



Florida Forever Project Evaluation - Comparative Analysis

November 2023

This report is produced annually by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory to provide scientific support to the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) in advance of their vote on Florida Forever land acquisition projects. The Comparative Analysis provides a concise overview of the natural resource values of each existing and proposed Florida Forever project. A Single Resource Evaluation is provided for each of eleven resource types outlined in the Florida Forever Act. The F-TRAC Scenarios show which projects offer the greatest return in resource protection given the estimated acreage likely to be acquired by Florida Forever. As resources are acquired statewide, the protection needs of remaining resources change. The F-TRAC analysis is dynamic in that it identifies the places that best meet those changing protection needs in each evaluation cycle.

Data Updates

This evaluation is based on Version 5.1 of the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment (FFCNA) data layers. FFCNA resource data are continually updated as new information becomes available. Version 5.1 includes updates for Rare Species Habitat Conservation Priorities, Under-represented Natural Communities, Ecological Greenways, Significant Surface Waters, and Recreational Trails. Details are described in the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment Technical Report, v5.1 and the Ranking Support Analyses Documentation for November 2023.

Acreage Threshold

The F-TRAC scenarios evaluate conservation value based on a set amount of acreage to be acquired. The closer this acreage threshold is to the amount of land likely to be acquired by the Florida Forever program, the more relevant F-TRAC scores will be for project comparison. Given the open-ended duration and dynamic funding of the program, a precise estimate of acreage to be acquired is not practical. Starting in 2022, for the purposes of this evaluation, a threshold of half of the remaining area of proposed projects (ca. 1,105,000 acres for 2023) was deemed a reasonable projection of acquisitions over time and used as the amount of land targeted in the current F-TRAC Scenarios.

F-TRAC Statewide Scenario

This scenario is a statewide analysis to identify the best opportunities to acquire multiple resources in the same location. Of the approximately 1,105,000 acres allocated, 75% occur on projects; the remaining 25% occur elsewhere in the state on other unprotected lands. This score is useful for viewing projects in a statewide context and might best be used to help determine if new proposals should be added to the list or existing projects should be removed.

F-TRAC on Florida Forever Projects

This scenario evaluates only within existing and proposed Florida Forever-BOT projects for the best opportunities to acquire multiple resources in the same location. That is, the approximately 1,105,000 acres projected to be acquired by Florida Forever-BOT are allocated completely within the remaining acres of projects. This score compares projects relative to each other, essentially grading projects on a curve, rather than providing information about the larger statewide context. Each project's score may change based on number, size, or resource value of other projects on the list. This score might best be used to help inform project ranking.

Complete documentation for Ranking Support Analyses (Single Resource Evaluation, F-TRAC analysis and Ranking Support Data Layers), as well as other formats of the *Comparative Analysis* may be downloaded from the FNAI website at <https://www.fnai.org/conslands/florida-forever>.

Florida Forever Project Evaluation Comparative Analysis, November 2023

This table evaluates ONLY the remaining acres of projects according to the numerical performance measures listed. Other considerations such as willing sellers, active negotiations, completing projects, development threat, etc., are always part of any decision regarding project status. All values are assigned based on F-TRAC and single resource analyses without regard to Acquisition Categories. Seven resource types are included in F-TRAC scenarios: Species, Communities, Surface Waters, Wetlands & Floodplain, Sustainable Forestry, Aquifer Recharge and Landscapes. Other resources and measures shown in the table are not included in F-TRAC scenarios. Values indicate how well a project scores for each resource, from high (5) to low (1).

Category*	Remaining Project Acres	Percent Complete	Project Name	F-TRAC Statewide	F-TRAC on FL Forever Projects	Species	Communities	Surface Waters	Wetlands & Floodplain	Forestry	Aquifer Recharge	Landscapes	Cultural Resources (Archaeol & Historic)	Trails Network	FL Natl Scenic Trail corridor	Population w/in 100 mi	Climate Change Sea Level Rise
CNL	48,912	16%	Apalachicola River	3	3	5	2	5	5	2	1	3	4	3	x	1	4
CNL	11,506	22%	Avalon	3	3	2	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	1		1	1
CNL	1,910	0%	Bar-B Ranch	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	3	2	1		3	1
CNL	97,428	3%	Bear Creek Forest	2	3	2	2	4	2	5	2	5	2	3		1	1
CNL	4,689	0%	Bear Hammock	2	5	2	2	3	2	4	5	3	3	4		4	1
CNL	4,653	83%	Belle Meade	3	3	4	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1		3	1
CNL	41,746	3%	Blue Head Ranch	5	4	5	3	3	2	2	3	5	3	2		5	1
CNL	28,807	39%	Bombing Range Ridge	5	5	5	4	3	2	3	3	5	2	2	x	5	1
CNL	10,507	46%	Caloosahatchee Ecoscape	5	5	5	2	3	2	2	2	5	3	3		4	1
CNL	32,236	5%	Camp Blanding to Raiford Greenway	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	1	5	2	2		2	1
CNL	47,043	43%	Devil's Garden	3	3	4	1	3	2	2	1	4	2	3	x	4	1
CNL	53,079	44%	Etoniah/Cross Florida Greenway	4	3	2	2	3	2	4	3	5	3	4	x	4	2
CNL	54,862	0%	Forest and Lakes Ecosystem	3	3	2	2	3	2	4	3	4	5	5	x	1	1
CNL	5,949	0%	Gardner Marsh	4	5	5	4	3	2	2	3	3	3	1		5	1
CNL	11,182	0%	Half Circle L Ranch	3	4	5	2	4	3	2	2	4	3	1		4	1
CNL	21,965	10%	Hixtown Swamp	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	4		1	1
CNL	1,707	39%	Ichetucknee Trace	2	3	2	1	3	1	2	4	2	2	1		2	1
CNL	4,718	30%	Lake Hatchineha Watershed	2	3	4	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	1		5	1
CNL	27,507	60%	Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem	4	4	5	4	3	2	2	3	5	2	4		5	1
CNL	9,842	59%	Longleaf Pine Ecosystem	3	4	2	5	1	2	4	5	4	4	2	x	5	1
CNL	1,967	0%	Natural Bridge Creek	2	2	1	1	3	2	4	2	2	3	1		1	1
CNL	5,442	0%	Natural Bridge Timberlands	2	3	2	2	3	2	4	4	3	5	1		1	1
CNL	22,867	51%	Osceola Pine Savannas	4	5	5	2	4	2	2	3	5	2	2	x	5	1
CNL	39,352	39%	Panther Glades	2	3	5	2	3	3	2	2	5	3	3		4	1
CNL	2,251	67%	Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie	2	2	1	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	3		1	2
CNL	21,887	55%	Pine Island Slough Ecosystem	3	2	3	2	3	2	1	3	4	3	2	x	5	1
CNL	38,007	80%	Pinhook Swamp	2	3	2	2	3	2	4	3	4	3	2	x	2	1
CNL	46,345	0%	San Pedro Bay	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	3	4	4	1	x	1	1
CNL	880	60%	Shoal River Buffer	2	2	2	3	4	4	3	1	2	2	1		1	1
CNL	11,350	3%	South Goethe	4	3	2	3	3	2	4	4	4	3	4		4	1
CNL	578	3%	Southeastern Bat Maternity Caves	3	2	4	2	2	3	2	3	1	3	2		5	1
CNL	12,042	6%	Strategic Managed Area Lands List	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	5	5	x	5	3
CNL	8,020	50%	Twelvemile Slough	5	5	4	1	3	3	2	1	5	3	3		4	1
CNL	12,035	0%	Upper Shoal River	2	2	2	2	3	2	4	1	2	3	1		1	1
CNL	21,319	74%	Wekiva-Ocala Greenway	3	3	2	3	4	3	2	3	3	4	4	x	4	3
PRI	8,060	59%	Annutteliga Hammock	3	2	3	3	1	2	2	5	3	4	2		4	1
PRI	8,175	43%	Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	3		3	1
PRI	40,306	60%	Aucilla/Wacissa Watershed	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	4	x	1	2
PRI	8,397	8%	Baldwin Bay/St. Marys River	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	1	4	2	3		2	1
PRI	17,381	58%	Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	5		4	2
PRI	396	73%	Carr Farm/Price's Scrub	1	3	2	1	3	2	2	3	1	4	1		3	1
PRI	3,219	83%	Catfish Creek	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	1		5	1
PRI	6,406	73%	Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods	3	3	4	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3		3	1
PRI	2,474	51%	Clear Creek/Whiting Field	3	3	2	3	4	1	3	1	3	3	3		1	1
PRI	30,658	57%	Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed	4	4	5	2	4	4	2	2	5	2	2		4	1
PRI	2,348	0%	Crayfish Habitat Restoration	2	2	3	1	3	2	4	2	2	2	3		1	1
PRI	12,440	0%	Crossbar/Al Bar Ranch	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	5	2	2	1		4	1
PRI	219	74%	Dade County Archipelago	5	3	4	5	2	1	1	3	1	3	2		3	1
PRI	2,836	33%	Flagler County Blueway	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	4	4		3	3
PRI	6,963	62%	Florida's First Magnitude Springs	4	4	2	2	3	2	3	4	4	4	3		5	2
PRI	154,223	43%	Green Swamp	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	4	4	3	4	x	5	1
PRI	7,415	13%	Hall Ranch	3	5	5	3	3	2	5	1	3	2	2		3	1
PRI	13,632	32%	Heather Island/Ocklawaha River	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	4	x	4	1
PRI	17,036	39%	Indian River Lagoon Blueway	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	4	5		5	4
PRI	10,218	22%	Lafayette Forest	2	2	2	2	3	2	4	4	3	3	1		2	1
PRI	8,750	17%	Lake Santa Fe	2	2	1	1	3	2	3	3	3	3	4	x	3	1
PRI	4,693	0%	Lochloosa Forest	1	2	2	1	3	2	4	3	3	2	1		3	1
PRI	12,115	18%	Middle Chipola River	2	2	5	1	4	2	3	2	2	4	3	x	1	1
PRI	68,600	53%	Northeast Florida Timberlands and Watershed Reserve	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	1	5	2	3		3	4
PRI	8,838	76%	Pal-Mar	2	2	2	2	4	4	2	3	3	2	3		4	1
PRI	8,446	0%	Pringle Creek Forest	2	2	2	2	4	2	3	2	3	2	2		3	1
PRI	6,438	74%	Pumpkin Hill Creek	2	2	2	2	4	2	3	1	3	3	2		2	4
PRI	900	27%	Rainbow River Corridor	3	4	3	2	3	1	2	4	2	4	4	x	4	2
PRI	14,370	58%	Sand Mountain	4	4	2	4	4	2	4	3	4	3	3	x	1	1
PRI	18,134	77%	Volusia Conservation Corridor	5	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	5	2	3		4	3
PRI	20,455	0%	Waccasassa Watershed	2	2	2	1	2	2	4	4	3	5	3		3	1
PRI	3,301	63%	Wakulla Springs Protection Zone	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	3	3		1	1
PRI	5,201	59%	Watermelon Pond	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	5	2	2	2		3	1
PRI	8,378	0%	Welannee Watershed Forest	2	2	4	1	4	3	3	1	3	4	1		1	1
PRI	451	0%	Wilson Ranch	1	1	2	1	3	2	1	3	1	3	2		5	1
PRI	1,314	0%	Yarborough Ranch	5	5	2	2	4	2	2	3	3	4	1		3	1
LTF	32,989	4%	Adams Ranch	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	4	5	2		5	1
LTF	5,700	7%	Ayavalla Plantation	2	2	4	1	3	2	2	3	2	4	3		1	1
LTF	33,198	37%	Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	2	5	2	2		4	1
LTF	7,731	30%	Bluefield to Cow Creek	1	2	2	1	3	2	2	3	3	2	2		4	1
LTF	93,062	7%	Coastal Headwaters Longleaf Forest	2	2	2	2	4	2	4	1	5	3	2		1	1
LTF	3,522	61%	Conlin Lake X	4	3	4	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3		4	1
LTF	5,934	0%	Deer Creek Ranch	2	3	4	2	3	2	2	3	4	2	1		4	1
LTF	2,214	0%	Eastern Scarp Ranchlands	3	2	4	2	3	1	1	3	3	2	1		5	1
LTF	5,717	0%	Eight Mile Property	2	2	2	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	1		2	1
LTF	113,984	41%	Fisheating Creek Ecosystem	3	4	5	2	3	2	2	3	5	3	2		5	1
LTF	23,298	0%	Gilchrist Club	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	3	4	4		3	1
LTF	25,611	0%	Gulf Hammock	2	2	2	1	3	3	3	1	4	3	1		4	5

Category*	Remaining Project Acres	Percent Complete	Project Name	F-TRAC Statewide	F-TRAC on FL Forever Projects	Species	Communities	Surface Waters	Wetlands & Floodplain	Forestry	Aquifer Recharge	Landscapes	Cultural Resources (Archaeol & Historic)	Trails Network	FL Nat Scenic Trail corridor	Population w/in 100 mi	Climate Change Sea Level Rise
LTF	9,579	0%	Heartland Wildlife Corridor	2	2	4	1	3	2	2	2	4	3	3		5	1
LTF	6,923	0%	Hosford Chapman's Rhododendron Protection Zone	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	4	2	2	1		1	1
LTF	30,810	31%	Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector	3	2	4	2	3	2	2	3	5	3	1		5	1
LTF	6,382	0%	Limestone Ranch	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	2		4	1
LTF	2,293	0%	Little River Conservation Area	1	1	3	1	3	2	3	2	2	3	2		1	1
LTF	2,271	71%	Lower Perdido River Buffer	1	2	1	2	3	2	3	1	2	3	1		1	1
LTF	12,090	79%	Lower Suwannee River and Gulf Watershed	2	2	2	1	2	2	4	3	4	3	1		3	5
LTF	87,759	7%	Matanzas to Ocala Conservation Corridor	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	5	2	3		3	5
LTF	1,613	79%	Maytown Flatwoods	5	5	3	3	2	4	2	3	3	3	1		3	1
LTF	10,135	18%	Mill Creek	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	4	2	1		3	1
LTF	83	53%	Millstone Plantation	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	3	1		1	1
LTF	30,538	44%	Myakka Ranchlands	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	3		4	1
LTF	14,714	0%	North Waccasassa Flats	1	2	2	1	2	3	3	4	2	5	1		2	1
LTF	3,864	23%	Ochlockonee River Conservation Area	2	2	4	2	4	3	2	2	3	3	3		1	1
LTF	3,736	18%	Peace River Refuge	2	2	2	1	3	4	2	2	3	5	3		4	2
LTF	68,673	0%	Raiford to Osceola Greenway	2	2	2	1	2	2	5	3	5	4	4	x	2	1
LTF	12,514	66%	Ranch Reserve	4	5	3	2	4	2	2	3	5	2	1		4	1
LTF	13,670	24%	Red Hills Conservation	3	4	2	5	2	2	3	3	3	4	1		1	1
LTF	376	0%	San Felasco Conservation Corridor	1	2	2	1	3	2	3	3	1	3	2		3	1
LTF	1,254	0%	Suwannee County Preservation	3	2	2	1	3	2	3	3	1	4	1		2	1
LTF	1,183	0%	Welles Ranch	3	3	5	1	3	2	3	1	3	4	1		3	1
LTF	7,419	0%	Williamson Cattle Company	2	2	3	2	3	1	2	2	3	3	1		4	1
LTF	3,286	0%	Withlacoochee River Corridor	2	5	2	1	4	3	2	4	3	2	3		4	1
CCL	711	75%	Coupon Bight/Key Deer	4	3	4	3	3	4	1	1	1	2	3		1	1
CCL	5,406	60%	Florida Keys Ecosystem	5	4	5	3	3	4	1	1	1	5	5		3	2
CCL	1,200	0%	Ford Marsh	1	2	1	2	2	4	1	1	2	4	1		3	1
CCL	3,098	58%	Garcon Ecosystem	2	2	2	2	5	4	2	1	2	4	4		1	3
CCL	7,277	77%	Northeast Florida Blueway	2	2	1	2	4	2	2	1	2	4	4		3	2
CCL	51,665	55%	St. Joe Timberland	3	2	2	2	4	3	4	2	4	4	3		1	5
CCL	15,912	40%	St. Johns River Blueway	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	4	4		3	3
CCL	3,742	0%	Taylor Sweetwater Creek	3	3	2	3	3	4	2	3	4	4	3		1	4
CCL	2,038	57%	Terra Ceia	3	2	1	2	4	4	1	1	1	4	1		3	2
CCL	4,598	0%	West Bay Preservation Area	2	2	2	2	4	3	3	2	2	5	3		1	3
SC	118	87%	Archie Carr Sea Turtle Refuge	5	3	4	4	2	4	1	1	1	3	4		3	2
SC	2,579	89%	Dickerson Bay/Bald Point	3	3	3	4	4	5	3	1	3	4	4		1	3
SC	8,383	86%	Florida Springs Coastal Greenway	4	3	2	2	3	4	1	1	4	4	3		4	1
SC	3,864	88%	Lochloosa Wildlife	2	2	2	1	4	3	2	3	3	3	3		3	1
SC	1,264	86%	Old Town Creek Watershed	3	5	4	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	1		5	1
SC	11	100%	Save Our Everglades	5	3	4	1	4	4	2	3	1	3	1		3	1
SC	351	87%	Spruce Creek	4	5	2	5	3	2	3	3	1	4	2		3	2
SC	1,975	86%	Wolfe Creek Forest	2	2	2	2	4	1	4	1	3	4	2		1	2
CHR	1,154	29%	Battle of Wahoo Swamp	2	4	3	1	2	4	2	4	3	5	1		4	1
CHR	41	0%	Floyd's Mound	3	1	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	5	1		1	1
CHR	359	45%	Pierce Mound Complex	2	1	3	2	3	3	2	1	1	5	1		1	2
CHR	136	35%	Pineland Site Complex	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	5	1		3	1

*CNL - Critical Natural Lands; PRI = Partnerships & Regional Incentives; LTF = Less-Than-Fee; CCL = Climate Change Lands; SC = Substantially Complete; CHR = Critical Historical Resources

Cultural resource values were provided by the Florida Dept. of State, Division of Historical Resources.

Remaining acres and Percent Complete based on FF_acquired and FNAI managed areas databases as of 15 October 2023.

F-TRAC Scenarios

There are more resources in Florida worthy of acquisition than can be acquired by the Florida Forever program.

The **F-TRAC Statewide** scenario looks statewide for the best half of the remaining area of proposed projects (approximately 1,105,000 acres) of unprotected resources – not necessarily on current projects.

- Projects are scored relative to the entire state. A project's score is not influenced by the number, size, or resource value of other projects on the FFBOT list.
- This scenario is useful for viewing projects in a statewide context, and can help inform decisions on adding or removing projects from the FFBOT list.

The **F-TRAC on FFBOT Projects** scenario looks only at the list of existing and proposed projects for the best half of the remaining area of proposed projects (approximately 1,105,000 acres) of resources.

- Projects are scored relative to one another – they are "graded on a curve". Each project's score may change based on the number, size, or resource value of other projects on the FFBOT list.
- This scenario is useful for comparing projects to each other, and can help inform decisions on project ranking.

Category	Remaining Acres
Critical Natural Lands	764,591
Partnerships & Reg. Incentives	543,186
Less-Than-Fee	684,123
Climate Change Lands	95,648
Substantially Complete	18,545
Critical Historical Resources	1,690
Total	2,107,783

Key

5	Very High
4	High
3	Medium
2	Medium-Low
1	Low

