

**PRELIMINARY EVALUATIONS
OF THE JUNE 2026
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSALS**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory
Florida Resources and Environmental Assessment Center
Institute of Science and Public Affairs
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The Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) is dedicated to gathering, interpreting, and disseminating information critical to the conservation of Florida's biological resources. The Inventory was founded in 1981 as a member of The Nature Conservancy's international network of natural heritage programs, and it is now part of Florida State University's Institute of Science and Public Affairs. Funding for FNAI is provided through contracts, which currently include work for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Forest Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and Florida's Water Management Districts.

FNAI staff builds and maintains a comprehensive statewide database that now includes more than 29,000 occurrences of rare plant and animal species and high-quality natural communities. The database also contains information on the more than 3,200 lands managed wholly or in part for conservation in Florida. This database includes national forests, parks and wildlife refuges; state parks, forests, aquatic preserves, and wildlife management areas; water management district lands; county and municipal parks; private preserves; and military installations with substantial natural areas. Boundaries of state land acquisition projects are also represented.

As part of an agreement with DEP, FNAI provides data and expertise to assist with the multi-step process of evaluating lands proposed for acquisition through the Florida Forever Program. This document presents our preliminary review of the following proposals submitted for the cycle beginning June 2026:

- Buzzard Roost
- Chamonix
- Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway Expansion
- Levy's Prairie
- Oak Creek Flatwoods
- Ocklawaha Bufferlands
- Putnam-Clay Timberlands
- Raiford to Osceola Greenway Extension
- Scout Hole

This review includes the following for each proposal: a natural resource description, tables listing natural communities and rare species on the site, a tabular evaluation of selected Florida Forever Measures, and maps of the proposed site. Recreational and archeological values are not considered in this evaluation.

Natural Resource Description: The description of the natural resources presented for each proposal is developed from information provided in the proposal application, the FNAI Natural Heritage Database, FNAI staff comments, aerial photographs, and other available data sources. The natural communities listed in this evaluation and the percentage of the total area that each occupies were derived principally from aerial photographs as interpreted by FNAI staff and by landcover information from the FWC-FNAI Cooperative Land Cover Map. These data were supplemented by FNAI natural community occurrence data where available. These sources were also used to determine the extent of disturbed lands that no longer support natural communities (agriculture areas, developed areas, mines, etc.). Acreages of communities and other landcover types are approximate, but provide a reasonable estimate for this stage of the evaluation process. More precise landcover information is gathered during Project Evaluation Report site visits for those proposals selected for further evaluation.

Acreages of natural communities, particularly mesic and wet flatwoods, may differ from acreages given in the Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) table (described below). The FFME relies on statewide remotely sensed data where on-the-ground information is lacking. Using current high resolution aerial photography, FNAI scientists sometimes identify different acreage of certain landcover types—for example, pine plantation or flatwoods—than is identified through remotely sensed data.

Rare species on each proposed area are listed in each evaluation. Species recorded in the FNAI database and those reported in the application are listed separately in the table. Potential rare species may be discussed in the evaluation text. FNAI Global and State ranks and Federal and State legal statuses are given for each species in the table. A rank/status explanation sheet is included at the end of this document.

Florida Forever Measures Evaluation: Accompanying each evaluation is a table illustrating to what extent each proposed site meets 14 Florida Forever performance measures. These 14 measures were selected because they are resource-based criteria that can be used to set acquisition priorities. For each measure, we report the acres of the resource found on the proposed site and the percentage of the site containing the resource. The data in this assessment represent a highly standardized, statewide perspective of natural resource distributions. More detailed information may be gathered during the preparation of the Project Evaluation Report for those proposals approved for further evaluation. The data used in this evaluation are described in detail in the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment Summary Report and Technical Report, available at www.fnai.org.

Maps: This report provides two maps of each proposed site. The first is a small-scale map showing the proposed site in the context of surrounding conservation lands and land protection projects. The second map is of larger scale and uses recent aerial imagery that provides a view of the landcover of each site and its surroundings.

Elements and Element Occurrences

An **element** is any exemplary or rare component of the natural environment, such as a species, natural community, bird rookery, spring, sinkhole, cave, or other ecological feature.

An **element occurrence (EO)** is an area of land and/or water in which a species or natural community is, or was, present. An EO should have practical conservation value for the Element as evidenced by potential continued (or historical) presence and/or regular recurrence at a given location.

Element Ranking and Legal Status

Using a ranking system developed by NatureServe and the Natural Heritage Program Network, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory assigns two ranks for each element. The global rank is based on an element's worldwide status; the state rank is based on the status of the element in Florida. Element ranks are based on many factors, the most important ones being estimated number of Element Occurrences (EOs), estimated abundance (number of individuals for species; area for natural communities), geographic range, estimated number of adequately protected EOs, relative threat of destruction, and ecological fragility.

FNAI GLOBAL ELEMENT RANK

- G1** = Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G2** = Imperiled globally because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G3** = Either very rare and local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction from other factors.
- G4** = Apparently secure globally (may be rare in parts of range).
- G5** = Demonstrably secure globally.
- GH** = Of historical occurrence throughout its range, may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker).
- GX** = Believed to be extinct throughout range.
- GXC** = Extirpated from the wild but still known from captivity or cultivation.
- G#?** = Tentative rank (e.g., G2?).
- G#G#** = Range of rank; insufficient data to assign specific global rank (e.g., G2G3).
- G#T#** = Rank of a taxonomic subgroup such as a subspecies or variety; the G portion of the rank refers to the entire species and the T portion refers to the specific subgroup; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G3T1).
- G#Q** = Rank of questionable species - ranked as species but questionable whether it is species or subspecies; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G2Q).
- G#T#Q** = Same as above, but validity as subspecies or variety is questioned.
- GU** = Unrankable; due to a lack of information no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., GUT2).
- GNA** = Ranking is not applicable because the element is not a suitable target for conservation (e.g. a hybrid species).
- GNR** = Element not yet ranked (temporary).
- GNRTNR** = Neither the element nor the taxonomic subgroup has yet been ranked.

FNAI STATE ELEMENT RANK

- S1** = Critically imperiled in Florida because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- S2** = Imperiled in Florida because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- S3** = Either very rare and local in Florida (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction from other factors.
- S4** = Apparently secure in Florida (may be rare in parts of range).
- S5** = Demonstrably secure in Florida.
- SH** = Of historical occurrence in Florida, possibly extirpated, but may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker).
- SX** = Believed to be extirpated throughout Florida.
- SU** = Unrankable; due to a lack of information no rank or range can be assigned.
- SNA** = State ranking is not applicable because the element is not a suitable target for conservation (e.g. a hybrid species).
- SNR** = Element not yet ranked (temporary).

FEDERAL LEGAL STATUS

Legal status information provided by FNAI for information only. For official definitions and lists of protected species, consult the relevant federal agency.

Definitions derived from U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973, Sec. 3. Note that the federal status given by FNAI refers only to Florida populations and that federal status may differ elsewhere.

C = Candidate species for which federal listing agencies have sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list the species as Endangered or Threatened.

E = Endangered: species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

E, T = Species currently listed endangered in a portion of its range but only listed as threatened in other areas

E, PDL = Species currently listed endangered but has been proposed for delisting.

E, PT = Species currently listed endangered but has been proposed for listing as threatened.

E, XN = Species currently listed endangered but tracked population is a non-essential experimental population.

T = Threatened: species likely to become Endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

PE = Species proposed for listing as endangered.

PS = - An infraspecific taxon or population has federal status but the entire species does not - status is in only a portion of the species range.

PT = Species proposed for listing as threatened.

SAT = Treated as threatened due to similarity of appearance to a species which is federally listed such that enforcement personnel have difficulty in attempting to differentiate between the listed and unlisted species.

SC = Not currently listed, but considered a "species of concern" to USFWS.

DL = Delisted.

UR = Under review.

STATE LEGAL STATUS

Provided by FNAI for information only. For official definitions and lists of protected species, consult the relevant state agency.

Animals: Definitions derived from "Florida's Endangered Species and Species of Special Concern, Official Lists" published by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 1 August 1997, and subsequent updates.

C = Candidate for listing at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FE = Listed as Endangered Species at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FT = Listed as Threatened Species at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FXN = Federal listed as an experimental population in Florida

FT(S/A) = Federal Threatened due to similarity of appearance

ST = State population listed as Threatened by the FFWCC. Defined as a species, subspecies, or isolated population which is acutely vulnerable to environmental alteration, declining in number at a rapid rate, or whose range or habitat is decreasing in area at a rapid rate and as a consequence is destined or very likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future.

SSC = Listed as Species of Special Concern by the FFWCC. Defined as a population which warrants special protection, recognition, or consideration because it has an inherent significant vulnerability to habitat modification, environmental alteration, human disturbance, or substantial human exploitation which, in the foreseeable future, may result in its becoming a threatened species. (SSC* for *Pandion haliaetus* (Osprey) indicates that this status applies in Monroe county only.)

N = Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.

Plants: Definitions derived from Sections 581.011, 581.185 and 581.185(2), Florida Statutes, and the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act, 5B-40.001. FNAI does not track all state-regulated plant species; for a complete list of state-regulated plant species, call Florida Division of Plant Industry, 352-372-3505 or see: <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=5B-40>.

E = Endangered: species of plants native to Florida that are in imminent danger of extinction within the state, the survival of which is unlikely if the causes of a decline in the number of plants continue; includes all species determined to be endangered or threatened pursuant to the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

T = Threatened: species native to the state that are in rapid decline in the number of plants within the state, but which have not so decreased in number as to cause them to be Endangered.

CE = Commercially exploited: species native to the state which are subject to being removed in significant numbers from native habitats in the state and sold or transported for sale.

N = Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.

Element Occurrence Ranking

FNAI ranks of quality of the element occurrence in terms of its viability (EORANK). Viability is estimated using a combination of factors that contribute to continued survival of the element at the location. Among these are the size of the EO, general condition of the EO at the site, and the conditions of the landscape surrounding the EO (e.g. an immediate threat to an EO by local development pressure could lower an EO rank).

A = Excellent estimated viability
A? = Possibly excellent estimated viability
AB = Excellent or good estimated viability
AC = Excellent, good, or fair estimated viability
B = Good estimated viability
B? = Possibly good estimated viability
BC = Good or fair estimated viability
BD = Good, fair, or poor estimated viability
C = Fair estimated viability
C? = Possibly fair estimated viability
CD = Fair or poor estimated viability
D = Poor estimated viability
D? = Possibly poor estimated viability
E = Verified extant (viability not assessed)
F = Failed to find
H = Historical
NR = Not ranked, a placeholder when an EO is not (yet) ranked.
U = Unrankable
X = Extirpated

*For additional detail on the above ranks see: <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/eorankguide.htm>

FNAI also uses the following EO ranks:

H? = Possibly historical
F? = Possibly failed to find
X? = Possibly extirpated

The following offers further explanation of the H and X ranks as they are used by FNAI:

The rank of H is used when there is a lack of recent field information verifying the continued existence of an EO, such as (a) when an EO is based only on historical collections data; or (b) when an EO was ranked A, B, C, D, or E at one time and is later, without field survey work, considered to be possibly extirpated due to general habitat loss or degradation of the environment in the area. This definition of the H rank is dependent on an interpretation of what constitutes "recent" field information. Generally, if there is no known survey of an EO within the last 20 to 40 years, it should be assigned an H rank. While these time frames represent suggested maximum limits, the actual time period for historical EOs may vary according to the biology of the element and the specific landscape context of each occurrence (including anthropogenic alteration of the environment). Thus, an H rank may be assigned to an EO before the maximum time frames have lapsed. Occurrences that have not been surveyed for periods exceeding these time frames should not be ranked A, B, C, or D. The higher maximum limit for plants and communities (i.e., ranging from 20 to 40 years) is based upon the assumption that occurrences of these elements generally have the potential to persist at a given location for longer periods of time. This greater potential is a reflection of plant biology and community dynamics. However, landscape factors must also be considered. Thus, areas with more anthropogenic impacts on the environment (e.g., development) will be at the lower end of the range, and less-impacted areas will be at the higher end.

The rank of X is assigned to EOs for which there is documented destruction of habitat or environment, or persuasive evidence of eradication based on adequate survey (i.e., thorough or repeated survey efforts by one or more experienced observers at times and under conditions appropriate for the Element at that location).

BUZZARD ROOST(DESOTO AND HARDEE COUNTY)

Less Than Fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

The Buzzard Roost proposal includes a single contiguous block of ca. 7,058.9 acres spanning the boundary between DeSoto and Hardee counties. The property is proposed for less-than-fee protection through a conservation easement.

The property is an irregularly shaped block of land about 4.5 miles north to south and 4.5 miles east to west situated ca. 10 miles northwest of Arcadia along the western boundaries of DeSoto and Hardee Counties. The land lies roughly midway between the Myakka and Peace rivers, with most of the proposal falling within the Horse Creek subbasin of the Peace River watershed. About 1.8 miles of the site's northern boundary adjoins the Quail Creek Farms Conservation Easement, and the eastern edge of the proposal is only 0.25 miles from the Horse Creek Conservation Easement, which connects to the Horse Creek Ranch Conservation Easement and the Montalvo Conservation Easement. The Flint DeSoto Conservation Easement and Keen Family Ranch Rural Lands Protection Easement are within 5 miles. There are 27 conservation lands, mainly to the south and west, within 10 miles. Various unacquired tracts in the Myakka Ranchlands FFBOT project are nearby, with the closest adjoining corner-to-corner to the northwest of the proposal. Properties included in the Limestone Ranch and Peace River Refuge FFBOT projects are also within 5 miles of the site.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

The Buzzard Roost proposal straddles Buzzard Roost Branch, which flows eastward through the property as a channelized creek, meeting with Horse Creek about 6.6 miles downstream from where it leaves the property. Brandy Branch, another tributary of Horse Creek, originates from headwaters in the northeastern corner of this proposal. The topography of the site is gently rolling, with wetlands surrounding the creeks lying at ca. 70 feet above sea level, and the intervening hills rising to 80-85 feet.

The majority of this site—over 85% of the proposal acreage—consists of relatively unaltered natural areas. Mesic flatwoods are the predominant landcover (ca. 51% of the site), occupying most of the uplands, with areas of scrubby flatwoods and likely some scrub on the highest elevations. Isolated wetlands (mainly depression marshes and dome swamps, some with a wet prairie fringe) are interspersed within the flatwoods landscape. Buzzard Roost Branch is surrounded by a broad area of marsh (which due to artificial drainage may resemble wet prairie). Set back from the creek are bands of

forest (mesic hammock, baygall, and other forested wetlands) that grade into the adjacent flatwoods. The headwaters of Brandy Branch are a mix of forested wetlands and marshes as well.

Only a small portion of the site is covered by anthropogenic landcover types. Areas of improved pasture near the center of the site make up about 9% of the proposal. Other altered landcover types on the site are minimal, and include a few artificial ponds, wildlife openings, a utility corridor, a homesite, and a network of unpaved access roads.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Buzzard Roost Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
mesic flatwoods	3,616	51
depression marsh	749	11
wet prairie	433	6
freshwater forested wetlands	417	6
scrubby flatwoods	362	5
basin marsh	178	3
mesic hammock	168	2
baygall	75	1
xeric hammock	67	<1
scrub	48	<1
basin swamp	35	<1
wet flatwoods	28	<1
dome swamp	23	<1
pasture-improved	656	9
successional hydric shrubland/forest	58	<1
pasture-semi-improved	50	<1
clearing/regeneration	24	<1
utility corridor	21	<1
canal/ditch	16	<1
developed	11	<1
successional hardwood forest	9	<1
road	8	<1
artificial pond	3	<1
agriculture	2	<1
spoil area	<1	<1
Total	7,059	100

There is a wide variety of rare/imperiled wildlife species documented on the property (Table 2). Most notably, Florida scrub jay has been documented on the property and is likely still present. Several

wading bird species are also recorded, and a significant wading bird rookery was documented on the property in the 1970s and 1980s. The application reports several other species, all of which are likely to continue to occur based on the conditions onsite. Given the presence of a variety of intact habitats, particularly scrub and scrubby flatwoods, it is highly likely that additional rare species occur on the proposal.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Buzzard Roost Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>	Florida scrub-jay	G2	S2	T	FT
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	little blue heron	G5	S4	N	ST
<i>Egretta thula</i>	snowy egret	G5	S3	N	N
<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	tricolored heron	G5	S4	N	ST
<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	white ibis	G5	S4	N	N
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	black-crowned night-heron	G5	S3	N	N
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	glossy ibis	G5	S3	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	gopher tortoise	G3	S3	N	LT
<i>Antigone canadensis pratensis</i>	Florida sandhill crane	G5T2	S2	N	ST
<i>Caracara plancus</i>	crested caracara	G5	S2	T	FT
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	wood stork	G4	S2	DL	FT
<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	roseate spoonbill	G5	S2	N	ST

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, the entire site (99-200%) contributes to FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities (mainly priority 4), Ecological Greenways (priority 3), Surface Water Protection (mostly priority 5), Aquifer Recharge (priorities 2-6). A large majority of the site (89%) contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (mostly priority 3), and more than half contributes to Sustainable Forestry. Functional Wetlands and Natural Floodplain Function would each be protected by 30% of the site.

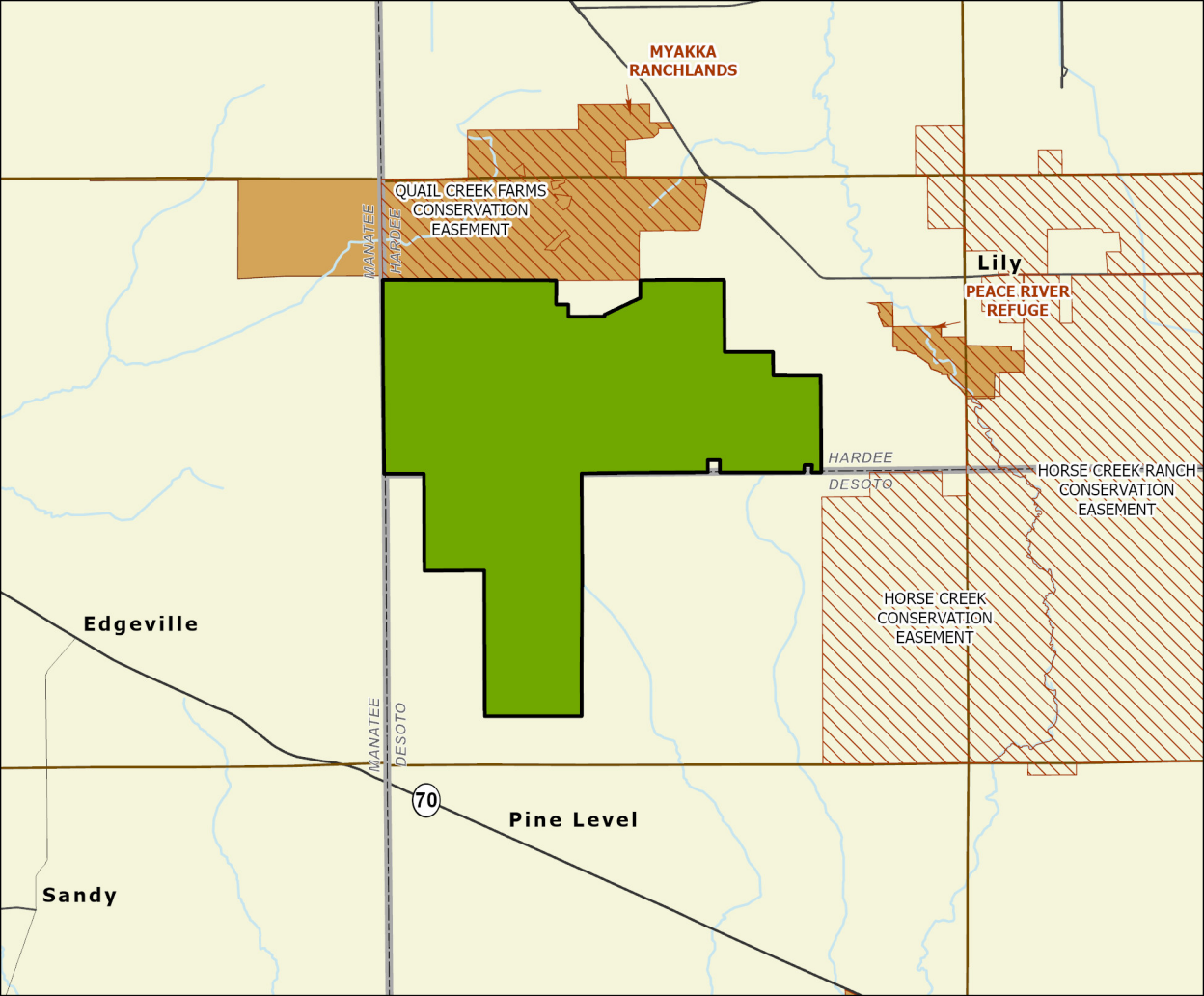
Buzzard Roost: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 7,061

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	14	< 1%
Priority 3	4,160	59%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	2,078	29%
Total Acres	6,252	89%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	353	5%
Priority 4	4,159	59%
Priority 5	1,385	20%
Priority 6	1,152	16%
Total Acres	7,049	100%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	7,014	99%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	7,014	99%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	167	2%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	3,751	53%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	3,917	55%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	1	
G3	0	
G4	0	
G5	6	
Total	7	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	625	9%
Priority 2	1,065	15%
Priority 3	439	6%
Priority 4	9	< 1%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	2,139	30%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	2,261	32%
Priority 4	29	< 1%
Priority 5	3,994	57%
Priority 6	330	5%
Priority 7	438	6%
Total Acres	7,051	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	639	9%
Priority 2	1,051	15%
Priority 3	424	6%
Priority 4	0	< 1%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	2,115	30%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	421	6%
Priority 3	1,759	25%
Priority 4	3,888	55%
Priority 5	971	14%
Priority 6	22	< 1%
Total Acres	7,061	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	2,213	31%
Priority 3	878	12%
Priority 4	773	11%
Priority 5	55	< 1%
Total Acres	3,919	56%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	1,253	18%

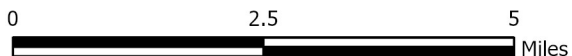
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



BUZZARD ROOST FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

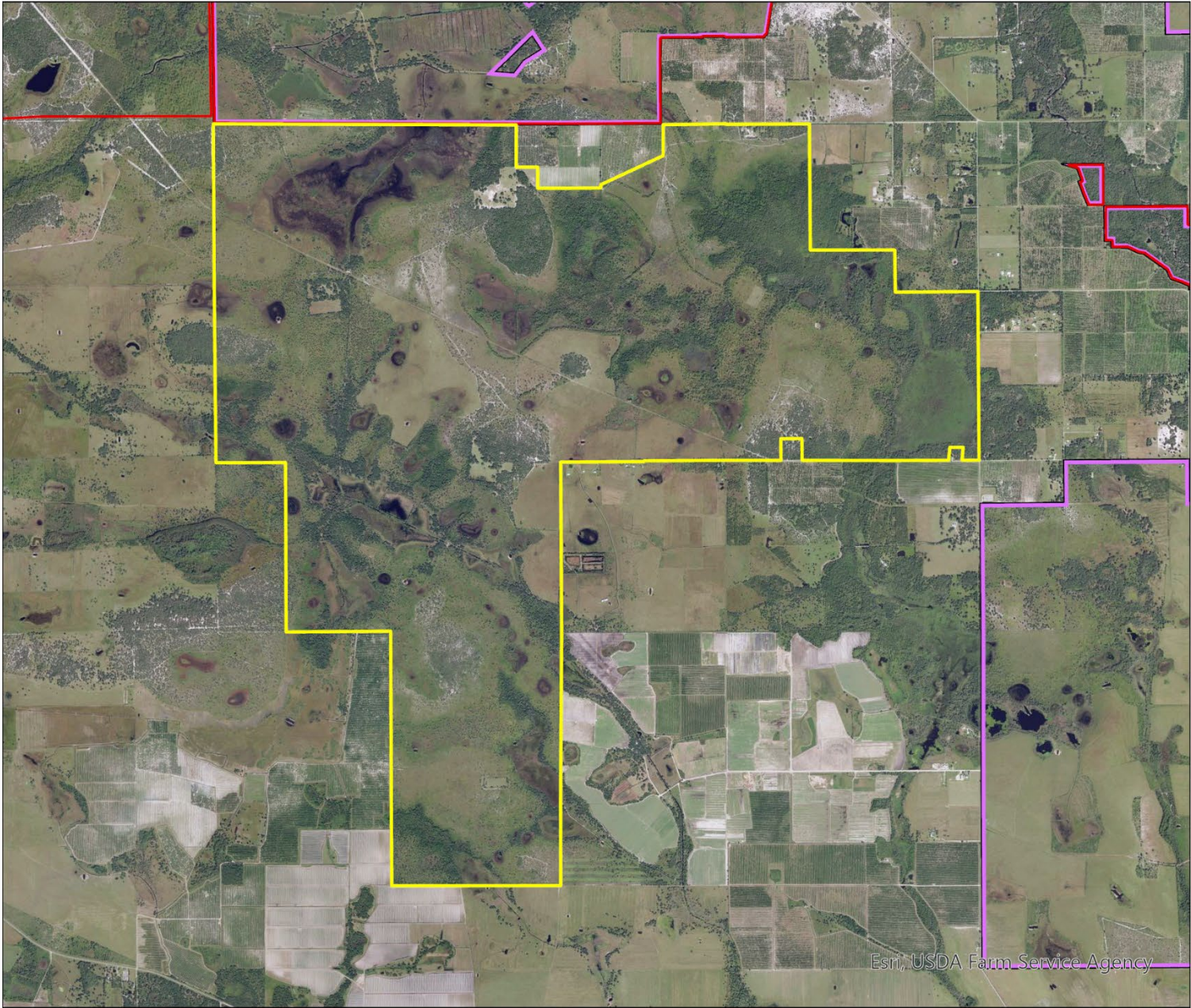
DESOTO AND HARDEE COUNTIES

-  Florida Forever Proposal
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  Other Conservation Lands



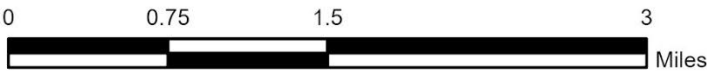
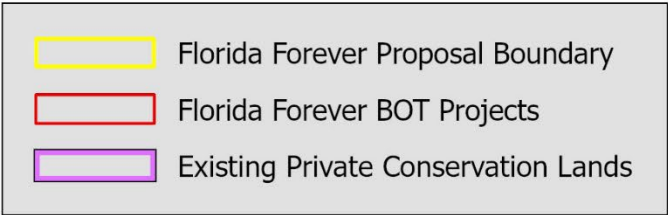
BUZZARD ROOST FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery



CHAMONIX(LEON COUNTY)

Less-Than-Fee

Preliminary Evaluation

The Chamonix proposal includes ca. 960.3 acres in northeastern Leon County. This land consists of a contiguous tract under a single ownership that is proposed for less-than-fee protection via a conservation easement.

The Chamonix proposal consists of a triangular property with 2 narrow southerly extensions, with one small parcel separated from the rest by ca. 0.2 miles. The property lies approximately 10 miles northeast of Tallahassee and 5 miles west of Lake Miccosukee. The Property extends between Miccosukee Road (County Road 146) and Mahan Drive, with about two miles of frontage on Miccosukee Road and approximately 350 feet of frontage on Mahan Drive.

This tract is a portion of a larger holding that is already partially under easement, and the proposal's eastern and southern boundaries completely adjoin the Chemonie Plantation Conservation Easement. Some 41 conservation areas—mainly easements—lie within 10 miles, including a large block of managed lands to the north, contiguous with Tall Timbers Research Station. The proposal is adjacent to unacquired lands in the Red Hills Conservation FFBOT project to the north, and additional lands in this project make up much of the intervening acreage between the proposal and Lake Miccosukee.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

The Chamonix proposal is in a region characterized by uplands crossed by well-developed dendritic stream systems and lies on an upland ridge between Black Creek to the west and an unnamed creek to the east, both of which feed the St. Marks River, which empties to the Gulf. There is active karst erosion in this region, making it significant for aquifer recharge; active sinkholes are reported in the application, and along an escarpment just to the south, it is common for streams to disappear into swallets and flow underground for some of their length.

The main portion of the property has 2 hills that rise to a maximum of about 200 feet above sea level, separated and surrounded by lower areas, with the minimum elevation on the proposal at about 70 feet. Surface drainage is mainly southeastward through the center of the property, with Cody Pond draining to Shemonie Lake, and eastward off the property. An area of swamp at the northern tip of the proposal, separated by a hill from the central drainage, is connected to the creek system to the east.

Most of the property consists of pine-dominated uplands. Although these have a history of agricultural disturbance, they are reported to be dominated by longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) and regularly managed with prescribed fire, and are therefore mapped as upland pine. Other species reported to be present include loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) and shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*) with scattered hardwoods, including southern red oak (*Quercus falcata*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), and live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), with a grassy groundcover that is structurally similar to natural upland pine communities, though likely lacking some of the botanical diversity. Over much of the upland pine areas, a grid of mowed lanes, presumably to facilitate quail hunting, is visible.

Other forested areas on the site make up about 13% of the proposal acreage; these likely consist of upland hardwood forests at higher elevations grading into bottomland forests and basin swamps in areas that are occasionally or regularly flooded.

There are several ponds on the property, at least some of which result from the impoundment of water. Cody Pond, near the proposal's western edge, appears to be a permanent lake, while Shemonie Lake near the southeastern corner consists of a series of shallower impoundments.

Improved pasture areas make up about 10% of the proposal, mainly near the northern end of the property. There are also numerous groupings of planted pines and linear wildlife food plots planted side by side in alternating strips; these are interspersed throughout the uplands. The pine plantations make up ca. 10% of the site, and wildlife clearings account for about 6%.

A handful of developed areas (2% of the proposal) occur on the northern half of the site; these are reported to contain a few single family homes or mobile homes, as well as secondary structures, barns, and other outbuildings.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Chamonix Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
upland pine	471	49
basin swamp	89	9
upland hardwood forest	25	3
bottomland forest	5	<1
sinkhole lake	2	<1
depression marsh	<1	<1
pasture-improved	97	10
pine plantation	93	10
artificial pond	86	9
clearing/regeneration	55	6
developed	23	2
utility corridor	11	1
successional hardwood forest	2	<1
road	2	<1
Total	960	100

The proposal is in an area where FWC classifies Florida black bear (*Ursus americanus floridanus*) as common, and consequently, this species is presumed to occur on the property. No other documented rare plants or animals are documented in the FNAI Natural Heritage Database or other sources, but this is likely due in part to a lack of detailed surveys. The application notes several rare species (Table 2) among a variety of wildlife that have been observed on this property. Additional rare or imperiled plants or animals are possible.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Chamonix Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	gopher tortoise	G3	S3	N	ST
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	little blue heron	G5	S4	N	ST
<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	white ibis	G5	S4	N	N
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	bald eagle	G5	S3	N	N
<i>Peucaea aestivalis</i>	Bachman's sparrow	G3	S3	N	N
<i>Sciurus niger niger</i>	Southern fox squirrel	G5T5	S3	N	N

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, the entire property contributes to Aquifer Recharge (priorities 2-5), and nearly all (>90%) contributes to Ecological Greenways (priority 2) and Surface Water Protection (mainly priorities 4 and 5). Most of the property also contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (75%; mostly priority 3) and Sustainable Forestry (57%; chiefly priorities 1-3). About 1/5 to ¼ of the proposal contribute to Natural Floodplain Function and Forestland for Recharge. Contributions to FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities and Functional Wetlands are minor (less than 10% of the proposal acreage).

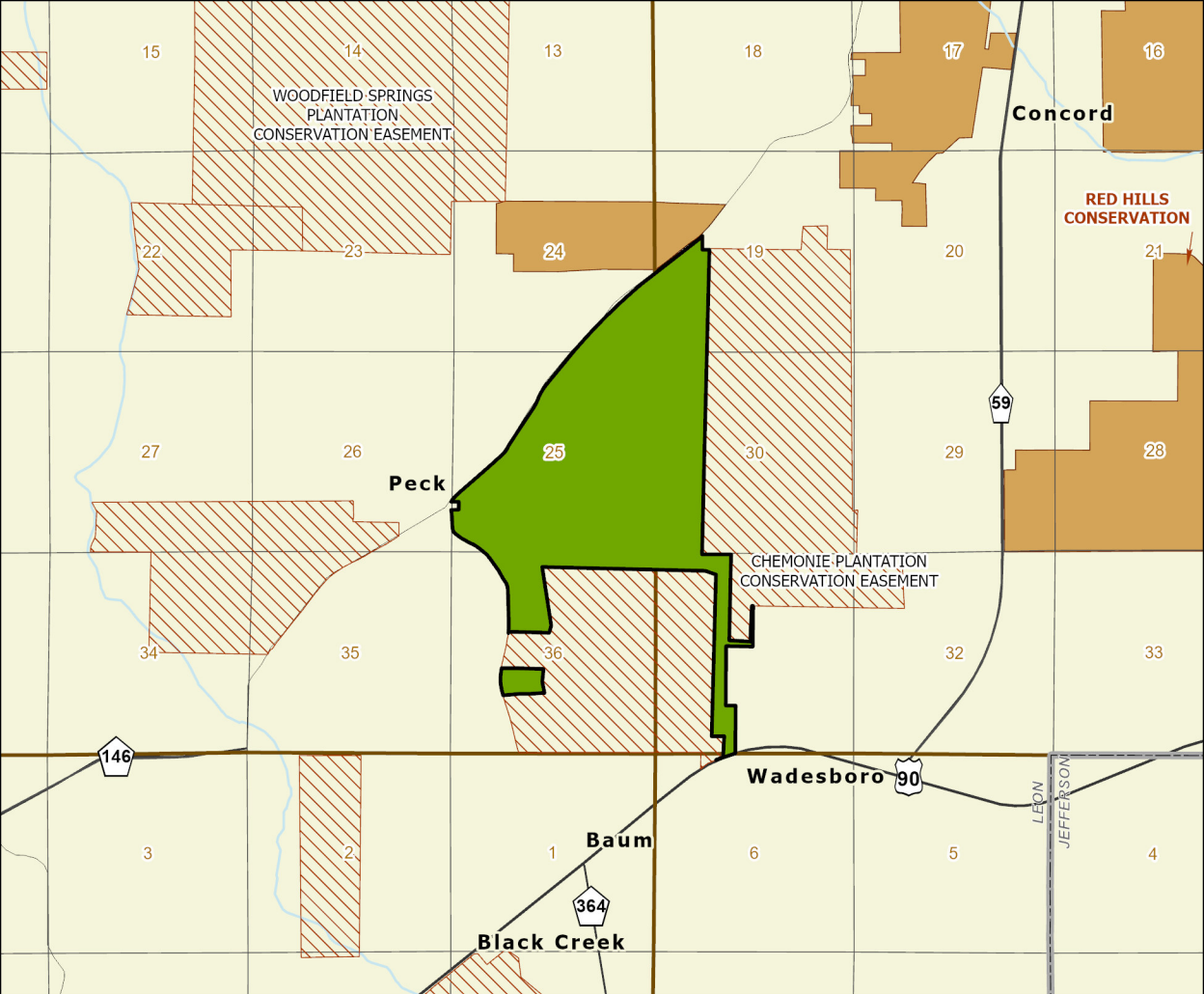
Chamonix: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 960

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	632	66%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	92	10%
Total Acres	724	75%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	30	3%
Total Acres	30	3%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	906	94%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	906	94%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	491	51%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	0	0%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	491	51%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	122	13%
Priority 3	121	13%
Priority 4	6	< 1%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	249	26%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	2	< 1%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	393	41%
Priority 5	476	50%
Priority 6	0	0%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	872	91%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	69	7%
Priority 3	11	1%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	81	8%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	24	2%
Priority 3	352	37%
Priority 4	97	10%
Priority 5	487	51%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	959	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.6	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.6	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		0 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	188	20%
Priority 2	209	22%
Priority 3	145	15%
Priority 4	2	< 1%
Priority 5	1	< 1%
Total Acres	545	57%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		209 22%

^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



CHAMONIX FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

LEON COUNTY

- Florida Forever Proposal
- Florida Forever BOT Projects
- Other Conservation Lands

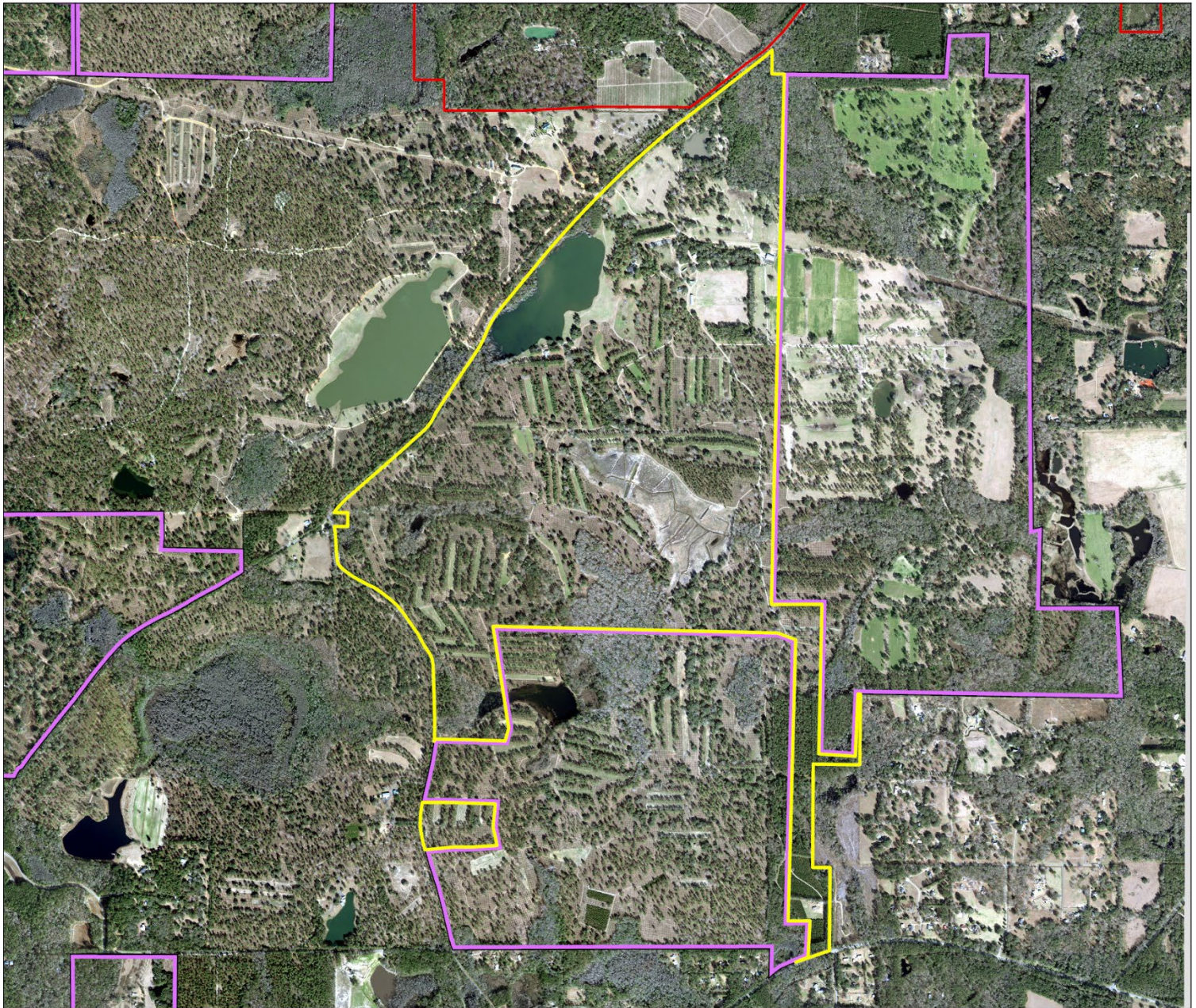


0 1 2
Miles



CHAMONIX FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

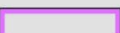
FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: FDOT Aerial Imagery 2024



-  Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  Existing Private Conservation Lands



ETONIAH/CROSS FLORIDA GREENWAY EXPANSION (PUTNAM COUNTY)

Fee Simple or Less Than Fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

The Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway Expansion proposal includes ca. 4,246.7 acres in Putnam County. It is a contiguous block of property under a single ownership. The property's owners are willing to consider fee simple acquisition or less-than-fee protection via conservation easement.

The property is situated on the north edge of Putnam County, ca. 8 miles north of Palatka and 6 miles west of the St. Johns River. Sungarden Road (CR 214; unpaved) passes along 2 portions of the northern edge of the proposal for a total of about 1.2 miles, and several unpaved roads traverse the property. There are no existing managed lands adjacent to the proposal, but Sundew Mitigation Bank is slightly more than 1 mile northeast, and Bayard Conservation area, Nochaway Mitigation Bank (connected to Belmore State Forest and Camp Blanding Military Reservation) as well as numerous small disjunct preserves and easements, are within 5 miles. The entire western boundary borders unacquired lands in the Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway FFBOT project; this proposal along with the proposed Putnam-Clay Timberlands proposal would nearly connect Bayard Conservation Area (currently isolated) with the proposed corridor between Camp Blanding and the Ocala National Forest.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

This proposal lies at the southeastern edge of an upland terrace where higher elevations give way to lower drainages that eventually feed into the St. Johns River. With the exception of creek corridors, elevations over much of the property are relatively consistent, with the northwestern 2/3 of the site consisting of gently rolling terrain varying between 90 and 105 feet above sea level, with karst depressions in some places. Elevations descend to a low of about 35 feet at the south end of the property.

The surface hydrology of the site is characterized mainly by well-defined streams that divide the uplands. Simms Creek, a tributary of Rice Creek (and ultimately the St. Johns) makes up the entire eastern boundary of the proposal, flowing southward. Topographic maps show at least one east-flowing ravine draining to Simms Creek. The northwestern corner of the site contains part of the headwaters of Harvey Creek, which flows southeastward across the proposal to its confluence with Simms Creek at the property's southern tip.

The main use of the property has been timber production; with pine plantations dominating the uplands, only about 14% of the site consists of natural communities. The forested corridors along Simms Creek, Harvey Creek, and smaller Simms Creek tributaries make up almost the entirety of the area's natural communities. The streams are lined with a variety of forested wetlands; these are likely predominantly bottomland forest and some floodplain swamp, with baygall also present, especially at the base of upland slopes. As these communities are not easily distinguished based on aerial photos, many of these areas are currently mapped as "freshwater forested wetlands". The transition of some of these drainages to the uplands may have historically consisted of upland hardwood forest; there appears to be at least one area of this community, and it may occur elsewhere at upper edges of the stream corridors.

Isolated wetlands set amongst the uplands are also common. While many of these have been logged and no longer resemble the previous community, there are a few depression marshes, dome swamps, isolated areas of baygall, and at least one sinkhole pond with a prairie-like fringe.

A few small areas of other communities are present (each <1% of the proposal). Mesic flatwoods, wet flatwoods, sandhill, and xeric hammock appear to be present, generally as small slivers at the margins of other intact communities or at the proposal boundaries.

Aside from the small amount of natural communities, most of the property consists of pine plantation. These plantations are a variety of ages and occur on a variety of soil types, likely areas that were formerly occupied by sandhill, mesic flatwoods, and possibly upland hardwood forest.

Although there are intact wetlands along the stream corridors, some of the forested wetlands onsite have been logged in recent decades. These are classified as successional hydric shrubland/forest (ca. 6% of the proposal), and their resemblance to the original communities is not known.

The property is undeveloped; other than forestry uses, the only other alterations of the site appear to be a network of unpaved forest roads, a few small clearings, and what appears to be a borrow area.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway Expansion Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
freshwater forested wetlands	178	4
floodplain swamp	110	3
baygall	95	2
bottomland forest	39	<1
basin swamp	36	<1
depression marsh	36	<1
dome swamp	31	<1
basin marsh	24	<1
wet flatwoods	19	<1
mesic flatwoods	18	<1
upland hardwood forest	12	<1
xeric hammock	6	<1
wet prairie	4	<1
sandhill	4	<1
sinkhole lake	<1	<1
pine plantation	3,256	77
successional hydric shrubland/forest	240	6
road	116	3
successional hardwood forest	11	<1
borrow area	8	<1
clearing/regeneration	2	<1
Total	4,247	100

FNAI has no records of rare or imperiled species onsite, although the Florida black bear is presumed to be present due to its status in the area. A record of the Black Creek crayfish (*Procambarus pictus*, G2/S2, N, N)* on Simms Creek very near the northeast corner of the proposal strongly suggests that this species may occur on the site. As it is unlikely that field surveys have been done on the property, it is possible that other as-yet undocumented rare species may occur, although this is somewhat less likely due to the extensive alteration of the habitats onsite.

* Rarity rankings in the following order: FNAI (global and state ranks), federal status, state status. Rank explanations attached.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway Expansion Florida Forever proposal.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
none					

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, all or nearly all of the proposal (96-100%) contributes to Ecological Greenways (mostly priority 5), Surface Water Protection (mostly priority 5), and Aquifer Recharge (priorities 3-6). Large portions of the site contribute to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (87%; mainly priority 5) and Sustainable Forestry (76%; chiefly priority 3). Contributions to other measures in the FFME (FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities, Natural Floodplain Function, Functional Wetlands, and Forestland for Recharge) are relatively small (<25%).

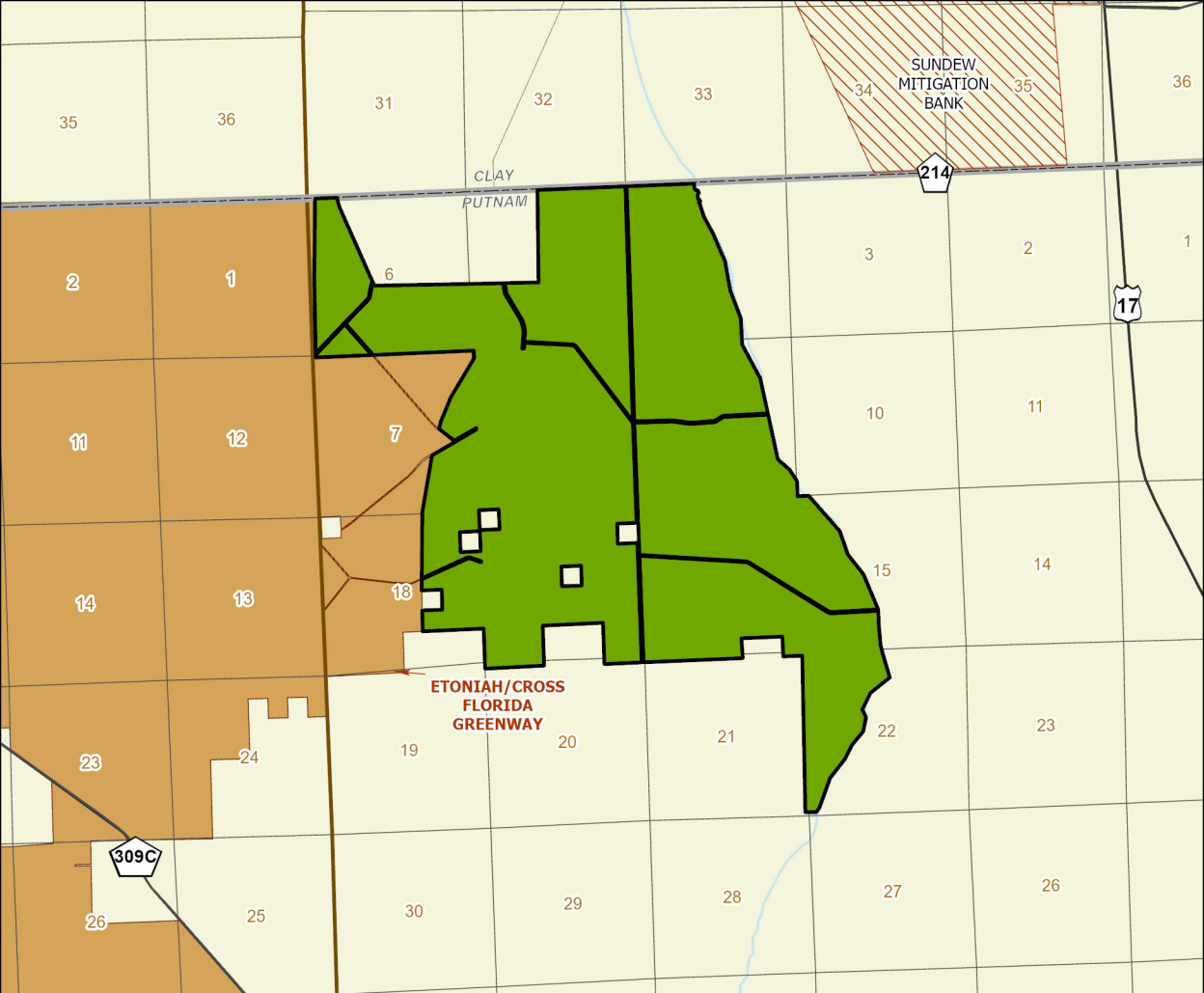
Etoniah Cross Florida Greenway Expansion: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260511

GIS ACRES = 4,247

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	156	4%
Priority 3	3	< 1%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	3,552	84%
Total Acres	3,712	87%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	178	4%
Priority 6	319	8%
Total Acres	496	12%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	243	6%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	3,816	90%
Total Acres	4,058	96%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	30	< 1%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	111	3%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	6	< 1%
Total Acres	147	3%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	7	< 1%
Priority 3	323	8%
Priority 4	314	7%
Priority 5	1	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	645	15%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	1,205	28%
Priority 5	2,813	66%
Priority 6	22	< 1%
Priority 7	20	< 1%
Total Acres	4,059	96%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	12	< 1%
Priority 3	608	14%
Priority 4	282	7%
Priority 5	18	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	919	22%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	234	6%
Priority 4	1,999	47%
Priority 5	1,368	32%
Priority 6	645	15%
Total Acres	4,247	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		3 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	10	< 1%
Priority 2	192	5%
Priority 3	2,759	65%
Priority 4	276	7%
Priority 5	4	< 1%
Total Acres	3,241	76%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		131 3%

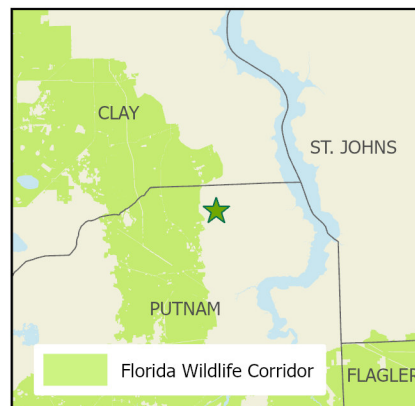
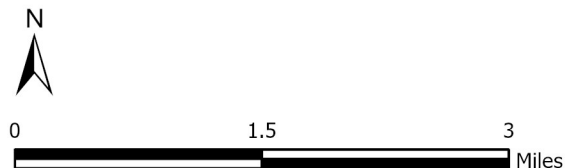
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



ETONIAH CROSS FLORIDA GREENWAY EXPANSION FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

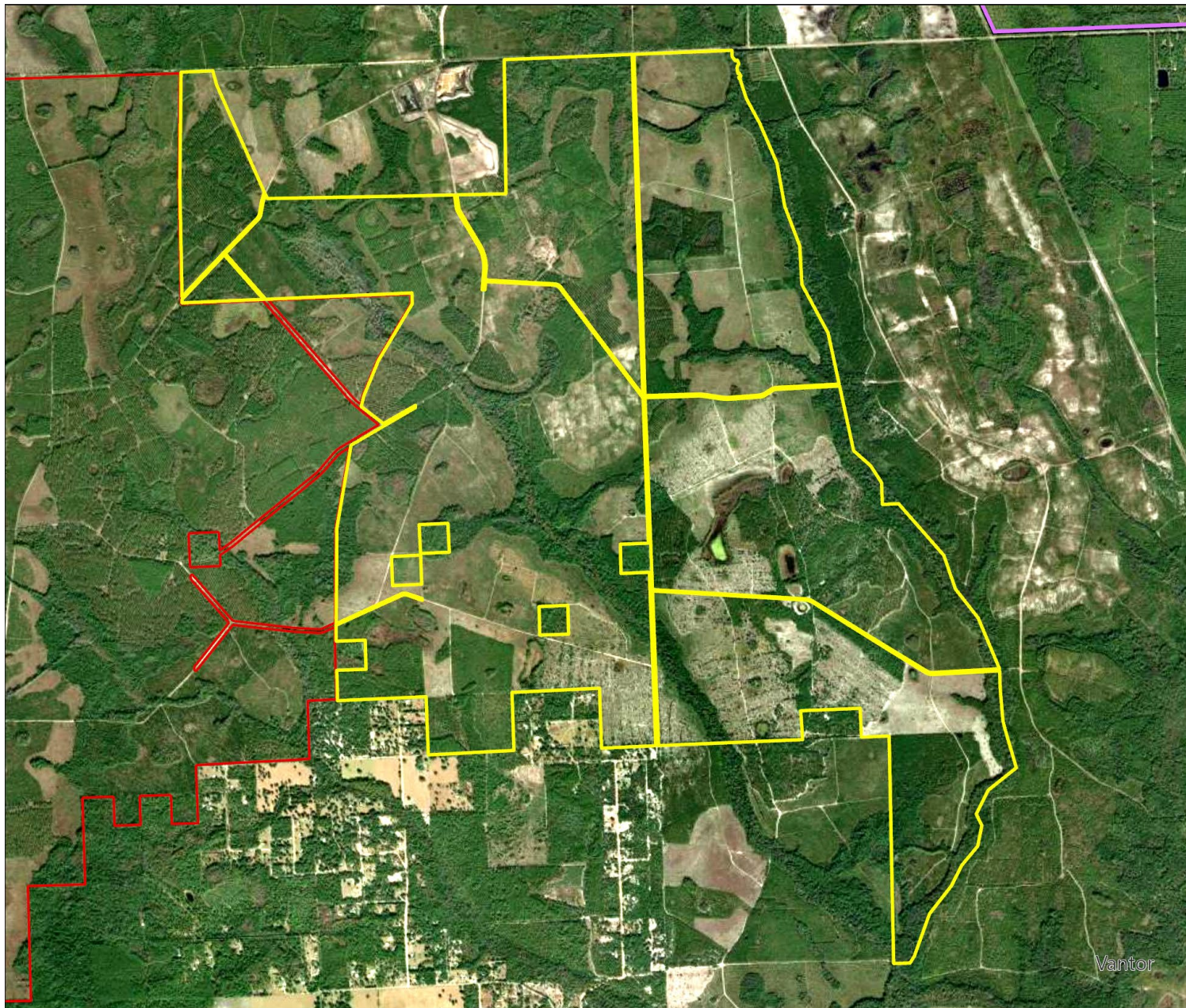
PUTNAM COUNTY

- Florida Forever Proposal
- Florida Forever BOT Projects
- Other Conservation Lands



ETONIAH CROSS FLORIDA GREENWAY EXPANSION FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: ESRI World Imagery



-  Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  Existing Private Conservation Lands



LEVY'S PRAIRIE (PUTNAM COUNTY)

Less Than Fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

The Levy's Prairie proposal includes ca. 2,271.8 acres in Putnam County. It consists of one large tract accompanied by three smaller, disjunct blocks, each situated no more than 0.4 miles apart. The property is proposed for less-than-fee protection via conservation easement.

The proposal is situated in western Putnam County, roughly 3 miles northeast of Hawthorne and 4 miles south of Melrose. The south end of the main tract has 0.1 mile of frontage on State Road 20, and State Road 21 is adjacent to or crosses through the main tract for about 1.4 miles. A small western tract (0.4 miles from the main tract) is adjacent to the Little Orange Creek Preserve (Alachua County), the only existing conservation land that adjoins the property. The Ordway Swisher Biological Station (University of Florida) is 0.7 miles north of the proposal. Levy Prairie/Levy Lake, abutting much of the proposal's eastern boundary, is sovereign submerged lands. Although the proposal is not part of a corridor of existing conservation lands, there are many small and disjunct preserves and conservation areas within 10 miles; also within 10 miles is a large block of land including the Georgia-Pacific Lochloosa Conservation Easement and other lands connecting to Paynes Prairie to the west, and Ocala National Forest and contiguous lands to the southeast. The nearest unacquired Florida Forever lands are the Little Orange Creek Corridor (1 mile south and connected via Orange Creek Preserve), the Lake Santa Fe project (5 miles northwest), Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway (4 miles southeast), and Star Lake Connector (4 miles south).

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

The lands making up this proposal span a topographical gradient between the low elevations of the western portion of Levy's Prairie and the sandy uplands to the Prairie's west, with the elevations again descending to encompass a portion of Fowler's Prairie at the proposal's southwestern corner. Most of the uplands have been converted to pine plantation or improved or semi-improved pasture. The juxtaposition of the sandy uplands and large karstic prairies may create some unusual hydrological conditions. The application reports the presence of springs; although the Florida DEP springs data layer does not show any springs onsite or nearby, it is possible that these are springs from a surficial aquifer or steephead streams originating from groundwater seepage from the adjacent uplands.

Most of the forested areas on the site are concentrated at the edges of the prairie basins themselves; these are currently mapped as "freshwater forested wetlands" but probably consist of a mix of

bottomland forests with some baygall and some basin swamp. There are also some small areas of mesic hammock and possibly an area of wet flatwoods.

The portion of the Fowler's Prairie basin included in the proposal consists of a mix of herbaceous wetlands (basin marsh) and former swamps that have been logged and have begun to naturally regenerate. These are considered successional hydric shrubland/forest. Similar disturbed wetlands are also found in various locations on the main tract, and collectively make up about 3% of the proposal.

Historically, uplands of the site likely consisted mainly of sandhill. Little sandhill remains (<1% of the proposal), mainly in a single stand near the southern end, and possibly in a narrow fringe along the proposal's west edge. However, there are also some areas of xeric hammock, which are likely derived from sandhills where fire was excluded; these may still support some sandhill species. Two small semi-permanent wetlands occupying deep sinkhole depressions near the east edge of the proposal are considered sandhill upland lakes, as is Fowler's Lake, about half of which is contained in the proposal's southwestern parcel.

Pine plantations on the uplands west of Levy's Prairie consist of a mix of stand ages. In total, planted pine occupies an estimated 55% of the proposal. There are also significant areas of improved pasture at the north end of the site, with some along the upland slopes as well as in an (apparently drained) portion of the Levy's Prairie basin itself. Successional hardwood forest (where forests have regenerated on previously cleared areas) make up about 3% of the proposal and unpaved access roads occupy ca. 2%. Other minor uses make up less than 1% of the site: there are homesites near the north end of the proposal and on the southwestern parcel. A few drainage ditches and a utility corridor cross small portions of the proposal.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Levy's Prairie Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
freshwater forested wetlands	213	9
basin marsh	48	2
mesic hammock	38	2
xeric hammock	38	2
wet flatwoods	27	1
baygall	21	<1
basin swamp	19	<1
sandhill upland lake	17	<1
sandhill	10	<1
depression marsh	6	<1
dome swamp	5	<1
wet prairie	2	<1
pine plantation	1,253	55
pasture - improved	293	13
pasture - semi-improved	132	6
successional hydric shrubland/forest	62	3
road	55	2
successional hardwood forest	15	<1
developed	12	<1
utility corridor	4	<1
canal/ditch	<1	<1
Total	2,271	100

Although there are no rare or imperiled species documented on the property, the Florida black bear (*Ursus americanus floridanus*) is classified by FWC as Frequent in the region, so this species is presumed to use the property. Bald eagles are documented to have nested on the proposal, at least historically. A variety of rare/imperiled wading birds are likely to use the wetlands onsite. Given that field surveys have probably not been conducted, it is possible that additional rare or imperiled species are present.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Levy's Prairie Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
none					

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, the entire site contributes to Surface Water Protection (mostly priority 7), Aquifer Recharge (mostly priorities 3-5), and a large majority of the proposal contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (91%; mostly priority 5) and Ecological Greenways (87%; priority 5). More than half of the site contributes to FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities (67%; mostly priority 6) and Sustainable Forestry (59%; mostly priority 4). Contributions to other measures are small, although relatively higher priority: only 27% and 17% of the site contributes to Natural Floodplain Function and Functional Wetlands respectively, but are mostly priority 2 and 3.

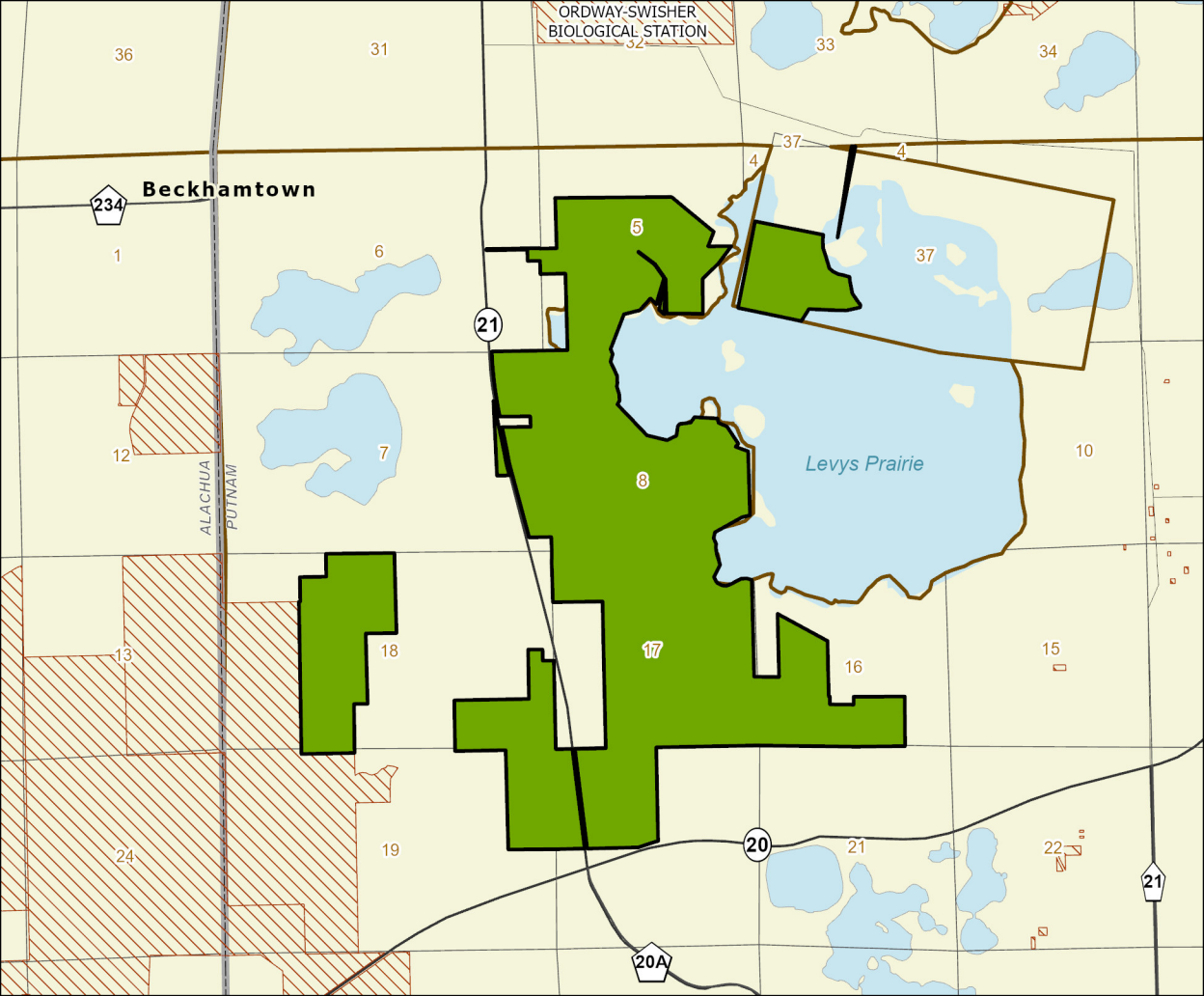
Levys Prairie: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 2,272

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	362	16%
Priority 3	348	15%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	1,367	60%
Total Acres	2,077	91%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	2	< 1%
Priority 5	103	5%
Priority 6	1,426	63%
Total Acres	1,531	67%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	1,983	87%
Total Acres	1,983	87%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	12	< 1%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	17	< 1%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	54	2%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	83	4%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	3	< 1%
Priority 2	308	14%
Priority 3	263	12%
Priority 4	32	1%
Priority 5	2	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	609	27%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	137	6%
Priority 5	5	< 1%
Priority 6	270	12%
Priority 7	1,854	82%
Total Acres	2,266	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	2	< 1%
Priority 2	197	9%
Priority 3	187	8%
Priority 4	4	< 1%
Priority 5	3	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	393	17%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	55	2%
Priority 3	526	23%
Priority 4	636	28%
Priority 5	1,056	46%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	2,272	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	1.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	3.5	
Total Miles	4.5	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		1 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	14	< 1%
Priority 3	118	5%
Priority 4	1,144	50%
Priority 5	65	3%
Total Acres	1,341	59%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		205 9%

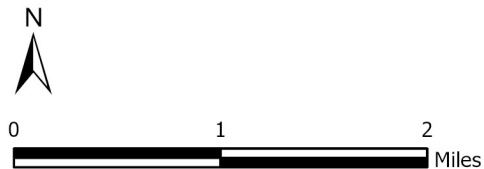
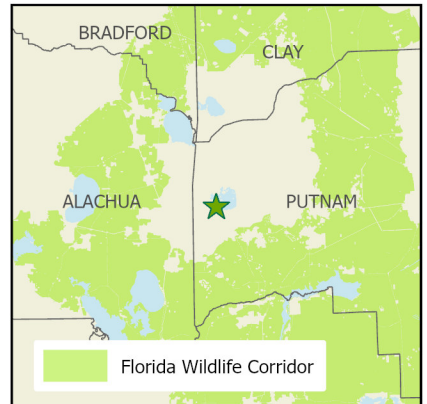
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



LEVYS PRAIRIE FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

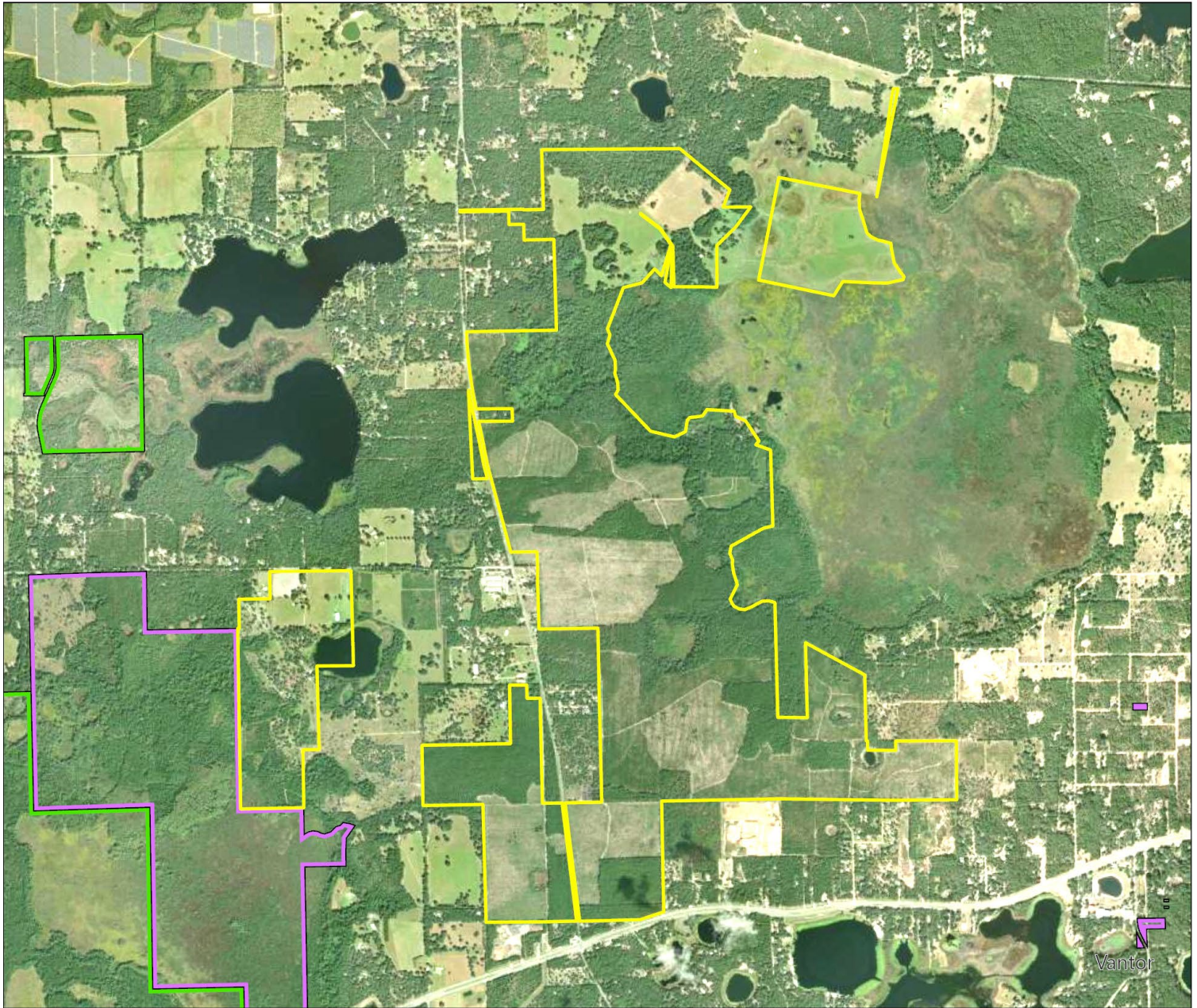
PUTNAM COUNTY

- Florida Forever Proposal
- Other Conservation Lands



LEVYS PRAIRIE FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

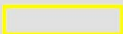
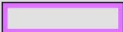
FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: ESRI World Imagery



-  Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
-  Existing Local Conservation Lands
-  Existing Private Conservation Lands



OAK CREEK FLATWOODS (HARDEE COUNTY)

Less Than Fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

The Oak Creek Flatwoods proposal includes ca. 3,195.0 acres in southeastern Hardee County. It is a contiguous piece of property proposed for less-than-fee protection via a conservation easement.

The proposal is an irregularly-shaped property measuring about 4.5 miles wide east to west that is situated about 6 miles southeast of Zolfo Springs in southeastern Hardee County. The proposal lies in an area with limited conservation lands; about 2 miles to the north there is a block of protected lands (4 wetlands reserve easements and 5 Charlie Creek Marsh Rural Lands Protection Easements). To the east about 3.5 miles is the Bentley Rural Lands Protection Easement. Slightly farther east (ca. 6 miles from the proposal) is a north-south corridor consisting of Highlands Hammock State Park and several private lands protected by easement. Unacquired FFBOT lands in this corridor (the Heartland Wildlife Corridor) are the closest Florida Forever lands; the Limestone Ranch and Peace River Refuge FFBOT projects are a similar distance to the west. The property is fronted or crossed by several roads: Sweetwater Road fronts or crosses through the property for a total of ca. 2.5 miles, Harn Road for about 0.9 miles, and George Marsh Road for about 0.5 miles; there is also about 0.1 mile of frontage on Johnston Road at the north end of the proposal.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

Overall, this proposal lies on an upland terrace with elevations up to about 85 feet above sea level. The property slopes downward towards the Charlie Creek floodplain to the northwest of the proposal. Elevations are also lower (around 45-60') where Oak Creek flows east-west across the approximate center of the property.

Although this property is a working cattle ranch, slightly more than half of the proposal consists of relatively unaltered natural communities. Remnant flatwoods are widespread on the property, with mesic flatwoods occupying about 25% of the acreage, most notably in a large contiguous area in the northeast. These flatwoods appear to be relatively open with characteristically widely-scattered pines; however, the degree to which the shrub and herbaceous layers have been partially converted to pasture is not clear. Scrubby flatwoods are found on higher sand ridges within and adjacent to the mesic flatwoods, and some remnant scrub (about 2% of the site) appears to be present in the fire shadow of the creek in the center of the property. Within the flatwoods (and also in former flatwoods areas now converted to pasture) are scattered depression marshes and dome swamps.

Along a few slopes where groundwater seepage likely maintains wet conditions, there are baygalls. This community also seems to be the main swamp type fringing a small creek that flows through the southwestern arm of the proposal.

This proposal also contains an extensive portion of the floodplain of Oak Creek, which crosses the middle of the property flowing in a west-northwesterly direction. This creek is a tributary of Charlie Creek, which flows to the Peace River. The forest surrounding the creek, which makes up about 13% of the proposal acreage, appears to be mainly mesic hammock, but likely has areas of more hydric forest types as well.

Improved pastures make up about 1/3 of the site, predominating in the southwestern arm of the property and in a band between the Oak Creek and the northern flatwoods. There are also some areas of active agriculture (mainly citrus) and a few small homesites.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Oak Creek Flatwoods Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
mesic flatwoods	793	25
mesic hammock	432	14
depression marsh	161	5
baygall	161	5
dome swamp	71	2
scrub	56	2
xeric hammock	23	<1
freshwater forested wetlands	20	<1
scrubby flatwoods	13	<1
wet prairie	10	<1
floodplain marsh	7	<1
basin marsh	6	<1
basin swamp	4	<1
pasture-improved	1,092	34
pasture-semi-improved	159	5
agriculture	117	4
developed	26	<1
successional hardwood forest	25	<1
road	10	<1
artificial pond	10	<1
Total	3,195	100

The site has a few documented rare and imperiled species (Table 2), and is likely to provide habitat that could be suitable for more. Scrubby habitats on the site are known to support Florida goldenaster. American rubyspot, a rare damselfly, has also been documented in Oak Creek, and black bears are known to occur. Additional rare species are reported in the application. As it is unlikely that detailed surveys have been done, it is possible that additional rare species utilize the variety of habitats that appear to be available on this site.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Oak Creek Flatwoods Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
<i>Chrysopsis floridana</i>	Florida goldenaster	G3	S3	DL	E
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Hetaerina americana</i>	American rubyspot	G5	S2	N	N
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	gopher tortoise	G3	S3	N	LT
<i>Antigone canadensis pratensis</i>	Florida sandhill crane	G5T2	S2	N	ST
<i>Caracara plancus</i>	crested caracara	G5	S2	T	FT

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, all or nearly all of the site (>90%) contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (mainly priority 1), FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities (mostly priorities 4-6), Ecological Greenways (mainly priority 3), Surface Water Protection (priorities 3-6), and Aquifer Recharge (mostly priorities 3-5). Small but substantial portions of the site (25-35%) contribute to Natural Floodplain Function, Functional Wetlands, and Sustainable Forestry. About 26% of the site consists of under-represented natural communities, according to the FFME, which is comparable to (though slightly lower) than the amount estimated above.

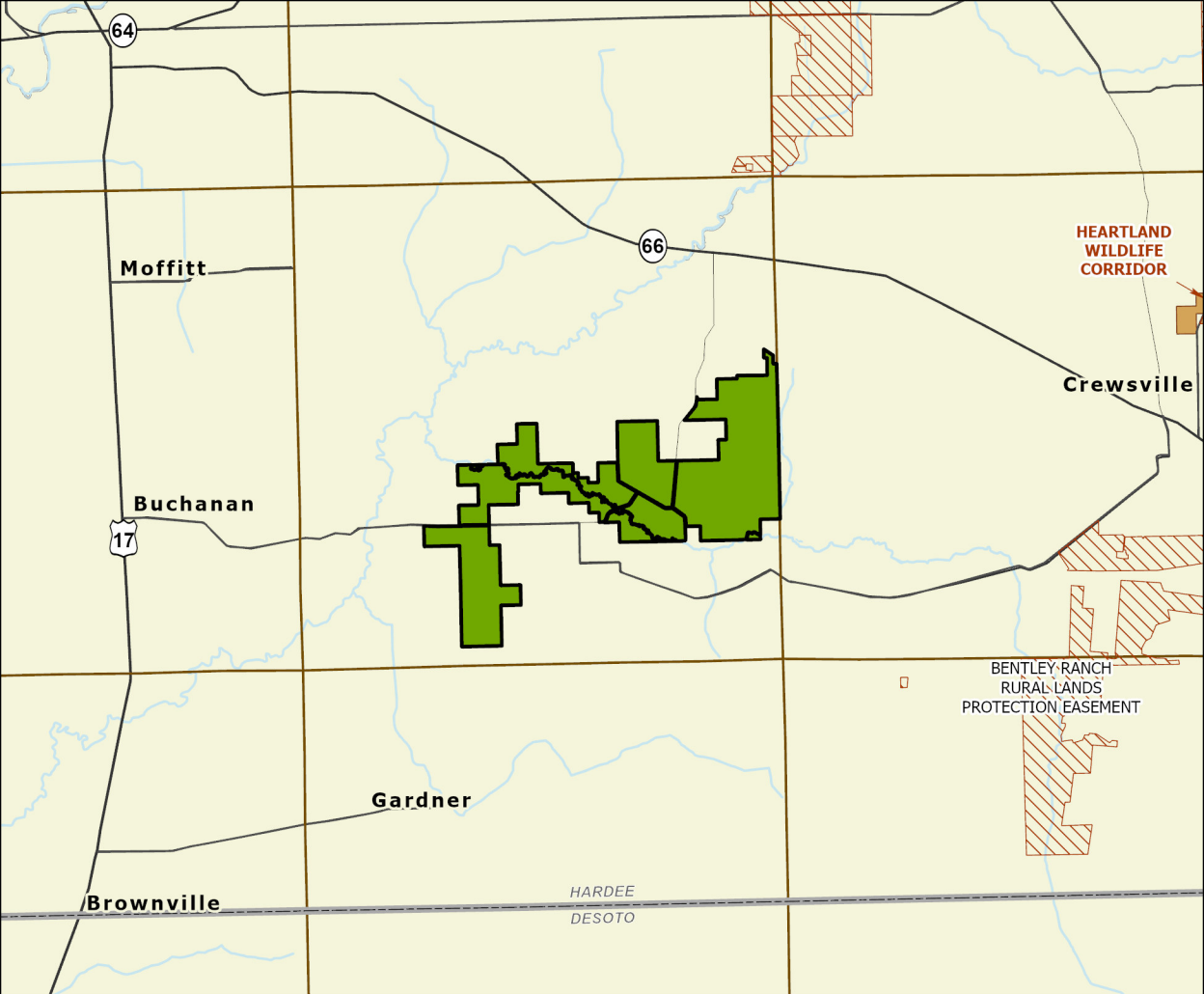
Oak Creek Flatwoods: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 3,195

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	2,650	83%
Priority 2	229	7%
Priority 3	3	< 1%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	51	2%
Total Acres	2,932	92%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	105	3%
Priority 4	1,157	36%
Priority 5	878	27%
Priority 6	876	27%
Total Acres	3,016	94%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	98	3%
Priority 3	2,910	91%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	3,008	94%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	55	2%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	787	25%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	842	26%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	1	
G4	1	
G5	1	
Total	3	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	387	12%
Priority 4	396	12%
Priority 5	218	7%
Priority 6	15	< 1%
Total Acres	1,015	32%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	432	14%
Priority 4	708	22%
Priority 5	1,220	38%
Priority 6	832	26%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	3,192	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	326	10%
Priority 4	387	12%
Priority 5	134	4%
Priority 6	2	< 1%
Total Acres	850	27%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	36	1%
Priority 3	563	18%
Priority 4	1,404	44%
Priority 5	1,093	34%
Priority 6	100	3%
Total Acres	3,195	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	243	8%
Priority 3	144	5%
Priority 4	404	13%
Priority 5	8	< 1%
Total Acres	800	25%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	257	8%

^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



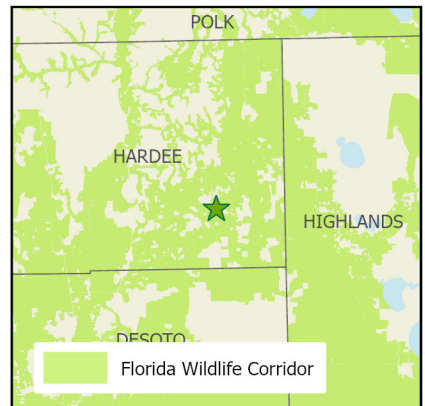
OAK CREEK FLATWOODS FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

HARDEE COUNTY

- Florida Forever Proposal
- Florida Forever BOT Projects
- Other Conservation Lands

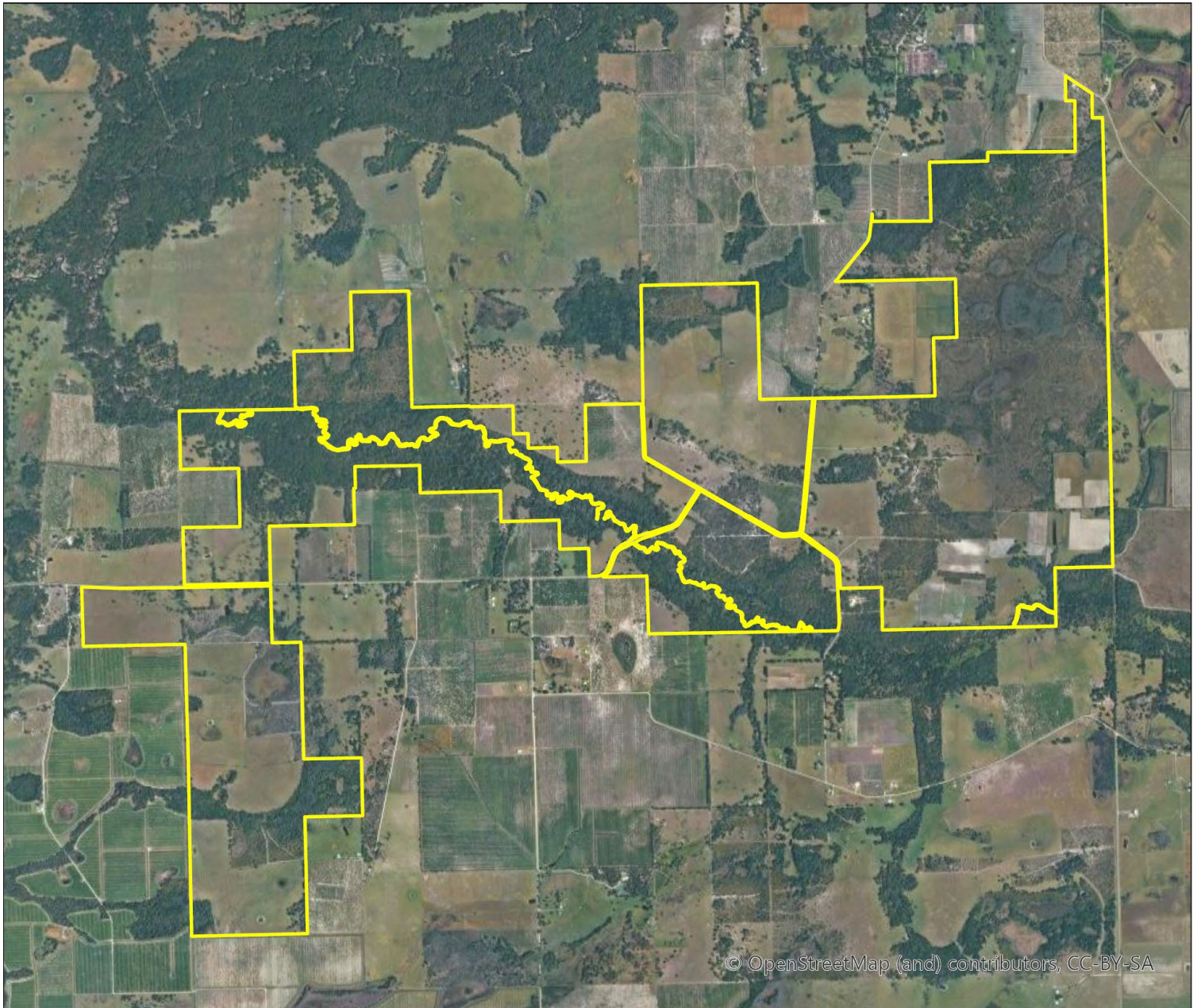


0 3 6 Miles



OAK CREEK FLATWOODS FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: Google Satellite Imagery 2025



 Florida Forever Proposal Boundary



Ocklawaha Bufferlands (Marion County)

Less Than Fee

Preliminary Evaluation

The Ocklawaha Bufferlands proposal includes ca. 3,294.2 acres at the southern edge of Marion County. It consists of 2 disjunct blocks of land separated by less than 2 miles. The property is proposed by the owners for less-than-fee protection through conservation easements.

The northern tract, known as “Marion Forests” is separated by a narrow fringe (0.3-0.5 miles) of residential development from the east shore of Lake Weir, and is about 2 miles west of the Ocklawaha River. This tract is surrounded by a mix of residential development (Silver Springs Shores) and to a lesser extent, agriculture. There are no adjacent managed areas, although Sunnyhill Restoration Area is only 0.2 miles east at its closest point; Ocklawaha Prairie Restoration Area is less than a mile to the northwest. The west edge of the Marion Forest tract fronts on SR-25 (US-441 Alt.) in 3 locations, for a total of ca. 1.5 miles. The southern tract, “MacKay Farms” lies on the southern border of Marion County. This tract adjoins the Sunnyhill Restoration Area to the east, with a shared boundary of 1 mile, and also fronts a portion of Sunnyhill to the south. Via Sunnyhill Restoration Area, the two tracts are connected (or nearly connected) to the Ocala National Forest and a vast area of contiguous managed lands. The nearest unacquired Florida Forever project lands (the Heather Island/Ocklawaha River and Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway projects) are about 3.3 and 6 miles from the proposal, respectively.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5’ topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

These properties are in a rolling landscape with hills rising to ca. 180 feet above sea level pockmarked with numerous sinkholes and sinkhole-derived wetlands with elevations as low as 65 feet.

The project tracts have been extensively converted to other uses (36% to pine plantation, ca. 29% pasture, and 12% agriculture), with less than 10% of the proposal occupied by relatively intact natural vegetation. The most notable natural features on the sites are the numerous sandhill upland lakes including Fig Lake and Silver Lake as well as several smaller lakes and sinkholes. Although the uplands are largely devoted to other uses, there are at least 2 areas that appear to be remnant sandhill on the Marion Forests tract. A few baygall wetlands occur at the bases of slopes, and there are some areas of mesic hammock, particularly in smaller sinkhole depressions. It is possible that a small remnant area of upland hardwood forest persists on the Marion Forests tract.

Pine plantations and agricultural areas (former citrus groves) are the predominant uses on the Marion Forest tract, while pastures (improved and semi-improved) and some citrus predominate on the MacKay Farms tract. The most ecologically interesting altered landcover onsite is a large area of successional hardwood forest on the Marion Forests tract. This area is likely to have historically been sandhill, but now appears to have a closed hardwood and sand pine canopy. There is no evidence of significant disturbance to this area in recent decades other than fire exclusion, but the increasing canopy cover has likely been detrimental to wildlife or plant species characteristic of the sandhill, although some of these species may persist in openings and treeless gaps. Other less widespread anthropogenic features (each <1% of the proposal) include various small homesteads, unpaved access roads, and artificial livestock ponds.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Ocklawaha Bufferlands Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
sandhill	74	2
sandhill upland lake	53	2
marsh lake	48	1
mesic hammock	36	1
baygall	31	<1
basin marsh	25	<1
upland hardwood forest	17	<1
depression marsh	3	<1
xeric hammock	<1	<1
pine plantation	1,188	36
pasture-improved	715	22
agriculture	396	12
successional hardwood forest	342	10
pasture-semi-improved	235	7
successional hydric shrubland/forest	105	3
developed	17	<1
road	8	<1
artificial pond	2	<1
Total	3,294	100

The FNAI Natural Heritage Database does not contain any records of rare or imperiled species on the property, but due to its status in the area, Florida black bear is presumed to occur (Table 2). The application reports that sandhill cranes are found onsite; these are likely to be the non-migratory state-threatened subspecies. Wading birds are also reported, and various rare or imperiled wading birds are likely to use the site's wetlands. Although forestry and agriculture are the predominant land uses on the site, there is still the possibility that additional rare or imperiled species may occur.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Ocklawaha Bufferlands Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Antigone canadensis pratensis</i>	Florida sandhill crane	G5T2	S2	N	ST

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, the entire site contributes to Surface Water Protection (mostly priorities 6 and 7) and Aquifer Recharge (mainly priorities 1-4), and nearly all (91%) contributes to FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities (mainly priorities 4-6). More than half of the site contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas and Ecological Greenways. Over 1/3 of the site contributes to Sustainable Forestry and Forestland for Recharge.

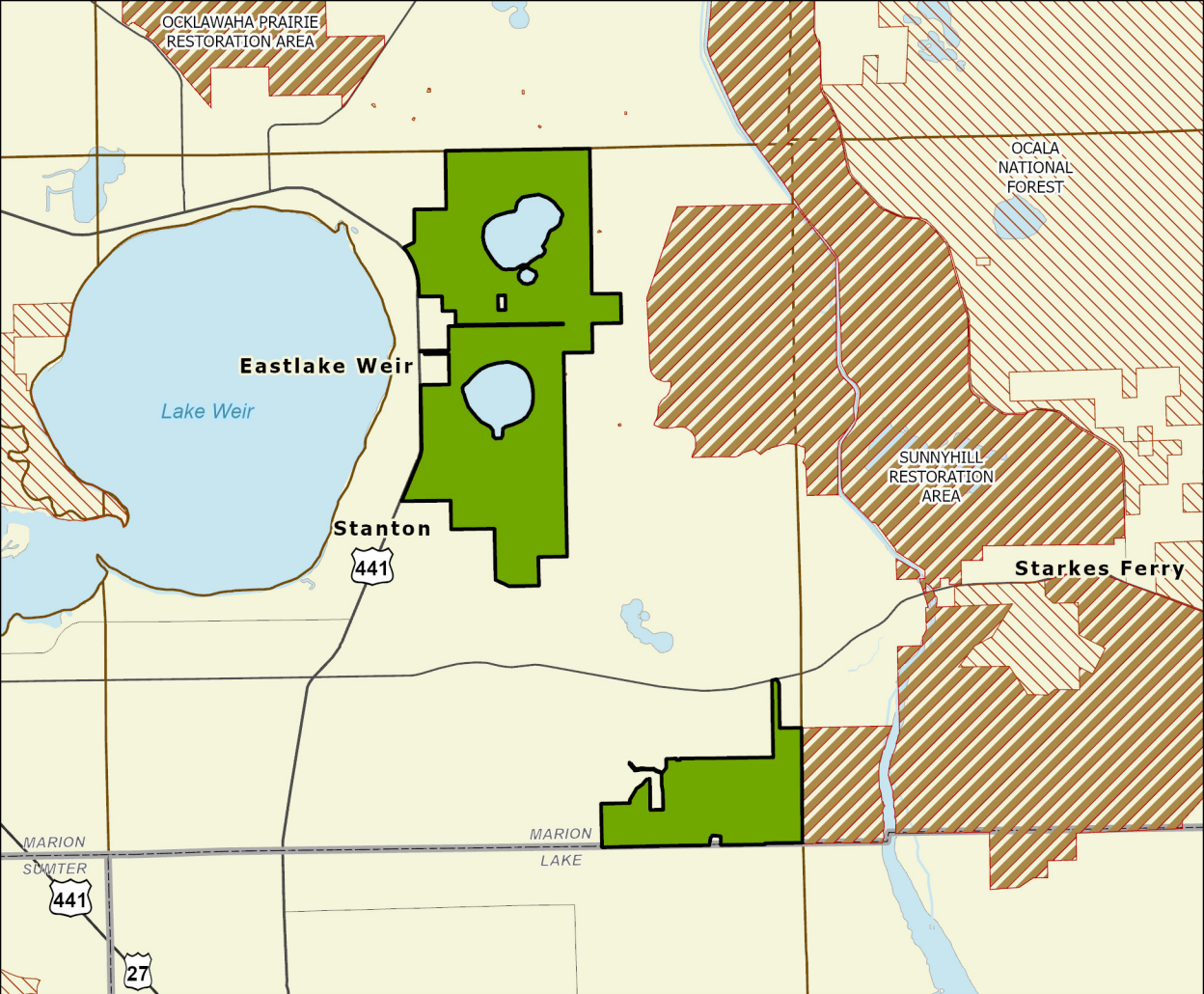
Ocklawaha Bufferlands: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 3,294

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	237	7%
Priority 3	751	23%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	1,103	34%
Total Acres	2,090	64%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	101	3%
Priority 3	20	< 1%
Priority 4	1,142	35%
Priority 5	436	13%
Priority 6	1,286	39%
Total Acres	2,985	91%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	1,671	51%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	1,671	51%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	201	6%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	58	2%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	36	1%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	248	8%
Total Acres	543	17%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	22	< 1%
Priority 3	155	5%
Priority 4	347	11%
Priority 5	29	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	553	17%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	125	4%
Priority 5	81	2%
Priority 6	1,248	38%
Priority 7	1,835	56%
Total Acres	3,289	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	3	< 1%
Priority 3	76	2%
Priority 4	117	4%
Priority 5	6	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	201	6%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	652	20%
Priority 2	639	19%
Priority 3	1,157	35%
Priority 4	614	19%
Priority 5	230	7%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	3,291	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	4	< 1%
Priority 4	272	8%
Priority 5	1,107	34%
Total Acres	1,384	42%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	1,120	34%

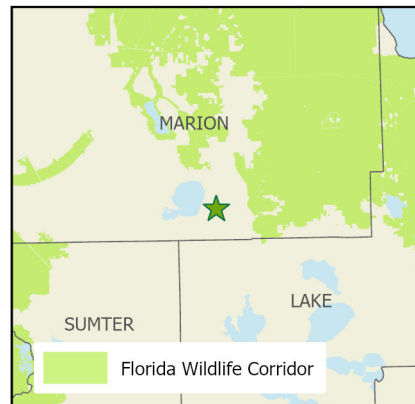
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



OCKLAWAHA BUFFERLANDS FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

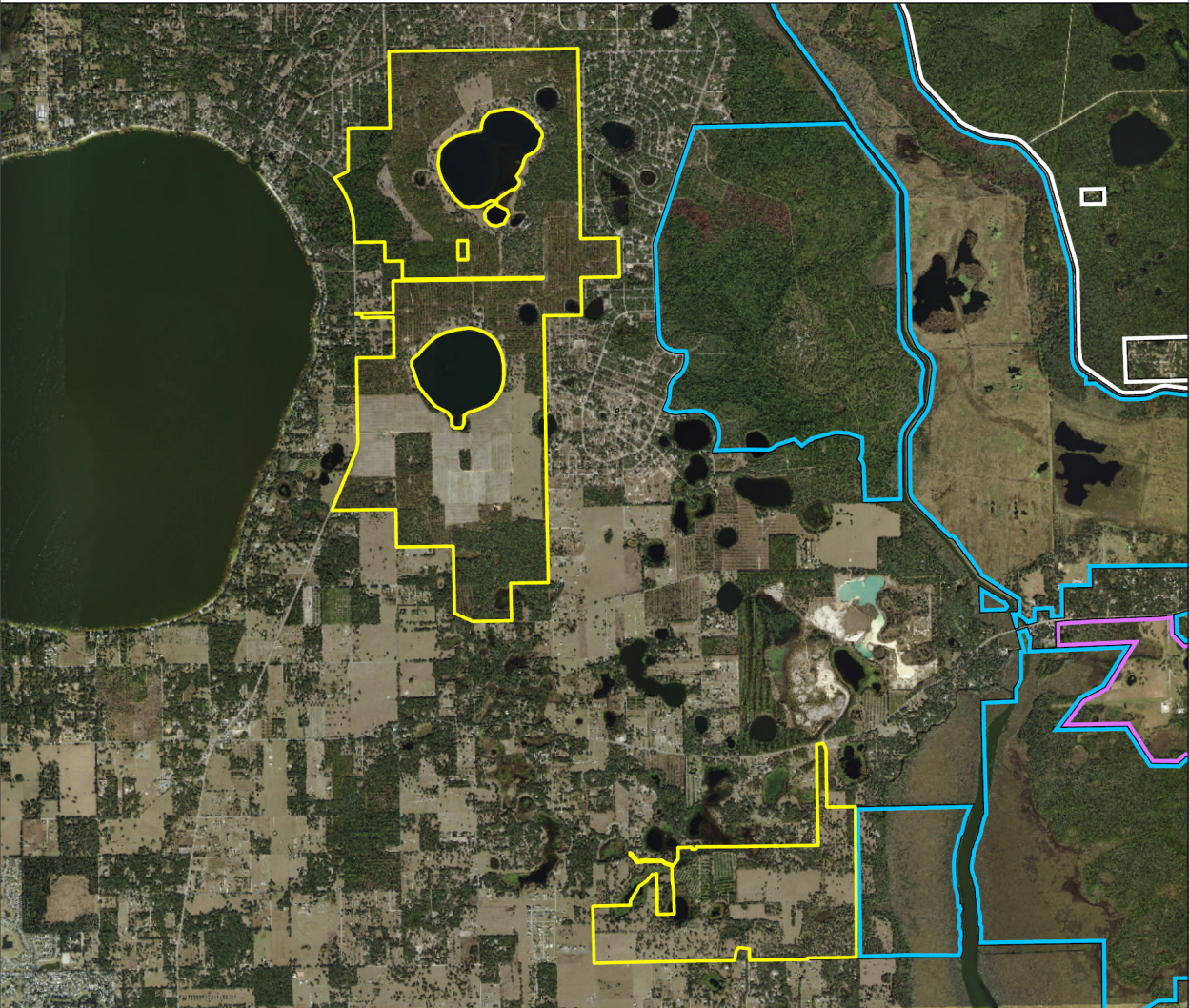
MARION COUNTY

- Florida Forever Proposal
- State Conservation Lands
- Other Conservation Lands



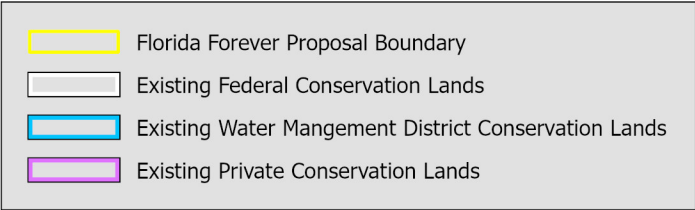
OCKLAWAHA BUFFERLANDS FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: FDOT Aerial Imagery 2023



PUTNAM-CLAY TIMBERLANDS (PUTNAM AND CLAY COUNTIES)

Combination of Fee Simple and Less Than Fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

The Putnam-Clay Timberlands proposal includes ca. 6,977.2 acres in Putnam and Clay Counties. The proposed project is a contiguous block of land under 2 separate ownerships. Property owned by Three Steps Forest LLC (the majority of the site) is proposed for fee-simple acquisition; the remaining ca. 184 acres is proposed for less-than-fee protection. Fee-simple portions of the project are anticipated to be divided into areas managed by FWC and by SJRWMD.

The Putnam-Clay Timberlands property is a roughly diamond-shaped block of land extending about 8 miles north to south and up to 2 miles wide at its widest point. It is situated in eastern Putnam and Clay Counties ca. 0.7 to 2 miles west of the St. Johns River, ca. 5 miles south of Green Cove Springs and ca. 9 miles north of Palatka. The northern point of the property extends between two southerly projections of Bayard Conservation Area (CA), with the proposal's western boundary adjoining the western arm of Bayard CA and the proposal's eastern boundary about 0.6 miles from the CA's eastern arm. Other protected lands near the property include Sundew Mitigation Bank (0.5 miles west of the proposal), Los Ninos Rural Lands Protection Easement (ca. 4 miles south), and Etoniah Creek Rural Lands Protection Easement (ca. 6.3 miles southwest); about 8 miles west is the major (though discontinuous) north-south wildlife corridor, including Mike Roess Goldhead Branch State Park and Camp Blanding Military Reservation, and extending to Osceola and Ocala National Forests. To the east between 3 and 10 miles away there are numerous (though scattered) conservation lands, but these are isolated from the proposal by the river.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

The proposal lies almost entirely in the lower St. Johns River Valley, at the foot of the escarpment that drops from the Duval Uplands to the west. Along the western margin of the property a few narrow areas encompass some of the relatively steep slopes from the uplands, but otherwise the property is nearly level, with a gentle slope towards the river. Most of the property lies between about 20 and 35 feet above sea level, with the uplands at the western margin reaching 65-70 feet.

Overall, the site is dominated by poorly-drained flatwoods and wetlands soils. Drainage across the property is eastward towards the St. Johns and generally poorly defined, although two named creeks originate on or cross the property. Clarke's Creek originates in the uplands west of the proposal as a steeply-incised stream, and flows in a well-defined channel across the property about 1/3 of the way

from the proposal's north end. The southern portion of the proposal contains the headwaters of Cedar Creek.

This property has long been used for timber production, and only about 20% of the proposal consists of natural communities or other relatively undisturbed vegetation. The most common natural community on the site appears to be wet flatwoods, which occupies about 7% of the total area. Most of the wet flatwoods occurs in relatively large stands, which are spread throughout the proposal, often between pine plantations and swamps. Several types of forested wetlands (basin swamps, baygall, bottomland forests, floodplain swamp, and dome swamps) collectively account for almost all of the other natural communities onsite (ca. 15% of the site overall). A few patches of mesic flatwoods appear to be scattered across the site. Other natural communities that may be present in small amounts (each less than 1% of the site) are mesic hammock, upland hardwood forest, and depression and basin marshes.

Most of the property that is dry enough to support pines has been converted to pine plantations. Planted pine stands in a variety of stages occupy ca. 59% of the site, generally in areas that formerly supported mesic and wet flatwoods. A large acreage of former forested wetlands have been harvested in recent decades and still show significant signs of logging; these successional hydric shrublands/forests make up about 17% of the proposal. It is possible that the disturbance to some of these swamps was limited enough that they may have recovered sufficiently to be recognized as the original community. There is a network of unpaved roads throughout the property to support forestry activities. The site is otherwise undeveloped. Small amounts of the property (<1% each) consist of clearings, pasture, or artificial ponds.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Putnam-Clay Timberlands Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
wet flatwoods	459	7
basin swamp	268	4
baygall	204	3
bottomland forest	150	2
mesic flatwoods	148	2
freshwater forested wetlands	120	2
floodplain swamp	72	1
dome swamp	70	1
mesic hammock	16	<1
upland hardwood forest	5	<1
depression marsh	3	<1
basin marsh	<1	<1
pine plantation	4,132	59
successional hydric shrubland/forest	1,204	17
road	116	2
successional hardwood forest	4	<1
artificial pond	3	<1
pasture-improved	2	<1
clearing/regeneration	2	<1
Total	6,977	100

The FNAI Natural Heritage Database has no records of rare or imperiled species on the proposal site. However, the proposal encompasses areas where the Florida black bear is considered to be Frequent or Common, and thus is presumed to use the property. The lack of other documented rare species on the site may be in part due to a lack of detailed field surveys, as various rare species occur in the general vicinity, although the history of intensive forestry activity over much of the site likely reduces its suitability for some species.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Putnam-Clay Timberlands Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
none					

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, all or nearly all (96%-100%) of the proposal contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (mostly priority 5), Ecological Greenways (priority 5), Surface Water Protection (mainly priorities 3-5), and Aquifer Recharge (mainly priorities 5 and 6). The majority of the site (69%) contributes to Sustainable Forestry, and smaller but significant portions contribute to FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities (26%; mainly priority 6), Natural Floodplain Function (41%; mainly priority 4), and Functional Wetlands (41%; chiefly priorities 3 and 4).

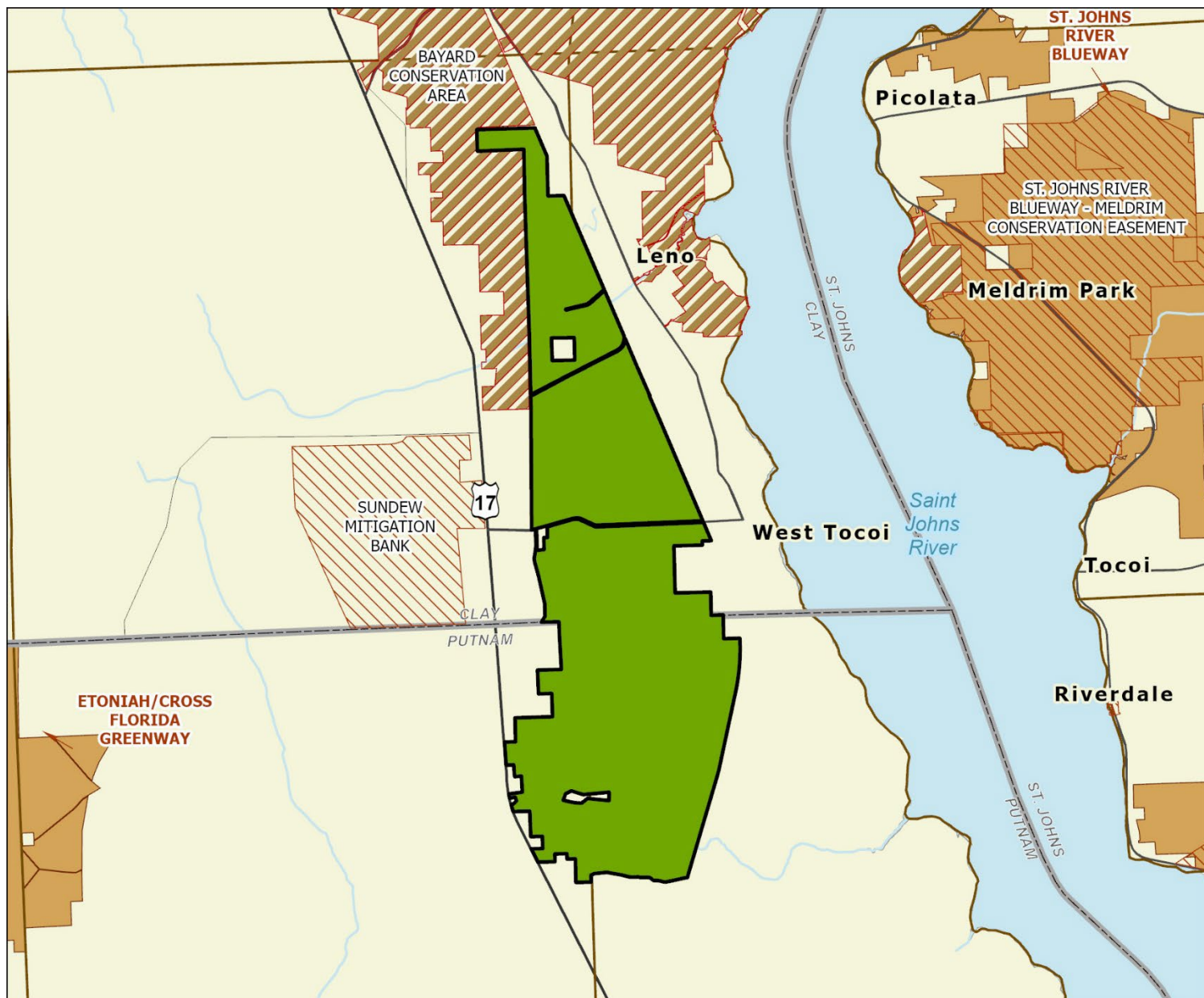
Putnam Clay Timberlands: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 6,977

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	314	5%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	6,352	91%
Total Acres	6,666	96%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	2	< 1%
Priority 5	79	1%
Priority 6	1,767	25%
Total Acres	1,848	26%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	6,850	98%
Total Acres	6,850	98%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	922	13%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	922	13%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	250	4%
Priority 3	858	12%
Priority 4	1,733	25%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	2,841	41%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	567	8%
Priority 3	2,041	29%
Priority 4	2,373	34%
Priority 5	1,949	28%
Priority 6	0	0%
Priority 7	43	< 1%
Total Acres	6,974	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	617	9%
Priority 3	1,069	15%
Priority 4	1,184	17%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	2,869	41%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	44	< 1%
Priority 3	149	2%
Priority 4	1,164	17%
Priority 5	3,096	44%
Priority 6	2,524	36%
Total Acres	6,977	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	2.0	
Total Miles	2.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		1 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	64	< 1%
Priority 3	720	10%
Priority 4	2,900	42%
Priority 5	1,097	16%
Total Acres	4,780	69%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		96 1%

^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



PUTNAM CLAY TIMBERLANDS FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

CLAY AND PUTNAM COUNTIES

- Florida Forever Proposal
- Florida Forever BOT Projects
- State Conservation Lands
- Other Conservation Lands



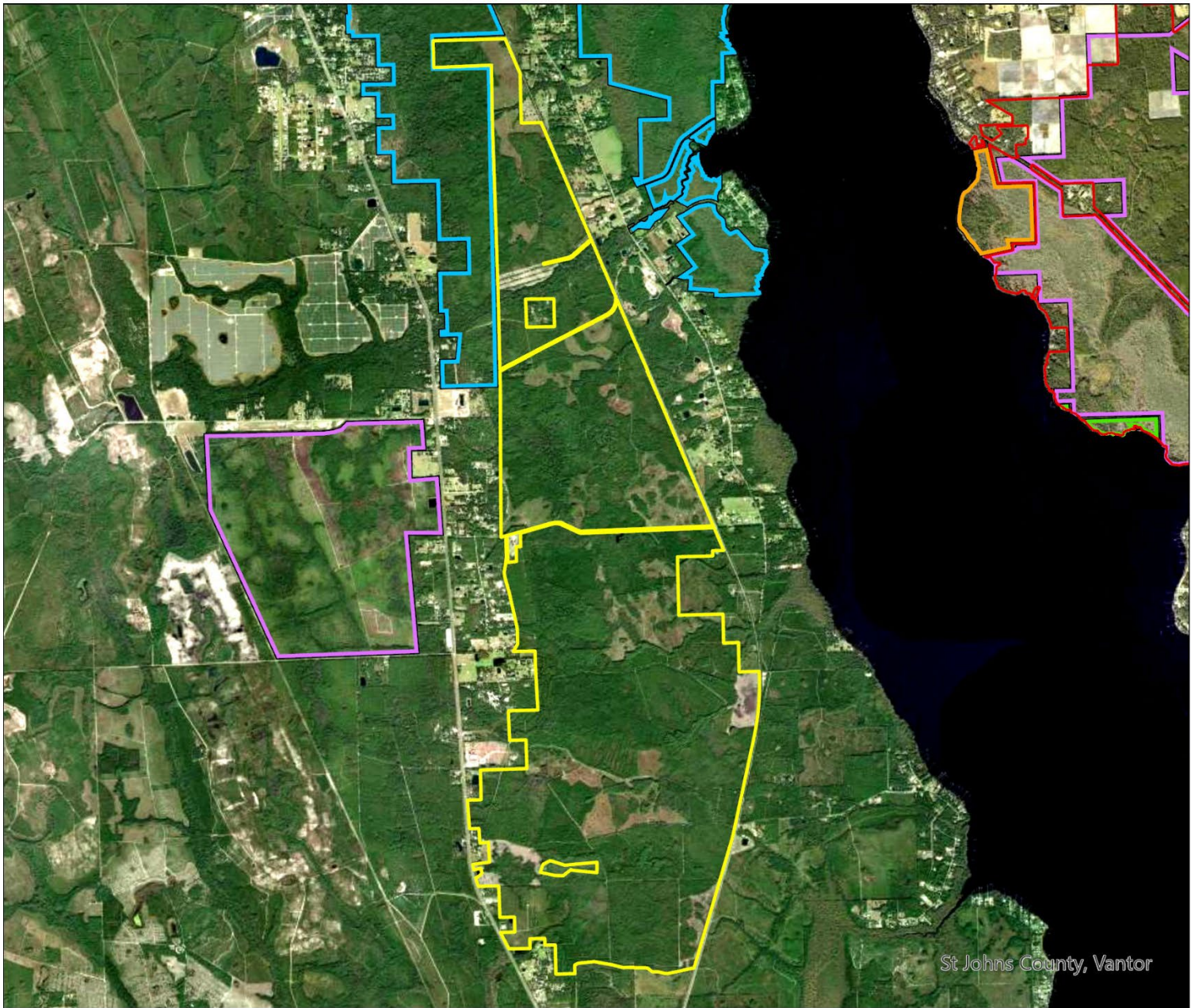
0 2.5 5
Miles



MAP BY FL NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY MAY 2026

PUTNAM CLAY TIMBERLANDS FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: Google Satellite Imagery 2025



- Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
- Florida Forever BOT Projects
- Existing State Conservation Lands
- Existing Water Mangement District Conservation Lands
- Existing Local Conservation Lands
- Existing Private Conservation Lands



RAIFORD TO OSCEOLA GREENWAY EXTENSION (COLUMBIA COUNTY)

Less Than Fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

The Raiford to Osceola Greenway Extension proposal includes ca. 5,051.0 acres in Columbia County. It consists of an irregularly-shaped block of contiguous properties, with one additional small block connected corner-to-corner to the main tract. The property is proposed for less-than-fee protection via a conservation easement.

The proposal is situated ca. 4 miles east of Lake City and about 6 miles south of I-10 in eastern Columbia County, adjacent to the boundaries of Union and Baker Counties. The property extends about 4.5 miles north to south, and is about 3 miles east to west at its widest point. Via over 2.5 miles of shared boundary with the Weyerhaeuser Conservation Easement to its east, the proposal is connected to a corridor of protected land extending from Osceola National Forest (2 miles north) eastward to Camp Blanding. Portions of the Raiford to Osceola Greenway, the nearest unacquired FFBOT project lands, are less than 1.5 miles to the east; unacquired lands in the Pinhook Swamp FFBOT project are about 7 miles northwest.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02, the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

The property is in an area of moderate elevation containing a portion of the headwaters of Olustee Creek, a tributary of the Suwannee River that originates just east of the proposal and flows southward, curving west around the proposal's lower edge. Drainage is generally eastward and southward across the property. Elevations descend across the gently undulating terrain from a maximum of ca. 160 feet above sea level near the northern end of the proposal to ca. 115-120 feet along Olustee Creek.

The property is currently used for timber production, with nearly all of the uplands (ca. 69% of the site) devoted to pine silviculture. About 20% of the proposal consists of relatively undisturbed natural vegetation. Freshwater swamps make up the majority of the natural areas on the proposal, with most of these in sinuous forested drainages (likely a mix of bottomland forest, floodplain and basin swamp, and baygall) connected to Olustee Creek. Wet flatwoods (2% of the proposal) persist in small patches, often at the interface between pine plantation and wetlands. Scattered small dome swamps and baygalls occur among the pine plantations. Upland hardwood forest (an under-represented community; <1% of the site) is mapped in 3 locations, although 2 are slivers along the boundary and likely insignificant. However, the remaining (hypothetical) patch of this community may have conservation value.

This tract historically was likely dominated by broad areas of mesic flatwoods, which have now been replaced by pine plantations of a variety of ages that occupy ca. 69% of the total acreage. Some of the swamps have been logged in recent decades; these are classified as successional hydric shrublands/forests (5% of the site), although field inspection may show that some of these have recovered enough to merit classification as a natural community. Other land uses that make up small but significant amounts of the property include a network of interior roads and firebreaks used mainly for timber management and 2 utility corridors that cross the site. There is also what appears to be a small hunt camp near the proposal's center. Small areas of pasture, clearings, and borrow pits or ponds make up only tiny fractions of the site.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Raiford to Osceola Greenway Extension Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
freshwater forested wetlands	391	8
basin swamp	230	5
bottomland forest	127	3
wet flatwoods	109	2
floodplain swamp	75	1
baygall	66	1
dome swamp	43	<1
basin marsh	29	<1
upland hardwood forest	3	<1
depression marsh	<1	<1
pine plantation	3,508	69
successional hydric shrubland/forest	260	5
road	150	3
utility corridor	51	1
successional hardwood forest	3	<1
developed	2	<1
pasture-semi-improved	1	<1
pasture-improved	1	<1
artificial pond	<1	<1
clearing/regeneration	<1	<1
Total	5,051	100

The proposal is situated in areas where FWC classifies the Florida black bear (*Ursus americanus floridanus*) as Frequent or Common, and this species is presumed to use the site. Otherwise, there are no records of rare or imperiled species on the proposal, although it is unlikely that detailed surveys have been done onsite. The extensive conversion of the uplands and the history of intensive forestry are likely to somewhat limit the site's potential as rare species habitat.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Raiford to Osceola Greenway Extension Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
none					

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, the entire proposal (99-100%) contributes to Ecological Greenways (mostly priority 1), Surface Water Protection (priorities 2-6), and Aquifer Recharge (mainly priorities 3 and 4), and the vast majority (90%) contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (mainly priority 3). More than half contributes to Natural Floodplain Function (59%; priorities 3 and 4), and Sustainable Forestry (70%; mostly priority 4). A quarter to 1/3 of the site would contribute to Functional Wetlands, FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities, and Forestland for Recharge.

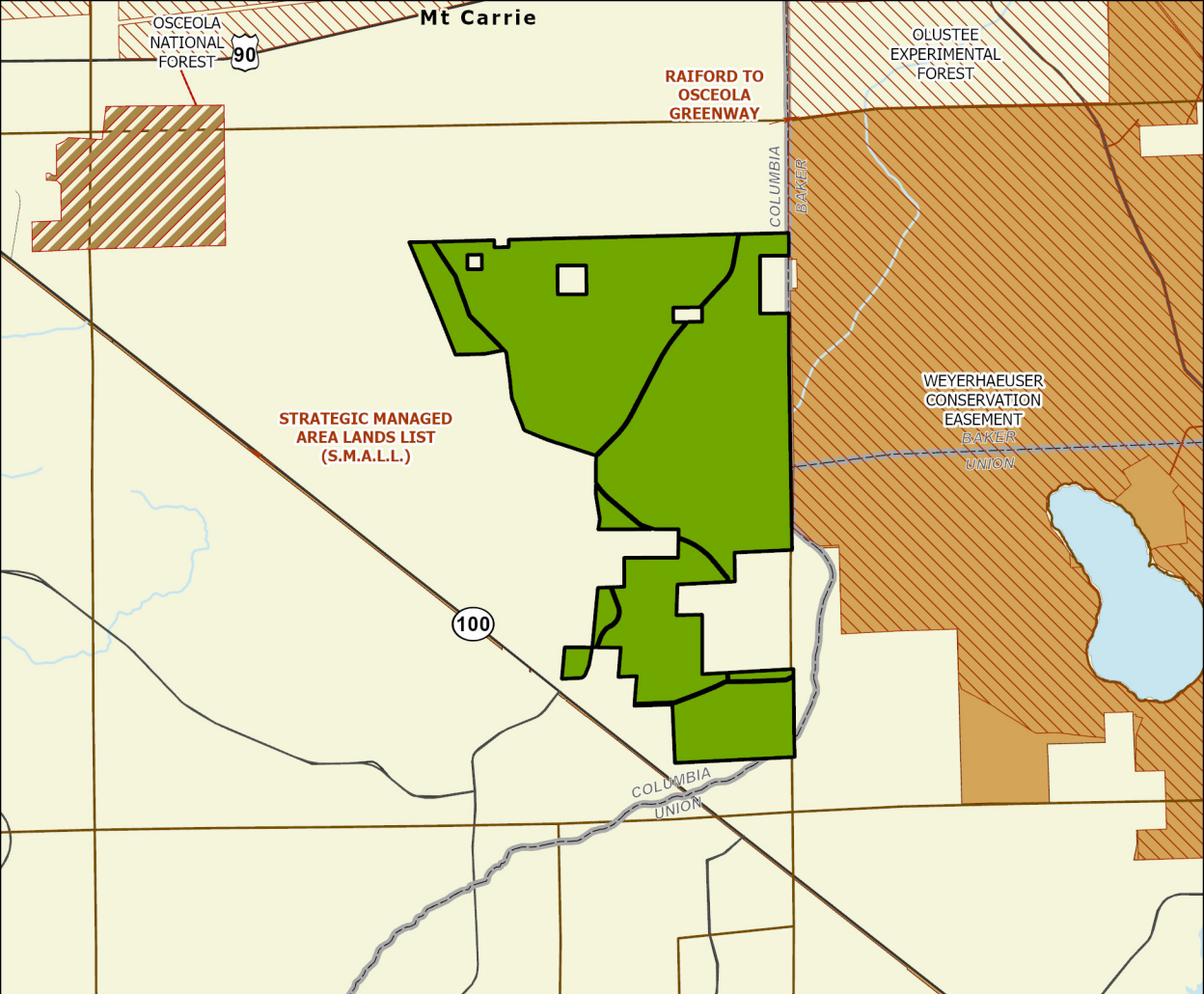
Raiford to Osceola Greenway Extension: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 5,051

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	3,810	75%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	724	14%
Total Acres	4,534	90%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	1	< 1%
Priority 5	993	20%
Priority 6	677	13%
Total Acres	1,671	33%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	4,353	86%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	600	12%
Priority 5	31	< 1%
Total Acres	4,983	99%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	131	3%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	131	3%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	967	19%
Priority 4	2,030	40%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	2,997	59%

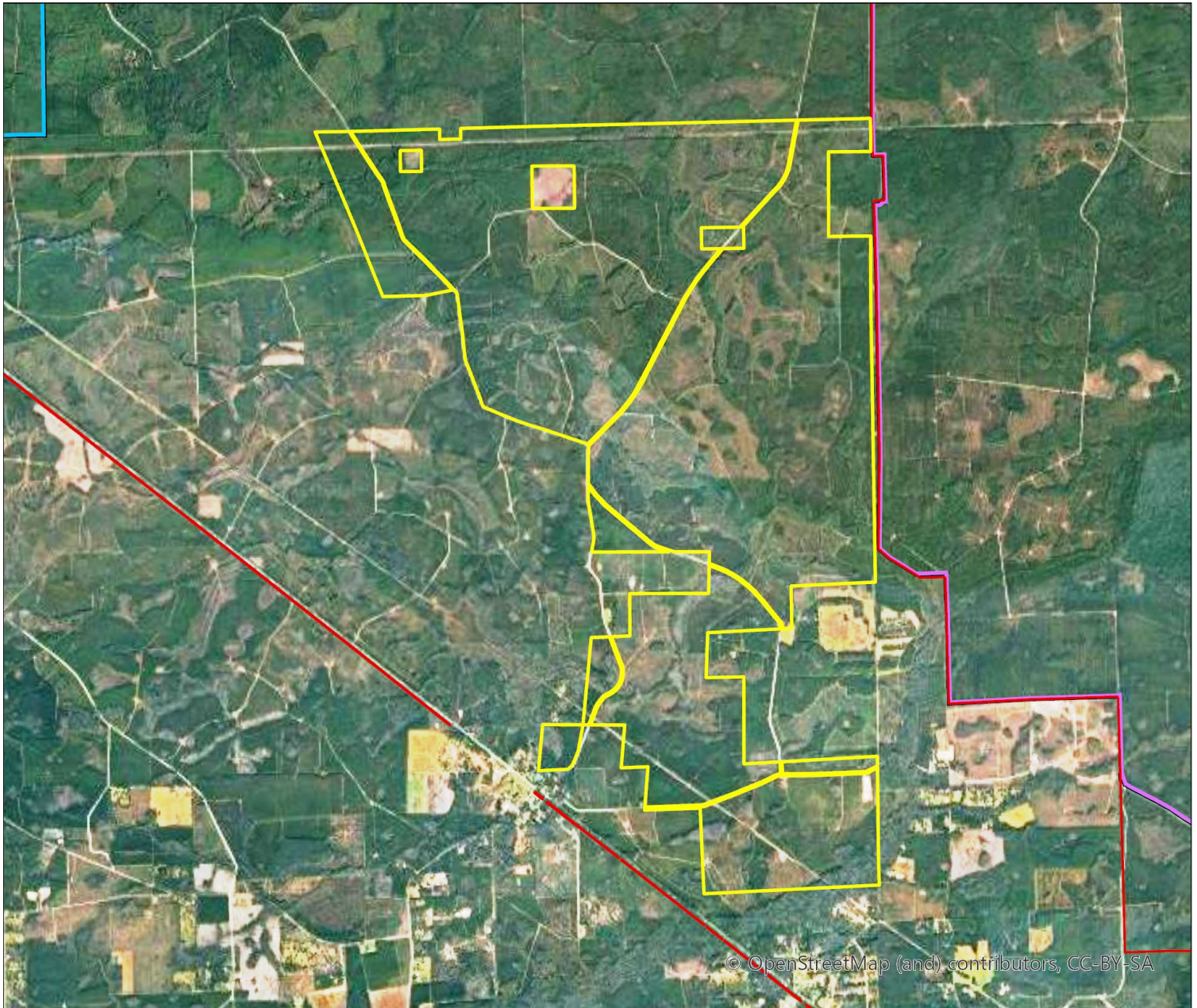
MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	1,213	24%
Priority 3	398	8%
Priority 4	2,314	46%
Priority 5	859	17%
Priority 6	199	4%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	4,983	99%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	953	19%
Priority 4	397	8%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	1,350	27%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	2,315	46%
Priority 4	2,470	49%
Priority 5	263	5%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	5,048	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	4.3	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	4.3	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		6 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	43	< 1%
Priority 2	272	5%
Priority 3	1,478	29%
Priority 4	1,683	33%
Priority 5	46	< 1%
Total Acres	3,522	70%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		1,672 33%

^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



RAIFORD TO OSCEOLA GREENWAY EXTENSION FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: Google Satellite Imagery 2023



- Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
- Florida Forever BOT Projects
- Existing Water Management District Conservation Lands
- Existing Private Conservation Lands



SCOUT HOLE (UNION COUNTY)

Less Than Fee

Preliminary Evaluation

The Scout Hole proposal consists of 2 blocks of land ca. 1,429.0 acres in Union County. The property is proposed for less-than-fee protection.

The larger southern tract (1,186 acres) is situated about 4 miles south of Lake Butler, on the north bank of the New River. The northern tract (ca. 243 acres) is located about 2.7 miles northwest of the southern tract and 3 miles west-southwest of Lake Butler, north of State Road 121. There are few conservation lands in close proximity to the proposal. The nearest conservation land, Olustee Creek Conservation Area, is 1 mile northeast of the northern tract; Pareners Branch Conservation Area, Graham Conservation Area (both Suwannee River Water Management District), New River, Running Over Ranch, and Weyerhaeuser Conservation Easements, Stevens-Gracy Trail, Palatka-to-Lake Butler Trail, and Santa Fe River Preserve are all within 5 miles; and several additional conservation lands, mainly along the Santa Fe River, are within 10 miles. A handful of potential trail sections in the SMALL Florida Forever Project are the only unacquired FFBOT lands within 5 miles; the Raiford to Osceola Greenway and San Felasco Conservation Corridor FFBOT projects are within 10 miles. County Road 231 crosses the southern tract for about 1 mile, separating a small portion east of the road from the rest of the tract. A small piece at the northwest corner of the northern tract is split off by SW 98th street, which passes through the tract for ca. 0.2 miles.

Natural Resources Description: This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (FL FWCC and FNAI, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 4.02), the FNAI Natural Heritage database, and other publicly available GIS data sources.

About 29% of the site is in relatively natural condition, with both tracts containing a mix of land uses. The northern tract is hilly, with elevations up to ca. 135 feet above sea level surrounding the valleys of upper Fivemile Creek and two small tributaries that flow into the creek. This tract contains a mix of flatwoods (some logged but still possibly otherwise relatively intact), pine plantation, and cleared areas on the higher elevations, with bands of bottomland forest surrounding the creeks.

Fivemile Creek enters at the northern edge of the southern tract and flows into New River near the property's southwestern corner. This tract consists mostly of low-lying, relatively level areas (65-70 feet above sea level) surrounding the New River. The northern part of the tract contains hills that rise to about 110 feet above the floodplain. The higher elevations have well-defined drainages, whereas the channel of Fivemile Creek is broad and diffuse. A broad area of hardwood-dominated wetlands covers the floodplain of the New River and the lower portions of the floodplain of Fivemile Creek. These are

likely mostly mixed-canopy bottomland forest, but probably include areas of floodplain swamp and perhaps baygall. A backwater or oxbow north of the river on the south tract appears to contain areas of cypress-dominated swamp and floodplain marsh.

Altered landcover occupies most of the tract's uplands, consisting of improved pasture as well as pine plantation and recently cleared plantation. Successional hydric shrublands/forests occur in parts of the Fivemile Creek drainage on the southern tract, where the surrounding forests were logged in recent decades. Other land uses making up small portions of the proposal include some row-crop agriculture on the south tract, a network of unpaved roads, areas of semi-improved pasture, and artificial ponds.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Scout Hole Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
freshwater forested wetlands	223	16
mesic flatwoods	87	6
bottomland forest	44	3
floodplain swamp	30	2
dome swamp	20	1
wet flatwoods	12	<1
basin swamp	6	<1
floodplain marsh	3	<1
stream	2	<1
depression marsh	1	<1
pasture-improved	368	26
pine plantation	211	15
clearing/regeneration	165	12
successional hydric shrubland/forest	142	10
agriculture	38	3
pasture-semi-improved	32	2
road	23	2
abandoned field/abandoned pasture	12	<1
successional hardwood forest	6	<1
artificial pond	4	<1
Total		100

The Florida Mapleleaf, a rare mussel, occurs in the New River and has been documented in the river adjacent to the site. Although this is the only rare/imperiled species currently known from the proposal, additional rare invertebrates, including a variety of aquatic insects (e.g., caddisflies, mayflies, and stoneflies), may occur in or along the creek. As it is unlikely that field surveys have been done in the flatwoods, swamps, and altered habitats, additional rare species may also be present. Multiple species of wading birds may occasionally forage on site.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Scout Hole Florida Forever proposal.*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Pustulosa kleiniana</i>	Florida Mapleleaf	G2?	S1	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
none					

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural resources; the statewide scope of this analysis accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME, nearly all (95-100%) of the proposal would contribute to Ecological Greenways (priority 4), Surface Water Protection (mostly priorities 4 and 5), and Aquifer Recharge (mostly priorities 4 and 5). About ¾ of the site contributes to Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (priorities 3 and 5), Natural Floodplain Function (priorities 2-4). Between 1/3 and 1/2 of the proposal would contribute to FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities (44%; mostly priority 2), Functional Wetlands (33%; priorities 2 and 3), and Sustainable Forestry (40%; mostly priority 4).

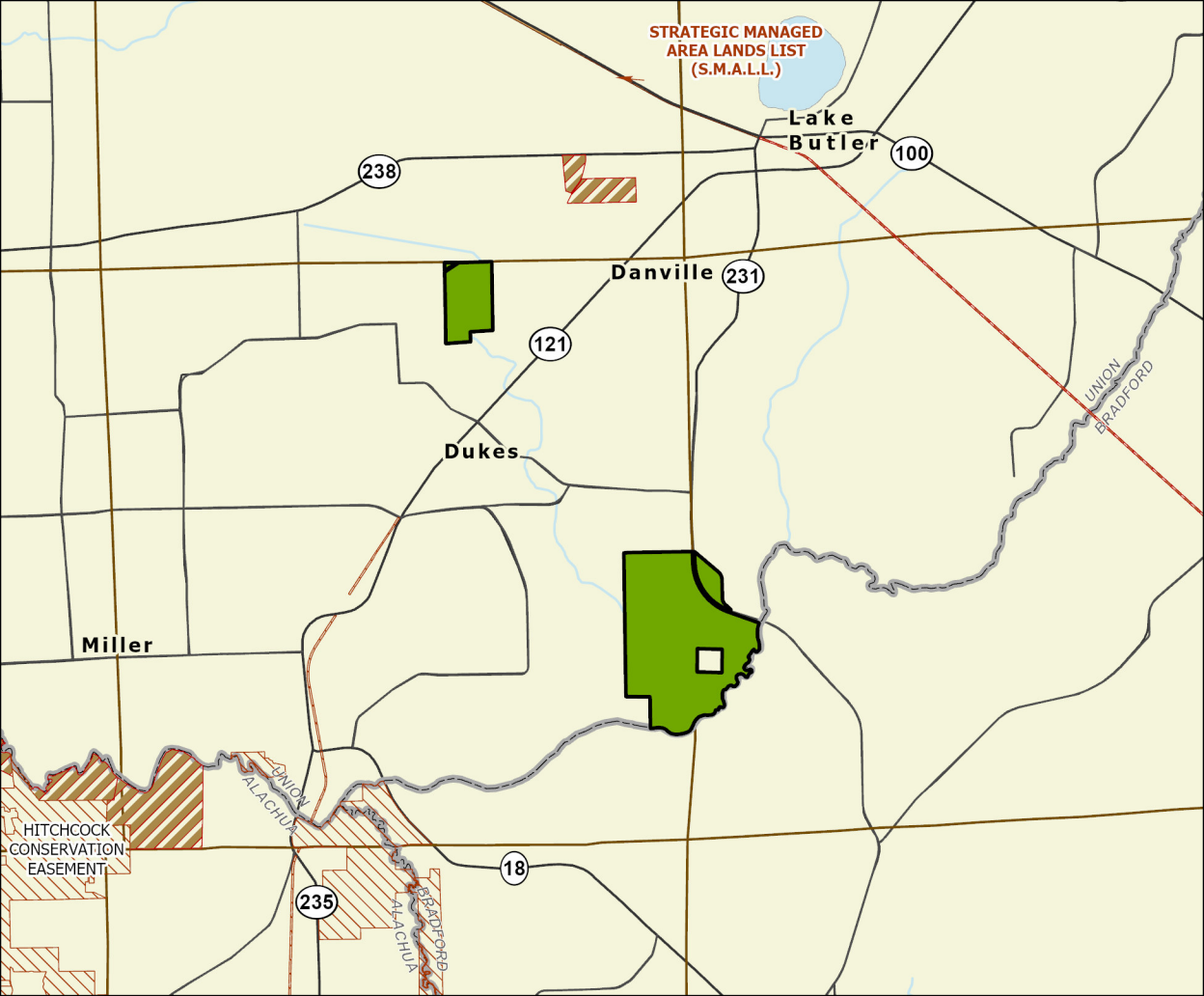
Scout Hole: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20260429

GIS ACRES = 1,429

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	645	45%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	410	29%
Total Acres	1,055	74%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	7	< 1%
Priority 2	491	34%
Priority 3	53	4%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	2	< 1%
Priority 6	70	5%
Total Acres	623	44%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	1,371	96%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	1,371	96%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	58	4%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	58	4%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	1	
G3	0	
G4	0	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	238	17%
Priority 3	291	20%
Priority 4	502	35%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	1,032	72%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	203	14%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	593	42%
Priority 5	632	44%
Priority 6	0	0%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	1,429	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	235	16%
Priority 3	179	13%
Priority 4	64	5%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	478	33%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	52	4%
Priority 4	596	42%
Priority 5	781	55%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	1,429	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles)		
(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		6 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	87	6%
Priority 4	449	31%
Priority 5	39	3%
Total Acres	576	40%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		27 2%

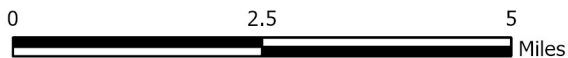
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



SCOUT HOLE FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

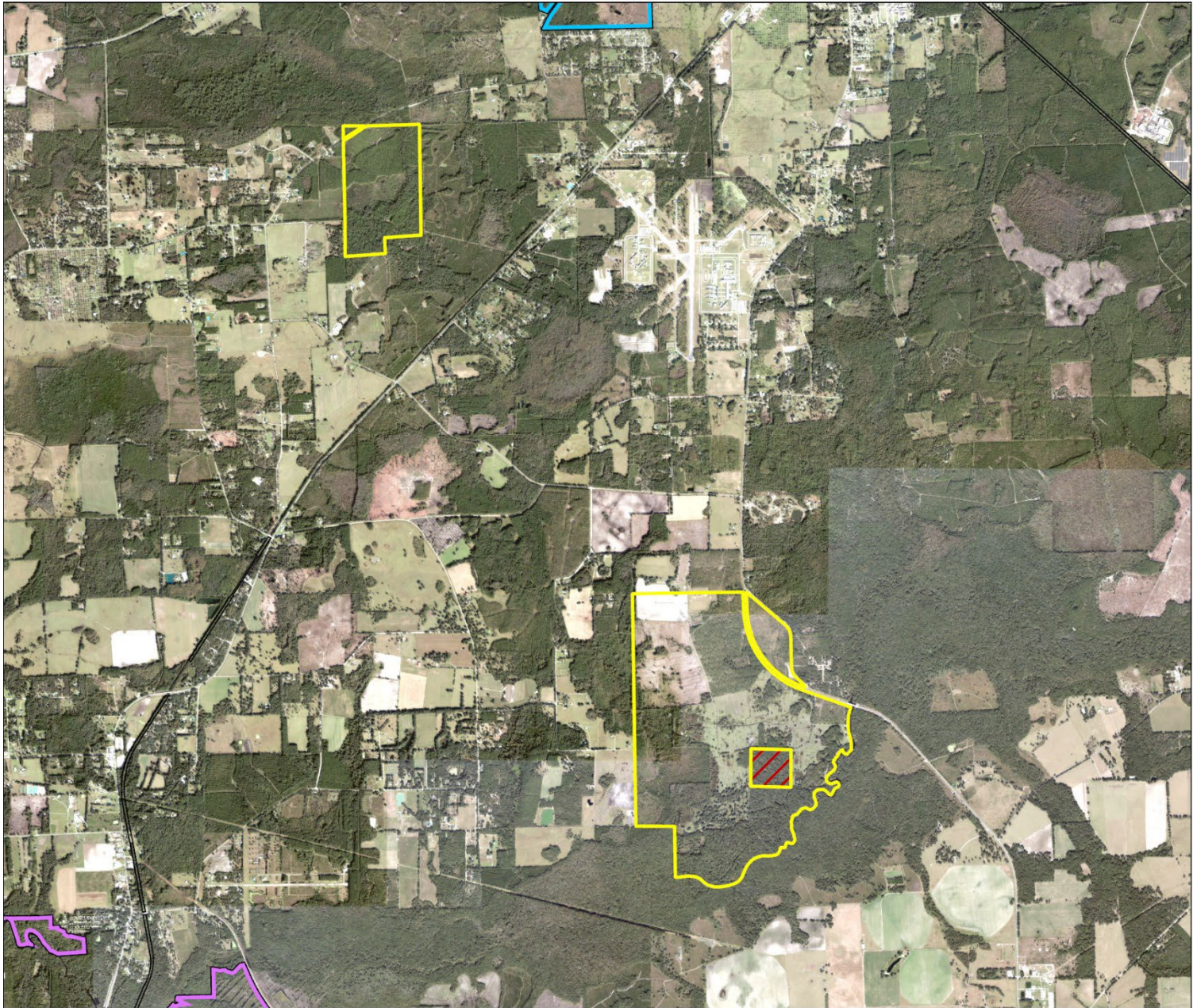
UNION COUNTY

-  Florida Forever Proposal
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Conservation Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands



SCOUT HOLE FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

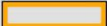
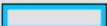
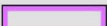
FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF MAY 2026



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, May 2026

Background: FDOT Aerial Imagery 2022



-  Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
-  Existing State Conservation Lands
-  Existing Water Mangement District Conservation Lands
-  Existing Private Conservation Lands
-  State Owned Land

