

Annual Report on Findings by Land Management Review Teams

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

Fiscal Year 2024-25



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Introduction

Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, requires the Board of Trustees (BOT), acting through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), to conduct a land management review (LMR) of select conservation, preservation and recreation lands titled to the BOT. The team assesses whether those lands are managed for the purposes for which they were acquired, and whether they are managed in accordance with their adopted management plans.

The 2003 Florida Legislature amended section 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 are selected from a database of BOT lands based on the following factors: size of the property, land management plan due dates, managing agency, previous land management review date, and geographic location.

Regional review team members are selected in accordance with 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) Florida Forest Service (FFS), (4) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), (5) the DEP 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. DEP coordinates with representatives of the Water Management District (WMD) to integrate land management reviews where WMD lands are adjacent to BOT lands, and when the BOT has joint ownership of parcels with a WMD.

Twenty-eight reviews were conducted during FY 2024-25 fiscal year, involving more than 1,057,000 acres of managed lands. Reports of the management review team findings are provided to the managing agency, and the Acquisition and Restoration Council (Appendix A). The reports are also made available on the Division of State Lands web site. A summary of LMR team findings for FY 2024-25 is presented in Table 1. 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 (shown in pink on table 1), a score of 2.5 to 3.49 is considered adequate (yellow on table 1), and a score of less than 2.5 is considered inadequate (green on table 1). Overall, land management reviews conducted in FY 2024-25 determined the following:

- Public access:** Public access was excellent on 28 of the sites the teams visited.

- Prescribed fire scope:** Prescribed burning is considered an appropriate management tool on 27 of the 28 sites reviewed. On four sites, over 30% of the fire dependent lands had been treated according to prescription. On 21 sites, over 60% of the fire dependent lands were treated according to prescription. On two sites, less than 30% of the fire dependent lands had been treated according to prescription. One site had no fire dependent lands.

- Prescribed fire frequency:** On 25 of the 27 sites requiring prescribed fire, the teams found the burn frequency adequate or excellent. On two sites, the teams found the burn frequency inadequate to preserve, restore, or maintain the natural communities.

- Fire quality:** On 25 of the 27 sites where prescribed fire has been implemented the teams found fire quality to be excellent, on one site the teams found fire quality to be adequate, and one site had inadequate fire quality.

- 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, and excellent on 27 of the sites reviewed.

- Surface water quality:** Eighteen sites had plans that adequately covered testing for degradation of surface waters. Ten sites had no surface water testing needs.
 - Groundwater quality:** Twelve sites had adequate monitoring for groundwater quality and quantity. Sixteen sites had no groundwater monitoring needs.
 - Species protection:** Twenty-eight sites were found to be excellent in actual management practices to protect listed plants and animals on site. The plans were deemed adequate or excellent to ensure protection on 28 sites.
 - Law enforcement:** On 28 sites, law enforcement was adequate or excellent to protect the resources.
 - Public education and outreach:** Twenty-eight sites demonstrated adequate or excellent public education and outreach programs.
- Many of the management challenges noted in the findings may be directly related to:
- Staffing Levels:** On two sites (Little Manatee River State Park and Kissimmee Bend State Forest) the teams found that staffing levels were less than adequate to protect the resources.
 - Funding Levels:** On one site (Kissimmee Bend State Forest) funding levels were less than what the review team thought is needed for proper management.

Pursuant to section 259.036, F.S., if the land management review team determines that (1) reviewed lands are not being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, or (2) actual management practices, including public access, were not found to be in compliance with the adopted management plan, DEP shall provide the review findings to the BOT. The managing agency must then report to the BOT its reasons for managing the lands as it has.

All 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 compliant with the adopted management plans.

Table 1: Summary of LMR Team Findings for FY 2024-25

2024-25 LMRs				Public Access		Fire Quality		Fire Frequency		Area of Burns		Invasive Control		Surface Water		Ground Water		Listed Species		Law Enforcement		Outreach/ education		Fund s	Staff	Equip .
				plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	plan	field	field	field	field
Site Name	Acres	Date	Mngr.																							
Joe Budd WMA (6)	11,039	7/16/2024	FWCC	4.8	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.9					4.8	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.7
Lake Talquin SF (6)	17,491	7/17/2024	FFS	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.9	4.1	4.9	4.6	4.5	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.9	3.7	3.7	5.0
St. Marks River SP (4)	2,590	7/19/2024	DRP	4.9	4.2	4.6	4.1	4.1	3.1	4.6	3.7	4.8	4.9					4.8	4.0	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.1	2.6	3.0	2.9
Escribano Point WMA (4)	1,166	8/6/2024	FWCC	5.0	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.6	5.0	4.8	4.3	4.6	4.6
Box-R WMA (4)	11,216	8/8/2024	FWCC	5.0	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.5	4.4	4.8	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.4	5.0	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.8	5.0
Half Moon WMA (5)	9,515	8/21/2024	FWCC	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.7	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.7	5.0
Chassahowitzka WMA (6)	27,262	8/23/2024	FWCC	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.0	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.2					4.8	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.9	4.3	5.0
Belmore SF (4)	8,737	9/17/2024	FFS	4.4	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.6	3.8	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.6	3.8	3.8	3.6	4.0	3.7	4.0	4.1	3.0	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.6	4.1
Four Creeks SF (4)	10,221	9/18/2024	FFS	3.9	4.6	4.2	5.0	4.0	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.7	3.9	2.6	3.0	2.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6	4.4	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.0	3.8
John M. Bethea SF (4)	37,736	9/20/2024	FFS	4.1	4.1	4.5	3.8	4.7	4.3	4.8	4.2	4.0	4.0			3.3	3.4	3.9	3.6	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.7	4.2	5.0
Rainbow Springs SP (6)	1,472	10/20/2024	DRP	4.9	4.9	4.6	4.4	4.6	3.6	4.8	4.0	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.4			4.1	3.8	4.2	3.6	4.6	4.7	3.6	4.2	4.4
Three Lakes WMA (6)	61,845	10/23/2024	FWCC	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.8			4.7	4.7	4.2	3.8	4.2	3.3	4.3	3.2	4.2
Triple N Ranch WMA (5)	16,295	10/25/2024	FWCC	4.3	4.8	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	3.9	4.0					4.2	4.8	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.4
Little Big Econ SF (5)	8,491	11/6/2024	FFS	4.2	4.3	4.7	4.2	4.8	4.3	4.8	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.5	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.2	2.8	4.8
Spring Hammock Preserve (4)	1,505	11/8/2024	County	4.3	4.8							4.2	4.1	3.5	4.2			3.7	4.2	3.8	4.6	4.1	4.5	3.0	2.7	4.4
Little Manatee River SP (4)	2,416	1/8/2025	DRP	4.5	4.4	4.5	2.2	4.7	1.8	4.5	2.0	4.5	3.8	4.2	3.8	4.3	4.0	4.6	4.0	3.8	5.0	4.0	3.6	2.8	2.3	3.8
Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve (6)	1,236	1/10/2025	County	4.0	4.4	4.2	3.7	4.3	3.2	4.2	2.8	3.7	4.0					4.3	3.9	3.5	3.8	3.9	4.0	2.8	2.6	4.2
Tosohatchee WMA (6)	28,929	1/29/2025	FWCC	4.7	4.5	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.1	4.9	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.5			4.4	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.7
Expansion (Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecos	1,325	1/31/2025	County	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.0	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.5					4.3	4.3	4.2	3.8	4.6	4.1	3.8	3.0	4.2
Estero Bay Preserve SP (6)	10,457	2/11/2025	DRP	4.0	4.3	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.8	4.3	3.9	4.0					4.2	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.1	2.5	2.8	4.0
Cayo Costa SP (6)	2,458	2/13/2025	DRP	4.0	4.3	2.8	2.7	3.0	2.5	2.8	2.7	3.3	4.6	2.8	3.3	2.6	3.5	3.0	4.2	3.0	2.7	3.9	4.0	3.2	3.2	3.6
Florida Caverns SP (6)	1,279	3/11/2025	DRP	4.7	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.7	4.2	4.7	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.6	3.8	3.7	3.8
Torreya SP (5)	13,204	3/13/2025	DRP	4.7	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.1					4.8	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.6	4.5	3.6	3.2	4.3
Everglades and Francis S. Taylor WMA (	671,831	4/10/2025	FWCC	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.0	4.5	2.8	4.6	4.5	4.0	4.2			4.6	4.6	4.2	4.7	4.3	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.7
Holey Land WMA (5)	35,350	4/10/2025	FWCC	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.0	4.5	2.8	4.6	4.5	4.0	4.2			4.6	4.6	4.2	4.7	4.3	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.7
Rotenberger WMA (5)	29,700	4/10/2025	FWCC	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.0	4.5	2.8	4.6	4.5	4.0	4.2			4.6	4.6	4.2	4.7	4.3	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.7
Corbett WMA (5)	1,460	5/13/2025	FWCC	4.1	3.8	4.6	3.9	4.6	2.9	4.4	3.0	4.3	4.3	4.1	3.7			4.1	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.3
Jones-Hungryland WEA (4)	12,735	5/15/2025	FWCC	4.0	4.5	4.0	4.2	4.0	1.5	3.8	1.0	3.7	3.9	3.8	4.2			3.8	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.5	3.7	4.0
Kissimmee Bend SF (1)	1,992	6/9/2025	FFS	3.2	3.8	4.0	4.8	4.2	4.8	4.2	4.8	3.0	2.9					3.2	4.0	4.2	4.0	2.8	2.5	1.6	1.8	3.0
Lake Wales Ridge WEA (4)	16,314	6/11/2025	FWCC	4.2	3.7	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.6	4.1	4.6	4.2	3.9	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.0	4.4

Figure 1. Overview of LMR site locations



APPENDIX A: Reports for Land Management Reviews completed in FY 2024-2025

Joe Budd Wildlife Management Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 11,039

County: 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: 8/21/15

Review Date: 7/16/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Justin Van Gorder, Area Biologist
- Colleen Closius, Asst. Reg. Biologist
- Josh Hendricks

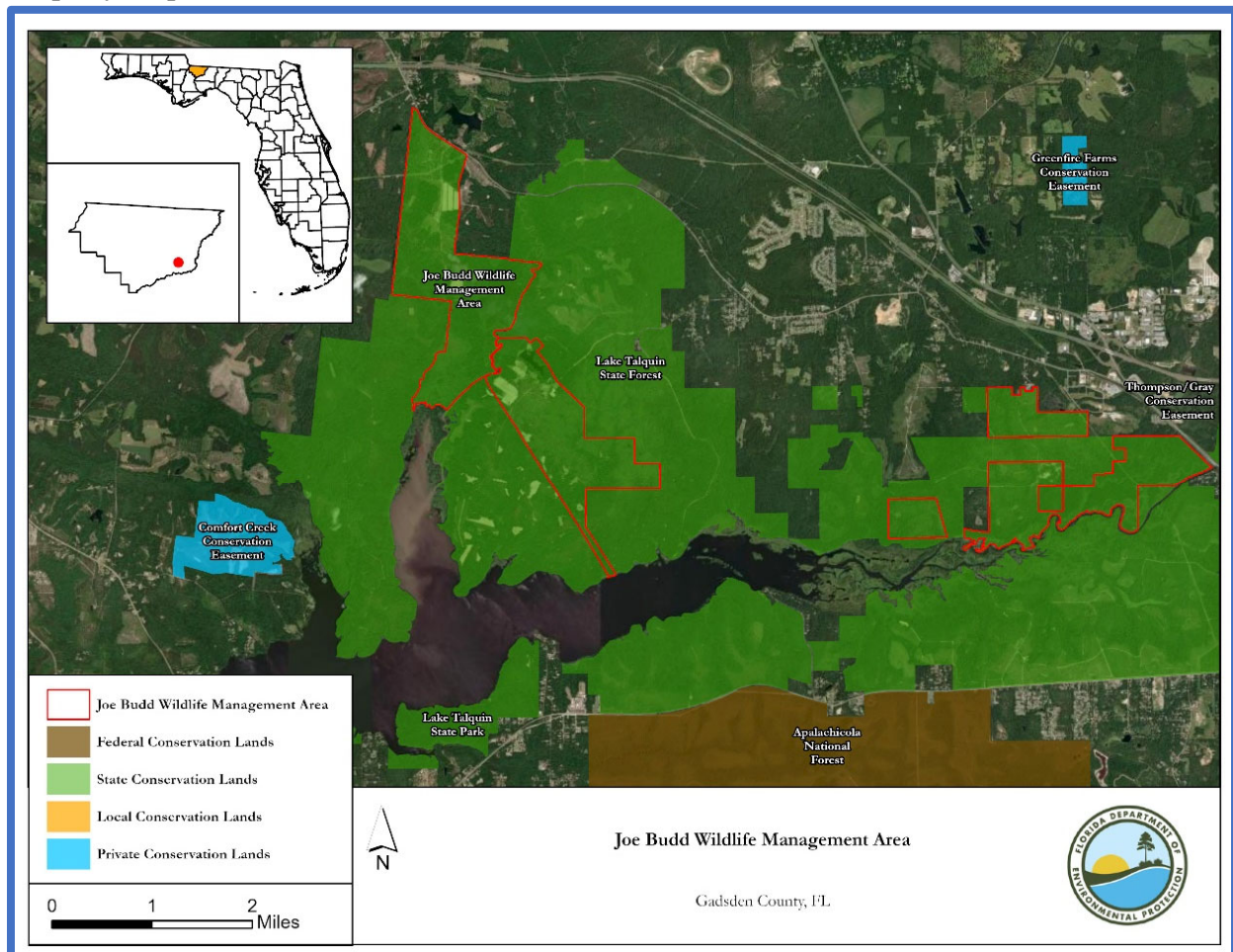
Review Team Members (voting)

- Chris Whittle, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Brianna Bjordahl, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Kate Livingston, FFS
- Linda Chaisson, NFWMD
- Josh Rowe, Conservation Org.
- Tyler Macmillan, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Kyla Lenehan, Tall Timbers

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 previous manager and current manager for the great land management and the continued improvements to the habitats and infrastructure at Joe Budd WMA. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC staff for managing Joe Budd WMA in a manner to preserve and conserve while providing a suite of recreational and educational opportunities. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for implementing an effective prescribed fire program. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FWC staff for implementing an aggressive feral hog control program which includes trapping. (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 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.

Table 11114: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.90	4.75	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.89	4.92	
Hydrology	4.83	4.79	
Imperiled Species	4.83	4.79	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.83	4.78	
Cultural Resources	4.92	5.00	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.93	4.80	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.83	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

- 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. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
- 11. Adjacent property concerns, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
- 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, 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.

Lake Talquin State Forest

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

Acres: 11,039

County: Leon, 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/Florida Forever

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Original Acquisition Date: 10/18/73

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 2/9/14

Review Date: 7/17/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Ryan Slyter, Manager

Review Team Members (voting)

- Chris Whittle, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Brianna Bjordahl, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District

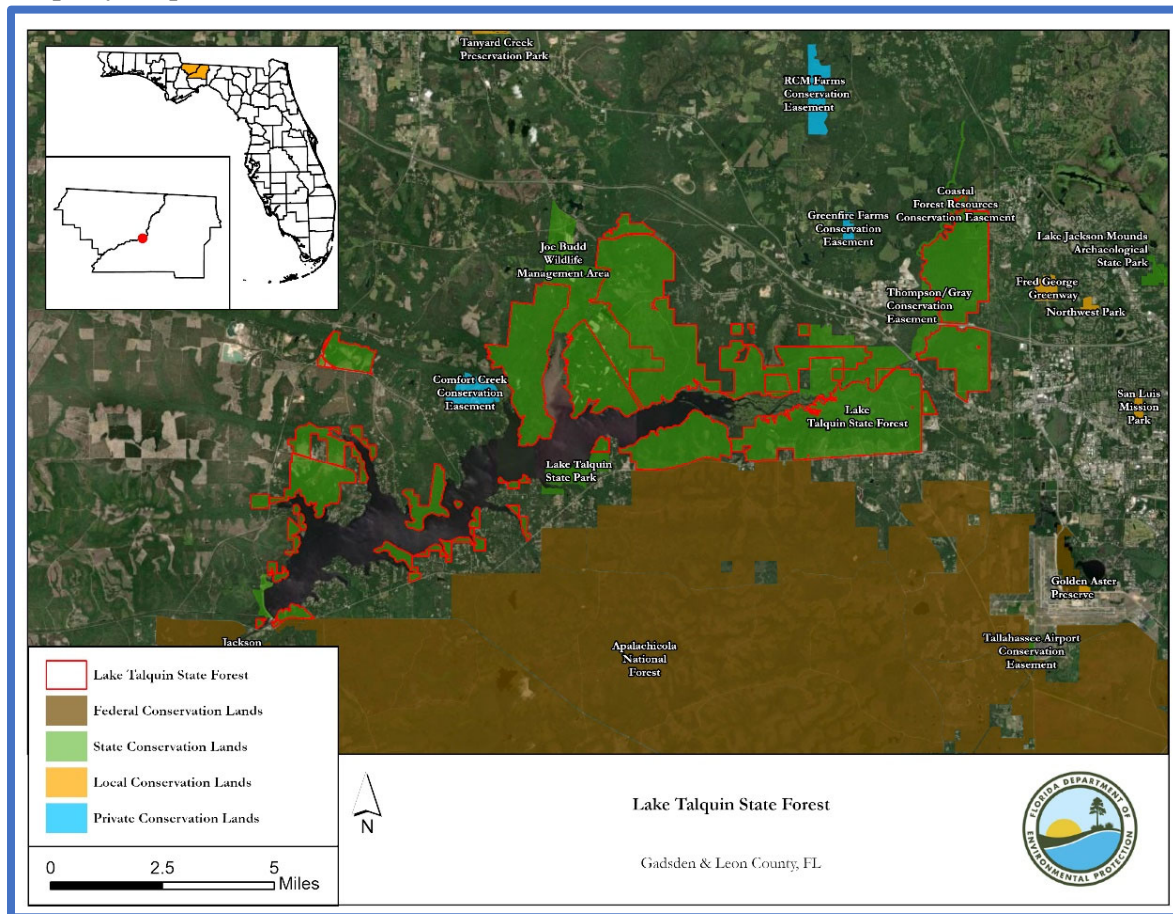
- Kate Livingston, FFS
- Robert Lide, NFWFMD
- Jenny Rogers, Conservation Org.
- Kyla Lenahan, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

- Earl Pearson, 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 Forest Service (FFS) for increasing the parking and expanding the trail system on the Lines Tract to accommodate equestrian users. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS staff for their increased emphasis on growing season prescribed fire at the forest. (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, mesic flatwoods, sandhill, floodplain swamp, bottomland forest, baygall, wet flatwoods, basin swamp, depression marsh, and swamp lake.
2. Listed species, animals and plants in general.
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 pine restoration.

Table 22222: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.96	4.95
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.93	4.93
Hydrology	4.78	4.36
Imperiled Species	4.50	4.57
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.60	4.57
Cultural Resources	4.79	5.00
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.92	4.87
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.43	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

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, ditches, hydro-period alteration, and erosion control.
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, 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, 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 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.

St. Marks River Preserve 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: 7/19/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Lance Kelly, Past Park Manager

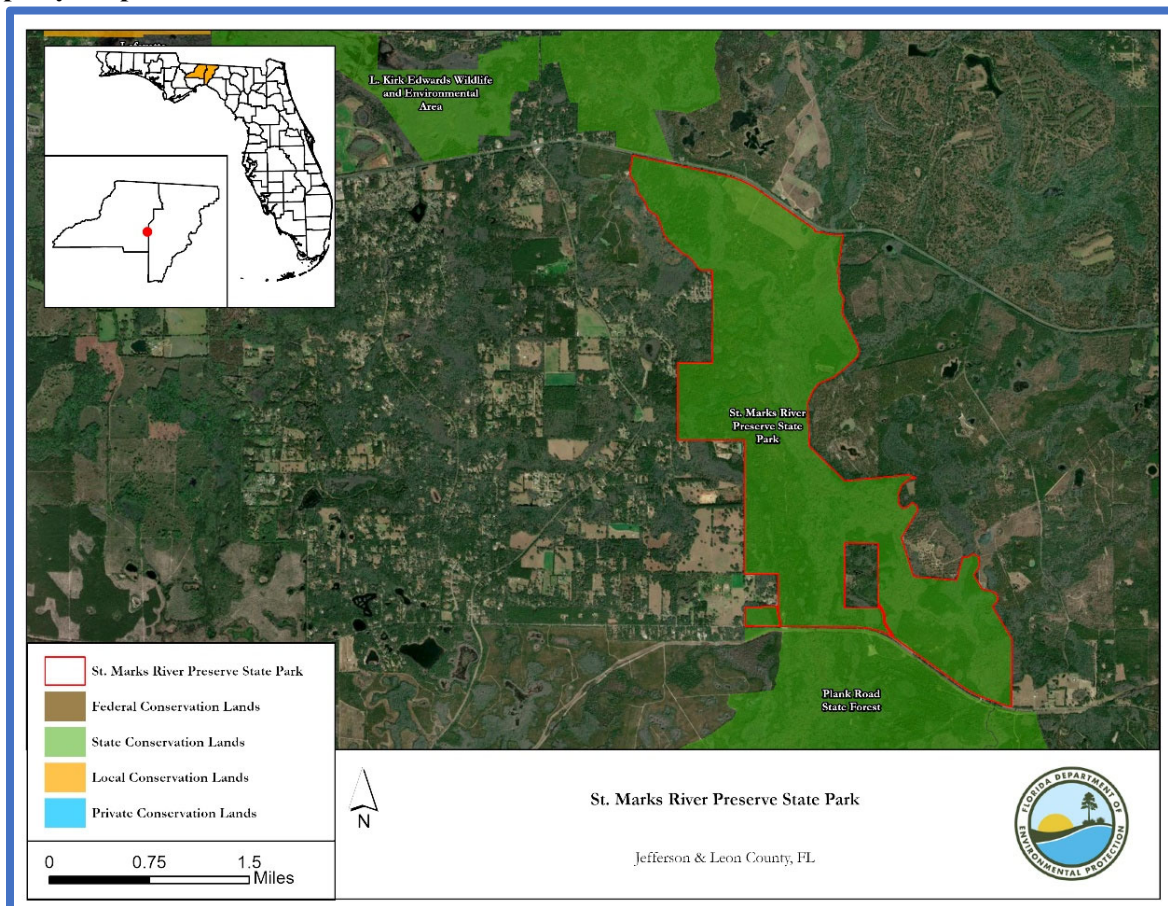
Review Team Members (voting)

- Chris Whittle, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Morgan Wilbur, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Kate Livingston, FFS
- Philip Garrett, NFWFMD
- Rob Williams, Conservation Org.
- Kim Nguyen, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Brianna Bjordahl, FWC
- Caitlyn Snyder, DEP/RCP
- George Frisby, DEP
- Ann Reams, 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 Park Service (FPS) separate St. Marks River Preserve SP and Natural Bridge SP from the larger Tallahassee Geo-Parks management complex and request needed FTE positions whose focus would be resource and land management. (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 mixed forest, basin swamp, depression marsh, dome, floodplain forest, shrub bog, blackwater stream, and floodplain swamp.
2. Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically black bear, and Alabama azalea.
3. Natural resources 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/monitoring.
4. Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.
5. Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.
6. Restoration, specifically planted pine to sandhill (north end), and hydrological restoration (improved low water crossings).

Table 33333: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.25	4.66
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.04	4.58
Hydrology	4.50	5.00
Imperiled Species	4.03	4.78
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.89	4.74
Cultural Resources	4.85	5.00
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.42	4.62
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.90	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

7. **Forest management, specifically reforestation/afforestation, 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/culverts.**
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, 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. ***Management Resources, specifically sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, 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 development of new facilities is considered on a case by case basis according to the needs of the park unit as part of the Unit Management Plan revision process. The Division will consider these recommendations during the next unit management plan revision.

Park equipment is allocated to parks based on the needs identified by park management. When multiple units are managed under one Park Management Team, as in this case, the equipment may be stored and inventoried under a different park unit within the group. Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park and Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail house additional equipment that is available to support the needs of St. Marks River Preserve State Park. As new funding for equipment is made available, the needs of the unit will be ranked within the district and allocated accordingly.

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:

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

Escribano Point Wildlife Management Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 4,319

County: 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

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Original Acquisition Date: 9/20/03

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 4/29/15

Review Date: 8/14/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Trinity Livingston, Area Biologist
- Colleen Closius, Asst. Reg. Biologist

- Clint Peters, Regional Biologist

Review Team Members (voting)

- DRP District, None
- Shelly Alexander, Local Gov't.
- Brianna Bjordahl, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District

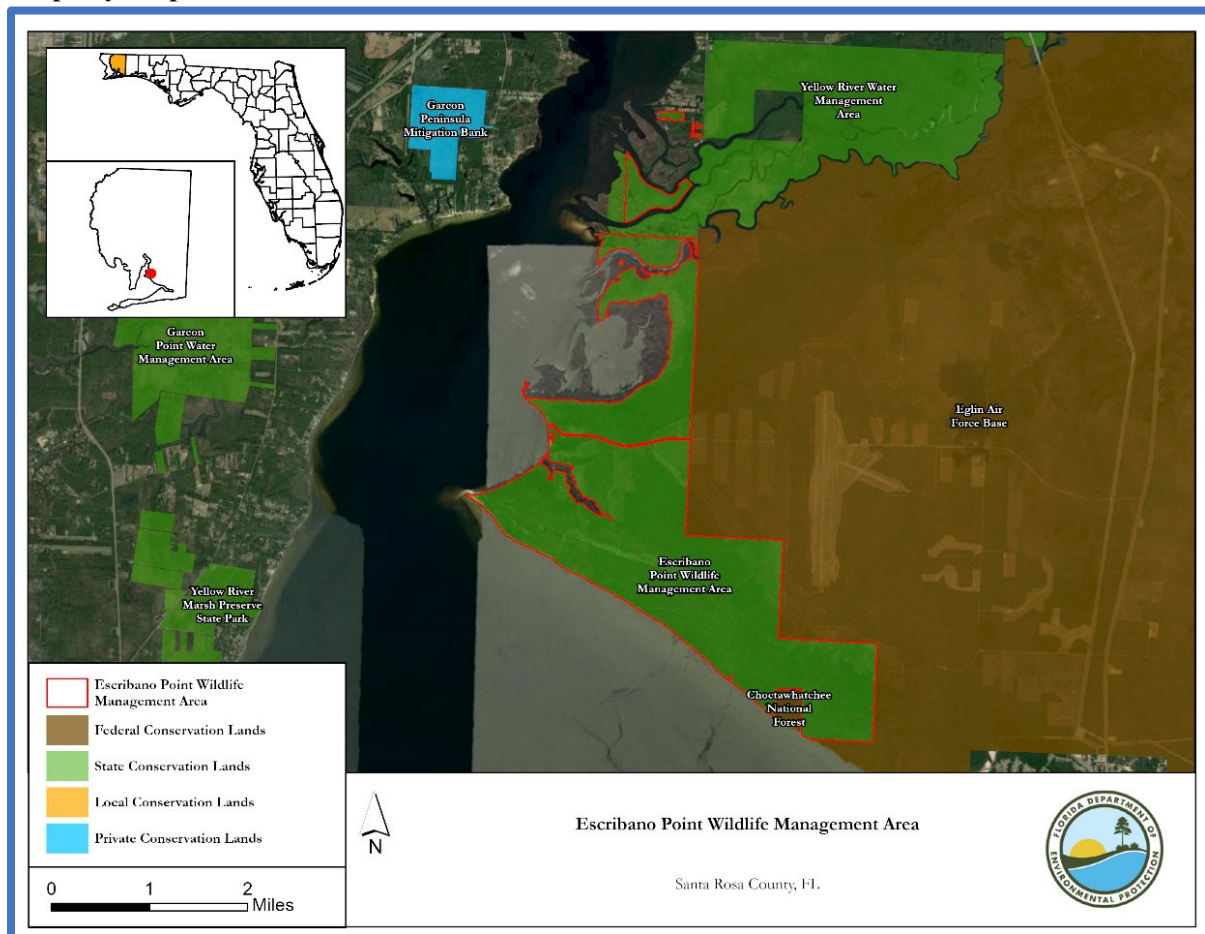
- Dan Hayes, FFS
- Robert Lide, NFWFMD
- Lilly Anderson-Messec, Conservation Org.
- Vernon Compton, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Derek Fussell, FWC/IPM

- Zach Schang, 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 manager and staff for their excellent work on their fire regime, which has drastically improved the quality of habitat for listed species. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC staff for their vigilance in monitoring and treating invasive plants. (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:

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 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.

Table 44444: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.85	4.77
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.85	4.93
Hydrology	4.90	4.76
Imperiled Species	4.93	4.86
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.59	4.48
Cultural Resources	4.71	5.00
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.83	4.98
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.52	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

- 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, 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: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 11,216

County: Franklin and Gulf

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: 8/16/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Jerry Pitts, Area Biologist
- Colleen Closius, Asst. Reg. Biologist

- Clint Peters, Regional Biologist
- Michelle Rice

Review Team Members (voting)

- DRP District, None
- Local Gov't., None
- Brianna Bjordahl, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District

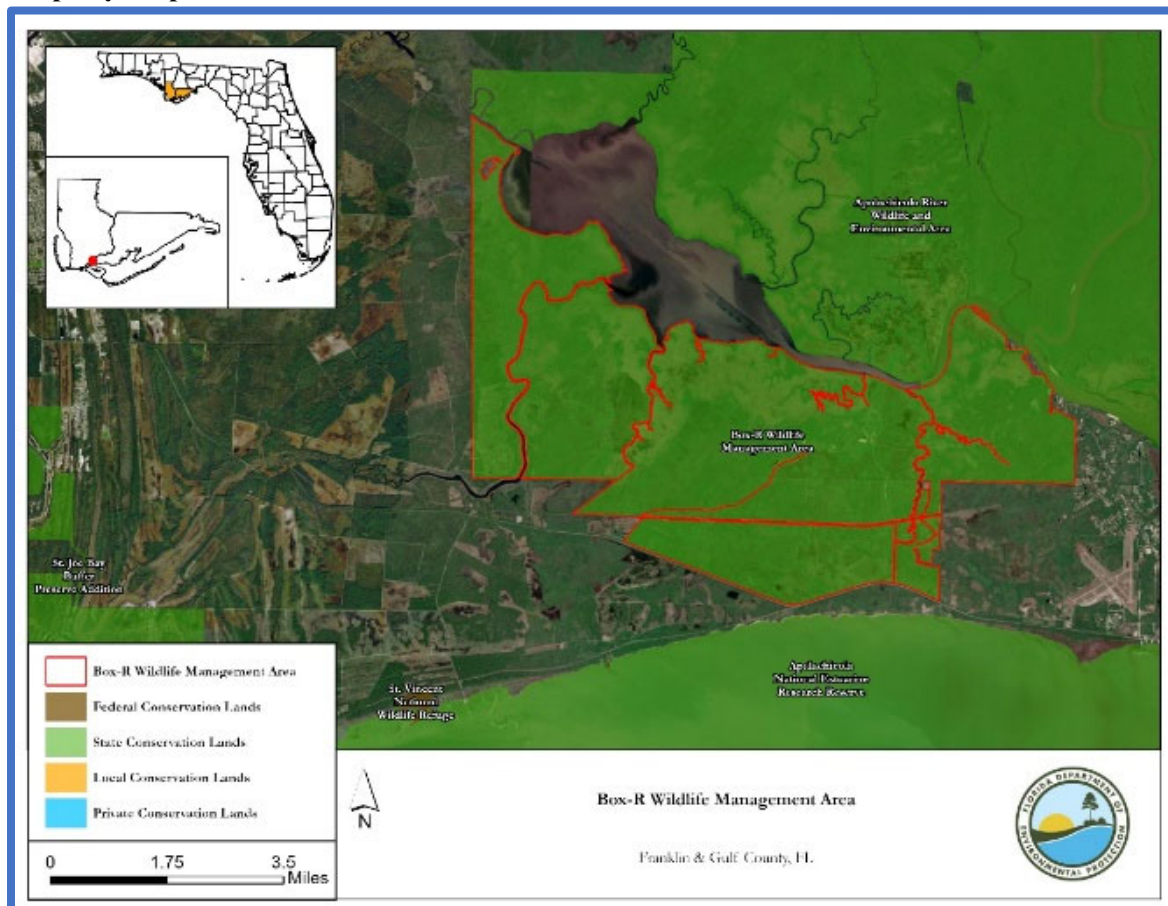
- Chris Colburn, FFS
- Coakley Taylor, NFWMD
- Rob Williams, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- John Kunzer, FWC/IPM

- Lilly Anderson-Messec, FNPS
- Rebekah Keller, 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 manager and staff for their diligence in managing timber resources in an extremely challenging market. (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 floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, floodplain marsh/depression marsh, basin swamp/dome swamp, mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, wet flatwoods, sandhill, mesic hammock/xeric hammock/shell mound, and wet prairie.
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.

Table 55555: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.69	4.75
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.87	4.77
Hydrology	4.80	4.67
Imperiled Species	4.40	4.40
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.40	4.50
Cultural Resources	4.90	4.90
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.68	4.73
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.70	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

8. Non-native, invasive and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, 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, 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, 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.

Half Moon Wildlife Management Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

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

County: 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: 10/9/20

Review Date: 8/21/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Brennan Brown, Area Biologist
- Sharon Hester, Asst. Reg. Biologist
- Matt Pollock, Regional Biologist
- Nancy Dwyer

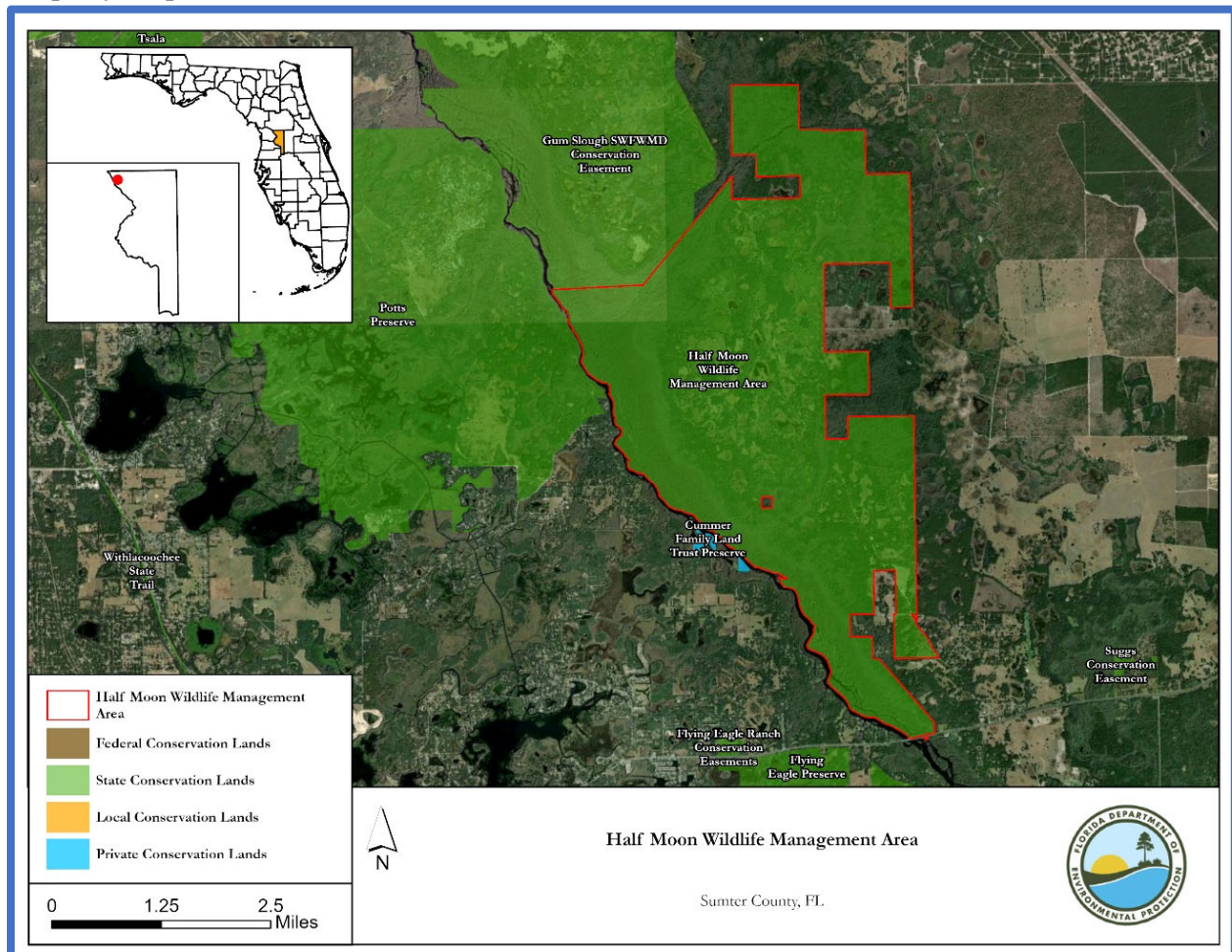
Review Team Members (voting)

- Bill Gruber, DRP District
- Thomas Henry, Local Gov't.
- Rebecca Doane, FWC
- Andrew Larson, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Chris Green, SWFWMD
- Valerie Anderson, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Constantino Cano, 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 manager and staff on managing various stakeholders while promoting conservation, preservation, and recreation. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the manager and staff for their prescribed burn program at the WMA. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the manager and staff on implementing creative and effective groundcover restoration techniques. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the manager and staff for its excellent management of this area and its visible results over time. (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 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.

Table 66666: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.61	4.63
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.89	4.66
Hydrology	4.72	4.50
Imperiled Species	4.80	4.60
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.70	4.42
Cultural Resources	4.83	4.75
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.55	4.56
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.94	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

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 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, 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, specifically inholdings and additions.
14. Public access, specifically roads, and parking.
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.
17. Short-term goals, specifically hydrological preservation and restoration.

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: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 27,262

County: 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

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Original Acquisition Date: 4/12/85

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 12/17/14

Review Date: 8/23/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Melisa Thompson, Area Biologist
- Jennifer Myers, Asst. Reg. Biologist
- Steven Brinkley, District Biologist
- Kenneth Pryor
- Stephen Towery

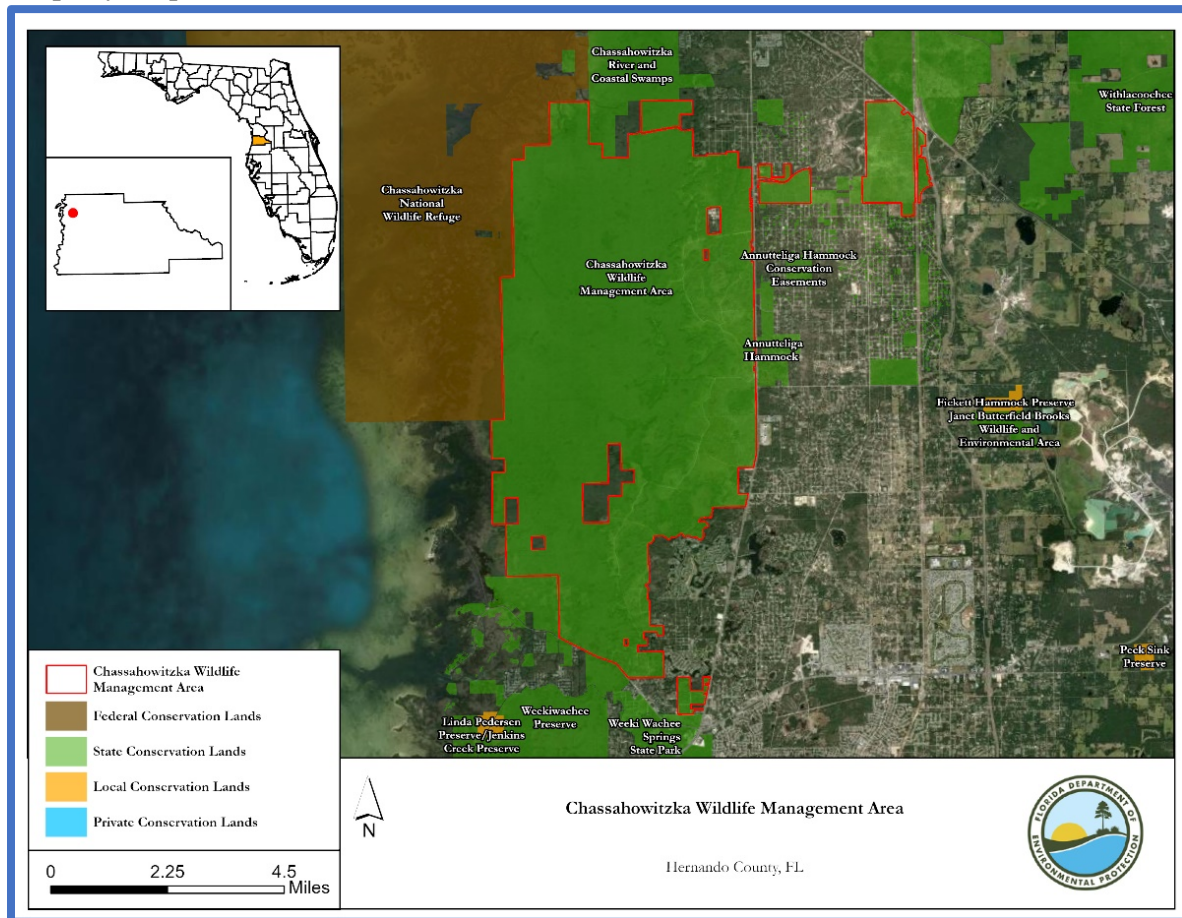
Review Team Members (voting)

- Adam Belden, DRP District
- Lindsey Hacker, Local Gov't.
- Shawn Kelly, FWC
- Andrew Larson, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Anne Blanchard, SWFWMD
- Athena Philips, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Alice Herden, 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 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)'s management of Chassahowitzka WMA and the use of prescribed fire and mechanical treatment to restore and enhance structure and function in upland natural communities on the area, particularly sandhill. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC for efforts to address issues with inholdings and access on the southern portion of the WMA. Staff have handled these issues with patience and have prioritized protection of resources where possible. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for efforts to improve depression marshes on the area, resulting in improved conditions for pond-breeding amphibians and other wetland species. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the staff for attending Archaeological Resource Management training. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the staff for their effort to follow DHR guidelines prior to ground disturbing activities. (7+, 0-)
6. The team commends the staff for their mesic flatwoods and sandhill restoration efforts including longleaf plantings and wiregrass plantings. (7+, 0-)
7. The team commends the staff for their educational outreach and providing comprehensive recreational opportunities, including ADA accessible options. (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.

Table 77777: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.58	4.65
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.56	4.78
Hydrology	4.71	4.29
Imperiled Species	4.71	4.82
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.29	4.54
Cultural Resources	4.57	4.71
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.62	4.62
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.79	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

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, cultural resource survey and 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/culverts, and ditches.
10. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.
11. Adjacent property concerns, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.
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, 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

County: 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

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Original Acquisition Date: 3/16/05

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 12/11/20

Review Date: 9/17/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Frank Burley, Manager
- Lindsey Bessent
- Sam Negaran
- Justin Rogers

- David Sechrist
- Amanda Gadshaw
- Andy Lamborn
- Pat Deren

Review Team Members (voting)

- Rick Owen, DRP District
- Liza McCain, Local Gov't.
- Rebecca Doane, FWC
- Chrissy Sellers, DEP District

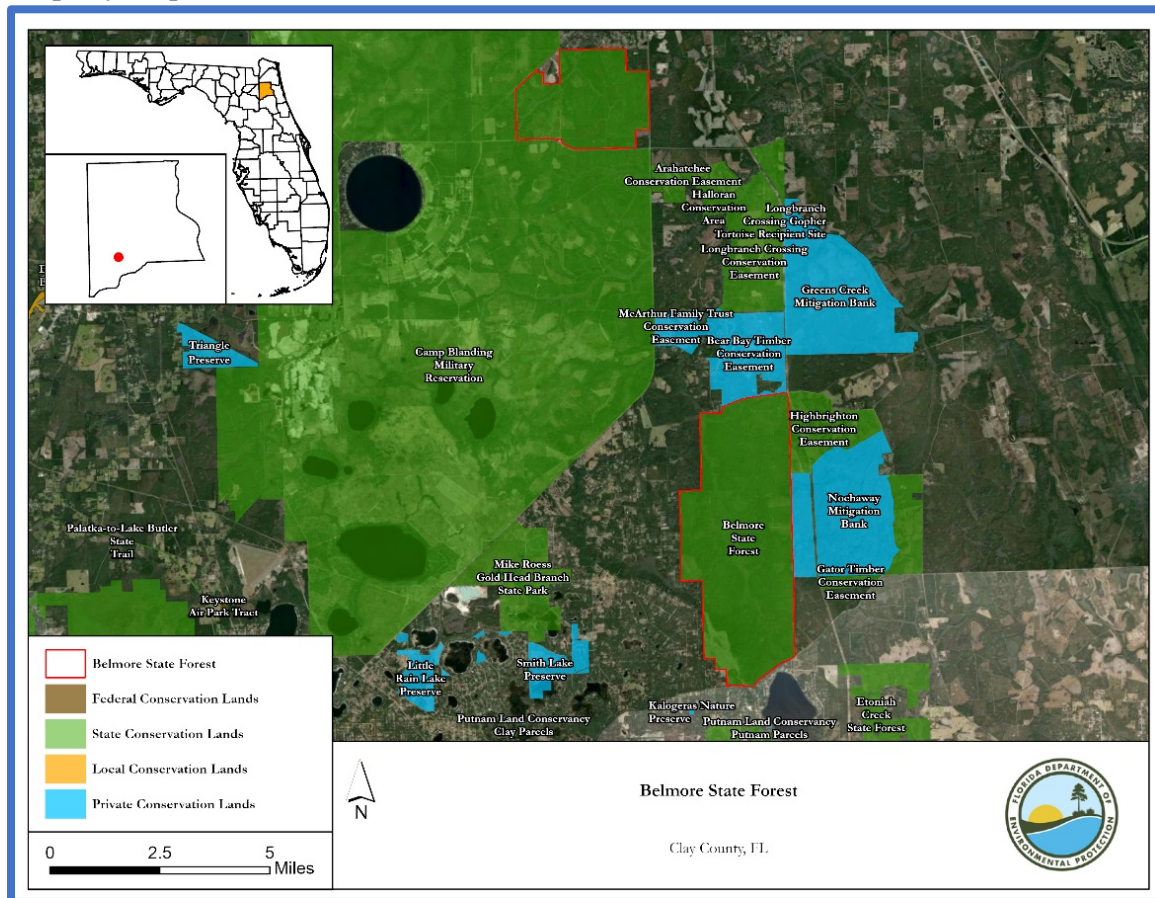
- Aaron Levine, FFS
- Tyler Mosteller, SJRWMD
- Walter Bryant, Conservation Org.
- Ben Williams, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

- Shiala Morales, FNPS

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 Forest Service (FFS) for continued efforts to improve roads using low water crossings and culverts to protect water quality in wetlands of the forest. (8+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS staff for their progress in converting former industrial timber plantations and using sustainable silviculture practices on Belmore State Forest. (8+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FFS staff for overall burning program working towards quantity and quality of burns, and moving towards growing season burns, and timber thinning within mesic flatwoods coupled with well planned and executed fire in efforts to bring back into a natural state. (8+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FFS staff for their sandhill habitat restoration efforts in the 340 acre sand pine plantation. (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:

1. The team recommends that the FFS add FNAI natural community Blackwater stream in the next management plan update. (8+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *After consultation with FNAI, the Florida Forest Service will consider the addition of blackwater stream as a natural community type on Belmore State Forest. The Florida Forest Service will rely on the expertise of FNAI to determine the extent of its presence and how it will be delineated in relation to its surrounding community types. Once this is determined it will then be included if deemed appropriate.*

2. The team recommends that the FFS conduct a hydrological restoration survey in the future per long-term management goals. (8+, 0-)

Table 88888: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.46	4.39
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.18	4.46
Hydrology	3.96	3.73
Imperiled Species	4.03	3.72
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.42	4.23
Cultural Resources	4.19	4.25
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.05	4.13
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.81	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

Managing Agency Response: The Florida Forest agrees and will work to conduct or contract a hydrological restoration survey during the current and/or future planning periods on BSF.

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, wet flatwoods, baygall, dome swamp, blackwater stream, floodplain swamp, and bottomland forest.
2. Listed species, animals in general, and specifically gopher tortoise and black creek crayfish.
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 quality.
6. Restoration, specifically flatwoods and sandhill.
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. Ground water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.
11. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and signage.
12. Adjacent property concerns, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.
13. Public access, specifically roads, and parking.
14. Environmental education and outreach, specifically habitat management activities, and management of visitor impacts.
15. Management resources, specifically buildings, and equipment.
16. Short-term goals, specifically public access and recreational opportunities.

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: Sandhill on BSF contains significant, measurable levels of intact ground cover within the desired range of structure and species composition, as well as longleaf and slash pine in multiple age classes. BSF staff will work to increase the fire frequency in the sandhill community and move more acreage into maintenance condition.

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 blackwater stream, 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: After consultation with FNAI to determine the extent of blackwater stream found, the Florida Forest Service will address its inclusion into the management plan.

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: 2/11/20

Review Date: 9/18/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Sam Negaran, Manager
- Matthew Raulerson
- Savannah Montgomery
- Andy Lamborn
- Pat Deren

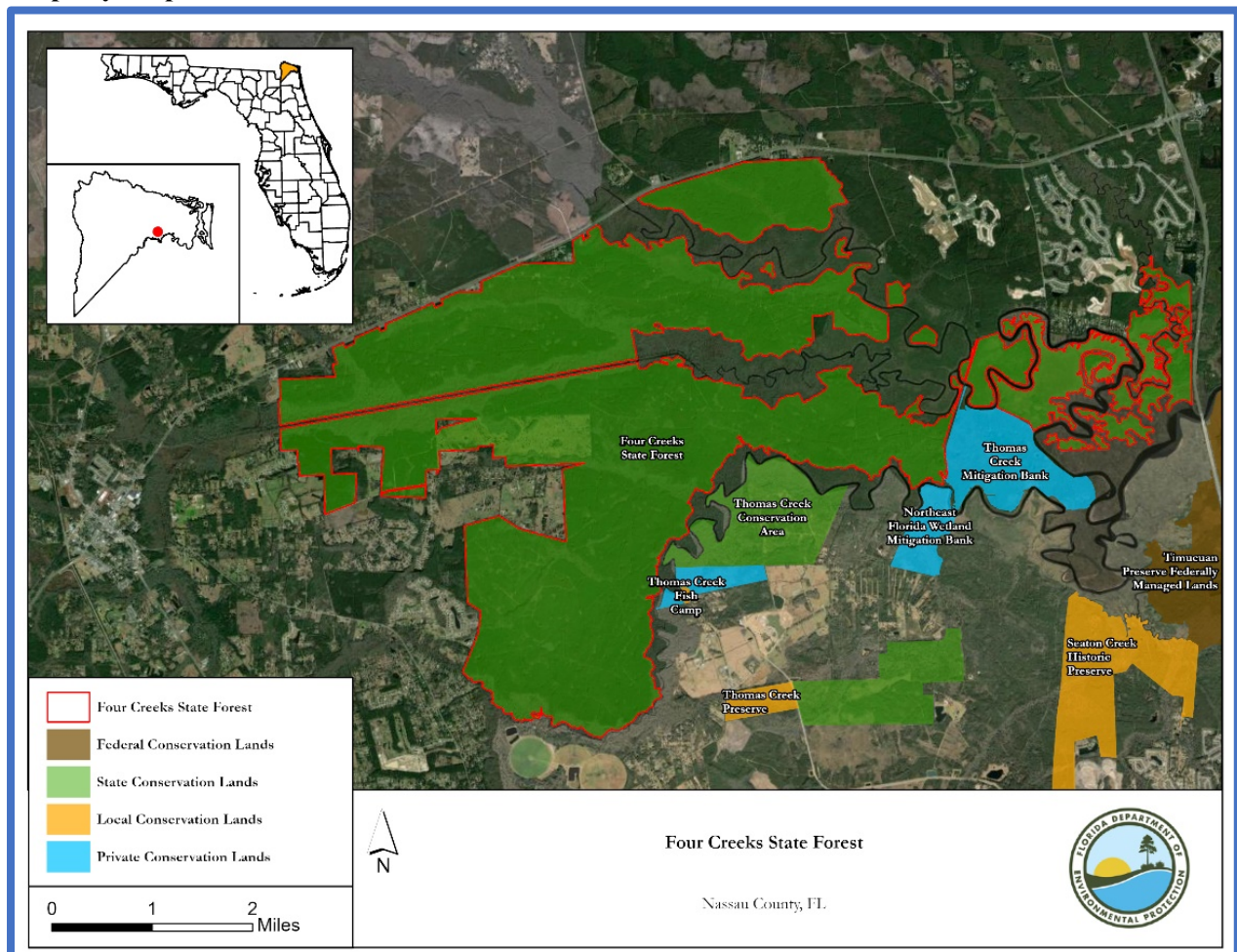
Review Team Members (voting)

- Keith Morin, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Rebecca Doane, FWC
- Callie Ingram, DEP District
- Shawn Lewandowski, FFS
- Tyler Mosteller, SJRWMD
- Betsy Harris, Conservation Org.
- Curtis Moore, Private Land Manager

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 = 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 Forest Service (FFS) staff for improving access forest wide for resource management and recreation via roadwork and creek access sites. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS staff for their quality of burns. Understory effects are textbook and low pine mortality. (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 explore feasibility of enhancing species list through inventorying plants and wildlife. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The FFS agrees to explore the feasibility of enhancing our species lists through cooperation with FWC and other environmental organizations such as the Native Plant Society and possibly FNAI. The recent addition of a career service Biologist III will increase internal species inventory capacity and improve opportunities to coordinate and host bioblitz type events dedicated to inventorying plants and wildlife on FCSF.

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, floodplain swamp, mesic hammock, hydric hammock, baygall, and basin swamp.
2. Listed species, animals in general.
3. Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically fire effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.

Table 99999: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.33	4.32
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.98	4.03
Hydrology	3.56	3.10
Imperiled Species	3.75	3.75
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.70	3.57
Cultural Resources	3.80	4.10
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.08	3.76
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.46	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

4. Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.
5. Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, and quality.
6. Restoration, specifically fire, and plantation to flatwoods.
7. Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting.
8. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically control of plants.
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, specifically expanding development.
12. Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.
13. Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities.
14. Management resources, specifically waste disposal.
15. Short-term goals, specifically public access and recreational opportunities.

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 FFS agrees listed species surveying and habitat monitoring can be improved on FCSF. Enhanced cooperation with FWC, the Native Plant Society, Audubon Society, and potentially contracting with FNAI will likely result in an updated species list and routine habitat monitoring. The recent addition of a career service Biologist III will enhance internal and cooperative surveying and monitoring efforts.

2. *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: The FFS uses prescribed fire and timber harvests as tools for restoration and increased species composition. Timber harvests improve stand viability, forest health, wildlife habitat, and ecological restoration. As timber stand rotations occur over long term silvicultural planning periods, reforestation with longleaf pine vs slash and loblolly pine will be considered on appropriate sites. Prescribed fire will continue to be used to enhance and restore native plant communities, species habitat and other resource values. Ground cover restoration opportunities will also be considered.

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. *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: Despite overall water protection measures addressed through adherence to, and review and compliance with Silvicultural BMP guidelines as described on pg. 18, Section IV (B) (3) of the FCSF Management Plan, the FFS agrees the management plan does not sufficiently address ground water monitoring specifically. A SJRWMD ground water monitoring well does exist on FCSF. However, despite this station's "Active" status, current data is not available from this station. FCSF staff, in conjunction with the FFS Forest Management Bureau and the SJRWMD, will assess the addition of plan language addressing ground water monitoring in future plan updates.

2. ***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: Despite overall water protection measures addressed through adherence to, and review and compliance with Silvicultural BMP guidelines as described on pg. 18, Section IV (B) (3) of the FCSF Management Plan, the FFS agrees the management plan does not sufficiently address surface water monitoring specifically. Several inactive SJRWMD surface water monitoring stations exist/existed within FCSF boundary, and a single active station does exist east and outside the boundary of FCSF. FCSF staff, in conjunction with the FFS Forest Management Bureau and the SJRWMD, will assess the addition of plan language addressing ground water monitoring in future plan updates.

John M. Bethea State Forest

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

Acres: 37,736

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: 4/1/01

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 2/19/16

Review Date: 9/20/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Shawn Lewandowski, Manager
- Matthew Darnell

- Garrett Henderson
- Glenn Davis

Review Team Members (voting)

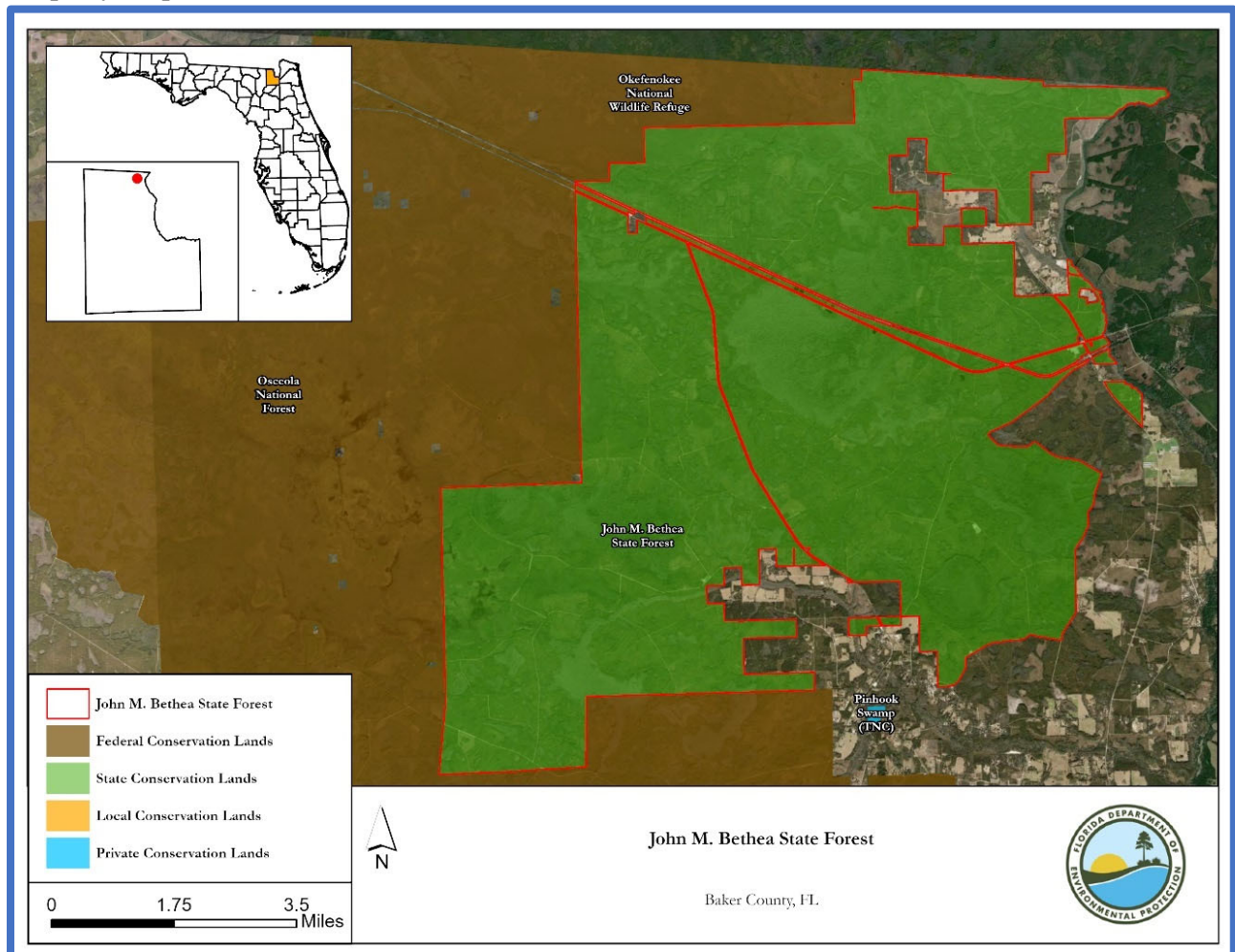
- Anne Barkdoll, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Ginger Feagle, FWC
- Matthew Sawyer, DEP District

- Michelle Maylon, FFS
- Nic Smith, SJRWMD
- Shiala Morales, 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 = 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) staff for engaging the University of Florida to conduct a floristic study at the forest. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS staff for working with partners such as NWTF to perform land management activities (e.g. roughwoods cut) to assist initiation of prescribed fire into areas behind in fire rotation. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FFS staff for the prescribed fire program that has reduced fuel loading and enhanced wildfire protection. (6+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FFS staff for continuing sustainable forestry operations that consider timber, wildlife, and recreation, including compliance with both Silviculture Best Management Practices and Wildlife BMPs for Forestry. (4+, 2-)
5. The team commends the FFS staff for continuing to evaluate pine species planting based on site specific conditions, leaning towards preference of restoration of longleaf pine. (5+, 1-)

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:

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

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, basin swamp, dome swamp, floodplain forest, and shrub bog.**

Table ~~1010101010~~10: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.31	4.44	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.00	4.31	
Hydrology	3.58	3.63	
Imperiled Species	3.60	3.92	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.81	3.78	
Cultural Resources	3.80	4.17	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.90	4.02	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.31	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

2. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically other habitat management effects monitoring, and fire effects monitoring.**
3. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
4. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, and frequency.**
5. **Restoration, specifically pine plantation.**
6. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, and reforestation/afforestation.**
7. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically control of plants, and animals.**
8. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and law enforcement presence.**
9. **Public access, specifically parking.**
10. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
11. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, 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:

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

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: 7/7/24

Review Date: 10/29/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Angela Kaiser, Park Manager

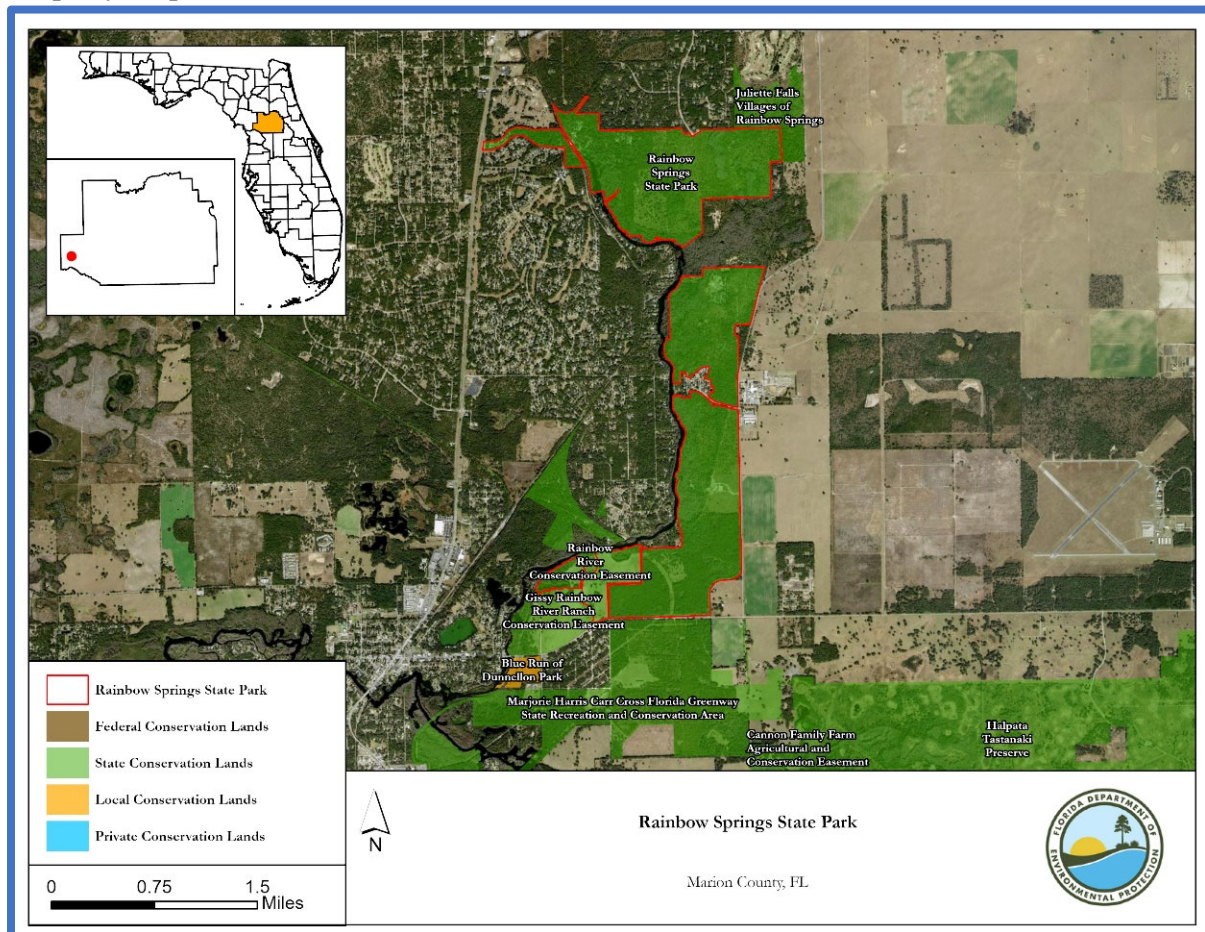
Review Team Members (voting)

- Anne Barkdoll, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Scout Hogan, FWC
- Charlie Nolan, DEP District
- Logan Deuel, FFS
- Felicia Nudo, SWFWMD
- Conservation Org., None
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Trisha Green, DEP/RCP
- Joseph Tallant, FWC/IPM
- Chevy Fritz, 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 Florida Park Service (FPS) on their use of fire as a restoration tool, and wildland fire urban interface mowing and fire preparation, and for the good foundational steps they are making in restoring degraded areas. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS on the project that reduces the asphalt paving around the headspring and redesigns the view of headspring as one enters the park. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the staff on their ongoing invasive species management. (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, sandhill, scrubby flatwoods, basin swamp, depression marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, spring-run stream, and upland hardwood forest.
2. Listed species, animals in general.
3. Natural resources survey/monitoring resources, specifically fire effects monitoring, and invasive species survey/monitoring.
4. Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.

Table 1111111111: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.34	4.56
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.19	4.72
Hydrology	4.55	4.70
Imperiled Species	3.80	4.10
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.63	4.50
Cultural Resources	4.70	5.00
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.53	4.58
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.13	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

5. Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, and quality.
6. Restoration, specifically sand pine plantation to sandhill, and fire mitigation mowing.
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. Hydro-alteration, specifically roads/culverts, and erosion.
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 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, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
15. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, 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 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.

Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 61,845

County: 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: 10/9/20

Review Date: 10/23/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Steve Glass, Manager

- Matthew Vance

Review Team Members (voting)

- Mark Werley, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Charlie Nolan, DEP District

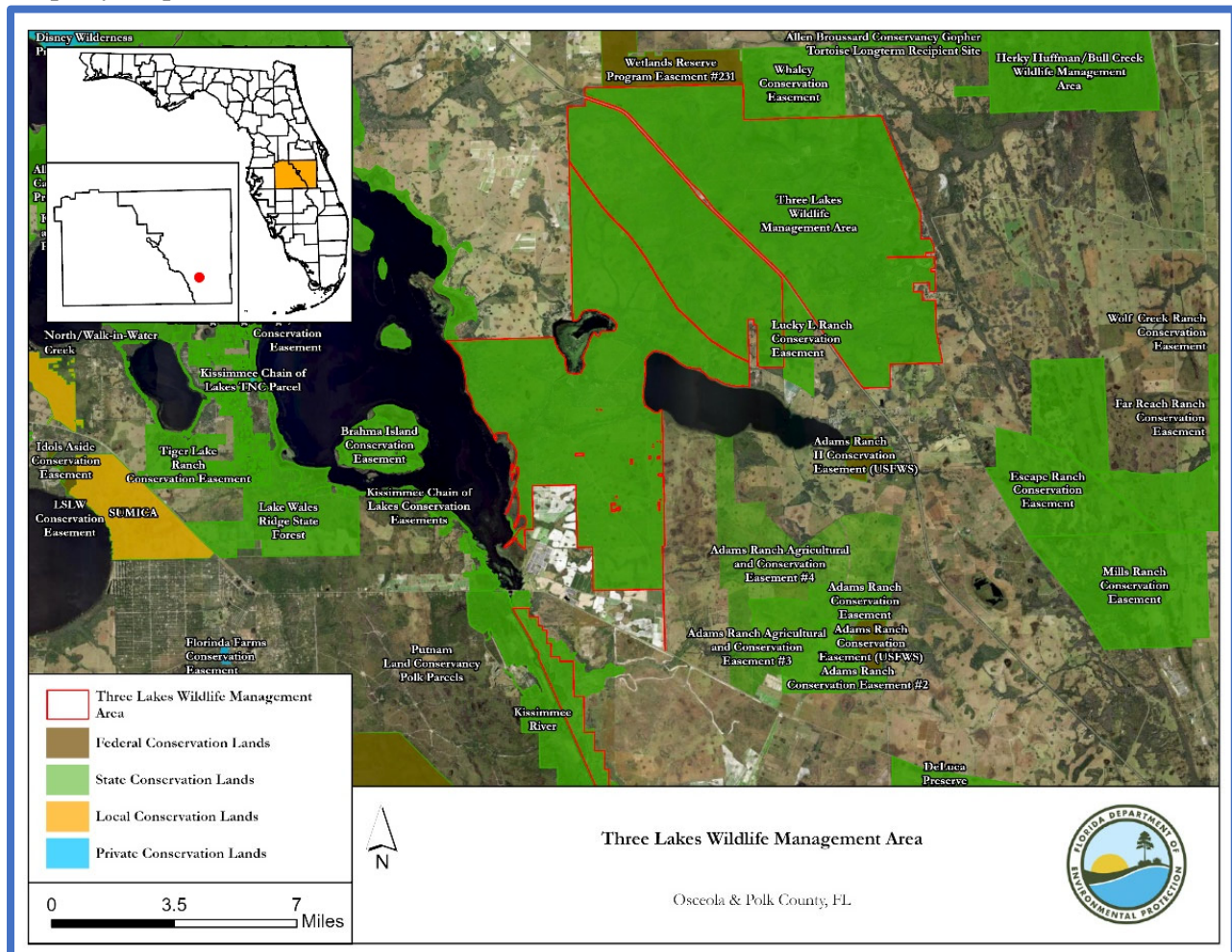
- David Palmer, FFS
- Doug Voltolina, SJRWMD
- Brian Brandon, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Jackie Smith, FWC/IPM

- Rick Baird, Audubon
- Jared Draxler

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 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)'s staff for maintaining an exemplary burn program targeting growing season burns and meeting desired fire return intervals. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC staff for threatened and endangered species monitoring and management. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for the quality of hiking and recreational activities while still maintaining and prioritizing the conservation and preservation of the land. (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:

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 basin marsh, 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

Table 1212121212: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.42	4.23
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.47	4.56
Hydrology	3.85	3.95
Imperiled Species	4.73	4.71
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.46	3.83
Cultural Resources	3.83	3.92
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.80	4.10
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.94	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.

4. Cultural resources, specifically, cultural resource survey.
5. Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.
6. Restoration, specifically groundcover.
7. Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, and reforestation/afforestation.
8. Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, water level alteration, and erosion.
9. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and gates and fencing.
10. Adjacent property concerns, specifically inholdings and additions.
11. Public access, specifically roads, and parking.
12. Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
13. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, and funding.
14. Short-term goals, specifically sustainable forest management, and capital facilities and infrastructure.

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 wildlife, and 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 education and outreach on Wildlife Management Areas through the development of area specific Public Access Assessments. The kiosk at the Three Lakes WMA, Prairie Lakes Unit contains a panel dedicated to habitat management; posters at entrance kiosks and the boat ramp explain the problems associated with and the prevention of invasive plants spreading into the WMA; and brochures contain information on the wildlife found at Three Lakes WMA. 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 habitat and invasive plant management from our website at <https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/habitat/>.

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.

Triple N Ranch Wildlife Management Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 16,295

County: 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: 10/16/19

Review Date: 10/25/24

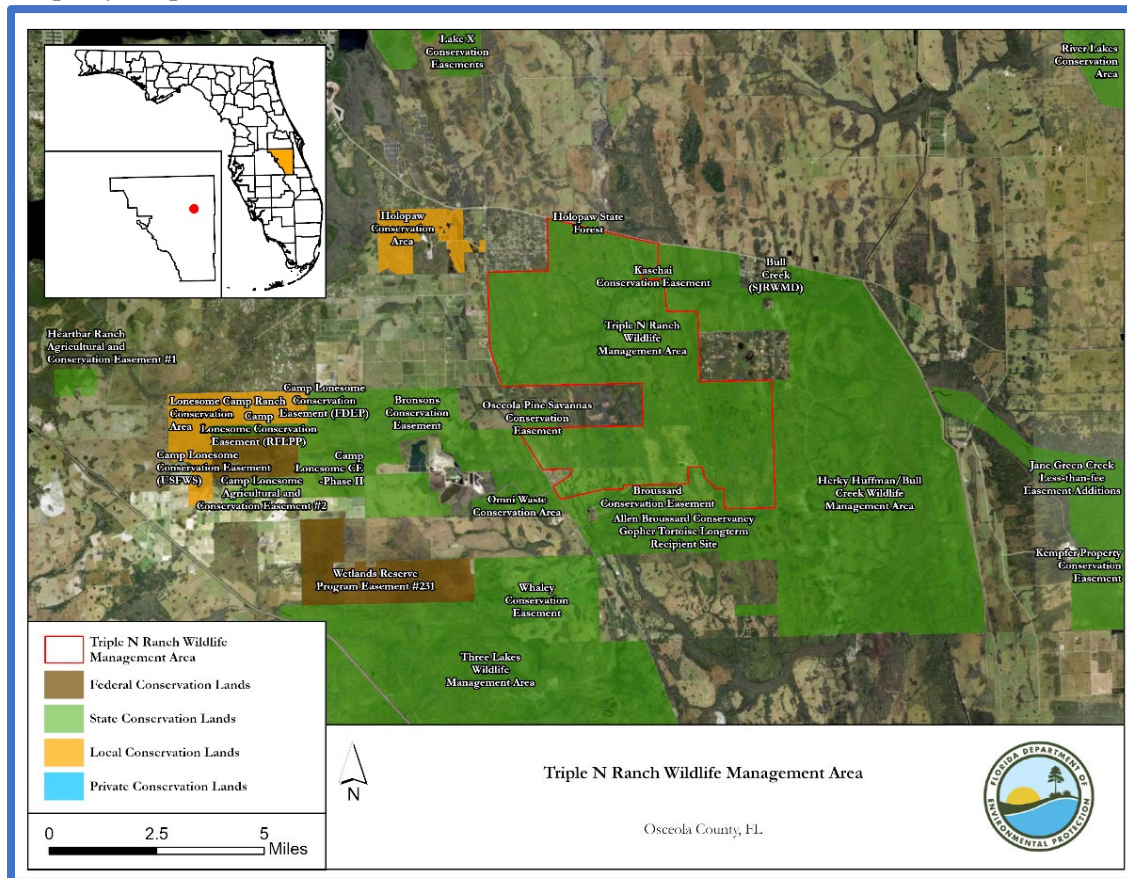
Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Jared Draxler, Manager | • Steve Glass, District Manager |
| • Matthew Vance, Asst. Reg. Biologist | |
- Review Team Members (voting)**
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Mark Werley, DRP District | • Dana Sussmann, FFS |
| • Local Gov't., None | • Jonny Baker, SJRWMD |
| • Scout Hogan, FWC | • Valerie Anderson, Conservation Org. |
| • Mara Galvez-Gonzalez, DEP District | • Brian Brandon, Private Land Manager |

Non-Team Members (attending)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL | • Jess Rodriguez, FWC |
| • Jackie Smith, FWC/IPM | • Jennifer Adams |

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 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for their bat monitoring program at Triple N Ranch WMA. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC for their fire return interval and burn rotations, as well as the positive results. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for initiating the recent hydrological restoration work and continued monitoring of impacts to adjacent habitat. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FWC for imperiled species monitoring and management particularly RCW and striped newt. (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 mesic flatwoods, dome swamp/basin swamp, depression marsh, dry prairie, hydric hammock/floodplain swamp, 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, gopher tortoise, and striped newt.

Table ~~1313131313~~13: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.60	4.28
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.68	4.51
Hydrology	4.57	4.10
Imperiled Species	4.80	4.22
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.86	3.80
Cultural Resources	4.43	4.43
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.45	4.13
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.50	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

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 hydrological restoration and groundcover restoration.
7. Forest Management, specifically timber inventory.
8. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.
9. Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads and culverts, ditches, and hydro-period alteration.
10. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.
11. Adjacent property concerns, specifically 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:

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 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: 2/12/21

Review Date: 11/6/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Stephen Stipkovits, Manager

- Mike Facente

Review Team Members (voting)

- Mark Werley, DRP District
- Ron Chicone, Local Gov't.
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Jordan Evans, DEP District

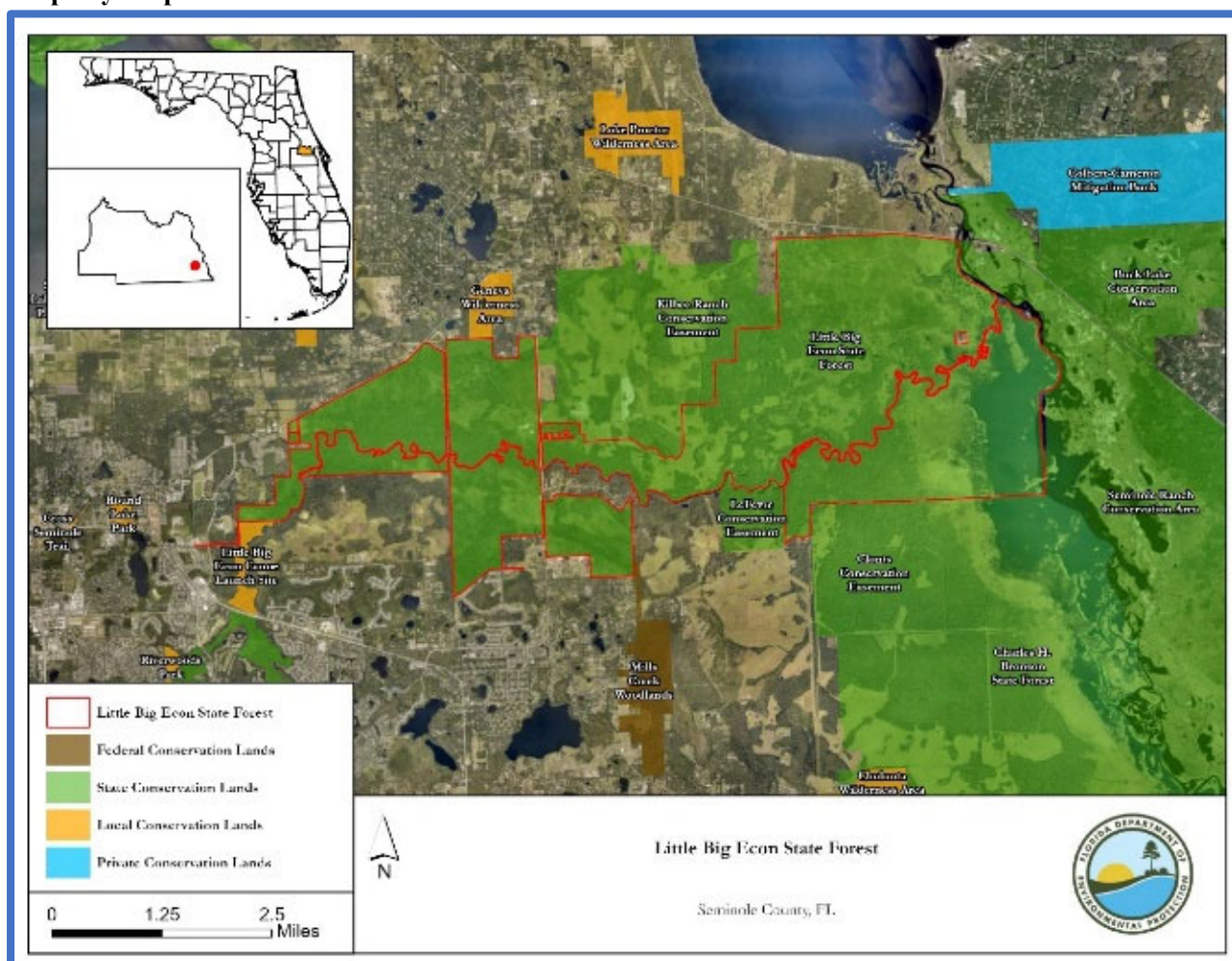
- Joe Bishop, FFS
- Brent Bachelder, SJRWMD
- Rick Baird, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPM

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) staff for the well maintained and professional appearance of public areas and interpretive signage. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS staff for the improvements to their maintenance Facilities to support equipment. (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:

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

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, wet prairie, floodplain marsh, scrubby flatwoods, hydric hammock, wet flatwoods, basin swamp, scrub, baygall, depression marsh, blackwater stream, sandhill, dome swamp, floodplain swamp, xeric hammock, and alluvial forest.
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 scrub, and scrubby flatwoods.
6. Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.

Table 1414141414: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.19	4.28
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.07	4.51
Hydrology	3.73	3.87
Imperiled Species	3.50	3.67
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.00	4.06
Cultural Resources	4.30	4.58
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.21	4.17
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.14	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

7. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, and prevention of animals, and pests/pathogens.
8. Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts.
9. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.
10. Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.
11. Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.
12. Environmental education and outreach, specifically interpretive facilities and signs, and recreational opportunities.
13. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, and staff.
14. Short-term goals, specifically public access and recreational opportunities, and hydrological preservation and restoration.

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 staff, 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: The Florida Forest Service will continue to request additional positions as funding allows.

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.

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: 11/7/24

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Allegra Buyer, Manager

Review Team Members (voting)

- Mark Werley, DRP District
- Ron Chicone, Local Gov't.
- Amanda Hipps, FWC
- Jordan Evans, DEP District

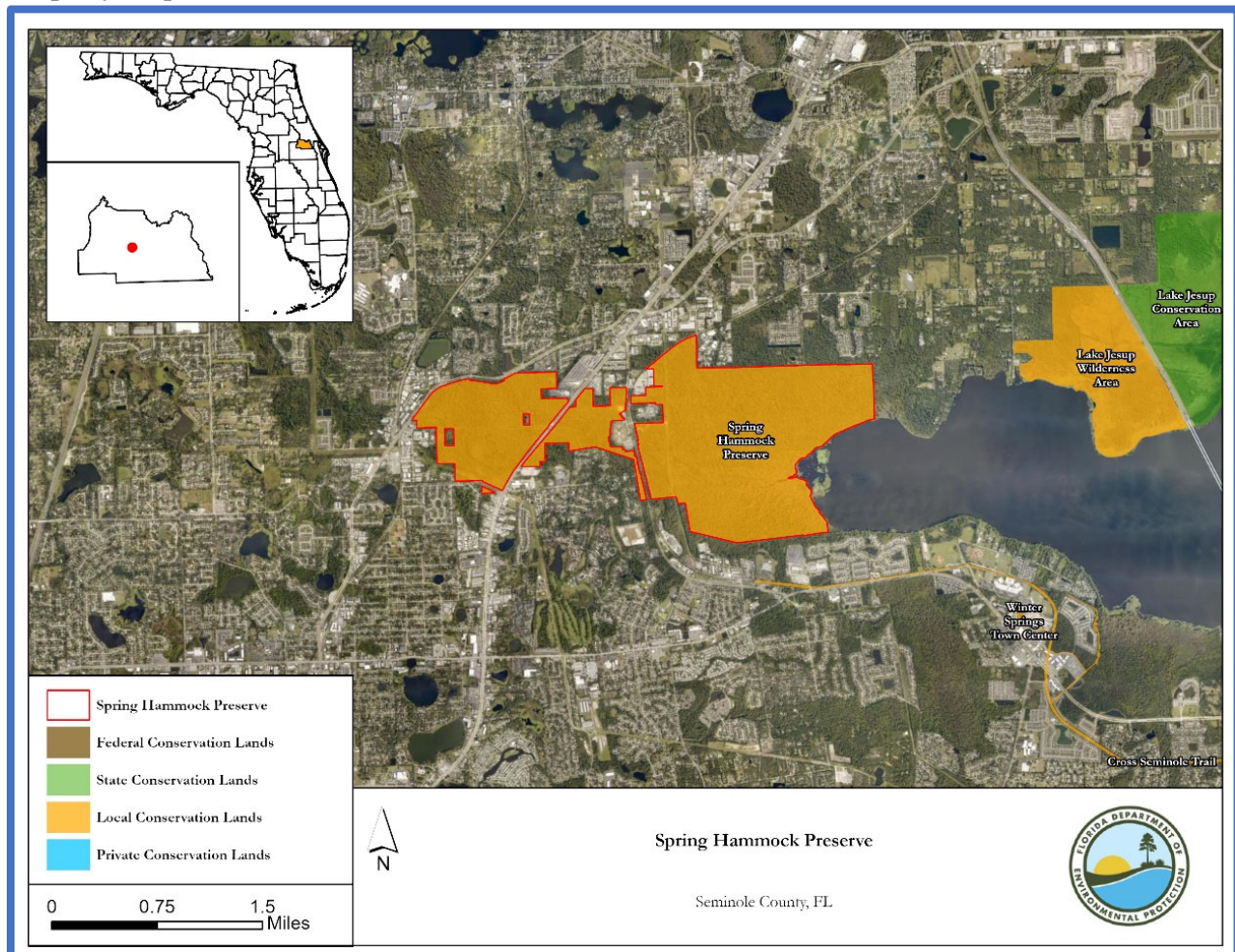
- Mike Edwards, FFS
- Graham Williams, SJRWMD
- Mark Kateli, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Heather Thomas, FNPS

- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPM

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 park staff for improving public access by installing new board walks in the hydric hammock and paving a trail. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the staff for their ongoing efforts to control invasive exotic plants on the property despite the challenging access and terrain. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the staff for their decades-long cooperative relationship with the Seminole County School Board to allow tens of thousands of 5th grade students to experience the "mud-walk" and other hands-on nature-based education programs. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the staff for their proactive efforts to survey, map and protect known listed species locations during invasive species treatment projects. (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 staff contact DHR for guidance on locating archaeological sites on Spring Hammock Preserve. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The Natural Lands Program will contact DHR for guidance on locating these sites in FY 25-26, and will also send one staff member to ARM Training at the next available opportunity.

2. The team recommends that the County increase efforts to control feral hogs on the preserve. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The Natural Lands Program has acquired two new hog trappers to increase efforts at Spring Hammock Preserve.

Table 1515151515: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.44	3.67
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	N/A	N/A
Hydrology	4.30	3.38
Imperiled Species	4.22	3.73
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.01	3.80
Cultural Resources	3.00	3.17
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.26	3.82
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.77	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

3. The team recommends that the County continue to survey for significant old-growth cypress trees throughout the property and map their locations to ensure the long-term protection of these significant resources. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Staff will continue to conduct surveys into the more remote segments of the property to locate these old-growth cypress.

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. **Listed species, plants in general, and specifically cuplet fern, and Okeechobee gourd.**
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. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, pests/pathogens, and control of animals.**
5. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.**
6. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
7. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and law enforcement presence.**
8. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**
9. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, and recreational opportunities.**

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: This upland area is intermixed with, and adjacent to mature hardwood swamp, cypress swamp and hydric hammock habitats. The area directly abuts Hwy 17/92 on its east and a major power transmission line and subdivisions on its south. Gen. Hutchison Pkwy. is 500 feet to its north and North Ronald Reagan Blvd. is 1,800 feet beyond that. Impacts from any firebreak installation through the intact wetlands around the north and west sides of this area and within the area itself could outweigh the benefits of reintroducing fire. Burning these areas without firebreaks could result in smoldering wetland fires that produce smoke hazards during subsequent days.

Due to these factors and concerns at the site (limited amount of flatwoods habit, proximity of major roads and subdivisions, and potential impacts from creating internal firebreaks), reintroducing fire is far down on the priority list.

2. ***Management Resources, specifically staff, 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: The Natural Lands Program is requesting two additional positions for FY 25-26. 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:

The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvements in the 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: 1/8/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Alex Creager, Park Manager
- Matthew Hodge, District Biologist

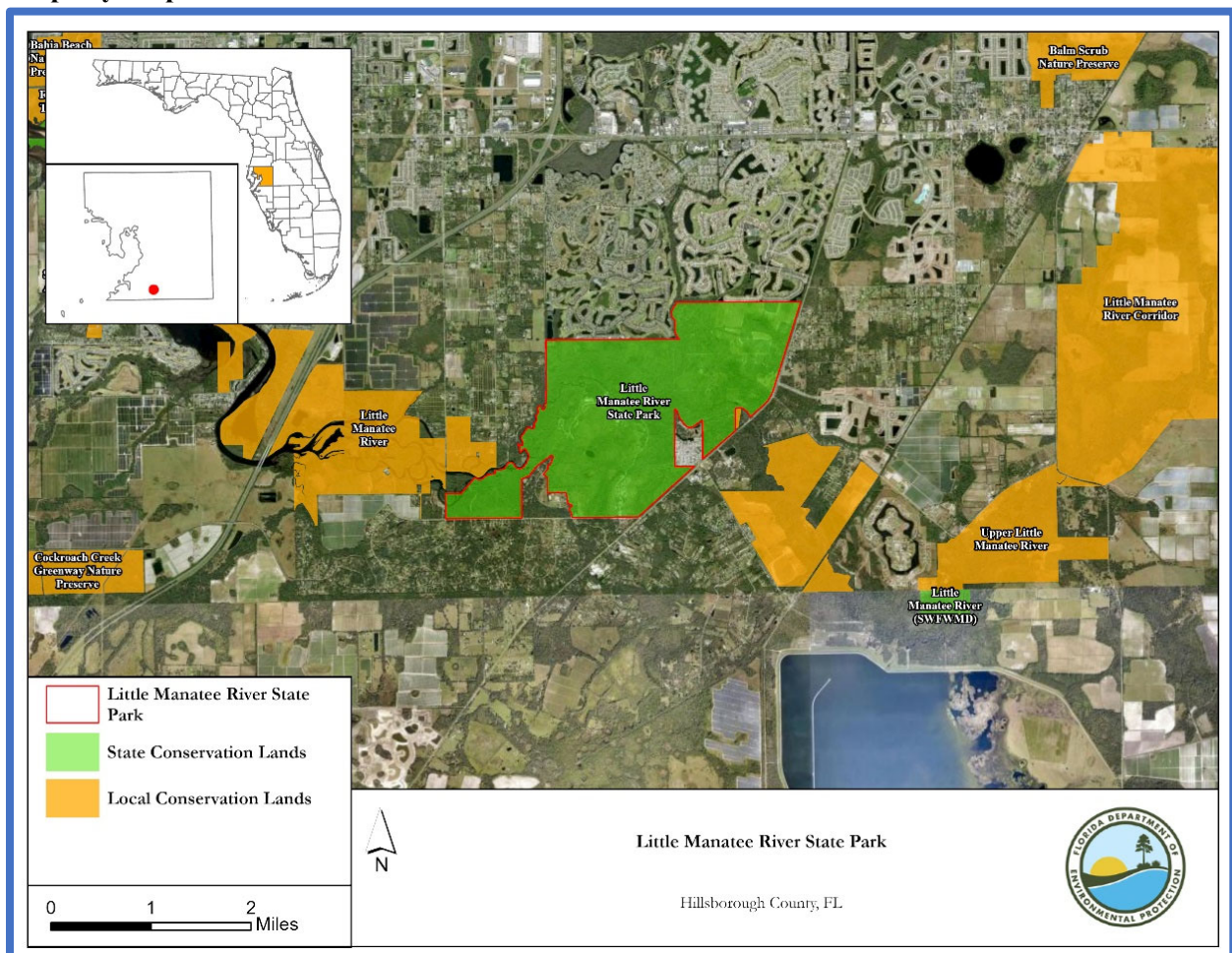
Review Team Members (voting)

- Jen Rudolph, DRP District
- Nathan Bartosek, FFS
- Ross Dickerson, Local Gov't.
- SWFWMD, None
- Matthew Koenig, FWC
- Neal Halstead, Conservation Org.
- Tanya Kelley, DEP District
- 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 Park Service (FPS) for providing diverse and high-quality recreational opportunities in southern Hillsborough County. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for working to restore the natural flow of water through the construction of culverts and low water crossings. (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 leverage relationships with neighboring agencies like FFS and Hillsborough County to burn the areas that they have already mechanically treated. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agreed. Leveraging existing partnerships with agencies like the Florida Forest Service and Hillsborough County help achieve our prescribed fire objectives in zones that have undergone mechanical treatment.

2. The team recommends evaluating the impact of the paddling vendor usage on the riverbank. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agreed. Conducting an evaluation of the canoe and kayak vendor's impact on the riverbank is essential to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the resource. A thorough assessment will help inform any necessary management actions to mitigate degradation and preserve shoreline integrity.

3. The team recommends the FPS continue to apply for FWC Invasive Plant Management Uplands Program funding for invasive species treatment. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agreed. Continued pursuit of funding through the FWC Invasive Plant Management Uplands Program is critical to supporting ongoing invasive species control efforts.

Table 161616161: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.57	4.18
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	2.79	4.28
Hydrology	3.83	4.47
Imperiled Species	4.04	4.63
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.90	4.53
Cultural Resources	3.25	4.83
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.10	3.88
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.67	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

4. The team recommends the FPS work with DHR to recover past cultural resource surveys at Little Manatee River State Park and that park staff conduct annual monitoring of known cultural sites at least once per year. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agreed. Continued collaboration with the Division of Historical Resources to recover previous cultural resource surveys at Little Manatee River State Park is essential for informed site management. Additionally, implementing annual monitoring of known cultural sites by park management and staff will help ensure their ongoing protection and facilitate timely identification of any emerging threats.

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, hydric hammock, blackwater stream, and mesic hammock.
2. Listed species, specifically gopher tortoise, plants in general, and specifically scrub suite.
3. Natural resources survey/monitoring resources, specifically invasive species survey/monitoring.
4. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention of plants, and prevention and control of animals.
5. Hydro-alteration, specifically roads/culverts.
6. Ground water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.
7. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, signage, and law enforcement presence.
8. Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.
9. Public access, specifically roads, and parking.
10. Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities.
11. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and sanitary facilities.
12. Short-term goals, specifically public access and recreational opportunities.

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 percentage 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 sandhill natural community at Little Manatee River State Park is currently in a late successional stage and will require significant restoration efforts and funding to reach a sustainable maintenance condition. Restoration plans have been outlined in the unit management plan and will be implemented as resources and staff expertise become available.

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: Cultural resource protection and preservation remain top priorities for the Florida Park Service. As an agency, we are committed to the responsible management of our cultural resources and will continue to uphold best practices to ensure their long-term stewardship.

3. ***Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality, received below average scores. 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: Agreed. While challenges such as staffing limitations, weather constraints, and interagency coordination have impacted implementation, we continue to prioritize fire as a critical ecological management tool.

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 Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.

5. ***Short-Term Goals, specifically cultural and historical resources, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether goals are sufficient.***

Managing Agency Response: Cultural resource protection and preservation remain top priorities for the Florida Park Service. As an agency, we are committed to the responsible management of our cultural resources and will continue to uphold best practices to ensure their long-term stewardship.

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. ***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 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: 12/8/23

Review Date: 1/10/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Ken Bradshaw, Manager
- Bernard Kaiser
- Janet Kirwan
- Charlie Thompson

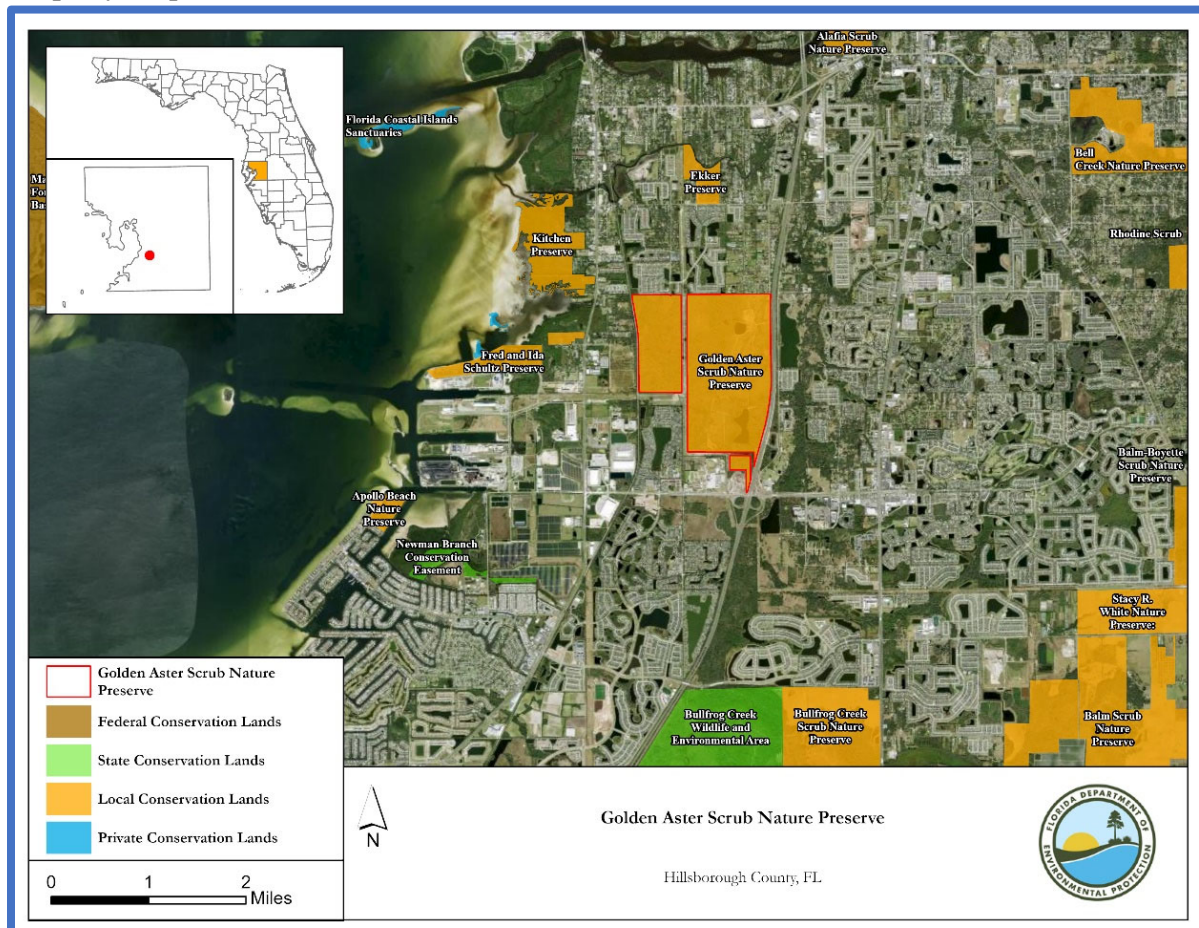
Review Team Members (voting)

- Natalie Bergeron, DRP District
- Shawn Campbell, Local Gov't.
- Shawn Kelly, FWC
- Heather McClurg, DEP District
- Mike Edwards, FFS
- WMD, None
- Tina Patterson, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

Property Map



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

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

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.

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

1. The team commends the outreach efforts to the local community through educational and recreational programs. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the staff on their approach to mechanical treatment in environmentally sensitive areas (scrub, wetlands) and their focus on low disturbance of those areas. (6+, 0-)

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 an aggressive treatment of Brazilian pepper, as they could be easily eliminated. (6+, 0-)

2. The team recommends that the County install a sign attached to the pavilion area that notes pack in/pack out and/or only leave footprints. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *This will be implemented in the current year.*

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, depression marsh, hydric hammock, mesic hammock, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and wet prairie.**
2. **Listed species, specifically gopher tortoise, plants in general, and specifically golden aster.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.53	4.52
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.22	4.22
Hydrology	N/A	N/A
Imperiled Species	3.89	4.25
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.03	3.81
Cultural Resources	4.30	4.30
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.10	3.95
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.46	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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3. Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.
4. Forest management, specifically timber inventory
5. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.
6. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and gates and fencing.
7. Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically utility corridors, and inholdings and additions.
8. Public access, specifically roads, and parking.
9. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, and recreational opportunities.
10. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and equipment.
11. Short-term goals, specifically public access and recreational opportunities, hydrological preservation and restoration, sustainable forest management, exotic and invasive species maintenance and control, capital facilities and infrastructure, cultural and historical resources, and imperiled species habitat maintenance.

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: Burning this site is challenging with very narrow burn windows due to two nearby Federal highways (east and west of the preserve), two schools south of the preserve, and housing developments on the north and south. We continue to prioritize this preserve for burning, including ensuring units are prepped in advance so we are ready when burn windows open.

We have previously used fire surrogates (mechanical treatments) on this site and will continue to explore this option for select areas to meet specific management goals.

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 Department requested additional staffing for next fiscal year in the most recent budget request. This request is currently under review.

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 nature center, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address managed area uses.*

Managing Agency Response: The idea of a nature center at this location is an old one. The feasibility of this will be re-examined. If deemed to be not feasible, mention of the nature center will be removed from future management plan updates. If feasible, greater detail will be included in the next update.

Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 28,929

County: 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: 1/29/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Eric Heribacka, Area Biologist
- Melanie Mancuso, District Biologist
- Matthew Hortman, Regional Biologist

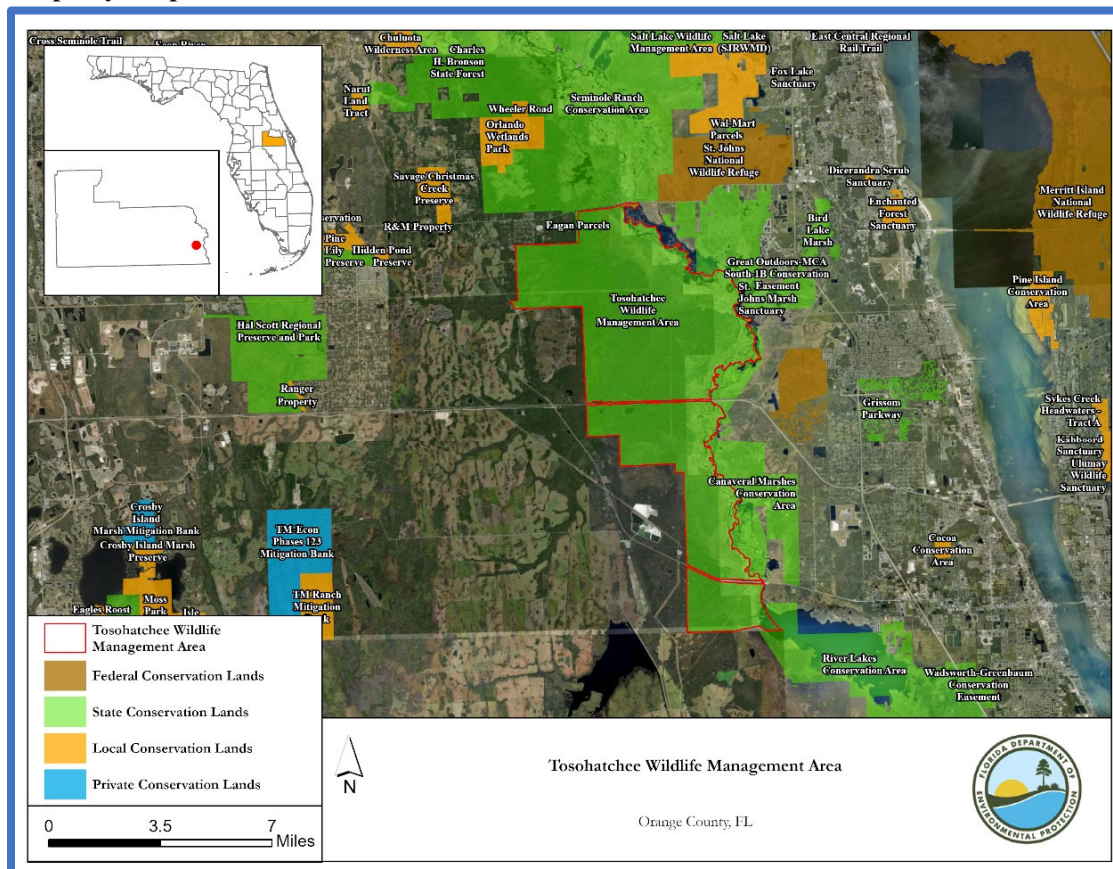
Review Team Members (voting)

- Alice Bard, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Adam Mirajkar, DEP District
- Wil Kitchings, FFS
- Graham Williams, SWFWMD
- Ron Blair, Conservation Org.
- Rick Baird, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Jason O'Donoghue, DOS/DHR
- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPM
- Bilal Ansari, 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 manager and staff for adapting their management and preparing management units to facilitate the safe and effective use of prescribed fire to manage natural communities on a desired fire rotation. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC for their efforts to incorporate creative solutions to accomplish burning of the challenging fuels on this property such as treating fuels along the unit perimeter, mowing interior ignition access paths, and procuring a drone equipped with an ignition device. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FWC for their extensive efforts to prevent, control, and maintain invasive exotic plant infestations on the property. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FWC for their efforts to embrace and encourage a wide variety of recreational user groups with the recreational infrastructure and opportunities that are offered on the property. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FWC for their efforts to go above and beyond standards and requirements to conserve and preserve historical sites and archaeological findings. (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 staff investigate opportunities for more regular monitoring of hand fern populations. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: FWC conducts hand fern surveys in conjunction with rare and nonnative plant surveys on the WMA and records opportunistic observations of hand ferns during routine land management activities. During survey planning, specific survey enhancements will be considered and incorporated as appropriate to aid in detection of hand fern populations. Additional monitoring will be initiated where appropriate.

Table 181818181: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.59	4.57	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.29	4.81	
Hydrology	4.52	4.59	
Imperiled Species	4.55	4.45	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.50	4.49	
Cultural Resources	5.00	5.00	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.56	4.57	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.65	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

2. The team recommends the FWC recognize the regionally significant FNAI-described Cabbage Palm Flatwoods variant and incorporate into the plan update. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: FWC contracts with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory for natural community mapping, descriptions, and assessments. Natural community updates and summaries will be included and further outlined in the upcoming 10-year 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 scrubby flatwoods, shell mound, baygall, depression marsh, dome swamp, floodplain marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, wet flatwoods, 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 cultural resource survey, and 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, 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, and 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, 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: 6,971

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: 1/31/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Steve McGuffey
- Brad Manley
- Nick Eder
- Damien Keene
- David DeMeyer
- Evan Hall

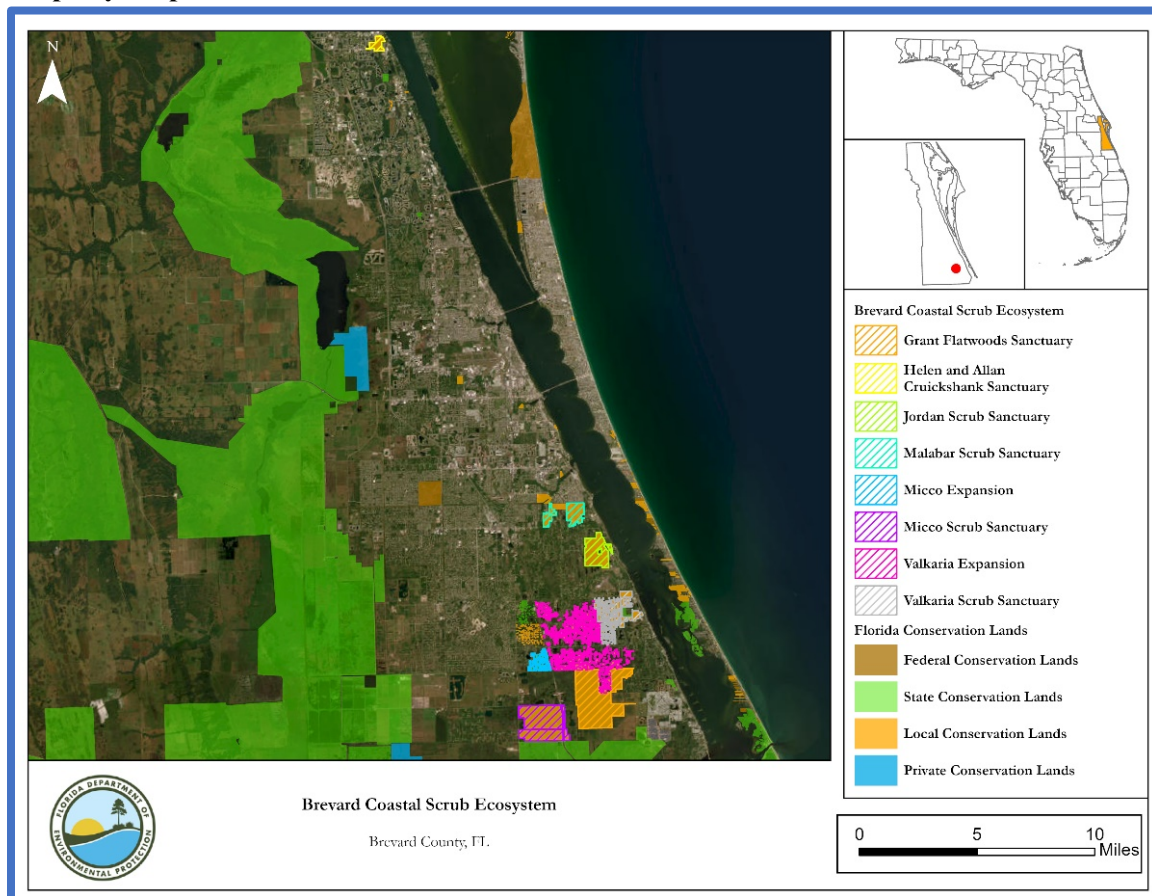
Review Team Members (voting)

- Samantha McGee, DRP District
- Michael Knight, Local Gov't.
- Scout Hogan, FWC
- DEP District, None
- Stephen Stipkovits, FFS
- Pete Henn, SJRWMD
- Conservation Org., None
- Rick Baird, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

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

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 staff for their excellent management and restoration of the mesic and scrubby flatwoods, scrub and sandhill ecosystems. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the staff for doing an excellent job managing the scrub jay populations. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the staff for the well-managed invasive plant removal program on the property. (6+, 0-)
4. The team commends the staff for acquiring equipment and employees with equipment knowledge to continue great restoration work that requires in depth site knowledge. (6+, 0-)
5. The team commends the staff for excellent resource management while allowing passive public recreation. (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 continue to coordinate with the Town of Malabar and FCT to encourage the restoration and management of the scrub habitat at the Cameron Preserve. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The County will do what it can to continue to encourage the restoration and maintenance of the scrub habitat at the Cameron Preserve. This scrub habitat is very important to the future health of the Florida Scrub Jay population in southern Brevard County.

2. The team recommends the development of south mainland field facility. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Some funding is specifically budgeted for this facility. Staff will continue to recommend the development of the facility since it would be very beneficial to the overall management of the EEL South Region conservation lands.

Table 191919191: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.36	4.57
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.47	4.53
Hydrology	4.20	4.27
Imperiled Species	4.33	4.27
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.47	4.63
Cultural Resources	3.50	4.00
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.21	4.50
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.77	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

3. The team recommends the use of QR codes at trail heads to explain in detail restoration methodology. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: We agree and will explore this option further.

4. The team recommends georeferenced trail maps for the property for public use. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: We agree this is a good idea and will explore it further.

5. The team recommends further investigation of cultural/historic sites, particularly protection of the known missile tracking site. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: We will evaluate this further and develop a plan.

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, scrubby flatwoods, scrub, sandhill, 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 jay and *dicerandra thincicola*.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
5. **Restoration, specifically scrubby systems, flatwoods systems, and hydrology.**
6. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting.**
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, and hydro-period alteration.**
9. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and signage.**
10. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development.**
11. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**
12. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
13. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and equipment.**
14. **Short-term goals, specifically habitat restoration and improvement, public access and recreational opportunities, hydrological preservation and restoration, sustainable forest management, exotic and invasive species maintenance and control, capital facilities and infrastructure, and imperiled species habitat maintenance.**

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.

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: 2/11/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Rebecca Thornhill, ES I

Review Team Members (voting)

- Karen Rogers, DRP District
- Greg Kosik, Local Gov't.
- Brianna White, FWC
- Jacob Poirier, DEP District

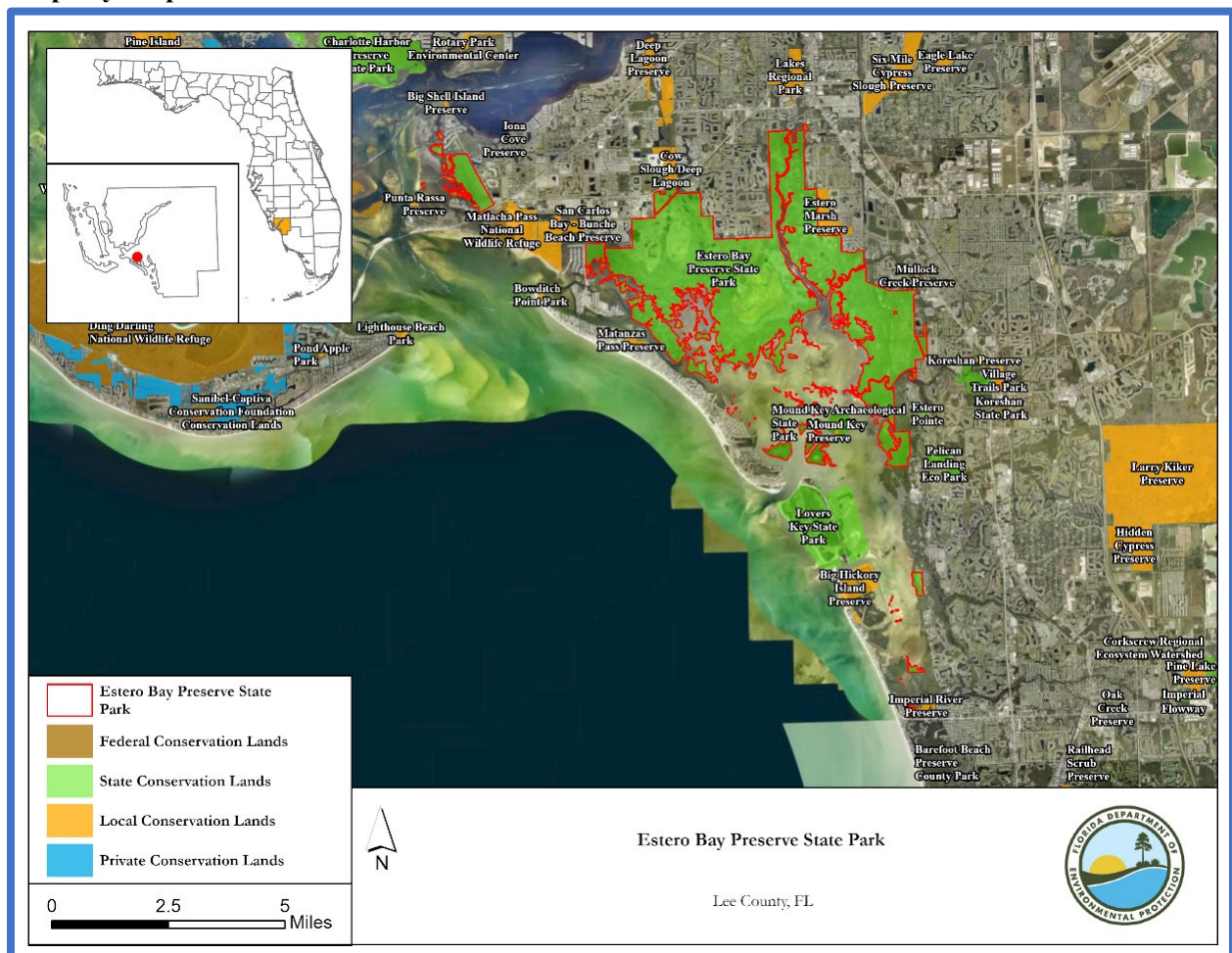
- Clark Ryals, FFS
- Marie Dessources, SFWMD
- Krister Martinez, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

- Merelee Atkinson, 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 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. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the staff for introducing fire to areas that have not had a fire rotation. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for the work they are doing with the Prescribed Fire program at the preserve with limited number of staff and resources. (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 deter bicycle traffic around the salt flats by removing the yellow trail from the plan and erect signage to manage access. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Park staff has installed "No Bicycle" signage at the Winkler parcel and is reviewing additional solutions to manage visitor access. Park staff are actively working with the Office of Park Planning to remove the Yellow trail at Estero River Scrub parcel.

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 wet flatwoods, salt marsh, mangrove swamp, coastal rock barren, coastal berm, mesic flatwoods, prairie hammock, depression marsh, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and strand swamp.**

Table 202020201: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.43	4.05
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.22	3.86
Hydrology	4.00	3.92
Imperiled Species	4.50	4.20
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.03	3.94
Cultural Resources	4.00	4.25
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.13	4.03
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.74	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general.**
3. **Natural resources 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.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically salt marsh at Lexington.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, and pest/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads/culverts, and ditches.**
10. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, 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, invasive species, habitat management activities, 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. ***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.

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:

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

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: 9/7/76

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 12/9/05

Review Date: 2/13/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Byron Maxwell, Park Manager

- Jacob Wozny, ES I

Review Team Members (voting)

- Natalie Bergeron, DRP District
- Tyler Marzella, Local Gov't.
- Kylie Wilson, FWC
- Olivia Yagy, DEP District

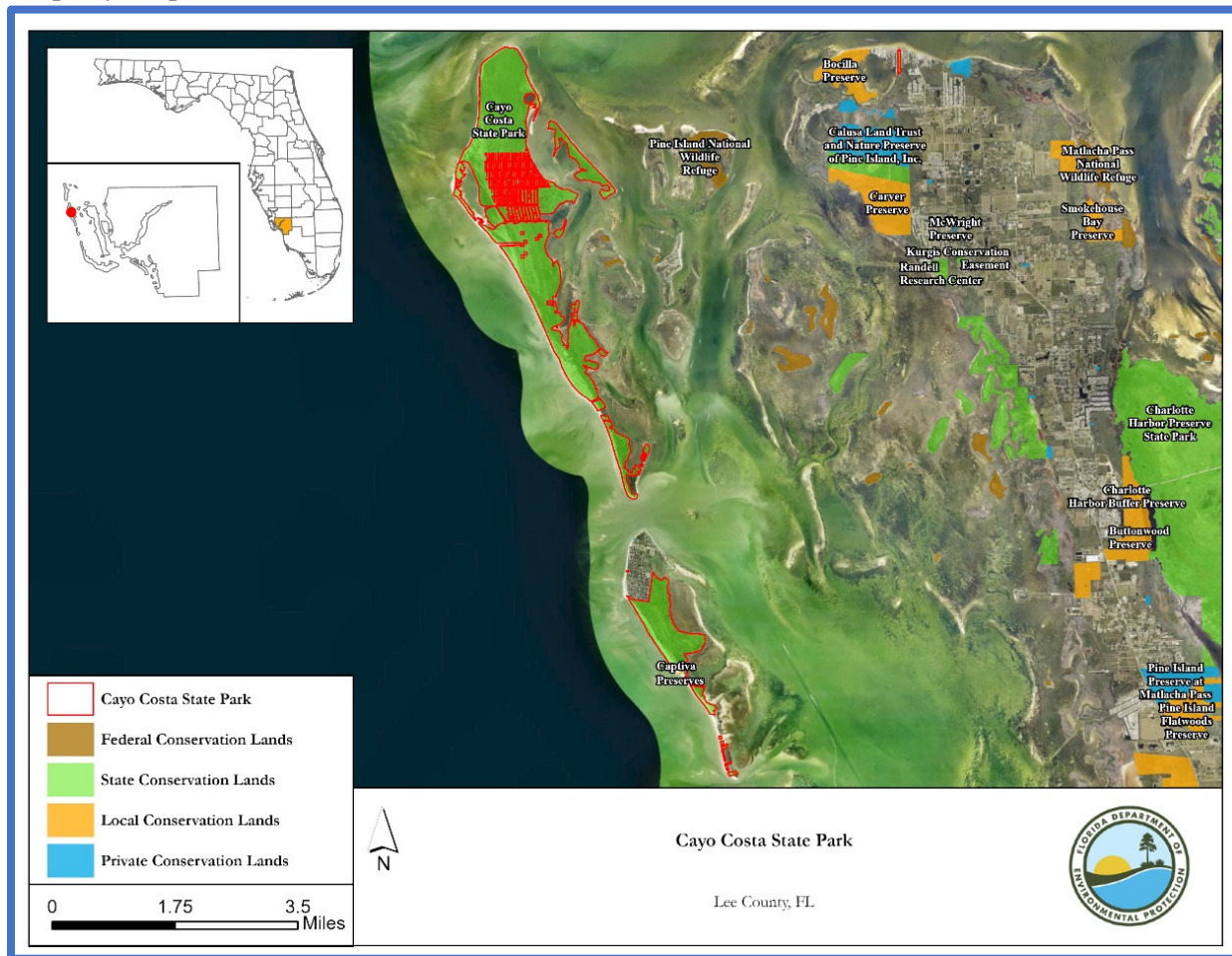
- Clark Ryals, FFS
- Marie Dessources, SFWMD
- Emily Harrington, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Jason O'Donoghue, DOS/DHR

- Arielle Taylor-Manges, 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 = 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 Park Service (FPS) on their invasive plant control program on Cayo Costa with the limited amount of personnel and funding they receive. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the staff for their ability to effectively manage the park given the obvious logistical and transportation difficulties involved. (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 supplement with mechanical treatment to maintain the native understory when and where fire is not feasible. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *Park management will consider mechanical treatment where fire is not feasible to reduce fuel loads and maintain the natural community biodiversity. Park management will assess additional areas of the park impacted by recent storms that may benefit from prescribed fire.*

2. The team recommends the FPS coordinate with Lee County to stay informed on new development/construction permits and proactively follow up with a plan to survey and fence the park boundary prior to or after private land construction. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *The Division will coordinate with Lee County to identify new development/permits and with DSL to identify survey needs of state park boundaries. The park has recently coordinated with DSL to conduct property boundary surveys in vicinity of Faulkner Mound and other private inholdings where encroachments have occurred. The Division will install fences as needed on park property to address park operational and maintenance needs.*

Table 212121214: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.27	3.92
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	2.61	2.89
Hydrology	3.38	2.70
Imperiled Species	4.19	3.03
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.55	3.28
Cultural Resources	4.92	4.67
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.76	3.49
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.67	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

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 strand, maritime hammock, coastal grasslands, shell mound, 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 resources 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. Forest management, specifically timber inventory.
6. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.
7. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey.
8. Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development.
9. Public access, specifically boat access.
10. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
11. 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. *Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality, received below average scores. 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: Prescribed fires have not occurred at Cayo Costa State Park within the optimum fire return interval due to difficulty of access to the site. The large number of private in-holdings is also a complicating factor that limits fire management options/strategies in the event of naturally occurring fires. Park staff have been preparing the site for a prescribed fire to reduce fuel loads and maintain fire dependent communities. In addition, park management is assessing other areas that may benefit from prescribed fire, ensuring staff are receiving fire trainings and certifications, and working with private landowners to educate them about the importance of prescribed burning in reducing fuel loads. Park management has also provided them with information about wildfire prevention measures that the homeowners can implement around their properties to assist with protection of their home in case of a wildfire.

2. *Resource 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: Law enforcement assistance must be obtained through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Division of Law Enforcement or from a local law enforcement

agency. Park staff have been requesting assistance and will continue to request additional presence to protect resources as necessary.

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 listed species, particularly animals, gopher tortoise and plants, 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. *Resource Management prescribed fire, specifically area being burned, 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 quality 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.

3. *Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically 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 prevention of pests/pathogens and control of plants and pests/pathogens will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. Surveys and control efforts are routinely updated in the DRP's Natural Resources Tracking System (NRTS). 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. *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, including identification of monitoring wells in vicinity of the park maintained by the SFWMD. 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. *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, including identification of SFWMD water quality stations in vicinity of the

park. 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. *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.

7. *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: 3/10/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Zachary Knerr, Park Manager

- Tiffany Vickery, Park Biologist

Review Team Members (voting)

- Daryl Hatfield, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Thomas Kuhn, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District

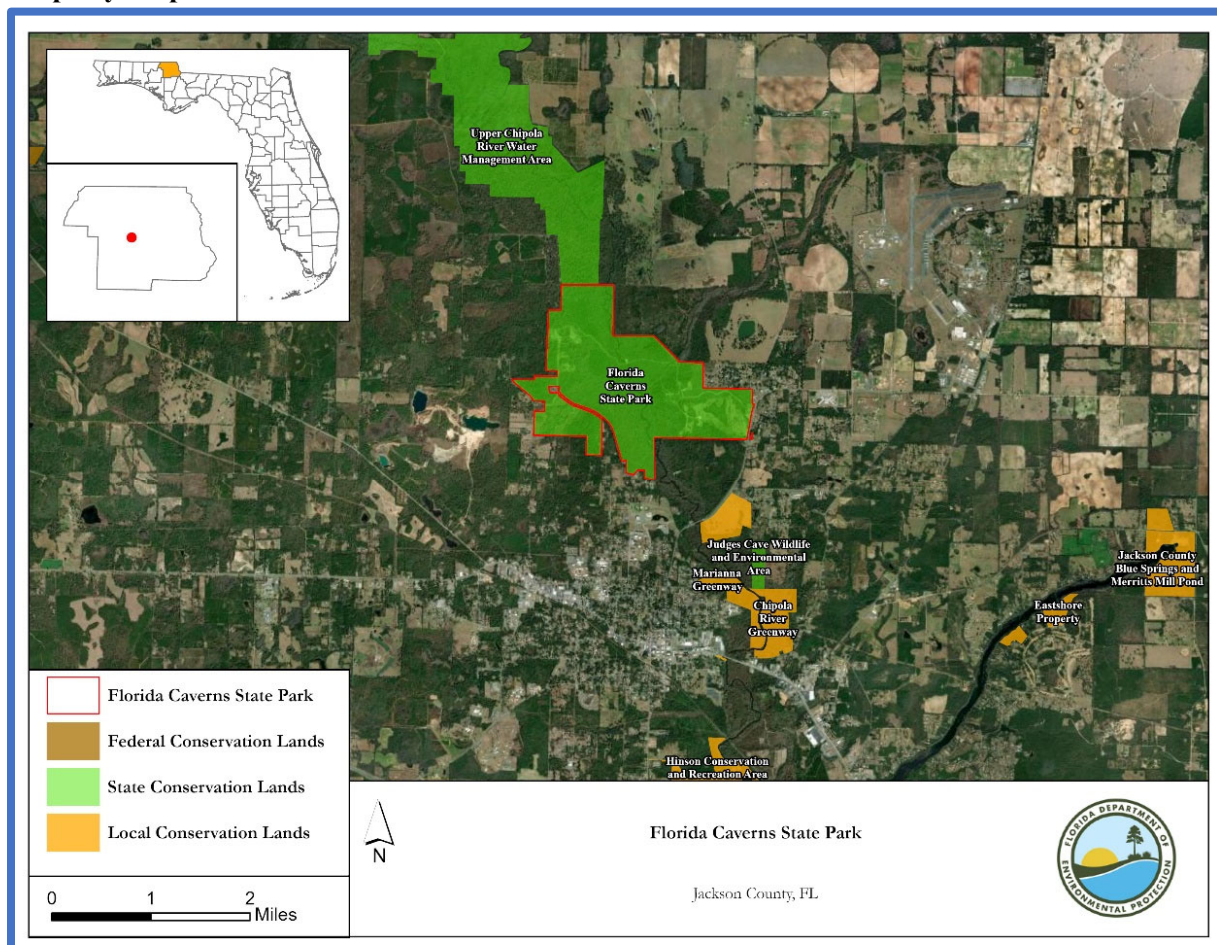
- Barry Stafford, FFS
- Ben Faure, NFWFMD
- Lilly Anderson-Messec, Conservation Org.
- Larry Perrin, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

- Jason O'Donoghue, 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 = 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 Park Service (FPS) staff on the cleanup efforts following the extensive damage and destruction from 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:

1. The team recommends the FPS supplement funding for updates and repairs to buildings, service roads, and some equipment as needed. (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. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.

2. The team recommends additional full-time staff to manage increases in camping and recreation. (7+, 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 limestone outcrop, upland hardwood forest, upland mixed forest, alluvial forest, alluvial stream, spring-run stream, and aquatic and terrestrial caves.

Table 222222221: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.66	4.72
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.07	4.53
Hydrology	4.51	4.39
Imperiled Species	4.67	4.63
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.44	4.39
Cultural Resources	4.25	4.58
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.68	4.44
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.11	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

2. Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically bats, and Georgia blind cave salamander.
3. Natural resources 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 mixed woodland, golf course restoration.
7. Forest management, specifically timber inventory.
8. Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/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 invasives, 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, and sanitary facilities.
17. Short-term goals, specifically cultural and historical resources, and imperiled species habitat maintenance.

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.

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: 3/12/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Jason Vickery, Park Manager

- Beth Rankin, District Biologist

Review Team Members (voting)

- Daryl Hatfield, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Thomas Kuhn, FWC
- Mark Gillman, DEP District

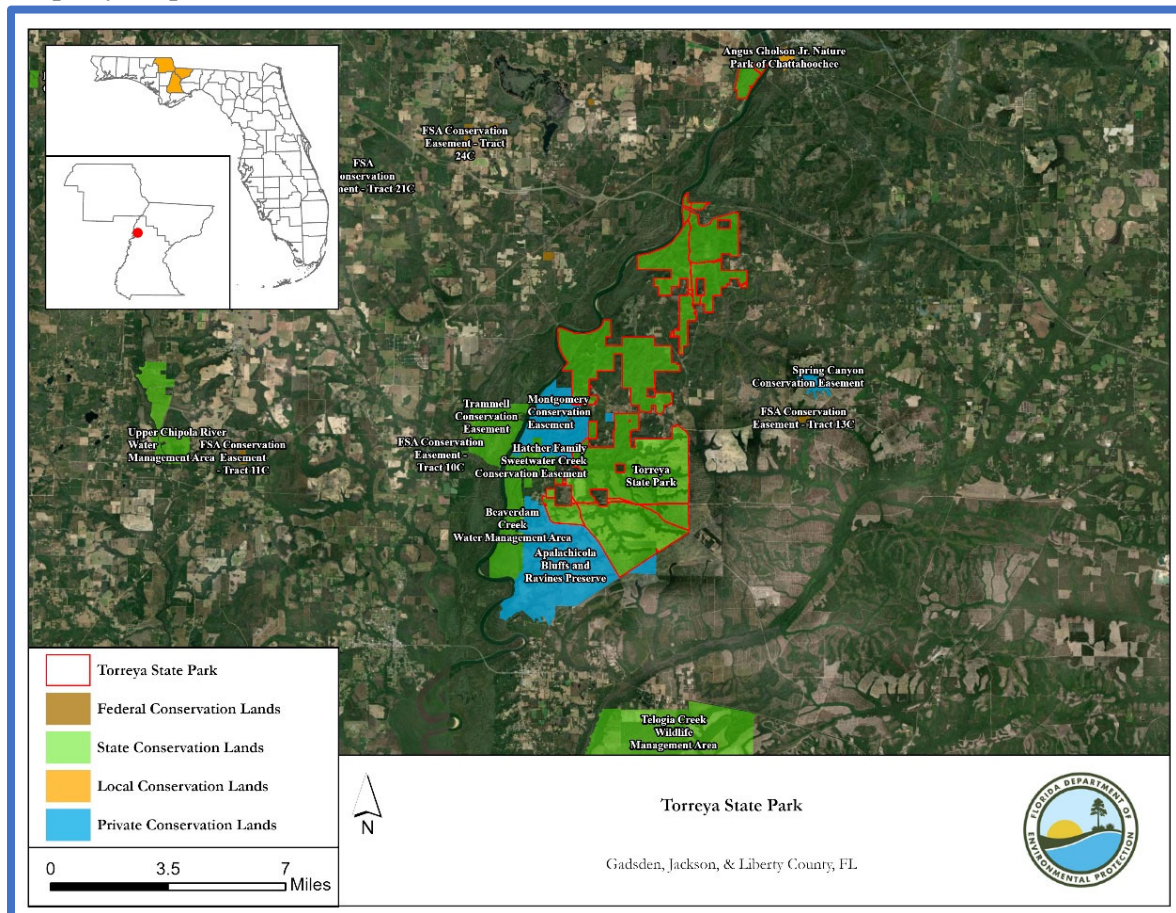
- Daniel Young, FFS
- Eric Toole, NFWFMD
- Lilly Anderson-Messec, Conservation Org.
- Larry Perrin, Private Land Manager

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- George Frisby, DEP/DSL

- Brandon Ackermann, 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 = 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 Torreya State Park staff for their accomplishments with prescribed fire. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the park staff on management of their listed plant and animal species, including collaboration with conservation organizations working with these species. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the park staff for the restoration work that has been done on the sandhill and upland pine, and what is continuing. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the park staff for restricting or balancing user groups on the trail systems at the park. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the park staff for their restoration efforts on the CCC barracks and the Native American canoe studies and displays. (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, floodplain forest, floodplain swamp, alluvial stream, seepage stream, and terrestrial cave.**

Table 232323234: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.44	4.68
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.62	4.79
Hydrology	4.29	4.64
Imperiled Species	4.85	4.83
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.14	4.52
Cultural Resources	4.64	4.86
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.26	4.65
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.81	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

2. Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically gopher tortoise, torreya, conradina, and Florida yew.
3. Natural resources 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, and 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. Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and ditches
10. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, signage, and law enforcement presence.
11. Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.
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, 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.

Everglades Complex of Wildlife Management Areas

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 736,881

Counties: Broward, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach

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

Acquisition Program(s): Save Our Everglades, Everglades Forever

Original Acquisition Date: 11/13/79

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 8/11/23

Review Date: 4/10/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Julian Von Kanel, Manager
- Domenick Altieri, Manager
- Jacob Larsson, District Manager
- Daniel Mitchell, Asst. Reg. Biologist
- Marsha Ward, Regional Biologist

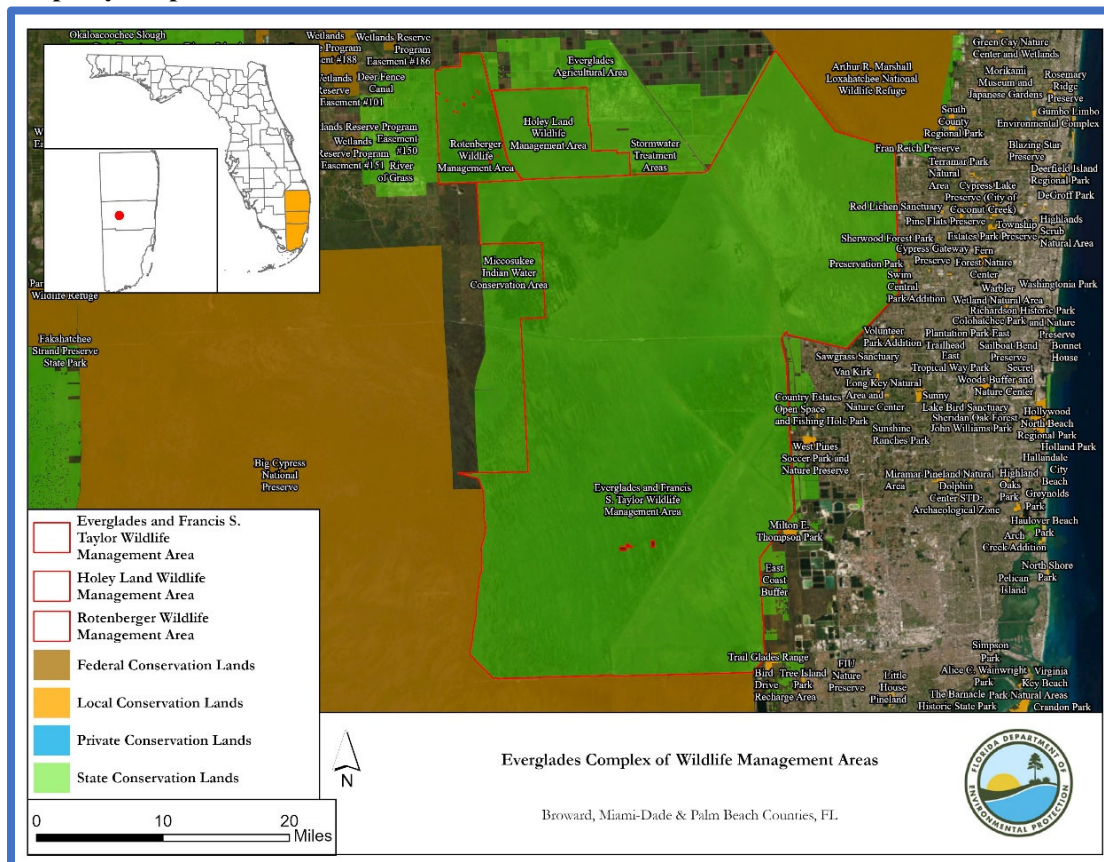
Review Team Members (voting)

- DRP District, None
- Linda Briggs Thompson, Local Gov't.
- Josiah Freese, FWC
- Patricia Andrade, DEP District
- Mike Edwards, FFS
- Marie Dessources, SFWMD
- Jackie Bucheck, 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 = 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 staff for the tree island restoration and drill pad road removal. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC staff on the scale and quality of prescribed burns on the areas. Great to see that FWC has made such rapid progress with training staff to use drones for fires resulting in more efficient and safe burns. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the staff on the excellent monitoring of the management activities throughout the site. (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 hydric hammock/prairie hammock, slough, strand swamp, and swale.
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 frequency, and quality.

Table 242424241: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.86	4.06
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.14	4.26
Hydrology	4.14	3.99
Imperiled Species	4.58	4.58
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.48	4.44
Cultural Resources	4.50	4.58
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.56	4.14
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.50	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

6. Restoration, specifically tree island, hydrology, drill pad road removal, and old farm restoration.
7. Forest Management, specifically timber inventory.
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, hydro-period alteration, water level alteration, 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. Adjacent property concerns, specifically agriculture, tribal/federal land exotics, and 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.
16. Short-term goals, specifically habitat restoration and improvement, public access and recreational opportunities, exotic and invasive species maintenance and control, and imperiled species habitat maintenance.

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: The FWC estimates that approximately 21-40% of fire-maintained communities are currently within desired fire return intervals. The FWC will continue to evaluate prescribed fire management strategies on the area and prioritize prescribed burning in fire-maintained communities. The FWC will continue to utilize available resources and technologies to facilitate prescribed burning and seek additional resources, where appropriate.

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.

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:

There were no consensus commendations.

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 continue working to follow the suggestions of the hydrologic study to address hydrology on natural ecosystems and habitats. (7+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The FWC will continue to evaluate and implement the J.W. Corbett WMA hydrological restoration plan to restore the natural hydrology on the area, as appropriate and feasible.

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, strand/dome swamp, and mesic hammock.
2. Listed species, animals and plants in general.
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 cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.
5. Non-native, invasive and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pest/pathogens.
6. Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts.
7. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.

Table 252525254: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.68	3.62
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.24	4.52
Hydrology	3.74	3.89
Imperiled Species	4.29	4.07
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.19	4.38
Cultural Resources	4.71	4.71
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.08	4.25
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.03	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

- 8. Adjacent property concerns, specifically inholdings and additions.**
- 9. Public access, specifically roads.**
- 10. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, and recreational opportunities.**
- 11. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, 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. 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: The FWC estimates that approximately 41-60% of fire-maintained communities are currently within desired fire-return intervals. The FWC will continue to evaluate prescribed fire management strategies on the area and prioritize burning in fire-maintained communities, utilizing available resources and technologies to facilitate prescribed burning and seeking additional resources, where appropriate.

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. Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically GL Homes Development, and Mecca Farms Reservoir, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.**

Managing Agency Response: FWC notes that adjacent land uses, goals, and challenges are addressed in the current Management Plan in multiple sections including Section 4.11 Land Conservation and Stewardship Partnerships detailing landscape conservation partnerships for surrounding areas (page 53, 63), guidance and assistance offered through the Landowner Assistance Program (page 53, 64), and the FWC Additions and Inholdings acquisition program (page 54, 64). FWC will continue to address and expand upon adjacent land uses and concerns in future 10-year plan updates.

John C. and Mariana Jones Hungryland Wildlife and Environmental Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 12,679

Counties: Palm Beach, Martin

Purpose(s) for Acquisition: Conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna; conserve and protect significant habitat for native, endangered and threatened species; conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes and forests; and provide areas for natural resource-based public outdoor recreation.

Acquisition Program(s): SOR, CARL, P2000

Original Acquisition Date: 3/26/99

Area Reviewed: TIITF lands

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 6/13/25

Review Date: 5/14/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Makenzie Langley, Area Manager
- Danielle Devine, District Biologist
- Marsha Ward, Regional Biologist

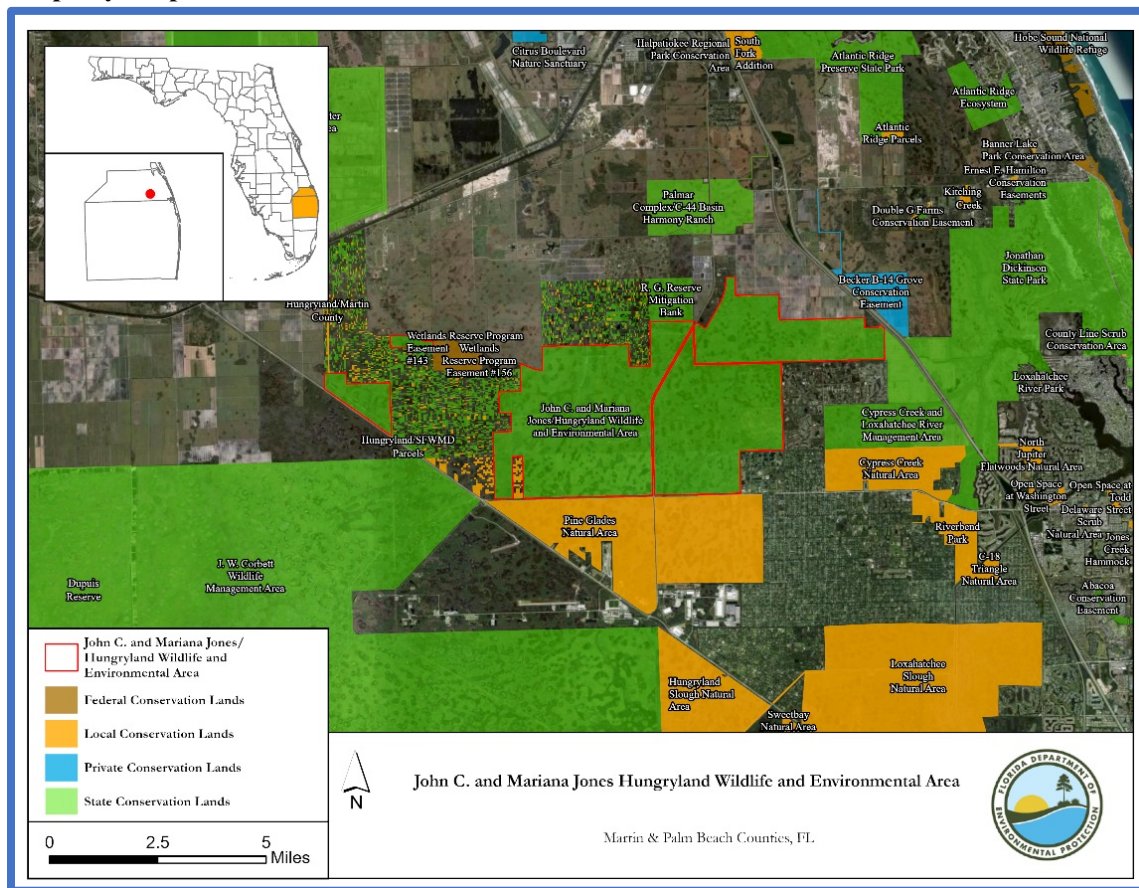
Review Team Members (voting)

- Emily Harrington, DRP District
- Kraig Krum, Local Gov't.
- Josiah Freese, FWC
- DEP District, None
- Michelle Danielson, FFS
- Doug Rogers, SFWMD
- Jackie Bucheck, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Brandon Ackermann, DOS/DHR
- Jackie Smith, FWC/IPM

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 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for introducing red cockaded woodpeckers through habitat management activities. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC staff for the invasive plant management efforts taking place on the property. (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 reevaluate additions and inholdings list considering parcels included in newly approved Martin County Forever adjacent parcels and other privately owned properties that have recently been listed for sale. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The FWC Additions and Inholdings Acquisition list captures lands within and adjacent to the JCMJHWEA, including Martin County Forever lands and others that are captured in the State's Florida Forever program and totaling nearly 34,000 acres. The acquisition list is updated through time, thus staying up to date for land ownerships, county parcel records, land conservation opportunities, and evolving management challenges. The FWC frequently analyzes, evaluates, and prioritizes its recommended conservation actions in a systematic, comprehensive, and consistent manner over time and will continue to do so to capture these acquisition priorities and potential acquisition partnerships.

2. The team recommends that the FWC consider burning smaller units to chip away at the backlog where smoke management concerns are delaying prescribed fire opportunities. (6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The FWC will continue to evaluate prescribed fire management strategies on the area, including burning smaller units, utilizing available technologies, and seeking additional resources, where appropriate, and prioritize burning in fire-maintained communities.

Table 262626264: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.15	4.24
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	2.22	3.94
Hydrology	4.21	3.92
Imperiled Species	4.22	3.83
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.97	3.72
Cultural Resources	4.33	4.33
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.24	4.11
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.14	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

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, depression marsh/basin marsh, wet prairie, dome swamp, and baygall.
2. Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically RCW.
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 quality.
6. Forest management, specifically timber inventory.
7. Non-native, invasive and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, and prevention of animals.
8. Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads/culverts.
9. Surface water monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.
10. Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.
11. Adjacent property concerns, specifically adjacent property invasive exotics, and inholdings and additions.
12. Public access, specifically roads, and parking.
13. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.
14. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, 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 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: The FWC estimates that approximately 41-60% of the mesic and wet flatwoods communities are within maintenance condition. The FWC will continue to evaluate resource management strategies (e.g., prescribed fire, invasive vegetation treatment, mechanical treatment) and implement those strategies as appropriate and feasible, for management of all natural communities on the area.

2. *Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, and frequency, received below average scores. 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 FWC estimates that 0-20% of fire-maintained communities are currently within desired fire-return intervals. The FWC will continue to prioritize prescribed burning in fire-maintained communities and evaluate and implement prescribed fire management strategies on the area.*

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.

Kissimmee Bend State Forest

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

Acres: 1,992

County: Okeechobee

Purpose(s) for Acquisition: to preserve significant dry prairie, important in the long-term protection of this native natural community and the rare species that it supports, as well as provide recreation and research opportunities.

Acquisition Program(s): Florida Forever

Original Acquisition Date:

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 6/13/25

Review Date: 6/9/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- Joe deBree, Manager
- Michael Weston
- David Grubich

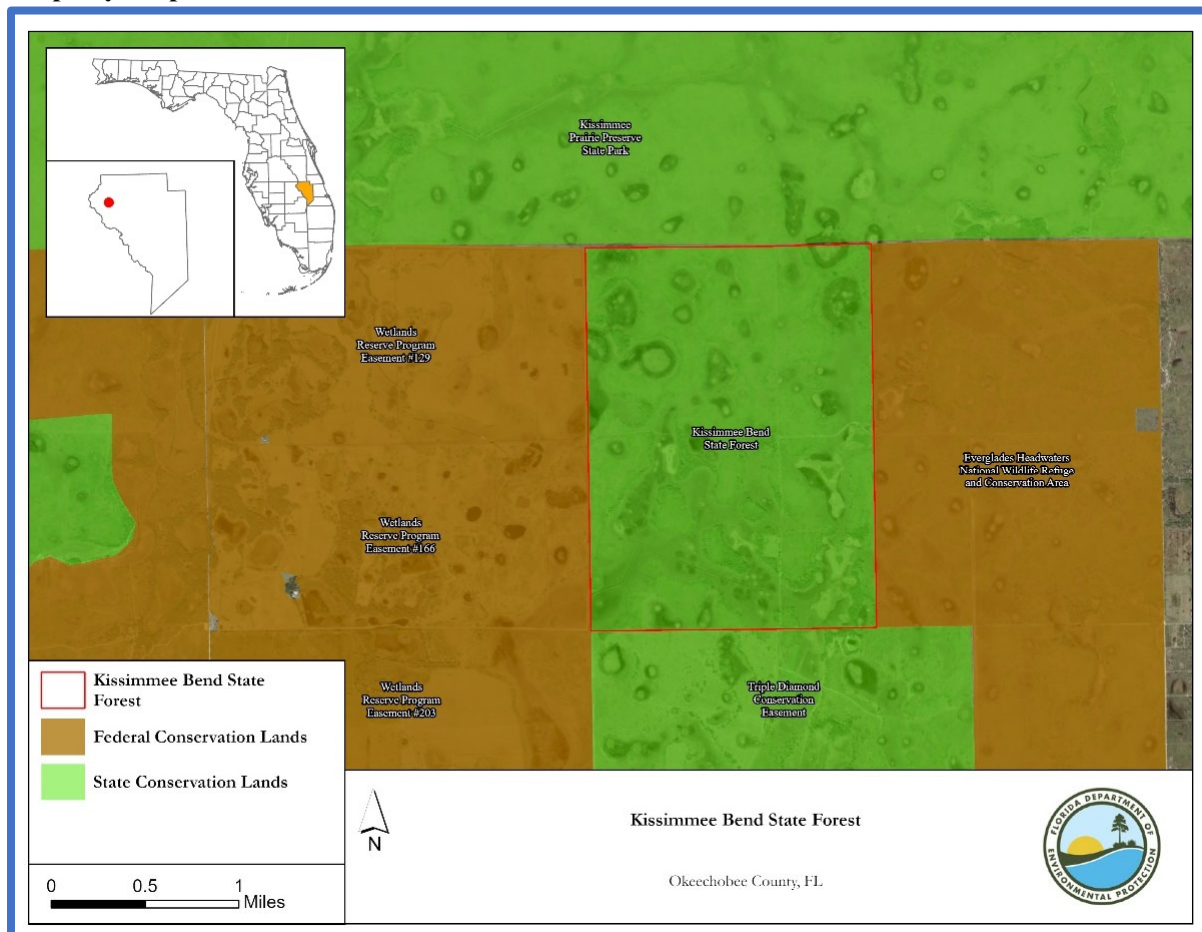
Review Team Members (voting)

- Miranda Cunningham, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Ricardo Zambrano, FWC
- DEP District, None
- Clark Ryals, FFS
- Doug Rogers, SFWMD
- Valerie Anderson, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

Non-Team Members (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Brianna White, FWC
- Michael Sowinski, FWC/IPM

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 Forest Service (FFS) staff for managing Kissimmee Bend State Forest with little or no funding or staff support. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS staff of KBSF for their work with prescribed fire. (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 FFS allocate at least one dedicated position to biological staff on the forest to support management and monitoring. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *The FFS will evaluate the feasibility of adding a dedicated forester or biologist on the property. The Florida Forest Service's Forest Ecologist and Plant Conservation Program Biologist will continue to support KBSF's biological needs.*

2. The team recommends a thorough plant inventory over a variety of seasons to capture all present plant species. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *The FFS will explore options to fund a multi-season plant inventory on KBSF. The FFS Plant Conservation Program Biologist will also conduct relevant surveys in future years.*

3. The team recommends that a hydrologic study take place on the forest to identify potential improvements. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: *The FFS will evaluate the need and feasibility of establishing a hydrologic study on KBSF. However, considering the property is entirely bounded by conservation*

Table 272727274: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.27	3.46
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.80	4.13
Hydrology	3.20	3.80
Imperiled Species	4.00	3.20
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.12	3.17
Cultural Resources	4.00	4.10
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.48	3.37
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.13	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

lands, any such survey would need to examine the broader set of conservation lands with financial contributions by each partner.

4. The team recommends that the FFS partner with non-governmental organizations (e.g. Audubon, Native Plant Society), universities, and government agencies for wildlife and plant monitoring and research. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Partnerships are an important component of the FFS land management program. The FFS will engage local NGOs to determine potential interest in partnering to monitor wildlife and plant species.

5. The team recommends that the future management plans address specific management needs for imperiled species identified on the forest. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: The FFS routinely works with FWC, the USFWS, and other groups to determine how to best manage imperiled species. Future versions of the management plan will better address specific management needs as determined during this ten-year period.

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 depression marsh, dry prairie, mesic hammock, and wet prairie.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically fire effects monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, and law enforcement presence.**
7. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically inholdings and additions.**
8. **Public access, specifically parking.**

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, 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's management of KBSF will continue to improve with the adoption of the first 10-year Land Management Plan on June 13, 2025. When needed, assistance from surrounding state forests, as well as from other conservation agencies, will be requested to assist in natural resource survey and monitoring activities. In the 2025-26 fiscal year, the FFS intends to fund an invasive plant mapping project, conduct a rare plant survey, and fund a cabbage palm and hardwood reduction project, which will benefit the grasshopper sparrow.

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: *The FFS will conduct timber inventories on KBSF, as appropriate, during this ten-year period. All timber inventories will be conducted in accordance with the State Forest Handbook, which in this case require that hardwood stands are inventoried every 20 years. There is no pine component on this forest, which would require a more frequent inventory.*

3. **Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically control of pest/pathogens, received a below average score. 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 FFS will work with the Forest Health Section to identify and control forest pests/pathogens if/when they are found on KBSF.*

4. **Public Access & Education, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, and management of visitor impacts 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 FFS will work to improve public access and education over this ten-year planning period. Access to KBSF is quite limited since we share a gate with the USFWS that must remain locked and is the only possible ingress/egress to and from the property since KBSF is surrounded by other conservation lands. This has limited visitation and the perceived need for additional interpretive signage and more posted information on management activities.*

5. **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 FFS will evaluate the feasibility of adding a dedicated forester or biologist on KBSF, as well as other support positions. The Okeechobee District is otherwise appropriately staffed to manage prescribed burns and other operational needs on KBSF. More funding has been allocated for KBSF during the 2025-26 fiscal year and will be revisited annually based on need.*

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 Resource 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 FFS will include a more robust natural resource survey and monitoring section for the next iteration of the KBSF plan. The Florida Natural Areas Inventory has completed a natural community survey and mapping project on KBSF prior to drafting the initial plan. The FFS will use that survey as a baseline for survey and monitoring into the future.*

2. **Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically control 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: *The FFS will work with the Forest Health Section to identify and control forest pests/pathogens if/when they are found on KBSF. The plan indicates there are no known pest/pathogen issues on KBSF requiring attention.*

3. ***Public Access, Environmental Education & Outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, and habitat management activities, 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 will work to improve public access and education section of the plan for the next ten-year planning period. Access to KBSF is quite limited since we share a gate with the USFWS that must remain locked and is the only possible ingress/egress to and from the property since KBSF is surrounded by other conservation lands. This has limited visitation and the perceived need for additional interpretive signage and more posted information on management activities..

Lake Wales Ridge Wildlife and Environmental Area

Managed by: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Acres: 17,715

Counties: Polk, Highlands

Purpose(s) for Acquisition: To protect the best remaining tracts of this scrub and the ecosystems associated with it, thereby preserving numerous endangered species and allowing the public to see examples of the unique original landscape of the ridge.

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

Original Acquisition Date: 11/18/93

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 4/11/25

Review Date: 6/11/25

Agency Manager and Key Staff:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| • Ethan Noel, Interim Manager | • Josh Agee, Regional Biologist |
| • Jennifer Myers, Asst. Regional Biologist | • Shawn Kelly |
| • Eric Ausborn | • Brian Christ |
| • Makayla Gothard | |

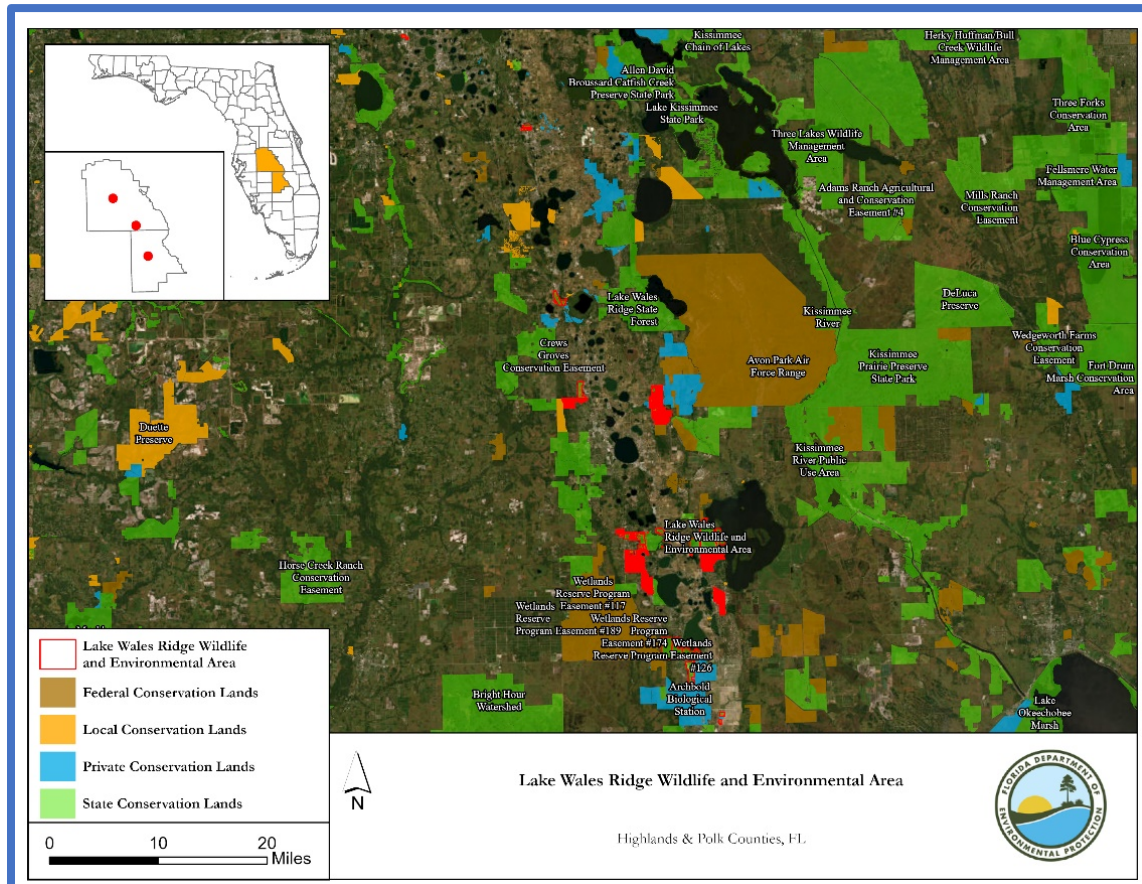
Review Team Members (voting)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Tracy Muzyczka, DRP District | • Michael Edwards, FFS |
| • Local Gov't., None | • Cody Phillips, SWFWMD |
| • Brianna White, FWC | • Jackie Bucheck, Conservation Org. |
| • Allyson Anderson, DEP District | • Kevin Main, Private Land Manager |

Non-Team Members (attending)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL | • Michael Sowinski, FWC/IPM |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|

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 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) staff for working well to stay focused on the preservation of endemic species while surrounded by expanding development that makes the logistics of management difficult. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the local staff and Lakeland support for the excellent job of managing one of the most difficult areas to manage in the state. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the staff for aggressive invasive plant management including completion of a challenging 5-year plan and quote. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FWC for the restoration and preservation of imperiled natural communities on the Lake Wales Ridge WEA through the application of prescribed fire and other management activities. (7+, 0-)
5. The team commends the Ridge Rangers Volunteer Program for contributions to conservation on the Lake Wales Ridge WEA and other conservation areas. (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.

Table 282828281: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.39	4.49
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.18	4.05
Hydrology	4.19	4.02
Imperiled Species	4.71	4.71
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.19	4.48
Cultural Resources	4.21	4.50
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.94	4.14
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.95	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average
		Poor

1. Natural communities, specifically basin swamp, baygall, bottomland forest, depression marsh, floodplain swamp, mesic flatwoods, mesic hammock, sandhill, sandhill upland lake, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, wet flatwoods, wet prairie, and xeric hammock.
2. Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically gopher tortoise, scrub jay, and scrub endemics.
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 ground cover restoration, and wetlands restoration project.
7. Forest management, specifically timber inventory.
8. Non-native, invasive and problem species, specifically prevention and control of animals, and pests/pathogens, and control of plants.
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, specifically expanding development, adjacent invasive exotics, and inholdings and additions.
14. Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, habitat management activities, and management of visitor impacts.
15. Management resources, specifically waste disposal, buildings, equipment, 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 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 B: Acronyms

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

APPENDIX C. 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*