

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
Land Conservation and Planning
LaFayette Forest Florida Forever Project Analysis
December 2024**



This document contains the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Geographic Information System (GIS) data analysis of the area yet to be acquired within the **LaFayette Forest** Florida Forever project. This analysis was performed to provide FWC and others with important fish and wildlife resource information to be used in evaluating and ranking Florida Forever projects. The data selected for analysis are those considered by FWC to spatially reflect important fish and wildlife habitat and life history requirements.

In addition, FWC has completed a field review and associated assessment report for this project/proposal that is incorporated within the Acquisition and Restoration Council Florida Forever Project Evaluation Report. This report is available upon request.

GIS Data

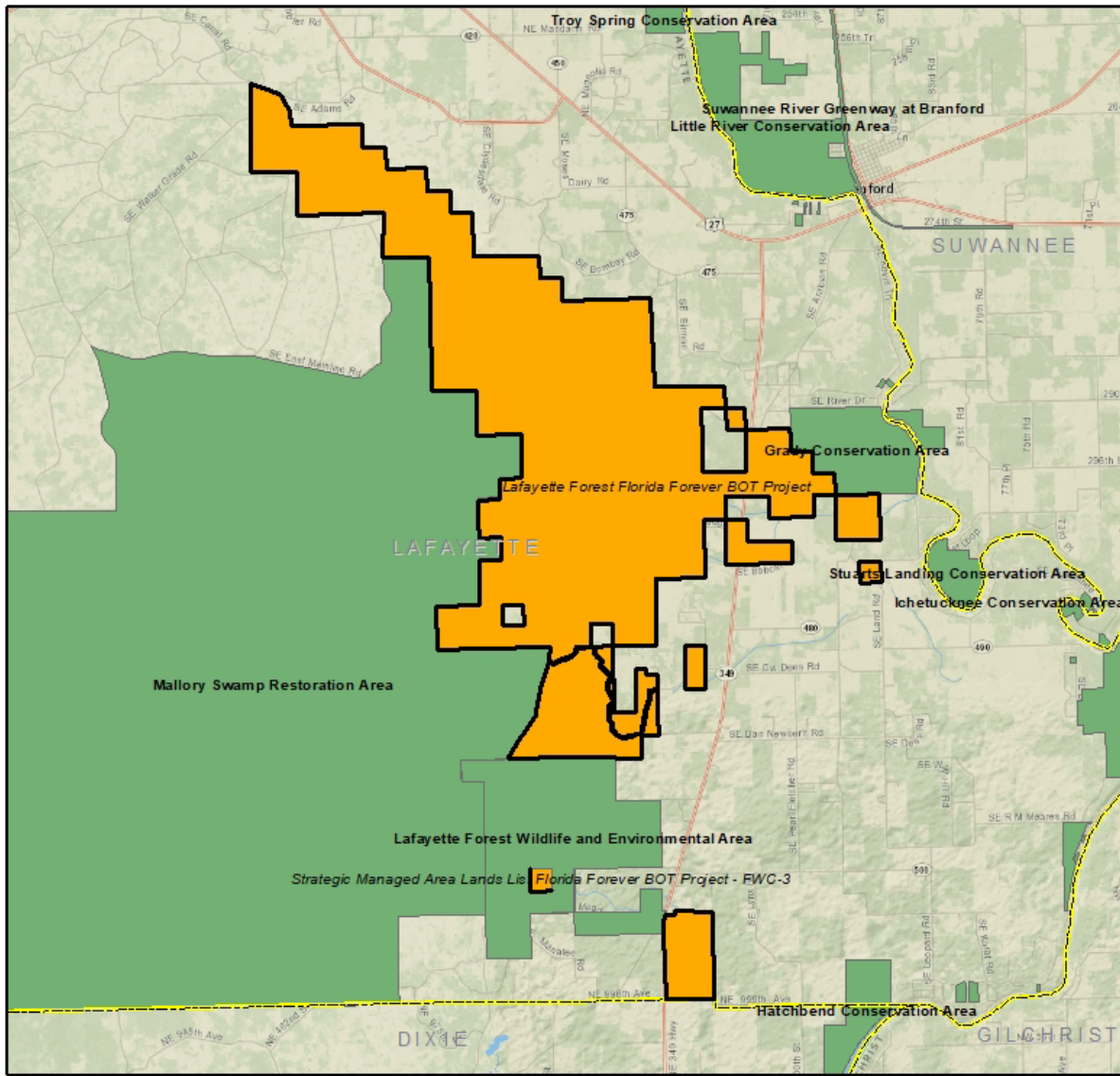
The FWC utilizes the Florida Cooperative Land Cover (CLC) GIS data layer for identification and mapping of land cover. The CLC is a cooperative effort between the FWC and the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) to develop ecologically-based statewide land cover from existing sources and expert review of aerial photography. Land cover acreage estimates found in this document are based on GIS analysis of these data.

The FWC Florida Landscape Assessment Model (FLAM)¹ is a GIS model that determines the landscape value based on natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat. The FLAM ranks habitat from a 0-10; a rank of 10 being of greatest value.

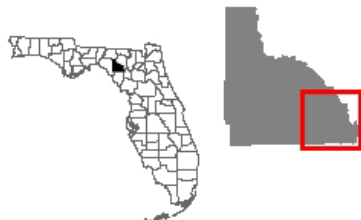
Important fish and wildlife resource GIS data were queried using Environmental Resource Analysis GIS computer software. These data include the following GIS layers:

- FWC-FNAI Florida Cooperative Land Cover
- FWC Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas – Priority and Species
- Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project (CLIP) – Priority 1 and 2 – Terrestrial and Water
- CLIP – Landscape, Biodiversity, and Floodplain Resources
- Panther Location
- Panther Mortality
- Florida Panther Priority Habitat (Primary, Secondary, and Dispersal)
- Black Bear Range
- Rare Fish Locations/ Imperiled Waters
- Southern Bald Eagle Nest
- FWC Imperiled Species Richness

- FNAI Element Occurrences
- FNAI Suitable Habitat that Supports Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection Surface Water Classification
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) - National Wetlands Inventory
- USFWS Critical Habitat
- Florida Geological Survey Springs
- Outstanding Florida Waters
- Areas of Critical State Concern



**LaFayette Forest
Florida Forever Project**
LaFayette County
10,218 Remaining Acres

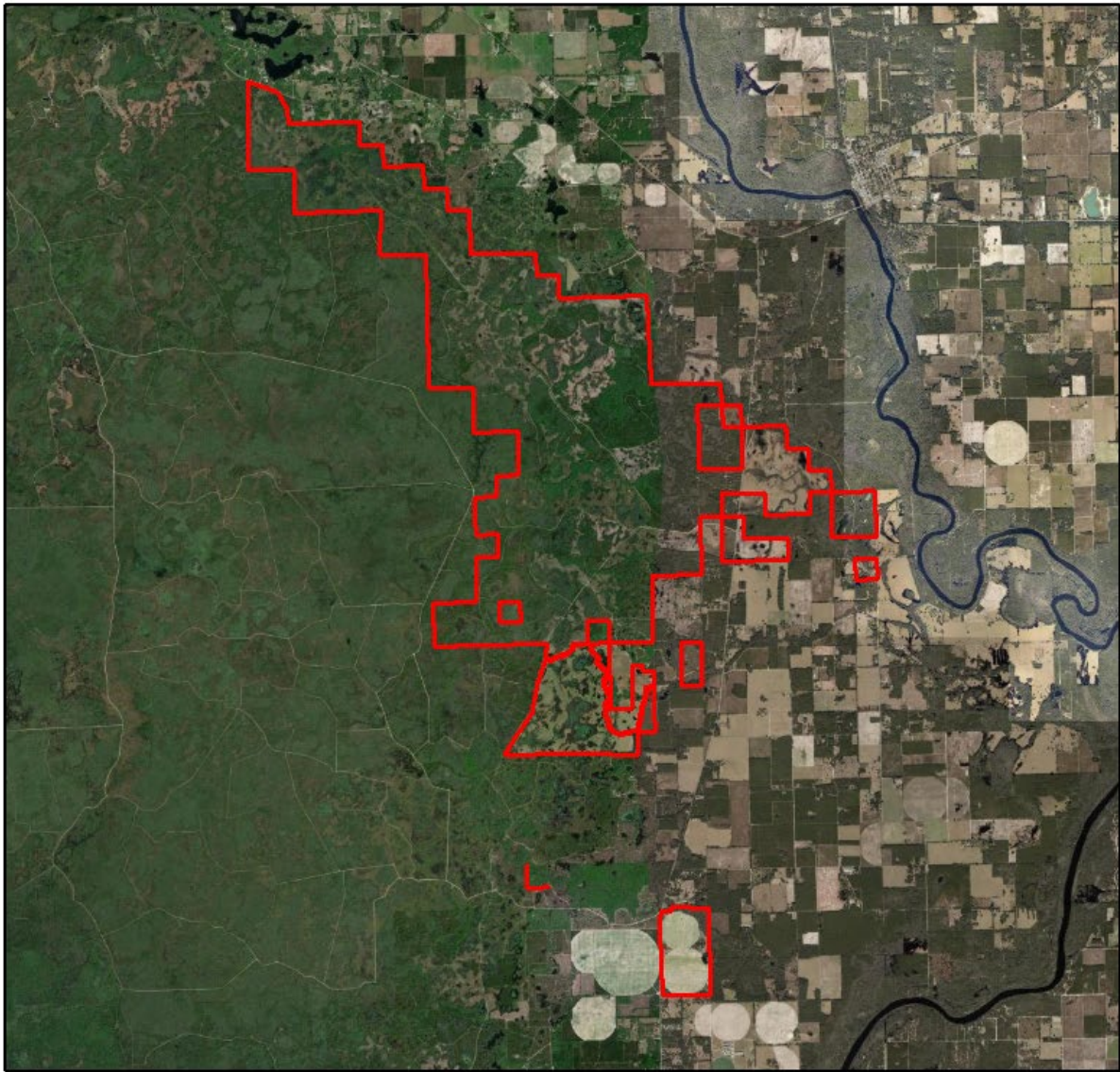


0 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

Created in ArcGIS 10.8 by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission December 2023

Vicinity Map

-  LaFayette Forest Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Conservation Lands
-  Florida Forever Projects



**LaFayette Forest
Florida Forever Project**

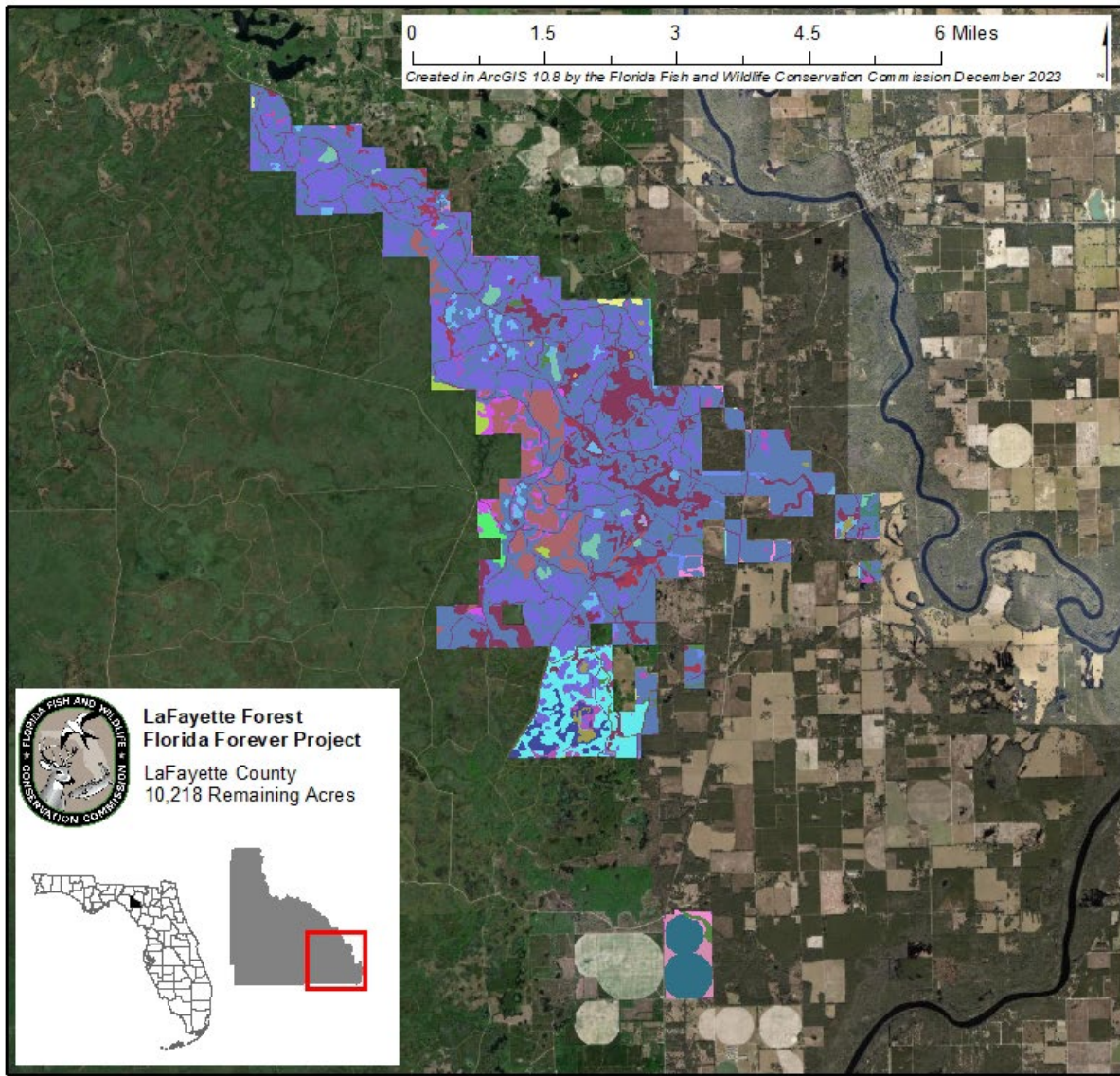
LaFayette County
10,218 Remaining Acres



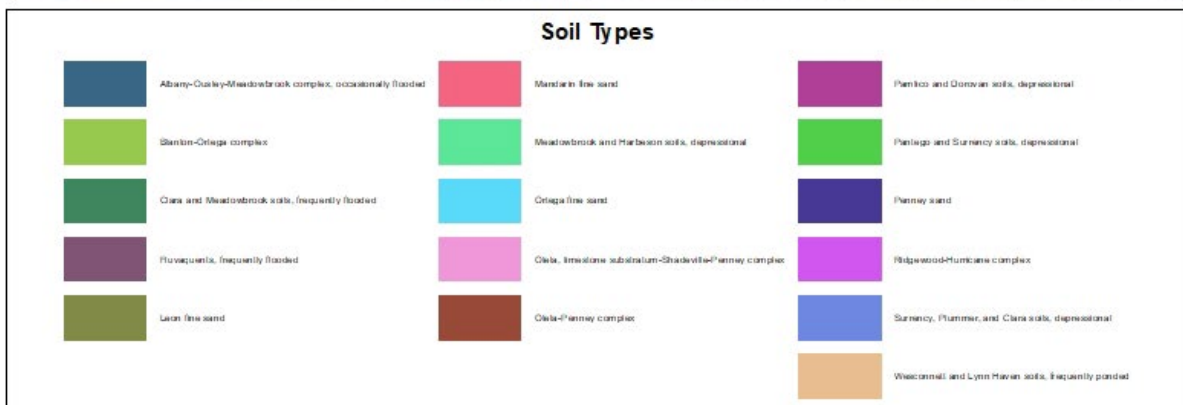
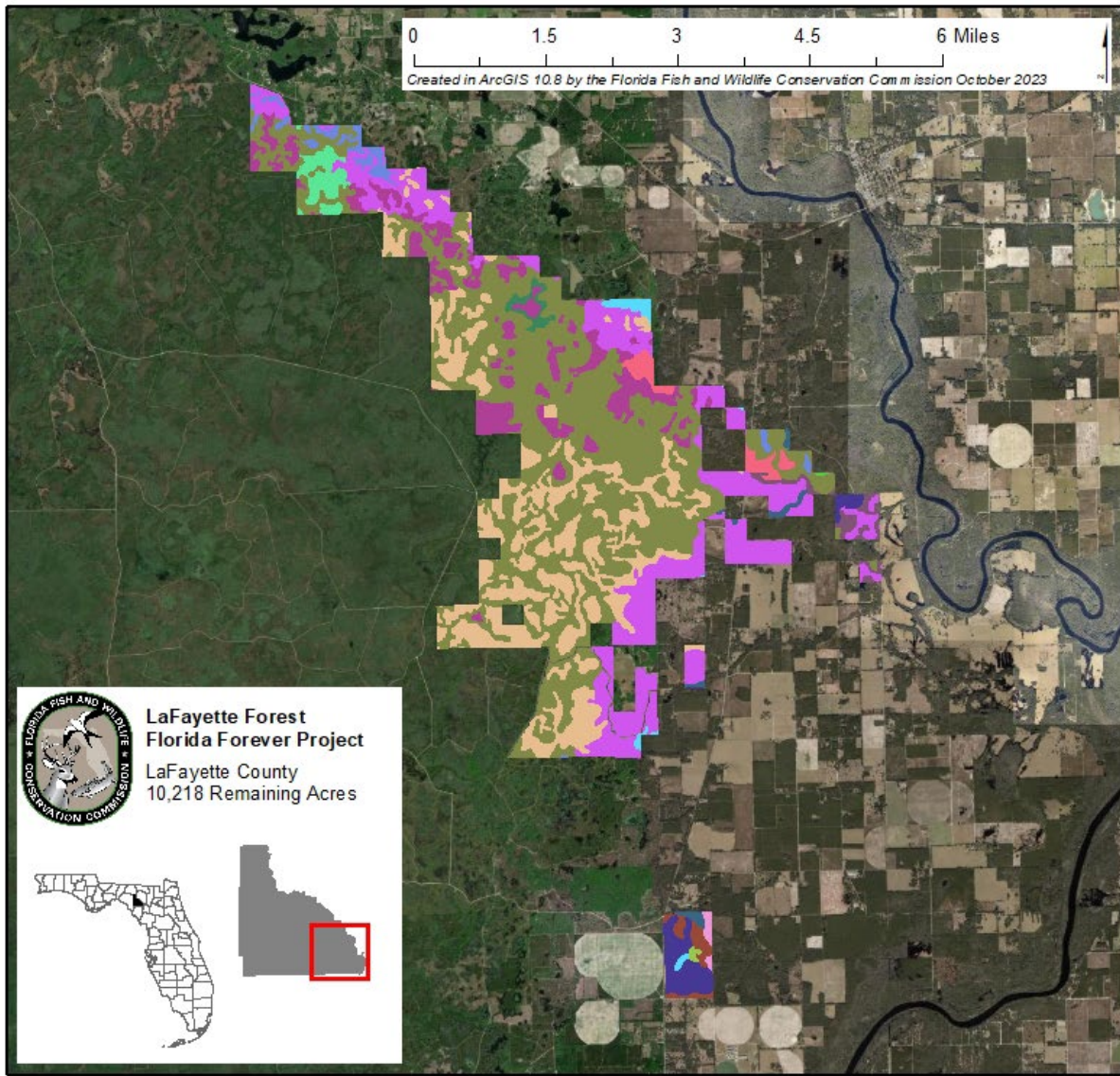
Aerial Imagery

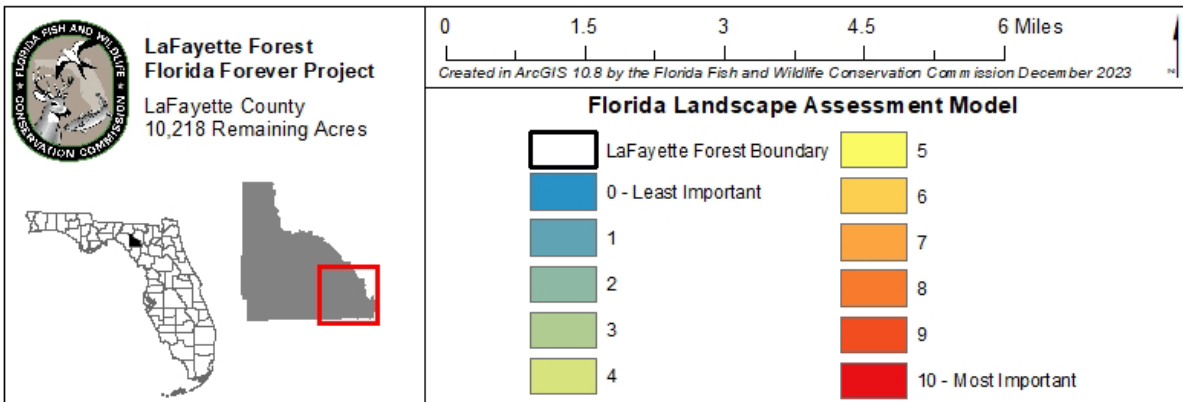
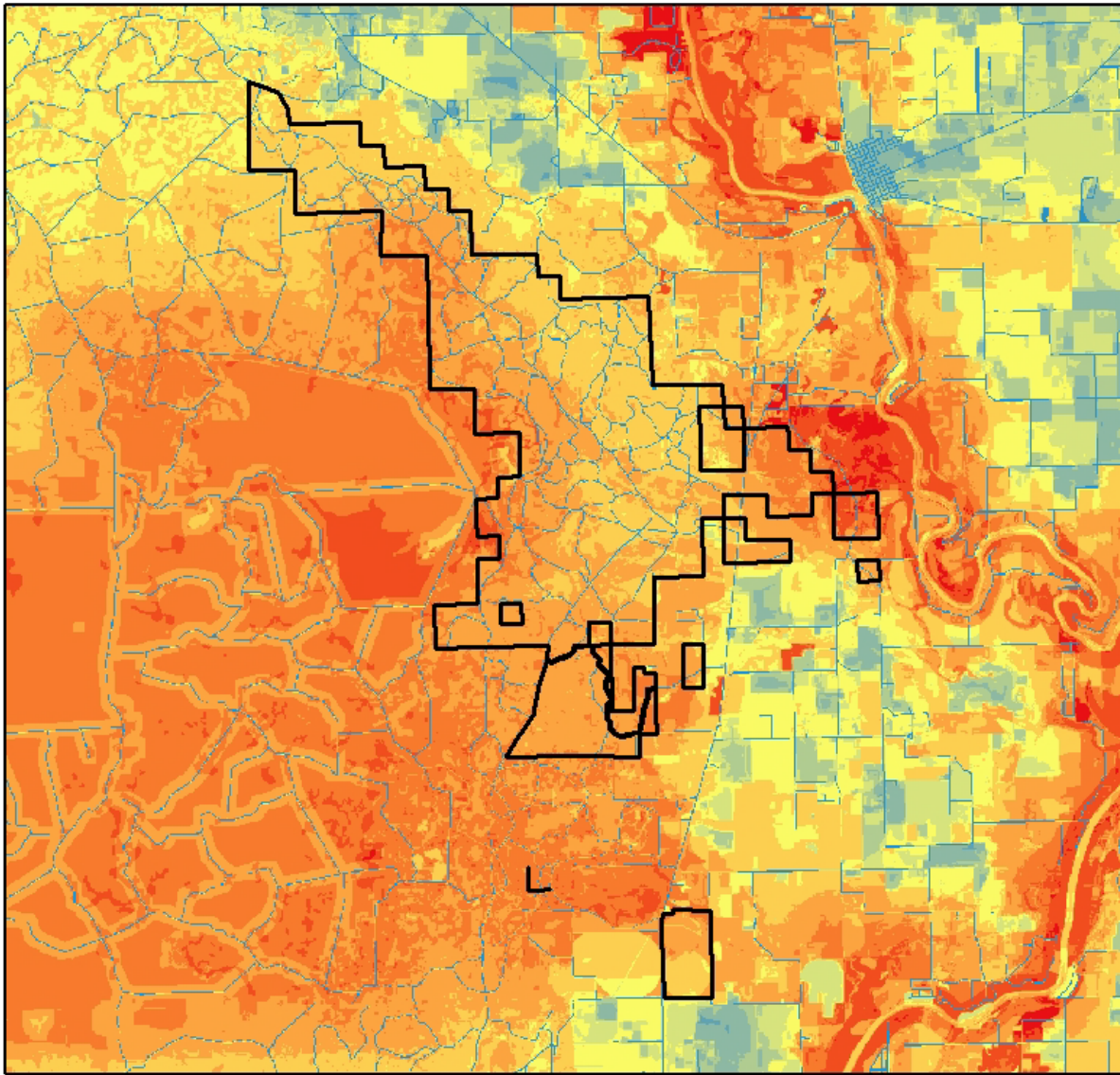


LaFayette Forest Boundary



Cooperative Land Cover		
Artificial Impoundment/Reservoir	Irrigated Row Crops	Shrub Bog
Basin Swamp	Marshes	Shrub and Brushland
Bottomland Forest	Mesic Flatwoods	Successional Hardwood Forest
Coniferous Plantations	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	Transportation
Cypress	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous Swamps	Unimproved/Woodland Pasture
Depression Marsh	Mixed Scrub-Shrub Wetland	Upland Coniferous
Dome Swamp	Mixed Wetland Hardwoods	Upland Hardwood Forest
Floating/Emergent Aquatic Vegetation	Natural Lakes and Ponds	Utilities
Floodplain Swamp	Residential, Med. Density - 2-5 Dwelling Units/AC	Wet Coniferous Plantations
Gum Pond	Rural Open	Wet Flatwoods
Hydric Pine Flatwoods	Rural Structures	Wet Prairie
Improved Pasture	Sandhill	





FWC Florida Landscape Assessment Model 2019		
	Value	Acres
	0	584.2
	1	0.0
	2	0.0
	3	5.7
	4	30.4
	5	184.8
	6	3784.4
	7	4550.0
	8	929.3
	9	141.1
	10	8.3
Mean FLAM value =	6.3	

Comments:

¹ FWC has developed a GIS-based assessment tool that incorporates a wide variety of land cover and wildlife species data. These wildlife species include imperiled species and locally important species. Application of this model assists in the identification and conservation of important wildlife habitats. The FLAM ranks the Florida landscape based upon important natural resources and habitat needs of wildlife as a way to identify ecologically significant lands in the state, and to assess the potential impacts of land development projects on wildlife populations. The FLAM is provided as part of the FWC's continuing technical assistance to various local, regional, state, and federal agencies, and entities interested in wildlife needs and conservation in order to: (1) determine ways to avoid or minimize project impacts by evaluating alternative placements, alignments, and transportation corridors during early planning stages, (2) assess direct, secondary, and cumulative impacts to habitat and wildlife resources, and (3) help identify appropriate parcels for land conservation, and for wetland and upland habitat mitigation.

Environmental Resource Analysis

FWC Land Conservation and Planning

Analysis Shape Type: Polygon

Analysis Timestamp: 11082023 10:19:50

Shape Name: Unnamed polygon centered at -82.986467 °, 29.900989 °

Boundary Area: 10,218.26 acres

Buffer Area: 0 acres

Total Area: 10,218.26 acres

FWC Wildlife Data and Models

Cooperative Land Cover v3.6

Name - State	Code - State	Name - Site	Code - Site	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Isolated Freshwater Marsh	2121	Depression Marsh	21211	0.43	0 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Shrub Bog	21121	45.12	0.44 %
Basin Swamp	22132	Basin Swamp	22132	540.21	5.29 %
Dome Swamp	22131	Dome Swamp	22131	127.13	1.24 %
Natural Lakes and Ponds	3100	Natural Lakes and Ponds	3100	1.13	0.01 %
Freshwater Forested Wetlands	2200	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous Swamps	2240	845.42	8.27 %
High Intensity Urban	1822	Residential, Med. Density - 2-5 Dwelling Units/AC	18221	0.10	0 %
Cultural - Lacustrine	3200	Artificial Impoundment/Reservoir	3220	1.13	0.01 %
Wet Flatwoods	2221	Hydric Pine Flatwoods	22211	2.57	0.03 %
Cropland/Pasture	18331	Irrigated Row Crops	1833111	249.18	2.44 %
Dome Swamp	22131	Gum Pond	221312	111.80	1.09 %
Transportation	1840	Transportation	1840	582.26	5.7 %
Tree Plantations	18333	Wet plantation	1833321	120.59	1.18 %
Improved Pasture	183313	Improved Pasture	183313	443.58	4.34 %
Freshwater Forested Wetlands	2200	Bottomland Forest	22331	19.37	0.19 %
Tree Plantations	18333	Coniferous plantation	183332	4,302.07	42.1 %
Rural	1830	Unimproved/Woodland Pasture	183314	60.18	0.59 %
Freshwater Forested Wetlands	2200	Mixed Wetland Hardwoods	2233	63.86	0.62 %
Successional hardwood forest	1410	Successional hardwood forest	1410	5.39	0.05 %
Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	1400	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	1400	61.53	0.6 %
Rural	1830	Rural Open	1831	15.78	0.15 %
Shrub and Brushland	1500	Shrub and Brushland	1500	9.57	0.09 %
High Pine and Scrub	1200	Upland Coniferous	1230	1.96	0.02 %
Upland Hardwood Forest	1110	Upland Hardwood Forest	1110	53.50	0.52 %
Mesic Flatwoods	1311	Mesic Flatwoods	1311	46.27	0.45 %
Sandhill	1240	Sandhill	1240	1.68	0.02 %
Rural	1830	Rural Structures	1832	0.04	0 %
Cypress	2211	Cypress	2211	176.46	1.73 %
Freshwater Non-Forested Wetlands	2100	Floating/Emergent Aquatic Vegetation	2140	47.67	0.47 %
Wet Flatwoods	2221	Wet Flatwoods	2221	126.35	1.24 %
Floodplain Swamp	2215	Floodplain Swamp	2215	0.89	0.01 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Wet Prairie	2111	99.75	0.98 %
Utilities	1860	Utilities	1860	6.12	0.06 %
Marshes	2120	Marshes	2120	2.36	0.02 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Mixed Scrub-Shrub Wetland	2112	2,046.83	20.03 %
TOTAL:				10,218.26	100 %

Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project (CLIP) Priority 1 and 2 - Terrestrial and Waters

CLIP Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
All other cells	5,512.34	53.95 %
CLIP P1 in submerged lands/state waters	54.93	0.54 %
CLIP P1 in terrestrial	1,364.81	13.36 %
CLIP P2 in submerged lands/state waters	49.18	0.48 %
CLIP P2 in terrestrial	3,235.54	31.66 %
TOTAL:	10,216.81	99.99 %

CLIP- Landscape Category

Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
0	1.79	0.02 %
2	115.07	1.13 %
3	10,016.26	98.02 %
4	85.14	0.83 %
TOTAL:	10,218.26	100 %

CLIP- Biodiversity Category

Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
----------	--------------------	-----------------

0	36.28	0.36 %					
1	2.98	0.03 %					
2	4,584.67	44.87 %					
3	1,803.53	17.65 %					
4	3,709.88	36.31 %					
5	80.93	0.79 %					
TOTAL:	10,218.26	100 %					
Priority FWC Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas 2021							
Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area					
0	4,448.32	43.53 %					
2	3,929.01	38.45 %					
3	1,788.90	17.51 %					
5	52.04	0.51 %					
TOTAL:	10,218.26	100 %					
FWC Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas 2009							
Species 1	Species 2	Species 3	Species 4	Species 5	Species 6	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
American swallow-tailed kite						1,702.62	16.66 %
Cooper's hawk						53.14	0.52 %
Cooper's hawk	American swallow-tailed kite					90.37	0.88 %
Florida black bear						1,429.51	13.99 %
Florida black bear	American swallow-tailed kite					2,146.64	21.01 %
Florida black bear	Cooper's hawk					196.78	1.93 %
Florida black bear	Cooper's hawk	American swallow-tailed kite				76.94	0.75 %
Florida black bear	Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	American swallow-tailed kite			0.32	0 %
Florida black bear	Striped newt					7.44	0.07 %
Florida black bear	Striped newt	American swallow-tailed kite				17.50	0.17 %
Striped newt						16.12	0.16 %
Striped newt	American swallow-tailed kite					10.03	0.1 %
						TOTAL: 5,747.40	56.25 %
Panther location							
No Records Found							
Panther mortality							
No Records Found							
Panther Priority Habitat							
No Records Found							
Bear Range							
Bear Range	Total Area (acres)			Percent of Area			
Occasional	10,218.26			100 %			
TOTAL:	10,218.26			100 %			
Rare Fish							
No Records Found							
Rare Fish Imperiled Waters							
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME		Total Area (acres)		Percent of Area		
Alabama shad	Alosa alabamae		667.60		6.53 %		
Spotted bullhead	Ameiurus serracanthus		2,860.66		28 %		
Suwannee bass	Micropterus notius		3,153.46		30.86 %		
	TOTAL:		6,681.71		65.39 %		
Southern bald eagle nest							
No Records Found							
Imperiled Species Richness							
Number of Species		Total Area (acres)		Percent of Area			
0		1,592.41		15.58 %			
1		143.12		1.4 %			
2		418.80		4.1 %			
3		1,595.92		15.62 %			
4		1,323.64		12.95 %			
5		3,845.64		37.63 %			
6		878.17		8.59 %			
7		420.57		4.12 %			
TOTAL:		10,218.26		100 %			
Florida Natural Areas Inventory Data							
Element Occurrences							

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	FWC STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS	EO Rank	Last Observation	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
DATA SENSITIVE ELEMENT OCCURRENCE - contact FNAI for more information	DATA SENSITIVE ELEMENT OCCURRENCE - contact FNAI for more information	G5	S3	N	N	E	ZZ	5,685.49	55.64 %
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	G5	S4	ST	N	E	1987-05-14	2.65	0.03 %
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	G5	S4	ST	N	E	1988-04-21	772.22	7.56 %
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	G5	S4	ST	N	E	1988-05-12	976.05	9.55 %
Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea	G5	S4	ST	N	F	1987-05-14	18.50	0.18 %
Schwarz' Pocket Gopher Ptomaphagus Beetle	Ptomaphagus schwarzi	G3	S3	N	N	E	1998-12-15 -- 1998-12-23	1.38	0.01 %
Southeastern Weasel	Mustela frenata olivacea	G5T4	S3?	N	N	H	1964-12-20	4,214.85	41.25 %
White Ibis	Eudocimus albus	G5	S4	N	N	E	1987-05-14	2.65	0.03 %
White Ibis	Eudocimus albus	G5	S4	N	N	F	1987-05-14	18.50	0.18 %
Wood Stork	Mycteria americana	G4	S2	FT	DL	E	1987-05-14	18.50	0.18 %
ZZ	Bird Rookery	G5	SNRB	N	N	E	1989-04-25	18.50	0.18 %
TOTAL:								11,729.30	114.79 %

Suitable Habitat that Supports Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Eastern Indigo Snake	Drymarchon couperi	3.80	0.04 %
Florida Mapleleaf	Quadrula kleiniana	167.86	1.64 %
Florida Mouse	Podomys floridanus	198.51	1.94 %
Florida Sandhill Crane	Antigone canadensis pratensis	1,286.67	12.59 %
Fontal Dwarf Crayfish	Cambarellus schmitti	166.73	1.63 %
giant orchid	Pteroglossaspis ecristata	182.51	1.79 %
Gulf Sturgeon	Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi	80.59	0.79 %
Suwannee Alligator Snapping Turtle	Macrochelys suwanniensis	167.86	1.64 %
Suwannee Moccasinshell	Medionidus walkeri	167.86	1.64 %
Wood Stork	Mycteria americana	3,517.62	34.42 %
TOTAL:		5,940.02	58.13 %

USFWS

Critical Habitat

No Records Found

Area of Critical State Concern

Apalachicola

No Records Found

Big Cypress

No Records Found

Green Swamp

No Records Found

Key West

No Records Found

Lower Keys

No Records Found

Upper Keys

No Records Found

Florida Ecological Greenways Network

Wildlife Corridor Classification

Priority Level	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
2	10,112.32	98.96 %
5	103.33	1.01 %
TOTAL:	10,215.64	99.97 %

Water Resources

FDEP Surface Water Classification

Waterbody Name	Water Type	Water Basin	Classification	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
SUWANNEE RIVER (LOWER SEGMENT)	STREAM	3422B	3F	1,984.42	19.42 %
PICKET LAKE OUTLET	STREAM	3591	3F	293.02	2.87 %
UNNAMED SLOUGH	STREAM	3597	3F	40.58	0.4 %
UNNAMED DITCH	STREAM	3608	3F	6,528.36	63.89 %
UNNAMED SLOUGH	STREAM	3618	3F	602.37	5.9 %
UNNAMED SLOUGH	STREAM	3624	3F	482.39	4.72 %
UNNAMED SLOUGH	STREAM	3636	3F	287.14	2.81 %
TOTAL:				10,218.26	100 %

Outstanding Florida Waters			
Name	OFW Type	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Suwannee River	Special	44.43	0.43 %
	TOTAL:	44.43	0.43 %
Florida Geological Survey Springs			
No Records Found			
National Wetlands Inventory			
Wetland Type	Wetland Code	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
FRESHWATER POND	PAB4H	37.02	0.36 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1/FO6C	27.64	0.27 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1/FO6F	24.99	0.24 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1/SS3C	3.34	0.03 %
FRESHWATER POND	PAB3H	46.08	0.45 %
FRESHWATER POND	PAB4/EM1F	8.69	0.09 %
FRESHWATER POND	PAB3/EM1F	20.15	0.2 %
FRESHWATER POND	PAB3G	12.53	0.12 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1F	107.85	1.06 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1C	16.58	0.16 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1A	3.78	0.04 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1B	21.54	0.21 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO2F	23.30	0.23 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO1C	26.22	0.26 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO1A	43.42	0.42 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1Fx	2.08	0.02 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/4C	161.85	1.58 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/7C	78.99	0.77 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/3A	3.31	0.03 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/3C	46.45	0.45 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO4C	13.46	0.13 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO4/6C	14.80	0.14 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO4A	31.76	0.31 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6F	2,377.91	23.27 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6C	323.24	3.16 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/EM1F	111.57	1.09 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/EM1C	42.45	0.42 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/SS6C	33.78	0.33 %
FRESHWATER POND	PUBH	3.16	0.03 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PSS7/EM1C	3.95	0.04 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PSS7/EM1B	2.35	0.02 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PSS6C	5.54	0.05 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PSS1/3C	108.69	1.06 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PSS1C	3.14	0.03 %
RIVERINE	R5UBH	0.41	0 %
RIVERINE	R5UBFx	22.99	0.22 %
RIVERINE	R4SBC	2.27	0.02 %
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND	PEM1/SS6F	15.73	0.15 %
FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND	PFO6/SS6F	108.73	1.06 %
	TOTAL:	3,941.75	38.58 %
Priority Floodplain Resources			
Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area	
4	3,266.37	31.97 %	
3	2,240.29	21.92 %	
0	4,082.28	39.95 %	
2	559.09	5.47 %	
1	70.23	0.69 %	
TOTAL:	10,218.26	100 %	