

Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment Map Overview

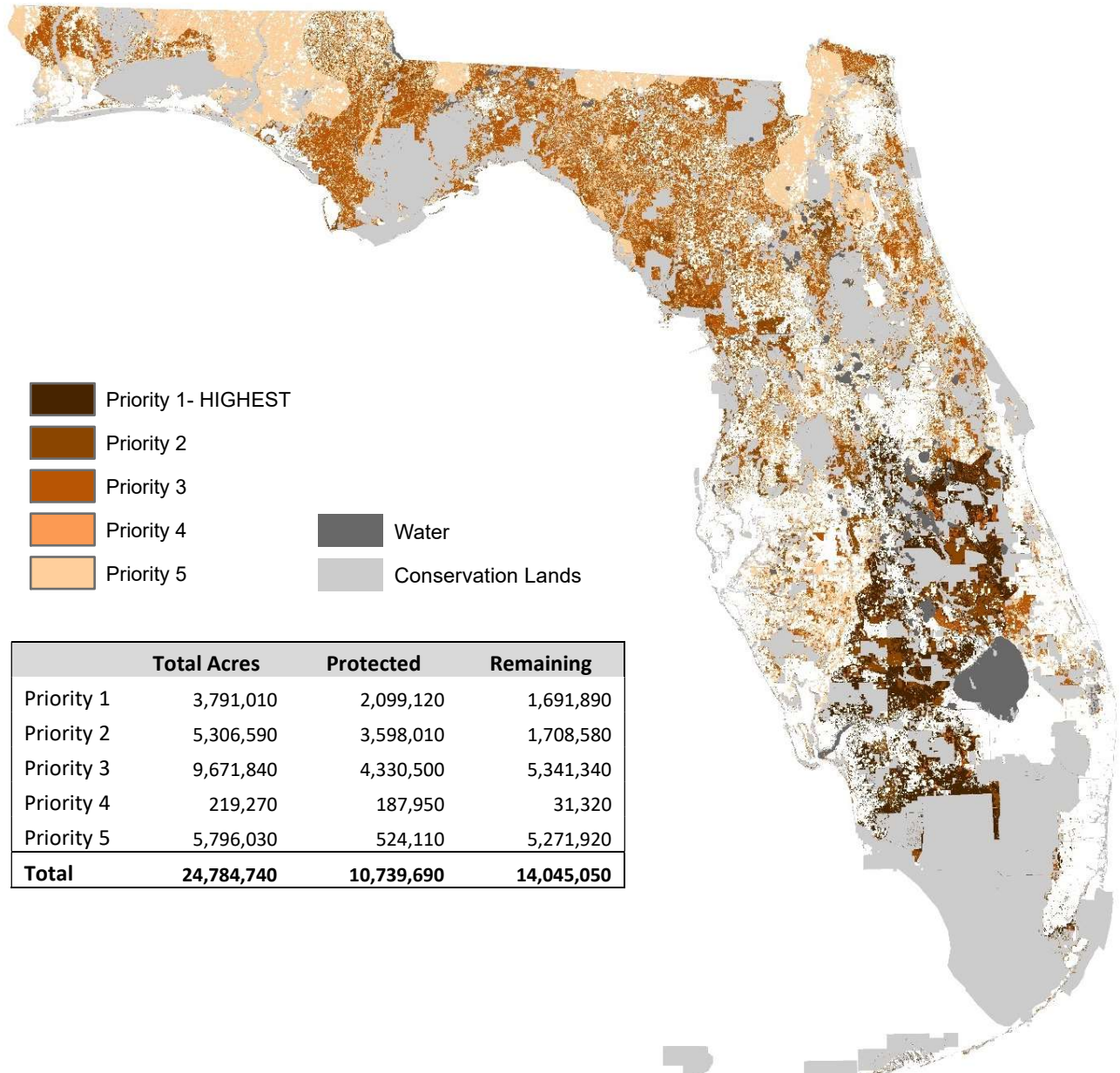
Prepared by Florida Natural Areas Inventory, November 2021

The maps described here are derived from the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment, an analysis of the geographic distribution of certain natural resources and resource-based land uses that have been identified in the Florida Forever Act (F.S. 259.105) as needing increased conservation attention. Data for the Needs Assessment are maintained and updated by Florida Natural Areas Inventory under contract to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and in collaboration with many partners. The data represent a statewide view of resource distributions and are intended to inform state conservation priorities and measure progress of the Florida Forever program in protecting these resources.

Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas for Florida Forever FNAI Rare Species Habitat Conservation Priorities	<i>Combined as single measure for SPECIES in some resource summaries</i>
Landscape Linkages	
Under-represented Ecosystems Fragile Coastal Resources	<i>Combined as single measure for NATURAL COMMUNITIES in some resource summaries</i>
Surface Water Protection	
Natural Floodplain Function Functional Wetlands	<i>Combined as single measure for WETLANDS/FLOODPLAIN in some resource summaries</i>
Groundwater Recharge	
Sustainable Forestry	



Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (modified for Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment)



	Total Acres	Protected	Remaining
Priority 1	3,791,010	2,099,120	1,691,890
Priority 2	5,306,590	3,598,010	1,708,580
Priority 3	9,671,840	4,330,500	5,341,340
Priority 4	219,270	187,950	31,320
Priority 5	5,796,030	524,110	5,271,920
Total	24,784,740	10,739,690	14,045,050

The information displayed on this map was developed or provided to address specific performance measures of the Florida Forever program. The data may not be appropriate for general use and are not intended for use in a regulatory decision-making process.

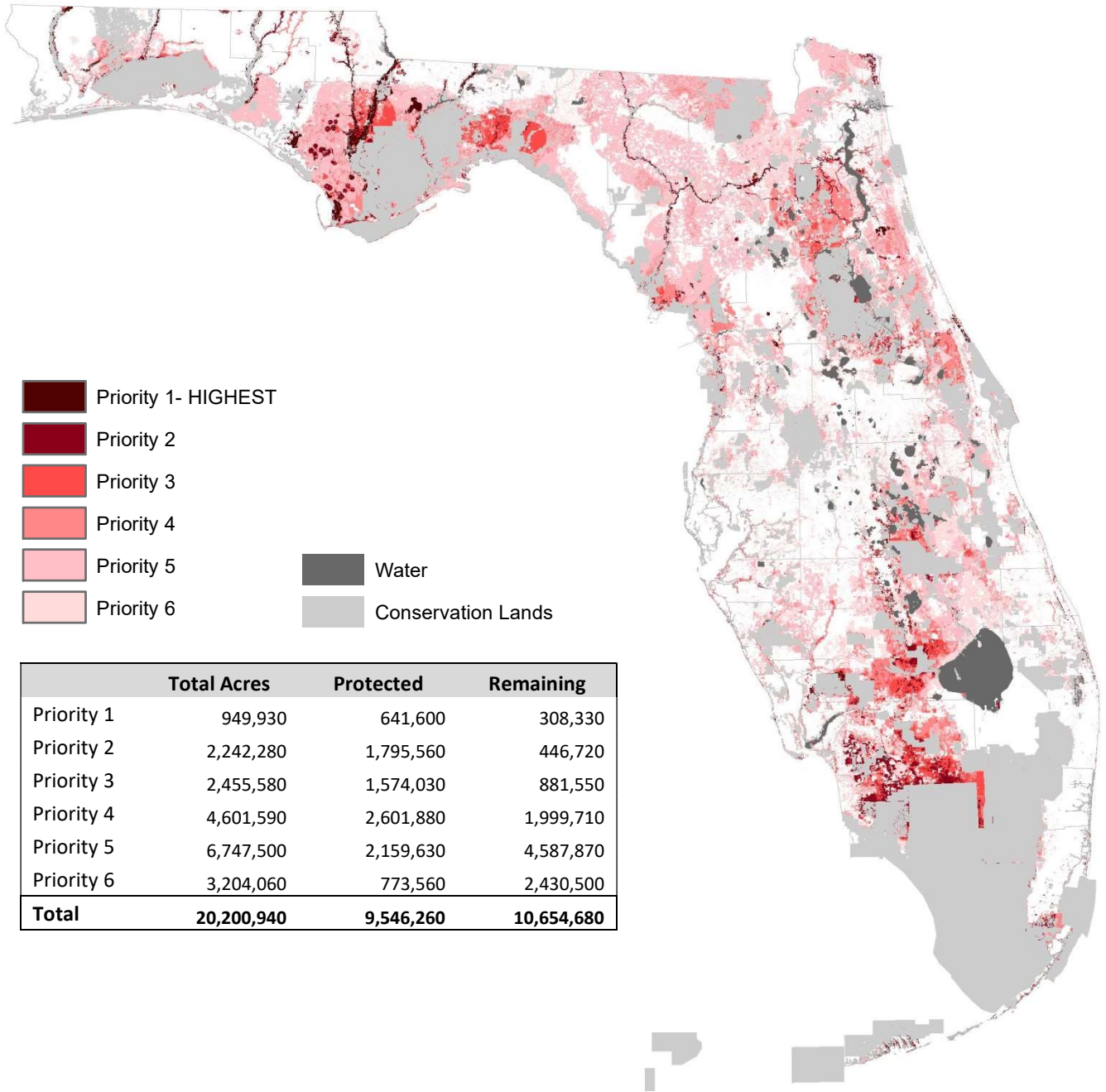
November 2021

Source: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Description: The 2009 SHCAs, developed by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), identify areas of habitat on private lands that are essential to sustain a minimum viable population for focal species of terrestrial vertebrates that are not adequately protected on existing conservation lands. In 2020, FNAI worked with FWC to update the SHCAs based on more recent habitat models developed by FWC since 2009, including the addition of potential habitat within existing conservation lands for all 62 focal species. The 2020 SHCAs include habitat data for 62 terrestrial vertebrate species and are prioritized into five priority classes based on rarity (FNAI State and Global ranks). For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report:

<https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>

Rare Species Habitat Conservation Priorities



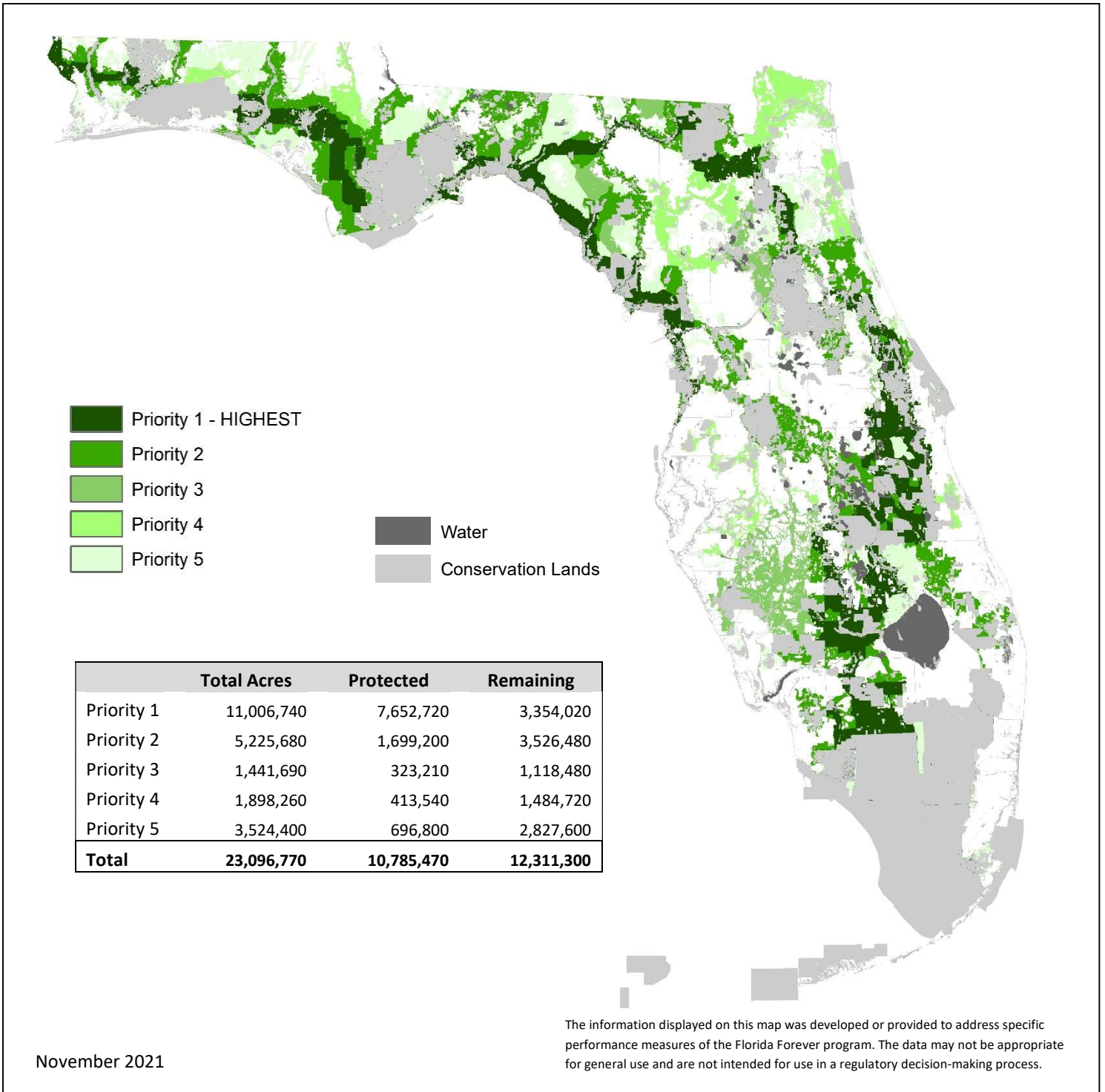
November 2021

The information displayed on this map was developed or provided to address specific performance measures of the Florida Forever program. The data may not be appropriate for general use and are not intended for use in a regulatory decision-making process.

Primary Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Description: The Rare Species Habitat Conservation Priorities data layer includes occurrence-based habitat for 281 species with a high conservation need including plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates. Individual species maps are weighted according to conservation need and overlaid to reflect values for both rarity and richness. The final layer prioritizes places on the landscape that would protect both the greatest number of rare species and those species with the greatest conservation need. For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report: <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

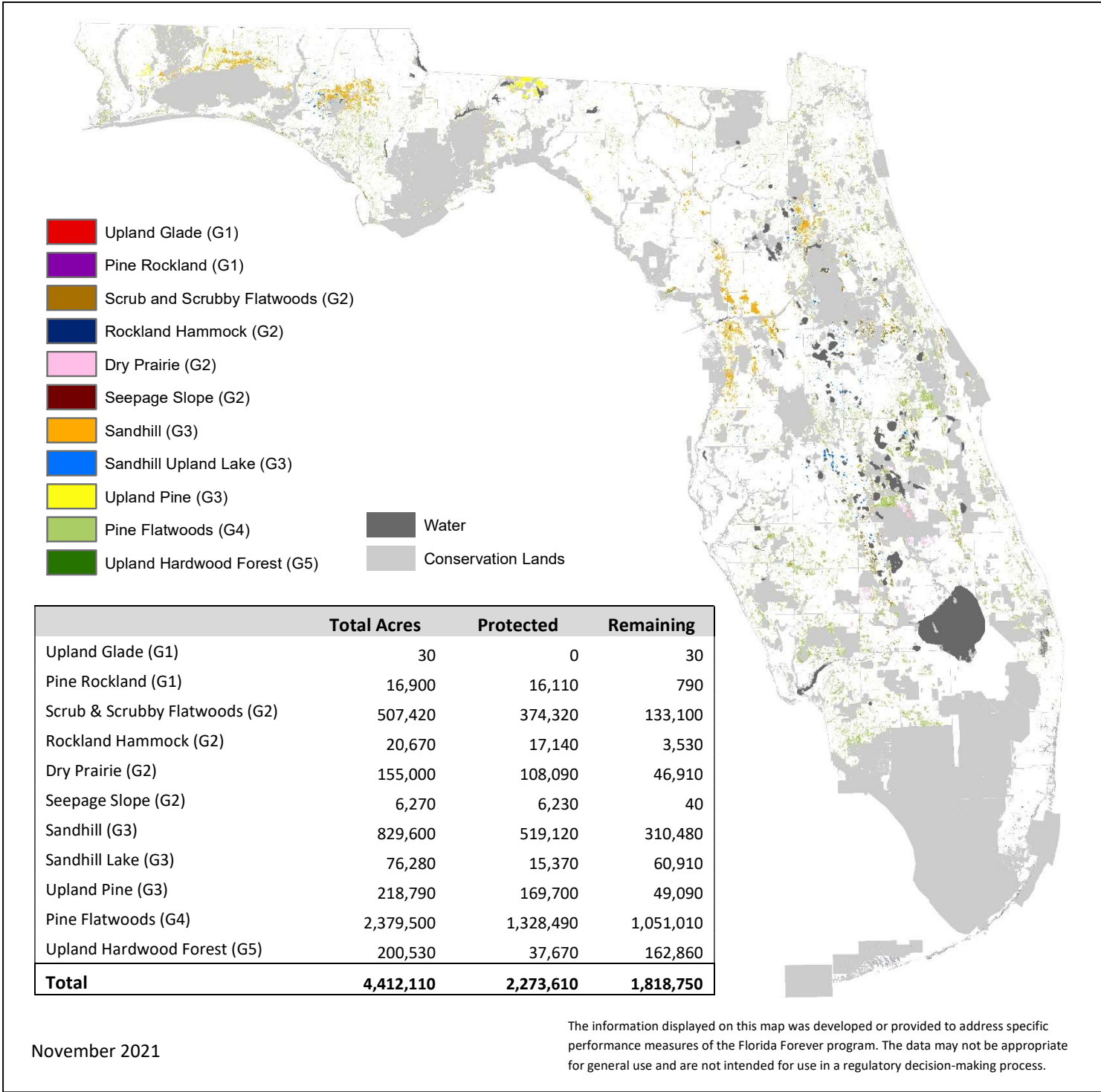
Landscape Linkage



Primary Source: University of Florida; FDEP/Office of Greenways and Trails

Description: Landscape Linkages is represented by the Florida Ecological Greenways Network as revised in 2021, a statewide system of landscape hubs, linkages, and conservation corridors. Prioritization is based on factors such as importance for wide-ranging species, importance for maintaining a connected reserve network, and riparian corridors. Priority 1 areas are considered most important for completing a statewide ecological network of public and private conservation lands.

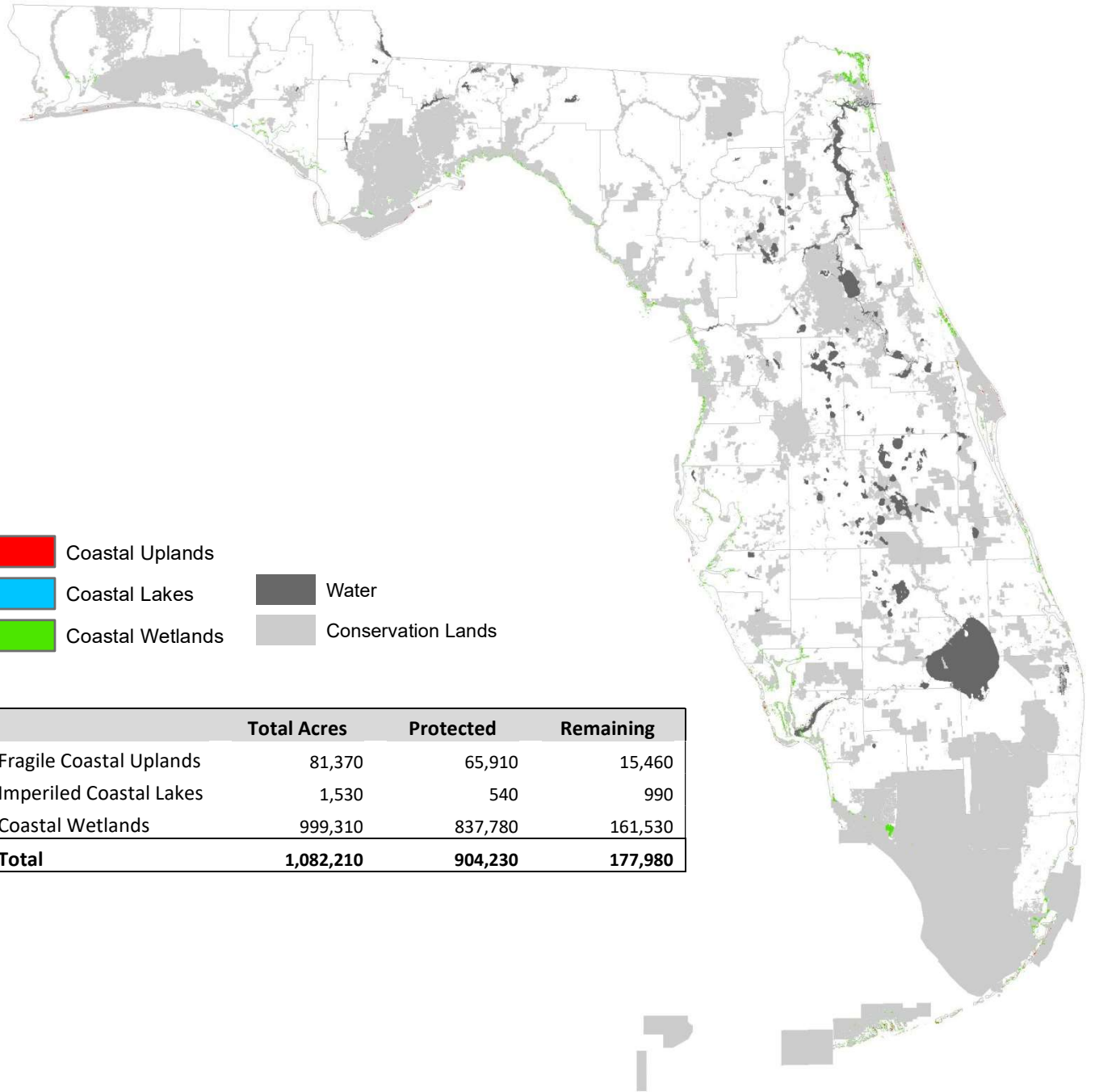
Under-represented Ecosystems



Primary Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Description: This data layer includes natural communities that are inadequately represented on conservation lands. A natural community generally is considered under-represented if less than 15% of the original extent of that community in Florida is currently found on existing conservation lands. The natural communities are prioritized by rarity (FNAI Global rank). For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report: <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

Fragile Coastal Resources



- Coastal Uplands
- Coastal Lakes
- Coastal Wetlands
- Water
- Conservation Lands

	Total Acres	Protected	Remaining
Fragile Coastal Uplands	81,370	65,910	15,460
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	1,530	540	990
Coastal Wetlands	999,310	837,780	161,530
Total	1,082,210	904,230	177,980

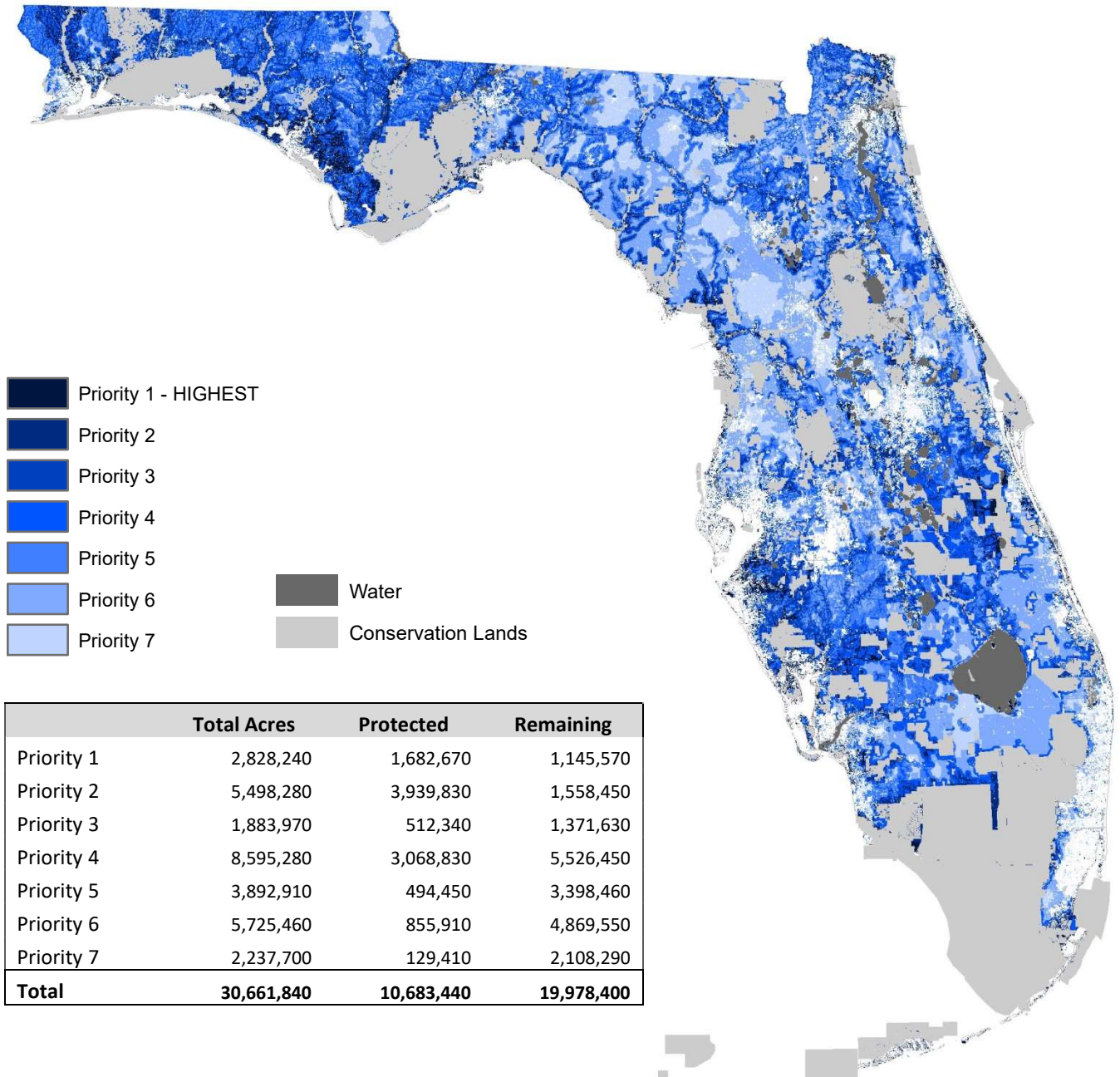
November 2021

The information displayed on this map was developed or provided to address specific performance measures of the Florida Forever program. The data may not be appropriate for general use and are not intended for use in a regulatory decision-making process.

Primary Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Description: The fragile coastal resources data layer identifies natural communities within one mile of the coast that are most vulnerable to disturbance or development including beach dune (G3), coastal scrub (G2), coastal grasslands (G3), coastal strand (G2), maritime hammock (G3), shell mound (G2), coastal dune lake (G2), coastal rockland lake (G2), mangrove wetlands (G5) and salt marsh (G5). For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report: <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

Surface Water Protection



	Priority 1 - HIGHEST		Water
	Priority 2		Conservation Lands
	Priority 3		
	Priority 4		
	Priority 5		
	Priority 6		
	Priority 7		

	Total Acres	Protected	Remaining
Priority 1	2,828,240	1,682,670	1,145,570
Priority 2	5,498,280	3,939,830	1,558,450
Priority 3	1,883,970	512,340	1,371,630
Priority 4	8,595,280	3,068,830	5,526,450
Priority 5	3,892,910	494,450	3,398,460
Priority 6	5,725,460	855,910	4,869,550
Priority 7	2,237,700	129,410	2,108,290
Total	30,661,840	10,683,440	19,978,400

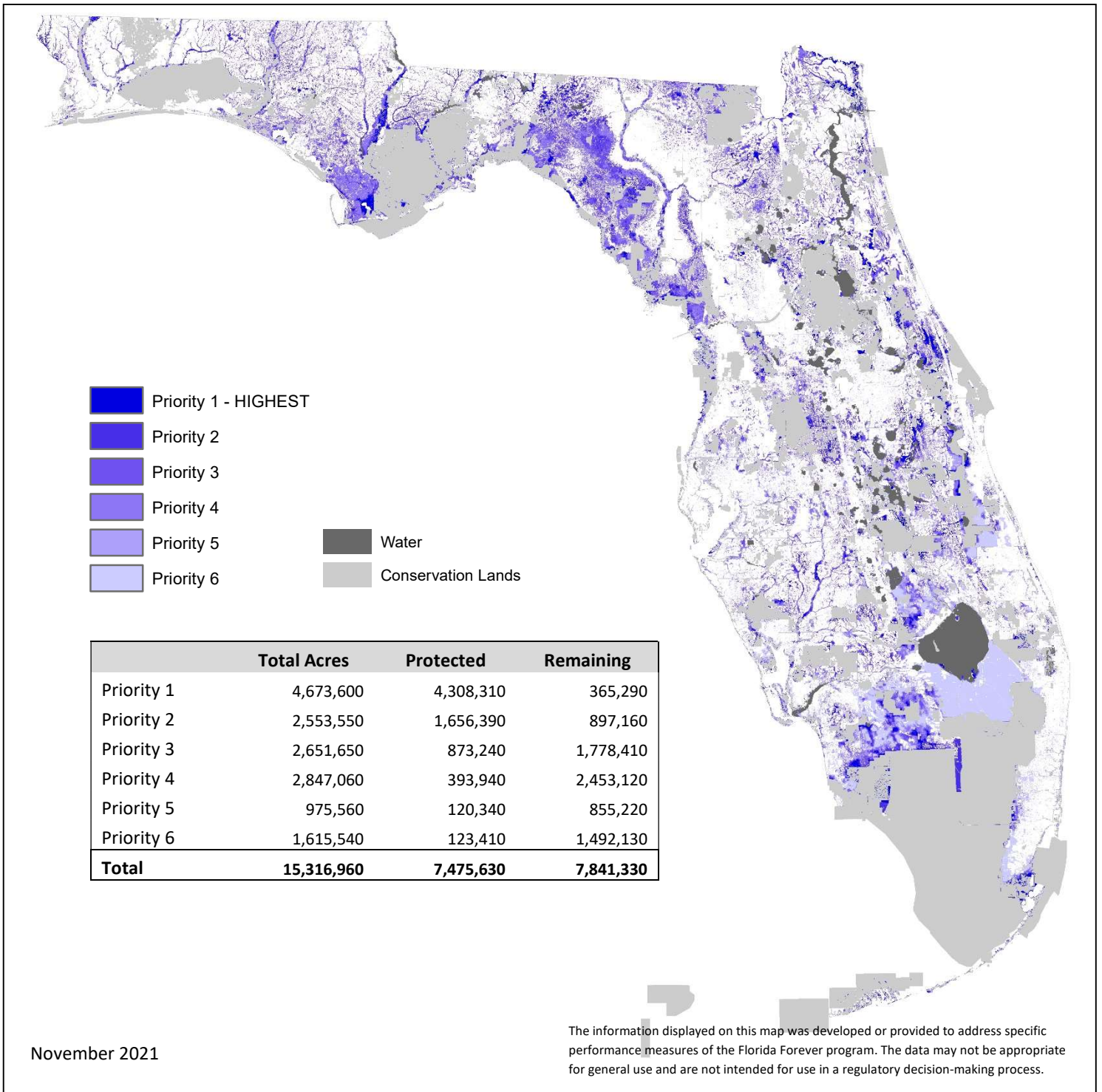
The information displayed on this map was developed or provided to address specific performance measures of the Florida Forever program. The data may not be appropriate for general use and are not intended for use in a regulatory decision-making process.

November 2021

Primary Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory in collaboration with water resource experts

Description: The surface water data identifies significant high quality surface waters of the state, which include the following: Outstanding Florida Waters, National Scenic Waters and National Estuaries, shellfish harvesting areas, seagrass beds, springs, water supply and waters important for imperiled fish. The data are prioritized based on proximity to a water body, stream order, downstream length, basin size and other factors. For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report: <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

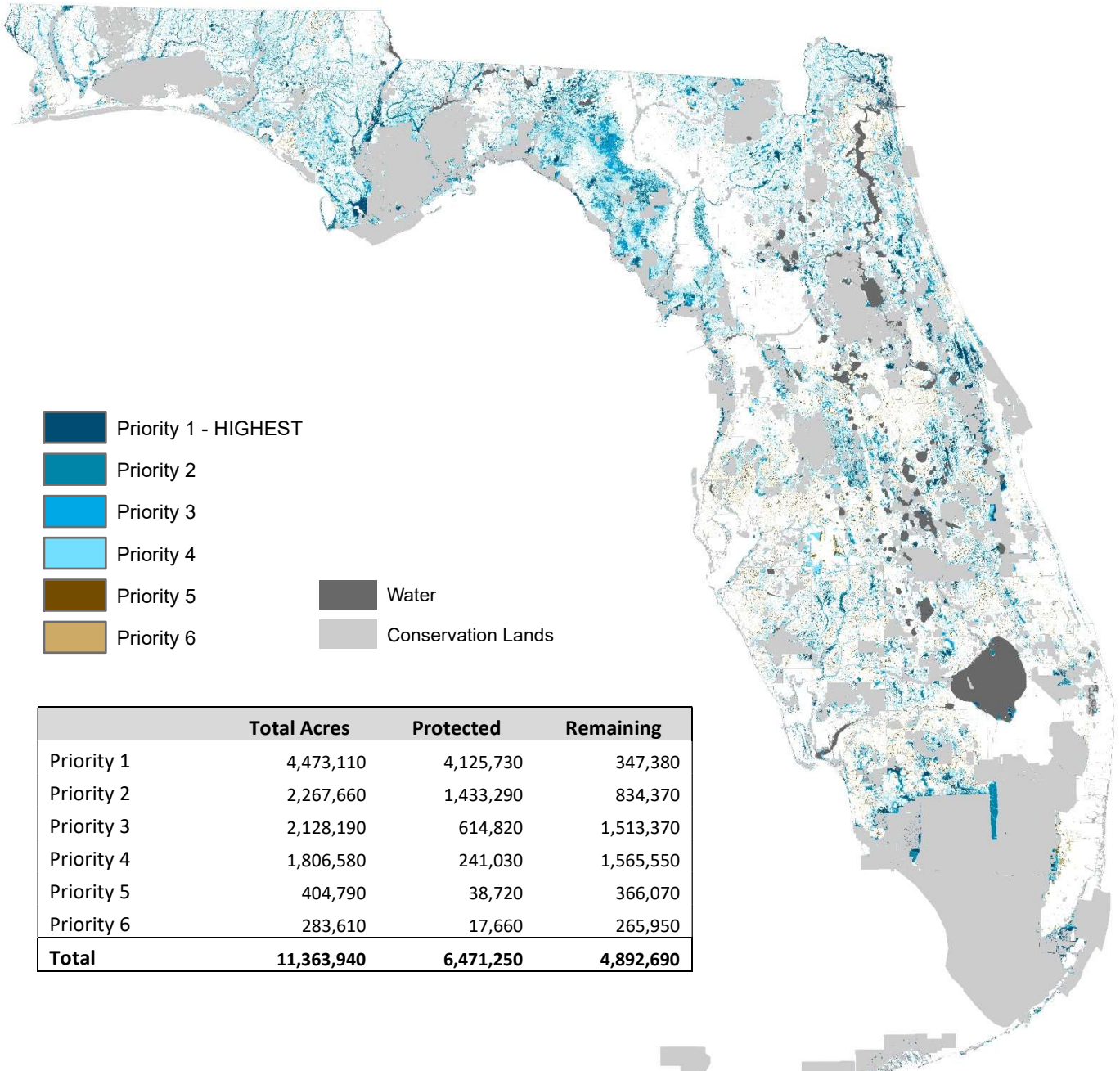
Natural Floodplain Function



Primary Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Description: This data layer identifies natural features within the 100-year floodplain as determined by from three primary sources: 1) FEMA Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map database 2001-2017 (DFIRM) for 63 counties; 2) FEMA Digital Q3 Flood Data 1996 for 4 counties; and 3) a surrogate floodplain dataset based on overlap of wetlands and hydric soils for gaps in FEMA data. The data were prioritized based on the degree of “naturalness” of the floodplain, which was estimated based on overlap with Land Use Intensity index and FNAI Potential Natural Areas. For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report: <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

Functional Wetlands



	Total Acres	Protected	Remaining
Priority 1	4,473,110	4,125,730	347,380
Priority 2	2,267,660	1,433,290	834,370
Priority 3	2,128,190	614,820	1,513,370
Priority 4	1,806,580	241,030	1,565,550
Priority 5	404,790	38,720	366,070
Priority 6	283,610	17,660	265,950
Total	11,363,940	6,471,250	4,892,690

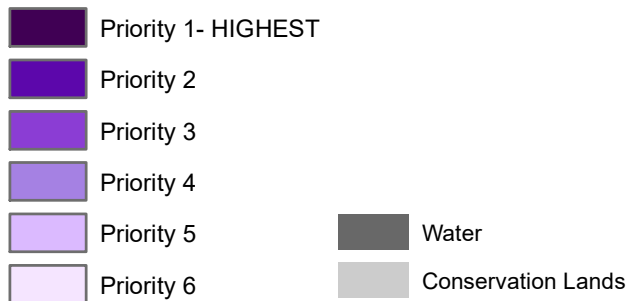
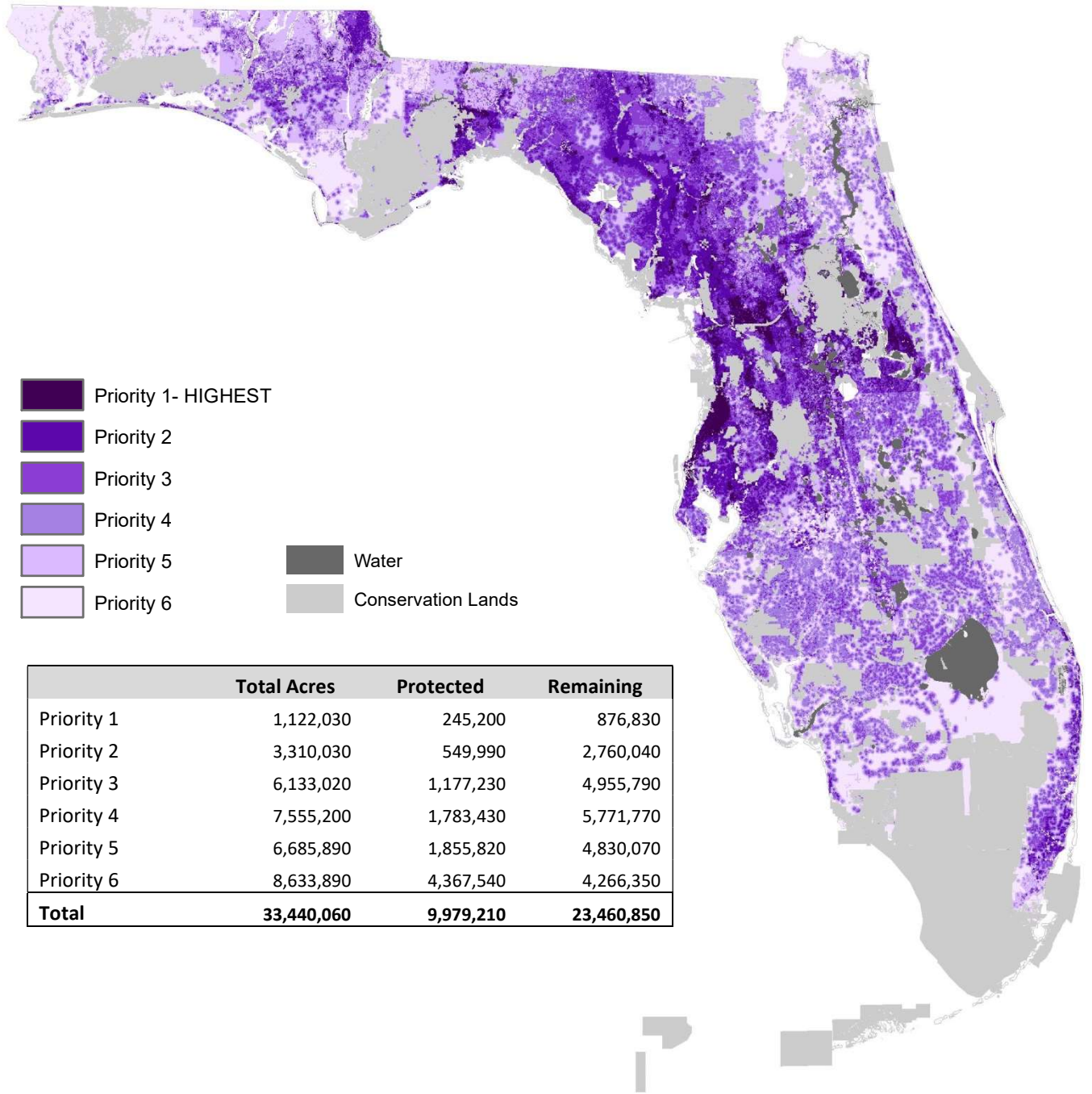
The information displayed on this map was developed or provided to address specific performance measures of the Florida Forever program. The data may not be appropriate for general use and are not intended for use in a regulatory decision-making process.

November 2021

Primary Source: Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Description: The Functional Wetlands data layer is based on wetlands identified in the Cooperative Land Cover Map v3. Functional wetlands are defined as those in a more natural state and the prioritization is based on overlap with Land Use Intensity index and FNAI Potential Natural Areas. For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report: <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

Groundwater Recharge



	Total Acres	Protected	Remaining
Priority 1	1,122,030	245,200	876,830
Priority 2	3,310,030	549,990	2,760,040
Priority 3	6,133,020	1,177,230	4,955,790
Priority 4	7,555,200	1,783,430	5,771,770
Priority 5	6,685,890	1,855,820	4,830,070
Priority 6	8,633,890	4,367,540	4,266,350
Total	33,440,060	9,979,210	23,460,850

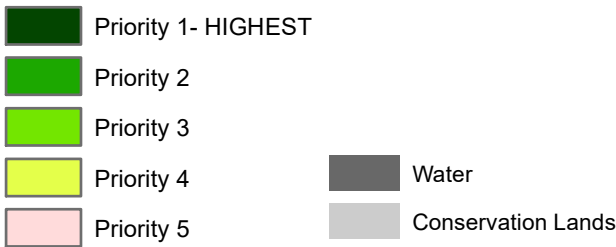
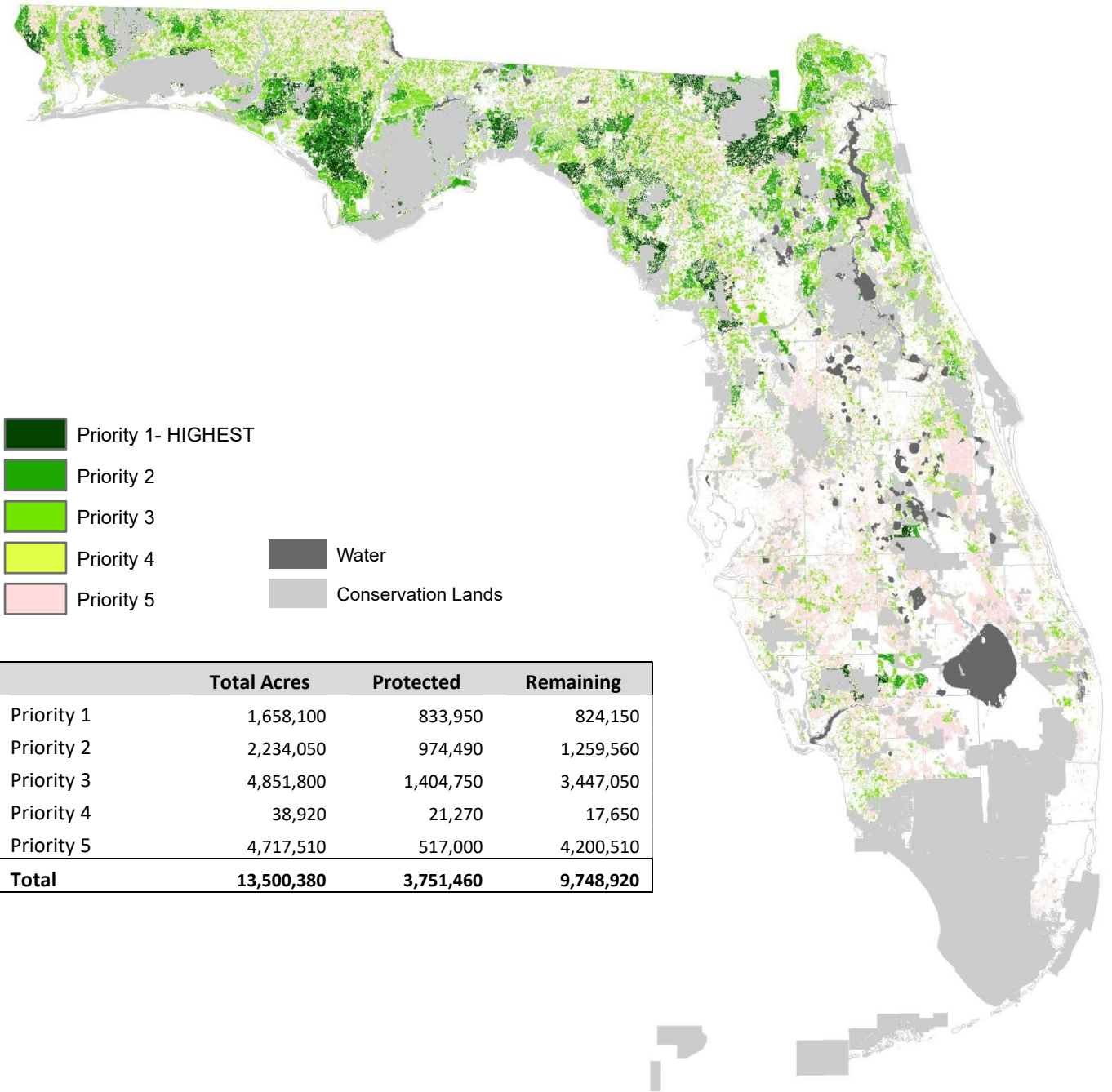
November 2021

The information displayed on this map was developed or provided to address specific performance measures of the Florida Forever program. The data may not be appropriate for general use and are not intended for use in a regulatory decision-making process.

Primary Source: Advanced Geospatial, Inc; Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Description: The ground water recharge data layer identifies areas of potential recharge important for natural systems and human use. The data are prioritized based on features that contribute to aquifer vulnerability such as swallets, thickness of the intermediate aquifer confining unit and closed topographical depressions, as well as areas within springshed protection zones and in proximity to public water supply wells. For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report: <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

Sustainable Forestry



	Total Acres	Protected	Remaining
Priority 1	1,658,100	833,950	824,150
Priority 2	2,234,050	974,490	1,259,560
Priority 3	4,851,800	1,404,750	3,447,050
Priority 4	38,920	21,270	17,650
Priority 5	4,717,510	517,000	4,200,510
Total	13,500,380	3,751,460	9,748,920

November 2021

The information displayed on this map was developed or provided to address specific performance measures of the Florida Forever program. The data may not be appropriate for general use and are not intended for use in a regulatory decision-making process.

Primary Source: Florida Forest Service; Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Description: The Sustainable Forestry data layer identifies existing pinelands (natural and planted) and former pinelands that are potentially available for forest management. Prioritization is based on 4 criteria set by the Florida Forest Service: whether trees are natural or planted, size of tract, distance to market, and hydrology. Large tracts of natural pine on mesic soils (versus very dry or wet) that are within 50 miles of a mill receive the highest priority. Former pinelands that currently do not have trees receive the lowest priority. For more information see the Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report:

<https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.