

Florida Forever Natural Resource Acquisition Progress Report

November 2025

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



This is the thirty-fourth 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 districts (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/conslands/florida-forever).

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 2025. The following table lists total acquisitions through Sep 2025. 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.

Table 1. Florida Forever Acres Acquired by Program: July 2001-Sep 2025

Program*	Full Fee	Less-than-Fee	Total
FFBOT	425,472	202,505	627,977
FWMD	179,542	102,697	282,239
FCT	47,199	-	47,199
Inholdings and Additions (I&A)			
DEP/Office of Greenways and Trails	2,751	-	2,751
DEP/Division of Recreation and Parks	6,222	-	6,222
FDACS/Florida Forest Service	17,831	7,160	24,991
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	12,302	-	12,302
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
American Rescue Plan Act	38,663	61,965	100,628
Total Florida Forever Acquisitions	729,987	377,227	1,107,214

*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 2025.

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 2025 update to the Florida Forever acquired parcels 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 (653,109 total acres) and Other Lands Added to the FNAI Database since July 2001 (875,189 total acres).

MEASURES	Total Statewide Acres	Baseline At start of FL Forever July 2001	OGT, A&I, RFLPP ^a FCT ^a				Other Lands Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^b	Other Lands Added to FNAI Database since July 2001 ^b	Remaining Acres	Percent Protected July 2001	Percent Protected Sep 2024
			BOT ^a	WMDs ^a							
<u>B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas</u>											
Priority 1	3,751,990	1,723,720	155,450	12,360	34,440	2,710	137,100	137,510	1,548,700	46%	59%
Priority 2	5,247,220	3,075,570	109,120	65,620	27,590	10,680	160,010	223,610	1,575,020	59%	70%
Priority 3	9,532,630	3,479,550	253,630	150,270	59,770	21,350	235,790	302,770	5,029,500	37%	47%
Priority 4	215,660	138,620	8,340	12,490	1,840	1,940	6,780	14,970	30,680	64%	86%
Priority 5	4,072,730	319,860	71,850	16,190	11,880	1,780	76,230	63,980	3,510,960	8%	14%
Total	22,820,230	8,737,320	598,390	256,930	135,520	38,460	615,910	742,840	11,694,860	38%	49%
<u>B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities</u>											
Priority 1	1,116,490	674,740	56,500	8,130	3,200	670	19,110	11,060	343,080	60%	69%
Priority 2	1,587,630	1,002,640	51,840	7,590	6,870	1,490	39,970	39,710	437,520	63%	72%
Priority 3	1,949,000	1,076,710	73,320	12,360	13,730	2,000	68,140	61,010	641,730	55%	67%
Priority 4	3,548,210	1,902,740	78,720	33,650	33,320	4,090	87,010	148,810	1,259,870	54%	64%
Priority 5	4,310,510	1,692,490	73,480	56,780	30,200	8,910	124,280	191,060	2,133,310	39%	51%
Priority 6	6,198,620	1,557,920	116,850	78,270	28,020	13,260	133,960	185,520	4,084,820	25%	34%
Total	18,710,460	7,907,240	450,710	196,780	115,340	30,420	472,470	637,170	8,900,330	42%	52%
<u>B3: Ecological Greenways</u>											
Priority 1	10,907,280	6,627,420	406,090	129,720	68,590	2,780	325,190	271,590	3,075,900	61%	72%
Priority 2	5,118,490	1,229,050	133,000	75,440	35,190	11,810	171,940	170,840	3,291,220	24%	36%
Priority 3	1,381,700	201,150	16,530	50,510	16,010	1,210	38,770	52,540	1,004,980	15%	27%
Priority 4	1,828,730	273,400	35,750	10,530	3,230	9,310	34,710	60,860	1,400,940	15%	23%
Priority 5	3,436,940	447,420	24,130	11,230	24,270	4,470	63,940	184,600	2,676,880	13%	22%
Total	22,673,140	8,778,440	615,500	277,430	147,290	29,580	634,550	740,430	11,449,920	39%	50%
<u>B4: Under-represented Natural Communities</u>											
Upland Glade (G1)	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0%	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	16,830	15,760	120	0	0	0	140	160	650	94%	96%
Scrub (G2)	498,010	351,560	6,550	1,110	920	960	9,550	8,380	118,980	71%	76%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	20,390	15,700	490	0	0	20	820	220	3,140	77%	85%
Dry Prairie (G2)	154,350	92,890	7,970	480	1,680	0	7,270	5,110	38,950	60%	75%
Seepage Slope (G2)	6,260	6,230	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	100%	100%
Sandhill (G3)	820,180	488,800	12,240	2,450	1,890	170	4,560	10,750	299,320	60%	64%
Sandhill Lake (G3)	76,110	14,110	160	310	20	10	390	820	60,290	19%	21%
Upland Pine (G3)	221,170	160,270	6,440	450	7,260	0	250	3,690	42,810	72%	81%
Pine Flatwoods (G4)	2,347,030	1,090,600	99,480	27,240	13,440	4,690	76,770	51,800	983,010	46%	58%
Upland Hardwood (G5)	199,680	32,340	970	1,080	1,940	990	570	2,730	159,060	16%	20%
Total	4,360,040	2,268,260	134,420	33,120	27,150	6,840	100,320	83,660	1,706,270	52%	61%
<u>B5: Landscape-sized Protection Areas</u>											
Acres acquired within contiguous conservation lands ≥ 50,000 acres	n/a	7,499,922	420,894	194,758	34,345	15,778	299,430	345,836	n/a	n/a	n/a

MEASURES	Total Statewide Acres	Baseline At start of FL Forever July 2001					Other Lands Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^b	Other Lands Added to FNAI Database since July 2001 ^b	Remaining Acres	Percent Protected July 2001	Percent Protected Sep 2024
			BOT ^a	WMDs ^a	OGT, A&I, RFLPP ^{a)(k}	FCT ^a					
C3: Natural Floodplain Function											
Priority 1	4,876,550	4,090,780	56,070	43,210	11,630	4,490	107,400	135,630	427,340	84%	91%
Priority 2	2,677,420	1,367,950	74,250	51,940	15,180	4,010	104,610	100,890	958,590	51%	64%
Priority 3	2,622,280	409,890	81,260	41,210	18,210	6,310	89,510	103,750	1,872,140	16%	29%
Priority 4	2,490,250	252,230	98,650	21,400	13,770	4,270	63,330	79,040	1,957,560	10%	21%
Priority 5	943,380	37,680	20,880	6,870	9,620	1,440	26,080	50,420	790,390	4%	16%
Priority 6	1,585,320	72,590	3,690	5,680	2,600	1,420	6,310	42,430	1,450,600	5%	8%
Total	15,195,200	6,231,120	334,800	170,310	71,010	21,940	397,240	512,160	7,456,620	41%	51%
C4: Surface Water Protection											
Priority 1	2,813,680	1,423,370	66,380	16,760	4,250	5,010	91,680	120,270	1,085,960	51%	61%
Priority 2	5,511,900	3,585,360	81,300	62,440	19,720	3,220	100,910	155,950	1,503,000	65%	73%
Priority 3	1,875,660	407,710	47,770	20,370	10,770	3,650	28,500	37,000	1,319,890	22%	30%
Priority 4	8,589,550	2,327,760	267,010	108,320	51,380	12,940	246,490	249,920	5,325,730	27%	38%
Priority 5	5,428,270	365,230	62,990	28,960	45,360	6,050	71,190	129,460	4,719,030	7%	13%
Priority 6	4,414,240	561,580	91,410	34,350	13,800	9,330	89,680	70,150	3,543,940	13%	20%
Priority 7	1,918,730	62,590	6,480	7,370	3,650	750	16,310	42,550	1,779,030	3%	7%
Total	30,552,030	8,733,600	623,340	278,570	148,930	40,950	644,760	805,300	19,276,580	29%	37%
C5: Minimize Damage from Flooding	15,412,670	6,271,360	338,490	171,930	71,330	22,080	400,430	514,920	7,622,130	41%	51%
C6: Fragile Coastal Resources											
Fragile Coastal Uplands	96,200	68,230	890	50	70	130	1,200	2,560	23,070	71%	76%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	1,530	540	0	0	0	0	0	0	990	35%	35%
Coastal Wetlands	998,170	740,470	5,620	2,320	1,110	1,900	43,800	57,280	145,670	74%	85%
Total	1,095,900	809,240	6,510	2,370	1,180	2,030	45,000	59,840	169,730	74%	85%
C7: Functional Wetlands											
Priority 1	4,762,360	3,974,800	55,350	40,260	11,260	4,750	106,790	135,020	434,130	83%	91%
Priority 2	2,329,570	1,150,580	63,680	47,630	13,730	4,270	94,150	91,700	863,830	49%	63%
Priority 3	2,273,960	306,250	65,690	36,900	13,940	5,890	76,550	89,360	1,679,380	13%	26%
Priority 4	1,314,430	98,590	28,170	8,940	4,210	3,150	30,240	46,050	1,095,080	8%	17%
Priority 5	347,580	13,410	3,890	2,630	1,540	1,000	4,470	14,730	305,910	4%	12%
Priority 6	277,310	10,320	210	1,000	100	660	380	7,750	256,890	4%	7%
Total	11,305,210	5,553,950	216,990	137,360	44,780	19,720	312,580	384,610	4,635,220	49%	59%
D3: Aquifer Recharge											
Priority 1	1,122,030	212,040	16,170	5,710	1,950	1,030	4,910	8,370	871,850	19%	22%
Priority 2	3,310,030	447,590	43,910	20,120	8,890	3,990	23,930	37,320	2,724,280	14%	18%
Priority 3	6,133,020	892,690	93,420	49,640	25,710	8,060	87,490	115,760	4,860,250	15%	21%
Priority 4	7,555,200	1,277,250	180,200	73,030	39,670	11,390	166,900	193,270	5,613,490	17%	26%
Priority 5	6,685,890	1,390,430	152,090	62,440	35,890	8,250	149,490	180,130	4,707,170	21%	30%
Priority 6	8,633,890	3,855,200	117,350	55,940	31,570	6,930	156,510	232,800	4,177,590	45%	52%
Total	33,440,060	8,075,200	603,140	266,880	143,680	39,650	589,230	767,650	22,954,630	24%	31%

MEASURES	Total Statewide Acres	Baseline At start of FL Forever July 2001	OGT, A&I, RFLPP ^a †				Other Lands Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^b	Other Lands Added to FNAI Database since July 2001 ^b	Remaining Acres	Percent Protected July 2001	Percent Protected Sep 2024
			BOT ^a	WMDs ^a	FCT ^a						
E2: Recreational Trails											
Priority 1 miles	6,600	2,800	70	70	80	40	60	210	3,260	42%	50%
Priority 2 miles	4,990	1,200	150	70	30	40	80	280	3,110	24%	37%
Total	11,590	4,020	220	140	110	80	140	500	6,370	35%	45%
F1: Archaeological Sites^c	37,795	15,665	559	374	186	215	661	1,213	19,538	41%	50%
G1: Sustainable Forestry											
Priority 1	1,031,420	650,600	49,400	1,230	10,270	30	14,000	12,370	293,520	63%	72%
Priority 2	1,928,830	750,070	86,220	10,400	14,510	460	54,930	21,800	990,440	39%	49%
Priority 3	2,092,800	553,710	78,330	23,340	13,760	1,570	55,500	38,360	1,328,230	26%	37%
Priority 4	2,493,830	406,440	67,660	29,210	10,240	4,530	55,060	58,250	1,862,440	16%	25%
Priority 5	1,128,860	284,760	23,490	17,620	2,610	3,190	24,250	32,750	740,190	25%	34%
Total	8,675,740	2,645,580	305,100	81,800	51,390	9,780	203,740	163,530	5,214,820	30%	40%
H1: Urban Service Areas	5,599,260	171,070	3,280	2,590	900	8,010	13,090	32,730	5,367,590	3%	4%

^aAcres acquired by each Florida Forever program as of September 2025.

^bAcres acquired by programs other than Florida Forever.

Number of Imperiled Species Protected on Conservation Lands - November 2025

MEASURE	Baseline At start of FL Forever July 2001 ^d	OGT, A&I, RFLPP ^d †				Other Lands Acquired within FL Forever Projects ^e	Other Lands Added to FNAI Database since July 2001 ^e	TOTAL - All FL Forever Programs ^c	TOTAL - All Con- servation Lands ^c
		BOT ^d	WMDs ^d	FCT ^d					
B6: Imperiled Species									
Species occurrences^f	15,348	959	202	173	121	713	835	1,399	17,349
Species with at least 1 occurrence on cons lands	1,070	342	119	120	73	280	323	440	1,106
federal or state endangered	396	149	36	57	26	132	137	182	407
federal or state threatened	121	71	22	26	19	62	70	80	125

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

^dNumber of species on lands acquired by each Florida Forever program as of September 2025

^eNumber of species on lands acquired by programs other than Florida Forever.

^fAn FNAI species occurrence typically represents an ecologically distinct population. A population is intended to be ecologically viable and persist 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.

[†]In 2023 & 2024 this category also included lands purchased by FDEP with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, totaling ca. 100,000 acres.