

JOHN M. BETHEA STATE FOREST

2015

10-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN

EXHIBITS

Exhibit T

2009 Land Management Review
2014 Land Management Review

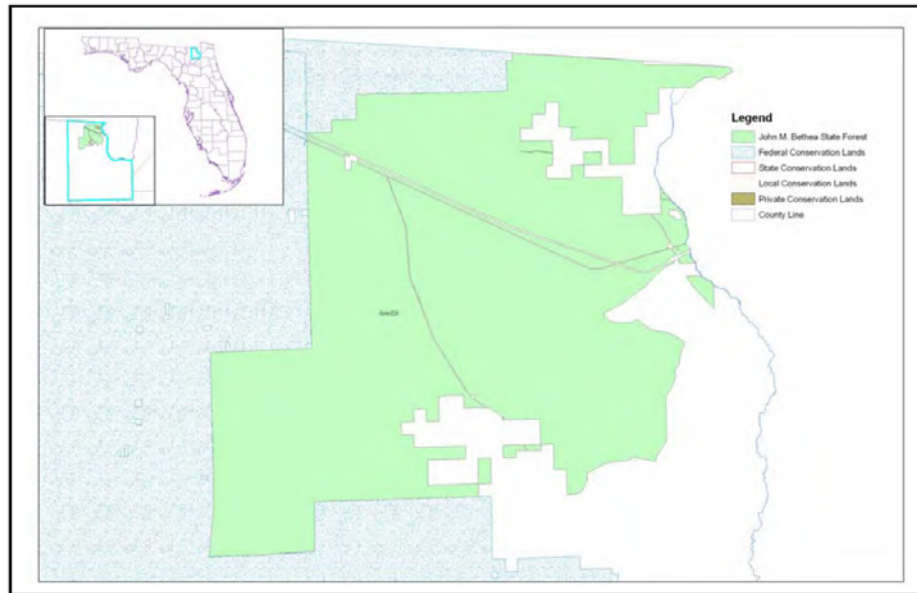
Name of Site: John M. Bethea State Forest

County: Baker County

Managed by: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Forestry

Acres: 37,801 Acres

Review Date: 3/25-26/09



Review Team Determination

Managed in accordance with
acquisition purpose? Yes = 5, No = 0



Management practices, including public access,
in compliance with the management plan? Yes = 5, No = 0



Categories	Management Plan Review	Field Review
Natural Communities	0.96	3.00
Listed Species	0.40	1.90
Natural Resource Survey	0.61	2.96
Cultural Resources	1.00	3.78
Prescribed Fire	0.80	3.60
Restoration	0.67	3.08
Exotic Species	0.90	3.40
Hydrology	1.00	3.72
Surface Water Monitoring	0.50	2.90
Resource Protection	1.00	3.40
Adjacent Property Concerns	1.00	3.20
Public Access & Education	0.98	3.23
Management Resources	N/A	3.40
Managed Area Uses	1.00	N/A
Buildings, Equipment, Staff & Funding	N/A	3.70

Consensus Commendations to the Managing Agency

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

1. The team commends the DOF on their development of an innovative, strategic prescribed fire plan that incorporates four fire corridors to be placed on a two-year burn return interval, and outlines personnel management strategy to meet the burning needs of the forest. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



2. The team commends the DOF for their participation and outreach in the FireWise community program to be included both public and private landowners. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



3. The team commends the DOF for their efforts to restore mesic flatwoods, including planting longleaf pine, hydrologic restoration that includes removal of beds and restoration, and more frequent fire return interval. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



4. The team commends the DOF staff for the recent improvements of the prescribed fire program, including the use of aerial burns. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



5. The team commends the staff for the efforts to prevent the introduction of invasive exotic plants by inspection of equipment prior to site entry for land management activities. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



6. The team commends the DOF staff on development of the post-Bugaboo Hydrologic Restoration Plan. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



7. The team commends the DOF staff for the innovative approach to reestablishing longleaf pine, including by underplanting longleaf in slash pine stands. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members. The management plan must include responses to the recommendations identified below.

1. The team encourages DOF to work with area partners and others to inventory animal species, and with FWC to develop a wildlife management plan. We recommend that DOF develop and maintain a list of animal species observed on site by staff and others. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



Managing Agency Response: The Forest Manager has initiated wildlife observation sheets that all staff keep in forest vehicles. The sheets are tabulated monthly. The Forest Manager plans to schedule a future meeting with the Regional FWC biologists to review the needs for wildlife surveys and plans.

2. The team recommends that DOF work with area universities, FNAI or others to develop a floristic inventory of the site. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



Managing Agency Response: The Forest Manager will consult with the DOF Forest Ecologists to identify sources for floristic research.

3. The team acknowledges the long history of industrial silviculture on the site and subsequent diminishment of native groundcover. The team recommends DOF develop a method for evaluation of groundcover prior to site preparation to determine presence of remnant sensitive native species, and reevaluate site preparation techniques to reduce soil disturbance and impacts as native groundcover and herpetofauna. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



Managing Agency Response: The Forest Manager will assess the groundcover prior to site-prep recommendations and depending on the quality of the existing groundcover, will modify site-prep treatments accordingly.

4. The team recommends that DOF develop a more detailed desired future conditions criteria for native groundcover species composition in the mesic and wet flatwoods. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



Managing Agency Response: The Forest Manager will work toward identifying what would have been the native groundcover for the area, and as the information is acquired, we will refine the desired future conditions.

5. The team recommends that DOF implement the approach as suggested in the silvicultural management plan, to identify areas where two or three rotations of prescribed fire in lieu of more intensive site preparation techniques will be used prior to planting pine trees. (VOTE: 4+, 0-)



Managing Agency Response: The Forest Manager will identify a few sites to treat with multiple fires prior to planting to assess the groundcover response.

Checklist Findings

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

- Basin Swamp and Floodplain Forest Natural Communities
- Fire Effects Monitoring and Invasive Species Survey/Monitoring
- Cultural Resources
- Prescribed Fire Management, Area Being Burned and Frequency
- Restoration of Bedded Slash Pine Plantations to Longleaf Pine
- Non-native, Invasive and Problem Species Management, Control of Plants
- Hydrologic/Geologic Function, including Hydro-Alteration
- Resource Protection, Boundary Survey
- Public Access and Education, Roads and Habitat Management Activities Education
- Management of Waste, Buildings and Equipment

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist, which indicates that management actions noted during the Field Review (FR) were not considered sufficient (less than 2.5 score on average), or that the text noted in the Management Plan Review (PR) does not sufficiently address this issue (less than .5 score on average.). The management plan must include responses to the checklist items identified below:

1. Discussion in the management plan regarding Mesic Flatwoods. (FR)

Managing Agency Response: Due to the previous industrial use of the forest, the Mesic Flatwoods will take time to recover to a maintenance condition. The Forest Manager has and will continue to reintroduce the forest canopy and additional growing season fire to improve ground cover quality.

2. Discussion in the management plan regarding Listed Animal and Plant Inventory. (PR)(FR)

Managing Agency Response: Refer to response to recommendation 1 and 2.

3. Discussion in the management plan regarding Listed species or Habitat monitoring and other Non-Game species or Habitat monitoring. (PR)(FR)

Managing Agency Response: Refer to response to recommendation 1 and 2.

4. Discussion in the management plan regarding Ground Cover Restoration. (PR)(FR)

Managing Agency Response: Refer to response to recommendation 4.

5. Discussion in the management plan regarding surface water quality. (PR)

Managing Agency Response: The Forest Manager will contact the DOF Forest Hydrology Section for guidance in addressing the need for surface water quality and monitoring. The information will then be addressed in the next management plan.

2014 Land Management Review Team Report for John M. Bethea State Forest

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1. Introduction

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and (2) whether they are being managed in accordance with their land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, F.S. In case where the managed areas exceed 1,000 acres in size, such a review must be scheduled at least every five years. In conducting this review, a statutorily constructed review team "shall evaluate the extent to which the existing management plan provides sufficient protection to threatened or endangered species, unique or important natural or physical features, geological or hydrological functions or archaeological features. The review shall also evaluate the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices, including public access, are in compliance with the adopted management plan."

The land management review teams are coordinated by the Division of State Lands and consist of representatives from the Division of Recreation and Parks (DEP), the Florida Forest Service (DACS), the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the local government in which the property is located, the DEP District in which the parcel is located, the local soil and water conservation district, a conservation organization member, and a local private land manager.

Each Land Management Review Report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides the details of the property being reviewed as well as the overall results of the report. Section 2 provides details of the Field Review, in which the Review Team inspects the results of management actions on the site. Section 3 provides details of the Land Management Plan Review, in which the team determines the extent to which the Management Plan provides for and documents adequate natural and recreational resource protection.

Finally, each report may also contain an Appendix that lists individual team member comments. This is a compilation of feedback, concerns or other thoughts raised by individual team members, but not necessarily indicative of the final consensus reached by the Land Management Review Team.

1.1. Property Reviewed in this Report

Name of Site: John M. Bethea State Forest

Managed by: Florida Forest Service

Acres: 37,736

County: Baker

Purpose(s) for Acquisition: to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and species considered rare.

Acquisition Program(s): CARL / Save Our Rivers

Original Acquisition Date: April 2001

Area Reviewed: Entire Property

Last Management Plan Approval Date: 12/3/04

Review Date: 10/30/14

Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Lee Barnwell, Manager
- Andy Lamborn, Manager (new)
- Sam Leneave, Forestry Ctr Manager
- Glenn Davis, Operations Administrator

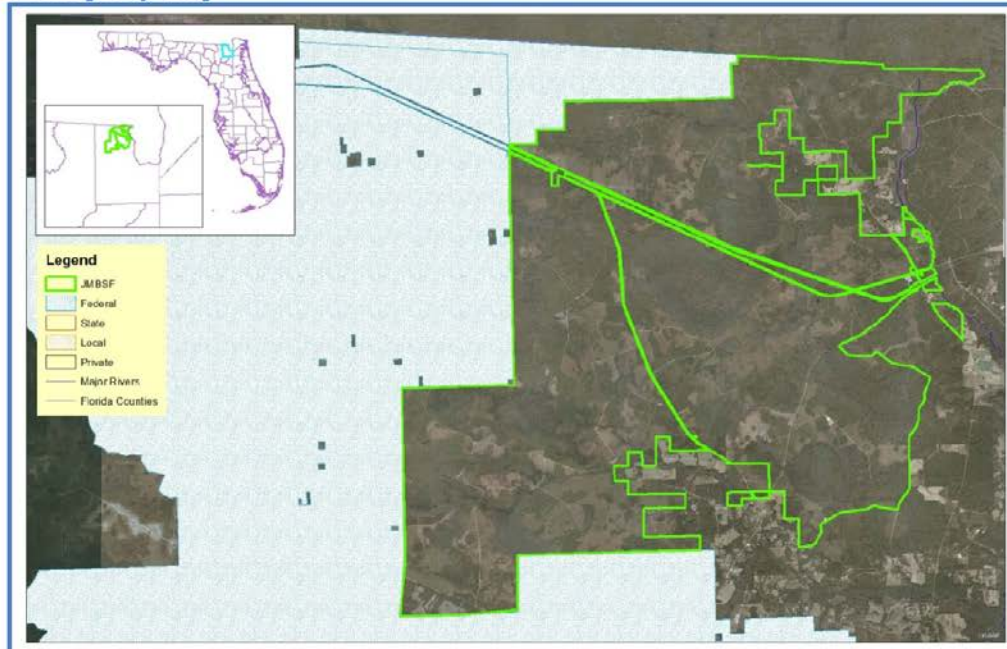
Review Team Members Present (voting)

- DRP: Rick Owen
- FWC: Scotland Tally
- FFS: Bill Korn
- DEP:
- SWCD:
- Local gov't:
- Conservation organization: Walter Bryant
- Private land manager: Donald Murphy

Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Keith Singleton, DEP/DSL
- Tyler Mostellar, SJRWMD
- Aric Larson, DEP/DSL
- Mike Wisenbaker, DHR

1.2 Property Map



1.3. Overview of Land Management Review Results

Is the property managed in accordance with the purposes for which it was acquired?

Yes = 5, No = 0

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

Yes = 5, No = 0

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

Table 1: Results at a glance.

Major Land Management Categories	Field Review	Management Plan Review
Natural Communities / Forest Management	3.90	3.43
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	3.53	3.27
Hydrology	3.10	2.33
Imperiled Species	3.00	2.30
Exotic / Invasive Species	3.60	2.65
Cultural Resources	3.30	3.10
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	3.73	3.01
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.74	N/A

Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)

Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor
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1.3.1 Consensus Commendations for the Managing Agency

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

1. The team commends the FFS for the aggressive prescribed fire program. (5+, 0-)
2. The team commends the FFS for conversion to longleaf pine as needed and efforts to prescribe burn many of these planted sites which have resulted in a nice recovery of native groundcover. (5+, 0-)
3. The team commends the FFS for efforts to locate, identify, and treat invasive plants. (5+, 0-)
4. The team commends the FFS staff for aggressive Firewise actions meant to combat continued wildfires that threaten restoration efforts. (5+, 0-)
5. The team commends the FFS staff for maintaining the roads to a high level for public access. (5+, 0-)

1.3.2. Consensus Recommendations to the Managing Agency

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

1. The team recommends that FFS identify priority imperiled species on JMBSF and develop / implement monitoring strategies. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agree. Forest manager will coordinate with FFS State Forest Ecologist to develop appropriate priorities and protocols for surveying/monitoring imperiled species on this forest. The extent and success of these efforts will be dependent on availability of specific contract funding, assistance from FWC biologists, and/or the support of non-profit or volunteer organizations.

2. The team recommends that FFS identify depressions in the mesic flatwoods that may have been ephemeral ponds / marshes. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Forest Manager will assess depressions on the forest prior to site prep for planting. Planting areas may be modified to keep heavy equipment and trees out of identified depressions.

3. The team recommends that FFS consider adding a biologist at the District level to coordinate resource protection. (4+, 1-)

Managing Agency Response: Disagree. At this time, biologist support will be coordinated through the FFS State Forest Ecologist. Should opportunities develop for additional staffing, FFS will assess personnel needs at that time.

4. The team recommends that FFS cooperate with county and coordinate in the maintenance of Eddy Road corridors. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agree. Forest manager will contact county manager and county road department to discuss developing a memorandum of understanding between FFS and Baker County to maintain Eddy Grade corridors.

5. The team recommends that FFS have an inventory of plant and animal species prepared by working with area partners and researchers, including FWC wildlife experts. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agree. Forest manager will coordinate with FFS State Forest Ecologist to develop appropriate priorities and protocols to inventory plant and animal species on the forest.

6. The team recommends that FFS work with FNAI and researchers to develop an updated natural community assessment for the next management plan update. (5+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Forest manager will consult with FFS Forest Ecologist to seek funding for an updated natural community assessment.

7. The team recommends that FFS develop a method of evaluation of groundcover composition and wetland types to determine the presence of remnant sensitive native species

Managing Agency Response: Agree. The Forest Manager will coordinate with FFS State Forest Ecologist to develop appropriate priorities and protocols for evaluating groundcover on the forest. The extent and success of these efforts will be dependent on availability of specific contract funding, assistance from FWC biologists, and/or the support of non-profit or volunteer organizations.

2. Field Review Details

2.1 Field Review Checklist Findings

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

1. **Natural Communities, specifically alluvial forest:**
2. **Natural Resources Survey/Monitoring Resources, specifically fire effects monitoring:**
3. **Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned and quality:**
4. **Forest Management, specifically timber inventory, reforestation/afforestation and site preparation:**
5. **Resource Protection, specifically boundary survey and signage:**
6. **Public Access and Education, specifically roads and parking:**
7. **Management Resources, specifically waste disposal, sanitary facilities and buildings:**

2.2. Items Requiring Improvement Actions in the Field

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

1. **The maintenance condition of the Natural Communities, specifically mesic flatwoods and wet flatwoods, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on their perspective, what percent of the natural community is in maintenance condition. The**

scores range from 1 to 5, with 1 being 0-20% in maintenance condition, 2 being 21-40%, 3 being 41-60%, 4 being 61-80% and 5 being 81-100%.

Managing Agency Response: Agree. Due to the previous industrial use of the forest, the mesic flatwoods and wet flatwoods will take time to recover to a maintenance condition. It is reassuring to note that reforestation and burning efforts since the 2009 LMR saw the mesic flatwoods team score improve from 1.40 to 2.40 – which translates into approximately a 20 percent increase in “maintenance” condition. The forest manager has and will continue to reforest with longleaf pine on appropriate sites, and continue using prescribed fire to improve ground cover quality to further increase the ecological maintenance condition of these two community types.

2. **Natural Resources Survey, specifically listed species or their habitat, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether survey and monitoring of the resources or their habitats are sufficient.**

Managing Agency Response: Agree. See response to Team Recommendation #1.

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

Managing Agency Response: Disagree. FFS and the local forest manager have burned 20,442 acres in the last five years and LMR team members confirmed this achievement in giving “area burned” a collective score of 4.20 or 80-100 percent of our desired objective. Staff estimates 11,000 acres of $\pm$ 18,800 burnable acres (58%) is currently considered to be within the desired fire frequency. These burn numbers warrant a higher checklist score. FFS staff has made great headway in increasing fire frequencies throughout the forest. These efforts will continue to increase the total acreage within fire rotation.

4. **Ground Water Monitoring, specifically ground water quantity, received a below average score. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether consideration of past and present hydrologic and geologic functions are sufficient.**

Managing Agency Response: Disagree. St. Johns Water Management has a ground water monitoring well at Eddy Tower. Not sure what further monitoring is being suggested here and there are no Reviewer Comments that shed any light on this topic.

5. **Environmental Education & Outreach, specifically invasive species and habitat management activities, received below average scores. The review team is asked to evaluate, based on information provided by the managing agency, whether environmental education & outreach are sufficient.**

Managing Agency Response: Disagree. Four of five reviewers found our level of educational outreach acceptable – given the low visitation and remote location of this forest.

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

Managing Agency Response: Agree. The local forest manager has stated a desire to increase the technical forestry staff to address a heavy workload associated with forest inventory, timber sales and other resource monitoring activities.

2.3. Field Review Checklist and Scores

Field Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Natural Communities (I.A)										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	3	2	3	2	2				2.40
Basin Swamp	I.A.2	3	4	3	3	4				3.40
Dome Swamp	I.A.3	3	4	4	3	4				3.60
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.4	4	2	3	2	3				2.80
Alluvial Forest	I.A.5	5		4	5	5				4.75
Shrub Bog	I.A.6	4		3	5	3				3.75
Natural Communities Average Score										3.45
Listed Species: Protection & Preservation (I.B)										
Animals	I.B.1	3	3	2	4	3				3.00
Plants	I.B.2	3	3	2	4	3				3.00
Listed Species Average Score										3.00
Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	2	1	2	1				1.80
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	4	3	5	4				4.00
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	3	3	2	4	4				3.20
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	4	4	2	4	3				3.40
Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	3	3	3	3				3.20
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	4	3	3	3				3.40
Cultural Resources Average Score										3.30
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	5	2	5	4	5				4.20
Frequency	III.A.2	2	2	2	2	3				2.20
Quality	III.A.3	5	3	5	4	4				4.20
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score										3.53

Restoration (III.B)											
Forest Management (III.C)											
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	5	5	3	5	5					4.60
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	5	3	3	4	4					3.80
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	5	5	5	5	5					5.00
Site Preparation	III.C.4	4	3		5	4					4.00
Forest Management Average Score											4.35
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species (III.D)											
Prevention											
prevention – plants	III.D.1.a	3	3	3	5	4					3.60
prevention – animals	III.D.1.b	4	3	3	4	4					3.60
Control											
control – plants	III.D.2.a	4	3	3	4	4					3.60
control – animals	III.D.2.b	4	3	3	4	4					3.60
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species Average Score											3.60
Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)											
Roads/culverts	III.E.1.a	4	4	3	4	4					3.80
Ditches	III.E.1.b	3	1	3	4	4					3.00
Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score											3.40
Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)											
Ground water quality	III.E.2.a	3	2	3	3	4					3.00
Ground water quantity	III.E.2.b	3	2	3	2	4					2.80
Ground Water Monitoring Average Score											2.90
Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)											
Surface water quality	III.E.3.a	3	3	3	2	4					3.00
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	3	3	3	2	4					3.00
Surface Water Monitoring Average Score											3.00
Resource Protection (III.F)											
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	4	4	4	5					4.20
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	3	4	3	4	5					3.80
Signage	III.F.3	4	4	4	4	5					4.20
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	3	4	3	4	3					3.40
Resource Protection Average Score											3.90
Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)											
Land Use											
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4	2	3							3.00
Public Access & Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)											
Public Access											
Roads	IV.1.a	5	4	5	4	5					4.60
Parking	IV.1.b	5	4	5	5	5					4.80
Environmental Education & Outreach											
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	3	3	4	2					3.00
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	3	3	4	1					2.80
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	3	3	4	1					2.80

Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	3	3	4	2				3.00
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	4	3	4	4				3.80
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	3	3	4	4				3.60
Public Access & Education Average Score										3.55
Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3, V.4)										
Maintenance										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	3	4	5	5				4.20
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	4	3		5	5				4.25
Infrastructure										
Buildings	V.2.a	5		5	5	5				5.00
Equipment	V.2.b	3	2	3	4	3				3.00
Staff	V.3	2	3	4	3	2				2.80
Funding	V.4	3	4	3	3	3				3.20
Management Resources Average Score										3.74
Color Code: Excellent Above Average Below Average Poor Missing Vote Insufficient Information See Appendix A for detail										

3. Land Management Plan Review Details

3.1 Items Requiring Improvements in the Management Plan

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

1. **Natural Communities, specifically alluvial forest and shrub bog, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address current or desired condition and/or future management actions to protect or restore.**

Managing Agency Response: Alluvial forest and shrub bog are recently identified natural communities that will be added to the updated management plan.
2. **Listed Species, specifically animals and plants, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address protection and preservation of listed species.**

Managing Agency Response: The next management plan update will provide information on listed species issues and any management needs.
3. **Natural Resources Survey and Monitoring Resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring and other habitat management effects monitoring, received below average scores.**

This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address survey or monitoring.

Managing Agency Response: The next management plan update will provide information on these monitoring activities and data collection surveys.

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

Managing Agency Response: The next management plan update will provide information non-native invasive species control. The forest manager will continue working to control the spread of non-native invasive species.

5. **Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration, specifically ditches, received a below average score. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address hydrologic and geologic function.**

Managing Agency Response: The next management plan update will provide information on hydrologic function issues and any management needs related to ditches on the property.

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

Managing Agency Response: The next management plan update will provide information on ground water monitoring.

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

Managing Agency Response: The next management plan update will provide information on surface water monitoring.

8. **Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically inholdings/additions and discussion of potential surplus land determination, received below average scores. This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address inholdings/additions and surplus lands.**

Managing Agency Response: The next management plan update will address inholdings and addition land needs. The plan will also provide an assessment and determination of any potential surplus lands.

9. **Environmental Education & Outreach, specifically for wildlife, invasive species, habitat management activities and interpretive facilities and signs, received below average scores.**

This is an indication that the management plan does not sufficiently address Environmental Education & Outreach.

Managing Agency Response: FFS is confident the current management plan sufficiently addresses environmental education and outreach – given the remote location of the forest. The primary recreational users on the forest are hunters. As the forest manager has a problem with educational kiosks being vandalized – any new signs and sign locations must be able to be monitored by a small forest staff. The next management plan will include a discussion and assessment of current and future kiosk improvements.

3.2 Management Plan Review Checklist and Scores

Plan Review Item	Reference #	Anonymous Team Members								Average
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Natural Communities (I.A)										
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.1	3	5	3	4	3				3.60
Basin Swamp	I.A.2	3	5	3	4	3				3.60
Dome Swamp	I.A.3	3	5	3	4	3				3.60
Wet Flatwoods	I.A.4	4	5	3	3	3				3.60
Alluvial Forest	I.A.5	4	1	1	5	3				2.80
Shrub Bog	I.A.6	2	1	1	2	1				1.40
Natural Communities Average Score										3.10
Listed species: Protection & Preservation (I.B)										
Animals	I.B.1	3	2	2	2	2				2.20
Plants	I.B.2	3	2	2	2	3				2.40
Listed Species Average Score										2.30
Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	2	2	2	2				2.20
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	3	3	2	4	4				3.20
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	2	3	2	4	3				2.80
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	4	2	4	3				3.20
Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) (II.A,II.B)										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	3	3	2	5	3				3.20
Protection and preservation	II.B	3	3	2	4	3				3.00
Cultural Resources Average Score										3.10
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	3	5	2	5	2				3.40
Frequency	III.A.2	3	5	2	2	3				3.00
Quality	III.A.3	3	5	2	5	2				3.40
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score										3.27
Restoration (III.B)										

Forest Management (III.C)										
Timber Inventory	III.C.1	3		2	5	5				3.75
Timber Harvesting	III.C.2	3		2	4	5				3.50
Reforestation/Afforestation	III.C.3	3		2	5	5				3.75
Site Preparation	III.C.4	3		4	5					4.00
Forest Management Average Score										3.75
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species (III.D)										
Prevention										
prevention – plants	III.E.1.a	2	3	2	2	3				2.40
prevention – animals	III.E.1.b	3	3	2	2	3				2.60
Control										
control – plants	III.E.2.a	3	3	2	3	3				2.80
control – animals	III.E.2.b	3	3	2	3	3				2.80
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species Average Score										2.65
Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)										
Roads/culverts	III.F.1.a	3	4	2	4	2				3.00
Ditches	III.F.1.b	3	4	2	3	2				2.80
Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score										2.90
Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)										
Ground water quality	III.F.2.a	3	2	2	2	2				2.20
Ground water quantity	III.F.2.b	3	2	2	1	2				2.00
Ground Water Monitoring Average Score										2.10
Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)										
Surface water quality	III.F.3.a	3	2	2	1	2				2.00
Surface water quantity	III.F.3.b	3	2	2	1	2				2.00
Surface Water Monitoring Average Score										2.00
Resource Protection (III.F)										
Boundary survey	III.G.1	3	3	2	4	3				3.00
Gates & fencing	III.G.2	3	3	2	4	3				3.00
Signage	III.G.3	3	4	2	4	3				3.20
Law enforcement presence	III.G.4	2	4	2	4	3				3.00
Resource Protection Average Score										3.05
Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)										
Land Use										
Inholdings/additions	III.H.2	2	2	2	4	3				2.60
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.H.3	3	1	1	1	2				1.60
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.H.4	3	5	4	4	5				4.20
Public Access & Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)										
Public Access										
Roads	IV.1.a	3	4	2	5	3				3.40
Parking	IV.1.b	3	4	2	5	3				3.40
Environmental Education & Outreach										
Wildlife	IV.2.a		3	2	3	2				2.50
Invasive Species	IV.2.b		3	2	3	2				2.50

Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c		4	2	3	2				2.75
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3		3	2	4	2				2.75
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4		4	2	5	3				3.50
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5		3	2	4	3				3.00
Public Access & Education Average Score										2.98

Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)										
Existing Uses										
Apiary Lease	VI.A.1	5	4		5	5				4.75
Silviculture	VI.A.3	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Hunting	VI.A.4	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Hiking	VI.A.5	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Primitive Camping	VI.A.6	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Wildlife Viewing	VI.A.7	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Equestrian Use	VI.A.8	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Canoe/Kayaking	VI.A.9	5	4	5	5	5				4.80
Proposed Uses										

Color Code:

Excellent

Above
Average

Below
Average

Poor

Missing
Vote

Insufficient
Information

See
Appendix A
for detail

Appendix A: Scoring System Detail

Explanation of Consensus Commendations:

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

Explanation of Consensus Recommendations:

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

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

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

Average scores are interpreted as follows:

Scores 4.0 to 5.0 are *Excellent*

Scores 3.0 to 3.99 are *Above Average*

Scores 2.0 to 2.99 are *Below Average*

Scores 1.0 to 1.99 are considered *Poor*