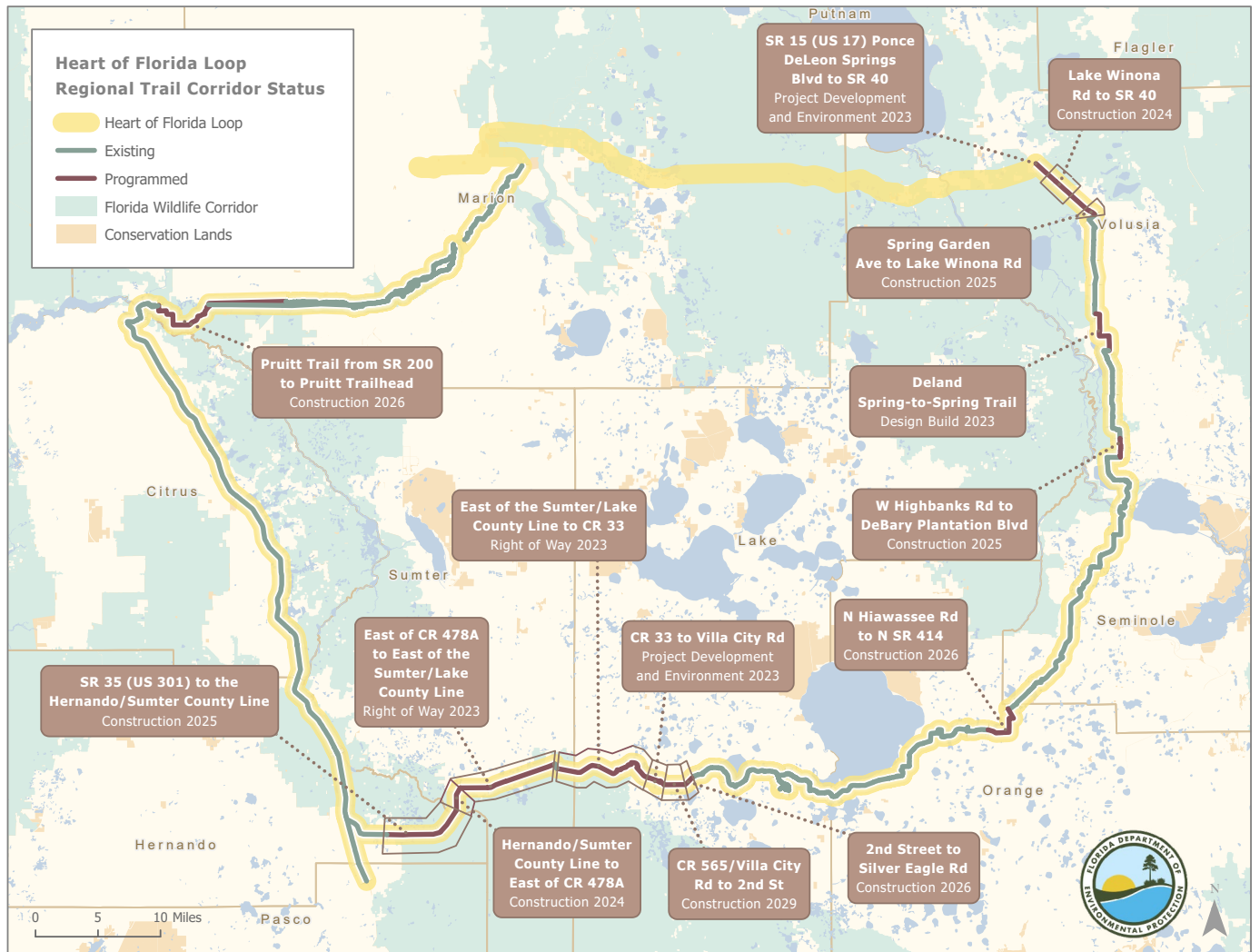
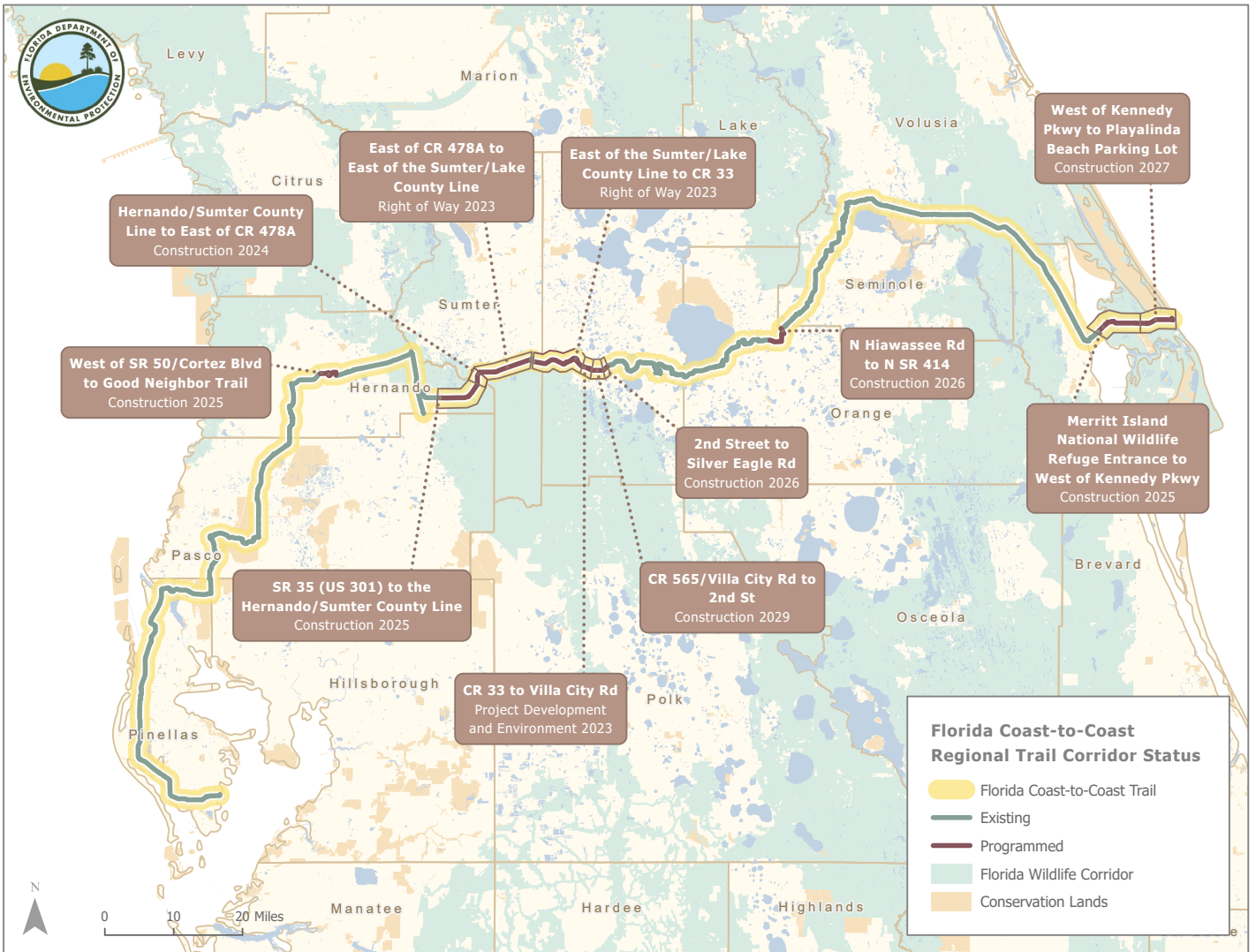


# Regional Trail Status Map – Heart of Florida Loop

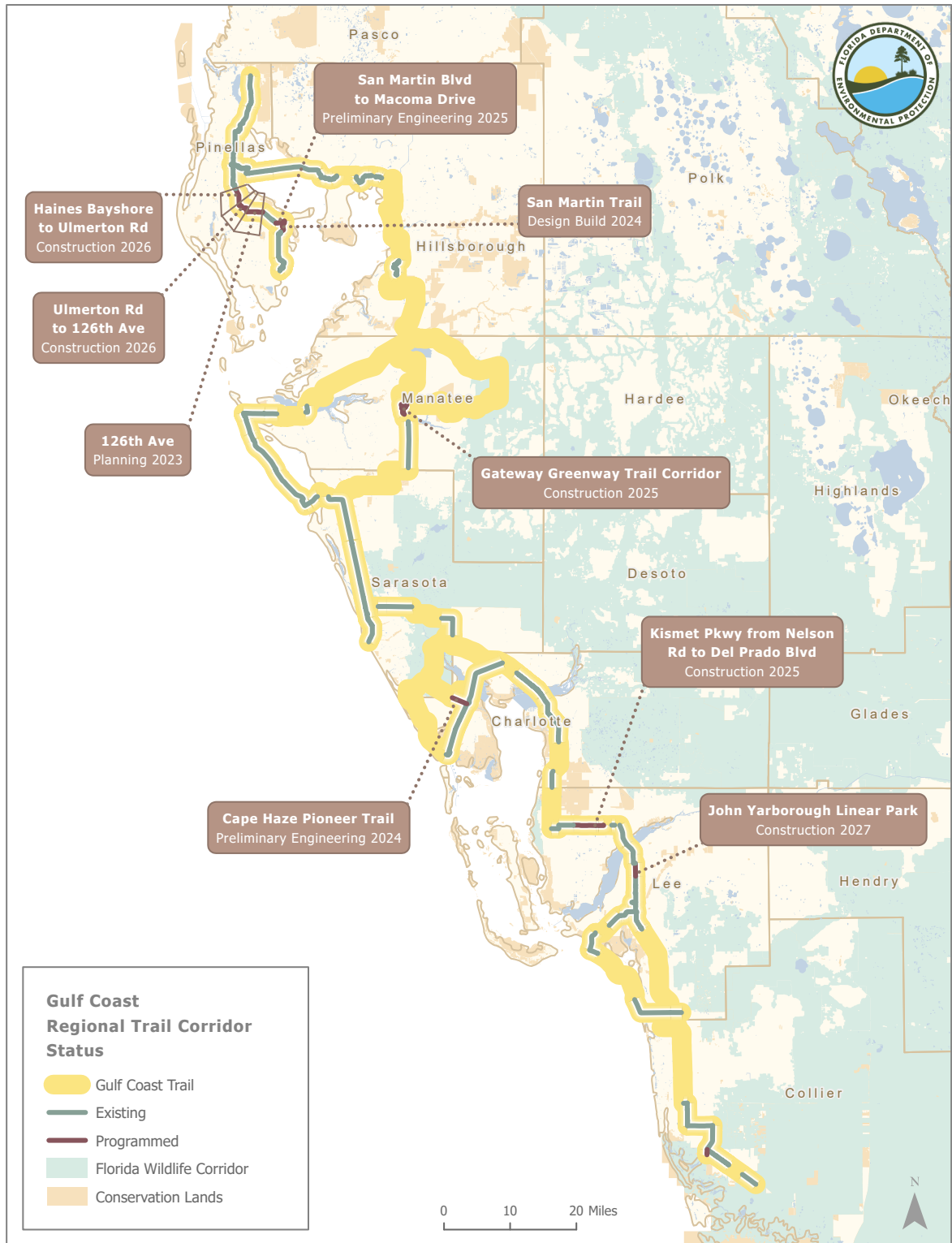


# Regional Trail Status Map – Florida Coast-to-Coast Trail

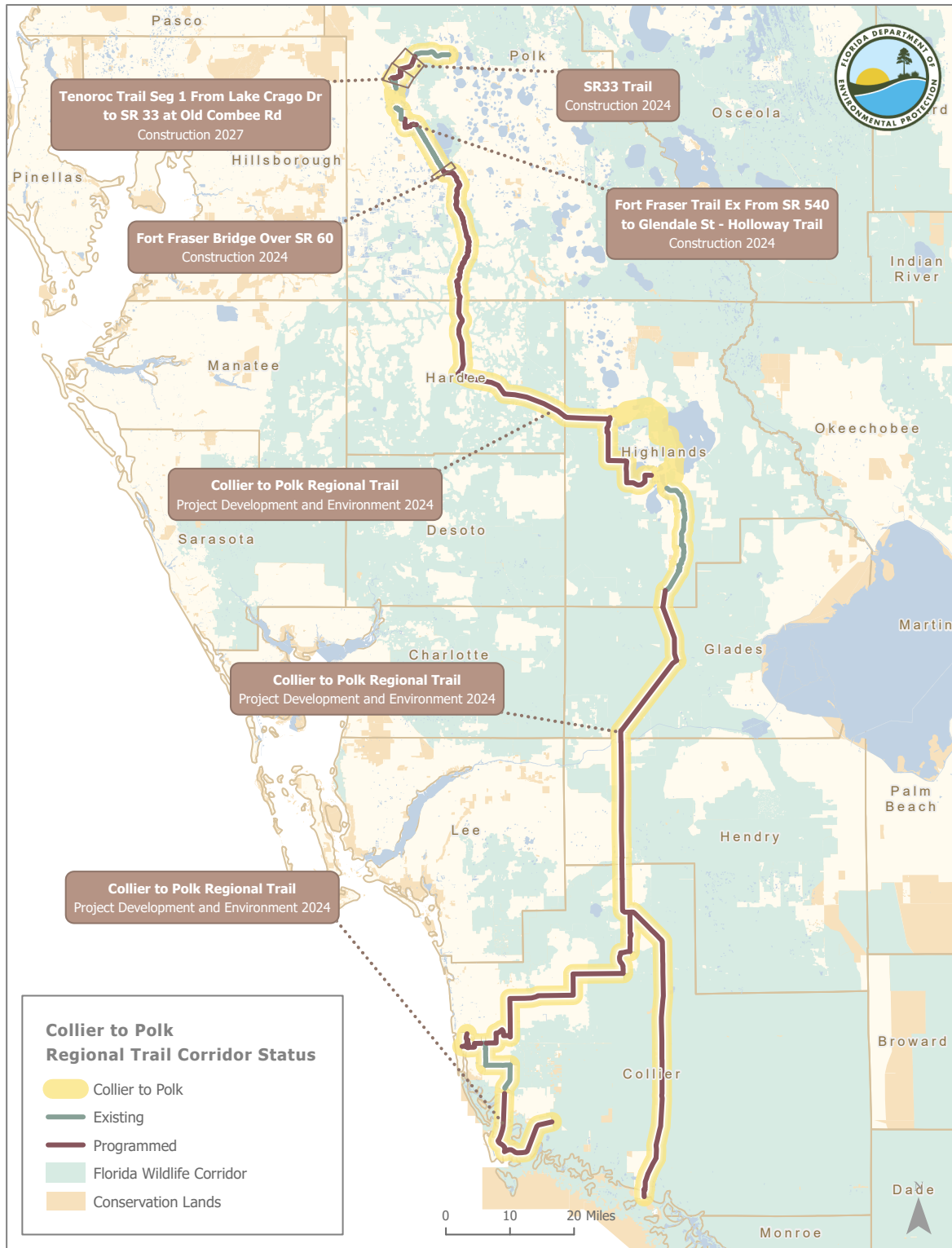




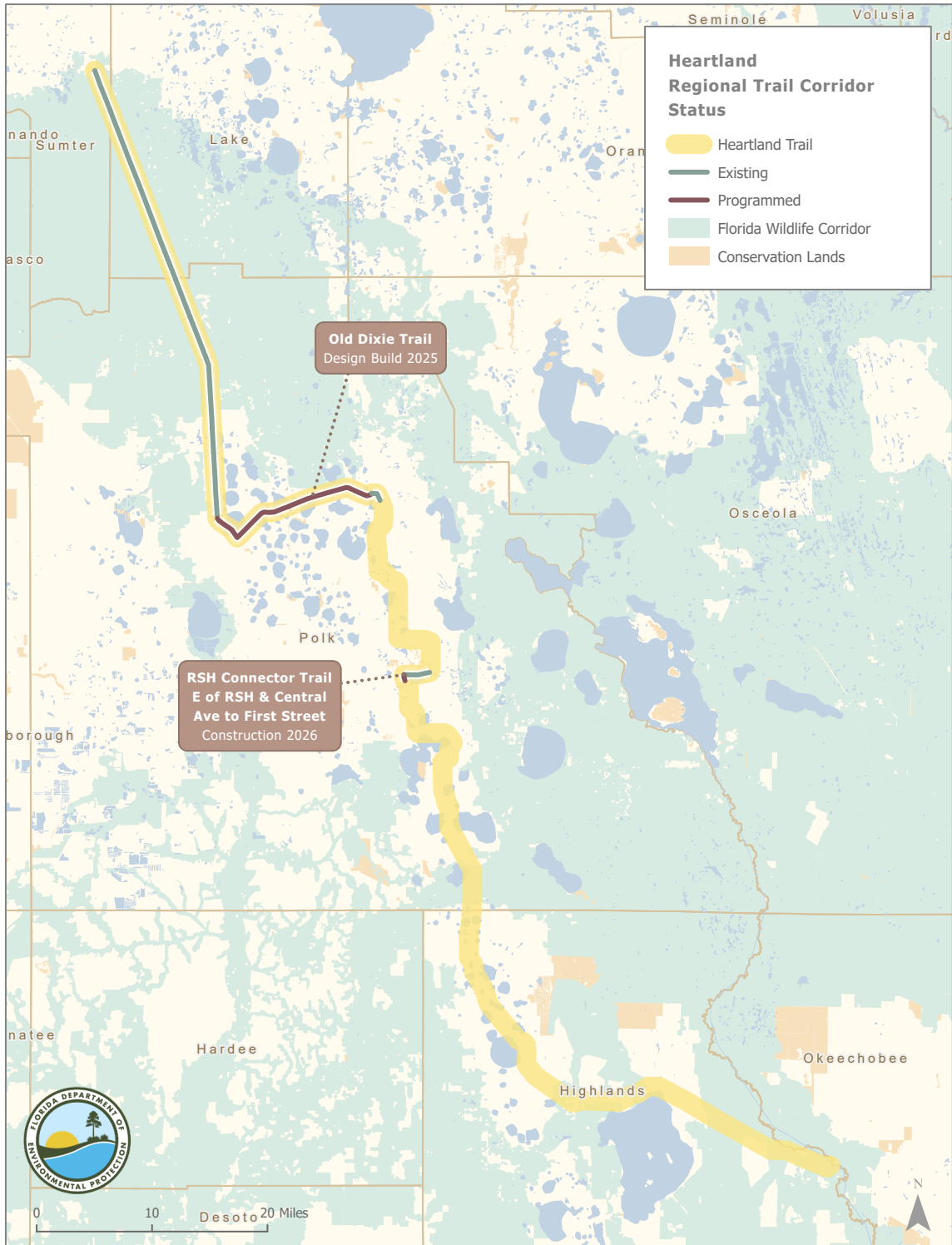
# Regional Trail Status Map – Gulf Coast Trail



# Regional Trail Status Map – Collier to Polk

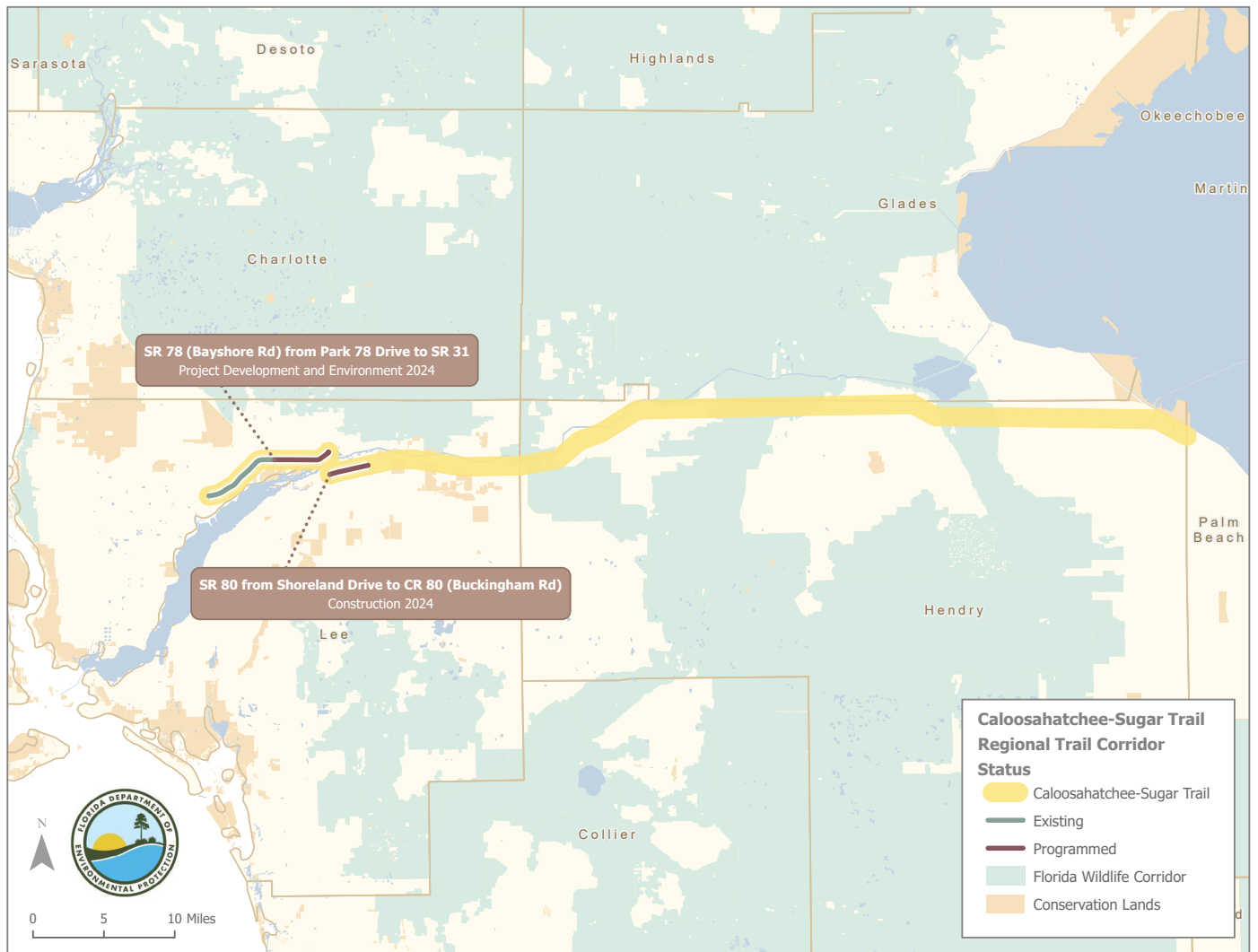


# Regional Trail Status Map – Heartland Trail

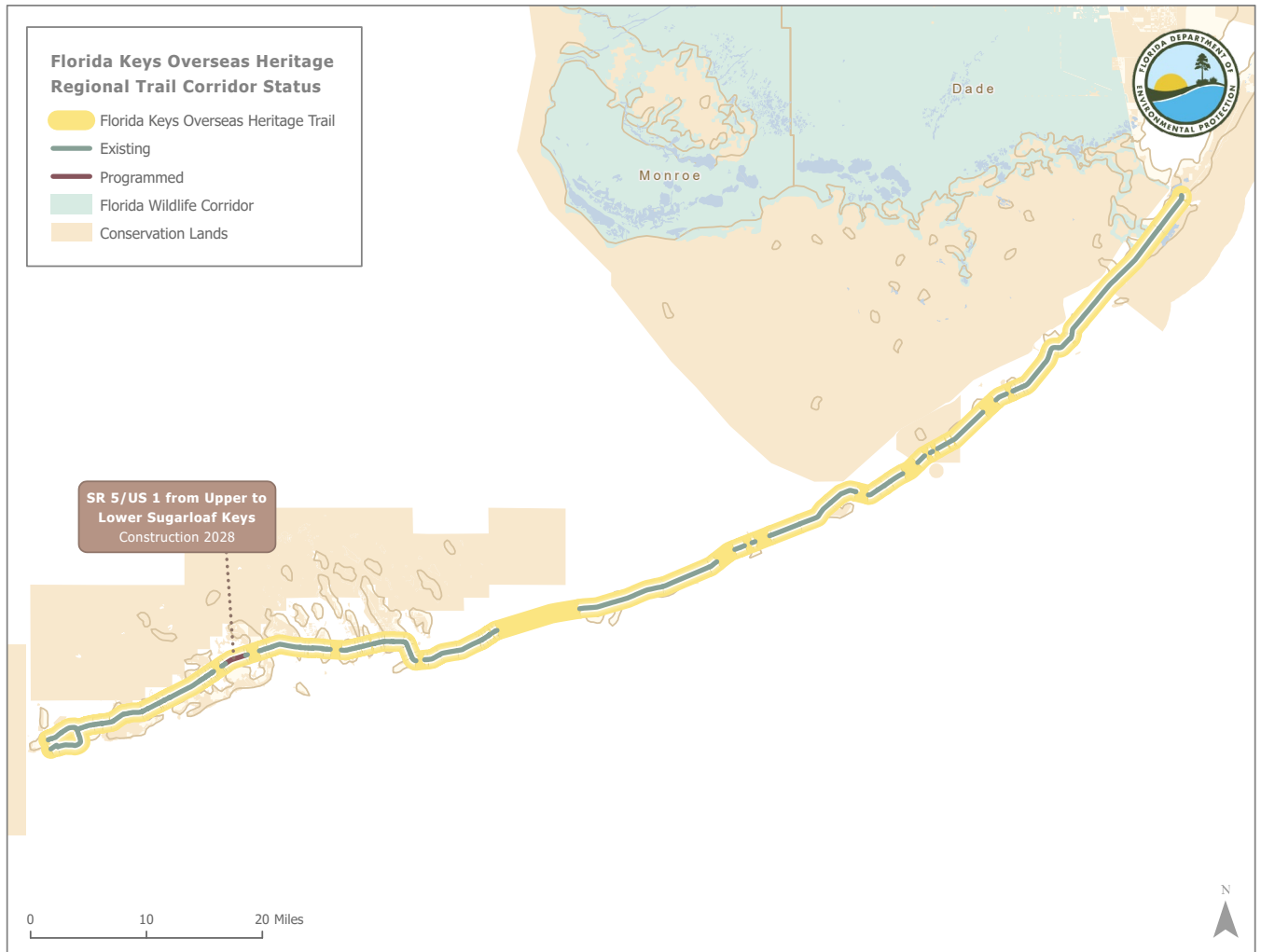




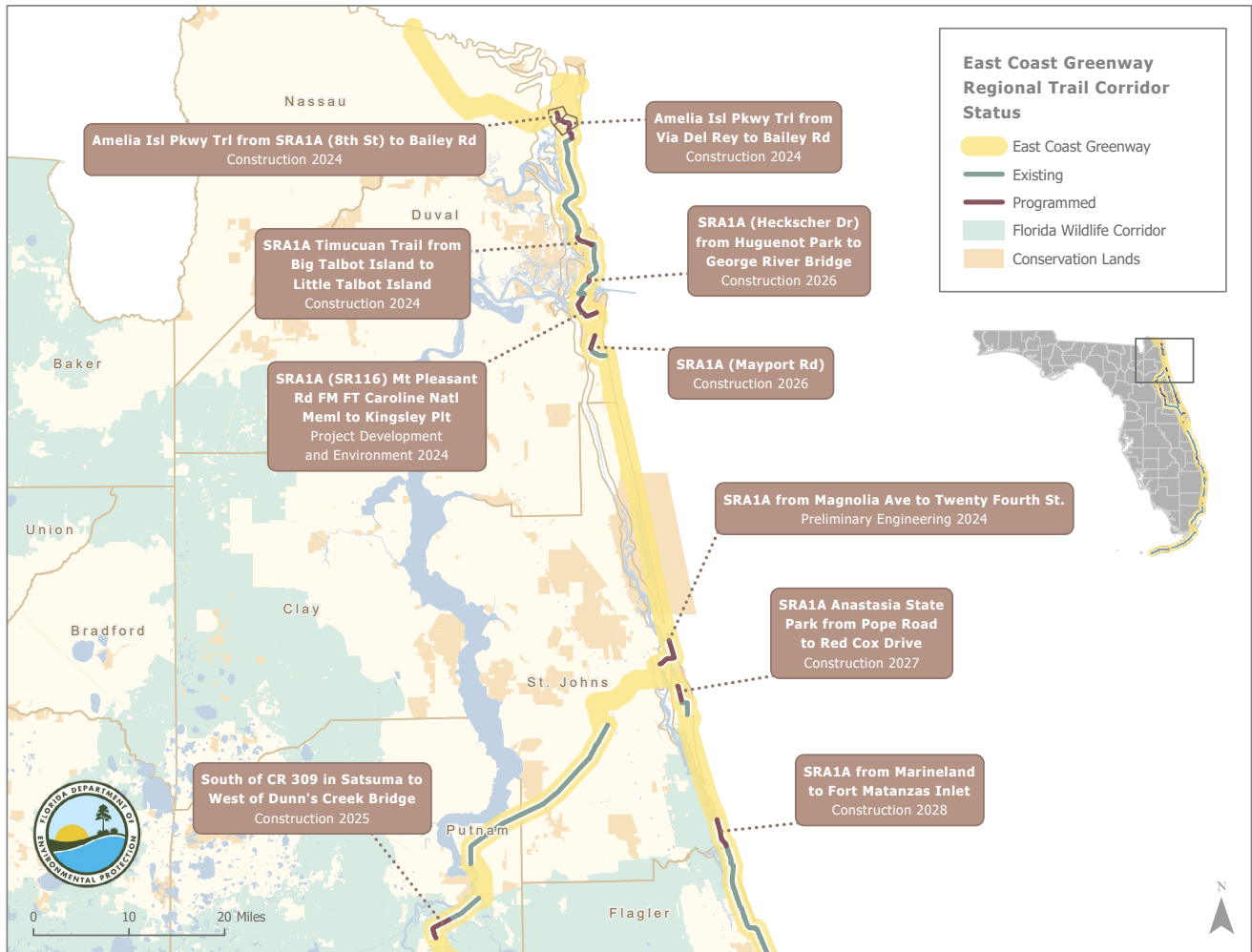
# Regional Trail Status Map – Caloosahatchee-Sugar Trail



# Regional Trail Status Map – Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail

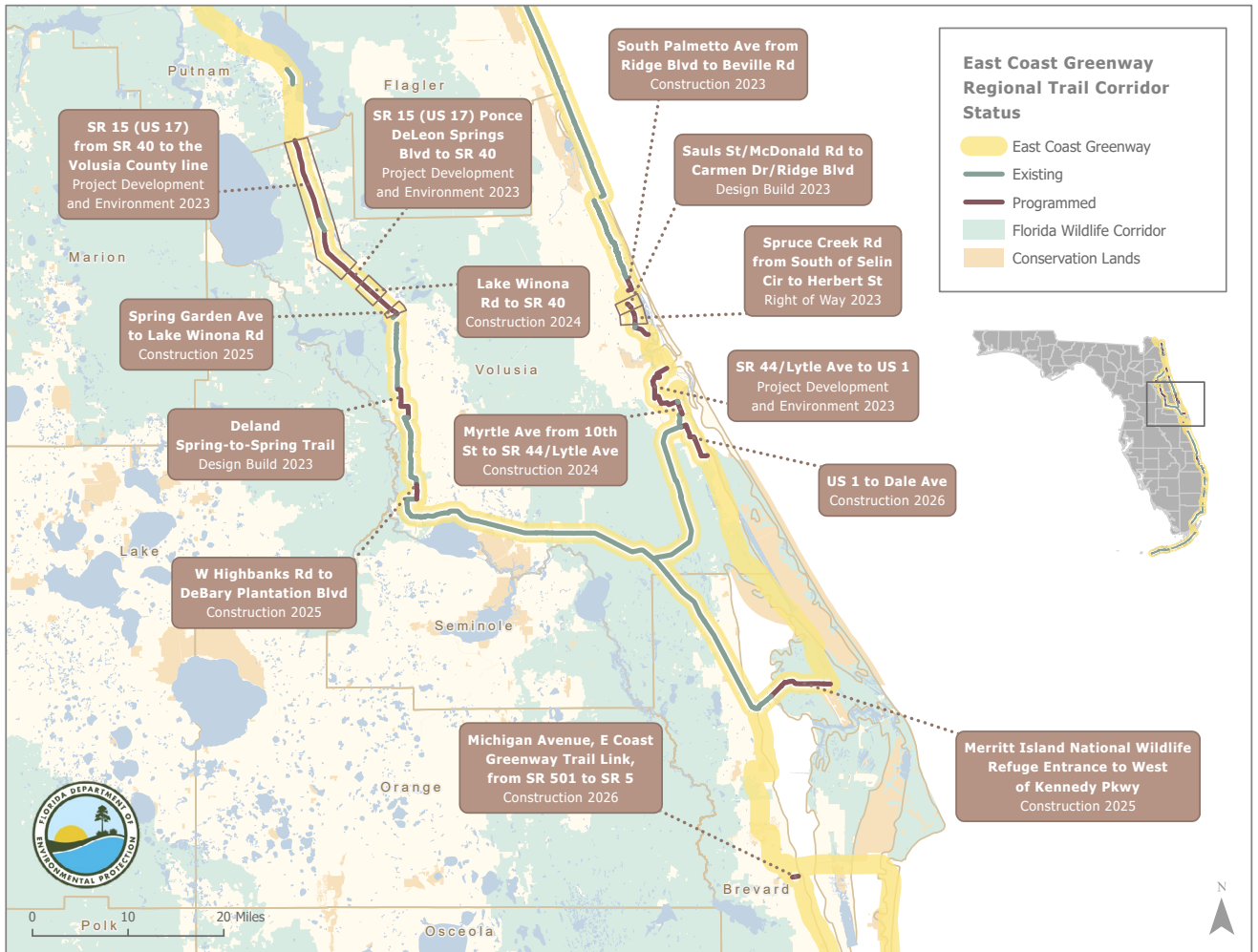


# Regional Trail Status Map – East Coast Greenway – Map 1

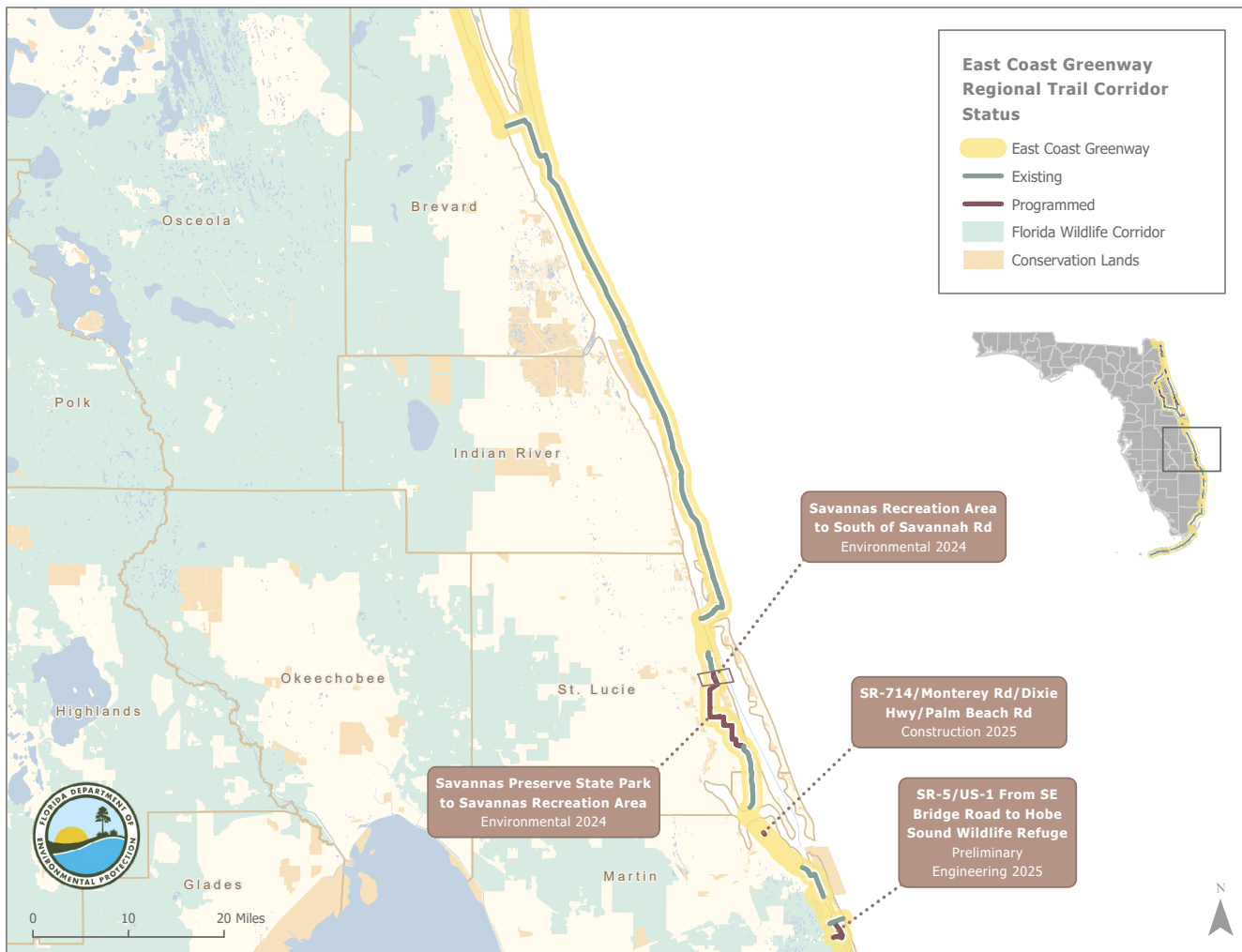




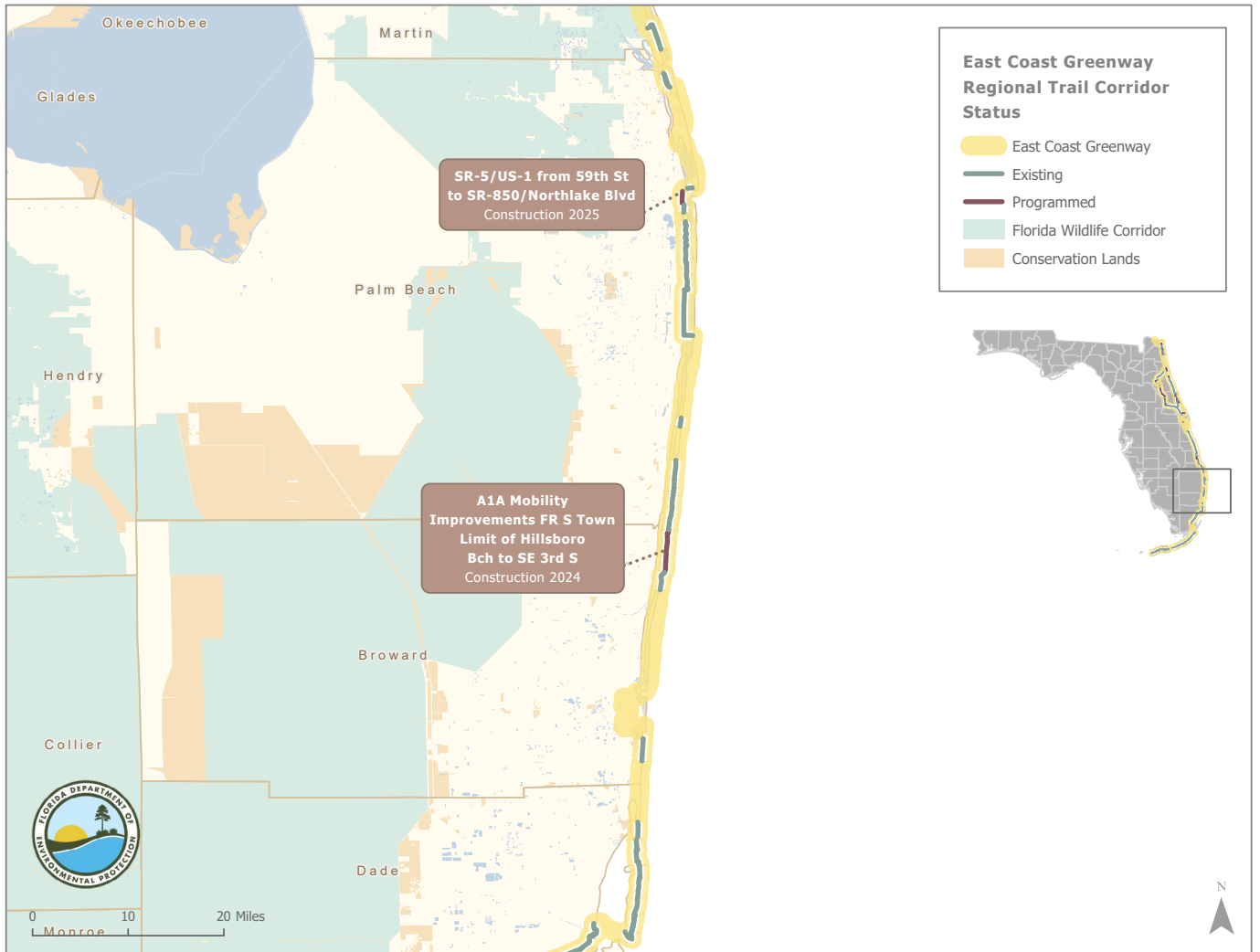
# Regional Trail Status Map – East Coast Greenway – Map 2



# Regional Trail Status Map – East Coast Greenway – Map 3

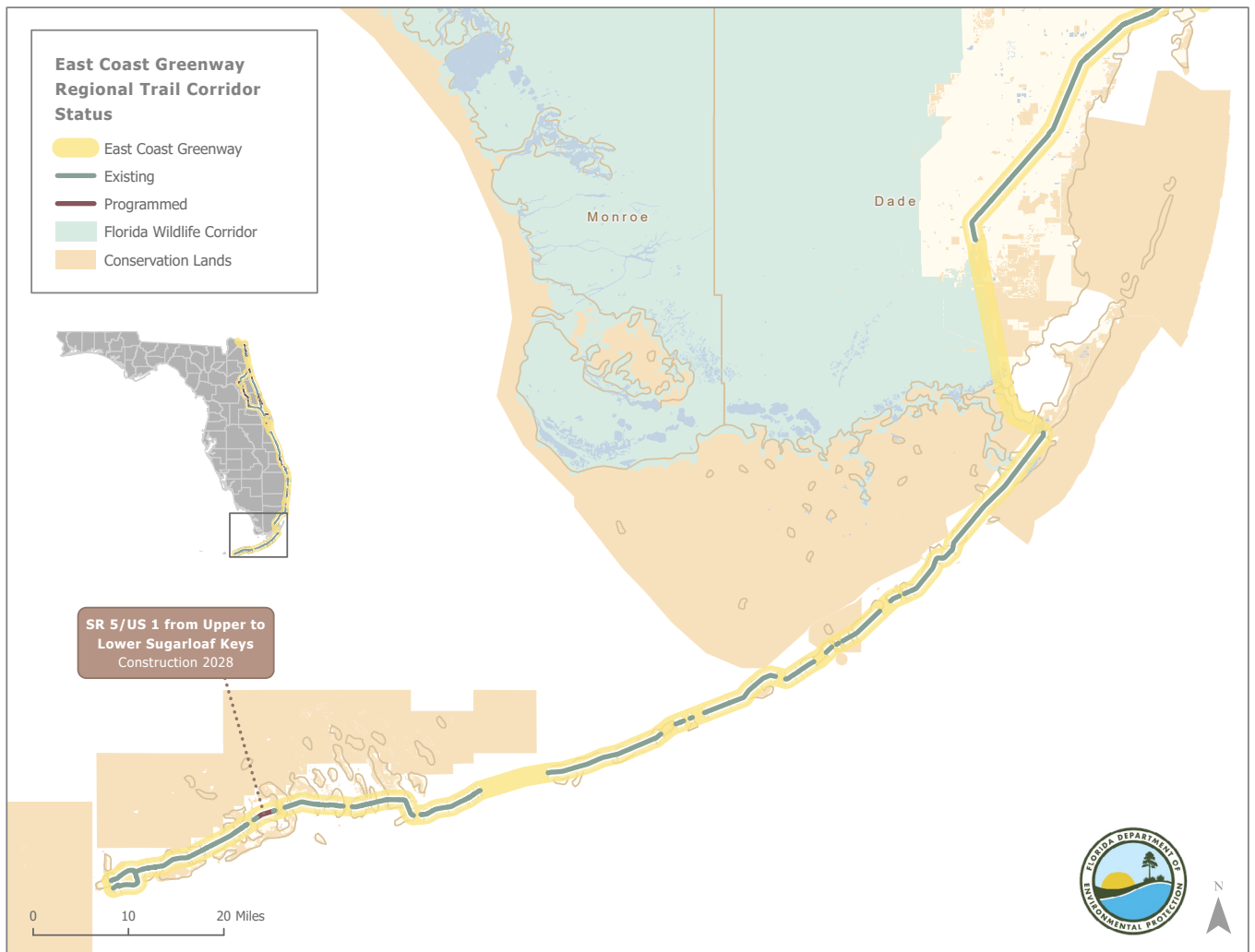


# Regional Trail Status Map – East Coast Greenway – Map 4





# Regional Trail Status Map – East Coast Greenway – Map 5



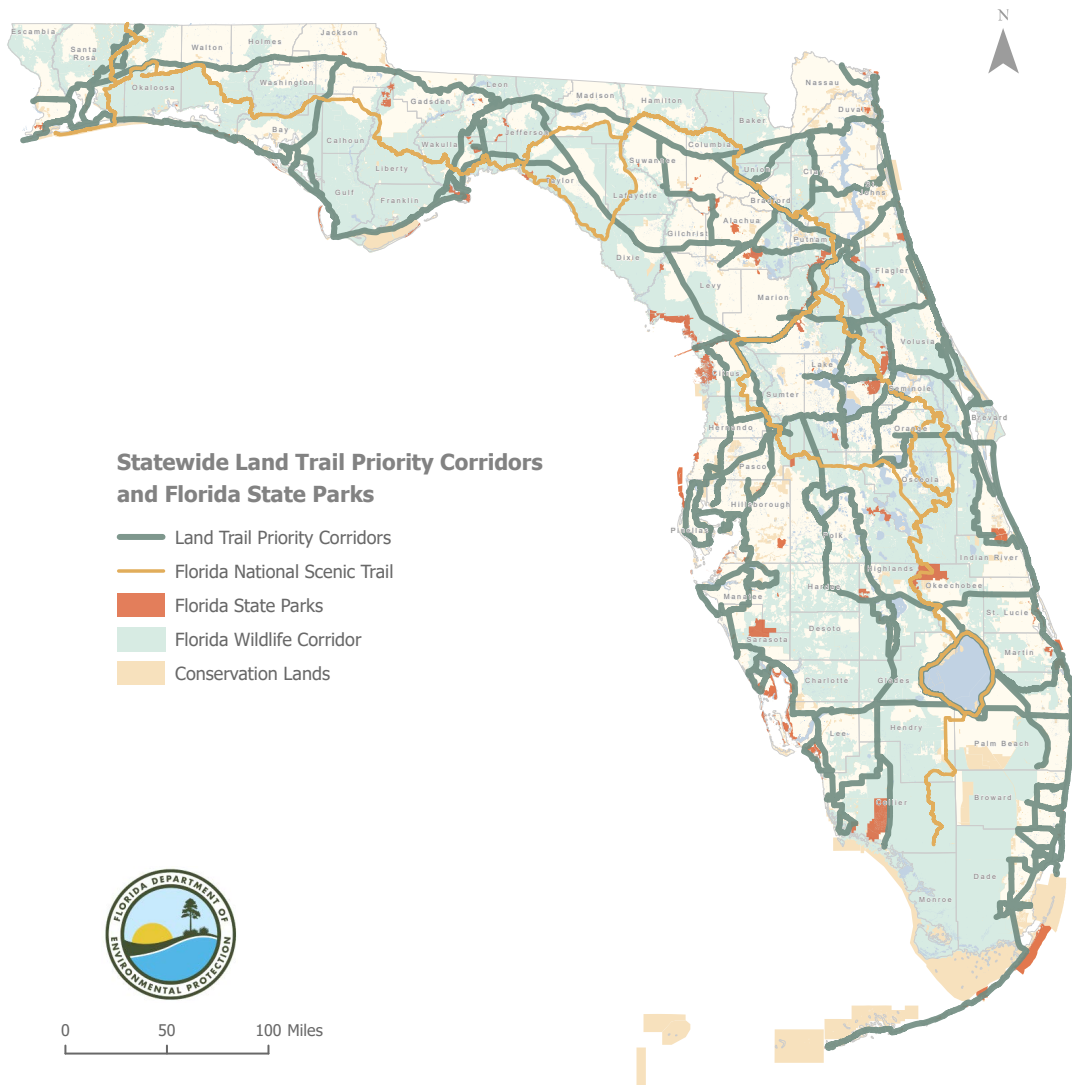


Tomoka State Park



## Florida State Parks – Attachment D

The Florida Park System consists of 175 State Parks, of which all are within 20 miles of the Greenways and Trails System. Currently, 82 State Parks are immediately adjacent to or are located within the priority system. The State Trails managed by the Florida Park Service are all located within the priority system and help form its foundation. To learn more about Florida State Parks or to find a park near you, visit [floridastateparks.org](http://floridastateparks.org)





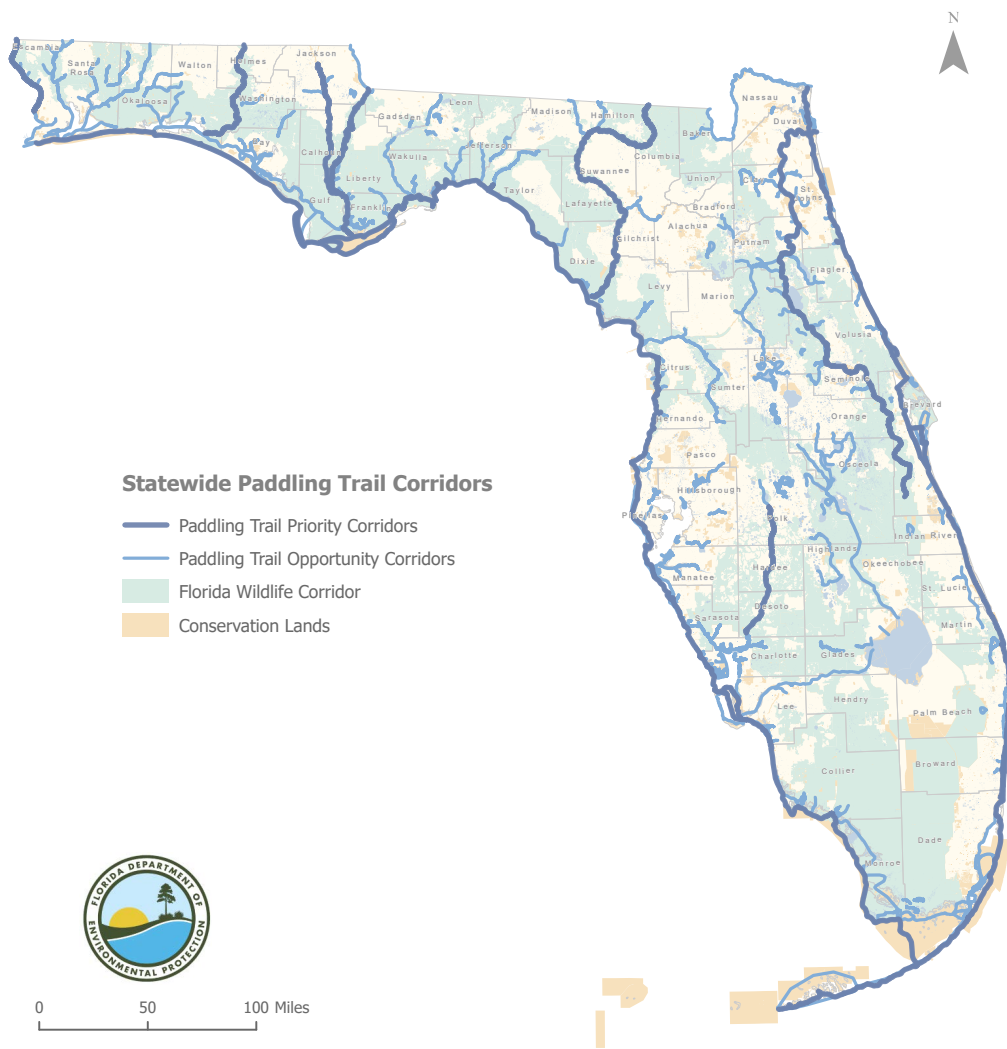


Hugh Taylor Birch State Park



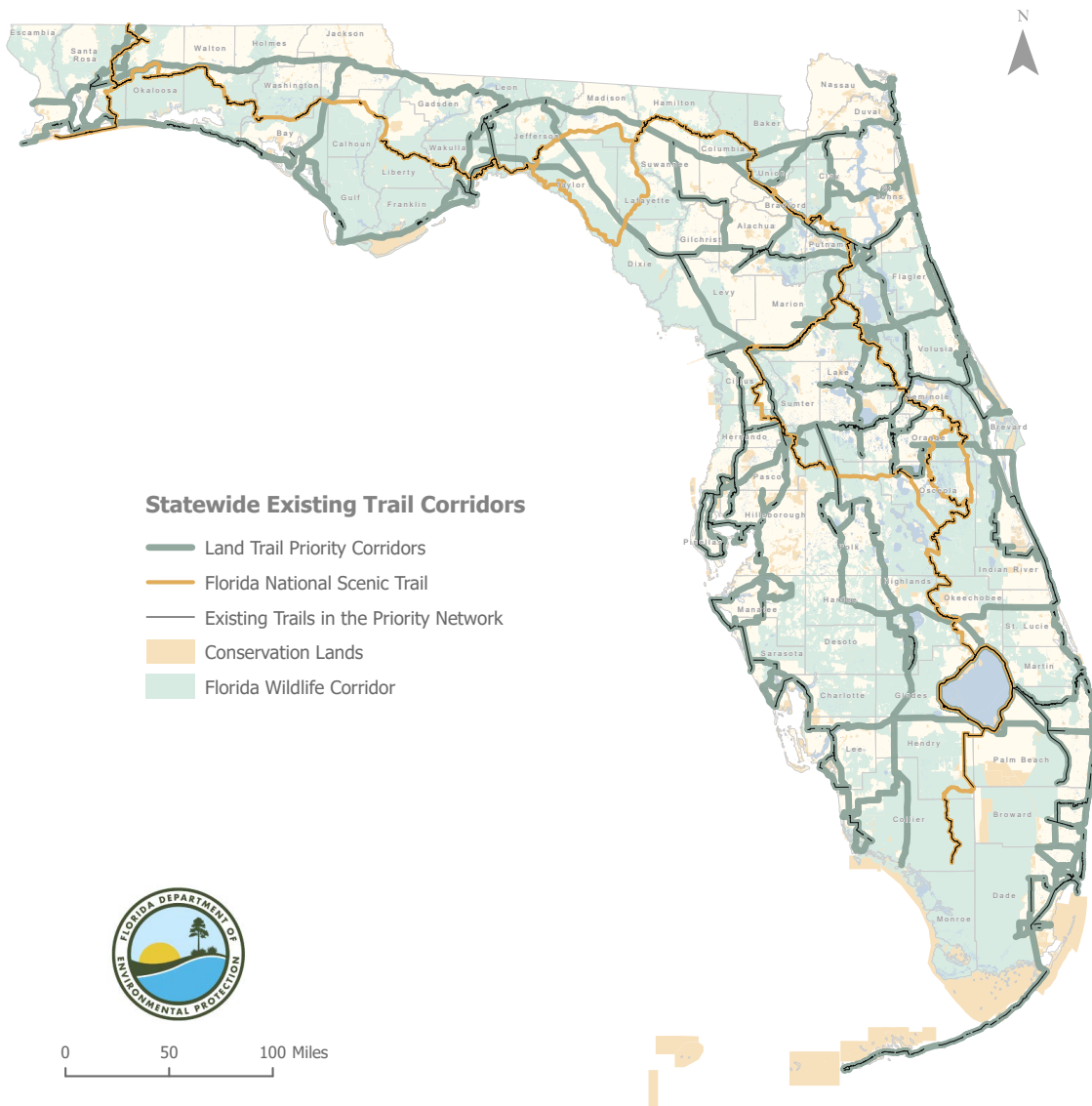
## Paddling Trails – Attachment E

Paddling trails consist of spring-fed rivers to county blueway systems to the 1,515-mile Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail. Florida is endowed with exceptional paddling trails, rich in wildlife and scenic beauty. The first Florida paddling trails were designated in the early 1970s, and trails have been added ever since. Total mileage for the 60-plus state-designated paddling trails is more than 4,000 miles.



## Existing Trails – Attachment F

An existing recreational trail is defined as a paved or unpaved trail for hiking, biking, equestrian, multiple use, paddling or motorized use (all terrain vehicles, off-highway motorized vehicles and recreational off-highway vehicles) and is open to the public. There are over 1,300 existing recreational trails located in the state of Florida.



# Strategies, Goals, Objectives and Action Steps

**Strategy:** Collaborate with federal, state and local organizations to establish partnerships and regional alliances that enhance investment opportunities for the development and management of the Florida Greenways and Trails System

## Goal 1: Implement Regional Systems

**Objective 1.1: Recognize and prioritize system-wide opportunities for partnerships, operational efficiencies and implementation**

### Actions

- 1.1.1 Work with the partners to establish and facilitate alliances and leadership teams for each regional trail
- 1.1.2 Coordinate with local partners to continually update the Priority Corridor Status Maps
- 1.1.3 Support and assist rural counties to identify potential corridors and establish working groups
- 1.1.4 Identify and evaluate paddling corridors with the potential to be designated paddling trails

**Objective 1.2: Involve and collaborate with regional stakeholders to define, assess and promote the advancement of the system**

### Actions

- 1.2.1 Coordinate joint meetings with partners to encourage cross-jurisdictional trail projects
- 1.2.2 Identify next steps for each Regional Trail Alliance
- 1.2.3 Collaborate with partners and stakeholders to identify and share ways to assist with the management of trails within the FGTS

**Objective 1.3: Provide information and assistance to traditionally under-represented recreational user groups**

### Actions

- 1.3.1 Coordinate with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) work group to identify groups that have been traditionally underrepresented as users of Florida's Greenways and Trails system, to understand recreation trends, and develop plans for inclusion in the FGTS
- 1.3.2 Identify demographics within the stakeholder groups to increase participation
- 1.3.3 Expand the presence of greenways and trails through education and partnerships to drive economic impact
- 1.3.4 Reach out to groups and regions to understand the barriers, needs and preferences of all current and potential user groups

**Objective 1.4: Foster connectivity between the FGTS, State Parks, Florida Wildlife Corridor, local parks and communities**

### Actions

- 1.4.1 Identify opportunities to connect the Florida Greenways and Trails Priority System to the Florida State Park System and incorporate findings into the individual unit management plans
- 1.4.2 Identify routes connecting publicly managed conservation and recreation lands to the Florida Greenways and Trails System and the Florida Wildlife Corridor



1.4.3 Work with local and regional partners to assist with the development of initial trail master plans or integrate trails into existing plans

1.4.4 Identify opportunities to connect the Florida Greenways and Trails Priority System to urban and rural trails, transit systems and practical destinations such as employment, commerce and population centers

### **Objective 1.5: Enhance the recreational user experience and drive economic development while preserving valuable resources**

#### **Actions**

1.5.1 Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to identify significant natural and cultural resources within the FGTS

1.5.2 Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to identify common goals to assist with the development of interpretive plans for natural and cultural resources within the FGTS

1.5.3 Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to identify and develop best management practices for trail design to minimize impacts to wildlife

1.5.4 Identify and establish relationships with educational institutions to offer mutually beneficial citizen/student research and interpretive opportunities

1.5.5 Share successful natural and cultural resource protection stories within the FGTS through the website, social media, interpretive programs and other available methods

## **Goal 2: Allocate strategic investments and resources to accelerate the completion of the system**

### **Objective 2.1 Identify funding sources for acquiring, designing, constructing and managing the FGTS**

#### **Actions**

2.1.1 Coordinate with DOT to implement the Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail program

2.1.2 Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to identify needs and available funding sources for greenways and trails

2.1.3 Assist the DEP grants office by promoting specific trail development and management funding opportunities

2.1.4 Work with the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to recommend regional trail funding priorities to DOT, as requested

2.1.5 Provide education to local and regional partners about funding opportunities

## **Strategy 2: Engage federal, state and local stakeholders to facilitate statewide and local promotion of trails and trail segments within the Florida Greenways and Trails System**

### **Goal 3: Promote and market the Florida Greenways and Trails System to both residents and visitors**

#### **Objective 3.1: Promote excellence through the Trail Town Program, fostering recognition and encouragement**

#### **Actions**

3.1.1 Work with communities to identify and designate Trails Towns

3.1.2 Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to monitor and document the economic impact of a successful Trail Town

3.1.3 Provide education and guidance to local communities to assist with understanding the basic characteristics of a successful Trail Town

3.1.4 Provide education to Visit Florida, tourist development councils, chambers of commerce, etc. to assist them with understanding the benefits of being a successful Trail Town

3.1.5 Provide signage and decals to local businesses that have committed to Trail Town goals to assist with identifying them as “trail friendly”

3.1.6 Communicate actions and programs that contribute to being a successful Trail Town through the website, social media, outreach events and any other available methods

### **Objective 3.2: Create and execute an integrated marketing and communications plan to improve stakeholder communication**

#### **Actions**

3.2.1 Continue to develop educational tools relating to the benefits of trails with regards to conservation, health, recreation, economic growth, alternative transportation, historic preservation, etc.

3.2.2 Develop educational tools for working groups based on lessons learned to help establish successful regional trails

3.2.3 Encourage partnership engagement for trail development by facilitating educational programs, workshops, webinars and summits to share strategies and provide targeted information to partners

3.2.4 Develop a FGTS brand style guide

3.2.5 Encourage participation in planned events celebrating regional trail projects

3.2.6 Utilize the website and monthly Outdoor Recreation campaigns to celebrate local accomplishments and events

3.2.7 Work with DEP communications team to promote greenways and trails through the division’s website, newsletter, social media and other available methods

### **Objective 3.3: Foster collaboration between communities to promote events on the FGTS**

#### **Actions**

3.3.1 Invite elected officials, surrounding community partners, stakeholders and media to promote and participate in greenways and trails events and volunteer opportunities

3.3.2 Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to develop story maps and other material for hiking, paddling, equestrian and bicycle trails

3.3.3 Work with Tourist Development Councils and Visitor and Convention Bureaus to coordinate local and regional events on greenways and trails

3.3.4 Continuously update and maintain statewide greenways and trails events calendar and share events on the website

### **Objective 3.4: Promote the FGTS to advance Florida’s economy, tourism, health, transportation, recreation, conservation and quality of life**

#### **Actions**

3.3.1 Invite elected officials, surrounding community partners, stakeholders, and media to promote and participate in greenways and trails events and volunteer opportunities

3.3.2 Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to develop story maps and other material for hiking, paddling, equestrian and bicycle trails

3.3.3 Work with Tourist Development Councils and Visitor and Convention Bureaus to coordinate local and regional events on greenways and trails

3.3.4 Continuously update and maintain statewide greenways and trails events calendar and share events on the website

3.4.5 Partner with other states to facilitate interstate trail connections

## **Goal 4: Establish partnerships and engage stakeholders**

### **Objective 4.1: Actively involve and collaborate with stakeholders and partners**

#### **Actions**

4.1.1 Identify common goals with local, state and federal partners and work together to accomplish these goals

4.1.2 Host workshops and events in coordination with local, state and federal partners

4.1.3 Recognize partner and stakeholder efforts at events and through media

### **Objective 4.2: Collaborate with stakeholders to encourage the development of a local identity and sense of place**

#### **Actions**

4.2.1 Encourage communities, local businesses, and other local partners to identify community attractions, landscapes, events, businesses, etc. that contribute to a community identity

4.2.2 Establish partnerships with advocacy groups, businesses and organizations to encourage enhancement of visitor experiences by featuring local cultural and historic resources

4.2.3 Assist with development of promotional materials highlighting greenways and trails and the surrounding recreational, cultural and historical resources

4.2.4 Engage local trail and greenway users as advocates to disperse messaging, rally community and encourage conversation

### **Objective 4.3: Participate with partners and stakeholders to promote and cultivate educational programs and youth volunteer opportunities that support greenways and trails**

#### **Actions**

4.3.1 Collaborate with local schools and youth-serving organizations to provide opportunities to develop interactive, interpretive and education programs that communicate and encourage the importance of active transportation and greenways and trails

4.3.2 Engage youth in producing “benefits of trails” marketing messages in support of the FGTS (e.g., blogs, testimonials, etc. for the internet and social media)

## Public Outreach and Input

The public outreach and input process for this plan was extensive, including participation by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council, several agencies, local governments and organizations, and hundreds of Floridians who attended public meetings and open houses, and provided comments online. The 2022 and 2023 open houses and meetings included the following:

### Public Open Houses

Titusville, Welcome Center, Sept. 22, 2022  
Panama City, City Hall, Sept. 26, 2022  
Sarasota, Selby Public Library, Jan. 31, 2023  
Winter Garden, City Hall, Feb. 1, 2023  
DeBary, Stable House, Feb. 2, 2023  
Dunedin, Public Library, Feb. 8, 2023  
Jacksonville, Ed Ball Building, Feb. 16, 2023

### Florida Greenways and Trails Council members

Jim Couillard (Chair), Marion County Parks & Recreation Director  
Mike Stephens (Vice Chair), Appointed Trail User  
Scott Stryker, Appointed Greenway User  
Stephanie Wardein, Appointed Private Landowner  
The Honorable Andy Gardiner, Appointed Trail User  
Jason Lauritsen, Appointed Greenway User  
Wesley Stalnaker, Appointed Greenway User  
Representative James Buchanan, Appointed Trail User  
Representative Cyndi Stevenson, Appointed Trail User  
Traci Deen, Appointed Greenway User  
Robin Birdsong, FDOT SUN Trail Manager  
Brooks White, Florida Forest Service Recreation Specialist  
Chip Birdsong, FDOS Florida Master Site File Supervisor  
Edwin McCook, Suwannee River Water Management District Sr. Land Management Specialist  
Shawn Thomas, Florida National Scenic Trail Program Manager  
Chris Rietow, Apalachee Regional Planning Council Executive Director  
Danielle Terrell, Division of Recreation and Parks Assistant Director  
Katherine Burke, FWC Office of Recreation Services Director  
Faron Boggs, Appointed Trail User  
Kevin Sweeny, Appointed Trail User  
Sarrah Glassner, Appointed Greenway User





Gilchrist Blue Springs State Park



## **Florida Greenway And Trails Council (FGTC) Meetings**

FGTC Full Council, April 6-7, 2022

FGTC Full Council, Dec. 6-7, 2022

FGTC Full Council, April 13-14, 2023

FGTC Full Council, Aug. 22-23, 2023

FGTC Full Council, Dec. 7-8, 2023

## **Department of Environmental Protection**

Shawn Hamilton, Secretary

Mara Gambineri, Deputy Secretary, Land and Recreation

## **Division of Recreation and Parks**

Chuck Hatcher, Director

Bryan Bradner, Assistant Director

Danielle Terrell, Assistant Director

Brian Fugate, Assistant Director

## **Office of Greenways and Trails**

Samantha Browne, Chief

Britney Moore, Assistant Chief

Justin Baldwin, Regional Coordinator

Katie White, Regional Coordinator, SCORP Coordinator

Anna Hopkins, Outdoor Recreation Specialist

Doug Alderson, Outdoor Recreation Specialist

Casey Carron, Administrative Support

Kari Baasch, Graphic Designer



# FLORIDA GREENWAYS & TRAILS



[FloridaGreenwaysAndTrails.com](http://FloridaGreenwaysAndTrails.com)

Camp Helen State Park