

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Habitat and Species Conservation
Land Conservation and Planning
Wakulla Springs Protection Zone
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 **Wakulla Springs Protection Zone** 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.

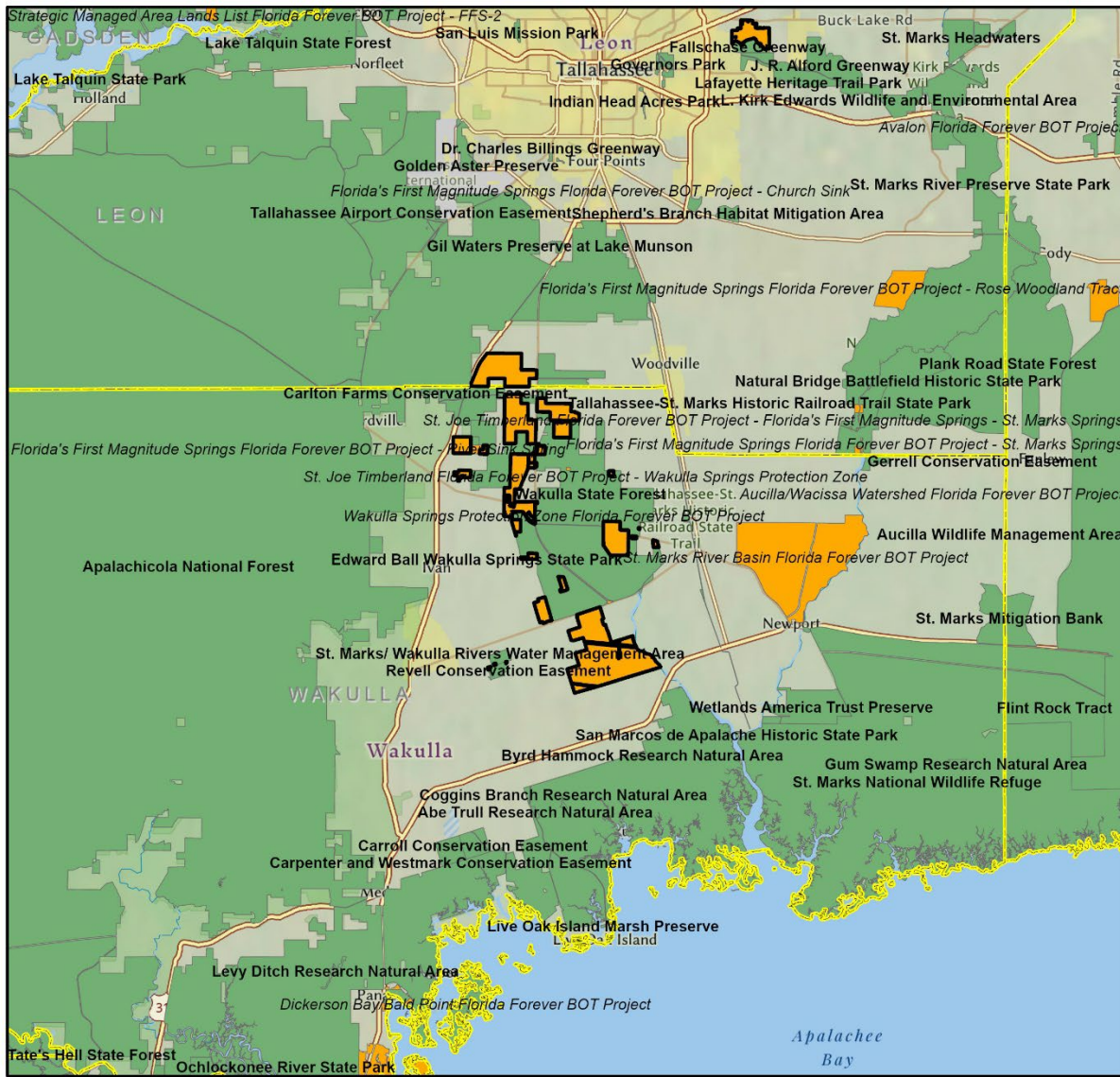
GIS Data

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 7.76.**

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



Wakulla Springs Protection Zone
Florida Forever Project
 Wakulla and Leon Counties
 6,359 Remaining Acres

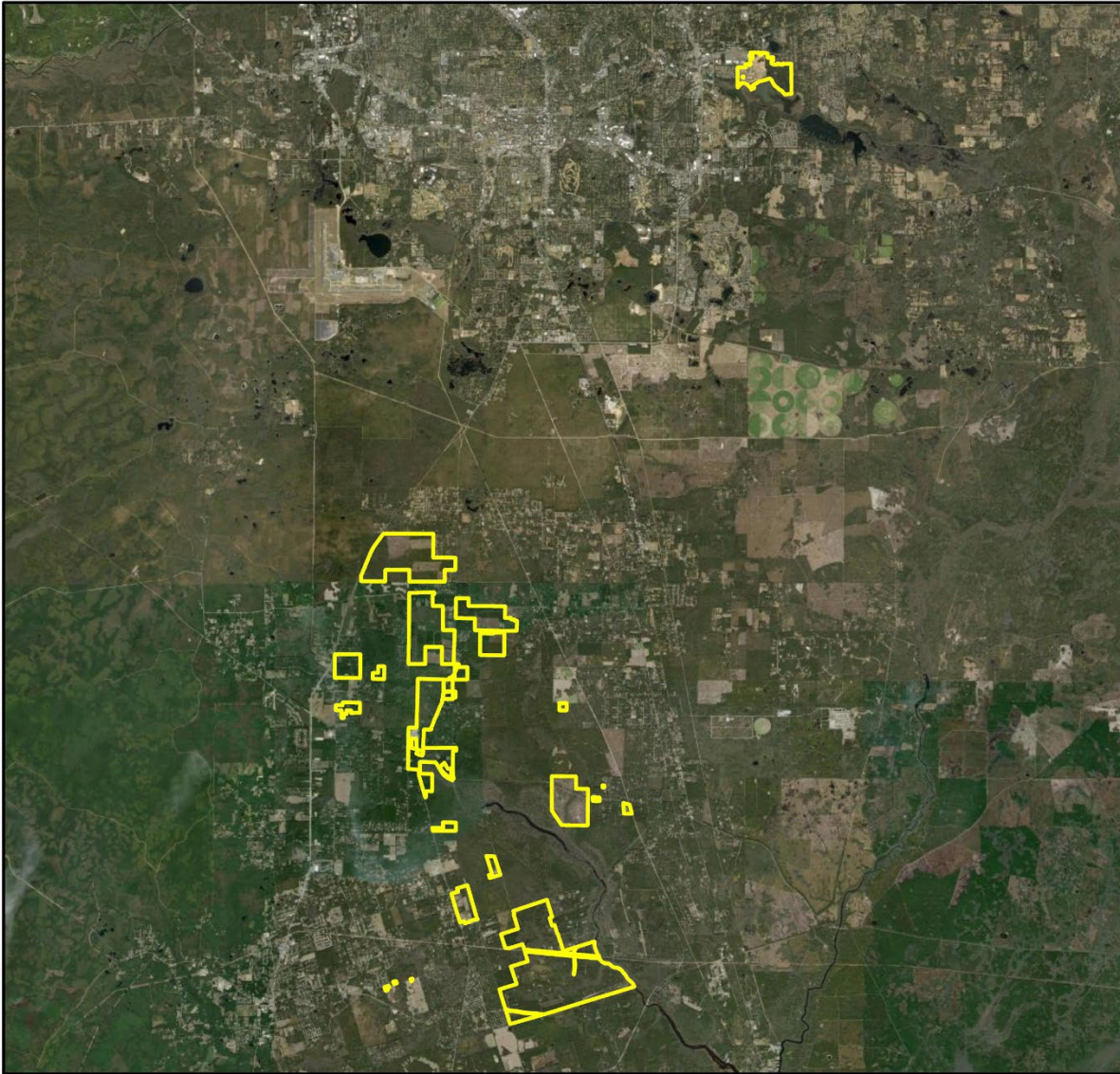


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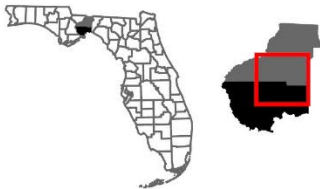
Created in ArcGIS 10.8 by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission December 2025

Vicinity Map

- Wakulla Springs Protection Zone Boundary
- County Boundaries
- Conservation Lands
- Florida Forever Projects



Wakulla Springs Protection Zone
Florida Forever Project
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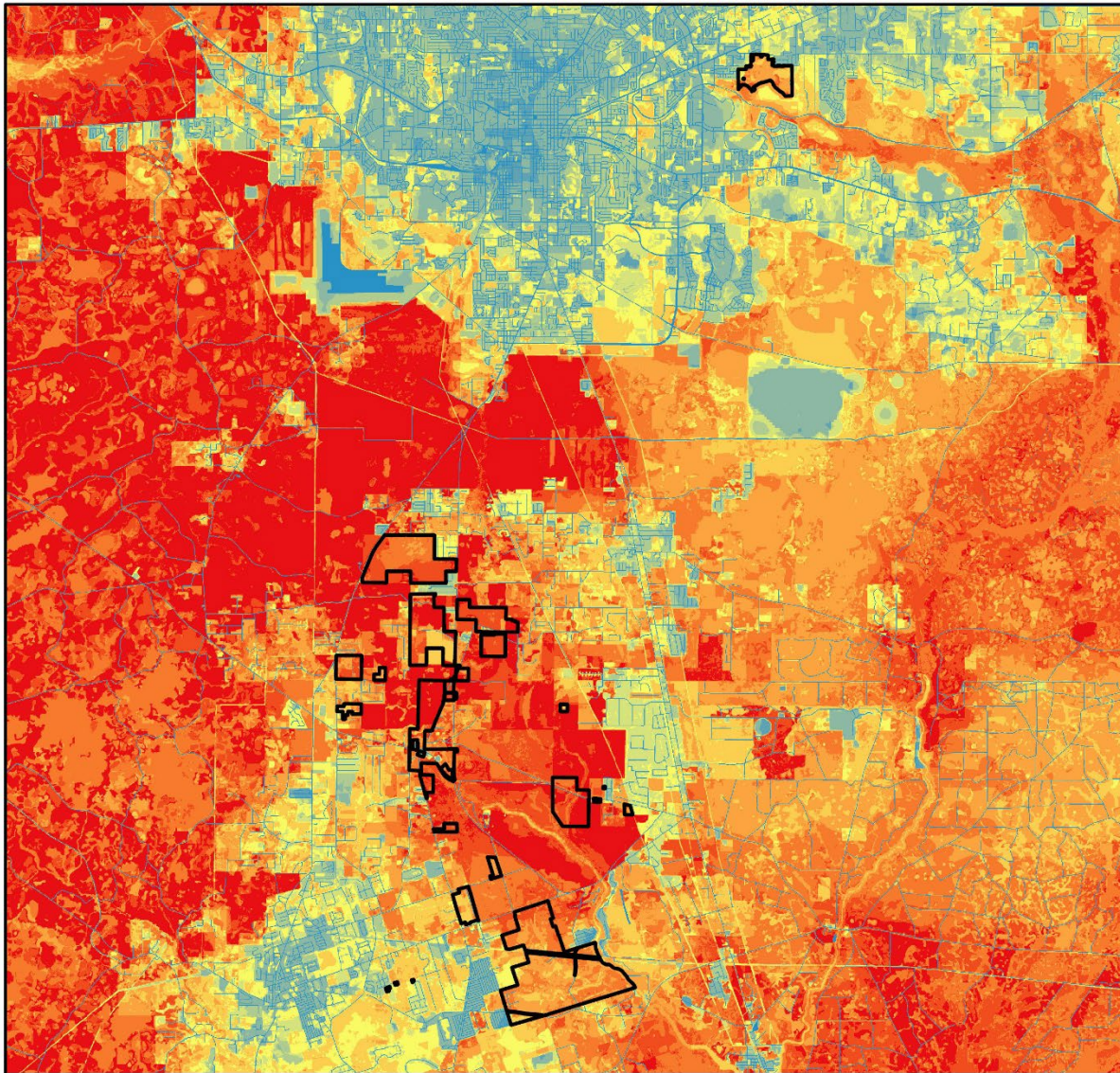


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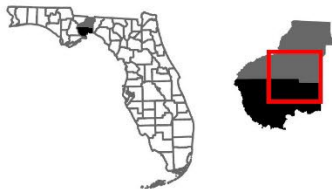
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Aerial Imagery

 Wakulla Springs Protection Zone Boundary



Wakulla Springs Protection Zone
Florida Forever Project
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Florida Landscape Assessment Model



Environmental Resource Analysis

FWC Land Conservation and Planning

Analysis Shape Type: Polygon

Analysis Timestamp: 10312025 09:20:11

Shape Name: Wakulla Springs Protection Zone

Boundary Area: 6358.9 acres

Buffer Area: 0 acres

Total Area: 6358.9 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
High Intensity Urban	1822	Residential, High Density > 5 Dwelling Units/AC	18222	18.60	0.29 %
High Intensity Urban	1822	Residential, Med. Density - 2-5 Dwelling Units/AC	18221	11.24	0.18 %
High Intensity Urban	1822	Commercial and Services	18223	10.23	0.16 %
Orchards/Groves	18332	Orchards/Groves	18332	0.07	0 %
High Intensity Urban	1822	Institutional	18225	11.02	0.17 %
Low Intensity Urban	1821	Residential, Low Density	18212	12.57	0.2 %
Cultural-Lacustrine	3200	Artificial Impoundment/Reservoir	3220	3.56	0.06 %
Natural Lakes and Ponds	3100	Natural Lakes and Ponds	3100	0.00	0 %
Riverine	4000	Riverine	4000	0.01	0 %
Alluvial Stream	4100	Seepage Stream	4140	1.94	0.03 %
Alluvial Stream	4100	Spring-run Stream	4130	0.22	0 %
Vineyard and Nurseries	18334	Tree Nurseries	183341	2.52	0.04 %
Tree Plantations	18333	Coniferous Plantations	183332	2,960.02	46.55 %
Other Agriculture	18335	Specialty Farms	183352	3.73	0.06 %
Transportation	1840	Transportation	1840	87.76	1.38 %
Tree Plantations	18333	Wet Coniferous Plantations	1833321	18.45	0.29 %
Improved Pasture	183313	Improved Pasture	183313	6.71	0.11 %
Basin Swamp	22132	Basin Swamp	22132	10.78	0.17 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Wiregrass Savanna	21111	9.10	0.14 %
Wet Flatwoods	2221	Hydric Pine Flatwoods	22211	3.41	0.05 %
Cropland/Pasture	18331	Field Crops	183312	259.23	4.08 %
Low Intensity Urban	1821	Cemeteries	182134	0.12	0 %
Freshwater Forested Wetlands	2200	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous Swamps	2240	160.04	2.52 %
Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	1400	Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	1400	452.61	7.12 %
Mesic Flatwoods	1310	Mesic Flatwoods	1311	91.57	1.44 %
Mixed Hardwood-Coniferous	1400	Successional Hardwood Forest	1410	109.07	1.72 %
Cultural - Terrestrial	1800	Mowed Grass	1810	0.65	0.01 %
Shrub and Brushland	1500	Shrub and Brushland	1500	85.47	1.34 %
Sandhill	1240	Sandhill	1240	487.26	7.66 %
Scrub	1210	Scrub	1210	14.81	0.23 %
Upland Hardwood Forest	1110	Upland Hardwood Forest	1110	433.80	6.82 %
High Pine and Scrub	1200	Upland Mixed Woodland	1220	157.54	2.48 %
Upland Pine	1200	Upland Pine	1231	74.42	1.17 %
High Pine and Scrub	1200	Upland Coniferous	1230	40.72	0.64 %
Cypress	2211	Cypress	2211	56.00	0.88 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Mixed Scrub-Shrub Wetland	2112	34.53	0.54 %
Floodplain Swamp	2215	Floodplain Swamp	2215	181.26	2.85 %
Freshwater Forested Wetlands	2200	Mixed Wetland Hardwoods	2233	297.60	4.68 %
Wet Flatwoods	2221	Wet Flatwoods	2221	25.87	0.41 %
Prairies and Bogs	2110	Wet Prairie	2111	20.32	0.32 %
Rural	1830	Rural Structures	1832	4.11	0.06 %
Rural	1830	Rural Open	1831	168.77	2.65 %
Communication	1850	Communication	1850	3.85	0.06 %
Bare Soil/Clear Cut	1880	Bare Soil/Clear Cut	1880	27.20	0.43 %
Utilities	1860	Utilities	1860	0.14	0 %
TOTAL:				6,358.90	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	1,315.96	20.69 %
CLIP P1 in submerged lands/state waters	1.66	0.03 %
CLIP P1 in terrestrial	4,539.28	71.38 %
CLIP P2 in submerged lands/state waters	4.96	0.08 %
CLIP P2 in terrestrial	451.09	7.09 %

TOTAL:				6,312.96					99.28 %	
CLIP- Landscape Category										
Priority		Total Area (acres)				Percent of Area				
0		293.71				4.62 %				
1		88.36				1.39 %				
2		4.85				0.08 %				
3		6.38				0.1 %				
5		5,965.60				93.81 %				
TOTAL:		6,358.90				100 %				
CLIP- Biodiversity Category										
Priority		Total Area (acres)				Percent of Area				
0		58.26				0.92 %				
1		2.42				0.04 %				
2		255.97				4.03 %				
3		2,106.12				33.12 %				
4		2,930.32				46.08 %				
5		1,005.81				15.82 %				
TOTAL:		6,358.90				100 %				
Priority FWC Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas 2020										
Priority		Total Area (acres)				Percent of Area				
0		322.46				5.07 %				
2		11.98				0.19 %				
3		4,774.71				75.09 %				
4		0.10				0 %				
5		1,249.64				19.65 %				
TOTAL:		6,358.90				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									305.97	4.81 %
Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear								569.90	8.96 %
Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear	Florida mouse							70.23	1.1 %
Cooper's hawk	Florida mouse								3.02	0.05 %
Cooper's hawk	Striped newt								0.08	0 %
Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	Florida black bear							2.91	0.05 %
Florida black bear									325.50	5.12 %
Florida black bear	Florida mouse								115.77	1.82 %
Florida burrowing owl									20.03	0.32 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk								48.42	0.76 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear							2.45	0.04 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida mouse							0.67	0.01 %
Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	Florida black bear						0.06	0 %
Florida burrowing owl	Florida black bear								1.57	0.02 %
Florida burrowing owl	Florida mouse								0.04	0 %
Florida burrowing owl	Striped newt								0.05	0 %
Florida mouse									8.76	0.14 %
Striped newt									1.10	0.02 %
Striped newt	Florida black bear								1.71	0.03 %
Striped newt	Florida black bear	Florida mouse							1.26	0.02 %
Striped newt	Florida mouse								0.22	0 %
Swallow-tailed kite									21.61	0.34 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk								96.86	1.52 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear							2,886.06	45.39 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear	Florida mouse						4.83	0.08 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Florida mouse							0.67	0.01 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Striped newt							0.11	0 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Cooper's hawk	Striped newt	Florida black bear						1.24	0.02 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida black bear								1,545.35	24.3 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida black bear	Florida mouse							4.66	0.07 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl								1.29	0.02 %

Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk		2.61	0.04 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida black bear	8.49	0.13 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Cooper's hawk	Florida mouse	0.06	0 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida burrowing owl	Florida black bear		1.45	0.02 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Florida mouse			0.55	0.01 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Striped newt			0.18	0 %
Swallow-tailed kite	Striped newt	Florida black bear		1.09	0.02 %
TOTAL:				6,056.83	95.25 %
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	
Frequent	6,358.88			100 %	
TOTAL:	6,358.88			100 %	
Rare Fish					
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME			# Features	
Ironcolor shiner	Notropis chalybaeus			1	
Suwannee bass	Micropterus notius			1	
	TOTAL:			2	
Rare Fish Imperiled Waters					
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	Total Area (acres)		Percent of Area	
Ironcolor shiner	Notropis chalybaeus	386.57		6.08 %	
Suwannee bass	Micropterus notius	5,926.59		93.2 %	
	TOTAL:	6,313.15		99.28 %	
Southern bald eagle nest					
No Records Found					
Imperiled Species Richness					
Number of Species	Total Area (acres)			Percent of Area	
0	849.59			13.36 %	
1	39.20			0.62 %	
2	10.74			0.17 %	
3	735.87			11.57 %	
4	59.87			0.94 %	
5	2,801.84			44.06 %	
6	677.73			10.66 %	
7	1,184.06			18.62 %	
TOTAL:	6,358.90			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	
A Mayfly	Stenacron floridense	G3G4	S3S4	N	N	E	2005-11-15	92.70	1.46 %	
A Mayfly	Stenacron floridense	G3G4	S3S4	N	N	E	2006-10-04	12.13	0.19 %	
American Alligator	Alligator mississippiensis	G5	S4	FT(S/A)	SAT	B	2013-06-18	0.95	0.01 %	
Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake	Crotalus adamanteus	G3	S3	N	UR	BC	2018-06-17	197.57	3.11 %	
Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake	Crotalus adamanteus	G3	S3	N	UR	E	1993	83.98	1.32 %	
Eastern Indigo Snake	Drymarchon couperi	G3	S2?	FT	T	E	1968	380.23	5.98 %	
Florida Big Bend Cave Amphipod	Crangonyx parhobbsi	G1G2	S1S2	N	N	AC	1987-11-29	0.31	0 %	
Florida Black Bear	Ursus americanus floridanus	G5T4	S4	N	N	BC	2022-07-06	6,358.88	100 %	
Florida Cave Amphipod	Crangonyx grandimanus	G2G3	S2S3	N	UR	NR	1989	0.31	0 %	
Florida Manatee	Trichechus manatus latirostris	G2G3T2	S2S3	N	T	BC	2006	0.24	0 %	
Golden-banded Skipper	Telegonus cellus	G5	S1	N	N	AB	2022-07-26	15.02	0.24 %	
Gopher Tortoise	Gopherus polyphemus	G3	S3	ST	N	C?	1995-11-29	389.30	6.12 %	
Gopher Tortoise	Gopherus polyphemus	G3	S3	ST	N	CD	2016-10	0.00	0 %	

incised groove-bur	Agrimonia incisa	G3G4	S2	T	N	D	1986-11-07	394.50	6.2 %
lesser clearweed	Pilea fontana	G5?	SH	N	N	E	1962-10-30	66.32	1.04 %
Mat Red Globe Scarab Beetle	Eucanthus alutaceus	G2G3	S2	N	N	E	1959-11-01	372.77	5.86 %
Punctate Gopher Tortoise	Onthophagus polyphemi	G3T3	S2	N	N	E	1968-02-24	372.77	5.86 %
Southeastern Fox Squirrel	Sciurus niger niger	G5T5	S3	N	N	BD	1995-11-29	389.30	6.12 %
Southeastern Spinyleg	Dromogomphus armatus	G4	S3	N	N	E	2006-10-04	0.08	0 %
Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish	Procambarus orcinus	G1	S1	N	N	AC	1971	0.31	0 %
Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish	Procambarus orcinus	G1	S1	N	N	AC	1983 pre	0.31	0 %
Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish	Procambarus orcinus	G1	S1	N	N	E	1983 pre	2.81	0.04 %
ZZ	Aquatic cave	G3	S3	N	N	AC	2000	0.31	0 %
ZZ	Aquatic cave	G3	S3	N	N	B	2000	2.81	0.04 %
ZZ	Aquatic cave	G3	S3	N	N	B?	1971	0.31	0 %
ZZ	Colonial Wading Bird Colony	G5	SNRB	N	N	E	1989-08-29	158.16	2.49 %
ZZ	Sandhill	G3	S2	N	N	C	1995-11-29	389.30	6.12 %
ZZ	Sinkhole	G2	S2	N	N	AC	2001-08	2.81	0.04 %
ZZ	Sinkhole lake	G3	S3	N	N	U	1995-11-29	389.30	6.12 %
ZZ	Spring-run stream	G2	S2	N	N	BC	2007-04-17	1.34	0.02 %
ZZ	Upland hardwood forest	G5	S3	N	N	BC	2004	2.81	0.04 %
TOTAL:								10,077.95	158.49 %

Suitable Habitat that Supports Species Known to Occur in the Vicinity

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Alligator Snapping Turtle	Macrochelys temminckii	255.61	4.02 %
Florida Big Bend Cave Amphipod	Crangonyx parhobbsi	67.00	1.05 %
Florida Cave Amphipod	Crangonyx grandimanus	64.43	1.01 %
Florida Manatee	Trichechus manatus latirostris	663.48	10.43 %
Fontal Dwarf Crayfish	Cambarellus schmitti	502.18	7.9 %
incised groove-bur	Agrimonia incisa	260.78	4.1 %
King's Hairstreak	Satyrium kingi	0.70	0.01 %
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	Dryobates borealis	303.44	4.77 %
Southern Hognose Snake	Heterodon simus	12.77	0.2 %
Wood Stork	Mycteria americana	31.62	0.5 %
Woodville Karst Cave Crayfish	Procambarus orcinus	146.45	2.3 %
zigzag silkgrass	Pityopsis flexuosa	583.75	9.18 %
TOTAL:		2,892.19	45.48 %

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	5,953.86	93.63 %
2	363.89	5.72 %
5	6.39	0.1 %
TOTAL:	6,324.14	99.45 %

Water Resources

FDEP Surface Water Classification

Waterbody Name	Water Type	Water Basin	Classification	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
WAKULLA RIVER	STREAM	1006	3F	3,344.14	52.59 %
WAKULLA RIVER BETWEEN BRIDGES	STREAM	1006W	3F	2,179.87	34.28 %
INDIAN SPRINGS	SPRING	1006Z	3F	10.20	0.16 %
MCBRIDE SLOUGH	STREAM	1028	3F	396.48	6.24 %
BLACK CREEK	STREAM	1054	3F	13.84	0.22 %
UNNAMED SLOUGH	STREAM	1139	3F	6.61	0.1 %
LAKE LAFAYETTE (UPPER SEGMENT)	LAKE	756F	3F	9.47	0.15 %
LAKE LAFAYETTE DRAIN	STREAM	756I	3F	344.25	5.41 %
BUCK LAKE OUTLET	STREAM	836A	3F	19.05	0.3 %
MOORE LAKE DRAIN	STREAM	889	3F	34.96	0.55 %
TOTAL:				6,358.90	100 %

Outstanding Florida Waters

Name	OFW Type	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park	Other	7.13	0.11 %
FLORIDA'S FIRST MAGNITUDE SPRINGS	Other	0.59	0.01 %
Wakulla River	Special	175.29	2.76 %
BIG BEND SEAGRASSES AQUATIC PRESERVE	Aquatic Preserve	0.78	0.01 %
TOTAL:		183.79	2.89 %

Florida Geological Survey Springs

Name	# Features
MCBRIDE SPRING #2	1
WAKULLA SULFUR SPRING #1	1
INDIAN SPRING	1
TOTAL:	3

National Wetlands Inventory

Wetland Type	Wetland Code	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
Freshwater Pond	PUBH	5.00	0.08 %
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1C	9.00	0.14 %
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1F	27.44	0.43 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1C	0.08	0 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO2/1C	45.74	0.72 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO3/4C	4.79	0.08 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO4/1A	251.32	3.95 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO4/6C	5.92	0.09 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO6/4C	193.35	3.04 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO6C	206.97	3.25 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO6F	39.16	0.62 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS6C	0.17	0 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS6F	1.42	0.02 %
Freshwater Pond	PUBG	0.08	0 %
Riverine	R4SBC	0.07	0 %
Riverine	R5UBH	0.30	0 %
Riverine	R2UBH	1.38	0.02 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO6/3C	7.57	0.12 %
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS6/3C	1.49	0.02 %
Freshwater Pond	PUBF	0.40	0.01 %
TOTAL:		801.64	12.61 %

Priority Floodplain Resources

Priority	Total Area (acres)	Percent of Area
4	816.34	12.84 %
3	639.75	10.06 %
5	2.75	0.04 %
0	4,711.37	74.09 %
2	104.78	1.65 %
1	83.91	1.32 %
TOTAL:	6,358.90	100 %