

**ITEM 4:**

Quarterly status report on Land Management Reviews completed by the Division of State Lands from January to March 2020.

**DSL STAFF REMARKS:**

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the Office of Environmental Services coordinated onsite reviews of 24 managed conservation lands. The following eight land management reviews have been completed in the third quarter (January – March) by regional review teams established in Ch. 259.036, F.S., and their reports are provided for the Council's information. The October 2020 annual report of land management reviews will be compiled from these and the remaining reports, presented to the Council for acceptance, and then submitted to the Board of Trustees.

The results of each review are compiled and returned to the managing agencies for their responses to recommendations and checklist findings. The eight summaries provided below briefly summarize finalized reports. These reports can be reviewed as backup to this item.

*Land Management Review of Little Manatee River State Park (Hillsborough County):*

On January 8, 2020, the review team found Little Manatee River State Park (2,416 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended Florida Park Service (FPS) for introducing fire into areas previously unburned with high, volatile fuel loads in areas with a high urban interface. The team also commended FPS for making significant progress in controlling invasive plant species within historic problem areas with high infestations. The team recommended FPS utilize appropriate methods to significantly reduce the high density of young sand pine trees in all natural communities, to avoid re-establishment of mature sand pine forests on Little Manatee River State Park.

*Land Management Review of Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve (Hillsborough County):*

On January 10, 2020, the review team found Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve (1,236 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended the County for utilizing a variety of techniques to restore and maintain natural communities on Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve, despite increasing development in the surrounding landscape. The team also commended the County for providing a quality public recreation experience, including ADA compliant access to the pavilion and lake, as well as hiking and wildlife viewing opportunities. The team recommended the County update the natural community descriptions and map/GIS to reflect what is in the field for the next management plan (there were many omissions and confusing terminology in the current plan).

*Land Management Review of Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area (Orange County):*

On January 29, 2020, the review team found Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area (28,929 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for efforts to improve visitor experiences through road and trail maintenance, restrooms, bear proof trash containers, and signs. The team recommended that FWC add supplemental documents to the management plan as appendices as they become available.

*Land Management Review of Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem (Brevard County):*

On January 31, 2020, the review team found Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem (1,325 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended the County for their recent management of prescribed fire, considering urban interface and fragmentation of the properties. The team also commended the County staff for partnering with the Florida Forest Service and the Town of Grant-Valkaria for management of the mega-parcels and the private properties. The team recommended that the County increase partnerships to better survey and monitor imperiled and nongame species and develop strategies and priorities for monitoring. The team also recommended that the County explore opportunities for future funding beyond 2024 for ongoing management of state and county conservation lands.

*Land Management Review of Estero Bay Preserve State Park (Lee County):*

On February 11, 2020, the review team found Estero Bay Preserve State Park (10,457 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended FPS for their efforts to treat invasive exotic plants and continued efforts to request and obtain funding through FWC's upland exotic plant management program. The team also commended FPS for doing an admirable job of prioritizing the maintenance of natural communities, focusing on invasive plant control and prescribed burning. The team recommended that FPS increase effort to monitor all cultural sites annually for potential disturbances and invasive plant coverage using Florida Master Site File report forms and photo documentation.

*Land Management Review of Cayo Costa State Park (Lee County):*

On February 13, 2020, the review team found Cayo Costa State Park (2,458 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended FPS for remaining committed to invasive plant control, surpassing established treatment goals many of the past five years and for targeting all category 1 and 2 exotics on the island. The team also commended FPS for a sustained, dedicated effort to eradicate feral hogs from the park. The team recommended that park manager and staff continue to reach out to private property owners to encourage acceptance of prescribed burning to maintain dependent natural communities and to reduce fuels that should make their properties safer from wildfires.

*Land Management Review of Florida Caverns State Park (Jackson County):*

On March 10, 2020, the review team found Florida Caverns State Park (1,279 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended FPS for the outstanding cleanup effort following the hurricane. The team recommended that FPS monitor or repair minor erosion occurring in slope ditches.

*Land Management Review of Torreya State Park (Liberty County):*

On March 12, 2020, the review team found Torreya State Park (13,204 acres) is being managed for purposes compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation, and that the management practices are in compliance with the management plan. The team commended FPS for continuing resource management practices, particularly prescribed burning and natural community

restoration in the wake of Hurricane Michael. The team also commended FPS for improvements to park infrastructure after Hurricane Michael.

**DSL STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

None required

**ARC RECOMMENDATION:**

None required

# *Quarterly Land Management Review Team Report*

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of State Lands  
Office of Environmental Services**

**January 2020 – March 2020**



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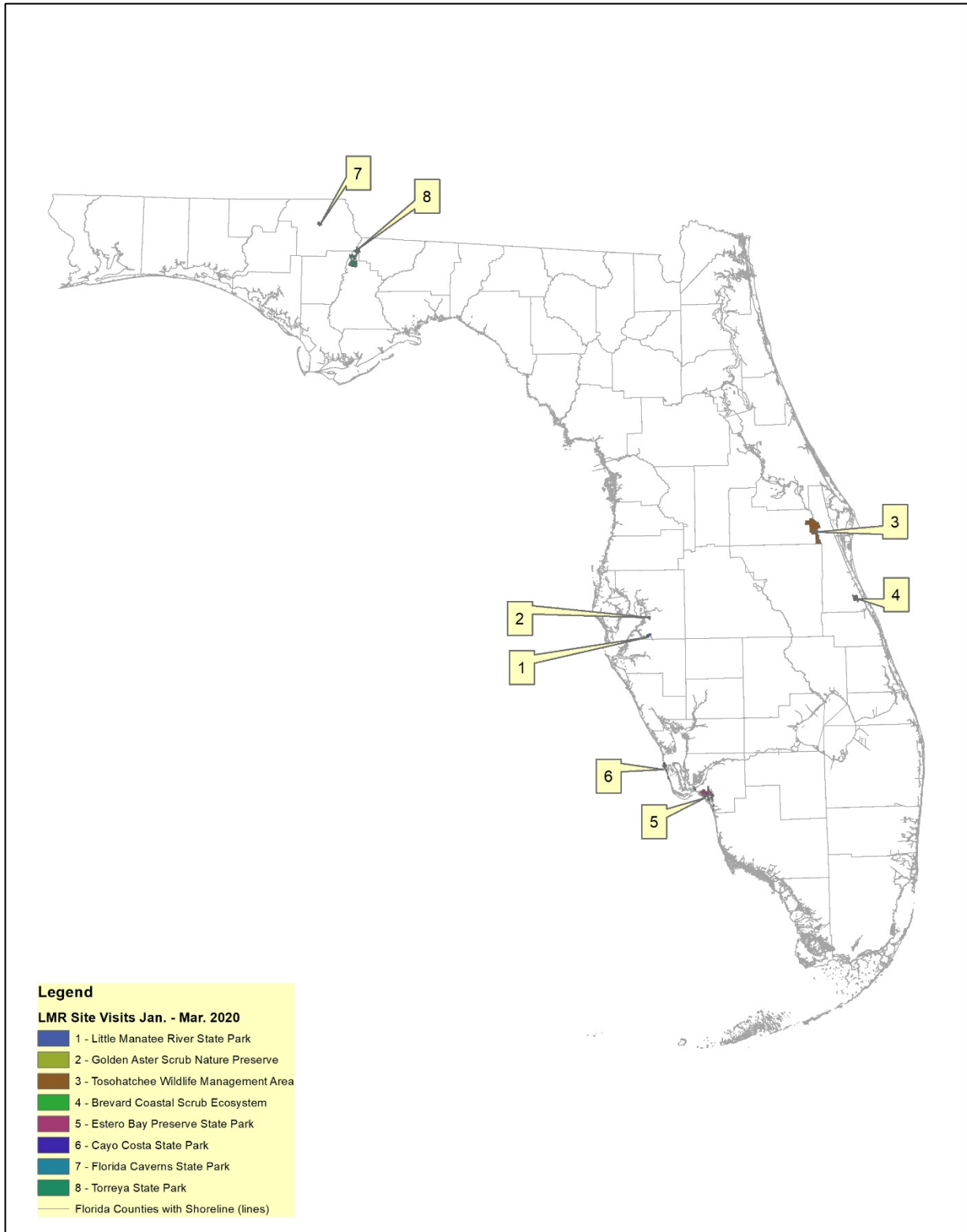
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Overview of LMR site locations



**Little Manatee River State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 2,416

**County:** Hillsborough

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the State of Florida.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 8/02/74

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/16/16

**Review Date:** 1/8/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Patricia Cross, Park Manager
- Kate Smithson, Park Ranger

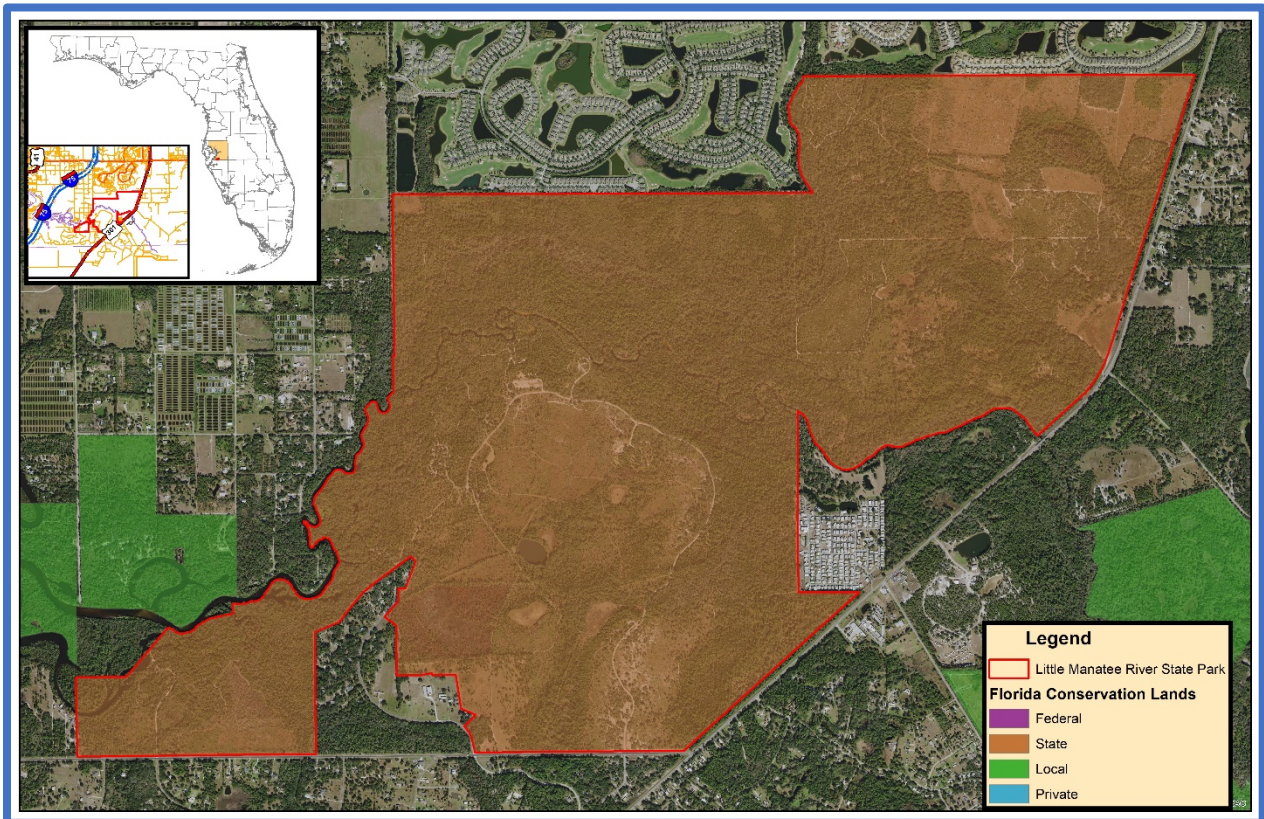
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Matthew Hodge, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Jennifer Myers, FWC
- DEP District, None
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Joe Howell, SWFWMD
- Virginia Overstreet, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Michael Sowinski, FWC/IPMS
- Randy Runnels, DEP/RCP

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

**Yes = 5, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for introducing fire into areas previously unburned with high, volatile fuel loads in areas with a high urban interface. (4+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for managing resources and public use despite very limited staff resources, and for effectively leveraging volunteers to increase management capacity. (4+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for making significant progress in controlling invasive plant species within historic problem areas with high infestations. (4+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FPS for partnering with the Longleaf Alliance to re-establish this species on Little Manatee River State Park. (4+, 0-)

**Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency**

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS utilize appropriate methods to significantly reduce the high density of young sand pine trees in all natural communities, to avoid re-establishment of mature sand pine forests on Little Manatee River State Park. (4+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response: FPS will continue to work on the reducing the number of sand pines within the natural communities where proliferation has been observed.**

2. The team recommends the FPS incorporate the timber assessment into the unit management plan within the current planning cycle. (4+, 0-)

**Table 1: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.82	3.90	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.37	3.73	
Hydrology	3.71	4.26	
Imperiled Species	4.52	4.38	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.83	3.96	
Cultural Resources	4.23	4.45	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.08	3.67	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.04	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor



**Managing Agency Response: Park staff are taking steps to add the latest timber assessment to the latest unit management plan and adjust the current language accordingly.**

3. The team recommends the FPS focus on funding for hydrological projects outlined in the unit management plan, which would increase access to all areas, facilitating improved resource management and protection, and increase public access. (4+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response: Hydrology projects outlined in the unit management plan need to be addressed and will be completed as funding allows. Division funding is appropriated annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs.**

4. The team recommends the FPS add staff to improve the resource management and visitor services outlined in the unit management plan. (4+, 0-)

**Managing Agency Response: Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.**

### **Field Review Details**

#### **Field Review Checklist Findings**

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically xeric hammock, baygall, depression marsh, dome swamp, bottomland forest, hydric hammock, blackwater stream, and mesic hammock.**
2. **Listed species, animals, specifically gopher tortoise and plants, and scrub suite.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
7. **Ground water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
8. **Surface water monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
9. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey.**
10. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
11. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
12. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
13. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and sanitary facilities.**

#### **Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. **The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:**

1. *The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically sandhill, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.*

*Managing Agency Response: All efforts will be made to restore the sandhill community back to maintenance condition. The sandhill at Little Manatee River State Park are overgrown and would require heavy mechanical treatment to prepare for prescribed fire. These areas of sandhill are on the urban interface and their restoration is prioritized as such.*

2. *Restoration, specifically sand pine reduction, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether restoration is sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Natural community improvement is an ongoing process and often hand crews as well as mechanical treatment are used to achieve the desired future condition outlined in the unit management plan. These efforts will be applied to the invading sand pines as staffing and budget allows.*

3. *Management Resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.*

*Managing Agency Response: Division funding is appropriated annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.*

#### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

##### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. *Restoration, specifically sand pine reduction, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether restoration efforts are adequate.*

*Managing Agency Response: Restoration including sand pine reduction will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

2. *Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether adjacent property concerns are sufficiently addressed.*

*Managing Agency Response: Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies, and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

**Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve**

**Managed by:** Hillsborough County

**Acres:** 1,236

**County:** Hillsborough

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, this region of the state.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000

**Original Acquisition Date:** 2/5/96

**Area Reviewed:** Entire property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 6/13/08

**Review Date:** 1/9/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Danielle Ivey, Manager
- Bernard Kaiser
- Gillian Seymour

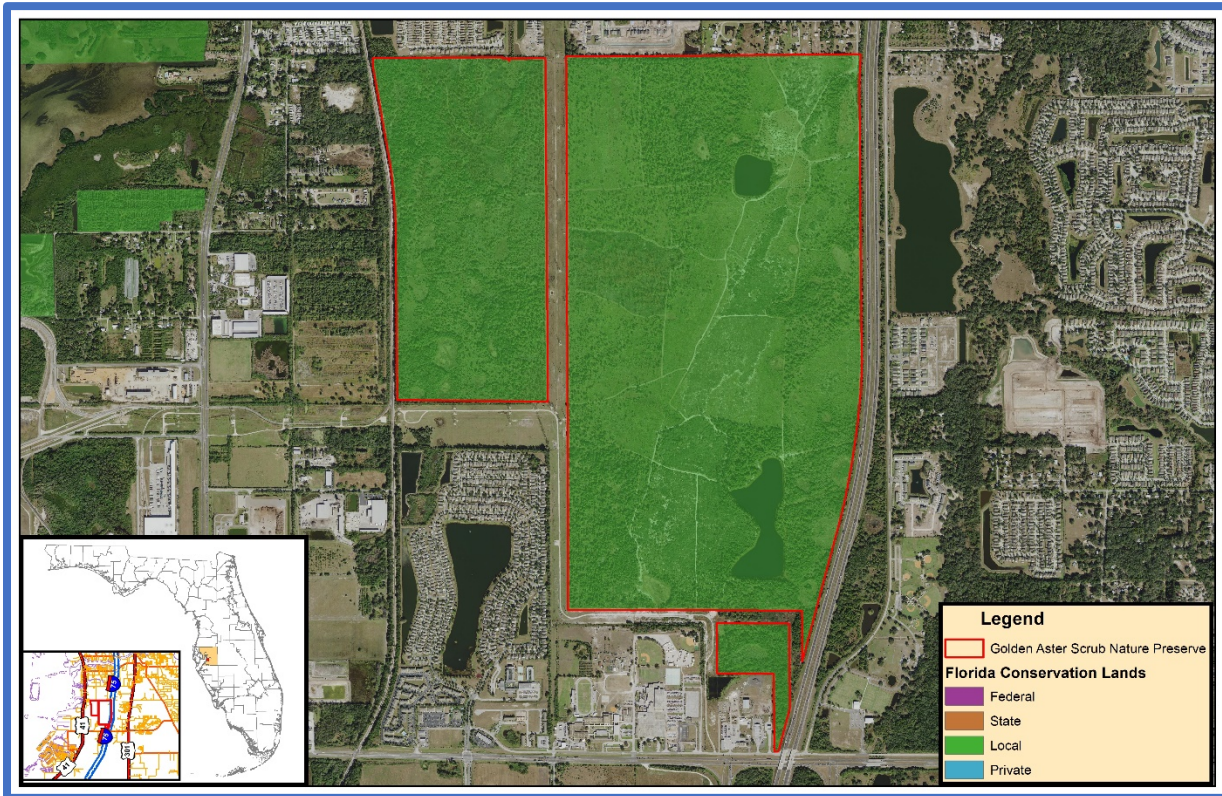
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Rosalind Rowe, DRP District
- Ken Bradshaw, Local Gov't.
- Jennifer Myers, FWC
- Michael Lynch, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- SWFWMD, None
- Virginia Overstreet, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

*Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?*

*Yes = 5, No = 1*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the County for utilizing a variety of techniques to restore and maintain natural communities on

**Table 2: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	2.84	1.87	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.22	3.11	
Hydrology	N/A	N/A	
Imperiled Species	4.10	3.36	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.72	3.03	
Cultural Resources	4.00	3.67	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.63	3.14	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.67	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve, despite increasing development in the surrounding landscape. (6+, 0-)

2. The team commends the County for providing a quality public recreation experience, including ADA compliant access to the pavilion and lake, as well as hiking and wildlife viewing opportunities. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the County for effectively reducing exotic invasive plant infestations across much of the natural communities on Golden Aster Scrub Nature Preserve. (6+, 0-)

#### ***Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency***

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the County update the natural communities descriptions and map/GIS to reflect what is in the field for the next management plan (there were many omissions and confusing terminology in the current plan). (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: We are in the process of updating our Management plan for Golden Aster Preserve and are in the process of obtaining contractual services to perform natural community mapping based on the Cooperative Land Cover (CLC) system. This will reduce the confusing terminology.***

#### ***Field Review Details***

##### ***Field Review Checklist Findings***

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically mesic hammock, scrubby flatwoods, wet prairie/depression marsh, baygall, sinkhole lake, and scrub.**
2. **Listed species, animals in general, and specifically scrub jay and gopher tortoise, plants in general, and specifically golden aster.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants.**
7. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, and gates and fencing.**
8. **Public access, specifically roads.**
9. **Management resources, specifically sanitary facilities, and buildings.**

##### ***Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. ***Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.***

**Managing Agency Response:** *We are aware that our use of fire on this preserve is not meeting the desired fire return interval in many burn units. Our management asked for and received funding for a burn team. This team will focus solely on burning, including areas that are more challenging to burn. We will be focused on applying more fire with in the next few years to bring the prescribed burning back into rotation.*

2. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** *We have approached our local FFS Forester about getting a timber inventory to be included in the forthcoming management plan update.*

3. **Management Resources, specifically funding, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response:** *It was suggested by the review team that one staff member be dedicated to the preserve. At this time our staffing is not structured to have specific staff dedicated to a preserve(s). We will revisit this idea.*

### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

#### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Natural Communities, specifically mesic hammock, mesic/wet flatwoods, baygall, and sinkhole lake, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address current or desired condition and/or future management actions to protect or restore.**

**Managing Agency Response:** *We are currently working on an update to our management plan and will add our desired future conditions and management actions needed in these habitats. Our monitoring team is already working with the land manager on identifying specific areas we can address for protection and/or restoration.*

2. **Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, and other habitat management effects monitoring, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.**

**Managing Agency Response:** *We will address this in our management plan update. Our department has just acquired more staff to make up our monitoring team. We will look at the needs of the preserve and try to find a balance that will allow monitoring species and habitat effects across all of our preserves.*

3. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address forest management.**

**Managing Agency Response:** *We have already made contact with a Forester from FFS and there will be a Timber assessment in the updated management plan.*

4. ***Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of pests/pathogens, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prevention of invasive species.***

***Managing Agency Response: We will address non-native species and pathogens more in depth in our management plan update.***

5. ***Resource Protection, specifically signage, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address resource protection.***

***Managing Agency Response: We will discuss putting up educational kiosks, boundary signage, and other signage for resource protection in the coming plan update. We have an outreach team that also leads hikes on GAS and other preserves to talk about the resources and the protection we are doing (acquisition, security, prescribed fire, etc.).***

6. ***Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, and surplus lands identified, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.***

***Managing Agency Response: The potential surplus portion will be addressed in the coming plan update.***

**Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area**

**Managed by:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Acres:** 28,929

**Counties:** Orange

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** Conservation and preservation of natural and cultural resources, compatible resource-based outdoor recreation.

**Acquisition Program(s):** EEL

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Original Acquisition Date:** 6/20/77

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/21/16

**Review Date:** 1/29/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Tom O’Neil, Manager
- Tina Hannon
- Matthew Hortman
- Tom Shupe

**Review Team Members (voting)**

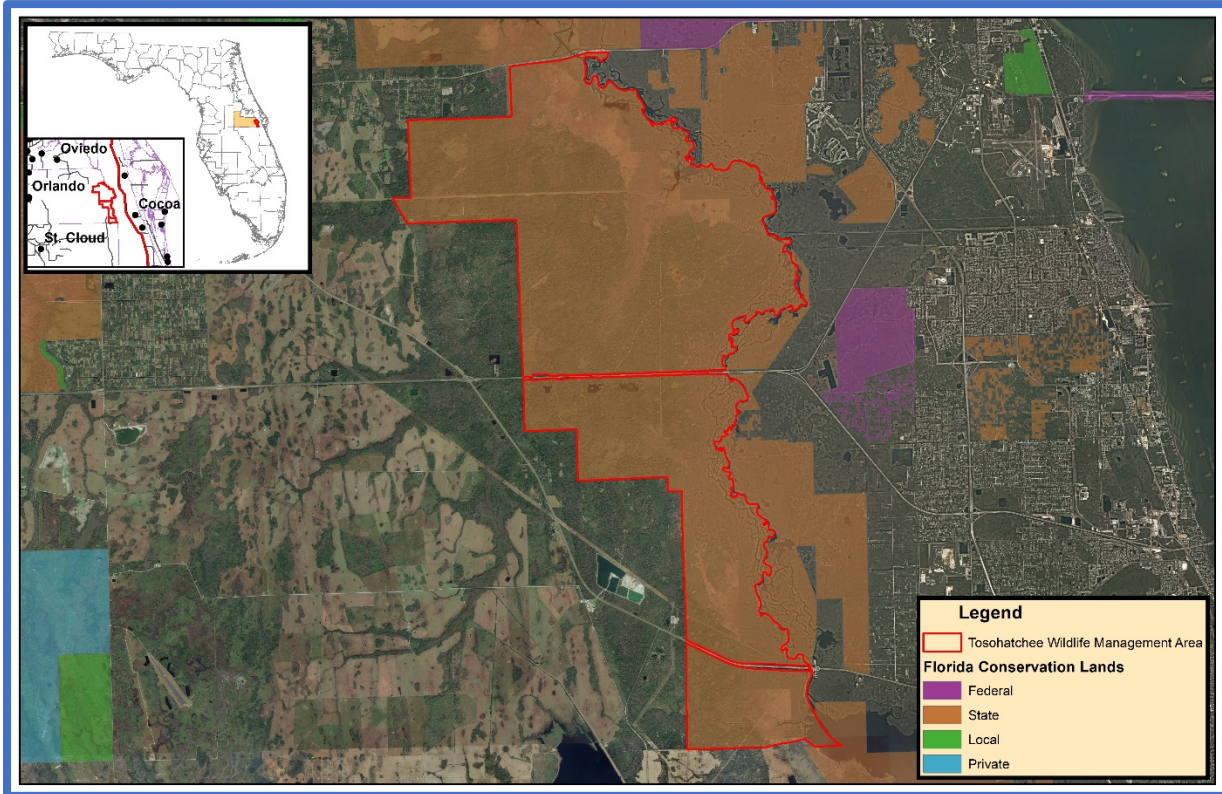
- DRP District, None
- Erinn Mullen-Oliver, Local Gov’t.
- Jess Rodriguez, FWC
- Rain Yates, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Reid Hilliard, SJRWMD
- Vince Lamb, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Dylan Haase, FWC
- Blake Finnegan, FWC
- Jimmy Conner, FWC
- Lee Kissick, SJRWMD
- Stacy Klema, FNPS



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

*Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?*

**Yes = 6, No = 0**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for efforts to improve visitor experiences

**Table 3: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.48	4.18	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.94	4.40	
Hydrology	4.25	4.00	
Imperiled Species	4.64	4.26	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.26	4.03	
Cultural Resources	4.00	3.90	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.49	4.22	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.50	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

- through road and trail maintenance, restrooms, bear proof trash containers, and signs. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FWC and area staff for current and proposed invasive plant management on the Tosohatchee WMA. (6+, 0-)
  3. The team commends the FWC for their burn program, especially dealing with roadways, duff areas, neighbors, etc. (6+, 0-)

### ***Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency***

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FWC attempt to resolve the issues described in the document on cultural resources. We believe this reflects a misunderstanding and the work that has been done. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: The FWC will continue to work with the Florida Department of State – Division of Historical Resources (DHR) to resolve any discrepancies regarding cultural resources found on the area. Additionally, the FWC has submitted to the DHR a priority list showing cultural resources surveys needs for FWC-managed areas across the state. The Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area (TWMA) is one of the FWC’s top priorities.***

2. The team recommends the FWC add supplemental documents to the management plan as appendices as they become available. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: As discussed in section 1.1.1 of the TWMA Management Plan, the FWC adopts a “living document” concept to all our management plans. As updates to appendices or other activities on the TWMA occur, the FWC will work to update all new information into the plan and associated databases. Additionally, the FWC may submit management plan amendments to the Division of State Lands and Acquisition and Restoration Council as needed and appropriate.***

### ***Field Review Details***

#### ***Field Review Checklist Findings***

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically scrubby flatwoods, shell mound, baygall, depression marsh, dome swamp, floodplain marsh, floodplain swamp, hydric hammock, river floodplain lake, blackwater stream, mesic flatwoods, scrub, and mesic hammock.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically cutthroat grass, and hand fern.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically groundcover, oak control, and longleaf reintroduction.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, and timber harvesting.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydrologic/geologic function, specifically roads and culverts, ditches, hydro-period alteration, and water level alteration.**
10. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality and quantity.**
11. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**

12. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, and inholdings and additions.**
13. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
14. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
15. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, staff, and funding.**

***Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the field.**

***Land Management Plan Review Details***

***Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

**The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement in the management plan.**

**Brevard Coastal Scrub Ecosystem**

**Managed by:** Brevard County

**Acres:** 1,325

**County:** Brevard

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To preserve a few of the best scrub fragments in the county, which will aid survival of the endangered scrub jay and provide areas where the public can appreciate and learn about this unique landscape.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 7/14/99

**Area Reviewed:** Entire property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/29/15

**Review Date:** 1/31/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Evan Hall, Manager

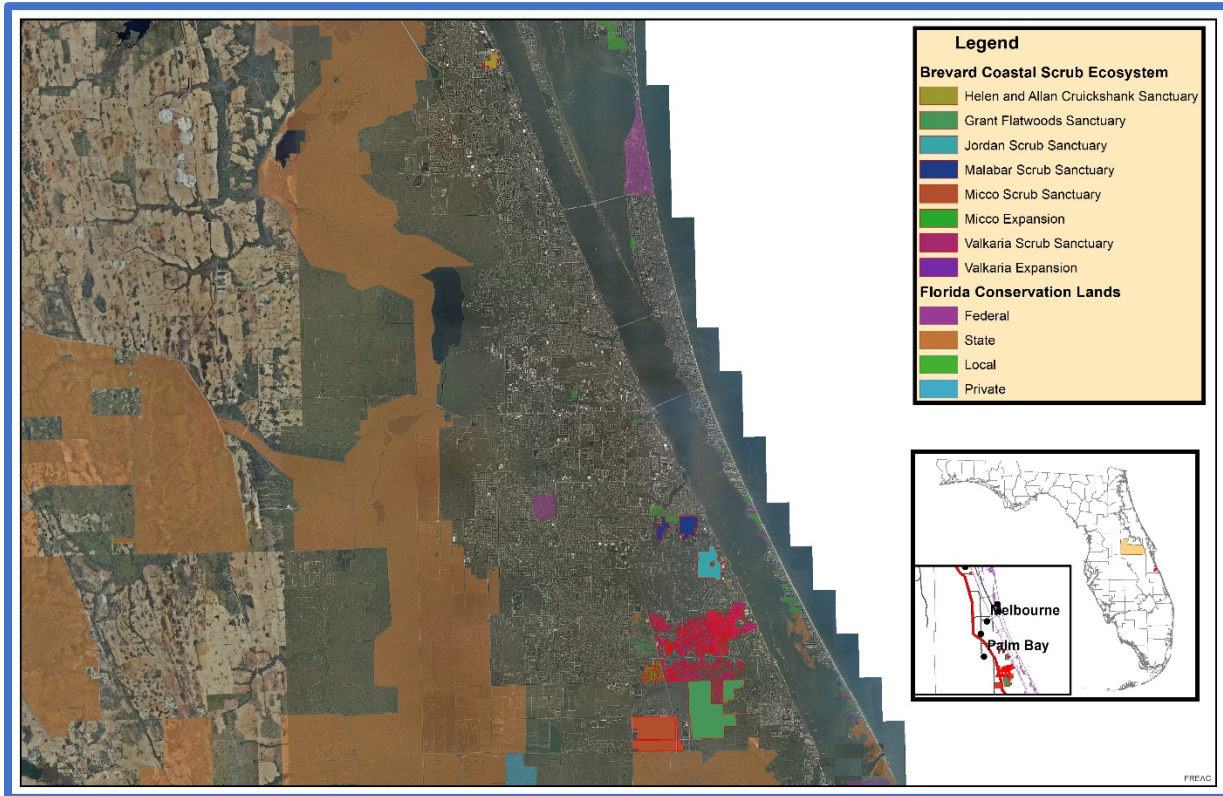
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Samantha McGee, DRP District
- Mike Knight, Local Gov't.
- Alex Kropp, FWC
- Kevin Scheiber, DEP District
- Michael Edwards, FFS
- Amy Copeland, SJRWMD
- David Martin, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Andrew Lawrence, FWC/IPMS

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**

*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

**Yes = 6, No = 0, 1 Abstain**

*Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?*

**Yes = 6, No = 0, 1 Abstain**

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. Field Review scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while Management Plan Review scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

1. The team commends the County for their recent management of prescribed fire, considering urban interface and fragmentation of the properties. (7+, 0-)

**Table 4: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.83	3.54	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.35	3.87	
Hydrology	1.73	3.90	
Imperiled Species	4.38	3.95	
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.61	3.22	
Cultural Resources	2.80	2.92	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.93	3.93	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.42	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

2. The team commends the County for their partnership with Brevard Zoo to monitor scrub jays and conduct population viability analysis. (7+, 0-)
3. The team commends the County for providing needed recreation and education opportunities for the public. (7+, 0-)
4. The team commends the County staff for partnering with Florida Forest Service and the Town of Grant-Valkaria for management of the megaparcels and the private properties. (7+, 0-)

***Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency***

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the County make every effort possible to make the land trade with Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) happen, in order to give the scrub jays in South Brevard a chance for survival and to optimize the management of existing scrub in South Brevard. (7+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response:***

2. The team recommends the County continue efforts to remove feral hogs and seek additional opportunities to increase eradication efforts. (7+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response:***

3. The team recommends the County develop a database and utilize GIS to track locations and treatments of invasives. (7+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response:***

4. The team recommends the County increase partnerships to better survey and monitor imperiled and nongame species, and develop strategies and priorities for monitoring. (7+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response:***

5. The team recommends the County explore all opportunities for future funding beyond 2024 for ongoing management of state and county conservation lands. (7+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response:***

6. The team recommends the County continue to acquire lands currently identified in the optimum boundary. (7+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response:***

***Field Review Details***

***Field Review Checklist Findings***

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically scrubby flatwoods, scrub, strand/dome swamp, hydric hammock, baygall, depression marsh, basin marsh, blackwater stream, and seepage stream.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically scrub.**
3. **Restoration, specifically Malabar Scrub.**
4. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
5. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically control of plants.**
6. **Resource protection, specifically signage.**
7. **Public access, specifically roads, and parking.**

8. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
9. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, and buildings.**

#### ***Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. ***The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically sandhill, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.***

#### ***Managing Agency Response:***

2. ***Cultural Resources (Archaeological & Historic Sites), specifically protection and preservation, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management of cultural resources is sufficient.***

#### ***Managing Agency Response:***

3. ***Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically frequency, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, to what degree prescribed fire is accomplished according to the objectives for prescribed fire management. The scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% accomplished, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.***

#### ***Managing Agency Response:***

4. ***Resources Protection, specifically law enforcement presence, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether resources are sufficient to protect the property.***

#### ***Managing Agency Response:***

5. ***Management Resources, specifically equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.***

#### ***Managing Agency Response:***

#### ***Land Management Plan Review Details***

##### ***Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. ***Cultural Resources, specifically protection and preservation, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or protection.***

***Managing Agency Response:***

2. ***Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, and surplus lands identified, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.***

***Managing Agency Response:***



**Estero Bay Preserve State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 10,457

**County:** Lee

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** to protect Estero Bay's water quality, its native plants and animals, its archaeological sites, and to provide recreational opportunities to the people of the rapidly growing Fort Myers area.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/27/87

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 10/15/04

**Review Date:** 2/11/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Zach Lozano, Park Manager
- Justin Lamb, ES I

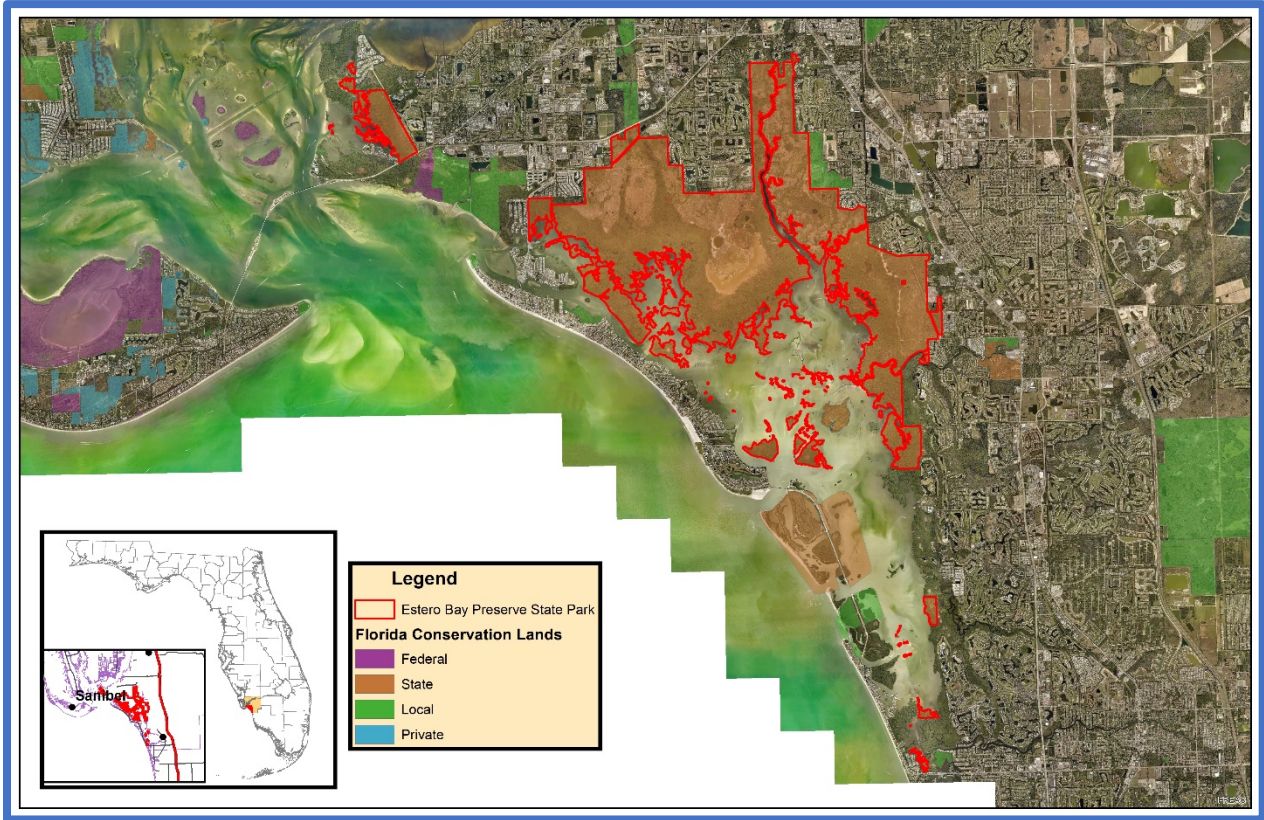
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Karen Rogers, DRP District
- Clark Ryals, FFS
- Hanna Joergens, Local Gov't.
- Joseph Bozzo, SFWMD
- Becky Schneider, FWC
- Marlene Rodak, Conservation Org.
- Blaine Preston, DEP District
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Dennis Giardina, FWC/IPMS
- Heather Stafford, DEP/RCP
- Marie Dessources, SFWMD

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 5: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.57	4.09	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.33	3.38	
Hydrology	3.93	4.14	
Imperiled Species	4.21	4.00	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.00	3.79	
Cultural Resources	3.00	4.14	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.84	4.09	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.52	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for their efforts to treat invasive exotic plants and continued efforts to request and obtain funding through FWC's upland exotic plant management program. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS staff for the job they are doing at Estero Bay Preserve State Park, especially with limited staff and funding. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for doing an admirable job of prioritizing the maintenance of natural communities, focusing on invasive plant control and prescribed burning. (6+, 0-)

***Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency***

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS increase effort to monitor all cultural sites annually for potential disturbances and invasive plant coverage using Florida Master Site File report forms and photo documentation. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: Park staff will increase effort to monitor all cultural sites annually for potential disturbances and invasive plant coverage using FMSF forms and photo documentation. Additional park staff will also participate in the Division of Historical Resources Certified Archaeological Monitor training program.***

2. The team recommends the FPS install shorebird and wading bird educational signage at Winkler Road kiosk. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: The park will continue to improve interpretive signage throughout the park.***

3. The team recommends the FPS develop gopher tortoise survey and monitoring plan, and, at a minimum monitor after burns. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: District and park staff will continue to coordinate with FWC on monitoring and management strategies for imperiled species in the park.***

4. The team recommends the FPS coordinate with Florida Public Archaeology Network on initial archaeological/cultural sites monitoring, and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve on shoreline and submerged sites. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: Park staff will coordinate with FPAN when conducting initial archaeological site monitoring and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve on any monitoring involving submerged sites.***

5. The team recommends the FPS actively target property edges abutting developments and other private mitigation sites to prevent or reduce exotic plant infestations. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: The park will continue to treat exotic plant infestations along property edges to prevent/ reduce exotic plant infestations and will continue to work with property owners to educate about invasive plant species.***

6. The team recommends the FPS increase staffing to adequately manage this 11,000+ acre property. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature.***

7. The team recommends the FPS restore trails at Winkler Road to reduce ruts, which may currently be impacting surface water conditions onsite. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: The park will work with District staff to identify funding opportunities for trail restoration efforts.***

### ***Field Review Details***

#### ***Field Review Checklist Findings***

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically salt marsh, estuarine tidal swamp, mangrove swamp, coastal rock barren, coastal berm, mesic flatwoods, prairie hammock, depression marsh, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and strand swamp.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically quality.**
5. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, and pests/pathogens.**
7. **Hydro-alteration, specifically ditches.**
8. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey.**
9. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development.**
10. **Public access, specifically roads.**
11. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
12. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, and buildings.**

#### ***Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. ***Cultural Resources (Archaeological & Historic Sites), specifically protection and preservation, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management of cultural resources is sufficient.***

***Managing Agency Response: Park staff will begin to monitor all cultural sites annually for potential disturbances and invasive plant coverage using FMSF forms and photo documentation. Additional park staff will also participate in the Division of Historical Resources Certified Archaeological Monitor training program. The park will also work with FPAN and Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve to monitor new and submerged locations within state park boundaries.***

2. ***Restoration, specifically salt marsh at Lexington, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether restoration is sufficient.***

***Managing Agency Response: Park staff will continue to seek funding and implementation of natural community restoration projects.***

3. **Resources Protection, specifically signage, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether resources are sufficient to protect the property.**

**Managing Agency Response: The park will update signage identifying state park access points, park boundaries, and culturally sensitive areas throughout the preserve.**

4. **Management Resources, specifically staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.**

**Managing Agency Response: Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.**

### **Land Management Plan Review Details**

#### **Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan**

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. **Restoration, specifically salt marsh at Lexington, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, whether restoration efforts are adequate.**

**Managing Agency Response: A description of the salt marsh restoration project at Lexington including additional objectives will be included in the updated plan.**

**Cayo Costa State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 2,458

**County:** Lee

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** To develop, operate and maintain the property for outdoor recreational, park, conservation, historic, and related purposes.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 9/07/76

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 12/9/05

**Review Date:** 2/13/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Rick Argo, Park Manager
- Mary Mazyck, PSS
- William Nash, Assistant Park Manager

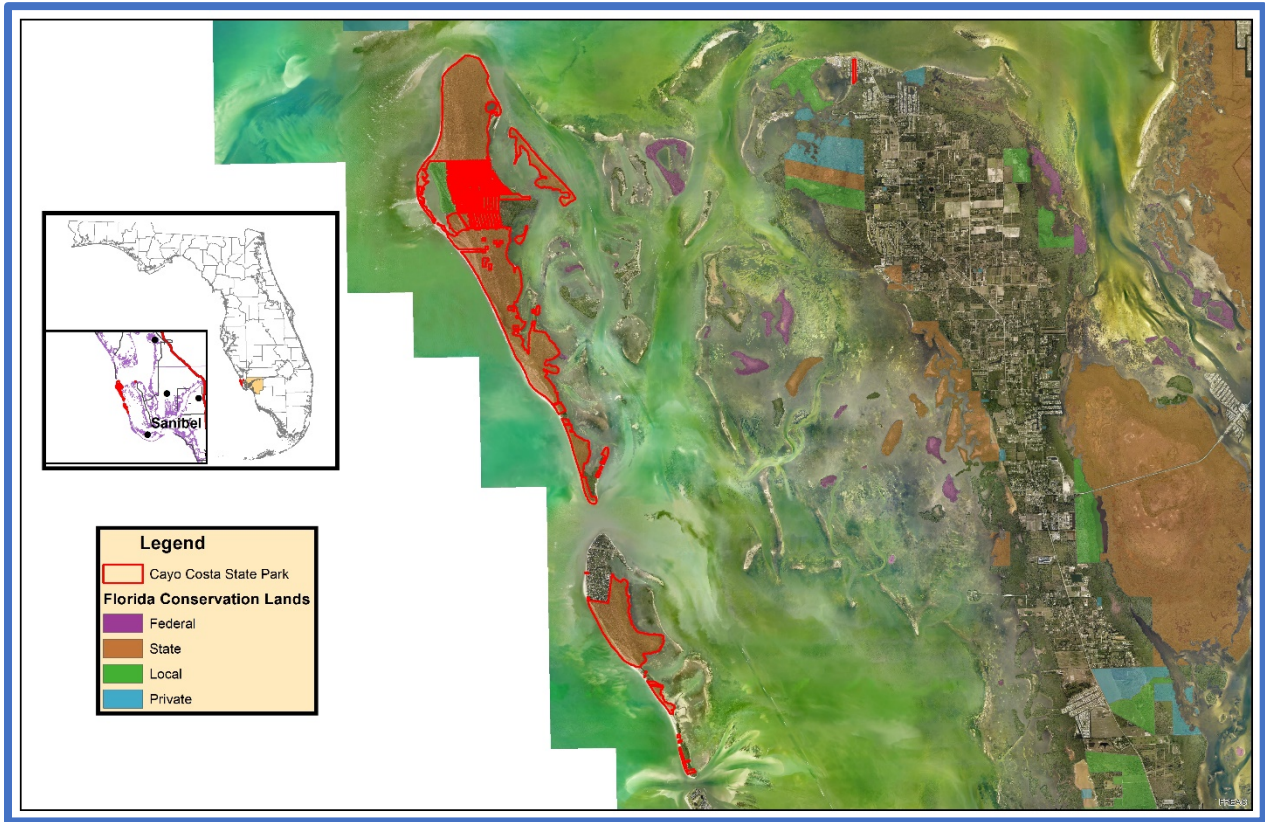
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- Karen Rogers, DRP District
- Local Gov't., None
- Becky Schneider, FWC
- Tori Gray, DEP District
- Clark Ryals, FFS
- Marie Dessources, SFWMD
- Marlene Rodak, Conservation Org.
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Dennis Giardina, FWC/IPMS
- Melynda Brown, DEP/RCP
- Joseph Bozzo, SFWMD

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

*Yes = 6, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 6: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.74	3.55	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.94	2.56	
Hydrology	4.50	2.50	
Imperiled Species	4.13	2.89	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.53	2.56	
Cultural Resources	4.75	4.67	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.94	3.44	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	2.72	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for remaining committed to invasive plant control, surpassing established treatment goals many of the past five years and for targeting all category 1 and 2 exotics on the island. (6+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for a sustained, dedicated effort to eradicate feral hogs from the park. (6+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FPS for their efforts at annual site monitoring, establishing erosion control measures for imperiled sites, and exotic plant treatment practices on archaeological sites. (6+, 0-)

### ***Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency***

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the park manager and staff continue to reach out to private property owners to encourage acceptance of prescribed burning to maintain dependent natural communities and to reduce fuels that should make their properties safer from wildfires. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: Park management will continue to reach out to private property owners living on the island to educate them about the importance of prescribed burning in reducing fuel loads and maintain fire dependent communities on the island. Park management will also provide them with information about wildfire prevention measures that the homeowners could implement around their property to assist with protection of their home in case of a wildfire.***

2. The team recommends the FPS address the energy needs of park residences and facilities present and future, including renewable technologies that are more affordable and dependable. (6+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: Park management will request funding to assess overall energy needs of park residences and facilities (both existing and newly proposed) to determine the best solution available to resolve energy supply issues at the park. This will include exploring options for additional renewable technologies that are more affordable and dependable.***

### ***Field Review Details***

#### ***Field Review Checklist Findings***

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically beach dune, coastal berm, coastal strand, maritime hammock, mesic flatwoods, coastal grasslands, shell mound, depression marsh, marine tidal swamp, and marine unconsolidated substrate.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically shorebirds, sea turtles, and gopher tortoise.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically frequency, and quality.**
6. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
7. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality.**
8. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality.**



9. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
10. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, and sanitary facilities.**

***Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

1. ***Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether forest management is sufficient.***

***Managing Agency Response: Disagree. The overall management goals of the park and natural communities are being met through the current forest management regime. The park will continue to manage these forests with proper care, so they remain healthy and vigorous for generations to come. A timber assessment has been scheduled.***

2. ***Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically expanding development, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether adjacent property concerns are sufficiently addressed.***

***Managing Agency Response: The District is working with the Office of Park Planning and Division of State Lands to identify park boundaries along outparcels and address issues of potential encroachment on state park property. All outparcels have been identified in the optimum park boundary for greater resource protection and enhanced management access. The Division will address adjacent property concerns in the update of the management plan.***

3. ***Management Resources, specifically buildings, equipment, staff, and funding, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether management resources are sufficient.***

***Managing Agency Response: Additional staff can only be assigned to this or other park units if they are appropriated by the Legislature or reassigned from other units. Funding is determined annually by the Florida Legislature. This funding is allocated at the Division and District levels in order to best meet annual operational and resource management needs. Any deemed increase in Division Budget/staffing will follow the established legislative budget request process.***

***Land Management Plan Review Details***

***Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. ***Listed Species protection and preservation, plants in general, and specifically gopher tortoise, and indigo snake, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of listed species.***

***Managing Agency Response: The protection and preservation of plants in general, and listed species, particularly gopher tortoise and indigo snake, will be more thoroughly addressed in the***

*next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

2. *Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources including other non-game species or their habitat monitoring will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

3. *Resource Management prescribed fire, specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prescribed fire needs.*

*Managing Agency Response: Prescribed fire, including the area being burned, frequency, and quality will be addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

4. *Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address forest management.*

*Managing Agency Response: Timber management will be addressed in the next management plan update, and a timber assessment will be completed prior to plan submittal to ARC. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C. when it was approved by ARC.*

5. *Non-native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically prevention of plants, and animals, and prevention and control pests/pathogens, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address prevention of invasive species.*

*Managing Agency Response: Non-native, Invasive and Problem Species including the prevention of pests/pathogens and the control of plants and pests/pathogens will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

6. *Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address ground water monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: Ground water monitoring will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

7. *Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address surface water monitoring.*

*Managing Agency Response: Surface water monitoring will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant*

*agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

8. *Resource Protection, specifically gates & fencing, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address resource protection.*

*Managing Agency Response: Resource Protection including boundary survey, gates and fencing, will be more thoroughly addressed in the next management plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

9. *Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically discussion of potential surplus land determination, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address adjacent property.*

*Managing Agency Response: Adjacent property concerns including discussion of potential surplus land determination will be more thoroughly addressed in the next plan update. The current management plan was reviewed by the relevant agencies and was in full compliance with Chapters 253 and 259, F.S., and Chapter 18-2, F.A.C., when it was approved by ARC.*

**Florida Caverns State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 1,279

**County:** Jackson

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** The Florida Board of Forestry acquired Florida Caverns State Park in 1935 to develop, operate and maintain the property for the outdoor recreational, park, conservation, historic, and related purposes.

**Acquisition Program(s):** Old Money, LATF, P2000/A&I

**Original Acquisition Date:** 10/11/35

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 4/20/18

**Review Date:** 3/10/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Jacob Strickland, Park Manager
- William Bailey, Assistant Park Manager

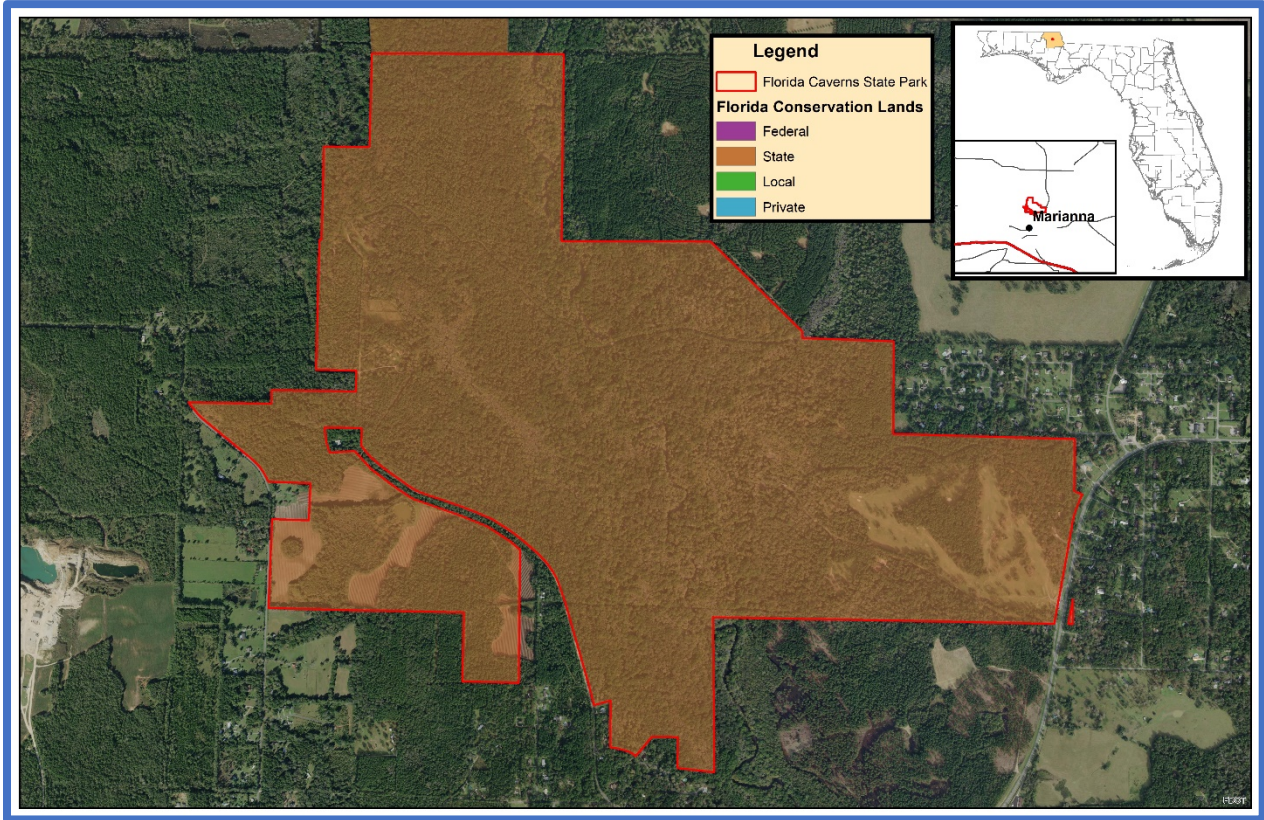
**Review Team Members (voting)**

- John McKenzie, DRP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Local Gov't., None
- John Valenta, NFWFMD
- Emily Evans, FWC
- Conservation Org., None
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Private Land Manager, None

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- John Kunzer, FWC/IPM
- Sam Wilford, DOS/DHR
- Josh Goodman, DOS/DHR

**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
**Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?**

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

**Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?**

*Yes = 5, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 7: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.71	4.74	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.55	4.60	
Hydrology	4.80	4.77	
Imperiled Species	4.95	4.90	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.83	4.77	
Cultural Resources	4.60	4.90	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.75	4.76	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.23	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for the outstanding cleanup effort following the hurricane. (5+, 0-)

### ***Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency***

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed:

1. The team recommends the FPS monitor or repair minor erosion occurring in slope ditches. (5+, 0-)

***Managing Agency Response: Park and District staff will develop and implement a plan to mitigate any erosion areas associated with park infrastructure. The plan will identify suitable materials and revegetation measures.***

### ***Field Review Details***

#### ***Field Review Checklist Findings***

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically bluff, upland hardwood forest, upland mixed forest, floodplain forest, floodplain swamp, alluvial stream, spring-run stream, and aquatic and terrestrial caves.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically bats (gray and southeastern), and Georgia blind cave salamander.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically upland mixed woodland (red oak subset), and upland glade.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and ditches**
10. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically quality.**
11. **Surface Water Monitoring, specifically quality, and quantity.**
12. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
13. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically expanding development, encroachment of invasives, and inholdings and additions.**
14. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
15. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
16. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, equipment, and staff.**

***Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

***The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field.***

***Land Management Plan Review Details***

***Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

1. ***Managed Area Uses, Existing Uses, specifically golf, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address managed area uses.***

***Managing Agency Response: During the LMR the team was advised that the golf course has closed and that DRP discontinued the sublease with the former vendor. The intent of the combined scoring for this checklist item was to encourage the Division to preserve the history of the CCC era golf course in the unit plan, and to include plans for interpretation to the public. Park and District staff will include a historical account of the golf course as well as plans to interpret its history in the next scheduled UMP update.***

**Torreya State Park**

**Managed by:** Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Park Service

**Acres:** 13,204

**County:** Liberty and Gadsden

**Purpose(s) for Acquisition:** The State Internal Improvement Board of the State of Florida (Board) purchased Torreya State Park for the use and benefit of the citizens of the State of Florida.

**Acquisition Program(s):** CARL/P2000/Florida Forever

**Original Acquisition Date:** 4/22/35

**Area Reviewed:** Entire Property

**Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 2/26/12

**Review Date:** 3/12/20

**Agency Manager and Key Staff:**

- Jason Vickery, Park Manager
- Mark Ludlow, Park Biologist

**Review Team Members (voting)**

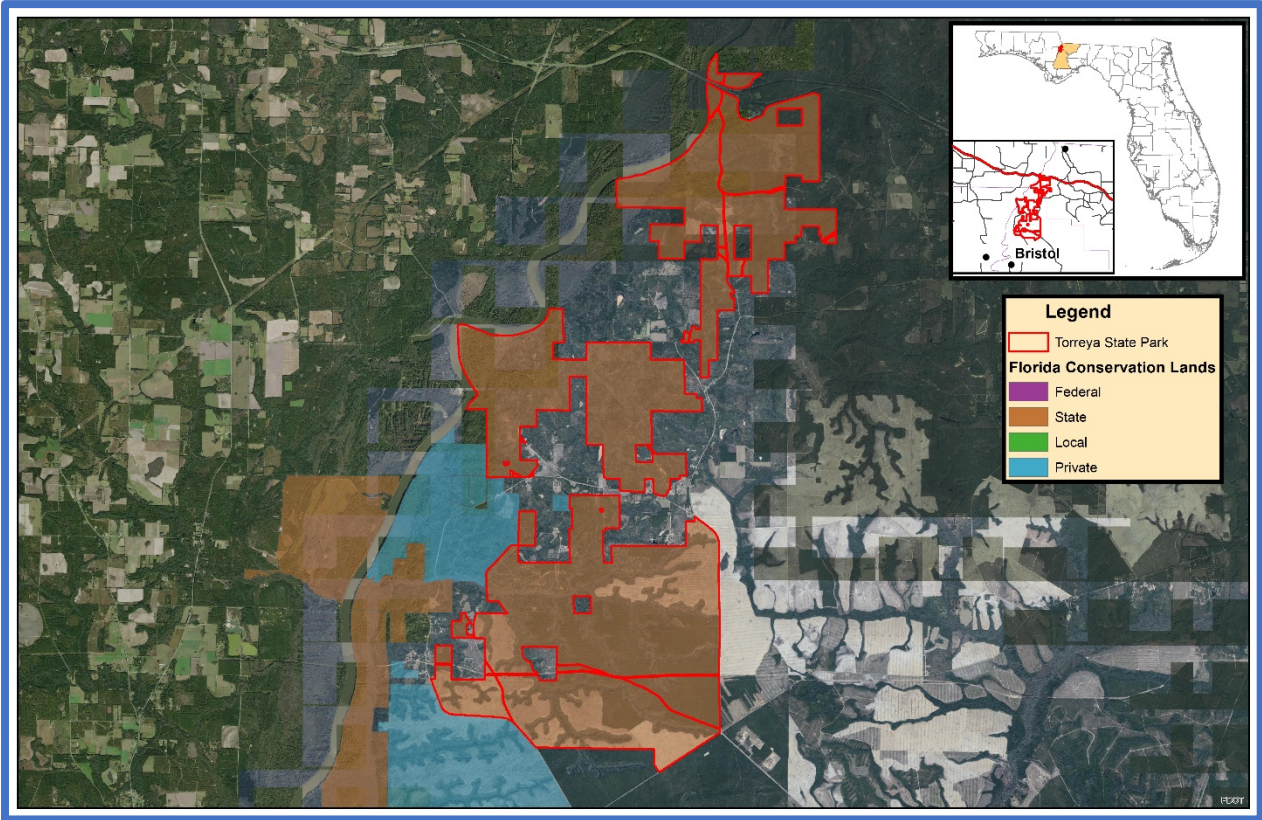
- John McKenzie, DRP District
- Doug Longshore, FFS
- Local Gov't., None
- Coakley Taylor, NFWFMD
- Mike Sisson, FWC
- Scott Copeland, Conservation Org.
- Mark Gillman, DEP District
- Bill Boothe, Private Land Manager

**Non-Team Members (attending)**

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- James Parker, DEP/DSL
- John Kunzer, FWC/IPM
- David Glassner, DEP/DSL
- Simone James, DEP/DSL
- Deb Burr, DEP/DSL



**Property Map**



**Overview of Land Management Review Results**  
*Is the property managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

*Are the management practices, including public access, in compliance with the management plan?*

*Yes = 7, No = 0*

Table 1 shows the average scores received for each applicable category of review. *Field Review* scores refer to the adequacy of management actions in the field, while *Management Plan Review* scores refer to adequacy of discussion of these topics in the management plan. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 5 signifying excellence. For a more detailed key to the scores, please see Appendix A.

**Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency**

The following commendations resulted from discussion and vote of the review team members:

**Table 8: Results at a glance.**

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review	
Natural Communities / Forest Management	4.63	4.66	
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.75	4.90	
Hydrology	4.29	4.71	
Imperiled Species	4.75	4.80	
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.67	4.76	
Cultural Resources	4.79	5.00	
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.56	4.78	
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	4.31	N/A	
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)			
Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor

1. The team commends the Florida Park Service (FPS) for continuing resource management practices, particularly prescribed burning and natural community restoration in the wake of Hurricane Michael. (7+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FPS for improvements to park infrastructure after Hurricane Michael. (7+, 0)

### ***Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency***

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The next management plan update should include information about how these recommendations have been addressed: There were no consensus recommendations.

### ***Field Review Details***

#### ***Field Review Checklist Findings***

The following items received high scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions exceeded expectations.

1. **Natural communities, specifically bluff, sandhill, slope forest, upland hardwood forest, upland pine forest, bottomland forest, floodplain swamp, alluvial stream, seepage stream, and terrestrial cave.**
2. **Listed species, animals and plants in general, and specifically gopher tortoise, torreya conradina, and Florida yew.**
3. **Natural resource survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring.**
4. **Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation.**
5. **Resource management (prescribed fire), specifically area being burned, frequency, and quality.**
6. **Restoration, specifically Sweetwater sandhill, Aspalaga upland pine, and clay pit restoration.**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory, timber harvesting, reforestation/afforestation, and site preparation.**
8. **Non-native, invasive, and problem species, specifically prevention and control of plants, animals, and pests/pathogens.**
9. **Hydro-alteration, specifically roads and culverts, and ditches**
10. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage, and law enforcement presence.**
11. **Adjacent property concerns, land use, specifically spread of exotics, and inholdings and additions.**
12. **Public access, specifically roads, parking, and boat access.**
13. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically wildlife, invasive species, interpretive facilities and signs, recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts.**
14. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities, buildings, and equipment.**

#### ***Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review were not considered sufficient (less than 3.0 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan update should include information on how these items have been addressed:

***The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvement actions in the field.***

***Land Management Plan Review Details***

***Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan***

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that the text noted in the Management Plan Review does not sufficiently address this issue (less than 3.0 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The next management plan update should address the checklist items identified below:

***The review team scores did not identify items requiring improvements in the management plan.***

**Appendix A. Scoring System Detail****Explanation of Consensus Commendations:**

Often, the exceptional condition of some of the property's attributes impress review team members. In those instances, team members are encouraged to offer positive feedback to the managing agency in the form of a commendation. The teams develop commendations generally by standard consensus processes or by majority vote if they cannot obtain a true consensus.

**Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:**

Subsection 259.036(2), F.S., specifically states that the managing entity shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review. We ask team members to provide general recommendations for improving the management or public access and use of the property. The teams discuss these recommendations and develop consensus recommendations as described above. We provide these recommendations to the managing agency to consider when finalizing the required ten-year management plan update. We encourage the manager to respond directly to these recommendations and include their responses in the final report when received in a timely manner.

**Explanation of Field Review Checklist and Scores, and Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores:**

We provide team members with a checklist to fill out during the evaluation workshop phase of the Land Management Review. The checklist is the uniform tool used to evaluate both the management actions and condition of the managed area, and the sufficiency of the management plan elements. During the evaluation workshop, team members individually provide scores on each issue on the checklist, from their individual perspective. Team members also base their evaluations on information provided by the managing agency staff as well as other team member discussions. Staff averages these scores to evaluate the overall conditions on the ground, and how the management plan addresses the issues. Team members must score each management issue 1 to 5: 1 being the management practices are clearly insufficient, and 5 being that the management practices are excellent. Members may choose to abstain if they have inadequate expertise or information to make a cardinal numeric choice, as indicated by an "X" on the checklist scores, or they may not provide a vote for other unknown reasons, as indicated by a blank. If a majority of members failed to vote on any issue, that issue is determined to be irrelevant to management of that property or it was inadequately reviewed by the team to make an intelligent choice. In either case staff eliminated the issue from the report to the manager.

**Average scores are interpreted as follows:**

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*