



Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

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SUMMARY OF FLORIDA CONSERVATION LANDS Including Less-than-fee Conservation Lands

January 2023

prepared by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory

with funding provided by Florida Department of Environmental Protection

| | Fee simple Acres ^{1,2,3} | Less-than- fee Acres ^{4,5} |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| FEDERAL CONSERVATION LANDS | | |
| USDA Forest Service | 1,192,781 | 1,719 |
| USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service ⁶ | 0 | 125,407 |
| USDI Fish and Wildlife Service | 496,225 | 17,634 |
| USDI National Park Service | 1,724,774 | 1,337 |
| US Dept. of Defense | 658,757 | 0 |
| US Other | 976 | 0 |
| TOTAL FEDERALLY MANAGED non-submerged lands | 4,073,513 | 146,097 |
| STATE CONSERVATION LANDS | | |
| DACS Florida Forest Service | 1,170,013 | 65,828 |
| DEP Division of Recreation and Parks | 695,305 | 0 |
| DEP Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection | 76,195 | 484 |
| DEP Division of State Lands | 0 | 177,567 |
| DEP Northwest District | 0 | 13,070 |
| DEP Mining and Mitigation Program | 7,152 | 14,669 |
| Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission | 1,553,141 | 58,075 |
| Dept. of Military Affairs | 70,867 | 0 |
| Dept. of Management Services | 84 | 0 |
| Agency for Persons with Disabilities | 97 | 0 |
| State Universities | 15,204 | 27,057 |
| Water Management Districts | 1,470,276 | 463,233 |
| <i>Undesignated State Lands</i> ⁷ | 4,668 | 0 |
| TOTAL STATE MANAGED non-submerged lands | 5,058,335 | 819,983 |
| LOCAL (COUNTY & MUNICIPAL) CONSERVATION LANDS | 514,585 | 18,740 |
| <i>TOTAL STATE, FEDERAL, AND LOCAL non-submerged lands</i> | 9,916,101 | 1,061,747 |
| Private Conservation Lands | 128,028 | 76,928 |
| Private Mitigation Banks | 137,011 | 0 |

LAND AREA OF STATE OF FLORIDA: 34,721,280 acres⁸

| | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| PERCENT OF FLORIDA IN FEDERALLY MANAGED CONSERVATION LANDS | 11.7% | 0.4% |
| PERCENT OF FLORIDA IN STATE-MANAGED CONSERVATION LANDS | 14.6% | 2.4% |
| PERCENT OF FLORIDA IN LOCALLY MANAGED CONSERVATION LANDS | 1.5% | 0.05% |

¹ Acreages may be different from previous years earlier than 2021 due to introduction of GIS acres being used to determine land and submerged acres.

² Acreages are counted once under the primary managing agency even though there may be several owners and/or managers. For this reason, total acres for some agencies may be higher than the acres to which they hold title and others may be lower.

³ Acreages listed include terrestrial wetlands such as the Everglades but exclude 4,310,471 acres of submerged marine, lake, or river bottom (such as state aquatic preserves or Florida Bay) that are part of certain managed areas.

⁴ Numbers include a total of 1,138,675 acres less-than-fee properties (10% of total conservation lands).

⁵ Represents the less-than-fee lands included in the FNAI conservation lands database as of 1 January 2023, with the exception of mitigation banks. Almost all properties are owned and managed by private individuals or private foundations or corporations. Lands are classified by the agency or organization that monitors the easement on the property. The same agency or organization usually holds title to the easement, but there are a few exceptions.

⁶ Acreage total includes all permanent easements (WRP, GRP, and Wetland Reserve Easements) held by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

⁷ Lands owned by the State that are not currently leased to a governmental agency.

⁸ Source: Atlas of Florida, 1996. E. A. Fernald and E. D. Purdum, eds., University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL

SUMMARY OF MANAGED CONSERVATION AREA ACREAGES January 2023
tracked by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Acreage figures are calculated from GIS boundary files. The acreage of each managed area may include some lands that are managed for purposes other than conservation. Non-submerged acres are the only acres considered in the previous fee simple/less-than-fee summary table.

| <u>FEDERAL</u> | <u>combined acres</u> | <u>submerged acres</u> | <u>non-submerged acres</u> |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Dept. of Agriculture: Forest Service | 1,202,009 | 7,508 | 1,194,500 |
| Dept. of Agriculture: NRCS | 125,407 | 0 | 125,407 |
| Fish and Wildlife Service ¹ | 1,006,353 | 492,495 | 513,858 |
| National Park Service ^{2,3} | 2,590,021 | 863,909 | 1,726,111 |
| Dept. of Defense: Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps | 663,090 | 4,333 | 658,757 |
| Dept. of Agriculture (other) | 368 | 0 | 368 |
| Dept. of Commerce: NOAA | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| Dept. of Transportation: Coast Guard | 277 | 0 | 277 |
| Bureau of Land Management | 325 | 3 | 322 |
| | 5,587,859 | 1,368,249 | 4,219,610 |
| <u>STATE</u> | | | |
| DACS Florida Forest Service | 1,237,827 | 1,986 | 1,235,841 |
| DEP Division of Recreation & Parks | 806,353 | 111,048 | 695,305 |
| DEP Office of Resilience and Coastal Prot. ⁴ | 2,826,873 | 2,750,194 | 76,678 |
| DEP Division of State Lands ⁵ | 177,573 | 6 | 177,567 |
| DEP Northwest District ⁵ | 13,388 | 317 | 13,070 |
| DEP Mining and Mitigation Program | 21,821 | 0 | 21,821 |
| Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission | 1,657,518 | 46,302 | 1,611,216 |
| Dept. of Military Affairs | 73,142 | 2,276 | 70,867 |
| Dept. of Management Services | 84 | 0 | 84 |
| Agency for Persons with Disabilities | 111 | 14 | 97 |
| Universities | 42,566 | 305 | 42,261 |
| | 6,857,257 | 2,912,448 | 3,944,809 |
| <u>WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS</u> | | | <u>total acres</u> |
| Northwest Florida WMD | | | 223,339 |
| St. Johns River WMD | | | 553,784 |
| South Florida WMD | | | 524,365 |
| Southwest Florida WMD | | | 355,172 |
| Suwannee River WMD | | | 276,848 |
| | | | 1,933,508 |
| <u>STATE AND WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS (total non-submerged acres)</u> | | | 5,878,317 |
| <u>LOCAL (COUNTY & MUNICIPAL) GOVERNMENTS (total non-submerged acres)</u> | | | 533,325 |
| <u>PRIVATE CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS (total non-submerged acres)</u> | | | 204,956 |
| <u>PRIVATE MITIGATION BANKS (total non-submerged acres)</u> | | | 137,011 |

¹Submerged acres include, but are not exclusive to Key West NWR (207,963 acres), Great White Heron NWR/National Key Deer Refuge (197,931 acres), Merritt Island NWR (56,195 acres) and Chassahowitzka NWR (21,839 acres). Acreage total excludes lands within Merritt Island NWR that are managed solely by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

²Totals may include private properties within official federally designated boundaries of National Park Service lands.

³Submerged acres include Everglades National Park (570,515 acres), Biscayne National Park (165,721 acres), Dry Tortugas National Park (64,667 acres), Gulf Islands National Seashore (45,699 acres), and Canaveral National Seashore (16,614 acres).

⁴Includes state aquatic preserves and national estuarine research reserves but not Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

⁵DEP Division of State Lands is the monitoring agency for most conservation easements (less-than-fee lands) held by the State of Florida. DEP Northwest District is responsible for monitoring several large state-held conservation easements in the Florida Panhandle.