



Walton County Land Management Plan



MORRISON SPRINGS



Submitted By: Walton
County Board of County
Commissioners

P.O. Box 1460
DeFuniak Springs, FL
32435

Land Management Plan Compliance Checklist

Required for State-owned conservation lands over 160 acres (Updated July)

Instructions for managers: Complete each item and fill in the applicable correlating page numbers and/or appendix where the item can be found within the land management plan (LMP). If an item does not apply to the subject property, please describe that fact on a correlating page number of the LMP. Do not mark an "N/A" for any items below. For more information, please visit the stewardship portion of the Division of State Lands' website at: <http://floridadep.gov/lands/environmental-services/content/land-stewardship>

Section A: Acquisition Information Items

Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
1	The common name of the property.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 4
2	The land acquisition program, if any, under which the property was acquired.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 4
3	Degree of title interest held by the Board, including reservations and encumbrances such as leases.	18-2.021	Page 4; Appendix A
4	The legal description and acreage of the property.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 4
5	A map showing the approximate location and boundaries of the property, and the location of any structures or improvements to the property	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 4; Map 1; Map 3
6	An assessment as to whether the property, or any portion, should be declared surplus. <i>Provide Information regarding assessment and analysis in the plan, and provide corresponding map.</i>	18-2.021	Page 5; Appendix K; Map 10
7	Identification of other parcels of land within or immediately adjacent to the property that should be purchased because they are essential to management of the property. <i>Please clearly indicate parcels on a map.</i>	18-2.021	Page 5
8	Identification of adjacent land uses that conflict with the planned use of the property, if any.	18-2.021	Page 5; Appendix E
9	A statement of the purpose for which the lands were acquired, the projected use or uses as defined in 253.034 and the statutory authority for such use or uses.	259.032	Pages 5-6; Appendix B
10	Proximity of property to other significant State, local or federal land or water resources.	18-2.021	Page 6; Map 2; Map 4

Section B: Use Items

Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
11	The designated single use or multiple use management for the property, including use by other managing entities.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 7
12	A description of past and existing uses, including any unauthorized uses of the property.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 7; Appendix K; Map 3; Map 10
13	A description of alternative or multiple uses of the property considered by the lessee and a statement detailing why such uses were not adopted.	18-2.018	Pages 7-8
14	A description of the management responsibilities of each entity involved in the property's management and how such responsibilities will be coordinated.	18-2.018	Page 8
15	Include a provision that requires that the managing agency consult with the Division of Historical Resources, Department of State before taking actions that may adversely affect archeological or historical resources.	18-2.021	Page 8
16	Analysis/description of other managing agencies and private land managers, if any, which could facilitate the restoration or management of the land.	18-2.021	Page 9
17	A determination of the public uses and public access that would be consistent with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.	259.032	Page 9

18	A finding regarding whether each planned use complies with the 1981 State Lands Management Plan, particularly whether such uses represent “balanced public utilization,” specific agency statutory authority and any other legislative or executive directives that constrain the use of such property.	18-2.021	Page 9
19	Letter of compliance from the local government stating that the LMP is in compliance with the Local Government Comprehensive Plan.	BOT requirement	Page 9; Appendix K; Appendix I
20	An assessment of the impact of planned uses on the renewable and non-renewable resources of the property, including soil and water resources, and a detailed description of the specific actions that will be taken to protect, enhance and conserve these resources and to compensate/mitigate damage caused by such uses, including a description of how the manager plans to control and prevent soil erosion and soil or water contamination.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 10
21	*For managed areas larger than 1,000 acres, an analysis of the multiple-use potential of the property which shall include the potential of the property to generate revenues to enhance the management of the property provided that no lease, easement, or license for such revenue-generating use shall be entered into if the granting of such lease, easement or license would adversely affect the tax exemption of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to fund the acquisition of the affected lands from gross income for federal income tax purposes, pursuant to Internal Revenue Service regulations.	18-2.021 & 253.036	Page 10; Appendix K
22	If the lead managing agency determines that timber resource management is not in conflict with the primary management objectives of the managed area, a component or section, prepared by a qualified professional forester, that assesses the feasibility of managing timber resources pursuant to section 253.036, F.S.	18-021	Page 10; Appendix L; Map 7
23	A statement regarding incompatible use in reference to Ch. 253.034(10).	253.034(10)	Pages 10-11

*The following taken from 253.034(10) is not a land management plan requirement; however, it should be considered when developing a land management plan: The following additional uses of conservation lands acquired pursuant to the Florida Forever program and other state-funded conservation land purchase programs shall be authorized, upon a finding by the Board of Trustees, if they meet the criteria specified in paragraphs (a)- (e) water resource development projects, water supply development projects, storm-water management projects, linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry. Such additional uses are authorized where: (a) Not inconsistent with the management plan for such lands; (b) Compatible with the natural ecosystem and resource values of such lands; (c) The proposed use is appropriately located on such lands and where due consideration is given to the use of other available lands; (d) The using entity reasonably compensates the titleholder for such use based upon an appropriate measure of value; and (e) The use is consistent with the public interest.

Section C: Public Involvement Items

Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
24	A statement concerning the extent of public involvement and local government participation in the development of the plan, if any	18-2.021	Page 12; Appendix J
25	The management prospectus required pursuant to paragraph (9)(d) shall be available to the public for a period of 30 days prior to the public hearing.	259.032	Page 12; Appendix J
26	LMPs and LMP updates for parcels over 160 acres shall be developed with input from an advisory group who must conduct at least one public hearing within the county in which the parcel or project is located. <i>Include the advisory group members and their affiliations, as well as the date and location of the advisory group meeting.</i>	259.032	Page 12
27	Summary of comments and concerns expressed by the advisory group for parcels over 160 acres	18-2.021	Pages 12-13; Appendix J
28	During plan development, at least one public hearing shall be held in each affected county. Notice of such public hearing shall be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the actual public hearing. <i>Include a copy of each County's advertisements and announcements (meeting minutes will suffice to indicate an announcement) in the management plan. Additionally, please include evidence the draft plan was provided to State Lands at least 30 days prior to the public meeting in order to allow the Department to post to its website.</i>	253.034 & 259.032	Page 13; Appendix H

29	The manager shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan. <i>Include manager's replies to the team's findings and recommendations.</i>	259.036	Page 13; Appendix I; Appendix K
30	Summary of comments and concerns expressed by the management review team, if required by Section 259.036, F.S.	18-2.021	Page 13
31	If manager is not in agreement with the management review team's findings and recommendations in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan, the managing agency should explain why they disagree with the findings or recommendations.	259.036	Pages 13-14
Section D: Natural Resources			
Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
32	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding soil types. <i>Use brief descriptions and include USDA maps when available.</i>	18-2.021	Page 15; Appendix G; Map 5
33	Insert FNAI based natural community maps when available.	ARC consensus	Pages 15-16
34	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding outstanding native landscapes containing relatively unaltered flora, fauna and geological conditions.	18-2.021	Page 16; Map 7
35	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding unique natural features and/or resources including but not limited to virgin timber stands, scenic vistas, natural rivers and streams, coral reefs, natural springs, caverns and large sinkholes.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Pages 16-17
36	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding beaches and dunes.	18-2.021	Page 17
37	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding mineral resources, such as oil, gas and phosphate, etc.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 17
38	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding fish and wildlife, both game and non-game, and their habitat.	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 17
39	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding State and Federally listed endangered or threatened species and their habitat	18-2.021	Page 17; Appendix F; Map 6; Map 8
40	The identification of resources on the property that are listed in the Natural Areas Inventory. <i>Include letter from FNAI or consultant where appropriate.</i>	18-2.021	Page 17; Appendix F
41	Specific description of how the managing agency plans to identify, locate, protect and preserve or otherwise use fragile, nonrenewable natural and cultural resources.	259.032	Page 18; Appendix D; Map 9
42	Habitat Restoration and Improvement		
42-A.	Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired.	259.032 & 253.034	Page 18
42-B.	Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion.		Pages 18-19
42-C.	The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals.		Page 19
42-D.	The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures. <i>Include fire management plans - they can be in plan body or an appendix.</i>		Page 19

42-E.	A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities.	259.032 & 253.034	Page 19
43	***Quantitative data description of the land regarding an inventory of forest and other natural resources and associated acreage. <i>See footnote.</i>	253.034	Pages 19-20; Map 7
44	Sustainable Forest Management, including implementation of prescribed fire management		
44-A.	Management needs, problems and a desired outcome (see requirement for # 42-A).	18-2.021, 253.034 & 259.032	Page 20
44-B.	Detailed description of both short and long-term management goals (see requirement for # 42-B).		Page 20
44-C.	Measurable objectives (see requirement for #42-C).		Page 20
44-D.	Related activities (see requirement for #42-D).		Page 20
44-E.	Budgets (see requirement for #42-E).		Pages 20-21
45	Imperiled species, habitat maintenance, enhancement, restoration or population restoration		
45-A.	Management needs, problems and a desired outcome (see requirement for # 42-A).	259.032 & 253.034	Page 21
45-B.	Detailed description of both short and long-term management goals (see requirement for # 42-B).		Page 21; Map 6; Map 8
45-C.	Measurable objectives (see requirement for #42-C).		Page 21
45-D.	Related activities (see requirement for #42-D).		Page 21
45-E.	Budgets (see requirement for #42-E).		Page 21
45-F	Assess the feasibility of managing the lands > 40 contiguous acres as a recipient site for gopher tortoises consistent with rules of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, as prepared by the agency or cooperatively with a Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission wildlife biologist.	259.105	Page 21
45-G	Economic feasibility of establishing a gopher tortoise recipient site, including the initial cost, recurring management costs and the revenue projections.	259.105	Page 21
46	***Quantitative data description of the land regarding an inventory of exotic and invasive plants and associated acreage. <i>See footnote.</i>	253.034	Page 22
47	Place the Arthropod Control Plan in an appendix. If one does not exist, provide statement as to what arrangement exists between the local mosquito control district and the management unit.		Page 22
48	Exotic and invasive species maintenance and control		
48-A.	Management needs, problems and a desired outcome (see requirement for # 42-A).	259.032 & 253.034	Page 22
48-B.	Detailed description of both short and long-term management goals (see requirement for # 42-B).		Page 22
48-C.	Measurable objectives (see requirement for #42-C).		Page 22
48-D.	Related activities (see requirement for #42-D).		Page 22
48-E.	Budgets (see requirement for #42-E).		Page 22
Section E: Water Resources			
Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
49	A statement as to whether the property is within and/or adjacent to an aquatic preserve or a designated area of critical state concern or an area under study for such designation. <i>If yes, provide a list of the appropriate managing agencies that have been notified of the proposed plan.</i>	18-2.018 & 18-2.021	Page 23

50	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding water resources, including water classification for each water body and the identification of any such water body that is designated as an Outstanding Florida Water under Rule 62- 302.700 F.A.C.	18-2.021	Page 23; Appendix E
51	Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding swamps, marshes and other wetlands.	18-2.021	Page 23; Map 7
52	***Quantitative description of the land regarding an inventory of hydrological features and associated acreage. <i>See footnote.</i>	253.034	Pages 23-25; Map 11
53	Hydrological Preservation and Restoration		
53-A.	Management needs, problems and a desired outcome (see requirement for # 42-A).	259.032 & 253.034	Page 25
53-B.	Detailed description of both short and long-term management goals (see requirement for # 42-B).		Page 25
53-C.	Measurable objectives (see requirement for #42-C).		Page 25
53-D.	Related activities (see requirement for #42-D).		Page 25
53-E.	Budgets (see requirement for #42-E).		Page 25
Section F: Historical, Archeological and Cultural Resources			
Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
54	**Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding archeological and historical resources. <i>Include maps of all cultural resources except Native American sites, unless such sites are major points of interest that are open to public visitation.</i>	18-2.018, 18-2.021 & per DHR's request	Page 26; Appendix D; Map 9
55	***Quantitative data description of the land regarding an inventory of significant land, cultural or historical features and associated acreage	253.034	Page 27; Table 1
56	A description of actions the agency plans to take to locate and identify unknown resources such as surveys of unknown archeological and historical resources.	18-2.021	Page 27
57	Cultural and Historical Resources		
57-A.	Management needs, problems and a desired outcome (see requirement for # 42-A).	259.032 & 253.034	Pages 27-28; Map 9
57-B.	Detailed description of both short and long-term management goals (see requirement for # 42-B).		Page 28
57-C.	Measurable objectives (see requirement for #42-C).		Page 28
57-D.	Related activities (see requirement for #42-D).		Page 28
57-E.	Budgets (see requirement for #42-E).		Page 28
**While maps of Native American sites should not be included in the body of the management plan, the DSL urges each managing agency to provide such information to the Division of Historical Resources for inclusion in their proprietary database. This information should be available for access to new managers to assist them in developing, implementing and coordinating their management activities.			
Section G: Facilities (Infrastructure, Access, Recreation)			
Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
58	***Quantitative data description of the land regarding an inventory of infrastructure and associated acreage. <i>See footnote.</i>	253.034	Page 29
59	Capital Facilities and Infrastructure		
59-A.	Management needs, problems and a desired outcome (see requirement for # 42-A).	259.032 & 253.034	Page 29
59-B.	Detailed description of both short and long-term management goals (see requirement for # 42-B).		Page 30
59-C.	Measurable objectives (see requirement for #42-C).		Pages 30-31
59-D.	Related activities (see requirement for #42-D).		Page 31
59-E.	Budgets (see requirement for #42-E).		Pages 31-32; Appendix N; Table 2

60	*** Quantitative data description of the land regarding an inventory of recreational facilities and associated acreage.	253.034	Page 33
61	Public Access and Recreational Opportunities		
61-A.	Management needs, problems and a desired outcome (see requirement for # 42-A).	259.032 & 253.034	Page 33
61-B.	Detailed description of both short and long-term management goals (see requirement for # 42-B).		Page 33
61-C.	Measurable objectives (see requirement for #42-C).		Page 33
61-D.	Related activities (see requirement for #42-D).		Page 33
61-E.	Budgets (see requirement for #42-E).		Pages 33-34
Section H: Other/ Managing Agency Tools			
Item #	Requirement	Statute/Rule	Page Numbers and/or Appendix
62	Place this LMP Compliance Checklist at the front of the plan.	ARC and managing agency consensus	Page 35
63	Place the Executive Summary at the front of the LMP. Include a physical description of the land.	ARC and 253.034	Page 35
64	If this LMP is a 10-year update, note the accomplishments since the drafting of the last LMP set forth in an organized (categories or bullets) format.	ARC consensus	Page 35
65	Key management activities necessary to achieve the desired outcomes regarding other appropriate resource management.	259.032	Page 35
66	Summary budget for the scheduled land management activities of the LMP including any potential fees anticipated from public or private entities for projects to offset adverse impacts to imperiled species or such habitat, which fees shall be used to restore, manage, enhance, repopulate, or acquire imperiled species habitat for lands that have or are anticipated to have imperiled species or such habitat onsite. The summary budget shall be prepared in such a manner that it facilitates computing an aggregate of land management costs for all state-managed lands using the categories described in s. 259.037(3) which are resource management, administration, support, capital improvements, recreation visitor services, law enforcement activities.	253.034	Pages 35-36; Table 3
67	Cost estimate for conducting other management activities which would enhance the natural resource value or public recreation value for which the lands were acquired, include recommendations for cost-effective methods in accomplishing those activities.	259.032	Page 36
68	A statement of gross income generated net income and expenses.	18-2.018	Page 36
*** = The referenced inventories shall be of such detail that objective measures and benchmarks can be established for each tract of land and monitored during the lifetime of the plan. All quantitative data collected shall be aggregated, standardized, collected, and presented in an electronic format to allow uniform management reporting and analysis. The information collected by the DEP pursuant to s. 253.0325(2) shall be available to the land manager and his or her assignee.			

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Morrison Springs area was purchased by the State of Florida in June 2004 as part of the Florida Forever Program through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land Acquisition. The 200-acre property contains one of the largest intact, undeveloped privately-owned tracts in Walton County containing a second magnitude spring which discharges 10 to 100 cubic feet per second. The property was acquired to preserve and protect Morrison Springs and its surrounding lands from existing and potential commercial or residential development impacts, as well as agricultural activities that could degrade water quality and the health of the spring.

The State of Florida subsequently entered into a lease with Walton County for management of the subject property and required preparation and approval of a land management plan. The previously approved Land Management Plan has been in effect since 2007. This updated management plan draft will be available for review and input by the public and county commissioners and then submitted to the State of Florida for review and approval.

Proposed Land Management Plan Content Updates:

The purpose of this Land Management Plan (LMP) update is to bring the plan current with the FDEP's LMP Compliance Checklist while proposing an additional boat ramp facility for approval. The Park currently has the main swimming hole area surrounded by boardwalks, picnic tables, the pavilion, restrooms, and one boat launch area. This additional boat ramp facility will include improvements to Morrison Springs by reducing pedestrian, vehicular, and vessel launching congestion. Non-motorized and motorized vessels will have designated launch areas, an additional restroom facility will be added, and parking space to accommodate the new boat ramp. Further details of this facility are included in this document under **Section G, Number 59A-E**, in **Appendix N**, and **Map 12, Conceptual Improvements Map (2026)**. To facilitate the complete development of this plan, the required compliance checklist updates, proposed facility addition, and park improvements described herein will be submitted to Walton County, the general public, and FDEP for review and input. The approved management plan draft will then be submitted to the State of Florida for review, further edits, and approval.

A key component of the original plan and continued throughout this updated LMP, is the protection of Morrison Springs from potential threats while maintaining the park for passive recreation. This updated plan has been prepared in accordance with the Land Management Plan Compliance Checklist per Florida Statutes and the Florida Administrative Code.

The Board of Trustees lease, including the legal description, is provided in **Appendix A**. The degree of title interest held by the board of trustees is fee simple, and a full history of Morrison Springs is provided in **Appendix B**. Because this document is the updated land management plan for Morrison Springs, a land management review team update meeting is required. Meeting times and notes will be documented in **Appendix J**.

APPENDICES:**Appendix**

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SECTION A: ACQUISITION INFORMATION ITEMS**1. The common name of the property:**

The area is commonly referred to as “Morrison Springs,” “Morrison Springs Park,” “Morrison Springs Tract,” “Morrison Springs Run”.

2. The land acquisition program, if any, under which the property was acquired:

The Morrison Springs property was purchased by the State of Florida in June 2004 as part of the Florida Forever Program through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land Acquisition.

3. Degree of title interest held by the Board, including reservations and encumbrances such as leases:

Morrison Springs title interest is held by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund Fee Simple as found in **Appendix B**. Lease Agreement No. 4475 Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust of the State of Florida as found in **Appendix A**.

4. The legal description and acreage of the property:

Parcel Numbers: 23-3N-17-06000-001-0000; 24-3N-17-06000-002-0000

Legal Description: The North One Half of the Northeast Quarter, and the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 23, Township 3 North, Range 17 West, less and except that portion maintained by Walton County as Morrison Springs Road and Grassy Landing Road.

AND

The West One Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 3 North, Range 17 West, all lying and being in Walton County, Florida.

Acreage Breakdown:Uplands

Mixed Forest	12.36
Mesic Flatwoods	41.43
<u>Transition Forest</u>	<u>56.49</u>
	110.28

Submerged Lands

Floodplain Swamp	83.84
<u>Spring Run Stream</u>	<u>5.88</u>
Total Parcel(s) Acreage	200

5. A map showing the approximate location and boundaries of the property, and the location of structures or improvements to the property:

Morrison Springs is located approximately fifteen (15) miles southeast of DeFuniak Springs, FL in Walton County, Florida. The property is located within Sections 23 and 24, Township 3 North, Range 17 West, in central eastern Walton County, Florida, near the Walton/Holmes County line found in **Map 1, County Location Map**. Structures and improvements located throughout Morrison Springs are shown in **Map 3, Existing Structure Map**.

6. An assessment as to whether the property, or any portion, should be declared surplus:

There are no areas considered surplus within Morrison Springs that should be deleted from the Land Management Plan (LMP) as found in **Appendix K** and **Map 10, Land Use Map**.

7. Identification of other parcels of land within or immediately adjacent to the property should be purchased because they are essential to management of the property:

There is no additional property identified for expansion as found in **Map 2**.

8. Identification of adjacent land uses that conflict with the planned use of the property, if any:

Morrison Springs remains in a relatively natural condition surrounded by a hardwood forested wetland on the north, east and south. The west portion adjacent to the spring is used for single family homes. A significant part of the Morrison Springs parcel is included in the Choctawhatchee River Outstanding Florida Waters List found in **Appendix E**, designation (Rule 62-302.700 (9) (i) 7, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)). Any surface waters on the site are classified as Class III waters, a statewide default classification.

9. A statement of the purpose for which the lands were acquired and the projected use(s) as defined in 253.034 and the statutory authority for such use(s):

The property was acquired by the State of Florida under the Florida First Magnitude Springs Project. The First Magnitude Springs Project boundary was amended in June 2004 to include the Morrison Spring Tract. The property was acquired with funds from the Florida Forever Full Fee Project, and fee-simple title rests with the Board of Trustees, as described in the full history provided in **Appendix B**. The critical need for acquisition of the Morrison Springs Tract was described in the staff remarks for the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund agenda on March 30, 2004, when acquisition approval was granted. At the time of acquisition, staff also commented that “The spring has significantly higher recreation potential than is now realized under current management,” which was consistent with §187.201(9), Florida Statutes. Walton County proposes multiple uses for the Morrison Springs area, including restoration and preservation of the spring and associated water resources, as well as passive recreation, civic, conservation, public, and educational opportunities. The County will also protect the recharge potential and groundwater resources of the site, thereby helping to ensure the protection of Morrison Springs.

This plan is intended to meet the requirements of Sections 253.034 and 259.032, Florida Statutes, Chapter 18-2, Florida Administrative Code, and to be consistent with the adopted State Lands Management Plan. All development and resource alterations included in this plan are subject to issuance of appropriate permits, easements, licenses, and other required legal instruments. Approval of this management plan does not exempt Walton County from complying with applicable state or federal agency requirements.

The following goals and objectives are compiled from a variety of sources including the lease agreement between the State of Florida and Walton County, the agenda from the meeting of the Board of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (March 30, 2004) to purchase the property, the Walton County Parks and Recreation Department goals, Walton County’s Comprehensive Plan, and the State Lands Management Plan.

1. Protect Morrison Springs and its water resources as well as its recharge potential to the adjacent Choctawhatchee River and Management Area and to protect the site from groundwater contamination.
2. Establish and operate a conservation area for cultural, historic, natural resource interpretation and as a passive recreation area.

3. Identify, protect, and preserve archaeological or historical resources occurring on the property.
4. Offer high quality, cost-effective maintenance and resource management of conservation lands.
5. Improve recreational opportunities to satisfy current and future demands.
6. Protect, conserve, appropriately use, and enhance the quality and natural function of environmentally sensitive lands, natural reservations, and locally significant resources.
7. Assist in the development of partnership programs with other local, state, and federal agencies.
8. Maintain the current level of biological diversity and integrity of the natural systems.

10. Proximity of property to other significant State, local or federal land or water resources:

The 200-acre Morrison Springs tract is located east of State Road 81, as found in **Map 2, Parcel Boundary Map**; and is within 10 miles of Ponce De Leon Springs State Recreation Area. Morrison Springs is the largest second magnitude spring in the NFWFMD area contributing significant flow to the Choctawhatchee River via the Morrison Spring Run and discharges 10 to 100 cubic feet per second. Morrison Springs' proximity to other land, water and other area natural resources are identified in **Map 4, Area Natural Resources Map**, of which most are managed by state agencies.

SECTION B: USE ITEMS

11. The designated single use or multiple use management for the property, including use by other managing entities:

Morrison Springs is currently under single-use management by Walton County.

12. A description of past and existing uses, including any unauthorized uses of the property:

Existing structures within the Morrison Springs area are shown in **Map 3, Existing Structure Map**. The previous landowners, Richard A. Caldwell and Brook N. Mason, operated the area as a swimming hole and dive shop. Past uses included swimming at the headspring, diving, and boating. An existing boat ramp, several small buildings, a septic system, and water well facilities or structures were located within the park area when the State acquired Morrison Springs. The two parcels that make up the Morrison Springs area previously had different land use designations; current data lists the same land use designation for both parcels. Morrison Springs and associated wetlands were listed as conservation lands, whereas the adjacent uplands were designated as general agriculture, as shown in **Appendix K** and **Map 10**.

The current LMP, in effect from 2007, allowed Walton County to complete several approved improvements throughout the existing park area. A boardwalk was constructed to provide viewing and access to the center of the spring. The boardwalk helps limit environmental impacts previously associated with foot traffic along the bank by reducing bank erosion and protecting native vegetation. A pavilion was constructed above the springhead to improve the picnic area, and multiple picnic tables were added closer to the spring opening. Signage is located at strategic locations in Morrison Springs Park to communicate information about the unique geology and soils that provide superior recharge characteristics to the aquifer. The existing road was maintained and incorporated into the improvements with a focus on minimizing impacts to vegetation. The entrance road winds through the Upland Mixed Forest on the east end of the property off State Road 81. General Park information signage was placed at the entrance gate off State Road 81 and is updated as needed. A parking lot was constructed near the entrance to minimize negative environmental impacts while adding 22 car spaces, 1 ADA space, and 6 trailer spaces. The footprints of the added facilities remain small in relation to the size of the tract, emphasizing minimized impervious surfaces. The implemented looped trail network combines existing trails and roads to limit negative impacts. The trails offer various distance options and take visitors through different habitats and special features within Morrison Springs. Allowable uses include hiking and biking on the main loop/service road, with hiking only on shorter loops. Public motorized vehicular use is not permitted on any trail. Motorized transportation within the trail network will be used only when necessary, by staff or approved agencies.

13. A description of alternative or multiple uses of the property considered by the lessee and a statement detailing why such uses were not adopted:

If the Morrison Springs area had not been purchased by the State, it most likely would have been sold for bottled water production or as a commercial private spring, similar to privately owned Vortex Springs in Holmes County, Florida. Morrison Springs has historically been used as a recreational diving spring, swimming area, canoe area, wildlife-watching area, wildlife photography area, and passive park. Walton County aims to retain compatible past uses while incorporating the following uses for the Morrison Springs area:

- Protection of endangered and threatened species
- Ecosystem management
- Soil and water conservation
- Wildlife conservation
- Environmental education

- Preservation of archaeological and historical sites

14. A description of the management responsibilities of each entity involved in the property's management and how such responsibilities will be coordinated:

According to lease agreements, Walton County BCC Department of Parks and Recreation will act as lead in all preservation, restoration and management activities. The Parks and Recreation Staff will manage Morrison Springs Park while coordinating with other departments or agencies that can support short- and long-term management. County Parks and Recreation staff will manage day-to-day operation, maintenance, and activities within the park area. Walton County Administration staff will support Parks and Recreation staff as needed to address issues outside the scope of Parks staff duties.

Walton County will be considered the lead entity for management activities of Morrison Springs Park. To preserve funds, Walton County may seek private contractors to perform specific duties after a cost/benefit analysis has been conducted. These activities may include, but are not limited to, the following tasks:

- Road development and maintenance
- Spring restoration and maintenance
- Prescribed burning
- Vegetation inventory
- Educational facilities
- Construction
- Exotic species control and maintenance

15. Include a provision that requires that the managing agency consult with the Division of Historical Resources, Department of State before taking actions that may adversely affect archaeological or historical resources:

The Morrison Springs area was purchased consistent with §187.201(9), Florida Statutes, the Natural Systems and Recreational Lands section of the State Comprehensive Plan. All planned uses are consistent with the State Lands Management Plan as enforced by FDEP and represent balanced public utilization of the property. Walton County will coordinate with FDEP for consistency with the State Lands Management Plan and for coordination of management activities within the Morrison Springs Park; DOF regarding prescribed burns; and the Department of State, Division of Archives, History, and Records Management, prior to taking any actions that may adversely affect archaeological or historical resources. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) will assist County staff in the enforcement of state laws pertaining to wildlife, freshwater fish and other aquatic life existing within recreational area boundaries. In addition, the FFWCC will aid the County staff with wildlife management programs, such as, development and management of Watchable Wildlife programs. The Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) will assist County staff to assure protection of archaeological and historical sites. The Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (ORCP) aids County staff in aquatic preserves management programs. The County will work directly with water resources staff with both the Northwest Florida Water Management District and with FDEP on issues surrounding the protection and improvement of surface and groundwater quality as they affect the spring system within the park. Walton County staff will work directly with staff of the Florida Springs Initiative to coordinate protection activities and identify projects suitable for funding under that program.

Walton County will comply with all applicable laws when planning and designing any improvements, construction, or ground disturbance activity to prevent disturbance to significant archeological or historic sites that do or may exist in the Morrison Springs area.

16. Analysis/description of other managing agencies and private land managers, if any, which could facilitate the restoration or management of the land:

Walton County is the lead agency charged with managing the Morrison Springs area and implementing the land management plan. Agencies that may contribute to long term management include the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Florida Forest Service (FFS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC), Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DOS), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and other relevant resources.

The County will seek input from non-profits (i.e., The Nature Conservancy, Keep Walton County Beautiful, Keep Florida Beautiful, etc.) and public agencies (FNAI, FDEP, FWC, UF-IFAS, etc.) for assistance with prescribed burns, spring-run clean-up, park repairs, restorations, and enhancements.

17. A determination of the public uses and public access that would be consistent with the purposes for which the lands were acquired:

The acquisition of the Morrison Springs property is consistent with the intended and proposed uses as a conservation and recreation area. The area was purchased to provide public recreational opportunities balanced with preservation of natural habitat and wildlife. Walton County will continue to operate, maintain, and improve Morrison Springs in a manner consistent with the purpose of acquisition.

18. A finding regarding whether each planned use complies with the 1981 State Lands Management Plan, particularly whether such uses represent “balanced public utilization,” specific agency statutory authority and any other legislative or executive directives that constrain the use of such property:

All current and planned uses of the site are consistent with, and comply with, the 1981 State Lands Management Plan and balanced public utilization requirements. Under the current LMP, in effect since 2007, the Morrison Springs area will continue to be restored and preserved for the use, enjoyment, and benefit of the people of the State of Florida and visitors. Completed improvements have provided additional protection for water resources and recreational opportunities within the spring and surrounding areas. The previously approved 2007 LMP and this updated plan provide guidelines and authority to manage activities that could adversely impact public recreational uses. A balance will be sought between preserving the Spring and associated water resources while providing varied recreational opportunities. Any development in the park will be limited to providing public access to and within the park and to providing recreational facilities that are convenient and safe. Program emphasis will remain on the area’s natural, aesthetic, and educational attributes.

19. Letter of compliance from the local government stating that the LMP is in compliance with the Local Government Comprehensive Plan:

The 2006 and updated 2026 compliance letters, verified by the Walton County Planning Department, are included in **Appendix K** where both letters state that the proposed LMP at each corresponding time is consistent with the Walton County Comprehensive Plan, located in **Appendix I**.

20. An assessment of the impact of planned uses on the renewable and non-renewable resources of the

property, including soil and water resources, and a detailed description of the specific actions that will be taken to protect, enhance and conserve these resources and to compensate/mitigate damage caused by such uses, including a description of how the manager plans to control and prevent soil erosion and soil or water contamination:

Planned uses for Morrison Springs are consistent with the park's acquisition purpose, which is to balance public recreational use with preservation of natural habitat and wildlife. Planned uses will be limited to approved recreational uses, and development activities will be kept minimal to protect natural features. Future improvements will be conducted in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, accepted practices, and permit requirements to ensure conservation and preservation of natural resources and appropriate compensation or mitigation for any losses or contamination.

- 21. For managed areas larger than 1,000 acres, an analysis of the multiple-use potential of the property which shall include the potential of the property to generate revenues to enhance the management of the property provided that no lease, easement, or license for such revenue-generating use shall be entered into if the granting of such lease, easement or license would adversely affect the tax exemption of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to fund the acquisition of the affected lands from gross income for federal income tax purposes, pursuant to Internal Revenue Service regulations:**

The Morrison Springs area is less than 1,000 acres but greater than 160 acres. Park capacity and an entrance fee have been established and implemented from March through September each year to mitigate congestion in the general recreation area during busier months. A \$4.00 per car entrance fee for use of the Springhead recreation area has been implemented since the previously approved LMP. The newly implemented fee is shown for April 2026 in **Appendix K**. Boats are not subject to this fee at this time because the boat launch is separate from the predominantly congested pedestrian areas that the fee is intended to help mitigate.

- 22. If the lead managing agency determines that timber resource management is not in conflict with the primary management objectives of the managed area, a component or section, prepared by a qualified professional forester, that assesses the feasibility of managing timber resources pursuant to section 253.036, F.S:**

The Morrison Springs area is currently composed of five natural communities: Upland Mixed Forest, Floodplain Swamp, Spring Run Stream, Transition Upland Forest and Mesic Flatwood, as found in **Map 7, Basin Map**. Current access to the fully fenced property is through a gated road off State Road 81. The park gate is unlocked each day at opening and then locked by County Park staff for closing. Although Morrison Springs is not 1000 acres or larger, a Timber Assessment found in **Appendix L** was prepared by Jason Love in September 2005 and addresses timber and exotic invasive species. There is no plan for timber management.

- 23. A statement regarding incompatible use in reference to Ch. 253.034(10):**

The following prohibitions or incompatible uses are addressed in the lease between Walton County and the State of Florida:

- No removal of trees other than nonnative species is allowed without prior written approval of the State of Florida.
- No major land alterations may occur without written permission from the State of Florida.
- All buildings, structures, improvements, and signs will be constructed in accordance with professional designers and require written permission of the State of Florida prior to construction.
- No generation, use, storage, treatment, or discharge of hazardous, toxic materials, or chemicals or All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are allowed on the property.

- No development or physical alterations are allowed without the State's written permission until the management plan is approved (except those necessary for security and maintenance of the property).

There are no current incompatible uses of the Site pursuant to those described in Section 253.034(10) F.S.

SECTION C: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**24. A statement concerning the extent of public involvement and local government participation in the development of the plan, if any:**

For the former Morrison Springs LMP, approved in 2007, Advisory Council and Public Hearings were held. A Technical Advisory Group was established and reviewed the Management Plan. The Advisory Group is comprised of representatives of local government, property owners, and special interest groups. A list of the Advisory Group members and their affiliations is included in **Appendix J**. The management plan was available to the public and each Walton County Board of County Commissioner for at least 30 days.

This update of the Morrison Springs Land Management Plan will also include Advisory Group and public meetings. The Advisory Group requires re-establishment of new members while retaining as many existing members or representatives as possible. The updated Advisory Group, as identified in **Appendix J**, met and reviewed this LMP on August 20, 2026. One public hearing shall be held in Walton County. The management plan will be available to the public, each Walton County Board of County Commissioners, and State Lands, for posting on its website for at least 30 days before the public meeting. The final draft of this updated plan will then be submitted for Walton County Board approval before submission to the State of Florida.

25. The management prospectus required pursuant to paragraph (9)(d) shall be available to the public for a period of 30 days prior to the public hearing:

For the former Morrison Springs LMP, approved in 2007, notice was posted by Walton County Administration on August 5, 2005, for a community meeting on August 25, 2005. Additional notice was posted by Walton County Administration on September 16, 2005, for a community meeting on October 6, 2005. Further notice was posted by Walton County Administration on November 18, 2005, for a community meeting on December 14, 2005. The Morrison Springs management plan was posted throughout the county; in Freeport at the County's Planning Department, in the South Walton Annex, and in DeFuniak Springs at the County Clerk of Courts office for public review and comment. A copy of the notice is included in **Appendix J**.

While updating the Morrison Springs LMP, announcement of a public hearing will be given on August 20, 2026, by Walton County Administration. One public hearing shall be held in Walton County after a minimum of 30 days' notice for the public, each member of Walton County Board of County Commissioners, and the Florida State Lands. Notices will be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the actual public hearing. Copies of Walton County's advertisements and announcements and meeting minutes are included in **Appendix J** of this updated plan.

26. LMPs and LMP updates for parcels over 160 acres shall be developed with input from an advisory group who must conduct at least one public hearing within the county in which the parcel or project is located:

For the former Morrison Springs LMP, approved in 2007, three community meetings were held in Walton County and based upon input from the advisory group of those meetings, the management plan draft was presented for public review and discussion at Morrison Springs on October 6, 2005.

The Advisory Group meeting will be held on August 20, 2026, the public meeting to update this LMP will be held on August 20, 2026, after being announced by Walton County Administration on June 30, 2026.

27. Summary of comments and concerns expressed by the advisory group for parcels over 160 acres:

For the former Morrison Springs LMP approved in 2007, the Advisory Group voiced comments and concerns including topics like maximum parking (car and trailer spaces), facilities, adequate lighting, separation of divers/swimmers from boaters, boardwalk, and an outdoor classroom.

In this LMP update, the Advisory Group expressed concerns and comments regarding how the project area land will be built up, houseboat regulation, flood zones of the project area, park capacity limits, motorized vessel use of Springhead, and additional boardwalks for recreational use. Details of these comments are included in **Appendix J**.

28. **During plan development, at least one public hearing shall be held in each affected county. Notice of such public hearing shall be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the actual public hearing. Include a copy of each County's advertisements and announcements (meeting minutes will suffice to indicate an announcement) in the management plan. Additionally, please include evidence the draft plan was provided to State Lands at least 30 days prior to the public meeting in order to allow the Department to post to its website:**

For the former Morrison Springs LMP approved in 2007, the Walton County Board of County Commissioners approved the first public hearing for development of the LMP, which was held on September 26, 2006. This hearing was scheduled at the Walton County Board of County Commissioners meeting on August 22, 2006, and was duly noted at least 14 days in advance in a newspaper of general circulation. Notice signs were also posted on the property in accordance with the requirements in effect at that time. Evidence of the notice and minutes of the hearings are included in **Appendix H**.

While updating the Morrison Springs LMP, one public hearing shall be held in Walton County after 30 days' notice for the public, each member of the Walton County Board of County Commissioners, and State Lands for website posting. Notices will be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the public hearing. Copies of Walton County's advertisements, announcements, and public meeting minutes are included in **Appendix H** of this updated plan.

29. **The manager shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan. Include manager's replies to the team's findings and recommendations:**

For the former Morrison Springs LMP, approved in 2007, the management plan was reviewed by Walton County Division of Planning and Development Services for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. The plan was approved by the County Commissioners and was sent to the State of Florida for review and approval.

A Letter of Compliance for the updated LMP are found in **Appendix K** obtained from the Walton County Planning Department Director stating that Morrison Springs and its management plan are compliant with the Walton County Comprehensive Plan, directives found in **Appendix I**.

30. **Summary of comments and concerns expressed by the management review team, if required by Section 259.036, F.S.:**

Required when greater than 1,000 acres, Morrison Springs is less than 1,000 acres.

31. **If manager is not in agreement with the management review team's findings and recommendations in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan, the managing agency should explain why they disagree with the findings or recommendations:**

Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, establishes land management review teams to determine whether conservation, preservation, and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and in accordance with a land management plan adopted pursuant to Section 259.032, Florida Statutes. The managing agency shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team for finalizing the required update of its management plan.

SECTION D: NATURAL RESOURCES

- 32. Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding soil types. Use brief descriptions and include USDA maps when available:**

Four soil map units were identified within Morrison Springs based on a review of the Soil Survey of Walton County, Florida, Soil Conservation Survey 1984 (SCS, 1984). The soil types that were identified at the Morrison Springs area include the Bigbee, Kenansville, Kinston, and Lakeland soils. These soils are briefly described below, again in **Appendix G** and shown in **Map 5, Soil Map**.

Bigbee Soils:

These soils are deep and excessively drained soils that are rapidly permeable. These soils are formed from sandy fluvial sediments near large streams. A high-water table is between depths of 20 and 40 inches for about two weeks each year and at a depth of 40 to 70 inches for 1 to 2 months during most years. These soils are subject to flooding. The slope of these soil ranges from 0 to 5 percent.

Kenansville Soils:

These soils are deep and well drained soils that are moderately to rapidly permeable. These soils are formed in sandy and loamy marine sediment and are found on broad, nearly level to sloping stream terraces, generally on the smoother parts of the landscape between the higher, sandier ridges and the lower, wet areas. The slope of these soils ranges from 0 to 5 percent.

Kinston Soils:

These soils are deep and poorly drained soils that are moderately permeable. These soils formed from highly variable sandy, loamy, and clayey fluvial sediment and are found on nearly level flood plains of creeks, streams, and rivers in the Coastal Plain. They are saturated in winter and in early spring. The slope of these soils ranges from 0 to 5 percent; short, steep slopes are up to 3 feet high in old stream channels resulting from stream meander.

Lakeland Soils:

A nearly level to moderately sloping, somewhat poorly drained sand is found on flats and rises with a profile of sand from the surface to 80 inches below the surface. The depth to the water table is 24 to 42 inches.

Walton County will utilize measures to control and prevent soil erosion. Soil-disturbing activities will be conducted only in areas that present the least likelihood of causing erosion problems and will avoid the steepest slopes and spring-side management zones. Soil-disturbing activities will follow landform contours to an extent practicable. In disturbed areas, an assessment will be made to determine whether soil erosion is occurring. If erosion is observed, appropriate measures, such as BMPs, silt fences, hay bales, and turbidity barriers, will be implemented to stop or control erosion effects.

- 33. Insert FNAI based natural community maps when available:**

The concept of ecological communities is based on the awareness that a specific soil type commonly supports a specific vegetation community, which in turn provides the habitat needed by specific wildlife species. These ecological communities are classified by their distinct and reoccurring assemblage of plant, animal, fungi and microorganism populations naturally associated with each other and their physical environment. The Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) found in **Appendix F** has established a classification for each of Florida's 81 unique ecological communities. These classifications are defined in

FNAI's Guide to the Natural Communities of Florida established in 1990. A map showing the locations of FNAI-based Natural Communities is provided in **Map 4** and **Appendix F**.

34. Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding outstanding native landscapes containing relatively unaltered flora, fauna and geological conditions:

Morrison Springs is located in the Gulf Coastal Lowlands Physiographic province. The Gulf Coastal Lowlands in Walton County consist of coast-parallel plains or terraces composed of clastics that extend from the coast to higher elevations inland. The soils in the Gulf Coastal Lowlands are poorly drained sands or slightly loamy sands. The generally high static water table produces ponds and swamps with highly acidic soils. Drainage in the subject area occurs predominantly through infiltration and surface runoff. There are approximately 110.28 acres of upland mixed forest, mesic pine flatwoods, and transition forest at Morrison Springs. The primary ecological community observed at Morrison Springs is bottomland hardwood forest. A bottomland forest is characterized as a low-lying, closed-canopy forest of tall, straight trees with either a dense shrubby understory and little groundcover or an open understory and groundcover of ferns, herbs, and grasses (FNAI, 1990). The properties throughout Morrison Springs contain a variety of upland, wetland, aquatic, and disturbed plant communities, including Upland Mixed Forest, Floodplain Swamp, Spring Run Stream, Transition Upland Forest, and Mesic Flatwood. The map breakdown of these forest types is shown in **Map 7, Basin Map**.

Outstanding native landscapes containing relatively unaltered flora, fauna, and geological conditions. The majority of the upland areas surrounding the Morrison Springs Tract exist in varying degrees of disturbance. Silviculture within the area consists of bedded stands of planted pines which in some cases has impacted the historic natural vegetative communities. Additionally, in the past, areas near the spring have been cleared and improved with road access, building construction and parking areas. However, the spring vent remains in relatively pristine condition. Surrounding wetlands contain mostly natural bottomland and floodplain forested communities with some human impacts evident along the shoreline associated with approved recreational access to the water.

35. Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding unique natural features and/or resources including but not limited to virgin timber stands, scenic vistas, natural rivers and streams, coral reefs, natural springs, caverns and large sinkholes:

Morrison Springs is a unique natural spring site due to the combination of the second magnitude spring which discharges 10 to 100 cubic feet per second and the following features:

- Morrison Springs has an approximately 250-feet in diameter pool, which is bounded by primeval cypress swamp and thickly wooded floodplain. The rest of the spring perimeter is bordered by swamp.
- The small swimming entrance area itself shows the remains of cypress stumps from when the area was timbered.
- The water is very blue and clear, with excellent visibility except in times of high water. The temperature is about 67 degrees.
- The middle of the cavern basin, you pass over a large cypress log across it. The log is at a depth of 25-30 feet, and the cave-entrance is another 60 feet further down. According to accounts, the cave extends over 300 feet deep.
- The 150-foot-wide run flows for about a mile before joining the Choctawhatchee River.

This large basin consists of three main vent openings. The first cave entrance begins at 30 feet and the other

begins at 50 feet. Depths reach over 90 feet in the caves. Light is always visible upon entering the large cavern. The majority of the site contains well drained soils and geology conducive to both surficial and Floridian aquifer recharge. Sinkholes and karst depressions indicate the site's sensitivity to groundwater contamination and value for aquifer recharge. Protection of the recharge potential of the site is a priority and will be accomplished by limiting impervious surfaces and retaining any stormwater for recharge on-site. Protection of groundwater resources from possible sources of contamination will be accomplished by prohibiting storage of hazardous materials, and toxic substances on the property, while commonly used chemicals are properly contained and stored as needed.

36. Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding beaches and dunes:

There are no coastal beaches or dunes within the Morrison Springs area.

37. Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding mineral resources, such as oil, gas and phosphate, etc.:

No mining activities are known to have occurred in the park, and it is unknown whether mineral deposits of commercial value exist in the area

38. Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding fish and wildlife, both game and non-game, and their habitat:

Morrison Springs Park includes expansive sandy uplands featuring a variety of waterfowls, raptors, and other game and non-game mammals along the spring run. Other species commonly found throughout the Choctawhatchee system utilize the area like soft-shelled turtles, alligators, and sometimes manatees during winter. Its crystal-clear, water, surrounded by cypress-tupelo swamp, provides habitat for game and non-game fish like largemouth bass, bluegill, mullet, and catfish.

39. Location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property regarding State and Federally listed endangered or threatened species and their habitat

Listed Plant Species:

An examination of the Florida Natural Areas Inventory species occurrence datasets revealed no known listed plant species occurrences within the Morrison Springs area found in **Map 8, Natural Vegetation Map**.

Listed Animal Species:

According to the Florida Natural Areas Inventory found in **Appendix F**, portions of the site are located on or near Potential Habitat for Rare Species. The potential habitat on the site is associated with the known occurrence of: Choctawhatchee Bean, Florida Black Bear, Gopher Tortoise, Tapered Pigtoe, Fuzzy Pigtoe, Southern Sandshell, Clench's Goniobasis, and Gulf Sturgeon. FNAI has identified strategic habitat conservation areas in this vicinity for the Florida Black Bear and the Gopher Tortoise found in **Map 6, Animal Species Map**.

40. The identification or resources on the property that are listed in the Natural Areas Inventory. Include a letter from FNAI or consultant where appropriate:

FNAI, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, has provided a guide to natural communities and the corresponding species typically found in these natural communities. These species are identified as resources. Natural areas were inventoried and described using the FNAI Natural Communities descriptions provided in **Appendix F**.

41. Specific description of how the managing agency plans to identify, locate, protect and preserve or otherwise use fragile, nonrenewable natural and cultural resources:

Protect known and newly identified archaeological sites within the park as required or needed. Design useable areas and improvements so that existing cultural resources are protected and undisturbed. Primary emphasis remains on restoring and maintaining, to the degree practicable, the natural processes that shape the structure, function and species composition of Florida's diverse natural communities as they occurred in the original domain, as found in **Appendix D**. The management goal of cultural resources is to preserve sites and objects that represent all of Florida's cultural periods as well as significant historic events or persons. This goal may entail active measures to stabilize, reconstruct or restore resources, and/or to rehabilitate them for appropriate public use. Morrison Springs and its surrounding cultural resources are displayed in **Map 9, Cultural Resource Map**.

If evidence is found to suggest an archaeological or historical resource prior, during, or after project construction, Walton County will notify Division of Historical Resources immediately by phone and in writing. Upon contacting Historical Resources, the County will seek their direction to protect and manage those archaeological/historical resources. Unless prior authorization has been obtained from Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, collection of artifacts and the disturbance of archaeological and historical sites is strictly prohibited. Management of historical and archaeological resources will comply with the provisions of Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, Sections 267.061 2(a) and (b).

The management of cultural resources can become complicated because these resources are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to disturbances. The advice of historical and archaeological experts is required in this effort. Approval from Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) must be obtained before taking any actions, such as development or site improvements that could affect or disturb the cultural resources on state lands. Actions that require permits or approval from DHR include development, site excavations or surveys, disturbances of sites or structures, disturbances of the substrate, and any other actions that may affect the integrity of the cultural resources. These actions could damage evidence that would someday be useful to researchers attempting to interpret the past. Inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites is probable if locations and extents of sites remain unknown. Future development will need to be conducted with the minimum soil disturbance possible, especially in previously undeveloped or undisturbed areas. Likewise, the preservation of cultural resources in the park as a whole will receive a high priority when planning and implementing future enhancement of recreational facilities, and when conducting resource management, interpretation, and protection activities.

42. Habitat Restoration and Improvements:

42-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:

Natural communities should be managed and restored in consultation with agencies and literature from the Florida Forest Service (FFS), Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), local NGOs, and any other reputable resources. Individual problems will be tailored to the type of resource and outcome desired.

42-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:

Manage and restore all natural habitats and communities throughout Morrison Springs. The different

animal and plant species can be found in **Map 6, Animal Species Map and Map 8, Natural Vegetation Map**.

42-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:

Walton County will continuously work towards the goals mentioned in 42B. If a project or improvement is approved and implemented requiring work that is not routine for park staff, measurable objectives will be outlined in the proposal.

42-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures:

42-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:

Budgets will be implemented on a project-specific basis. All project objectives listed in 42C will be entirely dependent on funding procurement and resource availability, subject to annual variability. Some objectives may not be met as a result.

43. Quantitative Data description of land regarding inventory of forest and other natural resources and associated acreage:

There are approximately 110.28 acres of upland mixed forest, mesic pine flatwoods and transition forest at Morrison Springs. The primary ecological community observed at the Morrison Springs area is bottomland hardwood forest. A Bottomland Forest is characterized as a low lying, closed canopy forest of tall, straight trees with either a dense shrubby under story and little ground cover, or an open under story and ground cover of ferns, herbs, and grasses (FNAI, 1990). At this time, it is important to stress that the plant communities identified by FNAI natural communities in the following paragraphs are not well defined and have not been verified on the ground. These are mapping units that are very general in nature and cannot be relied upon for accuracy. The community types and acreages are approximate and most of the upland communities have been disturbed to some extent by past silvicultural activities.

The properties contain a variety of upland, wetland, aquatic, and disturbed plant communities including the following: Upland Mixed Forest, Floodplain Swamp, Spring Run Stream, Transition Upland Forest and Mesic Flatwood. The map breakdown of these different types of forest can be found in **Map 7, Basin Map**.

1. Hardwood hammocks and forests include the major upland hardwood associations that occur statewide on fairly rich, sandy soils. The variation of relevance for the purchase of this plan is the mesic hammock. The mesic hammock community represents the climax vegetation type within many areas of northern and central Florida. Characteristic species in the north include American beech, southern magnolia, Shumard oak, white oak, mocker nut hickory, pignut hickory, sour gum, basswood, white ash, mulberry, and spruce pine. While the hardwood hammock community is found at all sites, it is the primary vegetative cover at this site.
2. Mixed hardwood pine forest community is the southern extension of the Piedmont southern mixed hardwoods and occurs mainly on the clay soils of the northern Panhandle. Younger stands may be predominantly pines, while a complex of various hardwoods become co-dominants as the systems mature over time through plant succession. The forest matrix often includes shortleaf, loblolly, and longleaf pine, American beech, mocker nut hickory, southern red oak, water oak, live oak, laurel oak, American holly, and dogwood, together with other hardwood species characteristic of the upland hardwood hammocks and forests class. Mixed hardwood pine forests are distributed among

all sites, with a particularly good representation at the Morrison Springs parcel.

3. Hardwood swamps are wooded wetland communities composed of either pure stands of hardwoods or occur as a mixture of hardwoods and cypress. This association of wetland-adapted trees occurs throughout the State on organic soils, and forms the forested floodplains of non-alluvial rivers, creeks, and broad lake basins. Tree species include a mixed over story containing black gum, water tupelo, bald cypress, dahoon holly, red maple, swamp ash, cabbage palm, and sweet bay. The hardwood swamp community is the dominant vegetation at Morrison Springs.
4. Cypress swamp is a wetland community type found on-site. These regularly inundated wetlands typically form a forested border along large rivers, creeks, and lakes, or occur in depressions such as circular domes or linear strands and are strongly dominated by either bald or pond cypress, with very low numbers of scattered black gum, red maple, and sweet bay. A portion of the Morrison Springs site contains a representative stand of this plant community.

44. Sustainable Forest Management, including implementation of prescribed fire management:

44-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:

The upland and wetland communities in the Morrison Springs area are typically fire dependent to restore, improve, and maintain habitats. It is the County's intent to implement an effective burn plan when other maintenance techniques are no longer sufficient. When deemed necessary, the burn plan will be developed along with the State of Florida, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service, and other appropriate agencies for assistance and guidance. Special consideration needs to be taken when planning prescribed burns on Morrison Springs due to the proximity of local residences. The logistics to effectively notify local residents prior to scheduling burns will be a major factor for developing the prescribed fire management plan. The county will seek future environmental assistance and may use an authorized burn contractor in order to assure safety.

44-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:

There is no current need for prescribed fire management in the Morrison Springs area. Habitats within the park will be maintained in a healthy and natural state.

44-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:

Walton County will continuously work towards the goals mentioned in 44B. If a project or improvement is approved and implemented requiring work that is not routine for park staff, measurable objectives will be outlined in the proposal.

44-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measure:

44-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:

Budgets will be implemented on a project-specific basis. All project objectives listed in 44C will be

entirely dependent on funding procurement and resource availability, subject to annual variability. Some objectives may not be met as a result.

45. Imperiled Species, Habitat Maintenance, Enhancement, Restoration, or Population Restoration:

- 45-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:**

Walton County is committed to the protection of endangered and threatened species that are residents or transients to Morrison Springs. Various management activities will be implemented to protect listed species and improve the habitat that they use.

- 45-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:**

The county will ensure restoration of unique ecological communities to be maintained as they are currently. All natural habitats within the park will be maintained in a healthy and natural state. The animal and plant species can be found in **Map 6, Animal Species Map2026)** and **Map 8, Natural Vegetation Map.**

- 45-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:**

Walton County will continuously work towards the goals mentioned in 45B. If a project or improvement is approved and implemented requiring work that is not routine for park staff, measurable objectives will be outlined in the proposal.

- 45-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures:**

- 45-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:**

Budgets will be implemented on a project-specific basis. All project objectives listed in 45C will be entirely dependent on funding procurement volunteerism, and resource availability, subject to annual variability. Some objectives may not be met as a result.

- 45-F. Assess the feasibility of managing the lands > 40 contiguous acres as a recipient site for gopher tortoises consistent with rules of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, as prepared by the agency or cooperatively with a Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission wildlife biologist:**

Gopher Tortoise Feasibility: The upland pines and soils present within Morrison Springs could technically be suitable for Gopher Tortoise habitats. There currently is no Gopher Tortoise activity or burrows present within Morrison Springs.

- 45-G. Economic feasibility of establishing a gopher tortoise recipient site, including the initial cost, recurring management costs and the revenue projections:**

Gopher Tortoise Feasibility: The upland pines and soils present within Morrison Springs could technically be suitable for Gopher Tortoise habitats. There currently is no Gopher Tortoise activity or burrows present within Morrison Springs.

46. Quantitative Data description of land regarding inventory of invasive plants and associated acreage:

No prominent areas of invasive species have been observed. Inspections for the presence of invasive species should be performed annually and treated in accordance with Section 48 below. BMPs should be considered when using mechanical or chemical treatment of invasive species.

47. Arthropod (mosquito) Control Plan:

Management of arthropods for Morrison Springs is facilitated by Walton County Mosquito Control District:

- Weekly monitoring and treatment as needed of retention ponds within Morrison Springs.
- Bi-annually monitor and treat all storm drains as needed within Morrison Springs.
- Weekly adulticide (nighttime) monitoring and treatment throughout Morrison Springs.

48. Exotic and Invasive Species Maintenance and Control:**48-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:**

No current issues with invasive or exotic plants located in the park, management efforts will ensure control and monitor the site for prevention of infestations. Invasive plants are regulated by FDEP, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

48-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:

Manage and control exotic and invasive species throughout the Morrison Springs area to prevent infestation. Herbicide spraying following the best practices for the chemicals used (found on the labels) is recommended to control the exotic invasive plant populations. The spread of invasive and exotic plants reduces biodiversity, alters the integrity of native plant communities, and adversely affects wildlife habitat.

48-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:

Walton County will continuously work towards the goals mentioned in 48B. If a project or improvement is approved and implemented requiring work that is not routine for park staff, measurable objectives will be outlined in the proposal.

48-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures:**48-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:**

Budgets will be implemented on a project-specific basis. All project objectives listed in 48C will be entirely dependent on funding procurement and funding and resource availability, subject to annual variability. Some objectives may not be met as a result.

SECTION E: WATER RESOURCES

49. Aquatic Preserves:

Although Morrison Springs is not located within an Aquatic Preserve or an Area of Critical State Concern, see **Appendix C**, Morrison Spring is a second magnitude spring and adjacent to the Choctawhatchee River Management Area owned by Northwest Florida Water Management District to the north, east and south. Florida's unique geological history has created extensive karst topography consisting of large, porous, water-soluble limestone formations which produce unique hydro geological features such as springs and caves. Based on various sources, it is estimated that there are over 600 freshwater springs in Florida. These springs collectively discharge over eight billion gallons of water per day. Morrison Spring is connected to the Choctawhatchee River by a waterway known as Morrison Spring Run. This spring has an average discharge rate of 62.85 cubic feet per second making it a large second magnitude spring. The Morrison Springs property contains both a spring and associated aquatic cave system.

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was conducted in March 2004 before purchase by the State of Florida. WRS Infrastructure & Environmental, Inc. conducted the ESA. As part of the ESA, various records were reviewed, including aerial photographs, land title records, and local street directories. WRS concluded that the property had been previously operated as a privately owned scuba and diving facility from 1980 to time of State purchase. The county will review all future activities, and park staff will make future recommendations for protection of Morrison Springs or its associated water resources.

Examples:

Identify and seek to resolve issues relating to outside development and existing recreational area facilities that may negatively affect water resources within the area.

Protect spring-run and aquatic cave natural communities, assess their condition and restore them as needed.

50. Location and Description of Water Resources:

The Morrison Springs area is located within the Choctawhatchee River drainage physiographic area. A significant part of the Morrison Springs parcel is included in the Choctawhatchee River Outstanding Florida Waters List found in **Appendix E**, designation (Rule 62-302.700 (9) (i) 7, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)). Any surface waters on the site are classified as Class III waters, a statewide default classification. There does not appear to be any surface water features evident within Morrison Springs due to the dominance of well-drained sands on the property. There is a large wetland located to the east portion of the site. The wetland consists of mixed coniferous/hardwood dominated by herbaceous vegetation that has been partially invaded by slash and loblolly pine. Walton County shall ensure the future water quality and conditions by having further hydrological studies performed when necessary.

51. Location and Description of Swamps, Marshes, and other Wetlands:

The Morrison Springs area is currently composed of five natural communities: Upland Mixed Forest, Floodplain Swamp, Spring Run Stream, Transition Upland Forest and Mesic Flatwood, as found in **Map 7, Basin Map**.

52. Quantitative Data Description and Inventory of Hydrological Features and Associated Acreage:

Hydrologic features were inventoried and described using the FDOT FLUCFCS descriptions provided in the 1999 FLUCFCS FDOT handbook. The FLUCFCS Map is included in **Map 11**. The hydrologic land

cover classification types and their descriptions are also included below.

Parks and Zoos (1850) – 4.6 acres

This classification includes areas used for public recreation. This classification totals 2.3% of the park.

Pine Flatwoods (4110) – 41.6 acres

The category is dominated by either slash pine, longleaf pine or both and less frequently pond pine. The common flatwoods understory species include saw palmetto, wax myrtle, gallberry and a wide variety of herbs and brush. This classification totals 20.8% of the Site.

Pine Plantation (4410) – 51.9 acres

This category is composed of land specifically managed for timber production. These dense, uniformly planted pine trees can be used in land management, environmental resource permitting, and natural resource evaluations. This classification totals 26% of the Site.

Upland Mixed Coniferous/Hardwood (4340) – 12.3 acres

This category is usually in reference to forested areas where neither hardwoods nor conifers constitute more than 66% of the canopy, leaving a mixed species. Usually comprised of a blend of pine species like slash, longleaf or loblolly and various mesic oak species. This classification totals 6.2% of the Site.

Streams and Waterways (5100) – 5.9 acres

This category includes rivers, creeks, canals, and other linear water bodies. This on-site community includes manmade ditches, canals, and tidal drainage canals. This classification totals 3% of the Site.

Major Springs (5500) – 1.8 acres

This category is classified under water and identifies a significant natural spring. Major springs are large, perennial freshwater discharge points. This classification totals 0.9% of the Site.

Gum Swamps (6130) – 19.3 acres

This classification is composed predominately of forested freshwater wetlands dominated by black gum or water tupelo. This classification is categorized under Wetland Forested Mixed/Hardwood communities. This classification totals 9.7% of the Site.

Stream and Lake Swamps (Bottomland) (6150) – 55.4 acres

The communities included in this category are characterized by forested wetlands or bottomland hardwood forests. These wetlands are found bordering rivers, streams or lakes. This classification totals 27.7% of the Site.

Wetland Forested Mixed (6300) – 2.5 acres

This category is characterized by a mixture of coniferous (pine) and hardwood tree species and represents a transitional or varied forested wetland habitat. This classification totals 1.25% of the Site.

Mixed Scrub-shrub Wetland (6460) – 6.5 acres

This classification is made up of a vegetated, non-forested wetland community. The wetland area is characterized by a mixture of woody shrub species and smaller vegetation rather than mature trees. components of shrub bogs or brushy marshes. This classification totals 3.3% of the Site.

53. Hydrological Preservation and Restoration:

- 53-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:**

Funding and/or support from cooperating departments and agencies for spring flow monitoring and data collection. Resolution of issues relating to outside development and existing recreational area facilities that negatively affect water resources within the area as they arise. Protection of the spring-run and aquatic cave natural communities, assessment of their condition, and restoration when needed. Aim to decrease nitrate levels in the groundwater and increase spring recharge. Continuously protect, enhance and conserve the park's renewable and non-renewable resources while mitigating damage.

- 53-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:**

Maintain all hydrological resources within Morrison Springs in a healthy and natural state.

- 53-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:**

Walton County will continuously work towards the goals mentioned in 53B. If a project or improvement is approved and implemented requiring work that is not routine for park staff, measurable objectives will be outlined in the proposal.

- 53-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures:**

Abrupt activities requiring action related to hydrological preservation and restoration will be managed as needs occur.

- 53-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:**

Budgets will be implemented on a project-specific basis. All project objectives listed in 53C will be entirely dependent on funding procurement and funding and resource availability, subject to annual variability. Some objectives may not be met as a result.

SECTION F: HISTORICAL, ARCHAEOLOGICAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

54. Location and Description:

The management goal of cultural resources is to preserve sites and objects that represent all of Florida's cultural periods as well as significant historic events or person(s). This goal may entail active measures to stabilize, reconstruct or restore resources, and/or to rehabilitate them for appropriate public use. Morrison Springs and its surrounding cultural resources are displayed in **Appendix D**.

The Florida Master Site File lists 3 previously recorded archaeological sites and 1 field study within the Morrison Springs site parcels. The Master Site Files are as Shown Below:

- WL00043: Morrison Springs: The land area is listed as archaic and Fort Walton historic period sites, insufficient resource significance. This site is recommended to be monitored during ground disturbing construction; The aquatic cave is listed as a prehistoric site, 3-line Pensacola incised bowl, lithics, broad knife blade. This site is recommended for protection and further investigations.
- WL02184: Sparkleberry: Pre-historic site, subsurface scatter with no features or intact deposits.
- WL01571: Morrison Springs 1: Pre-historic site, dense scatter of Weeden Island ceramics including Wakulla stamped pottery.
- WL01593: Morrison Springs 2: Pre-historic site that is located in a small hammock adjacent to the Morrison Springs Run. This site was reported by an informant to contain prehistoric lithics and ceramics.

The acquisition of the project site will protect the Master Site Files #WL01593, which has been labeled potentially significant by the University of West Florida Archeology Institute. The UWF Archeology Institute conducted a survey of Walton County in May 2000 and made this evaluation.

If evidence is found to suggest an archaeological or historical resource prior, during, or after project construction, Walton County will notify Division of Historical Resources immediately by phone and in writing. Upon contacting Historical Resources, the County will seek their direction to protect and manage those archaeological/historical resources. Unless prior authorization has been obtained from Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, collection of artifacts and the disturbance of archaeological and historical sites is strictly prohibited. Management of historical and archaeological resources will comply with the provisions of Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, Sections 267.061 2(a) and (b).

The management of cultural resources is often complicated because these resources are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to disturbances. The advice of historical and archaeological experts is required in this effort. Approval from Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) must be obtained before taking any actions, such as development or site improvements that could affect or disturb the cultural resources on state lands. Actions that require permits or approval from DHR include development, site excavations or surveys, disturbances of sites or structures, disturbances of the substrate, and any other actions that may affect the integrity of the cultural resources. Inadvertent disturbance of cultural sites is probable if locations and extents of sites remain unknown. Future development will need to be conducted with the minimum soil disturbance possible, especially in previously undeveloped or undisturbed areas. Likewise, the preservation of cultural resources in the park as a whole will receive a high priority when planning and implementing future enhancement of recreational facilities, and when conducting resource management, interpretation, and protection activities.

55. Quantitative Data:

An inventory of all previously recorded archaeological sites within the park is included in **Table 1**, below.

Table 1. Florida Master Site File Recorded Archaeological Sites.

Site Number	Site Name	Site Type	Temporal Affiliation	SHPO Evaluation
WL00043	Morrison Springs	Land (terrestrial) and Wetland (palustrine) Habitation; Spring head and run; Cave/Sink – subterranean, aquatic	Archaic; Fort Walton; Prehistoric; American 20 th Century	Insufficient
WL01571	Morrison Springs 1	Land (terrestrial)	Weeden Island –unspecified; Other	Not Eligible
WL01593	Morrison Springs 2	Land (terrestrial) and Wetland (palustrine) Habitation; Surface Scatter	Archaic	Not Eligible
WL02184	Sparkleberry	Land - terrestrial	Prehistoric nonceramic; Prehistoric ceramic	Not Eligible

56. Plans for Locating and Identifying Unknown Resources:

The following goals and objectives are compiled from a variety of sources including the lease agreement between the State of Florida and Walton County, the agenda from the meeting of the Board of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (March 30, 2004) to purchase the property, the Walton County Parks and Recreation Department goals, Walton County's Comprehensive Plan, and the State Land Management Plan.

1. Protect Morrison Springs and its water resources as well as its recharge potential to the adjacent Choctawhatchee River and Management Area and to protect the site from groundwater contamination.
2. Establish and operate a conservation area for cultural, historic, natural resource interpretation and as a passive recreation area.
3. Identify, protect, and preserve archaeological or historical resources occurring on the property.
4. Offer high quality, cost-effective maintenance and resource management of conservation lands.
5. Improve recreational opportunities to satisfy current and future demands.
6. Protect, conserve, appropriately use, and enhance the quality and natural function of environmentally sensitive lands, natural reservations, and locally significant resources.
7. Assist in the development of partnership programs with other local, state, and federal agencies.
8. Maintain the current level of biological diversity and integrity of the natural systems.

Likewise, the preservation of cultural resources in the park as a whole will receive a high priority when planning and implementing future enhancement of recreational facilities, and when conducting resource management, interpretation, and protection activities.

57. Cultural and Historical Resources:

- 57-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:**

The management of cultural resources will require advice of historical and archaeological experts. Approval from Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) must be obtained before taking any actions, such as development or site improvements that could affect or disturb the cultural resources on state lands. Actions that require permits or approval from DHR include development, site excavations or surveys, disturbances of sites or structures, disturbances of the substrate, and any other actions that may affect the integrity of the cultural resources. Future development will need to be conducted with the minimum soil disturbance possible, especially in previously undeveloped or undisturbed areas. Cultural resource sites are known from the site and surrounding vicinity.

57-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:

Protect all known cultural resources within the park. Identify and record all significant archaeological and historical sites for protection of the resources and knowledge for future Land Management Plans.

57-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:

The preservation of cultural resources in the park as a whole will receive a high priority when planning and implementing future enhancement of recreational facilities, and when conducting resource management, interpretation, and protection activities. Walton County will continuously work towards the goals mentioned in 57B. If a project or improvement is approved and implemented requiring work that is not routine for park staff, measurable objectives will be outlined in the proposal.

57-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures:

57-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:

Budgets will be implemented on a project-specific basis. All project objectives listed in 57C will be entirely dependent on funding procurement and funding and resource availability, subject to annual variability. Some objectives may not be met as a result.

SECTION G: FACILITIES

58. Quantitative Data– Inventory of Infrastructure and Associated Acreage/Quantities:

A complete list of existing infrastructure is itemized below:

- Restroom Facility – One
- Kayak/Boat Launch – One
- Picnic Areas – One
- Boardwalks – Three
- Showers – One
- Pavilions – One
- Parking Areas – Three
- Trails – Two
- Roads – Three
- Bridges -- Two
- Sheds – Three
- Pump House – One

A map showing the locations and approximate dimensions of improvements and existing infrastructure is included in **Map 3**.

59. Capital Facilities and Infrastructure:

59-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:

Develop and maintain appropriate procedures and practices for effective, efficient management of the area's natural and cultural resources and facilities.

1. Monitor activities outside the recreational area that may affect area resources and operations, promoting public awareness of outside influences.
2. Maintain compliance with local, state and federal safety guidelines by developing and maintaining a Recreational Area Protection Plan and providing ongoing safety training programs.

Provide efficient, coordinated access and programming to ensure a safe, quality workplace, resource protection and visitor experiences.

1. Plan, design, construct and implement facilities to channel visitors, while not compromising any resources.
2. Maintain and produce all facilities and recreational area information materials to adhere to the provisions outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Florida Americans with Disability Accessibility Implementation Act.
3. Conduct routine inspections of all recreational area operations, immediately correct security issues, safety discrepancies, regularly clean and maintain facilities and equipment.

59-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:

Due to the unique environmental conditions of this site, all design, construction, and future management will be conducted in such a way as to minimize any adverse impact on this site, including the designated plant and wildlife species identified in this plan. As indicated in the application and agreed to in the Grant Contract, the County proposes the following improvements, also shown in **Appendix N**:

Short Term:

Design for new motor-powered vessel facility area (see **Map 12** for conceptual reference):

Phase I: Design for existing guard house facility to collect revenue at the proposed new road addition/entrance point. Collection fees upon arrival are for use of Morrison Springs with associated permitting and agreements

Phase II: Design for new access road to the existing boat ramp access; This access point will become a launch point for only non-motor-powered vessels; Signage will be added notating changes for launching; No new parking or features will be added to the existing boat launch area

Phase III: Design for new access to proposed project location including construction of the proposed bridge to cross Reedy Creek where the best crossing point will be determined in further analyses; Total land for the roadway to be cleared will be 2.83 acres

Phase IV: Design for new motor powered vessel facility area; Total land for the facility to be cleared will be 3.90 acres; The proposed motor powered boat launch will have people enter at a round-about for continuous traffic flow and ease of parking lot circulation, there will be 2 boat launching platforms, the lot will contain 20 trailer parking spots, 17 vehicle parking spots, a boat wash and loading area, and a separate facilities building; Signage will be added to indicate noted areas and new launch regulations

Long Term:

Morrison Springs has been preserved to protect the region's water resources while providing passive recreational use and public access. The Morrison Springs area will be improved to better preserve the water resources while allowing public access. Environmental education will stress the importance of Morrison Springs as an important water resource to the region and to better protection of one of Florida's second magnitude springs. Walton County will plan and coordinate planned uses with the public, assisting State agencies, engineers and contractors to ensure the protection of any possible listed plant or animal species during site construction. As a part of the planning and implementation of any future improvement plans, Walton County will take steps to minimize impacts on all resources.

59-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:

Proposed Road Segments

The first portion of proposed road segment will begin before the existing guardhouse and connect with the existing access road to the existing launch. This access will allow vehicles to bypass the swimming hole area and reach the existing boat launch as well as the proposed facility. This road segment will give boaters easier access to launch areas, will decrease congestion at the guardhouse, allowing boaters to bypass traffic, will decrease congestion near

the swimming hole since boaters will not have to navigate through the main pedestrian area. The second portion of proposed road will connect from the existing launch access road extending to the proposed boat launch area. A bridge will be needed within this segment sufficient to cross Reedy Creek. The road will enter into a round-about system allowing cars, trucks with trailers and other vehicles to navigate the area efficiently.

Proposed Parking Area

Parking will be proposed at the boat launch facility to minimize traffic congestion towards the entrance of Morrison Springs and other negative effects. After approaching the proposed facility through a one-way roundabout, the user will be able to access long-space parking, boat launch platforms and space for car parking. The surface will be impervious occupying about 3.90 acres. Drainage swales will surround the impervious surface where needed. There will be 17 spaces for cars and 20 spaces for vehicles like a school bus or a truck with boat trailer. The amount of impervious surface is being kept at a minimum for the needed expansion but to also continue keeping human impacts lessened. The need for additional parking spaces was noted in the 10-year plan, and these additions will cover that need.

Proposed Boat Ramp

A boat ramp area will be added containing two 16-foot-wide launching slots for motorized vessels. Three 10-foot-wide by ~50-foot-long docks will encompass the slots. Docking outside of the slots on the outer docks will be permitted for short periods of time to allow for continuous flow of launch and haul of boats.

Proposed Facility Structure:

Facilities for the uses of restrooms and storage will be added. A 30-foot by 50-foot building will be added with the parking area and boat launches. The facility will contain separate restroom for men and women as well as a storage area to keep this proposed facility maintained. This facility will be crucial in keeping traffic from returning to the entrance of Morrison Springs for restroom use. Clearing north of the car parking area for a septic field will be required.

59-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures. Include fire management plans - they can be in plan body or an appendix:

Any proposed modification of this Management Plan and any site alterations that are not addressed in the approved Management Plan will require prior DSL notification and approval in writing. DSL will be notified via writing and Walton County will follow BOT recommendations. Impacts to natural resources will be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

59-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:

A drafted budget is provided below in **Table 2**.

Table 2. MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH FACILITY							
ENGINEER'S OPINION OF PROBABLE COST							
FDOT Pay Item	Item Description			Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total
110	1	1	CLEARING AND GRUBBING	6.25	AC	\$17,502.60	\$109,391.25
120	1		REGULAR EXCAVATION	8200	CY	\$12.81	\$105,042.00
120	6		EMBANKMENT	8100	CY	\$13.07	\$105,867.00
160	4		TYPE B STABILIZATION	15700	SY	\$11.28	\$177,096.00
285	7	06	OPTIONAL BASE, BASE GROUP 06	15700	SY	\$29.32	\$460,324.00
334	1	12	SUPERPAVE ASPHALTIC CONC, TRAFFIC B	1300	TN	\$523.70	\$680,810.00
337	7	80	ASPHALT CONCRETE FRICTION COURSE, TRAFFIC B, FC-9.5, PG 76-22	870	TN	\$131.48	\$114,387.60
470	1		TREATED TIMBER, STRUCTURAL	15	MB	\$9,242.46	\$138,636.90
520	2		CONCRETE CURB, PARKING LOT ISLANDS	1000	LF	\$40.00	\$40,000.00
522	1		CONCRETE SIDEWALK AND DRIVEWAYS, 4" THICK	1600	SY	\$100.58	\$160,928.00
524	2	49	CONCRETE SLOPE PAVEMENT, 6", REINFORCED	200	SY	\$271.77	\$54,354.00
530	3	3	RIPRAP- RUBBLE, BANK AND SHORE	50	TN	\$137.50	\$6,875.00
570	1	2	PERFORMANCE TURF, SOD	6000	SY	\$4.42	\$26,520.00
700	1	111	SINGLE POST SIGN, F&I GM, <12 SF	7	EA	\$560.39	\$3,922.73
711	11	121	THERMOPLASTIC, STANDARD, WHITE, SOLID, 6" FOR PARKING SPACES	0.3	GM	\$5,111.82	\$1,533.55
711	14	170	THERMOPLASTIC, PREFORMED, WHITE, ARROW	20	EA	\$142.32	\$2,846.40
711	15	101	THERMOPLASTIC, STANDARD-OPEN GRADED ASPHALT, WHITE, SOLID, 6"	1.00	GM	\$5,111.82	\$5,111.82
711	15	201	THERMOPLASTIC PAVEMENT MARKINGS, STD-OTH, YELLOW, SOLID 6"	1.00	GM	\$5,105.79	\$5,105.79
			SEPTIC TANK SYSTEM	1	LS	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
			FACILITIES BUILDING	1	LS	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
			CONTINGENCY (10%)	1	LS	-	\$247,375.20
			MOBILIZATION (5%)	1	LS	-	\$123,687.60
ITEMS SUBTOTAL							\$2,473,752.04
CEI (12%)							\$296,850.24
MITIGATION / PERMITTING (5%)							\$123,687.60
DESIGN COSTS (20%)							\$494,750.41
ADDITIONAL COSTS SUBTOTAL							\$915,288.25
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST							\$3,389,040.29

More budget details can be found in **Appendix N**.

60. Quantitative Data– Description of the land regarding an inventory of recreational facilities.

Currently:

- Pavillion
- Restroom Facility
- Kayak/Boat Launch
- Picnic Areas
- Boardwalks
- Showers
- Parking Areas
- Trails
- Roads
- Bridges

Proposed

- Additional Road Segments
- Additional Bridge
- Additional Parking Area
- Additional Restrooms
- Additional Boat Ramp/Launch Area
- Additional Boardwalk for Boat Docks

61. Public Access and Recreational Opportunities:

- 61-A. Describe management needs, problems and a desired outcome and the key management activities necessary to achieve the enhancement, protection and preservation of restored habitats and enhance the natural, historical and archaeological resources and their values for which the lands were acquired:**

Provide safe, resource-appropriate, quality outdoor recreational opportunities for park visitors. Secure adequate funding for the redesign and renovation of park facilities as outlined in this management plan. Insure universal accessibility and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act during all facility construction and upgrades. Indorse the park as a destination for ecotourism groups and tours.

- 61-B. Provide a detailed description of both short (2-year planning period) and long-term (10-year planning period) management goals, and a priority schedule based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired and include a timeline for completion:**

Instill in the public an understanding of the principles and forces that shape and maintain natural communities and cultural entities.

- 61-C. The associated measurable objectives to achieve the goals:**

Walton County will continuously work towards the goals mentioned in 61B. If a project or improvement is approved and implemented requiring work that is not routine for park staff, measurable objectives will be outlined in the proposal.

- 61-D. The related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives and their associated measures:**

See 59A-E.

- 61-E. A detailed expense and manpower budget in order to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures, including recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities:**

Budgets will be implemented on a project-specific basis. All project objectives listed in 61C will be entirely dependent on funding procurement and funding and resource availability, subject to annual variability. Some objectives may not be met as a result.

SECTION H: OTHER**62. LMP Compliance Checklist is provided at the beginning of this document:**

Yes, after the cover page and before the table of contents on page 1.

63. The Executive Summary is provided at the beginning of this document:

Yes, on page 2.

64. Ten-Year Update:

The following accomplishments, additions, repairs, and improvements have been completed in the past ten years:

- Parking, bridges and road – Completed throughout 2007-2026
- Boardwalk and pavilion construction – Completed throughout 2007-2026
- Kayak launch construction – Completed throughout 2007-2026
- Bike Rack Addition – Completed throughout 2007-2026
- Enhanced Nature Trail Network – Completed throughout 2007-2026
- Picnic Area – Completed throughout 2007-2026

65. Key Management Activities necessary to achieve the desired outcomes regarding other appropriate resource management. This section will be updated as additional key management activities are identified:

- Implementing an entrance fee is intended to help mitigate increasingly frequent public issues and concerns that were occurring in the Morrison Springs area.
- A new boat launch area will provide additional support to mitigate the increasingly frequent public issues and concerns mentioned above as reason for implementing an entrance fee. This will separate non-motorized vessels from motorized vessels leading to a more seamless flow of traffic and vessel launching.

66. Summary Budget for the scheduled land management activities of the LMP:**Table 3.** Summary Budget for Management Activities

Task	Frequency	Cost
Trash monitoring and removal	Daily	
Mowing and Grounds Maintenance	2x per Month, or as needed	
Informational signage, awareness placards, buoy placing, and plumbing/fencing maintenance	Monthly, or as needed	
Facility Servicing	Daily	
Septic System Inspection	Quarterly via 3 rd Party	
HVAC System Maintenance	Monthly, or as needed	

Water Quality Monitoring	Per NFWFMD's Schedule	
Guardhouse	Daily	
Electrical Maintenance	Monthly, or as needed	

67. Cost estimates for conducting other management activities which would enhance the natural resource value or public recreation value for which the lands were acquired, including recommendations for cost-effective methods in accomplishing those activities:

Cost estimates for facilitating other management activities will vary on a project-by-project basis based on immediate needs and funding availability. This section will be updated as these activities are identified. Types of other management activities may include but are not limited to the following:

- Grant partnerships
- Keep Walton County Beautiful/Keep Florida Beautiful partnerships for waste clean-up events
- This section will be updated as management needs and approved projects arise

Currently, Walton County relies on the community that has consistently used Morrison Springs for enjoyment, boating, fishing, diving, etc. to periodically gather and clean around the spring opening as well as beneath the water and into the cave. Staff gather debris as well and this joint effort has helped to keep the area natural and clean. More partnerships will be sought to enhance the overall value of the park.

68. Income Statement with income generated, net income, and expenses:

The operation of Morrison Springs Park is funded by Walton County's Facility Maintenance and Parks Department Budget. Funds are utilized from this budget, as necessary for maintenance, upkeep, repair of facilities, grounds, and infrastructure throughout the park, as well as providing adequate staffing.

Appendix A

OAL2

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL
IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND OF THE
STATE OF FLORIDA

LEASE AGREEMENT
MORRISON SPRINGS

Lease No. 4475

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 7th day of September 2004, by and between the BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA hereinafter referred to as "LESSOR," and WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, hereinafter referred to as "LESSEE."

LESSOR, for and in consideration of mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter contained, does hereby lease to said LESSEE, the lands described in paragraph 2 below, together with the improvements thereon, and subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY: LESSOR'S responsibilities and obligations herein shall be exercised by the Division of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection.
2. DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES: The property subject to this lease contains 159.32 acres, is situated in the County of Walton, State of Florida and is more particularly described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and hereinafter called the "leased premises".
3. TERM: The term of this lease shall be for a period of 50 years commencing on September 7th, 2004 and ending on September 6th, 2054 unless sooner terminated pursuant to the provisions of this lease.
4. PURPOSE: LESSEE shall manage the leased premises only for the conservation and protection of natural and historical resources and for resource based public outdoor activities and education which are compatible with the conservation and protection of these public lands, as set forth in subsection 259.032(11), Florida Statutes, along with other related uses necessary for the accomplishment of this purpose as designated in the Management Plan required by paragraph 8 of this lease.
5. QUIET ENJOYMENT AND RIGHT OF USE: LESSEE shall have the right of ingress and egress to, from and upon the leased premises for all purposes necessary to the full quiet enjoyment by said LESSEE of the rights conveyed herein.

6. UNAUTHORIZED USE: LESSEE shall, through its agents and employees, prevent the unauthorized use of the leased premises or any use thereof not in conformity with this lease.
7. ASSIGNMENT: This lease shall not be assigned in whole or in part without the prior written consent of LESSOR, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any assignment made either in whole or in part without the prior written consent of LESSOR shall be void and without legal effect.
8. MANAGEMENT PLAN: LESSEE shall prepare and submit a Management Plan for the leased premises in accordance with Section 253.034, Florida Statutes and subsection 18-2.021(4), Florida Administrative Code. The Management Plan shall be submitted to LESSOR for approval through the Division of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection. The leased premises shall not be developed or physically altered in any way other than what is necessary for security and maintenance of the leased premises without the prior written approval of LESSOR until the Management Plan is approved. LESSEE shall provide LESSOR with an opportunity to participate in all phases of preparing and developing the Management Plan for the leased premises. The Management Plan shall be submitted to LESSOR in draft form for review and comments within ten months of the effective date of this lease. LESSEE shall give LESSOR reasonable notice of the application for and receipt of any state, federal or local permits as well as any public hearings or meetings relating to the development or use of the leased premises. LESSEE shall not proceed with development of said leased premises including, but not limited to, funding, permit applications, design or building contracts until the Management Plan required herein has been submitted and approved. Any financial commitments made by LESSEE which are not in compliance with the terms of this lease shall be done at LESSEE'S own risk. The Management Plan shall emphasize the original management concept as approved by LESSOR at the time of acquisition which established the primary public purpose for which the leased premises were acquired. The approved Management Plan shall provide the basic guidance for all management activities and shall be reviewed jointly by LESSEE and LESSOR. LESSEE shall not use or alter the leased premises except as provided for in the approved Management Plan without the prior written approval of

LESSOR. The Management Plan prepared under this lease shall identify management strategies for exotic species, if present. The introduction of exotic species is prohibited, except when specifically authorized by the approved Management Plan.

9. EASEMENTS: All easements including, but not limited to, utility easements are expressly prohibited without the prior written approval of LESSOR. Any easement not approved in writing by LESSOR shall be void and without legal effect.

10. SUBLEASES: This lease is for the purposes specified herein and subleases of any nature are prohibited without the prior written approval of LESSOR, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any sublease not approved in writing by LESSOR shall be void and without legal effect.

11. RIGHT OF INSPECTION: LESSOR or its duly authorized agents, representatives or employees shall have the right to reasonably inspect the leased premises and the works and operations of LESSEE in any matter pertaining to this lease.

12. PLACEMENT AND REMOVAL OF IMPROVEMENTS: All buildings, structures and improvements shall be constructed in accordance with plans that are in accordance with the approved Management Plan or shall require the prior written approval of LESSOR as to purpose, location and design which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Further, no trees, other than non-native species, shall be removed or major land alterations done without the prior written approval of LESSOR. Removable equipment and removable improvements placed on the leased premises by LESSEE which do not become a permanent part of the leased premises will remain the property of LESSEE and may be removed by LESSEE before or upon termination of this lease.

13. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS: During the term of this lease LESSEE shall procure and maintain policies of fire, extended risk, and liability insurance coverage. The extended risk and fire insurance coverage shall be in an amount equal to the full insurable replacement value of any improvements or fixtures located on the leased premises. The liability insurance coverage shall be in amounts not less than \$100,000 per person and \$200,000 per incident or occurrence for personal injury, death, and property damage on the leased

premises. Such policies of insurance shall name LESSOR, the State of Florida and LESSEE as coinsureds. LESSOR shall submit written evidence of having procured all insurance policies required herein prior to the effective date of this lease and shall submit annually thereafter, written evidence of maintaining such insurance to the Bureau of Public Land Administration, Division of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection, Mail Station 130, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. LESSEE shall purchase all policies of insurance from a financially-responsible insurer duly authorized to do business in the State of Florida. Any certificate of self-insurance shall be issued or approved by the Insurance Commissioner, State of Florida. The certificate of self-insurance shall provide for casualty and liability coverage. LESSOR shall immediately notify LESSOR and the insurer of any erection or removal of any building or other improvement on the leased premises and any changes affecting the value of any improvements and shall request the insurer to make adequate changes in the coverage to reflect the changes in value. LESSEE shall be financially responsible for any loss due to failure to obtain adequate insurance coverage, and the failure to maintain such policies or certificate in the amounts set forth shall constitute a breach of this lease.

14. LIABILITY: Each party is responsible for all personal injury and property damage attributable to the negligent acts or omissions of that party and the officers, employees and agents thereof. Nothing herein shall be construed as an indemnity or a waiver of sovereign immunity enjoyed by any party hereto, as provided in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time, or any other law providing limitations on claims.

15. PAYMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS: LESSEE shall assume full responsibility for and shall pay all taxes, assessments, liens or other similar liabilities that accrue to the leased premises or to the improvements thereon arising after this lease commences including any and all ad valorem taxes and drainage and special assessments or personal property taxes of every kind and all construction or materialman's liens which may be hereafter lawfully assessed and levied against the leased premises subsequent to the

effective date of this lease. In no event shall the LESSEE be held liable for such liabilities which arose prior to the effective date of this lease.

16. NO WAIVER OF BREACH: The failure of LESSOR to insist in any one or more instances upon strict performance of any one or more of the covenants, terms and conditions of this lease shall not be construed as a waiver of such covenants, terms or conditions, but the same shall continue in full force and effect, and no waiver of LESSOR of any of the provisions hereof shall in any event be deemed to have been made unless the waiver is set forth in writing, signed by LESSOR.

17. TIME: Time is expressly declared to be of the essence of this lease.

18. NON-DISCRIMINATION: LESSEE shall not discriminate against any individual because of that individual's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status with respect to any activity occurring within the leased premises or upon lands adjacent to and used as an adjunct of the leased premises.

19. UTILITY FEES: LESSEE shall be responsible for the payment of all charges for the furnishing of gas, electricity, water and other public utilities to the leased premises and for having the utilities turned off when the leased premises are surrendered.

20. MINERAL RIGHTS: This lease does not cover petroleum or petroleum products or minerals and does not give the right to LESSEE to drill for or develop the same.

21. RIGHT OF AUDIT: LESSEE shall make available to LESSOR all financial and other records relating to this lease, and LESSOR shall have the right to audit such records at any reasonable time during the term of this lease. This right shall be continuous until this lease expires or is terminated. This lease may be terminated by LESSOR should LESSEE fail to allow public access to all documents, papers, letters or other materials made or received in conjunction with this lease, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.

22. CONDITION OF PREMISES: LESSOR assumes no liability or obligation to LESSEE with reference to the conditions of the leased premises. The leased premises herein are leased by LESSOR to LESSEE in an "as is" condition, with

LESSOR assuming no responsibility for the care, repair, maintenance or improvement of the leased premises for the benefit of LESSEE.

23. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS: LESSEE agrees that this lease is contingent upon and subject to LESSEE obtaining all applicable permits and complying with all applicable permits, regulations, ordinances, rules, and laws of the State of Florida or the United States or of any political subdivision or agency of either.

24. NOTICE: All notices given under this lease shall be in writing and shall be served by certified mail including, but not limited to, notice of any violation served pursuant to Section 253.04, Florida Statutes, to the last address of the party to whom notice is to be given, as designated by such party in writing. LESSOR and LESSEE hereby designate their address as follows:

LESSOR: Department of Environmental Protection
Division of State Lands
Bureau of Public Land Administration, M. S. 130
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard,
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

LESSEE: Walton County, Florida
Post Office Box 1355
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433

25. BREACH OF COVENANTS, TERMS, OR CONDITIONS: Should LESSEE breach any of the covenants, terms, or conditions of this lease, LESSOR shall give written notice to LESSEE to remedy such breach within sixty days of such notice. In the event LESSEE fails to remedy the breach to the satisfaction of LESSOR within sixty days of receipt of written notice, LESSOR may either terminate this lease and recover from LESSEE all damages LESSOR may incur by reason of the breach including, but not limited to, the cost of recovering the leased premises and attorneys' fees or maintain this lease in full force and effect and exercise all rights and remedies herein conferred upon LESSOR.

26. DAMAGE TO THE PREMISES: (a) LESSEE shall not do, or suffer to be done, in, on or upon the leased premises or as affecting said leased premises or adjacent properties, any act which may result in damage or depreciation of value to the leased premises or adjacent properties, or any part thereof. (b) LESSEE shall not generate, store, produce, place, treat, release or discharge

any contaminants, pollutants, or pollution, including, but not limited to, hazardous or toxic substances, chemicals or other agents on, into, or from the leased premises or any adjacent lands or waters in any manner not permitted by law. For the purposes of this lease, "hazardous substances" shall mean and include those elements or compounds defined in 42 USC Section 9601 or which are contained in the list of hazardous substances adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the list of toxic pollutants designated by the United States Congress or the EPA or defined by any other federal, state or local statute, law, ordinance, code, rule, regulation, order or decree regulating, relating to, or imposing liability or standards of conduct concerning any hazardous, toxic or dangerous waste, substance, material, pollutant or contaminant. "Pollutants" and "pollution" shall mean those products or substances defined in Chapters 376 and 403, Florida Statutes, and the rules promulgated thereunder, all as amended or updated from time to time. In the event of LESSEE's failure to comply with this paragraph, LESSEE shall, at its sole cost and expense, promptly commence and diligently pursue any legally required closure, investigation, assessment, cleanup, decontamination, remediation, restoration and monitoring of (1) the leased premises, and (2) all off-site ground and surface waters and lands affected by LESSEE's such failure to comply, as may be necessary to bring the leased premises and affected off-site waters and lands into full compliance with all applicable federal, state or local statutes, laws, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, orders and decrees, and to restore the damaged property to the condition existing immediately prior to the occurrence which caused the damage. LESSEE'S obligations set forth in this paragraph shall survive the termination or expiration of this lease. This paragraph shall not be construed as a limitation upon LESSEE'S obligations as set forth in paragraph 14 of this lease, nor upon any other obligations or responsibilities of LESSEE as set forth herein. Nothing herein shall relieve LESSEE of any responsibility or liability prescribed by law for fines, penalties and damages levied by governmental agencies, and the cost of cleaning up any contamination caused directly or indirectly by LESSEE'S activities or facilities. Upon discovery of a release of a hazardous substance or pollutant, or any other

violation of local, state or federal law, ordinance, code, rule, regulation, order or decree relating to the generation, storage, production, placement, treatment, release or discharge of any contaminant, LESSEE shall report such violation to all applicable governmental agencies having jurisdiction, and to LESSOR, all within the reporting periods of the applicable governmental agencies. This paragraph shall not be deemed to apply to any conditions existing prior to the effective date of this lease.

27. ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT: At LESSOR'S discretion, LESSEE shall provide LESSOR with a current Phase I environmental site assessment conducted in accordance with the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Land's standards prior to termination of this lease, and if necessary a Phase II environmental site assessment.

28. SURRENDER OF PREMISES: Upon termination or expiration of this lease, LESSEE shall surrender the leased premises to LESSOR. In the event no further use of the leased premises or any part thereof is needed, LESSEE shall give written notification to the Bureau of Public Land Administration, Division of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection, Mail Station 130, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, at least six months prior to the release of any or all of the leased premises. Notification shall include a legal description, this lease number, and an explanation of the release. The release shall only be valid if approved by LESSOR through the execution of a release of lease instrument with the same formality as this lease. Upon release of all or any part of the leased premises or upon termination or expiration of this lease, all permanent/capital improvements, including both physical structures and modifications to the leased premises, shall become the property of LESSOR, unless LESSOR gives written notice to LESSEE to remove any or all such improvements at the expense of LESSEE. The decision to retain any improvements upon termination of this lease shall be at LESSOR'S sole discretion. Prior to surrender of all or any part of the leased premises a representative of the Division of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection, shall perform an on-site inspection and the keys to any building on the leased premises shall be turned over to the Division.

29. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: LESSEE shall implement applicable Best Management Practices for all activities conducted under this lease in compliance with paragraph 18-2.018(2)(h), Florida Administrative Code, which have been selected, developed, or approved by LESSOR, LESSEE or other land managing agencies for the protection and enhancement of the leased premises.
30. PUBLIC LANDS ARTHROPOD CONTROL PLAN: LESSEE shall identify and subsequently designate to the respective arthropod control district or districts within one year of the effective date of this lease all of the environmentally sensitive and biologically highly productive lands contained within the leased premises, in accordance with Section 388.4111, Florida Statutes and Chapter 52-13, Florida Administrative Code, for the purpose of obtaining a public lands arthropod control plan for such lands.
31. PROHIBITIONS AGAINST LIENS OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCES: Fee title to the leased premises is held by LESSOR. LESSEE shall not do or permit anything to be done which purports to create a lien or encumbrance of any nature against the real property contained in the leased premises including, but not limited to, mortgages or construction liens against the leased premises or against any interest of LESSOR therein.
32. PARTIAL INVALIDITY: If any term, covenant, condition or provision of this lease shall be ruled by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remainder of the provisions shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated.
33. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC SITES: Execution of this lease in no way affects any of the parties' obligations pursuant to Chapter 267, Florida Statutes. The collection of artifacts or the disturbance of archaeological and historic sites on state-owned lands is prohibited unless prior authorization has been obtained from the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. The Management Plan prepared pursuant to Chapter 18-2 Florida Administrative Code, shall be reviewed by the Division of Historical Resources to insure that adequate measures have been planned to locate, identify, protect and preserve the archaeological and historic sites and properties on the leased premises.

34. SOVEREIGNTY SUBMERGED LANDS: This lease does not authorize the use of any lands located waterward of the mean or ordinary high water line of any lake, river, stream, creek, bay, estuary, or other water body or the waters or the air space thereabove.
35. ENTIRE UNDERSTANDING: This lease sets forth the entire understanding between the parties and shall only be amended with the prior written approval of LESSOR.
36. MAINTENANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS: LESSEE shall maintain the real property contained within the leased premises and the improvements located thereon, in a state of good condition, working order and repair including, but not limited to, keeping the leased premises free of trash or litter, meeting all building and safety codes for the location situated, maintaining the planned improvements as set forth in the approved Management Plan and maintaining any and all existing roads, canals, ditches, culverts, risers and the like in as good condition as the same may be on the effective date of this lease, reasonable wear and tear excepted; provided, however, that any removal, closure, etc, of the above improvements shall be acceptable when the proposed activity is consistent with the goals of conservation, protection, enhancement, or safety of the natural and historical resources within the leased premises and with the approved Management Plan.
37. GOVERNING LAW: This lease shall be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the State of Florida.
38. SIGNS: LESSEE shall ensure that the area is identified as being publicly owned and operated as a public facility in all signs, literature and advertising. If federal grants or funds are used by LESSEE for any project on the leased premises LESSEE shall erect signs identifying the leased premises as a federally assisted project.
39. SECTION CAPTIONS: Articles, subsections and other captions contained in this lease are for reference purposes only and are in no way intended to describe, interpret, define or limit the scope, extent or intent of this lease or any provisions thereof.
40. ADMINISTRATIVE FEE: LESSEE shall pay LESSOR an annual administrative fee of \$300. The initial annual administrative fee shall be payable

within thirty days from the date of execution of this lease agreement and shall be prorated based on the number of months or fraction thereof remaining in the fiscal year of execution. For purposes of this lease agreement, the fiscal year shall be the period extending from July 1 to June 30. Each annual payment thereafter shall be due and payable on July 1 of each subsequent year.

41. SPECIAL CONDITIONS: The following special conditions shall apply to this lease:

- A. LESSEE shall post "swim and/or dive at your own risk" signs.
- B. LESSEE shall block all access roads with gates or similar barriers to prohibit public access to the leased premises from sunset to sunrise.

DRAFT

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this lease to be executed on the day and year first above written.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL
IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND OF THE
STATE OF FLORIDA

Gladys Woodard
Witness
Gladys Woodard
Print/Type Witness Name
Lisa Spackman
Witness
Lisa Spackman
Print/Type Witness Name

By: Gloria C. Nelson (SEAL)
GLORIA C. NELSON, OPERATIONS
AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT
MANAGER, BUREAU OF PUBLIC
LAND ADMINISTRATION, DIVISION
OF STATE LANDS, DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

"LESSOR"

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF LEON

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 7th day of September 2004 by Gloria C. Nelson, as Operations and Management Consultant Manager, Bureau of Public Land Administration, Division of State Lands, Department of Environmental Protection, as agent for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida, who is personally known to me or who has produced _____ as identification.

Florence L. Davis
Notary Public, State of Florida

Print/Type Notary Name

Commission Number:

Commission Expires:



Florence L. Davis
MY COMMISSION # CC974560 EXPIRES
October 11, 2004
BONDED THRU TROY FAIR INSURANCE INC.

DRAFT

Approved as to Form and Legality

By:

[Signature]
DHP Attorney

WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Ronnie E. Bell
Ronnie E. Bell

Title: County Administrator

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

ATTEST: Cynthia Scenic
Print /Type Name
County Administrator and
Ex-Officio Clerk of
the Board of County
Commissioners of Walton
County, Florida

"LESSEE"

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF WALTON

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 26 day of August 2004, by Ronnie E. Bell, as County Administrator and Cynthia Scenic, as Deputy Clerk respectively on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Walton County, Florida. They are personally known to me or who have produced as identification.



Tonia Dee Hinte
Notary Public, State of Florida
Tonia Dee Hinte
Type Notary Name

Commission Number:

Commission Expires:

This instrument prepared by and
Please Return To:
Boyd, Lindsey, & Sligh
ATTN: Lisa Burnett
1407 Piedmont Drive East
Tallahassee, FL 32308

**WARRANTY DEED
(STATUTORY FORM - SECTION 509.02, F.S.)**

THIS INDENTURE, made this _____ day of June, A.D. 2004,
between Richard A. Caldwell, as to an undivided $\frac{1}{4}$ interest and Brook N.
Mason, as to an undivided $\frac{1}{4}$ interest, whose address is: 14644 Collin County
Road, Nevada, Texas 75173, grantor, and the BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND OF THE STATE OF
FLORIDA, whose post office address is c/o Florida Department of
Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands, 3900 Commonwealth
Boulevard, Mail Station 115, Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000, grantee,

(Wherever used herein the terms "grantor" and "grantee" include all the parties to
this instrument and their heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns.
"Grantor" and "grantee" are used for singular and plural, as the context requires and the use of any gender shall include all genders.)

WITNESSETH: That the said grantor, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars and other good and valuable
considerations, to said grantor in hand paid by said grantee, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained and
sold to the said grantee, and grantee's successors and assigns forever, the following described land situate, lying and being in Walton
County, Florida, to-wit:

See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Property Appraiser's Parcel Identification Number: 233N17060000010000; 243N17060000020000

This conveyance is subject to easements, restrictions, limitations, and conditions of record if any now exist, but any such
interests that may have been terminated are not hereby re-imposed.

This property is not the homestead property of the grantor, nor contiguous to homestead property, as such homestead is
defined under Florida law.

AND the said grantor does hereby fully warrant the title to said land, and will defend the same against the lawful claims of
all persons whomsoever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the grantor has hereunto set grantor's hand and seal, the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in
the presence of:

DRAFT

Barbara Durbey
(Signature of First Witness)

Richard A. Caldwell
Richard A. Caldwell

Barbara Durbey
(Printed, Typed or Stamped Name
of First Witness)

Linda L. Come
(Signature of Second Witness)

Linda L. Come
(Printed, Typed or Stamped Name
of Second Witness)

APPROVED
FOR CLOSING

JUN 29 2004

By: William C. Rottger, Jr.
(DEP Attorney)

Exhibit "A"
Page 14 of 16 Pages
Lease # 4475

Robert H. Sebring
(Signature of First Witness)

ROBERT H. SEBRING
(Printed, Typed or Stamped Name
of First Witness)

Jesse S. Links
(Signature of Second Witness)

Jesse S. Links
(Printed, Typed or Stamped Name
of Second Witness)

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF DALLAS

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 25th day of June, 2004, by Richard A. Caldwell.
person (Notary Public must check applicable box):

☒ is personally known to me.
☐ produced a driver license.
☐ produced _____ as identification.

(NOTARY PUBLIC SEAL)

Linda L. Crane
Notary Public

Linda L. Crane
(Printed, Typed or Stamped Name of Notary Public)

Commission No.: 01090421-1

My Commission Expires: 06-30-2005

STATE OF ARIZONA
COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 26th day of June, 2004, by Brook N. M.
person (Notary Public must check applicable box):

☐ is personally known to me.
☒ produced a driver license.
☐ produced _____ as identification.

(NOTARY PUBLIC SEAL)

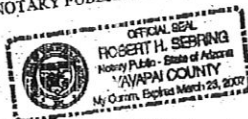


Exhibit "A"
Page 15 of 16 Pages
Lease # 4475

Robert H. Sebring
Notary Public

ROBERT H. SEBRING
(Printed, Typed or Stamped Name of Notary Public)

Commission No.: 182198

My Commission Expires: 03-23-2007

Ex
Pat
Lea

Florida
Morris

Appendix B

History

In the 1970's, Morrison Springs was briefly owned by a company using it to provide a source of bottled water. It was sold in the 1980's to a private corporation that opened up a full-service diving business and school. This scuba diving facility attracted cavern divers from all over the southeast United States. With the state's acquisition of the spring in 2004, the dive facility was closed and the County has kept the spring open to the public for swimming and boating.

Purpose of Acquisition

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (Trustees) acquired Morrison Springs to manage the property in such a way as to protect and restore the natural and cultural values of the property and provide the greatest benefit to the citizens of the state. The acquisition was a Florida Forever – Springs Initiative program.

Lease Agreements

On September 7, 2004, Walton County leased Morrison Springs from The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (Trustees) under Lease No. 4475 for a period fifty (50) years. This lease is for a period of 50 years, and it will expire on September 6, 2054.

Title Interest

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (Trustees) hold fee simple title to Morrison Springs.

Special Conditions on Use

Morrison Springs has multiple uses to provide conservation, civic, public and resource-based passive public outdoor recreation and other park related uses. Uses such as water resource development projects, water supply projects, storm water management projects, linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry (other than those forest management activities specifically identified in this plan) are not consistent with this plan or the management purposes of the recreational area.

Outstanding Reservations

Following is a listing of outstanding rights, reservations and encumbrances that apply to Morrison Springs.

Instrument:..... Warranty Deed
Instrument Holder:..... Russell and Florence Benedict
Beginning Date:..... February 8, 1977
Ending Date:..... Forever
Outstanding Rights, Uses, Etc.:..... The deed is subject to easements and conveyances of record for road rights of way and to reservation of one-half of all oil, gas and mineral rights to R. L. Henderson, Trustees and Carolyn G. Henderson.

Appendix C



Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Colleen M. Castille
Secretary

July 25, 2005

Shirl Williams
Assistant Administrator
PO Box 1355
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

Dear Mr Williams:

In reference to your letter dated July 19, 2005 concerning the location of the Morrison Springs parcel located in Walton County, the property is not in or adjacent to any of the state's aquatic preserves.

I have enclosed for your information a map showing the location of all 41 aquatic preserves in the state of Florida. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ellen L. Stere
Environmental Specialist III
Office of Coastal & Aquatic Managed Areas
(850) 245-2094

Appendix D



AR=4
SS=0
CM=0
RG=0
BR=0
Total=4

Cultural Resource Roster

SiteID	Type	Site Name	Address	Additional Info	SHPO Eval	NR Status
WL00043	AR	MORRISON SPRING	Ponce de Leon		Insufficient Info	
WL01571	AR	MORRISON SPRING 1	Ponce de Leon		Not Eligible	
WL01593	AR	MORRISON SPRING 2	Ponce de Leon		Not Eligible	
WL02184	AR	Sparkleberry	Ponce de Leon		Not Eligible	

DRAFT

Appendix E



Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Twin Towers Office Building
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

Colleen M. Castille
Secretary

July 27, 2005

Ms. Shirl Williams
Assistant Administrator
Walton County
P.O. Box 1355
DeFuniak Springs, Florida 32435

RE: Morrison Springs Parcel

Dear Ms. Williams:

Thank you for your July 19th inquiry regarding the surface water quality classifications on and near the Morrison Springs parcel in Walton County. It appears that a significant part of the parcel, if not the entire parcel itself, is included in the Choctawhatchee River Outstanding Florida Waters designation (Rule 62-302.700(9)(i)7., Florida Administrative Code (FAC)). In addition, any surface waters on the site are classified as Class III waters (Rule 62-302.400(12)(b)66., FAC), which is the statewide default classification.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at the letterhead address (mail station 3560), by phone at 850/245-8429, or via E-mail at Eric.Shaw@dep.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

Eric R. Shaw
Environmental Manager
Water Quality Standards
and Special Projects Program

ERS/

Florida's Outstanding Water's

"Special Waters" and OFWs include 40 of Florida's 1700 rivers, several lakes and lake chains, several estuarine areas, and the Florida Keys:	
Apalachicola River	Lochloosa Lake
Aucilla River	Myakka River (lower part)
Blackwater River	Ochlocknee River
Butler Chain of Lakes	Oklawaha River
Chassahowitzka River System	Orange Lake, River Styx, and Cross Creek
Chipola River	Perdido River
Choctawhatchee River	Rainbow River
Clermont Chain of Lakes	St. Marks River
Crooked Lake	Santa Fe River System
Crystal River	Sarasota Bay Estuarine System
Estero Bay Tributaries	Shoal River
Econlockhatchee River System	Silver River
Florida Keys	Spruce Creek
Hillsborough River	Suwanee River
Homosassa River System	Tomoka River
Kingsley Lake & Black Creek (North Fork)	Wacissa River
Lake Disston	Wakulla River
Lake Powell	Wekiva River
Lemon Bay Estuarine System	Wiggins Pass Estuarine System
Little Manatee River	Withlacoochee Riverine and Lake System

Note: Actual rule language describing above water bodies is more complex. For further information, refer to Rule 62-302.700 (9)(i), Florida Administrative Code.

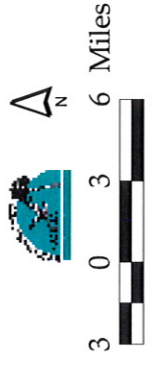
1998 303(d) Listed Water Segments in Walton County

Map prepared January 2, 2002 by the Bureau of Watershed Management, Division of Water Resource Management. This map is a representation of ground water resources and is not intended to be used for legal purposes. For more information or copies, contact Holly Brandt at (850) 973-9446 or holly.brandt@dep.state.fl.us. Location: \dep\map01\1998_303(d)_cases_maps

Basin	Wbid
CHOTAWHATCHEE BAY AB C	778C
CHOTAWHATCHEE BAY AB C	778D
TURKEY CREEK	117
LITTLE CREEK	144
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	49
BRUCE CREEK	343
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	49E
LAFAYETTE CREEK	646

Legend

- County Boundary
- WAFR Facilities
 - NPDES (National) Facility
 - State or Local Facility
- Major Roads
- Water Lines
- Water Bodies
- 1998 303(d) Listed Waters



HUC Name	Water Segment	² MAPID	¹ WBD	Parameters of Concern	Comments	Priority	Basin Rotation Group	Projected Year of TMDL Development	*Special TMDL development year	Parameter for special TMDL development
CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER	TROUT CREEK	24	3240G	Dissolved Oxygen, Coliforms, Biochemical Oxygen Demand		Low	Group 2 & 3	2009		
CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER	LAKE HICPOCHEE	26	3237C	Nutrients	Agricultural drainage from several areas including Lake Okeechobee.	High	Group 2 & 3	2004		
CALOOSAHATCHEE RIVER	EAST CALOOSAHATCHEE	28	3237A	Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients, Biochemical Oxygen Demand		Low	Group 2 & 3	2009		
CHARLOTTE HARBOR	MATLACHA PASS	4	2065F	Nutrients, Mercury (Based on Fish Consumption Advisory)	Matlacha STP will be moved in 1998 to Pine Island. Poor WQ could be caused by poor flushing. Although Matlacha Pass is the only listed segment a TMDL will be determined for all of Charlotte Harbor.	High	Group 2 & 3	2004	2011	mercury
CHARLOTTE HARBOR	NORTH PRONG ALLIGATOR CREEK	30	2071	Dissolved Oxygen, Coliforms, Turbidity		Low	Group 2 & 3	2009		
CHATTAAHOOCHEE RIVER	THOMPSON POND	1	272	Coliforms, Nutrients		High	Group 2	2003		
CHATTAAHOOCHEE RIVER	LAKE SEMINOLE	3	60	Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients	Apalachicola SWIM Plan. Aquatic weeds, Hydrilla problems.	High	Group 2	2003		
CHIPOLA RIVER	CHIPOLA RIVER (Dead Lakes)	1	51A	Coliforms, Turbidity, Mercury (Based on Fish Consumption Advisory)	In Apalachicola SWIM Plan. Wastewater discharges at Marianna, Blue Springs - septic tanks, silviculture above Marianna, sedimentation. Agricultural and urban land causing nutrient enrichment.	High	Group 2	2003	2011	mercury
CHIPOLA RIVER	CHIPOLA RIVER	2	51B	Nutrients	Apalachicola SWIM Plan. Wastewater Discharges at Marianna, Blue Springs - Septic tanks and sedimentation. Agricultural and urban land misuse causing nutrient enrichment. Nitrate and TN problems.	High	Group 2	2003		
CHIPOLA RIVER	OTTER CREEK	10	819	Coliform, Nutrients		Low	Group 2	2008		
CHIPOLA RIVER	MUDDY BRANCH	27	175	Dissolved Oxygen, Coliforms, Nutrients	Wastewater Facility at Florida Caverns State Park no longer discharges, but still have stormwater inputs.	High	Group 2	2003		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	INDIAN BAYOU (Old Pass Lagoon)	14	917	Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients	This water segment includes Indian Bayou and was nominated for listing by district staff. Heavy development/marina/highway 98 runoff.	Low	Group 3	2009		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	17	778D	Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients	Dissolved Oxygen low due to upstream inputs and restricted flushing. SWIM Waterbody. Many ongoing studies. Old Pass Lagoon, Cinco, Garner, and Boggy bayous impacted by development. This segment includes Destin Harbor.	High	Group 3	2004		

1998 303(d) List

HUC Name	Water Segment	² MAPID	¹ WBID	Parameters of Concern	Comments	Priority	Basin Rotation Group	Projected Year of TMDL Development	*Special TMDL development year	Parameter for special TMDL development
CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	JOES BAYOU	18	906	Nutrients Dissolved Oxygen, Demersal, Coliforms, Nutrients, Turbidity, Total Suspended Solids, Mercury (Based on Fish Consumption Advisory)		Low	Group 3	2009		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	24	778C		Heavy growth in watershed. Shellfish areas impacted by bacteria and viral pathogen problems.	Low	Group 3	2009		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	26	778B	Coliforms	SWIM waterbody	High	Group 3	2004		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	BOGGY BAYOU	42	692	Dissolved Oxygen		Low	Group 3	2009		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY	LAFAYETTE CREEK	50	646	Coliforms		Low	Group 3	2009		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	0	49E	Coliforms, Turbidity, Total Suspended Solids	This segment was listed because it is a SWIM waterbody. It was not evaluated in the 1996 305(b) report. However, based on the 1994 305(b) report the water quality at that time was good.	High	Group 3	2004	1999	Coliforms
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	BRUCE CREEK	11	343	Coliforms, Turbidity		Low	Group 3	2009	1999	Coliforms
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	14	49	Coliforms, Turbidity, Total Suspended Solids, Mercury (Based on Fish Consumption Advisory)	Coliforms from hog farms/ag. SWIM PLAN. Evaluation of Holmes Creek pollution by point sources.	High	Group 3	2004	1999	Coliforms
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	CAMP BRANCH	21	251	Coliforms, Nutrients, Turbidity		Low	Group 3	2009	1999	Coliforms
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	24	49F	Coliforms, Nutrients, Total Suspended Solids, Turbidity, Mercury (Based on Fish Consumption Advisory)	Possible cause is runoff from Alabama agriculture upstream (no BMPs).	Low	Group 3	2009	1999	Coliforms
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	ALLIGATOR CREEK	26	123	Coliforms, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients, Turbidity		Low	Group 3	2009		
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	SIKES CREEK	27	142	Coliforms, Dissolved Oxygen, Total Suspended Solids, Turbidity		Low	Group 3	2009	1999	Coliforms
CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER	FISH BRANCH (Minnow Creek)	28	130	Coliforms, Dissolved Oxygen, Total Suspended Solids, Turbidity		Low	Group 3	2009		
CRYSTAL RIVER TO ST. PETE	CLAM BAYOU DRAIN	2	1716	Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients, Coliforms		Low	Group 5	2011		

Appendix F



1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 224-8207
www.fnai.org

Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Managed Area Element Summary Morrison Springs Recreational Facility



SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	Global rank	State rank	Federal status	State status
REPTILES					
<i>Apalone spinifera</i>	Spiny Softshell	G5	S3	N	N
<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Alligator Snapping Turtle	G3	S3	PT	N
<i>Pseudemys concinna concinna</i>	Eastern River Cooter	G5T5	S3	N	N
INVERTEBRATES					
<i>Cambarellus schmitti</i>	Fontal Dwarf Crayfish	G2G3	S2S3	N	N
<i>Elliptio purpurella</i>	Inflated Spike	G3	S2	N	N
<i>Fusconaia burkei</i>	Tapered Pigtoe	G2	S1	T	FT
<i>Pustulosa succissa</i>	Purple Pigtoe	G3G4	S1S2	N	N
<i>Toxolasma sp. 1</i>	Gulf Lilliput	G2	S2	N	N

DRAFT

Note: Summary includes all documented and likely species occurrence records currently in the FNAI database.



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Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Managed Area Element Summary

Morrison Springs Recreational Facility



SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	Global rank	State rank	Federal status	State status
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Using a ranking system developed by NatureServe and the Natural Heritage Program Network, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory assigns two ranks for each element. The global rank is based on an element's worldwide status; the state rank is based on the status of the element in Florida. Element ranks are based on many factors, the most important ones being estimated number of Element Occurrences (EOs), estimated abundance (number of individuals for species; area for natural communities), geographic range, estimated number of adequately protected EOs, relative threat of destruction, and ecological fragility.

FNAI GLOBAL ELEMENT RANK

- G1 = Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G2 = Imperiled globally because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G3 = Either very rare and local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction from other factors.
- G4 = Apparently secure globally (may be rare in parts of range).
- G5 = Demonstrably secure globally.
- GH = Of historical occurrence throughout its range, may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker).
- GX = Believed to be extinct throughout range.
- GXC = Extirpated from the wild but still known from captivity or cultivation.
- G#? = Tentative rank (e.g., G2?).
- G#G# = Range of rank; insufficient data to assign specific global rank (e.g., G2G3).
- G#T# = Rank of a taxonomic subgroup such as a subspecies or variety; the G portion of the rank refers to the entire species and the T portion refers to the specific subgroup; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G3T1).
- G#Q = Rank of questionable species - ranked as species but questionable whether it is species or subspecies; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G2Q).
- G#T#Q = Same as above, but validity as subspecies or variety is questioned.
- GU = Unrankable; due to a lack of information no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., GUT2).
- GNA = Ranking is not applicable because the element is not a suitable target for conservation (e.g. a hybrid species).
- GNR = Element not yet ranked (temporary).
- GNRTNR = Neither the element nor the taxonomic subgroup has yet been ranked.

FNAI STATE ELEMENT RANK

- S1 = Critically imperiled in Florida because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- S2 = Imperiled in Florida because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- S3 = Either very rare and local in Florida (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction from other factors.
- S4 = Apparently secure in Florida (may be rare in parts of range).
- S5 = Demonstrably secure in Florida.
- SH = Of historical occurrence in Florida, possibly extirpated, but may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker).
- SX = Believed to be extirpated throughout Florida.
- SU = Unrankable; due to a lack of information no rank or range can be assigned.
- SNA = State ranking is not applicable because the element is not a suitable target for conservation (e.g. a hybrid species).
- SNR = Element not yet ranked (temporary).

FEDERAL LEGAL STATUS

Note: Summary includes all documented and likely species occurrence records currently in the FNAI database.

Legal status information provided by FNAI for information only. For official definitions and lists of protected species, consult the relevant federal agency.

Definitions derived from U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973, Sec. 3. Note that the federal status given by FNAI refers only to Florida populations and that federal status may differ elsewhere.

C = Candidate species for which federal listing agencies have sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list the species as Endangered or Threatened.

LE = Endangered: species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

LE, LT = Species currently listed endangered in a portion of its range but only listed as threatened in other areas

LE, PDL = Species currently listed endangered but has been proposed for delisting.

LE, PT = Species currently listed endangered but has been proposed for listing as threatened.

LE, XN = Species currently listed endangered but tracked population is a non-essential experimental population.

LT = Threatened: species likely to become Endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

SAT = Treated as threatened due to similarity of appearance to a species which is federally listed such that enforcement personnel have difficulty in attempting to differentiate between the listed and unlisted species.

SC = Not currently listed, but considered a "species of concern" to USFWS.

STATE LEGAL STATUS

Provided by FNAI for information only. For official definitions and lists of protected species, consult the relevant state agency.

Animals: Definitions derived from "Florida's Endangered Species and Species of Special Concern, Official Lists" published by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 1 August 1997, and subsequent updates.

FE = Listed as Endangered Species at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FT = Listed as Threatened Species at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

F(XN) = Federal listed as an experimental population in Florida

FT(S/A) = Federal Threatened due to similarity of appearance

ST = State population listed as Threatened by the FFWCC. Defined as a species, subspecies, or isolated population which is acutely vulnerable to environmental alteration, declining in number at a rapid rate, or whose range or habitat is decreasing in area at a rapid rate and as a consequence is destined or very likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future. (ST* for *Ursus americanus floridanus* (Florida black bear) indicates that this status does not apply in Baker and Columbia counties and in the Apalachicola National Forest. ST* for *Neovison vison* pop.1 (Southern mink, South Florida population) indicates that this status applies to the Everglades population only.)

SSC = Listed as Species of Special Concern by the FFWCC. Defined as a population which warrants special protection, recognition, or consideration because it has an inherent significant vulnerability to habitat modification, environmental alteration, human disturbance, or substantial human exploitation which, in the foreseeable future, may result in its becoming a threatened species. (SSC* indicates that a species has SSC status only in selected portions of its range in Florida. SSC* for *Pandion haliaetus* (Osprey) indicates that this status applies in Monroe county only.)

N = Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.

Plants: Definitions derived from Sections 581.011 and 581.185(2), Florida Statutes, and the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act, 5B-40.001. FNAI does not track all state-regulated plant species; for a complete list of state-regulated plant species, call Florida Division of Plant Industry, 352-372-3505 or see: <http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/>.

LE = Endangered: species of plants native to Florida that are in imminent danger of extinction within the state, the survival of which is unlikely if the causes of a decline in the number of plants continue; includes all species determined to be endangered or threatened pursuant



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Florida Natural Areas Inventory
Managed Area Element Summary
Morrison Springs Recreational Facility



to the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

LT = Threatened: species native to the state that are in rapid decline in the number of plants within the state, but which have not so decreased in number as to cause them to be Endangered.

N = Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.

DRAFT



1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850-224-8207
fax 850-681-9364
www.fnai.org

April 24, 2026

Benjamin King
Walton County Board of County Commissioners
117 Montgomery Circle
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

Dear Mr. King,

Thank you for requesting information from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). At your request we have produced the following report for your project area.

The purpose of this Standard Data Report is to provide objective scientific information on natural resources located in the vicinity of a site of interest, in order to inform those involved in project planning and evaluation. This Report makes no determination of the suitability of a proposed project for this location, or the potential impacts of the project on natural resources in the area.

Project: Morrison Springs Recreational Facility

Date Received: 4/20/2026

Location: Walton County

DRAFT

Based on the information available, this site appears to be located in a significant region of natural areas and habitat for several rare species.

Element Occurrences

A search of our maps and database indicates that we currently have several element occurrences mapped in the vicinity of the study area (see enclosed map and element occurrence table). Please be advised that a lack of element occurrences in the FNAI database is not a sufficient indication of the absence of rare or endangered species on a site.

Federally Listed Species

Our data indicate federally listed species are present on or very near this site specifically, Choctaw Bean (*Obovaria choctawensis*), Tapered Pigtoe (*Fusconaia burkei*), Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*) (see enclosed map and tables for details). This statement should not be interpreted as a legal determination of presence or absence of federally listed species on a property.

The element occurrences data layer includes occurrences of rare species and natural communities. The map legend indicates that some element occurrences occur in the general vicinity of the label point. This may be due to lack of precision of the source data, or an element that occurs over an extended area (such as a wide ranging species or large natural community). For animals and plants, element occurrences generally refer to more than a casual sighting; they usually indicate a viable population of the species. Note that some element occurrences represent historically documented observations which may no longer be extant. Extirpated element occurrences will be marked with an 'X' following the occurrence label on the enclosed map.



Florida Resources
and Environmental
Analysis Center

Institute of Science
and Public Affairs

The Florida State University

Tracking Florida's Biodiversity

Likely and Potential Rare Species

In addition to documented occurrences, other rare species and natural communities may be identified on or near the site based on habitat models and species range models (see enclosed Biodiversity Matrix Report). These species should be taken into consideration in field surveys, land management, and impact avoidance and mitigation.

FNAI habitat models indicate areas, which based on land cover type, offer suitable habitat for one or more rare species that is known to occur in the vicinity. Habitat models have been developed for approximately 300 of the rarest species tracked by the Inventory, including all federally listed species.

FNAI species range models indicate areas that are within the known or predicted range of a species, based on climate variables, soils, vegetation, and/or slope. Species range models have been developed for approximately 340 species, including all federally listed species.

The FNAI Biodiversity Matrix Geodatabase compiles Documented, Likely, and Potential species and natural communities for each square mile Matrix Unit statewide.

CLIP

The enclosed map shows natural resource conservation priorities based on the Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project. CLIP is based on many of the same natural resource data developed for the Florida Forever Conservation Needs Assessment, but provides an overall picture of conservation priorities across different resource categories, including biodiversity, landscapes, surface waters, and aggregated CLIP priorities (that combine the individual resource categories). CLIP is also based primarily on remote sensed data and is not intended to be the definitive authority on natural resources on a site.

For more information on CLIP, visit <https://www.fnai.org/services/clip>.

Managed Areas

Portions of the site appear to be located within the Morrison Springs Recreational Facility, managed by Walton County.

The Managed Areas data layer shows public and privately managed conservation lands throughout the state. Federal, state, local, and privately managed conservation lands are included.

Land Acquisition Projects

This site appears to be located within the Florida's First Magnitude Springs Florida Forever BOT Project, which is part of the State of Florida's Conservation and Recreation Lands land acquisition program. For more information on this Florida Forever Project, contact the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands or visit <https://floridadep.gov/lands/environmental-services/content/florida-forever>.

Florida Forever Board of Trustees (BOT) projects are proposed and acquired through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands. The state has no specific land management authority over these lands until they are purchased.

The Inventory always recommends that professionals familiar with Florida's flora and fauna conduct a site-specific survey to determine the current presence or absence of rare, threatened, or endangered species.

Please visit www.fnai.org/species-communities/tracking-main for county or statewide element occurrence distributions and links to more element information.

The database maintained by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory is the single most comprehensive source of information available on the locations of rare species and other significant ecological resources. However, the data are not always based on comprehensive or site-specific field surveys.

Therefore this information should not be regarded as a final statement on the biological resources of the site being considered, nor should it be substituted for on-site surveys. Inventory data are designed for the purposes of conservation planning and scientific research, and are not intended for use as the primary criteria for regulatory decisions.

Information provided by this database may not be published without prior written notification to the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and the Inventory must be credited as an information source in these publications. **The maps contain sensitive environmental information, please do not distribute or publish without prior consent from FNAI.** FNAI data may not be resold for profit.

Thank you for your use of FNAI services. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at (850) 224-8207 or at kbrinegar@fnai.fsu.edu.

Sincerely,

Kerri Brinegar

Kerri Brinegar
GIS / Data Services

Encl

DRAFT



1018 Thomasville Road
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Tallahassee, FL 32303
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Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Element Occurrences

- Animals
- Plants
- Communities
- Other
- Data Sensitive



Point Indicates General
Vicinity of Element

Conservation Lands

- Federal
- State
- Local
- Private
- State Aquatic Preserves

Land Acquisition Projects

- Florida Forever
- Board of Trustees Projects

- FNAI Rare Species Habitat
- FNAI Biodiversity Matrix Square Mile Units

- County Boundary

- Roads

- Water



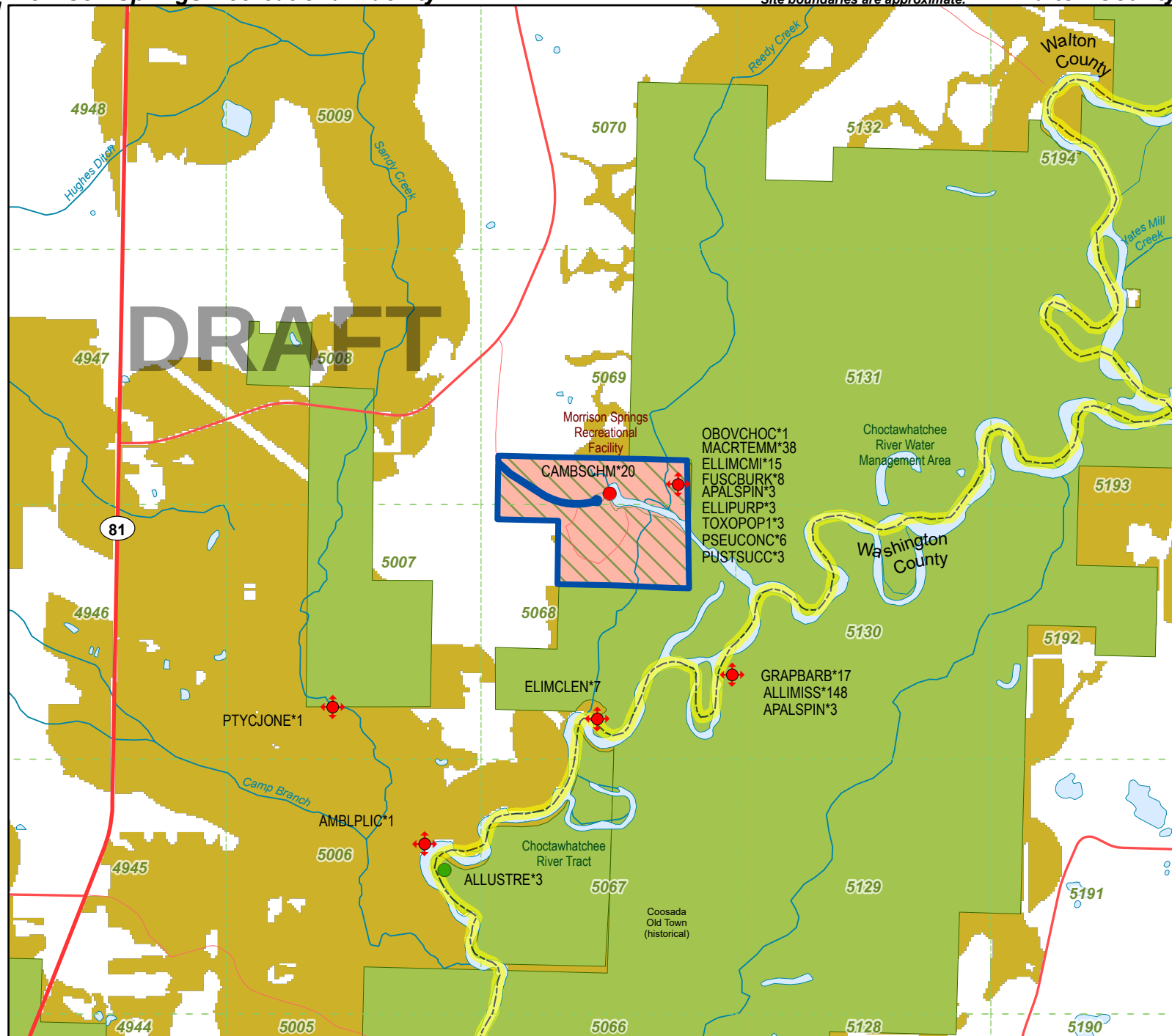
NOTE

This map contains environmentally sensitive information. Please do not distribute or publish without prior consent from FNAI. Map should not be interpreted without accompanying documents.

Morrison Springs Recreational Facility

Site boundaries are approximate.

Walton County



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map produced by KAB
4/24/2026



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Florida
Natural Areas
Inventory

CLIP v4.0 Resource Priorities

Biodiversity Resource Category

- Priority 1 - highest
- Priority 2
- Priority 3
- Priority 4
- Priority 5

Landscape Resource Category

- Priority 1 - highest
- Priority 2
- Priority 3
- Priority 4
- Priority 5

Surface Water Resource Category

- Priority 1 - highest
- Priority 2
- Priority 3
- Priority 4
- Priority 5

Aggregated CLIP Priorities

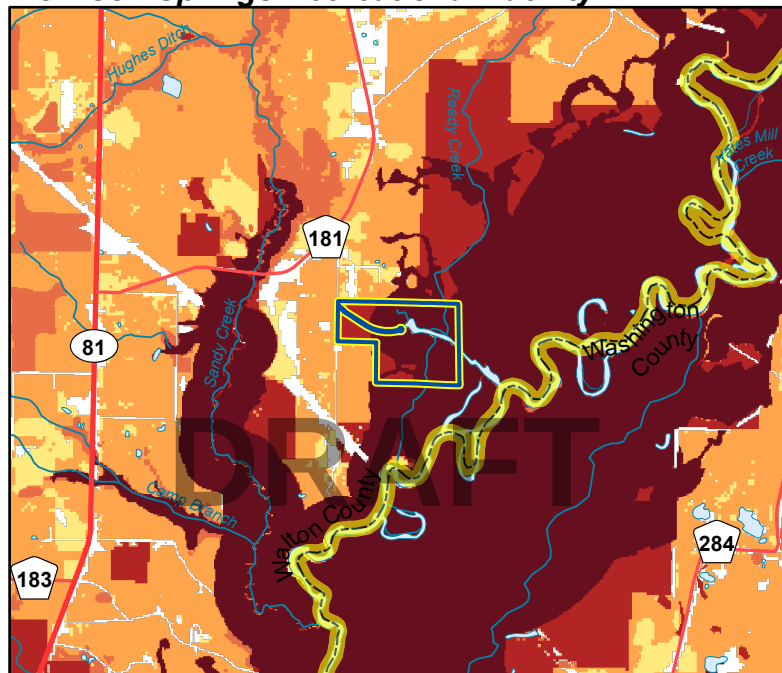
- Priority 1 - highest
- Priority 2
- Priority 3
- Priority 4
- Priority 5

Site Boundary

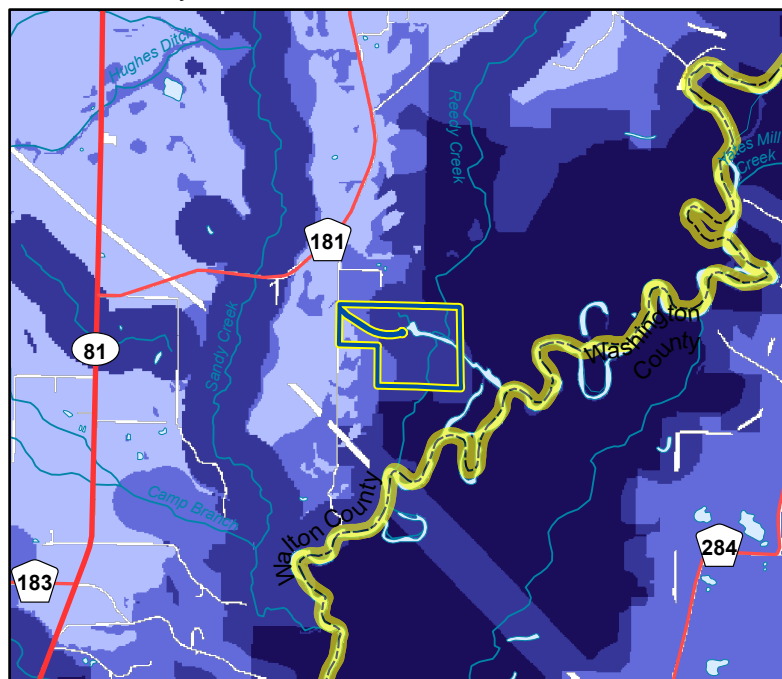
Map should not be interpreted without
accompanying documents.

Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project
(CLIP) is a cooperative effort between the FSU
Florida Natural Areas Inventory, UF Center for
Landscape Conservation Planning, and FL Fish &
Wildlife Conservation Commission, with additional
funding from FL Dept of Environmental Protection
and US Fish & Wildlife Service.

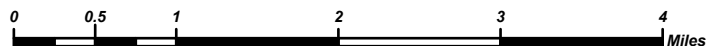
Morrison Springs Recreational Facility



CLIP Biodiversity Resource Priorities

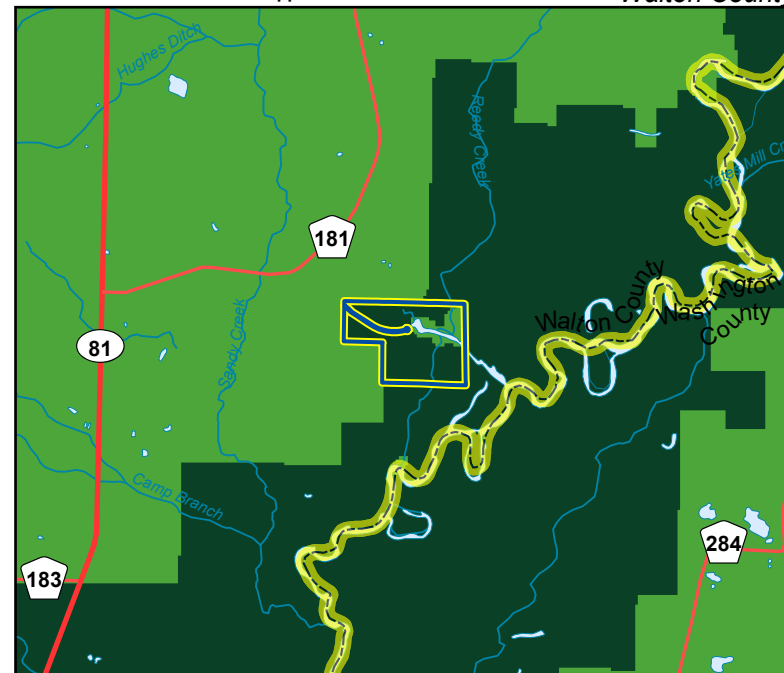


CLIP Surface Water Resource Priorities

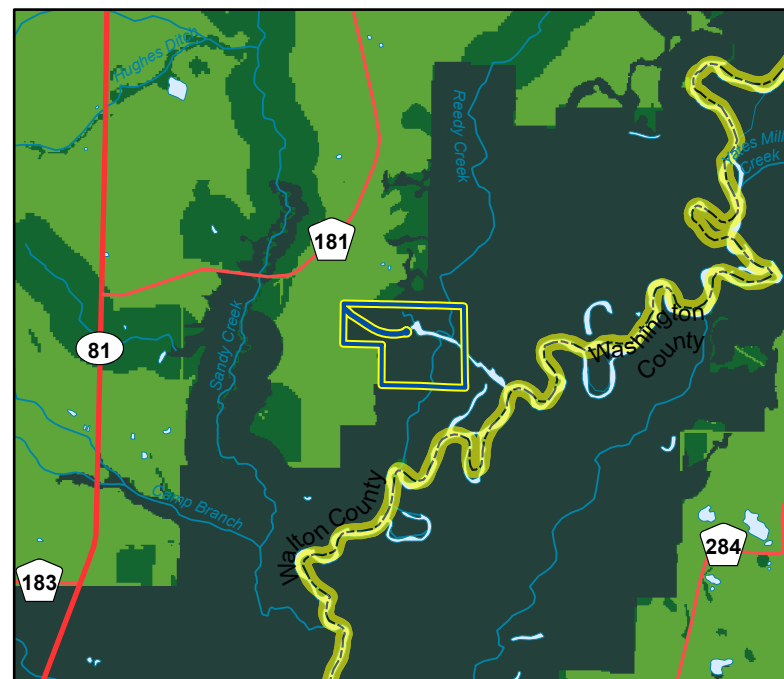


Site boundaries are approximate.

Walton County



CLIP Landscape Resource Priorities



CLIP Aggregated Resource Priorities



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FNAI ELEMENT OCCURRENCE REPORT on or near

Morrison Springs Recreational Facility



DRAFT

Map Label	Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Listing	Observation Date	Description	EO Comments
ALLIMISS*148	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	G5	S4	SAT	FT(S/A)	2008-02-24	The Choctawhatchee River is a moderately sized alluvial stream with some blackwater characteristics. The Pea River is a medium-small, relatively shallow tributary that can be tannic to sometimes fairly clear, with sandy bottom and abundant snags (U99WAL01FLUS).	2008-02-24: alligator in small impoundment at edge of floodplain (U08ARE01FLUS). 2007-07-07: Gunzburger observed alligator at edge of floodplain (U08ARE01FLUS). 1999: During several visual surveys for basking Barbour's map turtles, George Wallace recorded 15 alligators, mostly immature, from August to October, from just below Alabama line to ca. 4 km downstream of mouth of Holmes Creek, and into lower Holmes Creek (U06WAL02FLUS).
ALLUSTRE*3	Alluvial stream		G4	S2	N	N	2004	78 MI; SCENIC REC STREAM W/ EXCELLENT WATER QUALITY	2004: Update to last obs date was based on interpretation of aerial photography (previous value was 1982-pre) (U05FNA02FLUS).
AMBLPLIC*1	<i>Amblema plicata</i>	Threeridge	G5	S1	N	N	2019-06-05	Choctawhatchee River. The 2019 specimen was burrowed in a mixture of silt, mud, and sand, ca. 1.5 m downstream of a log (A21PAT02FLUS).	A specimen collected in 2019 represents the first live observation in this river since 1958 (A21PAT02FLUS). More specific collection data are in source features and Additional Topics.
APALSPIN*3	<i>Apalone spinifera</i>	Spiny Softshell	G5	S3	N	N	2014-06-12	Choctawhatchee River is a generally alluvial river but with some clear-water tributaries. Sandy Creek is a clear-water stream tributary.	This occurrence is documented by multiple records extending from 1968-2014. These indicate a viable population. Specific data and references are cited in Additional Comments as well as specific source features.
CAMBSCHM*20	<i>Cambarellus schmitti</i>	Fontal Dwarf Crayfish	G2G3	S2S3	N	N	2019-01-18	Morrison Spring is a karst spring with short run to Choctawhatchee River. For description, see G04SCO01FLUS.	Collections span > 6 decades; no population data.
ELIMCLEN*7	<i>Elimia clenchi</i>	Slackwater Elimia	G3Q	S1S2	N	N	1933-09	No general description given	SPECIMENS COLLECTED 1933-09 (D.B. GILLIS, #4341 and 4341A SM).
ELLIMCMI*15	<i>Elliptio mcmichaeli</i>	Fluted Elephant-ear	G2G3	S1S2	N	N	1987-10-11	Choctawhatchee River is a large alluvial river (PNDBUT01FLUS).	Apparently a large population exists throughout the river and major tributaries in Florida. Collections and observations span more than 50 years. Specific data, references, and sites are in individual source features as well as Additional Topics field in this record.



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ELLIPURP*3	<i>Elliptio purpurella</i>	Inflated Spike	G3	S2	N	N	2009-06-18	Moderately large river system passing principally through agricultural and forested lands. Most of the Florida portion of the Choctawhatchee River, as well as the lower portion of Holmes Creek, is bordered by conservation land.	Species is known from multiple collections (years 1933-2009) along both the Choctawhatchee River and Holmes Creek, as well as tributaries of both. Specific Florida collections are recorded in Additional Topics.
FUSCBURK*8	<i>Fusconaia burkei</i>	Tapered Pigtoe	G2	S1	T	FT	2024	Choctawhatchee River system, including tributaries. River is primarily alluvial but sometimes is relatively clear (probably during drought) though brown. River generally sand-bottomed, 40 m wide (PNDBUT01FLUS). Sites are associated with various streams, bottomland forest, blackwater stream, floodplain swamp (UNDBUT01FLUS).	Presumably a large, viable population based on records from > 100 sites spanning a century and much of the river system, including multiple tributaries. Specific data, references, and sites are in individual source features as well as Additional Topics field in this record.
GRAPBARB*17	<i>Graptemys barbouri</i>	Barbour's Map Turtle	G2G3	S2	SAT, PDL	ST	2018-05-23	The Choctawhatchee River is a moderately sized alluvial stream with some blackwater characteristics. The Pea River is a medium-small, relatively shallow tributary that can be tannic to sometimes fairly clear, with sandy bottom and abundant snags (U99WAL01FLUS).	Based on multiple records extending from 1999-2018, there appears to be a substantial population. Its origins are problematic.
MACRTEMM*38	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Alligator Snapping Turtle	G3	S3	PT	N	2019-05	Choctawhatchee River system and tributaries, including Holmes Creek.	Known from multiple records extending from at least 1977-2019, but population seems very small (A23ENG01FLUS). 2017-09: 9 long-term captive adults released in lower river (East River) (A23COZ01FLUS). Specific data are in source features and Additional Topics.
MEDIACUT*1	<i>Medionidus acutissimus</i>	Alabama Moccasinshell	G2	SH	T	FT	1933	The Choctawhatchee River is a moderately sized alluvial stream with some blackwater characteristics.	Various sampling surveys have failed to find it since 1933, but possibility of rediscovery cannot be dismissed. 1933: specimens collected from (1) Brushy Point, (2) east of Red Bay, (3) Bruce Creek, and (4) Sandy Creek (see U13WIL08FLUS for catalog numbers).



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Map Label	Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Listing	Observation Date	Description	EO Comments
OBOVCHOC*1	<i>Obovaria choctawensis</i>	Choctaw Bean	G2G3	S1S2	E	FE	2024	Choctawhatchee River system, including tributaries. River is primarily alluvial but sometimes is relatively clear (probably during drought) though brown. River generally sand-bottomed, 40 m wide (PNDBUT01FLUS). Sites are associated with various streams, bottomland forest, blackwater stream, floodplain swamp (UNDBUT01FLUS).	Based on at least 60 sites (U25FWC03FLUS). Williams et al. (2014) depict at least 14 sites from which this occurrence was documented. Specific data, references, and sites are in source features and Additional Topics in this record.
PERCAUST*8	<i>Percina austroperca</i>	Southern Logperch	G3	S2	N	N	2000-10-01	alluvial river and tributary stream	multiple specimens collected over a span of greater than 40 years
PLEUSTRO*3	<i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i>	Fuzzy Pigtoe	G2G3	S1	T	FT	1954-08-27	none given	More than a dozen sites depicted on map in Williams et al.(2014, p. 306). Probably some are more recent than FNAI has mapped currently. Details in source features and Additional Topics below.
PSEUCONC*6	<i>Pseudemys concinna concinna</i>	Eastern River Cooter	G5T5	S3	N	N	2014-06-12	Choctawhatchee River is a generally alluvial river but with some clear-water tributaries. Sandy Creek is a clear-water stream tributary.	Known from multiple records (from 1953-2014 at least) and sites spanning much of Choctawhatchee River system. Specific data and references are in Additional Topics and source features.
PTYCJONE*1	<i>Ptychobranchnus jonesi</i>	Southern Kidneyshell	G1	S1	E	FE	2009-06-18	Choctawhatchee River and associated tributaries and floodplain waters, including oxbow lakes (old meander channels) (B15WIL01FLUS).	Known from 1 recent (2009) record in Holmes Creek, and old records (1932-1933) in river mainstem and adjacent oxbow lakes.
PUSTSUC*3	<i>Pustulosa succissa</i>	Purple Pigtoe	G3G4	SNR	N	N	2024	Choctawhatchee River system, including tributaries. River is primarily alluvial but sometimes is relatively clear (probably during drought) though brown. River generally sand-bottomed, 40 m wide (PNDBUT01FLUS). Mussel sites are associated with various streams, bottomland forest, blackwater stream, floodplain swamp (UNDBUT01FLUS).	Nearly a century of observations document population in much of Choctawhatchee River mainstem and some tributaries and side channels (U25FWC03FLUS). Specific data, references, and sites are in individual source features.
TOXOPOP1*3	<i>Toxolasma sp. 1</i>	Gulf Lilliput	G2	S2	N	N	2014 pre	Choctawhatchee River system, including Holmes Creek and Pea River.	Williams et al. (2014) depict at least 21 sites from which this occurrence has been documented within this river system in Florida.



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Biodiversity Matrix Report



Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Listing
Matrix Unit ID: 5068					
Documented					
<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	G5	S4	SAT	FT(S/A)
<i>Apalone spinifera</i>	Spiny Softshell	G5	S3	N	N
<i>Graptemys barbouri</i>	Barbour's Map Turtle	G2	S2	SAT	ST
<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Alligator Snapping Turtle	G3	S3	PT	N
<i>Toxolasma sp. 1</i>	Gulf Lilliput	G2	S2	N	N
Likely					
<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	Gulf Sturgeon	G2G3	S2?	T	FT
<i>Amblema plicata</i>	Threeridge	G5	S1	N	N
<i>Cambarellus schmitti</i>	Fontal Dwarf Crayfish	G2G3	S2S3	N	N
<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat	G3G4	S1	N	N
<i>Elimia clenchi</i>	Slackwater Elimia	G3Q	S1S2	N	N
<i>Elliptio mcmichaeli</i>	Fluted Elephant-ear	G2G3	S1S2	N	N
<i>Elliptio purpurella</i>	Inflated Spike	G3	S2	N	N
<i>Fusconaia burkei</i>	Tapered Pigtoe	G2G3	S1	T	FT
<i>Hamiota australis</i>	Southern Sandshell	G2G3	S1	T	FT
<i>Obovaria choctawensis</i>	Choctaw Bean	G2G3	S1S2	E	FE
<i>Percina austroperca</i>	Southern Logperch	G3	S2	N	N
<i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i>	Fuzzy Pigtoe	G2G3	S1	T	FT
<i>Pseudemys concinna concinna</i>	Eastern River Cooter	G5T5	S3	N	N
<i>Ptychobranhus jonesi</i>	Southern Kidneyshell	G1	S1	E	FE
Potential					
<i>Ambystoma bishopi</i>	Reticulated Flatwoods Salamander	G2	S1	E	FE
<i>Arnoglossum diversifolium</i>	variable-leaved Indian-plantain	G3	S3	N	T
<i>Asclepias viridula</i>	Southern milkweed	G2	S2	N	T
<i>Atractosteus spatula</i>	Alligator Gar	G3G4	S3	N	N
<i>Baptisia megacarpa</i>	Apalachicola wild indigo	G2	S1	UR	E
<i>Brickellia cordifolia</i>	Flyr's brickell-bush	G3	S2	N	E
<i>Coreopsis integrifolia</i>	ciliate-leaf tickseed	G2	S2	UR	E
<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	Eastern Indigo Snake	G3	S2?	T	FT
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Gopher Tortoise	G3	S3	N	ST
<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hognose Snake	G2	S2S3	N	N
<i>Lilium iridollae</i>	Panhandle lily	G3	S3	UR	E
<i>Macranthera flammea</i>	hummingbird flower	G3	S2	N	E
<i>Macrhybopsis pallida</i>	Florida Chub	G3	S2	N	N
<i>Magnolia ashei</i>	Ashe's magnolia	G3	S3	N	E
<i>Nuphar ulvacea</i>	West Florida cowlily	G5T2T3	S2	N	N
<i>Platanthera integra</i>	yellow fringeless orchid	G3G4	S2	N	E
<i>Pteronotropis welaka</i>	Bluenose Shiner	G3G4	S3S4	N	ST
<i>Quercus arkansana</i>	Arkansas oak	G3	S3	N	T
<i>Rhexia parviflora</i>	small-flowered meadowbeauty	G2G3	S2	UR	E
<i>Rhexia salicifolia</i>	Panhandle meadowbeauty	G3	S3	UR	T
<i>Rhododendron austrinum</i>	Florida flame azalea	G3	S3	N	E
<i>Rhynchospora crinipes</i>	hairy-peduncled beaksedge	G3	S3	N	E
<i>Thalictrum cooleyi</i>	Cooley's meadowrue	G1	S1	E	E
<i>Xyris isoetifolia</i>	Quillwort yellow-eyed grass	G2	S2	N	E

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Potential - This site lies within the known or predicted range of the species listed.



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Biodiversity Matrix Report



Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Listing
<i>Xyris scabrifolia</i>	Harper's yellow-eyed grass	G3	S3S4	N	T
Matrix Unit ID: 5069					
Documented					
<i>Apalone spinifera</i>	Spiny Softshell	G5	S3	N	N
<i>Cambarellus schmitti</i>	Fontal Dwarf Crayfish	G2G3	S2S3	N	N
<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Alligator Snapping Turtle	G3	S3	PT	N
<i>Toxolasma sp. 1</i>	Gulf Lilliput	G2	S2	N	N
Likely					
<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	Gulf Sturgeon	G2G3	S2?	T	FT
<i>Elimia clenchi</i>	Slackwater Elimia	G3Q	S1S2	N	N
<i>Elliptio mcMichaeli</i>	Fluted Elephant-ear	G2G3	S1S2	N	N
<i>Elliptio purpurella</i>	Inflated Spike	G3	S2	N	N
<i>Fusconaia burkei</i>	Tapered Pigtoe	G2G3	S1	T	FT
<i>Gratemys barbouri</i>	Barbour's Map Turtle	G2	S2	SAT	ST
<i>Hamiota australis</i>	Southern Sandshell	G2G3	S1	T	FT
<i>Obovaria choctawensis</i>	Choctaw Bean	G2G3	S1S2	E	FE
<i>Percina austroperca</i>	Southern Logperch	G3	S2	N	N
<i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i>	Fuzzy Pigtoe	G2G3	S1	T	FT
<i>Pseudemys concinna concinna</i>	Eastern River Cooter	G5T5	S3	N	N
<i>Ptychobranhus jonesi</i>	Southern Kidneyshell	G1	S1	E	FE
Potential					
<i>Agrimonia incisa</i>	incised groove-bur	G3G4	S2	N	T
<i>Ambystoma bishopi</i>	Reticulated Flatwoods Salamander	G2	S1	E	FE
<i>Arnoglossum diversifolium</i>	variable-leaved Indian-plantain	G3	S3	N	T
<i>Asclepias viridula</i>	Southern milkweed	G2	S2	N	T
<i>Atractosteus spatula</i>	Alligator Gar	G3G4	S3	N	N
<i>Baptisia megacarpa</i>	Apalachicola wild indigo	G2	S1	UR	E
<i>Brickellia cordifolia</i>	Flyr's brickell-bush	G3	S2	N	E
<i>Coreopsis integrifolia</i>	ciliate-leaf tickseed	G2	S2	UR	E
<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat	G3G4	S1	N	N
<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	Eastern Indigo Snake	G3	S2?	T	FT
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Gopher Tortoise	G3	S3	N	ST
<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hognose Snake	G2	S2S3	N	N
<i>Lilium iridollae</i>	Panhandle lily	G3	S3	UR	E
<i>Linum westii</i>	West's flax	G1G2	S1S2	UR	E
<i>Macranthera flammea</i>	hummingbird flower	G3	S2	N	E
<i>Macrhybopsis pallida</i>	Florida Chub	G3	S2	N	N
<i>Magnolia ashei</i>	Ashe's magnolia	G3	S3	N	E
<i>Nuphar ulvacea</i>	West Florida cowlily	G5T2T3	S2	N	N
<i>Peucaea aestivalis</i>	Bachman's Sparrow	G3	S3	N	N
<i>Pinguicula primuliflora</i>	primrose-flowered butterwort	G3G4	S3	N	E
<i>Platanthera integra</i>	yellow fringeless orchid	G3G4	S2	N	E
<i>Pteronotropis welaka</i>	Bluenose Shiner	G3G4	S3S4	N	ST
<i>Rhexia parviflora</i>	small-flowered meadowbeauty	G2G3	S2	UR	E
<i>Rhexia salicifolia</i>	Panhandle meadowbeauty	G3	S3	UR	T
<i>Rhododendron austrinum</i>	Florida flame azalea	G3	S3	N	E

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<i>Rhynchospora crinipes</i>	hairy-peduncled beaksedge	G3	S3	N	E
<i>Thalictrum cooleyi</i>	Cooley's meadowrue	G1	S1	E	E
<i>Xyris longisepala</i>	karst pond xyris	G2	S2	UR	E
<i>Xyris scabrifolia</i>	Harper's yellow-eyed grass	G3	S3S4	N	T

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Elements and Element Occurrences

An **element** is any exemplary or rare component of the natural environment, such as a species, natural community, bird rookery, spring, sinkhole, cave, or other ecological feature.

An **element occurrence (EO)** is an area of land and/or water in which a species or natural community is, or was, present. An EO should have practical conservation value for the Element as evidenced by potential continued (or historical) presence and/or regular recurrence at a given location.

Element Ranking and Legal Status

Using a ranking system developed by NatureServe and the Natural Heritage Program Network, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory assigns two ranks for each element. The global rank is based on an element's worldwide status; the state rank is based on the status of the element in Florida. Element ranks are based on many factors, the most important ones being estimated number of Element Occurrences (EOs), estimated abundance (number of individuals for species; area for natural communities), geographic range, estimated number of adequately protected EOs, relative threat of destruction, and ecological fragility.

FNAI GLOBAL ELEMENT RANK

- G1** = Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G2** = Imperiled globally because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G3** = Either very rare and local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction from other factors.
- G4** = Apparently secure globally (may be rare in parts of range).
- G5** = Demonstrably secure globally.
- GH** = Of historical occurrence throughout its range, may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker).
- GX** = Believed to be extinct throughout range.
- GXC** = Extirpated from the wild but still known from captivity or cultivation.
- G#?** = Tentative rank (e.g., G2?).
- G#G#** = Range of rank; insufficient data to assign specific global rank (e.g., G2G3).
- G#T#** = Rank of a taxonomic subgroup such as a subspecies or variety; the G portion of the rank refers to the entire species and the T portion refers to the specific subgroup; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G3T1).
- G#Q** = Rank of questionable species - ranked as species but questionable whether it is species or subspecies; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G2Q).
- G#T#Q** = Same as above, but validity as subspecies or variety is questioned.
- GU** = Unrankable; due to a lack of information no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., GUT2).
- GNA** = Ranking is not applicable because the element is not a suitable target for conservation (e.g. a hybrid species).
- GNR** = Element not yet ranked (temporary).
- GNRTNR** = Neither the element nor the taxonomic subgroup has yet been ranked.

FNAI STATE ELEMENT RANK

- S1** = Critically imperiled in Florida because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- S2** = Imperiled in Florida because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- S3** = Either very rare and local in Florida (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction from other factors.
- S4** = Apparently secure in Florida (may be rare in parts of range).
- S5** = Demonstrably secure in Florida.
- SH** = Of historical occurrence in Florida, possibly extirpated, but may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker).
- SX** = Believed to be extirpated throughout Florida.
- SU** = Unrankable; due to a lack of information no rank or range can be assigned.
- SNA** = State ranking is not applicable because the element is not a suitable target for conservation (e.g. a hybrid species).
- SNR** = Element not yet ranked (temporary).

FEDERAL LEGAL STATUS

Legal status information provided by FNAI for information only. For official definitions and lists of protected species, consult the relevant federal agency.

Definitions derived from U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973, Sec. 3. Note that the federal status given by FNAI refers only to Florida populations and that federal status may differ elsewhere.

C = Candidate species for which federal listing agencies have sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list the species as Endangered or Threatened.

E = Endangered: species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

E, T = Species currently listed endangered in a portion of its range but only listed as threatened in other areas

E, PDL = Species currently listed endangered but has been proposed for delisting.

E, PT = Species currently listed endangered but has been proposed for listing as threatened.

E, XN = Species currently listed endangered but tracked population is a non-essential experimental population.

T = Threatened: species likely to become Endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

PE = Species proposed for listing as endangered.

PS = - An infraspecific taxon or population has federal status but the entire species does not - status is in only a portion of the species range.

PT = Species proposed for listing as threatened.

SAT = Treated as threatened due to similarity of appearance to a species which is federally listed such that enforcement personnel have difficulty in attempting to differentiate between the listed and unlisted species.

SC = Not currently listed, but considered a "species of concern" to USFWS.

DL = Delisted.

UR = Under review.

STATE LEGAL STATUS

Provided by FNAI for information only. For official definitions and lists of protected species, consult the relevant state agency.

Animals: Definitions derived from "Florida's Endangered Species and Species of Special Concern, Official Lists" published by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 1 August 1997, and subsequent updates.

C = Candidate for listing at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FE = Listed as Endangered Species at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FT = Listed as Threatened Species at the Federal level by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FXN = Federal listed as an experimental population in Florida

FT(S/A) = Federal Threatened due to similarity of appearance

ST = State population listed as Threatened by the FFWCC. Defined as a species, subspecies, or isolated population which is acutely vulnerable to environmental alteration, declining in number at a rapid rate, or whose range or habitat is decreasing in area at a rapid rate and as a consequence is destined or very likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future.

SSC = Listed as Species of Special Concern by the FFWCC. Defined as a population which warrants special protection, recognition, or consideration because it has an inherent significant vulnerability to habitat modification, environmental alteration, human disturbance, or substantial human exploitation which, in the foreseeable future, may result in its becoming a threatened species. (SSC* for *Pandion haliaetus* (Osprey) indicates that this status applies in Monroe county only.)

N = Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.

Plants: Definitions derived from Sections 581.011, 581.185 and 581.185(2), Florida Statutes, and the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act, 5B-40.001. FNAI does not track all state-regulated plant species; for a complete list of state-regulated plant species, call Florida Division of Plant Industry, 352-372-3505 or see: <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=5B-40>.

E = Endangered: species of plants native to Florida that are in imminent danger of extinction within the state, the survival of which is unlikely if the causes of a decline in the number of plants continue; includes all species determined to be endangered or threatened pursuant to the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

T = Threatened: species native to the state that are in rapid decline in the number of plants within the state, but which have not so decreased in number as to cause them to be Endangered.

CE = Commercially exploited: species native to the state which are subject to being removed in significant numbers from native habitats in the state and sold or transported for sale.

N = Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.

Element Occurrence Ranking

FNAI ranks of quality of the element occurrence in terms of its viability (EORANK). Viability is estimated using a combination of factors that contribute to continued survival of the element at the location. Among these are the size of the EO, general condition of the EO at the site, and the conditions of the landscape surrounding the EO (e.g. an immediate threat to an EO by local development pressure could lower an EO rank).

A = Excellent estimated viability
A? = Possibly excellent estimated viability
AB = Excellent or good estimated viability
AC = Excellent, good, or fair estimated viability
B = Good estimated viability
B? = Possibly good estimated viability
BC = Good or fair estimated viability
BD = Good, fair, or poor estimated viability
C = Fair estimated viability
C? = Possibly fair estimated viability
CD = Fair or poor estimated viability
D = Poor estimated viability
D? = Possibly poor estimated viability
E = Verified extant (viability not assessed)
F = Failed to find
H = Historical
NR = Not ranked, a placeholder when an EO is not (yet) ranked.
U = Unrankable
X = Extirpated

*For additional detail on the above ranks see: <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/eorankguide.htm>

FNAI also uses the following EO ranks:

H? = Possibly historical
F? = Possibly failed to find
X? = Possibly extirpated

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The following offers further explanation of the H and X ranks as they are used by FNAI:

The rank of H is used when there is a lack of recent field information verifying the continued existence of an EO, such as (a) when an EO is based only on historical collections data; or (b) when an EO was ranked A, B, C, D, or E at one time and is later, without field survey work, considered to be possibly extirpated due to general habitat loss or degradation of the environment in the area. This definition of the H rank is dependent on an interpretation of what constitutes "recent" field information. Generally, if there is no known survey of an EO within the last 20 to 40 years, it should be assigned an H rank. While these time frames represent suggested maximum limits, the actual time period for historical EOs may vary according to the biology of the element and the specific landscape context of each occurrence (including anthropogenic alteration of the environment). Thus, an H rank may be assigned to an EO before the maximum time frames have lapsed. Occurrences that have not been surveyed for periods exceeding these time frames should not be ranked A, B, C, or D. The higher maximum limit for plants and communities (i.e., ranging from 20 to 40 years) is based upon the assumption that occurrences of these elements generally have the potential to persist at a given location for longer periods of time. This greater potential is a reflection of plant biology and community dynamics. However, landscape factors must also be considered. Thus, areas with more anthropogenic impacts on the environment (e.g., development) will be at the lower end of the range, and less-impacted areas will be at the higher end.

The rank of X is assigned to EOs for which there is documented destruction of habitat or environment, or persuasive evidence of eradication based on adequate survey (i.e., thorough or repeated survey efforts by one or more experienced observers at times and under conditions appropriate for the Element at that location).

Appendix G

BIGBEE SERIES

The Bigbee series consists of deep, excessively drained, rapidly permeable soils. These soils formed in thick sandy sediments on low terraces along stream flood plains in the Southern Coastal Plain and Eastern Gulf Coast Flatwoods. Slopes are 0 to 5 percent.

TAXONOMIC CLASS: Thermic, coated Typic Quartzipsamments

TYPICAL PEDON: Bigbee loamy sand on a nearly level 1 percent slope in pasture.
(Colors are for moist soil unless otherwise stated.)

Ap--0 to 8 inches; dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) loamy sand; structureless; loose; few fine roots; strongly acid; clear smooth boundary. (4 to 11 inches thick)

C1--8 to 17 inches; yellowish red (5YR 4/8) loamy sand; structureless; loose, very friable; few fine roots; strongly acid; abrupt smooth boundary.

C2--17 to 32 inches; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sand; structureless; loose; very strongly acid; clear smooth boundary. (Combined thickness of the upper part of the C horizon is 20 to 40 inches.)

C3--32 to 80 inches; pale brown (10YR 6/3) sand; structureless; loose; very strongly acid.

TYPE LOCATION: Clay County, Mississippi; 7 miles east of intersection of U. S. Highway 45W on Mississippi Highway 50; 1.5 miles east on gravel road and 2 miles northeast on gravel road and north into pasture; SE1/4NW1/4 sec. 8, T. 17 S., R. 8 E.

RANGE IN CHARACTERISTICS: Thickness of sand and loamy sand exceeds 80 inches and these soils do not have lamellae. Reaction is very strongly acid to medium acid, except the surface layer in areas that have been limed. These soils have a water table ranging from 20 to 40 inches for about two weeks each year and of a depth ranging 40 and 70 inches from one to two months each year.

The A horizon has hue of 10YR, value of 3 to 5, and chroma of 2 to 4. It is loamy sand, loamy fine sand, sand, or fine sand.

The upper part of the C horizon has hue of 10YR, 7.5YR, or 5YR, value of 4 to 7, and chroma of 4 to 5; mottles, if present, are in shades of brown. Texture is loamy sand, sand, or fine sand. The particle-size control section, 10 to 40 inches, is 5 to 10 percent silt plus clay.

The lower part of the C horizon has hue of 10YR, value of 6 to 8, and chroma of 1 to 6; and mottles, if present, are few to common in shades of brown and yellow. In addition, some pedons have grayish mottles below a depth of 40 inches. The lowest part is fine sand or sand. Few pockets of uncoated sand grains are in the lower part of the C horizon. Many pedons are underlain by gravel 6 to 16 feet below the surface.

COMPETING SERIES: These are Alaga, Alpin, Arenosa, Cainhoy, Darden, Foxworth, Glentosh, Lakeland, and Tonkawa series in the same family and the closely related Adamsville, Chipley, Eustis, Gainesville, Kershaw, Kenansville, Lake, Pactolus, St. Lucie, Seabrook, and Wando Series. Alaga soils have 10 to 25 percent silt plus clay in the particle-size control section. Alpin soils have lamellae beginning at a depth of 40 to 70 inches. Arenosa, Darden, and Tonkawa soils are in areas with less precipitation and are drier in the moisture control section. Cainhoy soils have a E horizon over a Bh horizon which is below a depth of 80 inches. Foxworth soils have a fluctuating seasonal high water table between a depth of 40 and 80 inches and are not subject to flooding. Glentosh and Lakeland soils do not have a water table within a depth of 80 inches. Adamsville, Gainesville, Lake, and St. Lucie soils have a hyperthermic temperature regime. Adamsville, Chipley, Pactolus, and Seabrook soils have mottles of chroma 2 or less because of wetness within a depth of 40 inches, and the water table is within 40 inches of the surface for longer periods during the year; also Pactolus, Seabrook, and Wando soils have 10 to 25 percent silt plus clay in the 10 to 40 inch control section. Eustis and Kenansville soils have a Bt horizon. Kershaw soils have less than 5 percent silt plus clay in the 10 to 40 inch control section.

GEOGRAPHIC SETTING: Bigbee soils are on low terraces along streams in the Southern Coastal Plain and Eastern Gulf Coast Flatwoods Major Land Resource areas. These are nearly level to gently sloping soils; slopes range from 0 to 2 percent. The soils formed in marine or fluvial sandy deposits. The climate is warm and humid. The average annual precipitation is 52 inches and average annual temperature is 64 degrees F., near the type location.

GEOGRAPHICALLY ASSOCIATED SOILS: These are the competing Alaga series and the closely related Bassfield, Cahaba, Latonia, and Nugent series. Well to somewhat excessively drained Alaga soils are on similar to slightly higher slopes. Well drained Bassfield, Cahaba, and Latonia soils, which are also commonly on low terraces but farther away from the stream channel and less likely to be flooded, have loamy Bt horizons. Excessively drained Nugent soils, which are on natural levees, have a sandy texture with thin strata of finer material in the upper 40 inches of the soil.

DRAINAGE AND PERMEABILITY: Excessively drained; rapidly permeable; and slow runoff. Depth to water table ranges from 20 to 40 inches for short periods and 40 to 70 inches for one to two months during high rainfall periods and the permanent water table is at about 8 feet from the surface. The soil is flooded for brief duration during high rainfall periods.

USE AND VEGETATION: Bigbee soils are used for growing hay, pasture, truck crops, and pine trees.

DISTRIBUTION AND EXTENT: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee. The series is of moderate extent.

MLRA OFFICE RESPONSIBLE: Auburn, Alabama

SERIES ESTABLISHED: Geneva County, Alabama; 1974.

REMARKS: Diagnostic horizons and features recognized in this pedon are:

Ochric epipedon - the zone from the surface to about 8 inches (Ap horizon).

ADDITIONAL DATA: Chemical and Physical analyses for one pedon are in manuscript of Soil Survey of Jones County, Mississippi (scheduled for publication 1986).

KENANSVILLE SERIES

The Kenansville series consists of well drained, nearly level to gently sloping soils on Coastal Plain uplands and stream terraces. They have formed in marine and fluvial sediments. Slopes range from 0 to 10 percent.

TAXONOMIC CLASS: Loamy, siliceous, subactive, thermic Arenic Hapludults

TYPICAL PEDON: Kenansville loamy sand - in a cultivated field on a 2 percent slope. (Colors are for moist soil unless otherwise stated.)

Ap--0 to 8 inches, grayish brown (10YR 5/2) loamy sand; weak medium granular structure; very friable; common fine roots; moderately acid; abrupt smooth boundary. (6 to 10 inches thick)

E--8 to 24 inches, light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) loamy sand; weak medium granular structure; very friable; few fine roots; moderately acid; gradual wavy boundary. (14 to 30 inches thick)

Bt--24 to 36 inches, yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sandy loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; very friable; common fine roots and pores; sand grains coated and bridged with clay; very strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary. (6 to 35 inches thick)

BC--36 to 42 inches, yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) loamy sand; weak medium granular structure; very friable; few fine roots and pores; clay coatings on sand grains; few bridging of sand grains by clay; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary. (4 to 22 inches thick)

C--42 to 84 inches, very pale brown (10YR 7/3) sand; few fine distinct strong brown and common medium faint light gray (10YR 7/2) iron depletions; single grained; loose; strongly acid.

TYPE LOCATION: Lenoir County, North Carolina; 11 miles northeast of Kinston and 1.2 miles northwest of Grifton; 100 feet northeast of intersection of North Carolina Highway 11 and State Road 1704; in a cultivated field.

RANGE IN CHARACTERISTICS: Solum thickness ranges from 40 to 60 inches. The soil ranges from very strongly through moderately acid in all horizons, unless limed.

The A or Ap horizon has hue of 7.5YR to 2.5Y, value of 3 to 6, and chroma of 1 to 4. The A horizon is less than 6 inches thick if its color value, moist, is less than 3.5. Texture is loamy sand, loamy fine sand, sand, or fine sand.

The E horizon has hue of 10YR or 2.5Y, value of 5 to 8, and chroma of 3 to 8. Texture is similar to the A or Ap horizon.

The BE horizon, where present, has hue of 10YR or 2.5Y, value of 4 to 8, and chroma of 3 to 6. Texture is loamy sandy, loamy fine sand or sandy loam.

The Bt horizon has hue of 7.5YR to 2.5Y, value of 5 to 7, and chroma of 4 to 8. Texture is sandy loam or fine sandy loam. Thin layers of sandy clay loam are present in some pedons.

The BC, or B/C horizon, where present, has similar matrix color as the Bt horizon. Texture is sand, loamy sand, sandy loam or fine sandy loam.

The C horizon has hue of 7.5YR to 2.5Y, value of 4 to 8, and chroma of 1 to 8. Texture is sand or loamy sand.

COMPETING SERIES: (This section not checked this date; added activity class) The Baymeade, Blaney, Chipola, Chisolm, Coosaw, Garcon, Gomery, Remlik, Tenaha, Tomahawk, Uchee, and Valhalla series are in the same family. Alaga, Bassfield, Conetoe, Eustis, Galestown, Kamia, Latonia, Maxton, Molena, Pocalla, Rumford, Valhalla, Wagram, and Wakulla series are in closely related family. Baymead soils have A and B horizons with irregular intermittent Bh bodies. Blaney soils have a Bt horizon that is compact and brittle in part of the mass. Chipola and Chisolm soils have Bt horizons with redder hues. Coosaw and Garcon soils have low chroma mottles in the lower Bt horizon. Also, Garcon have less clayey Bt horizons. Gomery and Tenaha soils are underlain by soft bedrock. Remlik soils have common lamellae in the C horizon and are commonly on 6 to 45 percent slopes. Tomahawk soils have Bh horizon in lower part of solum. Also, they are somewhat poorly drained. Uchee soils have a clayey lower Bt horizon with moderately slow permeability. Valhalla soils have buried E and Bt horizons. Alaga, Eustis, Galestown, Molena, and Wakulla soils have coarser textures. In addition, Galestown soils are mesic and Molena soils have mixed mineralogy. Bassfield and Latonia soils lack the arenic surface layer. Conetoe soils have mixed mineralogy. Kalmia and Maxton soils thinner A horizon and finer textures Bt horizon. Pocalla soils are bisectal. Rumford soils have thinner A horizons and redder Bt horizons. Wagram soils have thicker sola.

GEOGRAPHIC SETTING: Kenansville soils are on nearly level to gently sloping Coastal Plain uplands and stream terraces. They formed in Coastal Plain and stream terrace sediments. Kenansville soils generally are on the smoother parts of the landscape between the higher, sandier ridges and the lower wet areas. Slope gradients are commonly 0 to 4 percent with a full range up to 10 percent. Average annual precipitation is about 48 inches and mean annual temperature is about 63 degrees F. near the type location.

GEOGRAPHICALLY ASSOCIATED SOILS: These are the competing Eustis, Kalmia, Wagram, and Wakulla series and the Cahaba, Eunola, Foreston, Johns and Lakeland series. Cahaba, Eunola, and Foreston soils lack thick sandy epipedons. Johns soils have low chroma mottles indicative of wetness in the Bt horizon. Lakeland soils are sandy and do not have Bt horizons.

DRAINAGE AND PERMEABILITY: Well drained; slow runoff; moderately rapid permeability. A seasonal water table is below 4.0 feet for the wet substratum phase.

USE AND VEGETATION: Most areas are cleared and used for crops. Tobacco, corn, cotton, peanuts, and soybeans are the principal crops. Forested areas are in mixed hardwoods and pine. Native trees include oaks, hickory, dogwoods, and longleaf and loblolly pine.

DISTRIBUTION AND EXTENT: Coastal Plain of North Carolina, Delaware, South Carolina, and Virginia. The series is of moderate extent.

MLRA OFFICE RESPONSIBLE: Raleigh, North Carolina

SERIES ESTABLISHED: Duplin County, North Carolina; 1955.

REMARKS: Diagnostic horizons and features recognized in this pedon are:

Ochric epipedon - the zone from the surface to a depth of 24 inches (the Ap and E horizons)

Arenic feature - the zone with sandy textures from the surface to 24 inches (the Ap and E horizons)

Argillic horizon - the zone from a depth of 24 to 42 inches (the Bt and BC horizons)

SIR=NC0075, NC0132 (WET SUBSTRATUM)

MLRA=133A, 153A, 153B

REVISED=2/6/96, MHC

ADDITIONAL DATA:

TABULAR SERIES DATA:

SOI-5	Soil Name	Slope	Airtemp	FrFr/Seas	Precip	Elevation	
SOI-5	FloodL	FloodH	Watertable	Kind	Months	Bedrock	Hardness
SOI-5	Depth	Texture		3-Inch	No-10	Clay%	-CEC-
SOI-5	Depth	-pH-	O.M.	Salin	Permeab	Shnk-Swll	

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KINSTON SERIES

The Kinston series consists of very deep, poorly drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in stratified loamy and sandy recent alluvium. These soils are on flood plains on the Middle Coastal Plain. Slopes range from 0 to 2 percent. Near the type location mean annual air temperature is 62 degrees F., and mean annual rainfall is 48 inches.

TAXONOMIC CLASS: Fine-loamy, siliceous, semiactive, acid, thermic Fluvaqueptic Endoaquepts

TYPICAL PEDON: Kinston loam--forested. (Colors are for moist soil unless otherwise stated.)

Oe--1 to 0 inches; dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) partially decomposed temporal and discontinuous layer of hardwood leaves and grass.

A--0 to 5 inches; dark gray (10YR 4/1) loam; moderate medium granular structure; friable; many medium and coarse roots; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary. (3 to 10 inches thick)

Ag--5 to 12 inches; gray (10YR 5/1) loam; massive in place and parts to weak medium granular structure; friable; slightly sticky, slightly plastic; many medium and coarse roots; common fine distinct brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) masses of iron accumulation; strongly acid; clear wavy boundary. (0 to 10 inches thick)

Bg--12 to 48 inches; gray (10YR 6/1) clay loam; weak medium subangular blocky structure; firm; slightly sticky, slightly plastic; few medium roots; silt coatings on walls of coarse pores; common fine distinct strong brown and common medium distinct brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) masses of iron accumulation; strongly acid; gradual smooth boundary.

Cg1--48 to 60 inches; gray (10YR 5/1) clay loam; massive; firm; slightly sticky, slightly plastic; few silt coatings on walls of coarse pores; few fine distinct brown and common medium faint light gray (10YR 7/1) iron depletions; strongly acid; gradual smooth boundary.

Cg2--60 to 72 inches; gray (10YR 5/1) gravelly loamy sand; single grained; very friable; strongly acid.

TYPE LOCATION: Wayne County, North Carolina; 1 mile west of Goldsboro on North Carolina Highway 581, 500 feet east of Little River Bridge and 100 feet north of North Carolina Highway 581.

RANGE IN CHARACTERISTICS: The loamy sediments range from 40 to 60 inches or more over gravel that is stratified with loamy and sandy material. Organic carbon content decreases irregularly to depths of 50 inches. Dark concretions are common in some pedons. The soils are strongly acid or very strongly acid except for surface layers that have been limed.

The A or Ap horizon has hue of 10YR, value of 2 through 5, and chroma of 1 to 3; or is neutral, and has

value of 5. Where value is 2 or 3, the horizon is less than 6 inches thick. Some pedons have an Ag horizon that has hue of 10YR, value of 5 and chroma of 1; or it is neutral, and has value of 5. Texture of the A, Ap and Ag horizons is loamy sand, loam, sandy loam, fine sandy loam, silt loam.

The Bg horizon has hue of 10YR to 5Y, value of 3 to 7, and chroma of 1 to 2; hue of 5GY to 5BG, value of 6, and chroma of 1; or is neutral and has value of 4 to 6. Masses of iron accumulation of higher chroma are few to common. It fine sandy loam, sandy loam, loam, silt loam, clay loam, or sandy clay loam. The 10 to 40 inch particle-size control section contains an average of 20 to 35 percent clay, and has 15 percent or more fine sand or coarser particles.

The Cg horizon has hue of 10YR to 5Y, value of 3 to 7, and chroma of 1 to 2; hue of 5GY to 5BG, value of 6, and chroma of 1; or is neutral and has value of 4 to 6. Masses of iron accumulation of higher chroma are few to common. The fine-earth fraction is sand, loamy sand, loamy fine sand, sandy loam, fine sandy loam, loam, sandy clay loam, or clay loam. The sandy textures in the Cg horizon are commonly below a depth of 40 inches except for thin lenses in some pedons.

Some pedons have an Ab horizon that has hue of 7.5YR to 2.5Y, value of 3, and chroma of 1 or 2. It is sandy loam, fine sandy loam, loam, or sandy clay loam.

COMPETING SERIES: These are the Angelina and Bleakwood series in the same family and the Bibb, Chastain, Chewacla, Mantachie, Tawcaw, and Wehadkee series in other families. Angelina soils are saturated for longer periods of time and vegetation is principally sedges, button bush, and giant sawgrass. Bleakwood soils are poorly drained, lack strata in the control section and have slightly warmer temperatures. Bibb soils contain less than 18 percent clay in the 10 to 40 inch control section. Chastain and Tawcaw soils have more than 35 percent clay in the 10 to 40 inch control section. Chewacla and Mantachie soils have colors of higher chroma just below the A1 or Ap. Also, Chewacla soils have mixed mineralogy. Wehadkee soils have mixed mineralogy and are nonacid.

GEOGRAPHIC SETTING: Kinston soils are nearly level and are on flood plains in the Middle Coastal Plain. Slopes are less than 2 percent. The soil formed in stratified loamy and sandy recent alluvium. Near the type location, mean annual air temperature is 62 degrees F., and the mean annual precipitation is 48 inches.

GEOGRAPHICALLY ASSOCIATED SOILS: In addition to the competing Bibb, Chastain, Mantachie, and Tawcaw series, is the Johnston series. Johnston soils are coarse-loamy and have an umbric epipedon.

DRAINAGE AND PERMEABILITY: Poorly drained; slow to ponded runoff; moderate permeability. Kinston soils are flooded a few to several times each year and the water table is within 10 inches of the surface during periods of high rainfall.

USE AND VEGETATION: Drained areas are used mainly for pasture, corn, soybeans, and other general farm crops. Most of this soil is in forests which consist chiefly of water-tolerant hardwoods such as sweetgum, blackgum, water oak, poplar, hickories, beech, elm, and ironwood. Loblolly pine is grown in some drained areas.

DISTRIBUTION AND EXTENT: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The series is of large extent.

MLRA OFFICE RESPONSIBLE: Raleigh, North Carolina

SERIES ESTABLISHED: Wayne County, North Carolina; 1969.

REMARKS: Classification was changed from entisol to inceptisol (9/98) to correspond with the 8th edition of the Keys to Soil Taxonomy.

Diagnostic horizons and soil features recognized in this pedon are:

Ochric epipedon--the zone from the surface to a depth of 12 inches (A and Ag horizons)

Cambic horizon--the zone from 12 to 48 inches (Bg horizon)

MLRA: 133A, 153B, 153A SIR: NC0044

TABULAR SERIES DATA:

SOI-5	Soil Name	Slope	Airtemp	FrFr/Seas	Precip	Elevation
NC0044	KINSTON	0- 2	59- 70	200-240	40- 60	50- 300

SOI-5	FloodL	FloodH	Watertable	Kind	Months	Bedrock	Hardness
NC0044	RARE	COMMON	0-1.0	APPARENT	NOV-JUN	60-60	

SOI-5	Depth	Texture	3-Inch	No-10	Clay%	-CEC-
NC0044	0-12	FSL	0- 0	98-100	5-18	3- 9
NC0044	0-12	L SIL	0- 0	98-100	5-27	3- 11
NC0044	12-60	L CL SCL	0- 0	95-100	18-35	3- 10
NC0044	60-72	VAR	0- 0	-	-	-

SOI-5	Depth	-pH-	O.M.	Salin	Permeab	Shnk-Swll
NC0044	0-12	4.5- 6.0	2.-5.	0- 0	2.0- 6.0	LOW
NC0044	0-12	4.5- 6.0	2.-5.	0- 0	0.6- 2.0	LOW
NC0044	12-60	4.5- 5.5	0.-3.	0- 0	0.6- 2.0	LOW
NC0044	60-72	-	-	-	-	-

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LAKELAND SERIES

The Lakeland series consists of very deep, excessively drained, rapidly permeable soils that formed in thick beds of eolian or marine sands. Slopes are dominantly 0 to 12 percent but range to 85 percent in dissected areas.

TAXONOMIC CLASS: Thermic, coated Typic Quartzipsamments

TYPICAL PEDON: Lakeland sand--forested. (Colors are for moist soil.)

A--0 to 3 inches; very dark brown (10YR 3/2) crushed and rubbed sand; single grained; loose; common uncoated sand grains; common fine and medium roots; strongly acid, clear wavy boundary. (2 to 9 inches thick)

C1--3 to 10 inches; yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sand; common medium faint yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) mottles; single grained; loose; common fine and medium roots; few uncoated sand grains; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary.

C2--10 to 43 inches; yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sand; single grained; loose; few fine roots; few uncoated sand grains; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary.

C3--43 to 64 inches; yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sand; few medium faint pale brown (10YR 7/3, 7/4) mottles; single grained; loose; many uncoated sand grains; strongly acid; gradual wavy boundary.

C4--64 to 80 inches; very pale brown (10YR 7/4) sand; few medium distinct yellowish red (5YR 4/8) mottles; single grained; loose; many uncoated sand grains; strongly acid. (The C horizon extends to 80 inches or more.)

TYPE LOCATION: Calhoun County, Florida; 6 miles west of Chason, Florida on State Highway 274 NE1/4NE1/4, sec. 31, T. 2 N., R. 10 W.

RANGE IN CHARACTERISTICS: All horizons are sand or fine sand with 5 to 10 percent silt plus clay in the 10- to 40- inch control section. The soil is very strongly acid through moderately acid throughout except where limed.

The A horizon has hue of 10YR or 2.5Y, value of 3 to 5, and chroma of 1 to 4.

The C horizon has hue of 10YR, value of 4 to 7, and chroma of 3 to 8; hue of 2.5Y, value of 7 or 8, and chroma of 4 to 8; or hue of 7.5YR or 5YR, value of 5 or 6, and chroma of 6 or 8.

Most of the sand grains between 10 and 40 inches are coated. Small pockets of light gray or white sand grains or yellow or brown mottles may occur in some pedons below depths of 40 inches. Some pedons

have an A/C horizon that is a mixture of gray and yellowish brown.

COMPETING SERIES: These are the Alaga, Alpin, Bigbee, Cainhoy, Catpoint, Darden, Duffern, Foxworth, Glentosh, Tonkawa and Wando series. Alaga and Darden soils have 10 to 25 percent silt plus clay in the 10 to 40 inch control section. Alpin and Catpoint soils have lamella that totals less than 6 inches thick within depths of 80 inches. Bigbee and Foxworth soils have a seasonal water table within depths of 48 inches. Cainhoy soils have a Bh horizon. Duffern and Tonkawa soils are dry in some parts of the moisture control section for more than 125 days. Glentosh soils can have loamy fine sand textures and they are drier. Wando soils are loamy fine sand or fine sand to a depth of 40 to 60 inches and commonly contain more silt plus clay.

GEOGRAPHIC SETTING: Lakeland soils are on broad, nearly level to very steep uplands in the Lower Coastal Plain. Slope gradients are commonly 0 to 12 percent but may range up to 85 percent in highly dissected areas. The soil formed in marine, eolian, or fluvial sands. Mean annual precipitation is about 45 to 60 inches and mean annual air temperature is about 62 to 71 degrees F.

GEOGRAPHICALLY ASSOCIATED SOILS: These are the competing Foxworth soils, and Chipley, Kershaw, Kureb, Osier, Plummer, Troup, and Wakulla soils. Chipley soils occur closer to streams or in hillside seep areas. They have chroma of 2 or less between 20 and 40 inches and are seasonally wet. Kureb soils occur in the coastal areas. They have less than 5 percent silt plus clay in the 10- to 40- inch control section, and they have light gray E horizons. Kershaw soils have less than 5 percent silt plus clay in the 10- to 40- inch control section. Osier and Plummer soils are poorly drained and occur along drainageways. Troup soils occur in the same landscape with Lakeland, and they have Bt horizons. Wakulla soils have Bt horizons, and they occur on more gently sloping areas of upland plains and stream terraces.

DRAINAGE AND PERMEABILITY: Excessively drained, rapid permeability, slow runoff. Depth to seasonal water table is more than 80 inches.

USE AND VEGETATION: Natural vegetation consists of blackjack, turkey and post oak; scattered longleaf pine; and an understory of creeping bluestem, sandy bluestem, lopsided indiagrass, hairy panicum, fringleaf paspalum and native annual forbs. Many areas are cleared and used for peanuts, watermelons, peaches, corn, tobacco, and tame pasture.

DISTRIBUTION AND EXTENT: Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain and sandhills of the thermic belt from Texas to Virginia. The series is extensive.

MLRA OFFICE RESPONSIBLE: Auburn, Alabama

SERIES ESTABLISHED: Alachua County, Florida; 1947.

REMARKS: Diagnostic horizons and features in this pedon:

Ochric epipedon - 0 to 3 inches (A horizon).

Appendix H



Walton County
Board of County Commissioners
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

26-1198

Meeting: Board of County Commissioners - Jun 30 2026
Department: Environmental Services
Submitted by: Melinda Gates
Staff Contact: Melinda Gates, Environmental Manager

Approved as to Legal Form: N/A **Reviewed by Finance:** N/A

☐ **Consent Agenda** ☒ **Regular Agenda** ☐ **Public Hearing**

TITLE/REQUESTED ACTION:

Request permission to form the Morrison Springs Advisory Group and host a public meeting on August 20, 2026 to discuss the amendment to the Morrison Springs Management Plan as required by Florida Statute 259.032(8).

PURPOSE / SUMMARY EXPLANATION OR HISTORY:

Background:

Morrison Springs area was purchased by the State of Florida in June 2004 as part of the Florida Forever Program through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land Acquisition. This 200-acre property was the largest intact, undeveloped privately-owned tract in Walton County with a second magnitude spring which discharges 10-100 cubic feet per second. The property was acquired for the express goals of preserving and protecting Morrison Springs and its surrounding lands from the current and potential future effects of commercial or residential development, as well as potential impacts from agriculture that could contribute to the degradation of water quality and the health of the spring.

In 2004, through a Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida Lease Agreement, Walton County became the managing entity of the Morrison Springs Park.

In 2007, Walton County submitted the original land management plan for consideration by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The purpose of the land management plan was to meet the requirements of Florida Statute 253.034 and 259.032, and Chapter 18-2 Florida Administrative Code.

Walton County is proposing an amendment to the land management plan for Morrison Springs to add additional recreational facilities to address user conflicts at the site. As required by Chapter 259.032, F.S., Walton County needs to form a Morrison Springs Advisory Committee that consist of representatives of the lead land managing agency, local private property owners, soil and water conservation district, local conservation organization, and a local elected official. Attached is a list of recommended members for the Advisory Committee. All recommended members have been contacted and are willing to serve.

Walton County staff will host a public meeting according to Chapter 259.032, F.S. on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 10 AM in the Defuniak Springs Board Room. The public meeting notice is attached and will be advertised on both the County website and local paper.

Request:

Staff respectfully request the approval of the recommended Morrison Springs Advisory Group and allow staff to host a public meeting of the Morrison Springs Advisory Group on Thursday, August 20, 2026, from 10 AM to 12 PM at the Defuniak Springs Board Room to discuss the amendment to the Morrison Springs Management Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Morrison Springs Advisory Board 2026](#)
[2026 - MSMP Advisory Committee -public notice](#)

DRAFT



Walton County
Public Works Division
Environmental Department

117 Montgomery Circle, DeFuniak Springs, Florida 32435

Phone 850-892-8108

Facsimile 850-892-8094

Date: July 13, 2026
To: Herald Breeze, 850-892-2270
From: Melinda Gates, Walton County Environmental
RE: Legal ad to be placed in Thursday, July 16, 2026 papers
Please send proof of publication to Melinda Gates and to Finance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

You are hereby notified that the Morrison Springs Management Plan Advisory Committee will hold a public workshop to present the revisions to the Morrison Springs Management Plan on Thursday, August 20, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM CST.

The meeting will be held at the Defuniak Springs Board Room, 571 E Nelson Ave, Defuniak Springs, Florida.

Two or more Walton County Commissioners may attend. These meetings are open to the public.

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, whenever any board or commissioner of any state agency or authority, or of any agency or authority of any county, municipal corporation, or other political subdivision, which has scheduled a meeting at which official acts are to be taken receives, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, a written request by a physically handicapped person to attend the meeting, directed to the chairperson or director of such board, commission, agency, or authority, such chairperson or director shall provide a manner by which such person may attend the meeting at its scheduled site or reschedule the meeting to a site which would be accessible to such person.

In accordance with Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, all persons are advised that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Please be governed accordingly.

Appendix I

Comprehensive Plan Directives

Objective R-3.4: Passive Recreation

The County will recognize the value of very localized recreation and implement policies to protect and increase the value of the passive recreational experiences available in the immediate vicinity of dwellings, streets and other areas that are in continual view of humans during the normal course of their activities.

Policy R-3.4.1: A passive use recreational value survey similar to those conducted by the City of Seattle, Washington, will be conducted by County and state agency staff.

Policy R-3.4.2: An Urban Wildlife survey will be conducted by County and state agency staff, to assess the functional assistance needed in the area, including industrial rooftop in the Destin area known to be particularly important to the Least Tern for nesting habitat. The survey shall include polling of knowledgeable individuals such as agency personnel in the area and non-game officials of the FGFWFC operating in Panama City and in Tallahassee to constitute a first step in building a basis for action. This survey will be compiled by the end of 1995 and its recommendations will be considered during construction of all facilities. Creation of functional support for species that would stand to increase in population as a result of these actions will be used for mitigation as preferred alternative to area-based mitigation efforts.

Policy R-3.4.3: The County and state agencies shall create an accounting system to assess the status of the passive recreational potential and the areas most occupied and viewed by human users. The primary developers of this accounting system should be the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fort Collins, CO. The process needs to be performed annually. The system should be designed both to assess the passive recreation experience provided by locally occurring, easily viewed wildlife and to inform people of the experience that is possible in the area affected by this project.

Policy R-3.4.4: Upon acquisition of lands to be used as passive parks, the County shall evaluate the extent & location of appropriate recreational facilities consistent with observations areas, nature trails, boardwalks, & picnic areas. These facilities should be designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes impacts to the natural resources that occurs on or adjacent to the site.

Policy R-3.4.5: Upon acquisition of lands to be used as passive parks, the County shall evaluate the extent and the location of appropriate recreational facilities consistent with the objectives of the park. Facilities to be considered should include wildlife/scenic observation areas, nature trails, boardwalks, and picnic areas. These facilities should be designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes impacts to the natural resources that occurs on or adjacent to the site.

Objective R-3.5: Functional wildlife corridors will be retained where practicable for those species occurring in reasonably sustainable populations on the peninsula.

Policy R-3.5.1: Strategies for the retention of these crossing points (for wildlife corridors) and their functionality will be developed by the County and state agencies not later than the end of 1999.

Policy R-3.5.2: Crossing points of existing paved roadways for those species of primary management interest will be known & added to the GIS data base by 1998.

Policy R-3.5.3: The potential for maintaining habitat quality functionality across paved road gaps in otherwise linked habitat area segments will be known by 2001.

Policy R-3.5.4: The primary corridors will be determined as refinements from the habitat lineations generated as the habitat or GIS Biodiversity Map. Three primary patterns should be respected: 1) The high-dry longleaf pine/turkey oak ridge running east-west through the center of the project area; 2) An area along the beach dune line paralleling the coast; and 3) A corridor along the stream lines and associated wetlands and floodplains, which generally run north-south. The stream line corridor should include the stream, the associated shrubby-brushy area adjacent to the stream line and a strip of the upland that is amenable to easy fire management. The widths of these stream line corridors should be evaluated based on the studies of wetland and surface water buffer zones that have been prepared by the Center for Wetlands at the University of Florida.

GOAL R-6: TO REINFORCE THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY THROUGH THE STRATEGIC PLACEMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD & COMMUNITY PARKS

Objective R-6.1: The County shall require neighborhood & community parks as Walton County develops.

Policy R-6.1.1: The County shall prioritize use of the Parkland Dedication funds to encourage & facilitate the development of community parks in the County.

Policy R-6.1.2: Use fifteen (15) acres as a minimum size for a neighborhood park and twenty-five (25) acres for a community park. Active and passive facilities shall be included.

Policy R-6.1.3: Neighborhood parks shall be located central to a neighborhood and shall be provided through the development approval process.

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Policy R-6.1.5: By 1997, work with the Walton County School Board to jointly fund and program park facilities.

GOAL R-7: WALTON COUNTY SHALL PROVIDE ADEQUATE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY AND VISITORS TO THE COUNTY.

Objective R-7.1: Walton County shall annually evaluate its system of parks and recreation to determine deficiencies and future needs, based on level of service requirements and design standards.

Policy R-7.1.1: The level of service for recreation shall be composed of a “core system” of parklands, with a minimum of 6.25 acres of recreation and open space per 1,000 population. More specific requirements as addressed to specific locations, population centers, and needs of age groups inhabiting those population centers will be addressed in the design standards to be developed and included in the Land Development Regulations.

Policy R-7.1.2: Design Standards for development of new recreation sites and redevelopment of existing recreation sites shall be developed and included in the Land Development Regulations.

Policy R-7.1.3: The County shall prioritize current deficiencies for renovation of existing recreational facilities. Criteria for deficiency ranking shall be developed and included in the Land Development Regulations.

Policy R-7.1.4: The County shall examine funding sources for future recreation through utilization of the Grants Department.

Policy R-7.1.5: [PLAT FEE.] The County shall continue to require subdividers to dedicate a minimum of 5% percent of the gross area of a subdivision development for public recreation purposes, including public beach accessways, or pay 5% of the assessed land value, as established in the Land Development Regulations.

Policy R-7.1.6: The County shall make parks a part of community design through its LDC. Parks shall connect to bikeways and greenways (mandatory linkage in development if bikeways and greenways exist).

Objective R-7.2: The County shall annually designate target areas which are deficient in recreational opportunities.

Policy R-7.2.1: The County shall coordinate the South Walton Tourist Development Council and the municipalities of Walton County in soliciting information regarding recreation from visitors and residents of Walton County, in order to target the recreational needs of the County.

Policy R-7.2.2: The County shall evaluate population centers/clusters for placement of recreation facilities in areas deficient in recreation opportunities and rank the results in order of need.

Policy R-7.2.3: The County shall follow the Level of Service guidelines for recreational facilities as established in the Recreation and Open Space Element of the Walton County

Comprehensive Plan (Policies R-4.4.3. and R-7.1.1) and include the design standards for recreation in the Land Development Regulations.

Policy R-7.2.4: The County shall annually examine the potential for pedestrian recreation in the form of bicycle paths and jogging paths in existing recreation and open space sites and will include pedestrian recreation in the performance standards for recreational facilities in the Land Development Regulations.

Objective R-7.3: ACCESSIBILITY & SAFETY

The County shall annually evaluate potential sites for future recreation.

Policy R-7.3.1: The County shall provide accessibility to future recreation sites, which shall include but is not limited to: acquisition of needed rights-of-way, handicapped parking spaces, barrier-free access, operational automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian access, as established in the Land Development Regulations.

Policy R-7.3.2: The County shall provide for the safety of users of public facilities, which shall include but is not limited to: installation of signs, lighting, fencing and rails, as needed; children's play areas to be located at least 100 feet from vehicular paths or separated by a barrier.

Objective R-7.4: Coordination

The County shall coordinate plans for renovation of existing recreation sites and construction of future sites with the South Walton Tourist Development Council, and appropriate State Agencies.

Policy R-7.4.1: The County Grants Department shall continue to coordinate funding cycles for recreation and open space with the South Walton Tourist Development Council.

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Comprehensive Plan Directives

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Appendix J

**The BREEZE combined with
The DeFuniak Springs Herald
Published Weekly
DeFuniak Springs, Florida 32435**

STATE OF FLORIDA

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared Gary B. Woodham, who on oath says that he is the editor-publisher-manager of THE DeFUNIAK SPRINGS-HERALD BREEZE, INC., a Florida newspaper published at DeFuniak Springs in Walton County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement being

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

in the matter of

**MORRISON SPRINGS MANAGEMENT
PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

In the Circuit Court for Walton County, Florida,
was published in said newspaper in the issue(s)
of

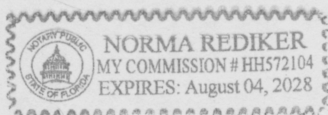
JULY 15, 2026
JULY 22, 2026
JULY 29, 2026
AUGUST 5, 2026

Affiant further says that the said The DeFuniak Springs Herald-Breeze, Inc. is a newspaper published at DeFuniak Springs, in said Walton County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said Walton County, Florida, each week and has been entered as periodicals matter at the post office in said Walton County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that he has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

known to me personally,

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this the
5th day of AUGUST, A.D., 2026

Norma Rediker



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Please be governed accordingly.

9387Z

7-15,22,29;8-5



Add a Caption

 Look Up **Place** >

Wednesday • Jul 15, 2026 • 10:11 AM

[Adjust](#)

IMG_0082

Apple iPhone 15

DRAFT

HEIF



Main Camera — 26 mm *f*1.6

24 MP • 4284 × 5712 • 4.4 MB

ISO 50

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Walton County
Board of County Commissioners
AGENDA ITEM REPORT

26-1198

Meeting: Board of County Commissioners - Jun 30 2026
Department: Environmental Services
Submitted by: Melinda Gates
Staff Contact: Melinda Gates, Environmental Manager

Approved as to Legal Form: N/A **Reviewed by Finance:** N/A

☐ **Consent Agenda** ☒ **Regular Agenda** ☐ **Public Hearing**

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Walton County staff will host a public meeting according to Chapter 259.032, F.S. on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 10 AM in the Defuniak Springs Board Room. The public meeting notice is attached and will be advertised on both the County website and local paper.

Request:

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ATTACHMENTS:

[Morrison Springs Advisory Board 2026](#)
[2026 - MSMP Advisory Committee -public notice](#)

DRAFT

MORRISON SPRING MANAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP

Brad Alford

69 Montgomery Circle
Defuniak Springs, FL 32435

Phone: (850)951-7010
Cell: (850)401-1122
Email: brad.alford@mywaltonfl.gov

Lead Managing Agency**Jeff Talbert**

768 CJ Laird Road
Ponce De Leon, FL 32455

Phone:
Cell: (850)443-0105
Email: jtalbert@atlantabg.org

Local Property Owner**Billy Bearden**

1600 Co Hwy 181-C
Ponce De Leon, FL 32455

Phone:
Cell: (850)585-6595
Fax:
E-mail: billy.bearden@mywaltonfl.gov

Local Property Owner**JB Hillard**

59 Bay Ave
Defuniak Springs, FL 32433

Phone:
Cell: (850)333-3854
Email: bay59@spectrum.net

Local Property Owner/Bent Rod Fishing Club**Melody Hughes**

239 John Baldwin Road, Suite B
Defuniak Springs, FL 32433

Phone: (850)401-3318
Cell:
Email: melody.hughes@fl.nacdnet.net

Soil and Water Conservation Group**Robert Steele**

81 Water Management Drive
Havana, FL 32333

Phone: (850)539-5999
Cell:
Email: robert.steele@nwfwater.com
Benjamin.Faure@nwfwater.com

Alternate: Ben Faure

Local Conservation Organization - NFWMD**Danny Glidewell**

444 Triple G Road
Defuniak Springs FL 32433

Phone: (850)892-4020
Cell:
Email: danny.glidewell@mywaltonfl.gov

Elected Official

COASTAL DUNE LAKES ADVISORY BOARD MEETS ON THE FOURTH THURSDAY WHEN SCHEDULED FROM 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM AT THE DISTRICT 5 COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM LOCATED AT 70 LOGAN LANE IN SANTA ROSA BEACH, FL.

Staff Contact:

Melinda Gates, Environmental Manager
117 Montgomery Circle
Defuniak Springs, FL 32433

Phone: (850)892-8108
Email: melinda.gates@mywaltonfl.gov





Walton County
Public Works Division
Environmental Department

117 Montgomery Circle, DeFuniak Springs, Florida 32435

Phone 850-892-8108

Facsimile 850-892-8094

Date: July 13, 2026
To: Herald Breeze, 850-892-2270
From: Melinda Gates, Walton County Environmental
RE: Legal ad to be placed in Thursday, July 16, 2026 papers
Please send proof of publication to Melinda Gates and to Finance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

You are hereby notified that the Morrison Springs Management Plan Advisory Committee will hold a public workshop to present the revisions to the Morrison Springs Management Plan on Thursday, August 20, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM CST.

The meeting will be held at the Defuniak Springs Board Room, 571 E Nelson Ave, Defuniak Springs, Florida.

Two or more Walton County Commissioners may attend. These meetings are open to the public.

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, whenever any board or commissioner of any state agency or authority, or of any agency or authority of any county, municipal corporation, or other political subdivision, which has scheduled a meeting at which official acts are to be taken receives, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, a written request by a physically handicapped person to attend the meeting, directed to the chairperson or director of such board, commission, agency, or authority, such chairperson or director shall provide a manner by which such person may attend the meeting at its scheduled site or reschedule the meeting to a site which would be accessible to such person.

In accordance with Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, all persons are advised that, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Please be governed accordingly.



Walton County

Environmental Services Public Workshop Meeting

Public Workshop Agenda - Final

Thursday, August 20, 2026

10:00 AM

DFS Board Room

CALL TO ORDER

WELCOME FROM WALTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER DANNY GLIDEWELL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL, QUORUM AND PUBLIC NOTICE PROOF

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please limit comments to three minutes or less on agenda items only

MORRISON SPRINGS MANAGEMENT PLAN PRESENTATION

ACTION REQUEST

DRAFT

Request to approve the amended Morrison Springs Management Plan and include public comments as an appendix of the plan.

OTHER PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please limit comments to three minutes or less

Public comments may also be submitted via email to morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov. All comments must be received by August 31, 2026.

ADJOURN



MINUTES

Board of County Commissioners

Tuesday, June 30, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

South Walton Annex Board Room

Regular Meeting

COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Chair Brad Drake, Vice-Chair Tony Anderson, Commissioner Dan Curry, Commissioner Danny Glidewell, and Commissioner Donna Johns

STAFF PRESENT: County Attorney Clay Adkinson, County Administrator Brian Kellenberger, and Chief Financial Officer Melissa Thomason

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Drake called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

OPENING COMMENTS

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Recognition of community organizations for unselfishly supporting the response to the Villa Tasso Tornado

Jeff Goldberg, Director of Emergency Management, recognized Stronghold Solutions, Florida Baptist Association, Team Rubicon, American Red Cross, Walton County Public Works, Kodiak Tree Service, and the Matrix Community Outreach Center, by presenting plaques in appreciation of their dedication and contributions during the Villa Tasso tornado response.

TOURISM DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

52. Recognition of Roux 30A, Daytrader Tiki Bar and Restaurant, and Evie Mae's BBQ, for being named "Recommended Restaurants" in the 2026 Michelin Guide

Matt Algarin, Director of Tourism, recognized Evie Mae's BBQ, Daytrader Tiki Bar and Restaurant, and Roux 30A for being named "Recommended Restaurants" in the 2026 Michelin Guide.

Chair Drake exited the meeting at 1:11 p.m. and returned at 1:13 p.m.

CONSIDER ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Commissioner Curry requested to remove Consent Agenda Item 19 for further discussion.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Glidewell, second by Commissioner Johns, to approve the agenda as presented

Motion carried 5-0 by the following votes:

Ayes: Chair Drake, Vice-Chair Anderson, Commissioner Curry, Commissioner Glidewell, and Commissioner Johns

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Johns, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of Consent Agenda Item 19 for further discussion.

Chair Drake noted approval without objection.

DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

- 48. Request approval to form the Morrison Springs Advisory Group and host a public meeting on August 20, 2026 to discuss the amendment to the Morrison Springs Management Plan as required by Florida Statute 259.032(8)**

Melinda Gates, Environmental Manager, presented the request.

Motion by Commissioner Johns, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to approve the request as presented.

Motion carried 5-0 by the following votes:

Ayes: Chair Drake, Vice-Chair Anderson, Commissioner Curry, Commissioner Glidewell, and Commissioner Johns



Environmental Services Public Workshop and Advisory Group Meeting

Public Workshop Meeting - Minutes

Thursday, August 20, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

North Walton Boardroom

ATTENDANCE

Present:

Environmental Services Staff:

Billy McKee - Environmental Services Director

Hallie Troell - Environmental Scientist

Ben King - Environmental Services Coordinator

Melinda Gates - Environmental Manager

Advisory Group Members:

Brad Alford

Mellody Hughes

Jeff Talbert

Robert Steel

Jeff Hilliard

Absent:

Commissioner Danny Glidewell

Advisory Group Member Billy Bearden

CALL TO ORDER:

10:05 by Billy McKee

INVOCATION:

10:06 given by Technology Specialist Jason Cook

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

10:06 led by Technology Specialist Jason Cook

MORRISON SPRINGS MANAGEMENT PLAN PRESENTATION:

Given by Billy McKee

The LMP update was presented with a Power Point Presentation providing background, history and proposed updates to the LMP.

PRESENTATION: 10:08 – 10:19

A presentation was made to the Morrison Springs Advisory Group by Billy McKee providing an update to the current MSLMP and proposed future improvements and amenities. The proposed future improvements include adding a boat launch for motorized vessels with restroom facilities, access road, parking and stormwater facilities. The proposed boat launch will help reduce user conflicts by providing separate areas for motorized vessels and non-motorized (paddleboards, kayaks, etc.). The presentation included aerial photos showing the proposed location along with conceptual drawings and an estimate of probable cost of approximately \$3.4 million.

The plan goes to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) for the official review and approval process

Final state approval could happen by December 2026.

There is no funding for the proposed improvements at this time, however, Walton County will look for available grants and funding through the County budget process.

ADVISORY GROUP & PUBLIC COMMENTS: 10:19-10:32

Advisory Group Member Comment - Jeff Talbert: Between the old segment and new, will there be a gate?

Billy McKee: Yes, a gate is proposed to be installed.

Advisory Group Member Comment - Jeff Talbert: Is there any proposal for taking the small section out and restoring that land?

Billy McKee: We will look into this possibility.

- This is under consideration. There has been a suggestion of the possibility of using this section for trails or additional picnic area.

Advisory Group Member Comment - JB Hilliard: How will the land be built up where the roads and facilities are proposed?

Billy McKee: It will depend on permitting.

-This will be dependent on engineering design and environmental permitting; however, we do not plan to place unnecessary fill material in the project area, and we plan to avoid and minimize impacts to the maximum extent possible.

Advisory Group Member Comment - JB Hilliard: Is there some way we can limit house boats from the river meeting with the spring run?

Billy McKee: While we all agree we do not want to allow house boats, we are not sure we have authority to prevent this, however we will need to check with legal.

-Will seek legal advice to determine what authority we may have to address this.

Billy McKee: Can the water management district limit anything such as the houseboats.

Robert Steele (West Florida Water Management District): No. Water Management does not regulate vessel usage in the waters.

Public Comment - David Byrd (Citizen): Will the new boat launch remain unpaid?

Billy McKee: Yes.

David Byrd (Citizen): Will it come off Grassy Landing Road?

Billy McKee: No, Morrison Springs Road.

Public Comment - David Byrd (Citizen): How much will it be in the flood plain?

Billy McKee: A large portion will be in the flood zone.

The entire Morrison Springs parcel lies in the flood zone AE. Flood zone AE is a high-risk flood zone that is close to floodplains and bodies of water, like rivers and lakes. The entire project footprint is proposed to impact approximately 6.72 acres, where approximately 2.37 acres will be impacted for the proposed road segments and approximately 3.9 acres will be impacted for the proposed boat launch facility. The wetland impact is proposed to impact approximately 1.03 acres of freshwater forested and shrub wetland.

Public Comment - David Byrd (Citizen): Please take Morrison Springs off of the tourism list.

-Comment noted.

Advisory Group Member Comment - Jeff Talbert: Has the county looked into or determined a maximum capacity based on the available spring area and water size?

Brad Alford: The county has discussed it in-house and currently uses available parking spaces to determine capacity. Once all spaces are occupied no more cars can come in until someone leaves.

Billy McKee: What is the average daily usage?

Brad Alford: Not sure but we are at capacity with the septic system.

-The gate house monitors the entrance and exit of motor vehicles to help prevent overcrowding.

Advisory Group Member Comment - Brad Alford: In reference to the question if the existing road will remain, might be a good idea to keep it so when the other floods boats can get to the launch

Public Comment - David Byrd (Citizen): The capacity being handled right now is pretty well managed, which is working well; alcohol and drug use has declined

Public Comment - David Byrd (Citizen): Will the spring run allow motorized vessels, and will the springhead be off limits to motorized users now?

Jeff Talbert: No

-Motorized vessels are not prohibited.

Advisory Group Member Comment - Brad Alford: Are there any talks on adding additional boardwalks? Beach area is extremely congested and if we could add some boardwalks to alleviate the main boardwalk and create more options for the people to spread out? Possibly come off existing boardwalk on both sides?

Billy McKee: We will add to the comments and look into it.

-There is not currently a plan to add any additional boardwalks.

ACTION REQUEST: 10:32

Billy McKee: Request to approve the amended Morrison Springs Management Plan and move the draft forward to DEP and the ARC for review and approval

Motion to approve – **Jeff Talbert**

2nd – **Brad Alford**

MOTION APPROVED

PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov. ALL COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 31, 2026.

ADJOURN



Morrison Springs Temporary E-mail Address Comments

July 10, 2026 - August 31, 2026

E-mail Comment #1:

From: Darren & Sarah Moss <coconutmoss@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2026 9:51 PM
To: Melinda Gates <melinda.gates@mywaltonfl.gov>; Morrison Springs <morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov>
Subject: Public Comments: Morrison Springs Advisory Council

Hello,

This email is in advance of the 10AM August 20, 2026 Environmental Services Public Workshop to be held at the "DFS Board Room" and I am hopeful it's contents could be shared with the board for review and discussion by the newly reestablished Morrison Springs Advisory Group. Also request these comments to be included in the Appendix of the final adopted plan as is stated in the Environmental Services Public Workshop meeting agenda.

I am afraid I cannot appear in person, and could not locate the Management Plan referenced in the Meeting Notice. So these comments are based on the most current management found via the State portal, reflecting \$11,388 in collected fees for April 2026. The amended management plan was not attached or linked to the agenda, so I would this to be a request for that document please.

The Management Plan that we were able to locate on file with the State of Florida states with specificity:

- No removal of trees other than nonnative species is allowed without prior written approval of the State of Florida.
- No major land alterations may occur without written permission from the State of Florida.

Additionally, a Timber Assessment by State of Florida in 2005 specifically stated: "The hardwood floodplains should be protected since they serve as protection for the spring." (see image)

Upon information and belief, a large number of Cypress trees were removed for the installation of the observation decks and access to the spring. Is it possible to receive a report of findings and detail of those executed plans and their conformity to the existing plan before any amended or revised plan is considered?

Can the new Morrison Springs Management Group/ Advisory Board rely on this and discuss the removal of the Cypress trees, construction of observation decks, fit into the currently adopted plan? Who and how were they authorized for removal/ construction?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sarah Moss

Link to Management Plan <https://www.mywaltonfl.gov/DocumentCenter/View/45392/Land-Management-Plan-for-Morrison-Springs?bidId=>

E-mail Responses to Comment #1:

From: Morrison Springs <morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2026 9:19 AM

To: Darren & Sarah Moss <coconutmoss@gmail.com>; Melinda Gates <melinda.gates@mywaltonfl.gov>;

Morrison Springs <morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov>

Cc: Billy McKee <billy.mckee@mywaltonfl.gov>; Hallie Troell <hallie.troell@mywaltonfl.gov>; Benjamin King

<ben.king@mywaltonfl.gov>; Thomas LeBlanc <thomas.leblanc@mywaltonfl.gov>; Lorri Hughes

<lorri.hughes@mywaltonfl.gov>; Melinda Gates <melinda.gates@mywaltonfl.gov>

Subject: RE: Public Comments: Morrison Springs Advisory Council

Good Morning Ms. Moss,

Thank you for your comments. These will be included in the Appendix of the amended management plan.

With this email, I am asking Hallie Troell, Environmental Scientist, to supply you with the most up-to-date Amendment of the Morrison Springs Management Plan. She is copied on this email and her email address is: hallie.troell@mywaltonfl.gov.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you,
-Melinda

DRAFT

Melinda Gates
Environmental Manager
Walton County Board of County Commissioners
Environmental Services Department
Environmental Resource Section
117 Montgomery Circle
Defuniak Springs, FL 32435
Phone: (850)892-8108
Fax: (850)892-8094

HOW DID WE DO? In order to assist us in providing the highest level of Customer Service, please take the time to complete our short survey. [Walton County Customer Satisfaction Survey](#).



Under Florida law, Florida Statute 119.011, chapter 2006-32, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing

From Hallie Troell <hallie.troell@mywaltonfl.gov>

Date Thu 8/27/2026 9:17 AM

To Morrison Springs <morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov>; Darren & Sarah Moss <coconutmoss@gmail.com>; Melinda Gates <melinda.gates@mywaltonfl.gov>

Cc Billy McKee <billy.mckee@mywaltonfl.gov>; Benjamin King <ben.king@mywaltonfl.gov>; Thomas LeBlanc <thomas.leblanc@mywaltonfl.gov>; Lorri Hughes <lorri.hughes@mywaltonfl.gov>

Hi Sarah,

The link you included in the email you sent is the current amended Morrison Springs LMP.

Link: <https://www.mywaltonfl.gov/DocumentCenter/View/45392/Land-Management-Plan-for-Morrison-Springs?bidId=>

Thank you,

Hallie Troell

Environmental Scientist

Walton County Board of County Commissioners

Environmental Services Department

1118 Institution Road

DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433

Phone: (850)892-8180

DRAFT



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General Response to Comment #1:

Any and all improvements and/or removal of trees/vegetation that have been made to Morrison Springs are in accordance with the State approved Land Management Plan that has been in effect since 2007. Any and all future improvements and/or removal of trees/vegetation that will be made to Morrison Springs will be in accordance with the State approved amended Land Management Plan.

E-mail Comment #2:

From: Deana Byrd <deanag77@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2026 6:19 PM
To: Morrison Springs <morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov>
Subject: Ingress and Egress of Grassy Landing residents.

You don't often get email from deanag77@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: The sender of this email is outside of our organization. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, submit this email for inspection using the **Report** button on your Outlook toolbar.
Submission instructions can be viewed [here](#) (must be logged in to Citrix to view).

I was unable to attend the meeting but my husband, David Byrd was present and we were discussing said meeting. I understand the purpose of the ticket booth and support the idea. However, when traffic is backed up, waiting their turn, they block the grassy landing road. My parents live down that road and when they try to come and go, they have to wait for people to get back in their cars and move them. Sometimes the people do not move and they are blocked from coming from home or going back home. On some occasions they are yelled at because people do not want to "get out of line" to let my parents in or out. They feed their cows that are on a different plot of land about 9am. The traffic is backed up to grassy landing road by that time or around 10am when they go back home. These people are not from this area and came here with absolutely no manners. I told my parents to call the sheriff's department every time they are blocked. Heaven forbid they need an ambulance. They leave barely enough room for my dad's truck to pass. I'm tired of my mom being afraid to come and go because she doesn't know what they or going to do especially when they are yelling, "lookout, there's a crazy old lady driver." I think public safety should be a priority.

Sincerely,
Deana Byrd.

E-mail Response to Comment #2:

From Morrison Springs <morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov> **Date** Mon 8/24/2026 9:19 AM
To Deana Byrd <deanag77@gmail.com>; Morrison Springs <morrisonssprings@mywaltonfl.gov>
Cc Billy McKee <billy.mckee@mywaltonfl.gov>; Hallie Troell <hallie.troell@mywaltonfl.gov>; Benjamin King <ben.king@mywaltonfl.gov>; Thomas LeBlanc <thomas.leblanc@mywaltonfl.gov>; Lorri Hughes <lorri.hughes@mywaltonfl.gov>; Melinda Gates <melinda.gates@mywaltonfl.gov>; Brad Alford <brad.alford@mywaltonfl.gov>

Good Morning Ms. Byrd,

Thank you for your comments. These will be included in the Appendix of the amended management plan.

I have copied Brad Alford, Facilities/Maintenance Director for Walton County. His section helps with logistics of the Morrison Springs entrance toll booth. If you have a phone number you can supply, someone from Brad's team can give you a call to discuss your concerns.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you,
-Melinda

Melinda Gates
Environmental Manager
Walton County Board of County Commissioners
Environmental Services Department Environmental
Resource Section
117 Montgomery Circle
Defuniak Springs, FL 32435
Phone: (850)892-8108
Fax: (850)892-8094

DRAFT

HOW DID WE DO? In order to assist us in providing the highest level of Customer Service, please take the time to complete our short survey. [Walton County Customer Satisfaction Survey](#)



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General Response to Comment #2:

Walton County understands and recognizes the frustrations/issues that are being experienced. Traffic management issues related to Morrison Springs are handled on-site by Walton County Parks and Recreation staff.

Appendix K



Walton County Planning and Development Services

842 State Highway 20 E, Suite 110
Freeport, Florida 32439
Phone 850-267-1955 * Facsimile 850-622-9133



June 10, 2026

Hallie Troell

Environmental Scientist

Walton County Board of County Commissioners

RE: Morrison Springs Land Management Plan Update and Proposed Boat Launch Facility
Parcel Nos.: 23-3N-17-06000-001-0000 and 24-3N-17-06000-002-0000

Dear Ms. Troell:

Walton County Planning and Development Services has reviewed the information provided regarding the proposed update to the Morrison Springs Land Management Plan, including the proposed addition of a boat launch facility, related access improvements, parking, restroom/storage facilities, and associated site improvements.

Based upon the information provided, the subject property is identified within the Conservation land use category on the updated Morrison Springs Land Use Map. The Morrison Springs property was acquired for conservation, public recreation, water resource protection, and continued public enjoyment of the spring and surrounding natural resources. The proposed Land Management Plan update continues to recognize Morrison Springs as a conservation and passive recreation resource while proposing improvements intended to reduce pedestrian, vehicular, and vessel-launching congestion; separate motorized and non-motorized vessel access; improve public safety and circulation; and provide additional restroom and parking facilities.

The proposed update and associated boat launch improvements appear to be supported by, and consistent with, the following Walton County Comprehensive Plan directives:

Objective R-3.4 – Passive Recreation, which recognizes the value of localized recreation and supports policies that protect and increase the value of passive recreational experiences.

Policy R-3.4.4 and Policy R-3.4.5, which support evaluation of appropriate recreational facilities on lands used as passive parks, including facilities such as nature trails, boardwalks, picnic areas, and other facilities designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes impacts to natural resources on or adjacent to the site.

Goal R-6, which supports the strategic placement and use of neighborhood and community parks and open space to reinforce the sense of community.



Walton County Planning and Development Services

842 State Highway 20 E, Suite 110
Freeport, Florida 32439
Phone 850-267-1955 * Facsimile 850-622-9133



Goal R-7, which provides that Walton County shall provide adequate recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to the County.

Additionally, the Land Management Plan's stated goals of protecting Morrison Springs and its water resources, preserving environmentally sensitive lands, maintaining biological diversity, improving recreational opportunities, and coordinating with applicable local, state, and federal agencies are consistent with the intent of the Walton County Comprehensive Plan as it relates to conservation lands, public recreational access, natural resource protection, and responsible management of public park facilities.

Accordingly, based on the materials submitted and subject to compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local permitting requirements, including but not limited to environmental, wetland, stormwater, water resource, engineering, accessibility, and State Lands/FDEP review requirements, Walton County Planning and Development Services finds that the Morrison Springs Land Management Plan update and proposed boat launch facility are consistent with, and within the guidelines of, the Walton County Comprehensive Plan.

This determination is based upon the information submitted for review and does not constitute approval of construction plans, environmental permits, development permits, wetland impacts, stormwater design, septic/wastewater facilities, or any other regulatory approval that may be required by Walton County or any other agency having jurisdiction.

If additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

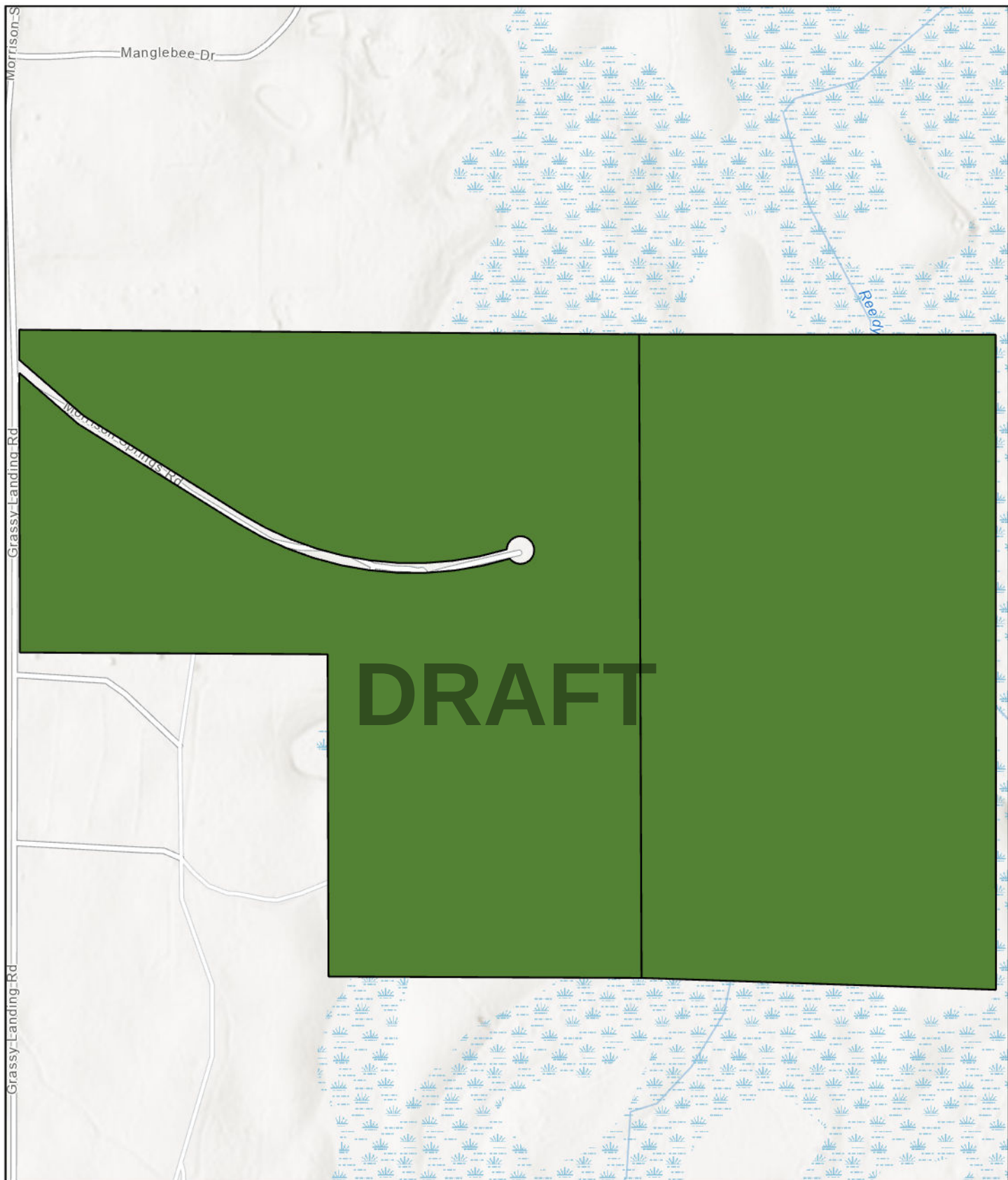
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Schoen", followed by a long horizontal line.

Stephen Schoen

Planning Director

Walton County Planning and Development Services



Morrison Springs



Landuse



Conservation

Morrison Springs Land Use Map



0 0.13 0.25 0.5 Miles

Appendix L

Morrison Springs Timber Assessment

Prepared By:
Jason Love
Senior Forester, Other State Lands – Region 1
Florida Division of Forestry
September 2005

Purpose

This document is intended to fulfill the timber assessment requirement for the Morrison Springs as required by Section 1. Section 253.036, Florida Statutes. The goal of this *Timber Assessment* is to evaluate the potential and feasibility of managing timber resources for conservation and revenue generation purposes.

Stand Descriptions and Recommendations

Morrison Springs has two distinct stands: pre-merchantable pine plantations and hardwood floodplain.

The pine plantations were planted with loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) and are currently pre-merchantable in size. The plantations are adequately stocked throughout. There is considerable hardwood competition in all of the plantations as well. Reduction of the hardwood competition should be controlled through the use of prescribed fire. Due to the nature of the sandy soils on the tract, loblolly pine is not the best species for the site. Once the trees reach a merchantable size, restoration to longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) should be considered; otherwise the stands will need to be thinned. If the choice to restore the site to longleaf pine is made, special considerations need to be given when preparing the site. Any herbicide that is used needs to be applied in manner that will not harm the spring.

The hardwood floodplains should be protected since they serve as protection for the spring. The roads that cross through the hardwoods should be covered in rock to keep any vehicle traffic through them from rutting up the roads and releasing sediment into the water. Any timber harvesting should be done when these roads are dry.

Exotic Invasive Species

Special care needs to be taken to reduce the introduction and spread on exotic invasive plants on Morrison Springs. All equipment brought onto the tract should be cleaned of all dirt and plant materials before it is allowed on the property. Any known locations of exotic plants should be treated as soon as possible and until it is completely gone. On my initial inspection of the property I located a clump of Cogon grass along one of the roads. Care needs to be taken not to spread this to other parts of the property or the adjacent properties.

Appendix M

Priority Schedule

Estimates are developed for the funding resources needed to implement the management plan based on goals, objectives and priority management activities. Funding priorities for all county management and development activities are reviewed each year as part of the County's budget process. The County prepares an annual budget request based on the priorities established for the entire county's park and recreational division. The County also aggressively pursues a wide range of other funds and staffing resources, such as grants, volunteers, and partnerships with state agencies, local governments, and the private sector for supplementing normal legislative appropriations to address unmet needs. The ability of the County to implement the specific goals, objectives, and priority actions identified in this plan will be determined by the availability of funding resources for these purposes. Walton County will strive to follow the timelines below on completion of the priority schedule. The County shall address other listed enhancement projects in the future based on need and available funding for the enhancement.

2-Year (Short Term) Priority Schedule:

County staff will continue to maintain the Morrison Springs area. After approval by the State, county staff will begin searching for funding sources for the proposed improvements. County staff will begin identifying and obtaining necessary permits for the proposed improvements.

10-Year (Long Term) Priority Schedule:

The County will search for and obtain contract staff to begin work for the proposed improvements. Contract staff will begin clearing and disposal activities, place erosion control instruments such as silt fences, hay, grass etc. and put storm water exfiltration systems in place. Contract staff will install the proposed road segments, including a timber bridge with approach aprons. Contract staff will build the proposed boat launch facility parking area, restroom facility and boat slips. County staff will continue to review and plan for enhancement projects within this management plan for which funding is secured. County Administration, County Planning, and County Parks and Recreation staff will review and assess the ongoing needs for the Morrison Springs area. County staff will prepare and update any information for the management plan.

Appendix N

WALTON COUNTY
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT
LAUNCH CONCEPTUAL PLANS

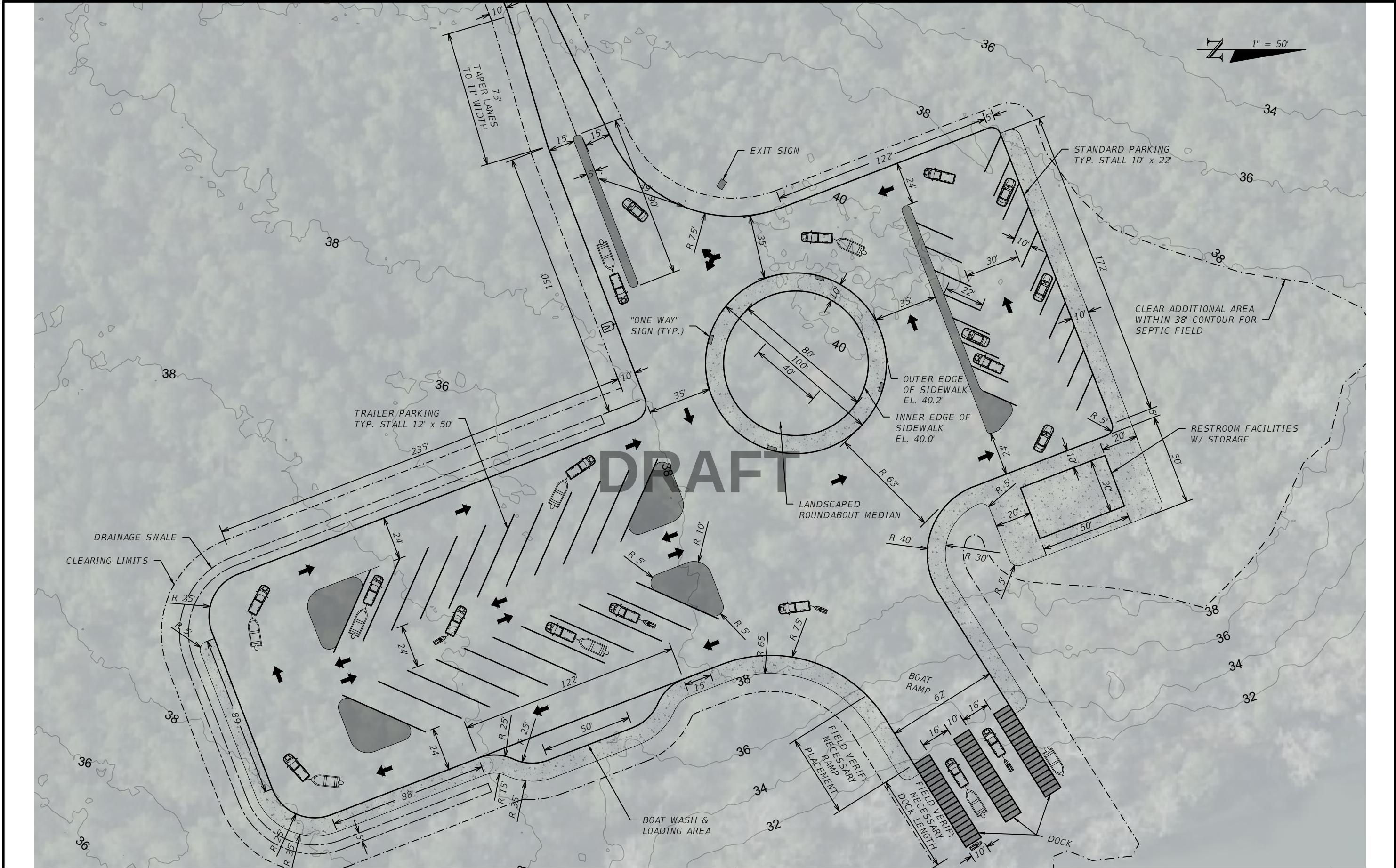
PONCE DE LEON, FL



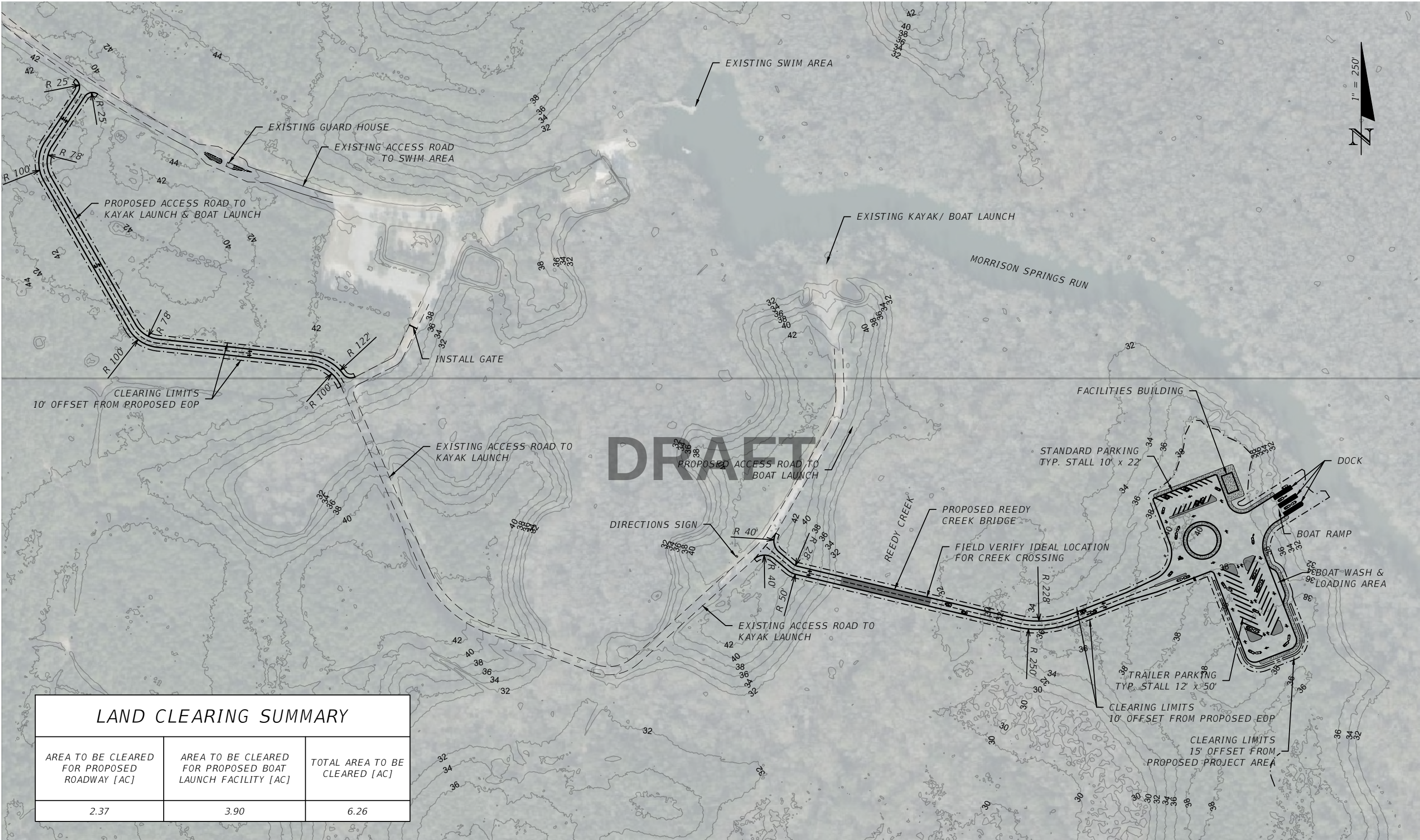
INDEX	
SHEET NO.	SHEET DESCRIPTION
1	BOAT LAUNCH CONCEPTUAL PLAN
2	ROADWAY CONCEPTUAL PLAN

CHANCE POWELL, P.E.
P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818
WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT.
117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435

FISCAL YEAR
2025



REVISIONS				CHANCE POWELL, P.E. P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818 WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT. 117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE DEFUNIACK SPRINGS, FL 32435	WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NAME MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH	BOAT LAUNCH CONCEPTUAL PLAN	SHEET NO. 1
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION				
----	-----	----	-----				



LAND CLEARING SUMMARY		
AREA TO BE CLEARED FOR PROPOSED ROADWAY [AC]	AREA TO BE CLEARED FOR PROPOSED BOAT LAUNCH FACILITY [AC]	TOTAL AREA TO BE CLEARED [AC]
2.37	3.90	6.26

REVISIONS				CHANCE POWELL, P.E. P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818 WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT. 117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE DEFUNIACK SPRINGS, FL 32435	WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NAME MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH	ROADWAY CONCEPTUAL PLAN		SHEET NO. 2
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION					



LEGEND	
	FRESHWATER FORESTED / SHRUB WETLAND
	WETLAND IMPACT

WETLAND IMPACT SUMMARY	
WETLAND AREA IMPACTED [AC]	WETLAND TYPE
1.03	FRESHWATER FORESTED / SHRUB WETLAND

REVISIONS				CHANCE POWELL, P.E. P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818 WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT. 117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435	WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT		WETLAND IMPACT EXHIBIT	SHEET NO.
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION		PROJECT NAME			3
----					MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH			

Map 1

Walton County, FL



 Morrison Springs

 Municipalities

 Interstate Highway

 U.S. Route

 State Road

County Location Map



Map 2

DRAFT



 Morrison Springs

Morrison Springs Location Map



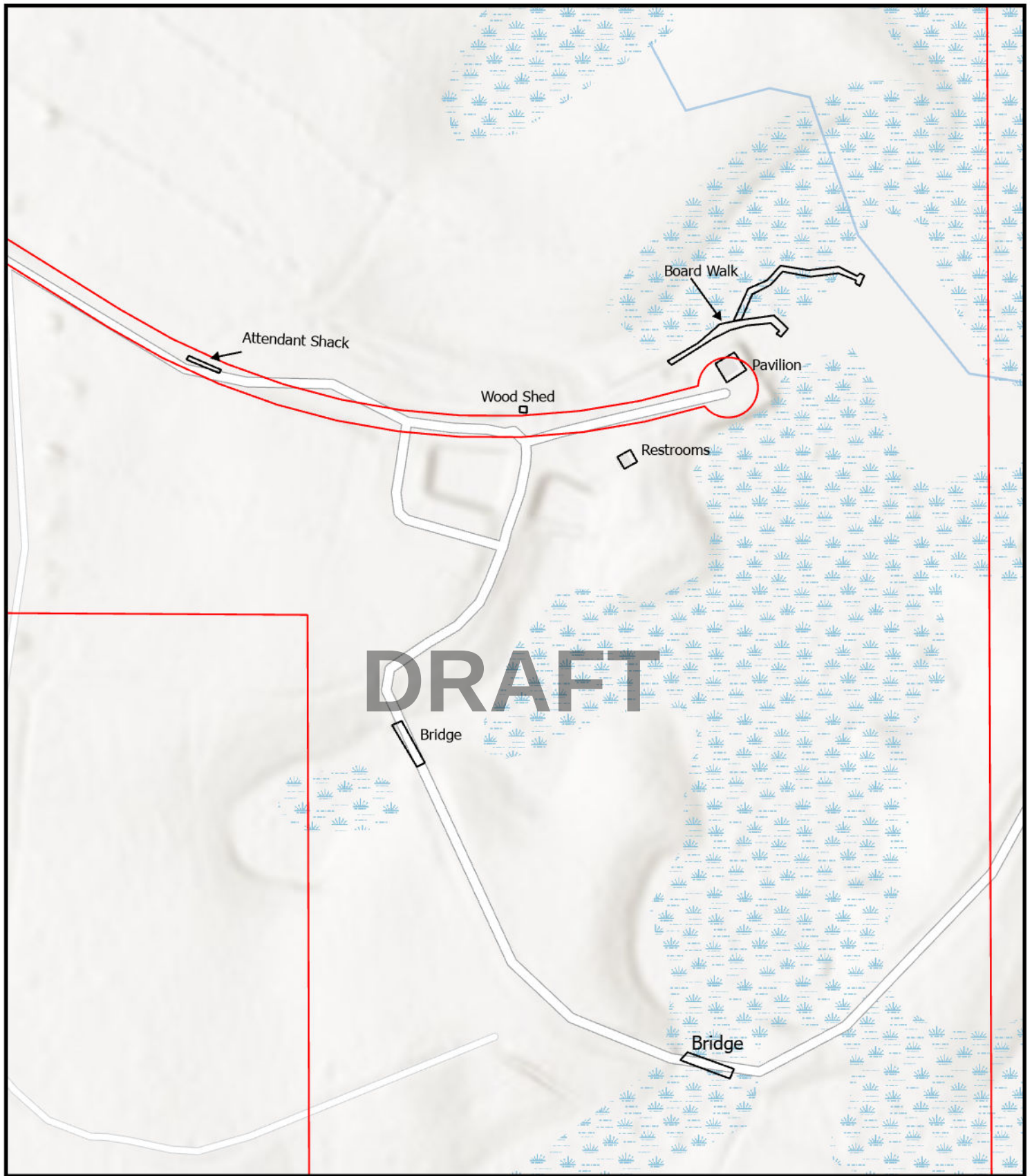
Parcel 1: 24-3N-17-06000-002-0000

Parcel 2: 23-3N-17-06000-001-0000



Map 3

DRAFT



Morrison Springs Existing Structures

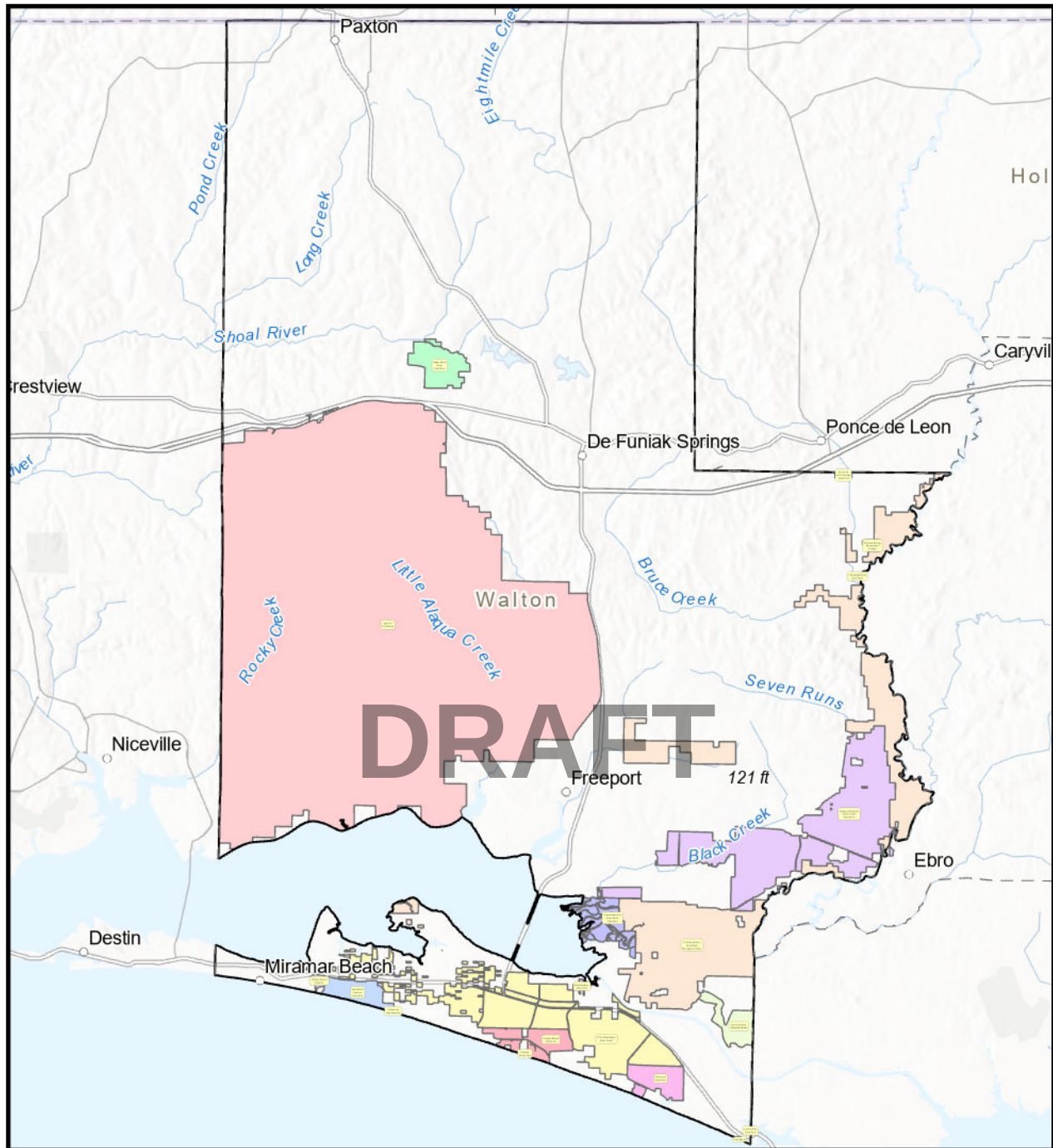


0 250 500 1,000 US Feet

Map 4

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Area Natural Resource Map



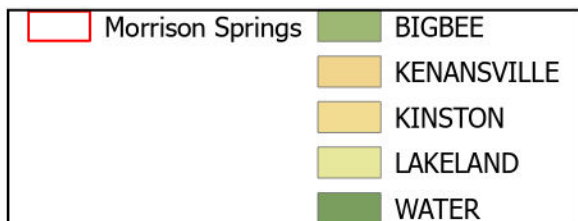
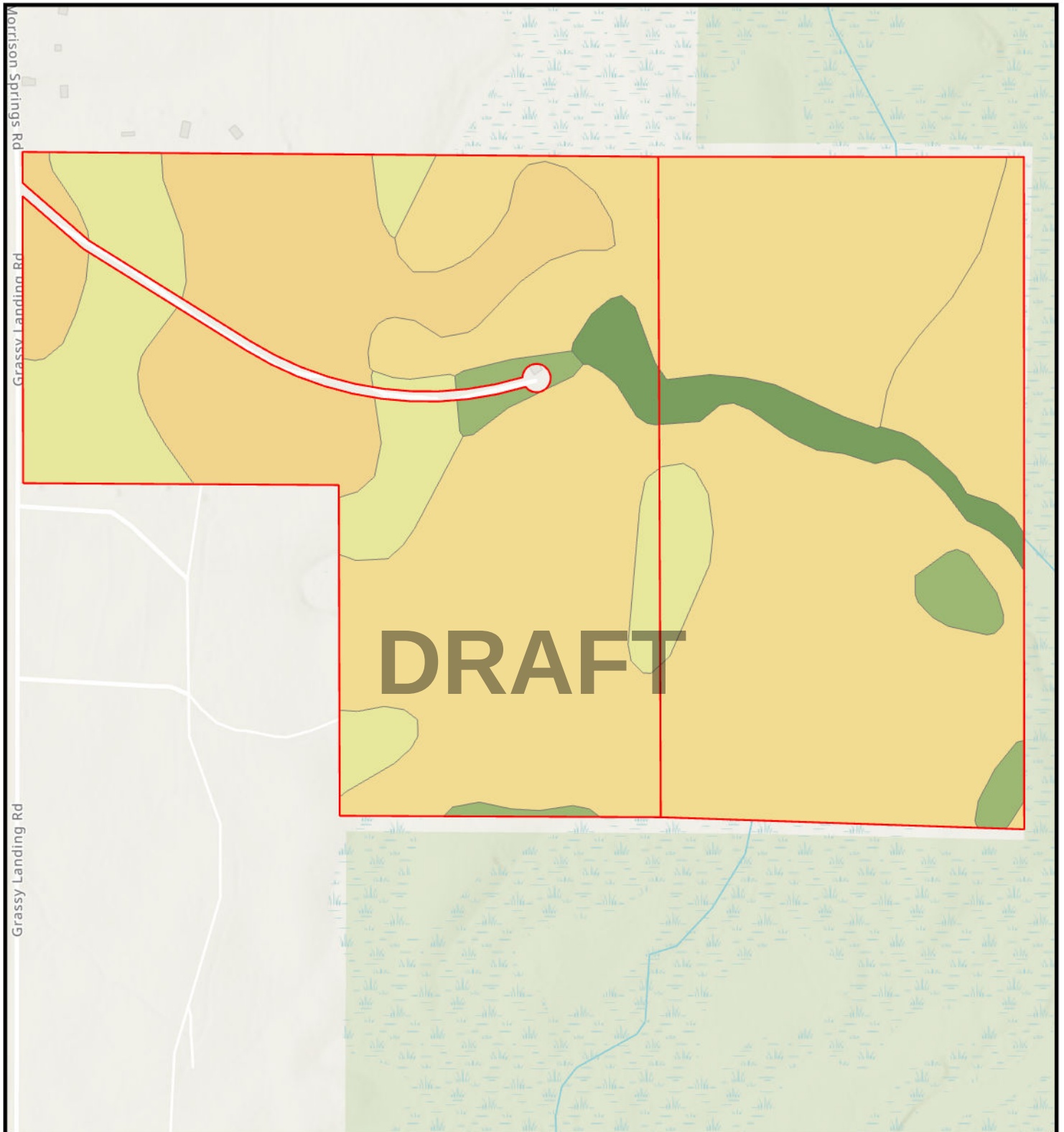
- | | |
|--|--|
| WALTON | Grayton Beach State Park |
| Camp Helen State Park | Grayton Dunes Park |
| Choctawhatchee River Delta Preserve | Inlet Beach |
| Choctawhatchee River Tract | Morrison Springs Recreational Facility |
| Choctawhatchee River Water Management Area | Point Washington State Forest |
| Coffeen Nature Preserve | Ponce de Leon Springs State Park |
| Deer Lake State Park | Stallworth Lake Preserve |
| Devils Swamp Mitigation Bank | Topsail Hill Preserve State Park |
| Eden Gardens State Park | Upper Shoal River State Park |
| Eglin Air Force Base | |



Map 5

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Walton County, FL



Soil Map



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

Map 6

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1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 224-8207
www.fnai.org

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

Element Occurrences

- Animals
- Plants
- Communities
- Other
- Data Sensitive



Conservation Lands

- Federal
- State
- Local
- Private
- State Aquatic Preserves

Land Acquisition Projects

- Florida Forever
- Board of Trustees Projects

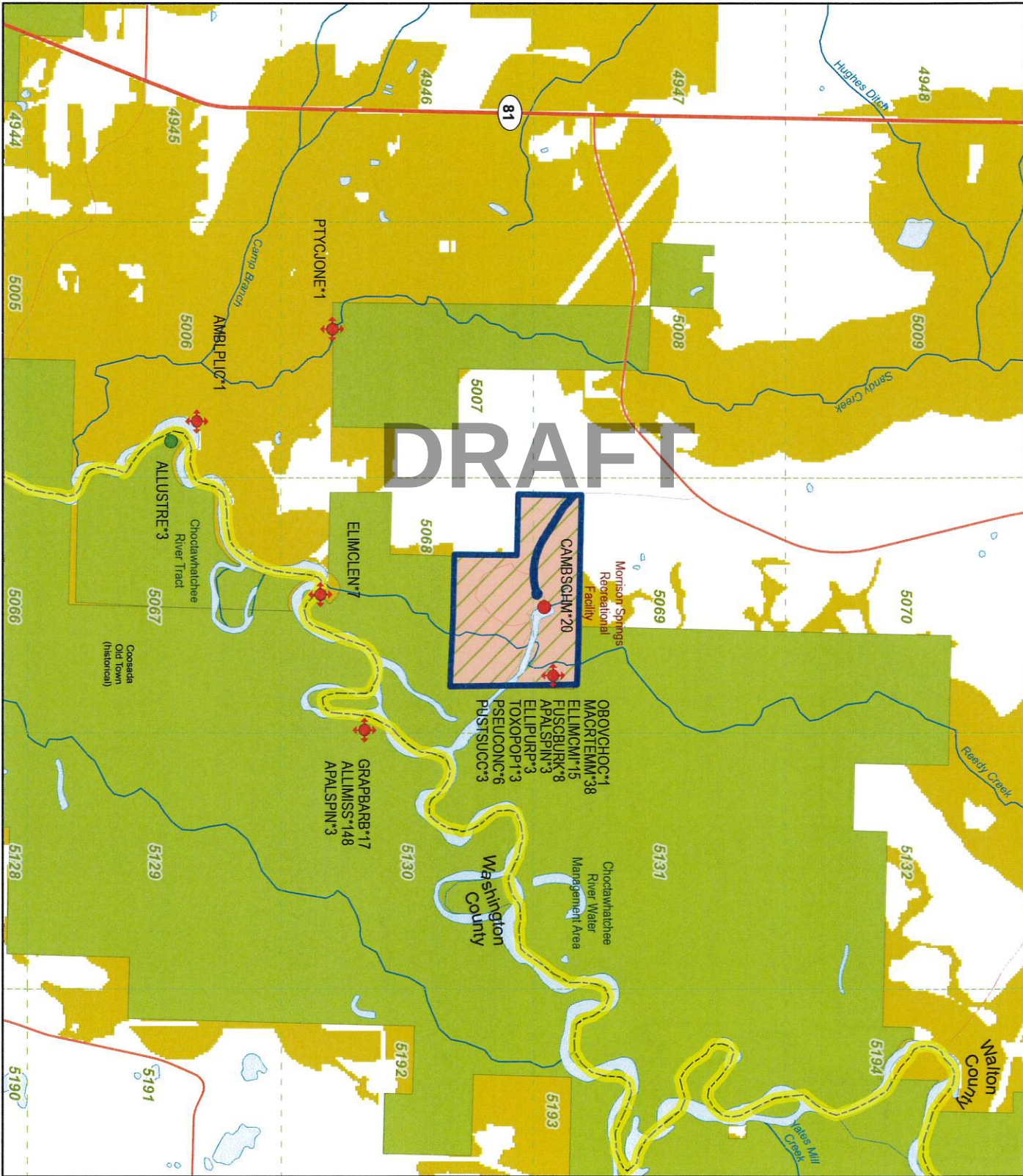
- FNAI Rare Species
- Habitat
- FNAI Biodiversity Matrix
- Square Mile Units

- County Boundary
- Roads
- Water

Morrison Springs Recreational Facility

Site boundaries are approximate.

Walton County



NOTE
This map contains environmentally sensitive information. Please do not distribute or publish without prior consent from FNAI. Map should not be interpreted without accompanying documents.





1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 224-8207
www.fnai.org

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

CLIP v4.0 Resource Priorities

Biodiversity Resource Category

Priority 1 - highest

Priority 2

Priority 3

Priority 4

Priority 5

Landscape Resource Category

Priority 1 - highest

Priority 2

Priority 3

Priority 4

Priority 5

Surface Water Resource Category

Priority 1 - highest

Priority 2

Priority 3

Priority 4

Priority 5

Aggregated CLIP Priorities

Priority 1 - highest

Priority 2

Priority 3

Priority 4

Priority 5

Site Boundary

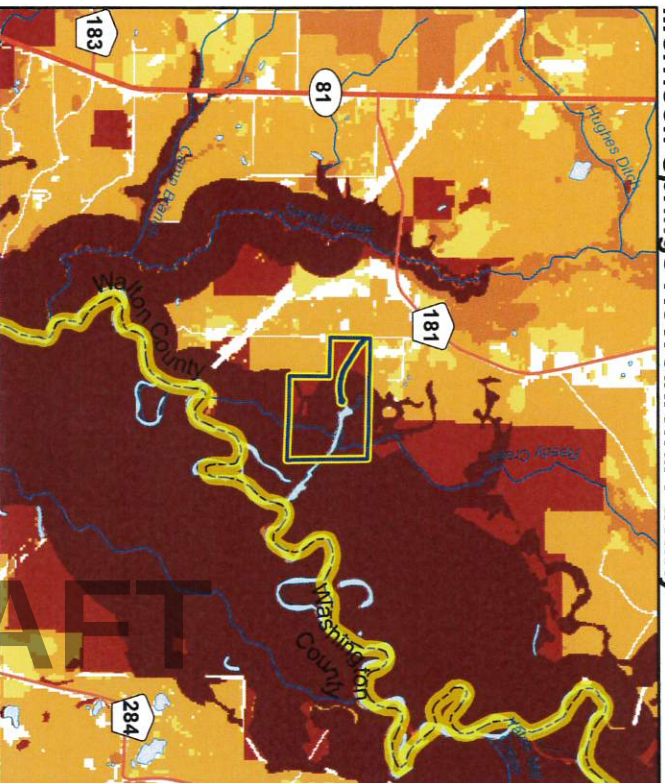
Map should not be interpreted without
accompanying documents.

Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project
(CLIP) is a cooperative effort between the FSU
Florida Natural Areas Inventory, UF Center for
Landscape Conservation Planning, and FL Fish &
Wildlife Conservation Commission, with additional
funding from FL Dept of Environmental Protection
and US Fish & Wildlife Service.

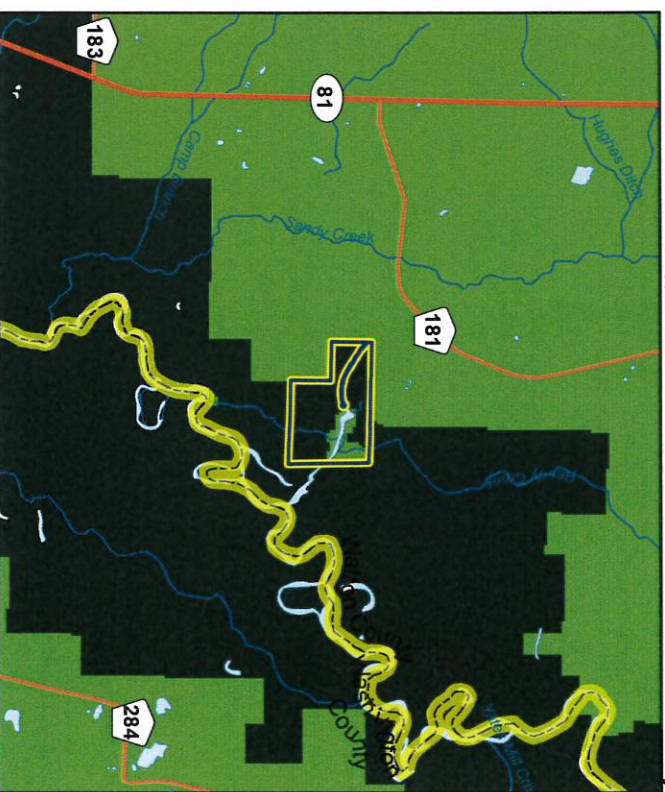
Morrison Springs Recreational Facility

Site boundaries are approximate.

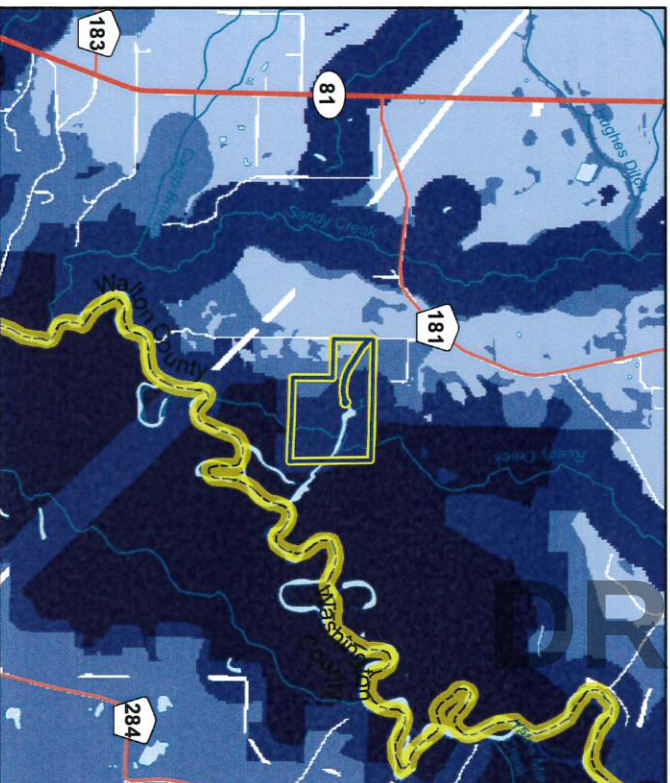
Walton County



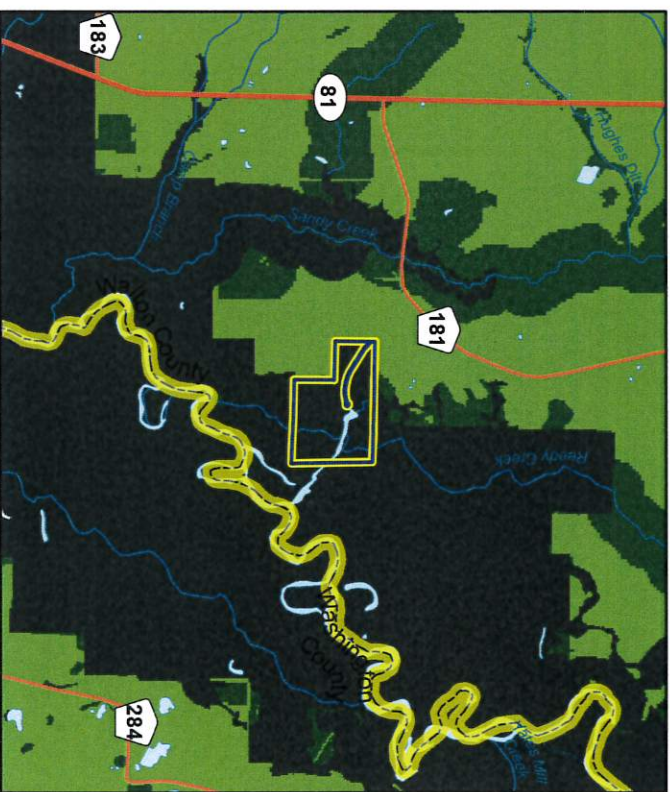
CLIP Biodiversity Resource Priorities



CLIP Landscape Resource Priorities



CLIP Surface Water Resource Priorities



CLIP Aggregated Resource Priorities



Map 7

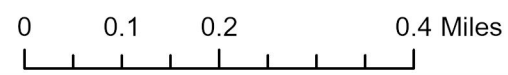
DRAFT



- LANDUSE_DE**
- 1850: Parks and Zoos
 - 4110: Pine Flatwoods
 - 4200: Upland Hardwood Forests
 - 4340: Upland Mixed - Coniferous / Hardwood
 - 4410: Coniferous Plantations
 - 5100: Streams and Waterways

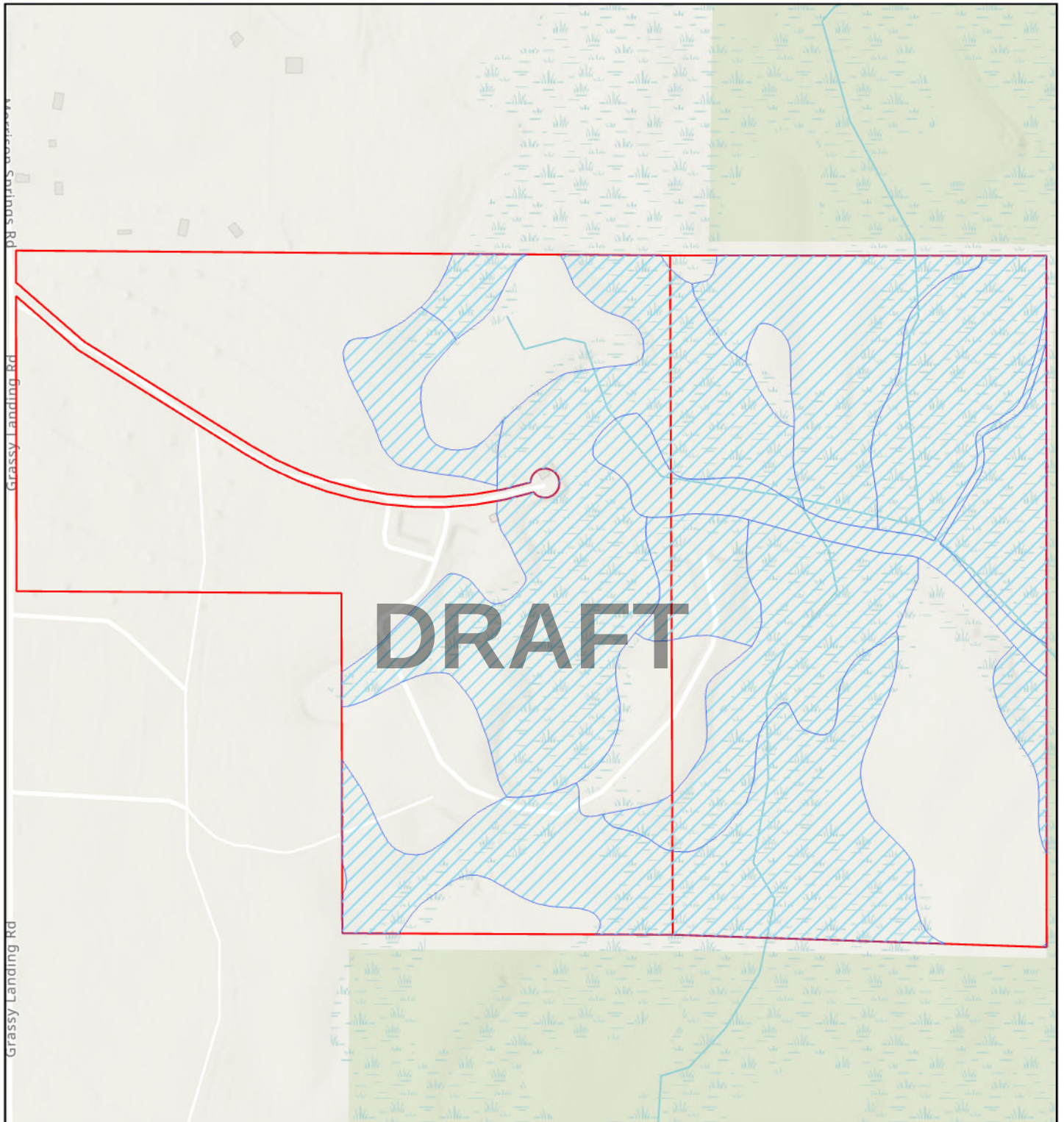
- 5500: Major Springs
- 6130: Gum Swamps
- 6150: Stream and Lake Swamps (bottomland)
- 6170: Mixed Wetland Hardwoods
- 6250: Hydric Pine Flatwoods
- 8330: Water Supply Plants (Including pumping stations)
- <all other values>

Land Use Morrison Spring Tract (FDEP 2022 Land Use Layer)



Map 8

Walton County, FL



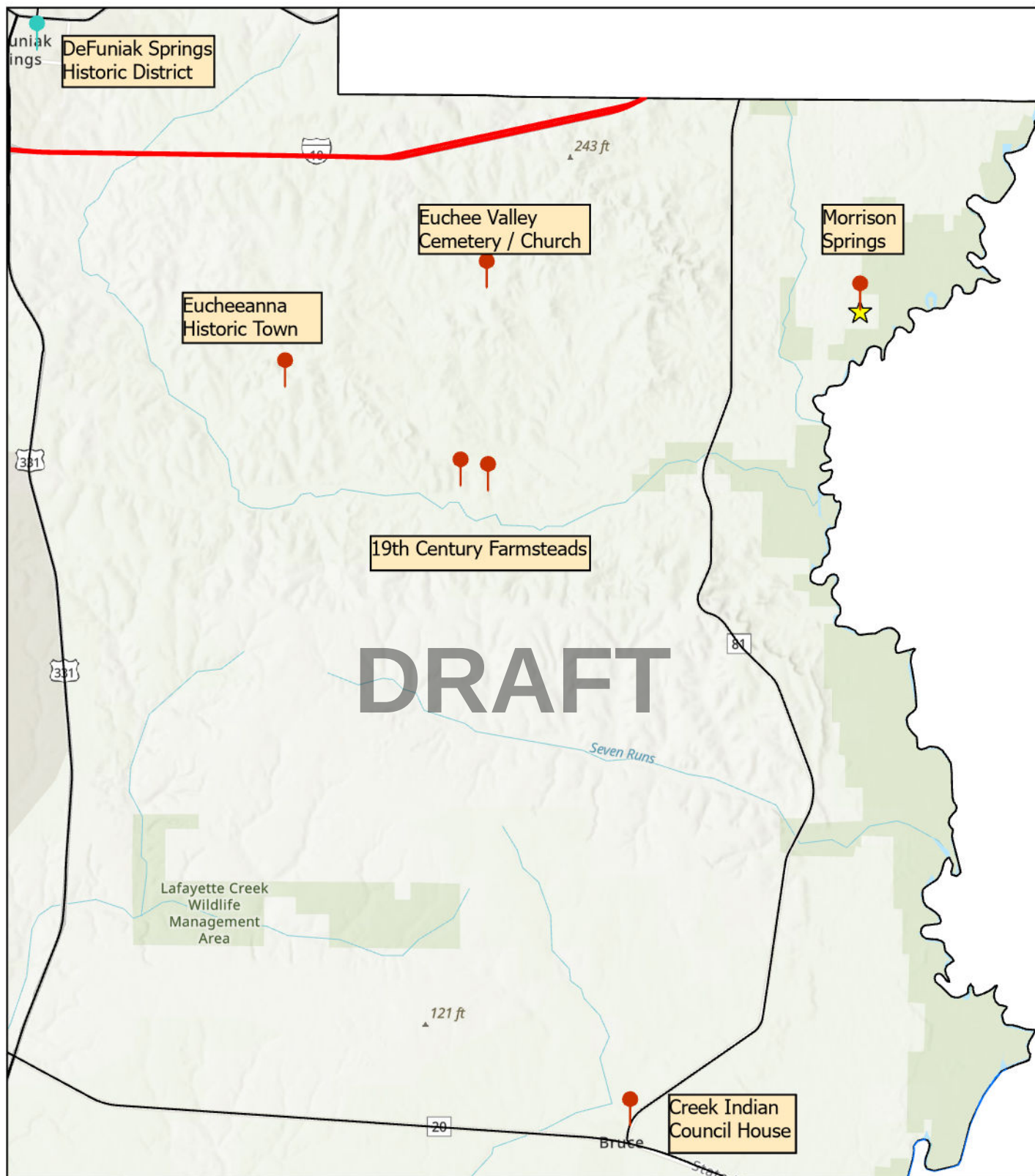
Wetlands Map



-  Wetlands
-  Morrison Springs

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

Map 9



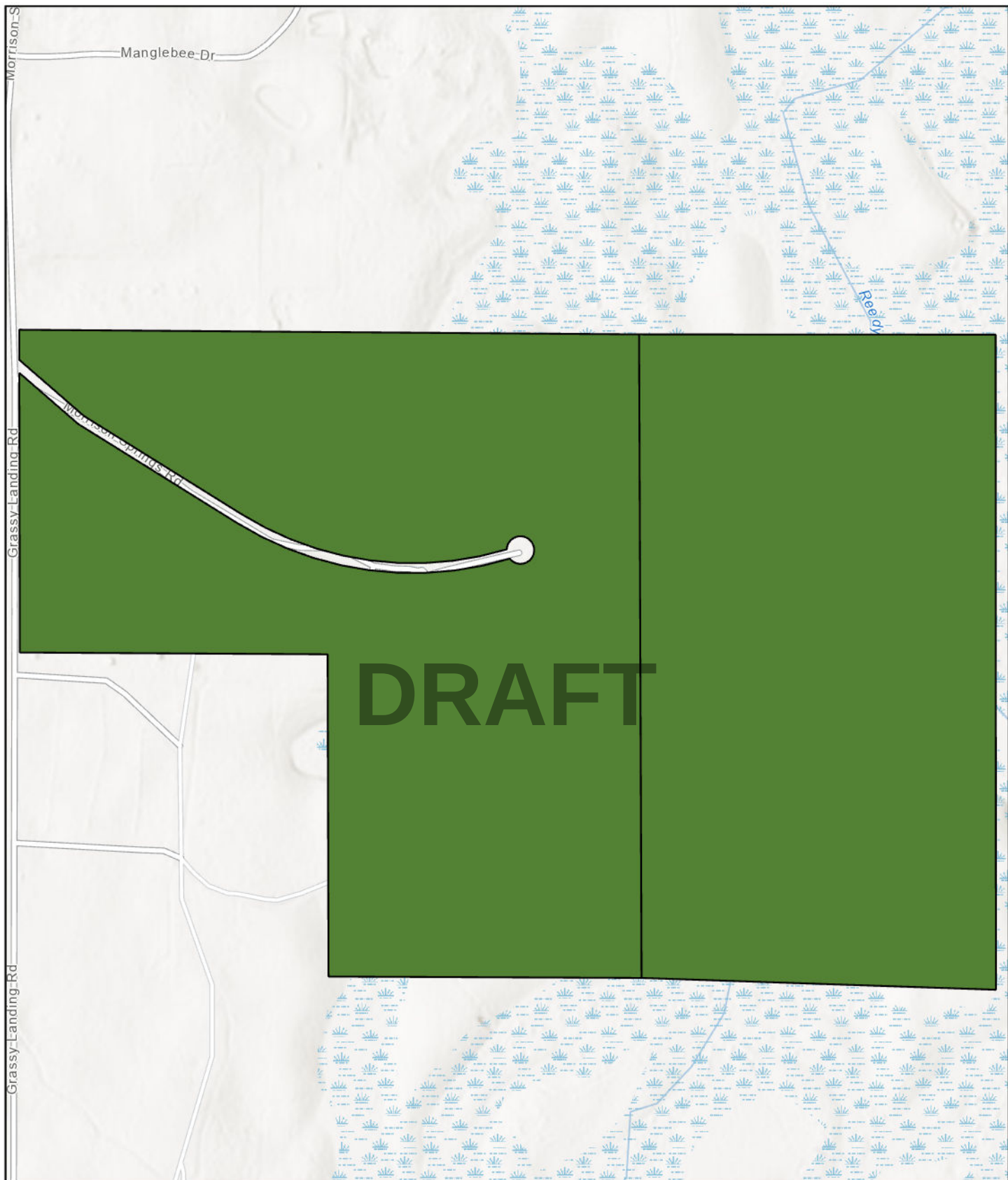
-  Cultural Resources
-  Morrison Springs
-  Interstate Highway
-  U.S. Route
-  State Road
-  WALTON

Area Cultural Resources



Map 10

DRAFT



Morrison Springs



Landuse



Conservation

Morrison Springs Land Use Map



0

0.13

0.25

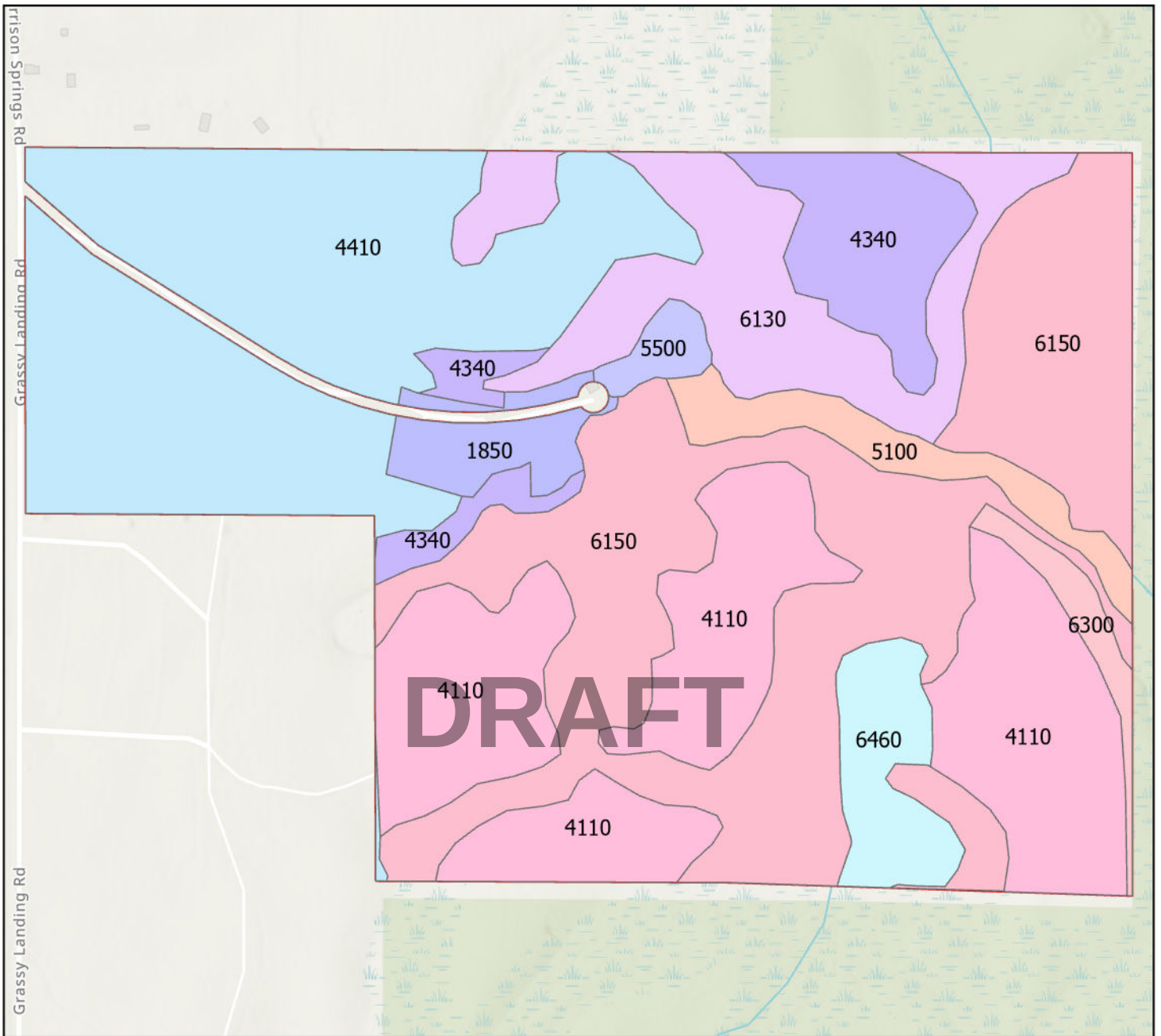
0.5 Miles



Map 11

DRAFT

Walton County, FL



- 1850: Parks and Zoos
- 4110: Pine Flatwoods
- 4340: Hardwood Coniferous - Mixed
- 4410: Coniferous Plantations
- 5100: Streams and Waterways
- 5500: Major Springs
- 6130: Gum Swamps
- 6150: Stream and Lake Swamps (bottomland)
- 6300: Wetland Forested Mixed
- 6460: Mixed Scrub-shrub Wetland
- Morrison Springs

FLUCCS Map



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

Map 12

WALTON COUNTY
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT
LAUNCH CONCEPTUAL PLANS

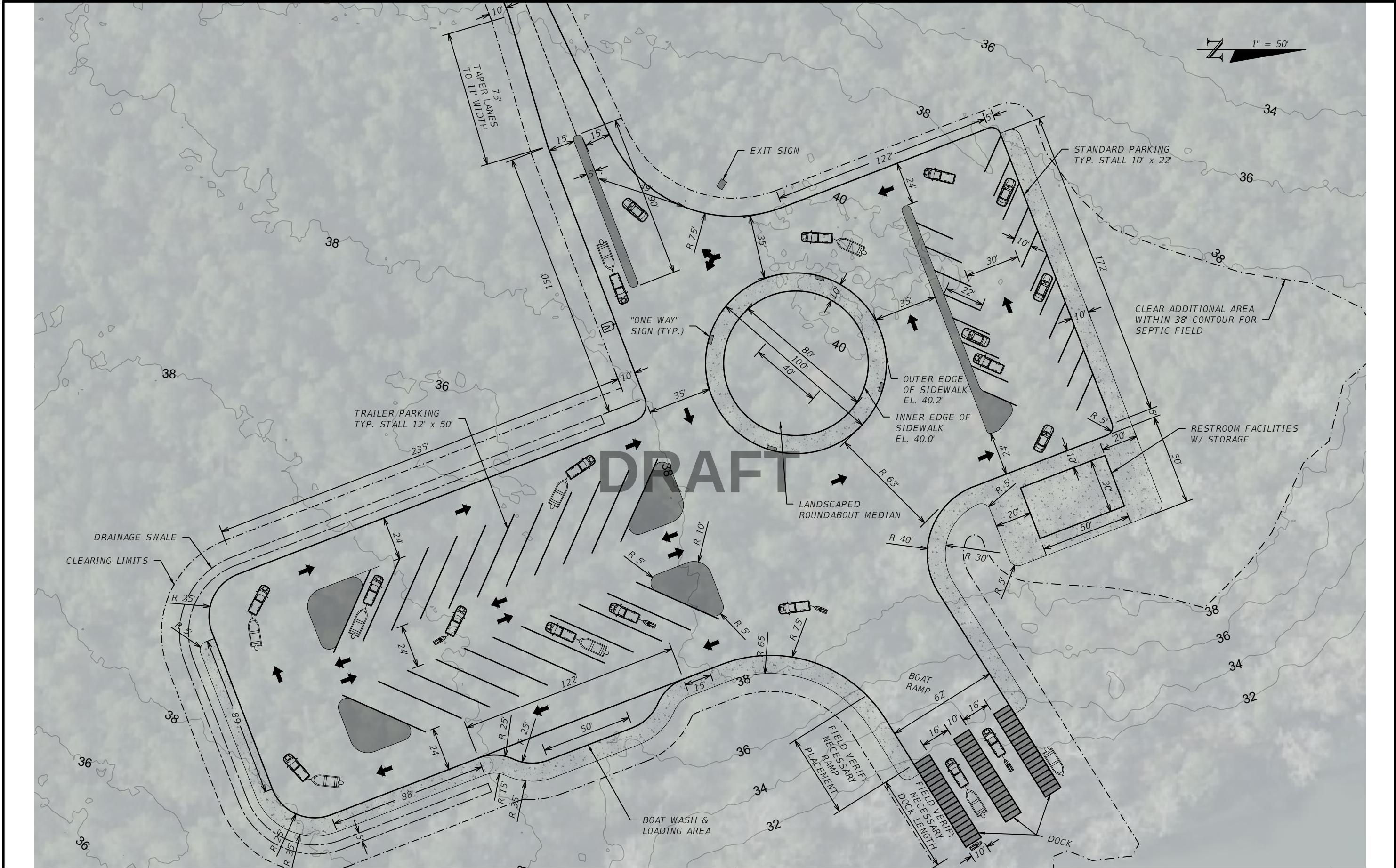
PONCE DE LEON, FL



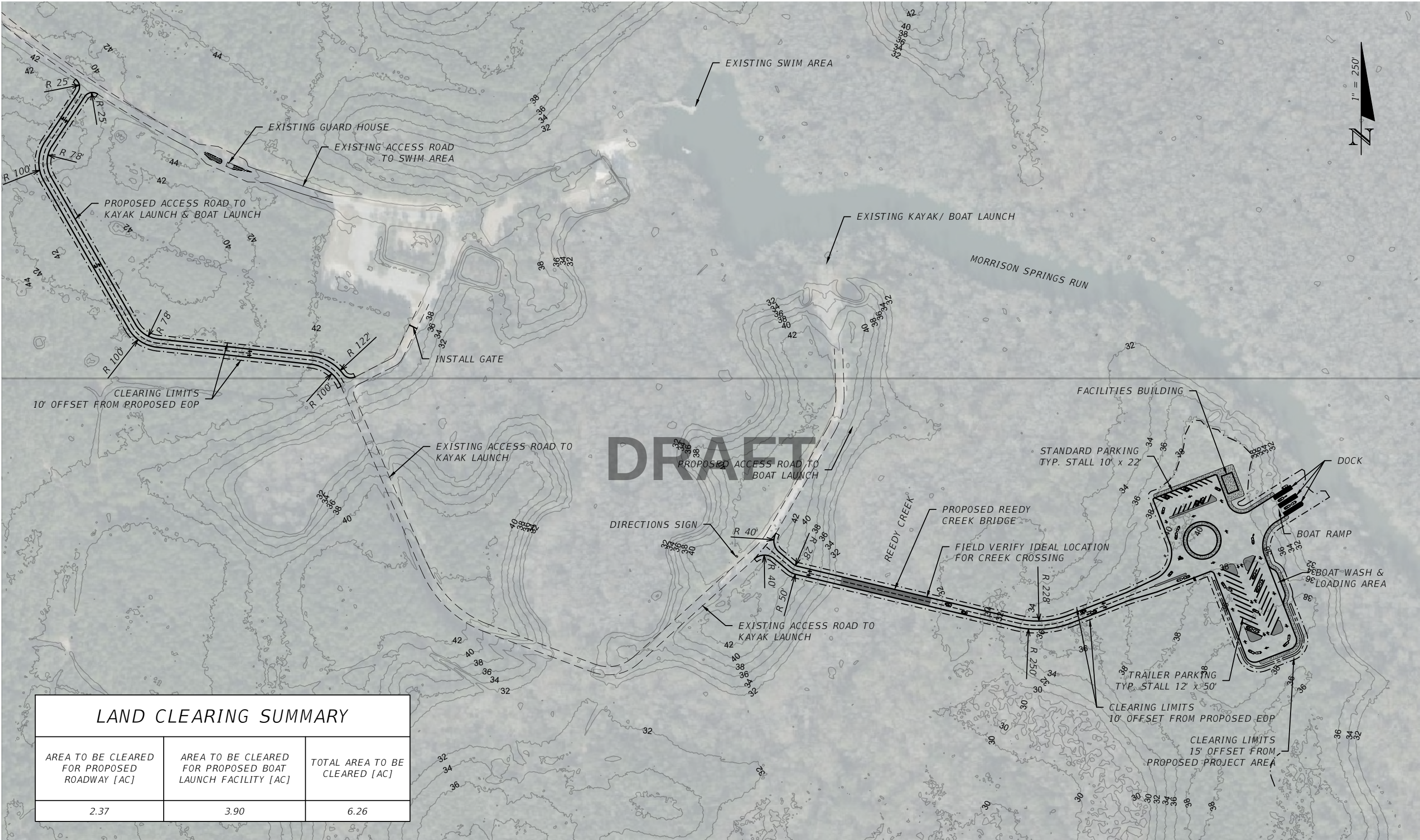
INDEX	
SHEET NO.	SHEET DESCRIPTION
1	BOAT LAUNCH CONCEPTUAL PLAN
2	ROADWAY CONCEPTUAL PLAN

CHANCE POWELL, P.E.
P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818
WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT.
117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435

FISCAL YEAR
2025

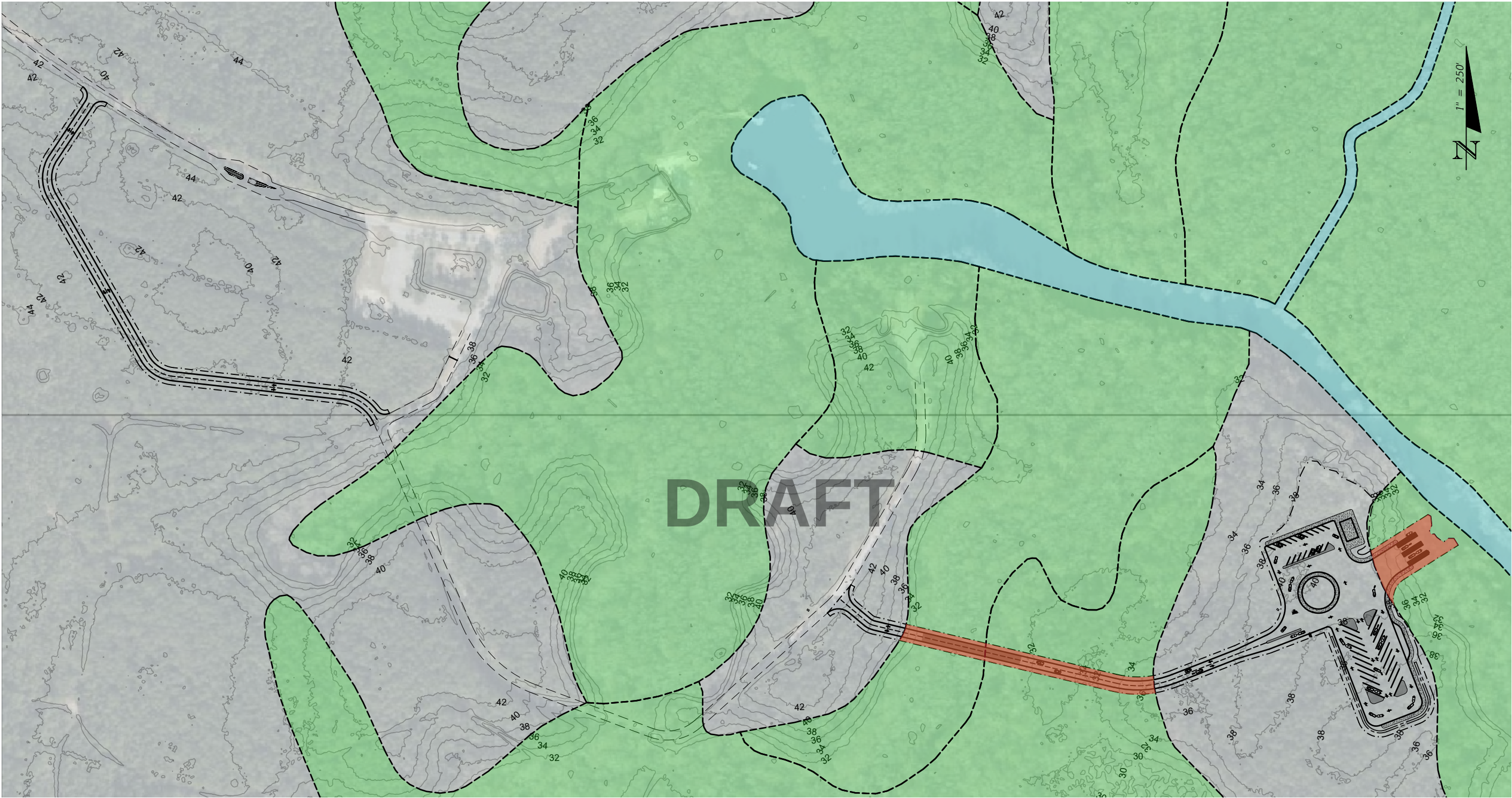


REVISIONS				CHANCE POWELL, P.E. P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818 WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT. 117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE DEFUNIACK SPRINGS, FL 32435	WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NAME MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH	BOAT LAUNCH CONCEPTUAL PLAN	SHEET NO. 1
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION				



LAND CLEARING SUMMARY		
AREA TO BE CLEARED FOR PROPOSED ROADWAY [AC]	AREA TO BE CLEARED FOR PROPOSED BOAT LAUNCH FACILITY [AC]	TOTAL AREA TO BE CLEARED [AC]
2.37	3.90	6.26

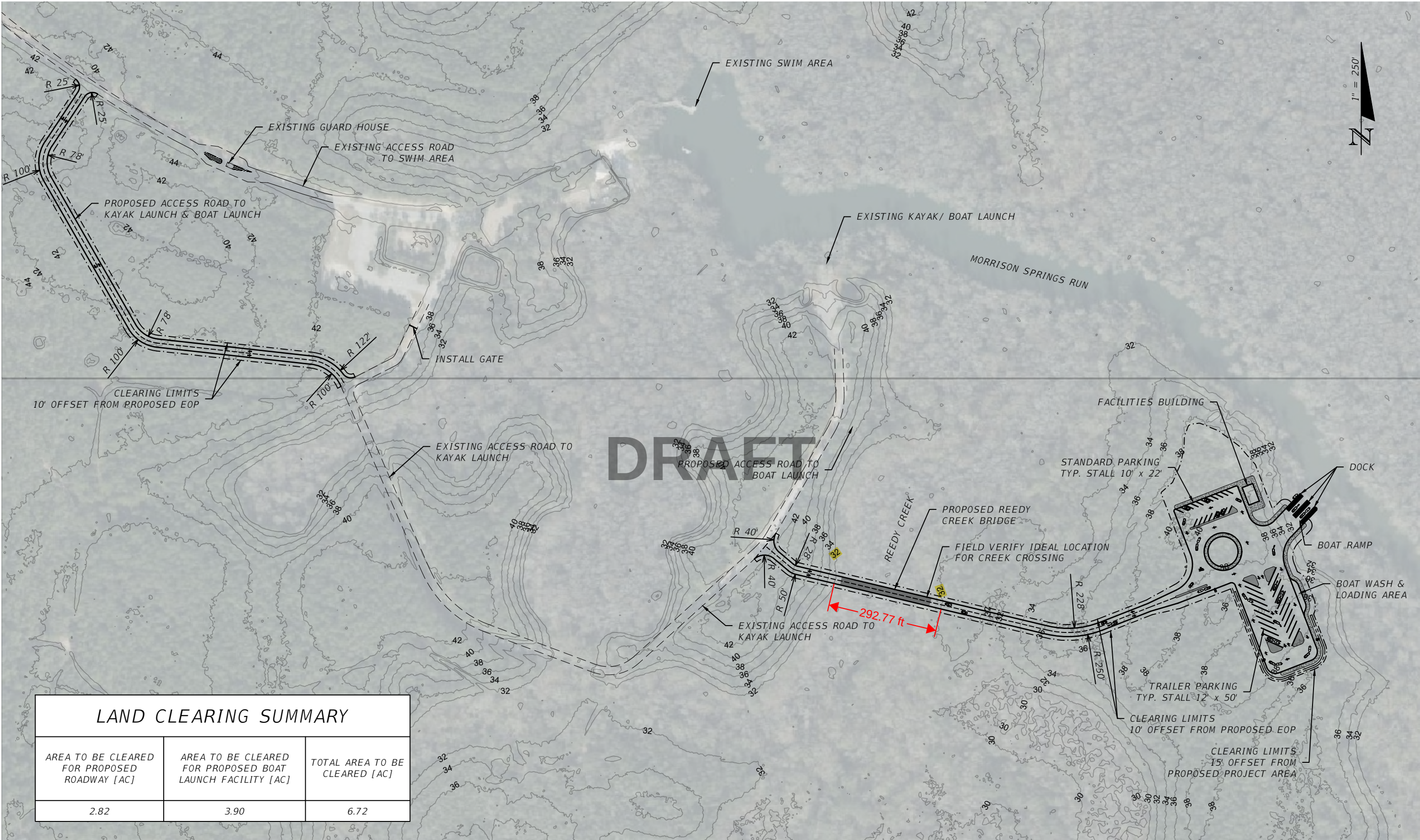
REVISIONS				CHANCE POWELL, P.E. P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818 WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT. 117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE DEFUNIACK SPRINGS, FL 32435	WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NAME MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH	ROADWAY CONCEPTUAL PLAN		SHEET NO. 2
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION					



LEGEND	
	FRESHWATER FORESTED / SHRUB WETLAND
	WETLAND IMPACT

WETLAND IMPACT SUMMARY	
WETLAND AREA IMPACTED [AC]	WETLAND TYPE
1.03	FRESHWATER FORESTED / SHRUB WETLAND

REVISIONS				CHANCE POWELL, P.E. P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818 WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT. 117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435	WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT		WETLAND IMPACT EXHIBIT	SHEET NO.
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION		PROJECT NAME			3
----	-----				MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH			



REVISIONS				CHANCE POWELL, P.E. P.E. LICENSE NUMBER 60818 WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPT. 117 MONTGOMERY CIRCLE DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435	WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT NAME MORRISON SPRINGS BOAT LAUNCH	ROADWAY CONCEPTUAL PLAN	SHEET NO. 2
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION				
----	-----	----	-----				

Table 1

Table 1. Florida Master Site File Recorded Archaeological Sites.

Site Number	Site Name	Site Type	Temporal Affiliation	SHPO Evaluation
WL00043	Morrison Springs	Land (terrestrial) and Wetland (palustrine) Habitation; Spring head and run; Cave/Sink – subterranean, aquatic	Archaic; Fort Walton; Prehistoric; American 20 th Century	Insufficient
WL01571	Morrison Springs 1	Land (terrestrial)	Weeden Island –unspecified; Other	Not Eligible
WL01593	Morrison Springs 2	Land (terrestrial) and Wetland (palustrine) Habitation; Surface Scatter	Archaic	Not Eligible
WL02184	Sparkleberry	Land - terrestrial	Prehistoric nonceramic; Prehistoric ceramic	Not Eligible

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Table 2

ENGINEER'S OPINION OF PROBABLE COST

FDOT Pay Item			Item Description	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Total
110	1	1	CLEARING AND GRUBBING	6.25	AC	\$17,502.60	\$109,391.25
120	1		REGULAR EXCAVATION	8200	CY	\$12.81	\$105,042.00
120	6		EMBANKMENT	8100	CY	\$13.07	\$105,867.00
160	4		TYPE B STABILIZATION	15700	SY	\$11.28	\$177,096.00
285	7	06	OPTIONAL BASE, BASE GROUP 06	15700	SY	\$29.32	\$460,324.00
334	1	12	SUPERPAVE ASPHALTIC CONC, TRAFFIC B	1300	TN	\$523.70	\$680,810.00
337	7	80	ASPHALT CONCRETE FRICTION COURSE, TRAFFIC B, FC-9.5, PG 76-22	870	TN	\$131.48	\$114,387.60
470	1		TREATED TIMBER, STRUCTURAL	15	MB	\$9,242.46	\$138,636.90
520	2		CONCRETE CURB, PARKING LOT ISLANDS	1000	LF	\$40.00	\$40,000.00
522	1		CONCRETE SIDEWALK AND DRIVEWAYS, 4" THICK	1600	SY	\$100.58	\$160,928.00
524	2	49	CONCRETE SLOPE PAVEMENT, 6", REINFORCED	200	SY	\$271.77	\$54,354.00
530	3	3	RIPRAP- RUBBLE, BANK AND SHORE	50	TN	\$137.50	\$6,875.00
570	1	2	PERFORMANCE TURF, SOD	6000	SY	\$4.42	\$26,520.00
700	1	111	SINGLE POST SIGN, F&I GM, <12 SF	7	EA	\$560.39	\$3,922.73
711	11	121	THERMOPLASTIC, STANDARD, WHITE, SOLID, 6" FOR PARKING SPACES	0.3	GM	\$5,111.82	\$1,533.55
711	14	170	THERMOPLASTIC, PREFORMED, WHITE, ARROW	20	EA	\$142.32	\$2,846.40
711	15	101	THERMOPLASTIC, STANDARD-OPEN GRADED ASPHALT, WHITE, SOLID, 6"	1.00	GM	\$5,111.82	\$5,111.82
711	15	201	THERMOPLASTIC PAVEMENT MARKINGS, STD-OTH, YELLOW, SOLID 6"	1.00	GM	\$5,105.79	\$5,105.79
			SEPTIC TANK SYSTEM	1	LS	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
			FACILITIES BUILDING	1	LS	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
			CONTINGENCY (10%)	1	LS	-	\$247,375.20
			MOBILIZATION (5%)	1	LS	-	\$123,687.60
ITEMS SUBTOTAL							\$2,473,752.04
CEI (12%)							\$296,850.24
MITIGATION / PERMITTING (5%)							\$123,687.60
DESIGN COSTS (20%)							\$494,750.41
ADDITIONAL COSTS SUBTOTAL							\$915,288.25
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST							\$3,389,040.29

Table 3

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Table 3. Summary Budget for Management Activities

Task	Frequency	Cost
Trash monitoring and removal	Daily	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
Mowing and Grounds Maintenance	2x per Month, or as needed	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
Informational signage, awareness placards, buoy placing, and plumbing/fencing maintenance	Monthly, or as needed	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
Facility Servicing	Daily	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
Septic System Inspection	Quarterly via 3 rd Party	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
HVAC System Maintenance	Monthly, or as needed	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
Water Quality Monitoring	Per NFWMD's Schedule	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
Guardhouse	Daily	Walton County Parks Annual Budget
Electrical Maintenance	Monthly, or as needed	Walton County Parks Annual Budget

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Table 4

Table 4. Collected Entrance Fee April 2026

DATE	AMOUNT	CARS
4/1/2026	\$ 348.00	87
4/2/2026	\$ 388.00	97
4/3/2026	\$ 468.00	117
4/4/2026	\$ 688.00	172
4/5/2026	\$ 280.00	70
4/6/2026	\$ 148.00	37
4/7/2026	\$ 204.00	51
4/8/2026	\$ 288.00	72
4/9/2026	\$ 356.00	89
4/10/2026	\$ 384.00	96
4/11/2026	\$ 652.00	163
4/12/2026	\$ 484.00	121
4/13/2026	\$ 180.00	45
4/14/2026	\$ 256.00	64
4/15/2026	\$ 352.00	88
4/16/2026	\$ 304.00	76
4/17/2026	\$ 500.00	125
4/18/2026	\$ 664.00	166
4/19/2026	\$ 392.00	98
4/20/2026	\$ 124.00	31
4/21/2026	\$ 236.00	59
4/22/2026	\$ 344.00	86
4/23/2026	\$ 296.00	74
4/24/2026	\$ 408.00	102
4/25/2026	\$ 596.00	149
4/26/2026	\$ 708.00	177
4/27/2026	\$ 416.00	104
4/28/2026	\$ 356.00	89
4/29/2026	\$ 320.00	80
4/30/2026	\$ 248.00	62
TOTAL	\$ 11,388.00	2847