

ITEM 10:

Consider a staff recommendation to remove Tippen Bay Ranch, Caber Coastal Connector, Estero Bay and Upper St. Marks River Corridor projects from the 2021 Florida Forever Priority List.

LOCATION:

Levy, DeSoto, Lee, Jefferson, Leon and Wakulla Counties

DSL STAFF REMARKS:

Pursuant to section 259.105(14), F.S., which states that the Board of Trustees may remove projects from the list, staff has identified four projects that should be considered for removal from the Florida Forever priority list.

Tippen Bay Ranch:

This 2,866-acre project in DeSoto County was added to the Florida Forever project list in 2018. In August 2020, a conservation easement was acquired from a single owner, Bob Paul, Inc. This Less-Than-Fee project is now 100% complete. DSL staff recommends removing this project from the priority list as the goal of this project has been accomplished.

Caber Coastal Connector:

This 5,569-acre project in Levy County was added to the Florida Forever project list in 2004. More than 3,000 acres have been acquired by fee simple with Florida Forever or less-than-fee as a private mitigation bank. The remaining acres were removed from the project at the request of the landowner. This Climate Change Land project is now 99% complete with 58 acres remaining for acquisition. Removing this project from the list does not prevent Florida Forever funds from being used to purchase the remaining property within this project pursuant to section 259.032(8), F.S., which states, "When at least 90 percent of the acreage of a project has been purchased pursuant to the chapter, the project may be removed from the list and the remaining acreage may continue to be purchased." Furthermore, Rule 18-24.002(2)(b) Public Purposes and Categories of Projects Qualifying for Funding, provides that acres within projects that are no longer on the priority list still qualify for funding.

Estero Bay:

This 24,127-acre project in Lee County was added to the Florida Forever project list in 2000. More than 22,027 acres have been acquired by fee simple and donation, including approximately 10,300 acres of sovereign submerged lands. This Substantially Complete project is now 91% complete with 2,100 acres remaining for acquisition. Removing this project from the list does not prevent Florida Forever funds from being used to purchase the remaining property within this project pursuant to section 259.032(8), F.S., which states, "When at least 90 percent of the acreage of a project has been purchased pursuant to the chapter, the project may be removed from the list and the remaining acreage may continue to be purchased." Furthermore, Rule 18-24.002(2)(b) Public Purposes and Categories of Projects Qualifying for Funding, provides that acres within projects that are no longer on the priority list still qualify for funding.

Upper St. Marks River Corridor:

This 15,283-acre project in Jefferson, Leon and Wakulla Counties was added to the Florida Forever project list in 2003. Nearly 14,000 acres have been acquired by fee simple. This

Substantially Complete project is now 91% complete with 1,341 acres remaining for acquisition. Removing this project from the list does not prevent Florida Forever funds from being used to purchase the remaining property within this project pursuant to section 259.032(8), F.S., which states, “When at least 90 percent of the acreage of a project has been purchased pursuant to the chapter, the project may be removed from the list and the remaining acreage may continue to be purchased.” Furthermore, Rule 18-24.002(2)(b) Public Purposes and Categories of Projects Qualifying for Funding, provides that acres within projects that are no longer on the priority list still qualify for funding.

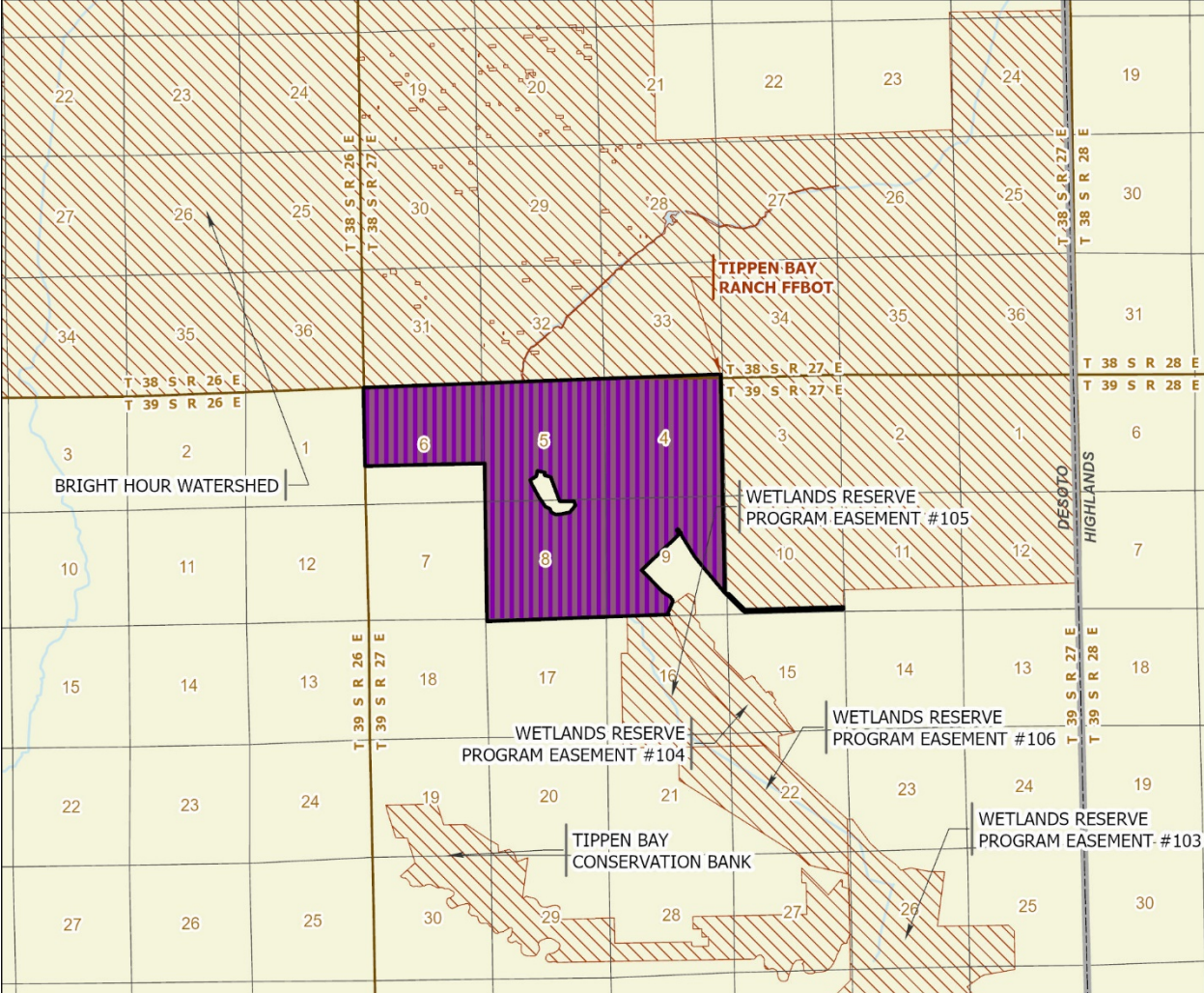
DSL STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the removal of Tippen Bay Ranch projects from the priority list as considered complete and the goal of these projects has been accomplished.

Staff recommends the removal of Caber Coastal Connector, Estero Bay and Upper St. Marks River Corridor projects from the priority list because they are at least 90% complete.


ARC RECOMMENDATION:

Project	DHR	FFS	Lynetta Griner	FWC	Bill Palmer	Elva Peppers	DEP	Selected
Tippen Bay Ranch								
Caber Coastal Connector								
Estero Bay								
Upper St. Marks River Corridor								



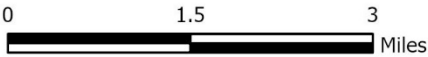
TIPPEN BAY RANCH

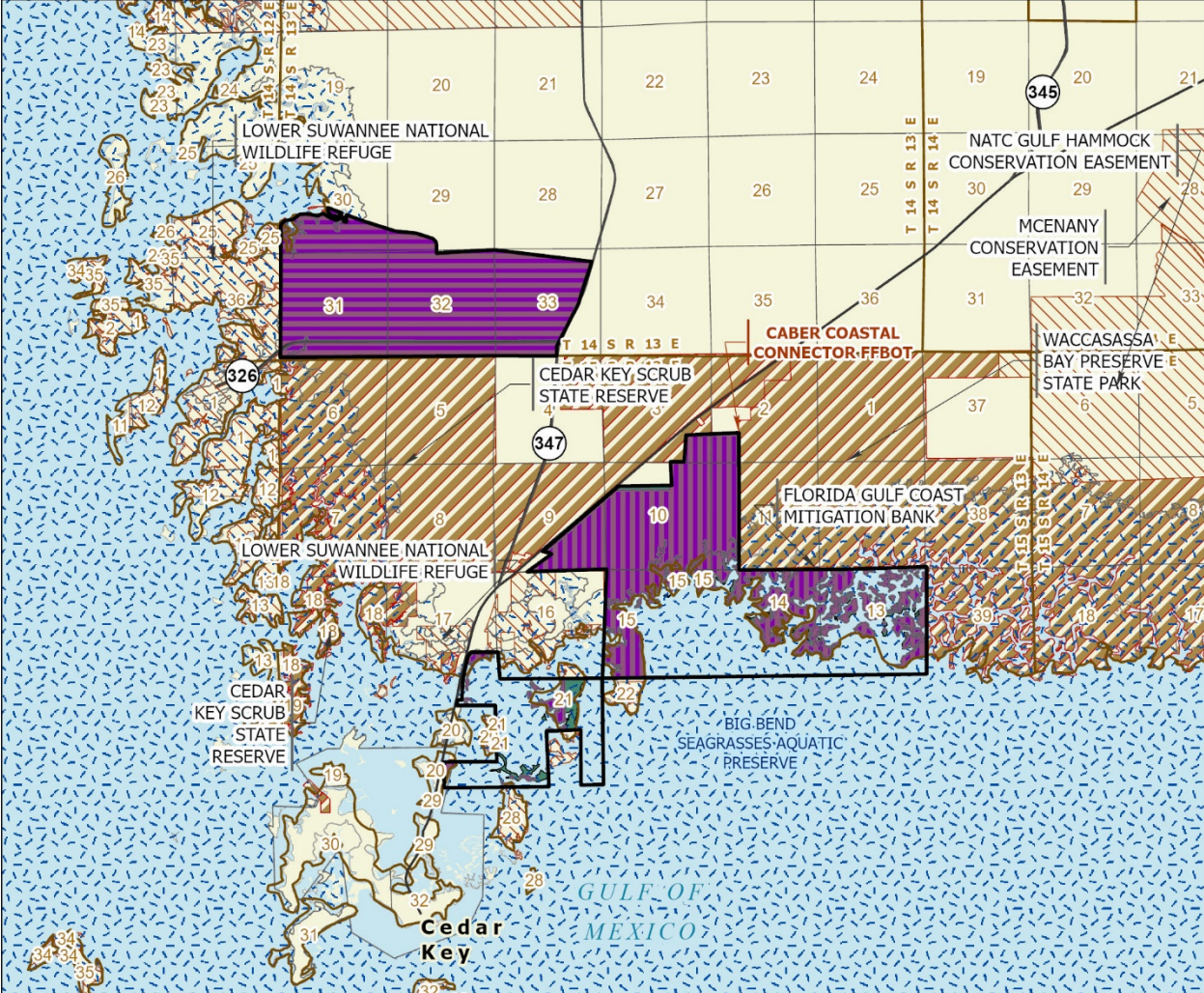
DESOTO COUNTY

-  Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
-  Acquired for Conservation (Less-Than-Fee)
-  Essential Parcel(s) Remaining
-  Other Conservation Lands
-  Other Florida Forever BOT Projects



SEPTEMBER 2020

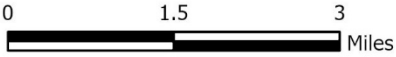




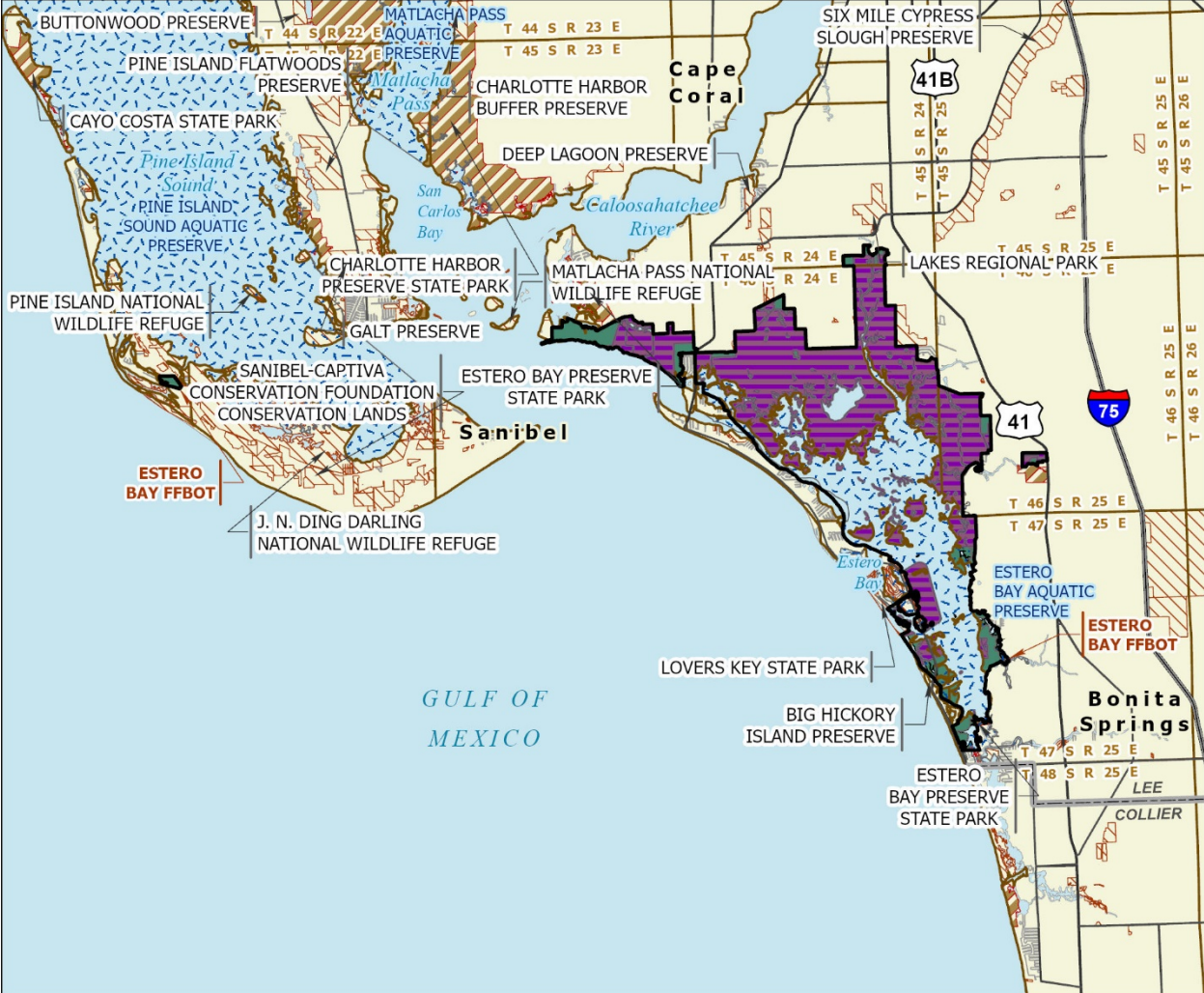
CABER COASTAL CONNECTOR

LEVY COUNTY

-  Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
-  Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
-  Acquired for Conservation (Less-Than-Fee)
-  Essential Parcel(s) Remaining
-  State Owned Conservation Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands
-  Other Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Aquatic Preserve



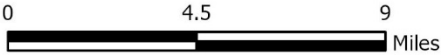
SEPTEMBER 2020



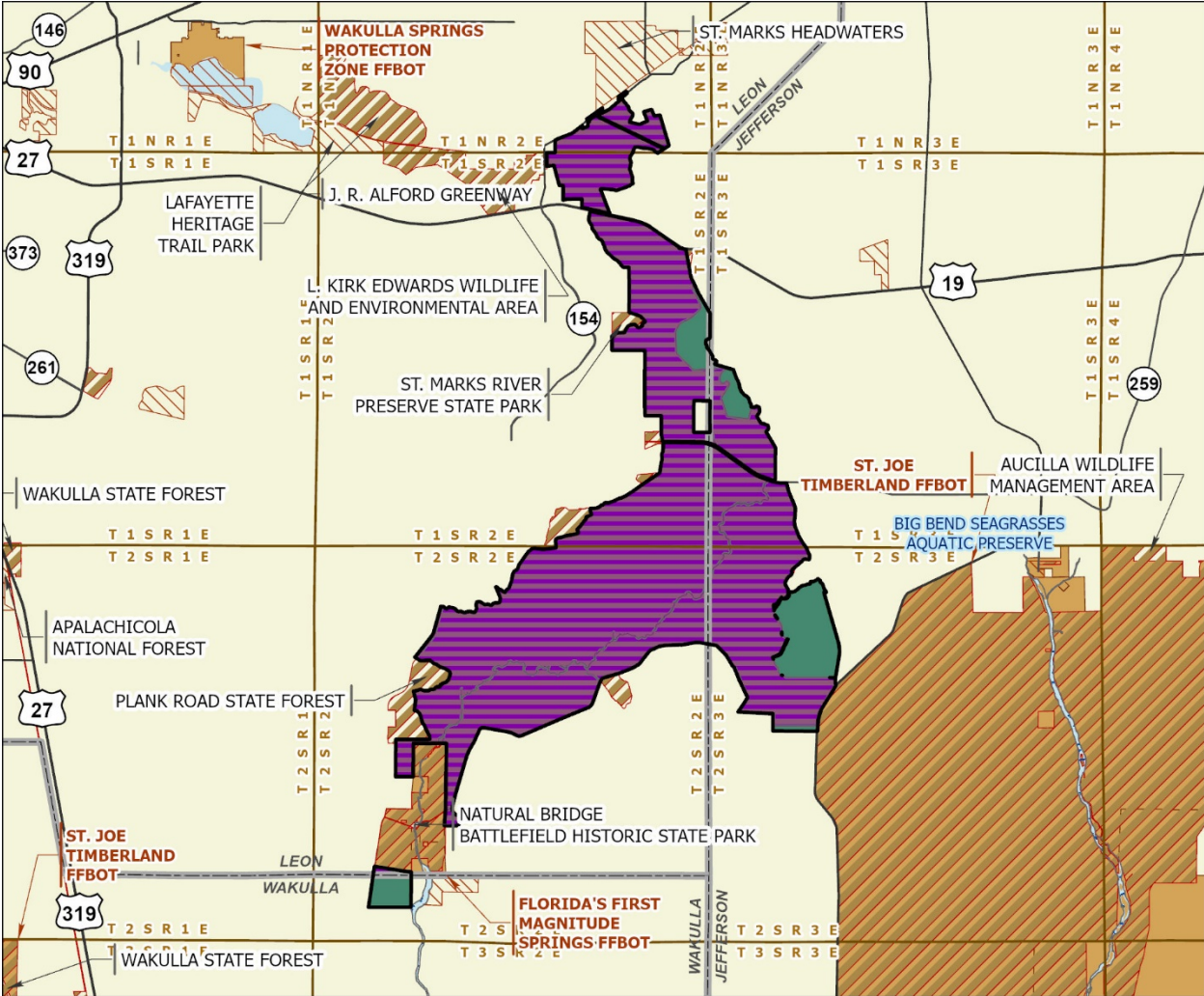
ESTERO BAY

LEE COUNTY

-  Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
-  Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
-  Essential Parcel(s) Remaining
-  State Owned Conservation Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands
-  Other Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Aquatic Preserve



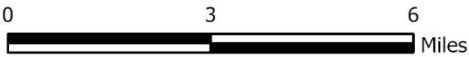
SEPTEMBER 2020



UPPER ST. MARKS RIVER CORRIDOR

JEFFERSON, LEON, AND WAKULLA COUNTIES

-  Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
-  Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
-  Essential Parcel(s) Remaining
-  State Owned Conservation Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands
-  Other Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Aquatic Preserve



SEPTEMBER 2020