

Millstone Plantation

Leon County

Less-Than-Fee

Purpose for State Acquisition

The proposal includes part of Lake McBride, which is reported to have low nutrient and pollutant levels and a nesting pair of bald eagles. According to the Nature Conservancy, the lakes of Leon County comprise one of the most important groups of solution lakes in the northern hemisphere. Most of these lakes hold sinkholes that breach the Floridian aquifer so it is important that they are afforded some protection from runoff.

Manager

The Apalachee Land Conservancy would be responsible for the monitoring and enforcing the conservation easement.

General Description

The property consists of a mosaic of vegetated communities, a deeply incised Seepage Stream, some open pasture and a portion of Lake McBride. It falls within the "Red Hills" physiographic region, which consists of pine-dominated uplands and numerous karst sinkholes and lakes. It ranges in elevation from 140 to 225 feet above sea level, and is a critical recharge area for the Floridan aquifer. The seepage stream and karst lake are breeding, nesting and foraging areas for numerous wildlife species. The lands of Millstone Plantation are rich in archaeological sites recorded in The Division of Historic Resources Master Site File.

Public Use

Public use of the project will be by invitation for environmental and cultural learning purposes on a limited basis. A limited walking trail exists throughout the project.

Acquisition Planning

The project consists of approximately 134 acres and one owner. About half of the project has been acquired. The

public access would include access for public education for school children, environmental researchers, organic agriculturist, artists and writers. The money from the conservation easement will go for management and outreach programs for the Millstone Institute. The entire parcel is essential.

On December 9, 2011, ARC placed this project in the Less-than-Fee list of projects.

Coordination

The Trust for Public Lands will be the intermediary for acquisition of the conservation easement.

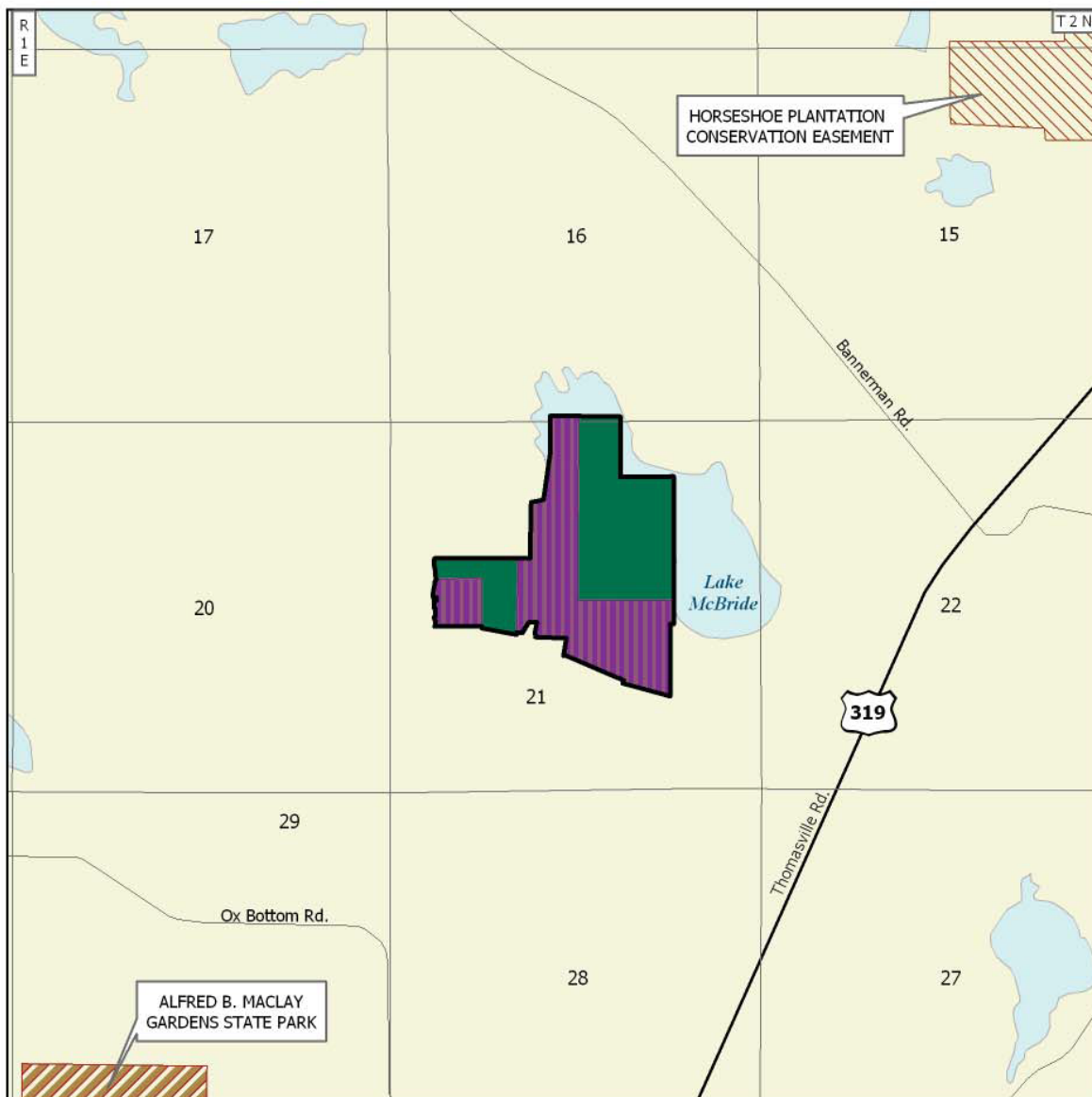
On April 6, 2001, the Acquisition and Restoration Council placed this project on the new Florida Forever list. Acquisition negotiations are being conducted.

Management Policy Statement

Millstone Plantation is proposed as a less-than-fee acquisition; therefore, specific management activities and public access would be limited by the terms of the purchase. A conservation easement would preclude the eventual development pressure from the Tallahassee area. The Millstone Institute of Preservation, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit, was founded in 1995 to promote the use of the property for educational purposes. The Institute has and will continue to sponsor scientific aquatic research of Lake McBride and its surrounding area. It is expanding its nature trails and implementing a management plan for the property that will include longleaf pine and native groundcover restoration on the uplands, wildlife habitat management, wetlands

Placed on List	2001
Project Area (GIS Acres)	134
Acres Acquired (GIS)	78
at a Cost of	\$892,000
Acres Remaining (GIS)	56
Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$69,970

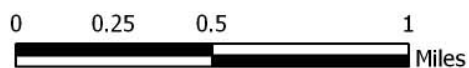
Millstone Plantation FNAI Elements	
Bald Eagle	G5/S3
1 rare species is associated with the project	



MILLSTONE PLANTATION

LEON COUNTY

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



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management and enhancement and the protection of the many historical century-old live oaks. Further archaeological investigations and surveys are also planned.

Management Prospectus

The Millstone Plantation Florida Forever project encompasses nearly 200 acres in northwestern Leon County, at the southern edge of the Red Hills region. Millstone is a highly significant archaeological site containing Florida Master Site File sites showing a continuous pattern of settlement for over 10,000 years, including the Paleo-Indian, Early Archaic, Late Archaic, Deptford, Weeden Island, Fort Walton, Apalachee, Spanish Mission, Seminole, English, and Colonial periods. The Millstone Plantation House, an example of late 19th century Colonial revival architecture, and related structures and out-buildings, are also of great historical significance, eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Sites. The Millstone project includes significant shoreline on Lake McBride, (Class III. Waters of the State) one of the last unpolluted sinkhole or clastic upland lakes in Leon County, and Millstone Creek, a seepage stream, which form the headwaters of the Lake Lafayette Basin. Millstone encompasses significant recharge areas for the Floridan Aquifer. Also, the project contains a basin swamp and upland mixed forest and upland pine forests suitable for restoration. Primary goals of management of the Millstone Plantation project are: investigation, protection, interpretation, and educational activities for the site's archaeological resources; conservation and protection of and continued aquatic, biological, and geologic research into the waters of Lake McBride and Millstone Creek; conservation, protection, sustainable management and restoration of the upland pine forests; and historic preservation, restoration, and interpretation of the Millstone Plantation House and related structures.

Qualifications for state designation Due to the site's unique archaeological resources representing a continuous pattern of human settlement and the importance of the Millstone Plantation House and related structures, the site may qualify for designation as a State Historical Site.

Manager The Apalachee Land Conservancy would be responsible for monitoring and enforcing the conservation easement.

Management goals The primary management goal of Millstone Plantation is continued protection, preservation, investigation, and interpretation of the property's rich archaeological resources and stabilization, preservation, and restoration of the Millstone Plantation House and related structures. The

Institute will also continue efforts to foster the protection of the water quality of Lake McBride and Millstone Creek and continue aquatic research, as well as begin restoration of the project's natural upland communities. Central to all of these efforts is continuation of the Institute's public education activities and community outreach programs, including continued limited public access to the property for outdoor educational and recreational activities.

Conditions affecting intensity of management The greatest challenge facing the management of Millstone is the tremendous amount of archaeological resources on the property. Developing a plan for ongoing systematic survey, investigation, and interpretation of the site's archaeological resources will be essential. The proximity of highways and residential and commercial development to the site may pose fire and smoke management problems for restoration of Millstone's natural communities. Due to development pressure in the Lake McBride Basin, accelerating the timeline for aquatic research is important.

Timetable for implementing management

Archaeological surveys and investigation are ongoing; initial management activities should concentrate on identifying and researching these resources. In subsequent years, the Institute plans to implement a management plan for the property that will include longleaf pine and native groundcover restoration on the uplands, wildlife management, wetlands management, and enhancement and protection of the many century-old live oaks on the property. Restoration of natural communities will require eradication of exotic and pest plants (Chinese tallow, Japanese climbing fern, and tropical soda apple), as well as prescribed burning and re-vegetation. The Institute has and will continue to sponsor scientific aquatic research into Lake McBride. Existing nature trails on the property will be improved and expanded to enhance public access. The Institute will also continue and expand its existing public education programs, including traditional, sustainable, organic agricultural practices and North Florida farm arts, such as spinning and weaving. Plans will also be made for historically accurate and appropriate preservation and restoration of the Millstone Plantation House and related structures.

Management costs and sources of revenue The Millstone Institute will seek funding through both public and private (foundations, corporations, and individuals) grant sources to support management activities.

Updated March 27, 2015