

Acquisition and Restoration Council Meeting Results

Date: October 14, 2022

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Department of Environmental Protection
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
Conference Room 137
3900 Commonwealth Blvd
Tallahassee, FL 32399

And via Webinar

Members in Attendance:

Ms. Alissa Lotane, DHR
Mr. Erin Albury, FFS
Ms. Lynetta Griner, Citizen Member
Dr. Thomas Eason, FWC
Dr. Bill Palmer, Citizen Member
Ms. Elva Peppers, Citizen Member
Ms. Mara Gambineri, ARC Chair, DEP

ARC Staff Director: Ms. Shauna Allen, DEP

Item 1: Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.

Item 2: Consider the August and September 2022 meeting and regional hearing summaries.

ARC Action: Dr. Palmer made the motion to approve the meeting summary with Mr. Albury seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

ARC STAFF REPORTS

Item 3: Items approved by the Division of State Lands via the online negative response process since the August 2022 ARC meeting.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 4: 2022 Annual update on the Division of State Lands conservation easement monitoring program.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 5: Annual Land Management Review Team findings and the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council 2022 Annual and Biennial Reports.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 6: Consider the proposed 2023 Acquisition and Restoration Council calendar.

ARC Action: Dr. Palmer made the motion to approve the meeting calendar with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 7: Consider a request to approve an additional activity for the Interim Management Guidelines.

ARC Action: Dr. Eason made the motion to approve the activity with Ms. Peppers seconding. Following discussion, Dr. Eason amended his motion to defer requesting revision of the language with Mr. Albury seconding. ARC approved the motion to defer.

LAND ADMINISTRATION

Item 8: Consider whether an approximately 1.55-acre private utility easement to Lee County Electric Cooperative, Inc., within the Fred C. Babcock-Cecil M. Webb WMA (aka Yucca Pens) is consistent with the Board of Trustees' Linear Facilities Policy.

ARC Action: Ms. Peppers made the motion to approve the easement with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

FLORIDA FOREVER

Item 9: Take Public Testimony on the Florida Forever 2022 Cycle 2 Proposals.

ARC Action: No action required.

Item 10: Consider project evaluation reports for the CNC Ranch, Double G Legacy, Gardner Marsh, Gilchrist Club, Goodno Ranch, Heartland Wildlife Corridor, Keen Ranch, Natural Bridge Timberlands, Avalon and Wolfe Creek Forest Addition II 2022 Cycle 2 Florida Forever proposals.

ARC Action: Dr. Eason made the motion to approve the item with Ms. Lotane seconding. ARC unanimously approved the project evaluation reports.

Item 11: Vote on whether to add ten 2022 Cycle 2 Florida Forever proposals to the 2023 Florida Forever Priority List.

ARC Action: ARC voted unanimously by seven members to add CNC Ranch, Double G Legacy, Gardner Marsh, Gilchrist Club, Goodno Ranch, Heartland Wildlife Corridor, Keen Ranch, Natural Bridge Timberlands, and Wolfe Creek Forest Addition II proposals to the 2022 Florida Forever Priority List. Dr. Palmer recused himself from the vote for Avalon and ARC voted by six members to add the Avalon proposal to the list.

ARC voted unanimously by seven members to amend the Kissimmee-St Johns River Connector Florida Forever project boundary to add the CNC Ranch project.

ARC voted unanimously by seven members to amend the Battle of Wahoo Swamp Florida Forever project boundary to add the Double G Legacy project.

ARC voted unanimously by seven members to amend the Caloosahatchee Ecoscape Florida Forever project boundary to add the Goodno Ranch project.

ARC voted unanimously by seven members to amend the Myakka Ranchlands Florida Forever project boundary to add the Keen Ranch project.

ARC voted unanimously by seven members to amend the Wolfe Creek Forest Florida Forever project boundary to add the Wolfe Creek Forest Addition II project.

Item 12: Consider a staff recommendation to remove Corrigan Ranch and Hardee Flatwoods from the 2023 Florida Forever Priority List.

ARC Action: Ms. Peppers made the motion to approve the item with Dr. Eason seconding. ARC voted unanimously by seven members to remove both projects.

Item 13: Vote on whether to amend the Florida's First Magnitude Springs Florida Forever Project Boundary to add 13 parcels totaling approximately 742 acres in Suwannee and Lafayette counties with a combined tax assessed market value of \$1,987,808.

ARC Action: Ms. Lotane made the motion to approve the item with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC voted unanimously by seven members to approve the amendment.

Item 14: Vote on whether to amend the Pinhook Swamp Florida Forever Project Boundary to add three parcels totaling approximately 950.5 acres in Columbia County with a tax assessed market value of \$889,668.

ARC Action: Dr. Palmer made the motion to approve the item with Mr. Albury seconding. ARC voted unanimously by seven members to approve the amendment.

LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS

Item 15: Consider an amendment to the T. H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula State Park Management Plan (Lease No. 3533).

ARC Action: Dr. Eason made the motion to approve the management plan amendment with Ms. Lotane seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 16: Consider the 10-year McKissack Beach and Marsh Management Plan (Lease No. 4579).

ARC Action: Dr. Palmer made the motion to approve the management plan with Ms. Peppers seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 17: Consider a 10-year update to the Doris Leeper Spruce Creek Preserve Management Plan (Lease No. 4195).

ARC Action: Ms. Lotane made the motion to approve the management plan update with Mr. Albury seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 18: Consider a 10-year update to the Little Gator Creek Wildlife and Environmental Area Management Plan (Lease No. 4723).

ARC Action: Ms. Peppers made the motion to approve the management plan update with Dr. Palmer seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 19: Consider a 10-year update to the Hontoon Island State Park Management Plan (Lease No. 2468).

ARC Action: Dr. Palmer made the motion to approve the management plan update with Dr. Eason seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 20: Consider a 10-year update to the Blue Spring State Park Management Plan (Lease No. 2622).

ARC Action: Mr. Albury made the motion to approve the management plan update with Dr. Palmer seconding. Following discussion, Dr. Eason made the motion to defer with a request for (1) further engagement with the public, (2) clarity on the French Landing concerns and (3) ARC's authority regarding the concession. Ms. Griner seconded the motion. ARC approved the motion to defer.

Item 21: Consider a Management Plan for Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, which includes Rookery Bay Aquatic Preserve and Cape Romano-Ten Thousand Islands Aquatic Preserve.

ARC Action: Dr. Eason made the motion to approve the management plan update with Dr. Palmer seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

Item 22: Consider a 10-year update to the Tiger Bay State Forest Management Plan (Lease Nos. 3902, 4086, and 4326).

ARC Action: Dr. Palmer made the motion to approve the management plan update with Ms. Griner seconding. ARC approved the item unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Item 23: Connecting the Habitat Dots for Florida Panther Recovery

ARC Action: No action required.

CLOSING COMMENTS

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.