

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
Land Conservation and Planning
Ranch Reserve Florida Forever Project Analysis
December 2025**



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 **Ranch Reserve** 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

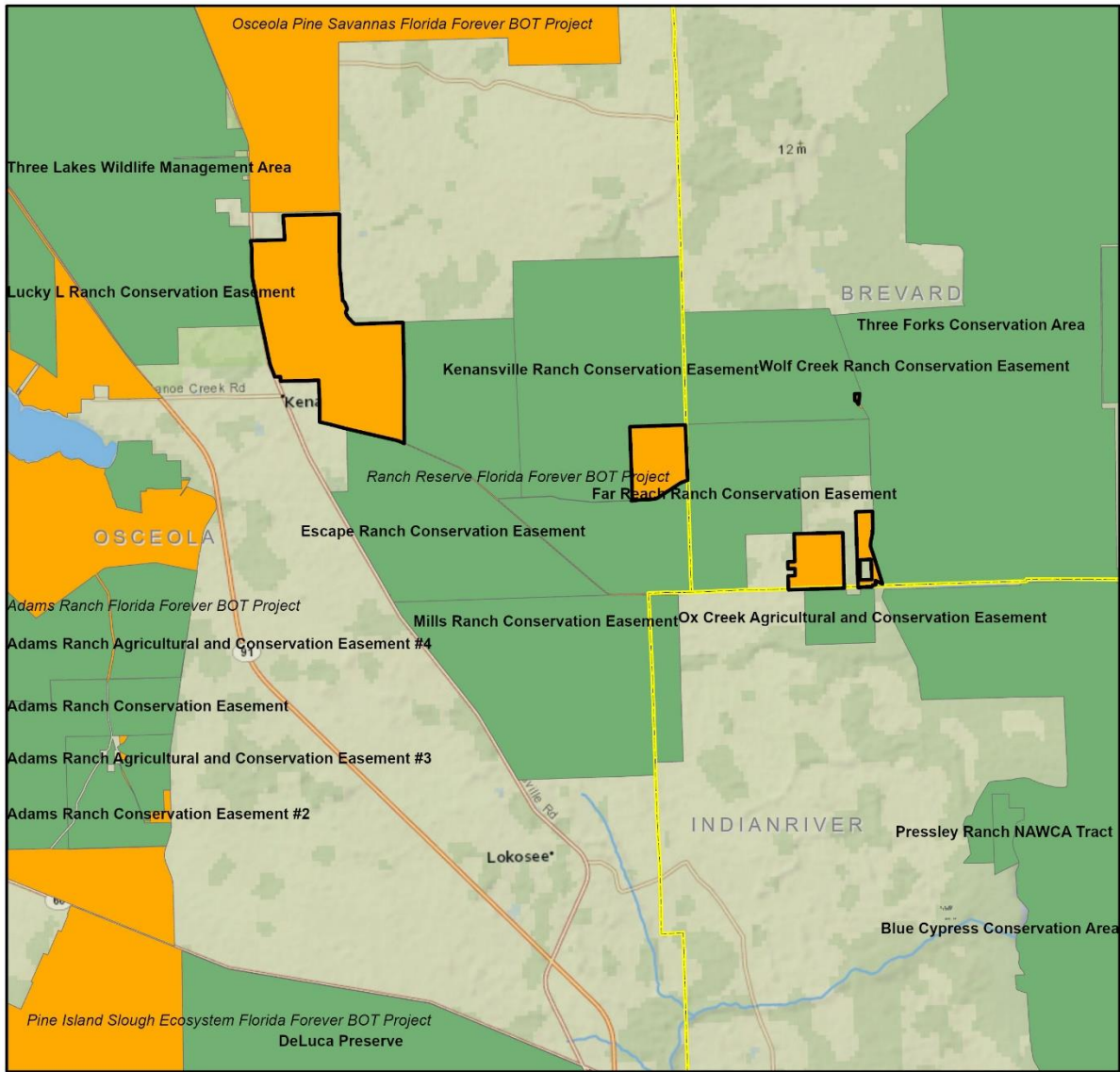
The FWC utilizes the Florida Cooperative Land Cover (CLC) GIS data layer for identification and mapping of land cover. The CLC is a cooperative effort between the FWC and the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) to develop ecologically-based statewide land cover from existing sources and expert review 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) is 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 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. The FLAM ranks habitat from 0-10; a rank of 10 being of greatest value. **The FLAM score for this project is 7.4.**

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



**Ranch Reserve
Florida Forever Project**
Brevard and Osceola Counties
5,927 Acres

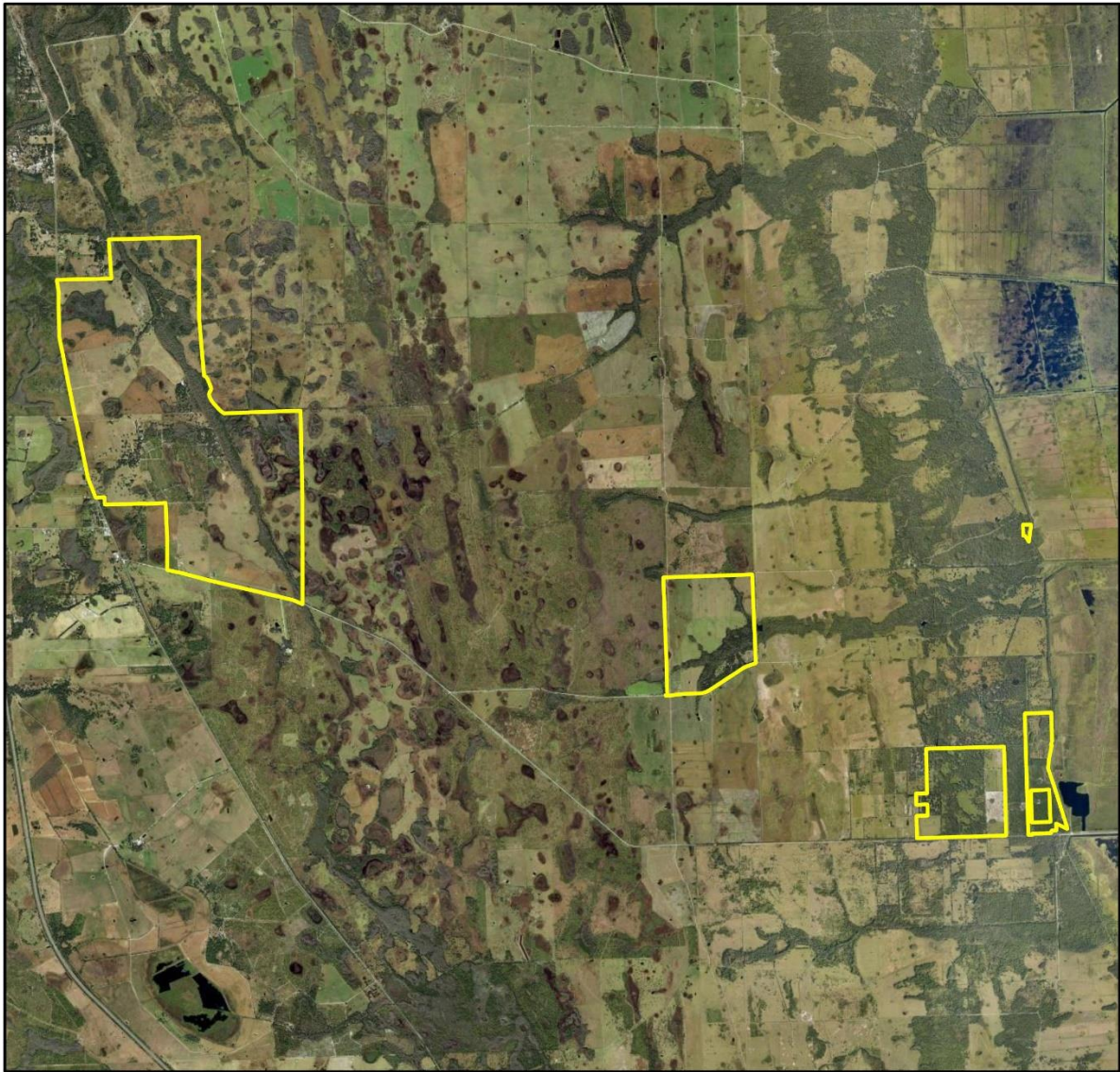


0 3 5 8 10 Miles

Created in ArcGIS 10.8 by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission December 2025

Vicinity Map

-  Ranch Reserve Boundary
-  County Boundaries
-  Conservation Lands
-  Florida Forever Projects



Ranch Reserve
Florida Forever Project
 Brevard and Osceola Counties
 5,927 Acres

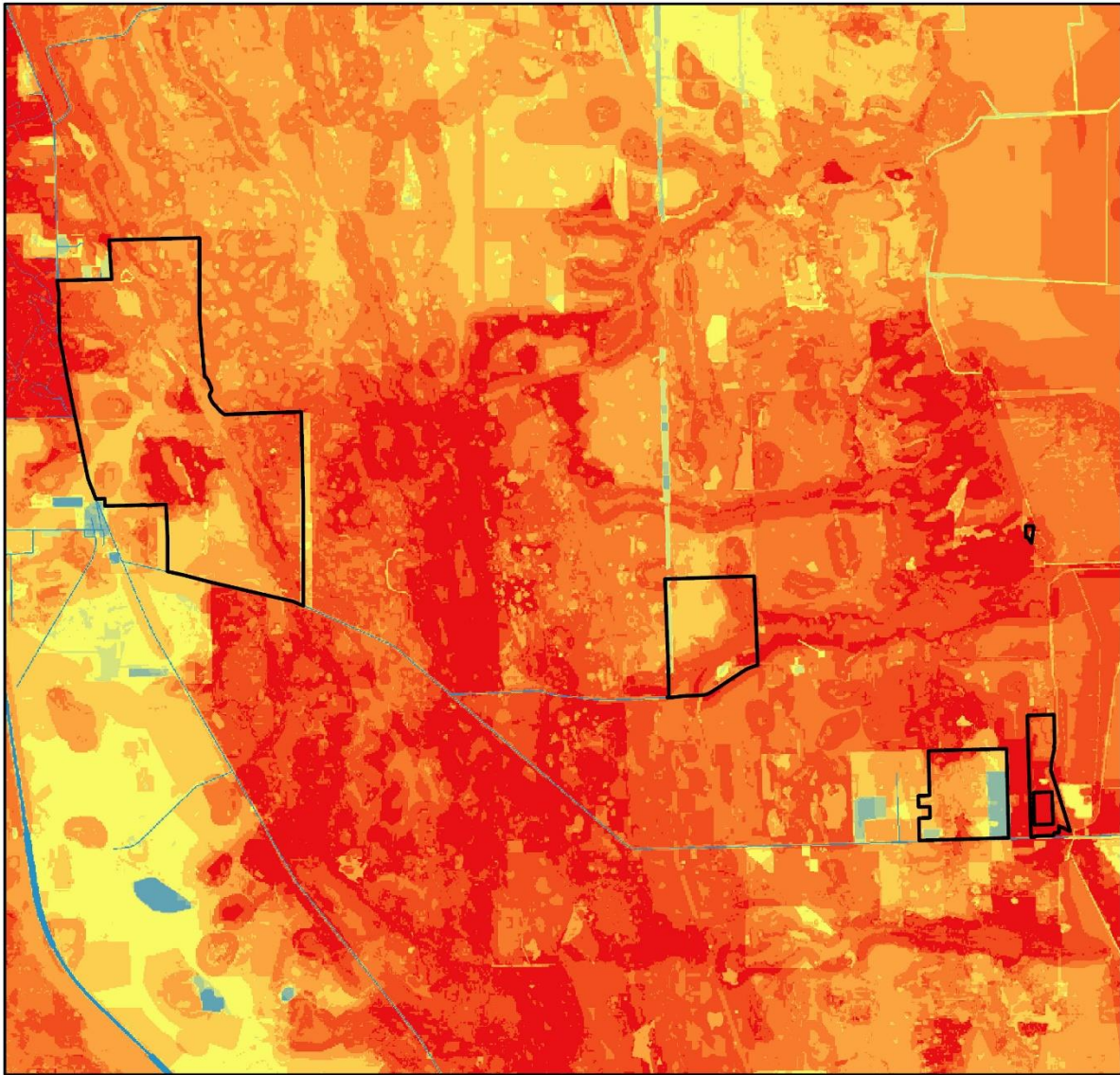


0 2 3 5 6 Miles

Created in ArcGIS 10.8 by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission December 2025

Aerial Imagery

 Ranch Reserve Boundary



Ranch Reserve
Florida Forever Project
 Brevard and Osceola Counties
 5,927 Acres



0 2 3 5 6 Miles
 Created in ArcGIS 10.8 by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission December 2025

Florida Landscape Assessment Model



Environmental Resource Analysis

FWC Land Conservation and Planning

Analysis Shape Type: Polygon

Analysis Timestamp: 10312025 08:58:29

Shape Name: Ranch Reserve

Boundary Area: 5926.55 acres

Buffer Area: 0 acres

Total Area: 5926.55 acres

FWC Wildlife Data and Models

Cooperative Land Cover v3.8

Name - State	Code - State	Name - Site	Code - Site	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Freshwater Forested Wetlands	2200	Mixed Wetland Hardwoods	2233	480.83	8.11 %
Freshwater Forested Wetlands	2200	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous Swamps	2240	67.54	1.14 %
Cultural-Lacustrine	3200	Artificial Impoundment/Reservoir	3220	4.05	0.07 %
Wet Flatwoods	2221	Wet Flatwoods	2221	3.82	0.06 %
Cypress/Tupelo (including mixed Cypress/Tupelo)	2210	Cypress/Tupelo (including mixed Cypress/Tupelo)	2210	13.84	0.23 %
Cypress	2211	Cypress	2211	365.60	6.17 %
Isolated Freshwater Swamp	2213	Isolated Freshwater Swamp	2213	3.59	0.06 %
Low Intensity Urban	1821	Residential, Low Density	18212	6.05	0.1 %
Rural	1830	Unimproved/Woodland Pasture	183314	198.91	3.36 %
Orchards/Groves	18332	Citrus	183321	125.44	2.12 %
Transportation	1840	Transportation	1840	21.96	0.37 %
Improved Pasture	183313	Improved Pasture	183313	2,995.56	50.54 %
High Intensity Urban	1822	Institutional	18225	2.48	0.04 %
Basin Swamp	22132	Basin Swamp	22132	61.37	1.04 %
Hydric Hammock	2232	Cabbage Palm Hammock	22323	11.21	0.19 %
Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	1400	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	1400	105.14	1.77 %
Shrub and Brushland	1500	Shrub and Brushland	1500	20.50	0.35 %
Cultural - Terrestrial	1800	Highway Rights of Way	1812	0.07	0 %
Palmetto Prairie	1340	Palmetto Prairie	1340	58.21	0.98 %
Upland Hardwood Forest	1110	Upland Hardwood Forest	1110	62.80	1.06 %
Mesic Flatwoods	1310	Mesic Flatwoods	1311	502.16	8.47 %
Scrubby Flatwoods	1310	Scrubby Flatwoods	1312	2.43	0.04 %
Low Intensity Urban	1821	Low Intensity Urban	1821	0.04	0 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Wet Prairie	2111	116.08	1.96 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Mixed Scrub-Shrub Wetland	2112	147.79	2.49 %
Marshes	2120	Marshes	2120	293.45	4.95 %
Bare Soil/Clear Cut	1880	Bare Soil/Clear Cut	1880	10.15	0.17 %
Rural	1830	Rural Open	1831	197.53	3.33 %
Rural	1830	Rural Structures	1832	19.65	0.33 %
Utilities	1860	Utilities	1860	28.29	0.48 %
TOTAL:				5,926.55	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	43.22	0.73 %
CLIP P1 in submerged lands/state waters	47.49	0.8 %
CLIP P1 in terrestrial	5,230.46	88.25 %
CLIP P2 in terrestrial	605.25	10.21 %
TOTAL:	5,926.42	100 %

CLIP- Landscape Category

Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
0	126.94	2.14 %
2	512.34	8.64 %
3	219.62	3.71 %
5	5,067.65	85.51 %
TOTAL:	5,926.55	100 %

CLIP- Biodiversity Category

Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
0	194.70	3.29 %
1	4.49	0.08 %
2	2,566.96	43.31 %
3	1,830.70	30.89 %

4	1,127.59					19.03 %				
5	202.11					3.41 %				
TOTAL:	5,926.55					100 %				
Priority FWC Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas 2020										
Priority	Total Area (acres)					Percent of Area				
0	1,151.74					19.43 %				
1	4,176.07					70.46 %				
2	24.72					0.42 %				
3	227.28					3.83 %				
4	0.06					0 %				
5	346.68					5.85 %				
TOTAL:	5,926.55					100 %				
FWC Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas 2024										
Species 1	Species 2	Species 3	Species 4	Species 5	Species 6	Species 7	Species 8	Species 9	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Cooper's hawk									241.77	4.08 %
Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear								14.84	0.25 %
Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear	Florida panther							453.96	7.66 %
Cooper's hawk	Florida panther								876.69	14.79 %
Cooper's hawk	Short-tailed hawk								14.03	0.24 %
Cooper's hawk	Short-tailed hawk	Florida black bear	Florida panther						0.33	0.01 %
Cooper's hawk	Short-tailed hawk	Florida panther							47.98	0.81 %
Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	Florida black bear	Florida panther						0.22	0 %
Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	Florida panther							0.37	0.01 %
Florida black bear									114.91	1.94 %
Florida black bear	Florida panther								274.67	4.63 %
Florida burrowing owl									3.65	0.06 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk								0.21	0 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear	Florida panther						0.44	0.01 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida panther							21.06	0.36 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Short-tailed hawk							0.09	0 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Short-tailed hawk	Florida panther						0.39	0.01 %
Florida burrowing owl	Florida black bear	Florida panther							0.37	0.01 %
Florida burrowing owl	Florida panther								10.78	0.18 %
Florida burrowing owl	Snail kite								0.05	0 %
Florida panther									1,213.19	20.47 %
Short-tailed hawk									9.32	0.16 %
Snail kite									4.57	0.08 %
Snail kite	Florida black bear								51.53	0.87 %
Snail kite	Florida black bear	Florida panther							179.90	3.04 %
Snail kite	Florida panther								15.34	0.26 %
Snail kite	Striped newt	Florida black bear	Florida panther						0.67	0.01 %
Snail kite	Striped newt	Florida panther							0.22	0 %
Striped newt									0.44	0.01 %
Striped newt	Florida black bear	Florida panther							5.15	0.09 %
Striped newt	Florida mouse								0.20	0 %
Striped newt	Florida panther								0.63	0.01 %
Swallow-tailed kite									25.72	0.43 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk								9.11	0.15 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear							3.45	0.06 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear	Florida panther						294.63	4.97 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Florida mouse	Florida panther						0.01	0 %

Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Florida panther						127.52	2.15 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Snail kite	Florida black bear	Florida panther				25.41	0.43 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Snail kite	Florida panther					2.06	0.03 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Snail kite	Striped newt	Florida black bear	Florida panther			2.72	0.05 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Snail kite	Striped newt	Florida panther				0.06	0 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	Florida mouse	Florida panther				1.46	0.02 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	Florida panther					1.33	0.02 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida black bear							11.13	0.19 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida black bear	Florida panther						398.27	6.72 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear	Florida panther				0.50	0.01 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida panther					0.17	0 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Florida black bear	Florida panther					0.48	0.01 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Florida panther						0.38	0.01 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida panther							73.79	1.25 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Snail kite	Florida black bear	Florida panther					117.60	1.98 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Snail kite	Florida panther						19.12	0.32 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Snail kite	Striped newt	Florida black bear	Florida panther				10.21	0.17 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Snail kite	Striped newt	Florida panther					0.33	0.01 %
TOTAL:								4,683.45	79.02 %
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		5,926.55				100 %			
TOTAL:		5,926.55				100 %			
Rare Fish									
No Records Found									
Rare Fish Imperiled Waters									
No Records Found									
Southern bald eagle nest									
No Records Found									
Imperiled Species Richness									
Number of Species			Total Area (acres)				Percent of Area		
0			114.54				1.93 %		
1			39.39				0.66 %		
3			297.84				5.03 %		
5			2,676.62				45.16 %		
6			20.08				0.34 %		
7			984.34				16.61 %		
8			1,601.22				27.02 %		
9			192.51				3.25 %		
TOTAL:			5,926.55				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
Eastern Indigo Snake	Drymarchon couperi	G3	S2?	FT	T	E	2024-12-16	0.47	0.01 %

Southeastern Fox Squirrel	Sciurus niger nigerG5T5	S3	N	N	E	2023-02-20	60.76	1.03 %
TOTAL:							61.23	1.03 %
Suitable Habitat that Supports Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity								
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	Total Area (acres)				Percent of Area		
Crested Caracara	Caracara plancus	4,235.50				71.47 %		
Eastern Indigo Snake	Drymarchon couperi	242.52				4.09 %		
Florida Long-tailed Weasel	Neogale frenata peninsulae	3,970.10				66.99 %		
Florida Sandhill Crane	Antigone canadensis pratensis	4,056.83				68.45 %		
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	Dryobates borealis	40.86				0.69 %		
Wood Stork	Mycteria americana	1,278.00				21.56 %		
TOTAL:		13,823.82				233.25 %		
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			
1	5,745.05				96.94 %			
2	2.75				0.05 %			
5	47.33				0.8 %			
TOTAL:	5,795.13				97.78 %			
Water Resources								
FDEP Surface Water Classification								
Waterbody Name	Water Type	Water Basin	Classification	Total Area (acres)		Percent of Area		
THREE FORKS MARSH RUN/C40 CANAL	STREAM	3108A3	1	0.81		0.01 %		
TYSON CREEK	STREAM	3111	3F	582.69		9.83 %		
UNNAMED BRANCH	STREAM	3117	3F	279.47		4.72 %		
GAP CREEK	STREAM	3120	3F	3,411.60		57.56 %		
WOLF CREEK CANAL	STREAM	3125	1	0.76		0.01 %		
SIXMILE CREEK	STREAM	3130A	1	1,603.10		27.05 %		
BLUE CYPRESS CREEK	STREAM	3133	1	19.26		0.32 %		
LAKE MARIAN OUTLET	STREAM	3184A	3F	28.85		0.49 %		
			TOTAL:	5,926.55		100 %		
Outstanding Florida Waters								
No Records Found								
Florida Geological Survey Springs								
No Records Found								
National Wetlands Inventory								
Wetland Type	Wetland Code		Total Area (acres)		Percent of Area			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1/SS1C		21.62		0.36 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1/SS1Cd		5.80		0.1 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1A		15.50		0.26 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Ad		118.97		2.01 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1C		89.42		1.51 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Cd		80.63		1.36 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Cx		0.45		0.01 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1F		260.21		4.39 %			
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Fd		41.00		0.69 %			

Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Fx	0.22	0 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1/3A	7.52	0.13 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1/3C	123.78	2.09 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1A	68.01	1.15 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1C	7.09	0.12 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1F	21.42	0.36 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO2/3C	60.09	1.01 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO2C	68.79	1.16 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO2Cd	31.28	0.53 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO3/1C	0.40	0.01 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO3A	0.01	0 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO3B	11.80	0.2 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO3C	23.68	0.4 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO4/1A	8.95	0.15 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO4A	16.77	0.28 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO6C	19.02	0.32 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1A	12.16	0.21 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1C	10.05	0.17 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS3A	3.58	0.06 %
Freshwater Pond	PUBHx	4.63	0.08 %
Riverine	R2UBHx	2.94	0.05 %
Riverine	R4SBC	1.11	0.02 %
Riverine	R5UBFx	16.22	0.27 %
Riverine	R5UBH	1.61	0.03 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO2F	395.70	6.68 %
Freshwater Pond	PAB4H	0.35	0.01 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO2Fd	7.56	0.13 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO3/2B	0.28	0 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO3/2C	1.15	0.02 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1/3Ad	5.32	0.09 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS3C	2.94	0.05 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS3Cd	13.82	0.23 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS3Ad	42.52	0.72 %
	TOTAL:	1,624.39	27.41 %
Priority Floodplain Resources			
Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area	
5	289.42	4.88 %	
0	3,353.06	56.58 %	
4	1,360.58	22.96 %	
3	851.84	14.37 %	
2	71.65	1.21 %	
TOTAL:	5,926.55	100 %	