

ITEM 12:

Consider a staff recommendation to remove Corrigan Ranch and Hardee Flatwoods from the 2023 Florida Forever Priority List.

LOCATION:

Okeechobee and Hardee 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 two projects that should be considered for removal from the Florida Forever priority list.

Corrigan Ranch

The Corrigan Ranch Florida Forever project located in Okeechobee County contained 6,211 acres and was added to the priority list in 2019. In 2021, DEP acquired approximately 4,386 acres fee simple with Florida Forever funding and the USFWS acquired the remaining 1,825 acres. Acquired lands are to be managed by DRP as part of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park. This project is now 100% complete. DSL staff recommends removing this project from the priority list as the goal of this project has been accomplished.

Hardee Flatwoods

The Hardee Flatwoods Florida Forever project located in Hardee County contained 1,836 acres and was added to the priority list in 2017. On January 13, 2022 approximately 1,671 acres were acquired less than fee simple with Florida Forever funding. This Less-Than-Fee project is now 91% complete. Removing this project from the Priority 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.

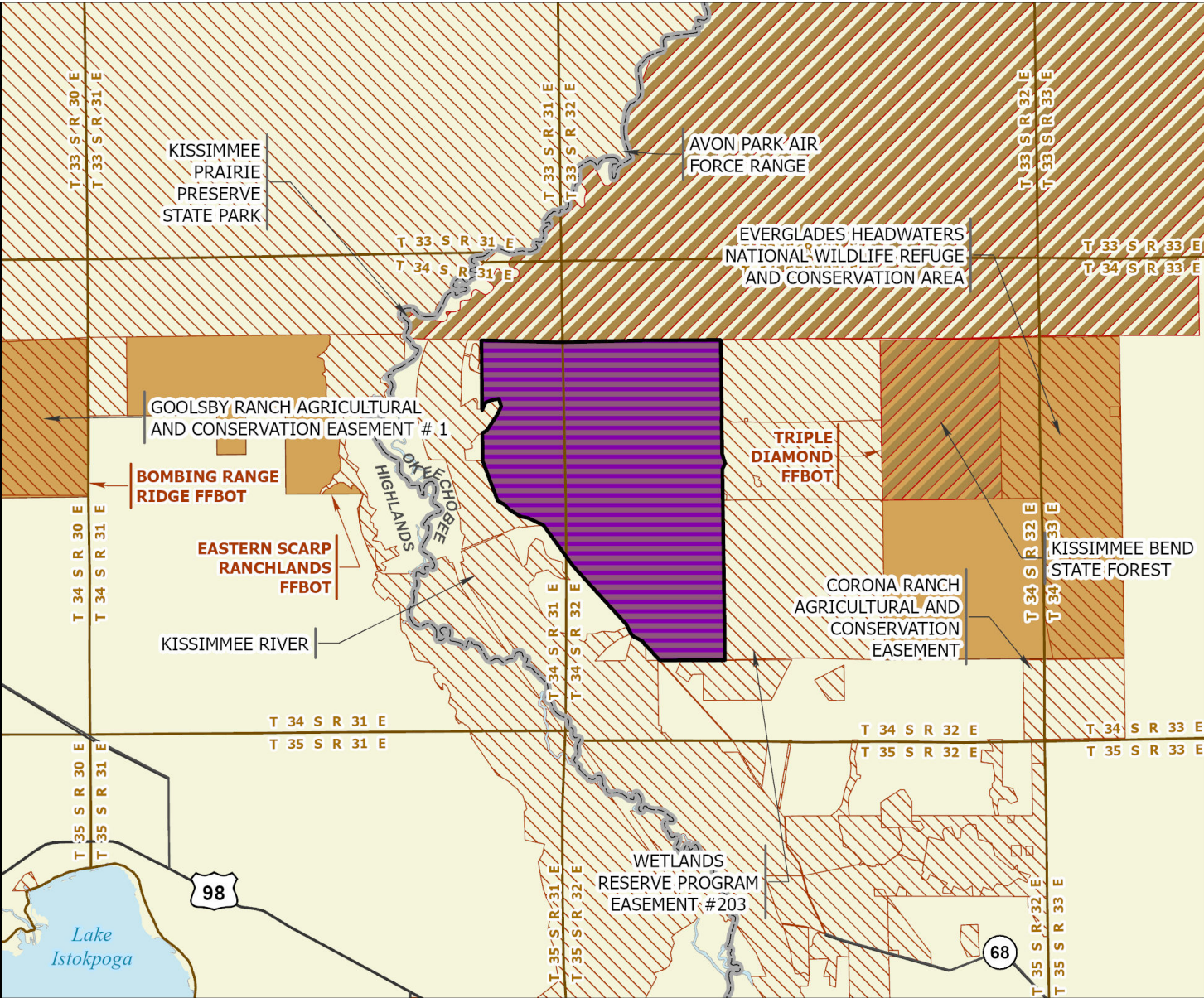
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the removal of the Corrigan Ranch project from the priority list as considered complete and the goal of this project has been accomplished.

Staff recommends the removal of the Hardee Flatwoods Florida Forever projects from the priority list because it is at least 90% complete.

ARC RECOMMENDATION:

Project	DHR	FFS	Lynetta Griner	FWC	Bill Palmer	Elva Peppers	DEP	Selected
Corrigan Ranch								
Hardee Flatwoods								



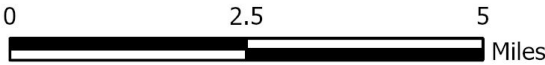
CORRIGAN RANCH

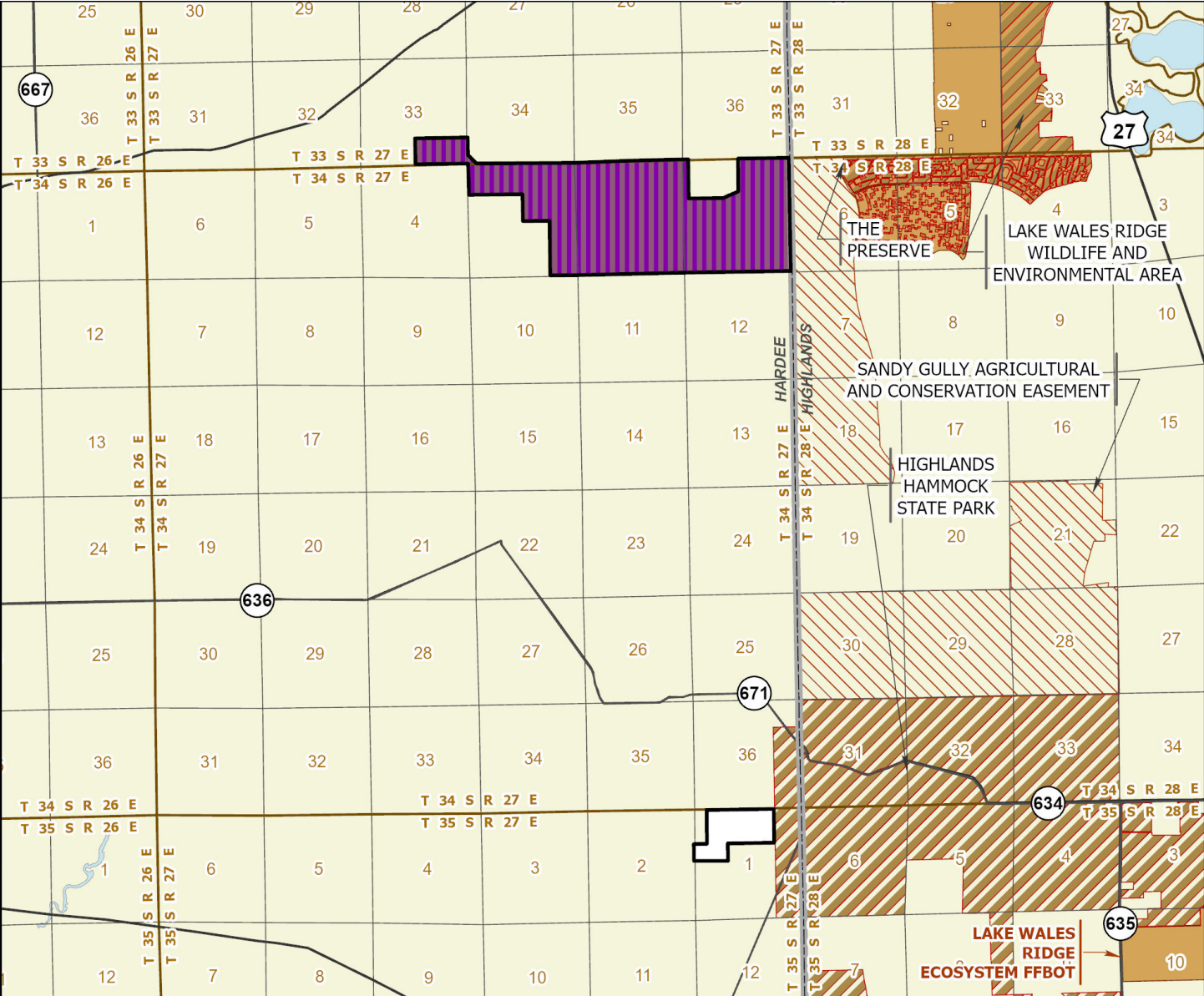
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

-  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



SEPTEMBER 2022

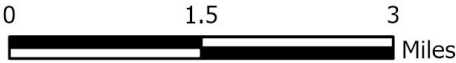




HARDEE FLATWOODS

HARDEE COUNTY

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



SEPTEMBER 2022