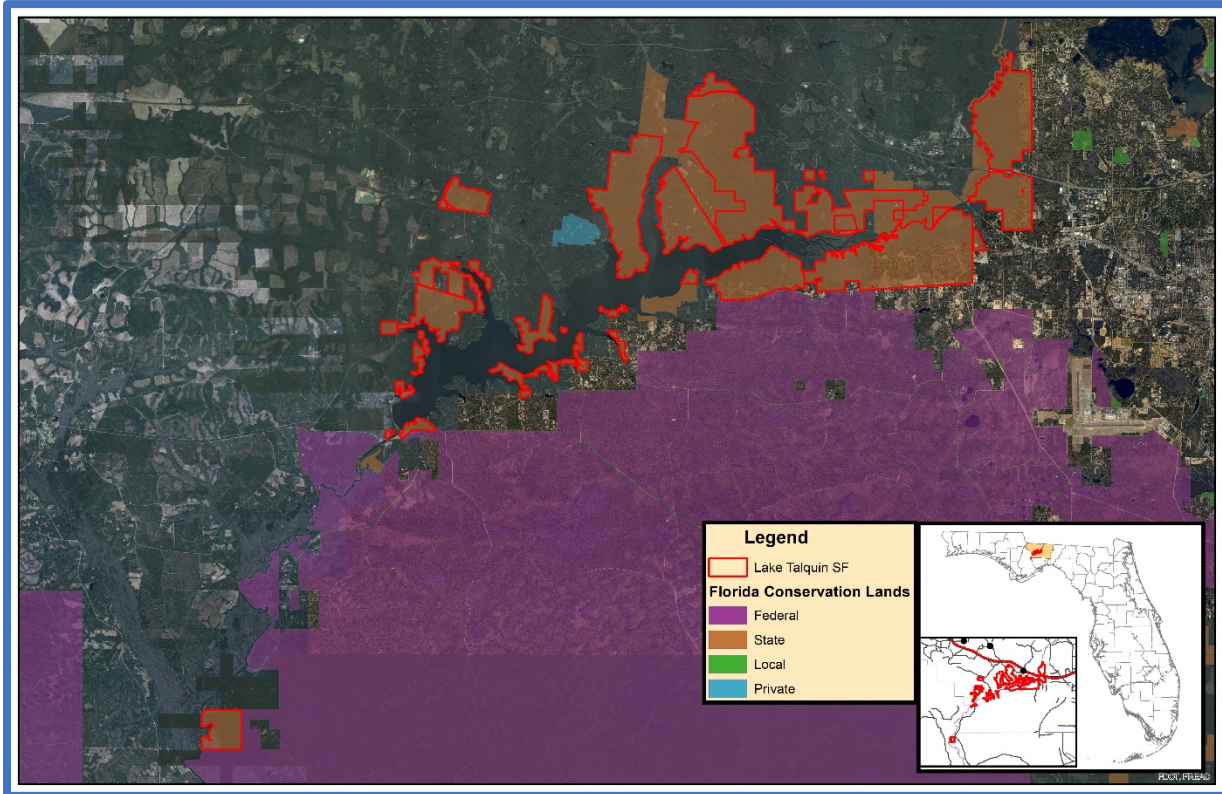
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Daryl Hatfield, DRP District
- Sherry Carpenter, Local Gov't.
- Diana Pepe, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Heather Schmiede, FFS
- Tyler Macmillan, NFWFMD
- Scott Copeland, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Jason O'Donoghue, DHR
- Linda King, FWC
- Brandon Ackermann, DHR

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

Yes = 7, No = 0

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

Yes = 7, No = 0

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Forest Service (FFS) for the improvements and

**Table 2: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.60	4.64
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.86	4.67
Hydrology	4.62	4.41
Imperiled Species	4.14	3.83
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.62	4.44
Cultural Resources	4.36	4.08
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.68	4.52
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.31	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor



- educational programs being provided at Bear Creek. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS for participation in Operation Outdoor Freedom. (7+, 0-)
  3. The team commends the FFS for continued progress restoring upland pine and sandhill communities. (7+, 0-)
  4. The team commends the FFS for the excellent prescribed burning program, consistently achieving annual objectives. (7+, 0-)
  5. The team commends the FFS for their timber harvest and reforestation program. (7+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

**There were no consensus recommendations.**

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically upland pine forest, upland hardwood forest, alluvial forest, floodplain swamp, bottomland forest, basin swamp, and swamp lake.**
2. **Listed species, plants and animals in general.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically, cultural resource survey and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically upland pine restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and dams, reservoirs or other impoundments.**
10. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality.**
11. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

**Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

**Land Management Plan Review Details**

**Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**St. Marks River State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 2,590

**County:** Leon

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):**

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Original Acquisition Date:**

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/15/11

**Review Date:** 7/19/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Robert Steele, Park Manager
- Mark Stevenson

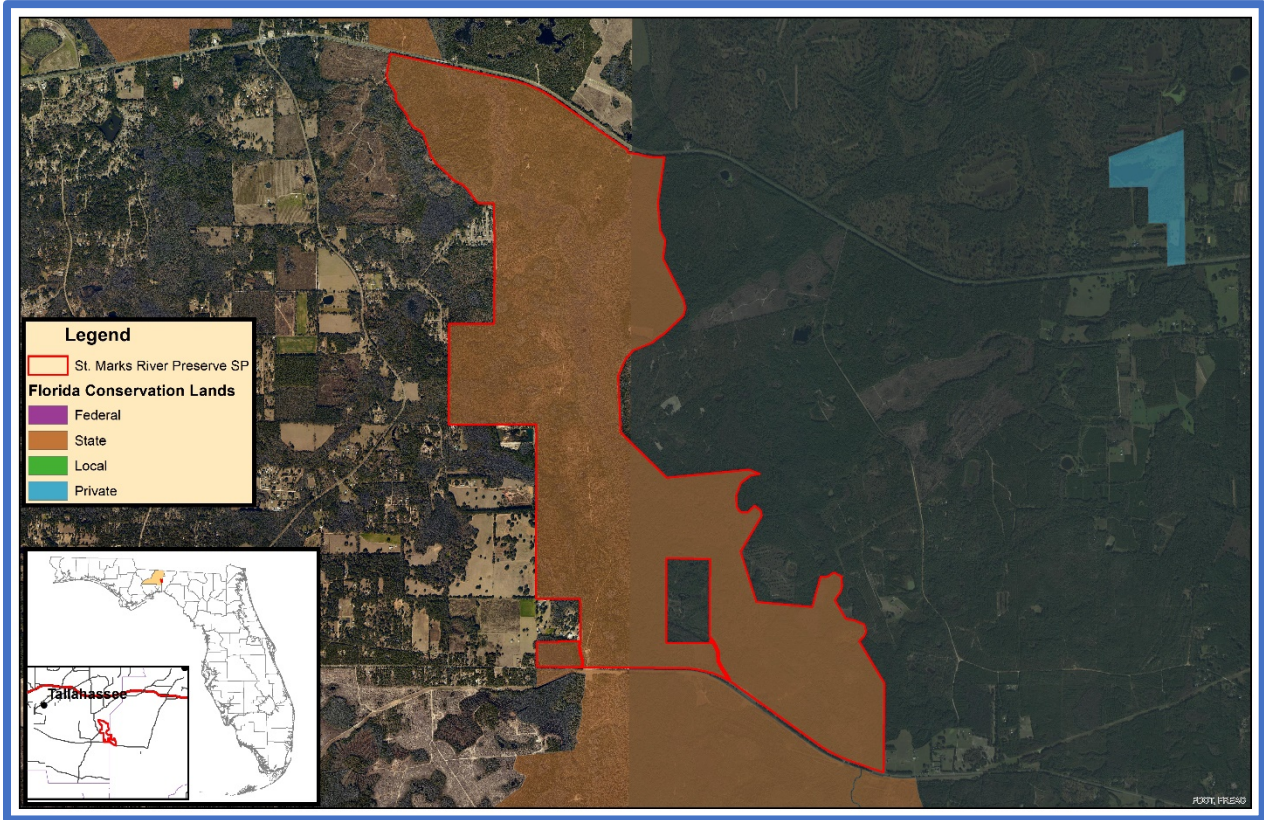
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- John McKenzie, DRP District
- Jason Love, FFS
- Local Gov't., None
- Karen Kebart, NFWFMD
- Emily Evans, FWC
- Joshua Faylo, Conservation Org.
- Rick Abad, DEP District
- Jim Buckner, Private Land Manager

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Shauna Allen, DEP/DSL
- Linda King, FWC/IPMS
- Jason O'Donoghue, DHR
- Brandon Ackermann, DHR
- Angel Granger, DEP/DSL
- Jay Sircy, DEP/DSL
- Scott Davis, FNPS

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 3: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.62	4.29	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.63	4.59	
Hydrology	3.50	4.00	
Imperiled Species	3.59	3.73	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.45	4.63	
Cultural Resources	4.00	4.21	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.90	4.06	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.25	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for the reintroduction and continued use of prescribed fire across the park. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for their vision for future conditions and desire to restore habitats for species and habitat types. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for the ability to manage an entire state park with no assigned staff, equipment or funding. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS explore the use of mechanical or chemical treatments in mesic flatwoods to reduce woody component and increase grasses. (5+, 1-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Park staff will expand mechanical fuel treatments with various equipment as appropriate for each site. Equipment may include a trackloader with mower or mulching head, wheel tractor with power take off (PTO) attachments or roller chopper. FPS is confident that mechanical fuel treatments coupled with prescribed fire will be effective at restoring proper woody vs. herbaceous species proportions. A primary goal of our natural community restoration is to expand native biodiversity. The use of broadcast herbicides for reducing understory woody vegetation is incompatible with this goal as some level of non-target damage to other native plants is unavoidable.

2. The team recommends the FPS consider restoration of ecotones at wet/mesic flatwoods, shrub bogs, and seepage slopes by incorporating pond pine (*Pinus serotina*) component into the restoration. This could be volunteer/AmeriCorps led, with little to no cost to the Florida Park Service. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** FPS will consider reintroduction of pond pine where it is determined to have historically occurred and is deemed compatible with restoration goals. The primary goal for the park's seepage slopes will be to restore on-site native grasses and forbs as the dominant vegetation. Larger trees, including pines are generally absent from these diverse herbaceous natural communities, unless they become established during long periods of fire exclusion.

3. The team recommends the FPS continue to evaluate the effectiveness of burning in ecotones to determine appropriate habitat types. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** FPS will continue to apply aggressive ignition techniques along ecotones where titi, evergreen shrubs, and pine species have overgrown once "treeless" herbaceous habitats such as seepage slopes.

4. The team recommends the FPS partner with universities, the local chapter(s) of the Florida Native Plant Society, or other appropriate organizations to seasonally inventory targeted natural communities, possibly to monitor the status of listed species population, once known. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** FPS will reach out to the regional chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society to assist with improving the park's plant list.

5. The team recommends the FPS add the property to the east to the optimum boundary for the park. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** FPS plans on recommending that this property be added to the optimum boundary map during the next scheduled unit plan revision.

## Field Review Details

### Field Review Checklist Findings

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically sandhill, upland mixed forest, upland pine forest, basin swamp, depression marsh, dome, floodplain forest, shrub bog, blackwater stream, and floodplain swamp.**
2. **Listed species, plants in general, and specifically hooded pitcher plant.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey/monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically planted pine to sandhill (north end), and seepage slope restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.**
9. **Resource protection, specifically gates and fencing, and law enforcement presence.**
10. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
11. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically invasive species, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**

### Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **Listed species, animals in general, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether management actions are sufficient for protection and preservation of the species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** To clarify, during the review the team was pleased with the park's land management practices which focus on the restoration and preservation of natural communities and their associated habitats for imperiled species. However, the need for more thorough inventory work was discussed. DRP intends to work with subject area experts in our partner agencies and universities for assistance in developing a more robust species inventory.

2. **Management Resources, specifically sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Park and District will continue to communicate the need for staff and resources to Division Management. The feasibility of additional staffing and other budget

appropriations for St. Marks River Preserve State Park will be evaluated each year through DEP's legislative budget request process.

### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

#### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Listed Species protection and preservation, specifically black bear, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of listed species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** More detail regarding the status of the local population of Florida black bear and their use patterns along the St. Marks River wildlife corridor will be included during the next scheduled unit management plan update. Park staff will continue to defer to FWC as the lead agency conducting surveys and other related research of Florida black bears within the Eastern Panhandle (BMU) Bear Management Unit. As always, park staff will assist FWC researchers with access to the property and other logistics.

2. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address forest management.**

**Managing Agency Response:** A complete inventory of forest resources, including pine and hardwood basal areas, has been conducted since the last unit management plan and will be included in the timber addendum during the next scheduled unit management plan update.

3. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** A more detailed discussion of potential surplus land determination will be included in the next scheduled unit management plan update. Currently all of the property is deemed necessary as significant natural habitat and/or buffering from the impacts and influences of adjacent private lands.

**Escribano Point Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 4,057

**Counties:** Santa Rosa

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** provide recreation opportunities and natural resource protection for 10.4 miles of shoreline along East Bay and Blackwater Bay.

**Acquisition Program(s):** Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 09/20/03

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/29/2015

**Review Date:** 8/6/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Mark Winland, Manager
- Justin Davis
- Fred Robinette
- Billy Sermons
- Barbara Almario

**Review Team Members (voting)**

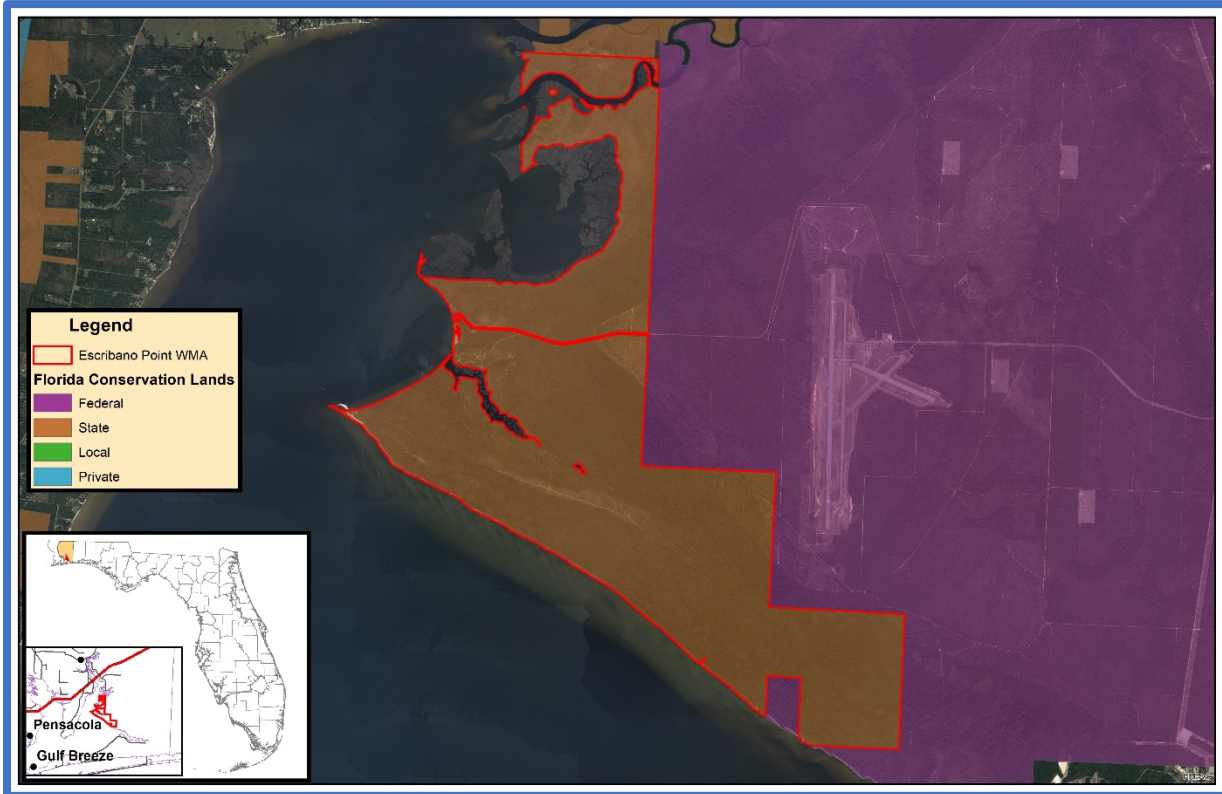
- Eric Grendel, DRP District
- Shelley Alexander, Local Gov't.
- Diana Pepe, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Daniel Wesley, NFWFMD
- Jim Brady, Conservation Org.
- Vernon Compton, Private Land Manager

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Jessica Baker, F.M. Weston Audubon
- Naisy Dolar, Santa Rosa County
- Dylan Imlah, FWC
- Zach Schang, DEP NWFLAP



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 8, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 8, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for working with partners to implement

**Table 4: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.87	4.66
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.80	4.75
Hydrology	4.71	4.68
Imperiled Species	4.86	4.71
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.83	4.85
Cultural Resources	5.00	4.88
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.84	4.71
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.77	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

management actions including habitat restoration, monitoring and head-starting for the reticulated flatwoods salamander. (8+, 0-)

2. The team commends the FWC for habitat restoration and management of natural communities using prescribed fire, mechanical treatments, and invasive plant control. (8+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for securing the area for recreational usage in a safe and secure space. (8+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FWC for working and maintaining the land off-the-grid. (8+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FWC for the incredible use of staff and resources to restore land for the salamander ponds. (8+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed: **There were no consensus recommendations to the managing agency.**

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically beach dune, bottomland forest, dome swamp, mesic flatwoods, mesic hammock, salt marsh, sandhill, scrubby flatwoods, wet flatwoods, and shrub bog.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically reticulated flatwoods salamander and white top pitcher plant.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically, cultural resource survey and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically pine plantation to wet flatwoods, and shrub bog to wet flatwoods.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts.**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
11. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

**Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

**Land Management Plan Review Details**

**Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**Box-R Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 11,216

**Counties:** Franklin

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** preserve large undeveloped tracts of land for native plants and animals, and to give the public an opportunity to experience large natural areas throughout northern Florida.

**Acquisition Program(s):** Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/9/04

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/17/17

**Review Date:** 8/8/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Jerry Pitts, Manager
- Justin Davis
- Austin LeCroy
- Billy Sermons
- Phil Manor

**Review Team Members (voting)**

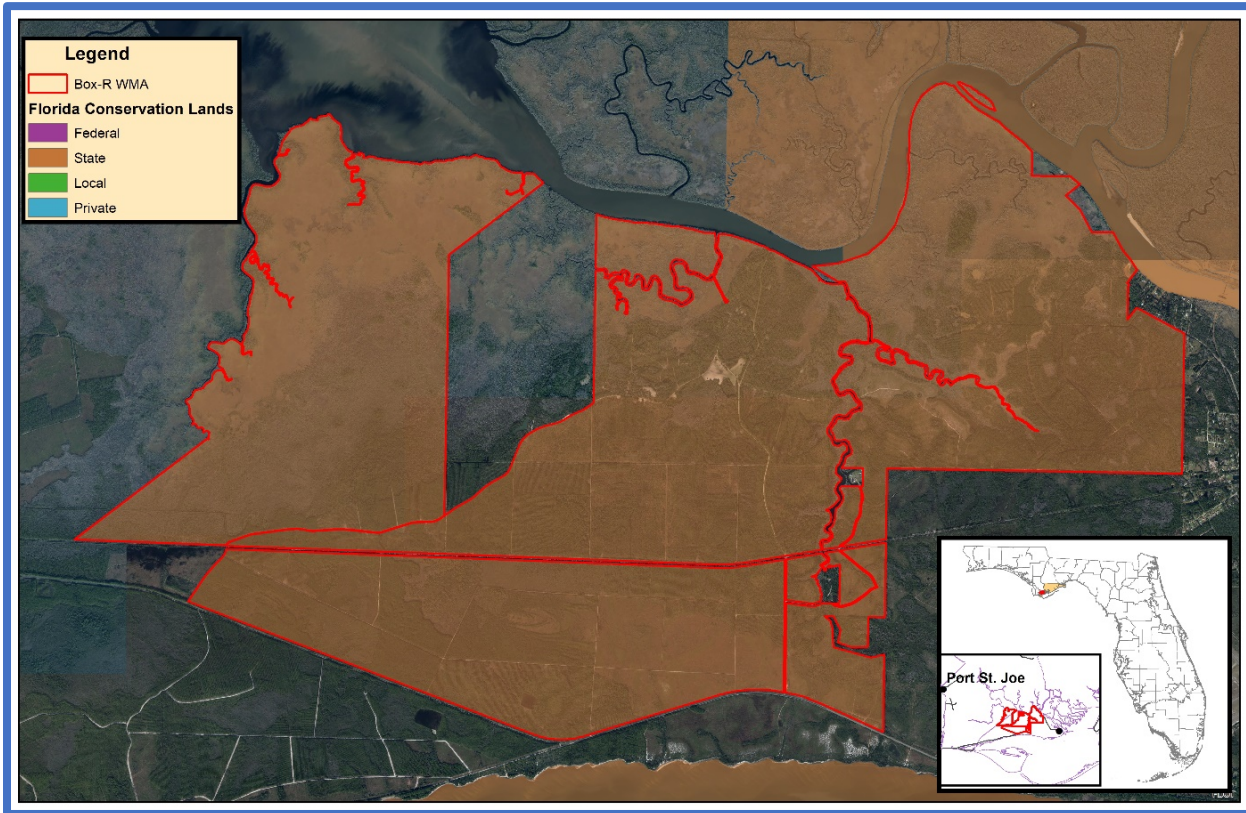
- John McKenzie, DRP District
- Mark Curenton, Local Gov't.
- Diana Pepe, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Robert Lide, NFWFMD
- Ron Houser, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Merrill Emfinger, DEP/DSL
- Dylan Imlah, FWC
- Caitlin Snyder, DEP/RCP



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

Yes = 7, No = 0

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

Yes = 7, No = 0

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for natural community restoration efforts.

**Table 5: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.86	4.69	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.70	4.67	
Hydrology	4.78	4.54	
Imperiled Species	4.86	4.86	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.76	4.50	
Cultural Resources	5.00	4.86	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.80	4.69	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.71	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

Mechanical fuel reduction along with prescribed fire have improved wildlife habitat and species diversity. At the same time, thinning of planted slash pines and underplanting with longleaf are beginning the gradual process of restoring the historical overstory. (7+, 0-)

2. The team commends the Box-R staff and manager for restoring the property that was just acquired 15 years ago, especially the large wet flatwoods area on the south side of the property. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for their institutional knowledge of the resources and the dedication of the staff and manager. (7+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends FWC stay on top of shrub layer management for hydric pine flatwoods restoration. More than 2-year fire return interval may be insufficient. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Prescribed burn frequency on the Box-R WMA is informed by many factors including the FWC's Objective Based Vegetation Management Program, manager experience, fuel loadings, weather factors and safety. The FWC notes that the Field Review Checklist Finding (below) indicate the FWC exceeded expectations for fire frequency and quality, as well as flatwoods restoration. The FWC will continue to evaluate stand conditions with relation to desired future conditions and apply prescribed fire at appropriate intervals to achieve the desired results.

2. The team recommends FWC look at National Climate Assessment for the Southeast Region and update impact information. (6+, 0-, 1 abstain)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC currently incorporates the latest climate change statements from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its Management Plans. During the development of the management plan update for the Box-R WMA, the FWC will review the information in the National Climate Change Assessment for the Southeast Region and will consider the information, as well as the IPCC, when addressing potential climate change impacts.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, floodplain marsh/depression marsh, basin swamp/dome swamp, baygall, mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, wet flatwoods, sandhill and mesic hammock/xeric hammock/shell mound.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically sport fish or their habitat monitoring, listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically, cultural resource survey and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically flatwoods, wet prairie, and hydrology.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation and site preparation.**

8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads, culverts and ditches.**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
11. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

#### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

##### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 61,845

**Counties:** Osceola

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To acquire endangered or environmentally unique natural lands for use as natural resource preserves and/or recreation areas.

**Acquisition Program(s):** EEL/CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 9/3/74

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/12/12

**Review Date:** 8/28/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Shayna Jacques, Manager
- Steve Glass
- Tina Hannon
- Matthew Hortman

**Review Team Members (voting)**

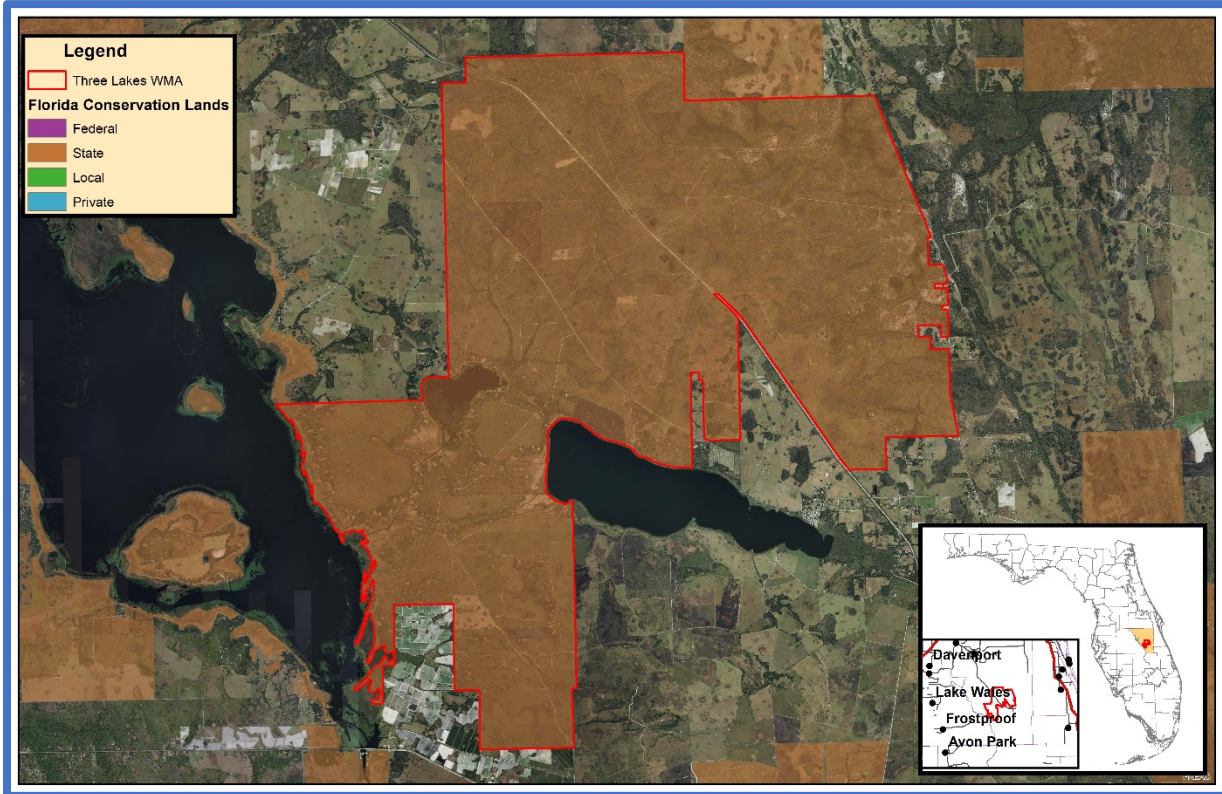
- Alex Creager, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Abbie Khounevixay, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Amy Copeland, SJRWMD
- Vince Lamb, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPM
- Lance Jacobson, FWC
- Jennifer Paredes, FWC
- Melanie Mancuso, FWC
- Jim Blush, SFWMD



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

**Table 6: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.25	3.99
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.45	4.47
Hydrology	3.87	3.40
Imperiled Species	4.70	4.63
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.75	3.71
Cultural Resources	4.00	3.90
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.55	3.23
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.89	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

- for excellent monitoring of Florida Grasshopper Sparrows and interagency cooperation in their restoration. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC for excellent management of their prescribed fire program in regard to the quality, frequency, and quantity of fire used to maintain natural communities. (6+, 0-)
  3. The team commends the FWC for outstanding participation in the red cockaded woodpecker recovery program with excellent results on this land. (6+, 0-)
  4. The team commends the FWC for outstanding habitat management for listed species (and all wildlife). (6+, 0-)
  5. The team commends the FWC for outstanding efforts with natural community habitat restoration. (6+, 0-)
  6. The team commends the FWC for good efforts to detect and treat climbing fern infestations; good repetition of survey and treatment. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends FWC coordinate with SFWMD for management of the Kissimmee River Public Use Area or get an access easement so the land can be managed. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC will continue to work with the SFWMD for the management and access of the Kissimmee River Public Use Area. Additionally, the FWC will work towards determining the efficacy of FWC's continued management of the area during the development of the upcoming management plan update.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically basin marsh, basin swamp, baygall, depression marsh, dome swamp, dry prairie, hydric hammock, mesic flatwoods, mesic hammock, prairie/flatwoods lake, sandhill, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, wet flatwoods, wet prairie, and xeric hammock.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically Florida grasshopper sparrow, red cockaded woodpecker, and bald eagle.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically sport fish or their habitat monitoring, listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically groundcover, offsite pine, and hammock to dry prairie.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber harvesting, and reforestation/afforestation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads, culverts and dams, reservoirs or other impoundments.**
10. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
11. **Resource protection, specifically gates and fencing.**
12. **Public access, specifically roads.**

**13. Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities.**

**14. Management resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

**Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

- 1. Public Access & Education, specifically invasive species received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether public access & education are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC determines the need for signage and environmental educational outreach through the development of Recreation Master Plans (RMP) for each respective management area. The FWC will assess the need for enhancement of such facilities and programs, specifically those relating to invasive species, as needed and recommended by the RMP. Additionally, the current TLWMA Management Plan includes specific objectives under the Public Access and Recreational Opportunities Goal to continue to participate in and identify partnerships to provide interpretative and educational programs and outreach. The FWC will continue to identify opportunities to provide and/or expand interpretive and educational programs for the area, as feasible. The public can also learn more about FWC's invasive plant management from our website at <https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/habitat/invasive-plants/>.

**Land Management Plan Review Details**

**Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically sport fish or their habitat monitoring received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC notes that the field review checklist findings of this LMR report gave the FWC an excellent rating in regarding to natural resources survey and monitoring resources, specifically sport fish or their habitat monitoring. The habitat monitoring and management activities are discussed in section 2.2 and section 5 of the current management plan, however the FWC will ensure that further language regarding sport fish and their habitat monitoring will be incorporated in the upcoming management plan update.

- 2. Resource Protection, specifically gates & fencing, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address resource protection.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The current land management plan for the Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area (TLWMA) discusses a challenge in regard to completing a boundary survey for the area. The FWC will ensure to address continued resource protection on the TLWMA in the upcoming management plan update, and explore further strategies to improve gates and fencing on the area.

3. **Public Access, Environmental Education & Outreach, specifically management of visitor impacts, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address public access and education.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC discusses the assessment of existing and potential future recreational uses and facilities, and establishment of visitor carrying capacities in Section 5.4 of the TLWMA Management Plan and in the TLWMA Recreation Master Plan, which can be viewed in Appendix 13.7 of the management plan. This is to ensure visitation does not negatively impact the area. As stated in the Recreation Master Plan, “Careful design and placement of recreation facilities (and opportunities) can provide desirable visitor experiences and minimize impacts to the natural and cultural resource of the area”. The FWC will continue to assess recreational opportunities during the management plan development, and Recreation Master Plan updates, and continue to utilize tools to ensure minimal visitor impacts occur.

**Triple N Ranch Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 16,295.14

**Counties:** Osceola

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To ensure the survival of prairie wildlife species such as the swallow-tailed kite and crested caracara; to protect the watershed of Bull Creek and provide a large area for the public to enjoy hunting, wildlife observation, and other activities.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 8/12/96

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 8/20/12

**Review Date:** 8/30/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Melanie Mancuso, Manager
- Steve Glass
- Jon Webb
- Tina Hannon
- Matthew Hortman

**Review Team Members (voting)**

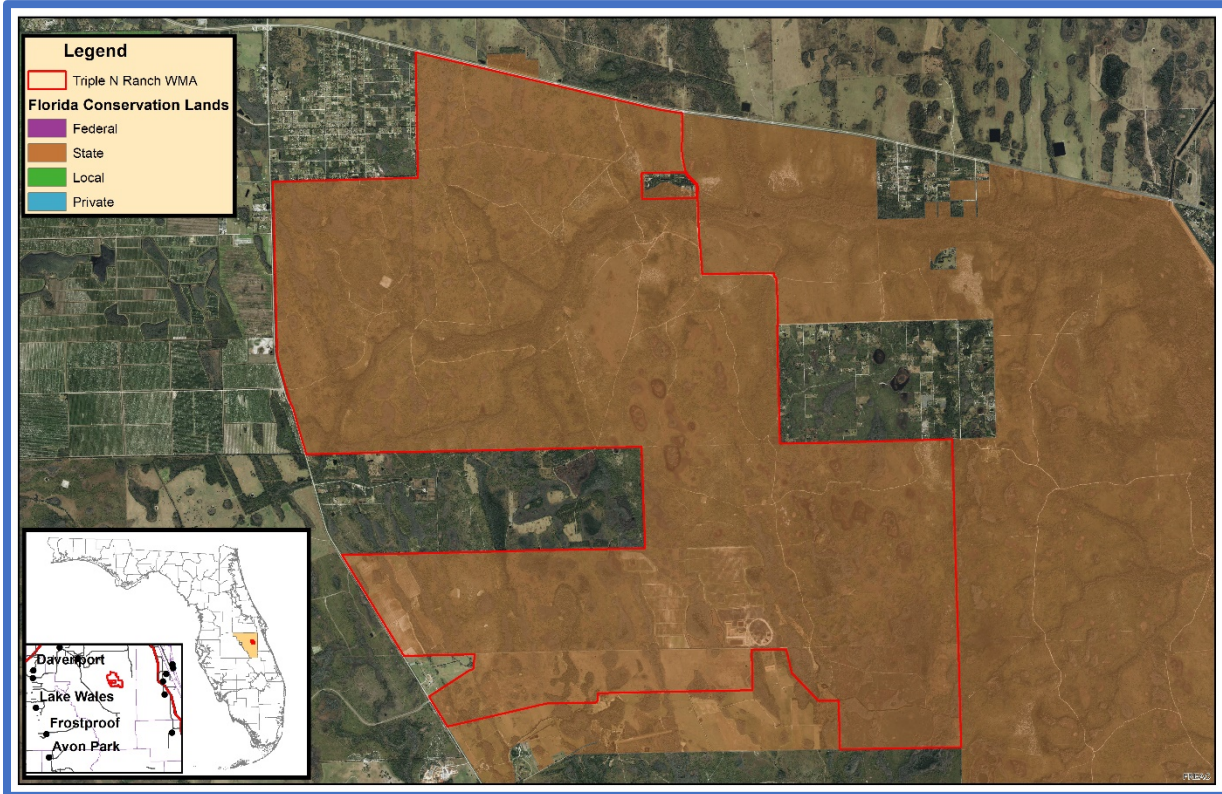
- Catie Welch, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Brian Dailey, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Amy Copeland, SJRWMD
- Vince Lamb, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPM
- Lance Jacobson, FWC
- Jennifer Paredes, FWC
- Jim Erwin, FNPS
- Jim Blush, SFWMD



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

**Table 7: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.77	4.20	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.49	4.22	
Hydrology	3.78	3.39	
Imperiled Species	4.75	4.20	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.92	3.83	
Cultural Resources	4.00	4.17	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.08	3.34	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.31	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

- for completing the archaeological resource monitor training. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC staff for the work done on red cockaded woodpeckers and the results achieved. (5+, 0-)
  3. The team commends the FWC for their prescribed burn program and the number of acres achieved per year, the frequency and quality of burns. (5+, 0-)
  4. The team commends the FWC for the treatment of the invasive exotic plants at the WMA, and keeping the plants at a maintenance control level. (5+, 0-)
  5. The team commends the FWC for the discovery of a novel population of the striped newt at the WMA, and the management following the discovery (removal of cattle grazing in the area). (5+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed: **There were no consensus recommendations.**

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, dome swamp/basin swamp, depression marsh, dry prairie, hydric hammock, wet prairie, scrubby flatwoods, baygall, scrub, mesic hammock, wet flatwoods, and xeric hammock.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically red cockaded woodpecker, and gopher tortoise.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically hydrological restoration and groundcover restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber harvesting.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically control of plants and animals.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads and culverts.**
10. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
11. **Public access, specifically roads and parking.**
12. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
13. **Management resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

**Land Management Plan Review Details**

**Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**



**Belmore State Forest**

**Managed by:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service

**Acres:** 8,737

**Counties:** Clay

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect and manage the unique resources of the forest through a stewardship ethic to assure these resources will be available for future generations.

**Acquisition Program(s):** Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 3/16/05

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/10/08

**Review Date:** 9/17/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Sam Negaran, Manager
- Frank Burley
- Jennifer Hart

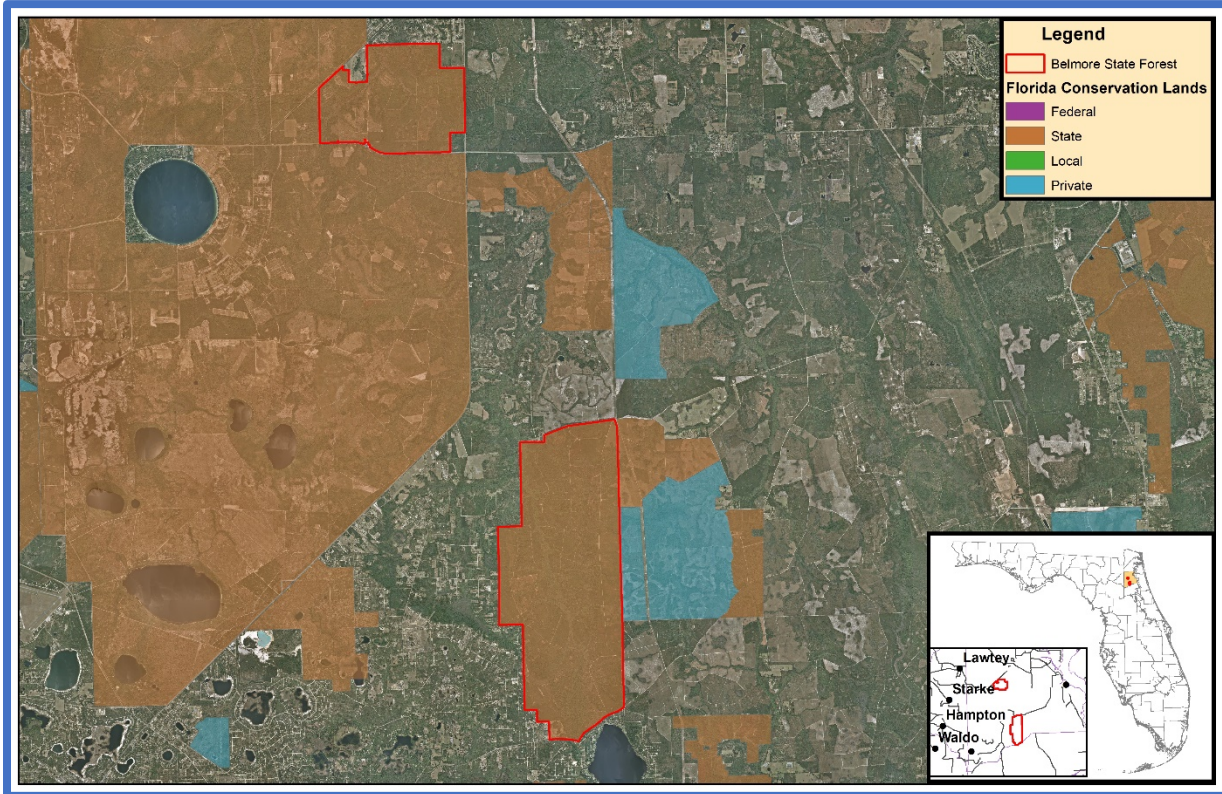
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- Liza McCain, Local Gov't.
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Paul Duff, DEP District
- Heather Schmiede, FFS
- Heather Venter, SJRWMD
- Walter Bryant, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Lassie Lee, FNPS

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Forest Service (FFS) for working with DHR prior

**Table 8: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.30	4.26	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.93	4.11	
Hydrology	3.95	3.64	
Imperiled Species	3.45	2.98	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.19	3.60	
Cultural Resources	4.50	4.00	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.07	3.92	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.35	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

- to repair/replace of the bridge under construction now. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS for groundcover restoration by direct seeding in mesic flatwoods and sandhill areas. (7+, 0-)
  3. The team commends the FFS for continuing efforts to upgrade roads, bridges and culverts to protect water quality in the stream crossings. (7+, 0-)
  4. The team commends the FFS for the continuing efforts to increase fire frequency, especially in the mesic flatwoods. (7+, 0-)
  5. The team commends the FFS for conducting bio-blitz in 2018 to identify plant and animal species. (7+, 0-)
  6. The team commends the FFS for adding hiking and horse trails, and other recreational opportunities. (7+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FFS increase the number of acres burned and continue to move towards more growing season burns as restoration continues. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Florida Forest Service will continue to pursue an increase in burn acreage on Belmore State Forest. Once fuel loads are safely reduced, a transition to growing season burns will be initiated and maintained.

2. The team recommends that the FFS convert the District (OPS) Biologist to an FTE position. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will continue to request that the biologist position for the Jacksonville district be upgraded to career service. This request is dependent on getting funding through the legislature.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically baygall, dome swamp, blackwater stream, floodplain swamp, and bottomland forest.**
2. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically fire effects monitoring.**
3. **Cultural resources, specifically, cultural resource survey and protection and preservation.**
4. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
5. **Restoration, specifically flatwoods and sandhill.**
6. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.**
7. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.**
8. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts.**
9. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
10. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
11. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and signage.**
12. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.**

13. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**
14. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
15. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and buildings.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, and sandhill, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Increased burning, the removal of sandpine plantations, and the re-introduction of site appropriate pine species will move the sandhill communities on Belmore SF towards restoration and maintenance status. The Florida Forest Service would like to highlight that significant work towards this end has occurred. Recently 70% of the sand pine acres have been harvested with the remaining 30% scheduled to be harvested in the next five years.

A significant amount of prescribed burning and thinning has occurred in the mesic flatwoods ecological communities necessary to move these pine plantations, established by the timber industry, into a more restored state. The FNAI would classify the majority of these mesic flatwoods as restoration flatwoods. Approximately 50% of Belmore State Forest's mesic flatwoods are within desired fire frequency while approximately 40% have had timber thinning operations conducted. Invasive species impacts less than 1% of this community type (less than one acre out of the historic 4,604 acres). The FFS estimates the total amount of mesic flatwoods in maintenance condition is in the 41% to 60% range.

2. **Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Florida Forest Service continually attempts to increase burn acreage across Belmore State Forest; however, the ability to apply prescribed fire is highly dependent on long and short-term weather conditions.

3. **Management Resources, specifically equipment, and staff, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will continue to submit legislative budget request for facilities, equipment, staff and funding.

## Land Management Plan Review Details

### Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Listed Species protection and preservation, specifically gopher tortoise, and black creek crayfish, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of listed species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS feels that this management plan adequately addresses this issue. There are multiple sections of the plan detailing listed species protection. The protection of gopher tortoise is specifically mentioned for protection during sandhill restoration. When the plan was written, the presence of black creek crayfish was unknown on the forest. It will be added to updates to the management plan.

2. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will update future management plans to show how surplus land is determined.

**Four Creeks State Forest**

**Managed by:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service

**Acres:** 10,221

**County:** Nassau

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** Timber management and restoration, low-impact diverse recreation uses, and management of archaeological and historic sites, habitat and other biological resources.

**Acquisition Program(s):** Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/27/05

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/19/10

**Review Date:** 9/18/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Sam Negaran, Manager
- Sam Leneave
- Jennifer B. Hart
- Kirsten Brannon

**Review Team Members (voting)**

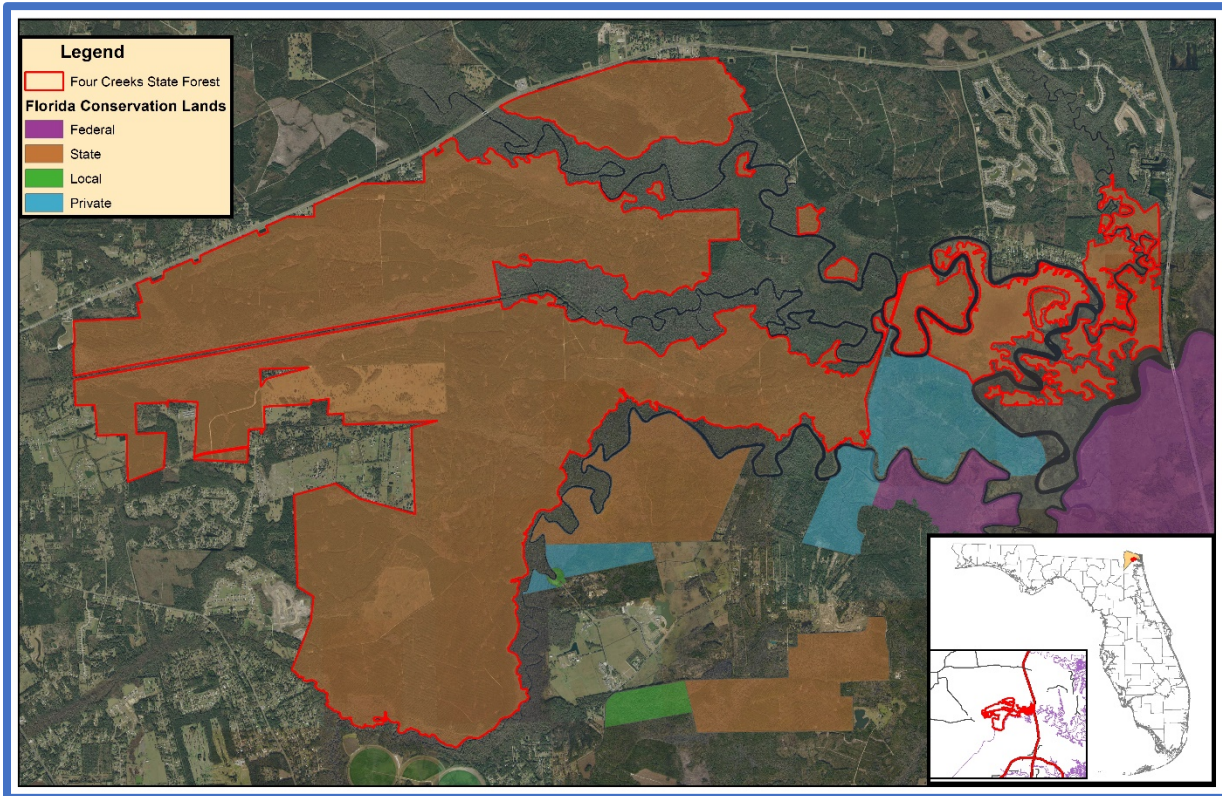
- Dan Pearson, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Allison Cala, DEP District
- Heather Schmiede, FFS
- Brian Emanuel, SJRWMD
- Walter Bryant, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Chris Boever, FWC/IPMS



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Forest Service (FFS) for continuing improvement in prescribed fire program. (6+, 0-)

**Table 9: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.19	4.22	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.86	3.89	
Hydrology	3.73	2.85	
Imperiled Species	3.00	2.60	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.89	3.58	
Cultural Resources	3.50	3.33	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.85	3.39	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.14	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

2. The team commends the FFS for significant improvement in access with road improvements and recreation sites. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FFS for significant efforts to control Chinese tallow with the help of SJRWMD and other contributors. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FFS seek to convert OPS biologist to FTE. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will continue to request that the biologist position for the Jacksonville district be upgraded to career service. This request is dependent on getting funding through the legislature.

2. The team recommends that the FFS increase effort to document flora and fauna on this forest particularly listed species. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will work to increase documentation of flora and fauna on Four Creeks State Forest.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically bottomland forest, salt marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, and basin swamp.**
2. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
3. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
4. **Restoration, specifically flatwoods and sandhill.**
5. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
7. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.**
8. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and law enforcement presence.**
9. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.**
10. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**
11. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically habitat management activities.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, and wet flatwoods received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores**



**range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** These natural communities pose unique management situations in that trying to prescribe burn these areas either poses significant public safety risks or they are isolated pockets with no access. Approximately 66% of the manageable acreage is in maintenance condition. The FFS will continue to explore ways to maintain these areas. The FFS is also working on restoring what is currently typed as pine plantation to a more natural community.

- 2. Natural Resources Survey, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, and other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether survey and monitoring of the resources or their habitats are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will work to increase the level of monitoring for both listed species and other non-game species in the field.

- 3. Restoration, specifically species composition, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether restoration is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Since acquisition of this property the FFS has thinned approximately 50% of the existing pine plantation. There has also been approximately 9,600 acres of prescribed fire applied to 6,447 acres of uplands. 1,700 acres of Chinese tallow have been treated. Groundcover and midstory species diversity are increasing across the forest due to these efforts. The FFS plans to continue thinning and burning of pine plantations as they become merchantable and fire can safely be introduced to them.

- 4. Management Resources, specifically sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will continue to submit legislative budget requests for facilities, equipment, staff and funding.

## **Land Management Plan Review Details**

### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. Listed Species protection and preservation, animals and plants in general, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of listed species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS feels that the management plan adequately addresses this. The plan lists working with FWC to develop a Wildlife Management Plan and to map locations of rare species and environmentally sensitive areas.

2. **Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, and other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS feels that the management plan adequately covers this. There are six objectives related to listed species surveying and monitoring. It is also covered in Section III and Section IV of the plan.

3. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address ground water monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will update future management plans to address ground water monitoring.

4. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address surface water monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will update future management plans to address surface water monitoring.

5. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will update future management plans to show how surplus land is determined.

6. **Public Access, Environmental Education & Outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, and interpretive facilities and signs, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address public access and education.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS feels that this plan adequately addresses this. There are several objectives that address these goals.

**John M. Bethea State Forest**

**Managed by:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service

**Acres:** 10,221

**County:** Baker

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to ensure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL / Save Our Rivers

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/2001

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/19/10

**Review Date:** 9/20/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Ethan Darnell, Manager
- Sam Leneave
- Roland Gaskins
- Andy Lamborn

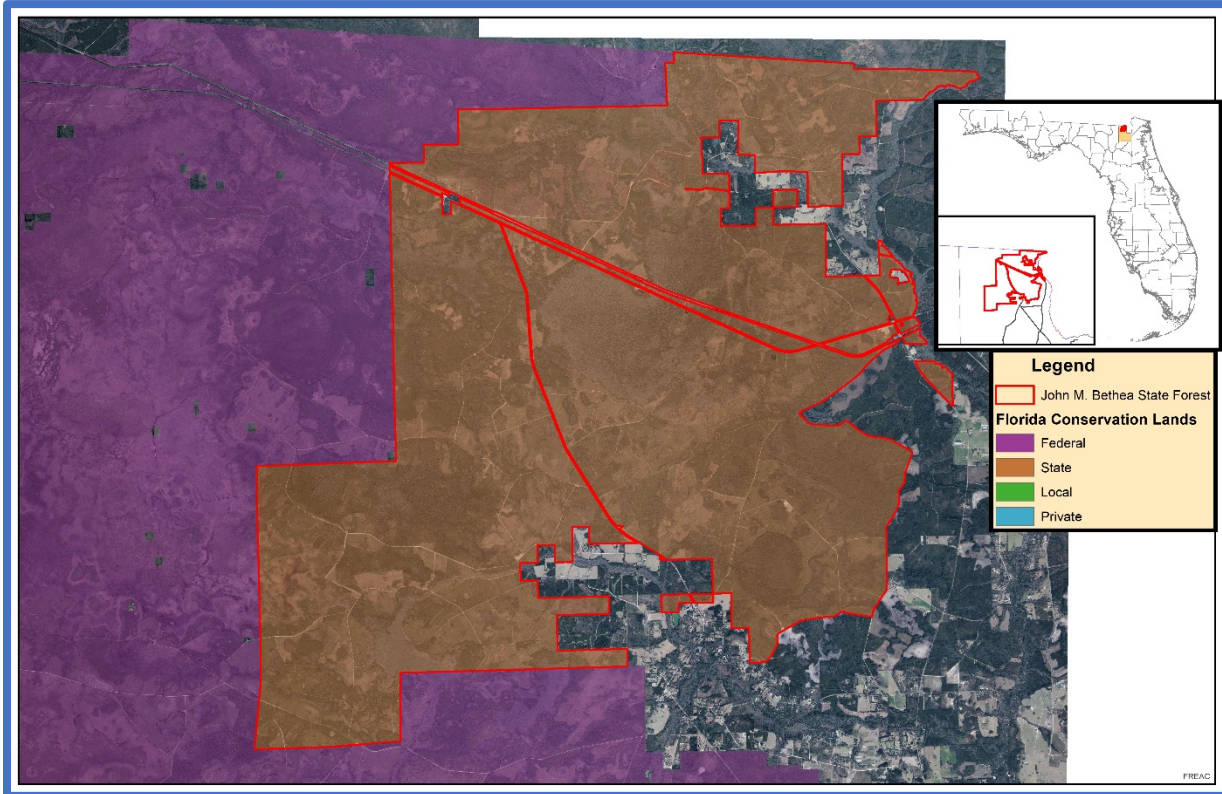
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Craig Parenteau, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Katie Sula, DEP District
- Sam Negaran, FFS
- Paul Hudson, SJRWMD
- Walter Bryant, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Chris Boever, FWC/IPMS

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Forest Service (FFS) manager for his awareness of rare species of flora and fauna. (6+, 0-)

**Table 10: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.34	4.27	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.53	4.42	
Hydrology	3.94	3.78	
Imperiled Species	4.00	4.50	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.57	4.60	
Cultural Resources	4.67	4.33	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.92	3.94	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.00	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

2. The team commends the FFS for excellent effort and accomplishment of introducing fire into young longleaf and slash pine plantations. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FFS for continuing efforts to improve the forest's resilience to wildfire by converting to longleaf, widening firebreaks, and increased prescribed fire. (6+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FFS for improving hydrology with installation of new culverts, low water crossings, and bridges. (6+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FFS team for removing / rehabilitating old firebreaks that have prevented fires from moving into wetland ecotones. (6+, 0-)
6. The team commends the FFS team for moving toward growing season burns once fuel loads are reduced to safe levels. (6+, 0-)
7. The team commends the FFS for the addition of hiking and equestrian trails and other recreational opportunities. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FFS add additional community types per the 2016 FNAI survey, which was conducted after the current 10 year management plan was written. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FFS will incorporate the additional community types from the FNAI survey into future management plans.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically basin swamp, dome swamp, floodplain forest, and basin marsh.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.**
7. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
8. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.**
9. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quantity.**
10. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
11. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.**
12. **Public access, specifically parking.**
13. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, buildings, and equipment.**

### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field.**

### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

#### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Natural Communities, specifically basin marsh, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address current or desired condition and/or future management actions to protect or restore.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Future management plans will discuss management of the “Basin Marsh” community type as it relates to restoration and protection.

2. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Future revisions of the 10 year Land Management Plan will describe a comprehensive assessment of potential surplus lands consisting of GIS modeling and analysis, operational and management requirements, and public access and recreational use.

**Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway SRCA**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 79,289

**County:** Marion, Putnam, Levy and Citrus

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To conserve and protect the natural resources and scenic beauty of the former canal lands, while providing compatible natural resource-based recreation.

**Acquisition Program(s):**

**Original Acquisition Date:** 1/22/91

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/20/18

**Review Date:** 10/9/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Mickey Thomason, Park Manager
- Laurie Dolan
- John DeHoff
- Adele Mills
- Kelly Conley
- William Watson

**Review Team Members (voting)**

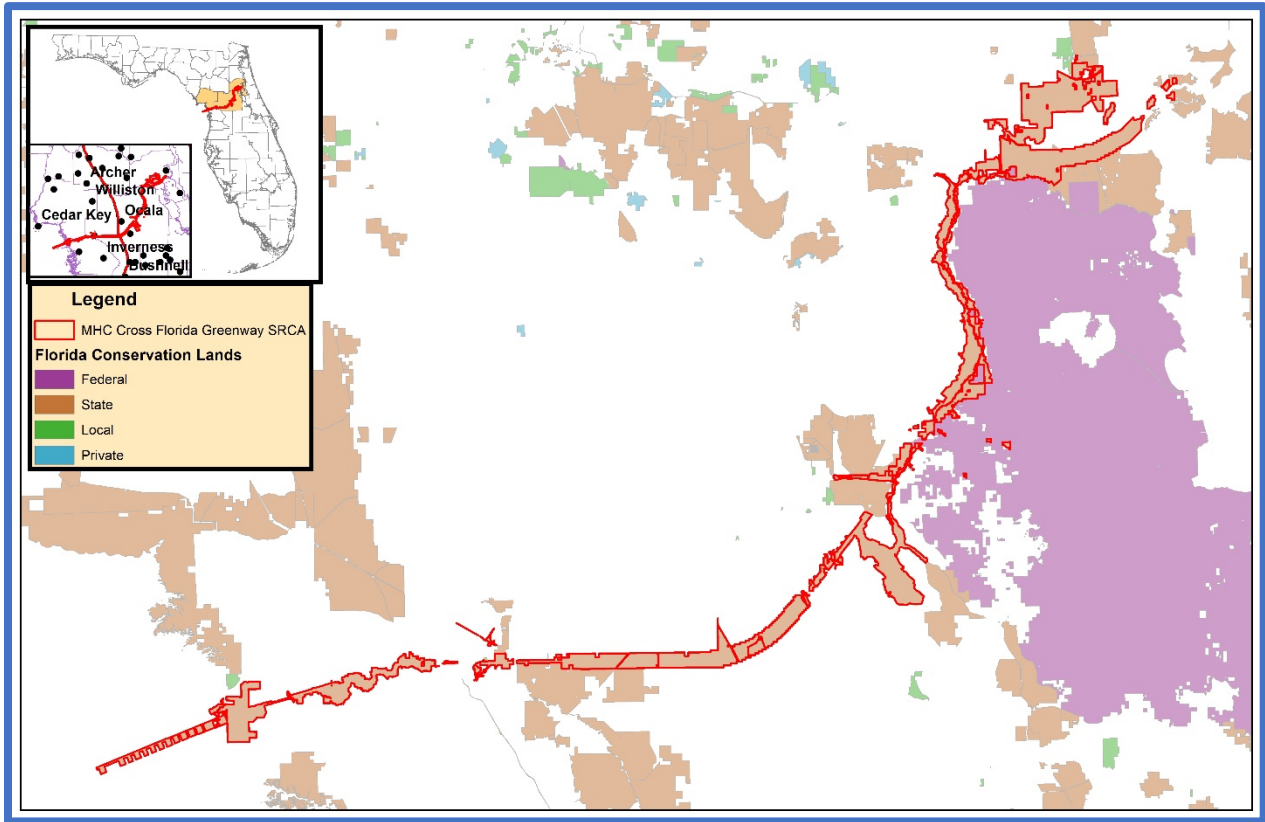
- DRP District, None
- Rodney Sieg, Local Gov't.
- Tyler Turner, FWC
- Carter Cook, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Chris Kinslow, SJRWMD
- Jim Buckner, Conservation Org.
- Guy Marwick, Private Land Manager

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Chris Boever, FWC/IPMS
- Jeff Sowards, DEP/RCP
- Deborah Curry, FNPS



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 11: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.44	4.39	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.40	4.17	
Hydrology	4.29	4.21	
Imperiled Species	4.65	3.82	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.24	4.17	
Cultural Resources	3.93	4.21	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.61	4.37	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.21	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor



1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for an exemplary prescribed fire program and results in sandhill community, particularly considering a significantly challenging urban-wildland interface, including residential subdivisions and public roadways and highways, including I-75. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for excellent efforts managing vegetation and predators and posting spoil islands in Citrus County for the protection of shorebirds, in particular American oystercatchers. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for the excellent listed species management efforts. (7+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS continue and seek to further enhance funding for prescribed fire contracting and fuel wood removal. This recommendation is based upon the significant improvement demonstrated since the previous land management review in 2014 in fire dependent communities and percent of acres now in rotation. Additional contract funding and staff are required if the current and past inadequate staffing levels are not improved. Increased staffing is a critical need on the Greenway. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Division funding is appropriated annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs.

2. The team recommends the FPS updates and improvement of manatee protection system at Buckman locks until partial restoration, as per the management plan, is implemented. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Refer to response above. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.

3. The team recommends the FPS seek funding needed to be able to acquire highest priority private lands needed to fill in the gaps in the CFG corridor. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** CFG /FPS staff will continue to work with Division of State Lands (DSL) staff and willing sellers to acquire, restore and manage the highest priority and quality “gap” parcels as is feasible and when available.

4. The team recommends the FPS, for improved paved trails, that the margins of roads be stabilized with local native plants. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** In the future, when paved trails are proposed/planned for development on the CFG, we will strive to have required stabilization done with local native plants/vegetation to the fullest extent feasible.

5. The team recommends the FPS, as in the FPS mission statement, the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway should “provide resource-based recreation while preserving, interpreting, and restoring natural and cultural resources.” (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** FPS will continue to manage the CFG according to this/our mission.

## Field Review Details

### Field Review Checklist Findings

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically sandhill, xeric hammock, upland hardwood forest, scrubby flatwoods, baygall, bottomland forest, floodplain swamp, basin swamp, depression marsh, dome swamp, blackwater stream, and hydric hammock.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically manatee, scrub jay, shorebirds, and long-spurred mint.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically sport fish or their habitat monitoring, listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically I-75 triangle scrub, and flatwoods restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, ditches, and hydro-period alteration.**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
11. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
14. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
15. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, and staff.**

### Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **Management Resources, specifically funding, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Division funding is appropriated annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.

## Land Management Plan Review Details

### Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically basin swamp, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Natural communities including basin swamp will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

- 2. Listed Species protection and preservation, specifically shorebirds, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of listed species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The protection and preservation of listed species, particularly shorebirds will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

**Rainbow Springs State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 1,472

**County:** Marion

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To protect most of the undeveloped or minimally developed private land remaining along the Rainbow River.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 10/24/90

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/10/02

**Review Date:** 10/11/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Larry Steed, Park Manager
- Tina Miller, APM

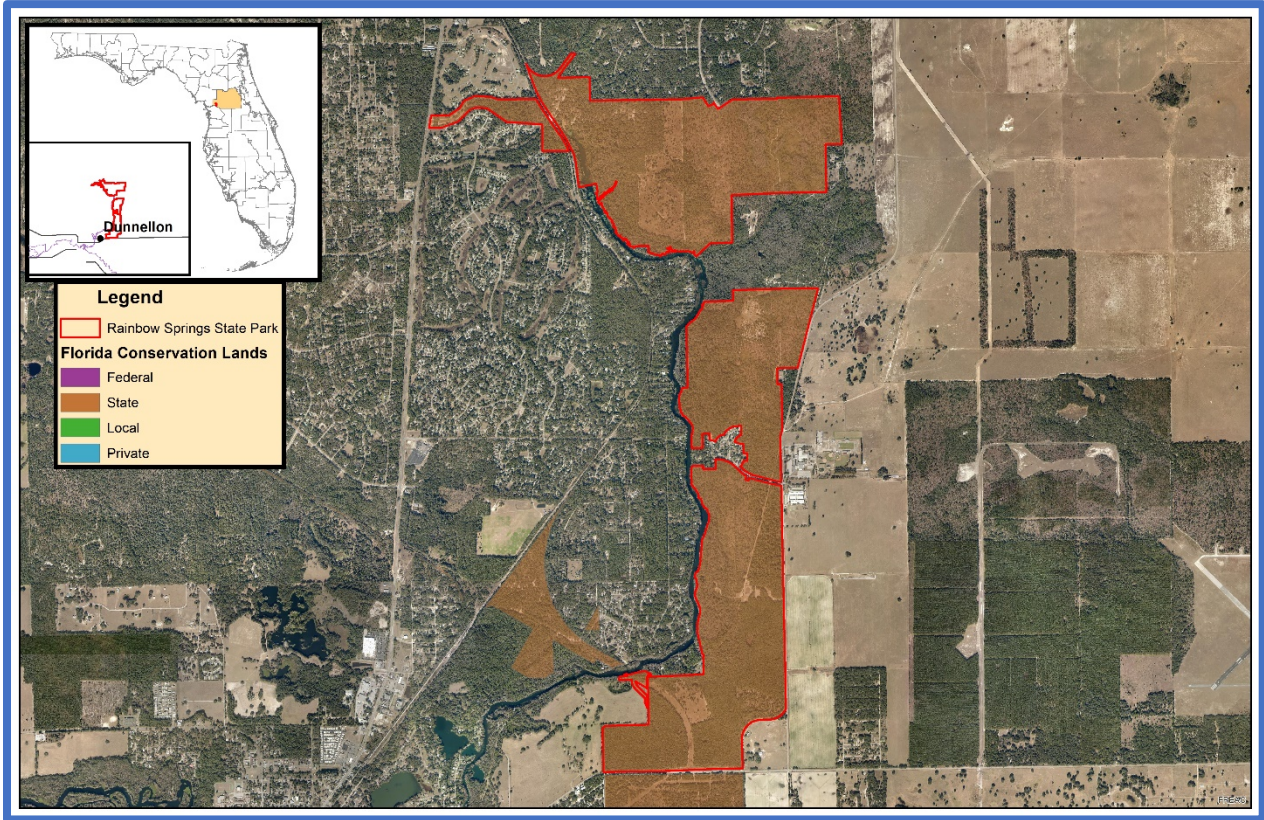
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Rick Owen, DRP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Rodney Sieg, Local Gov't.
- Chris McKendree, SWFWMD
- Alex Kropp, FWC
- Deborah L. Curry, Conservation Org.
- Hailey Ambrose, DEP District
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Chris Boever, FWC/IPMS
- Jeff Sowards, DEP/RCP
- Ronda Sutphen, FFS
- Cyndi Gates, SWFWMD

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 12: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.31	3.07	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.14	3.29	
Hydrology	4.58	3.36	
Imperiled Species	3.54	3.38	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.12	2.93	
Cultural Resources	4.57	3.14	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.39	3.54	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.95	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) staff for increasing burn frequency and acreage burned. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the staff on progress to restore Griffith's addition to sandhill community. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the staff on coordination with FWC and other partners to control invasive species. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS staff on providing a wide array of recreational opportunities while managing visitor impacts. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the staff regarding enforcement and monitoring of water-based recreational activities. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the staff on communications with neighboring landowners, including for education and outreach. (7+, 0-)
7. The team commends the staff for coordination with the water management district and aquatic preserve staff on all water resource issues in the Rainbow River. (7+, 0-)
8. The team commends the FPS for the improvement of their prescribed burning teams and the good coordination from the park staff. (7+, 0-)
9. The team commends the staff for excellent partnership and coordination with the citizen support organization and volunteers. (7+, 0-)

#### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The management plan reviewed by this land management review team was prepared in 200This is the third time this plan has been reviewed. In order for the land management review process to function properly, the team recommends the management plan be updated in a timely manner. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Division of Recreation and Parks are working to update the Unit Management Plan.

2. The team recommends the FPS resume southeastern kestrel monitoring and nest box maintenance in coordination with FWC. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** District and park staff will continue to coordinate with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) on monitoring and management strategies for the southeastern kestrel in the park.

3. The team recommends the FPS resume Bachman's sparrow annual monitoring and brown-headed nuthatch monitoring in coordination with FWC. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** District and park staff will continue to coordinate with FWC on monitoring and management strategies for imperiled species in the park.

#### **Field Review Details**

##### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically basin swamp, depression marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, and spring-run stream.**
2. **Listed species, animals, specifically gopher tortoise and plants in general.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically sand pine plantation to sandhill.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, and animals.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and erosion.**
10. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
11. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
12. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
13. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
14. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, and equipment.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically upland hardwood forest, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** District and park staff are working to delineate upland hardwood forest and upland mixed woodland natural communities for the next Unit Management Plan.

2. **Listed species, specifically Southeastern American kestrel, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether management actions are sufficient for protection and preservation of the species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** District and park staff will continue to coordinate with FWC on monitoring and management strategies for imperiled species in the park.



## Land Management Plan Review Details

### Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically upland mixed woodland and upland hardwood forest received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The next Unit Management Plan will be updated to reflect upland hardwood forest and upland mixed woodland natural community classifications.

- 2. Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of plants and animals, and prevention and control of pest/pathogens, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, as well as overall management actions, whether prevention and control are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Division will address this issue in the next management plan so that it reflects land management actions.

- 3. Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether adjacent property concerns are sufficiently addressed.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Division will address adjacent property concerns and the determination of surplus lands in the update of the management plan.



**Half Moon Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 9,554.00 (5,533.00 BOT; 4,021 SWFWMD)

**Counties:** Sumter

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To be managed as a wildlife management area and for protection of the Withlacoochee River and Gum Slough.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/SOR

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Original Acquisition Date:** 8/15/89

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 8/20/12

**Review Date:** 10/23/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Chris Green, Manager

- Hana Brinkley

**Review Team Members** (voting)

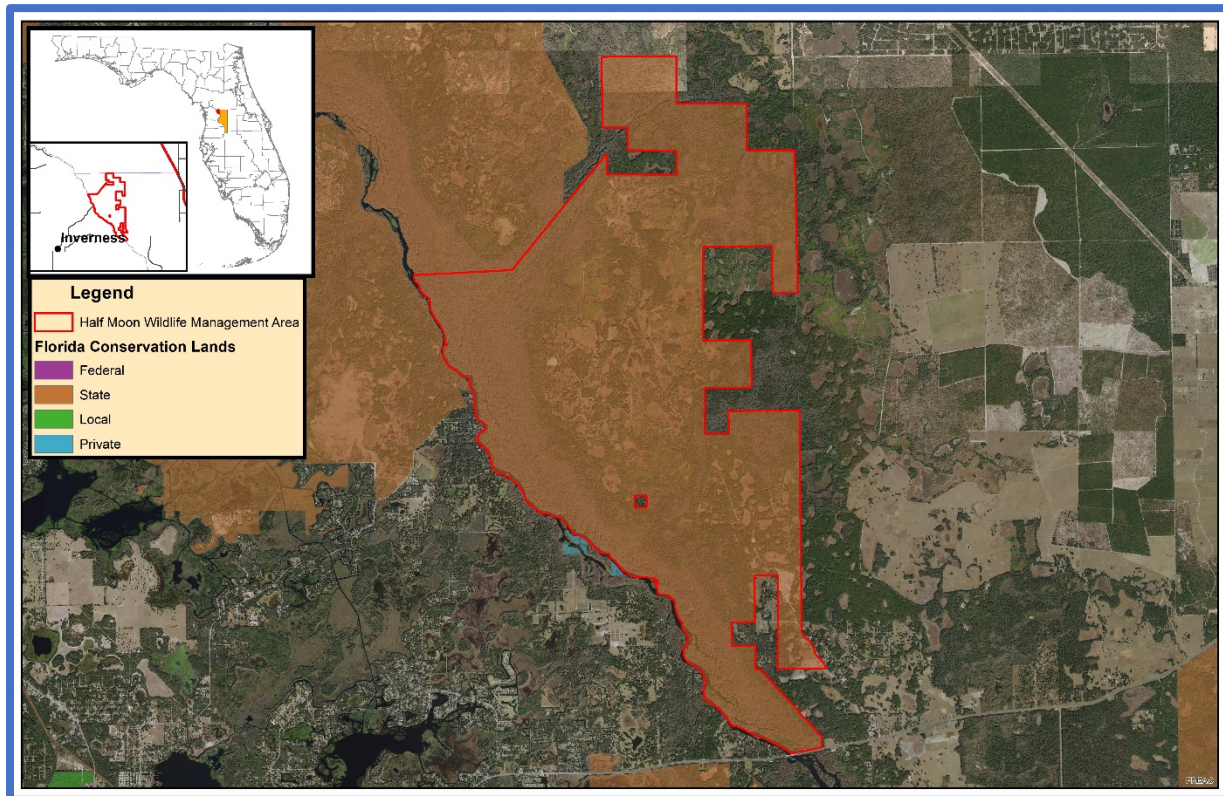
- Tracy Muzyczka, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Scotland Talley, FWC
- Samantha Daniel, DEP District

- Michael Edwards, FFS
- WMD, None
- Grace Howell, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members** (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPM
- Dylan Imlah, FWC

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for groundcover restoration efforts

**Table 13: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.76	4.36
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.77	4.60
Hydrology	4.40	4.27
Imperiled Species	4.67	4.67
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.26	4.03
Cultural Resources	4.40	4.40
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.71	3.99
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.80	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

in the pasture area. It is clear that staff is using adaptive management to fine tune a challenging process. (5+, 0-)

2. The team commends the FWC providing both a comprehensive historical perspective of land ownership and a detailed account of how the land managers have accomplished previous objectives in the management plan. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for the prescribed burn program. The number of acres, fire frequency, and quality of burns are reaching the manager's goals. (5+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FWC include more details about desired future conditions, maybe providing more detail about OBVM process in the management plan. (5+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** In section 5.3 of the current management plan for the Half Moon Wildlife Management Area (HMWMA) there is currently a thorough discussion of the OBVM process. The management plan also includes objectives in section 6.1 to continue to maintain the communities on the area based on the information provided in the OBVM report. Currently, since the OBVM report is updated multiple times during a planning period, the report is not included in the final management plan. However, the HMWMA management plan is currently in the process of being updated and FWC staff will explore the feasibility of adding more details regarding the desired future conditions of the area.

2. The team recommends that the FWC provide additional protection (hog exclusion) from cultural sites (cemetery). (5+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** As mentioned in the previous response, the HMWMA management plan is currently in the process of being updated. FWC staff have included an objective in the plan update addressing protection for the cultural sites on the area, this includes the installation of a hog proof fence around the cemetery located on the area.

3. The team recommends that FWC place an interpretive sign where the trail intersects the southern groundcover restoration area. (5+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** As mentioned, the HMWMA management plan is currently in the process of being updated. FWC staff have included an objective in the plan update to include the installation of interpretive signage for the groundcover restoration area.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically scrubby flatwoods, sandhill, xeric hammock, mesic hammock, floodplain forest, mesic flatwoods, basin/depression marsh, wet flatwoods, hydric hammock, blackwater stream, dome/basin swamp, and spring-run stream.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically scrub jay.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**

4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically groundcover, oak control, and longleaf reintroduction.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, and reforestation/afforestation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants and animals, and control of pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads and culverts, and ditches.**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
11. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
12. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.**
13. **Public access, specifically roads and parking.**
14. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
15. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

#### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

##### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 27,262

**Counties:** Hernando

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to conserve the largest remaining coastal hardwood swamp along the Gulf of Mexico south of the Suwannee River, its intact and functioning freshwater, tidal and spring system communities, and to conserve the diversity of rare and endangered species.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/SOR

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/12/85

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/17/14

**Review Date:** 10/25/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Steve Brinkley, Manager
- Melisa Thompson
- Phil Rodgers

**Review Team Members (voting)**

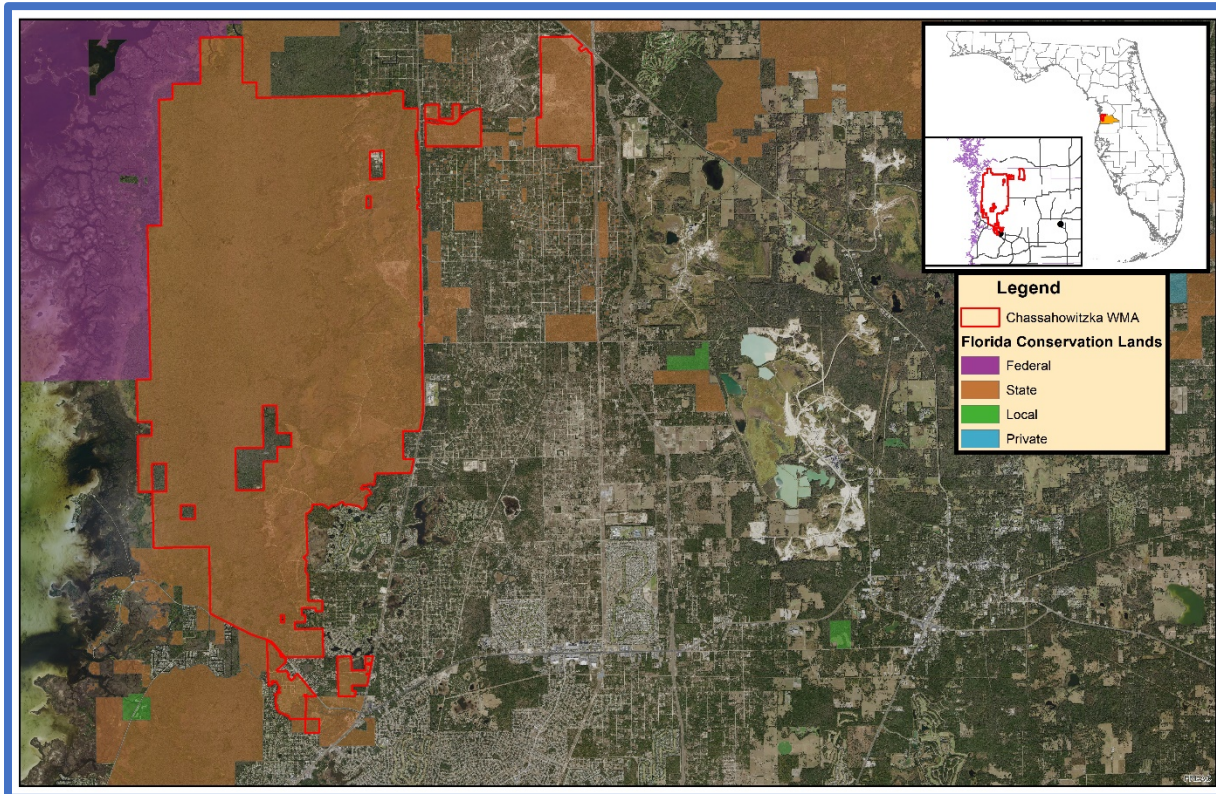
- Chris Becker, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Jennifer Myers, FWC
- Shannon Kennedy, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Anne Blanchard, SWFWMD
- Athena Philips, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Jim Surdick, FNPS
- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPM
- Victor Echaves, FWC
- Dylan Imlah, FWC



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Table 14: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.64	4.50
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.83	4.42
Hydrology	5.00	4.45
Imperiled Species	4.79	4.62
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.67	4.33
Cultural Resources	4.42	4.33
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.32	4.28
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.56	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

- (FWC) for getting fire on the ground in a landscape with a myriad of challenges and transitioning to growing season burns. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC for managing and monitoring game species on the management area. (6+, 0-)
  3. The team commends the FWC for their efforts to consider the resident Florida black bear subpopulation during management activities by protecting potential denning habitat and maintaining forage and cover for bears on the CWMA. (6+, 0-)
  4. The team commends the FWC for the restoration of sandhill through hardwood control and groundcover enhancement on the Seville and Annatteliga Hammock tracts of the CWMA to benefit the southern fox squirrel and other sandhill wildlife species. (6+, 0-)
  5. The team commends the FWC manager for preparation of the overview document in advance of the LMR. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FWC improve plant inventory and list in the management plan. (5+, 0-, 1 abstain)

**Managing Agency Response:** In Fiscal Year 2010-11, the FWC contracted with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) to conduct a rare plant survey at the CWMA to identify existing populations of rare and imperiled plants. Surveys were conducted in October, March, and May to ensure adequate detection during peak flowering periods for rare plants whose range included the CWMA. The FNAI identified 14 rare plant species during the surveys, six of which were state listed as endangered at the time and eight of which were state listed as threatened. An additional 4 species were identified which are state listed as commercially exploited. In addition to the rare plant survey, the FWC contracts with FNAI on a 5-year rotation to conduct Objective-Based Vegetation Monitoring and FNAI Natural Community recertification. During these activities, FNAI records common and rare plants observed in survey areas on the CWMA. These observations, in addition to opportunistic observations, are included in FWC's databases and any new species documented will be incorporated in the management plan update for the area. Furthermore, FWC staff will continue to update the list as necessary and determine if additional plant surveys are appropriate.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic, wet, scrubby flatwoods, sandhill, xeric / mesic hammock, coastal salt marsh, depression marsh, dome swamp, spring-run stream / sinkhole lake, hydric hammock / basin swamp, and basin marsh.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically kestrels and gopher tortoise.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically sandhill, and flatwoods.**



7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, and reforestation/afforestation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants and animals.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads and culverts, and ditches.**
10. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
11. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
12. **Public access, specifically roads and parking.**
13. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
14. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically scrub, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Chassahowitzka WMA (CWMA) contains a large amount of contiguous sandhill natural community (>5,000 acres), which is rare in the surrounding landscape. Scrub represents a small percentage of imperiled natural communities on the CWMA and the FWC has emphasized restoration and maintenance of existing sandhill. Of the approximately 230 acres of scrub within the CWMA, 92 acres were burned during the review period and an additional 76 acres were mechanically treated to alter vegetative structure and slow down succession. Very specific weather conditions are required to apply prescribed fire to about half of the scrub, which is surrounded by the wildland/urban interface and major roadways. The FWC plans to mechanically treat and apply prescribed fire to scrub as resources, time, and weather permit with the goal of improving more acres to maintenance condition, however, sandhill management will remain the priority.

#### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

##### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**Little Big Econ State Forest**

**Managed by:** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service

**Acres:** 8,491

**County:** Seminole

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to add to conservation lands already on the river, protecting habitat for wildlife and rare plants, preserving several archaeological sites, and providing the public opportunities for canoeing, fishing, hunting, and other recreation.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 3/14/91

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 8/13/10

**Review Date:** 11/6/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Stephen Stipkovits, Manager
- Sean Gallagher
- Travis McGowen

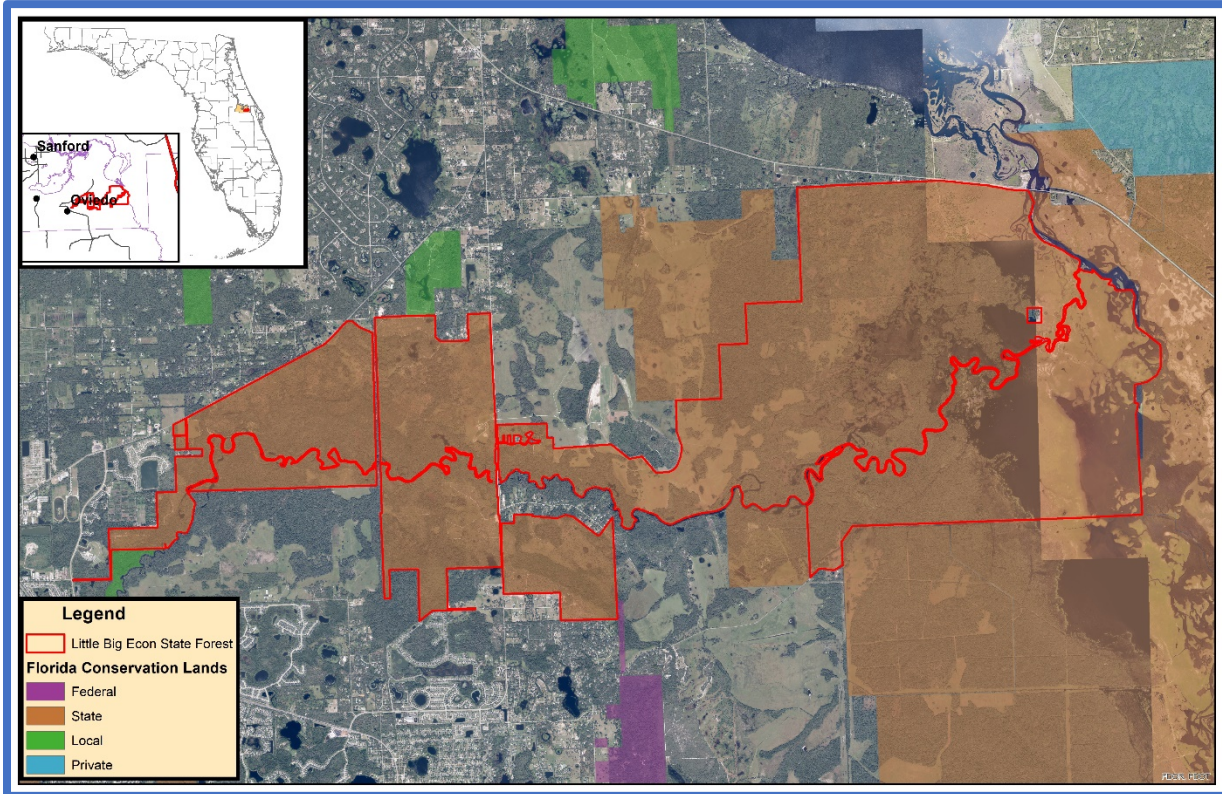
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Allegra Buyer, DRP District
- Jim Duby, Local Gov't.
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Abbie Khounevixay, DEP District
- Ronda Sutphen, FFS
- Brent Bachelder, SJRWMD
- Conservation Org., None
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Forest Service (FFS) manager for supporting

**Table 15: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.51	4.59	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.07	4.60	
Hydrology	4.01	3.97	
Imperiled Species	3.50	3.50	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.11	4.44	
Cultural Resources	4.50	4.50	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.39	4.46	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.31	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

diverse recreation through increased infrastructure and productive partnerships with those user groups. (6+, 0-)

2. The team commends the FFS for thinking outside the box to achieve management and restoration goals with insufficient funding. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FFS personnel for doing a great job in developing and maintaining multi-use trails and trailhead parking. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the FFS consider applying for FWC uplands invasive plant management funding for the larger infestations on the property. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Florida Forest Service will apply for FWC upland invasive plant treatment funding as appropriate.

2. The team recommends that the FFS consult with FNAI for reclassification of restoration mesic flatwoods to the more appropriate cover class. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Florida Forest Service consulted and contracted with FNAI in 2016 for the mapping of LBESF. FNAI described these sites as restoration mesic flatwoods as they are currently in the process of being restored to more natural conditions. Sites typed as restoration mesic flatwoods may have inclusions of other community types, but the current typing is most appropriate.

3. The team recommends that the FFS include improved pasture and altered land covers in future land management planning. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Improved pasture and altered land cover are included in the draft ten-year management plan for the Little Big Econ State Forest.

4. The team recommends that the FFS work with SJRWMD to conduct a hydrological assessment for the property. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The draft update to the ten-year management plan for the Little Big Econ State Forest, under the goals and objectives section, states that the Florida Forest Service will conduct or obtain a site assessment/study to identify potential hydrology restoration needs.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, mesic hammock, floodplain marsh, scrubby flatwoods, hydric hammock, wet flatwoods, basin swamp, baygall, depression marsh, blackwater stream, dome swamp, floodplain swamp, floodplain forest, and xeric hammock.**
2. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically fire effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
3. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
4. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**

5. **Restoration, specifically wet prairie restoration.**
6. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting.**
7. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention of plants, and prevention and control of animals, and pests/pathogens.**
8. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.**
9. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quantity.**
10. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
11. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
12. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.**
13. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
14. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
15. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, and equipment.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **Natural Resources Survey, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether survey and monitoring of the resources or their habitats are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Little Big Econ State Forest will work with the State Forest Ecologist, Plant Conservation Biologist, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission biologists to identify and implement any relevant monitoring protocols for listed plant and animal species. The management plan update will include items on how these items have been addressed.

2. **Management Resources, specifically staff and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Florida Forest Service will continue to request an increase in funding and additional career service positions for the Little Big Econ State Forest as applicable.

#### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

##### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Managed Area Uses, Proposed Uses, specifically equestrian camping, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address managed area uses.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Assessment for camping has evolved and the draft ten-year plan includes assessment for full-facility camping to accommodate RVs, trailers, and tents to encompass more public demand for camping over specializing in just equestrian camping.

**Spring Hammock Preserve**

**Managed by:** Seminole County

**Acres:** 1,505

**County:** Seminole

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** Acquired in conformance with the EEL plan for the purpose of resource protection as well as passive recreation, forest management and environmental education.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000

**Original Acquisition Date:** 1/15/88

**Area Reviewed:** BOT-owned portions (720 acres)

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/21/16

**Review Date:** 11/7/19

**Agency Manager and Key Staff**

- Jim Duby, Manager

**Review Team Members** (voting)

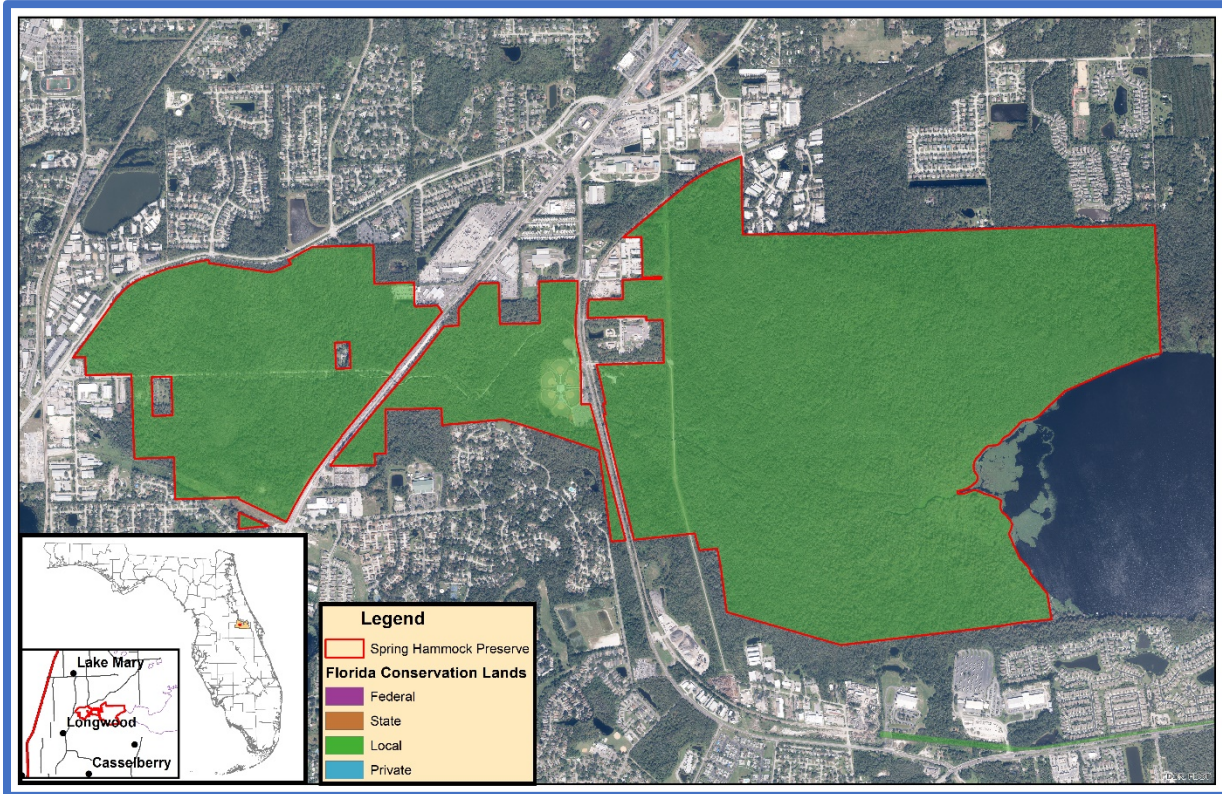
- Jason DePue, DRP District
- Sherry Williams, Local Gov't.
- Tyler Turner, FWC
- Kevin Scheiber, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Sandra Oxenrider, SJRWMD
- Jennifer Ferngren, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members** (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the County for a very good proactive and reactive management of invasive species. (7+, 0-)

**Table 16: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.56	3.71	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	N/A	N/A	
Hydrology	4.00	3.68	
Imperiled Species	3.57	3.40	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.69	3.12	
Cultural Resources	2.17	3.07	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.85	3.60	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.02	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

2. The team commends the County for a well-managed property with limited staff. (7+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends that the County provide additional staff members to assist with management of land. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands Program is requesting two additional positions for FY 20-21. This is subject to approval.

2. The team recommends that the County provide additional funding for management of land. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands Program has submitted a budget for FY 20-21 for an additional \$90,000. This is subject to approval.

3. The team recommends that the County conduct better management / surveys for cuplet fern. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands Program will engage the local Native Plant Society chapter(s) to organize surveys in 2020.

4. The team recommends that the County have staff update their training for archaeological resource monitor by taking the refresher course. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands Program plans to send one staff member to the ARM training in FY 20-21.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically hydric hammock, and floodplain swamp.**
2. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically invasive species survey and monitoring.**
3. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
4. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.**
5. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
6. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**
7. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically mesic flatwoods, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what**

**percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Currently the program does not have funding available for permitting a road through a wetland to access the mesic flatwoods. Also, due to the fire program backlog, this particular burn zone is far down on the priority list. We are developing a 10-year fire management plan that will include recommendations and actions to address all Natural Lands properties.

- 2. Natural Resources Survey, specifically other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether survey and monitoring of the resources or their habitats are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands staff have a bio-blitz scheduled on the property in April 2020 and the property is on a rotation of every 5 years for this type of event.

- 3. Cultural Resources (Archaeological & Historic Sites), specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management of cultural resources is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Staff is planning on re-locating the archaeological sites in 2020 and will re-visit the sites every other year if possible.

- 4. Management Resources, specifically staff and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands Program is requesting two additional positions for FY 20-21. This is subject to approval.

## **Land Management Plan Review Details**

### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands Program will be updating their monitoring plan for the entire program in FY 20-21. This will be added to the next revision of the management plan due in 2026.

2. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or protection.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The Natural Lands Program will develop monitoring protocol with time sensitive language to add to the next revision of the management plan.

3. **Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of plants, animals, pests/pathogens, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prevention of invasive species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Spring Hammock Preserve has had the most consistent invasive plant treatment than any of our other properties in our program. We are developing a plan of action for invasive species on all of our properties. This will be included in our revised management plan.



**Little Manatee River State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 2,416

**County:** Hillsborough

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the State of Florida.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 8/02/74

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/16/16

**Review Date:** 1/8/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Patricia Cross, Park Manager
- Kate Smithson, Park Ranger

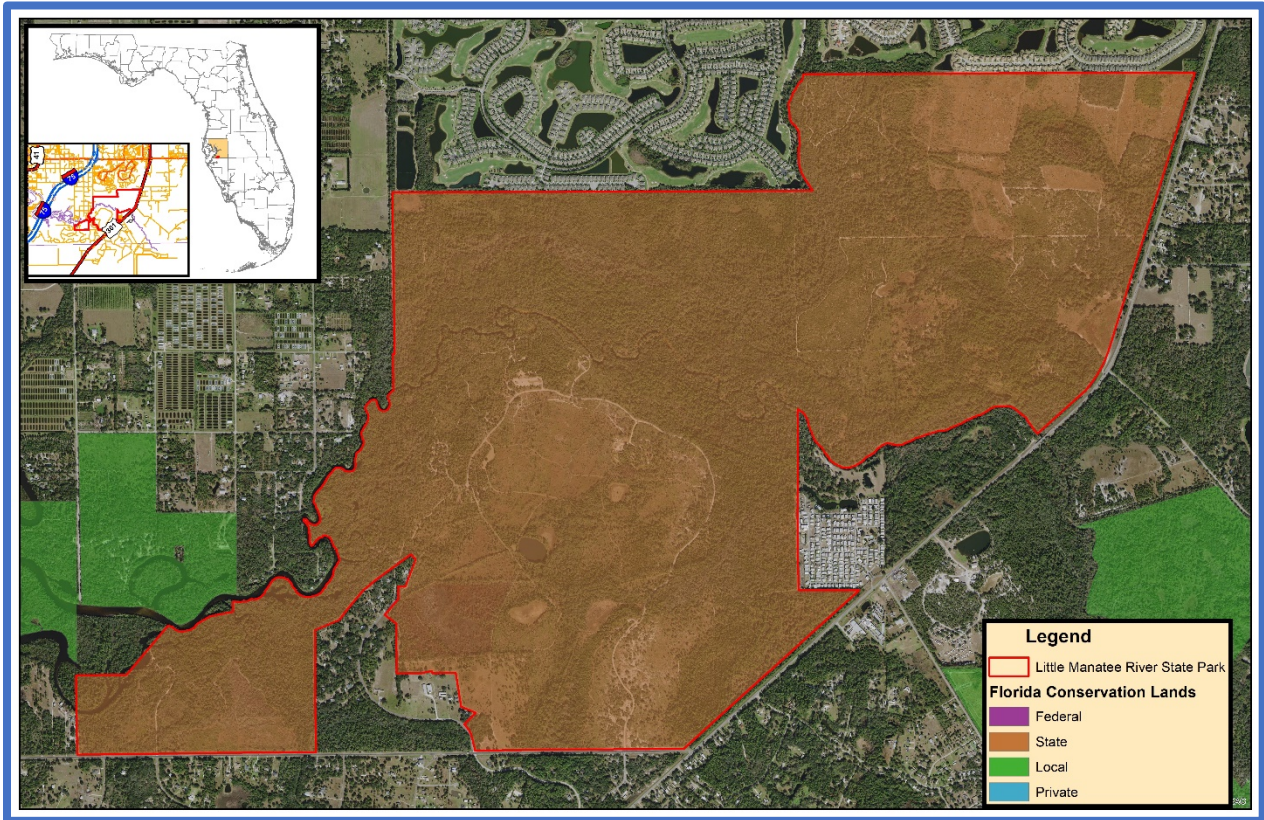
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Matthew Hodge, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Jennifer Myers, FWC
- DEP District, None
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Joe Howell, SWFWMD
- Virginia Overstreet, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Michael Sowinski, FWC/IPMS
- Randy Runnels, DEP/RCP

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the FPS for managing resources and public use despite very limited staff resources, and for effectively leveraging volunteers to increase management capacity. (4+, 0-)
2. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for introducing fire into areas previously unburned with high, volatile fuel loads in areas with a high urban interface. (4+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for making significant progress in controlling invasive plant species within historic problem areas with high infestations. (4+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for partnering with the Longleaf Alliance to re-establish this species on Little Manatee River State Park. (4+, 0-)

**Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS utilize appropriate methods to significantly reduce the high density of young sand pine trees in all natural communities, to avoid re-establishment of mature sand pine forests on Little Manatee River State Park. (4+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** FPS will continue to work on the reducing the number of sand pines within the natural communities where proliferation has been observed.

2. The team recommends the FPS incorporate the timber assessment into the unit management plan within the current planning cycle. (4+, 0-)

**Table 17: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.82	3.90	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.37	3.73	
Hydrology	3.71	4.26	
Imperiled Species	4.52	4.38	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.83	3.96	
Cultural Resources	4.23	4.45	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.08	3.67	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.04	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

**Managing Agency Response:** Park staff are taking steps to add the latest timber assessment to the latest unit management plan and adjust the current language accordingly.

3. The team recommends the FPS focus on funding for hydrological projects outlined in the unit management plan, which would increase access to all areas, facilitating improved resource management and protection, and increase public access. (4+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Hydrology projects outlined in the unit management plan need to be addressed and will be completed as funding allows. Division funding is appropriated annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs.

4. The team recommends the FPS add staff to improve the resource management and visitor services outlined in the unit management plan. (4+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.

## Field Review Details

### Field Review Checklist Findings

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically xeric hammock, baygall, depression marsh, dome swamp, bottomland forest, hydric hammock, blackwater stream, and mesic hammock.**
2. **Listed species, animals, specifically gopher tortoise and plants, and scrub suite.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
7. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
8. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
9. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey.**
10. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
11. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
12. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
13. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and sanitary facilities.**

### Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring



remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

- 1. The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically sandhill, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** All efforts will be made to restore the sandhill community back to maintenance condition. The sandhill at Little Manatee River State Park are overgrown and would require heavy mechanical treatment to prepare for prescribed fire. These areas of sandhill are on the urban interface and their restoration is prioritized as such.

- 2. Restoration, specifically sand pine reduction, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether restoration is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Natural community improvement is an ongoing process and often hand crews as well as mechanical treatment are used to achieve the desired future condition outlined in the unit management plan. These efforts will be applied to the invading sand pines as staffing and budget allows.

- 3. Management Resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Division funding is appropriated annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.

## **Land Management Plan Review Details**

### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. Restoration, specifically sand pine reduction, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether restoration efforts are adequate.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Restoration including sand pine reduction will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

- 2. Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information**

**provided by the managing agency, whether adjacent property concerns are sufficiently addressed.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies, and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

**Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve**

**Managed by:** Hillsborough County

**Acres:** 1,236

**County:** Hillsborough

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, this region of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000

**Original Acquisition Date:** 2/5/96

**Area Reviewed:** Entire property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/13/08

**Review Date:** 1/9/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Danielle Ivey, Manager
- Bernard Kaiser
- Gillian Seymour

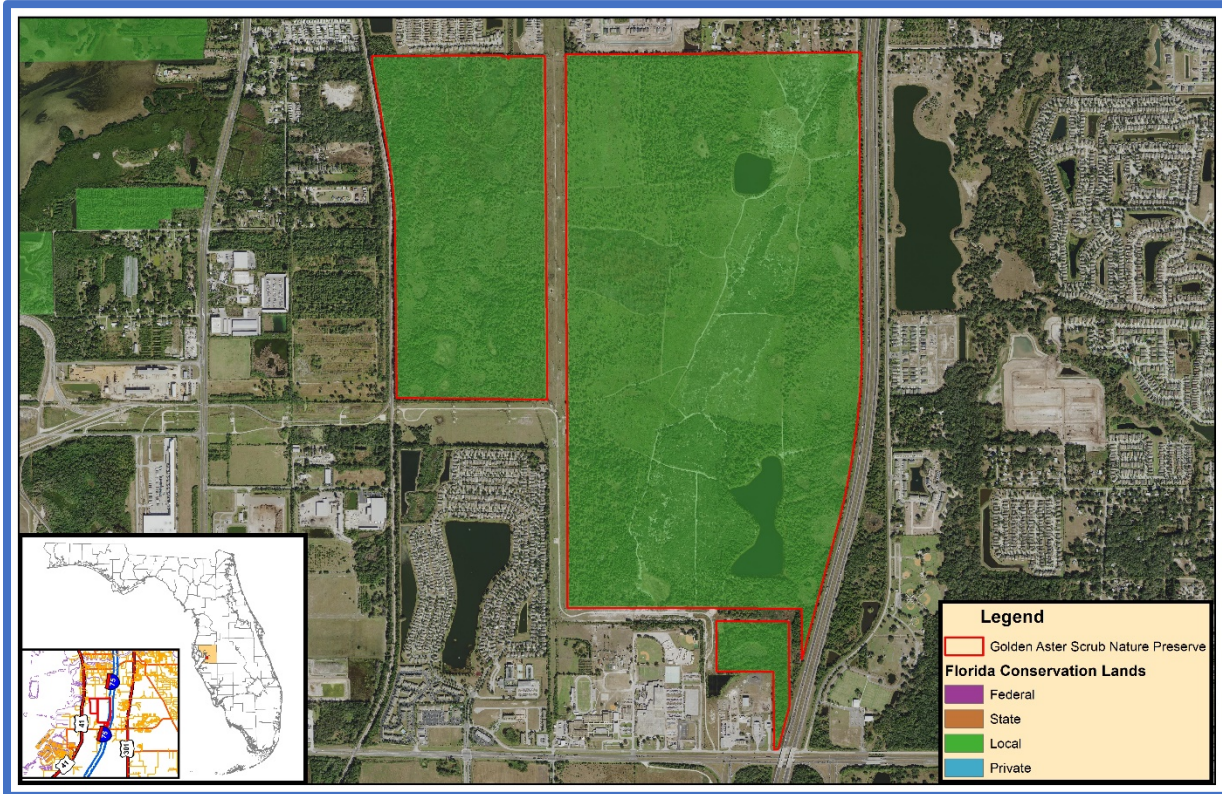
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Rosalind Rowe, DRP District
- Ken Bradshaw, Local Gov't.
- Jennifer Myers, FWC
- Michael Lynch, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- SWFWMD, None
- Virginia Overstreet, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

Yes = 6, No = 0

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

Yes = 5, No = 1

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the County for utilizing a variety of techniques to restore and maintain natural communities on

**Table 18: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	2.84	1.87	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.22	3.11	
Hydrology	N/A	N/A	
Imperiled Species	4.10	3.36	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.72	3.03	
Cultural Resources	4.00	3.67	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.63	3.14	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.67	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve, despite increasing development in the surrounding landscape. (6+, 0-)

2. The team commends the County for providing a quality public recreation experience, including ADA compliant access to the pavilion and lake, as well as hiking and wildlife viewing opportunities. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the County for effectively reducing exotic invasive plant infestations across much of the natural communities on Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the County update the natural communities' descriptions and map/GIS to reflect what is in the field for the next management plan (there were many omissions and confusing terminology in the current plan). (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** We are in the process of updating our Management plan for Golden Aster Preserve and are in the process of obtaining contractual services to perform natural community mapping based on the Cooperative Land Cover (CLC) system. This will reduce the confusing terminology.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic hammock, scrubby flatwoods, wet prairie/depression marsh, baygall, sinkhole lake, and scrub.**
2. **Listed species, animals in general, and specifically scrub jay and gopher tortoise, plants in general, and specifically golden aster.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
7. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and gates and fencing.**
8. **Public access, specifically roads.**
9. **Management resources, specifically sanitary facilities, and buildings.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We are aware that our use of fire on this preserve is not meeting the desired fire return interval in many burn units. Our management asked for and received funding for a burn team. This team will focus solely on burning, including areas that are more challenging to burn. We will be focused on applying more fire with in the next few years to bring the prescribed burning back into rotation.

- 2. Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We have approached our local FFS Forester about getting a timber inventory to be included in the forthcoming management plan update.

- 3. Management Resources, specifically funding, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** It was suggested by the review team that one staff member be dedicated to the preserve. At this time our staffing is not structured to have specific staff dedicated to a preserve(s). We will revisit this idea.

## Land Management Plan Review Details

### Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. Natural Communities, specifically mesic hammock, mesic/wet flatwoods, baygall, and sinkhole lake, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address current or desired condition and/or future management actions to protect or restore.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We are currently working on an update to our management plan and will add our desired future conditions and management actions needed in these habitats. Our monitoring team is already working with the land manager on identifying specific areas we can address for protection and/or restoration.

- 2. Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, and other habitat management effects monitoring, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We will address this in our management plan update. Our department has just acquired more staff to make up our monitoring team. We will look at the needs of the preserve and try to find a balance that will allow monitoring species and habitat effects across all of our preserves.

3. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address forest management.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We have already made contact with a Forester from FFS and there will be a Timber assessment in the updated management plan.

4. **Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of pests/pathogens, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prevention of invasive species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We will address non-native species and pathogens more in depth in our management plan update.

5. **Resource Protection, specifically signage, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address resource protection.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We will discuss putting up educational kiosks, boundary signage, and other signage for resource protection in the coming plan update. We have an outreach team that also leads hikes on GAS and other preserves to talk about the resources and the protection we are doing (acquisition, security, prescribed fire, etc.).

6. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, and surplus lands identified, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The potential surplus portion will be addressed in the coming plan update.



**Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 28,929

**Counties:** Orange

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** Conservation and preservation of natural and cultural resources, compatible resource-based outdoor recreation.

**Acquisition Program(s):** EEL

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Original Acquisition Date:** 6/20/77

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/21/16

**Review Date:** 1/29/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Tom O’Neil, Manager
- Tina Hannon
- Matthew Hortman
- Tom Shupe

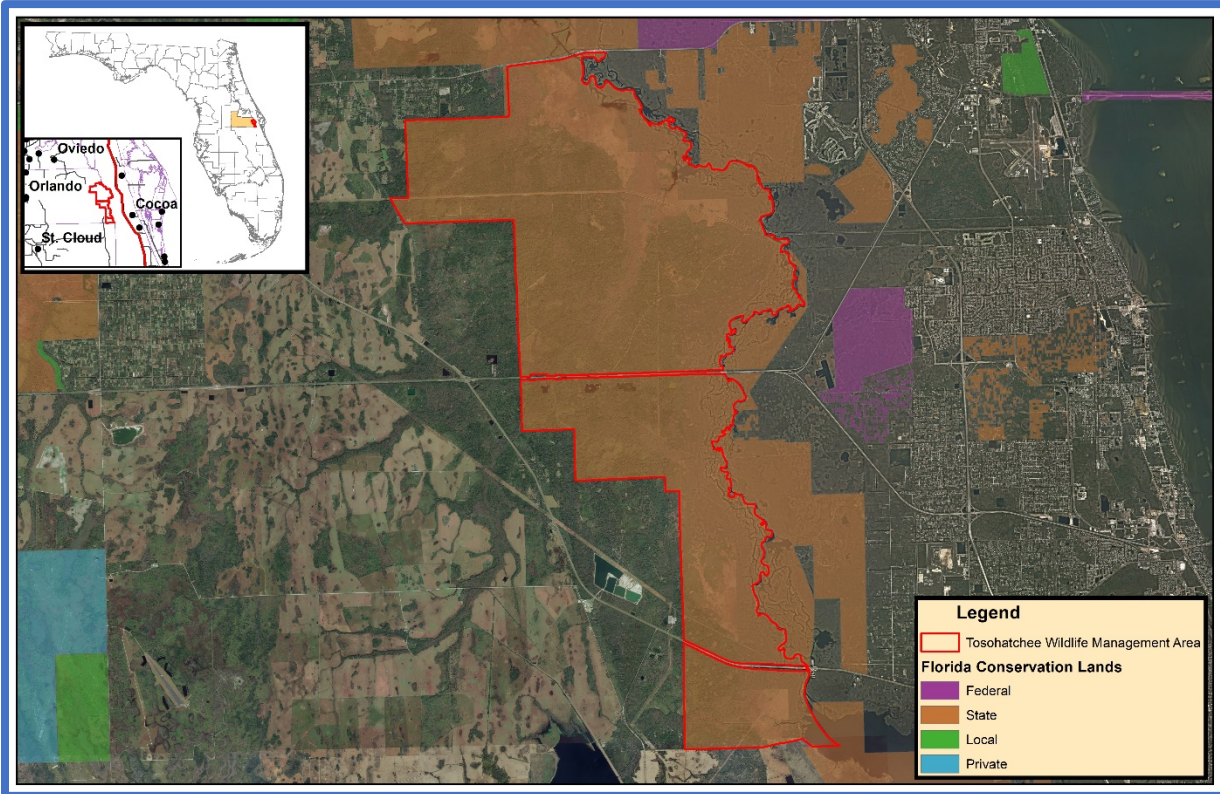
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- DRP District, None
- Erinn Mullen-Oliver, Local Gov’t.
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Rain Yates, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Reid Hilliard, SJRWMD
- Vince Lamb, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Dylan Haase, FWC
- Blake Finnegan, FWC
- Jimmy Conner, FWC
- Lee Kissick, SJRWMD
- Stacy Klema, FNPS

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for efforts to improve visitor

**Table 19: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.48	4.18
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.94	4.40
Hydrology	4.25	4.00
Imperiled Species	4.64	4.26
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.26	4.03
Cultural Resources	4.00	3.90
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.49	4.22
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.50	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
Poor		

experiences through road and trail maintenance, restrooms, bear proof trash containers, and signs. (6+, 0-)

2. The team commends the FWC and area staff for current and proposed invasive plant management on the Tosohatchee WMA. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for their burn program, especially dealing with roadways, duff areas, neighbors, etc. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FWC attempt to resolve the issues described in the document on cultural resources. We believe this reflects a misunderstanding and the work that has been done. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The FWC will continue to work with the Florida Department of State – Division of Historical Resources (DHR) to resolve any discrepancies regarding cultural resources found on the area. Additionally, the FWC has submitted to the DHR a priority list showing cultural resources surveys needs for FWC-managed areas across the state. The Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area (TWMA) is one of the FWC’s top priorities.

2. The team recommends the FWC add supplemental documents to the management plan as appendices as they become available. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** As discussed in section 1.1.1 of the TWMA Management Plan, the FWC adopts a “living document” concept to all our management plans. As updates to appendices or other activities on the TWMA occur, the FWC will work to update all new information into the plan and associated databases. Additionally, the FWC may submit management plan amendments to the Division of State Lands and Acquisition and Restoration Council as needed and appropriate.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically scrubby flatwoods, shell mound, baygall, depression marsh, dome swamp, floodplain marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, river floodplain lake, blackwater stream, mesic flatwoods, scrub, and mesic hammock.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically cutthroat grass, and hand fern.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically groundcover, oak control, and longleaf reintroduction.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads and culverts, ditches, hydro-period alteration, and water level alteration.**

- 10. Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
- 11. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
- 12. Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
- 13. Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
- 14. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
- 15. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

#### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

##### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem**

**Managed by:** Brevard County

**Acres:** 3,567.22

**County:** Brevard

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To preserve a few of the best scrub fragments in the county, which will aid survival of the endangered scrub jay and provide areas where the public can appreciate and learn about this unique landscape.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 7/14/99

**Area Reviewed:** Entire property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/29/15

**Review Date:** 1/31/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Evan Hall, Manager

**Review Team Members (voting)**

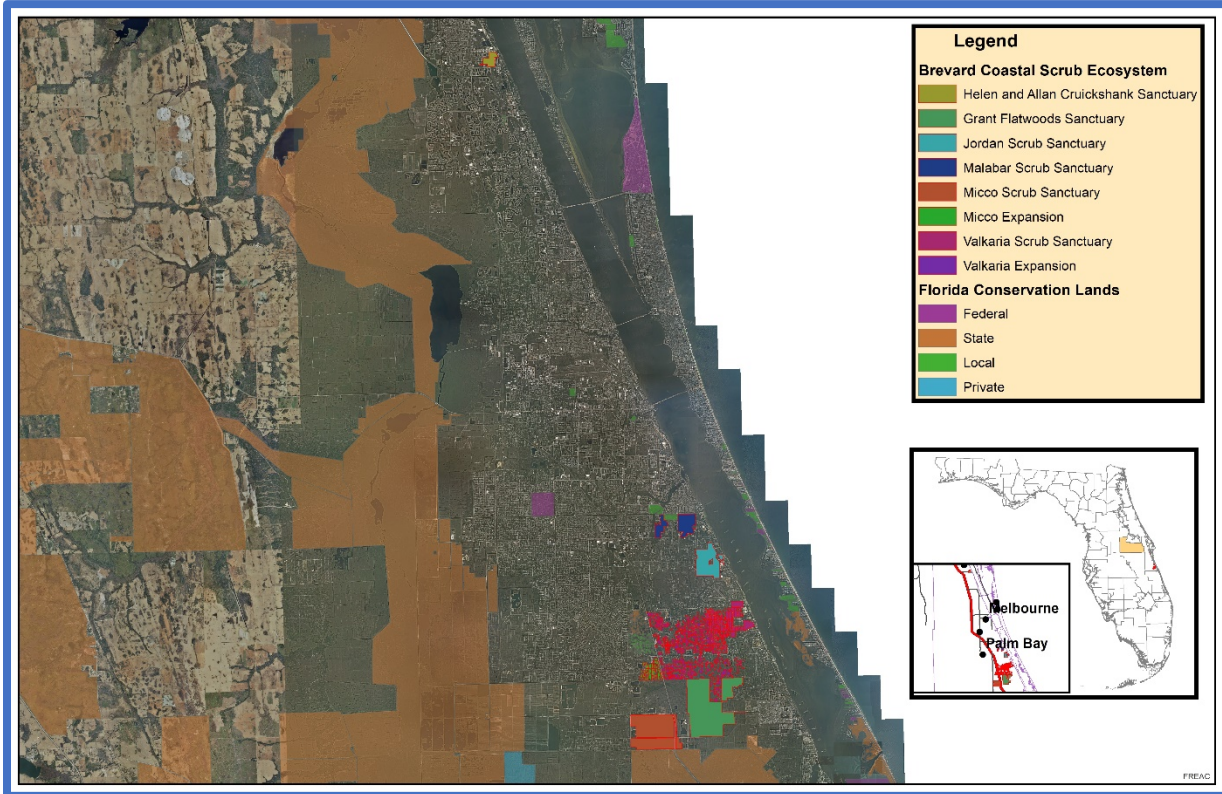
- Samantha McGee, DRP District
- Mike Knight, Local Gov't.
- Alex Kropp, FWC
- Kevin Scheiber, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Amy Copeland, SJRWMD
- David Martin, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPMS



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0, 1 Abstain**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0, 1 Abstain**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the County for their recent management of prescribed fire,

**Table 20: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.83	3.54	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.35	3.87	
Hydrology	1.73	3.90	
Imperiled Species	4.38	3.95	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.61	3.22	
Cultural Resources	2.80	2.92	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.93	3.93	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.42	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

- considering urban interface and fragmentation of the properties. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the County for their partnership with Brevard Zoo to monitor scrub jays and conduct population viability analysis. (7+, 0-)
  3. The team commends the County for providing needed recreation and education opportunities for the public. (7+, 0-)
  4. The team commends the County staff for partnering with Florida Forest Service and the Town of Grant-Valkaria for management of the megaparcels and the private properties. (7+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the County make every effort possible to make the land trade with Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) happen, in order to give the scrub jays in South Brevard a chance for survival and to optimize the management of existing scrub in South Brevard. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** This effort is ongoing. It is currently anticipated that the County Commission will be making a decision regarding the proposed exchange agreement in September 2020.

2. The team recommends the County continue efforts to remove feral hogs and seek additional opportunities to increase eradication efforts. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** This effort is ongoing. The County recently began requiring more extensive and repetitive background checks for volunteers that are more costly. Since trappers are required to pay for their own background check and they now must do it more frequently, there have been a significant number that have chosen to stop volunteering. Staff is working on ways to encourage more participation.

3. The team recommends the County develop a database and utilize GIS to track locations and treatments of invasive plants. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Each of our four management regions uses GIS to some extent to track exotic treatment areas. In some cases, this data is collected on paper or through the Avenza App in the field and later uploaded to GIS. In other cases, the data is maintained in hardcopy form. In this particular region the use of GIS has been limited. Staff will be working on a consistent GIS tracking approach used by all regions.

4. The team recommends the County increase partnerships to better survey and monitor imperiled and nongame species, and develop strategies and priorities for monitoring. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** We are currently working with FWC on an ongoing bat survey and recently hosted FWC researchers looking for Coastal Dune Crown Snake as well as NRCS Rangeland vegetation monitoring. We will develop monitoring priorities for each site.

5. The team recommends the County explore all opportunities for future funding beyond 2024 for ongoing management of state and county conservation lands. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** This effort is ongoing.



6. The team recommends the County continue to acquire lands currently identified in the optimum boundary. (7+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** We are hopeful that a future funding mechanism will be established at the county level in addition to increased Florida Forever funding to continue efforts to close acquisition gaps.

## Field Review Details

### Field Review Checklist Findings

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically scrubby flatwoods, scrub, strand/dome swamp, hydric hammock, baygall, depression marsh, basin marsh, blackwater stream, and seepage stream.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically scrub.**
3. **Restoration, specifically Malabar Scrub.**
4. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
5. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically control of plants.**
6. **Resource protection, specifically signage.**
7. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**
8. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
9. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, and buildings.**

### Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically sandhill, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The portion of sandhill in question is a very small area where the cost to bring the habitat into maintenance condition is not proportional to the benefit. Even if the site were in maintenance condition it has constraints to prescribed fire. There is an elderly care facility adjacent to the site that would pose a significant smoke risk to the residents of the facility. The Town of Malabar and the City of Palm Bay have historically been unwilling to reduce tree density on the adjacent properties which would require us to install substantial fire lines to separate the properties to safely burn. At this time, we feel our resources are better spent on areas with a greater net benefit of restoration.

2. **Cultural Resources (Archaeological & Historic Sites), specifically protection and preservation, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management of cultural resources is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We will coordinate with the State Division of Historic Resources to conduct a Phase I survey on any sites within the project area that have not yet been surveyed.

- 3. Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically frequency, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Significant wet and dry seasons over the last few years have had a big impact on burning. We have also had some equipment issues that have prevented us from maintaining and disking our firelines on the sites. We have included a new tractor in the 2020-2021 budget that will be purposed for fire line disking. We have also acquired a new type 6 brush truck this year for prescribed fire operations. The addition of these two pieces of equipment will allow us to increase our prescribed fire frequency. We have also increased our interagency partnerships and signed on to the multi-party MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) For The NORTH/CENTRAL FLORIDA PRESCRIBED FIRE WORKING GROUP to streamline partners assisting us with our burns.

- 4. Resources Protection, specifically law enforcement presence, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether resources are sufficient to protect the property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We are continuing to reach out to law enforcement for increased presence on our sites. We plan to meet with the local authorities and FWC officers in an effort to expand enforcement. The primary law enforcement challenge relates to ownership and jurisdiction. Staff does not have enforcement authority, and County law enforcement personnel have very limited resources to patrol and respond to calls in remote off-road locations. FWC law enforcement personnel do not have jurisdiction to enforce County ordinances. For example, FWC can respond to reports of poaching, but cannot respond to illegal off-road use, hunting on the property during regular hunting seasons and other prohibited activities such as shooting, pets, camping, etc. We plan to add additional signage at the site entrances in an effort to help reduce illegal saw palmetto berry picking.

- 5. Management Resources, specifically equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We have budgeted for an additional tractor to disk firelines, a tree shear attachment for our Fecon, and a new work truck for the South Region in the 2020-2021 budget year. We are hopeful that a future funding mechanism can be established that would allow for some level of increased field staffing.

## **Land Management Plan Review Details**

### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Cultural Resources, specifically protection and preservation, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or protection.**

**Managing Agency Response:** We believe the management plans adequately address cultural resources, but the goal of completing a Phase 1 survey of the sites has not been completed. The review team specifically discussed the potential value of the Missile Tracking Annex site as a historical resource at the Grant Flatwoods Sanctuary. Staff will explore this issue further with the State Division of Historical Resources.

2. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, and surplus lands identified, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The management plan does address this issue on page 6 and states that no lands have been identified for surplus. During the Review Team field visit there was discussion about a proposed exchange strategy within the mega parcel area which would require land surplus to achieve. We will clarify this distinction in the next version of the management plan.

**Estero Bay Preserve State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 10,457

**County:** Lee

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect Estero Bay’s water quality, its native plants and animals, its archaeological sites, and to provide recreational opportunities to the people of the rapidly growing Fort Myers area.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/27/87

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/15/04

**Review Date:** 2/11/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Zach Lozano, Park Manager
- Justin Lamb, ES I

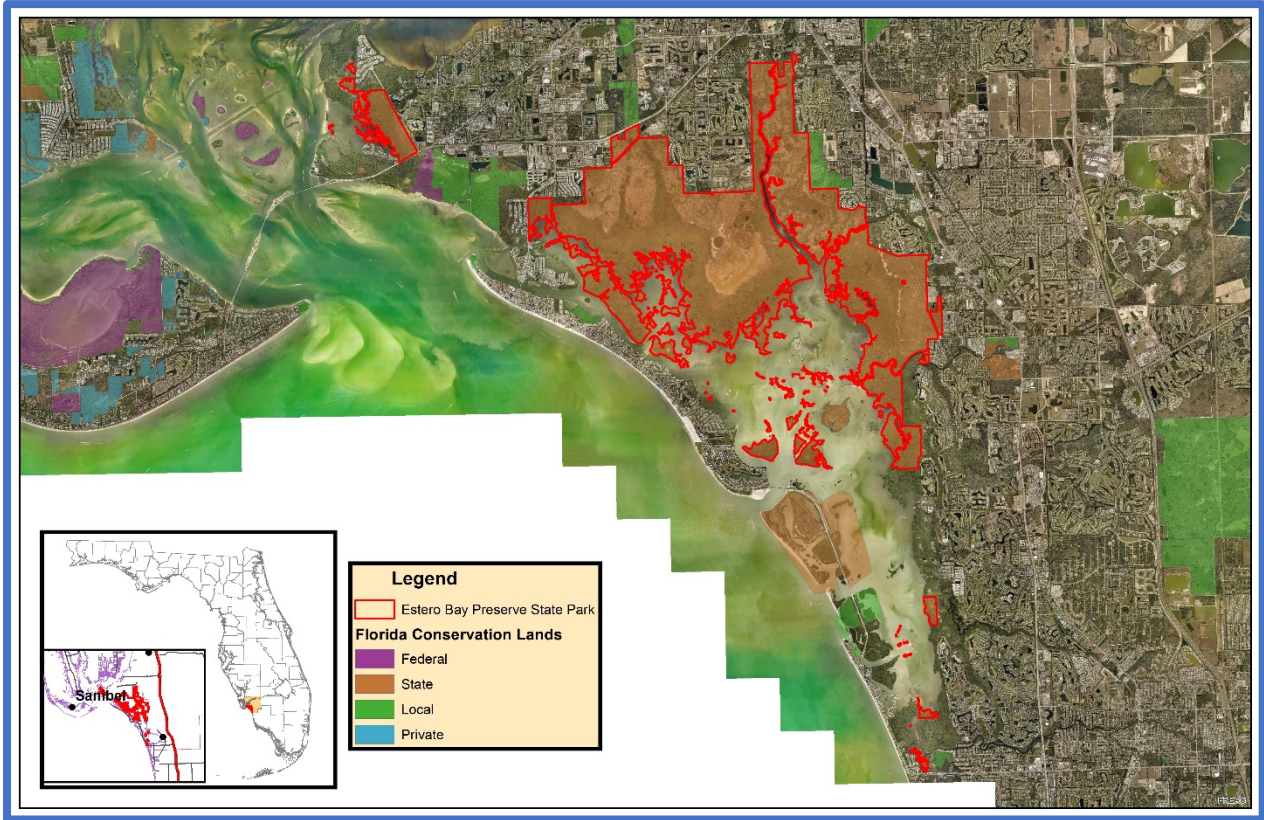
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Karen Rogers, DRP District
- Clark Ryals, FFS
- Hanna Joergens, Local Gov’t.
- Joseph Bozzo, SFWMD
- Becky Schneider, FWC
- Marlene Rodak, Conservation Org.
- Blaine Preston, DEP District
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Dennis Giardina, FWC/IPMS
- Heather Stafford, DEP/RCP
- Marie Dessources, SFWMD

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 21: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.57	4.09	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.33	3.38	
Hydrology	3.93	4.14	
Imperiled Species	4.21	4.00	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.00	3.79	
Cultural Resources	3.00	4.14	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.84	4.09	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.52	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for their efforts to treat invasive exotic plants and continued efforts to request and obtain funding through FWC's upland exotic plant management program. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS staff for the job they are doing at Estero Bay Preserve State Park, especially with limited staff and funding. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for doing an admirable job of prioritizing the maintenance of natural communities, focusing on invasive plant control and prescribed burning. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS increase effort to monitor all cultural sites annually for potential disturbances and invasive plant coverage using Florida Master Site File report forms and photo documentation. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Park staff will increase effort to monitor all cultural sites annually for potential disturbances and invasive plant coverage using FMSF forms and photo documentation. Additional park staff will also participate in the Division of Historical Resources Certified Archaeological Monitor training program.

2. The team recommends the FPS install shorebird and wading bird educational signage at Winkler Road kiosk. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The park will continue to improve interpretive signage throughout the park.

3. The team recommends the FPS develop gopher tortoise survey and monitoring plan, and, at a minimum monitor after burns. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** District and park staff will continue to coordinate with FWC on monitoring and management strategies for imperiled species in the park.

4. The team recommends the FPS coordinate with Florida Public Archaeology Network on initial archaeological/cultural sites monitoring, and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve on shoreline and submerged sites. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Park staff will coordinate with FPAN when conducting initial archaeological site monitoring and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve on any monitoring involving submerged sites.

5. The team recommends the FPS actively target property edges abutting developments and other private mitigation sites to prevent or reduce exotic plant infestations. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The park will continue to treat exotic plant infestations along property edges to prevent/ reduce exotic plant infestations and will continue to work with property owners to educate about invasive plant species.

6. The team recommends the FPS increase staffing to adequately manage this 11,000+ acre property. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.

7. The team recommends the FPS restore trails at Winkler Road to reduce ruts, which may currently be impacting surface water conditions onsite. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** The park will work with District staff to identify funding opportunities for trail restoration efforts.

## Field Review Details

### Field Review Checklist Findings

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically salt marsh, estuarine tidal swamp, mangrove swamp, coastal rock barren, coastal berm, mesic flatwoods, prairie hammock, depression marsh, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and strand swamp.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
5. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, and pests/pathogens.**
7. **Hydro-alteration, specifically ditches.**
8. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey.**
9. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development.**
10. **Public access, specifically roads.**
11. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
12. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, and buildings.**

### Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. **Cultural Resources (Archaeological & Historic Sites), specifically protection and preservation, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management of cultural resources is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Park staff will begin to monitor all cultural sites annually for potential disturbances and invasive plant coverage using FMSF forms and photo documentation. Additional park staff will also participate in the Division of Historical Resources Certified Archaeological



Monitor training program. The park will also work with FPAN and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve to monitor new and submerged locations within state park boundaries.

- 2. Restoration, specifically salt marsh at Lexington, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether restoration is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Park staff will continue to seek funding and implementation of natural community restoration projects.

- 3. Resources Protection, specifically signage, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether resources are sufficient to protect the property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The park will update signage identifying state park access points, park boundaries, and culturally sensitive areas throughout the preserve.

- 4. Management Resources, specifically staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.

## **Land Management Plan Review Details**

### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

- 1. Restoration, specifically salt marsh at Lexington, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether restoration efforts are adequate.**

**Managing Agency Response:** A description of the salt marsh restoration project at Lexington including additional objectives will be included in the updated plan.

**Cayo Costa State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 2,458

**County:** Lee

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To develop, operate and maintain the property for outdoor recreational, park, conservation, historic, and related purposes.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 9/07/76

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/9/05

**Review Date:** 2/13/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Rick Argo, Park Manager
- Mary Mazyck, PSS
- William Nash, Assistant Park Manager

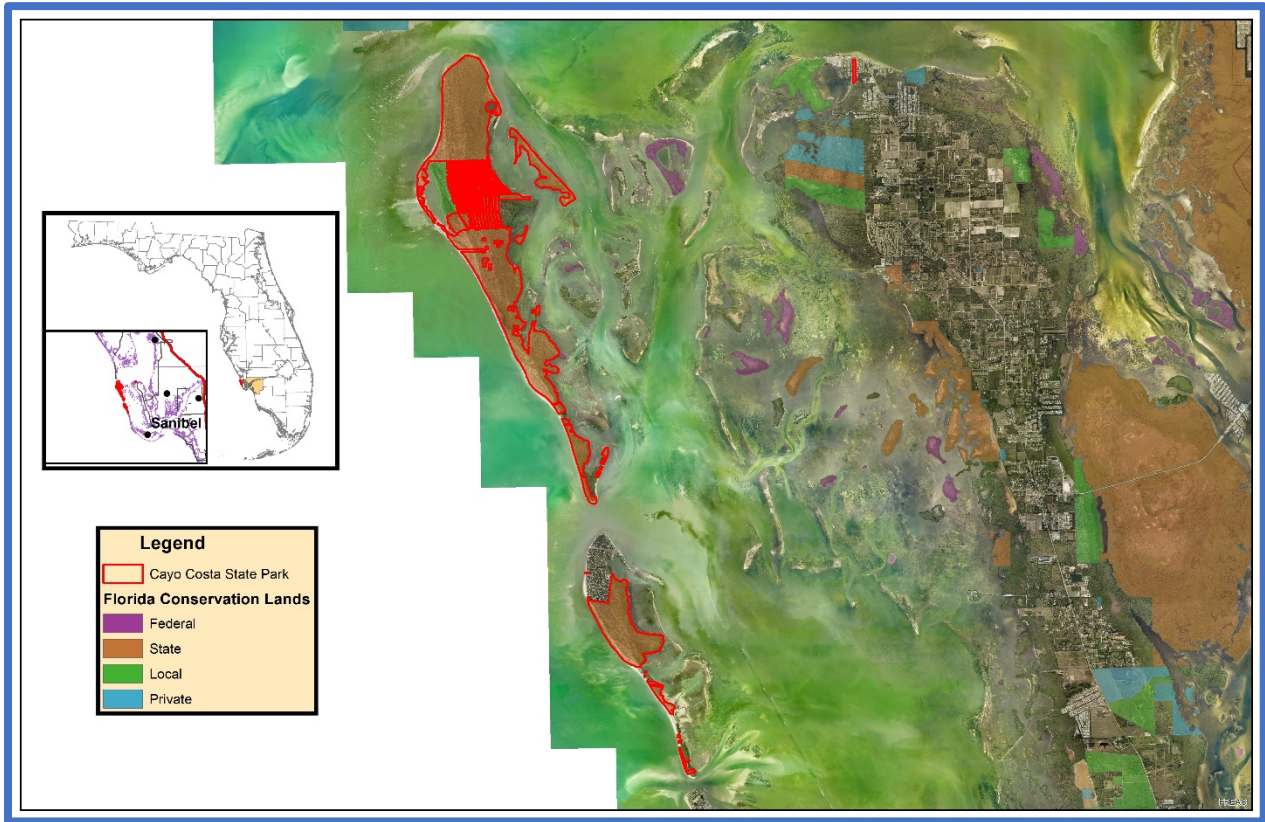
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Karen Rogers, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Becky Schneider, FWC
- Tori Gray, DEP District
- Clark Ryals, FFS
- Marie Dessources, SFWMD
- Marlene Rodak, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Dennis Giardina, FWC/IPMS
- Melynda Brown, DEP/RCP
- Joseph Bozzo, SFWMD

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 22: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.74	3.55	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.94	2.56	
Hydrology	4.50	2.50	
Imperiled Species	4.13	2.89	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.53	2.56	
Cultural Resources	4.75	4.67	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.94	3.44	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.72	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for remaining committed to invasive plant control, surpassing established treatment goals many of the past five years and for targeting all category 1 and 2 exotics on the island. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for a sustained, dedicated effort to eradicate feral hogs from the park. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for their efforts at annual site monitoring, establishing erosion control measures for imperiled sites, and exotic plant treatment practices on archaeological sites. (6+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the park manager and staff continue to reach out to private property owners to encourage acceptance of prescribed burning to maintain dependent natural communities and to reduce fuels that should make their properties safer from wildfires. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Park management will continue to reach out to private property owners living on the island to educate them about the importance of prescribed burning in reducing fuel loads and maintain fire dependent communities on the island. Park management will also provide them with information about wildfire prevention measures that the homeowners could implement around their property to assist with protection of their home in case of a wildfire.

2. The team recommends the FPS address the energy needs of park residences and facilities present and future, including renewable technologies that are more affordable and dependable. (6+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Park management will request funding to assess overall energy needs of park residences and facilities (both existing and newly proposed) to determine the best solution available to resolve energy supply issues at the park. This will include exploring options for additional renewable technologies that are more affordable and dependable.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically beach dune, coastal berm, coastal strand, maritime hammock, mesic flatwoods, coastal grasslands, shell mound, depression marsh, marine tidal swamp, and marine unconsolidated substrate.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically shorebirds, sea turtles, and gopher tortoise.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically frequency, and quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
7. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality.**
8. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality.**

- 9. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
- 10. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and sanitary facilities.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

- 1. Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Disagree. The overall management goals of the park and natural communities are being met through the current forest management regime. The park will continue to manage these forests with proper care, so they remain healthy and vigorous for generations to come. A timber assessment has been scheduled.

- 2. Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically expanding development, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether adjacent property concerns are sufficiently addressed.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The District is working with the Office of Park Planning and Division of State Lands to identify park boundaries along outparcels and address issues of potential encroachment on state park property. All outparcels have been identified in the optimum park boundary for greater resource protection and enhanced management access. The Division will address adjacent property concerns in the update of the management plan.

- 3. Management Resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.

#### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

##### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Listed Species protection and preservation, plants in general, and specifically gopher tortoise, and indigo snake, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of listed species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** The protection and preservation of plants in general, and listed species, particularly gopher tortoise and indigo snake, will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

2. **Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources including other non-game species or their habitat monitoring will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

3. **Resource Management prescribed fire, specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prescribed fire needs.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Prescribed fire, including the area being burned, frequency, and quality will be addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

4. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address forest management.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Timber management will be addressed in the next management plan update, and a timber assessment will be completed prior to plan submittal to ARC. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when it was approved by ARC.

5. **Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of plants, and animals, and prevention and control pests/pathogens, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prevention of invasive species.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Non-native, Invasive and Problem Species including the prevention of pests/pathogens and the control of plants and pests/pathogens will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

6. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address ground water monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Ground water monitoring will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

7. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address surface water monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Surface water monitoring will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

8. **Resource Protection, specifically gates & fencing, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address resource protection.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Resource Protection including boundary survey, gates and fencing, will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.

9. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

**Managing Agency Response:** Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.



**Florida Caverns State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 1,279

**County:** Jackson

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** The Florida Board of Forestry acquired Florida Caverns State Park in 1935 to develop, operate and maintain the property for the outdoor recreational, park, conservation, historic, and related purposes.

**Acquisition Program(s):** Old Money, LATF, P2000/A&I

**Original Acquisition Date:** 10/11/35

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/20/18

**Review Date:** 3/10/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Jacob Strickland, Park Manager
- William Bailey, Assistant Park Manager

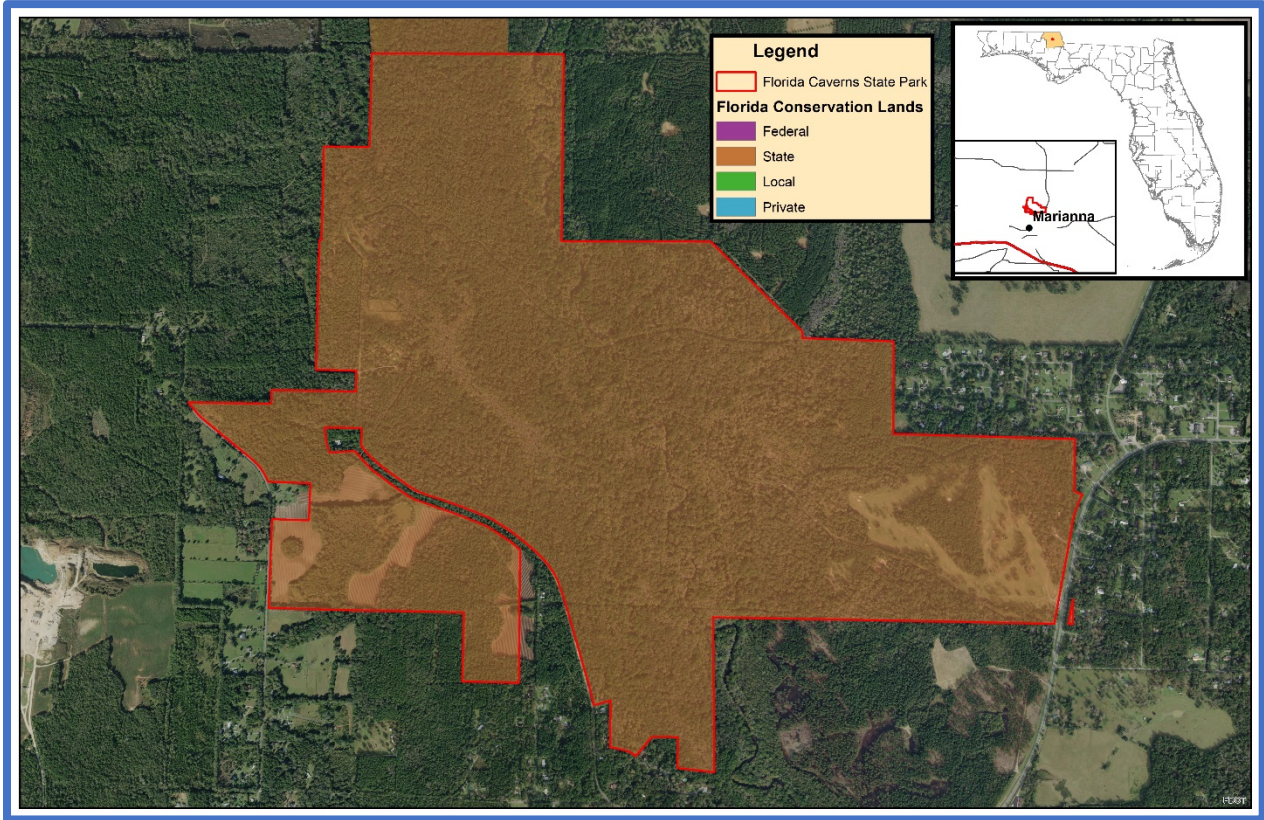
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- John McKenzie, DRP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Local Gov't., None
- John Valenta, NFWFMD
- Emily Evans, FWC
- Conservation Org., None
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- John Kunzer, FWC/IPM
- Sam Wilford, DOS/DHR
- Josh Goodman, DOS/DHR

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 23: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.71	4.74	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.55	4.60	
Hydrology	4.80	4.77	
Imperiled Species	4.95	4.90	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.83	4.77	
Cultural Resources	4.60	4.90	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.75	4.76	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.23	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for the outstanding cleanup effort following the hurricane. (5+, 0-)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS monitor or repair minor erosion occurring in slope ditches. (5+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response:** Park and District staff will develop and implement a plan to mitigate any erosion areas associated with park infrastructure. The plan will identify suitable materials and revegetation measures.

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically bluff, upland hardwood forest, upland mixed forest, floodplain forest, floodplain swamp, alluvial stream, spring-run stream, and aquatic and terrestrial caves.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically bats (gray and southeastern), and Georgia blind cave salamander.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically upland mixed woodland (red oak subset), and upland glade.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and ditches**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality.**
11. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, encroachment of invasive plants, and inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, and staff.**

### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field.**

### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

#### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Managed Area Uses, Existing Uses, specifically golf, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address managed area uses.**

**Managing Agency Response:** During the LMR the team was advised that the golf course has closed and that DRP discontinued the sublease with the former vendor. The intent of the combined scoring for this checklist item was to encourage the Division to preserve the history of the CCC era golf course in the unit plan, and to include plans for interpretation to the public. Park and District staff will include a historical account of the golf course as well as plans to interpret its history in the next scheduled UMP update.

**Torreya State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 13,204

**County:** Liberty and Gadsden

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** The State Internal Improvement Board of the State of Florida (Board) purchased Torreya State Park for the use and benefit of the citizens of the State of Florida.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/22/35

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/26/12

**Review Date:** 3/12/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Jason Vickery, Park Manager
- Mark Ludlow, Park Biologist

**Review Team Members (voting)**

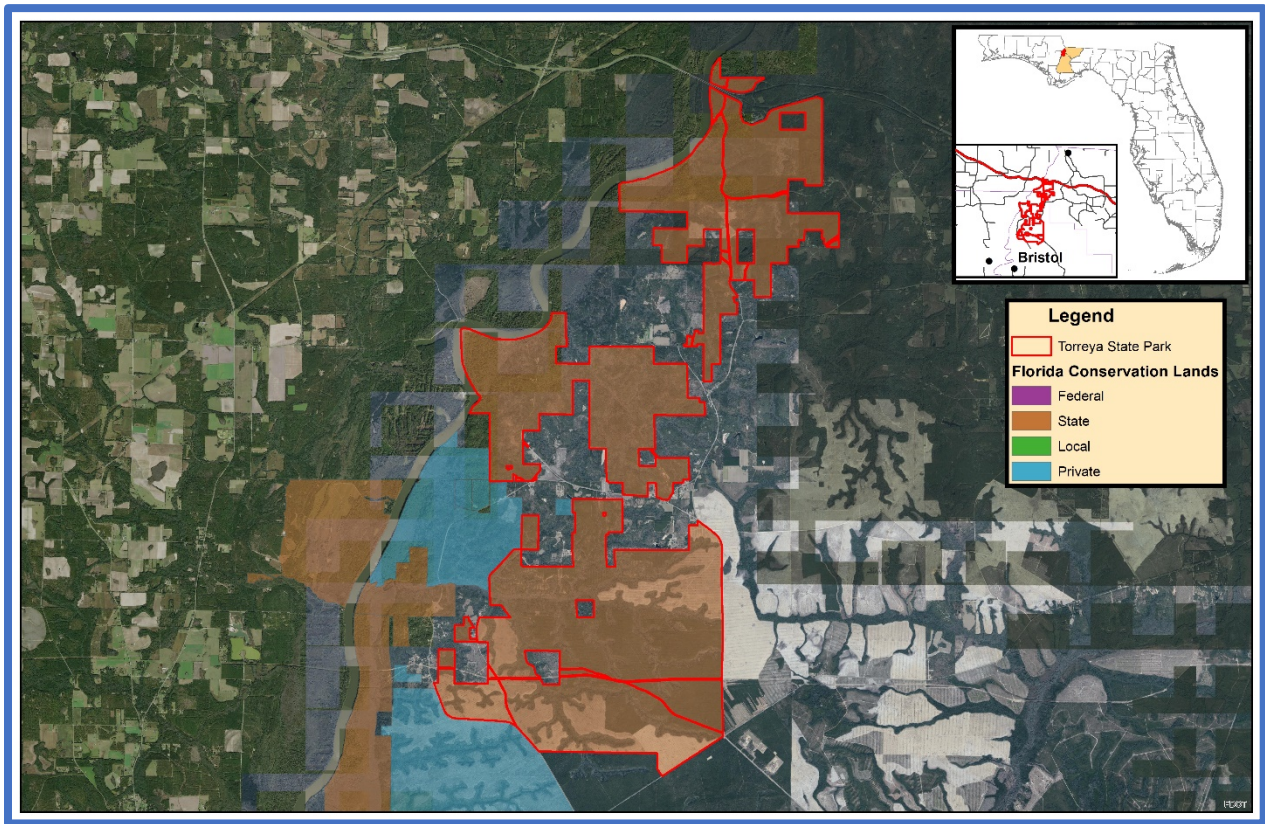
- John McKenzie, DRP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Local Gov't., None
- Coakley Taylor, NFWFMD
- Mike Sisson, FWC
- Scott Copeland, Conservation Org.
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Bill Boothe, Private Land Manager

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- John Kunzer, FWC/IPM
- David Glassner, DEP/DSL
- Simone James, DEP/DSL
- Deb Burr, DEP/DSL



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 7, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 24: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.63	4.66	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.75	4.90	
Hydrology	4.29	4.71	
Imperiled Species	4.75	4.80	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.67	4.76	
Cultural Resources	4.79	5.00	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.56	4.78	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.31	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor



1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for continuing resource management practices, particularly prescribed burning and natural community restoration in the wake of Hurricane Michael. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for improvements to park infrastructure after Hurricane Michael. (7+, 0)

### **Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed: **There were no consensus recommendations.**

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically bluff, sandhill, slope forest, upland hardwood forest, upland pine forest, bottomland forest, floodplain swamp, alluvial stream, seepage stream, and terrestrial cave.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically gopher tortoise, torreya conradina, and Florida yew.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically Sweetwater sandhill, Aspalaga upland pine, and clay pit restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and ditches**
10. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
11. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically spread of exotics, and inholdings and additions.**
12. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
13. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
14. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, and equipment.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring

remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field.**

### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

#### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvements in the management plan.**

## **Appendix A. Scoring System Detail**

### **Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

### **Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

### **Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

#### **Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

- Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are Excellent
- Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are Above Average
- Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are Below Average
- Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered Poor