

ITEM 12:

Vote on whether the Avalon Phase II, Carter-Quail Ranch, Creek Ranch, Floyd's Mound, Owen Creek Highlands, Quail Creek Ranch, and Williamson Cattle Company Florida Forever 2023 Cycle 1 Florida Forever proposals will proceed through the project evaluation process for potential addition to the 2024 Florida Forever Priority List.

DSL STAFF REMARKS:

The Division of State Lands received the Avalon Phase II, Carter-Quail Ranch, Creek Ranch, Floyd's Mound, Owen Creek Highlands, Quail Creek Ranch, and Williamson Cattle Company Florida Forever proposals for consideration for the 2023 Cycle 1. Only those proposals receiving at least five affirmative Council votes will be further evaluated for possible addition to the 2024 Florida Forever Priority List.

Proposal	Acres	Acquisition Type	County
Avalon Phase II	1,464	Less-Than-Fee	Jefferson
Carter-Quail Ranch	1,326	Fee Simple	Volusia
Creek Ranch	1,295	Less-Than-Fee	Polk
Floyd's Mound	40	Less-Than-Fee	Madison
Owen Creek Highlands	932	Fee Simple	Manatee
Quail Creek Ranch	2,699	Less-Than-Fee	Hardee
Williamson Cattle Company	7,419	Less-Than-Fee	Okeechobee

DSL STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Vote on each proposal.

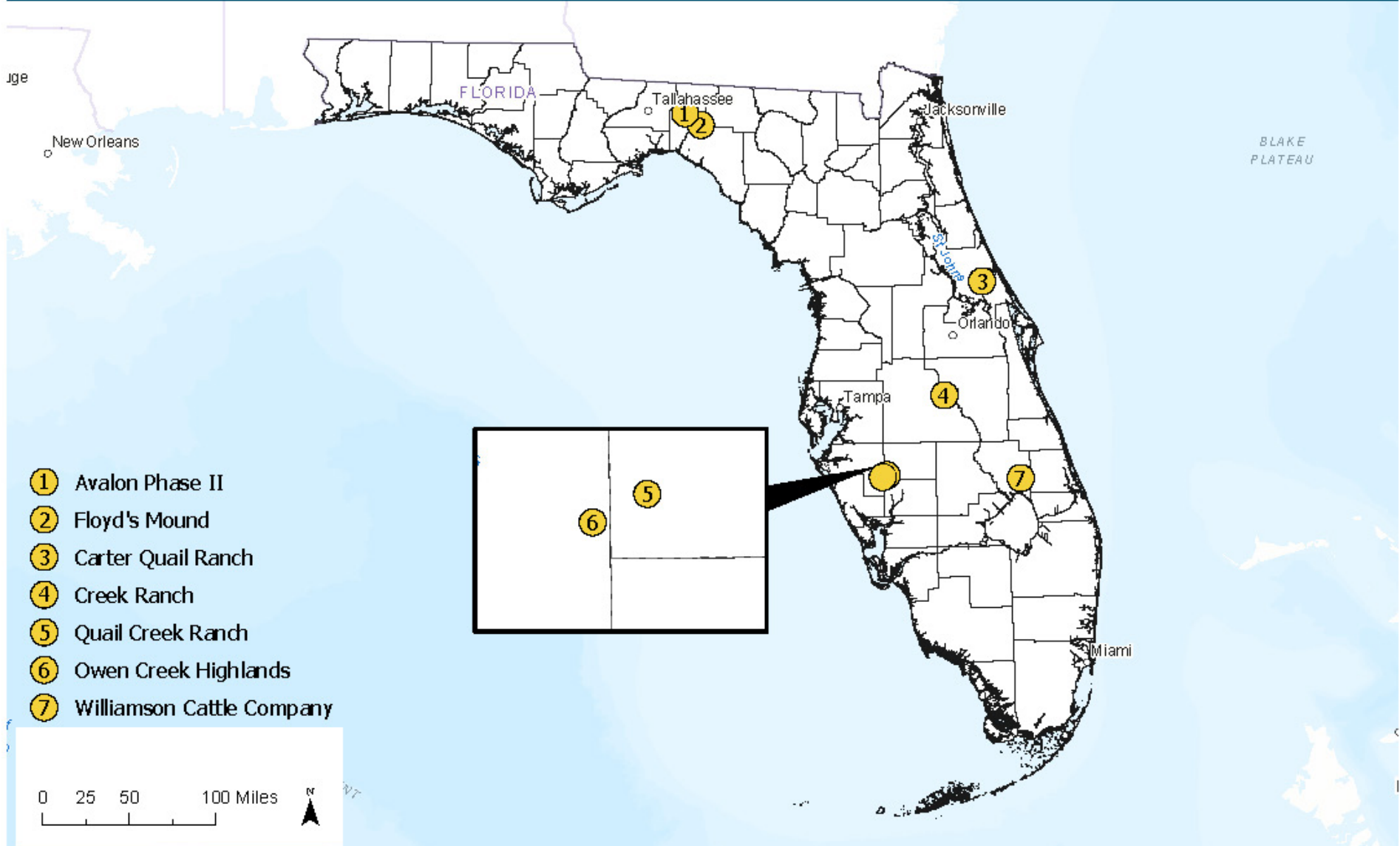
ARC RECOMMENDATION:

Project	DHR	FFS	Lynetta Griner	DEP	FWC	Bill Palmer	Elva Peppers	Selected
Avalon Phase II	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	---	Y	YES
Carter Quail Ranch	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	YES
Creek Ranch	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	YES
Floyd's Mound	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	---	Y	YES
Owen Creek Highlands	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	YES
Quail Creek Ranch	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	YES
Williamson Cattle Company	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	YES



Florida Forever New Project Proposals

2023 Cycle 1
December 8, 2022



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

FNAI staff builds and maintains a comprehensive statewide database that now includes more than 35,000 occurrences of rare plant and animal species and high-quality natural communities. The database also contains information on more than 2,000 lands managed wholly or in part for conservation. This database includes national forests, parks and wildlife refuges; state parks, forests, aquatic preserves, and wildlife management areas; water management district lands; county and municipal parks; private preserves; and military installations with substantial natural areas. Boundaries of state land acquisition projects are also represented.

As part of an agreement with DEP, FNAI provides data and expertise to assist with the multi-step process of evaluating lands proposed for acquisition through the Florida Forever Program. This document presents our preliminary review of the new project proposals submitted for the cycle beginning November 2022. This review includes the following: Natural Resource Description, Rare Species on the site, a tabular evaluation of selected Florida Forever Measures, and maps of the proposed site. Recreational and archeological values are not considered in this evaluation.

Biological Conservation Priority: In previous years FNAI has summarized our overall preliminary assessment of the proposals as a "Biological Conservation Priority" for each site. This rank represented our initial assessment of a proposal's contribution to the protection of significant ecological resources from a statewide perspective. These ranks reflected the FNAI scientific staff's best judgment based on information available at the time of the evaluation. **Because further assessment is generally needed to fully determine the biological importance of a site, and because many conservation factors cannot be simply summarized, we no longer provide this subjective rank.**

Natural Resource Description: The description of the natural resources presented for the proposal is developed from information provided in the proposal application, the FNAI database, FNAI staff comments, and aerial photographs. The natural communities listed in this evaluation and the percentage of the total area that each comprises were derived principally from aerial photographs as interpreted by FNAI staff and by landcover information from the Water Management Districts. These data were supplemented by FNAI natural community occurrence data where available. These sources were also used to determine the extent of disturbed lands that no longer support natural communities (agriculture areas, developed areas, mines, etc.). Acreages of communities and disturbances are approximate, but provide a reasonable estimate for this stage of the evaluation process. More precise landcover information is gathered during the project assessment phase for those proposals selected for further evaluation.

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

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

Florida Forever Measures Evaluation: Accompanying the evaluation is a table illustrating to what extent the proposed site meets 15 Florida Forever performance measures. These 15 measures were selected because they are resource-based criteria that can be used to set acquisition priorities. For each measure, we report the acres of the resource found on the proposed site and the percentage of the site containing the resource. The data in this assessment represent a highly standardized, statewide perspective of natural resource distributions. More detailed information may be gathered during the Project Assessment phase for those proposals voted upon for further evaluation. The data used in this evaluation are described in detail in the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment Summary Report and Technical Report, available at www.fnai.org.

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

**PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF THE AVALON PHASE II
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

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Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303



Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

AVALON PHASE II (JEFFERSON COUNTY)

Less-than-fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

Natural Resources Description: The Avalon Phase II proposal includes two separate tracts totaling 1,384 acres (per proposal; 1,414 as determined in GIS) in central Jefferson County. The tracts include lands associated with the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center, founded in 2008 to expose young people to outdoor activities. The proposal is submitted for less-than-fee simple protection.

This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), and the FNAI database.

The 2 two disjunct blocks of land comprising this proposal are generally 8-10 miles south of Monticello. The eastern tract is located northwest of the intersection of US-27 and FL-19, with 1.2 miles of road frontage to the south along US-27/FL-19, and 1.3 miles of frontage on FL-19 to the east. The second tract lies approximately 3 miles to the west, where its southern boundary fronts US-27/FL-19 for 1 mile. Both properties are contiguous with existing Florida Forever Board of Trustees (FFBOT) projects. The eastern tract adjoins the Rosewood-Avalon project, which in turn is connected to the Avalon Plantation conservation easements. These easements represent the northernmost extent of a nearly continuous complex of conservation land along the Aucilla River south to the Gulf coast. The western block adjoins another portion of the Rosewood-Avalon FFBOT project, but these are otherwise isolated from existing conservation lands, although extensive managed lands lie 4-5 miles away to the west, south, and east.

The property lies within the Red Hills region, characterized by rolling, moderately well drained uplands with clay soils overlain by loamy sands, and isolated lakes and depressional wetlands. Both tracts consist of rolling pine-covered uplands ranging to 220 feet in elevation, interspersed with lower (110-120 feet) areas of bottomland forest, with likely some areas of upland hardwood forest remaining on intermediate slopes. Pine plantations make up the largest landcover type in the project, as virtually all of the uplands on the eastern block appear to have been converted to plantation in the past. However, due to current management practices, these plantations somewhat resemble upland pine communities.

Pinelands in the western block appear to have less history of silviculture and are better characterized as upland pine. The application notes that some of these stands consist of mature longleaf pine with diverse native herbaceous plants, including wiregrass and fire-tolerant hardwoods. Upland pine is the dominant landcover but is punctuated with small patches of pine plantation and numerous wildlife food plots. Uplands in both tracts are reported to be managed with regular prescribed fire, and lanes are regularly mowed for quail hunting access.

On the eastern tract, a few small, isolated wetlands – 2 dome swamps, 3 depression marshes, and 2 ponds presumed to be artificially created – occur near the eastern edge of the property. Other wetlands are limited to a patch of bottomland forest at the northern margin of the tract, which connects to the floodplain of Cooksey Branch, part of the Lloyd Creek watershed, a closed basin that apparently feeds via a swallet into the Floridan aquifer. Lang Branch, also a tributary of Lloyd Creek, originates to the west of the property, and surface drainage and possibly groundwater seepage from the western slopes of the property contribute to its flow. An area of hardwood forests on the southern edge of the parcel lies on

the slope above swamps south of US-27. Those wetlands, the headwaters of a branch of Bailey Mill Creek, therefore receive surface drainage and possibly groundwater seepage from the property as well, which eventually feed into the Aucilla River.

The western tract is crossed by two drainages surrounded by bottomland forests, originating from the northeast and southeast. These meet near the center of the property and form Burnt Mill Creek, which flows off the property to the west, eventually flowing into the Wacissa River. These creeks are impounded at two locations on the property; Shadow Lake, near the western boundary, is formed by an earthen dam. An additional elongated impoundment of the northern fork of the creek lies near the tract's northern boundary.

Other land uses making up a small portion of the properties include agriculture, as well as small developed areas with residential structures, equipment barns, and other infrastructure associated with the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Avalon Phase II Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
upland pine	364	26
bottomland forest	105	7
upland hardwood forest	70	5
basin marsh	6	<1
dome swamp	4	<1
depression marsh	4	<1
pine plantation	666	47
agriculture	87	6
clearing	48	3
artificial pond	26	2
road	18	1
developed	12	1
successional hardwood forest	5	<1
Total	1,414	100

The proposal lies in an area in which the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission classifies Florida black bear as frequent; otherwise no imperiled animals or plants are documented on the proposal in the FNAI database, although this may be the result of a lack of biological surveys in the area. The application reports that eastern diamondback rattlesnake occurs onsite, and according to the application, artificial cavities have been installed for red-cockaded woodpeckers on the property, although this species is not known to occur. A wide variety of other imperiled and vulnerable species have been documented in the vicinity, and the pinelands, wetlands, and hardwood communities on these properties could be expected to provide habitat for these species or others not yet documented.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Avalon Phase II Florida Forever proposal.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4*	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	gopher tortoise	G3	S3	C	LT
<i>Crotalus adamanteus</i>	eastern diamondback rattlesnake	G3	S3	N	N

* Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) below is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represents a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), which accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. The FFME analysis indicates that the entire proposal contributes to aquifer recharge, and a substantial majority of the acreage contributes to surface water protection, sustainable forestry, and strategic habitat areas as well. Nearly half of the property consists of Priority 2 ecological greenways.

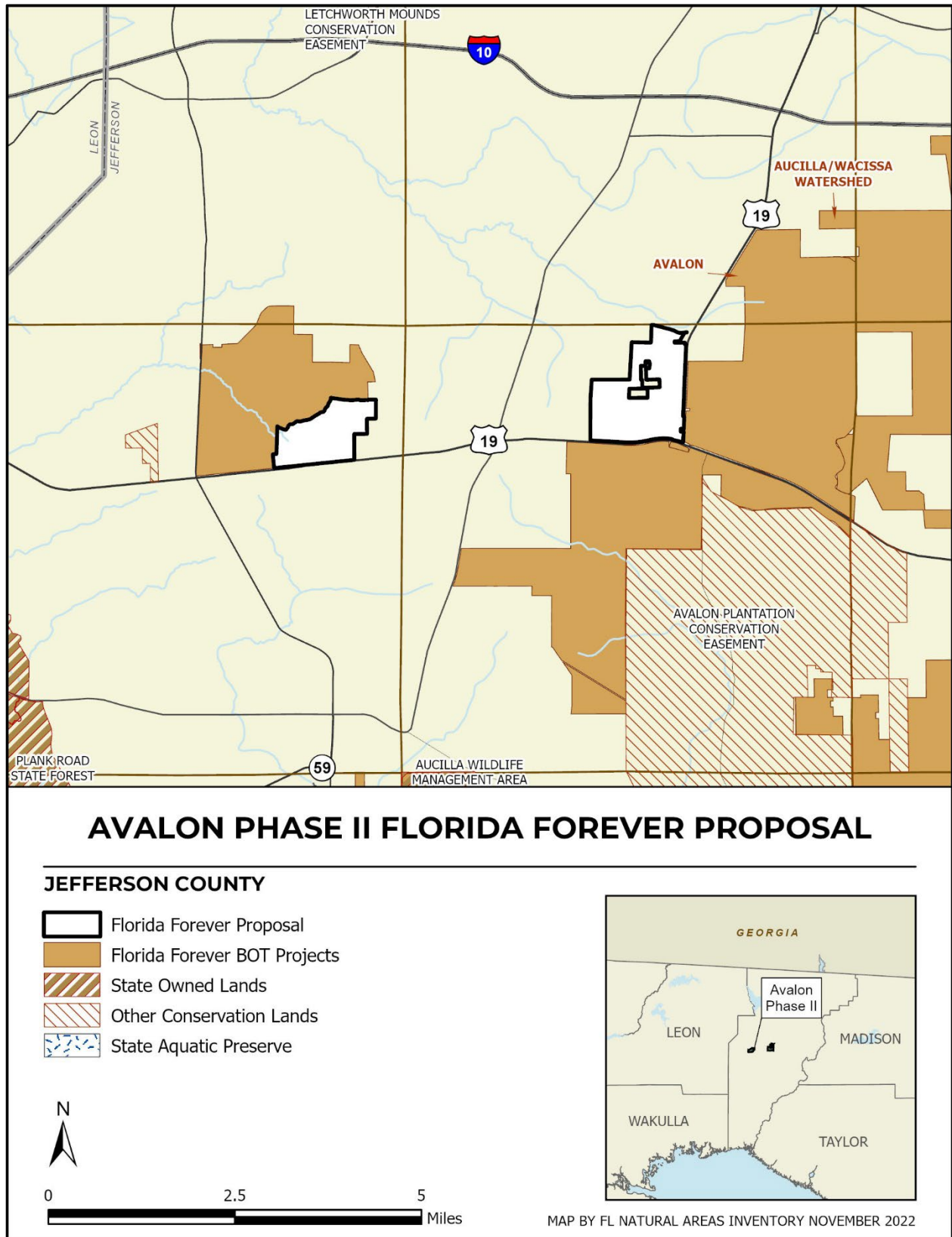
Avalon Phase II: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20221107

GIS ACRES = 1,414

MEASURES	Resource Acres ²	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	791	56%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	359	25%
Total Acres	1,150	81%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	15	1%
Total Acres	15	1%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	670	47%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	670	47%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	1	< 1%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	19	1%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	19	1%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	72	5%
Priority 4	96	7%
Priority 5	7	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	175	12%

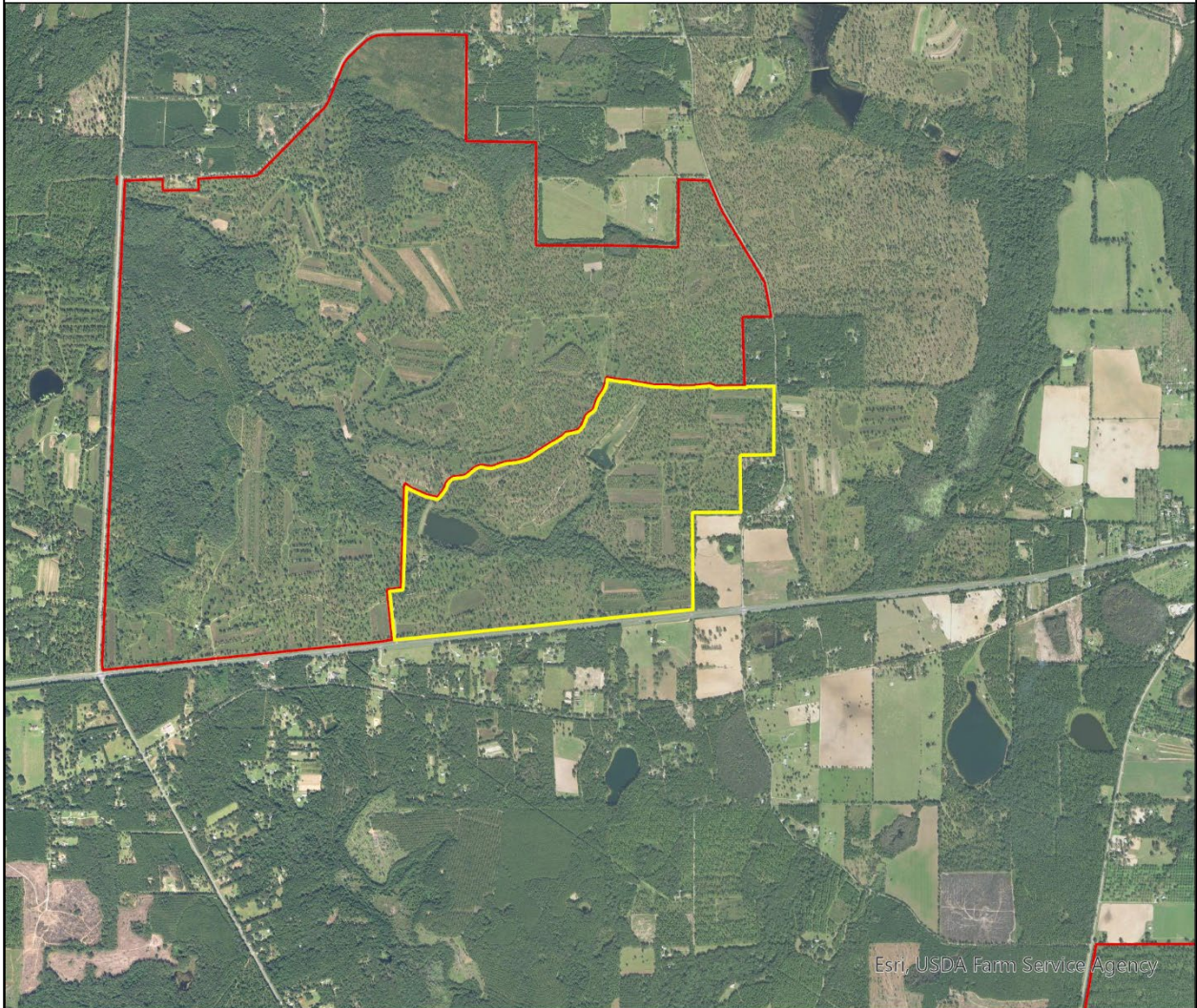
MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ²	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	96	7%
Priority 5	976	69%
Priority 6	181	13%
Priority 7	129	9%
Total Acres	1,382	98%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	100	7%
Priority 4	68	5%
Priority 5	4	< 1%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	172	12%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	220	16%
Priority 4	386	27%
Priority 5	807	57%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	1,413	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles) <small>(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)</small>		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		7 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	593	42%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands	553	39%
Total Acres	1,145	81%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		67 5%

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



Avalon Phase II Florida Forever Proposal: Map 1



FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery Resolution = 1.0 meter

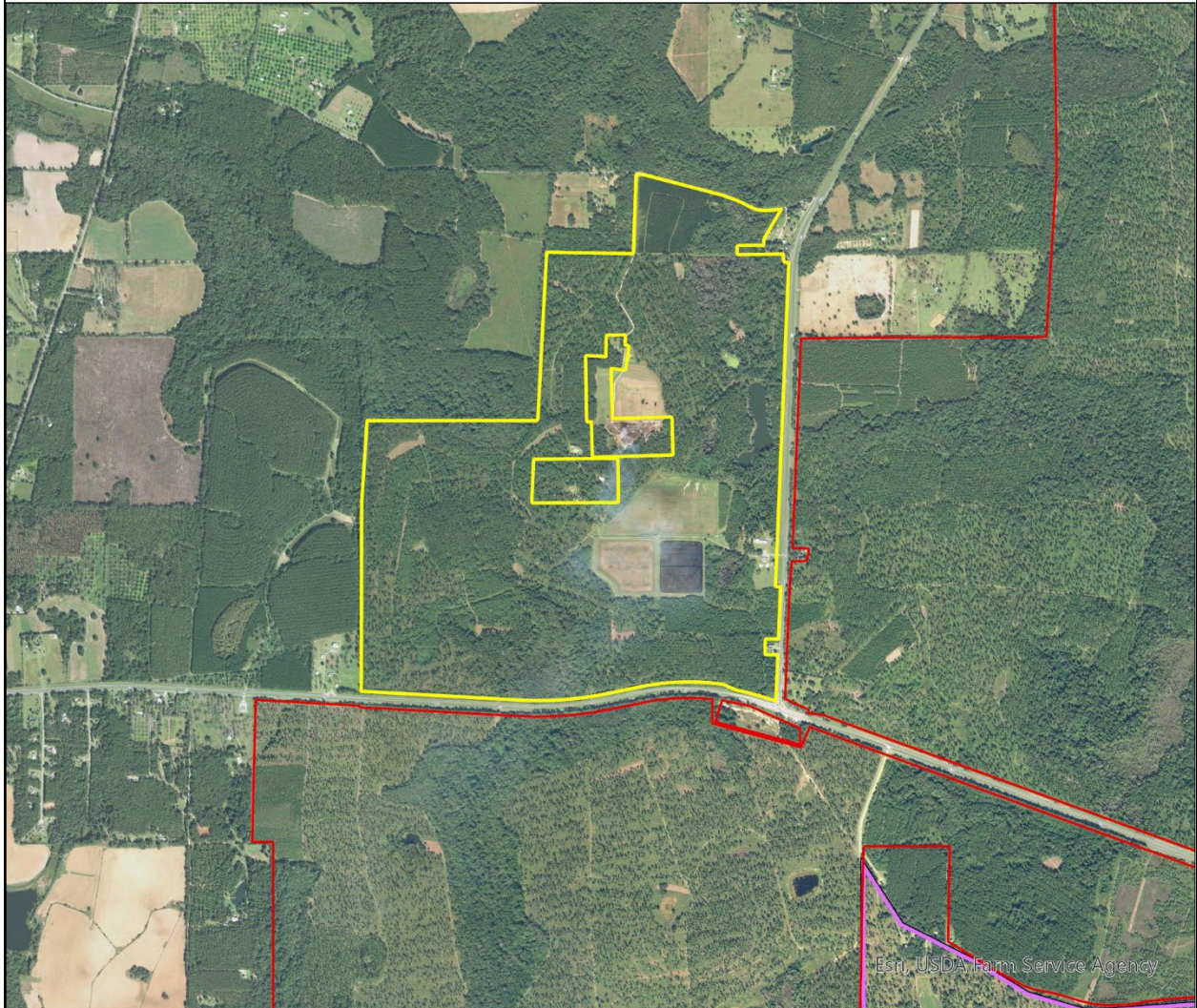


	Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
	Florida Forever BOT Projects



Beau Turner Florida Forever Proposal: Map 2




FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery Resolution = 1.0 meter



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



**PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF THE CARTER QUAIL RANCH
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

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Suite 200-C
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Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

CARTER QUAIL RANCH (VOLUSIA COUNTY)

Fee simple

Preliminary Evaluation

Natural Resources Description: The Carter Quail Ranch proposal includes 1,339 acres (per proposal; 1,338 as determined in GIS) in central Volusia County, about 8 miles west of New Smyrna Beach, midway between Interstate 4 and Interstate 95. The property consists of a single block of land fronting Florida Highway 415, approximately 1.3 miles south of Florida Highway 44. The property is proposed for fee simple acquisition as an addition to Deep Creek Preserve managed by Volusia County.

This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), and the FNAI database. The property lies near the southern edge of the Volusia Ridge Sets region, a series of ridges and terraces resulting from ancient sea level fluctuations. Topography varies only slightly on the property, with a north-south ridge at 45 feet elevation rising only slightly above the wetlands on the western and eastern edges, which both lie at about 35 feet. The property is situated in the Deep Creek/St Johns River watershed, where surface drainage generally flows south into tributaries of the St. Johns River; drainage from the western parts of the property flows into Lake Ashby to the south, while surface flows from the northeast corner are directed via a ditch system east and south into the Spruce Creek Swamp. The southwest corner of the site meets the northeast corner of the Deep Creek Preserve, which provides a continuous conservation corridor to Ocala National Forest to the north and west, and a discontinuous network of conservation lands extending south as far as Fort Drum Marsh.

About 67% of the property (899 Acres) appears to be in generally natural condition, split nearly evenly between flatwoods and swamps. Mesic flatwoods are the most abundant natural community, occupying a large area in the central part of the property, punctuated with more poorly drained areas occupied by other natural communities. Mesic flatwoods are described in the application as containing mostly slash pine in the canopy, with some longleaf and some pond pine. The shrub and groundcover layers consist of saw palmetto and other shrubs interspersed with grassy areas including wiregrass. A basin swamp near the west edge of the property extends from the north boundary to the south boundary, and a smaller area of basin swamp is in the center of the tract. Several fairly large swamps that appear to be baygalls based on aerial photography occur in a discontinuous band in the mesic flatwoods. Wet flatwoods are found at intergrades between mesic flatwoods or more disturbed uplands and adjacent wetlands. A dozen dome swamps less than an acre to 3 acres in size are found scattered throughout the property in flatwoods, pine plantation, and pasture.

About 1/3 of the property appears to have been converted from natural communities to other landcover types in the past. Pine plantation makes up about 16% of the site, with one large contiguous area in the eastern portion of the property and two smaller plantations along the western boundary.

Fingers of improved pasture extend between other landcover types from the southeast corner. Two large artificial ponds make up a substantial portion of the eastern third of the site. Two smaller artificial ponds occur as well; these are near roads and may be borrow pits from road construction. A utility corridor crosses the property near the northeastern corner and is surrounded by disturbed areas that are likely to be successional hardwood forest resulting from fire exclusion of pyrogenic habitats.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Carter Quail Ranch Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
mesic flatwoods	418	31
basin swamp	229	17
baygall	123	9
wet flatwoods	106	8
dome swamp	23	2
pine plantation	219	16
improved pasture	109	8
artificial pond	46	3
successional hydric forest	34	3
clearing	16	1
successional hardwood forest	10	<1
utility corridor	4	<1
developed	2	<1
Total	1,338	100

There are currently no imperiled or rare species documented from this site in the FNAI database, although this could be a result of a lack of biotic surveys. The application lists southeastern fox squirrel as present on the property and based on documented occurrences of other species in the vicinity, additional listed or rare species could be expected to use the property as well.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Carter Quail Ranch Florida Forever proposal.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4*	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Sciurus niger niger</i>	southeastern fox squirrel	G5T5	S3	N	N

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represents a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on the Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 2.3), which explains differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. Based on the FFME analysis, the entirety of the proposal property would contribute to protection of ecological greenways, surface water protection, and aquifer recharge, while substantial portions would also contribute to strategic habitat conservation areas, FNAI habitat conservation priorities, and sustainable forestry. To a lesser extent, the proposal would also contribute to protecting underrepresented natural communities, natural floodplain function, and functional wetlands.

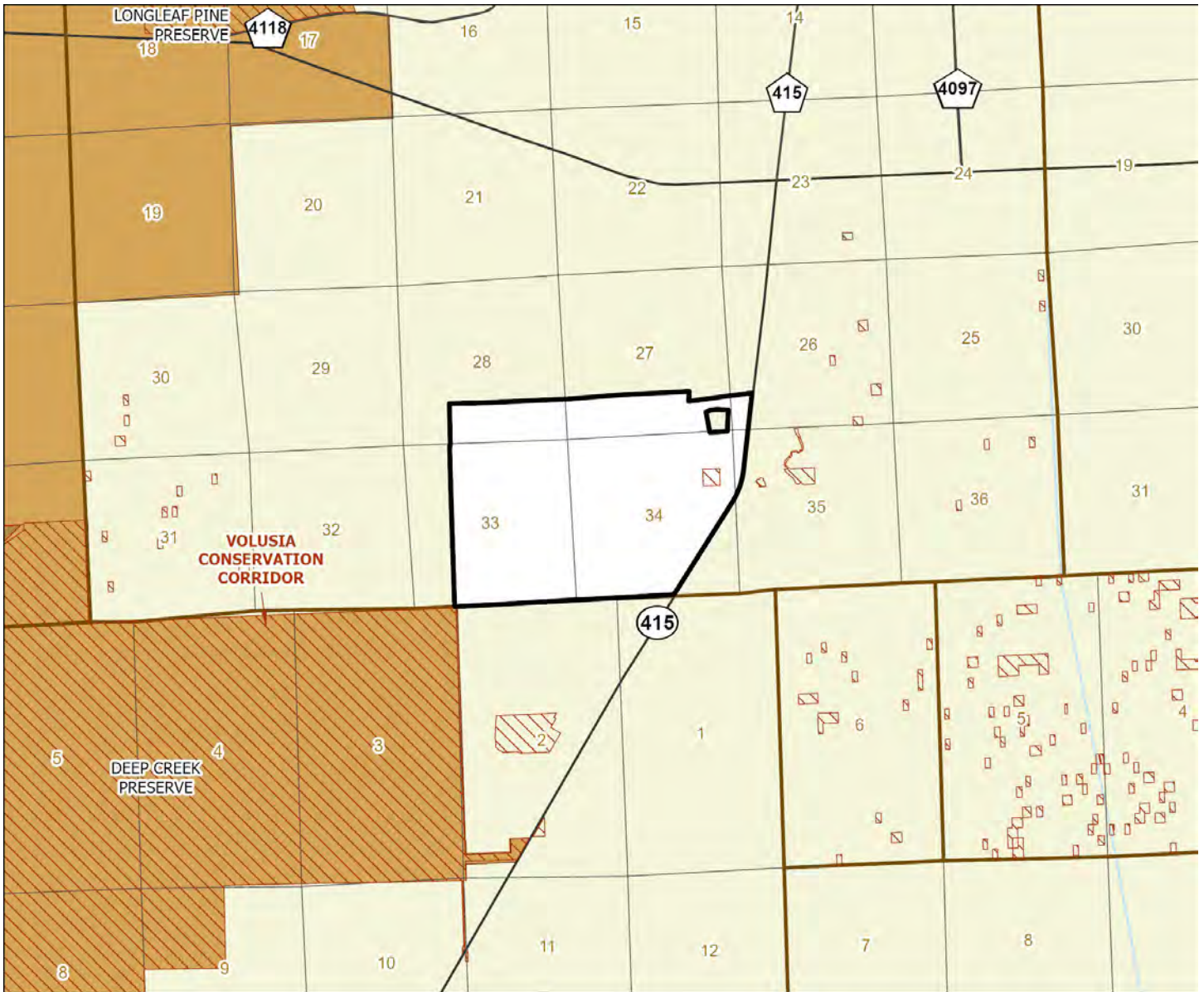
Carter Quail Ranch: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20221107

GIS ACRES = 1,338

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	746	56%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	381	28%
Total Acres	1,127	84%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	58	4%
Priority 5	287	21%
Priority 6	960	72%
Total Acres	1,305	97%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	1,336	100%
Priority 2	1	< 1%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	1,337	100%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	525	39%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	525	39%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	294	22%
Priority 3	262	20%
Priority 4	92	7%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	647	48%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	248	19%
Priority 6	1,086	81%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	1,335	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	257	19%
Priority 3	232	17%
Priority 4	32	2%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	521	39%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	246	18%
Priority 6	1,093	82%
Total Acres	1,339	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles) <small>(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)</small>		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	496	37%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands	353	26%
Total Acres	848	63%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	0	0%

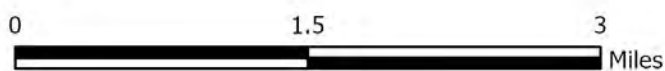
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CARTER QUAIL RANCH FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

VOLUSIA COUNTY

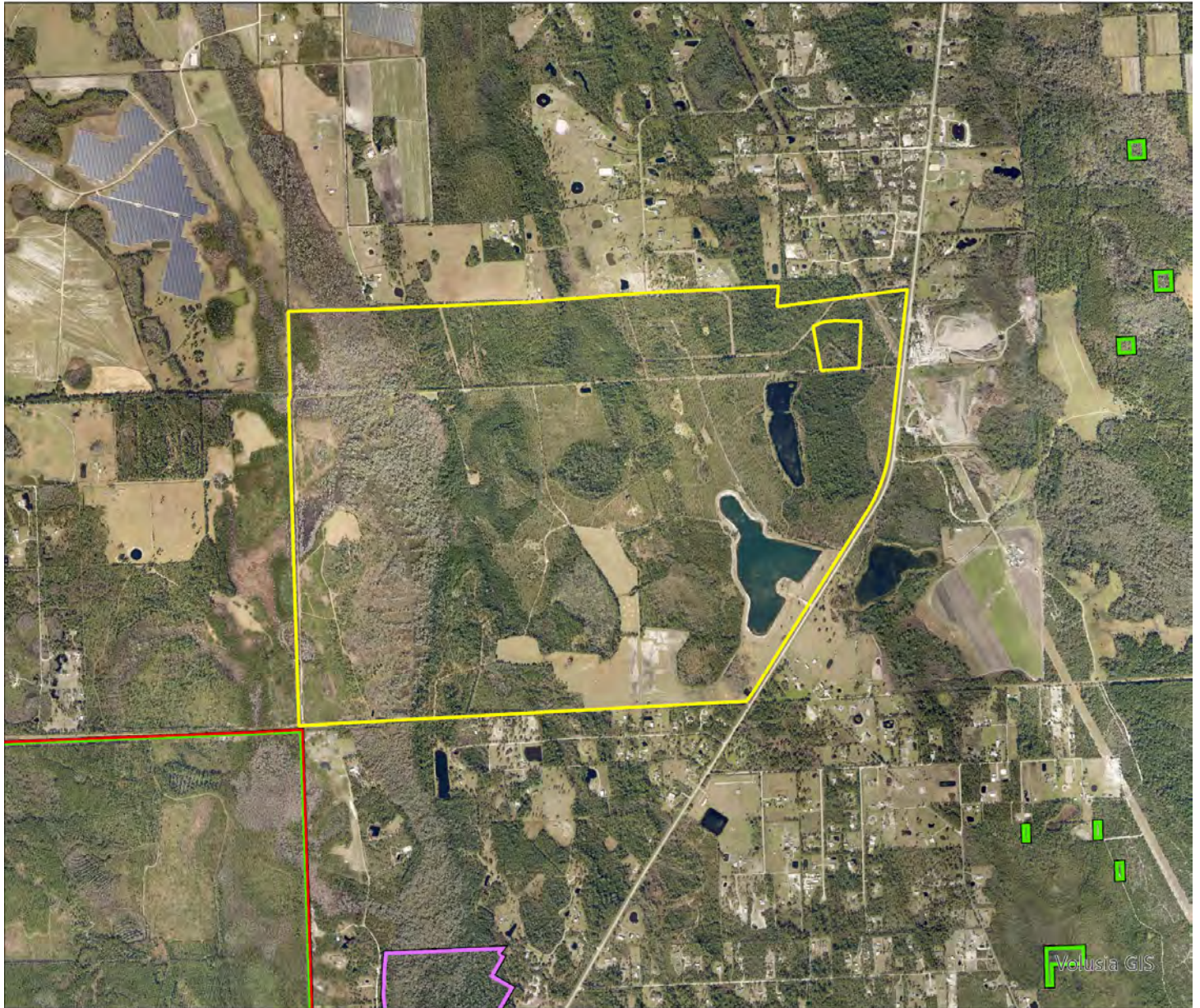
-  Florida Forever Proposal
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Owned Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands



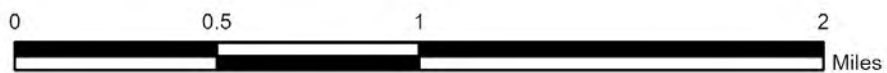
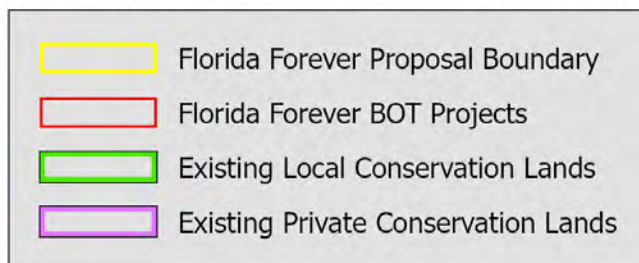
MAP BY FL NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY NOVEMBER 2022

Carter Quail Ranch Florida Forever Proposal

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022. Background: Volusia County Aerial Imagery 2021 Resolution = 0.217 feet



**PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF THE CREEK RANCH CONSERVATION
EASEMENT
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303



Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

CREEK RANCH CONSERVATION EASEMENT (POLK COUNTY)

Less-than-fee-simple

Preliminary Evaluation

Natural Resources Description: The Creek Ranch Conservation Easement proposal includes a single contiguous block of 1,298 acres (per application; 1,291 as determined in GIS) on the eastern edge of Polk County approximately 9 miles southeast of Haines City and 10 miles northeast of Lake Wales. This working cattle ranch and horse farm is proposed by the owners for less-than-fee-simple protection.

This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), and the FNAI database. The property lies on the eastern flank of the Lake Wales Ridge complex, where the high ridges at the center of the peninsula give way to relatively flat marine terrace surrounding the Kissimmee River to the east. To the northwest, the property contains about 1200 feet of frontage on Deer Lake; it also borders wetlands on Lake Hatchineha, part of the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, which form part of the headwaters of the Kissimmee River-Lake Okeechobee-Everglades system. The property is shaped generally like an elongate east-west rectangle with an irregularly-shaped inholding on the southern boundary. East and west of the inholding, the southern boundary fronts county Highway 342 for a total of about 1.3 miles. The elevation varies substantially from a high of about 100 feet on hills on the western end of the property to a low of 50 feet near the shoreline of lake Hatchineha on the northeast corner.

The property is in a region of abundant managed lands; directly to the north are lands of the South Florida Water Management District's Kissimmee Chain of Lakes managed area and an unacquired portion of the Lake Hatchineha watershed FFBOT project; to the south the property abuts the Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area, the Hatchineha Ranch mitigation bank, the Lake Hatchineha Ranch Agricultural Conservation Easement, and additional lands of the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes. Through these connections, this property has the potential to protect a corridor around the western shore of Lake Hatchineha that includes Disney Wilderness Preserve, David Allen Broussard Catfish Creek State Park, and Lake Kissimmee State Park.

The dominant landcover of the proposal area—nearly half the property (Table 1)—is improved pasture, which makes up most of the western third of the property, as well as about half of the narrow central portion and a north-south band near Lake Hatchineha. Aside from the improved pasture, much of the remainder appears to be in relatively natural condition. Wet flatwoods occupies about 21% of the site, mostly in a band that extends north to south on a slight slope above the pasture near Lake Hatchineha. Mesic flatwoods occupies a significant area in the southeast corner of the western third of the property, and appears to grade into wet and scrubby flatwoods as well. Other smaller patches of mesic flatwoods are evident surrounded by pasture near Deer Lake. Two areas of scrub can be seen in aerial photos of the site, both located in upper elevations in the western portion of the property.

About 78 acres of pine plantation (6% of the site) are found along the western edge of the property south of Deer Lake. Other modified land use types include three small developed areas with various agricultural and residential structures, a handful of small artificial ponds in the upper pasture, and an

area of impounded water connected to Lake Hatchineha. A few areas are mapped as semi-improved pasture, mostly at intergrades between natural communities and pasture where some native plants appear to persist.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Creek Ranch Conservation Easement Florida Forever proposal.

<i>Community or Landcover</i>	Acres	Percent of Proposal
wet flatwoods	274	21
mesic flatwoods	103	8
scrub	57	4
baygall	35	3
depression marsh	22	2
scrubby flatwoods	19	2
basin marsh	10	<1
dome swamp	8	<1
basin swamp	2	<1
marsh lake	1	<1
floodplain swamp	<1	<1
floodplain marsh	<1	<1
pasture--improved	613	48
pine plantation	78	6
pasture—semi-improved	25	2
successional hardwood forest	18	1
developed	16	1
impoundment	35	<1
artificial pond	3	<1
canal/ditch	1	<1
<i>Total</i>	1,291	100

Wetlands on the site include floodplain forest with some areas of floodplain marsh at the margin of Lake Hatchineha (although much of the lake shore is already managed as part of the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes), as well as basin marsh at the margin of Deer Lake. There are several isolated wetlands on the property as well: these include depression marshes in upper pasture, baygall on slopes in two locations, basin marshes in the western portion of the property and a dome swamp at the eastern edge of the wet flatwoods. The two easternmost areas of pasture are crossed by numerous drainage ditches, although there are fewer drainage improvements in the western pasture. Due to the pronounced downward slope from west to east, surface drainage is predominantly to Lake Hatchineha, part of the Kissimmee River watershed.

The only rare species listed onsite in FNAI's database is bald eagle, although biotic surveys have not been conducted. The proposal site is in an area where Florida black bear is classified as common by FWC. A number of other listed or rare species are possible. Seepage slopes on adjacent properties contain cutthroatgrass (*Coleataenia abscissa*, G3, S3, N, E*), so any undisturbed seepage slopes in the proposal may provide habitat for this species. The presence of scrub and scrubby flatwoods suggests that several rare scrub plants and animals are a possibility on the property, as at least a dozen rare species have been documented from scrub in the general vicinity. Listed wading birds are likely to use the wetlands onsite, and Florida sandhill crane (*Antigone canadensis pratensis*, G5T2, S2, N, ST) could be expected in the pastures.

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

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Creek Ranch Conservation Easement Florida Forever proposal.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	bald eagle	G5	S3	N	N
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Puma concolor coryi</i>	Florida panther	G5T1	S1	E	FE

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represents a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on the Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), which accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. Based on this analysis, the entirety of the project contributes to strategic habitat conservation areas, ecological greenways, surface water protection, and aquifer recharge. The proposal also would contribute significantly to FNAI habitat conservation priorities and sustainable forestry. Approximately 1/3 of the proposed acreage would contribute to protecting under-represented natural communities, natural floodplain function, and functional wetlands.

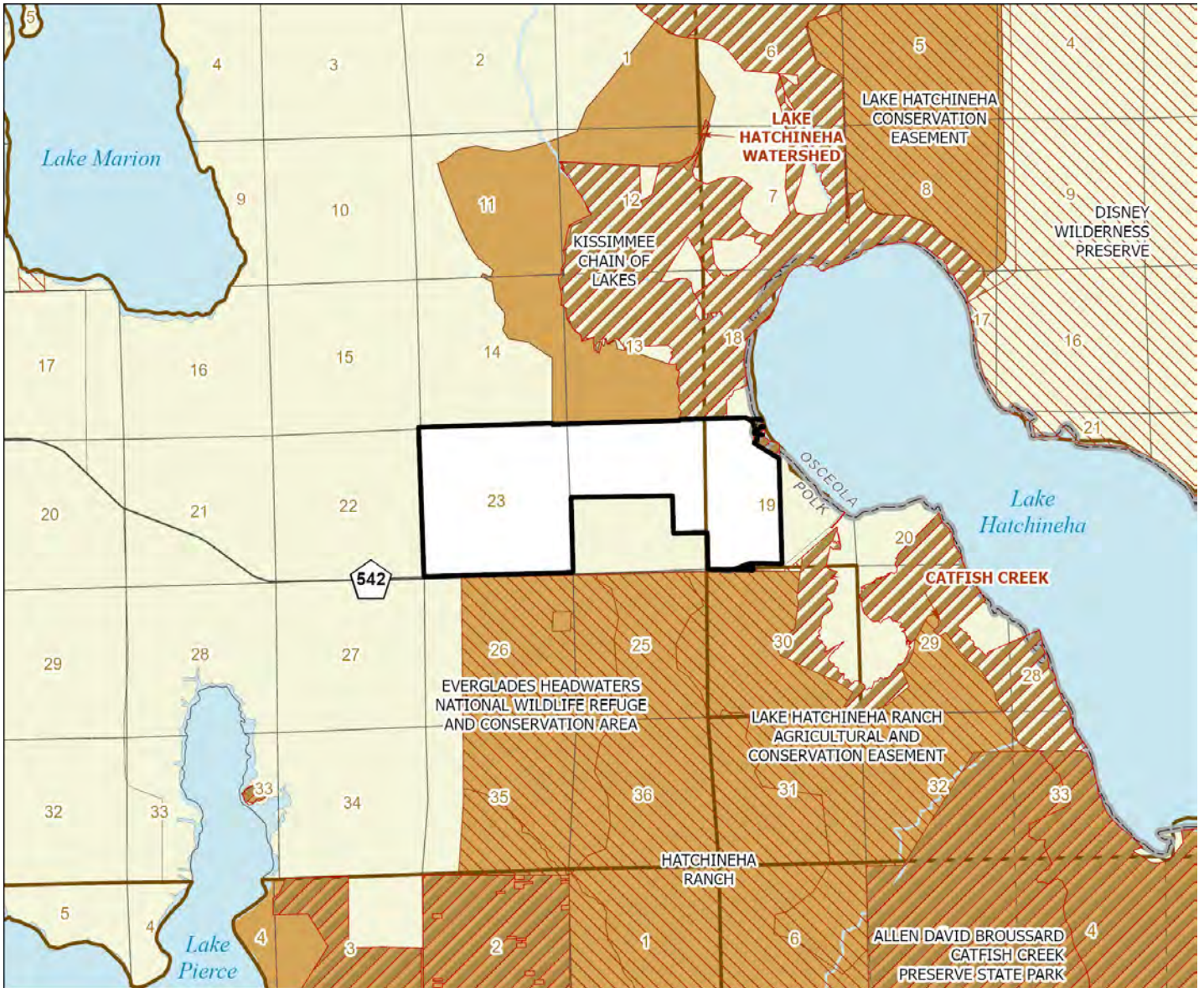
Creek Ranch: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20221107

GIS ACRES = 1,291

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	1,149	89%
Priority 2	125	10%
Priority 3	7	< 1%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	1	< 1%
Total Acres	1,282	99%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	31	2%
Priority 4	91	7%
Priority 5	227	18%
Priority 6	753	58%
Total Acres	1,101	85%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	1,291	100%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	1,291	100%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	56	4%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	1	< 1%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	363	28%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	420	33%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	2	
Total	3	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	8	< 1%
Priority 3	54	4%
Priority 4	307	24%
Priority 5	61	5%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	430	33%



MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	152	12%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	1,138	88%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	1,289	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	13	1%
Priority 3	119	9%
Priority 4	252	19%
Priority 5	23	2%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	407	32%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	51	4%
Priority 3	606	47%
Priority 4	635	49%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	1,292	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles) <small>(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)</small>		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	184	14%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands	732	57%
Total Acres	916	71%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	120	9%

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



CREEK RANCH FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

POLK COUNTY

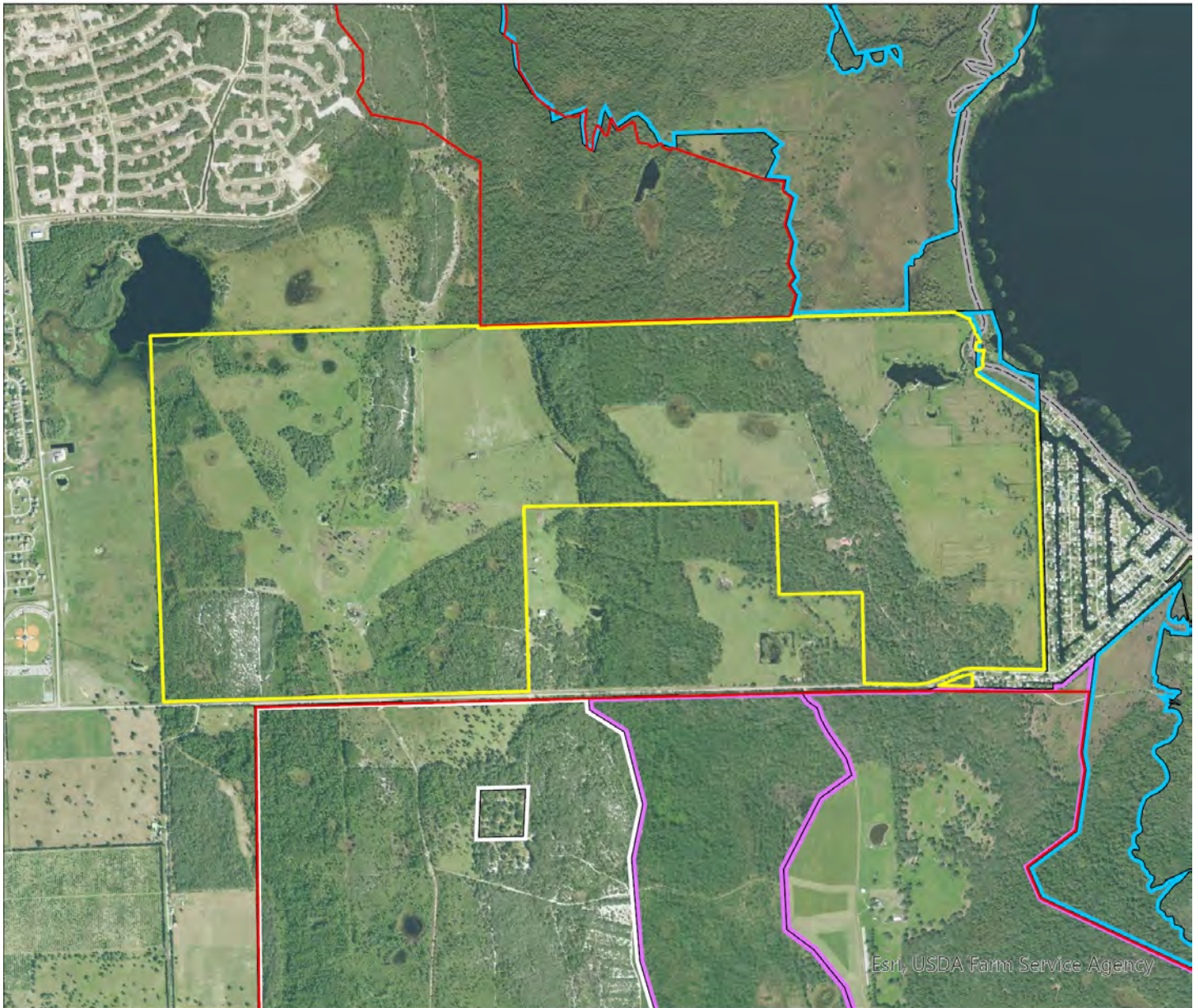
-  Florida Forever Proposal
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Owned Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands



MAP BY FL NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY NOVEMBER 2022

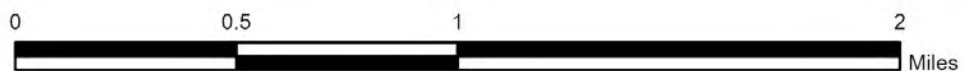
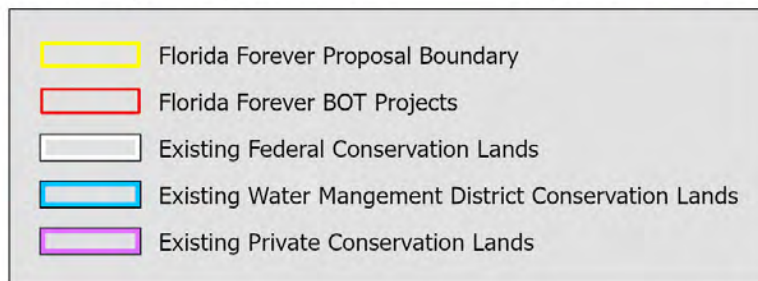
Creek Ranch Florida Forever Proposal

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery Resolution = 1.0 meter



**PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF THE FLOYDS MOUND
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

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Tallahassee, FL 32303



FLOYD'S MOUND (MADISON COUNTY)

Fee simple or Less-than-fee

Preliminary Evaluation

Natural Resources Description: The Floyd's Mound proposal includes a single 40-acre parcel (per proposal; 41.2 acres as determined in GIS) approximately 5 miles southeast of Lamont in Madison County. The property is proposed by the owners for fee simple acquisition or a conservation easement. The property is most noteworthy for its cultural resources but offers an opportunity to protect a small amount of forested wetlands connected to the Aucilla River system.

This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), and the FNAI database.

The proposal lies within the San Pedro Bay District, a region of flatwoods and swamps slightly elevated above the adjacent St. Marks Coastal Strip. Elevations range from less than 50 feet above Mean Sea Level in the swamp in the center of the property to 65 feet on upland terraces to the west. The terraces were once the site of a Native American village. A mound constructed by indigenous people rises an additional 20 feet above the former village site.

The property lies in a rural setting about 1 mile east of the Aucilla River. SW Mt. Olive Church Road borders nearly the entire western edge of the proposed project and divides a small portion of the southwestern corner from the remainder of the proposed project. Bordering the entire eastern edge of the site is a 50-acre Wetland Reserve easement held by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. An additional 124-acre conservation easement lies less than a mile south of the proposed project. While there is relatively little managed acreage directly adjacent to the site, only 0.7 mile west of the site lies the Middle Aucilla Conservation area, which along with associated easements provides continuous protected lands extending to the Gulf Coast.

Improvements on the proposed project are reported to be minimal, consisting only of interior roads, two temporary hunting stands, a dilapidated shed, and a man-made pond.

The dominant natural community on the property is basin swamp, a portion of a larger wetland that extends onto the property from adjacent land to the north and east. This community is described in the application as having a shallow perennial stream, with bald cypress and swamp tupelo in the wettest areas, and a variety of trees including red maple and sweetbay in slightly more elevated sections.

Uplands on the higher ridges at the southern and western edges of the property are covered by a mix of altered landcover types. Two areas of slash pine plantation bordering Mt. Olive Church Road and at the southeastern corner of the property make up the bulk of the upland acreage. A narrow band of successional hardwood forests described as consisting of live oak, water oak, and sweetgum runs along the southern and eastern margins of the property, and two clearings of unknown origin, dominated by dogfennel and mixed grasses, occur south and north of the basin swamp. A third clearing on a small rise

surrounded by swamp has been colonized by pines. A depression marsh on the southern boundary and an artificial pond make up the small remaining acreage.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within Floyd's Mound Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
basin swamp	17	41
depression marsh	<1	1
pine plantation	11	25
successional hardwood forest	7	16
clearing	4	11
abandoned field/pasture	2	5
artificial pond	<1	1
Total	41.2	100

The proposal lies in a region in which the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission classifies the Florida black bear as abundant; otherwise the FNAI database contains no records of imperiled or vulnerable species on the site. The application reports that southern plains bumblebee (*Bombus fraternus*) and cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) have been seen onsite (Table 2). It also notes based on the proximity of a wading bird rookery a short distance away that the wetlands may be valuable habitat for various imperiled or vulnerable wading birds. With additional survey effort, it is possible that other imperiled species may be found at this location.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Floyd's Mound Florida Forever proposal.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	cardinal flower	G5*	SNR	N	T
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	G5T4	S4	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Bombus fraternus</i>	southern plains bumblebee	G2G4	S3	N	N

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represent a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on the

Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), which accounts for differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME analysis, this proposal would contribute most to aquifer recharge, but also the majority of the property would contribute to strategic habitat conservation areas, ecological greenways, surface water protection, and to a lesser extent, natural floodplain function and functional wetlands.

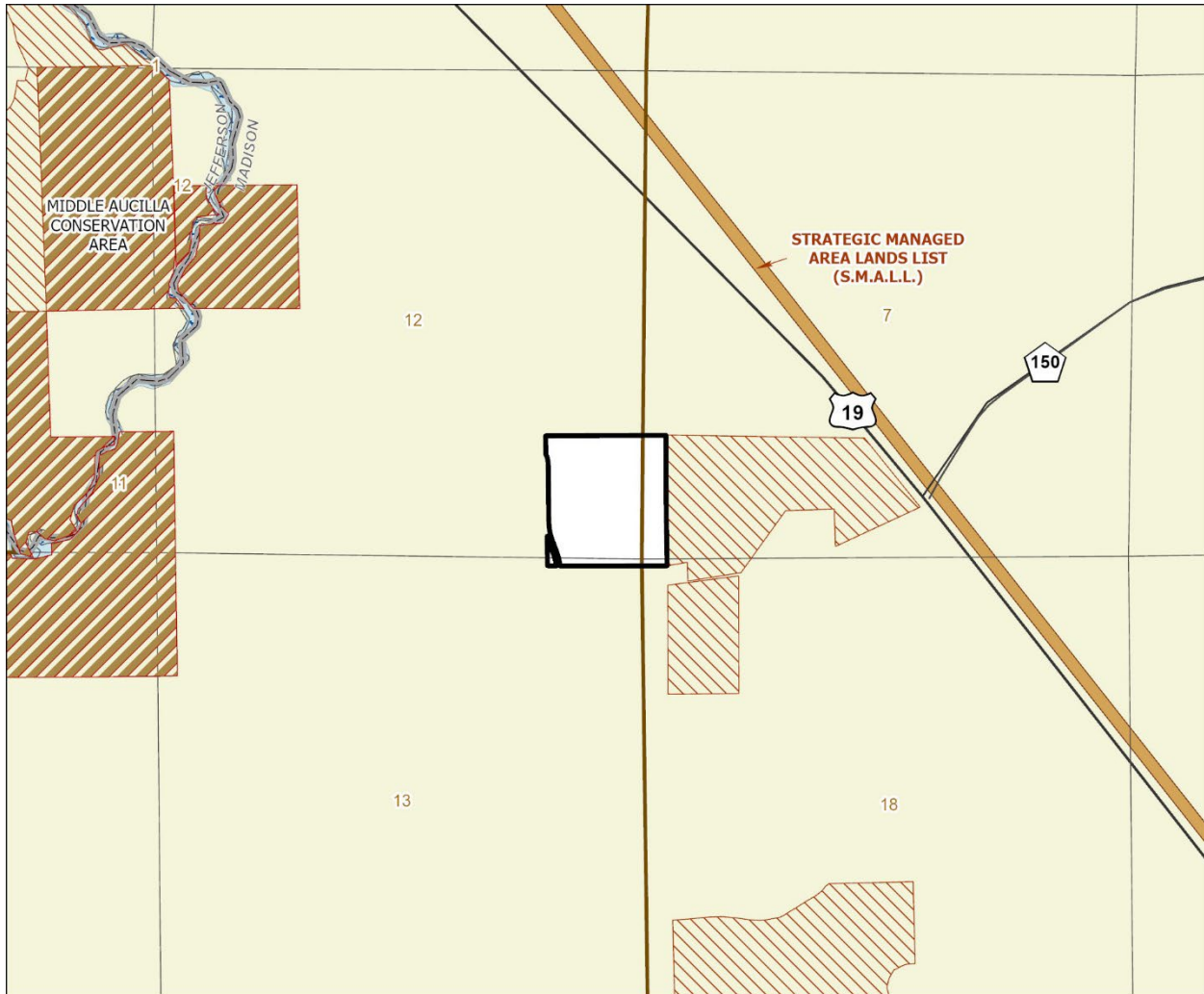
Floyd's Mound: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20221107

GIS ACRES = 41.2

MEASURES	Resource Acres ²	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	0.4	1%
Priority 3	22.3	54%
Priority 4	0.0	0%
Priority 5	16.0	39%
Total Acres	38.8	95%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	0.0	0%
Priority 3	0.0	0%
Priority 4	0.0	0%
Priority 5	0.5	1%
Priority 6	0.0	0%
Total Acres	0.5	1%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	0.0	0%
Priority 3	0.0	0%
Priority 4	0.0	0%
Priority 5	40.3	98%
Total Acres	40.3	98%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0.0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0.0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	0.0	0%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0.0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0.0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0.0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0.0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0.0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0.0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	0.0	0%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0.0	0%
Total Acres	0.0	0%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	1	
G5	0	
Total	1	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	0.0	0%
Priority 3	26.2	64%
Priority 4	0.6	1%
Priority 5	0.0	0%
Priority 6	0.0	0%
Total Acres	26.7	65%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ²	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	0.0	0%
Priority 3	40.0	98%
Priority 4	0.0	0%
Priority 5	0.0	0%
Priority 6	0.0	0%
Priority 7	0.0	0%
Total Acres	40.0	98%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0.0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0.0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0.0	0%
Total Acres	0.0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	0.0	0%
Priority 3	16.9	41%
Priority 4	0.5	1%
Priority 5	0.0	0%
Priority 6	0.0	0%
Total Acres	17.4	42%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	13.2	32%
Priority 3	27.7	68%
Priority 4	0.0	0%
Priority 5	0.0	0%
Priority 6	0.0	0%
Total Acres	41.0	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles) <small>(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)</small>		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		1 sites
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0.0	0%
Priority 2	0.0	0%
Priority 3	0.0	0%
Priority 4	0.0	0%
Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands	14.3	35%
Total Acres	14.3	35%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	0.0	0%

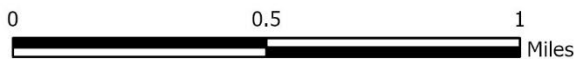
*Acres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



FLOYD'S MOUND FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

MADISON COUNTY

-  Florida Forever Proposal
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Owned Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands
-  State Aquatic Preserve



MAP BY FL NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY NOVEMBER 2022

Floyd's Mound Florida Forever Proposal





FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022

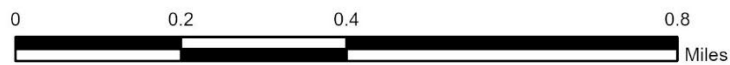


Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery Resolution = 1.0 meter



-  Florida Forever Proposal Boundary
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  Existing Federal Conservation Lands
-  Existing Water Mangement District Conservation Lands



**PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF THE OWEN CREEK HIGHLANDS
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

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Tallahassee, FL 32303



OWEN CREEK HIGHLANDS (MANATEE COUNTY)

Fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

Natural Resources Description: The Owen Creek Highlands Florida Forever BOT (FFBOT) proposal comprises a contiguous, rectangular tract of 932 acres (per application; 948 GIS acres) in southeastern Manatee County, ca. 5 miles east of Myakka City, along the Hardee County border. The northeastern corner of the site contacts the southwestern corner of the Quail Creek Ranch (Hardee County) FFBOT proposal also being evaluated in this cycle. The nearest tracts of conservation land are Upper Myakka River Watershed (Southwest Florida Water Management District) and contiguous conservation easements, which approach within 3.75 miles from the west. Beker-Wingate State Park is roughly 6 miles to the northwest. Horse Creek Ranch FFBOT project is about 6 miles east of the Owen Creek Highlands site. The proposal is submitted for fee simple protection.

This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal application, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory [FNAI], Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), and the FNAI database.

A segment of upper Owen Creek, bordered by a very narrow strip of riparian forest, enters the site's northern border and flows southwesterly to exit midway along its western border; the creek is a headwater of the Myakka River. At least three-fourths of the site's uplands have been converted to improved pasture or used as unimproved pasture, although remote analysis suggests that much of the latter can still be characterized as sparsely forested flatwoods. The analysis classifies 49% of the site as mesic/wet flatwoods, as well as 12% as scrub/scrubby flatwoods, both considered under-represented natural communities on Florida conservation lands. At least three depression marshes are visible in the central-eastern portion of the site, although the largest may have been enlarged for potential livestock watering. A small, rectangular, deeper borrow pit/water hole is at the site's center. Additional on-site structural modifications include a few miles of unpaved roads; a narrow, apparently unpaved (former?) landing strip in the northeastern section; a cluster of buildings at the northwestern end of the landing strip; and a powerline corridor cutting across the northeastern corner.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Owen Creek Highlands Florida Forever proposal.

Community or Landcover	Acres	Percent of Proposal
Mesic Flatwoods	458	48
Scrub	91	10
Sandhill	77	8
Bottomland Forest	44	5
Scrubby Flatwoods	23	2
Xeric Hammock	12	1
Wet Prairie	11	1
Depression Marsh	6	<1
Basin Marsh	2	<1
Dome Swamp	1	<1
Improved Pasture	216	23
Utility Corridor	6	<1
Artificial Pond	1	<1
<i>Total</i>	948	100

The FNAI database contains no records of rare species on the proposal site, but this may in part reflect a lack of biotic surveys. Based on old Breeding Bird Atlas and wading bird rookery data, there is potential for Florida sandhill crane (*Antigone canadensis pratensis*), Florida scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*), Florida burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia floridana*), and multiple species of wading birds to make at least occasional use of the tract. Additionally, the application notes reported observations by the landowner of gopher tortoise, fox squirrel, and crested caracara. Table 2 lists rare plant and animal species known or reported to occur onsite.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Owen Creek Highlands Florida Forever proposal. Statuses and rarity rankings are given in the following order: FNAI global and state ranks, federal status, state status (rank explanations attached separately).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					

Rare animals documented on site					
none					
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	gopher tortoise	G3	S3	N	ST
<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	crested caracara	G5	S2	T	FT
<i>Sciurus niger niger</i>	southeastern fox squirrel	G5T5	S3	N	N

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represents a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on the Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, which explains differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. This proposal contributes notably (at least 75% of acreage) to Ecological Greenways, Surface Water Protection, Aquifer Recharge, and Sustainable Forestry, with substantial coverage (61%) by Under-represented Natural Communities (49% mesic/wet flatwoods, 12% scrub/scrubby flatwoods).

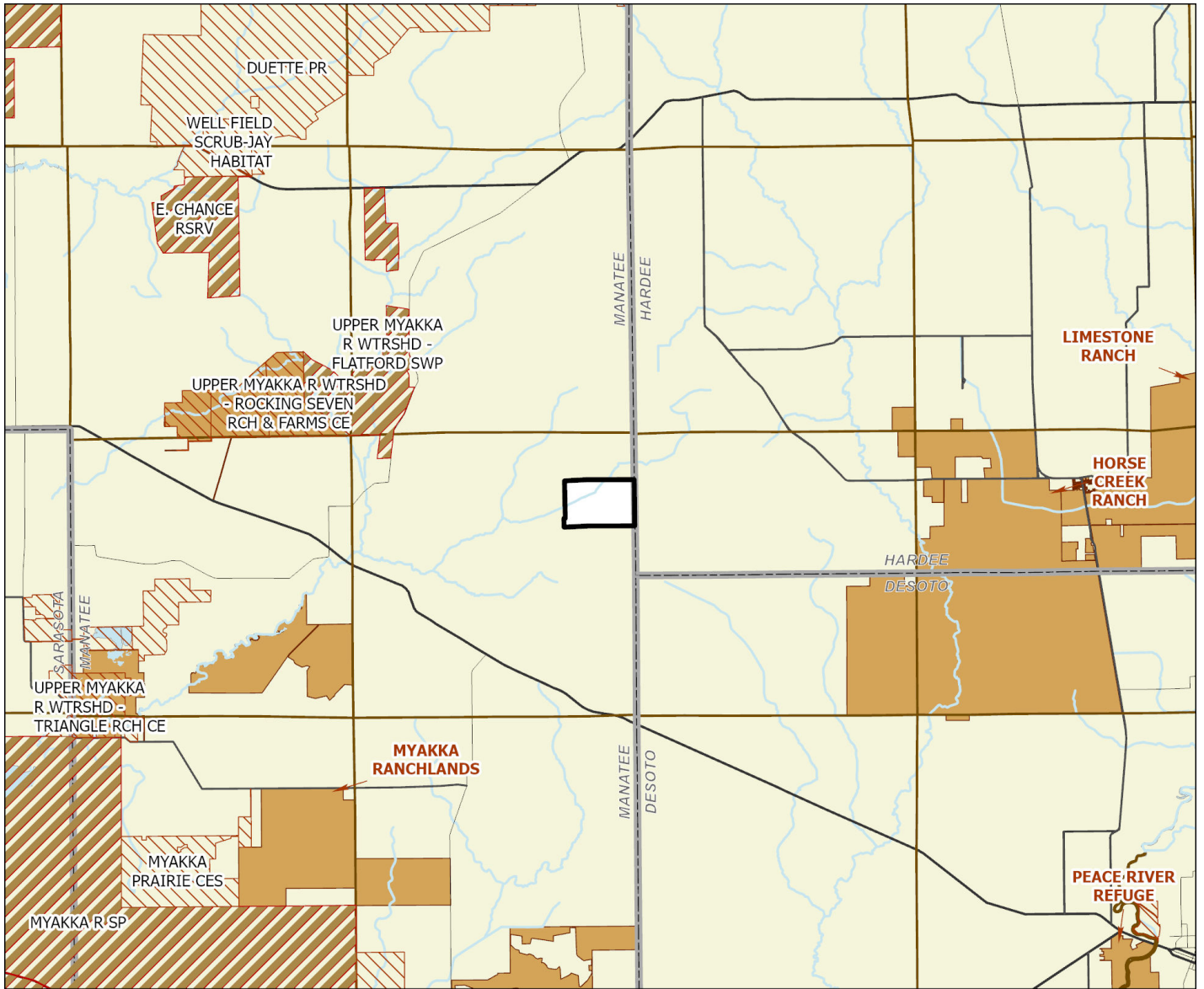
Owen Creek Highlands: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20221107

GIS ACRES = 948

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	1	< 1%
Priority 3	655	69%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	128	13%
Total Acres	783	83%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	12	1%
Priority 5	501	53%
Priority 6	432	46%
Total Acres	945	100%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	945	100%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	945	100%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	115	12%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	458	48%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	573	60%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	0	
G5	0	
Total	0	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	3	< 1%
Priority 2	65	7%
Priority 3	9	< 1%
Priority 4	1	< 1%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	77	8%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	257	27%
Priority 4	102	11%
Priority 5	573	61%
Priority 6	0	0%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	932	99%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	2	< 1%
Priority 2	41	4%
Priority 3	8	< 1%
Priority 4	1	< 1%
Priority 5	0	0%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	52	6%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	95	10%
Priority 3	123	13%
Priority 4	688	73%
Priority 5	39	4%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	945	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles) <small>(prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)</small>		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	480	51%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands	233	25%
Total Acres	712	75%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	87	9%

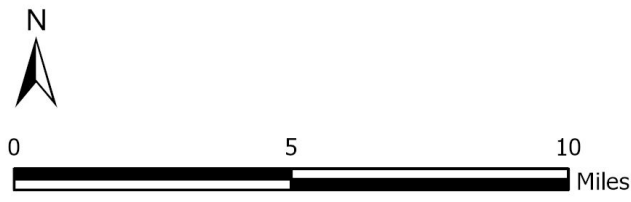
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



OWEN CREEK HIGHLANDS FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

MANATEE COUNTY

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



MAP BY FL NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY NOVEMBER 2022

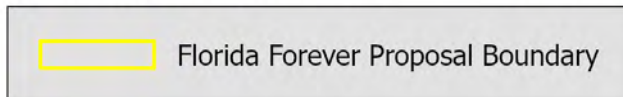
Owen Creek Highlands Florida Forever Proposal

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery Resolution = 1.0 meter



**PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF THE QUAIL CREEK RANCH
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

1018 Thomasville Road

Suite 200-C

Tallahassee, FL 32303



Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

QUAIL CREEK RANCH (HARDEE COUNTY)

Less-than-fee Simple

Preliminary Evaluation

Natural Resources Description: The Quail Creek Ranch Florida Forever BOT (FFBOT) proposal comprises a nearly contiguous, irregularly shaped tract of 2701 acres in southwestern Hardee County along the Manatee County border, ca. 7 miles east-northeast of Myakka City. The southwestern corner of the site contacts the northeastern corner of the Owen Creek Highlands (Manatee County) FFBOT proposal also being evaluated in this cycle. The nearest tracts of conservation land are Upper Myakka River Watershed (Southwest Florida Water Management District) and contiguous conservation easements, which approach within 5 miles from the west. Beker-Wingate State Park is roughly 6 miles to the northwest. Horse Creek Ranch FFBOT project is about 2 miles east of the Quail Creek Ranch site. The proposal is submitted for less-than-fee simple protection.

This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal application, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory [FNAI], Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), and the FNAI database.

Quail Creek Ranch is a low-relief site with elevations ranging from 79–93 ft. The western portion of the proposal includes altered headwaters of upper Owen Creek, a tributary that drains west to the Myakka River. The eastern portion of the site drains into Osborn Branch, tributary to Horse Creek in the Peace River drainage. Both rivers flow into Charlotte Harbor. Aerial photographs of the property shows the majority having been converted to improved pasture, semi-improved pasture, and/or agriculture. A patchwork of forested habitats (classified by natural community type in Table 1) remains, with the largest block just east of the center of the tract, and smaller stands particularly in the southwest and along property boundaries. Ungraded roads provide access to most of the site. A ditch/canal system drains much of the southwestern portion of the tract. At least a half dozen watering holes have been excavated for livestock. Near the center of the tract is a pond and several buildings partly hidden by tree canopy. Remote analysis classifies a combined 7% of the site as mesic/wet flatwoods and scrub/scrubby flatwoods, both considered under-represented natural communities on Florida conservation lands.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Quail Creek Ranch Florida Forever proposal.

<i>Community or Landcover</i>	Acres	Percent of Proposal
Baygall/Basin Swamp	295	10.9
Depression Marsh	106	3.9
Mesic Flatwoods	55	2.1
Mesic Hammock	47	1.7
Wet Prairie	42	1.6
Basin Marsh	42	1.6
Scrub	37	1.4
Xeric Hammock	25	0.9
Scrubby Flatwoods	14	0.5
Wet Flatwoods	4	0.1
Pasture - Improved	1421	52.6
Pasture – Semi-Improved	544	20.1
Agriculture	49	1.8
Road	15	0.6
Developed	3	0.1
Artificial Pond	2	0.1
<i>Total</i>	2701	100

Table 2 lists rare plant and animal species known or reported to occur onsite. The FNAI database contains no records of rare species on the proposal, but this may in part reflect a lack of biotic surveys. The application notes reported observations by the landowner and manager of several rare animals.

Table 2. Rare plants and animals documented or reported to occur within the Quail Creek Ranch Florida Forever proposal. Statuses and rarity rankings are given in the following order: FNAI global and state ranks, federal status, state status (rank explanations attached separately).

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
none					
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant *					
<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	eastern indigo snake	G3	S2?	T	FT
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	gopher tortoise	G3	S3	N	ST
<i>Antigone canadensis pratensis</i>	Florida sandhill crane	G5T2	S2	N	ST
<i>Athene cunicularia floridana</i>	Florida burrowing owl	G4T3	S3	N	ST
<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	short-tailed hawk	G4G5	S1	N	N
<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	crested caracara	G5	S2	T	FT
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	little blue heron	G5	S4	N	ST
<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	tricolored heron	G5	S4	N	ST
<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	swallow-tailed kite	G5	S2	N	N
<i>Falco sparverius paulus</i>	southeastern American kestrel	G5T4	S3	N	ST
<i>Sciurus niger niger</i>	southeastern fox squirrel	G5T5	S3	N	N

*This is somewhat unclear based on the application. These species seem to be reported in the text as having been observed (at least in the past) on the property (by landowner/manager), yet Addendum 2 (Imperiled Species Table) includes them only as likely or with potential to occur on site. Although we list them in Table 2, they should not yet be considered to be extant on site without verification.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represents a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on the Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, which explains differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. This proposal contributes notably (at least 97% of acreage) to Ecological Greenways, Surface Water Protection, and Aquifer Recharge. 75% of the site contributes to Sustainable Forestry, although most of this is Priority 5, which indicates potential for forestry rather than existing stands.

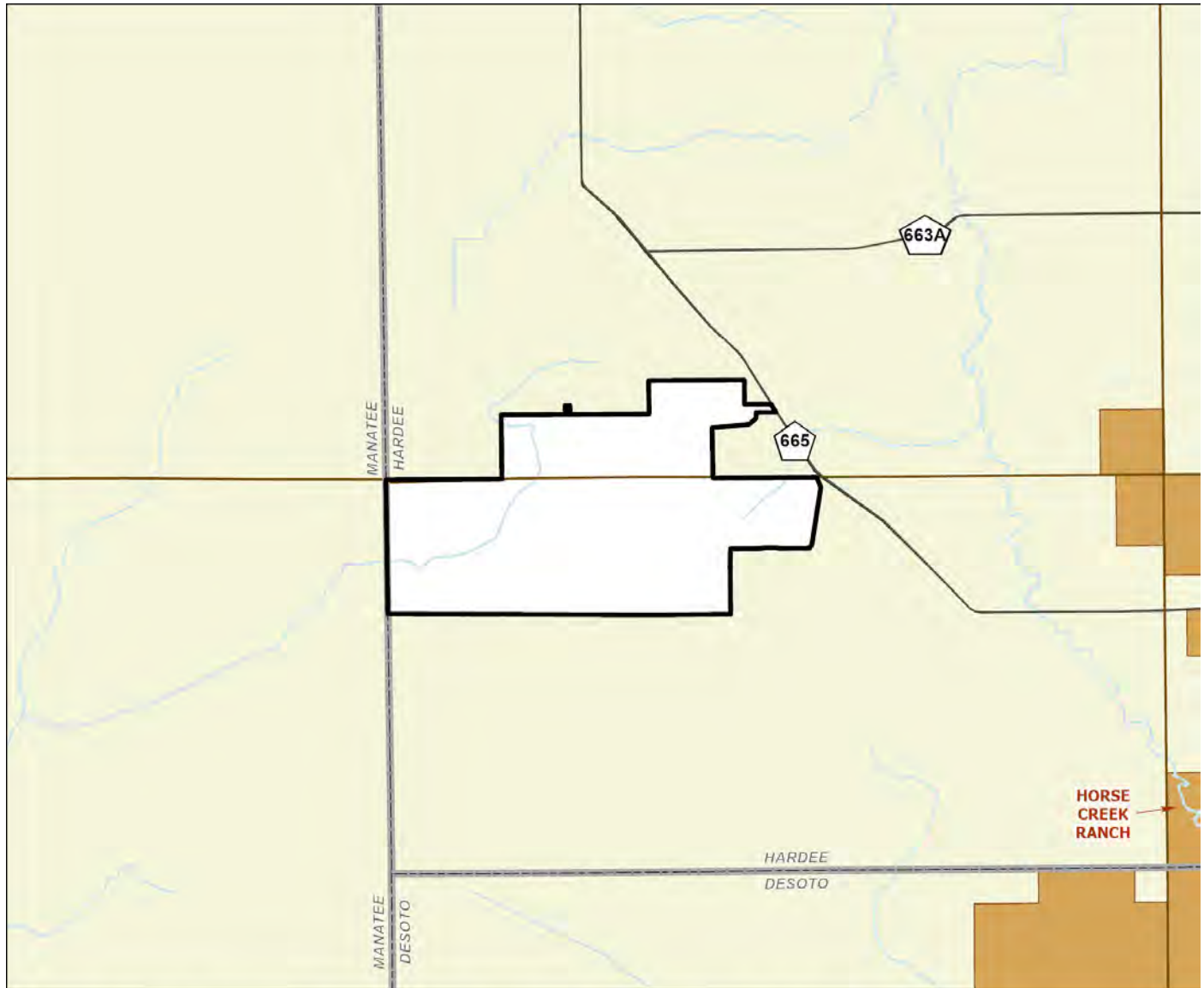
Quail Creek Ranch: Florida Forever Measures Evaluation 20221107

GIS ACRES = 2,701

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	12	< 1%
Priority 3	394	15%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	1,062	39%
Total Acres	1,468	54%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	46	2%
Priority 4	759	28%
Priority 5	1,178	44%
Priority 6	652	24%
Total Acres	2,635	98%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	2,611	97%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	0	0%
Total Acres	2,611	97%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	52	2%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	59	2%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	111	4%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	0	
G5	0	
Total	0	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	12	< 1%
Priority 3	15	< 1%
Priority 4	321	12%
Priority 5	88	3%
Priority 6	0	< 1%
Total Acres	437	16%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	1,519	56%
Priority 4	8	< 1%
Priority 5	1,042	39%
Priority 6	119	4%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	2,689	100%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	25	< 1%
Priority 3	51	2%
Priority 4	336	12%
Priority 5	100	4%
Priority 6	0	0%
Total Acres	513	19%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	151	6%
Priority 3	412	15%
Priority 4	1,474	55%
Priority 5	641	24%
Priority 6	22	< 1%
Total Acres	2,699	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles) (prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	282	10%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands	1,741	65%
Total Acres	2,023	75%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	47	2%

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



QUAIL CREEK RANCH FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

HARDEE COUNTY

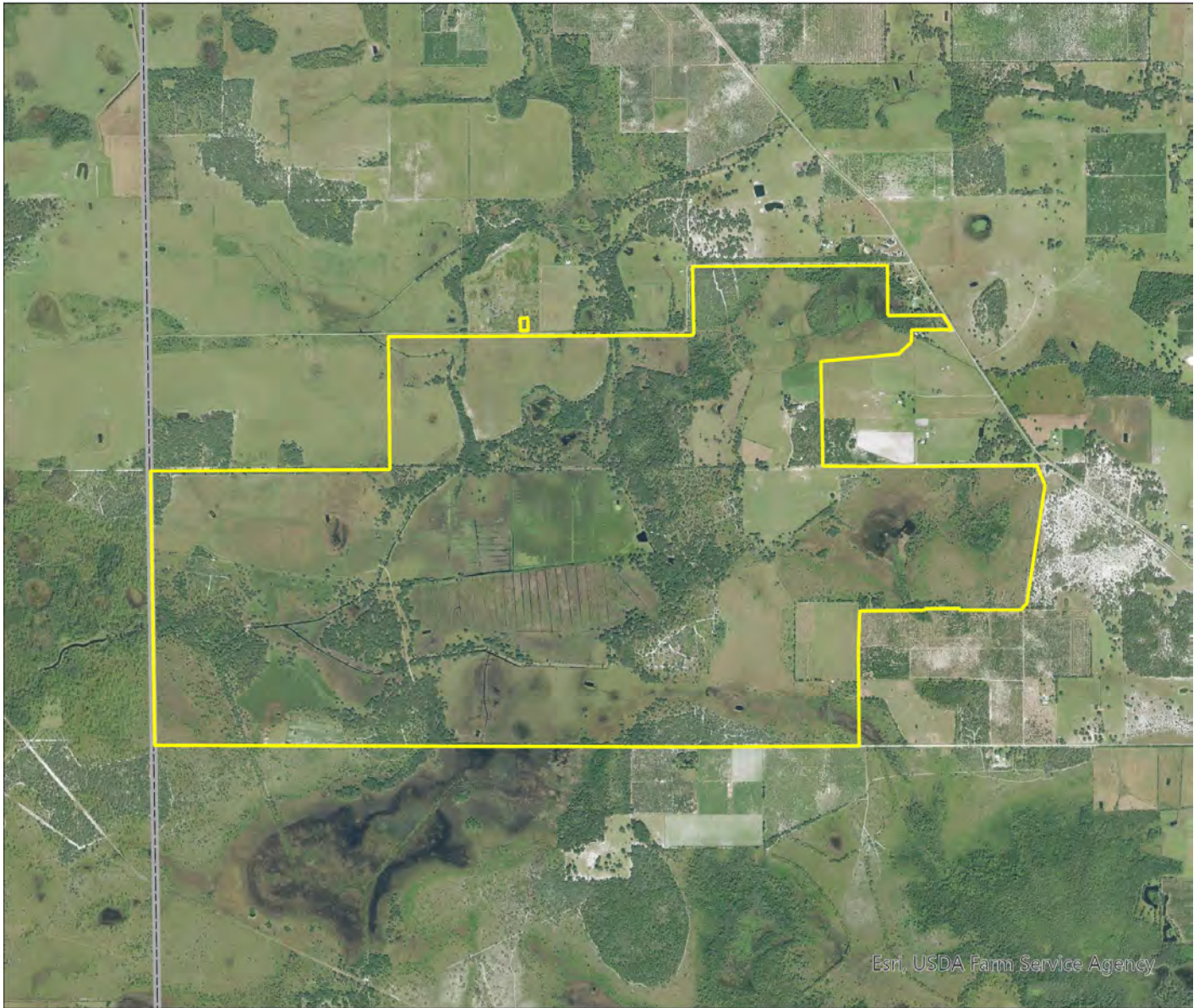
-  Florida Forever Proposal
-  Florida Forever BOT Projects
-  State Owned Lands
-  Other Conservation Lands



MAP BY FL NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY NOVEMBER 2022

Quail Creek Ranch Florida Forever Proposal


FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery Resolution = 1.0 meter



 Florida Forever Proposal Boundary



**PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF THE WILLIAMSON CATTLE COMPANY
FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL**

Prepared by

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303



Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

WILLIAMSON CATTLE COMPANY(OKEECHOBEE COUNTY)

Less-than-fee-simple

Preliminary Evaluation

Natural Resources Description: The Williamson Cattle Company proposal includes 7,420 acres in south-central Okeechobee County, approximately a mile and a half north of the town of Okeechobee. The property contains 3 large parcels within it that are already protected by easements under the USDA Wetland Reserve program; the current proposal is for the lands that currently remain unprotected. This evaluation is based on information gathered from the proposal, aerial photography, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic maps, Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), and the FNAI database.

The proposal is roughly square, 4 miles on each side with two large holes resulting from the existing wetlands easements. A third wetland easement is only partially enclosed by the proposal, and a narrow strip of land curves to the east around the easement's eastern edge. US 441 fronts the western edge of the main block for about 2.5 miles, separating a secondary tract of about 750 acres from the rest of the proposal.

This property is located just over five miles north of Lake Okeechobee and about 10 miles east of the Kissimmee River in the Taylor Creek and Nubbin Slough watersheds. Its western boundary fronts Taylor Creek, a ditched waterway, and separates the property from Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough Conservation area and Taylor Creek Stormwater Treatment Area (STA). Bordering the east side of the property are South Florida Water Management District conservation easements and several Wetlands Reserve Easements. Outside of this cluster of conservation land, there are no other managed areas within 2 miles. Relatively little managed land exists along Taylor Creek; this proposal offers an opportunity to protect about 2 miles of creek frontage, as well as ensuring buffers for existing wetland easements that protect water quality in the creek and Lake Okeechobee.

The property grades from an elevation of just over 60 feet above Mean Sea Level (MSL) at its highest elevations on the eastern edge to about 25 feet above MSL at its western edge. The eastern and northern portions of the proposal drain to the interior wetland easements; outflow from these runs west via natural and artificial channels into Taylor Creek, which flows south to Lake Okeechobee. The pastures and groves in the southeastern section of the property are drained by a series of interconnected ditches; the application states that these drain to the south into Mosquito Creek, but topographic data suggests that these now drain into the northernmost wetland easement, and in turn to Taylor Creek.

As the site is a working cattle ranch, the most widespread land cover is improved pasture. These pastures, found generally throughout the property, are described as consisting of bahiagrass (*Paspalum notatum*) or bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*), with bermudagrass being dominant where soils are wet. Citrus production is also a significant portion of the property, and citrus groves are evident mostly in the south-central portion between the two wetlands reserve easements.

About 17% of the property is made up of natural communities. Mesic hammock appears from aerial photos to be the most abundant natural community on the site. Larger patches of hammock are found adjoining the western wetland reserve easement, in a large patch at the northwest corner of the property, and along a drainage at the western edge. Isolated fragments of mesic hammock are also scattered through the pastures.

A number of other remnant natural communities are found along the higher slopes in the northeastern part of the property. Two patches of scrub and some scrubby flatwoods at higher elevations grade into mesic flatwoods and basin swamp lower on the slopes.

Elsewhere, depression marshes are widely scattered throughout the pastures. Although generally 5 acres or less in size, these isolated wetlands are abundant and together make up 2% of the land. The depression marshes vary in depth and have probably been affected by hydrological modifications to drain the pastures. A few of these have been modified over the years and are mapped as artificial ponds. Other natural wetlands that are found on the property are two dome swamps (one in the southern pasture and one in the western pasture), and two basin marshes in the mesic hammocks near the northern boundary.

A significant portion of the property is mapped as semi-improved pasture. These areas often have remnant native tree canopy along with pasture grasses. They are most common along upper portions of drainages on the west side of the property, and also as isolated islands in the improved pastures. Small areas of mesic hammock and/or mesic flatwoods may be included in the areas mapped as semi-improved pasture.

Successional hydric forests occur where either wetland forests have been cleared in the past, or where hydrological changes, lack of fire, or other factors have allowed woody plants to colonize former marshes.

The property also contains several developed areas, unpaved roads, and drainage ditches.

Table 1. Natural communities and landcover types within the Williamson Cattle Company Florida Forever proposal.

<i>Community or Landcover</i>	Acres	Percent of Proposal
mesic hammock	678	9
basin swamp	241	3
depression marsh	155	2
mesic flatwoods	77	1
scrub	77	1
scrubby flatwoods	30	<1
basin marsh	7	<1
dome swamp	3	<1
pasture--improved	4766	64
agriculture	865	12
pasture—semi-improved	353	5
artificial pond	48	<1
successional hydric forest	38	<1
developed	27	<1
canal/ditch	24	<1
roads	23	<1
successional hardwood forest	9	<1
<i>Total</i>	7420	100

A number of listed and rare species have been documented or reported from the property (Table 2). The FNAI database contains records of the northern crested caracara and bald eagle on the proposal site. Eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, Florida sandhill crane, little blue heron, roseate spoonbill, and wood stork are all reported by the applicant on the property. Other listed or rare species are known to occur in the vicinity and may be present on the property.

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

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Status
Rare plants documented on site					
none					
Additional rare plants reported on site by applicant					
none					
Rare animals documented on site					
<i>Caracara plancus</i>	crested caracara	G5	S2	T	FT
<i>haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	bald eagle	G5	S3	N	N
Additional rare animals reported on site by applicant					
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	gopher tortoise	G3	S3	C	ST
<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	eastern indigo snake	G3	S2?	T	FT
<i>Antigone canadensis pratensis</i>	Florida sandhill crane	G5T2	S2	N	ST
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	little blue heron	G5	S4	N	ST
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	wood stork	G4	S2	T	FT
<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	roseate spoonbill	G5	S2	N	ST

*Rank explanations attached.

The Florida Forever Measures Evaluation (FFME) at the end of this memo is based on the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment developed by FNAI. The data used in that analysis represents a standardized, statewide perspective of natural community distributions based primarily on the Cooperative Land Cover data (Florida Natural Areas Inventory, Florida Cooperative Land Cover Map, version 3.4), which accounts for any differences in natural community acreages between Table 1 and the FFME. According to the FFME analysis, the entirety of this proposal would contribute to protection of aquifer recharge; an overwhelming majority of the proposal's acres would also contribute to strategic habitat conservation areas, FNAI habitat conservation priorities, ecological greenways, and surface water protection. Nearly half of the proposal site would contribute to natural floodplain function.

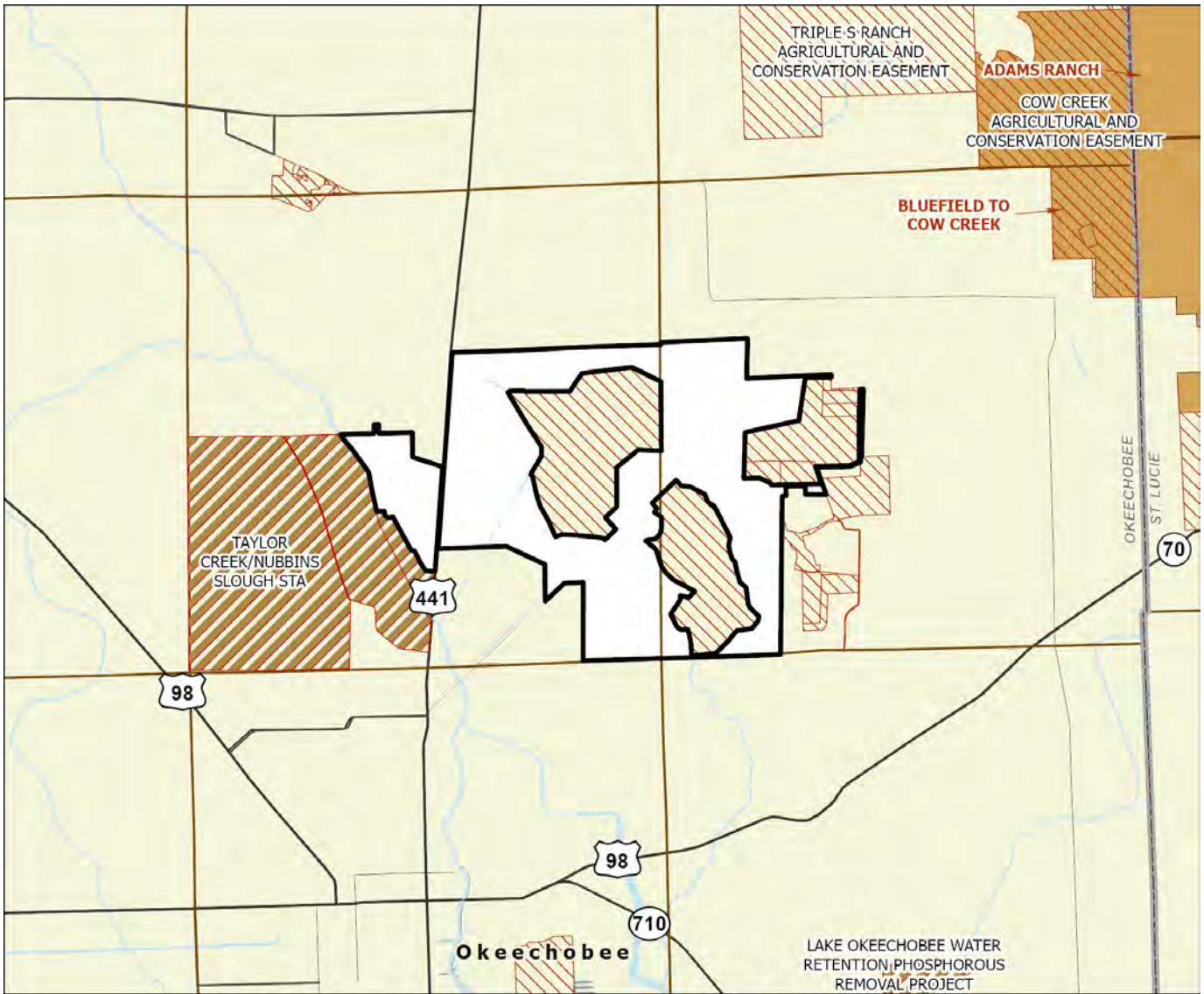
Williamson Cattle Company: Florida Forever Measure Evaluation 20221107

GIS ACRES = 7,420

MEASURES	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
B1: Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas		
Priority 1	1,832	25%
Priority 2	2,703	36%
Priority 3	1,616	22%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	491	7%
Total Acres	6,643	90%
B2: FNAI Habitat Conservation Priorities		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	< 1%
Priority 3	76	1%
Priority 4	1,703	23%
Priority 5	3,829	52%
Priority 6	1,218	16%
Total Acres	6,826	92%
B3: Ecological Greenways		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	2,833	38%
Priority 3	0	0%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5	3,486	47%
Total Acres	6,320	85%
B4: Under-represented Natural Communities		
Upland Glade (G1)	0	0%
Pine Rockland (G1)	0	0%
Scrub and Scrubby Flatwoods (G2)	83	1%
Rockland Hammock (G2)	0	0%
Dry Prairie (G2)	0	0%
Seepage Slope (G2)	0	0%
Sandhill (G3)	0	0%
Sandhill Upland Lake (G3)	0	0%
Upland Pine (G3)	0	0%
Mesic/Wet Flatwoods (G4)	7	< 1%
Upland Hardwood Forest (G5)	0	0%
Total Acres	91	1%
B6: Occurrences of FNAI Tracked Species		
G1	0	
G2	0	
G3	0	
G4	0	
G5	2	
Total	2	
C4: Natural Floodplain Function		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	109	1%
Priority 4	439	6%
Priority 5	1,476	20%
Priority 6	1,462	20%
Total Acres	3,486	47%

MEASURES (continued)	Resource Acres ^a	% of project
C5: Surface Water Protection		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	393	5%
Priority 3	607	8%
Priority 4	2,492	34%
Priority 5	2,458	33%
Priority 6	1,396	19%
Priority 7	0	0%
Total Acres	7,347	99%
C7: Fragile Coastal Resources		
Fragile Coastal Uplands	0	0%
Imperiled Coastal Lakes	0	0%
Coastal Wetlands	0	0%
Total Acres	0	0%
C8: Functional Wetlands		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	17	< 1%
Priority 4	191	3%
Priority 5	145	2%
Priority 6	48	< 1%
Total Acres	401	5%
D3: Aquifer Recharge		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	447	6%
Priority 4	1,716	23%
Priority 5	3,207	43%
Priority 6	2,042	28%
Total Acres	7,412	100%
E2: Recreational Trails (miles) (prioritized trail opportunities from Office of Greenways and Trails & Univ. Florida)		
Land Trail Priorities	0.0	
Land Trail Opportunities	0.0	
Total Miles	0.0	
F2: Arch. & Historical Sites (number)		
	0 sites	
G1: Sustainable Forestry		
Priority 1	0	0%
Priority 2	0	0%
Priority 3	14	< 1%
Priority 4	0	0%
Priority 5 - Potential Pinelands	6,036	81%
Total Acres	6,049	82%
G3: Forestland for Recharge		
	0	0%

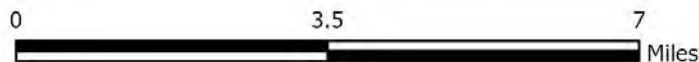
^aAcres of each resource in the project and percentage of project represented by each resource are listed except where noted. This analysis converts site boundary into pixels, which causes slight differences from GIS acres; this effect is most noticeable on small sites.



WILLIAMSON CATTLE COMPANY FLORIDA FOREVER PROPOSAL

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

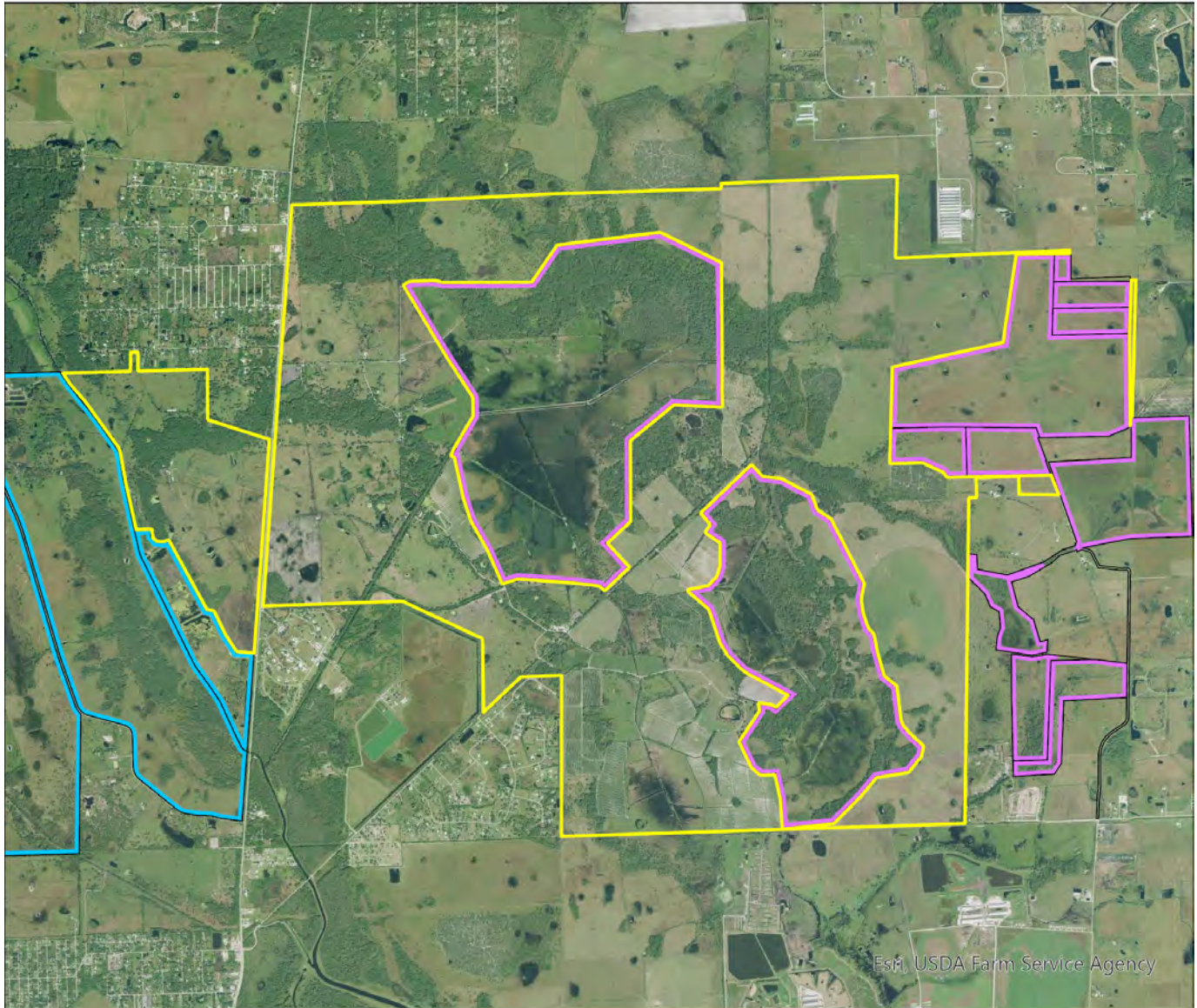
- Florida Forever Proposal
- Florida Forever BOT Projects
- State Owned Lands
- Other Conservation Lands



MAP BY FL NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY NOVEMBER 2022

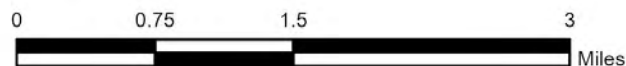
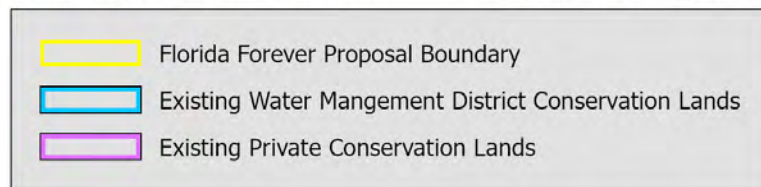
Williamson Cattle Company Florida Forever Proposal

FLORIDA FOREVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROJECT PROPOSAL BOUNDARY AS OF NOVEMBER 2022



Map Produced by: FL Natural Areas Inventory, N. Pasco, November 2022

Background: USDA NAIP Imagery Resolution = 1.0 meter



Elements and Element Occurrences

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

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

Element Ranking and Legal Status

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

FNAI GLOBAL ELEMENT RANK

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

FNAI STATE ELEMENT RANK

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

FEDERAL LEGAL STATUS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PE = Species proposed for listing as endangered

PS = Partial status: some but not all of the species' infraspecific taxa have federal

PT = Species proposed for listing as threatened

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

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

STATE LEGAL STATUS

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

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

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

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

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

FXN = Federal listed as an experimental population in Florida

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

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

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

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

Plants: Definitions derived from Sections 581.011 and 581.185(2), Florida Statutes, and the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act, 5B-40.001. FNAI does not track all state-regulated plant species; for a complete list of state-regulated plant species, call Florida Division of Plant Industry, 352-372-3505 or see: <http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/>.

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

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

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

Element Occurrence Ranking

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

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

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

FNAI also uses the following EO ranks:

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

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

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

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