

Pal-Mar

Martin and Palm Beach Counties

Partnerships

Purpose for State Acquisition

Agriculture and residential development have reduced natural areas in the interior of southeast Florida to fragments. One of the largest and best fragments, part of what was once a transition zone between pine flatwoods and the sawgrass marshes of the Everglades, will be protected by the Pal-Mar project. This project, by protecting these flatwoods and marshes, will ensure habitat for the rare species listed below, will preserve natural lands linking the J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area (WMA) with Jonathan Dickinson State Park and other conservation lands, as well as provide land to the public of this fast-growing region for hiking, bicycling, camping, hunting, and learning about the original nature of this part of Florida.

Managers

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) manages west of I-95 and north of Indiantown Road (Hungryland WEA [Wildlife and Environmental Area]). The Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) manages east of I-95. Palm Beach County (PBC) manages south of Indiantown Road.

General Description

The project includes some of the highest quality, most intact pine flatwoods in southern Florida in an ecotone

between pine flatwoods and the treeless Everglades and also includes high-quality examples of wet prairie and savanna with exceptional ground-cover diversity. The project provides habitat for at least five federally endangered or threatened animals including the snail kite, red-cockaded woodpecker, and wood stork. It includes the Pine Glades Natural Area, is contiguous with the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area (WMA), the private Pratt-Whitney Preserve and the Cypress Creek lands owned by South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), and includes a mile-wide connector to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. The project has low archaeological or historic value, except for a segment of the historic Jupiter-Indiantown Road. Urbanization is rapidly isolating the State Park and growth pressures on the uplands in this project are intense.

Public Use

Most of this project has been designated for use as a wildlife management area. Plans are for the easternmost portion of the project area to be added to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. Public uses will include hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding and nature appreciation. The project area south of Indiantown Road is the Pine Glades Natural Area, managed by PBC. Hunting is not allowed on that site.

Acquisition Planning

Phase I of this project consisted of approximately five larger ownerships, including tracts adjacent to J.W. Corbett WMA, FDIC (acquired by SFWMD and Martin

Pal-Mar FNAI Elements	
Snail Kite	G4G5/S2
<i>Celestial Lily</i>	G2/S2
<i>Meadow Jointvetch</i>	G4/S1
<i>Many-flowered Grass-pink</i>	G2G3/S2S3
Florida Sandhill Crane	G5T2T3/S2S3
<i>Piedmont Jointgrass</i>	G3/S3
Bachman's Sparrow	G3/S3
Round-tailed Muskrat	G3/S3
Wood Stork	G4/S2
<i>Banded Wild-pine</i>	G5/S3
Glossy Ibis	G5/S3
Limpkin	G5/S3
16 rare species are associated with the project	

Placed on List	1992
Project Area (GIS Acres)	36,229
Acres Acquired (GIS)	26,707*
at a Cost of	\$16,044,487
Acres Remaining (GIS)	9,522
Estimated (Tax Assessed) Value of	\$27,570,411

*includes acreage and expenditures by the SFWMD.

County), MacArthur (acquired by PBC), Pal-Mar Water Control District (acquired), Lara (acquired by PBC) and Florida National Bank. The MacArthur lands north of Indiantown Road were sold to the State by PBC. Phase II consists of subdivided areas and a corridor to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. On October 21, 1999, the Council added 1,280 acres to the project boundary as essential parcels.

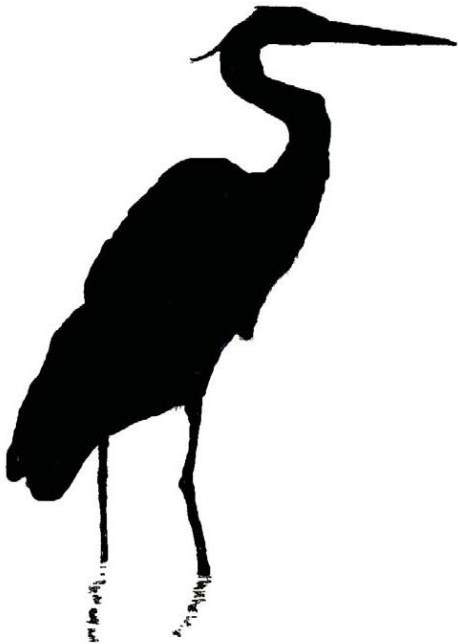
There is very little property remaining to acquire in the PBC side of the project. Martin County and the SFWMD have acquired most of the property on the Martin County side of the project.

In July 2007 the SFWMD acquired a 427-acre parcel from Indiantown Realty Partners LP. The parcel is part of the John C. and Mariana Jones/Hungryland WEA.

On December 9, 2011, ARC placed this project in the Partnerships list of projects.

Coordination

SFWMD, PBC and Martin County are acquisition partners in this project. Most of the larger ownerships have been acquired. PBC has acquired a number of the smaller parcels, totaling 223.63 acres, that are located north of Indiantown Road.



Management Policy Statement

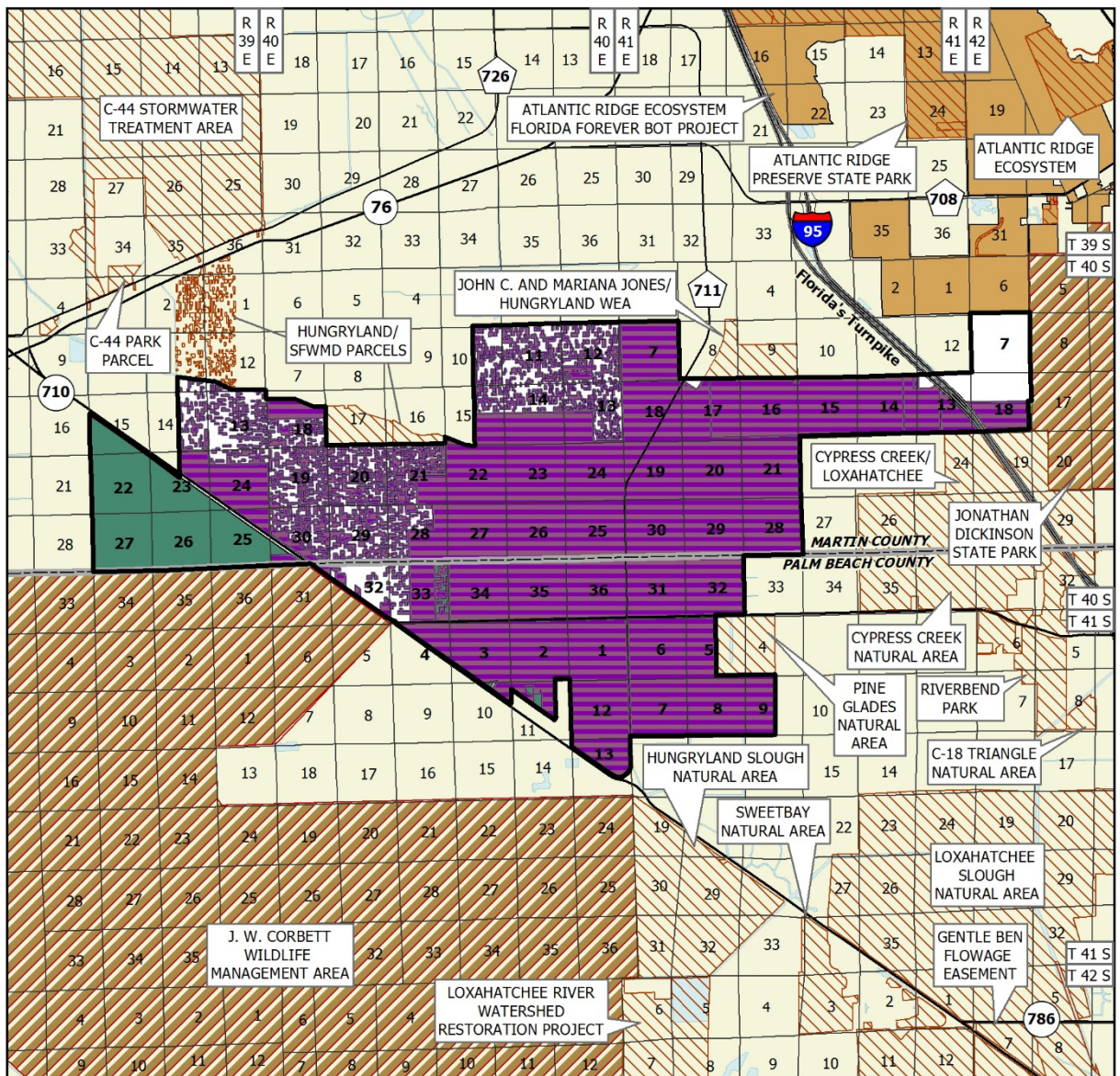
The primary goals of management of the Pal-Mar Florida Forever project are to conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area; to conserve and protect significant habitat for native species or endangered and threatened species; to conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, in order to enhance or protect significant surface water, coastal, recreational, timber, fish or wildlife resources which local or state regulatory programs cannot adequately protect; and to provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural resource-based recreation.

Management Prospectus

Qualifications for state designation Preventing isolation of natural lands is important in enabling genetic interchange among plant and animal populations. This project is a large natural area connecting the J.W. Corbett WMA on the west with the SFWMD and PBC Cypress Creek lands and Jonathan Dickinson State Park on the east. The size, quality of wildlife resources and location next to the Corbett WMA of the northwestern part qualify it as a WMA. The part that lies south of Indiantown Road is part of the PBC Pine Glades Natural Area. The part of the project east of Interstate 95 is adjacent to Jonathan Dickinson and is a logical addition to that park.

Managers The FWC is manager for the area west of I-95 and north of Indiantown Road (Hungryland WEA). The DRP of DEP is the manager for the area east of I-95; PBC is the manager for the area south of Indiantown Road and a few small areas north of Indiantown Road.

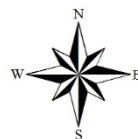
Conditions affecting intensity of management For the project area west of I-95 and north of Indiantown Road, no known conditions would result in the need for intensive management. The land could be managed as a normal component of the WMA system. The portion of the project east of I-95 will be added to Jonathan Dickinson State Park, which is a high-need management area. The portion of the project south of Indiantown Road is being managed by PBC, which is conducting a multi-year restoration program on the site.



PAL-MAR

PALM BEACH AND MARTIN 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



JANUARY 2015

Timetable for implementing management and provisions for security and protection of infrastructure Initial management of the area west of I-95 involved posting and otherwise securing the tract against trespassing and vandalism, preparing roads and other infrastructure for public recreation, performing resource inventories and initiating the planning process. Subsequent resource and recreation management have occurred since the portion of the project north of Indiantown Road has been added to an existing WEA (Hungryland). Management activities, after acquisition of the eastern part, were concentrated on site security, natural and cultural resource protection, and the development of a plan for long-term public use and resource management. Most of the remaining lands to be acquired would represent an addition to an existing WMA (J.W. Corbett) or an existing WEA (Hungryland).

Revenue-generating potential Revenue potential for the western part (excluding the lands owned by PBC) would be moderate to low since it does not contain significant upland (timber) resources. However, some revenue could be generated from recreational use (over and above licenses and permits sold by FWC), if the Legislature could approve user fees for nonconsumptive activities. The eastern part will be added to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. No significant revenue is expected to be generated by these lands on their own.

Cooperators in management PBC manages the property south of the Indiantown Road, which is Pine Glades Natural Area.

Management Cost Summary/FWC

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$45,000	\$100,000
OPS	\$5,000	\$5,000
Expense	\$30,000	\$65,000
OCO	\$30,000	\$15,000
FCO	\$0	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$110,000	\$225,000

Management Cost Summary/DRP

Category	Startup	Recurring
Source of Funds	CARL	CARL
Salary	\$0	\$0
OPS	\$12,000	\$12,000
Expense	\$0	\$0
OCO	\$20,000	\$1,000
FCO	\$60,000	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$92,000	\$18,000

Edited February 9, 2016