ROSS PRAIRIE STATE FOREST
2019 LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

EXHIBITS

Exhibit A

Ten Year Management Accomplishment Summary

Site Preparation			
Chop Single Pass	Scrub	No.	180

Timber Sales		Acres	
Marking	Longleaf plantation thin	Acres	221
Cruising		Acres	221
Harvest		Acres	221

Timber Inventory	Inventory	Acres	3,522

Invasive Control			
Natal Grass	Sprayed and retreated	Acres	2
Cogon Grass	Sprayed and retreated	Acres	30
Mimosa Tree	Cut, sprayed and retreated	Acres	5

Fire			
	Wildfire	No.	1
		Acres	50
	Prescribed Burning	Acres	9,244

Recreation		No.	
Day Use	Estimated Forest Visitors	No.	5,823
Overnight Camping	Primitive	No.	12

Boundary Maintenance			
Maintenance/Marking	20%/year	Miles	13

I&E Activities			
Programs/Tours		No.	2

Other Activities			
Pine Straw Contract	5-year contract	acres	255

Exhibit B

Boundary and Roads Map

Ross Prairie State Forest

Boundary and Roads Map

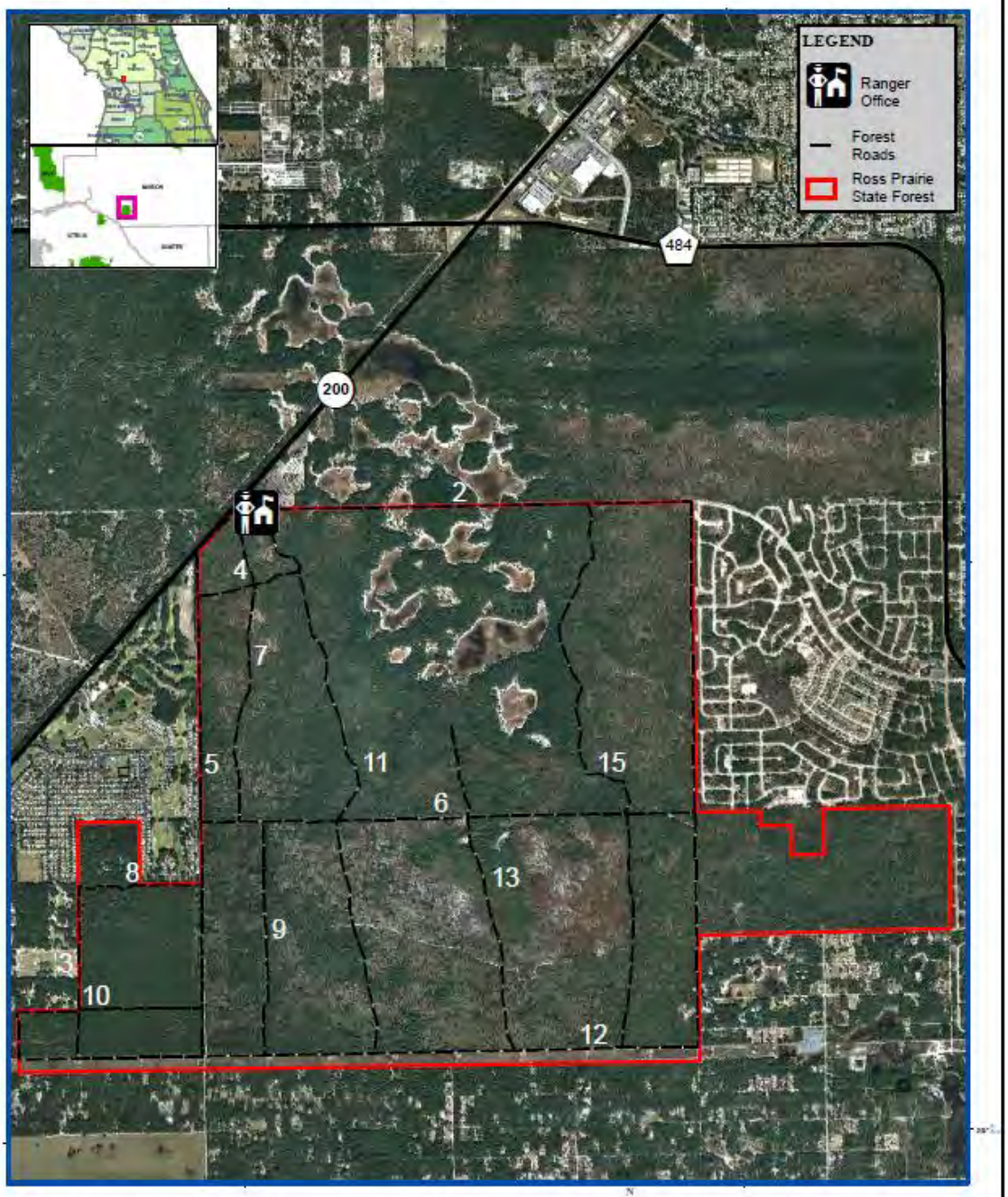
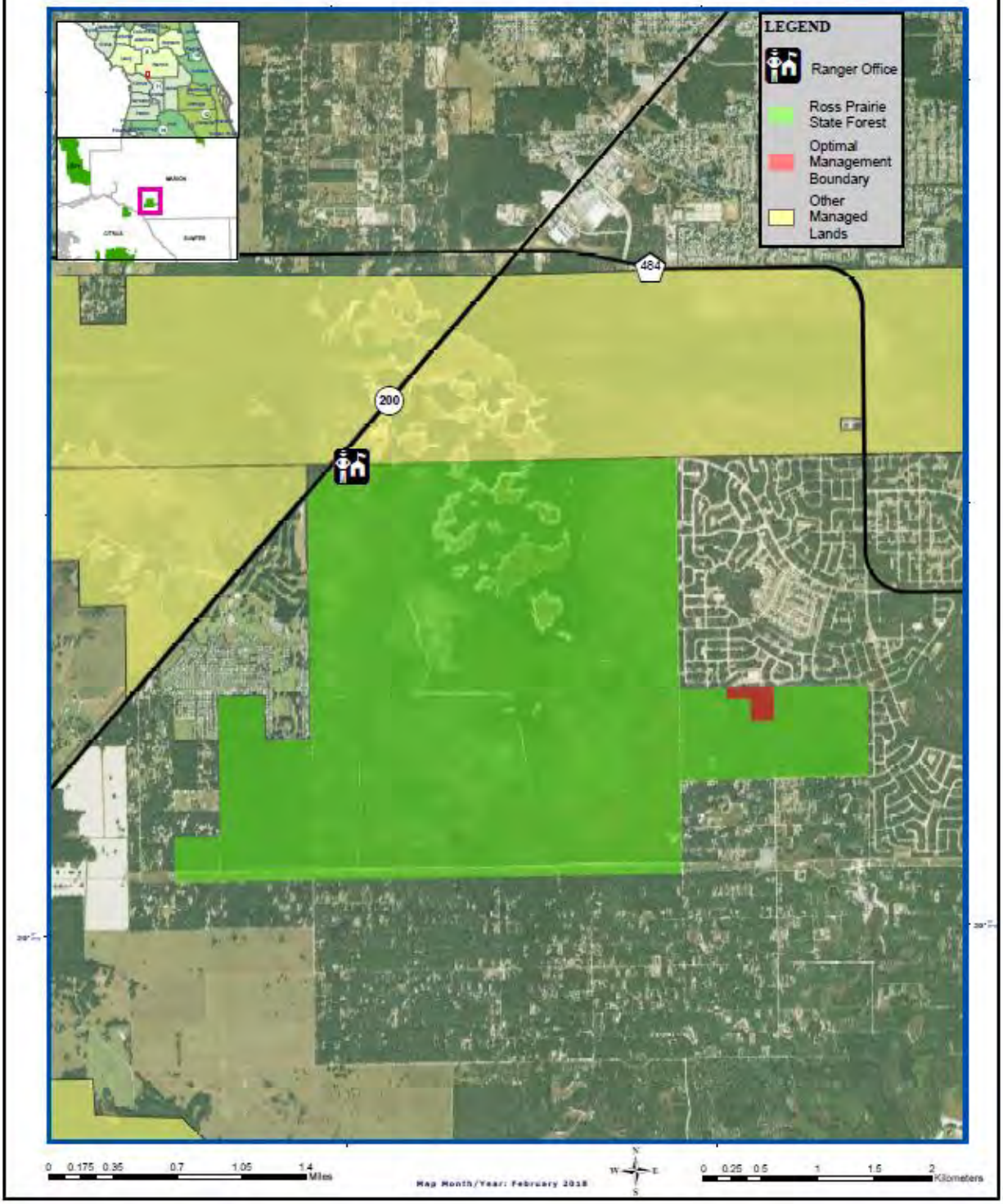


Exhibit C

Optimal Management Boundary Map

Ross Prairie State Forest

Optimal Management Boundary Map



Map Month/Year: February 2018

Exhibit D

Facilities, Recreation, and Improvements

Ross Prairie State Forest

Facilities, Recreation, and Improvements Map

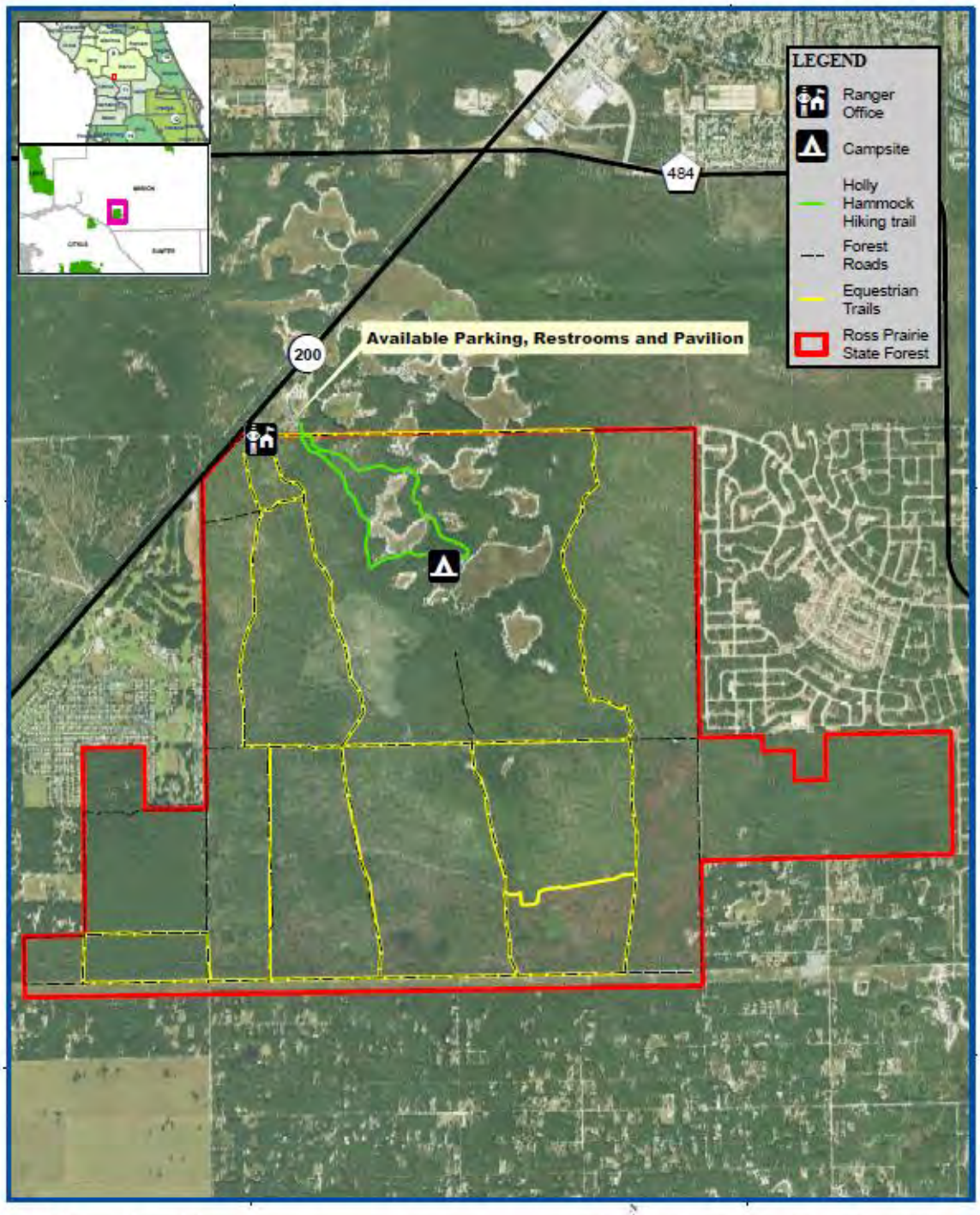


Exhibit E

Proximity to Significant Managed Lands

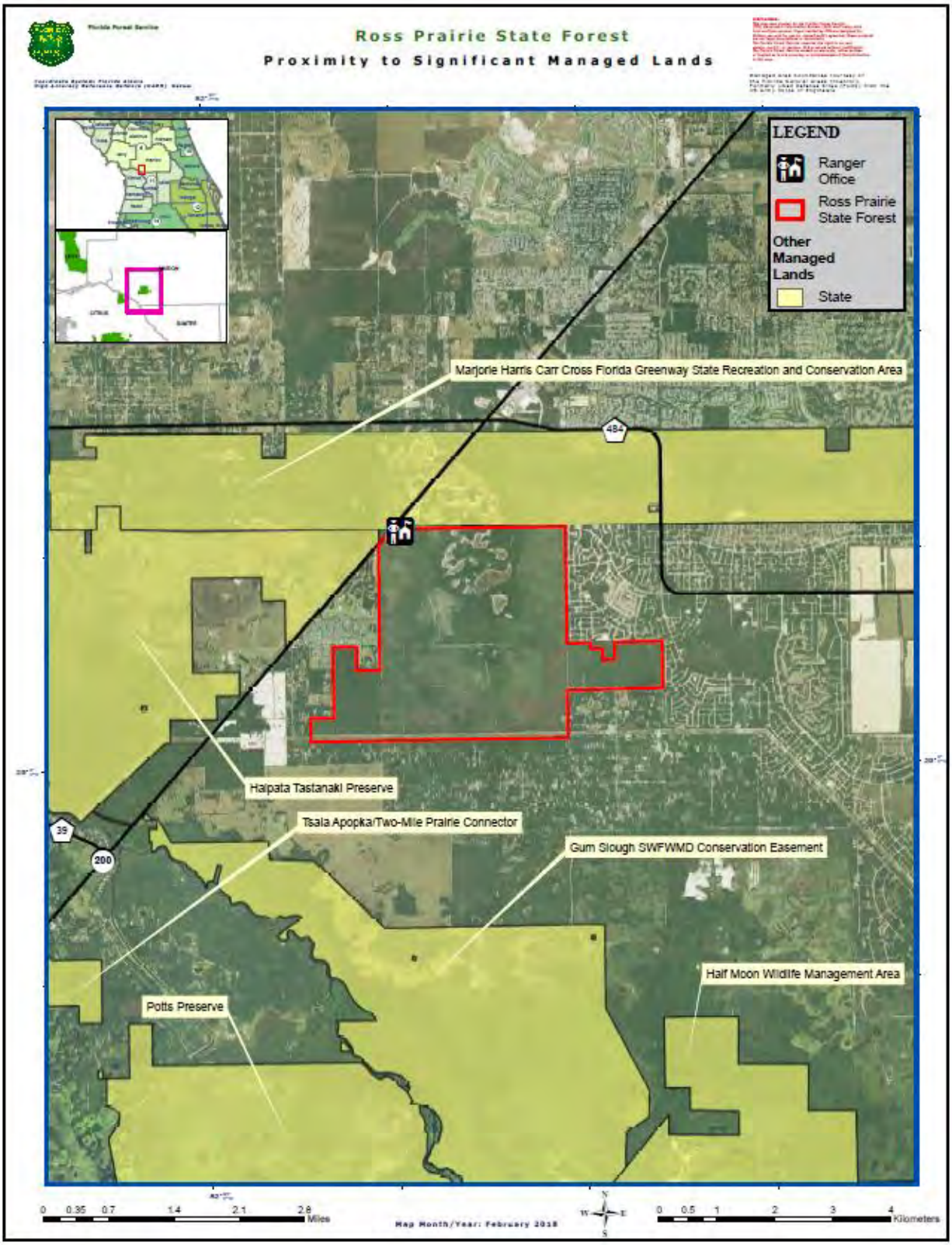

Ross Prairie State Forest
Proximity to Significant Managed Lands
LEGEND
Ranger Office
Ross Prairie State Forest
Other Managed Lands
State
Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation Area
484
Halpata Tastanaki Preserve
Tsala Apopka/Two-Mile Prairie Connector
Gum Slough SWFWMD Conservation Easement
Half Moon Wildlife Management Area
Potts Preserve
39
200
0 0.35 0.7 1.4 2.1 2.8 Miles
0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Kilometers
Map Month/Year: February 2018

Exhibit F

Florida Forever Projects

Rainbow River Corridor

Citrus and Marion Counties

Partnerships

Purpose for State Acquisition

The Rainbow River Corridor project is designed to protect most of the undeveloped or minimally developed private land remaining along the Rainbow River. The southern parcels would bring a remaining large portion of undeveloped shoreline along the eastern side of the river into state ownership, and provide a connection to the southern end of the Rainbow Springs State Park. Public acquisition of these lands will prevent further development and conflicting land uses that could further degrade the ecological value of this area. In addition, the potential restoration of altered habitats would help restore and maintain water quality and habitat along one of Florida's largest spring-run streams. This project meets several Florida Forever goals, including those of increasing biodiversity protection by conserving 916 acres of rare species habitat, of preserving landscape linkages and conservation corridors by preserving 1,062 acres of ecological greenways, of protecting surface waters of the state by preserving 1,154 acres that provide surface-water protection, of preserving aquifer recharge areas, and by increasing natural-resource based recreation opportunities by filling several land gaps between sections of the Rainbow River State Park.

Manager

The property is proposed to be managed by the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) and the Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT). DRP would assume management of the parcels east of the river and a parcel identified as the FNAI A1 addition, which is adjacent to the state park. The A1 addition is in Section 12 of Township 16 South, Range 18 East, on the north side of Southwest 77th Loop.

Rainbow River Corridor FNAI Elements	
Gopher Tortoise	G3/S3
Suwannee Cooter	G5T3/S3
Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake	G4/S3
3 rare species are associated with the project	

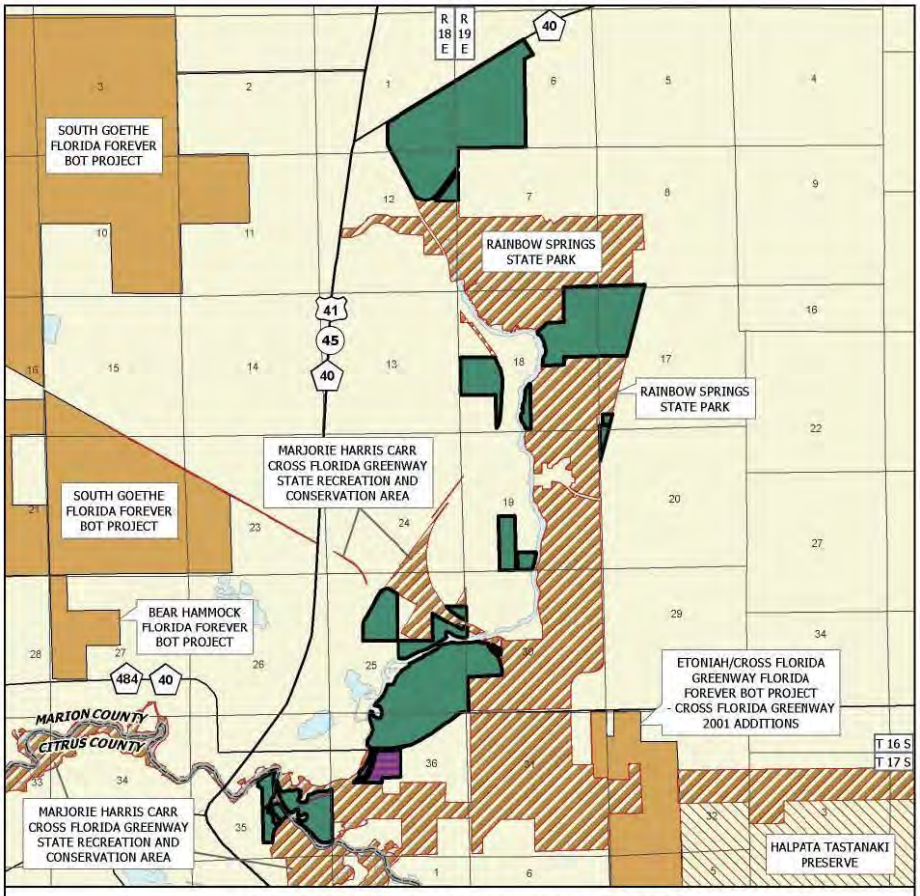
OGT is recommended as lead manager for the parcels on the west side of the Rainbow River and parcels on the south side of the Withlacoochee River.

The DRP notes that much of this is a full-fee acquisition adjacent to the park, which will mean that public access will be provided across the acquired parcel for varied natural resource recreation currently offered within the park, along with water-based recreation.

General Description

The Rainbow River, actually a large spring-run stream, is a state-designated Aquatic Preserve and Outstanding Florida Water that runs southward for approximately six miles before entering the Withlacoochee River at Dunnellon. The State Park encompasses the headwaters, with a first magnitude spring considered Florida's fourth largest, as well as much of the eastern side of the northern 60 percent of the river. This river is one of the longest spring runs in the world and represents a rare and unique natural resource worldwide. The Marjorie Harris Cross Florida Greenway State Recreation and Conservation Area adjoins a short stretch of the river at Dunnellon, then extends eastward to include a 3/4 mile common boundary inland with the state park; it also includes a tract on the western side of the river but with only two very narrow connections with the river itself. Two of the main goals of acquiring these land parcels are to fill the gaps in existing public lands, Rainbow Springs State Park (RSSP) and Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida

Placed on List	**2007**
Project Area (GIS Acres)	**1,175**
Acres Acquired (GIS)	**37**
at a Cost of	**n/a**
Acres Remaining (GIS)	**1,138**
Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	**$1,157,483**



RAINBOW RIVER CORRIDOR

MARION AND CITRUS COUNTIES

- Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
- Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
- Essential Parcel(s) Remaining
- Other Florida Forever BOT Projects
- State Owned Lands
- Other Conservation Lands

N W E S

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

JANUARY 2012

Greenway (CFG), that are adjacent to the proposed properties and to provide added protection to this river and the ecosystem that it supports. It would connect the current northern and southern parcels of the park. The proposed acquisitions would provide a more contiguous system of natural areas by creating an intact corridor between conservation lands. It would also provide added protection for the river by safeguarding the remaining undeveloped lands in the already significantly altered waterway.

RRC encompasses a number of disjunct tracts lying to the north of as well as along both eastern and western sides of the river. Nearly all tracts (but not necessarily all ownerships) are contiguous with public lands. The Headwaters Property Group (370 acres) lies north of the river and runs from the state park to SR 40. The Indian Creek Property Group (193 acres), which lies along the eastern side of the river and includes about 1,264 feet of river frontage, shares its northern and southern boundaries with the state park. The Meredith Property (63 acres) is a split parcel with a small tract along the eastern side of the river (ca. 1849 feet frontage) that is completely surrounded by the state park. The larger tract to the west of the river is isolated from the water. The Rainbow River Ranch Property (ca. 247 acres) is north of SR 484 with 5390 feet of frontage along the eastern side of the Rainbow River. The Greenberg Property (89 acres) has ca. 3,298 feet of frontage along the western side of the river, north of Dunnellon. The Blue Run of Dunnellon Property (24 acres) is on the southern side of SR 484, east of the river across from Dunnellon, and has ca. 1,322 feet of river frontage. The Nature Preserves of America property (47 acres) is at the confluence of the Rainbow and Withlacoochee rivers, with the Rainbow River forming ca. 2,813 feet of its northern boundary, and the Withlacoochee River forming ca. 3,409 feet of its southern boundary. The FWC has calculated the river frontage as encompassing 15,935 feet.

Public Use
Potential recreation would include hiking, biking, and picnicking. The river frontage could be used as a rest stop for canoeists, kayakers and tubers. The southern triangular 47-acre parcel is heavily forested and has several wetland areas. This property is currently used as the Rainbow River Club and includes several buildings including a clubhouse, cabins for lodging, and boating and cookout facilities. The acquisition and use of the facilities could be continued as park lodging, administration, park residence and low impact recreation such as hiking, bird watching, kayaking and education if the membership of the current club is dissolved. The northwest, 374-acre parcel would help protect the headsprings recharge area and could provide a suitable site for future park development. The 110-acre Priest parcel is a wetland area and would be limited to passive activities such as hiking, bird watching and kayaking.

Acquisition Planning
On June 15, 2007 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the Rainbow River Corridor project to the A-list of the Florida Forever Priority List. This full-fee project was sponsored by the Rainbow River Conservation, incorporated as RRC, Inc. in a proposal submitted on December 30, 2006. It has about 1,183 acres and an assessed taxable value of $1,157,483.

On March 28, 2008 the City of Dunnellon acquired 32.4 acres of this project for a riverside park on the south side of Highway 484 (the Cunningham/Nelson Tuber Exit Property). Funds came from the City ($320,000) and a grant from the Florida Communities Trust ($2,606,164.50). The city manages this site.

On December 9, 2011, ARC placed this project in the Partnerships category in the Florida Forever list.

Coordination
Rainbow River Conservation Inc. worked with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and submitted the application to the Florida Communities Trust (FCT) for acquiring the Cunningham/Nelson Tuber Exit Property. The Division of State Lands is already pursuing a portion of this area (Rainbow River Ranch property) that is within the park optimum boundary, on behalf of the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP).

Management Policy Statement
DRP will manage its property under a single-use concept as part of Rainbow River State Park. The OGT-manages its portion under the single-use concept as part of the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway. The primary objective of management of the Rainbow River project is to preserve the water quality of the Rainbow and Withlacoochee Rivers and Rainbow Springs by protecting the land above the underground conduits that supply the spring and providing and ensuring that the resource-based outdoor recreational opportunities of

the park will continue to be enjoyed by the public. Precluding major residential and commercial development along the river will assist efforts to preserve water quality, as well as wildlife habitat in this fast developing region.

Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation The project will be included in the management of the Rainbow River State Park. The site can be used for a variety of compatible resource-based outdoor recreational activities. As a part of the Rainbow River State Park, hunting would not be permitted. Public use of the cabins and recreational facility on the southern parcel may be continued. Portions managed by OGT will be included in the management of the Greenway. The site can be utilized for a variety of compatible resource-based outdoor recreational activities. As a part of the Greenway, hunting would not be permitted.

Manager DRP is recommended as the lead manager for the parcels on the east side of the river. OGT is recommended as lead manager for the parcels on the west side of the Rainbow River and parcels on the south side of the Withlacoochee River.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The Rainbow River project will be a high-need management area with emphasis on perpetuation of the property's resources, particularly as related to the Withlacoochee and Rainbow Rivers, the springs of the Rainbow River, and compatible resource-based recreation. An evaluation of the condition of existing structures will need to be completed. The OGT portion of the Rainbow River project will emphasize perpetuation of the property's resources, particularly the Withlacoochee and Rainbow Rivers, the springs of the Rainbow River, and compatible resource-based recreation. Both managing agencies will need an evaluation of the condition of existing structures. Public use of existing structures, such as those existing on the southern parcel, and the addition of any other infrastructure for the lands added to the park will increase the intensity of management. Restoration would require an intensity of management as dictated by study of the site.

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Vehicular access by the public will be confined to designated points and routes. Particular emphasis will be given to the protection of water quality of adjacent rivers and springs. Resource management activities in the first year of each fee title acquisition will concentrate on site security and development of a resource inventory. Long-term management may include a wide range of resource-based recreation and associated facilities. The integration of appropriate public uses will create a recreational linkage between the State Park and land managed by the Office of Greenway and Trails.

Revenue-generating potential The DRP and the OGT expect no significant revenue from this property immediately after fee title acquisition, and the amount of future revenue will depend on the nature and extent of public use and the facilities existing or developed in the future.

Cooperators in management activities The DRP and the OGT will, as appropriate, cooperate with local governments, other state agencies, and the water management district to further resource management, recreational and educational opportunities, and the development of the lands for state park and for Greenway purposes.

Edited March 31, 2015

Management Cost Summary/DRP

Category	Startup
Salary	$0
OPS	$20,000
Expense	$5,000
OCO	$26,000
FCO	$5,000
TOTAL	$56,000

Management Cost Summary/OGT

Category	Startup
Salary	$0
OPS	$25,00
Expense	$5,00
OCO	$20,00
FCO	$5,00
TOTAL	$55,00

Exhibit G

Archeological and Cultural Sites

This record search is for informational purposes only and does NOT constitute a project review. This search only identifies resources recorded at the Florida Master Site File and does NOT provide project approval from the Division of Historical Resources. Contact the Compliance and Review Section of the Division of Historical Resources at 850-245-6333 for project review information.

July 20, 2017

Florida Master Site File

Alan L. Davis
Land Planning Coordinator
Florida DA&CS
3125 Conner Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650
E-mail: Alan.Davis@freshfromflorida.com

Re: Ross Prairie State Forest

In response to your inquiry of July 17, 2017, the Florida Master Site File lists 17 archeological site found at the designated area for Ross Prairie State Forest, Marion County, Florida.

When interpreting the results of our search, please consider the following information:

- **This search area may contain *unrecorded* archaeological sites, historical structures or other resources even if previously surveyed for cultural resources.**
- **Because vandalism and looting are common at Florida sites, we ask that you limit the distribution of location information on archaeological sites.**
- **While many of our records document historically significant resources, the documentation of a resource at the Florida Master Site File does not necessarily mean the resource is historically significant.**
- **Federal, state and local laws require formal environmental review for most projects. This search DOES NOT constitute such a review. If your project falls under these laws, you should contact the Compliance and Review Section of the Division of Historical Resources at 850-245-6333.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding the results of this search.

Sincerely,

Eman M. Vovsi
Florida Master Site File
Eman.Vovsi@DOS.MyFlorida.com

AR=17
SS=0
CM=0
RG=0
BR=0
Total=17

Cultural Resource Roster

SiteID	Type	Site Name	Address	Additional Info	SHPO Eval	NR Status
MR01931	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 3	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01932	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 4	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01933	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 5	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01934	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 6	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01935	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 7	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01936	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 8	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01937	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 9	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01938	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 10	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01939	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 11	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01940	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 12	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01941	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 13	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01942	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 14	Ocala		Eligible	
MR01943	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 15	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01944	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 16	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR01945	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 17	NONE < 4 MILES		Eligible	
MR01946	AR	ROSS PRAIRIE 18	NONE < 4 MILES		Not Eligible	
MR02343	AR	INFERNO	DUNNELLON			

Exhibit H

Management Procedures
for
Archaeological and Historical Sites and
Properties on State Owned or Controlled Lands

Management Procedures for Archaeological and Historical Sites and Properties on State-Owned or Controlled Properties
(revised September 2019)

These procedures apply to state agencies, local governments, and non-profits that manage state-owned properties.

A. General Discussion

Historic resources are both archaeological sites and historic structures. Per Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, *'Historic property' or 'historic resource' means any prehistoric district, site, building, object, or other real or personal property of historical, architectural, or archaeological value, and folklife resources. These properties or resources may include, but are not limited to, monuments, memorials, Indian habitations, ceremonial sites, abandoned settlements, sunken or abandoned ships, engineering works, treasure trove, artifacts, or other objects with intrinsic historical or archaeological value, or any part thereof, relating to the history, government, and culture of the state."*

B. Agency Responsibilities

Per State Policy relative to historic properties, state agencies of the executive branch must allow the Division of Historical Resources (Division) the opportunity to comment on any undertakings, whether these undertakings directly involve the state agency, i.e., land management responsibilities, or the state agency has indirect jurisdiction, i.e. permitting authority, grants, etc. No state funds should be expended on the undertaking until the Division has the opportunity to review and comment on the project, permit, grant, etc.

State agencies shall preserve the historic resources which are owned or controlled by the agency.

Regarding proposed demolition or substantial alterations of historic properties, consultation with the Division must occur, and alternatives to demolition must be considered.

State agencies must consult with Division to establish a program to location, inventory and evaluate all historic properties under ownership or controlled by the agency.

C. Statutory Authority

Statutory Authority and more in-depth information can be found at:
https://dos.myflorida.com/historical/preservation/compliance-and-review/regulations-guidelines/

D. Management Implementation

Even though the Division sits on the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approves land management plans, these plans are conceptual. Specific information regarding individual projects must be submitted to the Division for review and recommendations.

Managers of state lands must coordinate any land clearing or ground disturbing activities with the Division to allow for review and comment on the proposed project. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to: approval of the project as submitted, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects.

Projects such as additions, exterior alteration, or related new construction regarding historic structures must also be submitted to the Division of Historical Resources for review and comment by the Division's architects. Projects involving structures fifty years of age or older, must be submitted to this agency for a significance determination. In rare cases, structures under fifty years of age may be deemed historically significant. These must be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Adverse impacts to significant sites, either archaeological sites or historic buildings, must be avoided. Furthermore, managers of state property should make preparations for locating and evaluating historic resources, both archaeological sites and historic structures.

E. Minimum Review Documentation Requirements

In order to have a proposed project reviewed by the Division, certain information must be submitted for comments and recommendations. The minimum review documentation requirements can be found at:
https://dos.myflorida.com/media/31392/minimum_review_documentation_requirements.pdf

* * *

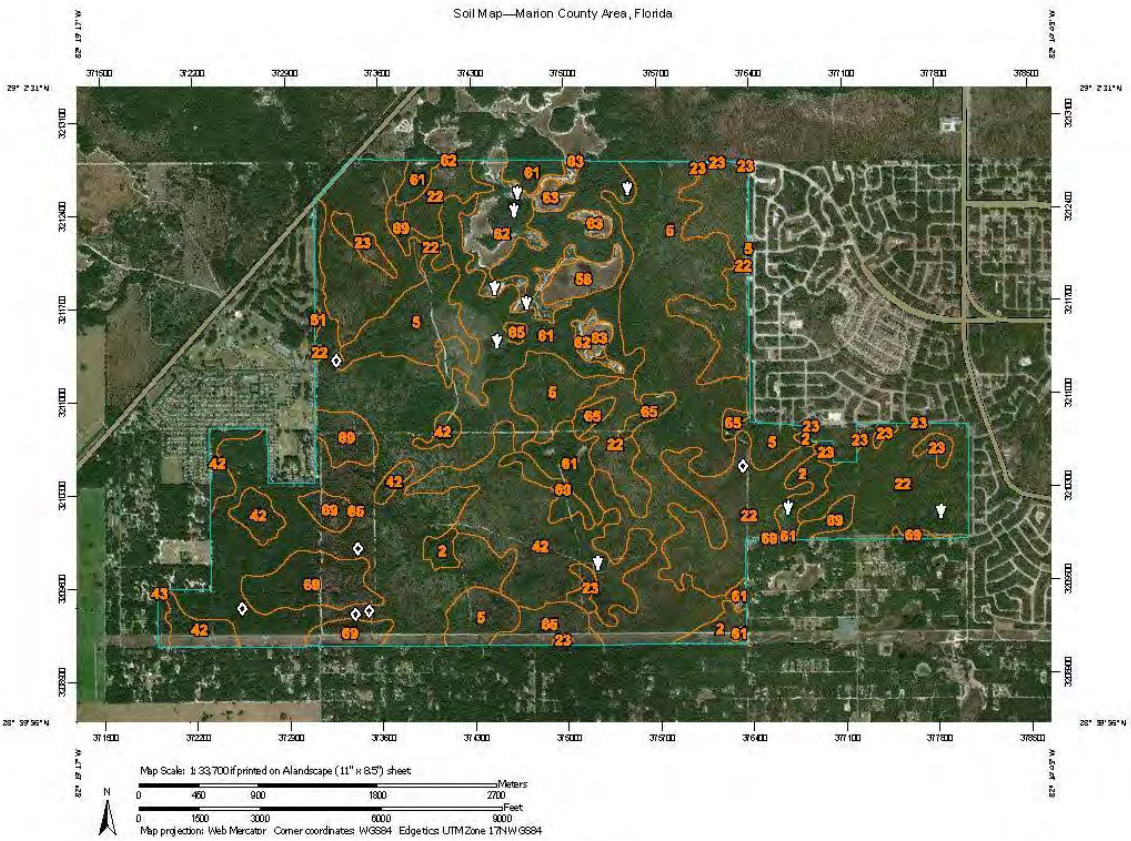
Questions relating to the treatment of archaeological and historic resources on state lands should be directed to:

Robin Jackson
Division of Historical Resources
Bureau of Historic Preservation
Compliance and Review Section
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Email: Robin.Jackson@DOS.MyFlorida.com
Phone: (850) 245-6496
Toll Free: (800) 847-7278
Fax: (850) 245-6439

Exhibit I

Soil Maps and Descriptions


Soil Map—Marion County Area, Florida
Map Scale: 1:33,700 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.
Meters
0 450 900 1800 2700
Feet
0 1500 3000 6000 9000
Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 17N WGS84

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)
- Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils
- Soil Map Unit Polygons
- Soil Map Unit Lines
- Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features
- Blowout
- Borrow Pit
- Clay Spot
- Closed Depression
- Gravel Pit
- Gravelly Spot
- Landfill
- Lava Flow
- Marsh or swamp
- Mine or Quarry
- Miscellaneous Water
- Perennial Water
- Rock Outcrop
- Saline Spot
- Sandy Spot
- Severely Eroded Spot
- Sinkhole
- Slide or Slip
- Sodic Spot
- Spoil Area
- Stony Spot
- Very Stony Spot
- Wet Spot
- Other
- Special Line Features

Water Features
- Streams and Canals

Transportation
- Rails
- Interstate Highways
- US Routes
- Major Roads
- Local Roads

Background
- Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Marion County Area, Florida
Survey Area Data: Version 14, Sep 28, 2016

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Dec 31, 2009—Apr 5, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Marion County Area, Florida (FL608)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
2	Adamsville sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	65.4	1.8%
5	Apopka sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	769.7	21.3%
22	Candler sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	767.2	21.2%
23	Candler sand, 5 to 12 percent slopes	58.6	1.6%
42	Jumper fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	342.7	9.5%
43	Kanapaha-Kanapaha, wet, fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	0.1	0.0%
58	Placid sand, depressional	34.1	0.9%
61	Pomona sand	391.6	10.8%
62	Pompano sand	124.0	3.4%
63	Pompano sand, depressional	31.3	0.9%
65	Sparr fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	802.5	22.2%
69	Tavares sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	232.7	6.4%
Totals for Area of Interest		**3,619.8**	**100.0%**

Component Legend

This report presents general information about the map units and map unit components in the selected area. It shows map unit symbols and names and the components in each map unit. It also shows the percent of the components in the map units, the kind of component, and the slope range of each component.

Report—Component Legend

Component Legend–Marion County Area, Florida							
Map unit symbol and name	Map unit acres	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Component kind	Pct. slope		
					Low	RV	High
2—Adamsville sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	10,830						
		85	Adamsville	Series	0.0	2.0	5.0
5—Apopka sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	18,853						
		80	Apopka	Series	0.0	3.0	5.0
22—Candler sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	191,809						
		90	Candler	Series	0.0	3.0	5.0
23—Candler sand, 5 to 12 percent slopes	23,493						
		85	Candler	Series	5.0	8.5	12.0
42—Jumper fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	5,420						
		85	Jumper	Series	0.0	2.0	5.0
43—Kanapaha-Kanapaha, wet, fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	5,890						
		75	Kanapaha	Series	0.0	3.0	5.0
		10	Kanapaha, wet	Series	0.0	3.0	5.0
58—Placid sand, depressional	7,277						
		80	Placid, depressional	Series	0.0	1.0	2.0
61—Pomona sand	21,926						
		60	Pomona, non-hydric	Series	0.0	1.0	2.0
		20	Pomona, hydric	Series	0.0	1.0	2.0
62—Pompano sand	3,324						
		85	Pompano	Series	0.0	1.0	2.0
63—Pompano sand, depressional	1,464						
		80	Pompano, depressional	Series	0.0	1.0	2.0

Component Legend–Marion County Area, Florida							
Map unit symbol and name	Map unit acres	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Component kind	Pct. slope		
					Low	RV	High
65—Sparr fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	25,620						
		85	Sparr	Series	0.0	2.0	5.0
69—Tavares sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	12,717						
		85	Tavares	Series	0.0	3.0	5.0

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Marion County Area, Florida
Survey Area Data: Version 14, Sep 28, 2016

Map Unit Description (Brief, Generated)

The map units delineated on the detailed soil maps in a soil survey represent the soils or miscellaneous areas in the survey area. The map unit descriptions in this report, along with the maps, provide information on the composition of map units and properties of their components.

A map unit delineation on a soil map represents an area dominated by one or more major kinds of soil or miscellaneous areas. A map unit is identified and named according to the taxonomic classification of the dominant soils. Within a taxonomic class there are precisely defined limits for the properties of the soils. On the landscape, however, the soils are natural phenomena, and they have the characteristic variability of all natural phenomena. Thus, the range of some observed properties may extend beyond the limits defined for a taxonomic class. Areas of soils of a single taxonomic class rarely, if ever, can be mapped without including areas of other taxonomic classes. Consequently, every map unit is made up of the soils or miscellaneous areas for which it is named and some minor components that belong to taxonomic classes other than those of the major soils.

The Map Unit Description (Brief, Generated) report displays a generated description of the major soils that occur in a map unit. Descriptions of non-soil (miscellaneous areas) and minor map unit components are not included. This description is generated from the underlying soil attribute data.

Additional information about the map units described in this report is available in other Soil Data Mart reports, which give properties of the soils and the limitations, capabilities, and potentials for many uses. Also, the narratives that accompany the Soil Data Mart reports define some of the properties included in the map unit descriptions.

Report—Map Unit Description (Brief, Generated)

Marion County Area, Florida

Map Unit: 2—Adamsville sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Component: Adamsville (85%)

The Adamsville component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on rises on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is somewhat poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 30 inches during June, July, August, September, October, November. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Pomona, non-hydric (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pomona soil is a minor component.

Component: Candler (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Candler soil is a minor component.

Component: Pompano (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pompano soil is a minor component.

Component: Tavares (3%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Tavares soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 5—Apopka sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Component: Apopka (80%)

The Apopka component makes up 80 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on ridges on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of eolian deposits and/or sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is very low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. There is no zone of water saturation within a depth of 72 inches. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3s. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Sparr (6%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Sparr soil is a minor component.

Component: Candler (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Candler soil is a minor component.

Component: Jumper (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Jumper soil is a minor component.

Component: Jonesville (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Jonesville soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 22—Candler sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Component: Candler (90%)

The Candler component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on ridges on marine terraces on coastal plains, knolls on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of eolian deposits and/or sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is excessively drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is very low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. There is no zone of water saturation within a depth of 72 inches. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 4s. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Tavares (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Tavares soil is a minor component.

Component: Millhopper (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Millhopper soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 23—Candler sand, 5 to 12 percent slopes

Component: Candler (85%)

The Candler component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 5 to 12 percent. This component is on ridges on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of eolian deposits and/or sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is excessively drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is very high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is very low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. There is no zone of water saturation within a depth of 72 inches. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 6s. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Apopka (6%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Apopka soil is a minor component.

Component: Kendrick (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Kendrick soil is a minor component.

Component: Adamsville (3%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Adamsville soil is a minor component.

Component: Pompano (1%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pompano soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 42—Jumper fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Component: Jumper (85%)

The Jumper component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on flats on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is somewhat poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 42 inches during July, August, September, October. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 2w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Sparr (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Sparr soil is a minor component.

Component: Apopka (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Apopka soil is a minor component.

Component: Lynne, non-hydric (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Lynne soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 43—Kanapaha-Kanapaha, wet, fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Component: Kanapaha (75%)

The Kanapaha component makes up 75 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on rises on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 12 inches during June, July, August, September. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Kanapaha, wet (10%)

The Kanapaha, wet component makes up 10 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on sloughs on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 6 inches during June, July, August, September. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3w. This soil meets hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Arredondo (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Arredondo soil is a minor component.

Component: Sparr (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Sparr soil is a minor component.

Component: Blichton (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Blichton soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 58—Placid sand, depressional

Component: Placid, depressional (80%)

The Placid, depressional component makes up 80 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on depressions on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is very poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is moderate. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is frequently ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 3 inches during January, February, March, June, July, August, September, October, November, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 6 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3w. This soil meets hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Pomona, hydric (7%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pomona soil is a minor component.

Component: Adamsville (7%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Adamsville soil is a minor component.

Component: Pompano, depressional (6%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pompano soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 61—Pomona sand

Component: Pomona, non-hydric (60%)

The Pomona, non-hydric component makes up 60 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on flatwoods on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 12 inches during May, June, July, August, September, October, November. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 3 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 4w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Pomona, hydric (20%)

The Pomona, hydric component makes up 20 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on flats on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 6 inches during May, June, July, August, September, October, November. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 3 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 4w. This soil meets hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Electra (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Electra soil is a minor component.

Component: Pompano (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pompano soil is a minor component.

Component: Placid (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Placid soil is a minor component.

Component: Lynne, non-hydric (5%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Lynne soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 62—Pompano sand

Component: Pompano (85%)

The Pompano component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on flats on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is very high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is very low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 3 inches during January, February, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 3 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 4w. This soil meets hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Placid (8%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Placid soil is a minor component.

Component: Pomona, non-hydric (7%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pomona soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 63—Pompano sand, depressional

Component: Pompano, depressional (80%)

The Pompano, depressional component makes up 80 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on depressions on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is very poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is very high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is very low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is frequently ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 3 inches during January, February, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 3 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 7w. This soil meets hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Placid, depressional (7%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Placid soil is a minor component.

Component: Anclote (7%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Anclote soil is a minor component.

Component: Pomona, hydric (6%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Pomona soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 65—Sparr fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Component: Sparr (85%)

The Sparr component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on rises on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of sandy and loamy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is somewhat poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 39 inches during July, August, September, October. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 1 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Apopka (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Apopka soil is a minor component.

Component: Blichton, non-hydric (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Blichton soil is a minor component.

Component: Arredondo (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Arredondo soil is a minor component.

Component: Jumper (3%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Jumper soil is a minor component.

Map Unit: 69—Tavares sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Component: Tavares (85%)

The Tavares component makes up 85 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent. This component is on ridges on marine terraces on coastal plains. The parent material consists of eolian or sandy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is moderately well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches (or restricted depth) is very low. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 57 inches during June, July, August, September, October, November, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3s. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. There are no saline horizons within 30 inches of the soil surface. The soil has a maximum sodium adsorption ratio of 0 within 30 inches of the soil surface.

Component: Apopka (6%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Apopka soil is a minor component.

Component: Candler (4%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Candler soil is a minor component.

Component: Adamsville (3%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Adamsville soil is a minor component.

Component: Zolfo (2%)

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Zolfo soil is a minor component.

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Marion County Area, Florida
Survey Area Data: Version 14, Sep 28, 2016

Exhibit J

DEP Outstanding Florida Waters

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Bob Martinez Center
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

Rick Scott
Governor

Carlos Lopez-Cantera
Lt. Governor

Noah Valenstein
Secretary

July 20, 2017

Mr. Alan L. Davis
Land Planning Coordinator
Florida Forest Service
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
The Conner Building
3125 Conner Boulevard, Suite J-237
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1650

RE: Ross Prairie State Forest

Dear Mr. Davis:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the surface water quality classifications on and near Ross Prairie State Forest in Marion County. There are no Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW) located on or adjacent to the site. All of the surface waters on or adjacent to the site are classified as Class III waters (subparagraph 62-302.400(17)(b)42., FAC), which is the statewide default classification.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at the letterhead address (mail station 6511), by phone at 850/245-8429, or via E-mail at Eric.Shaw@dep.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

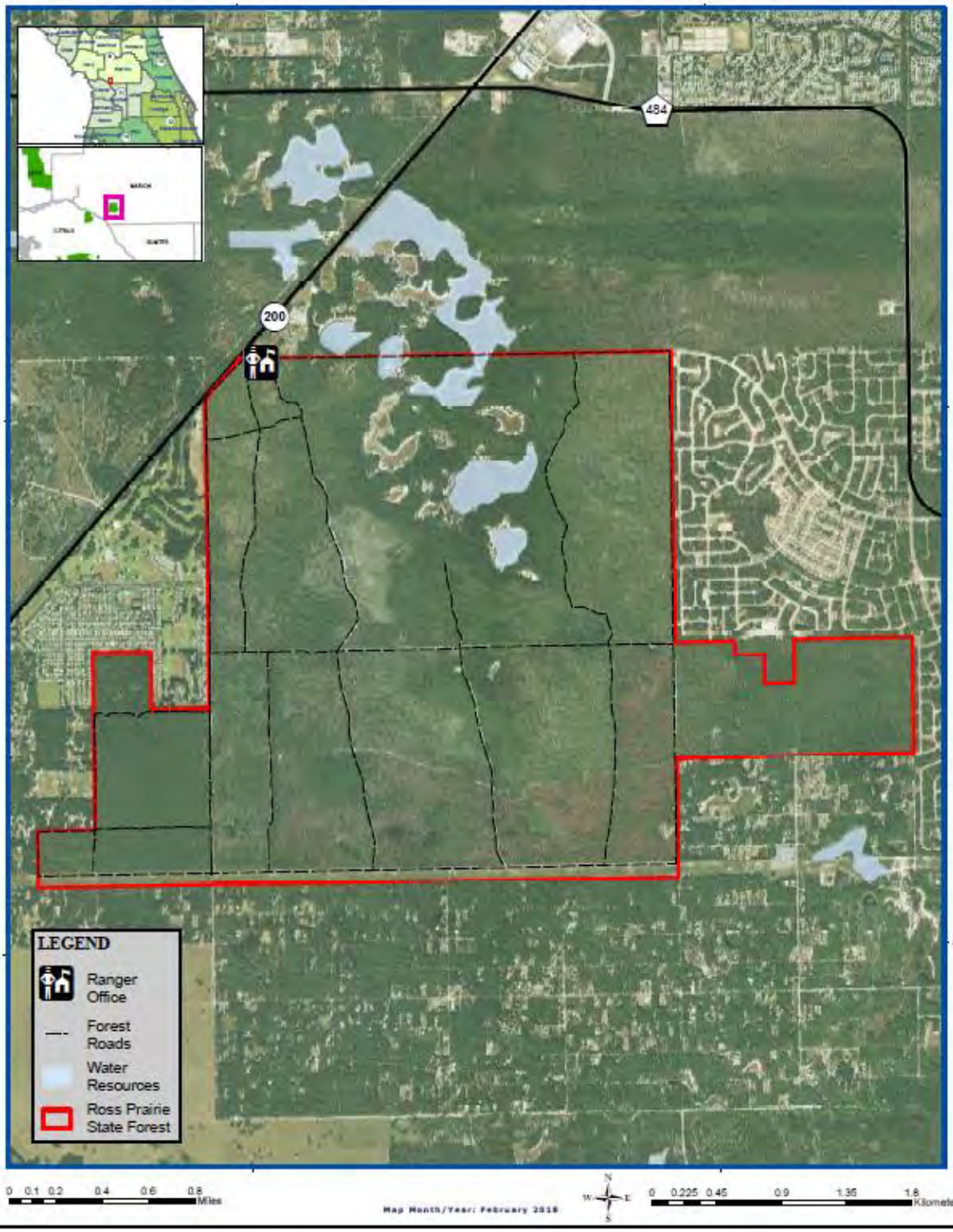
Eric Shaw
Environmental Manager
Water Quality Standards Program
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
2600 Blair Stone Road, MS 6511
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400
Phone: (850) 245-8429
Email: Eric.Shaw@dep.state.fl.us

Exhibit K

Water Resources Map

Ross Prairie State Forest

Water Resources Map



Map Month/Year: February 2018

Exhibit L

Florida Natural Areas Inventory Response

FLORIDA
Natural Areas
INVENTORY

1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850-224-8207
fax 850-681-9364
www.fnai.org

August 9, 2017

Alan Davis
FDACS, Florida Forest Service
3125 Conner Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Mr. Davis,

Thank you for requesting information from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). We have compiled the following information for your project area.

Project:	Ross Prairie State Forest
Date Received:	8/7/2017
Location:	Marion County

Based on the information available, this site appears to be located in a significant region of natural areas and habitat for several rare species. Special consideration should be taken to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to these natural resources, and to design land uses that are compatible with these resources.

Based on the information available, this site appears to be located on or very near a significant region of scrub habitat, a natural community in decline that provides important habitat for several rare species within a small area. Additional consideration should be given to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to these natural resources, and to design land uses that are compatible with these resources.

Element Occurrences

A search of our maps and database indicates that we currently have a few element occurrences mapped in the vicinity of the study area (see managed area summary report). Please be advised that a lack of element occurrences in the FNAI database is not a sufficient indication of the absence of rare or endangered species on a site.

Federally Listed Species

Our data indicate federally listed species are present on or very near this site (see table for details). This statement should not be interpreted as a legal determination of presence or absence of federally listed species on a property.

The element occurrences data layer includes occurrences of rare species and natural communities. The map legend indicates that some element occurrences occur in the general vicinity of the label point. This may be due to lack of precision of the source data, or an element that occurs over an extended area (such as a wide ranging species or large natural community). For animals and plants, element occurrences generally refer to more than a casual sighting, they usually indicate a viable population of the species. Note that some element occurrences represent historically documented observations which may no longer be extant.

Florida Resources and Environmental Analysis Center
Institute of Science and Public Affairs
The Florida State University

Likely and Potential Rare Species

In addition to documented occurrences, other rare species and natural communities may be identified on or near the site based on habitat models and species range models (see enclosed Biodiversity Matrix Report). These species should be taken into consideration in field surveys, land management, and impact avoidance and mitigation.

FNAI habitat models indicate areas, which based on land cover type, offer suitable habitat for one or more rare species that is known to occur in the vicinity. Habitat models have been developed for approximately 300 of the rarest species tracked by the Inventory, including all federally listed species.

FNAI species range models indicate areas that are within the known or predicted range of a species, based on climate variables, soils, vegetation, and/or slope. Species range models have been developed for approximately 340 species, including all federally listed species.

The FNAI Biodiversity Matrix Geodatabase compiles Documented, Likely, and Potential species and natural communities for each square mile Matrix Unit statewide.

Florida Scrub-jay Survey – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

This survey was conducted by staff and associates of the Archbold Biological Station from 1992 to 1996. An attempt was made to record all scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) groups, although most federal lands were not officially surveyed. Each map point represents one or more groups.

This data layer indicates that there are potential scrub-jay populations on or very near your site. For additional information:

Fitzpatrick, J.W., B. Pranty, and B. Stith. 1994. Florida scrub jay statewide map, 1992-1993. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Report. Cooperative Agreement no. 14-16-004-91-950.

Land Acquisition Projects

This site appears to be located within the Long Leaf Pine Florida Forever BOT Project – Ross Prairie Sandhill, which is part of the State of Florida's Conservation and Recreation Lands land acquisition program. A description of these projects can be found at http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/FFplan_county.htm. For more information on these Florida Forever Projects, contact the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands.

Florida Forever Board of Trustees (BOT) projects are proposed and acquired through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands. The state has no specific land management authority over these lands until they are purchased.

The Inventory always recommends that professionals familiar with Florida's flora and fauna conduct a site-specific survey to determine the current presence or absence of rare, threatened, or endangered species.

Please visit www.fnai.org/trackinglist.cfm for county or statewide element occurrence distributions and links to more element information.

The database maintained by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory is the single most comprehensive source of information available on the locations of rare species and other significant ecological resources. However, the data are not always based on comprehensive or site-specific field surveys. Therefore this information should not be regarded as a final statement on the biological resources of the site being considered, nor should it be substituted for on-site surveys. Inventory data are designed for the purposes of conservation planning and scientific research, and are not intended for use as the primary criteria for regulatory decisions.

Exhibit M

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Response

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Commissioners
Brian Yablonski
Chairman
Tallahassee

Aliese P. "Liesa" Priddy
Vice Chairman
Immokalee

Ronald M. Bergeron
Fort Lauderdale

Richard Hanas
Oviedo

Bo Rivard
Panama City

Charles W. Roberts III
Tallahassee

Robert A. Spottswood
Key West

Executive Staff
Nick Wiley
Executive Director

Eric Sutton
Assistant Executive Director

Jennifer Fitzwater
Chief of Staff

Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Gil McRae
Director

(727) 896-8626
(727) 823-0166 FAX

Managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people.

Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
100 Eighth Avenue SE
St. Petersburg, Florida
33701-5020
Voice: (727) 896-8626
Fax: (727) 823-0166
Hearing/speech-impaired:
(800) 955-8771 (T)
(800) 955-8770 (V)
MyFWC.com/Research

8/01/2017

Alan L. Davis
Land Planning Coordinator
Florida Forest Service
3125 Conner Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL
32399

Dear Alan Davis:

This letter is in response to your request for listed species occurrence records and critical habitats, Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas (SHCA's), on the following properties: Peace River, Newnans Lake SF, Ross Prairie SF, Matanzas SF, Jennings SF, Tate's Hell SF, and Picayune Strand SF. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's database indicates that SHCA's for swallow-tailed kite and Cooper's hawk occur in Newnans Lake. SHCA's for Cooper's hawk, scrubjay, and swallow-tailed kite occur in Peace River. SHCA's for the Florida black bear and the striped newt occur in Jennings SF. Enclosed are 8.5 x 11 maps showing prioritized SHCA's, priority wetlands, and species locations for all projects.

** Please note: the SHCAs were developed for the purpose of identifying new areas that may eventually be managed for species conservation. Many public lands were expressly removed from the models and this is why some sites, or portions of sites, have no SHCA. Therefore on maps where there is no visual representation of a SHCA there is a strong possibility that our models would have designated these locations as SHCA had they not already been designated as public or protected lands.

This letter and/or attachments should not be considered as a review or an assessment of the impact upon threatened or endangered species of the project site. It provides FWC's most current data regarding the location of listed species and their associated habitats.

Our SHCA recommendations are intended to be used as a guide. Land development and ownership in Florida is ever-changing and priority areas identified as SHCA might already have been significantly altered due to development or acquired into public ownership. Onsite surveys, literature reviews, and coordination with FWC biologists remain essential steps in documenting the presence or absence of rare and imperiled species and habitats within the project area.

Our fish and wildlife location data represents only those occurrences recorded by FWC staff and other affiliated researchers. Please note that our database does not necessarily contain records of all listed species that may occur in a given area. Also, data on certain species, such as gopher

tortoises, are not entered into our database on a site-specific basis. **Therefore, one should not assume that an absence of occurrences in our database indicates that species of significance do not occur in the area.**

If you have any questions or further requests, please contact me at (850) 488-0588 or gisrequests@myfwc.com

Sincerely,

Eva Salinas

Eva Salinas
Research Assistant

2017_6219
Enclosures

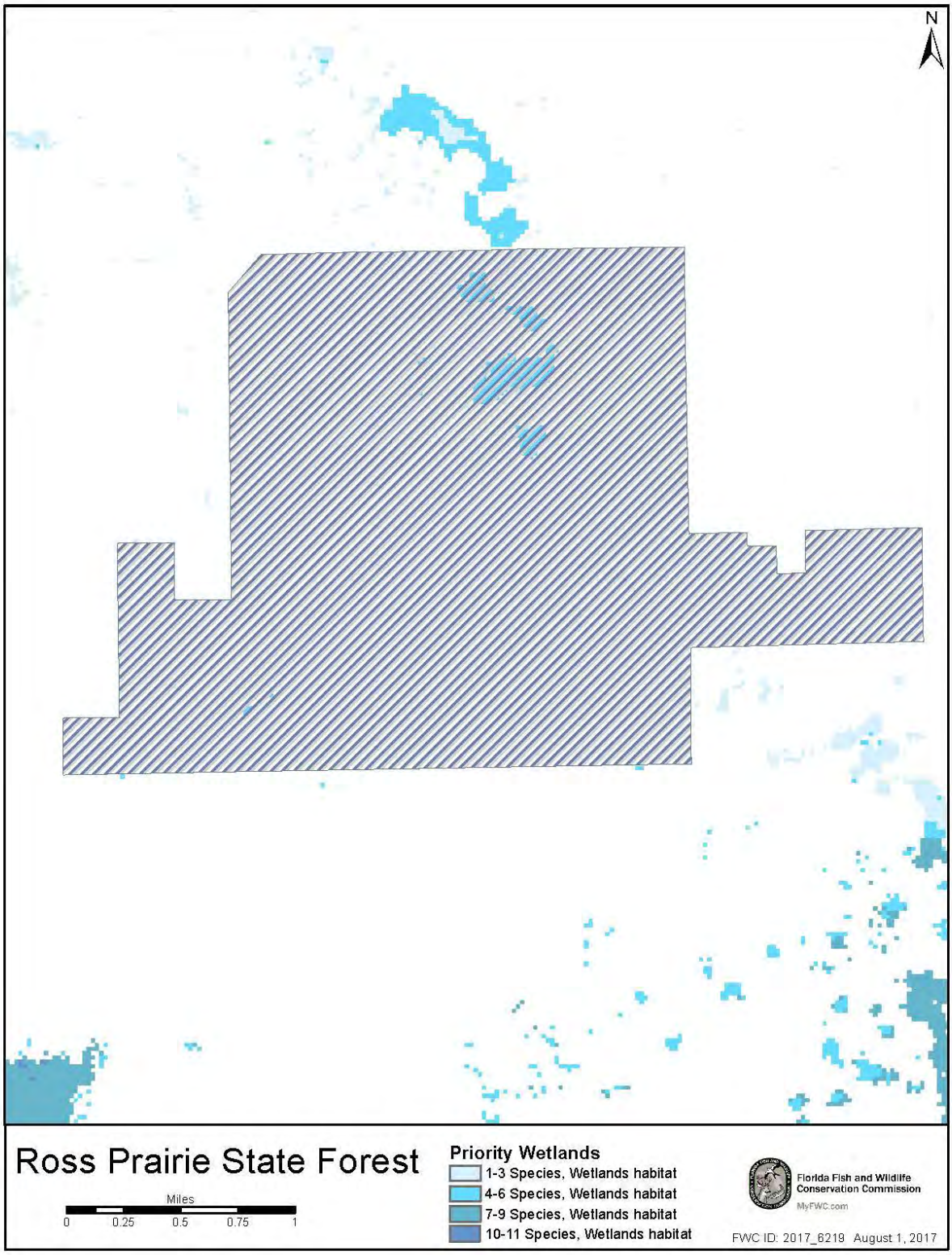
Ross Prairie State Forest

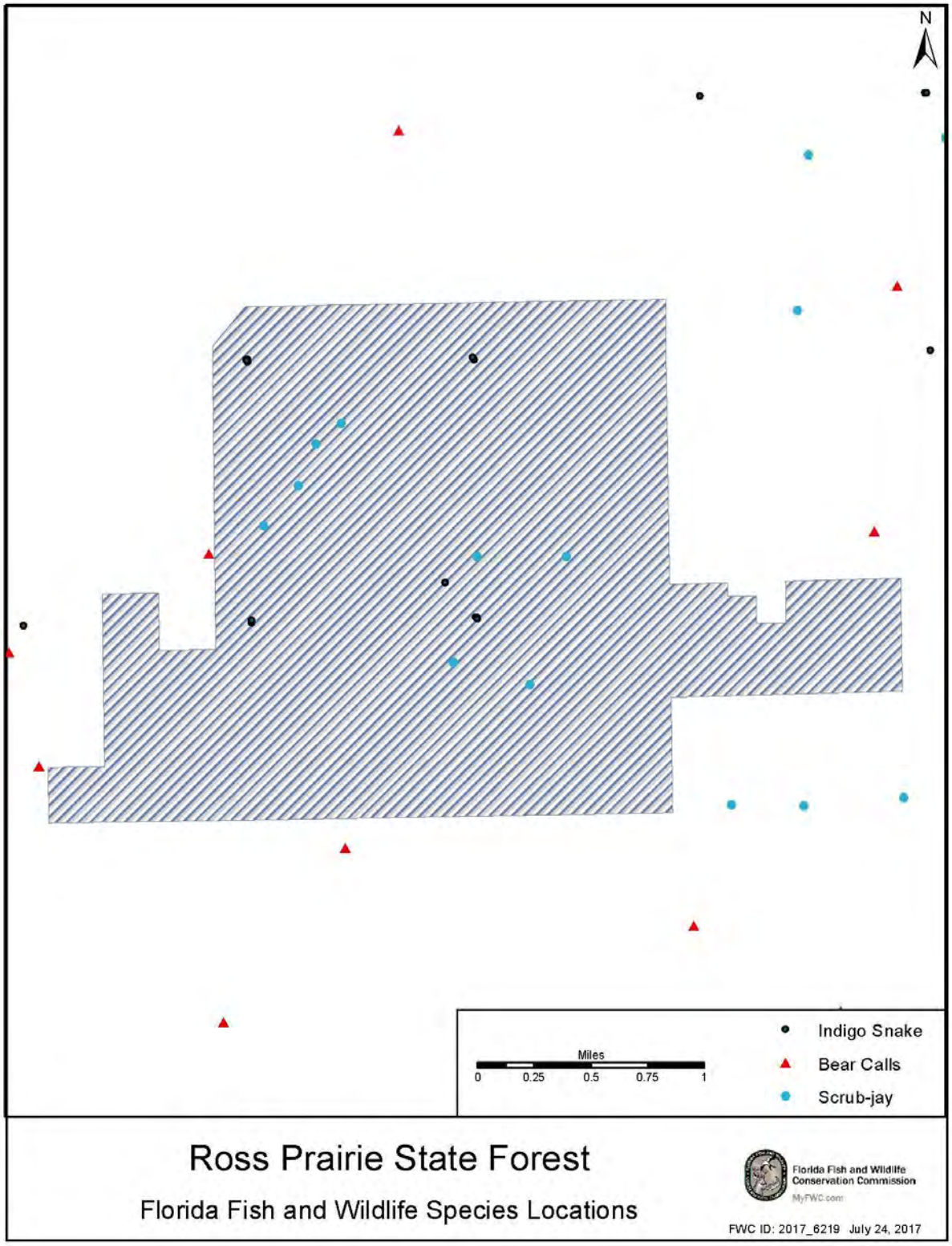
Prioritized SHCA's

Priority 1 Priority 2 Priority 3 Priority 4 Priority 5

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
MyFWC.com

FWC ID: 2017_6219 August 1, 2017


N
Ross Prairie State Forest
Miles
0
0.25
0.5
0.75
1
Priority Wetlands
1-3 Species, Wetlands habitat
4-6 Species, Wetlands habitat
7-9 Species, Wetlands habitat
10-11 Species, Wetlands habitat
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
MyFWC.com
FWC ID: 2017_6219 August 1, 2017



Ross Prairie State Forest

Florida Fish and Wildlife Species Locations

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
MyFWC.com

FWC ID: 2017_6219 July 24, 2017

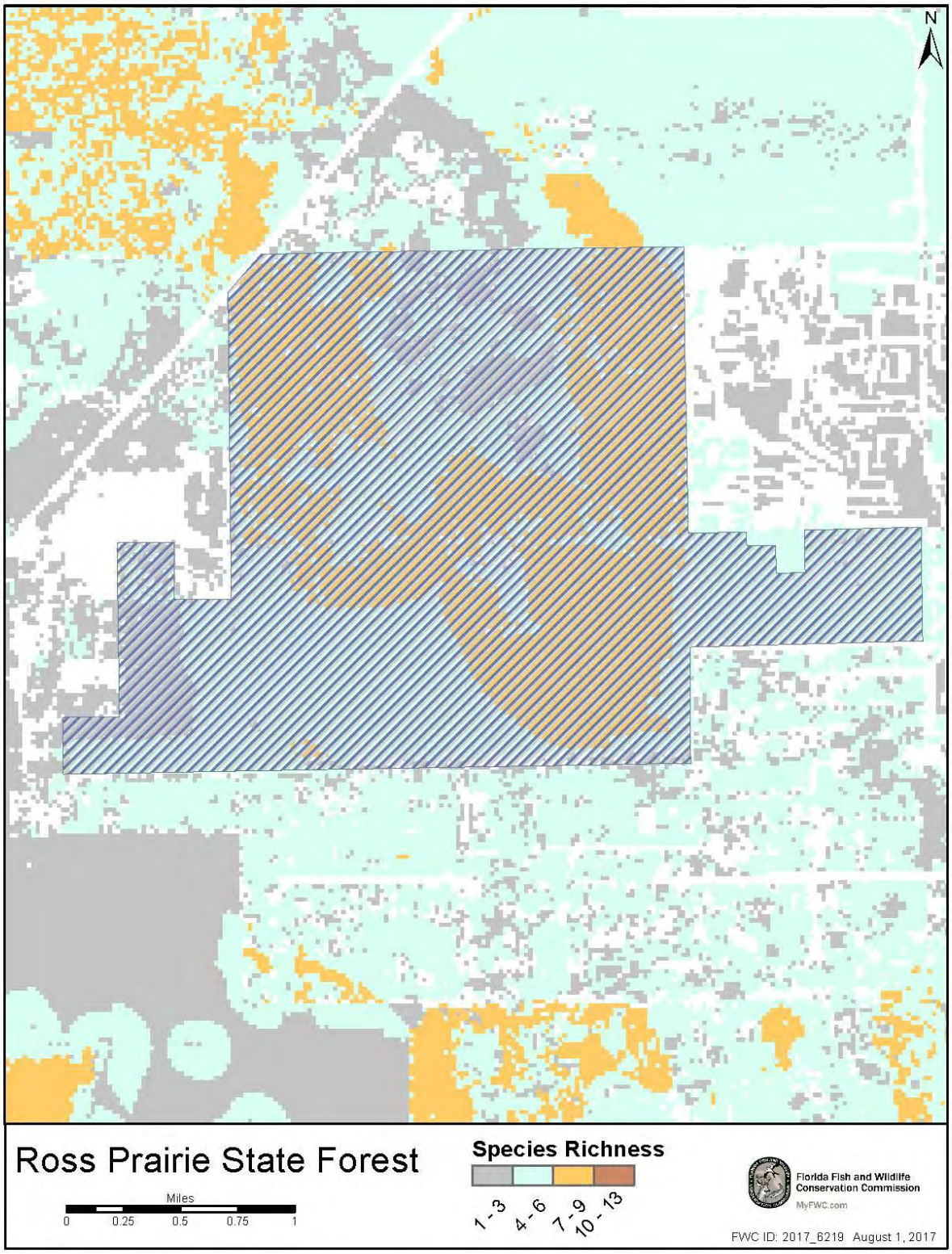

N
Ross Prairie State Forest
Miles
0
0.25
0.5
0.75
1
Species Richness
1 - 3
4 - 6
7 - 9
10 - 13
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
MyFWC.com
FWC ID: 2017_6219 August 1, 2017

Exhibit N

RPSF Fire History

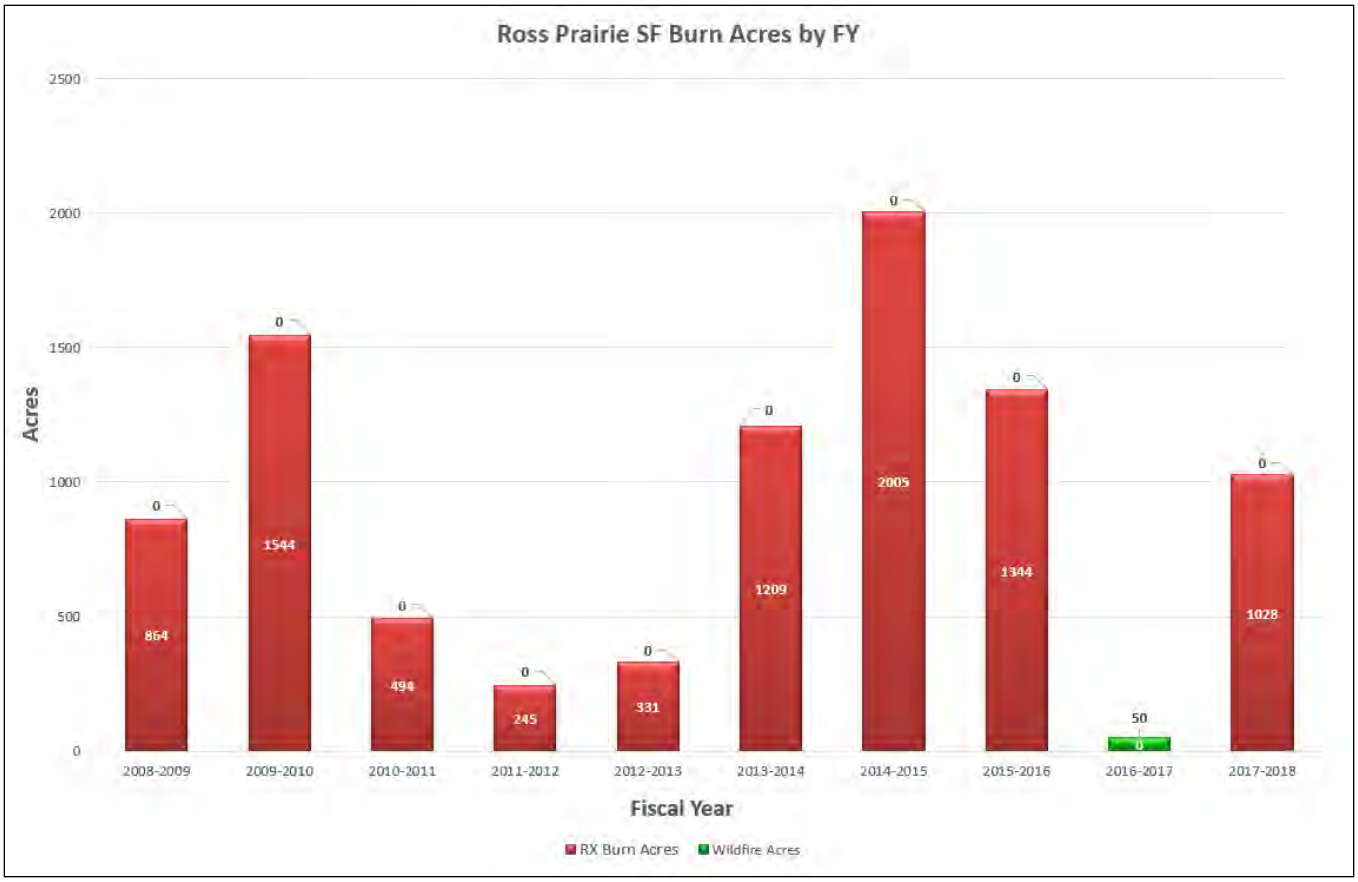

Ross Prairie SF Burn Acres by FY
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
Acres
0
864
0
1544
0
494
0
245
0
331
0
1209
0
2005
0
1344
50
0
0
1028
2008-2009
2009-2010
2010-2011
2011-2012
2012-2013
2013-2014
2014-2015
2015-2016
2016-2017
2017-2018
Fiscal Year
RX Burn Acres
Wildfire Acres

Exhibit O

Non-Native Invasive Species

Ross Prairie State Forest

Non-Native Invasive Species Map

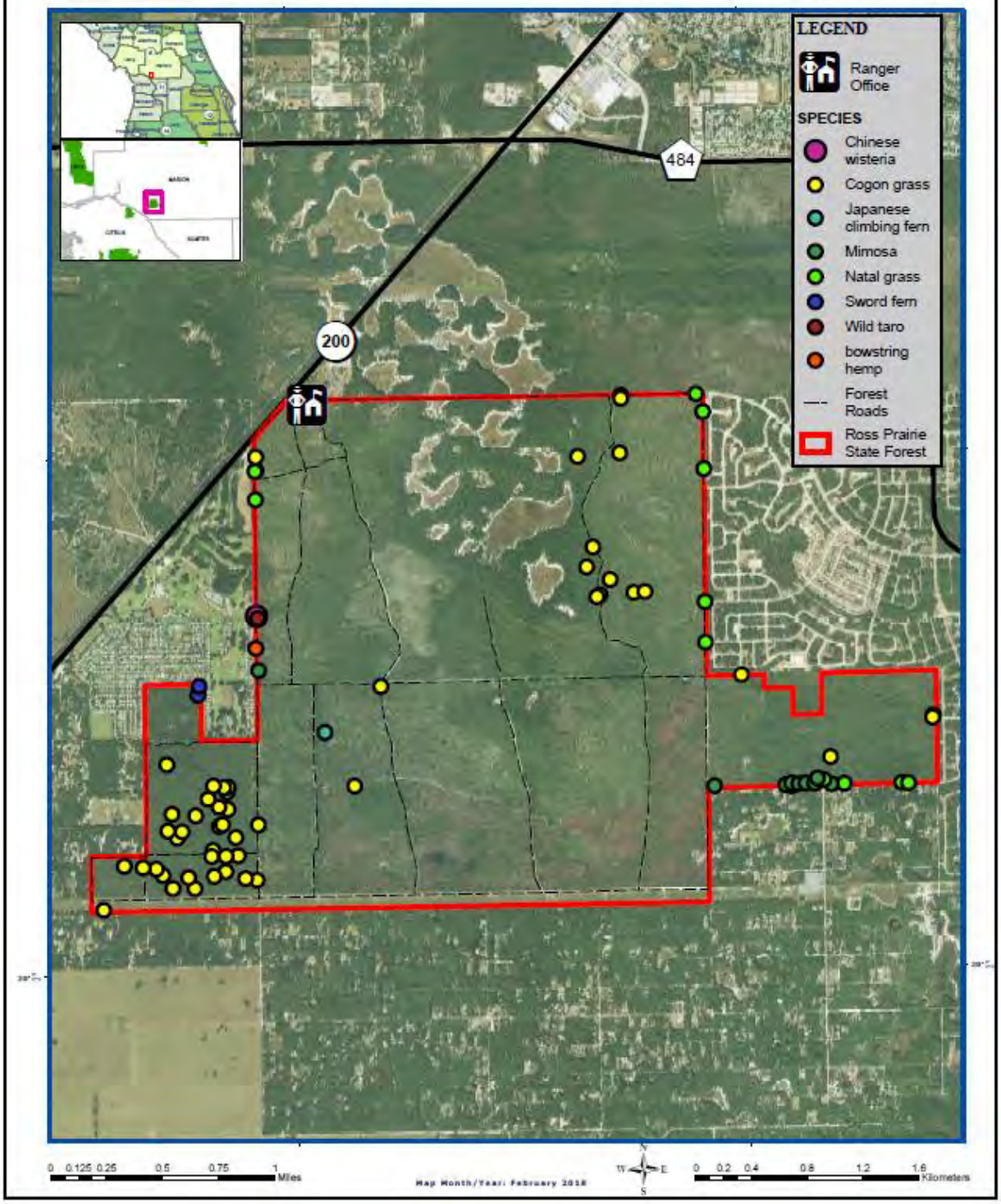
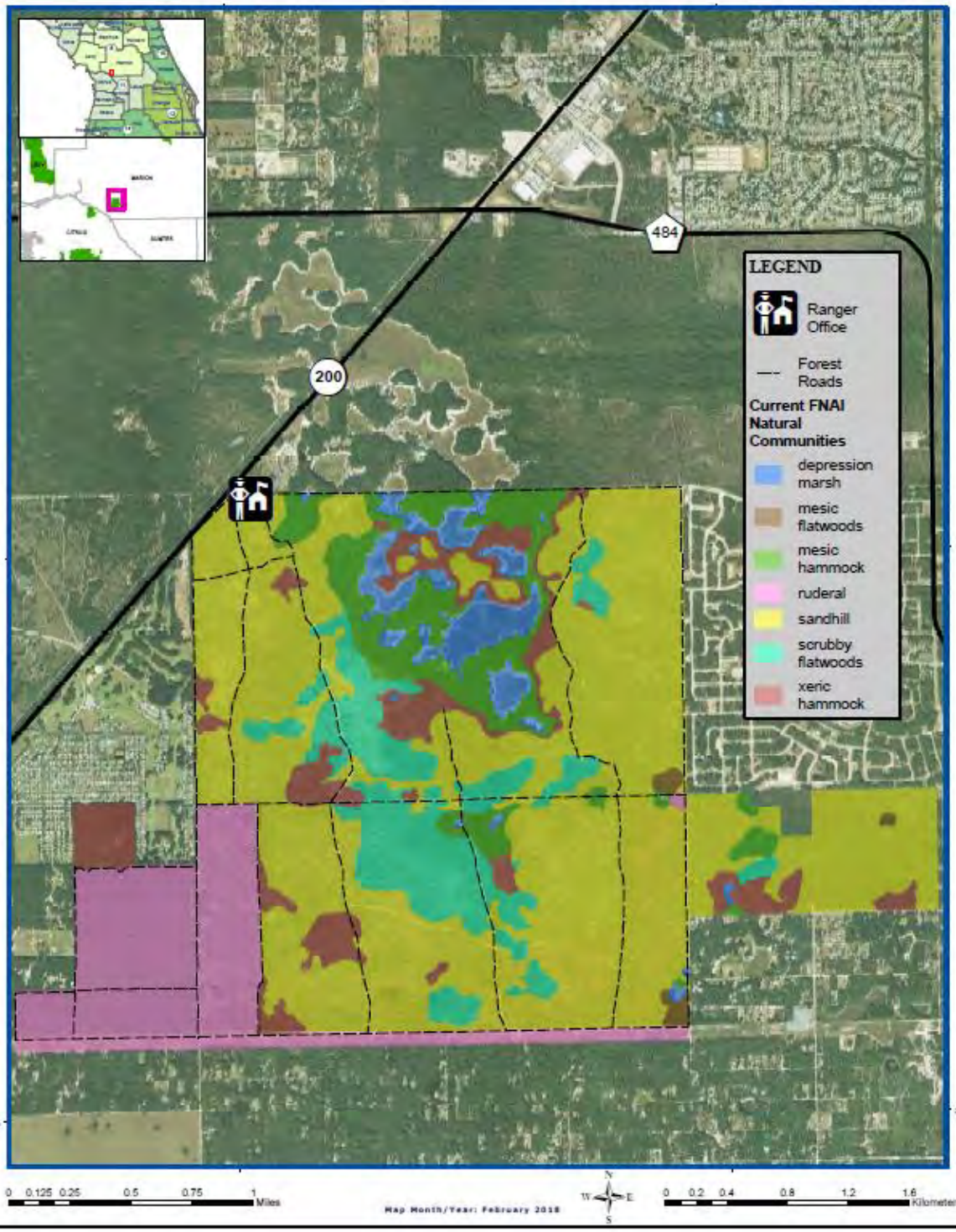


Exhibit P

Current FNAI Natural Communities

Ross Prairie State Forest

Current FNAI Natural Communities Map



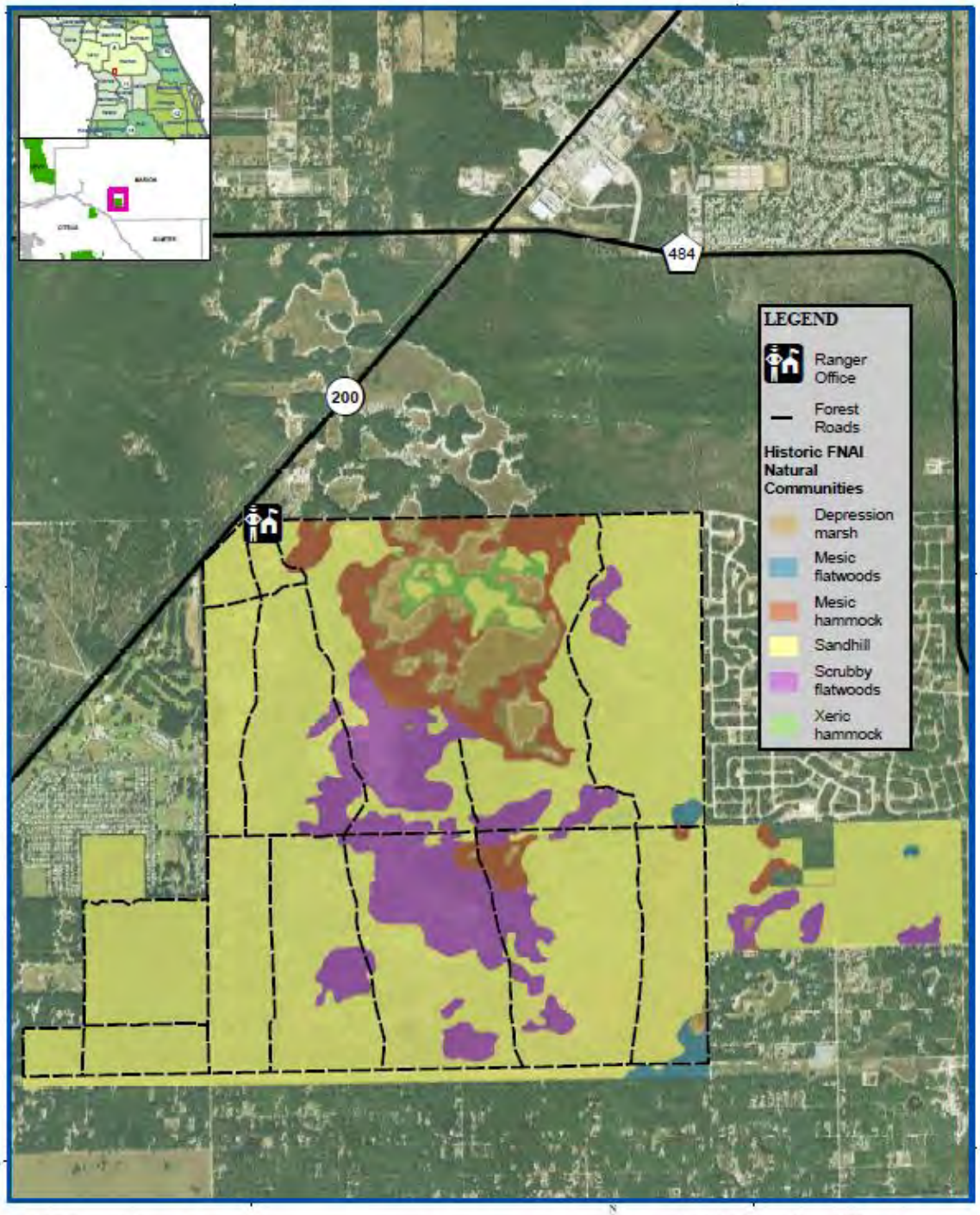
Map Month/Year: February 2018

Exhibit Q

Historic FNAI Natural Communities

Ross Prairie State Forest

Historic FNAI Natural Communities



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

0 0.175 0.35 0.7 1.05 1.4 Kilometers

Map Month/Year: February 2018

Exhibit R

Management Prospectus

Longleaf Pine Ecosystem

Gilchrist, Hamilton, Marion and Volusia Counties **Critical Natural Lands**

Purpose for State Acquisition

Though they once covered much of north and central Florida, old-growth longleaf pine sandhills are now only distant memories, replaced by pine plantations, pastures, and housing developments. Nevertheless, fragments of good sandhills still remain. The Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project will conserve two of the largest and best of these fragments, in so doing helping to ensure the survival of several rare animals like the red-cockaded woodpecker as well as some plants, and giving the public an opportunity to see and enjoy the original, and increasingly rare, natural landscape of Florida's uplands. This project may also help complete the Florida National Scenic Trail, a statewide nonmotorized trail that crosses a number of Florida Forever project sites.

Bell Ridge: The primary goal is to restore, maintain and protect in perpetuity all native ecosystems; to integrate compatible human use; and to insure long-term viability of populations and rare species. The Bell Ridge is a small xeric upland physiographic feature lying just north of the much larger Brooksville Ridge. The gently rolling hills and ridges of the Bell Ridge represent relict beach dunes now at elevations of 60-100 feet and consist of excessively well-drained sands of generally low fertility. It is predominantly sandhill of variable quality. The Bell Ridge Sandhills can be expected to support most of the fauna, both game and nongame, typical of sandhill habitat. Evidence of one rare species, the gopher tortoise was found.

Longleaf Pine Ecosystem
FNAI Elements

Florida Scrub-Jay	G2/S2
Florida Black Bear	G5T2/S2
Eastern Indigo Snake	G3/S3
Florida Mouse	G3/S3
Gopher Tortoise	G3/S3
Longspurred Mint	G1/S1
Orange Lake Cave Crayfish	G1/S1
Sand Butterfly Pea	G2Q/S2
Southern Hognose Snake	G2/S2
Giant Orchid	G2G3/S2
Hobbs' Cave Amphipod	G2G3/S2S3
Short-tailed Hawk	G4G5/S1

27 rare species are associated with the project

Manager

Florida Forest Service/FFS, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Ross Prairie sites [except the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway--MHC--portion which is under an approved management lease to Office of Greenways and Trails--OGT], Blue Spring Longleaf, Bell Ridge, Deland Ridge). The FFS will manage Bell Ridge under a multiple-use management regime consistent with the State Forest system.

General Description

Longleaf Pine Ecosystem sites (Ross Prairie Sandhill, Ross Prairie Addition, Bell Ridge, Blue Spring Longleaf, and Deland Ridge) are some of the highest quality longleaf pine sandhills in Florida. Longleaf pine sandhills are one of Florida's most distinctive and endangered forest types, and have declined by more than 80 percent in the last century. The project will protect nearly 20 plants, animals, and natural communities listed by Florida Natural Areas Inventory. Archaeological sites are known in the Ross Prairie tract. These sites are vulnerable to logging and fire suppression as well as development.

Public Use

The project will provide state forests, with opportunities for hunting, hiking, horseback riding, camping and nature appreciation.

Placed on List	**1993**
Project Area (GIS Acres)	**22,401**
Acres Acquired (GIS)	**12,649***
at a Cost of	**$30,408,180**
Acres Remaining (GIS)	**9,752**
Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	**$20,329,303**

*** includes 54 acres at Caraway Lake acquired by the Florida Audubon Society in 1990.**

LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM: OVERVIEW

GILCHRIST, HAMILTON, MADISON, MARION, AND VOLUSIA COUNTIES

Map 1: Hamilton County
A. Blue Spring Longleaf Site
Map 2: Madison County
A. Ellaville Sandhill Site
Map 3: Gilchrist County
A. Bell Ridge Sandhills Site
Map 4: Volusia County
A. Deland Ridge Site
Map 5: Marion County
A. Ross Prairie Sandhill Site
B. Ross Prairie Addition Site

0 15 30 60
Miles

AUGUST 2013

Acquisition Planning
Largest property owners south of canal lands (essential) within the Ross Prairie (8,216 acres) site are Janet Land Corp. (acquired) and Deltona-Marion Oaks Sub. (unwilling seller). North of the canal lands are seven (essential), Ocala Waterway Estates (essential), Guy (essential), Davis, and less than 35 other smaller tracts. The Blue Spring (1,978 acres) site consists of one owner (acquired, through TNC).

On December 3, 1998, LAMAC transferred the Deland Ridge and Chassahowitzka Sandhill sites to the Negotiation Impasse group. On July 29, 1999, the Council added the 3,040 acre Ross Prairie Addition project to the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project (Priority Group). On December 9, 1999 the Council approved the Bell Ridge project to be added to the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project.

On August 13, 2010 ARC approved a 3,612-acre ($528,396,412 just value) reduction to the project boundary due to residential/commercial/infrastructure disturbances.

On December 9, 2011 ARC designated this project as a Critical Natural Lands (CNL) project.

On July 3, 2012 BOT acquired 5.16 acres in the Ross Prairie area for $8,000.

On April 19, 2013, ARC approved changing the boundary of the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Florida Forever project in Madison County, adding the 986-acre Ellaville Sandhill Tract that was approved in the February ARC meeting to the project boundary.

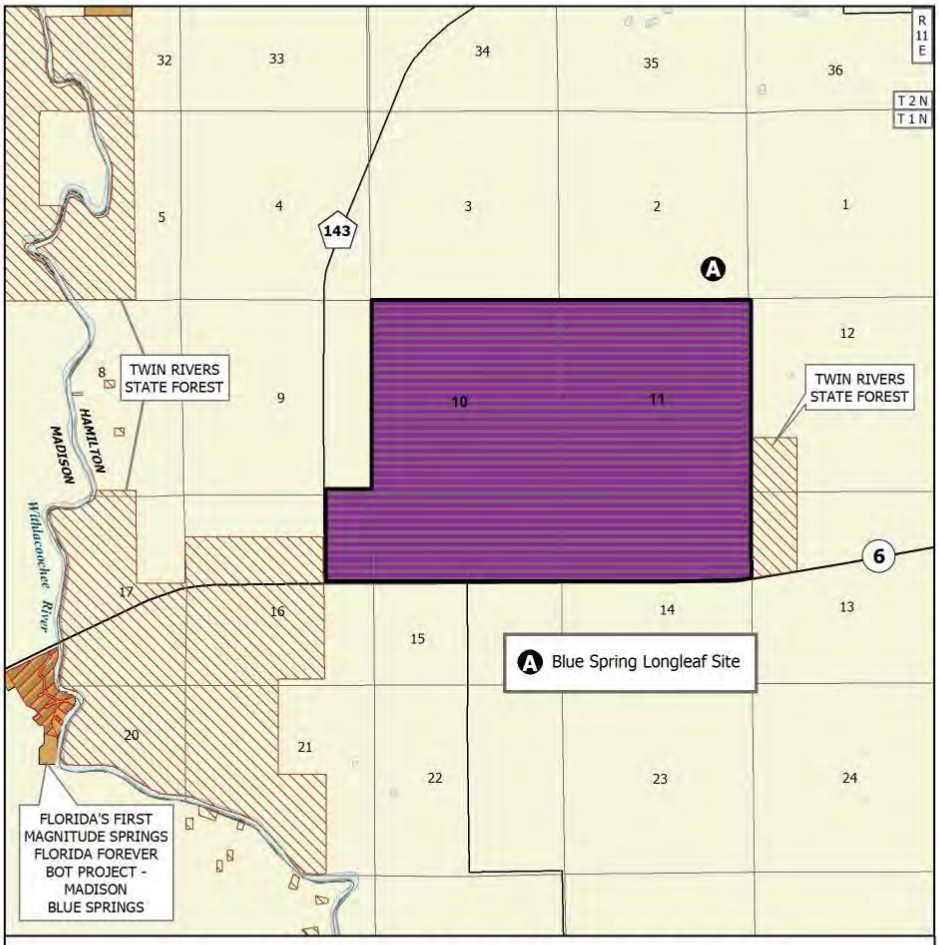
Coordination
TNC, the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Trust for Public Lands (TPL), and the Florida Audubon Society are acquisition partners on this project.

Management Policy Statement
The primary goals of management of the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem project are to: conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests; and enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect.

Management Prospectus
Qualifications for state designation The quality of the pine forests on the Blue Spring Longleaf and Ross Prairie sites, and their size and diversity, make them suitable for state forests.
Manager The Florida Forest Service (FFS) is to manage Ross Prairie sites [except the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway portion already under an approved management plan by the OGT]; Blue Spring Longleaf; Bell Ridge; and Deland Ridge).
Bell Ridge: The FFS will manage the project under a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system.
Conditions affecting intensity of management On the Blue Spring tract, there are no known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention, so management intensity is expected to be typical for a state forest. On Ross Prairie, however, the construction of an extension of the Florida Turnpike may hinder fire management activities and public access to the forest.
Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure The Blue Spring Longleaf tract and part of the Ross Prairie Sandhills tract have been acquired (the OGT manages the MHC Cross Florida Greenway portion). The FFS is now providing public access to these tracts for low-intensity, non-facilities-related outdoor recreation.

Management on the Blue Spring Longleaf tract will concentrate on maintaining the existing open conditions and seeds will be collected with as little disturbance as possible to the resources.

On all three tracts, the FFS will provide access to the public while protecting sensitive resources. The sites' natural resources and threatened and endangered plants and animals will be inventoried to provide the basis for a management plan. Long-range plans will address restoring disturbed areas to their original conditions, as far as possible, as well as protecting threatened and endangered species. An all-season burning program will use, whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks to contain fires. Timber management will mostly involve improvement thinning and regeneration harvests. Plantations will be thinned and, where appropriate, reforested with species found in natural ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age. Infrastructure will primarily be located in disturbed areas and will be the minimum required for



LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM: MAP 1 OF 5

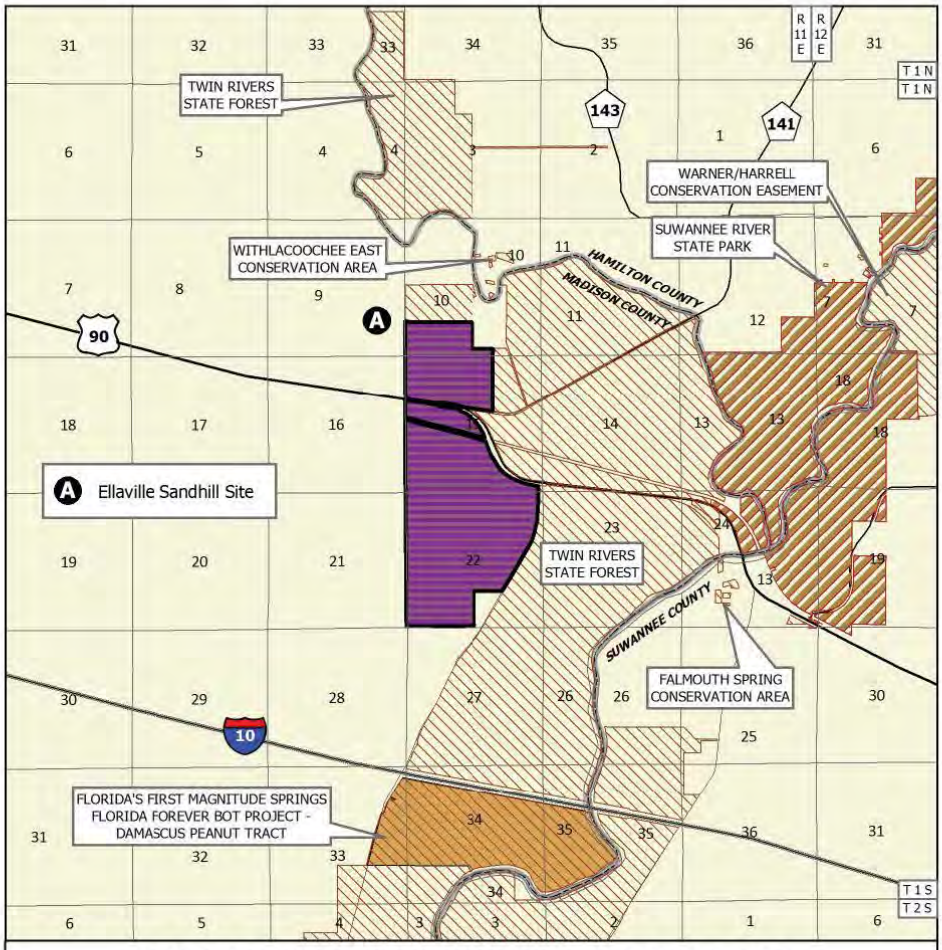
HAMILTON COUNTY

- Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
- Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
- Other Florida Forever BOT Projects
- State Owned Lands
- Other Conservation Lands

N W E S

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

AUGUST 2013



LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM: MAP 2 OF 5

MADISON COUNTY

- Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
- Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
- Other Florida Forever BOT Projects
- State Owned Lands
- Other Conservation Lands

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

AUGUST 2013

management and public access. The FFS will promote environmental education.

Revenue-generating potential The FFS will sell timber as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will provide a variable source of revenue, but the revenue-generating potential for these tracts is expected to be low.

Cooperators in management activities The FFS will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested agencies.

Bell Ridge:

Management Policy

The primary objective of management of the Bell Ridge Sandhills is to protect and restore the threatened sandhill natural community. A secondary objective is to provide resource-based recreation compatible with protection of the natural and cultural resource values of the project. The site will be managed under the multiple-use concept—management activities will be directed first toward conservation of resources and second toward integrating carefully controlled consumptive uses. Managers will control access to the proposal; thoroughly inventory the resources; restore hydrological disturbances; conduct prescribed burning of fire-dependent communities to mimic natural lightning-season fires, using existing firelines, natural firebreaks, existing roads, or foam lines for control; strictly limit timber harvesting in mature stands; and monitor management activities to ensure that they are actually conserving resources. Managers will limit the number and size of recreation facilities, ensure that they avoid the most sensitive resources, and site them in already disturbed areas when possible. The project includes over 3,000 acres of relatively undisturbed land adjacent to an existing area of conservation lands. It consequently appears to have the size and location to achieve its primary and secondary objective.

Management Prospectus

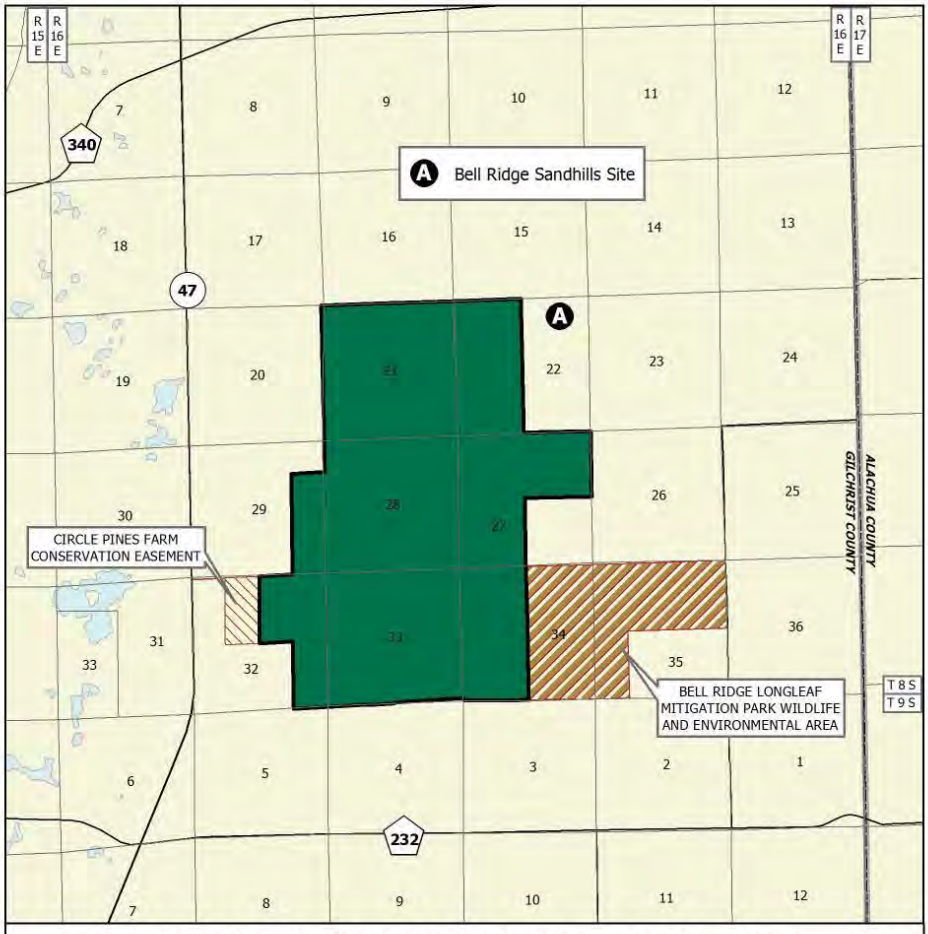
The Bell Ridge Sandhill is about 3,500 acres in Gilchrist, Florida. The site is located some 9 miles north east of Trenton, seven miles east of Bell, seventeen miles north of the Watermelon Pond Unit of Goethe State Forest, and twenty miles west of Gainesville. The FFS proposes to manage the project under a multiple use management regime consistent with the State Forest system, and in a manner designed to accomplish the acquisition goals and measures for this project as approved by the Acquisition and Restoration Council. These goals and measures are hereby incorporated by reference. The primary land management goal for the FFS is 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. This ecosystem approach will guide the FFS management activities on this project.

Qualifications for State Designation The major community represented on this project is sandhill. The project's size and diversity makes it desirable for use and management as a State Forest. Management by the FFS as a State Forest is contingent upon the state acquiring fee simple title to the entire project and obtaining some level of legal public access to the site, which is likely since the eastern and northern property boundaries are county maintained graded roads.

Conditions Affecting Intensity of Management There are portions of the parcel that have been disturbed that will require restoration efforts. There is at least one linear facility that bisects the parcel, which will be an area of management concern for monitoring unauthorized uses and introduction of invasive exotic species. The sandhill community is considered imperiled and as such may be sensitive to certain uses and the intensity of use. As such, water resource development projects, water supply development projects, stormwater management projects and any additional linear facilities, other than those that already exist on the project, are considered incompatible with this type of ecosystem and with the resource values on this project. The adjacent residential developments will pose a management concern associated with prescribed burning, public use, unauthorized uses, and other natural resource management activities. There are areas that have refuse and debris and which should be removed prior to closing on the core parcel. Other than those above-mentioned points, there are no other known major disturbances that will require extraordinary attention. The level of management intensity and related management cost is expected to be moderately high initially to establish this as a state forest.

Timetable for Implementing Management

Once the core area is acquired and assigned to the DOF, public access will be provided for low intensity outdoor recreation activities. The FFS proposes to manage the site as a new unit of the State Forest system, and the Wacassassa Forestry Center personnel will carry out initial management activities and coordinate public access and use. The FFS will cooperate with and seek the assistance of other state agencies, local government entities and interested parties as appropriate. Initial and



LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM: MAP 3 OF 5

GILCHRIST COUNTY

Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary

Essential Parcel(s) Remaining

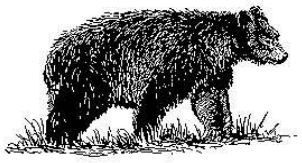
State Owned Lands

Other Conservation Lands

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

AUGUST 2013

intermediate management efforts will concentrate on site security, public and fire management access, resource inventory, reforestation of areas where off-site species have been harvested, natural regeneration of the native species in the areas with low densities, and any restoration activities. Steps will be taken to insure that the public is provided appropriate access while simultaneously affording protection of sensitive resources. There are many roads throughout the property, and as such a road plan will need to be developed to determine those to be used for vehicular use by the public, those that are required for administrative use, and unnecessary access points and roads that should be closed. An inventory of the site's natural resources and threatened and endangered flora and fauna will eventually be conducted to provide a basis for formulation of a management plan. Prior to collection of necessary resource information, management proposals for this project can only be conceptual in nature. Long-range plans for this property will generally be directed toward the restoration of disturbed areas and maintenance of natural communities. To the greatest extent practical, disturbed sites will be restored to conditions that would be expected to occur in naturally functioning ecosystems. Any existing pine plantations will be thinned to achieve a more natural appearance. Offsite species will eventually be replaced with species that would be expected to occur naturally on those specific sites. Management activities will also stress enhancement of the abundance and spatial distribution of threatened and endangered species. Portions of the area can sustain an all season prescribed burning program utilizing practices which incorporate recent research findings. The objective is to eventually establish an all season prescribed burning program on all of the fire dependent community types. Whenever possible, existing roads, black lines, foam lines and natural breaks will be utilized to contain and control prescribed and natural fires. Timber management activities will primarily consist of improvement of thinning and regeneration harvests aimed at maintaining and perpetuating forest ecosystems. Stands will not have a targeted rotation age but will be managed to maintain a broad diversity of age classes



ranging from young stands to areas with old growth characteristics. This will provide habitat for the full spectrum of species that would be found in the natural environment and enhance and maintain biodiversity. The resource inventory will be used to identify sensitive areas that need special attention, protection or management, and to locate areas that are appropriate for any recreational or administrative facilities. Recreation and administrative infrastructure development will primarily be located in already disturbed areas and will be the absolute minimum required to allow public access for the uses mentioned above, to provide facilities to accommodate public use, and to administer and manage the property.

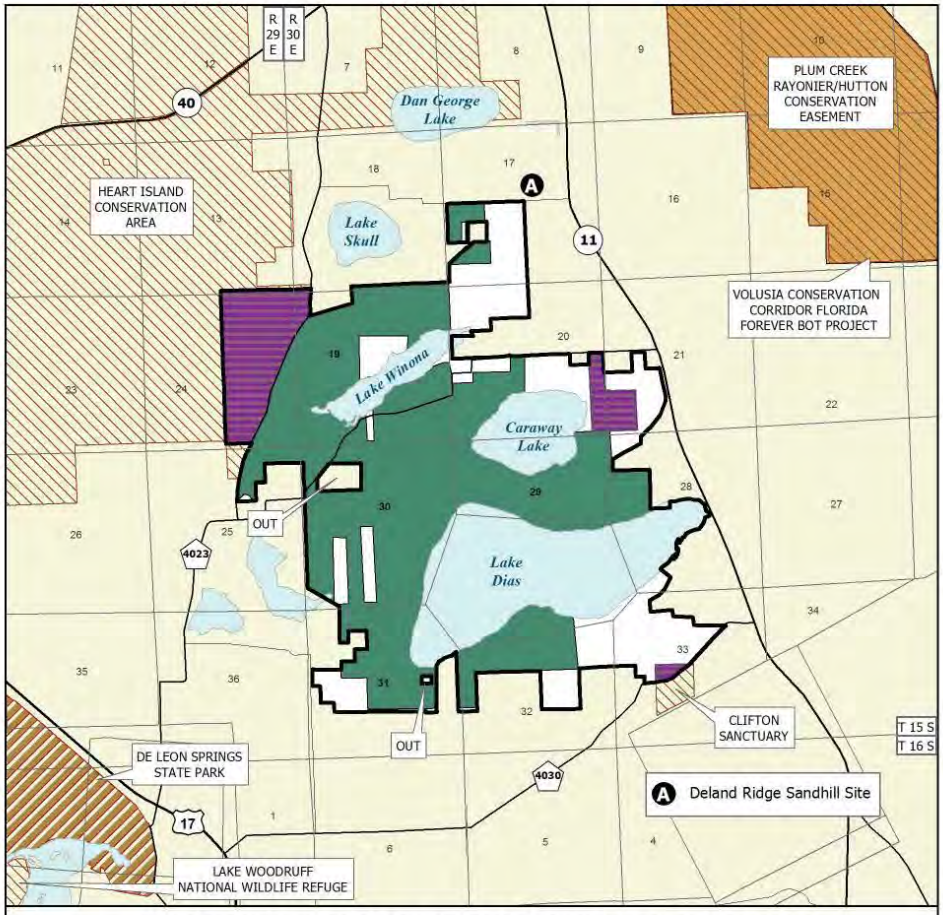
The FFS will promote recreation and environmental education in the natural environment. It is anticipated that interpretative and user services recreational facilities will be developed and the use of low impact, rustic facilities will be stressed. High impact, organized recreation areas are not planned because of possible adverse effects on the natural environment. Unnecessary roads, firelines and hydrological disturbances will be abandoned and/or restored to the greatest extent practical.

Florida Forever Performance Measures The FFS has reviewed the project and believes that following Florida Forever Performance Measures appear to apply to this project:

- Measure G1: Acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management.
- Measure G2: Acres of state owned forestland managed for economic return in accordance with current Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- Measure G4: Percentage and number of acres identified for restoration actually restored by reforestation.

Note: In some areas, this may be accomplished by natural regeneration in areas of low density and once off-site species are harvested. There is the possibility that other measures apply, however, that may be determined by an inventory of the resources on the project.

Revenue Generating Potential As mentioned above, timber sales will be conducted as needed to improve or maintain desirable ecosystem conditions. These sales will primarily take place in upland pine stands and will provide a variable source of revenue dependent upon a variety of factors. Due to the existing condition of the timber resource on the property, revenue generating potential of this project is expected to be medium.



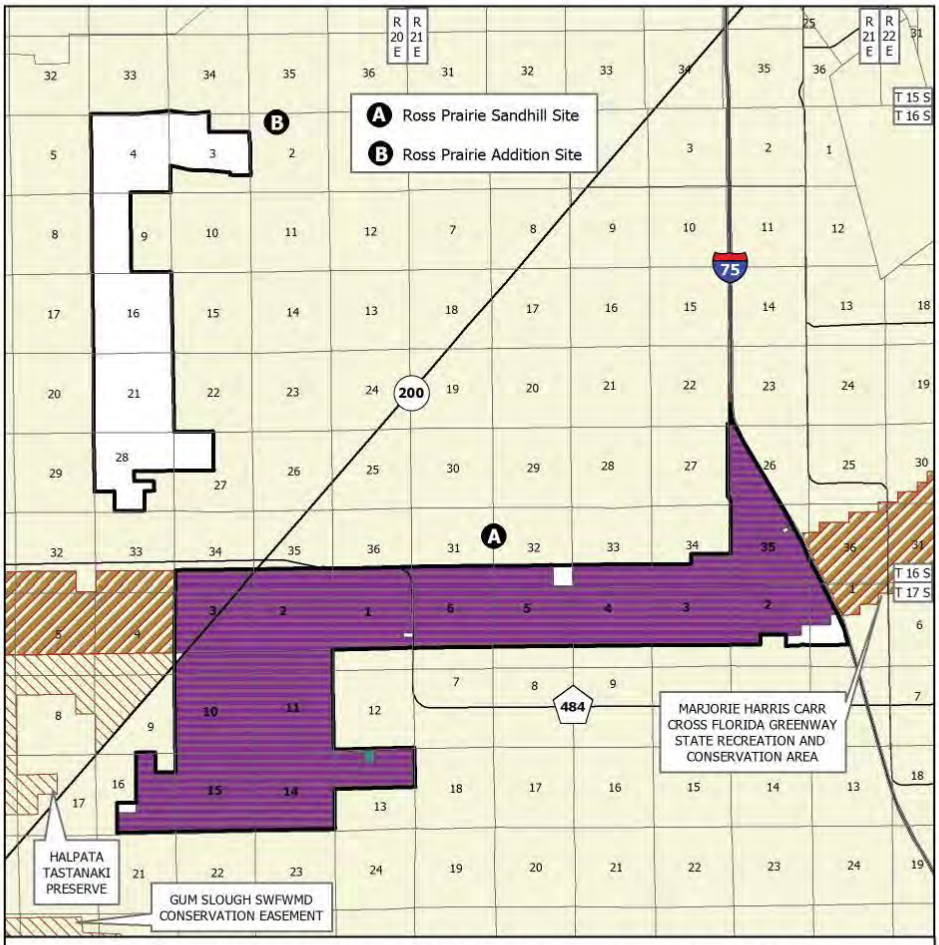
LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM: MAP 4 OF 5

VOLUSIA COUNTY

- Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
- Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
- Essential Parcel(s) Remaining
- Other Florida Forever BOT Projects
- State Owned Lands
- Other Conservation Lands

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

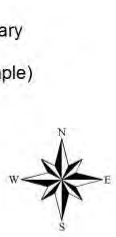
AUGUST 2013



LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM: MAP 5 OF 5

MARION COUNTY

- Florida Forever BOT Project Boundary
- Acquired for Conservation (Fee Simple)
- Essential Parcel(s) Remaining
- State Owned Lands
- Other Conservation Lands



0 1 2 4 Miles

AUGUST 2013

Capital Project Expenditures Capital project expenditures will be needed on this parcel as listed below. They include relocation of the Trenton Work Center to this site to provide site management, security and public service. The existing Trenton Work Center is currently leased from the private sector and this lease was scheduled to to expire in 2005, with no anticipation that the lease would be renewed. The existing house and barn on the property can be used for these facilities so that the expense associated with it can be reduced, although, they will require renovation. Reinforcing the fencing in the areas of residential development will be necessary to clearly establish the boundary with resources that cannot be easy burned or altered. It is anticipated that some the existing roads will be used as multi-use trails for hiking, horseback riding and offroad biking. As such, visitor services in the disturbed area will be provided.

Management costs and sources of revenue It is anticipated that management funding will come from the CARL trust fund. Budget needs for interim management are estimated as follows:

Longleaf Pine Ecosystem: Management Cost Summary/FFS

Category Source of Funds	1995/96 CARL	1996/97 CARL	1997/98 CARL
Salary	$31,080	$41,013	$44,000
OPS	$0	$0	$0
Expense	$25,505	$11,302	$13,000
OCO	$40,626	$0	$10,000
FCO	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL	$97,211	$52,315	$67,000

Management Cost Summary/FFS (Deland Ridge)

Category Source of Funds	Startup CARL	Recurring CARL
Salary	$0	$0
OPS	$0	$0
Expense	$7,000	$5,000
OCO	$0	$0
FCO	$0	$0
TOTAL	$7,000	$5,000

Updated February 9, 2016

Greenway (CFG), that are adjacent to the proposed properties and to provide added protection to this river and the ecosystem that it supports. It would connect the current northern and southern parcels of the park. The proposed acquisitions would provide a more contiguous system of natural areas by creating an intact corridor between conservation lands. It would also provide added protection for the river by safeguarding the remaining undeveloped lands in the already significantly altered waterway.

RRC encompasses a number of disjunct tracts lying to the north of as well as along both eastern and western sides of the river. Nearly all tracts (but not necessarily all ownerships) are contiguous with public lands. The Headwaters Property Group (370 acres) lies north of the river and runs from the state park to SR 40. The Indian Creek Property Group (193 acres), which lies along the eastern side of the river and includes about 1,264 feet of river frontage, shares its northern and southern boundaries with the state park. The Meredith Property (63 acres) is a split parcel with a small tract along the eastern side of the river (ca. 1849 feet frontage) that is completely surrounded by the state park. The larger tract to the west of the river is isolated from the water. The Rainbow River Ranch Property (ca. 247 acres) is north of SR 484 with 5390 feet of frontage along the eastern side of the Rainbow River. The Greenberg Property (89 acres) has ca. 3,298 feet of frontage along the western side of the river, north of Dunnellon. The Blue Run of Dunnellon Property (24 acres) is on the southern side of SR 484, east of the river across from Dunnellon, and has ca. 1,322 feet of river frontage. The Nature Preserves of America property (47 acres) is at the confluence of the Rainbow and Withlacoochee rivers, with the Rainbow River forming ca. 2,813 feet of its northern boundary, and the Withlacoochee River forming ca. 3,409 feet of its southern boundary. The FWC has calculated the river frontage as encompassing 15,935 feet.

Public Use
Potential recreation would include hiking, biking, and picnicking. The river frontage could be used as a rest stop for canoeists, kayakers and tubers. The southern triangular 47-acre parcel is heavily forested and has several wetland areas. This property is currently used as the Rainbow River Club and includes several buildings including a clubhouse, cabins for lodging, and boating and cookout facilities. The acquisition and use of the facilities could be continued as park lodging, administration, park residence and low impact recreation such as hiking, bird watching, kayaking and education if the membership of the current club is dissolved. The northwest, 374-acre parcel would help protect the headsprings recharge area and could provide a suitable site for future park development. The 110-acre Priest parcel is a wetland area and would be limited to passive activities such as hiking, bird watching and kayaking.

Acquisition Planning
On June 15, 2007 the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) added the Rainbow River Corridor project to the A-list of the Florida Forever Priority List. This full-fee project was sponsored by the Rainbow River Conservation, incorporated as RRC, Inc. in a proposal submitted on December 30, 2006. It has about 1,183 acres and an assessed taxable value of $1,157,483.

On March 28, 2008 the City of Dunnellon acquired 32.4 acres of this project for a riverside park on the south side of Highway 484 (the Cunningham/Nelson Tuber Exit Property). Funds came from the City ($320,000) and a grant from the Florida Communities Trust ($2,606,164.50). The city manages this site.

On December 9, 2011, ARC placed this project in the Partnerships category in the Florida Forever list.

Coordination
Rainbow River Conservation Inc. worked with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and submitted the application to the Florida Communities Trust (FCT) for acquiring the Cunningham/Nelson Tuber Exit Property. The Division of State Lands is already pursuing a portion of this area (Rainbow River Ranch property) that is within the park optimum boundary, on behalf of the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP).

Management Policy Statement
DRP will manage its property under a single-use concept as part of Rainbow River State Park. The OGT-manages its portion under the single-use concept as part of the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway. The primary objective of management of the Rainbow River project is to preserve the water quality of the Rainbow and Withlacoochee Rivers and Rainbow Springs by protecting the land above the underground conduits that supply the spring and providing and ensuring that the resource-based outdoor recreational opportunities of

Exhibit S

Land Management Reviews

2017 Land Management Review Team Report for Ross Prairie State Forest

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

Section 259.036, F.S. requires a periodic on-site review of conservation, preservation, and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees to determine (1) whether the lands are being managed for purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation 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 or jurisdictional water management 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: Ross Prairie State Forest

Managed by: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service

Acres: 3,531.82 **County:** Marion County

Purpose(s) for Acquisition: See Exhibit C of 2006 management plan.

Acquisition Program(s): CARL **Original Acquisition Date:** 12/16/1994

Area Reviewed: Entire Property **Last Management Plan Approval Date:** 8/10/2006

Review Date: 1/9/2017

Agency Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Justin Kilcrease, FFS
- Ernie Ash, FFS
- Charlie Pedersen, FFS
- Rick Dolan, FFS

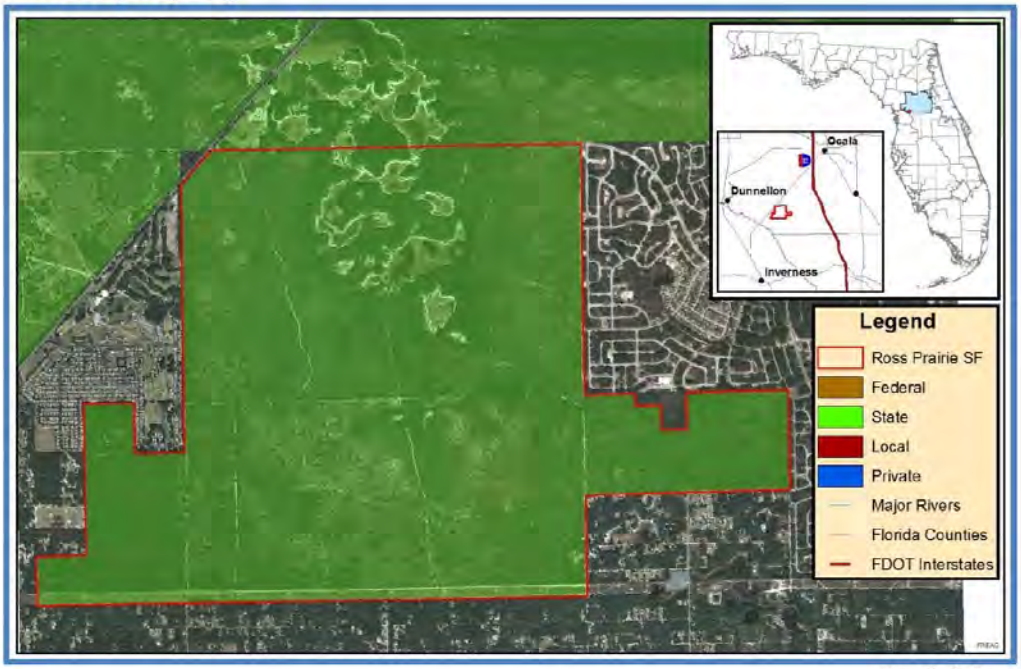
Review Team Members Present (voting)

- DRP: Rick Owen
- FWC: Cully Lord
- FFS: Bill Korn
- DEP: Megan Warr
- SWCD: Cyndi Gates
- Local gov't: Jason Maurer
- Conservation organization: Wendy Poag
- Private land manager: Gary Beauchamp

Other Non-Team Members Present (attending)

- Aric Larson, DEP/DSL
- Linda Richardson, FNPS

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 = 8, No = 0

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

Yes = 8, 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	4.81	4.67
Prescribed Fire / Habitat Restoration	4.91	4.47
Hydrology	3.50	3.50
Imperiled Species	4.17	4.04
Exotic / Invasive Species	4.74	4.25
Cultural Resources	4.69	4.63
Public Access / Education / Law Enforcement	4.40	4.35
Infrastructure / Equipment / Staffing	3.46	N/A
Color Code (See Appendix A for detail)		
Excellent / Above Average / Below Average / Poor		

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 FFS for an excellent prescribed fire program, particularly within the sandhill community which is largely considered to be in maintenance condition. This has included getting prescribed fire into the easternmost zones that had been protected from fire for over 60 years, which are also some of the most challenging smoke management areas. (8+, 0-)

2. The team commends FFS for maintaining a good working relationship with FWC, particularly in conducting wildlife monitoring activities such as bobwhite quail and Bachman sparrow surveys. (8+, 0-)

3. The team commends FFS for good cooperative management efforts with adjoining public land managing agencies (DEP), including shared public access and fireline maintenance on shared boundaries. (8+, 0-)

4. The team commends FFS for interagency cooperation in the management of invasive plants. (8+, 0-)

5. The team commends FFS for outstanding work using fire and mechanical treatments to reduce oak structure and improve scrub jay habitat conditions in the scrubby flatwoods. (8+, 0-)

6. The team commends FFS for continuing to be proactive with survey and treatment of invasive plants, which has kept levels at an overall "maintenance condition". (8+, 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. As outlined in the current management plan (p.28), the team recommends that FFS evaluate the appropriateness and feasibility of restoring the hydrology of the depression marsh that is surrounded by the agricultural dike. (8+, 0-)

   Managing Agency Response: *The local Managers do not think that it would be feasible to remove the berms surrounding the altered depression marsh (the disturbance would cause more harm than good), but we will ask the FFS Hydrology section to take a look at the site and provide their assessment.*

2. The team recommends that FFS assess the appropriateness of trails/roads or firebreaks located on the periphery of depression marshes, and consider closure and/or rehabilitation of these features if it is determined there is negative impact to the depression marshes. (8+, 0-)

   Managing Agency Response: *There are a couple of very short sections of hiking trail that were intentionally routed onto the berm surrounding a depression marsh to give visitors an opportunity to view this unique feature. They are located on an already disturbed area and do not have a significant impact on the natural community. In the future, we will avoid driving along the ecotones on the edges of the marshes.*

3. The team recommends that FFS include in the next management plan a brief statement of results from any studies or independent monitoring efforts that have occurred; and include citations in the references section of the plan. (8+, 0-)

   Managing Agency Response: We will include this in the next management plan.

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 depression marsh, mesic hammock, xeric hammock, scrubby flatwoods and sandhill:**
2. **Listed species protection and preservation, for animals and plants in general, and specifically for Florida scrub jay:**
3. **Natural resources survey/monitoring resources, specifically listed species or their habitat monitoring, other non-game species or their habitat monitoring, fire effects monitoring, other habitat management effects monitoring, and invasive species survey and monitoring:**
4. **Cultural resources, specifically cultural resource survey, and protection and preservation:**
5. **Prescribed fire, specifically area being burned, frequency and quality:**
6. **Restoration, specifically fire-suppressed sandhills and scrubby flatwoods:**
7. **Forest management, specifically timber inventory/assessment:**
8. **Non-native invasive and problem species, specifically the prevention and control of plants, animals, pests and pathogens:**
9. **Resource protection, specifically boundary survey, gates and fencing, signage and law enforcement presence:**
10. **Public access, specifically parking:**
11. **Environmental education and outreach, specifically recreational opportunities, and management of visitor impacts:**
12. **Management resources, specifically waste disposal and sanitary facilities:**

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

   Managing Agency Response: *Additional budget allocations for this forest will be considered each year, however there have been minimal opportunities in the past to increase the year-to-year funding. However, the center manager has been able to allocate money for needed special projects and equipment from time to time from other local budgets.*

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)										
Depression Marsh	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	4.75
Mesic Hammock	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Xeric Hammock	I.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.88
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4.13
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Sandhill	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.88
								Natural Communities Average Score		4.77
Listed Species: Protection & Preservation (I.B)										
Animals	I.B.1	3	5	4	5		3	5	4	4.00
Florida scrub jay	I.B.1.a	4	5	4	5	4	4	5	4	4.38
Plants	I.B.2	3	5	4	5	5	3	4	4	4.13
								Listed Species Average Score		4.17
Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	4	4	4	5	5	4	3	3	4.00
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	4	4.25
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.88
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	5	4	4	5	3	4	4	4.13
Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.75
Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	5	5	5	4	4	5	4.63
Protection and preservation	II.B	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	5	4.75
								Cultural Resources Average Score		4.69
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Quality	III.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
								Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score		5.00
Restoration (III.B)										
Fire-suppressed Sandhills	III.B.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	III.B.2	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.63
								Restoration Average Score		4.81
Forest Management (III.C)										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	5	5	5		5	5	5	4	4.86
								Forest Management Average Score		4.86
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species (III.D)										
Prevention										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4.88
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	4	5	5		5	5	5	5	4.86
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	4	5	5		5	3	5	5	4.57

Control										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	4.88
control - animals	III.D.2.b	4	5	5		5	4	5	5	4.71
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	4	5	5		5	3	5	5	4.57
									Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species Average Score	4.74
Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)										
Hydro-period alteration/Prairie Berms	III.E.1.c	3	4	4	5	3	2	3	4	3.50
									Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score	3.50
Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)										
									Ground Water Monitoring Average Score	N/A
Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)										
									Surface Water Monitoring Average Score	N/A
Resource Protection (III.F)										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	4.88
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	5	4.63
Signage	III.F.3	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	5	4.75
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	4.75
									Resource Protection Average Score	4.75
Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)										
Land Use										
Smoke management	III.G.1.a	3	5	4	3	5	5	3	3	3.88
Groundwater consumption	III.G.1.b	3	X	X	5	3	3	5	3	3.67
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	3		3	5	5	3	4	3	3.71
Public Access & Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)										
Public Access										
Parking	IV.1.b	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4.63
Environmental Education & Outreach										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	5	4	3	4	4	4	4	3.88
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	5	4	3	4	4	4	4	3.88
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	5	4	3	4	4	4	4	3.88
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	5	4	4	3	3	4	3	3.63
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	5	5	3	5	5	5	3	4.38
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	4	5	5	3	4	3	4	5	4.13
									Public Access & Education Average Score	4.05
Management Resources (V.1, V.2, V.3. V.4)										
Maintenance										
Waste disposal	V.1.a	4	5	5		4	4	4	5	4.43
Sanitary facilities	V.1.b	4	5	5		4	4	4	5	4.43
Infrastructure										
Buildings	V.2.a	2	5	3	3	5	2	4	4	3.50
Equipment	V.2.b	2	4	4	3	4	2	4	3	3.25
Staff	V.3		3	4	3	4	3	1	3	3.00
Funding	V.4	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2.13

					Management Resources Average Score	3.46
Color Code:	Excellent	Above Average	Below Average	Poor		See Appendix A for detail
		Missing Vote	Insufficient Information			

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:

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

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)										
Depression Marsh	I.A.1	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.50
Mesic Hammock	I.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.88
Xeric Hammock	I.A.3	4	3		5	5	5	3	4	4.14
Scrubby Flatwoods/Scrub Inclusions	I.A.4	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	4.63
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.88
Sandhill	I.A.6	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.75
									Natural Communities Average Score	4.63
Listed species: Protection & Preservation (I.B)										
Animals	I.B.1	3	5	4	4		4	3	4	3.86
Florida scrub jay	I.B.1.a	3	5	4	5	5	5	3	4	4.25
Plants	I.B.2	3	5	4	5	5	4	2	4	4.00
									Listed Species Average Score	4.04
Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources (I.C)										
Listed species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.2	3	5	4	5	5	5	3	4	4.25
Other non-game species or their habitat monitoring	I.C.3	4	5	4	4	4		3	4	4.00
Fire effects monitoring	I.C.4	4	5	5	5	5	3	3	5	4.38
Other habitat management effects monitoring	I.C.5	4	5	4	4	5	3	2	4	3.88

Invasive species survey / monitoring	I.C.6	3	5	5	5	5	5	2	4	4.25
Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) (II.A, II.B)										
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	4.63
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	4.63
									Cultural Resources Average Score	4.63
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)										
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	4.63
Frequency	III.A.2	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	4.63
Quality	III.A.3	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	4.63
									Resource Management, Prescribed Fire Average Score	4.63
Restoration (III.B)										
Fire-suppressed Sandhill	III.B.2	4	5	5	5	3	4	3	5	4.25
Scrubby Flatwoods	III.B.3	4	4	5	5	5	4	3	5	4.38
									Restoration Average Score	4.31
Forest Management (III.C)										
Timber Inventory / Assessment	III.C.1	4	5	5	5	5	5		4	4.71
									Forest Management Average Score	4.71
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species (III.D)										
Prevention										
prevention - plants	III.D.1.a	3	5	5	4	5	4	3	5	4.25
prevention - animals	III.D.1.b	3	5	5		5	4	3	5	4.29
prevention - pests/pathogens	III.D.1.c	3	5	5		5	4	3	5	4.29
Control										
control - plants	III.D.2.a	3	5	5	5	5	4	3	5	4.38
control - animals	III.D.2.b	3	5	5		4	4	3	5	4.14
control - pest/pathogens	III.D.2.c	3	5	5		4	4	3	5	4.14
									Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species Average Score	4.25
Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)										
Hydro-Alteration/Prairie Berms	III.E.1.c	3	4	4	5	3	2	3	4	3.50
									Hydrologic/Geologic function, Hydro-Alteration Average Score	3.50
Ground Water Monitoring (III.E.2)										
									Ground Water Monitoring Average Score	N/A
Surface Water Monitoring (III.E.3)										
									Surface Water Monitoring Average Score	N/A
Resource Protection (III.F)										
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	5	5	5	5	4	3	5	4.50
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	5	5		5	4	3	5	4.43
Signage	III.F.3	4	5	5		5	4	3	5	4.43
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	4.63
									Resource Protection Average Score	4.50
Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)										
Land Use										

Smoke management	III.G.1.a	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	3.75
Ground water consumption	III.G.1.b	4		4		2	2	3	4	3.17
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	4		5	5	5	3	4	4	4.29
Discussion of Potential Surplus Land Determination	III.G.3		5	5	5	5	3	5	4	4.57
Surplus Lands Identified?	III.G.4		5	5	5	5	3	5	4	4.57
Public Access & Education (IV.1, IV.2, IV.3, IV.4, IV.5)										
Public Access										
Parking	IV.1.b	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	4.63
Environmental Education & Outreach										
Wildlife	IV.2.a	3	5	4	2	3	5	5	4	3.88
Invasive Species	IV.2.b	3	5	4	2	3	5	5	4	3.88
Habitat Management Activities	IV.2.c	3	5	4	2	4	5	5	4	4.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.3	3	5	4		4	5	5	4	4.29
Recreational Opportunities	IV.4	4	5	5	5	4	5	5	4	4.63
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.5	3	5	5	3	4	3	5	5	4.13
									Public Access & Education Average Score	4.20
Managed Area Uses (VI.A, VI.B)										
Existing Uses										
Hiking	VI.A.1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Nature Observations	VI.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Hunting	VI.A.3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.75
Multi-Use Trails	VI.A.4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.75
Primitive Camping	VI.A.5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.75
Timber Sales	VI.A.6	4	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	4.75
Proposed Uses										
Office building/equipment shed	VI.B.1		5	5	4	5	5	4	5	4.71

Color Code: Excellent | Above Average | Below Average | Poor | See Appendix A for detail

Missing Vote | Insufficient Information

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*

Name of Site: Ross Prairie SF **County:** Marion

Managed by: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Florida Forest Service

Acres: 3526.66
Area Reviewed: Entire tract

Review Date: 02/21/12 **Management Plan Approval Date** 08/10/06

Review Team Determination

Managed in accordance with
Acquisition purpose? Yes =6, No = 0

Management practices, including public access,
in compliance with the management plan? Yes =6, No = 0

Categories	Management Plan Review	Field Review
Natural Communities	0.87	3.93
Listed Species	0.87	3.38
Natural Resource Survey	0.97	3.25
Cultural Resources	1.00	3.82
Prescribed Fire	1.00	4.44
Restoration	1.00	3.50
Exotic Species	0.92	3.54
Hydrology	1.00	3.40
Groundwater Monitoring	N/A	N/A
Surface Water Monitoring	N/A	N/A
Resource Protection	1.00	3.65
Adjacent Property Concerns	0.85	3.47
Public Access & Education	0.89	3.39
Management Resources	N/A	3.01
Managed Area Uses	1.00	N/A
Buildings, Equipment, Staff & Funding	N/A	3.01

Consensus Commendations to the Managing Agency

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

1. The team commends the staff for the excellent job in maintaining fire return intervals to their natural communities. (VOTE: 6+, 0-)

2. The team commends the staff for the excellent job in creating inviting opportunities for public use. (VOTE: 6+, 0-)

3. The team commends the manager on the special efforts to prepare and implement the initial prescribed burns on 160 acres of fire-suppressed sandhills with excellent results. (VOTE: 6+, 0-)

4. The team commends FFS for efforts to minimize invasive plant populations and their ongoing efforts at treating existing cogongrass sites. (VOTE: 6+, 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 recommends that FFS move forward with development of a comprehensive scrubby flatwoods restoration plan to address the habitat needs and monitoring of Florida scrub jay. (VOTE: 6+, 0-)

Managing Agency Response: Agreed—We already have a draft plan and we are working towards finalizing it.

Field Review Checklist Findings

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

- Natural communities, specifically sandhill, scrubby flatwoods, mesic hammock, depression marsh, xeric hammock and mesic flatwoods.
- Listed Species, specifically three birds orchid and sandhill spiny pod.
- Natural Resources Survey/Management Resources, specifically fire effects monitoring and invasive species survey/monitoring
- Cultural Resources, specifically cultural resource survey and protection and preservation.
- Resource Management, Prescribed Fire, specifically area being burned (no. acres), frequency and quality.
- Forest Management, specifically timber inventory.
- Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species, specifically plants and animals prevention and control of plants.
- Resource Protection, specifically boundary survey, gates & fencing and signage.
- Adjacent Property Concerns, specifically expanding development.
- Public Access & Education, specifically parking and walk-in access.
- Environmental Education & Outreach, specifically recreational opportunities.
- Management Resource, specifically equipment.

Items Requiring Improvement Actions 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 .5 score on average.). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan must include responses to the checklist items identified below:

1. Natural communities, specifically xeric hammock, with documentation in the management plan.
Managing Agency Response: Agreed—We will be reviewing and updating all of the natural community descriptions during the next Management Plan revision.

2. Adjacent property concerns, specifically surplus lands identified, with documentation in the management plan.
Managing Agency Response: We stated in the plan "All land within RPSF is suitable for its proposed use and none is declared surplus." Don't know how to make it any clearer.
Regarding acquisition, FFS will soon be closing on one of the 5-acre outparcels, and will continue trying to acquire others identified within the optimal management boundary.

3. Environmental education & outreach, specifically management of visitor impacts, with documentation in the management plan.
Managing Agency Response: In the next management plan we will discuss our methods for monitoring visitation and evaluating impacts.

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 2.5 score on average). Please note that overall good scores do not preclude specific recommendations by the review team requiring remediation. The management plan must include responses to the checklist items identified below:

1. Discussion on the deficiencies in management resources, specifically staffing, with documentation in the management plan.
Managing Agency Response: We would love to have additional staff and other resources to better accomplish our goals and objectives. However, until the current economic situation improves, we don't expect any new position or additional funding.

Florida Forest Service Manager and Key Staff Present:

- Justin Kilcrease, Manager
- Ernie Ash
- Charlie Pedersen

Land Management Review of
Ross Prairie State Forest
Lease No. 4158
March 20, 2007

Prepared by Division of State Lands Staff

Keith Singleton, Land Acquisition & Management Planner
Lyndi Meeks, Administrative Assistant

For

Ross Prairie State Forest Review Team

FINAL

June 19, 2007

Land Manager:	DOF
Area:	3551 acres
County:	Marion
Mgmt. Plan Revised:	8/10/06
Mgmt. Plan Due:	8/10/16

Management Review Team Members

Agency Represented	Team member Appointed	Team member In attendance
DOF	Bill Korn	Bill Korn
DEP District	Tom Glancy	Tom Glancy
FWCC	Andrea Boliek	Andrea Boliek
Marion County	Guy Marwick	Guy Marwick
Conservation Org. (FNPS)	Mary Rhodes	Mary Rhodes
DRP District	Rick Owen	Rick Owen
Marion SWCD	Katherine Green	Katherine Green
Observer (DOF)		Terry Sheehan
Observer (DOF)		Ernie Ash
Observer (DOF)		Gary Beauchamp
Observer (DOF)		Charlie Pedersen
Observer (DOF)		Justin Kilcrease
Observer (DOF)		William Holland
Observer (FNAI)		Carolyn Kindell

Process for Implementing Regional Management Review Teams

Legislative Intent and Guidance:

Chapter 259.036, F. S. was enacted in 1997 to determine whether conservation, preservation, and recreation lands owned by the state Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Board) are being managed properly. It directs the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish land management review teams to 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, and archaeological features. The teams 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. If a land management plan has not been adopted, the review shall consider 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 are in compliance with the management policy statement and management prospectus for that property. If the land management review team determines that reviewed lands are not being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired or in compliance with the adopted land management plan, management policy statement, or management prospectus, DEP shall provide the review findings to the Board, and the managing agency must report to the Board its reasons for managing the lands as it has. A report of the review team findings are given to the managing agency under review, the Acquisition and Restoration Council, and the Governor and Cabinet.

Review Site

The management review of Ross Prairie State Forest considered approximately 3551 acres in Marion County that are managed by the Division of Forestry. The team evaluated the extent to which current management actions are sufficient, whether the land is being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired, and whether actual management practices, including public access, are in compliance with the management plan. The management plan update is due on August 10, 2016.

Review Team Determination

Is the land being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired?

After completing the checklist, team members were asked to answer "yes" or "no" to this question. All team members agreed Ross Prairie State Forest is being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired.

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

After completing the checklist, team members were asked to answer "yes" or "no" to this question. All team members agreed Ross Prairie State Forest is in compliance with the management plan.

Commendations to the Managing Agency

1. The team commends the DOF for the outstanding prescribed fire program at this forest that has restored and maintained very high quality sandhills and scrubby flatwoods with frequent warm and cool season fires. (VOTE 7+, 0-)

2. The team commends the DOF for their cooperation with the Office of Greenways and Trails in sharing and developing the recreational infrastructure and seamless management for the forest and the Cross Florida Greenway, which is financially and resource efficient. (VOTE: 7+, 0-)

3. The team commends the DOF for their proactive boundary management and cooperation with surrounding communities regarding prescribed burning and public access programs. (VOTE 7+, 0-)

4. The team commends the DOF for the Florida scrub jay habitat restoration efforts at the forest. (VOTE 7+, 0-)

Exceptional Management Actions

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

Exceptional management actions:

- Management of the scrubby flatwoods, sandhill, mesic hammock, mesic flatwoods, depression marsh and xeric hammock communities.
- Management and protection of the listed animals and plants including, the gopher tortoise, Florida scrub jay, three birds orchid and sandhill spiny pod.
- Protection and preservation of the cultural resources.
- Area, frequency and quality of the prescribed burns.
- Restoration of Ruderal Areas including, the oak scrub.
- Hunting and wildlife habitat.
- Control of invasive plants.
- Hydrologic/Geologic Function including, depression marsh dike and cattle dugout.
- Gates and fencing, boundary surveys, signage, and law enforcement presence.
- Managing impacts from expanding development.
- Public access including roads, parking, recreational opportunities and interpretive signs.
- Sanitary equipment.

Recommendations and Checklist Findings

The management plan must include responses to the recommendations and checklist items that are identified below.

Recommendations

The following recommendations resulted from a discussion and vote of review team members.

1. The team recommends that DOF make it a high priority to acquire the inholdings within the forest's optimum boundary. (VOTE: 7+, 0-)

DOF Response: We agree that it should be a high priority to acquire the inholdings in the middle section of the eastern peninsula. However, the small lots on the eastern end of the peninsula are no longer important for acquisition. Several of these lots are now developed and we have established a fence and fireline along our current east boundary. Additional acquisitions in this strip will be difficult to manage and will not have significant conservation value.

Checklist findings

The following items received low scores on the review team checklist (see Attachment 1), which indicates that management actions, in the field, were insufficient (f) or that the issue was not sufficiently addressed in the management plan (p). These items need to be further addressed in the management plan update.

1. **Discussion in the management plan of Non-Native, invasive and problem species including animals.(f)**

DOF Response: We will further address these items in the next management plan update.

2. **Discussion in the management plan of Hydrologic/Geologic function including hydro-period alteration (f), and water level alteration.(f)**

DOF Response: We will coordinate with the water management district regarding this issue.

3. **Discussion in the management plan of management resources including staffing levels.(f)**

DOF Response: We feel that we have adequate resources and staffing at this time. This was discussed during the review.

Team Member's Comments

Natural Communities: protection and maintenance: (I.A)

- Urban encroachment makes hot maintenance fires very difficult.
- A few of the community classification are questionable – maybe revisit (FNAI) the classification (scrub, xeric hammocks, scrubby flatwoods).
- Scrub in field may be scrubby flatwoods not scrub. Needs a determination – some xeric hammock may be overgrown sandhill and should be considered for pushing strong fire through then to bring back to maintenance.
- Management plan does a good job of summarizing conditions of other natural communities, as well as defining the needed management actions. Acreage of each community type is not correct in the plan. Great efforts to restore overgrown scrub through mechanical treatments. These areas are now able to be managed with prescribed fire. In the future, with an increase in scrub jay population, it may be necessary to provide for different stages (heights) of scrub. The mesic flatwoods component should be assessed as much of it appears to be actually sandhill.

Listed Species: protection and preservation (I.B1, I.B.2)

- Where are the fox squirrels, quail, etc…?
- Some of this property should be used for gopher tortoise mitigation.
- RCW are not present nor is this area suitable, so management plan does not need RCW. So far, striped newt surveys are inconclusive.
- Emphasis is on habitats – not on individual species, except maybe in the case of scrub jay focus. RCW not found on site; may be present again in the future.

- Species list needs revisions. No plant list in my plan; one was available during review.
- Continued efforts are needed to monitor scrub jay population. Coordination with adjacent SWFWMD lands and their scrub jay metapopulation is critical. Banding of jays will be important to these efforts.

Cultural Resources: (II.A; II.B)

- Lithic scatter only.
- Not a big issue on property.
- One of recreation staff has completed the archeological site monitor class. The forester/manager is scheduled to attend. More information is needed on several sites that are listed as having potential for national listing.

Prescribed Fire (Natural Community Maintenance): (III.A)

- Land is in generally good condition.
- Excellent use of fire.
- Great prescribed burning management on property. Sandhills look great.
- Excellent fire management.
- Excellent program for prescribed burning with just about every stand having multiple burns since acquisition. Just a few sites adjacent to the inholdings on the east side of the tract are still in a very early restoration status, requiring cautious burning due to years of fire suppression.

Restoration of Disturbed Natural Communities: (III.B)

- Ruderal agriculture fields – planted in longleaf pine.
- Not as specifically mentioned in plan, but covered in plant community descriptions.
- Fire exclusion issues, dike removal and waterhole digging should be considered and planned for restoration. Fires should be allowed to burn across marshes and through hammock ecotones.

Wildlife Management (III.C)

- Small game only – hunting is very limited.
- Bobwhite quail should not be hunted on this land due to drastic reduction of their population.
- Small game – youth hunt area only.

Non-native Invasive and Problem Species: (III.D)

- Cogongrass treatments, coyotes? Cats/dogs…
- May need to deal with feral cats.

- Cats on property. This issue needs to be addressed relative to listed species such as Florida mouse and migratory birds.
- Very few small cogongrass sites were observed, however, each spot is receiving ongoing treatments. A monitoring database is maintained by staff.

Hydrologic/Geologic Function (III.E)

- Be aware of surrounding area in relationship to ground water draw down.
- No open roads on property – just fire lines. No ground water monitoring on property.
- Very little hydrologic impacts and alterations. Concern with local drawdown.

Adjacent Property Concerns: (III.G)

- Make surrounding home/property owners aware of DOF needs to burn. If additions could have been made before development on the borders expanded, that would have been a big help for management. Acquiring the inholdings is VERY important.
- Education for homeowners.
- Adjacent lots should be bought.
- Prescribed burning program is well communicated to neighboring communities.
- May need more involvement in water board/zoning issues of nearby properties. Need to make land acquisition a priority.
- Be fully aware of developments of regional impacts and actively comment on documents associated with water issues.
- A real priority to acquire the several five acre inholdings on the east side of the property. Creative planning on some kind of land swap may be needed.

Public Access and Education: (IV.1; IV.2; IV.3; IV.4)

- More signs and information about the benefits of prescribed burning might be helpful for the general public.
- More kiosk/interpretive trail signage might be beneficial to visitors. (Prescribed burning, ecosystem management, information, etc...) Hiking/outdoor ethics.
- More interpretive signs targeting key issues would be helpful.
- Interagency coordination...much more needed than expressed in plan.
- Trailhead kiosks are needed that help direct visitor to state forest trail opportunities. Trailhead for equestrian visitors needs to be established at greenway parking area. More work is needed to cooperate with greenways on undesired access now occurring off the greenways trail (on the east end of the common boundary). More DOF signage and possibly a kiosk is needed at the two alternative entrances on the south and east boundaries of the property. The primitive campsite should be assessed and decision made to improve amenities or eliminate the site. If it is kept, then the site should be better identified form the trail.

Management Resources: (V.2. V.3; V.4)

- Property has no building.
- Need building/infrastructure for replacement of Dunnellon tower (will need to relocate within 5 years). Ross Prairie maybe ideal replacement location? Could use technician level support position to assist area forester with daily management of area.
- No buildings on site – needed? No equipment on site – needed nearby. More staff needed to assist with solo manager. Funding is currently adequate, but will not cover additional projects or needs.
- A replacement site is needed for Dunnellon tower site for stationing of support personnel due to the loss of this leased site in the coming years.

Managed Area Uses: (VI.A, VI.B)

- Potential revenue.
- Would be okay with cattle grazing is site specifics and confined to old disturbed, ruderal field areas only.
- Only within pine plantation and not within natural communities.

Review Team Determination

Purpose for Acquisition

- Yes, excellent burning program and restoration activities to protect and manage natural habitats and benefit wildlife populations.

Management Plan Compliance

- Yes, adequate public access for limited youth hunting and hiking and equestrian use. Management practices are all well planned and very professionally carried out.

Recommendations for Improving Management of this Site:

-

PLAN REVIEW		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	AVERAGE
Natural Communities (I.A)									
Sandhill	I.A.1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Mesic Hammock	I.A.3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Scrub	I.A.4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Depression Marsh	I.A.6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Xeric Hammock	I.A.7				0	0	0	0	0.00
Listed species:Protection & Preservation (I.B)									
Animal Inventory	I.B.1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0.86
Gopher tortoise	I.B.1.a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Florida scrub jay	I.B.1.b	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Plant Inventory	I.B.2		1		1	1	0	1	0.80
Three Birds Orchid	I.B.2.b		1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Sandhill Spiny Pod	I.B.2.c		0	1	1	1	1	1	0.83
Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) (II.A,II.B)									
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Protection and preservation	II.B	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)									
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A.1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Frequency	III.A.2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Quality	III.A.3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Restoration of Ruderal Areas (III.B)									
Oak Scrub	III.B.1	1	1		1	1		1	1.00
Old Field Pine Planting	III.B.2		1	1				1	1.00
Wildlife Management (III.C)									
Wildlife Habitat	III.C.1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Hunting/ Fishing Quality	III.C.2	1	1	1	1		1	1	1.00
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species (III.D)									
Animals	III.D.1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0.57
Plants	III.D.2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)									
Hydro-period Alteration	III.E.1.c	1	1	0	1	0		1	0.67
Water Level Alteration	III.E.1.d	1	1	0	1	0		1	0.67
Depresson Marsh Dike	III.E.1.e	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Cattle Dugout	III.E.1.f		1	1		1			1.00
Resource Protection (III.F)									

Boundary survey	III.F.1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Signage	III.F.3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0.86
Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)									
Land Use									
Expanding development	III.G.1a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2		1	1	1	1	1	0	0.83
Public Access & Education									
Public Access-Maintenance									
Roads	IV.1a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Parking	IV.1b	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0.86
Recreational Opportunities	IV.2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.4	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0.86
Environmental education/outreach	IV.5	1	1		0	1	1	0	0.67
Managed Area Uses									
Existing Uses									
Hiking	VI.A.1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Nature Observation	VI.A.2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Hunting	VI.A.3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Multi-use Trails	VI.A.4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Primitive Camping	VI.A.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Timber Sales	VI.A.6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
Uses Proposed in Mgmt. Plan									
Cattle Grazing	VI.B.1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0.57
Misc. Forest Products	VI.B.2	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0.71
FIELD REVIEW		**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**AVERAGE**
Natural Communities (I.A)									
Sandhill	I.A.1	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	4.71
Scrubby Flatwoods	I.A.2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3.57
Mesic Hammock	I.A.3	3	4	5	5	5	5	3	4.29
Scrub	I.A.4	2	3	4	3	3	X	3	3.00
Mesic Flatwoods	I.A.5	4	X	5	5	4	4	4	4.33
Depression Marsh	I.A.6	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4.71
Xeric Hammock	I.A.7	4	4	5	5	5	X	4	4.50
Listed species:Protection & Preservation (I.B)									
Animal Inventory	I.B.1	3	5	5	4	4	3	3	3.86
Gopher tortoise	I.B.1.a	5	4	2	4	4	4	4	3.86
Florida scrub jay	I.B.1.b	5	4	5	3	4	3	3	3.86
Plant Inventory	I.B.2	4	5		4	4	3	3	3.83
Three Birds Orchid	I.B.2.b	4	5	5	4	4	5	4	4.43
Sandhill Spiny Pod	I.B.2.c		0	5	5	4	5	4	3.83

Cultural Resources (Archeological & Historic sites) (II.A,II.B)									
Cultural Res. Survey	II.A	4	5	5	5	4	X	3	4.33
Protection and preservation	II.B	4	5	5	5	4	X	3	4.33
Resource Management, Prescribed Fire (III.A)									
Area Being Burned (no. acres)	III.A1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Frequency	III.A.2	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.86
Quality	III.A.3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
Restoration of Ruderal Areas (III.B)									
Oak Scrub	III.B.1	5			4	4		4	4.25
Old Field Pine Planting	III.B.2		4	3				3	3.33
Wildlife Management (III.C)									
Wildlife Habitat	III.C.1	3	5	5	5	4	3	4	4.14
Hunting/ Fishing Quality	III.C.2	3	4	4	4	4	3	3	3.57
Non-Native, Invasive & Problem Species (III.D)									
Animals	III.D.1	X	3	X	X	2	2	3	2.50
Plants	III.D.2	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4.57
Hydrologic/Geologic function Hydro-Alteration (III.E.1)									
Hydro-period Alteration	III.E.1.c	4		0	3	0		3	2.00
Water Level Alteration	III.E.1.d	4		0	4	0		3	2.20
Depresson Marsh Dike	III.E.1.e	4	5	4	4	5		3	4.17
Cattle Dugout	III.E.1.f		5	5		5			5.00
Resource Protection (III.F)									
Boundary survey	III.F.1	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	4.71
Gates & fencing	III.F.2	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	4.57
Signage	III.F.3	3	5	5	4	4	5	4	4.29
Law enforcement presence	III.F.4	4	4	5	4	4	3	4	4.00
Adjacent Property Concerns (III.G)									
Land Use									
Expanding development	III.G.1a	4	4	5	5	4	5	3	4.29
Inholdings/additions	III.G.2	2	2	1	3	4	5	3	2.86
Public Access & Education									
Public Access-Maintenance									
Roads	IV.1a	4	4	5	4	4	5	3	4.14
Parking	IV.1b	4		5	4	5	5	4	4.50
Recreational Opportunities	IV.2	5	4	5	4	5	5	3	4.43
Management of Visitor Impacts	IV.3	5	3	5	4	4	3	3	3.86
Interpretive facilities and signs	IV.4	3	3	3	3	4	3	2	3.00
Environmental education/outreach	IV.5	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3.14
Management Resources									

Infrastructure									
Buildings	V.2a	1		4	4	3	3	2	2.83
Equipment	V.2b	4	5	4	4	3	4	3	3.86
Staff	V.3	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2.29
Funding	V.4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3.00

Exhibit T

Compliance with Local Comprehensive Plan(s)

FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE
(850) 681-5800

THE CONNER BUILDING
3125 CONNER BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-1650

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED

July 1, 2019

Kimberleigh Dinkins
Marion County Planning Department
2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd.
Ocala, FL 34470
Phone: (352) 438-2600

RE: Ross Prairie State Forest 10-Year Land Management Plan

Dear Ms. Dinkins,

Enclosed is a copy the Florida Forest Service's Ten-Year Land Management Plan and plan Exhibits for Ross Prairie State Forest, prepared in accordance with F.S. 253.034. Please review the plan at your earliest convenience and reply as to whether the plan is consistent with Marion County's Local Comprehensive Plan.

Please address all correspondence concerning the Management Plan in official letterhead to the above address or via e-mail. I can be reached by telephone at (850) 681-5889 or by email at Patricia.Anderson@FreshfromFlorida.com if you have any questions.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us manage Ross Prairie State Forest resources through a stewardship ethic to assure they are available for future generations.

Sincerely,

Patti Anderson
State Lands Plan Coordinator

Exhibit U

State Forest Management Plan
Advisory Group Summary

Management Plan Advisory Group <u>Organizational Meeting</u>
Ross Prairie State Forest
10-Year Land Management Plan

June 27, 2019
10:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

MPAG Members Present:

• Rick Dolan	Waccasassa Forestry Center Manager, Florida Forest Service (FFS)
• Rick Owen	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DRP)
• Lauren Akins	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
• Chris Mckendree	Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
• Justin Albright	Soil & Water Conservation District (NACD)
• David Nicholson	National Wild Turkey Federation
• Richard McGinley	Local Private Property Owner

MPAG Members Not Present:

• Kathy Bryant	Marion County Board of County Commissioners
• Al Koontz	Local Private Property Owner

Staff:

- Alan Davis, FFS
- Patti Anderson, FFS
- Charlie Pedersen, FFS
- Justin Kilcrease, FFS
- James Wood, FFS
- Terry Sheehan, FFS
- Stephen Montgomery, FFS

Guests:

- None

Meeting Start Time: 10:30 a.m.

- Mr. Davis opened the meeting, introduced himself, and explained the purpose, statutory framework and management plan development process within which MPAG members are called upon to provide input into the draft land management plan.
- Mr. Davis explained the Sunshine Law's role in the MPAG public hearings and MPAG member appointment.
- Mr. Davis stated the MPAG meeting was advertised to the public through local newspaper (Ocala Star Banner), Florida Administrative Register, FFS webpage, as well as posted on the kiosk at the entrance to the forest. The meeting was also announced at the Marion County Commission meeting on June 6, 2019.

- Mr. Davis provided an overview of the various approvals the draft land management plan must go through both before and after the MPAG public hearings occur.
- Next, everyone in the room introduced themselves and stated the organization they are with.
- Mr. Davis explained the concept of consensus and how it relates to the group's determinations. He also explained that the FFS Director is the ultimate authority on any changes made to the draft plan.
- Mr. Davis stated, after a PowerPoint presentation at the public hearing, there would be a question and answer session, and all were welcome to ask questions.
- Mr. Davis then asked the advisory group to designate a chairperson. All agreed to designate Rick Dolan as MPAG chairperson.
- Mr. Davis thanked everyone and adjourned the organizational meeting.

Meeting End Time: 10:37 a.m.

Management Plan Advisory Group Public Hearing
Ross Prairie State Forest
10-Year Land Management Plan
June 27, 2019
11:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

MPAG Members Present:

• Rick Dolan	Waccasassa Forestry Center Manager, Florida Forest Service (FFS)
• Rick Owen	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DRP)
• Lauren Akins	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
• Chris Mckendree	Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
• Justin Albright	Soil & Water Conservation District (NACD)
• David Nicholson	National Wild Turkey Federation
• Richard McGinley	Local Private Property Owner

MPAG Members Not Present:

• Kathy Bryant	Marion County Board of County Commissioners
• Al Koontz	Local Private Property Owner

Staff:

- Alan Davis, FFS
- Patti Anderson, FFS
- Charlie Pedersen, FFS
- Justin Kilcrease, FFS
- James Wood, FFS
- Terry Sheehan, FFS
- Stephen Montgomery, FFS

Guests:

- None

Meeting Start Time: 11:00 a.m.

- Mr. Davis introduced MPAG chairperson Rick Dolan.
- Mr. Dolan, the MPAG Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the public hearing and thanked everyone for attending. He shared that Waccasassa Forestry Center manages approximately 85,000 acres of forest from coast to coast. He then requested that the MPAG members introduce themselves.
- Mr. Davis explained the purpose of the public hearing.
- Mr. Davis stated that no guests from the public were in attendance, thus no speaker forms were filled out.
- Mr. Davis then introduced Forester Justin Kilcrease.

- Mr. Kilcrease welcomed everyone and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the draft plan. He demonstrated that the plan includes the location of Ross Prairie State Forest and its boundaries, management use of the forest, natural communities' descriptions, historical information, and the observable benefits of fire management. A new ranger station and the hydrology evaluation of a diked prairie were also illustrated.
- Richard McGinley asked, "Is it difficult to burn because of the developed areas around the state forest"? Mr. Kilcrease's reply, "We wait for the right wind so the smoke gets blown away from the houses, and there really aren't many complaints to begin with."
- Richard McGinley asked, "Will the proposed BMAP effect the state forest"? Mr. Kilcrease's reply, "It shouldn't, but we will familiarize ourselves with it when it becomes active BMAP."
- Richard McGinley asked, "How do we keep a head count of the visitors on the forest? Mr. Kilcrease's reply, "We don't, but the state forest shares a border and recreation trails with adjacent conservation lands, and we could work with them in gathering data."
- With no other questions, Mr. Davis thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the public hearing.

Meeting End Time: 11:38 a.m.

Management Plan Advisory Group Workshop Meeting
Ross Prairie State Forest
10-Year Land Management Plan
June 27, 2019
1:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

MPAG Members Present:

• Rick Dolan	Waccasassa Forestry Center Manager, Florida Forest Service (FFS)
• Rick Owen	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DRP)
• Lauren Akins	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
• Chris Mckendree	Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
• Justin Albright	Soil & Water Conservation District (NACD)
• David Nicholson	National Wild Turkey Federation
• Richard McGinley	Local Private Property Owner

MPAG Members Not Present:

• Kathy Bryant	Marion County Board of County Commissioners
• Al Koontz	Local Private Property Owner

Staff:

- Alan Davis, FFS
- Patti Anderson, FFS
- Charlie Pedersen, FFS
- Justin Kilcrease, FFS
- James Wood, FFS
- Terry Sheehan, FFS
- Stephen Montgomery, FFS

Guests:

- None

Meeting Start Time: 1:00 p.m.

- Mr. Davis started the meeting by going over the meeting structure that would take place and specifics regarding Forestry staff and MPAG member responsibilities for the meeting minutes in the coming days/week.
- Mr. Davis declared a "page-by-page" process would be used for reviewing and commenting on the draft plan. The notion of "consensus" was again addressed.

Page-by-page Review:

Page 4 List "FDACS 2017" in References

Page 5	FWC is no longer printing brochures; direct to FWC website
Page 9	Table 2 "Two Mile Prairie is managed by FFS and considered Withlacoochee SF
Page 9	Recommend consistency with parentheses used in calling out Exhibit references
Page 16	Change "Exhibit U" to "Exhibit S"
Page 22	Conflicting table and table reference sequence
Page 23	Add "imperiled" to "species"
Page 26	Add rattlesnake to Table 5 as candidate species
Page 27	List "FWC 2012" in References
Page 28	Follow-up on previous LMR request for citations on completed projects
Page 32	Consistency with use of term "growing season"
Page 41	List "FNAI 2010" in References (2007 RPSF mapping project)
Page 43	Update status of dike removal to "ongoing"
Page 45	Add in management plan to control encroaching sand pine
Page 46	Added "sand pine"
Page 49	Added prescribed fire needs to Xeric Hammock Fire Regimes
Page 49	Reference DHR exhibit (Exhibit G)
Exhibit K	Water resources map needs improved detail

- Mr. Davis asked the group if everyone, as a consensus, was generally accepting of the plan. All agreed.
- Mr. Davis explained the next steps of the process, and the FFS Director makes the final decision on any edits to the plan. The next public hearing will be at the appropriate Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) meeting. With submission to ARC by July 10, the meeting can occur on October 18, 2019.
- Mr. Davis thanked everyone for their time and participation, then adjourned the workshop meeting.

Meeting End Time: 1:56 p.m.

Exhibit V

State Forest Summary Budget

	ROSS PRAIRIE STATE FOREST MGT. ONLY 17-18 EXPENDITURES	Percentages Based on Total Dollar Amount of Expenditures	Assessed Needed Funding Based Upon LMUAC Resource Management
Resource Management	**$ 39,928**	**25.50%**	**$ 148,079.49**
Exotic Species Control	$ 6,191	4.10%	$ 8,276.67
Prescribed Burning	$ 5,652	2.80%	$ 102,255.00
Cultural Resources Management	$ 151	0.10%	$ 201.87
Timber Management	$ 12,835	8.50%	$ 17,158.95
Hydrological Management	$ 755	0.50%	$ 1,009.35
	$ -		$ -
OTHER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	$ 14,345	9.50%	$ 19,177.65
Listed Species Management	$ -		$ -
Forest Pest and Disease	$ -		$ -
Plant Conservation Program	$ -		$ -
State Forest Research Projects	$ -		$ -
Boundary Surveys for State Forests	$ -		$ -
Other Activities Also Include:	$ -		$ -
Liaison Community Meetings / Boundary Line Maintenance / Forest Inventories and Various Other Activities / Wildfire Suppression on State Forests			
			$ -
Administration	**$ 10,872**	**7.20%**	**$ 14,534.64**
Central Office Headquarters	$ 10,872	7.20%	$ 14,534.64
District/Regions	$ -		$ -
Units/Projects	$ -		$ -
	$ -		$ -
Support	**$ 51,187**	**33.90%**	**$ 68,433.93**
Land Management Planning	$ 2,114	1.40%	$ 2,826.18
Land Management Reviews	$ 604	0.40%	$ 807.48
Training/Staff Development	$ 14,496	9.60%	$ 19,379.52
Vehicle Purchase	$ 1,359	0.90%	$ 1,816.83
Vehicle Operations and Maintenance	$ 21,592	14.30%	$ 28,867.41
	$ -		$ -
OTHER SUPPORT	$ 11,023	7.30%	$ 14,736.51
State Forest Land Acquisition Support			$ -
Other Support Activities Also Include:	$ -		$ -
Computer Maintenance / Radio Maintenance / Technical Support / Management of Apiary and Cattle Leases / State Forest Leases, Lease Amendments, Easements and Other Various Activities	$ -		$ -
			$ -
Capital Improvements	**$ 30,954**	**20.50%**	**$ 41,383.35**
New Facility Construction	$ 7,701	5.10%	$ 10,295.37
Facility Maintenance	$ 23,253	15.40%	$ 31,087.98
			$ -
Visitor Services/Recreation	**$ 19,478**	**12.90%**	**$ 26,041.23**
Information/Education	$ 4,530	3.00%	$ 6,056.10
Operations	$ 14,949	9.90%	$ 19,985.13
			$ -
Law Enforcement	$ -	0.00%	$ -
Total	**$ 150,995**	**100.00%**	**$ 201,870**

Exhibit W

Arthropod Control Plan on RPSF
Response from Marion County, Florida

September 20th, 2017

Alan Davis
The Conner Building
3125 Conner Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650

Dear Mr. Davis:

To the best of my knowledge, Marion County has never had a nuisance mosquito spraying program. Therefore, I can say with some certainly that no arthropod control has been attempted in Ross Prairie State Forest and none is being proposed in the future. Therefore, no Arthropod Control Plan (ACP) exists or would be necessary.

Sincerely,

Daniel Dooley
Environmental Administrator
Department of Health in Marion County