



Sweatt-Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project

**Transmission Line Siting Act Application
No. TA22-19**

PETITION FOR MODIFICATION



January 2025

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CFA	core foraging area
cm	centimeter(s)
CR	County Road
DHR	Division of Historical Resources
EAI	Ecological Associates, Inc.
EMF	electric and magnetic fields
ERP	Environmental Resource Permit
F.A.C.	Florida Administrative Code
F.S.	Florida Statutes
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FDACS	Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services
FDEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
FDOT	Florida Department of Transportation
FLUCFCS	Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System
FM	frequency-modulated
FNAI	Florida Natural Areas Inventory
FPL	Florida Power & Light Company
ft	foot (feet)
FWC	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
GIS	geographic information system
GPS	global positioning system
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
kV	kilovolt(s)
LDR	land development regulations
MW	megawatt(s)
NESC®	National Electrical Safety Code®
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
Project	Sweatt-Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project
SFWMD	South Florida Water Management District
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SR	State Road
TLSA	Florida Electric Transmission Line Siting Act
US #	U.S. Highway #
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

1.0 Proposed Modification

Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) filed its Application for Certification for the Sweatt-Whidden 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line project under the state's Transmission Line Siting Act (TLSA) (Sections 403.52-403.5365, Florida Statutes (F.S.)) on April 18, 2022. Certification approval was granted on September 22, 2022.

FPL is proposing a modification to the certified corridor to add an approximately 10-mile-long additional corridor referred to as the Modified Corridor.

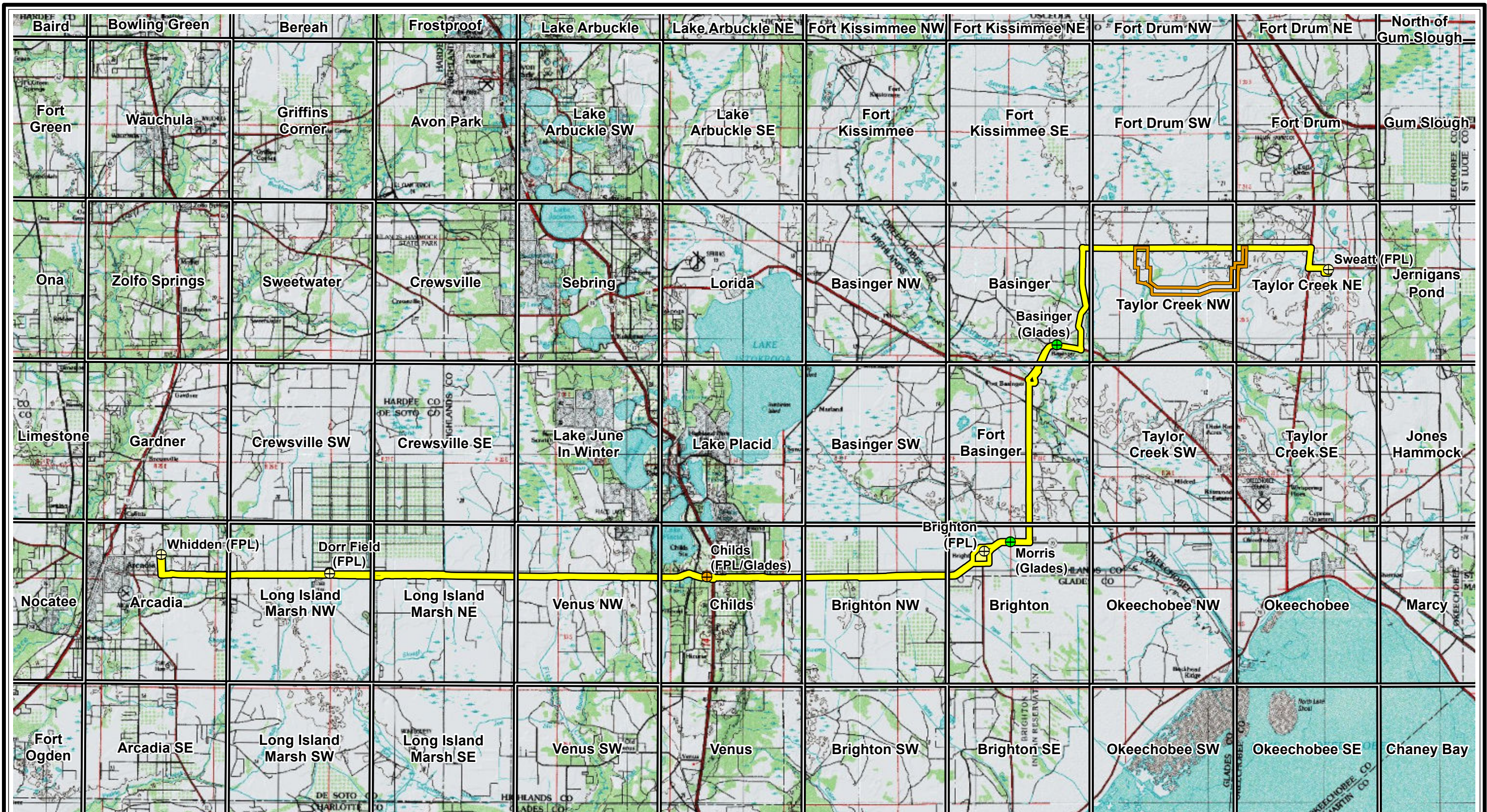
1.1 Modification

The proposed area for corridor modification (Modified Corridor) is located in Okeechobee County, along NW 240th Street, approximately 3.5 miles west of Highway 441. Figure 1-1 provides a location map showing the proposed Modified Corridor.

Figure 1-2 depicts the Modified Corridor on a recent aerial photograph. As can be seen from Figure 1-2, this proposed modification affects a short section of the certified corridor, approximately 5.95 miles, along NW 240th Street, by including an area to the south of NW 240th Street in a new alignment. The proposed Modified Corridor is of variable width and has been selected to provide flexibility to avoid site specific constraints and avoid impacts to wetlands and other environmental features to the greatest extent practicable.

Traversing from east to west, the proposed boundary of the Modified Corridor begins at the certified corridor approximately 0.4 miles west of NW 32nd Avenue. The Modified Corridor boundary crosses NW 240th Street to the south and proceeds due south for approximately one mile before turning west and continuing another 0.5 mile. The Modified Corridor is approximately 1,000 ft wide in this area.

At this point the Modified Corridor turns south again and continues approximately 0.13 miles to the parcel boundary where the Modified Corridor widens to 2,000 ft and continues due south another 1.0 mile. From this point, the Modified Corridor turns west and continues generally west along existing unpaved roads another 4.40 miles, at a width of 2,000 ft. The Modified Corridor turns again north and west 0.65 miles and narrows to 1,000 ft wide, to cross Cypress Slough at its narrowest point.



Legend

- Substation (FPL)
- Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
- Substation (Glades Co-op)
- Preferred Corridor
- USGS Quadrangle Index (24k)
- Proposed Modified Corridor

Miles

Figure 1-1
Project Location
(Revised)

Sweatt-Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

1-2

Sources: ESRI Online, USGS, 2024; ECT, 2025.

West of Cypress Slough, the Modified Corridor widens to 3,500 ft and turns due north and continues 0.78 miles to the parcel boundary. From this point, the Modified Corridor jogs slightly to the west but continues north at 3,500 ft wide another 1.0 mile to rejoin the certified corridor at NW 240th Street.

For the reasons discussed in Section 3.0, FPL is not proposing to withdraw any portion of its certified corridor at this time.

2.0 Description of the Proposed Modified Corridor

The proposed modification crosses south of NW 240th Street and is located west of Highway 441. This expansion of the certified corridor is proposed to satisfy present day electrical requirements, and avoid the need to address potential concerns with compatibility with the short-wave radio antennae while providing flexibility for longer term future interconnection. The land within the Modified Corridor is entirely within unincorporated Okeechobee County.

The future land use designation of the Modified Corridor is Agricultural/Open, which is the same designation as the certified corridor at this location. The zoning for the Modified Corridor is Agriculture (A), which is also a common zoning classification along the certified corridor in this portion of the County. No new future land use designations or zoning districts are added as a result of the proposed modification.

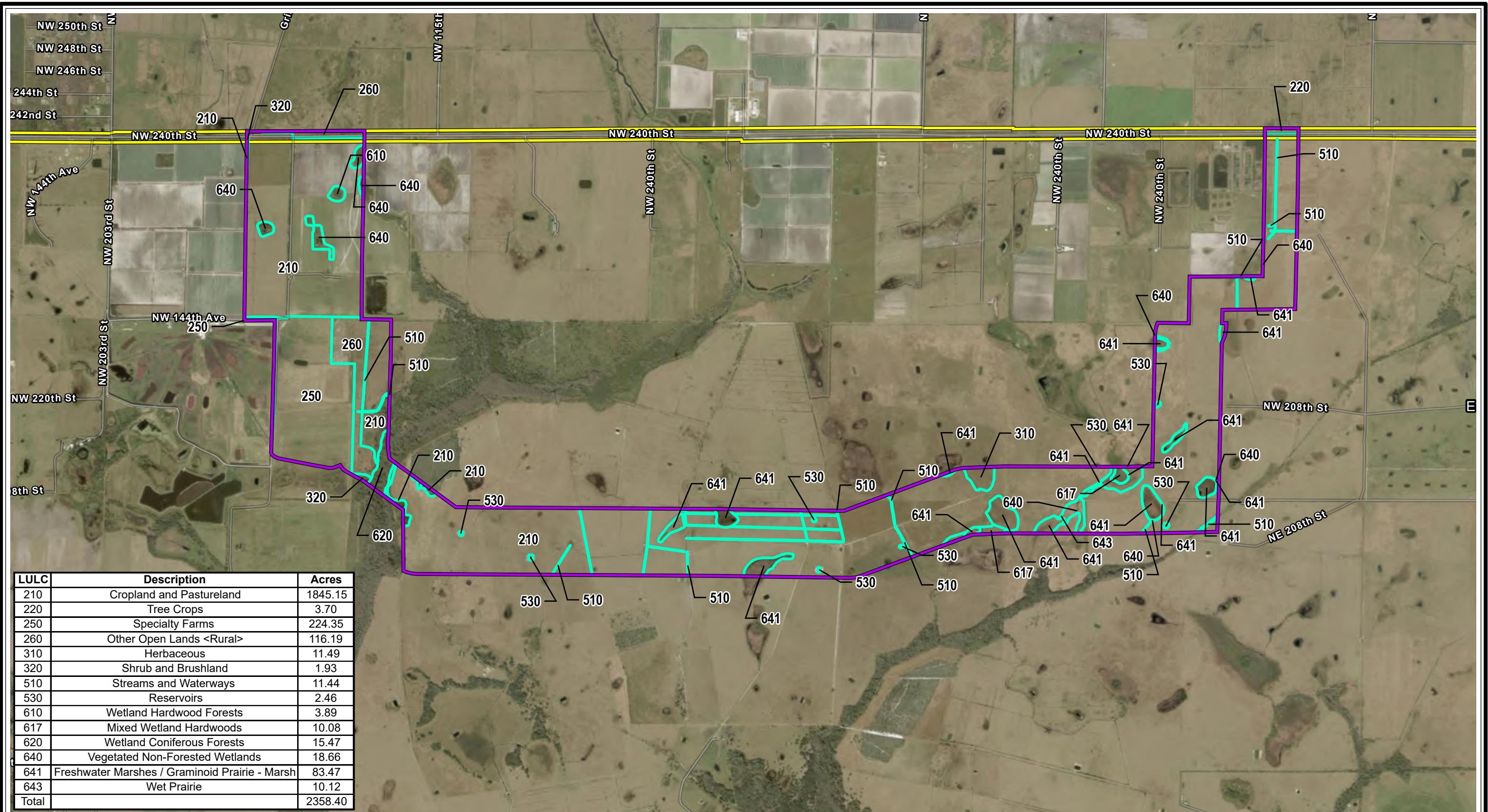
The majority of the Modified Corridor is undeveloped, unimproved pasture. Access will be required for an eventual right-of-way to be constructed within the proposed Modified Corridor, and it is FPL's intent to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands through the use of existing farm roads for construction access and through the selective placement of the proposed transmission structures within the narrowed right-of-way. The Modified Corridor is of variable width and has been proposed in such a way as to allow flexibility for avoidance of site-specific constraints.

No listed species are recorded or known to occur within the Modified Corridor, however additional field studies will be required to confirm absence.

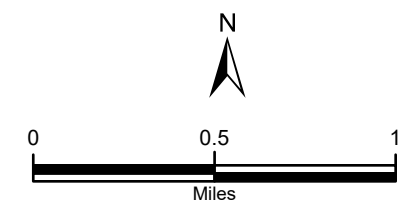
2.1 **Biological and Physical Environment of the Modified Corridor**

2.1.1 **Land Use/Vegetation**

The existing land use and vegetation cover types were identified for the proposed Modified Corridor. Land use was classified in accordance with FDOT's Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System (FLUCFCS) utilizing SFWMD land use/land cover data (updated 2023). The various land use types/vegetative communities along the Modified Corridor are shown on Figure 2-1, which also includes a table of land use descriptions.



- Proposed Modified Corridor
- Sweatt-Whidden Certified Corridor
- LULC



Sources: FDEP, 2022; Esri World Imagery, 2024; ECT 2024

Figure 2-1
Land Use Land Cover in
the Modified Corridor/Study Area
 Sweatt-Whidden Segment 1 - Proposed Modified Corridor
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 Date: 1/16/2025



Table 2-1 provides a summary of broader land use categories found within the Modified Corridor with associated acreages. Based on the data, there are fourteen (14) land cover classifications identified within the area of the proposed Modified Corridor. Vegetative communities are dominated by cropland and pastureland (FLUCFCS 210). Tree crops and specialty farms (FLUCFCS 220, and 250), other open lands (FLUCFCS 260), herbaceous and shrub and brushland (FLUCFCS 310 and 320) represent the remainder of upland communities. Table 2-1 describes the vegetative community composition and ecological characteristics for each dominant habitat type within the Modified Corridor.

Cropland and Pastureland (FLUCFCS 210)—Overall, agricultural land use types dominate the land cover within the Modified Corridor, comprising approximately 93 percent. The land use type most represented is cropland and pastureland (FLUCFCS 210). Approximately 1845.15 acres (or 78 percent) of the area within the Modified Corridor consists of cropland and pastureland. This includes agricultural land that is managed as unimproved and woodland pastures. Pastures may be drained and/or irrigated lands. Where the management objective is to establish or maintain stands of grasses, such as bahia (*Paspalum notatum*), pangola (*Digitaria eriantha*), or Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), either alone or in mixtures with white clover (*Trifolium repens*) or other legumes, land is categorized as pastureland regardless of treatments. Much of the “permanent” pastures occur on land that usually is not tilled or used as cropland.

Tree Crops and Specialty Farms (FLUCFCS 220 and 250)—Collectively these land use types comprise approximately 228.05 acres or 9.7 percent of land cover within the Modified Corridor. These areas have been cleared of nearly all native vegetation and replanted with agricultural crops. In central Florida, tree crops often consist of produce and citrus and specialty farms often are dairy farms.

Table 2-1. Land Use Categories and Acreages within the Modified Corridor

FLUCFCS	Description	Acre	Percentage
	Agriculture		
210	Cropland And Pastureland	1845.15	78.24%
220	Tree Crops	3.70	0.16%
250	Specialty Farms	224.35	9.51%
260	Other Open Lands	116.19	4.93%
	Subtotal	2189.39	92.83%
	Rangeland		
310	Herbaceous (Dry Prairie)	11.49	0.49%
320	Upland Shrub and Brushland	1.93	0.08%
	Subtotal	13.42	0.57%
	Wetlands and Surface Waters		
510	Streams and Waterways	11.44	0.49%

FLUCFCS	Description	Acres	Percentage
530	Reservoirs	2.46	0.10%
610	Wetland Hardwood Forests	3.89	0.16%
617	Mixed Wetland Hardwoods	10.08	0.43%
620	Wetland Coniferous Forests	15.47	0.66%
640	Vegetated Non-Forested Wetlands	18.66	0.79%
641	Freshwater Marshes	83.47	3.54%
643	Wet Prairie	10.12	0.43%
	Subtotal	155.59	6.60%
	Total	2358.40	100.00

Source: ECT, 2024.

Other Open Lands (Rural) (FLUCFCS 260)—Approximately 116.19 acres (or nearly 5 percent) of the Modified Corridor is comprised of this land use type. These upland areas have previously been cleared and improved for crop production but which intended use is not currently known. When inactive, these fields lack significant canopy and/or mid-story and are characterized by groundcover of various grasses, sedges, weeds, and forbs.

Herbaceous and Shrub and Brushland (FLUCFCS 310 and 320)—Two Rangeland land use types are present within the Modified Corridor, comprising 13.42 acres. These include Herbaceous Dry Prairie and Upland Shrub and Brushland Rangeland (FLUCFCS 310 and 320, respectively). Rangeland has been defined as nonforested upland, where the potential natural vegetation is predominantly grasses, grasslike plants, forbs, or shrubs and is capable of being grazed. Management practices may include brush control, regulation of grazing intensity, and seasonality of use. If revegetated to improve the forage cover, it is managed similar to native vegetation. Generally, this land is not fertilized, cultivated, or irrigated.

Streams and Waterways, Reservoirs, Wetland Hardwood Forests, Mixed Wetland Hardwoods, Wetland Coniferous Forests, Vegetated Non-forested Wetlands, Freshwater Marshes, and Wet Prairie (FLUCFCS 510, 530, 610, 617, 620, 640, 641 and 643)—Wetland and surface waters make up approximately 156 acres or about 6.6 percent of the Modified Corridor. Of these, freshwater marshes (FLUCFCS 641) comprise most of the acreage, approximately 83.5 acres or 3.5% of the total acreage of the Modified Corridor. Vegetation within these communities is dominated by beakrushes (*Rhynchospora* spp.), panicgrasses (*Panicum* spp.), St. Johns wort (*Hypericum* spp.), pipeworts (*Eriocaulon* spp.), yellow-eyed grasses (*Xyris* spp.), meadow beauty (*Rhexia* spp.), pitcherplants (*Sarricenia* spp.), sunflowers (*Helianthus* spp.), and witchgrass (*Dichanthelium* spp.). Forested wetlands (FLUCFCS 610, 617, and 620) make up a much smaller acreage (approximately 1.2 percent) within the Modified Corridor and are associated with the creek systems.

2.1.2 Affected Waters and Wetlands

Surface water bodies and wetlands within the Modified Corridor were identified using SFWMD land use data, National Wetlands Inventory maps, field reconnaissance, and current aerial photography. Surface waters, wetlands, and Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Zones within the Modified Corridor are identified on Figure 2-2. Wetlands are identified within and adjacent to the Modified Corridor. The waters and wetlands include a variety of both forested and herbaceous wetland types. Forested wetland types are found present but do not comprise a significant percentage of land cover within the Modified Corridor. Forested wetland types identified within the Modified Corridor are wetland and hardwood forests and wetland coniferous forests. Herbaceous wetland types include vegetated nonforested wetlands. Descriptions of wetlands are provided in Section 2.1.1 and depicted in Table 2-2 and on Figure 2-2.

Table 2-3 provides a listing of surface waters traversed by or adjacent to the Modified Corridor. The Modified Corridor traverses one named creek (Taylor Creek) and one named slough (Cypress Slough). The Modified Corridor will cross these resources in similar fashion, whereupon transmission lines will span the features, and structures will be placed within adjacent uplands (if possible) or within their respective floodplain.

Table 2-2. Wetlands and Waterbodies within the Modified Corridor

ID	Type	FLUCFCS	Acres (Rounded)
NWI	Freshwater Emergent Wetland	640	1.59
NWI	Freshwater Emergent Wetland	640	4.30
NWI	Freshwater Emergent Wetland	641	0.20
NWI	Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	610	3.89
NWI	Freshwater Emergent Wetland	640	3.75
NWI	Freshwater Emergent Wetland	640	7.84
OSW-114	Streams and Waterways	510	6.32
OSW-118	Streams and Waterways	510	1.18
OSW-122	Streams and Waterways	510	0.02
OSW-132	Reservoirs	530	0.28
OSW-133	Reservoirs	530	0.45
OSW-139	Reservoirs	530	0.24
OSW-140	Reservoirs	530	0.24
OSW-156	Reservoirs	530	0.48
OSW-176	Reservoirs	530	0.27
OSW-186	Reservoirs	530	0.45
OSW-195	Reservoirs	530	0.05
OSW-201	Streams and Waterways	510	0.43
OSW-202	Streams and Waterways	510	0.43
OSW-209	Streams and Waterways	510	0.15

ID	Type	FLUCFCS	Acres (Rounded)
OSW-24	Streams and Waterways	510	0.82
OSW-46	Streams and Waterways	510	0.31
OSW-49	Streams and Waterways	510	1.16
OSW-61	Streams and Waterways	510	0.01
OSW-63	Streams and Waterways	510	0.09
OSW-90	Streams and Waterways	510	0.31
OSW-91	Streams and Waterways	510	0.21
W-103	Wet Prairie	643	10.12
W-12	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	11.74
W-122	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	0.55
W-144	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	1.78
W-149	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	6.40
W-150	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	5.25
W-167	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	2.29
W-177	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	10.86
W-180	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	14.26
W-183	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	6.52
W-53	Vegetated Non-Forested Wetlands	640	1.18
W-55	Mixed Wetland Hardwoods	617	4.07
W-59	Mixed Wetland Hardwoods	617	6.01
W-70	Cypress	621	15.47
W-73	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	0.69
W-80	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	6.56
W-82	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	10.60
W-84	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	2.03
W-97	Freshwater Marshes / Graminoid Prairie - Marsh	641	3.74
Total			155.59

Source: NWI, EAI, ECT, 2024.

Table 2-3. Water Bodies Intersecting or Adjacent to the Modified Corridor

County	Feature	Type
Okeechobee	Cypress Slough	Creek
Okeechobee	Taylor Creek	Creek

Source: ECT, 2025.

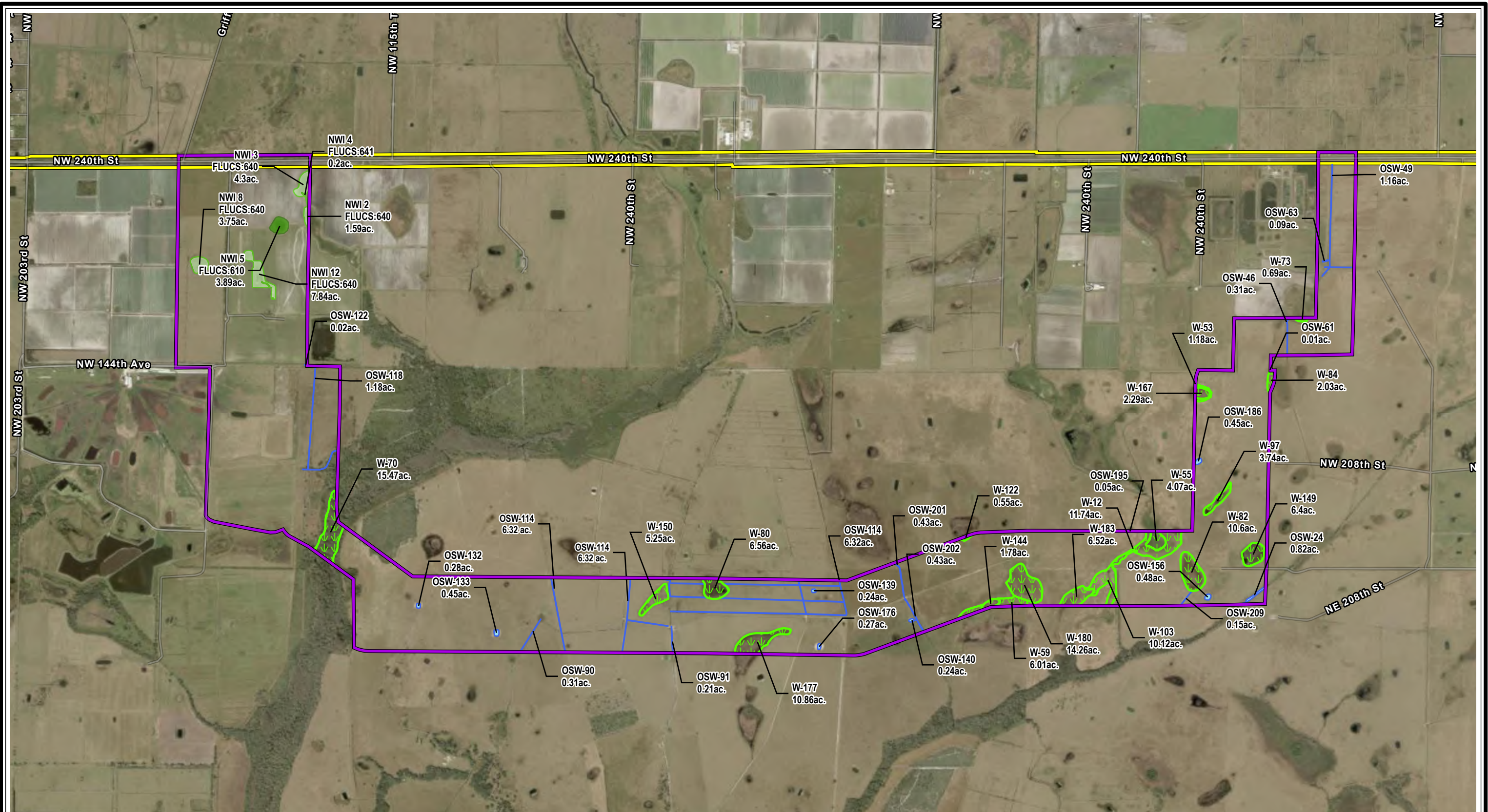


Figure 2-2
Wetlands & Surface Waters
in the Modified Corridor/Study Area
 Sweatt-Whidden Segment 1 - Proposed Modified Corridor
 Okeechobee County, Florida
 Date: 1/16/2025

Surface water bodies within the Modified Corridor consist of two creeks, small unnamed natural ponds, man-made stormwater facilities and livestock watering ponds (reservoirs). Each of these areas would be spanned by the transmission lines and poles, to the extent practicable, to minimize fill required for poles or structural pads.

According to Section 62-302.400, F.A.C., there are no designated Florida Class I (potable waters) or II (waters suitable for shellfish harvesting) waters identified within the Modified Corridor. Waters crossed by the Modification Corridor are considered Class III waters, meaning they are of sufficient quality to support fish and wildlife populations.

2.1.3 Ecology

An area including the Modified Corridor and 1,500 ft beyond each edge of the corridor (study area) was evaluated for ecological resources utilizing a combination of field reconnaissance, database queries, review of aerial maps, and literature review. Prior to field reconnaissance, county-specific lists of threatened and endangered species were obtained from the FNAI (2024). In addition, element occurrence data were obtained from the FNAI, which maintains a database of known occurrences of threatened and endangered (listed) species throughout the state of Florida. Listed plant species are those plants that are listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the FDACS as endangered, threatened, of special concern, or commercially exploited. Listed animal species are those animals that are listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern by USFWS or FWC. The FNAI database identified documented locations of listed species within the Modified Corridor and vicinity.

Undeveloped habitats in and along the Modified Corridor that include a variety of upland and wetland communities may provide a range of habitat values for specific plant and wildlife species. These areas will require further evaluation. Areas that may provide habitat value include forested areas, forested wetlands, and wet prairie communities found in some of the less disturbed areas of the Modified Corridor.

The status and potential for occurrence of species recommended for study (i.e., species listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern) in the study area were determined by desktop habitat analysis, literature review, and limited field reconnaissance. A total of 19 protected species including 4 reptiles and amphibians, 10 birds, and 4 mammals, was identified as species occurring or possibly occurring in the Modified Corridor study area. Table 2-6 summarizes the status of these species with potential for occurrence in and along the Modified Corridor, and the species are discussed in the following paragraphs.

The Modified Corridor traverses areas of freshwater herbaceous and forested wetland habitats as well as natural upland habitats (see also Section 2.1.1). The presence or potential for occurrence

of wildlife species within a given area is a function of the presence of suitable habitat for cover, feeding, and reproduction. In general, the type and quality of wildlife habitats vary with vegetation type and structure, surrounding land use, and hydrology. For this reason, wildlife habitat types can frequently be equated with vegetation community types. Community systems identified in proximity to the Modified Corridor that serve as the wildlife habitat types include wet prairies, and wetlands and mixed wetland hardwoods. Relatively undisturbed natural habitats present collectively occupy a small portion of the Modified Corridor. A variety of wildlife species typically found in upland forest and wetland habitats of central Florida may occur within the vicinity of the Modified Corridor. A listing of non-listed wildlife species expected to occur within the various habitat types is provided in the following paragraphs. Listed species anticipated or known to occur are addressed separately.

Wetland Forests (FLUCFCS 610, 617, 620)—Forested wetlands within the Modified Corridor provide foraging and nesting habitat for a variety of wildlife species occurring in central Florida. Mammalian species expected to utilize these habitats would include white-tailed deer, beaver (*Castor canadensis*), northern river otter (*Lutra canadensis*), eastern gray squirrel, racoon, feral hog, and coyote. Many herpetofauna utilize forested wetlands, including water moccasin (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*), squirrel tree frog (*Hyla squirella*), leopard frog (*Rana utricularia*), southern cricket frog (*Acris gryllus dorsalis*), and green tree frog (*Hyla cinerea*). Avian species likely to occur with these habitats include barred owl, red-bellied woodpecker, pileated woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*), yellow-bellied sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*), Acadian flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*), Louisiana waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*), northern waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*), and prothonotary warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*).

Herbaceous Wetlands (FLUCFS 640, 641 and 643)—Herbaceous wetlands within and along the Modified Corridor can support various marsh-dwelling creatures as well as wildlife generalists. Common wildlife present in central Florida specific to marsh habitat may include marsh rabbit (*Sylvilagus palustris*), great egret (*Ardea alba*), American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*), Virginia rail (*Rallus limicola*), belted kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*), red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), and pig frog (*Rana grylio*).

2.1.3.1 Threatened and Endangered Species

Table 2-6 summarizes the listed species with potential to occur within Okeechobee County in proximity to the Modified Corridor. This assessment began by performing a records review of the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) report powered by the Environmental Conservation Online System, FNAI Biodiversity Matrix, and FWC GIS records, including the wading bird and bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nest databases.

The Modified Corridor does not intersect known critical habitat. Portions of the Modified Corridor fall within the consultation areas for the Florida bonneted bat (*Eumops floridanus*), crested

caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*), Everglade snailkite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus*), and Florida grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum floridanus*). The Modified Corridor is within the core foraging area (CFA) of one wood stork (*Mycteria americana*) colony identified as Wescott Grove Reservoir. There is a recorded bald eagle nest whose 660 ft disturbance buffer is located outside of the Modified Corridor boundary.

Federal Species

American Alligator—The alligator is listed as threatened by USFWS and FWC due to similarity of appearance to the American crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*). Alligators are not uncommon in this part of the state, and this reptile is assumed present in most surface waters.

Audubon's Crested Caracara—This raptor is listed as a threatened species by USFWS. It is present in central and south Florida, including the four counties crossed by the certified corridor. Caracaras commonly occur in dry or wet prairie areas with scattered cabbage palms (*Sabal palmetto*) or in lightly wooded areas of scattered saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), scrub oaks (*Quercus inopina*), and cypress (*Cupressus* spp.). Caracaras are highly opportunistic in their feeding habits, eating carrion and capturing live prey. No recorded caracara nests have been identified in the Modified Corridor, but the species is not uncommon in Okeechobee County.

Eastern Indigo Snake—This species (*Drymarchon couperi*) is federally- and state-listed as threatened. This distinctive large, black snake can occur in suitable habitats throughout Florida. It has a wide range of habitat preferences and prey species and requires large tracts of land for survival. Often considered a gopher tortoise commensal, it can be found in xeric habitats but also uses more mesic or wetland habitats for foraging. Suitable habitat is present for this species within the Modified Corridor.

Everglade Snail Kite—This federally endangered bird prefers habitats consisting of slow-moving water with emergent vegetation such as maidencane (*Panicum hemitomon*) or sawgrass (*Cladium jamaicense*). This species is typically found in the Lake Okeechobee area southward through the Everglades. The Modified Corridor is within the normal range of this species.

Florida Bonneted Bat—Endemic to Florida and nonmigratory, the Florida bonneted bat is the largest bat in Florida. Limited knowledge about habitat needs and preferences suggests that this bat uses forests, wetlands, and other natural habitats, as well as residential and urban areas. Endangered wherever found, the final rule for listing of the Florida bonneted bat was adopted in October 2013 and federal guidance was updated in June 2024. The current population size is unknown. The Modified Corridor does not intersect the critical habitat identified for the Florida bonneted bat. Due to the species' small range, the greatest threats to Florida bonneted bats are loss of habitat, including destruction of natural roost sites, and natural disasters such as hurricanes, which have the potential to impact its entire range.

Florida Grasshopper Sparrow—This bird species is listed as endangered by USFWS. This is a subspecies of grasshopper sparrow that is endemic to the dry prairies of central and south Florida. FNAI has records of this bird in Okeechobee County. Their habitat consists of large, treeless, relatively poorly drained grasslands that have a history of frequent fires. The Florida grasshopper sparrow occurs in prairies dominated by saw palmetto and dwarf oaks (*Quercus prinoides*). Bluestem grasses (*Andropogon* spp.), St. John's wort, and wiregrasses (*Aristida stricta*) are also typically found within Florida grasshopper sparrow habitat. Given its rarity and specific habitat requirements, it has a low potential to occur in the Modified Corridor.

Florida Panther—The Florida panther (*Puma (=Felis) concolor coryi*) is listed as endangered by USFWS. Florida panthers are secretive and require extensive blocks of mostly forested land for survival. Large wetlands, inaccessible to humans, provide important refuge. The remaining number of this species is low. Their breeding population is restricted to southwest Florida, but dispersing individuals may range well north into the peninsula in search for new territories.

Wood Stork—The wood stork is federally listed as endangered. This large bird uses freshwater and estuarine habitats for nesting, roosting, and foraging. Wood storks typically construct their nests in medium to tall trees located in swamps or on islands surrounded by relatively broad expanses of open water. They are found across much of central Florida. Wood storks tend to use the same colony sites over many years, as long as the sites remain undisturbed and sufficient feeding habitat remains in the surrounding wetlands. There are no recorded nesting colonies within 1,500 ft of the Modified Corridor; however, individuals may opportunistically forage in the water bodies or ditches that are present. In south Florida, the wood stork CFA is an 18.6-mile radius around active nesting colonies where appropriate habitat exists. According to current USFWS data, the Modified Corridor intersects one wood stork CFA, around the West Grove Reservoir colony. Revised Figure 2-8 shows the Modified Corridor in relation to Wood Stork colonies and their respective CFAs.

Bald Eagle—The bald eagle is a federally managed species under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Florida has one of the largest eagle populations in the lower 48 states. These birds typically nest and roost in forested habitats and utilize shallow fresh or saltwater for foraging. Nesting is initiated in the fall, and nests may be used for many years. According to the FWC Eagle Nest Locator database, there is one known eagle nest located within 1,500 ft of the Modified Corridor (OK029). Revised Figure 2-8 shows the Modified Corridor in relation to the recorded eagle nest. This nest is located outside the 660 ft eagle disturbance buffer applied to the nearest boundary of the Modified Corridor.

Wading Birds—Based on current FNAI records, there are no wading bird colonies within a critical distance (1,500 ft) of the Modified Corridor. It is expected that wading birds will opportunistically forage in wetlands or agricultural ditches within and along the Modified Corridor.

State-Listed Species

Gopher Tortoise—Gopher tortoises (*Gopherus polyphemus*) are listed as threatened species by FWC. They are typically found in xeric habitats, which are found within the Modified Corridor and surveys will be conducted to determine presence or absence. Gopher tortoise burrows are used by a number of other listed and non-listed wildlife species. As such, they are considered a keystone species, and both the species and their burrows are protected wherever found.

Southeastern American Kestrel—Listed as threatened by FWC, this small falcon (*Falco sparverius paulus*) is the resident subspecies that breeds in Florida. The more common northern migrant is seen commonly in the winter months perching on snags and power lines along roadsides in central Florida. The open habitats found within the Modified Corridor may provide foraging habitat for this bird.

Table 2-6. Threatened and Endangered Species with Potential to Occur in the Modified Corridor/Study Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Listing	State Listing
Mammals			
<i>Eumops floridanus</i>	Florida bonneted bat	E	E
<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Tricolored bat	C	
<i>Puma (=Felis) concolor coryi</i>	Florida panther	E	E
<i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i>	Florida black bear	N	N
Birds			
<i>Ammodramus savannarum floridanus</i>	Florida grasshopper sparrow	E	E
<i>Athene cunicularia floridana</i>	Florida burrowing owl	N	T
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Little blue heron	N	T
<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Tricolored heron	N	T
<i>Falco sparverius paulus</i>	American kestrel	N	T
<i>Grus canadensis pratensis</i>	Florida sandhill crane	N	T
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle	N	N (*)
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Wood stork	T	T
<i>Polyborus plancus audubonii</i>	Audubon's crested caracara	T	T
<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus</i>	Everglade snail kite	E	E
Reptiles			
<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American alligator	FT	SAT
<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	Eastern indigo snake	T	T
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Gopher tortoise	C	T
<i>Pituophis melanoleucus mugitus</i>	Florida pine snake	N	T
Insects			
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch butterfly	C	

Note: C = candidate.

E = endangered.

N = not currently listed.

SAT = threatened due to similarity of appearance to American crocodile.

T = threatened.

*Bald eagles are afforded federal protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

Source: USFWS, FWC, FNAI, ECT, 2025.

3.0 Justification for the Modification

After certification, FPL became aware of concerns about the compatibility of constructing, operating, and maintaining an overhead 230-kV transmission line in close proximity to the multiple short-wave radio antennae located along the southern side of NW 240th Street. As a result, FPL explored options to address these concerns. In exploring options, the FPL Sweatt-Whidden project team learned that future electrical generation planning, as part of FPL's long-range planning adjacent to and in the vicinity of the certified corridor, had occurred. Subsequent to the corridor certification, FPL went under contract to purchase large tracts of land between NW 240th Street and US 98 in Okeechobee County for the purpose of long-range development of multiple solar generation sites. These future generation sites will require connections to the FPL transmission system.

Modifying the certified corridor for the Sweatt-Whidden 230-kV transmission line now will serve the purpose of allowing the proposed transmission line route to be realigned to meet the electrical requirement for the present-day project and also allow FPL to avoid the construction of additional transmission line facilities to serve the future generation from the solar sites in the longer term. In addition, modifying the certified corridor and constructing in the Modified Corridor will avoid the need to address concerns about the compatibility of the transmission line construction in the immediate vicinity of the short-wave radio antennae located along the southern side of NW 240th Street.

FPL is under contract for the purchase of two large tracts of land that would comprise a portion of the Modified Corridor. In this modification, FPL proposes to retain the original corridor as a back-up in the event that FPL is unable to obtain all property interests necessary for the Modified Corridor.

4.0 Anticipated Effects of the Modification

The future land use map designation and the zoning district crossed by this proposed modification are consistent with those crossed along other portions of the certified corridor in Okeechobee County. No land use regulations are applicable to this project.

The Modified Corridor does contain additional forested wetlands, however no significant environmental impacts are anticipated due to the proposed modification. No new vegetation communities are introduced in the Modified Corridor that were not already found present in the certified corridor. No new listed species are known to occur within the Modified Corridor.

A search of recorded archaeological and historic resources was requested from DHR. Condition of Certification Section B: Specific Conditions VI. DEPARTMENT OF STATE – DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES applies to the certified corridor and would similarly apply to the Modified Corridor. A copy of DHR’s letter pertaining to their review of the Florida Master Site File for the area of the Modified Corridor is attached as Appendix C.

FPL will be able to construct and maintain the transmission line within this Modified Corridor consistent with the methods described in the certification application and approved conditions of certification. FPL will coordinate with the appropriate agencies when the transmission line route is designed and specific environmental impacts are known.

5.0 Potential to Affect Conditions of Certification

The conditions of certification for Sweatt-Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project are found in the Siting Board's final order, dated August 22, 2022:

https://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/Siting/Outgoing/FPLSweattWhidden230kVTA22_19/20220922FPL%20Sweatt-Whidden%20Final%20Order%20-%20OGC%202022-1716.pdf

It is not expected that construction and operation of this Project with the proposed modification will affect the applicable rules and regulations of any state or local agencies.

6.0 Affected Sections of FPL's Application for Corridor Certification

The primary changes to FPL's corridor certification Application affected by the proposed modification are the map figures depicting the new location. The following lists the text changes (pages) from the original application and the figure numbers that are revised as a result of the modification request. For ease in reviewing these changes, all pages and figures are modified in tracked changes and appended to this document as Appendix A, in the order presented herein:

- Page 1-2
- Page 1-3
- Pages 7-1 through 7-3
- Figure 1-1
- Figure 1-3
- Figure 2-2, sheets 2-5
- Figure 2-3, sheet 1
- Figure 2-4, sheets 3-6
- Figure 2-5, sheets 3-6
- Figure 2-6, sheets 3-6
- Figure 2-7, sheets 3-6
- Figure 2-8

7.0 Legal Authority

Legal authority for the proposed addition of the Modified Corridor is provided for in:

- Section 403.5315, F.S.—Modification of Certification.
http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0400-0499/0403/Sections/0403.5315.html
- Section 62-17.680, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) Modification of Certification.
<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleno.asp?id=62-17.680>
- Condition of Certification XXIV—Modification of Certification.
https://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/Siting/Outgoing/Web/Certification/ta22_19.pdf

Appendix A – Pages/Figures of FPL’s Application Changed as a Result of the Modification Request



Sweatt-Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project

Transmission Line Siting Act Application
No. TA22-19



~~April 2022~~
January 2025

ECT No. 210863-0300

- Establishment of an additional transmission path to increase east-to-west power transfer capabilities
- Mitigation of potential overloads and low voltage conditions under contingency events.

The Project will efficiently and effectively meet this need by improving reliability for FPL customers currently served from the existing 69-kV circuit between Okeechobee and Whidden substations; increasing east-to-west power transfer capabilities of the transmission network by providing a resilient, hardened 230-kV circuit between the east and west areas of FPL's territory north of Lake Okeechobee; relieving potential overloads and low voltage conditions under contingency events; and reducing line loading on existing transmission circuits.

FPL evaluated multiple transmission alternatives for meeting this identified need, which resulted in the selection of the Project. The Project presents the best alternative, taking into account the demand for electricity, enhancing electric system reliability and integrity, and addressing the need for abundant, low-cost electrical energy to assure the economic well-being of the citizens of this state. Furthermore, the Project meets area load requirements by serving potential future industrial, commercial, and residential load, while maximizing system reliability and minimizing cost to customers.

1.1.2 The Applicant

FPL, a subsidiary of NextEra Energy, Inc., is the largest electric utility in Florida, with a service area of approximately 35,200 square miles. FPL serves approximately 5.7 million customer accounts supporting more than 11 million residents, with a service territory in all or parts of 43 Florida counties. These customers are served by a variety of resources, including FPL-owned fossil-fuel, renewable (solar), and nuclear generating units; non-utility owned generation; demand-side management (DSM); and purchased power.

FPL's bulk transmission system, including both overhead and underground lines, is comprised of 9,174 circuit miles of transmission lines. Integration of the generation, transmission, and distribution systems is achieved through FPL's 832 substations in Florida. Figure 1-2 depicts the combined FPL service area showing bulk transmission.

The following information addresses the applicant identification requirements.

Applicant's Official Name:	Florida Power & Light Company
Address:	700 Universe Boulevard, Juno Beach Florida 33408
Address of Official Headquarters:	700 Universe Boulevard, Juno Beach Florida 33408
Business Entity (corporation, partnership, co-operative):	Corporation
Name and Title of Chief Executive Officer:	Eric Silagy, Chairman, President, and CEO

Armando Pimentel, President and CEO

Name, Address, and Phone Number of Official Representative responsible for obtaining certification:	Franck Leblanc, Director, Environmental Services Power Delivery Operations and Construction Florida Power & Light Company 15340 Endeavor Drive Jupiter, Florida 33478 (561) 904-3415
Counties Crossed:	Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands and DeSoto
Incorporated Cities:	None
Termination Points:	Sweatt substation and Whidden substation
Intermediate [and Potential Intermediate] Substation(s):	Brighton (FPL), Childs (FPL/GEC), Dorr Field (FPL), [Basinger (GEC), Morris (GEC)]
Voltage:	230 -kV (kilovolts)
Line Type (AC or DC):	Alternating current (AC)
Length of Line and Number of Circuits:	Approximately 80.5 miles, single-circuit

90

1.1.3 Maps

Maps and figures depicting the corridor conform with the format set forth in Sections 403.52 through 403.539, F.S., and outlined in the FDEP draft “Application Instruction Guide: Electrical Power Plant Sites and Associated Facilities Electrical Transmission Lines,” dated September 1, 2009—specifically, Sections 1.3.6 and 9.1. as well as the draft document “Application Instruction Guide: Electric Transmission Lines (TLSA)” dated September 28, 2009.

1.2 Project Description

The Project will consist of a single-circuit, 230-kV transmission line extending from FPL’s existing Whidden substation in DeSoto County, Florida, to the existing FPL Sweatt substation in Okeechobee County, Florida (Figure 1-3). Several sections may involve rebuilding of existing utility (transmission and/or distribution) lines within existing utility corridors to accommodate the new circuit where practicable. Additional agreements, easements, or special use and/or right-of-way permits may be required in these areas. Other areas will require new easements for the placement of transmission facilities.

The required local government and regulatory agency permits for future expansions to the existing substations will be obtained separately. Substations are not being included for certification in this application.

1.3 Transmission Line Design and Characteristics

The Project will be constructed using monopole, self-supported structures. Where engineering considerations require, the poles may require guy wires. Structures will either be spun concrete or steel. The aerial overhead transmission line will have three phases and an optical ground wire/overhead ground wire, which can also be used for communications. In some sections, distribution underbuilt facilities will be attached.

For the purpose of both construction and maintenance, both temporary and permanent easements may be required. Transmission poles to construct this Project will vary in height from 75 to 110 feet (ft) above

7.0 References

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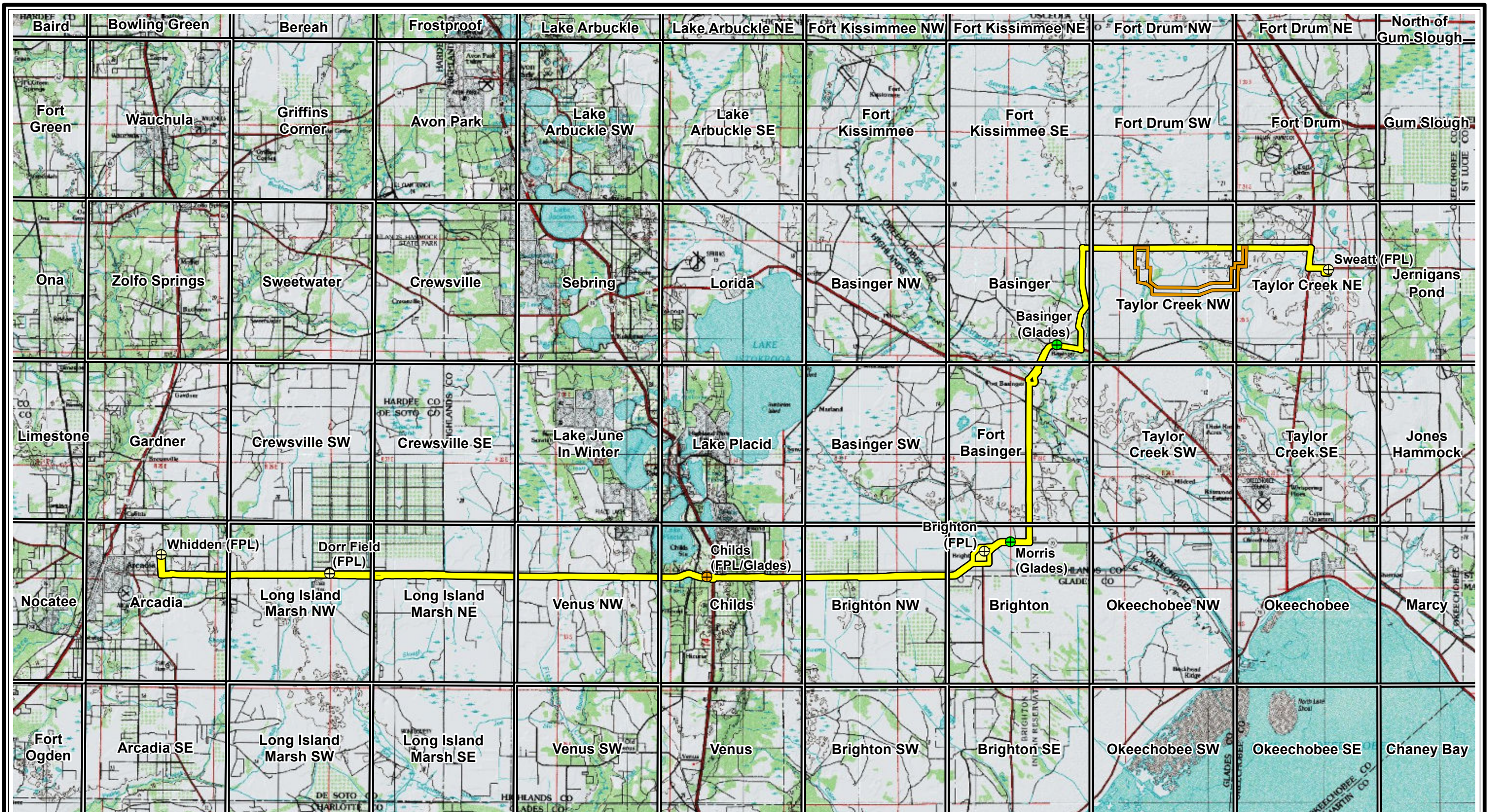
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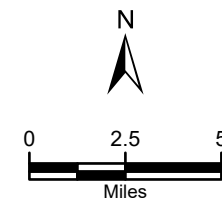
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- Legend**
- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
 - ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
 - ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
 - ▬ Preferred Corridor
 - ▬ USGS Quadrangle Index (24k)
 - ▬ Proposed Modified Corridor

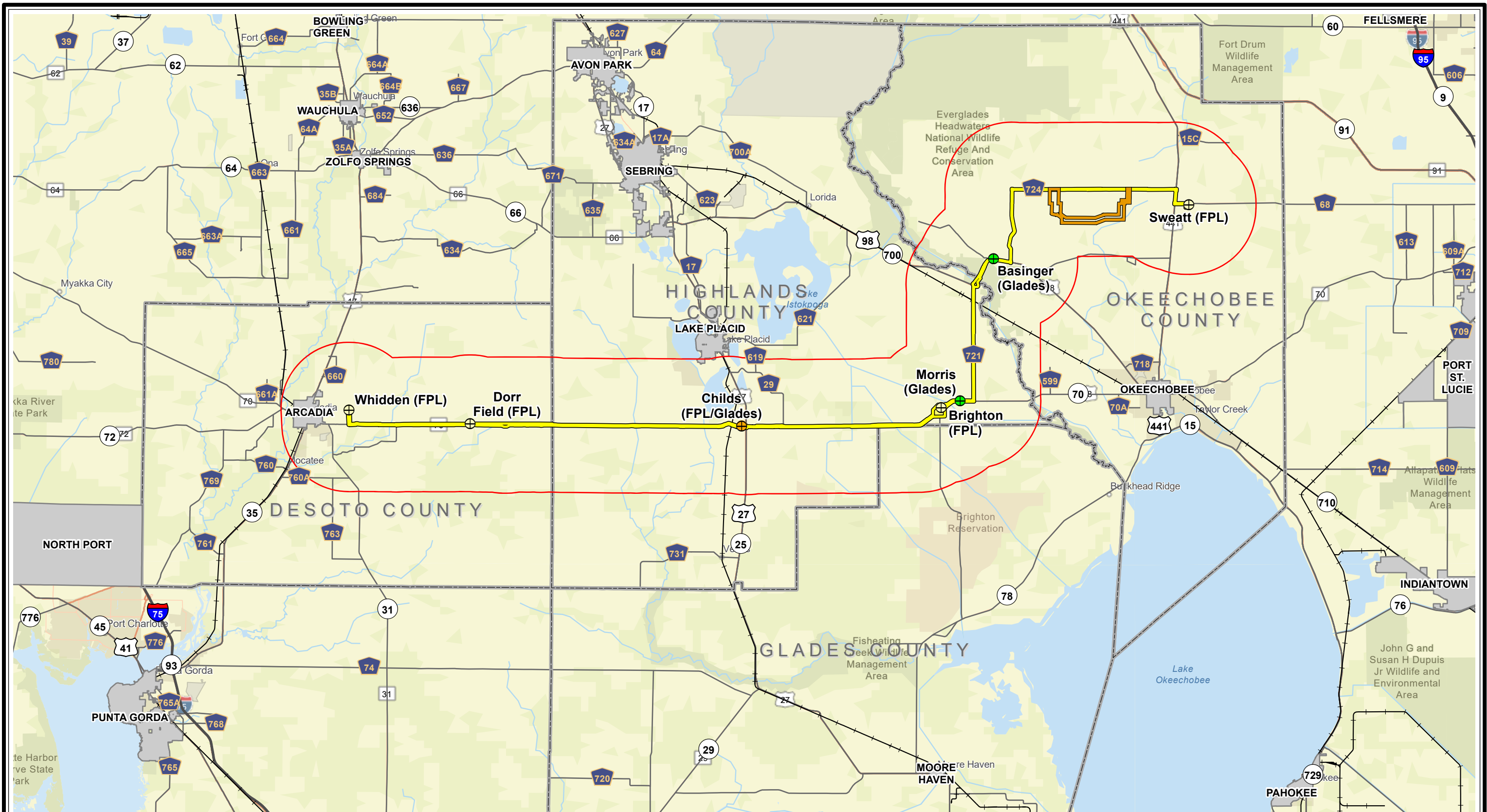


Sources: ESRI Online, USGS, 2024; ECT, 2025.

**Figure 1-1
Project Location
(Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida





Legend

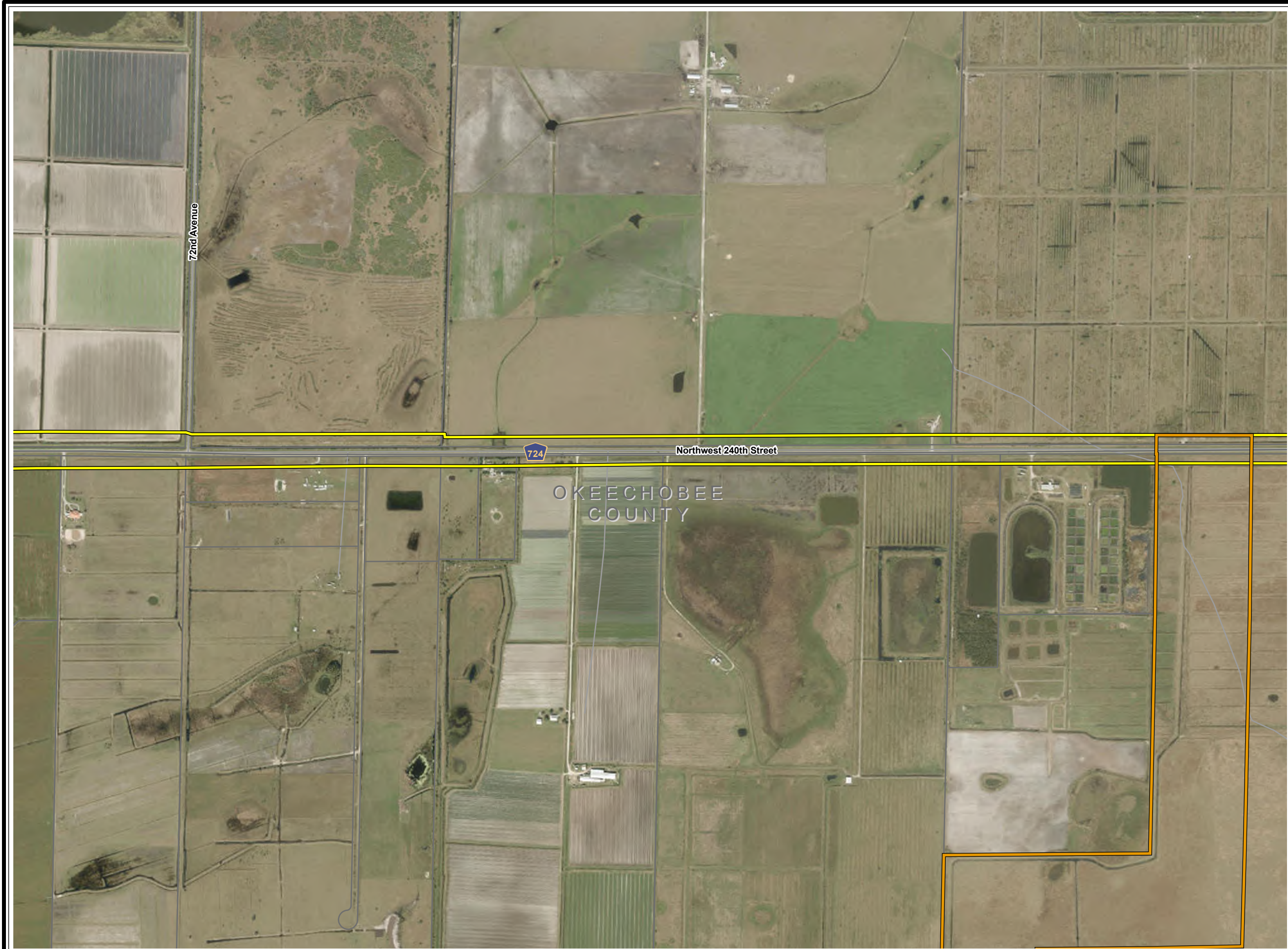
⊕ Substation (FPL)	Corridor Buffer (5 Miles)
⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)	Town/City
⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)	Preferred Corridor
Transmission Line	County Boundary
Railroad	Proposed Modified Corridor

0 5 10
Miles

Figure 1-3
Location Map With Existing Transmission Within 5 Miles
(Revised)

Sweett-Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Sources: ESRI, 2024; US Dept of Energy, 2021; FGDL, 2021; ECT, 2025.



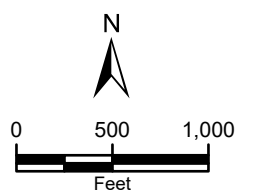
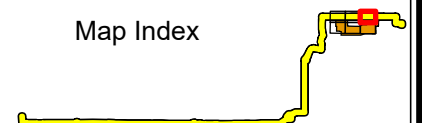
**Figure 2-2 Map 1 of 6
Preferred Corridor
(Revised)**

Sweatt – Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  FPL Parcel Boundary
-  Parcel Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

Map Index



**Figure 2-2 Map 2 of 6
Preferred Corridor
(Revised)**

Sweatt – Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

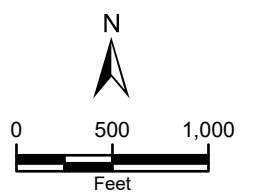
Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  Stream/River/Flowline
-  FPL Parcel Boundary
-  Parcel Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

OKEECHOBEE
COUNTY

Taylor Creek

Map Index



**Figure 2-2 Map 3 of 6
Preferred Corridor
(Revised)**

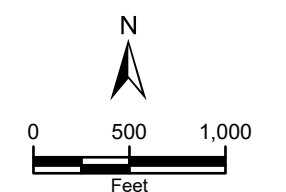
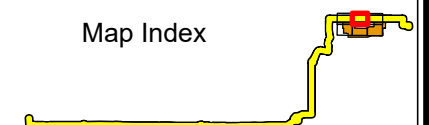
Sweatt – Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  Stream/River/Flowline
-  FPL Parcel Boundary
-  Parcel Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Proposed Modified Corridor



Map Index





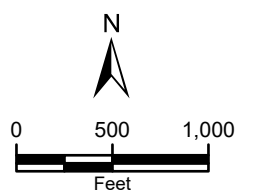
**Figure 2-2 Map 4 of 6
Preferred Corridor
(Revised)**

Sweatt – Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  Stream/River/Flowline
-  FPL Parcel Boundary
-  Parcel Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

Map Index



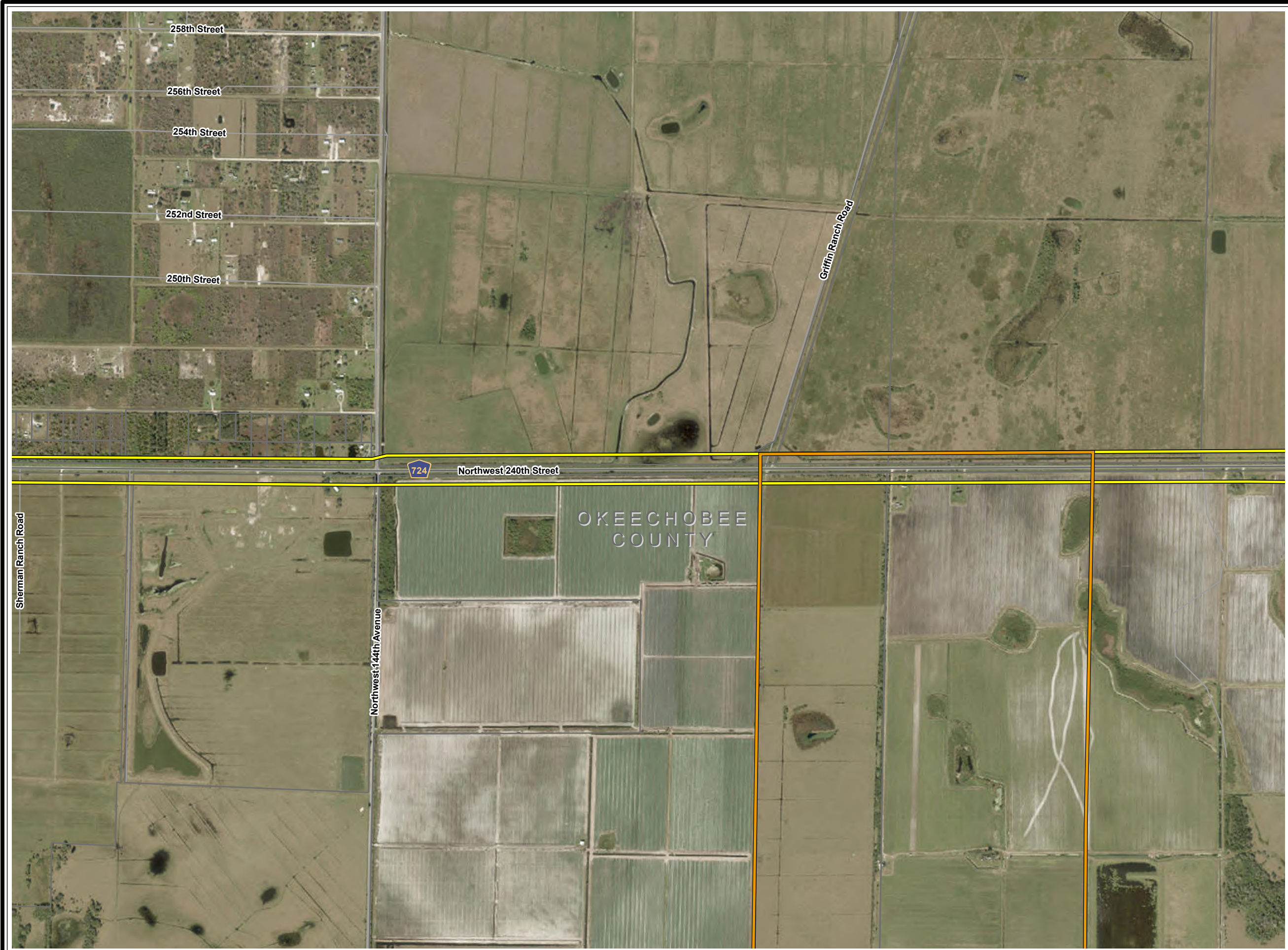


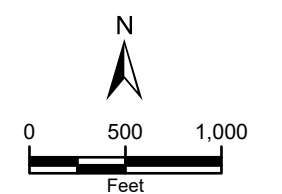
Figure 2-2 Map 5 of 6 Preferred Corridor (Revised)

Sweatt - Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
- ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
- ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
- ▭ Preferred Corridor
- ▭ FPL Parcel Boundary
- ▭ Parcel Boundary
- ▭ County Boundary
- ▭ Proposed Modified Corridor

Map Index





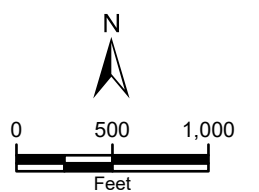
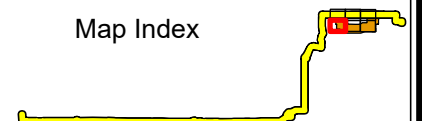
**Figure 2-2 Map 6 of 6
Preferred Corridor
(Revised)**

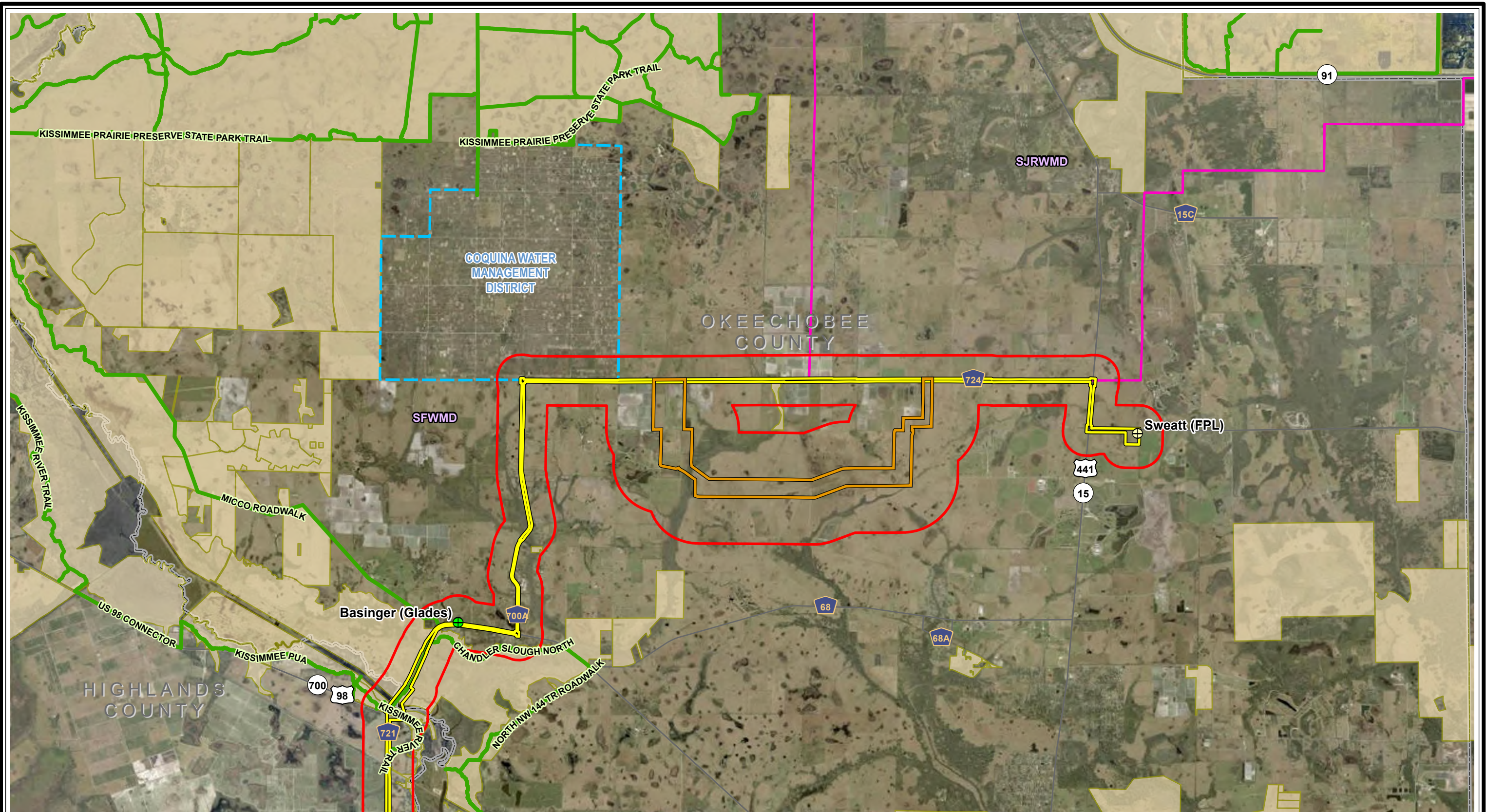
Sweatt – Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  Stream/River/Flowline
-  FPL Parcel Boundary
-  Parcel Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

Map Index





Legend

⊕ Substation (FPL)	Managed and Protected Lands (FNAI)
⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)	Recreational Trail
⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)	Transmission Line
▬ Preferred Corridor	Proposed Modified Corridor
▬ State Water Management District (DEP)	County Boundary
	Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
	Special District (SFWMD/SWFMD)

Sources: FDEP, 2023; SWFWMD, 2023; USGS, 2023; FNAI, 2024; FWC, 2023; FDOT Imagery, 2023; US Dept of Energy, 2023; FGDL, 2023; FDOT, 2023; ECT, 2025.

N

0 1 2

Miles

Figure 2-3
Governmental Jurisdictions Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)
Sweatt – Whidden 230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida



Figure 2-4 Map 1 of 6
Future Land Use Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

- Legend**
- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
 - ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
 - ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
 - ▭ Preferred Corridor
 - ▭ County Boundary
 - ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
 - ▭ Proposed Reroute
 - Okeechobee County FLU**
 - ▭ Agricultural/Open

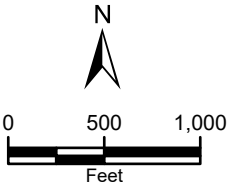
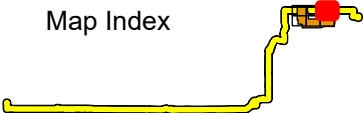


Figure 2-4 Map 2 of 6
Future Land Use Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

- Legend**
- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
 - ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
 - ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
 - ▭ Preferred Corridor
 - ▭ County Boundary
 - Stream/River/Flowline
 - ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
 - ▭ Proposed Reroute
 - Okeechobee County FLU**
 - ▭ Agricultural/Open

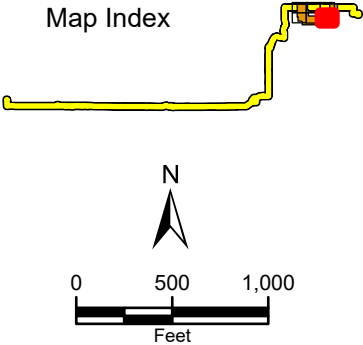
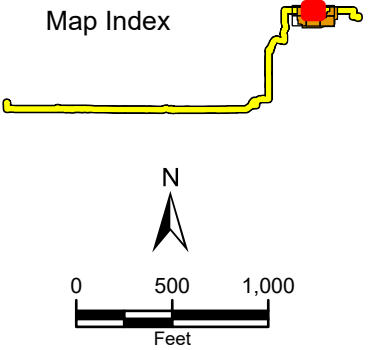


Figure 2-4 Map 3 of 6
Future Land Use Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

- Legend**
- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
 - ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
 - ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
 - ▭ Preferred Corridor
 - ▭ County Boundary
 - Stream/River/Flowline
 - ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
 - ▭ Proposed Reroute
 - Okeechobee County FLU**
 - ▭ Agricultural/Open



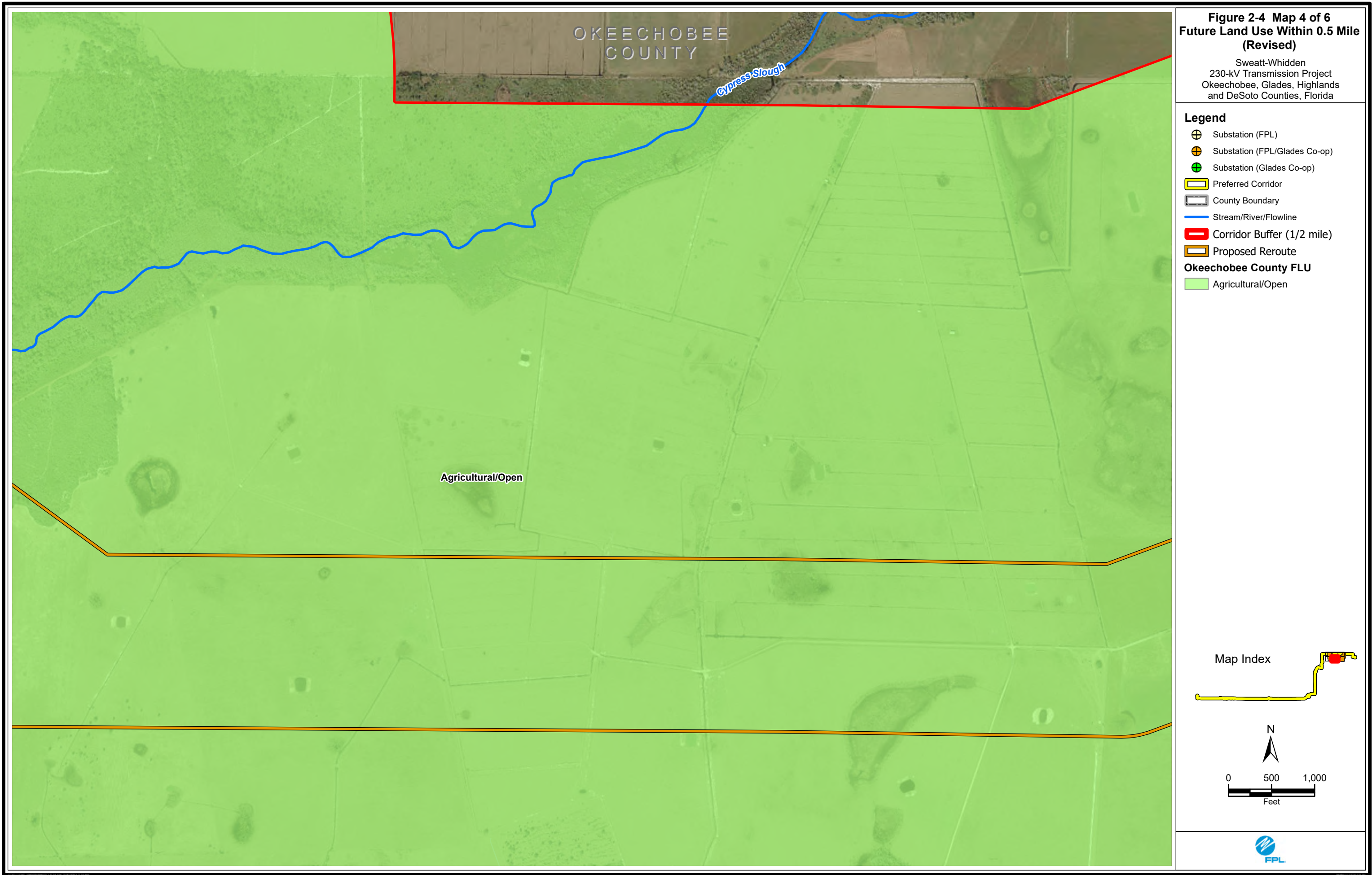
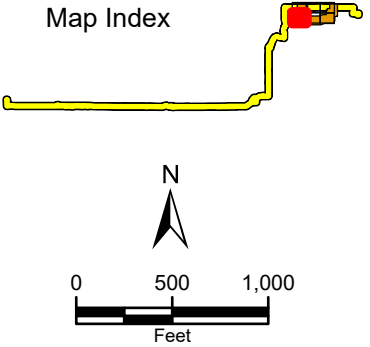


Figure 2-4 Map 6 of 6
Future Land Use Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

- Legend**
- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
 - ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
 - ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
 - ▭ Preferred Corridor
 - ▭ County Boundary
 - Stream/River/Flowline
 - ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
 - ▭ Proposed Reroute
 - Okeechobee County FLU**
 - ▭ Agricultural/Open



**Figure 2-5 Map 1 of 6
Zoning Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)**

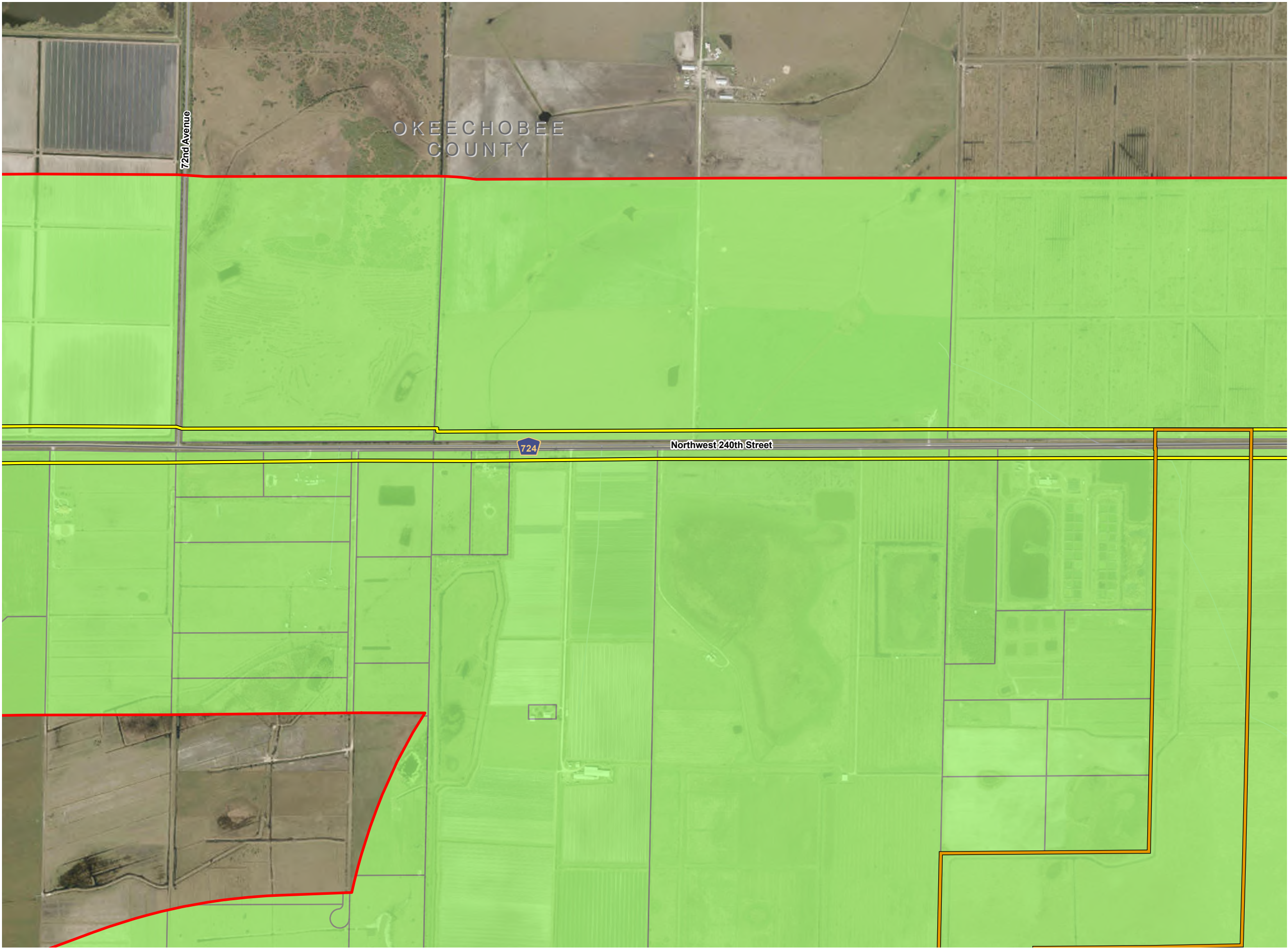
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

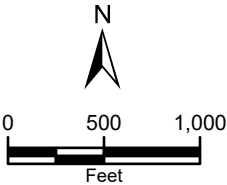
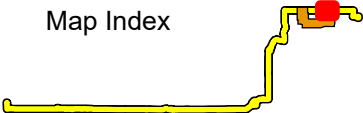
-  Preferred Corridor
-  County Boundary
-  Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

Okeechobee County Zoning

-  A



Map Index



**Figure 2-5 Map 2 of 6
Zoning Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  County Boundary
-  Streams/Flowline
-  Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

Okeechobee County Zoning

 A

OKEECHOBEE
COUNTY

Taylor Creek

Map Index

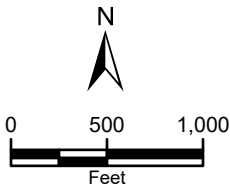
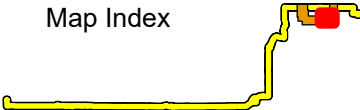


Figure 2-5 Map 3 of 6
Zoning Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

- Legend**
- Preferred Corridor
 - County Boundary
 - Streams/Flowline
 - Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
 - Proposed Modified Corridor
- Okeechobee County Zoning**
- A

OKEECHOBEE
COUNTY

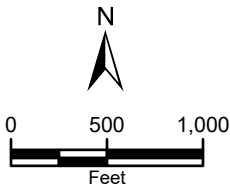
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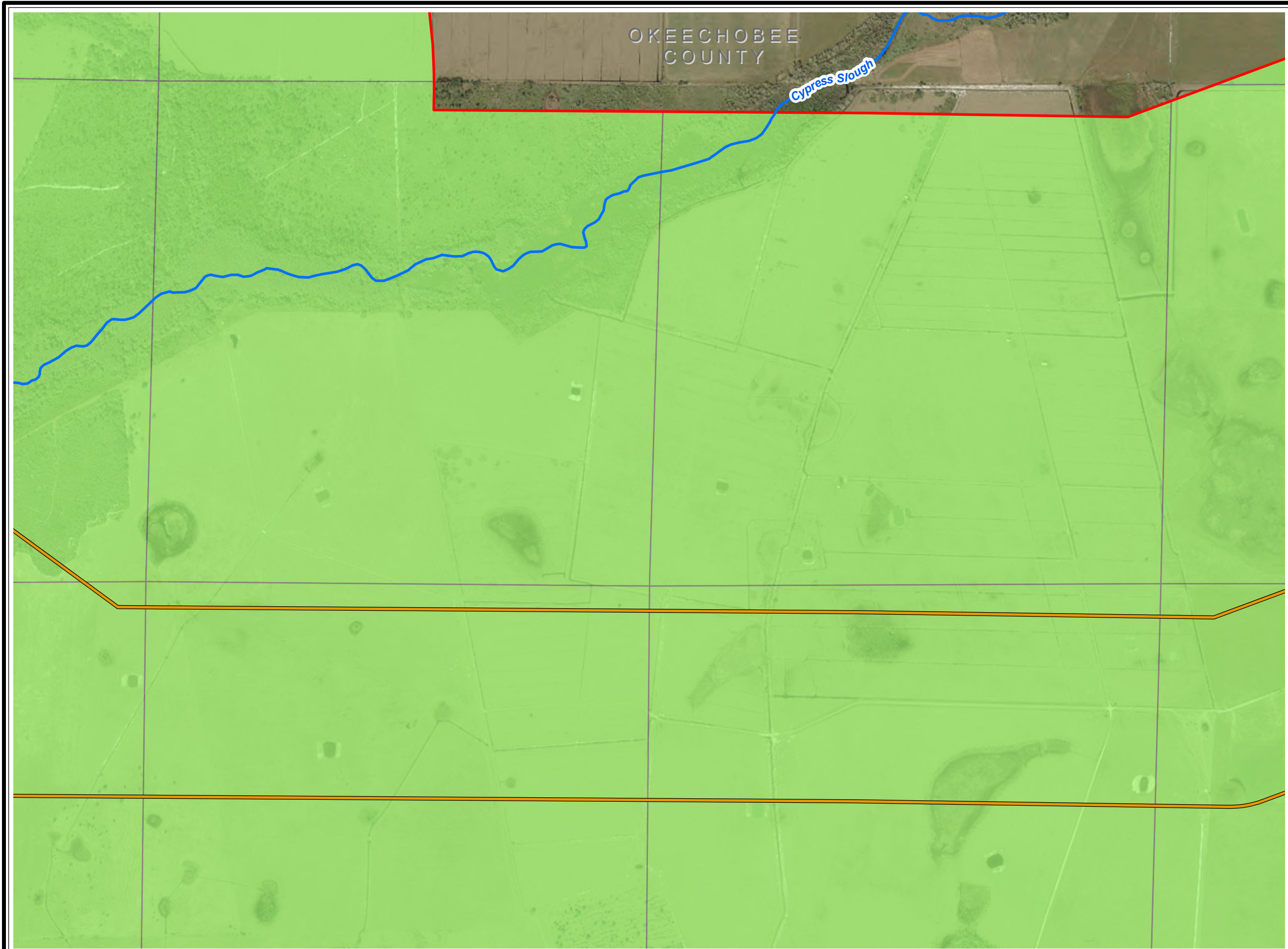
724

Fish Slough

Cypress Slough

Map Index





**Figure 2-5 Map 4 of 6
Zoning Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

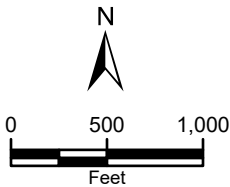
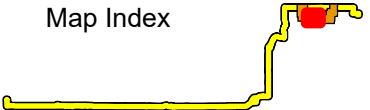
Legend

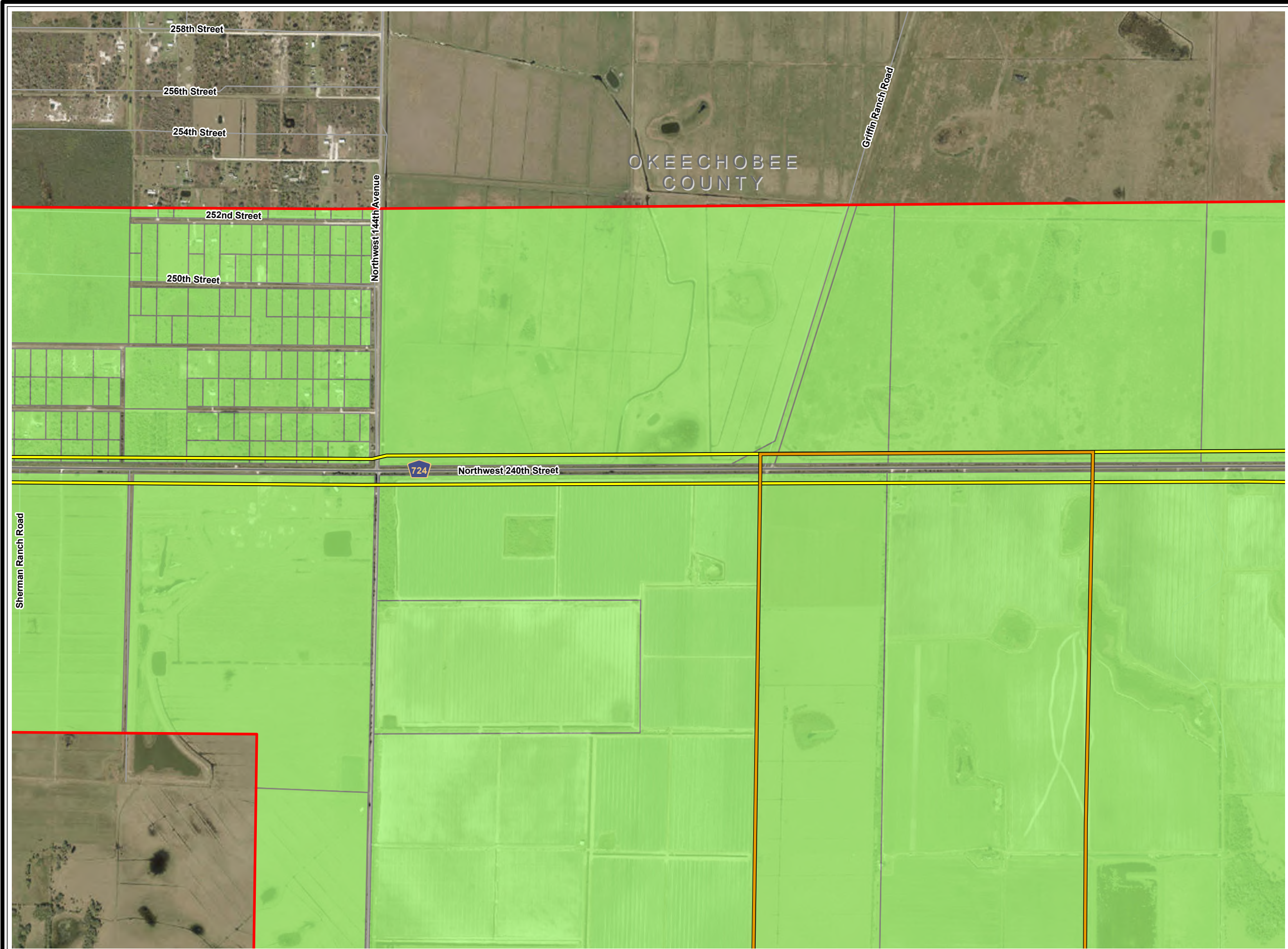
-  County Boundary
-  Streams/Flowline
-  Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

Okeechobee County Zoning

-  A

Map Index





**Figure 2-5 Map 5 of 6
Zoning Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  Preferred Corridor
-  County Boundary
-  Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
-  Proposed Modified Corridor

Okeechobee County Zoning

-  A

Map Index

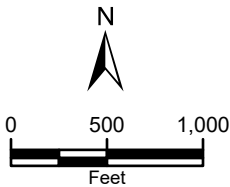
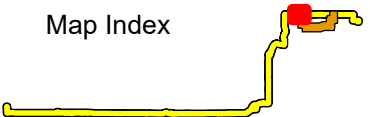


Figure 2-5 Map 6 of 6
Zoning Within 0.5 Mile
(Revised)

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

- County Boundary
- Streams/Flowline
- Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
- Proposed Modified Corridor

Okeechobee County Zoning

A

OKEECHOBEE
COUNTY

Northwest 144th Avenue

Northwest 203rd Street

Cypress Slough

Map Index

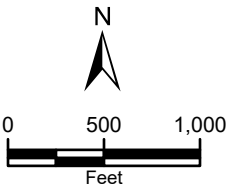
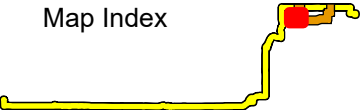
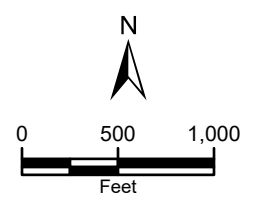
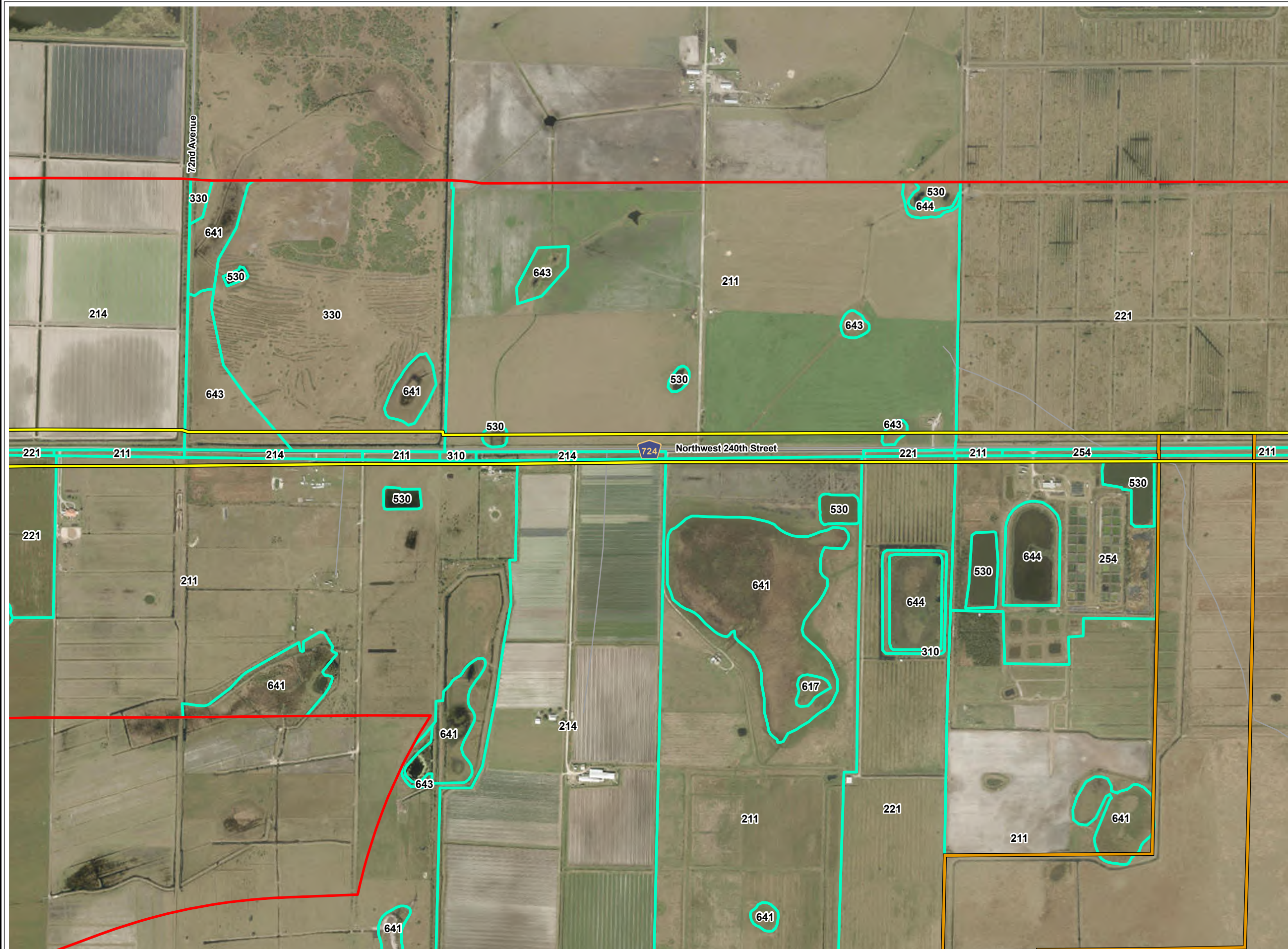


Figure 2-6 Map 1 of 6
Land Use/Land Cover
Within 0.5 Mile (Revised)

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

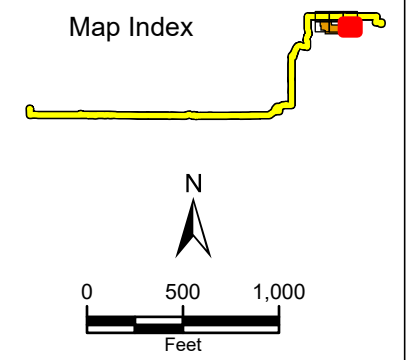
Legend

- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
- ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
- ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
- ▭ Preferred Corridor
- Stream/River/Flowline
- ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
- ▭ Proposed Modified Corridor
- ▭ Land Use/Land Cover



**Figure 2-6 Map 2 of 6
Land Use/Land Cover
Within 0.5 Mile (Revised)**
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

- Legend**
- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
 - ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
 - ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
 - ▭ Preferred Corridor
 - Stream/River/Flowline
 - ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
 - ▭ Proposed Modified Corridor
 - ▭ Land Use/Land Cover



**Figure 2-6 Map 3 of 6
Land Use/Land Cover
Within 0.5 Mile (Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  Stream/River/Flowline
-  Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
-  Proposed Modified Corridor
-  Land Use/Land Cover

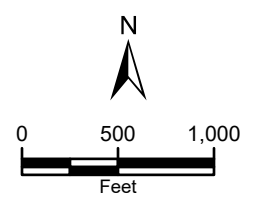
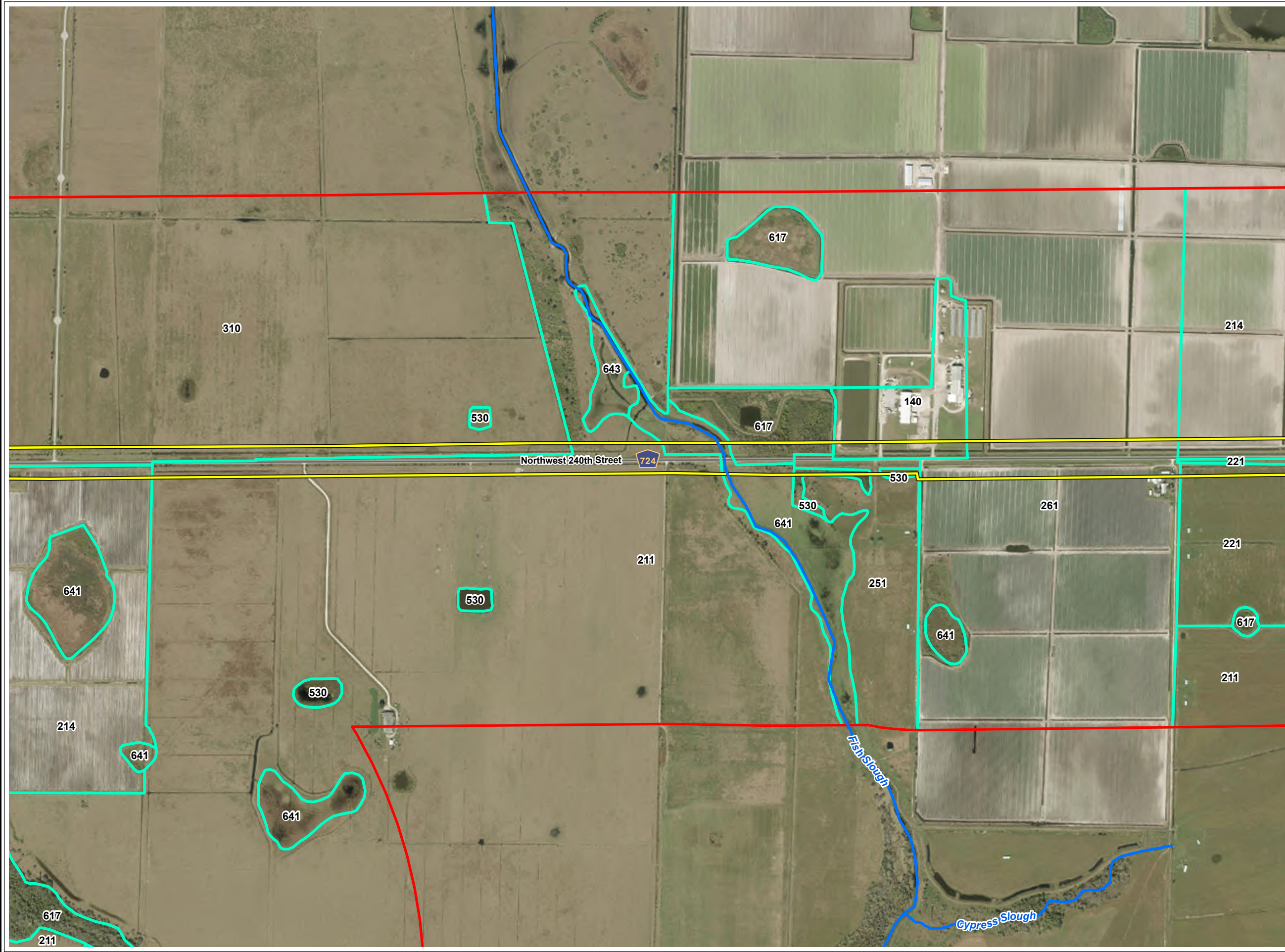
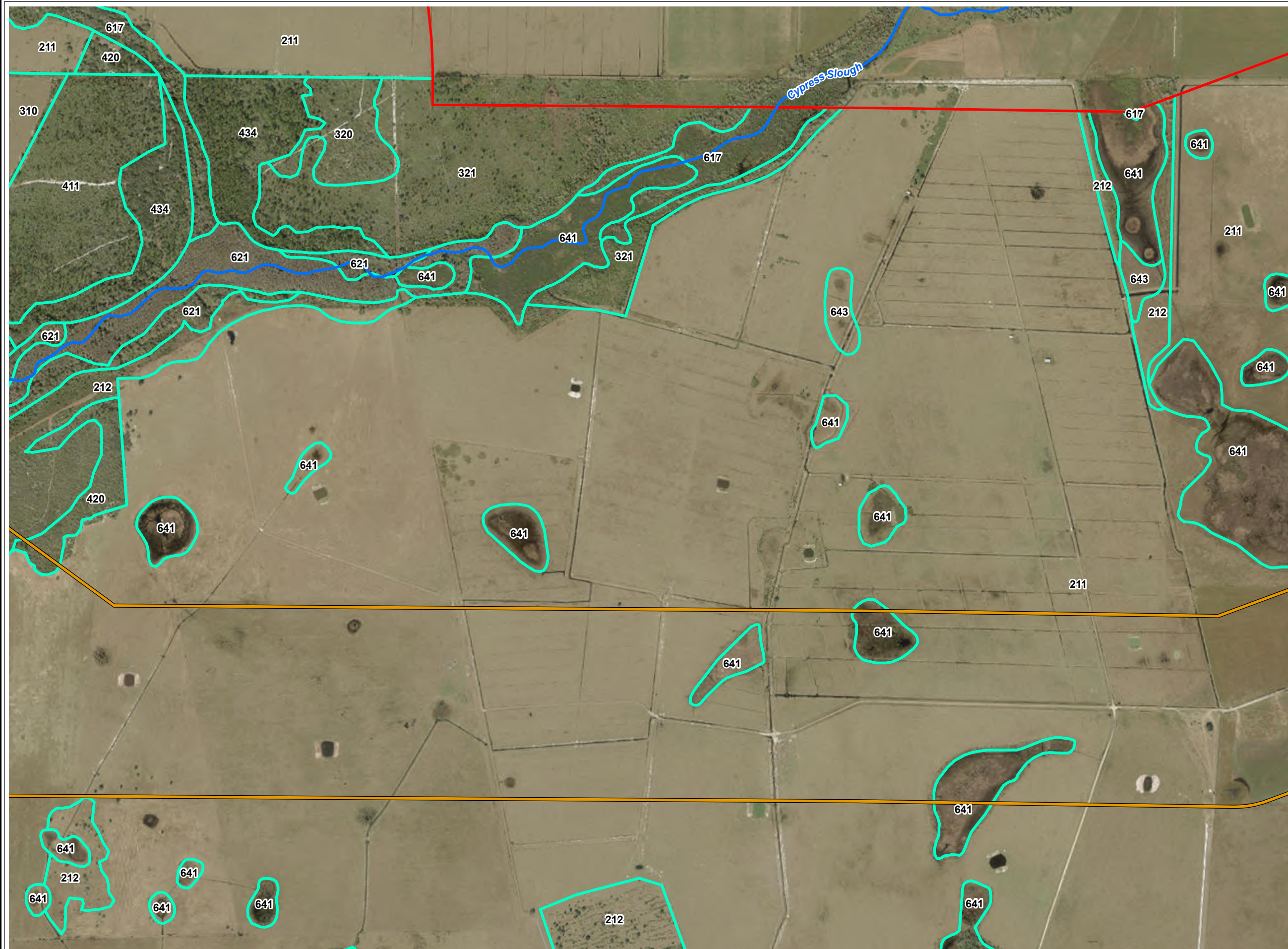


Figure 2-6 Map 4 of 6
Land Use/Land Cover
Within 0.5 Mile (Revised)

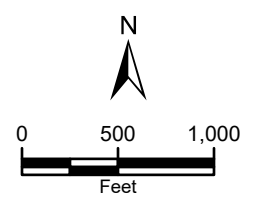
Sweatt-Whidden
 230-kV Transmission Project
 Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
 and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  Stream/River/Flowline
-  Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
-  Proposed Modified Corridor
-  Land Use/Land Cover



Map Index



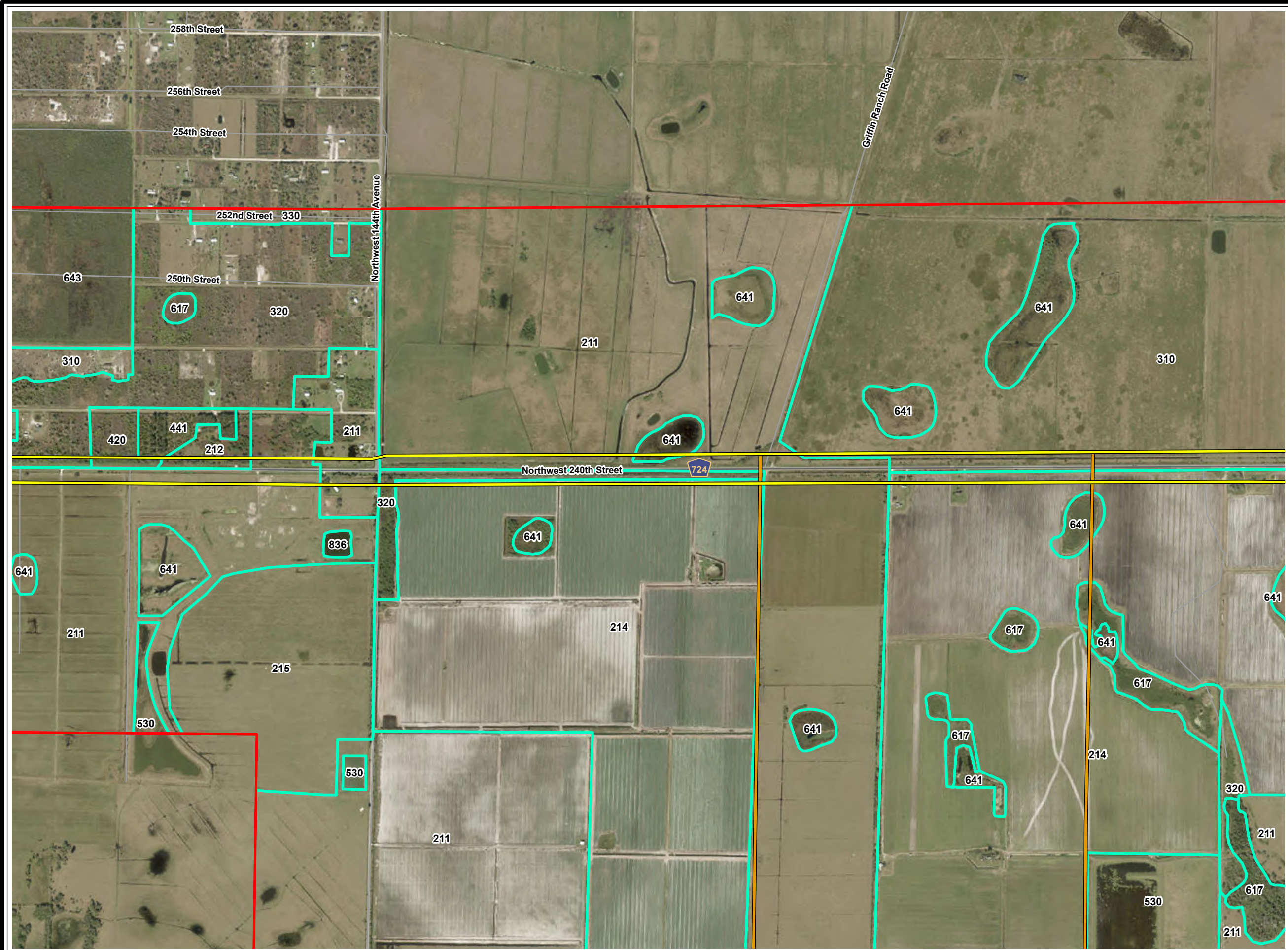
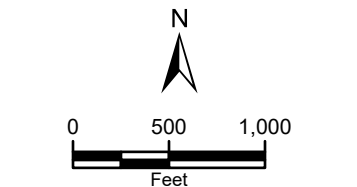


Figure 2-6 Map 5 of 6
Land Use/Land Cover
Within 0.5 Mile (Revised)

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
- ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
- ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
- ▭ Preferred Corridor
- Stream/River/Flowline
- ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
- ▭ Proposed Modified Corridor
- ▭ Land Use/Land Cover

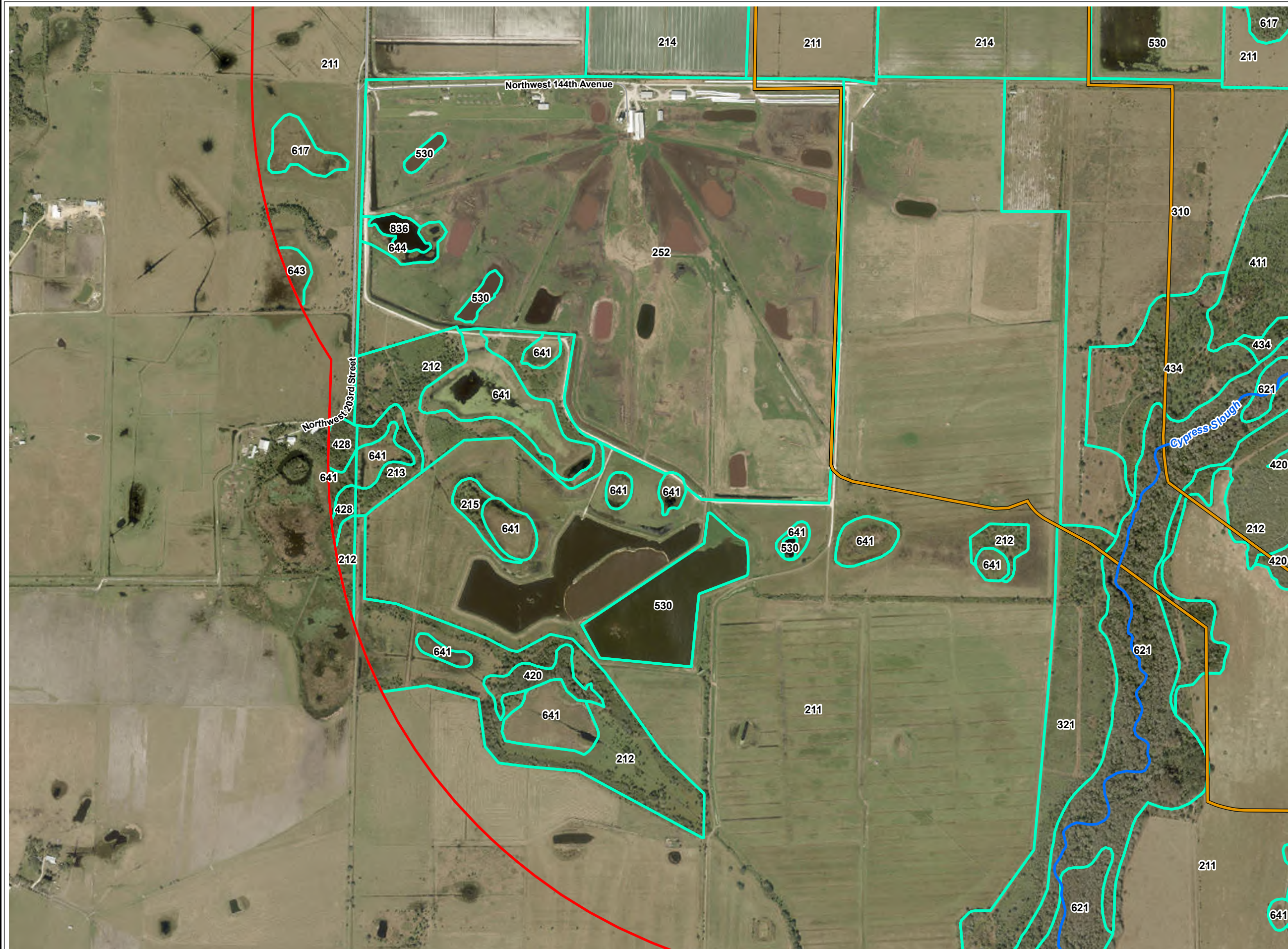


**Figure 2-6 Map 6 of 6
Land Use/Land Cover
Within 0.5 Mile (Revised)**

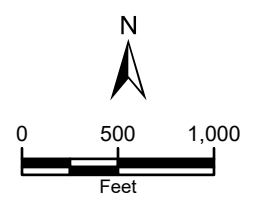
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
- ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
- ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
- ▭ Preferred Corridor
- Stream/River/Flowline
- ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
- ▭ Proposed Modified Corridor
- ▭ Land Use/Land Cover



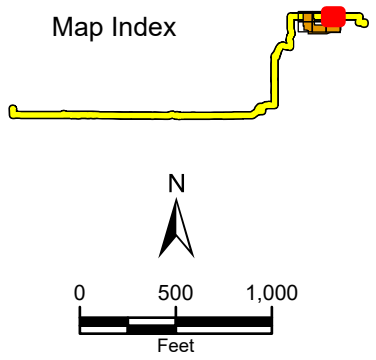
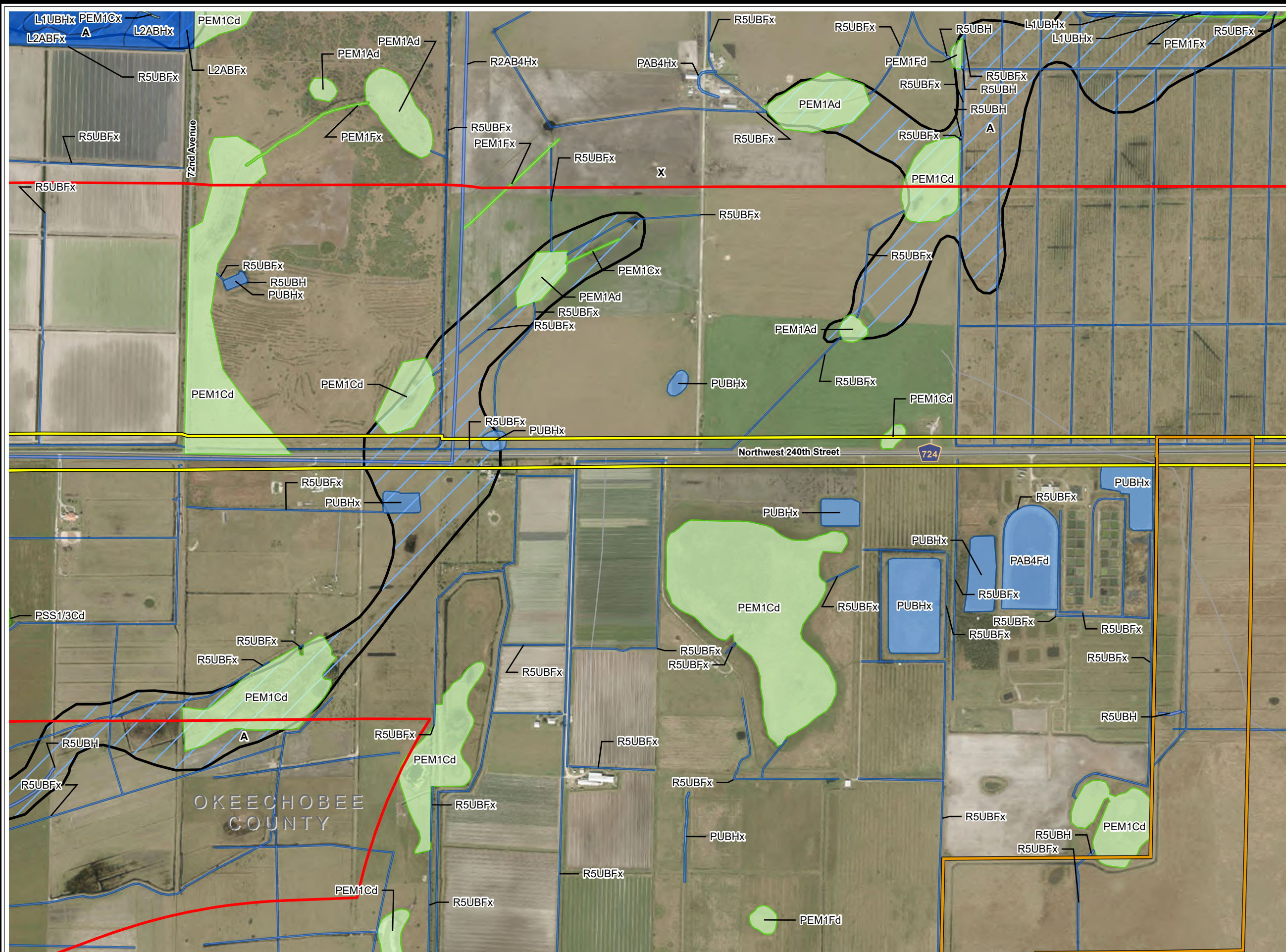
Map Index



**Figure 2-7 Map 1 of 6
Wetlands, Waters and Floodplains
(Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

- Legend**
- Substation (FPL)
 - Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
 - Substation (Glades Co-op)
 - Preferred Corridor
 - Proposed Modified Corridor
 - County Boundary
 - Stream/River/Flowline
 - Freshwater Emergent Wetland
 - Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
 - Freshwater Pond
 - Lake
 - Riverine
 - Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)
- FEMA Flood Zone**
- A
 - X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard



**Figure 2-7 Map 2 of 6
Wetlands, Waters and Floodplains
(Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

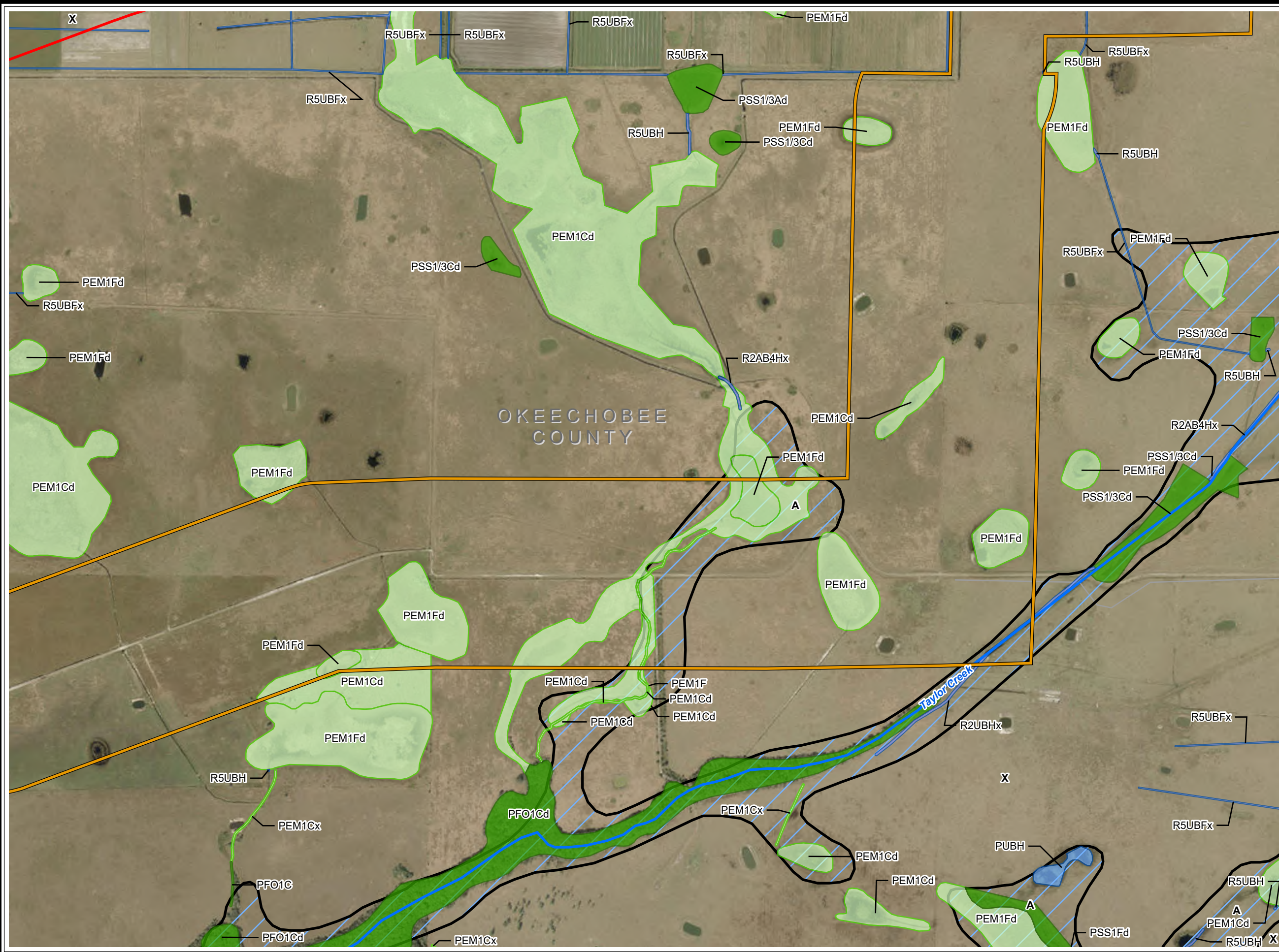
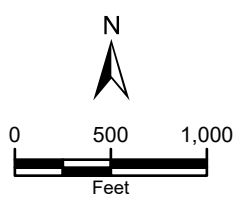
Legend

- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
- ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
- ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
- ▭ Preferred Corridor
- ▭ Proposed Modified Corridor
- ▭ County Boundary
- Stream/River/Flowline
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Riverine
- ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)

FEMA Flood Zone

- ▭ A
- ⊗ X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard

Map Index



**Figure 2-7 Map 1 of 6
Wetlands, Waters and Floodplains
(Revised)**

Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

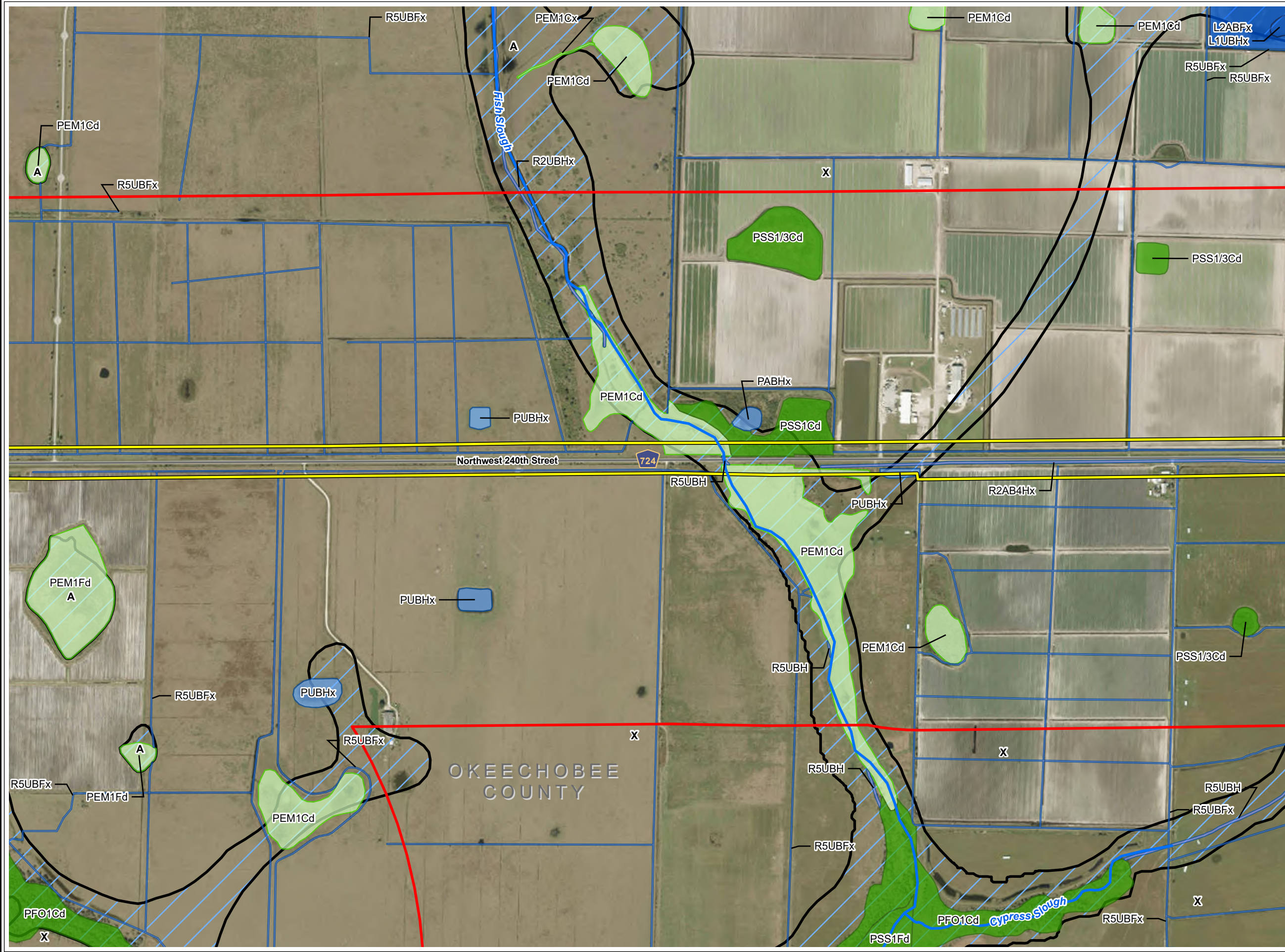
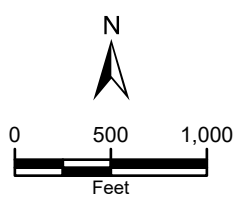
Legend

-  Substation (FPL)
-  Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
-  Substation (Glades Co-op)
-  Preferred Corridor
-  Proposed Modified Corridor
-  County Boundary
-  Stream/River/Flowline
-  Freshwater Emergent Wetland
-  Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
-  Freshwater Pond
-  Lake
-  Riverine
-  Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)

FEMA Flood Zone

-  A
-  X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard

Map Index



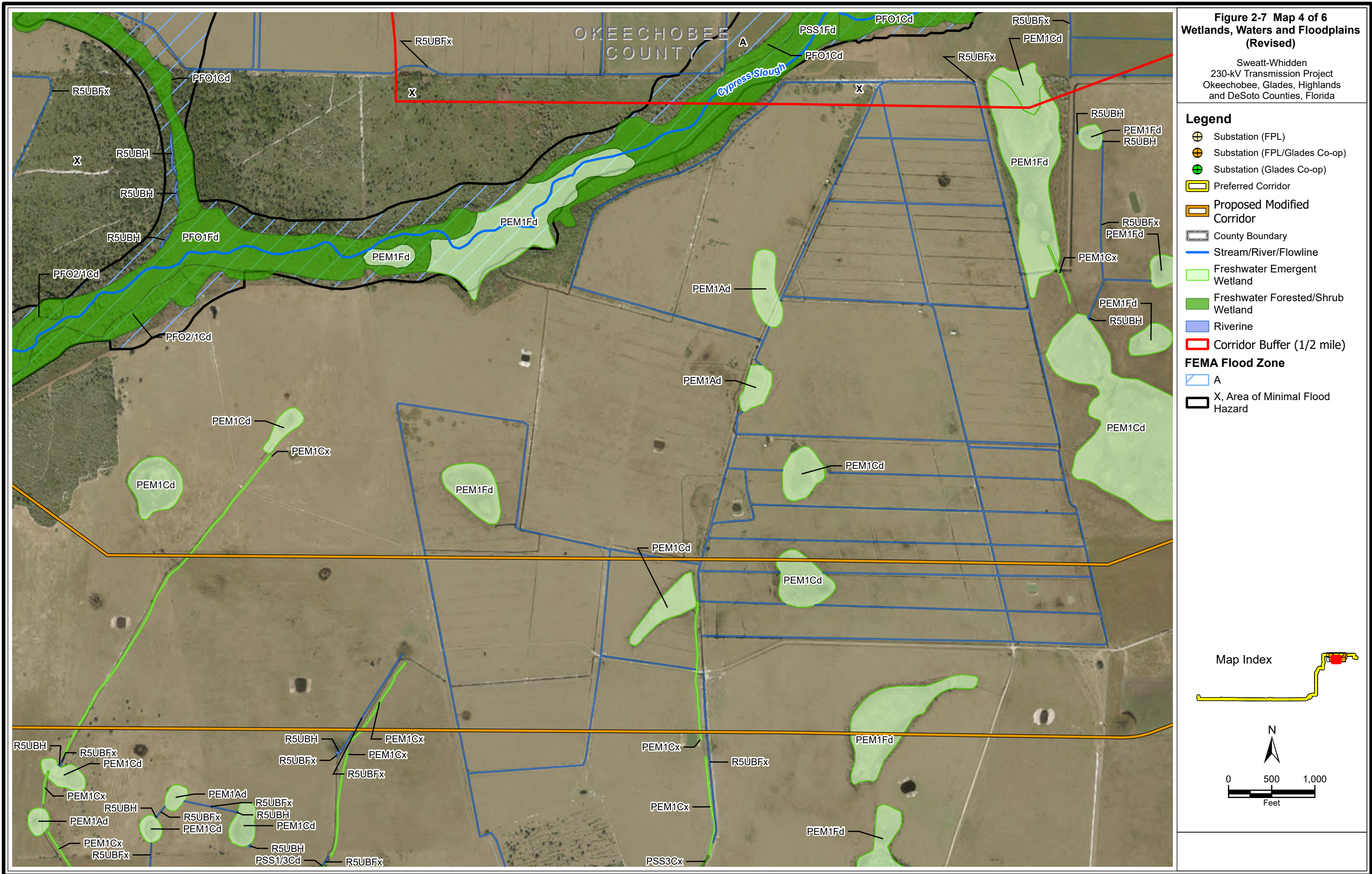


Figure 2-7 Map 5 of 6
Wetlands, Waters and Floodplains
(Revised)

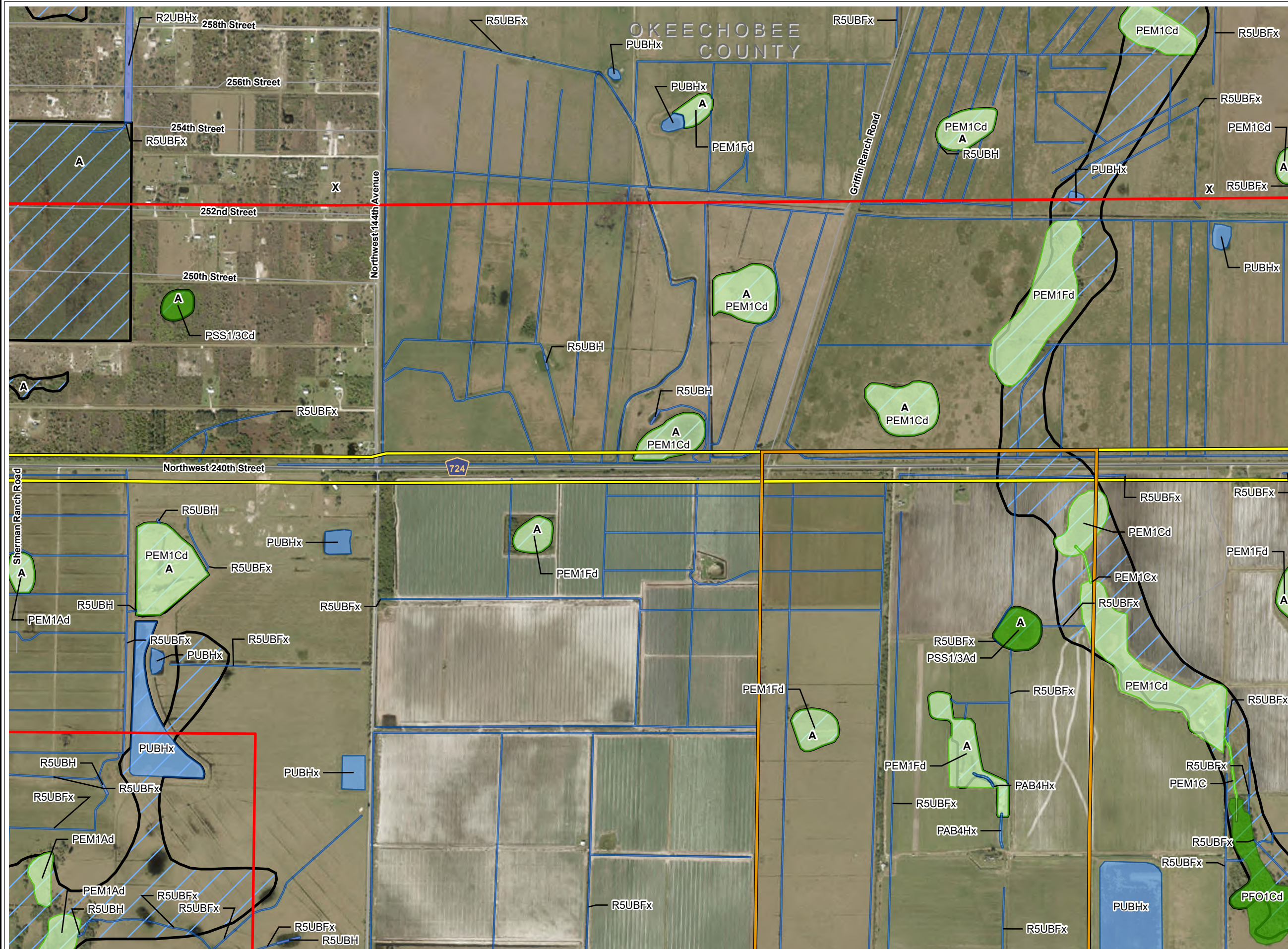
Sweatt-Whidden
230-kV Transmission Project
Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands
and DeSoto Counties, Florida

Legend

- ⊕ Substation (FPL)
- ⊕ Substation (FPL/Glades Co-op)
- ⊕ Substation (Glades Co-op)
- ▭ Preferred Corridor
- ▭ Proposed Modified Corridor
- ▭ County Boundary
- Stream/River/Flowline
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Riverine
- ▭ Corridor Buffer (1/2 mile)

FEMA Flood Zone

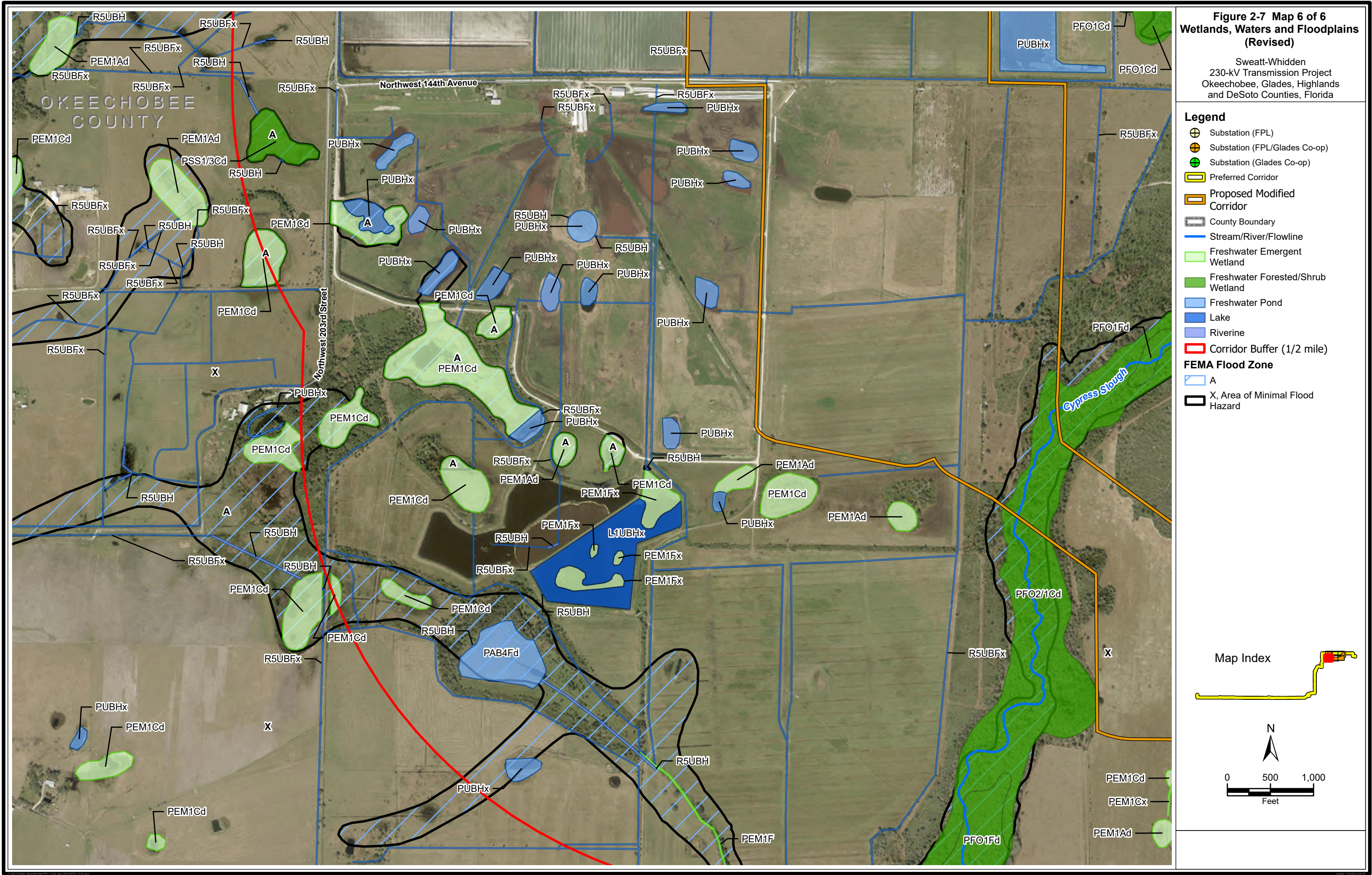
- ▭ A
- ▭ X, Area of Minimal Flood Hazard

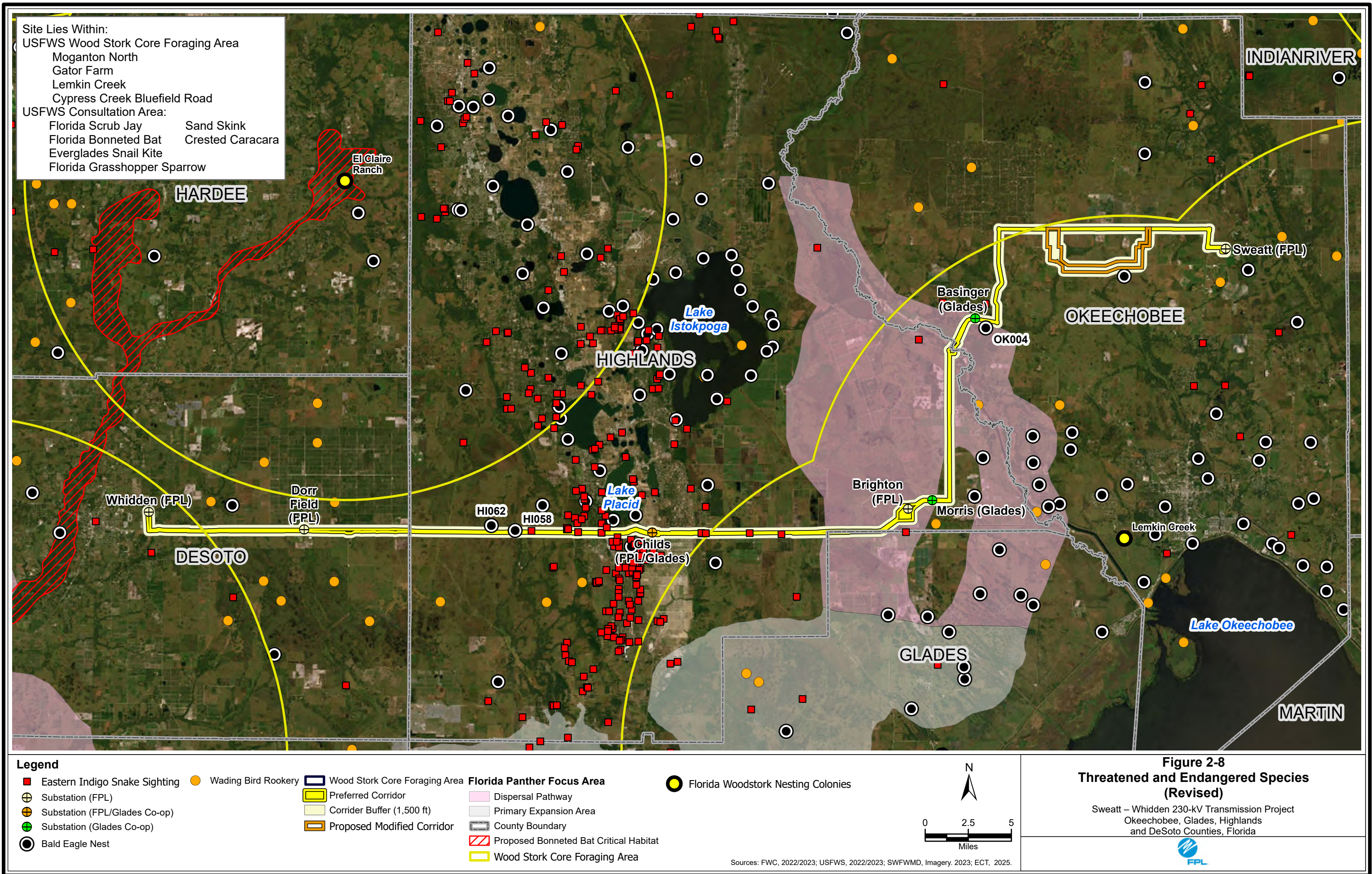


Map Index

0 500 1,000
Feet

N





Appendix B – Division of State Lands Determination Letter



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Shawn Hamilton
Secretary

October 07, 2024

Jude Dawson
Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc.

RE: Title Determination for Cypress Slough, Ditches, Canals & Wetlands S of NW 240th St
Worksheet # 133656

Dear Jude Dawson:

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry requesting a determination of state owned lands in Sections 5-8 & 12-17, Township 35 South, Range 34 East; Okeechobee County.

Based on Records within The Title & Land Records Section, we cannot make a determination of ownership for Cypress Slough and the unnamed ditches, canals and wetlands at the subject site. Therefore, this is not a determination of the boundaries of Board of Trustees owned sovereignty lands. For regulatory permitting purposes only, we recommend proprietary authorization normally required for the use of state owned lands not be required for the subject site at this time.

The conclusions stated herein are based on a review of records currently available within the Department of Environmental Protection as supplemented, in some cases, by information furnished by the requesting party and do not constitute a legal opinion of title. A permit from the Department of Environmental Protection and other federal, state and local agencies may be required prior to conducting activities.

Should you have any questions regarding this determination, please contact Liz Hastings, Government Operations Consultant, at mail station 108 at the above address or email at liz.hastings@floridadep.gov.

Sincerely,

Karen McMillan for Scott Woolam

Scott Woolam
Chief
Bureau of Survey and Mapping
Division of State Lands

SW/lh
F:\TITLE\Liz\2024 Oct-Dec\Okeechobee\Dawson Letter.docx

Appendix C – Florida Master Site File Search Letter



Florida Master Site File TRS Search

Preliminary Investigation of Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

To request a search for previously recorded cultural resources, fill in the **Township** (circle North or South), **Range** (circle East or West), & **Section** number(s) of your project area.

Please include a photocopy of the appropriate USGS quad map with your project area clearly marked.

Township: 34 (North or South) **Range:** 34 (East or West)

Sections (include all affected): 31, 32

County (include all affected): **Okeechobee** **USGS Quad** (if known): _____

Township: 35 (North or South) **Range:** 34 (East or West)

Sections (include all affected): 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

County (include all affected): **Okeechobee** **USGS Quad** (if known): _____

Township: 34 (North or South) **Range:** 35 (East or West)

Sections (include all affected): 31

County (include all affected): **Okeechobee** **USGS Quad** (if known): _____

Township: 35 (North or South) **Range:** 35 (East or West)

Sections (include all affected): 6, 7, 18

County (include all affected): **Okeechobee** **USGS Quad** (if known): _____

Return To: **Name:** Jude Dawson
 Organization: Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc.
 Phone: 352-248-3336

Address: 7027 SW 24th Avenue
 Gainesville, FL 32607

Email: jdawson@ectinc.com

Agency/Permit/Project requiring search: Proposed Project

Florida Master Site File

Division of Historical Resources / R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough St., Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250
Phone (850) 245-6440 / Fax (850) 245-6439 / Email sitefile@dos.state.fl.us

From: [Fowler, Christopher G.](#)
To: [Jude Dawson](#)
Subject: RE: FMSF Seach Request
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:27:10 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[map.pdf](#)

Good afternoon Jude,

I searched the area you indicated. There were no previously recorded resources within the search area. I attached a map for your reference. Let me know if you have any questions. Have a great day.

Christopher Fowler

Assistant Supervisor, Florida Master Site File

Bureau of Historic Preservation | Division of Historical Resources | Florida Department of State
850.245.6327 | Fax: 850.245.6439 | Christopher.Fowler@dos.fl.gov | dos.fl.gov/historical



From: Jude Dawson <jdawson@ectinc.com>
To: Fowler, Christopher G. <Christopher.Fowler@dos.fl.gov>
Cc: FMSFILE <FMSFILE@dos.myflorida.com>
Subject: FMSF Seach Request

EMAIL RECEIVED FROM EXTERNAL SOURCE

The attachments/links in this message have been scanned by Proofpoint.

Dear Mr. Fowler,

I was hoping to request a site file search for the proposed project in unincorporated Okeechobee County. Please find the attached request form and accompanying Section-Township-Range map.

Thank you so much for your assistance!

Best Regards,

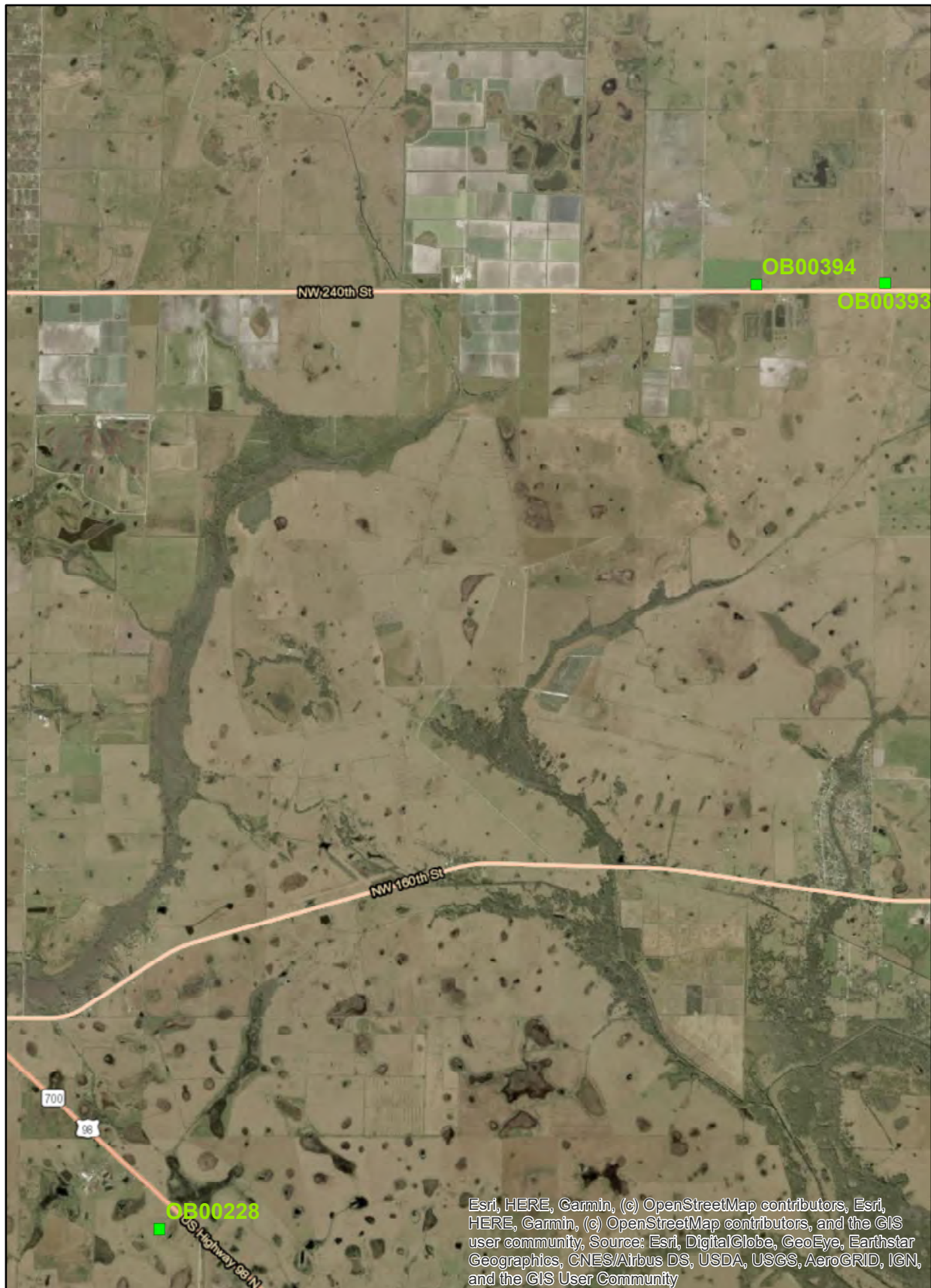
PS I hope you have been faring well through this overactive storm season.

Jude Dawson

Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc.

O: 855.737.0444 x11385 | Direct: 352.642.0141 | C: 352.213.9803



**Legend**

- FloridaSites
- HistoricalBridges
- HistoricalCemeteries
- ResourceGroups
- FloridaStructures

2,250 1,125 0 2,250 Meters



N

