

ITEM 14:

Vote on whether to amend the Strategic Managed Area Lands List Florida Forever project boundary for the Division of Recreation and Parks to add one parcel totaling approximately 2.86 acres in Flagler County with a tax assessed market value of \$566,320.

LOCATION:

Flagler County

DSL STAFF REMARKS:

The amendment proposed by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) adds one ownership totaling approximately 2.86 acres adjacent to Washington Oaks Gardens State Park (WOGSP) to the Strategic Managed Area Lands List (SMALL) Florida Forever project. The proposal consists of one parcel owned by Hal Smith Hansford with a total tax assessed market value of \$566,320.

The number of DRP's allotted SMALL ownerships was increased to 15 as approved by the ARC at the August 13, 2021, meeting. The proposed amendment will bring the total for DRP on the SMALL list to 11 ownerships.

Washington Oaks Gardens State Park:

The Hansford property borders WOGSP on the north and is proposed for fee simple acquisition. The landowner has been contacted and is a willing seller. DRP has confirmed that the property would be managed as part of WOGSP. The park preserves the historic Young family gardens and unique coquina rock formations. This area is threatened by encroaching residential and commercial development. The property is composed of coastal strand and contains species such as saw palmetto, cabbage palm, tough bully, and red bay. The shoreline portion of the property protects unique coquina rock formations containing numerous shells and tidepools. The property would improve fire management of WOGSP and provide additional habitat for species like the gopher tortoise. The Flagler County Land Acquisition Committee has identified the property as Priority A on their acquisition list and Flagler County is identified as a potential acquisition partner.

The proposal meets the criteria to be submitted as a boundary amendment. The parcel is less than 1,000 acres, has a tax assessed value of less than \$2 million, and is less than 10% of the size of the overall project to which it is being added. The proposal area should be designated as essential.

Project History:

In October 2018, ARC approved the SMALL project. Sponsored by the DEP Division of Recreation and Parks, the DEP Office of Greenways and Trails, the DACS Florida Forest Service, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, SMALL is a collection of single ownerships statewide that would augment or improve management of existing state-managed conservation lands, if acquired. The parcels included have been identified as part of the optimum management boundary within the approved management plans of the respective managed area. None of these parcels are located within the boundary of another Florida Forever project on the priority list.

The SMALL project includes over 11,898 acres with 11,572 acres remaining and is ranked number eight in the Critical Natural Lands category on the 2021 Florida Forever Priority List.

The tax assessed value for the remaining acres to be acquired in this project per property appraiser information (2019) is \$ \$51,010,162.

FNAI Review:

According to the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI), 80% of the Hal Smith Hansford property contributes to Ecological Greenways and 79% of the property contributes to Natural Floodplain Function, Surface Water Protection, and Aquifer Recharge. The site also contributes to the protection of Fragile Coastal Resources (74%).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Vote on the proposed boundary amendment.

ARC RECOMMENDATION:

| Project | DHR | FFS | Lynetta Griner | FWC | Bill Palmer | Elva Peppers | DEP | Selected |
|---|------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Strategic Managed Area Lands List: DRP – Washington Oaks Gardens State Park | | | | | | | | |



To: Deborah Burr, DEP/OES
 From: Dale R. Jackson, FNAI
 Date: September 15, 2021
 Subject: Proposed boundary modification (addition) to Florida Forever BOT
 Project: **Strategic Managed Areas Lands List (SMALL) –Hansford,**
 Flagler County

The major goals of the Strategic Managed Areas Lands List Florida Forever (FF) Project are to enhance protection of natural resources on existing public lands and to facilitate their management. The proposed addition is contiguous on its southern boundary with Washington Oaks Gardens State Park (425 acres) in Flagler County and would enhance management (especially use of prescribed fire) of the park in addition to expanding its protection of local natural resources.

The boundary amendment proposal, submitted by the North Florida Land Trust, consists of ca. 2.86 (2.39 GIS) acres situated directly on the Atlantic coast. Highway A1A (North Ocean Boulevard) crosses the tract near its western end; this road also crosses the state park. Residential development occurs to the tract's north. The applicant proposes fee simple acquisition of the tract, in conjunction with the Flagler County Environmentally Sensitive Lands Program.

The small, undeveloped tract supports a coastal scrub/dune/strand ecosystem, possibly including small representation of scrubby flatwoods and/or maritime hammock west of the road, that continues into the park, although a firebreak separates the two units. Along the shoreline are coquina rock formations and tidepools.

According to the application, gopher tortoises (*Gopherus polyphemus*, G3/S3, C, ST) occur on site. Other rare species may also be present.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on data from the Cooperative Land Cover Map. Because of its small size, the proposed addition offers relatively little to protection of statewide natural resources. Nonetheless, about 3/4 of the tract (< 2 ac.) contributes to Ecological Greenways, Surface Water Protection, Natural Floodplain Function, Fragile Coastal Resources, and Aquifer Recharge.

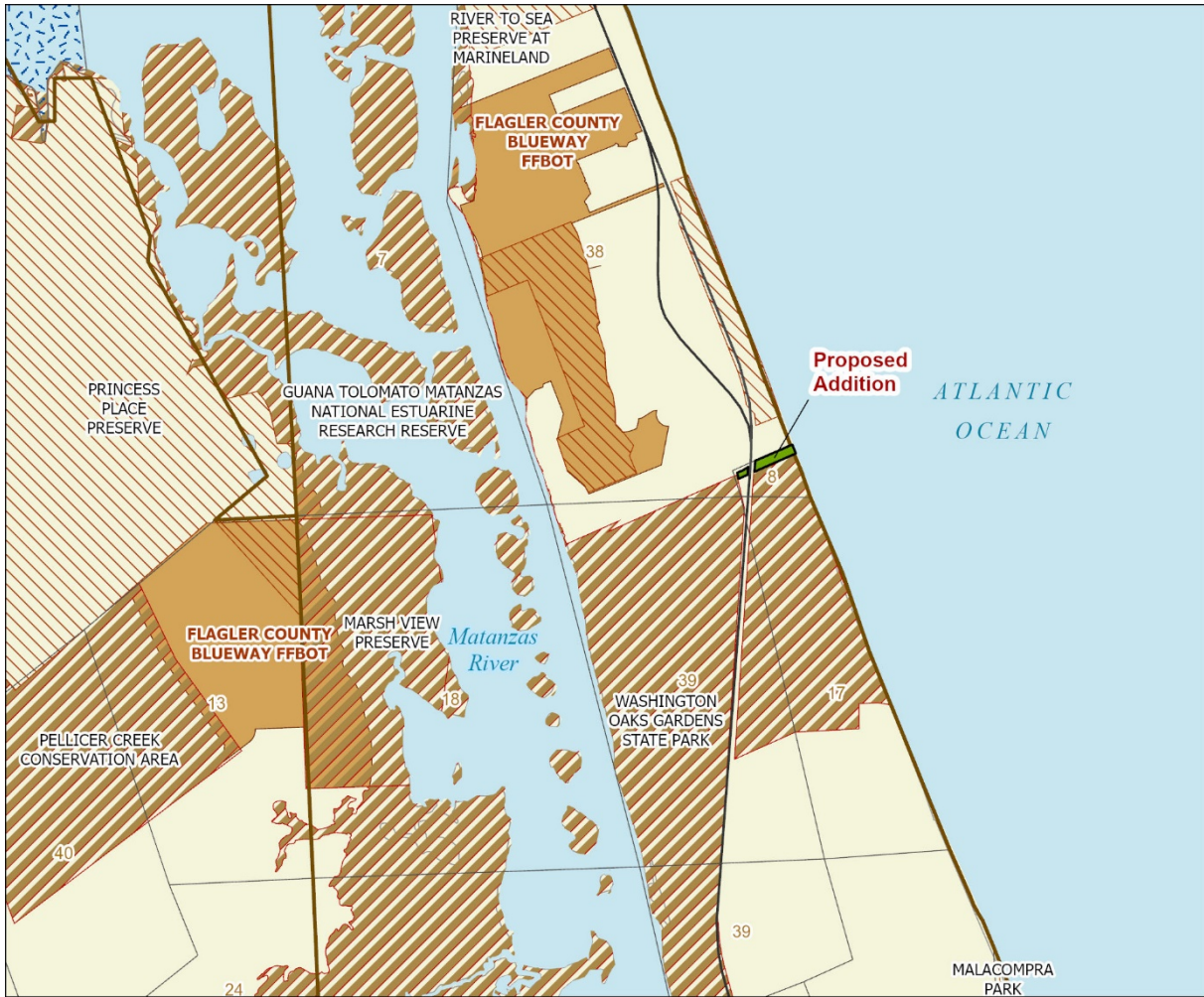
S.M.A.L.L. Addition (Hansford Property): Florida Forever Measure Evaluation 20210918

GIS ACRES = 2.39

| MEASURES | Resource Acres ^a | % of project |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|
| B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas | | |
| Priority 1 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 2 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 3 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 4 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 5 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 0.00 | 0% |
| B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities | | |
| Priority 1 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 2 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 3 | 0.22 | 9% |
| Priority 4 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 5 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 6 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 0.22 | 9% |
| B3: Ecological Greenways | | |
| Priority 1 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 2 | 1.71 | 71% |
| Priority 3 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 4 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 5 | 0.21 | 9% |
| Total Acres | 1.92 | 80% |
| B4: Under-represented Natural Communities | | |
| Upland Glade (G1) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Pine Rockland (G1) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2) | 0.39 | 16% |
| Rockland Hammock (G2) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Dry Prairie (G2) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Seepage Slope (G2) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Sandhill (G3) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Sandhill Upland Lake (G3) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Upland Pine (G3) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Upland Hardwood Forest (G5) | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 0.39 | 16% |
| B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species | | |
| G1 | 0 | |
| G2 | 0 | |
| G3 | 0 | |
| G4 | 1 | |
| G5 | 0 | |
| Total | 1 | |
| C4: Natural Floodplain Function | | |
| Priority 1 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 2 | 0.17 | 7% |
| Priority 3 | 1.72 | 72% |
| Priority 4 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 5 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 6 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 1.89 | 79% |

| MEASURES (continued) | Resource Acres ^a | % of project |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|
| C5: Surface Water Protection | | |
| Priority 1 | 1.61 | 67% |
| Priority 2 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 3 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 4 | 0.28 | 12% |
| Priority 5 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 6 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 7 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 1.89 | 79% |
| C7: Fragile Coastal Resources | | |
| Fragile Coastal Uplands | 1.78 | 74% |
| Imperiled Coastal Lakes | 0.00 | 0% |
| Coastal Wetlands | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 1.78 | 74% |
| C8: Functional Wetlands | | |
| Priority 1 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 2 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 3 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 4 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 5 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 6 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 0.00 | 0% |
| D3: Aquifer Recharge | | |
| Priority 1 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 2 | 1.89 | 79% |
| Priority 3 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 4 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 5 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 6 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 1.89 | 79% |
| E2: Recreational Trails (miles) | | |
| <small>(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)</small> | | |
| Land Trail Priorities | 0.6 | |
| Land Trail Opportunities | 0.0 | |
| Total Miles | 0.6 | |
| F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number) | | |
| 0 sites | | |
| G1: Sustainable Forestry | | |
| Priority 1 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 2 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 3 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 4 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands | 0.00 | 0% |
| Total Acres | 0.00 | 0% |
| G3: Forestland for Recharge | | |
| | 0.00 | 0% |

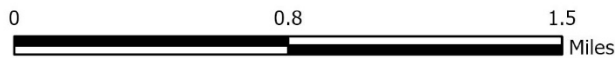
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



S.M.A.L.L. PROPOSED ADDITION (HANSFORD PROPERTY)

FLAGLER COUNTY

-  Proposed Florida Forever BOT Proposal
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Owned Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands
-  State Aquatic Preserve



SEPTEMBER 2021

S.M.A.L.L. Proposed Addition (Hansford Property)

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF SEPTEMBER 2021



Map Produced by: N. Pasco, September 2021

Background: World Imagery Resolution = 0.3 meter



| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
|  | Florida Forever Proposal Boundary |
|  | Existing State Conservation Lands |
|  | Existing Private Conservation Lands |

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