

Florida Forever Natural Resource Acquisition Progress Report

November 2020

Prepared by the
Florida Natural Areas Inventory
for the
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of State Lands



This is the twenty-ninth Progress Report for the Florida Forever environmental land acquisition program. The reports are produced at the request of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of State Lands, as part of the Florida Natural Areas Inventory’s contract to provide scientific expertise and analysis to inform the Florida Forever program.

These reports document the progress of Florida Forever Board of Trustees (FFBOT), water management district (FFWMD), Florida Communities Trust (FCT) and other Florida Forever program acquisitions toward meeting the goals and measures of the Florida Forever program. Progress is measured using the natural resource data layers developed or compiled by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory and presented in the Conservation Needs Assessment Summary and Technical Reports (available online at www.fnai.org/FIForever.cfm).

For this report, Florida Forever acquisitions include those properties for which transactions have closed from the inception of the program in July 2001 through September 2020. The following table lists total acquisitions through Sep 2020. Note that acreages are calculated in GIS for parcels with digital boundaries and do not include all small parcels. Parcels that FFBOT or FFWMD acquired in combination with non-Florida Forever funds (e.g., a separate agency funding source or another funding partner) are counted entirely as Florida Forever purchases.

Program*	Acres acquired		
	July 2001 - Sep 2020		
	Full Fee	Less-than-Fee	Total
FFBOT	353,264	142,914	496,178
FFWMD	178,788	101,280	280,068
FCT	47,250	-	47,250
Inholdings and Additions (I&A)			
DEP/Office of Greenways and Trails	2,756	-	2,756
DEP/Division of Recreation and Parks	6,217	-	6,217
FDACS/Florida Forest Service	18,073	7,157	25,230
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	12,298	-	12,298
Rural and Family Lands Protection Program (included with I&A in attached table)	-	2,900	2,900
Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts (not included in attached table)	5	-	5
Total Florida Forever Acquisitions	618,652	254,251	872,903

*Program is the primary Florida Forever funding source. Parcels acquired in combination with other funding sources or partners are attributed entirely to the primary program in the acreage summary.

The attached Florida Forever Summary of Resource Acres Protected on Conservation Lands (Summary) shows the baseline of natural resources protected on conservation lands at the onset of the Florida Forever program. The baseline represents the starting point from which Florida Forever’s progress will be measured. The Summary also reports additional acreage of each resource acquired by the Florida Forever program as of September 2020.

The Florida Natural Areas Inventory updates our managed areas database quarterly with the latest information available from land managing agencies. We also maintain a separate parcel database of Florida Forever acquisitions which is updated biannually. In addition to newly acquired parcels, updates may also include boundary revisions or deletions as agencies provide improved information. The September 2020 update to the Florida Forever acquired parcel and the managed areas databases were used to calculate acquisitions since the onset of the Florida Forever program for this report. In addition to Florida Forever acquisitions, many parcels were added to managed area boundaries, as part of the continual building and maintenance of the database. These lands may represent federal, local, or private acquisitions, other state acquisition programs, or revisions to existing managed area boundaries. These lands are split into two columns in the Summary: Other Lands Acquired within FL Forever Projects (376,224 total acres) and Other Lands Added to the FNAI Database since July 2001 (697,695 total acres).

MEASURES			Resource Acres Protected							Percent Protected				
			Baseline	FL Forever Programs as of Sep 2020				Other Lands				Remaining Acres	July 2001	Sep 2020
			At start of FL Forever July 2001	BOT	WMDs	OGT, A&I, RFLPP	FCT	Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^d	Added to FNAI Database since July 2001					
Natural Resource Priorities	Total Statewide Acres													
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas	Priority 1	1,457,080	844,330	20,720	3,530	1,630	1,660	22,670	22,260	540,280	58%	63%		
	Priority 2	10,489,250	6,128,540	320,600	188,530	38,030	19,060	229,330	315,180	3,249,980	58%	69%		
	Priority 3	4,936,120	1,455,520	34,200	14,790	2,410	7,530	40,630	103,070	3,277,970	29%	34%		
	Priority 4	84,350	25,490	2,830	1,260	170	230	2,280	1,980	50,110	30%	41%		
	Priority 5	1,084,300	78,150	12,620	6,560	840	2,290	10,650	24,860	948,330	7%	13%		
	Total 2009^a	18,051,100	8,532,030	390,970	214,670	43,080	30,770	305,560	467,350	8,066,670	47%	55%		
Total 1994^a	4,037,750	352,160	211,620	75,320	12,200	11,560	146,790	114,690	3,113,410	9%	23%			
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities	Priority 1	949,930	588,700	27,210	7,460	1,080	520	6,660	7,570	310,730	62%	67%		
	Priority 2	2,242,280	1,677,950	31,580	5,750	2,260	1,720	26,880	42,360	453,780	75%	80%		
	Priority 3	2,455,580	1,378,800	80,780	14,570	2,710	1,830	36,950	42,430	897,510	56%	63%		
	Priority 4	4,601,590	2,156,310	114,800	54,810	13,500	6,330	72,850	134,180	2,048,810	47%	55%		
	Priority 5	6,747,500	1,602,390	138,560	74,100	14,160	11,970	121,810	152,540	4,631,970	24%	31%		
	Priority 6	3,204,060	587,300	15,020	36,360	7,580	6,220	32,200	81,610	2,437,770	18%	24%		
Total	20,200,940	7,991,450	407,950	193,050	41,290	28,590	297,350	460,690	10,780,570	40%	47%			
B3: Ecological Greenways	Priority 1	11,629,920	7,427,270	331,420	126,590	27,320	3,030	166,630	239,790	3,307,870	64%	72%		
	Priority 2	5,102,510	1,180,920	82,580	73,460	10,700	11,720	92,340	122,120	3,528,670	23%	31%		
	Priority 3	1,239,940	216,230	12,250	50,020	460	1,210	23,200	26,790	909,780	17%	27%		
	Priority 4	1,526,260	307,630	24,590	9,520	1,850	10,700	20,290	45,980	1,105,700	20%	28%		
	Priority 5	3,585,110	713,640	36,750	11,860	7,780	4,690	65,000	170,360	2,575,030	20%	28%		
Total	23,083,740	9,845,690	487,590	271,450	48,110	31,350	367,460	605,040	11,427,050	43%	50%			
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities	Upland Glade (G1)	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0%	0%		
	Pine Rockland (G1)	16,900	15,770	120	0	0	0	80	140	790	93%	95%		
	Scrub (G2)	507,380	352,010	4,950	970	760	960	5,750	6,200	135,780	69%	73%		
	Rockland Hammock (G2)	19,100	15,350	440	0	0	10	720	100	2,480	80%	87%		
	Dry Prairie (G2)	154,770	92,680	6,100	480	670	0	600	3,700	50,540	60%	67%		
	Seepage Slope (G2)	6,230	6,200	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	100%	100%		
	Sandhill (G3)	829,600	490,310	11,240	2,450	1,580	170	2,810	8,930	312,110	59%	62%		
	Sandhill Lake (G3)	76,280	14,120	150	310	20	10	130	530	61,010	19%	20%		
	Upland Pine (G3)	220,200	162,040	3,540	450	1,470	0	210	3,400	49,090	74%	78%		
	Pine Flatwoods (G4)	2,381,090	1,092,790	89,570	26,630	3,960	4,750	52,930	40,110	1,070,350	46%	55%		
Upland Hardwood (G5)	200,530	32,340	640	1,080	440	990	240	1,850	162,950	16%	19%			
Total	4,412,110	2,273,610	116,750	32,370	8,900	6,890	63,470	64,960	1,845,160	52%	58%			
B5: Landscape-sized Protection Areas	<i>Acres acquired within contiguous conservation lands ≥ 50,000 acres</i>	n/a	7,428,380	378,600	193,250	32,060	15,540	219,990	295,740	n/a	n/a	n/a		

^aThe FWC completed a major revision to the SHCAs in 2009; however, the original 1994 SHCAs have been used to inform Florida Forever acquisition decisions from 2001 - 2007; therefore, we report acquisition progress for both the original and revised strategic habitats.

MEASURES			Resource Acres Protected							Percent Protected				
			Baseline	FL Forever Programs as of Sep 2020				Other Lands				Remaining Acres	July 2001	Sep 2020
			At start of FL Forever July 2001	BOT	WMDs	OGT, A&I, RFLPP	FCT	Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^d	Added to FNAI Database since July 2001					
Natural Resource Priorities	Total Statewide Acres													
C3: Natural Floodplain Function	Priority 1	4,673,600	4,054,860	41,990	40,090	7,340	4,090	64,070	62,010	399,150	87%	91%		
	Priority 2	2,553,550	1,351,800	59,420	42,770	5,310	3,330	56,440	115,490	918,990	53%	64%		
	Priority 3	2,651,650	563,920	86,050	46,010	4,620	6,190	61,820	87,600	1,795,440	21%	32%		
	Priority 4	2,847,060	165,890	62,160	25,170	5,360	5,620	37,120	76,840	2,468,900	6%	13%		
	Priority 5	975,560	37,090	20,000	5,880	1,480	1,500	11,220	38,420	859,970	4%	12%		
	Priority 6	1,615,540	71,480	4,530	6,420	150	1,360	2,610	36,860	1,492,130	4%	8%		
	Total	15,316,960	6,245,040	274,150	166,340	24,260	22,090	233,280	417,220	7,934,580	41%	48%		
C4: Surface Water Protection	Priority 1	2,828,240	1,421,710	53,750	16,480	3,170	5,030	61,340	104,020	1,162,740	50%	59%		
	Priority 2	5,498,280	3,580,970	67,970	61,160	12,340	3,280	66,920	130,640	1,575,000	65%	71%		
	Priority 3	1,883,970	401,340	35,550	20,040	2,060	3,590	12,880	31,100	1,377,410	21%	27%		
	Priority 4	8,595,280	2,314,900	221,130	106,270	23,970	13,240	147,130	191,870	5,576,770	27%	35%		
	Priority 5	3,892,910	333,900	34,290	16,640	2,250	5,150	24,280	63,030	3,413,370	9%	12%		
	Priority 6	5,725,460	576,410	71,310	43,930	4,190	10,300	50,780	75,010	4,893,530	10%	15%		
	Priority 7	2,237,700	65,810	4,360	6,740	550	810	5,160	32,180	2,122,090	3%	5%		
Total	30,661,840	8,695,040	488,360	271,260	48,530	41,400	368,490	627,850	20,120,910	28%	34%			
C5: Minimize Damage from Flooding		16,237,450	6,308,070	277,070	168,370	24,410	22,420	235,240	421,700	8,780,170	39%	46%		
C6: Fragile Coastal Resources	Fragile Coastal Uplands	81,370	62,500	730	40	30	70	1,050	1,460	15,490	77%	81%		
	Imperiled Coastal Lakes	1,530	540	0	0	0	0	0	0	990	35%	35%		
	Coastal Wetlands	999,310	742,880	5,000	2,290	330	1,910	31,400	51,120	164,380	74%	84%		
	Total	1,082,210	805,920	5,730	2,330	360	1,980	32,450	52,580	180,860	74%	83%		
C7: Functional Wetlands	Priority 1	4,473,110	3,878,860	42,400	36,830	7,160	4,180	61,930	60,640	381,110	87%	91%		
	Priority 2	2,267,660	1,159,250	49,090	38,070	4,720	3,500	50,760	109,950	852,320	51%	62%		
	Priority 3	2,128,190	383,520	44,870	38,350	3,720	5,890	53,900	72,840	1,525,100	18%	28%		
	Priority 4	1,806,580	103,890	32,380	15,310	2,130	4,520	26,190	47,520	1,574,640	6%	13%		
	Priority 5	404,790	15,410	3,780	2,150	280	1,060	2,050	12,410	367,650	4%	9%		
	Priority 6	283,610	9,870	260	180	10	680	210	6,190	266,210	3%	6%		
	Total	11,363,940	5,550,800	172,780	130,890	18,020	19,830	195,040	309,550	4,967,030	49%	56%		
D3: Aquifer Recharge	Priority 1	1,122,030	212,210	15,210	5,580	770	1,030	3,180	5,480	878,570	19%	22%		
	Priority 2	3,310,030	449,640	26,950	19,610	4,420	3,990	11,600	27,860	2,765,960	14%	16%		
	Priority 3	6,133,020	898,000	64,150	46,690	7,260	8,070	56,540	83,780	4,968,530	15%	19%		
	Priority 4	7,555,200	1,285,620	138,630	71,640	10,740	11,460	91,840	140,540	5,804,730	17%	23%		
	Priority 5	6,685,890	1,391,510	128,100	62,230	8,820	8,380	91,180	134,310	4,861,360	21%	27%		
	Priority 6	8,633,890	3,849,040	100,060	55,920	12,130	7,020	84,690	206,590	4,318,440	45%	50%		
	Total	33,440,060	8,086,020	473,100	261,670	44,140	39,950	339,030	598,560	23,597,590	24%	29%		
E2: Recreational Trails	Priority 1	5,450	2,320	70	60	80	40	30	180	2,670	43%	51%		
	Priority 2	4,760	1,200	120	70	10	40	70	220	3,030	25%	36%		
	Total	10,210	3,520	190	120	90	80	100	400	5,710	34%	44%		
F1: Archaeological Sites	<i>reported as number of sites^b</i>	36,250	15,389	479	357	121	213	431	939	18,760	42%	49%		

MEASURES			Resource Acres Protected								Percent Protected			
			Baseline	FL Forever Programs as of Sep 2020				Other Lands		Remaining Acres			July 2001	Sep 2020
			At start of FL Forever July 2001	BOT	WMDs	OGT, A&I, RFLPP		FCT	Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^d					
Natural Resource Priorities	Total Statewide Acres													
G1: Sustainable Forestry	Priority 1	1,658,100	727,410	66,160	2,820	3,060	50	15,760	15,450	827,390	44%	50%		
	Priority 2	2,234,050	821,440	68,770	11,800	6,110	990	28,290	23,920	1,272,730	37%	43%		
	Priority 3	4,851,800	1,058,930	96,860	60,710	8,690	9,200	67,200	78,100	3,472,110	22%	28%		
	Priority 4	38,920	18,470	840	0	0	90	1,110	380	18,030	47%	54%		
	Priority 5	4,717,510	241,610	70,670	27,030	4,300	6,250	54,070	103,530	4,210,050	5%	11%		
Total	13,500,380	2,867,860	303,300	102,360	22,160	16,580	166,430	221,380	9,800,310	21%	27%			
H1: Urban Service Areas	5,136,550	156,430	2,560	1,560	680	7,470	8,010	25,250	4,934,590	3%	4%			

B6: Imperiled Species		Number of Imperiled Species Protected							TOTAL ^b			
		Baseline	FL Forever Programs as of Sep 2020				Other Lands				TOTAL ^b	TOTAL ^b
		At start of FL Forever July 2001	BOT	WMDs	OGT, A&I, RFLPP		FCT	Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^d			Added to FNAI Database since July 2001	All FL Forever Programs
Species occurrences^c		14,408	754	172	111	95	421	604	1,097	15,947		
Species with at least 1 occurrence on conservation lands		969	278	101	78	50	174	238	354	996		
federal or state endangered		372	125	31	42	17	77	98	153	384		
federal or state threatened		112	59	20	13	16	48	58	67	114		

^bTOTAL numbers are less than the sum of all programs because numbers may overlap between programs.

^cAn FNAI species occurrence typically represents an ecologically distinct population. A population is intended to be ecologically viable and persisting over time in order to meet the standard for an occurrence counted here. FNAI data come from many sources, including field surveys, published reports, museum collections, and other resource experts.

Not all areas of the state have been surveyed for all species. The rarest elements of biodiversity are given greater emphasis in data collection efforts.

^dAnalysis excludes ca 20,000 acres within the St. Joe Timberland project that were donated to the state; this will be reflected in the next progress report.