

SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE
Office of the Executive Director

September 13, 2007

Dear Task Force Member:

The annual update to the Task Force's Land Acquisition Strategy (LAS) is attached. A draft of the LAS was e-mailed for comment to members of the Working Group and Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC) on August 29, 2007. The Strategy was presented to the WRAC on September 6th. No substantive comments were provided by the WRAC or the Working Group. The LAS will be presented to the Task Force for acceptance at the September meeting. Substantive changes from the 2006 LAS are highlighted in red.

Substantive changes include:

- 1) The addition of a new section on **mitigation lands** as requested last year.
- 2) A discussion of the **Northern Everglades** program.
- 3) A discussion of **Surplusing Lands** is included in the section Leveraging Limited Funds.

Finally, in keeping with Florida Governor Charlie Crist's Plain Language initiative, the document was reviewed to improve its readability thanks to the Land Acquisition Task Team Co-Chair, John Outland.

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South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration

Land Acquisition Strategy

NEW TEXT AND EDITS ARE IN RED

DRAFT

September 12, 2007

This strategy document is for planning purposes only, is subject to modification, and is not legally binding on any of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (Task Force) members. Each Task Force member and the interest they represent retain all of their sovereign rights, authorities, and jurisdictions for implementation of the projects contained in this document.

Acceptance of the report by the Task Force does not imply that the Task Force or the individual Task Force members endorse each land acquisition project described in the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Strategy.

Land acquisition needs of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration continue to evolve as project footprints and land acquisition program needs are refined.

Moreover, the land cost estimates contained in the body of this report are preliminary planning estimates that are not intended as, and do not reflect, fair market valuations of any individual parcel of land. Acceptance of this report, therefore, does not constitute an endorsement by any Task Force member as to any parcel or land valuation.

This document is updated on an annual basis. The reporting period for this information is July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007 unless otherwise noted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Glossary	v
Abbreviations and Acronyms.....	vii
Executive Summary	ix
Acquisition Status by Strategic Goal.....	ix
Goal 1: Get the Water Right.....	x
Goal 2: Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats and Species	x
Goal 3: Foster Compatibility of the Built and Natural System.....	xii
Acquisition Efforts by Initiative	xii
The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.....	xii
Acceler8.....	xiii
Local Contributions	xiv
Accomplishments.....	xiv
Strategy Purpose and Background	1
Introduction.....	1
Purpose	2
The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force.....	2
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Needs	3
Acquisition Strategy.....	5
Acquisition Efforts by Strategic Goal.....	5
Goal 1: Get the Water Right.....	5
Goal 2: Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats and Species	7
Goal 3: Foster Compatibility of the Built and Natural System.....	9
Acquisition Efforts by Initiative	12
CERP	13
Acceler8.....	14
Local Contributions	14
Acquisition Partnerships and Mechanisms.....	16
Federal/State/Local Acquisition Partnerships	16
Florida Forever Program.....	16
Farm Bill Partnerships.....	16
The Land and Water Conservation Fund	16
CERP Partnerships.....	17
Leveraging Limited Funds	17
Conservation Easements	17
On-Ranch Water Management	17
Multi-year Acquisition Agreements.....	18
Mitigation Lands	18
Mitigation Funds.....	19
Rural Land Stewardship Program	19
Surplus Lands	19
Water Storage Agreements.....	20
Mitigating the Loss of Tax Revenue.....	20
Division of Forestry Payment to Counties	20
Payment in Lieu of Taxes Programs	20

Refuge Revenue Sharing Program 21

Tools to Identify Strategic Acquisitions 21

Florida Natural Areas Inventory Maps 21

Natural Lands Report 21

Office of Greenways and Trails Recreational Prioritization Maps..... 22

USFWS Multi-Species Recovery Plan 22

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Conservation Strategy 22

Major Acquisition Accomplishments 23

Appendices 25

 Appendix A: Strategic Goals and Objectives of the South Florida Ecosystem
 Restoration Task Force 27

 Appendix B: Federal/State/Joint Acquisition Maps and Descriptions..... 31

 Appendix C: Project Profiles and Summary Table 38

 Appendix D: Land Acquisition Update Map and State/Federal Cost Share Table 41

 Appendix E: County Land Acquisitions and Florida’s Greenways and Trails Program
 45

 Appendix F: SFWMD FY 2007-08 Land Acquisition Priorities 49

 Appendix G: Potential Funding Sources in Support of Restoration 53

 Appendix H: Land Acquisition Strategy Task Team Directive 59

 Appendix I: Land Protected Through Mitigation Map and Description 63

Glossary

2002 Farm Bill: The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

Acceler8: Florida's commitment to provide \$1.5 billion to accelerate the design and construction of a suite of restoration projects selected for the immediate benefits they can provide to the Everglades and the South Florida Ecosystem.

Conservation Easement: A legal agreement between a landowner and a government agency or nonprofit organization to protect the natural resources of a property permanently or for some designated period of time. The property still belongs to the landowner, but restrictions are placed both on the current landowner and subsequent landowners.

CERP: A comprehensive plan for the water resources of central and southern Florida authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. The overarching objective of this Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan is the restoration, preservation, and protection of the South Florida Ecosystem while providing for the other water-related needs of the region.

Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL): Florida created this land acquisition program in 1979 to acquire lands to conserve and protect unique natural areas, endangered species, unusual geologic features, wetlands, and significant archaeological and historical sites. CARL projects were funded by the CARL Trust Fund and Preservation 2000. The Florida Forever - Board of Trustees program is CARL's successor.

Fee simple acquisition: The outright purchase of all property rights.

Florida Forever: The 10-year, \$3 billion program established by the Florida Legislature to conserve environmentally sensitive land, restore waterways, and preserve important cultural and historical resources. Florida Forever replaces Preservation 2000.

Goal: Something to be achieved. Goals can be established for outcomes (results) or outputs (efforts).

"Graham Map": The 1999 Everglades Ecosystem Land Acquisition State-Federal Cost Share Map requested by former Florida Senator Bob Graham. This map was produced by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force.

Lake Okeechobee Estuary Recovery: Plan to restore the ecological health of Lake Okeechobee and the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries.

Less-than-fee simple: The acquisition of limited property rights. The right to conserve and protect resources on the property is purchased at a lesser cost to taxpayers, while keeping the land in private ownership and on the tax rolls.

Master Implementation Sequencing Plan: Updates the sequencing and scheduling for the implementation of all CERP projects

Mitigation: An action or series of actions that offset the adverse environmental impact of a permitted activity.

Multi-Species Recovery Plan: Plan developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that contains information on the biology, ecology, status, trends, management, and recovery actions for 68 federally listed species found in South Florida, as well as the ecology and restoration needs of 23 natural communities in the region.

Multi-Year Acquisition Agreement: An agreement that allows acquisition costs to be paid out over a number of years.

Northern Everglades: Ecosystem within the SFWMD boundary encompassing the Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River, and St. Lucie River basins. Key features include Kissimmee area lakes and rivers, Lake Okeechobee, and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers and estuaries.

Objective: A goal expressed in specific, directly quantifiable terms.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes: Federal or State payments to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable government owned lands within their boundaries.

Preservation 2000: A ten year program, initiated by the State of Florida in 1990, that raised \$300 million per year for a total of \$3 billion for environmental land acquisition.

Regional Planning Councils: Florida planning and public policy agencies that work with public and private leadership on regional issues.

Refuge Revenue Sharing Program: A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service program that authorizes payments to offset the loss of tax revenue in counties in which USFWS lands are located. These payments are funded and administered separately from other Federal revenue sharing measures such as those made under the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Act.

Restudy: Colloquial expression for the Central and Southern Florida Project Comprehensive Review Study, authorized in 1992.

Rural Lands Stewardship Program: Florida's program to direct development in rural lands to preserve agriculture and protect the environment.

Save Our Everglades Trust Fund: A trust fund established in 2000 under provisions of Florida's Everglades Restoration Investment Act to provide a minimum of \$100 million per year to implement CERP. The Act authorized Florida to contribute \$2 billion to CERP over the next 10 years.

Save Our Rivers: This 1981 Florida program created the Water Management Lands Trust Fund. This trust fund enables the water management districts to acquire lands necessary for water management, water supply, and the conservation and protection of water resources. Save Our Rivers projects can be jointly funded through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund and P-2000/Florida Forever.

South Florida Ecosystem: An area consisting of the lands and waters within the boundaries of the South Florida Water Management District and the Multi-Species Recovery Plan, including the Kissimmee Basin, Lake Okeechobee, Everglades, the Florida Keys, and the contiguous nearshore coastal waters.

Southern Everglades: Ecosystem within the SFWMD boundary south of the Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River, and St. Lucie River basins. Key features include the Water Conservation Areas, Big Cypress National Preserve, Everglades National Park, Florida Bay, and the coastal bays and estuaries south of Lake Okeechobee.

Sustainability: The state of having the needs of the present met without endangering the ability of future generations to be able to meet their own needs.

Vision: An aspiration of future conditions; in this case, the results that the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force members intend to achieve in terms of ecosystem health and quality of life for South Florida residents and visitors.

Water Resources Development Act: The Federal authorizing legislation for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' water resource projects.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ASR Aquifer Storage and Recovery	LOPA Lake Okeechobee Protection Act
CARL Conservation and Recreation Lands	LOPP Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan
C&SF Project Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project	 LWCF Land and Water Conservation Fund
CERP Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan	MISP Master Implementation Sequencing Plan
CREW Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed	MSRP Multi-Species Recovery Plan
DCA Florida Department of Community Affairs	NPS National Park Service
DOF Florida Division of Forestry	NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service
DSL Florida Division of State Lands	NWR National Wildlife Refuge
EAA Everglades Agricultural Area	OGT Office of Greenways and Trails
ECP Everglades Construction Project	OPE Other Project Element
EEL Environmentally Endangered Lands	P-2000 Preservation 2000
Farm Bill The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act	PIR Project Implementation Report
FDACS Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	PILT Payment in Lieu of Taxes
FDEP Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Restudy C&SF Project Comprehensive Review Study
FF Florida Forever	SCG Science Coordination Group
FNAI Florida Natural Areas Inventory	SWMD South Florida Water Management District
FRPP Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program	SOETF Save Our Everglades Trust Fund
FWC Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	SOR Save Our Rivers
FY Fiscal Year	STA Stormwater Treatment Area
GAO Government Accountability Office (formerly the General Accounting Office)	Task Force South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force
IRL Indian River Lagoon	USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers
LAS Land Acquisition Strategy	USDA United States Department of Agriculture
LATT Land Acquisition Task Team	USDOI United States Department of the Interior
LOER Lake Okeechobee Estuary Recovery	USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service
	WCA Water Conservation Area
	WRAC Water Resources Advisory Commission
	WRDA Water Resources Development Act
	WRP Wetlands Reserve Program

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Executive Summary

Land acquisition is critical to South Florida Ecosystem restoration efforts. Land is needed to preserve habitat for native plants and animals, to act as a buffer to existing natural areas, and to provide opportunities for recreational pursuits. Land is also needed for water quality treatment areas, water storage reservoirs, and aquifer recharge areas that will help restore natural hydrology.

The purpose of the *South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Strategy* (LAS) is to describe the land acquisition needed for ecosystem restoration projects that are either wholly Federally funded or jointly funded by Federal and non-Federal agencies—and, with its appendices, provide a broad picture of all land acquisition initiatives that contribute to the restoration. This document updates and replaces the LAS accepted by the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (Task Force) in September 2006.

The LAS addresses land acquisition needed to achieve the three strategic goals for South Florida Ecosystem restoration as adopted by the Task Force:

Goal 1: Get the water right

Goal 2: Restore, preserve, and protect habitats and species

Goal 3: Foster compatibility of the built and natural systems

The LAS provides an update on how these restoration goals will be accomplished through the use of land acquisition strategies designed to ensure that only those private property rights necessary to accomplish the restoration goals will be acquired. It also measures and reports the acquisition of identified lands. The LAS presents an overall land acquisition picture for those responsible for South Florida Ecosystem restoration activities and funding. It also provides cooperating agencies with a perspective on how their current and potential land acquisition projects relate and contribute to the vision of the Task Force.

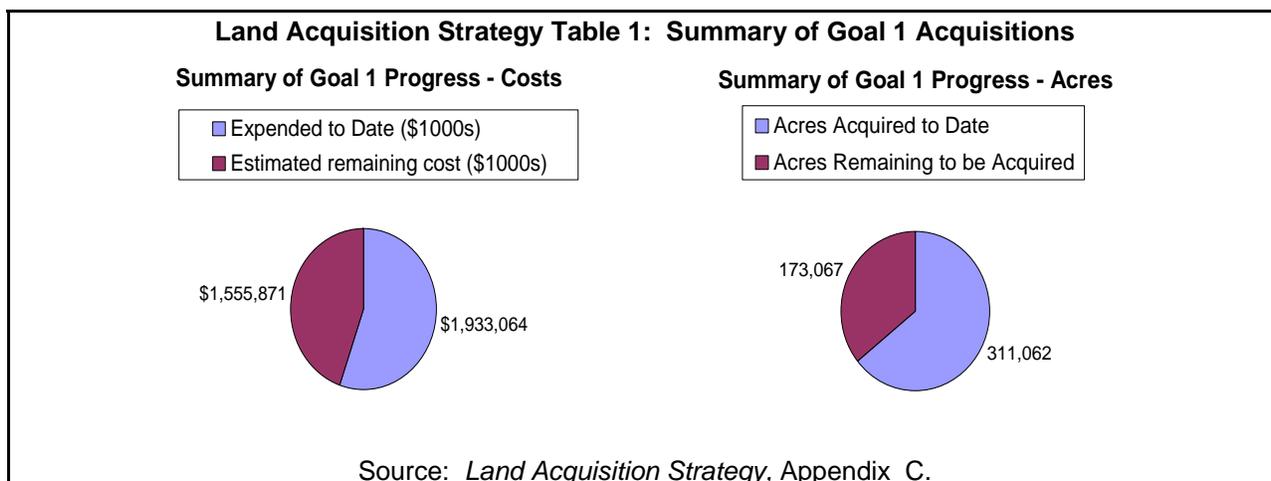
This edition of the LAS reflects data from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. The Task Force's Land Acquisition Task Team (LATT) will update the LAS annually to track land acquisition progress and foster cooperation among member agencies on this important component of South Florida Ecosystem restoration.

Acquisition Status by Strategic Goal

The LAS summarizes projects identified as necessary for accomplishing the Task Force strategic goals. Land acquisition is also summarized for a few key restoration initiatives, including the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). A summary of the estimated lands needed to accomplish the strategic goals and other South Florida Ecosystem restoration initiatives follows.

Goal 1: Get the Water Right

There are 51 projects identified for acquisition to achieve Goal 1. This goal area includes projects needed to restore the quantity, distribution, and timing of water within the ecosystem, as well as projects to improve water quality. Therefore, this goal area includes lands needed for the CERP, other projects modifying the current Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) water distribution system, and water quality improvements. Land acquisition estimates for the Goal 1 projects total ~~486,536~~ **484,129** acres with ~~300,448~~ **311,062** acres (~~62~~**64**%) acquired to date. The total estimated cost of these lands is ~~\$3,380,582,000~~ **\$3,488,935,000** with an estimated ~~\$1600,744,000~~ **\$1,555,871,000** needed to complete acquisition of these parcels.¹



Goal 2: Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats and Species

There are 14 projects identified for acquisition to achieve Goal 2. Achievement of this goal includes acquisition of lands needed for CERP and other habitat improvement projects that supplement and complement the existing network of publicly held parks, preserves, and refuges.

To date, ~~1,704,258~~ **1,704,263** acres are estimated to be needed to achieve the targets established for this goal with ~~1,691,524~~ **1,688,625** acres acquired (99%). The total estimated cost of these lands is approximately \$743,723,000 **\$769,658,000** with an estimated ~~\$101,967,000~~ **\$97,477,000** needed to complete acquisition of these parcels.²

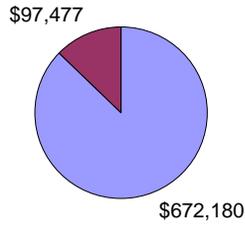
¹ Cost estimates for remaining acres for the Modified Water Deliveries projects are the estimated fair market value. The Kissimmee River restoration estimates are **2006** estimates to close all contracts and include engineering solutions in lieu of acquisition. For those CERP projects with either a Final Feasibility Study or Project Implementation Report, the Real Estate Plan estimates in those documents have been adjusted to **2006** dollars. For CERP projects that do not have an authorization document, the 1999 Restudy real estates estimates have been adjusted to **2006** dollars.

² Cost estimates for remaining acquisitions for National Wildlife Refuges and National Parks projects are based on estimated fair market value. The FDEP uses tax assessment values to estimate land costs for the Picayune Strand, Indian River Lagoon Blueway, and Henderson Creek/Belle Meade projects. The

Land Acquisition Strategy Table 2: Summary of Goal 2 Acquisitions

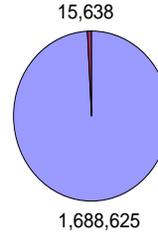
Summary of Goal 2 Progress - Costs

- Expended to Date (\$1000s)
- Estimated remaining cost (\$1000s)



Summary of Goal 2 Progress - Acres

- Acres Acquired to Date
- Acres Remaining to be Acquired



Source: *Land Acquisition Strategy*, Appendix C.

cost estimate for remaining acres for the Strazzulla Wetlands Water Preserve Area Project is the Real Estate Plan estimate in the October 2001 Water Preserve Area Feasibility Study adjusted to 2006 dollars.

Goal 3: Foster Compatibility of the Built and Natural System

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (2002 Farm Bill) authorized several programs that provide financial incentives to private landowners to restore or enhance wetlands and improve wildlife habitat while protecting working farms or retiring marginal land from agricultural production. Two of the six programs in the 2002 Farm Bill support efforts to achieve Goal 3 land acquisition objectives through permanent conservation easements – the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and the Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FRPP). Since passage of the 2002 Farm Bill, \$20 million has been obligated to secure WRP easements on 15,370 acres and 4,265 acres have been acquired through the FRPP at a cost of \$2.7 million.

Acquisition Efforts by Initiative

Key ecosystem restoration initiatives like CERP and *Acceler8* provide significant contributions toward achievement of the Task Force's three strategic goals. Additionally, many local governments within the region have land acquisition programs that significantly contribute to ecosystem restoration. The following is a discussion of these programs and associated land acquisition.

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000 authorized the CERP. Implementation of the CERP is one of the highest priorities for the Task Force because of its significant contribution to the restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem.

CERP land acquisition is ahead of schedule as compared to the March 2005 Master Implementation Sequencing Plan (MISP) land acquisition strategy. This is a result of the state acquiring acreage at the earliest possible time which has prevented these lands needed for restoration from being developed.

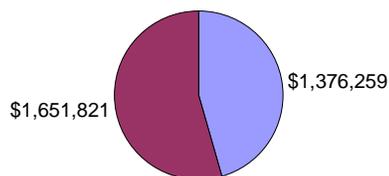
Land acquisition estimates for CERP projects total ~~386,018~~ **387,154** acres.³ Approximately ~~208,950~~ **214,762** (54.55%) of the acquisition acres have been acquired to date **and 172,392 acres remain to be acquired**. The total estimated cost of these lands is ~~\$2,943,410,000~~ **\$3,028,080,000** with an estimated ~~\$1,540,576,000~~ **\$1,641,821,000** needed to complete acquisition for CERP.⁴

³ This acreage includes 2,241 acres of Tribal land and 16,470 acres of publicly owned lands, including utilities.

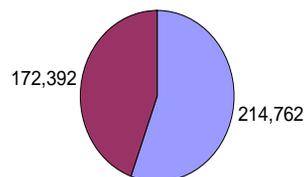
⁴ The estimated costs for remaining acres for CERP projects with either a Final Feasibility Study or Project Implementation Report is based on the Real Estate Plan estimates which have been adjusted to **2006** dollars. For CERP projects that do not have an authorization document, the 1999 Restudy real estate estimates have been adjusted to **2006** dollars.

Land Acquisition Strategy Table 3: Summary of CERP Acquisitions**Summary of CERP Progress - Costs**

■ Expended to Date (\$1000s)
■ Estimated remaining cost (\$1000s)

**Summary of CERP Progress - Acres**

■ Acres Acquired to Date
■ Acres Remaining to be Acquired



Source: *Land Acquisition Strategy*, Appendix C plus local and Tribal sponsored CERP projects.⁵

Acceler8

In October 2004, Florida announced the *Acceler8* program and its commitment to provide \$1.5 billion to accelerate the design and construction of projects selected for the immediate benefits they can provide to the Everglades and the South Florida Ecosystem. The majority of *Acceler8* projects are components of CERP projects. Most of the lands for these projects are already in public ownership and were acquired with a combination of Federal and State funds.

Land acquisition estimates for *Acceler8* projects total ~~126,278~~ **128,660 acres of which approximately 3,826 acres are publicly-owned lands, including utilities.** Approximately ~~122,782~~ **124,134 (99%)** of the acquisition acres have been acquired to date with an estimated ~~3,496~~ **700** acres remaining to be acquired to complete acquisition for *Acceler8*. Expenditures to date total ~~\$729,938,000~~ **\$760,012,000**.

⁵ The Miccosukee Water Management Plan, the Lakes Park Restoration, Seminole Tribe Big Cypress Reservation Water Conservation Plan, West Miami-Dade Reuse, South Miami-Dade Reuse, Winsberg Farms Wetland Restoration, West Miami-Dade Wastewater Reuse Pilot, and South Miami-Dade Wastewater Reuse Pilot projects are local or Tribal sponsored CERP projects.

Local Contributions

Local governments also have made significant land acquisition contributions to the South Florida Ecosystem restoration goals:

- Goal 1: Local governments have contributed over ~~\$65~~ **\$72** million for CERP land acquisition.
- Goal 2: Local governments have contributed over ~~\$445~~ **\$485** million for the natural habitat lands identified in Appendix D.
- Goal 3: Counties hold title to more than ~~138,000~~ **165,000** acres of lands that contribute towards the park, recreation, and open space objective of Goal 3.

Accomplishments

Progress continues on land acquisition in support of South Florida Ecosystem restoration. Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of this progress is the continuation of strong partnerships at the Federal, State, and local levels to achieve restoration goals. As a result of innovative partnerships and creative approaches, several major acquisitions have been accomplished during this reporting period:

Examples of fee simple acquisitions:

- 73,542 acres, the largest conservation purchase in Florida's history, to protect Babcock Ranch
- 12,000 acres to conclude the negotiated acquisitions for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project, now 98 percent acquired
- 45.14 acres to nearly complete *Acceler8* land acquisitions, now at 99.4 percent complete

Examples of less-than-fee simple acquisitions:

- 360 acres of permanent flowage easements for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project
- 1,308-acre conservation easement on Henscratch Ranch, a SFWMD/USDA partnership

Example of multi-year acquisition agreements:

- 1,282 acres for the North Palm Beach – Part 1 CERP Project of which 427 acres were acquired during this reporting period.

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Strategy Purpose and Background

Introduction

The South Florida Ecosystem is an 18,000 square mile region that includes all or part of sixteen counties and has more than six million human inhabitants. The watershed stretches from the Kissimmee River Basin-Lake Okeechobee system in the north to the coral reefs in the south. This water-dominated system encompasses a myriad of interconnected rivers, lakes, marshes, prairies, forests, and estuaries and spans the state between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

In 1948, the ongoing efforts to drain the Everglades, protect the region from hurricanes, and make the region habitable culminated in Congressional authorization of the C&SF Project, a flood control project jointly built and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). The primary project goal was to provide water and flood control for urban and agricultural lands. Other goals were to improve habitat for fish and wildlife, ensure a water supply for Everglades National Park, and provide for agricultural, industrial, and recreational uses.

The C&SF Project significantly altered the region's hydrology (quantity, timing, and distribution of water). Historically, most rainwater soaked into the region's wetlands. By the 1970s, the constructed C&SF canal system included over 1,800 miles of canals and levees and 200 water control structures. This immense system diverted an average of 1.7 billion gallons of water per day (5,217 acre-feet per day) into the ocean and Gulf of Mexico.

The desirability of South Florida's climate, geographic location, cultural and social setting, and thriving economic opportunities have contributed to significant population growth since the C&SF Project was built. While the historic Everglades has been reduced to about half of its original size, the current population in the region is predicted to double by the year 2050⁶. Consequently, the sustainability of the South Florida Ecosystem is in jeopardy. In response to this situation, the Federal, State, regional, and local governments and two Native American Indian Tribes have committed to support the restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem.

Land acquisition is critical to South Florida Ecosystem restoration efforts. Land is needed to preserve habitat for native plants and animals, act as a buffer to existing natural areas, and provide opportunities for recreational pursuits. Land is also needed for water quality treatment areas, water storage reservoirs, and aquifer recharge areas that will help restore the region's natural hydrology.

⁶U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, *Central and Southern Florida Project Comprehensive Review Study Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement*, April 1999.

Purpose

The purpose of the LAS is to describe the land identified jointly by Federal and State agencies for ecosystem restoration and, with its appendices, provide a broad picture of all land acquisition initiatives that contribute to the restoration. The LATT updates the LAS annually for the Task Force. The LATT's Directive is found within Appendix H.

In April 2000, a General Accounting Office (GAO; now the Government Accountability Office) report recommended that the Task Force develop a land acquisition plan to coordinate member agencies' land acquisition activities. In response to this recommendation, the LAS includes:

- An assessment of the lands needed to accomplish each of the goals of restoration
- A description of the purpose for which the lands will be acquired and how they will be managed
- An estimate of the cost of these lands
- An estimate of when the lands will be needed for related restoration projects
- The agencies responsible for acquiring the lands

The LAS does not propose to acquire the amount of land necessary to restore or recreate the historic Everglades—many of those lands are irretrievably lost. The restored Everglades will be smaller and of a different configuration than the original, but will mimic the historic functions of the Everglades.

The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force

Six Federal departments (twelve Federal agencies), seven Florida State agencies, two American Indian Tribes, sixteen counties, scores of municipal governments, and interested groups and businesses from throughout South Florida participate in the restoration effort. Given the large geographic area, the diverse missions of these agencies, and the need to maximize the resources available for this effort, coordination among these entities is essential to the restoration effort.

WRDA 1996 established the intergovernmental Task Force. It consists of fourteen members from four sovereign entities: seven Federal agency representatives at the Assistant Secretary or equivalent level, five State representatives, and two Native American Indian representatives. Among other duties, WRDA 1996 requires the Task Force to:

- Coordinate the development of consistent strategies, policies, projects, and programs to address the restoration, preservation, and protection of the South Florida Ecosystem
- Exchange information on Everglades restoration efforts
- Coordinate scientific research
- Facilitate the resolution of interagency and intergovernmental disputes
- Facilitate public participation by the public

The role of the Task Force is to facilitate the coordination of conservation and restoration efforts implemented through a combination of Federal, State, local, and Tribal initiatives in south Florida. The Task Force provides a forum for the participating entities to share information about their restoration projects and resolve conflicts, and report on progress. Congress and the public are particularly interested in how each individual member's efforts contribute to the larger framework of total ecosystem restoration. The Task Force *Land Acquisition Strategy* is a critical vehicle for sharing information.

Providing a forum for consensus building and issue engagement is a collaborative role, not one in which the Task Force dictates to its members. Because on-the-ground restoration is accomplished through the efforts of the individual Task Force members, they are the ones that are ultimately responsible for their particular programs, projects, and associated funding. This is an important distinction. Each member is accountable individually to its appropriate authorities and to each other for the success of the restoration. The Task Force has no overriding authority to direct its members. Instead the Task Force role of coordination complements the implementation roles of its members. The Task Force also provides opportunities to improve cohesion among public interest groups on the disparate elements and programs of the South Florida Ecosystem restoration (land acquisition and conservation, water quality improvement, water infrastructure development, and habitat protection).

A Working Group and Science Coordination Group (SCG) have been established to assist the Task Force in accomplishing its duties in general. Advisory groups such as the Water Resources Advisory Commission (WRAC) provide the Task Force with recommendations on specific issues.

The intergovernmental Task Force is the only forum that provides strategic coordination and a system-wide perspective to guide the separate restoration efforts being planned and implemented in south Florida. The Task Force members share a vision of a healthy South Florida Ecosystem that supports diverse and sustainable communities of plants, animals, and people. Three goals have been set to achieve this vision:

Goal 1: Get the water right

Goal 2: Restore, preserve, and protect natural habitats and species

Goal 3: Foster compatibility of the built and natural systems

Land acquisition is an essential part of achieving these ecosystem restoration goals.

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Needs

The members of the Task Force have been engaged in the protection and restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem for many years prior to the formation of the Task Force. Acquisition of land to provide water for South Florida's human population and to protect natural resources has been an ongoing priority in ecosystem restoration.

In 1947, the Federal government acquired land to establish Everglades National Park with the substantial contribution of 903,931 acres from the State of Florida. This noteworthy event has been followed and enhanced by numerous programs aimed at protecting and conserving South Florida's natural lands. State and Federal agencies currently manage 4.9 million acres of land important for the protection of natural habitat and species in South Florida (see Appendix D).

By the mid-1980s, a consensus was developing that water management in the region needed to be improved for natural habitats to respond. In 1989 and 1992 respectively, Congress authorized the Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park and the Kissimmee River Restoration projects. These projects added new land acquisition requirements as part of the improved water management system.

In 1992, Congress authorized the C&SF Comprehensive Review Study (Restudy) to take a system-wide look at the water management system and recommend changes to benefit the remaining Everglades while meeting other water related needs of the region. The Restudy is the foundation of the CERP.

WRDA 2000 authorized the CERP, perhaps the most ambitious ecological restoration program ever undertaken. CERP provides a framework for modifications and operational changes that are needed to restore, preserve, and protect the South Florida Ecosystem while providing for other water-related needs of the region, including water supply and flood protection. The authorization of CERP added new land acquisition requirements for the restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem.

On June 28, 2007, Florida's governor signed into law a program that expands the Lake Okeechobee Protection Act (LOPA) to include protection and restoration of the entire Lake Okeechobee watershed as well as the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers and estuaries. As part of the plan to improve the health of the Northern Everglades, Florida will set aside land, construct treatment wetlands, and identify water storage areas needed to improve the quality, timing, and distribution of water in the natural system and will add new ecosystem restoration land acquisition requirements to complement the CERP.

Acquisition Strategy

The strategy for land acquisition within the South Florida Ecosystem is to pursue acquisition of lands identified as necessary for restoration in a coordinated and timely manner. These include lands needed to fulfill Task Force goals and objectives (Appendix A) and implement ecosystem restoration initiatives such as CERP and *Acceler8*. Local government initiatives also contribute to ecosystem-wide restoration. The following is a discussion of land acquisition efforts by goal and initiative to date. Further discussion regarding existing and potential partnerships and mechanisms for land acquisition may be found in the next section.

Acquisition Efforts by Strategic Goal

The Task Force's guiding document, *Coordinating Success: Strategy for Restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem*, identifies projects needed for ecosystem restoration. Projects with land acquisition requirements are included in the following analysis. Specific project information is located within Appendix C.

Goal 1: Get the Water Right

Land acquisition for Goal 1 includes lands needed for CERP and other authorized modifications to the C&SF System including the Kissimmee River Restoration and Headwaters Revitalization Project, the C-111 Canal Project, the Critical Projects authorized in WRDA 96, and Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park. Other water quality improvement projects, such as the 100% federally funded Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) 1-East component of the SFWMD's Everglades Construction Project, are also needed to fulfill this goal.

There are 51 projects identified for acquisition to achieve Goal 1. Land acquisition estimates for these projects totals ~~486,536~~ **484,129 acres** with ~~300,448~~ **311,062 acres** (62~~64~~**64**%) acquired to date. The total estimated cost of these lands is ~~\$3,380,582,000~~ **\$3,488,935,000** with an estimated ~~\$1,600,744,000~~ **\$1,555,871,000** needed to complete acquisition.⁷

Identification of Lands to be Acquired

The acreage estimated on the project profile sheets in Appendix C reflects the best available information as of June 30, 2007. Non-CERP project land requirements are identified through General Design Memorandums. The Restudy estimated the total

⁷ Cost estimates for remaining acres for the Modified Water Deliveries projects are the estimated fair market value. The Kissimmee River restoration estimates are **2006** estimates to close all contracts and include engineering solutions in lieu of acquisition. For those CERP projects with either a Final Feasibility Study or Project Implementation Report, the Real Estate Plan estimates in those documents have been adjusted to **2006** dollars. For CERP projects that do not have an authorization document, the 1999 Restudy real estates estimates have been adjusted to **2006** dollars.

lands needed for CERP based on preliminary conceptual project designs. These estimates have been updated for projects with a completed Project Implementation Report (PIR) as required by CERP and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Strategic Acquisitions

Failure to obtain parcels in a timely manner can result in construction delays and reconfiguration not just of one project, but for other related projects as well. Delays in acquiring project lands lessen the possibility that the necessary lands will be acquired and may also increase the cost of land. In July 2006, the SFWMD concluded the last major acquisition of land needed to meet the construction schedule of the Kissimmee River Restoration project. Likewise, the USACE embarked on an aggressive land acquisition schedule to have all lands available for the Modified Waters Project and has acquired all lands needed for the project during this reporting period. The MISP construction schedule determines the land acquisition schedule for CERP. In addition, the SFWMD has pursued a strategy of early land acquisition to secure lands for future CERP projects. Appendix F details Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08 SFWMD priority land acquisitions to meet the MISP schedule. Appendix B identifies all the CERP projects with continued land acquisition needs.

Cost Estimates of Real Estate

Real estate cost estimates for non-CERP projects are based on actual expenditures and the estimated fair market value for remaining land acquisition. For those CERP projects with either a final Feasibility Study or PIR, the Real Estate Plan estimates in those documents have been adjusted to 2006 dollars for those projects that have not been constructed. For CERP projects that do not have an authorization document, the 1999 Restudy real estate estimates have been adjusted to 2006 dollars.

Funding Sources

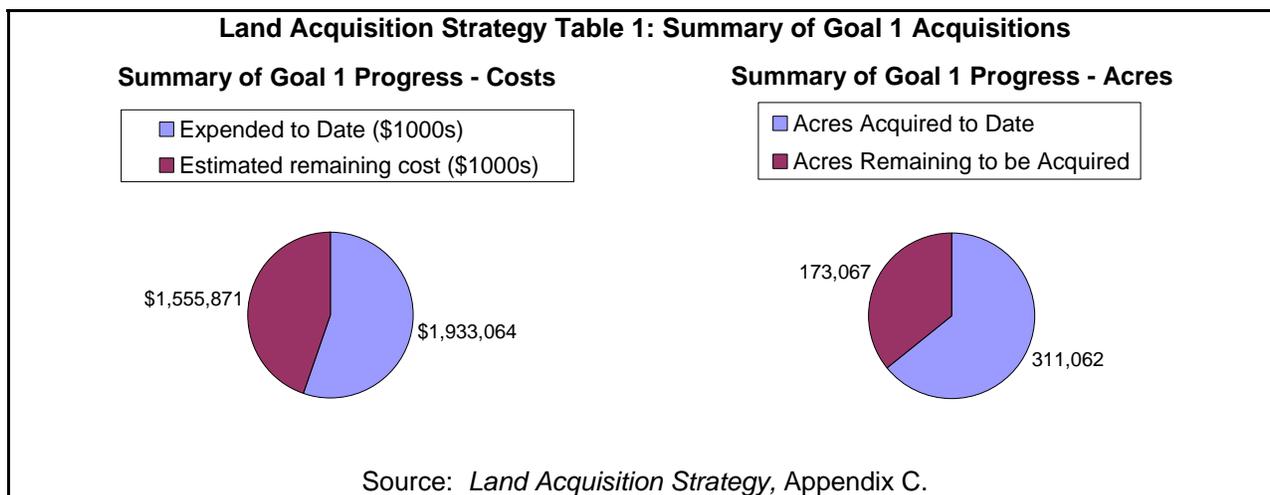
These funding sources have been used to acquire Goal 1 lands:

- U.S. Department of the Interior (USDOI) Land and Water Conservation Fund
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wetlands Preserve Program
- Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Farm Bill) Section 390
- **Florida Forever – Board of Trustees Program**
- State of Florida (Department of Environmental Protection) (FDEP) Save Our Everglades Trust Fund (SOETF)
- Save Our Rivers/Florida Forever (formerly Preservation 2000)
- Broward County Safe Parks and Land Preservation Bond Program
- Conservation Collier
- District Ad Valorem Taxes
- Special State Appropriations
- Lee County Conservation 20/20
- Martin County Lands for Healthy Rivers
- Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program
- Palm Beach County Land Acquisition Program for Conservation Purposes
- St. Lucie County Environmentally Significant Lands Program

- The Nature Conservancy

The 2000 Everglades Restoration and Investment Act, Section 373.470 F.S., established a full and equal partnership between the State and Federal governments for the implementation of the CERP. The Act established the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund to fund the State’s cost share of implementing the CERP.

During this reporting period, Section 373.470 F.S. was amended to include protection and restoration of the entire Lake Okeechobee watershed as well as the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers and estuaries. This initiative, referred to as the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program, aims to improve the health of the northern Everglades and complement the CERP. The Save Our Everglades Trust Fund was also extended for 10 years (through 2020) and expanded to include the Northern Everglades initiative. Florida’s 2007-08 budget includes \$100 million for Everglades restoration, \$54 million for the restoration of Lake Okeechobee, and \$40 million for the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries.

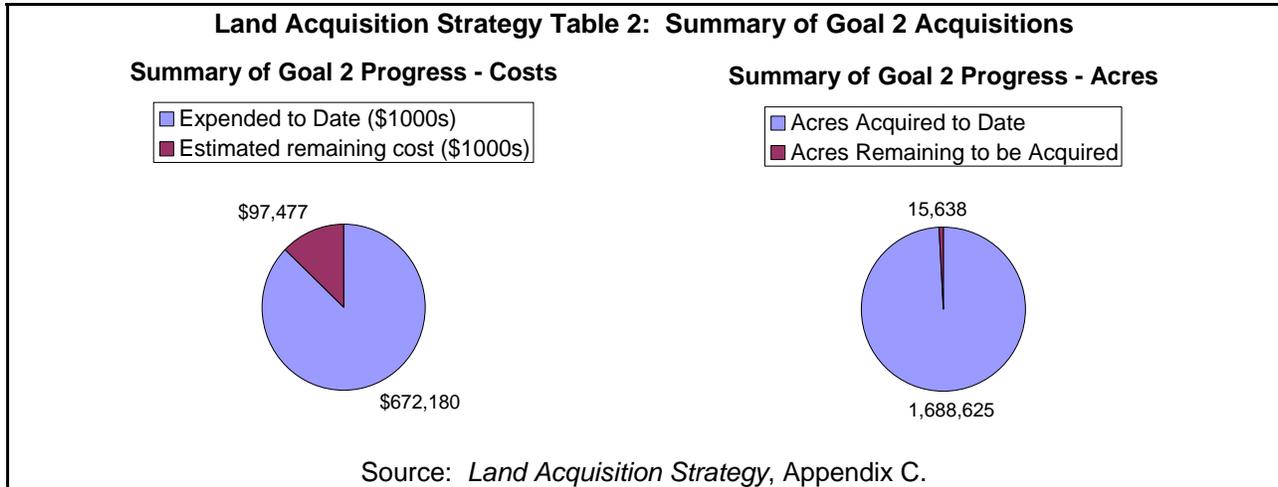


Goal 2: Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats and Species

Habitat and species protection goals are met primarily through large public holdings such as parks and wildlife refuges. The LAS tracks the land acquisition needs of the three national parks/preserves, sixteen wildlife refuges, and three CERP wetland restoration projects that contribute to this goal.

There are fourteen projects identified for acquisition to achieve Goal 2. To date, ~~1,704,258~~ **1,704,263** acres are estimated to be needed to achieve the targets established for this goal with ~~1,691,524~~ **1,688,625** (99%) acres acquired. The total

estimated cost of these lands is approximately ~~\$743,723,000~~ **\$769,658,000** with an estimated ~~\$101,967,000~~ **\$97,477,000** needed to complete acquisition of these parcels.⁸ The habitat and species table in Appendix D lists all the Goal 2 land acquisition projects, regardless of Federal funding involvement.



Identification of Lands to be Acquired

Any major boundary revisions to existing units of the national park system must be established by an act of Congress. Likewise, national wildlife refuge land acquisitions must be consistent with existing Congressional authorization. Land acquisition needs for CERP wetland restoration projects are identified in the Picayune Strand Restoration Project (Southern Golden Gate Estates) PIR, the Water Preserve Area Feasibility Study (Strazzulla Wetlands), and the Henderson Creek/Belle Meade conceptual plan.

Strategic Acquisitions

Land acquisition to complete park and refuge boundaries is a multi-year process and can span decades. The goal is to acquire lands before on-site resources are destroyed.

The Picayune Strand Restoration Project is centrally located among several nature preserves, wildlife refuges, and other wildlife areas in Collier County, one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. The acquisition of lands for this project will protect over 2.3 million contiguous acres of wildlife habitat.

The acquisition of the Strazzulla wetlands, immediately adjacent to the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, will increase the spatial extent of wetlands and will provide habitat connectivity for species that require large, unfragmented tracts of land for survival. This unique and endangered habitat contains the only remaining cypress

⁸ Cost estimates for remaining acquisitions for National Wildlife Refuges and National Parks projects are based on estimated fair market value. The FDEP uses tax assessment values to estimate land costs for the Picayune Strand, Indian River Lagoon Blueway, and Henderson Creek/Belle Meade projects. The cost estimate for remaining acres for the Strazzulla Wetlands Water Preserve Area Project is the Real Estate Plan Estimate in the October 2001 Water Preserve Area Feasibility Study adjusted to 2006 dollars.

habitat in the eastern Everglades and one of the few remaining sawgrass marshes adjacent to the coastal ridge.

Cost Estimates of Real Estate

The National Park Service (NPS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) cost estimates for land acquisitions for national parks and national wildlife refuges are based on fair market value and appraisals that meet State and Federal standards. The FDEP, as the acquisition agent for Picayune Strand and Henderson Creek/Belle Meade projects, uses tax assessment values to estimate land costs. The cost estimate for the Strazzulla Wetlands CERP project is based on the 2001 Water Preserve Area Feasibility Study and has been adjusted to 2006 dollars.

Funding Sources

These funding sources have been used to acquire Goal 2 lands:

- USDOI Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL)
- District Ad Valorem Taxes
- **Florida Forever – Board to Trustees Program**
- Save Our Rivers/Florida Forever (formerly Preservation 2000)
- City of Sanibel
- Collier County
- Monroe County
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy

Goal 3: Foster Compatibility of the Built and Natural System

The 2002 Farm Bill authorized several USDA administered programs to provide financial incentives to private landowners to restore or enhance wetlands and improve wildlife habitat while protecting working farms or retiring marginal land from agricultural production. The LAS tracks the WRP and FRPP efforts to achieve Goal 3 land acquisition objectives through permanent and 30-year conservation easements. These acquisitions include lands needed for CERP Projects. Other state and local acquisitions that contribute to this goal are discussed in Appendix E.

The WRP is a voluntary program to assist landowners in restoring wetlands that have had wetlands functions reduced or eliminated by agricultural production practices. Priority is given to those lands that will maximize wildlife habitat. Permanent and 30-year conservation easements provide financial incentives for wetlands enhancement in exchange for retiring marginal agricultural lands. Twenty million dollars has been obligated to secure WRP easement on 15,370 acres since 2002.

The FRPP provides matching funds to help purchase development rights to keep productive farm and rangeland in agricultural uses. The USDA partners with State and local governments, Tribes, and non-governmental organizations to acquire conservation

easements from landowners. The USDA provides up to 50 percent of the fair market value of the conservation easement. Since passage of the 2002 Farm Bill, 4,265 acres in south Florida have been acquired through the FRPP at a cost of \$2.7 million.

Identification of Lands to be Acquired

To be eligible for the WRP, land must be restorable and suitable for wildlife benefits. This includes:

- Wetlands farmed under natural conditions
- Farmed wetlands
- Prior converted cropland
- Farmed wetland pasture
- Farmland that has become a wetland as a result of flooding
- Range land, pasture, or production forest land where the hydrology has been significantly degraded and can be restored
- Riparian areas which link protected wetlands
- Lands adjacent to protected wetlands that contribute significantly to wetland functions and values
- Previously restored wetlands that need long-term protection

To qualify for the FRPP, farmland must:

- Be part of a pending offer from a State, Tribe, or local farmland protection program
- Be privately owned
- Have a conservation plan for highly erodible land
- Be large enough to sustain agricultural production
- Be accessible to markets for what the land produces
- Have adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services
- Have surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production

Strategic Acquisitions

For the WRP, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) places priority on the enrollment of those lands that will maximize wildlife values, especially related to enhancing habitat for migratory birds. The priority ranking factors for the WRP are:

- Habitat
- Location
- Hydrology
- Wildlife species
- Operation and maintenance
- Likelihood of success

All sites within the South Florida Ecosystem restoration area receive an automatic 25 points in the NRCS priority ranking to encourage enrollment and increase the WRP contribution to the habitat restoration goals of the Task Force.

There are no special south Florida enrollment incentives for the FRPP. The State Conservationist, with advice from the State Technical Committee, establishes a weighted ranking system. Priority is given to easements that protect the nation's most threatened prime, unique, and important farmland or historical and archeological sites on farm and ranch lands. In evaluation of proposals and parcels, at least 50 percent of the weight is based on the national criteria. The remaining weight is based on state criteria contained in the State FRPP plan.

Cost Estimates of Real Estate

The WRP geographic payment cap is based on the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences' (IFAS) annual *Florida Land Value Study* and the appraised improved pasture land value. The South Florida Geographic Payment Cap is \$5,895 per acre for a permanent easement and \$4,421.25 per acre for a 30-year easement.

The value of a FRPP conservation easement is determined through a professional appraisal. A qualified appraiser assesses the difference between the fair market value of a property, often using comparable sales, and its restricted value under the easement.

Available Funding Sources

The State Conservationist requests funds annually to fund WRP easements. Historically, Florida's WRP funding has ranged from \$8-11 million annually. WRP applications are funded from the priority list until all funds are obligated. It is important to note that funds obligated in one year cannot be used to fund applications in a different year and all unused funds for a fiscal year must be returned to the USDA.

The FRPP is funded through the USDA Commodity Credit Corporation. The FRPP share of the conservation easement cost must not exceed 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the conservation easement. As part of its share of the cost of purchasing a conservation easement, a State or local government, Tribe, or non-governmental organization may include a charitable donation by the landowner of up to 25 percent of the appraised fair market value of the conservation easement. At a minimum, a cooperating entity must provide, in cash, 25 percent of the appraised fair market value or 50 percent of the purchase price of the conservation easement.

Acquisition Efforts by Initiative

Key ecosystem restoration initiatives like CERP and *Acceler8* provide significant contributions toward achievement of the Task Force's three strategic goals. Additionally, many local governments within the region have land acquisition programs that significantly contribute to ecosystem restoration. The following is a discussion of these programs and associated land acquisition.

CERP

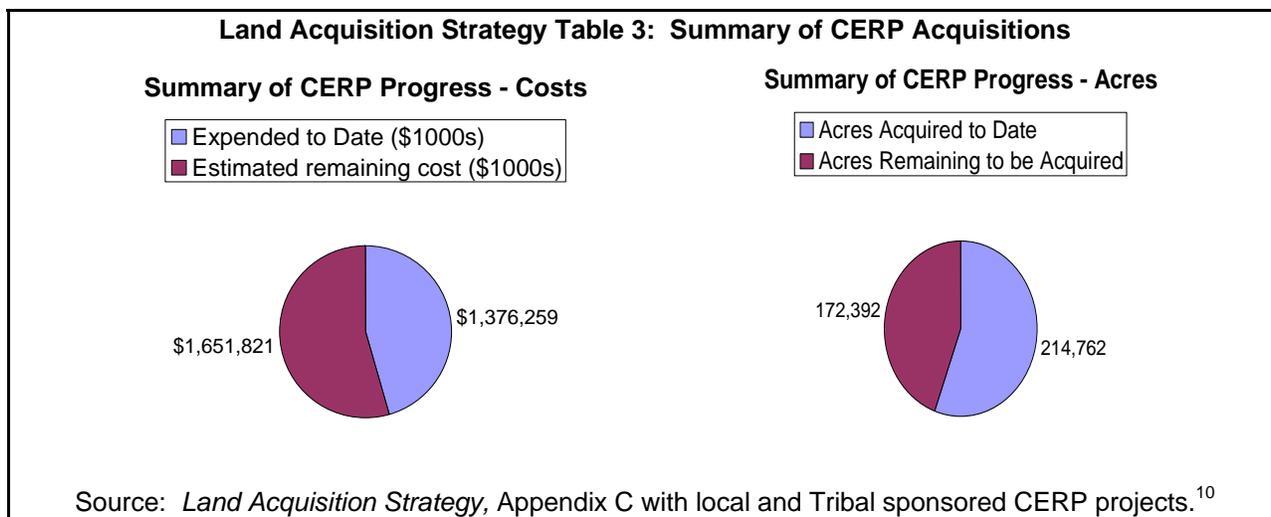
WRDA 2000 authorized the CERP. Implementation of the CERP is one of the highest priorities for the Task Force because of its significant contribution to the restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem.

CERP land acquisition is ahead of schedule as compared to the March 2005 MISP land acquisition strategy. This is a result of the State acquiring acreage at the earliest possible time and has prevented these lands needed for restoration from being developed.

With the 2000 passage of the Everglades Restoration Investment Act, the SFWMD receives \$100 million per year which can be used for land acquisition needed to implement CERP.

For those projects with either a final Feasibility Study or PIR, the Real Estate Plan estimates in those documents have been adjusted to 2006 dollars. For those projects that do not have an authorization document, the 1999 Restudy real estate estimates have been adjusted to 2006 dollars.

Land acquisition estimates for CERP projects total ~~386,018~~ **387,154** acres with ~~208,950~~ **214,762** acres (5455%) acquired to date. The total estimated cost of these lands is ~~\$2,943,410,000~~ **\$3,028,080,000** with an estimated ~~\$1,540,576,000~~ **\$1,651,821,000** needed to complete acquisition for CERP.⁹



⁹ The estimated costs for remaining acres for CERP projects with either a Final Feasibility Study or Project Implementation Report is based on the Real Estate Plan estimates which have been adjusted to 2006 dollars. For CERP projects that do not have an authorization document, the 1999 Restudy real estate estimates have been adjusted to 2006 dollars.

¹⁰ The Miccosukee Water Management Plan, the Lakes Park Restoration, Seminole Tribe Big Cypress Reservation Water Conservation Plan, West Miami-Dade Reuse, South Miami-Dade Reuse, Winsberg Farms Wetland Restoration, West Miami-Dade Wastewater Reuse Pilot, and South Miami-Dade Wastewater Reuse Pilot projects are local or Tribal sponsored CERP projects.

Acceler8

In October 2004, the State of Florida announced the *Acceler8* program and its commitment to provide \$1.5 billion to accelerate the design and construction of projects selected for the immediate benefits they can provide to the Everglades and the South Florida Ecosystem. The majority of *Acceler8* projects are components of CERP projects.

These accelerated projects are to be completed more than 10 years ahead of schedule:

- Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Phase 1
- C-111 Spreader Canal
- C-43 West Storage Reservoir
- C-44 Reservoir/STA
- Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir – Phase 1, with Bolles and Cross Canals Improvements
- EAA STA Expansion
- Picayune Strand Restoration (the pumps and protection facilities will be constructed by the USACE)
- Water Preserve Areas (includes Site 1 Impoundment, C-9 Impoundment, C-11 Impoundment, Acme Basin B Discharge, and Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3A/3B Seepage Management); this project is being transitioned over to the USACE for design and construction

Most of the lands for these projects are already in public ownership and were acquired with both Federal and State funds.

Land acquisition estimates for *Acceler8* projects total ~~126,278~~ 128,660 acres of which approximately 3,826 acres are publicly-owned lands, including utilities. Approximately ~~122,782~~ 124,134 acres (97-99.4%) have been acquired to date with an estimated ~~3,496~~ 700 acres needed to complete acquisition for *Acceler8*. Expenditures to date total ~~\$729,938,000~~ \$760,012,000.

Local Contributions

Local governments have also made significant land acquisition contributions to South Florida Ecosystem restoration goals:

- Goal 1: Local governments have contributed over ~~\$65~~ \$72 million for CERP land acquisition.
- Goal 2: Local governments have contributed over ~~\$419~~ \$485 million for the natural habitat lands identified in Appendix D.
- Goal 3: Counties hold title to over ~~438,000~~ 165,000 of lands that contribute towards the park, recreation, and open space objective of Goal 3.

Acquisition Partnerships and Mechanisms

Over 50 funding sources that could potentially be utilized in support of South Florida Ecosystem restoration are identified in Appendix G. These include Federal, State, and local government programs as well as those of non-governmental organizations. Fifteen have been used to date in support of South Florida Ecosystem restoration goals and land acquisition. Many of the programs provide opportunities to match or leverage funding available through other sources for land acquisition, conservation, or restoration. Further discussion of several of these partnerships and mechanisms follows.

Federal/State/Local Acquisition Partnerships

In many ways South Florida Ecosystem restoration began with the Federal/State partnership to establish Everglades National Park. Continued cooperation and coordination between Federal, State, and local partners in Everglades restoration has maximized the resources available for land acquisition.

The State of Florida's strong commitment to funding acquisition of environmental lands is the foundation of these partnerships. Florida is recognized as the national leader in conservation land acquisition. The State's passage of the landmark Preservation 2000 Act established one of the most aggressive conservation and recreation land acquisition programs in the United States. Florida spent \$3 billion during the ten years of Preservation 2000 (P-2000) and renewed that commitment by the passage of Florida Forever, an additional \$3 billion investment through 2010.

Florida Forever Program

The FDEP Division of State Lands (DSL) coordinates park and refuge land acquisitions with the Federal government. Seventy percent of the acres remaining to be acquired for the National Key Deer Refuge are also on the state's Florida Forever acquisition list. The DSL is cooperating with the NPS on the Big Cypress National Preserve and Big Cypress National Preserve Addition.

Farm Bill Partnerships

In 1996, the USDO, FDEP, and SFWMD participated in a unique land acquisition partnership thanks to a specific congressional action. The Farm Bill of 1996 provided \$200,000,000 to the Secretary of the Interior to fund or conduct restoration activities in the Everglades ecosystem. The 1996 Farm Bill funds, along with State funds, were utilized to purchase lands for CERP projects in the East Coast Buffer/Water Preserve Area, the EAA/Talisman property, and Picayune Strand Restoration (formerly known as Southern Golden Gate Estates).

The Land and Water Conservation Fund

The SFWMD has received about ~~\$474~~ \$183 million in land acquisition grant funds from the USDO's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) through FY 2007. These

funds have been used to acquire lands within the East Coast Buffer/Water Preserve Area, the EAA, STA-1 East, Southern Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW), **Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough, C-43 Basin Storage (Berry Groves)**, the Frog Pond area adjacent to Everglades National Park, and the **Modified Water Deliveries/East Everglades**.

CERP Partnerships

Restoration partners have acquired ~~54~~**55** percent of the necessary CERP lands at a cost of \$1.3 billion, of which ~~\$75~~**\$276** million was provided by the Federal government (USDOI and USDA), ~~\$965~~**\$1** billion from the State (SFWMD and FDEP), and ~~\$65~~**\$72** million by local governments.

Leveraging Limited Funds

Partners at all levels of government recognize the need to both prioritize strategic acquisitions and create additional funding capacity through more coordinated and efficient use of existing programs, particularly as the cost of land in south Florida continues to rise. Mechanisms, such as less-than-fee acquisitions and innovative partnerships, can help maximize the use of limited fiscal resources. Some examples of these mechanisms are described below.

Conservation Easements

Conservation easements involve purchasing a portion of the rights associated with the land to provide some degree of protection to natural resources on the land. There are several advantages of this approach as the land stays on the tax rolls and the private landowner maintains responsibility for managing the property while still allowing some level of continued use. Although the cost could be as low as 25 percent of the cost of fee simple, the price depends on many factors, such as the number of rights purchased, the degree to which the landowner's use of the land is curtailed, and the development pressure on the land. The SFWMD, NRCS, and FDEP all use this tool to protect lands. Currently, conservation easements are contributing to the protection of ~~109,286~~**159,725** acres.

On-Ranch Water Management

A key component of the Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan (LOPP) and the Lake Okeechobee Estuary Recovery (LOER) plan involves on-ranch water management on private land. The SFWMD, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), and FDEP have executed a memorandum of understanding to encourage the voluntary creation/restoration of wetlands and water retention or detention on agricultural lands within the Lake Okeechobee watershed. The memorandum defines the responsibilities of the participating agencies and the long-term responsibilities of participating landowners. **The 2007 Northern Everglades initiative incorporates these efforts in a larger area and effort which includes the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries.**

Additionally, World Wildlife Fund received NRCS and State agency funding for a three year pilot project to design and field-test a pay-for-performance program that would pay

ranchers in the Northern Everglades for the documented provision of water related environmental services. Four pilot projects have been constructed and four more are being planned. Eight private landowners, the SFWMD, NRCS, FDEP, and FDACS are partners on this project and technical support is being provided by UF-IFAS and the MacArthur Agro-Ecology Research Center.

Multi-year Acquisition Agreements

Another alternative to the traditional fee simple purchase contract is the multi-year acquisition agreement used by the SFWMD. These agreements allow properties to be secured today and taken off of the development market. At the same time, these options provide ample due diligence review time for the SFWMD and allow purchase of property over multiple years, which provides cash flow advantages and often tax advantages for the seller as well. Approximately ~~12,041~~ 12,541 acres have been contracted for acquisition through these agreements.

Mitigation Lands

The strategic use of mitigation programs also contributes to the environmental restoration effort in south Florida. If a proposed project will result in negative impacts to wetlands, those impacts must be mitigated by the creation or enhancement of wetlands either on-site or off-site. Mitigation can be required as a condition of a Federal, State, or local permit.

Various options exist for permanent protection of mitigation lands. A private owner can retain fee title ownership of the land, with a permanent conservation easement on the land assigned to a governmental entity or a private, non-profit conservation organization. Another option is for a governmental entity or private non-profit conservation organization to hold fee title to the land, and the land also has a conservation easement on it held by another entity. A third alternative is for the fee simple title to be held by a government entity or private non-profit conservation organization. Mitigation lands can also be protected through Federal, State, or local regulatory instruments with the title held by a private entity. Table 4 provides acreage for selected migration lands in south Florida falling under these categories. More than 100,000 acres are being protected through various mitigation programs. Appendix I provides a map and additional information on south Florida mitigation lands.

Land Acquisition Strategy Table 4: Selected Mitigation Lands in South Florida	
TYPE/PROJECT NAME	ACRES
Mitigation lands with a conservation easement, with the fee title held by a private entity (excluding private non-profit conservation organizations)	70,482
Mitigation lands with a conservation easement, with the fee title held by government or a private non-profit conservation organization	22,919
Mitigation lands with no conservation easement, with fee simple title held by government or a private non-profit conservation organization	12,986
Mitigation lands protected through Federal, State, or local regulatory instruments with the title held by a private entity	3,712 ¹¹
Total acres all categories	109,816

Source: The South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and Miami-Dade County.

Mitigation Funds

The SFWMD no longer accepts mitigation funds from developers. However, over ~~\$11~~\$5 million is available to the District's land acquisition program for use in the CREW and Shingle Creek projects.

Rural Land Stewardship Program

In 2001, Florida created the Rural Lands Stewardship Program. First designed as a pilot program, legislation in 2004 expanded the program to all counties statewide. Local governments designate stewardship areas through comprehensive plan amendments. The intent is to coordinate development within rural lands in a manner that preserves agriculture and protects the environment. Once designated, credits are allocated to individual parcels based on environmental and other values of the property. The credits are recorded as a covenant or restrictive easement in favor of the county and the FDEP, FDACS, or a statewide land trust. The 23,000-acre Adams Ranch in St. Lucie County is currently under review to be preserved through this program. **Additional properties in Glades, Highlands, and Osceola Counties have been proposed through the local government comprehensive planning process.**

Surplusing Lands

The SFWMD may sell or exchange surplus lands, including easements and other legal interests in real property not required for present or future use. Surplus lands are determined not necessary for any identified project by a formal SFWMD routing and approval process. As further justification, some of these lands were acquired as remainder parcels, that is, the portions of acquisition parcels falling outside the approved project boundary. Acquisition staff creatively use these surplus lands in lieu of cash and as further incentive for landowners to make a negotiated deal and avoid costly condemnation proceedings.

¹¹ As reported by Miami-Dade County.

During the reporting cycle, Nicodemus Slough lands totaling slightly more than 2,000 acres were surplus and used as partial consideration for the Lykes acquisition, the last major acquisition required for the Kissimmee River Restoration project. In exchange for the project land, the SFWMD surplus the underlying fee interest to Nicodemus Slough and retained a perpetual flowage easement over the land.

Water Storage Agreements

The identification of alternative sites on public, private, and Tribal lands for moving and storing excess water from Lake Okeechobee and its tributary basins to help reduce high discharge volumes to the estuaries is another component of LOER and the **Northern Everglades initiative**. Many sites are in place, such as the Lykes Bassinger Groves 15,000-acre water storage project, and the Seminole Brighton Reservation 500-acre reservoir/STA is under final design.

Mitigating the Loss of Tax Revenue

Land acquisition for ecosystem restoration removes lands from the tax rolls. Both the Federal and State governments have programs to offset the loss of tax revenues to counties that contain Federal or State tax-exempt lands.

Division of Forestry Payment to Counties

The state Division of Forestry (DOF) makes annual payments to county school boards for State Forests within their boundaries. For revenue collected during FY 2005-06, DOF paid ~~\$1,597.31~~ **\$30,698.56** to Collier County for the Okaloacoochee Slough and Picayune Strand State Forests. Hendry County received ~~\$288.74~~ **\$248.27** for the Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes Programs

Florida's Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program is limited to counties with a population of 150,000 or less with conservation lands removed from the tax rolls through the P-2000 and Florida Forever acquisition programs. Once eligibility has been established, the governmental entity receives ten consecutive annual payments for each tax loss.

For FY **2006**, the FDEP paid ~~\$396,591~~ **\$535,544** to school boards, counties, and other units of government in four counties on ~~74,199~~ **132,974** acres. **During FY 2007, the SFWMD made the ninth payment of \$6,786.92 to Hendry County for acres purchased for the Okaloacoochee Slough Project. Additionally, during the same period, the SFWMD made the first and second payments of \$57,803.06 each in PILT to Hendry County for 8,513 acres purchased for the STAs 5 and 6. Finally, during FY 2007, the SFWMD made the first and second payments of \$2,766.60 each in PILT to Highlands County for 358.69 acres purchased for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project.**

In South Florida, the USDOJ compensates jurisdictions with tax-exempt federal lands administered by the FDEP. In FY **2006**, USDOJ paid \$2,000,490 to eight counties for 1,308,584 acres of federal holdings through its PILT program.

Refuge Revenue Sharing Program

The USFWS makes annual payments to counties or other units of local government through its Refuge Revenue Sharing program. For FY 2006, the USFWS paid ~~\$574,523~~ **\$521,765** on 642,950 acres that the Service administers.

Tools to Identify Strategic Acquisitions

Several Federal and State agencies participating in South Florida Ecosystem restoration have analyzed potential land acquisitions in order to protect habitat for Florida's rarest plant and animal species. Several tools have been developed to assist conservation land acquisition agents in identifying strategic land acquisitions within their area of concern. The following is a discussion of some of those tools.

Florida Natural Areas Inventory Maps

The Florida Natural Area Inventory (FNAI) has developed or compiled statewide natural resource data to inform the Florida Forever conservation land acquisition program. These data are available as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data files at www.fnai.org/flforever.cfm.

Additional tools are available on the FNAI website (www.fnai.org):

- Searchable rare species tracking list
- Conservation lands map server
- Online field guides to rare species
- Invasive species GIS data
- Biodiversity Matrix Map Server - a screening tool that provides immediate, free access to rare species occurrence information statewide

Natural Lands Report

In 2006, a subgroup of the Task Force's LATT produced the *Natural Lands Report* (NLR) in response to a request from the U.S. House of Representatives' Interior Appropriations Sub-Committee. It identifies and prioritizes the natural attributes of lands necessary to achieve natural system restoration goals for the South Florida Ecosystem for these projects:

- Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands
- C-111 Spreader Canal
- Indian River Lagoon – South
- Lake Okeechobee Watershed

The report with project descriptions and natural lands maps was submitted to Congress by the U.S. Department of the Interior in March 2007 and is available at www.sfrestore.org/issueteams/latt/documents/index.html.

Office of Greenways and Trails Recreational Prioritization Maps

The FDEP's Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) updated the Recreational Trail Prioritization maps in 2004 and the Ecological Greenways Priorities data in 2005. These data layers represent the areas that are appropriate for establishment of a statewide greenways and trails system. These are planning areas and do not represent only existing trails and greenways. Rather they provide an overall vision of a comprehensive statewide network of greenways and trails to serve as a guide for local, State, regional, and Federal entities. This data is available under Ecological/Trail Networks at www.FloridaGreenwaysAndTrails.com.

USFWS Multi-Species Recovery Plan

The USFWS' Multi-Species Recovery Plan (MSRP) contains information on the biology, ecology, status, trends, management, and recovery actions for 68 federally listed species found in South Florida, as well as the ecology and restoration needs of 23 natural communities in the region. Acquisition-related recovery tasks are included in the MSRP implementation schedule which was published on March 26, 2007. The MSRP and the implementation schedule are available at www.fws.gov/verobeach.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Conservation Strategy

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is the lead entity for the development of Florida's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. This strategy uses a habitat-based approach to identify threats and the actions needed to address them. To support this effort, the FWC established Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative in 2004.

Major statewide conservation issues identified in the FWC Strategy include:

- Habitat loss and fragmentation
- Degradation of water resources
- Incompatible fire management
- Invasive plants and animals
- Management of the physical environment (i.e., dredging and shoreline hardening activities, etc.)

Several habitat types are recognized for their unique importance within south Florida's natural ecosystem:

- Sandhill
- Scrub
- Submerged aquatic vegetation (seagrass)
- Coral reef

The Initiative's priorities also include the Cooperative Conservation Blueprint, a statewide geographic information and decision support system for long-term land use planning. The Blueprint will identify Florida's critical lands and waters and incorporate broad input from citizens, agencies, landowners, and businesses to create a common 50-100 year vision for Florida's land use. More information can be found at www.myfwc.com/wildlifelegacy/strategy.html.

Major Acquisition Accomplishments

As a result of innovative partnerships and creative approaches, several major acquisitions have been accomplished during this reporting period.

Examples of fee simple acquisitions:

- The State of Florida acquired 73,542 acres of Babcock Ranch, completing the largest conservation purchase in Florida's history. The FDEP acquired 67,619 acres with funds appropriated in Florida Forever specifically for the acquisition of Babcock Ranch and an additional 302 acres were acquired as a donation. Lee County acquired the remaining 5,621 acres with County funds. This purchase preserves the single largest tract of contiguous conservation lands in Florida's history, providing extensive habitat corridors and areas for aquifer recharge.
- The SFWMD acquired approximately 12,000 acres from Lykes Bros, Inc. for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project. This acquisition includes mechanisms to protect current agricultural operations as well as the Nicodemus Slough surplus land exchange. Approximately 98 percent of the lands for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project have been acquired; the remaining parcels of land are progressing through condemnation.
- The SFWMD acquired 45.14 acres to complete the acquisitions for the C-11 Impoundment. Land acquisitions for the entire suite of *Acceler8* projects are nearly complete.

Examples of less-than-fee acquisitions:

- The SFWMD acquired 360 acres of permanent flowage easements along the Kissimmee River and Chain of Lakes for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project.
- The SFWMD, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, acquired a 1,308-acre conservation easement over Henscratch Ranch as part of the Lake Wales Ridge Florida Forever Project. This acquisition will help protect some of the rarest and most biologically diverse lands in Florida.

Example of multi-year acquisition agreements:

- The SFWMD acquired 427.54 acres for the PalMar and J.W. Corbett WMA Hydropattern Restoration component of the North Palm Beach – Part I project. This first closing represents 1/3 of the total 1,282.61 that will help provide hydrologic connections between the Corbett Wildlife Management Area, PalMar, and the northwest fork of the Loxahatchee River.

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Appendices

- Appendix A: Strategic Goals and Objectives of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force
- Appendix B: Federal/State/Joint Acquisition Maps and Descriptions
- Appendix C: Project Profile and Summary Table
- Appendix D: Land Acquisition Update Map and State/Federal Cost Share Table
- Appendix E: County Land Acquisitions and Florida's Greenways and Trails Program
- Appendix F: SFWMD FY 2007-08 Land Acquisition Priorities
- Appendix G: Potential Funding Sources in Support of Restoration
- Appendix H: Land Acquisition Strategy Task Team Directive
- Appendix I: Land Protected Through Mitigation Map and Description

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**Appendix A: Strategic Goals and Objectives of the
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force**

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Strategic Goals and Objectives of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (2006)

GOAL 1: GET THE WATER RIGHT

Subgoal 1-A: Get the hydrology right

- Objective 1-A.1: Provide 1.8 million acre-feet of surface water storage by 2036
- Objective 1-A.2: Develop aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) systems capable of storing 1.5 billion gallons per day by 2030
- Objective 1-A.3: Modify 345 miles of impediments to flow by 2020

Subgoal 1-B: Get the water quality right

- Objective 1-B.1: Construct 91,345 acres of stormwater treatment areas by 2035
- Objective 1-B.2: Prepare locally-based plans to reduce pollutants as determined necessary by the total maximum daily loads by 2011

GOAL 2: RESTORE, PRESERVE, AND PROTECT NATURAL HABITATS & SPECIES

Subgoal 2-A: Restore, preserve, and protect natural habitats

- Objective 2-A.1: Complete acquisition of 5.8 million acres of land identified for habitat protection by 2015
- Objective 2-A.2: Protect 20 percent of the coral reefs by 2010
- Objective 2-A.3: Improve habitat quality for 2.4 million acres of natural areas in South Florida

Subgoal 2-B: Control invasive exotic plants

- Objective 2-B.1: Coordinate the development of management plans for the top twenty South Florida invasive exotic plant species by 2011
- Objective 2-B.2: Achieve maintenance control of Brazilian pepper, melaleuca, Australian pine, and Old World Climbing Fern on South Florida's public conservation lands by 2020
- Objective 2-B.3: Complete an invasive exotic plant species prevention, early detection, and eradication plan by 2007

GOAL 3: FOSTER COMPATIBILITY OF THE BUILT AND NATURAL SYSTEMS

Subgoal 3-A: Use and manage land in a manner compatible with ecosystem restoration

- Objective 3-A.1: Designate or acquire an additional 480,000 acres as part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System by 2009
- Objective 3-A.2: Increase participation in the Voluntary Farm Bill Conservation Programs by 230,000 acres by 2014
- Objective 3-A.3: Acquire an additional 2,500 acres of park, recreation, and open space lands by 2007
- Objective 3-A.4: Complete five brownfield rehabilitation and redevelopment projects by 2010
- Objective 3-A.5: Increase community understanding of ecosystem restoration

Subgoal 3-B: Maintain or improve flood protection in a manner compatible with ecosystem restoration

- Objective 3-B.1: Maintain or improve existing levels of flood protection

Subgoal 3-C: Provide sufficient water resources for built and natural systems

- Objective 3-C.1: Plan for regional water supply needs
- Objective 3-C.2: Increase volumes of reuse on a regional basis
- Objective 3-C.3: Increase water made available through the SFWMD Alternative Water Supply Development Program

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Appendix B: Federal/State/Joint Acquisition Maps and Descriptions

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Federal/State/Joint Acquisition Maps and Descriptions

The Federal Projects and Joint Federal/State Projects Map

The Project Profiles in Appendix C are represented on the attached/following map. For this map, and for the LAS in general, the term “State” includes the State of Florida, the SFWMD, and participating local governments. Each of the projects on the map is labeled with a circled number or a name. Four types of projects are illustrated: CERP projects, USFWS and NPS projects, other Federal acquisition projects, and joint Federal/State acquisition projects.

Existing conservation lands throughout the South Florida Ecosystem (as of June 30, 2007), regardless of funding source, are shown in light gray to provide context for the Federal and joint Federal/State projects. Some of these lands are less-than-fee simple acquisitions.

Project data layers (CERP, USFWS or NPS, Other Federal, and Joint State/Federal Acquisition Projects) depict the full extent of the acquisition project boundaries, including any lands that have already been purchased (acquired lands are colored gray within the project boundaries). Some projects are greater than 90% complete; in many of these cases, the remaining inholdings within the project boundaries are too small to be shown on this map.

The Joint Federal/State Acquisition Projects data layer (pink cross-hatching) is composed of Florida Forever Board of Trustees projects and Save Our Rivers projects that have federal involvement.

The SFWMD provided digital data for CERP and Save Our Rivers projects with the disclaimer that any information, including but not limited to software and data, received from the SFWMD in fulfillment of a request is provided “AS IS” without warranty, including but not limited to merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. For SFWMD projects, this map is a conceptual tool utilized for project development only. This map is not self-executing or binding on the SFWMD.

The conservation lands data layer was compiled by FNAI using data received from many different sources including Federal, State, and local managing agencies and private conservation organizations.

Map Key to CERP Projects

The CERP project boundaries are general boundaries and will be refined after further analysis. The majority of the CERP projects are indicated by a circled number on the map; the rest are labeled by name. The accompanying map key to CERP projects lists all CERP projects by map label, the CERP project component name, CERP project ID number, and CERP project name.

Map Key to CERP Projects

MAP LABEL	PROJECT COMPONENT NAME	CERP ID NO.	PROJECT NAME
1B	Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough	01B	LAKE OKEECHOBEE WATERSHED
3	Lake Okeechobee ASR (no boundary)	03	LAKE OKEECHOBEE ASR
4	C-43 Basin Storage Reservoir Part 1 & C-43 Basin ASR Part 2	04	C-43 BASIN STORAGE RESERVOIR
4A	C-43 Basin Storage Reservoir Part 1 & C-43 Basin ASR Part 2-Acceler8	04A	C-43 RESERVOIR WEST
7A1	IRL – C-44 Reservoir	07A01	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7A1	IRL – C-44 Reservoir – Acceler8	07A01	C-44 RESERVOIR & STA
7A2	IRL – C-44 West STA	07A02	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7A2	IRL – C-44 West STA – Acceler8	07A02	C-44 RESERVOIR & STA
7A3	IRL – C-44 East STA	07A03	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7A3	IRL – C-44 East STA – Acceler8	07A03	C-44 RESERVOIR & STA
7A4	IRL – PALMAR Complex Natural Storage and Water Quality	07A04	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7B5	IRL – C23/24 North Reservoir	07B05	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7B6	IRL – C23/24 South Reservoir	07B06	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7B7	IRL – C23/24 STA	07B07	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7B9	IRL – Allapattah Complex and Water Quality Area	07B09	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7B10	IRL – Cypress Creek/Trail Ridge Complex Natural Storage and Water Quality Area	07B10	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7B13	IRL – Southfork Natural Storage & Water Quality	07B13	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7C12	IRL – C-25 Reservoir and STA	07C12	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
7C14	IRL – Northfork Floodplain Restoration	07C14	INDIAN RIVER LAGOON – SOUTH
8	Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir – Phase 1 & 2	08	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PHASE 1&2
8A	Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir – Phase 1 – Acceler8	08A	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PHASE 1
8A1	EAA Reservoir – L-16 Cross Canal	08A	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PHASE 1
8A1	EAA Reservoir – L-16 Cross Canal-Acceler8	08A	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PHASE 1
8A2	EAA Reservoir – L-21 Bolles Canal	08A	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PHASE 1
8A2	EAA Reservoir – L-21 Bolles Canal – Acceler8	08A	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PHASE 1
8B	EAA Compartment B – Acceler8	08B	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PHASE 1
8C	EAA Compartment C – Acceler8	08C	EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIR – PART 1
11B	Flow to NW & Central WCA 3	11B	FLOW TO NW & CENTRAL WCA 3
12	WCA 3 Decompartmentalization & Sheetflow Enhancement – Part 1 (S-351)	12	WCA DECOMP & SHEETFLOW ENHANCEMENT – PART 1
14	Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge Internal Canal Structures	14	LOXAHATCHEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE INTERNAL CANAL STRUCTURES
15	Modify Holey Land Wildlife Management Area Hydropattern	15	MODIFY HOLEY LAND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA OPERATION

MAP LABEL	PROJECT COMPONENT NAME	CERP ID NO.	PROJECT NAME
	Restoration		PLAN
16	Modify Rotenberger Wildlife Management Area Operation Plan	16	MODIFY ROTENBERGER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA OPERATION
17A	Pal-Mar and J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area Hydropattern Restoration	17A	NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTY – PART 1
17C	L-8 Reservoir & ASR	17	NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTY – PART 1
17D	Lake Worth Lagoon Restoration (no boundary)	17D	NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTY – PART 1
17E	C-17 Backfilling and Treatment	17E	NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTY – PART 1
17F	C-51 Backpumping and Treatment	17F	NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTY – PART 1
18A	C-51 Regional Groundwater ASR (no boundary)	18A	NORTH PALM BEACH COUNTY – PART 2
20	PBC Agricultural Reserve Reservoir & ASR	20	PBC AGRICULTURAL RESERVE RESERVOIR – PART 1
22	Fran Reich Preserve (Site 1 Impoundment) & Hillsboro ASR Pilot	22	HILLSBORO SITE 1 IMPOUNDMENT & ASR
22	Fran Reich Preserve (Site 1 Impoundment) – Acceler8	22	WATER PRESERVE AREAS
24	Broward County Secondary Canal System	24	BROWARD COUNTY SECONDARY CANAL SYSTEM
25A	Lakebelt Inground Reservoir Technology Pilot	25A	LAKEBELT INGROUND RESERVOIR TECHNOLOGY PILOT
25B	North Lakebelt Storage Area	25B	NORTH LAKEBELT STORAGE AREA
26A	Central Lakebelt Storage Area	26A	CENTRAL LAKEBELT STORAGE
27B	S-356 Structures	27B	EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK SEEPAGE MANAGEMENT
28	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands	28	BISCAYNE BAY COASTAL WETLANDS
28A	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands-Acceler8	28A	BISCAYNE BAY COASTAL WETLANDS
29	C-111 Spreader Canal	29	C-111 SPREADER CANAL
29A	C-111 Spreader Canal – Acceler8	29A	C-111 SPREADER CANAL
30	Southern Golden Gate Estates/Picayune Strand Restoration Project	30	SOUTHERN GOLDEN GATE ESTATES/ PICAYUNE STRAND RESTORATION PROJECT
30	Southern Golden Gate Estates/ Picayune Strand Restoration Project-Acceler8	30	SOUTHERN GOLDEN GATE ESTATES/ PICAYUNE STRAND RESTORATION PROJECT
31	Florida Keys Tidal Restoration (no boundary)	31	FLORIDA KEYS TIDAL RESTORATION
33	Caloosahatchee (C-43) River ASR Pilot	33	CALOOSAHATCHEE (C-43) RIVER ASR PILOT
36	L31N Seepage Management Pilot	36	EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK SEEPAGE MANAGEMENT
38	Acme Basin B Discharge	38	ACME BASIN B DISCHARGE
38	Acme Basin B Discharge – Acceler8	38	WATER PRESERVE AREAS
39	Strazzulla Wetlands	39	STRAZZULLA WETLANDS
43	Bird Drive Recharge Area	43	BIRD DRIVE RECHARGE AREA

MAP LABEL	PROJECT COMPONENT NAME	CERP ID NO.	PROJECT NAME
45A	3A/3B Seepage Management	45A	BROWARD COUNTY WPA
45A	3A/3B Seepage Management – Acceler8	45A	WATER PRESERVE AREAS
45B	C-11 Impoundment	45B	BROWARD COUNTY WPA
45B	C-11 Impoundment – Acceler8	45B	WATER PRESERVE AREAS
45C	C-9 Impoundment	45C	BROWARD COUNTY WPA
45C	C-9 Impoundment – Acceler8	45C	WATER PRESERVE AREAS
48A	WCA 2B Flows to Central Lakebelt Storage Area	48A	WCA 2B FLOWS TO EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK (ENP)
48B	L-30 Canal Upgrade	48B	WCA 2B FLOWS TO ENP
49	Dade-Broward Levee & Canal	49	WPA CONVEYANCE
90	Miccosukee Water Management Plan	90	MICCOSUKEE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
91	Winsberg Farm Wetland Restoration	91	WINSBERG FARM WETLAND RESTORATION
92	Restoration of Pineland & Hardwood Hammocks in the C-111 Basin	92	RESTORATION OF PINELAND & HARDWOOD HAMMOCKS IN THE C-111 BASIN
93	Henderson Creek/Belle Meade Restoration	93	HENDERSON CREEK/BELLE MEADE RESTORATION
94	Lakes Park Restoration	94	LAKES PARK RESTORATION
96	Seminole Tribe Big Cypress Reservation Water Conservation Plan	96	SEMINOLE TRIBE BIG CYPRESS RESERVATION WATER CONSERVATION PLAN
97	West Miami-Dade Reuse	97	WEST MIAMI-DADE REUSE
98	South Miami-Dade Reuse & Wastewater Reuse Technology Pilot	98	SOUTH MIAMI-DADE REUSE

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Strategy Federal Projects & Joint Federal/State Projects as of 30 June 2007



GULF OF MEXICO

LEGEND

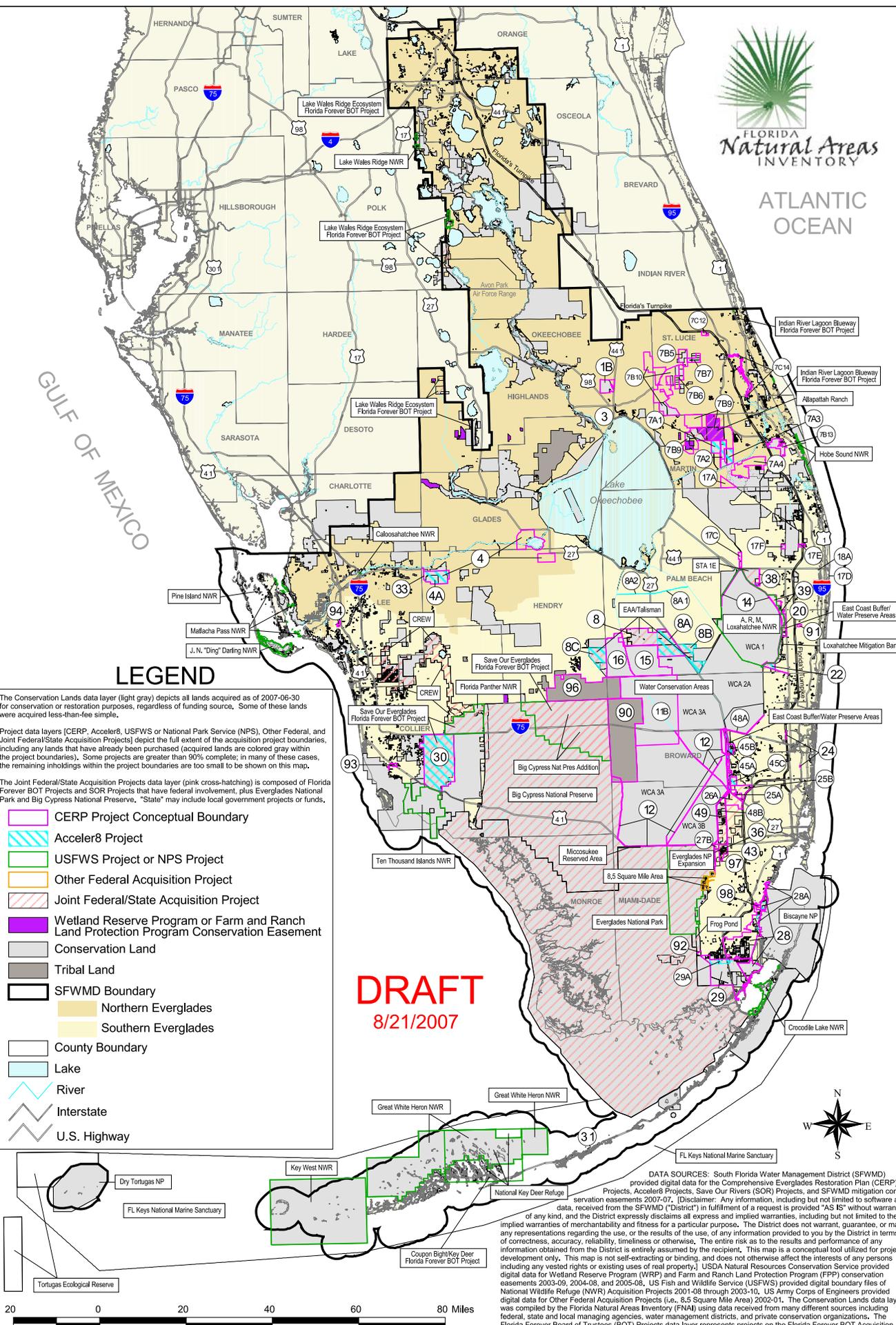
The Conservation Lands data layer (light gray) depicts all lands acquired as of 2007-06-30 for conservation or restoration purposes, regardless of funding source. Some of these lands were acquired less-than-fee simple.

Project data layers (CERP, Acceler8, USFWS or National Park Service (NPS), Other Federal, and Joint Federal/State Acquisition Projects) depict the full extent of the acquisition project boundaries, including any lands that have already been purchased (acquired lands are colored gray within the project boundaries). Some projects are greater than 90% complete; in many of these cases, the remaining inholdings within the project boundaries are too small to be shown on this map.

The Joint Federal/State Acquisition Projects data layer (pink cross-hatching) is composed of Florida Forever BOT Projects and SOR Projects that have federal involvement, plus Everglades National Park and Big Cypress National Preserve. "State" may include local government projects or funds.

- CERP Project Conceptual Boundary
- Acceler8 Project
- USFWS Project or NPS Project
- Other Federal Acquisition Project
- Joint Federal/State Acquisition Project
- Wetland Reserve Program or Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program Conservation Easement
- Conservation Land
- Tribal Land
- SFWMD Boundary
- Northern Everglades
- Southern Everglades
- County Boundary
- Lake
- River
- Interstate
- U.S. Highway

DRAFT
8/21/2007



DATA SOURCES: South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) provided digital data for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Projects, Acceler8 Projects, Save Our Rivers (SOR) Projects, and SFWMD mitigation conservation easements 2007-07. [Disclaimer: Any information, including but not limited to software and data, received from the SFWMD ("District") in fulfillment of a request is provided "AS IS" without warranty of any kind, and the District expressly disclaims all express and implied warranties, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. The District does not warrant, guarantee, or make any representations regarding the use, or the results of the use, of any information provided to you by the District in terms of correctness, accuracy, reliability, timeliness or otherwise. The entire risk as to the results and performance of any information obtained from the District is entirely assumed by the recipient. This map is a conceptual tool utilized for project development only. This map is not self-extracting or binding, and does not otherwise affect the interests of any persons including any vested rights or existing uses of real property.] USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provided digital data for Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FRP) conservation easements 2003-09, 2004-09, and 2005-08. US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) provided digital boundary files of National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Acquisition Projects 2001-08 through 2003-10. US Army Corps of Engineers provided digital data for Other Federal Acquisition Projects (i.e., 8.5 Square Mile Area) 2002-01. The Conservation Lands data layer was compiled by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) using data received from many different sources including federal, state and local managing agencies, water management districts, and private conservation organizations. The Florida Forever Board of Trustees (BOT) Projects data layer represents projects on the Florida Forever BOT Acquisition List as of 2007-06-30; it was compiled by FNAI based on information provided by FDEP Office of Environmental Services.

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Appendix C: Project Profiles and Summary Table

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Strategy Project Profiles

The project profile sheets list the following information for the projects on the map located in Appendix C:

- Project Name
- Project Name Synonym: Additional name(s) for a project used by other programs or initiatives.
- Project ID (Map Label): CERP project numbers are on the Map Key in Appendix B.
- Overlapping Project: Name of project (if any) that has an overlapping land acquisition boundary with this project. A geographic area's land cost, funding, and acreage are counted only once within the LAS. For each project, this field also indicates if the project is in the Northern Everglades or the Southern Everglades.
- Primary SFER-related Objective: The goals and objectives of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) are listed in Appendix A.
- Project Synopsis
- Project Sponsorship
- Land Acquisition Funding Type
- Land Acquisition Funding Source
- Agency Responsible for Acquiring the Land
- Land Acquisition Program
- Land Managing Agency
- Funding Partners (if applicable)
- Land Acquisition Schedule: includes the date acquisition was/will be initiated, the date acquisition will be concluded, and the date the project is needed for restoration.
- Project Acreage/Progress: includes the total size of the project, the acres acquired in the previous year, the acres acquired all years, and the acres remaining to be acquired. Acres acquired are those lands to which the agency has title as of June 30, 2007 and not those encumbered under contract through a multi-year option agreement.
- Estimated Project Requirements: includes the estimated cost of the land acquisition project, the cost of land closed through June 30, 2007, the estimated cost of the remaining acres, and the cost of real estate and associated costs. Any multi-year option agreement payments are listed as future year costs (when applicable). Construction or restoration project requirements are not included in the estimate.
- Land Cost Estimation Method
- Degree of Ownership Desired
- Comments
- Hyperlink: Website of source for further information.
- Contact
- Update: Date of project profile sheet update; name and agency of person providing the updated information.

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**South Florida Ecosystem Restoration
Land Acquisition Strategy
Federal and Joint Federal/State Projects Summary Table**

Project Name	Project Name Synonyms	Overlapping Projects	Acquisition Agency	Start date	End Date	Total Estimated Cost (1000s)	Estimated remaining cost (\$1000s)	Total Acres	Acres Acquired to Date	Primary Objective	Map Label	Page Number
GOAL 1: GET THE WATER RIGHT Subgoal 1.A: GET THE HYDROLOGY RIGHT (Quantity, Timing & Distribution) Objective 1.A.1: Surface Water Storage Reservoir Projects in Acre-Feet												
C&SF - (Acceler8) EAA Stormwater Treatment Areas Expansion	Compartment B and C	EAA/Talisman Land Acquisition (51,210 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2006	\$52,207	\$0	18,132	18,132	1.A.1		42
C&SF - CERP (Acceler8) Acme Basin B Discharge (OPE)		Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2004	2006	\$1,185	\$7,065	370	370	1.A.1		38
C&SF - CERP (Acceler8) C-9 Impoundment (R)	Broward County Water Preserve Area	(FDEP/SFWMD) (66,809 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2007	\$43,667	\$12,965	2,188	2,188	1.A.1	45C	44
C&SF - CERP (Acceler8) C-11 Impoundment (O)	Broward County Water Preserve Area	East Coast Butler/Water Preserve Area (SFWMD/FDEP) (66,809 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2007	\$91,736	-\$61,687	1,746	1,746	1.A.1	45B	45
C&SF - CERP (Acceler8) C-43 (Caloosahatchee River) West Basin Storage Reservoir - Part 1 (DPI)		CERP C-43 ASR; CERP C-43 Basin West Storage Reservoir - Part 1 (DPI); Northern	SFWMD	2002	2005	\$89,477	\$14,564	10,254	10,254	1.A.1	4A	46
C&SF - CERP (Acceler8) C-44 Storage Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs)	Indian River Lagoon - South Project C-44 Basin Components; Acceler8 C-44 Reservoir/STA Project	Component of IRRS-S PIR; Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2004	2006	\$141,697	-\$41,667	12,100	12,100	1.A.1	07A - 01, 02, 03	47
C&SF - CERP (Acceler8) - Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir	Compartment A-1	EAA/Talisman Land Acquisition (51,210 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2009	\$41,729	\$0	16,414	16,414	1.A.1	8A	48
C&SF - CERP (Acceler8) Fran Reich Preserve	Site 1 Impoundment (M P1), Hillsboro Impoundment, Water Preserve Area Project	East Coast Butler/ Water Preserve Areas (FDEP, SFWMD, USDO) (66,809 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2006	\$10,202	\$1,902	1,658	1,658	1.A.1	38	49
C&SF - CERP C-23/C-24 Storage Reservoirs and STA (LULU/Part 1)	Indian River Lagoon - South (IRL-S) Project, C-23/24 Basin Components	Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2003	2007	\$172,007	\$91,690	11,122	8,272	1.A.1	06, 07	50
C&SF - CERP - C-25 Storage Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA), Muck Remediation and Artificial Habitat and North Fork Food Plain Restoration, (LU)	Indian River Lagoon - South Project, C-25 and Northfork and Southfork Basin Components.	North Fork of the St. Lucie River (3,800); Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2014	2014	\$38,460	\$35,115	4,633	482	1.A.1	07C-12, 14	51
C&SF - CERP C-43 Basin Storage Reservoir - Part 1 (DPI)	North Palm Beach County Part 1	CERP C-43 ASR; Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2002	2005	\$85,044	\$70,939	9,746	1,841	1.A.1	4	52
C&SF - CERP C-51 and Southern L-8 Reservoir (GGG)		East Coast Butler/ Water Preserve Areas (FDEP/SFWMD) (66,809 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2007	2011	\$35,992	-\$192,625	1,800	1,253	1.A.1	17C	53
C&SF - CERP - Central Lake Belt Storage Project (S), Phases 1 and 2		East Coast Butler/Water Preserve Areas (FDEP/SFWMD) (66,809 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2008	2028	\$132,066	\$130,000	5,770	143	1.A.1	26A	54
C&SF - CERP - Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoirs Phase 1 & 2 (G P1 & P2)		EAA/Talisman Land Acquisition (51,210 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2009	\$162,631	\$125,581	32,578	15,013	1.A.1	8	55
C&SF - CERP - Everglades National Park Seepage Management (U)	C&SF - CERP Bird Drive Recharge Area (U)	Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem (13,122); Allapattah Flats/ Ranch (34,221 acres); South Fork of the St. Lucie River; Cypress Creek/Trail Ridge Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2010	2013	\$94,254	\$66,469	3,966	1,399	1.A.1	43	56
C&SF - CERP - North Lake Belt Storage Area Project - Phases I and II (XX)	Dade-Broward Water Preserve Area	East Coast Butler/Water Preserve Area (SFWMD/FDEP) (66,809 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2005	2008	\$203,796	\$194,732	5,861	519	1.A.1	25B	58
C&SF - CERP North of Lake Okeechobee Storage Reservoir (A)	Lake Okeechobee Watershed	Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2005	2008	\$249,659	\$196,091	20,000	3,046	1.A.1	01A	59
C&SF - CERP - Palm Beach County Agricultural Reserve Reservoir Project - Part 1 (VV Part 1 & 2) & ASR		(SFWMD/FDEP) (66,809 acres); Palm Beach County Agricultural Reserve ASR - Part 2 (VV P2); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2008	2012	\$75,873	\$44,882	1,660	994	1.A.1	20/21	60
C&SF - CERP Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough Storage and Treatment (W)	Lake Okeechobee Watershed	New Palm Dairy Land Acquisition (SFWMD) (2,135 acres); Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2007	2008	\$39,083	\$28,708	10,000	4,765	1.A.1	1B	61
Objective 1.A.2: Aquifer Storage and Recovery ASR Projects in Billion Gallons per Day	Critical Restoration Projects	Northern Everglades ecosystem	SFWMD	1998	2000	\$5,332	\$0	913	913	1.A.1		62
C&SF - CERP - C-51 Regional Groundwater Aquifer Storage and Recovery (LL)	North Palm Beach County - Part II	Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2012	2015	\$13,087	\$13,087	34	0	1.A.2	18 A	63
C&SF - CERP Lake Okeechobee Aquifer Storage and Recovery (GG P1, P2, P3)		Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2013	2017	\$9,889	\$9,889	300	0	1.A.2	3	64
Objective 1.A.3: Projects Removing Barriers to Sheetflow in Miles												
C&SF - C-111 Canal Project		Miami Dade County (1 A,4) (29,738 acres) Frog Pond/ L-31 N Land Acquisition (SFWMD/FDEP) (1A,4) (10,218 acres), ENP Land Swap (1,058 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	1995	2006	\$112,855	\$4,537	25,907	26,939	1.A.3		65
C&SF - CERP - Florida Keys Tidal Restoration Project (OPE, FK)		Florida Keys Ecosystem (FDEP) (7,611 acres) (2 A,1); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2008	\$67	\$67	5	0	1.A.3	31	66
C&SF - CERP - WCA 3 Decompartmentalization and Sheetflow Enhancement, Part 1 (OOP1, SSP1)	CERP North New River Improvements-- S-34 to C-6; and Eastern Tamiami Trail	(66,809 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2006	2009	\$23,879	\$23,879	945	0	1.A.3	12	67
C&SF - CERP - WCA 3 Decompartmentalization and Sheetflow Enhancement - Part 2 (OQ P2)	WCA 3 Decompartmentalization and Sheetflow Enhancement	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2010	2012	\$316	\$316	28	0	1.A.3	13	68

Project Name	Project Name Synonyms	Overlapping Projects (CREW) (FDEP/SFWM) (1 A.4, 2 A.1) (58,528 acres), Southern Everglades Ecosystem	Acquisition Agency	Start Date	End Date	Total Estimated Cost (1000s)	Estimated Cost (\$1000s)	Total Acres	Acres Acquired to Date	Primary Objective	Map Label	Page Number
C&SF- Critical Restoration Projects - Southern CREW Project Addition: Imperial River Flowway	Critical CREW- Imperial Flowway		SFWM	1998	2004	\$22,665	\$120	4,670	3,606	1.A.3		69
C&SF- Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park			USACE	1990	2001	\$11,181	\$0	1,724	1,724	1.A.3		70
Objective 1.A.4: Other Related Hydrology Projects			USACE	2001	2007	\$78,441	\$2,000	2,270	2,270	1.A.3		71
C&SF- CERP (Acceler8) Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project, Phase 1		Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (2,241 acres); C-111 Spreader Canal (12,415 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2006	2007	\$58,282	\$44,262	684	269	1.A.4	28A	72
C&SF- CERP (Acceler8) C-111 Spreader Canal, Construction		Model Lands (42,138 acres), Southern Glades Land Acquisition (37,620 acres), Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2008	2011	\$6,257	\$1,502	2,746	2,746	1.A.4	29A	73
C&SF- CERP (Acceler8) WCA 3A/WCA 3B Levee Seepage Management (O)	Broward County Water Preserve Area	(SFWM, FDEP) (1 A.4, 2 A.3) (66,809 acres); C-111 Spreader Canal (12,415 acres), Model Lands (42,402), Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2006	2007	\$64,781	-\$2,424	3,296	3,010	1.A.4	45A	74
C&SF- CERP Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (FF/OP/E)			SFWM	2010	2012	\$2,527	\$2,527	245	0	1.A.4	24	76
C&SF- CERP Broward County Secondary Canal System Project (CC P1)			SFWM	2006	2011	\$212,346	\$189,437	10,946	7,161	1.A.4	28	75
C&SF- CERP C-111 Spreader Canal (WW) (Operations)			SFWM	2010	2012	\$2,527	\$2,527	245	0	1.A.4	24	76
C&SF- CERP - Everglades National Park Seepage Management (V, FF)	L-31N Seepage Management, S-356 Structure (V, FF)	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2010	2013	\$124,624	\$124,624	3,947	0	1.A.4	27B, 36	78
C&SF- CERP L-8 Basin Modifications (K - P1)	North Palm Beach County - Part 1	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2007	2010	\$5,645	\$5,645	380	0	1.A.4	17B	79
C&SF- CERP Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge Internal Canal Structures (KK)	North Palm Beach County - Part 1	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2013	2014	\$454	\$454	5	0	1.A.4	14	80
C&SF- CERP Pal-Mar and J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area Hydropattern Restoration (OP/E)	North Palm Beach County Part 1	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2007	2010	\$10,527	-\$75,108	3,000	3,000	1.A.4	17A	81
C&SF- CERP Water Preserve Area (WPA) Conveyance (BB, XX P1)	DeDe-Broward Levee and Canal and North Lake Broward County Water Preserve Area (Tumpike Deliveries)	East Coast Butler/Water Preserve Areas (FDEP/SFWM) (66,809 acres), Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2010	2012	\$16,028	\$16,028	990	0	1.A.4	49	82
C&SF- CERP WCA - 2B Flows to Everglades National Park (VY, SP 1)	Broward County Water Preserve Area, WCA 2B Flows to CLBSA, L-30 Canal Upgrade	East Coast Butler/Water Preserve Area (FDEP/SFWM) (66,809 acres), Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2016	2019	\$23,961	\$23,961	1,164	0	1.A.4	48A, 48B	83
C&SF- Kissimmee River Restoration	Kissimmee River (SOR); Kissimmee Chain of Lakes (SOR); and Chandler Slough	Acquisition (SFWM) 68,332 acres; Kissimmee River (Upper Basin) Land Acquisition (SFWM) 36,763 acres; Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	1992	2006	\$300,000	\$14,764	105,095	101,533	1.A.4		84
Subgoal 1.B: GET THE WATER QUALITY RIGHT												
Objective 1.B.1: Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) Projects in Acres												
C&SF- CERP Big Cypress-L-28 Interceptor Modifications Project	North Palm Beach County Part 1	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2012	2016	\$8,817	\$8,817	1,900	0	1.B.1	10	85
C&SF- CERP C-17 Backpumping and Treatment (X)	North Palm Beach County - Part 2, C-51 Regional Groundwater ASR (LL), Northern Everglades Ecosystem	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2007	2010	\$13,642	\$13,642	550	0	1.B.1	17E	86
C&SF- CERP C-51 Backpumping and Treatment (Y)	North Palm Beach County - Part 1	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2007	2010	\$17,732	\$17,732	710	0	1.B.1	17F	87
C&SF- CERP Colosatchee Backpumping with Stormwater Treatment (DDD)		Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2011	2014	\$17,343	\$17,343	5,000	0	1.B.1	6	88
C&SF- CERP Lake Okeechobee Watershed Water Quality Treatment Facilities (OP/E, LOWDTF)	Lake Okeechobee Watershed STA 1-E/C-51; West Palm Beach Canal C-51/STA 1E	LOER; Lantin Creek Water Storage and Treatment Facility; Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2005	2008	\$19,013	\$2,390	7,875	2,887	1.B.1	01C	89
C&SF- Stormwater Treatment Area 1-East / Canal-51 West			USACE	1997	2003	\$48,991	\$0	6,503	6,503	1.B.1	STA 1E	90
Objective 1.B.3: Other Related Water Quality Projects												
C&SF- CERP Lake Okeechobee Tributary Sediment Dredging (OP/E, LOTSD)	Lake Okeechobee Watershed Project	Northern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2005	2008	\$1,186	\$1,186	320	0	1.B.3	1	91
C&SF- CERP Lake Worth Lagoon Restoration (OP/E, LML)	North Palm Beach County - Part 1	Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWM	2007	2009	\$395	\$395	TBD	0	1.B.3	17D	92
TOTALS GOAL 1						\$3,488,935	\$1,555,871	484,129	311,062			
GOAL 2: RESTORE, PRESERVE & PROTECT NATURAL HABITATS & SPECIES												
Subgoal 2.A: RESTORE, PRESERVE AND PROTECT NATURAL HABITATS												
Objective 2.A.1: Acres of Land Acquired for Habitat Protection												
A.R.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge	FF/ARC Save Our Everglades		USFWS	1991 open		\$30,119	\$30,000	145,567	143,874	2.A.1		93
Big Cypress National Preserve Addition			NPS	1989 open		\$105,400	\$2,507	146,117	143,532	2.A.1		94
Big Cypress National Preserve Private Inholdings			NPS	1974 open		\$243,982	\$21,877	574,449	573,614	2.A.1		95
Biscayne National Park			NPS	1968	2010	\$33,699	\$1,848	172,924	172,590	2.A.1		96
C&SF- CERP (Acceler8) Southern Golden Gate Estates/Privateyune Strand Restoration	Save Our Everglades	Picayune Strand Restoration (CERP); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	FDEP	1984	2008	\$125,486	\$0	55,247	54,442	2.A.1		97
C&SF- CERP Henderson Creek/Belle Meade		Southern Everglades Ecosystem	FDEP	1993	1998	\$3,891	\$0	125	125	2.A.1		98
Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge			USFWS	1979 open		\$14,319	\$1,226	7,100	6,696	2.A.1		99
East Everglades Addition to Everglades National Park	East Everglades CARL project, East Everglades Florida Forever/ARC project		NPS	1990	2007	\$109,892	\$12,223	109,504	108,797	2.A.1		100
Florida Keys NWR (including Nail Key, Deer, Great White Heron, and Key West Refuges)			USFWS	1960 open		\$35,028	\$3,654	415,433	410,045	2.A.1		101
Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge (including Cape Romano/Ten Thousand Islands NWR)			USFWS	1989 open		\$10,692	\$10	61,573	61,563	2.A.1		102
Hope Sound National Wildlife Refuge			USFWS	1989 open		\$5,818	\$5,800	1,130	1,034	2.A.1		103
Indian River Lagoon Blueway		Northern Everglades Ecosystem	FDEP	1997 open		\$23,572	\$5,726	1,435	750	2.A.1		104

Project Name	Project Name Synonyms	Overlapping Projects	Acquisition Agency	Start Date	End Date	Total Estimated Cost (1000s)	Estimated remaining cost (\$1000s)	Total Acres	Acres Acquired to Date	Primary Objective	Map Label	Page Number
J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge (also Calooshatchee, Matlacha Pass, Pine Islands NWRS)			USFWS	1945 open		\$12,885	\$3,100	10,275	8,767	2.A.1		105
Objective 2.A.3: Improve Habitat Quality												
C&SF- CERP Strazulla Wetlands Water Preserve Area Projects (OPE)	Protect and Enhance Existing Wetlands Systems along the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge including the Strazulla Tract	East Coast Butler Water Preserve Areas (FDEP- SFWMD, USDOI) (66,889 acres); Southern Everglades Ecosystem	SFWMD	2005	2006	\$14,875	\$9,506	3,384	2,796	2.A.3		39
TOTALS GOAL 2												
GOAL 3: FOSTER COMPATIBILITY OF THE BUILT AND NATURAL SYSTEMS												
Objective 3.A.2: Increase Participation in the Voluntary Farm Bill conservation program												
Project Names: Wetlands Reserve Program and Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program												
	2002 Farm Bill Programs		USDA NRCS	2002	2007	\$22,704	\$0	TBD	19,066	3.A.2		107
GRAND TOTALS GOALS 1, 2 and 3												
						\$4,281,297	\$1,653,349	2,188,392	2,018,733			

Note: Negative numbers in "Estimated remaining cost" indicate that land acquisition expenditures for that project exceeded the original budgeted amount

Draft of 13 September 2007 based on data through 30 June 2007. Produced by Muller and Associates, Inc.

**Appendix D: Land Acquisition Update Map and
State/Federal Cost Share Table**

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Land Acquisition Update Map and State/Federal Cost Share Table

The Land Acquisition Update Map

The Land Acquisition Update Map illustrates all planned and accomplished land acquisitions identified for ecosystem restoration regardless of funding source.

The DSL and FNAI collaborated to update the 1999 Everglades Ecosystem Land Acquisition State-Federal Cost Share Map, known as the “Graham Map,” to produce the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Update Map.

Data layers depicting acquired conservation lands were compiled by FNAI using data received from many different sources including Federal, State, and local managing agencies and private conservation organizations. Lands acquired through June 30, 2007 are depicted on the map. Symbols represent funding splits; in some cases, interest acquired is less-than-fee simple.

Planned acquisitions are also indicated on the map. Project boundaries indicate areas that are desired for acquisition (includes intended less-than-fee acquisitions). Some areas within these boundaries have been acquired; these acquired areas are denoted with the various “Acquired” shadings (see map legend).

The Florida Forever Board of Trustees project data layer represents projects on their acquisition list as of June 30, 2007. Boundaries were digitized by FNAI staff using paper maps provided by the FDEP Office of Environmental Services.

The SFWMD provided digital data for CERP and Save Our Rivers projects with the disclaimer that any information, including but not limited to software and data, received from the SFWMD in fulfillment of a request is provided “AS IS” without warranty, including but not limited to merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. For the SFWMD projects, this map is a conceptual tool utilized for project development only. This map is not self-executing or binding on the SFWMD.

Lands labeled “Acquired – 100% State” and “Acquired – Predominately State” include all lands purchased by either the State of Florida or the SFWMD. For the purpose of this map, the term “predominately” means greater than 50%. Some local funds may have been used as well. County land acquisitions are reflected on this map; however, due to the map scale, many county project boundaries are too small to be shown on the map. For information on local projects, see Appendix E.

The State/Federal Cost Share Table

The DSL produces the companion table listing all the projects that contribute to natural habitat and species protection and the Federal/State/local cost share of the projects illustrated on the map.

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South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Update as of 30 June 2007



ATLANTIC OCEAN

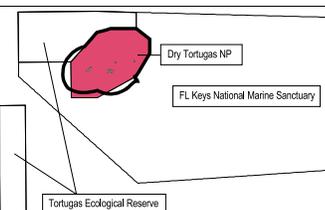
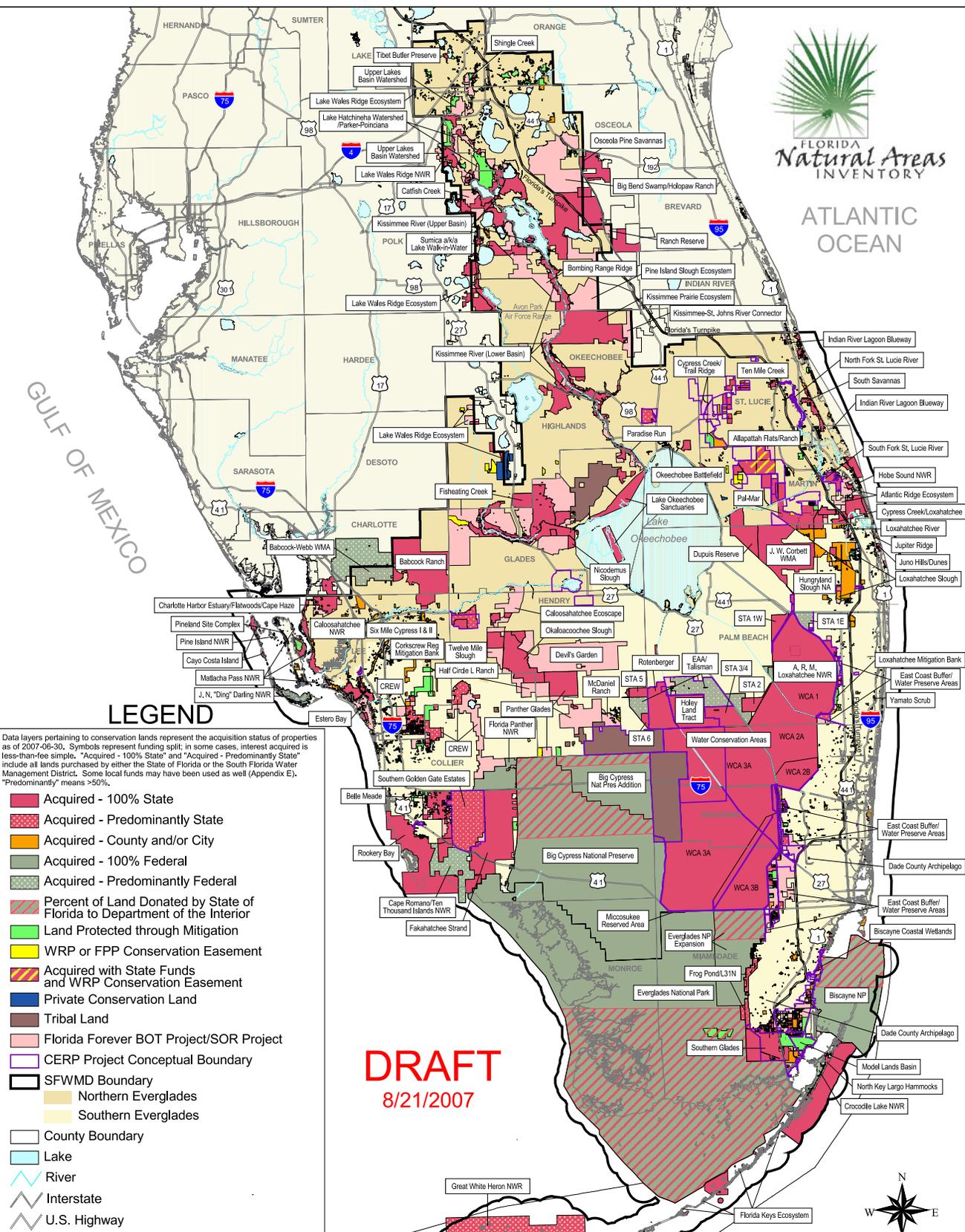
GULF OF MEXICO

LEGEND

Data layers pertaining to conservation lands represent the acquisition status of properties as of 2007-06-30. Symbols represent funding split. In some cases, interest acquired is less-than-five single. "Acquired - 100% State" and "Acquired - Predominantly State" include all lands purchased by either the State of Florida or the South Florida Water Management District. Some local funds may have been used as well (Appendix E). "Predominantly" means >50%.

- Acquired - 100% State
- Acquired - Predominantly State
- Acquired - County and/or City
- Acquired - 100% Federal
- Acquired - Predominantly Federal
- Percent of Land Donated by State of Florida to Department of the Interior
- Land Protected through Mitigation
- WRP or FPP Conservation Easement
- Acquired with State Funds and WRP Conservation Easement
- Private Conservation Land
- Tribal Land
- Florida Forever BOT Project/SOR Project
- CERP Project Conceptual Boundary
- SFWM District Boundary
- Northern Everglades
- Southern Everglades
- County Boundary
- Lake
- River
- Interstate
- U.S. Highway

DRAFT
8/21/2007



DATA SOURCES: Data layers depicting acquired conservation lands were compiled by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) using data received from many different sources including federal, state, and local managing agencies, water management districts, and private conservation organizations. The Florida Forever Board of Trustees (BOT) Projects data layer represents projects on the Florida Forever BOT Acquisition List as of 2006-06-30; these data were compiled by FNAI based on information provided by FDEP Office of Environmental Services. South Florida Water Management District (SFWM District) provided digital data for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Projects, Save Our Rivers (SOR) Projects, and SFWM District mitigation conservation easements 2006-07. [Disclaimer: Any information, including but not limited to software and data, received from the SFWM District ("District") in fulfillment of a request is provided "AS IS" without warranty of any kind, and the District expressly disclaims all express and implied warranties, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. The District does not warrant, guarantee, or make any representations regarding the use, or the results of the use, of any information provided to you by the District in terms of correctness, accuracy, reliability, timeliness or otherwise. The entire risk as to the results and performance of any information obtained from the District is entirely assumed by the recipient. This map is a conceptual tool utilized for project development only. This map is not self-extracting or binding, and does not otherwise affect the interests of any persons including vested rights or existing uses of real property.] USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provided digital data for Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FPP) conservation easements 2003-09, 2004-08, and 2005-08.

**Natural Habitat and Species Land Acquisition Update
State/Federal/Local Cost-Share
(Based on Data through June 30, 2007)**

State/SFWMD Projects	CERP CRP C&SF	Project Size (Acres)	Acres Acquired			Acres Remaining To Be Acquired	Expenditures			
			State/SFWMD/ Local	Federal	Total		State/SFWMD (1)	Local	Federal	Total
Allapattah Flats/Ranch	CERP	35,999	20,945	0	20,945	15,054	\$ 42,305,394	\$ 9,920,884	\$ -	\$ 52,226,278
Atlantic Ridge Ecosystem	(14) CERP	16,002	5,910	0	5,910	10,092	\$ 35,394,095	\$ 6,503,229	\$ -	\$ 41,897,324
Belle Meade		28,506	18,238	0	18,238	10,268	\$ 39,412,158	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,412,158
Big Bend Swamp/Holopaw Ranch	(2)	59,132	4,151	0	4,151	54,981	\$ 6,829,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,829,000
Biscayne Coastal Wetlands	CERP	2,241	686	0	686	1,555	\$ 18,308,400	\$ 1,091,668	\$ -	\$ 19,400,068
Bombing Range Ridge		44,439	6,357	0	6,357	38,082	\$ 15,003,388	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,003,388
Caloosahatchee Ecoscape		18,497	3,180	0	3,180	15,317	\$ 1,948,038	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,948,038
Catfish Creek		14,901	10,184	0	10,184	4,717	\$ 47,442,266	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47,442,266
Charlotte Harbor Estuary/Flatwoods/Cape Haze	(2)	15,054	10,631	0	10,631	4,423	\$ 17,174,089	\$ 607,415	\$ -	\$ 17,781,504
Corkscrew Reg. Ecosystem Watershed (CREW)	CRP	69,500	26,456	0	26,456	43,044	\$ 40,432,391	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 57,432,391
Coupon Bight/Key Deer/Big Pine Key		4,014	1,554	0	1,554	2,460	\$ 29,525,877	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,525,877
Cypress Creek/Trail Ridge	CERP	13,788	3,285	0	3,285	10,503	\$ 22,040,546	\$ 1,720,313	\$ -	\$ 23,760,859
Dade County Archipelago		884	505	0	505	379	\$ 11,524,235	\$ 12,000,000	\$ -	\$ 23,524,235
Devil's Garden		82,508	0	0	0	82,508	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
EAA/Talisman	(3) CERP	51,210	50,794	0	50,794	416	\$ 31,817,443	\$ -	\$ 103,557,459	\$ 135,374,902
East Coast Buffer/Water Preserve Areas	(15) CERP	77,311	23,847	0	23,847	53,464	\$ 289,411,964	\$ 13,140,170	\$ 72,614,143	\$ 375,166,277
Esteros Bay		14,378	9,149	0	9,149	5,229	\$ 51,970,290	\$ 7,250,000	\$ -	\$ 59,220,290
Fakahatchee Strand		80,332	61,051	0	61,051	19,281	\$ 24,891,638	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,891,638
Fisheating Creek	(4)	176,876	59,910	0	59,910	116,966	\$ 101,928,563	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101,928,563
Florida Keys Ecosystem		15,336	2,560	0	2,560	12,776	\$ 81,294,012	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,294,012
Half Circle L Ranch		11,269	0	0	0	11,269	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Indian River Lagoon Blueway	(2)	1,435	750	0	750	685	\$ 11,615,272	\$ 2,898,236	\$ 3,333,022	\$ 17,846,530
Juno Hills/Dunes		590	576	0	576	14	\$ 15,023,556	\$ 26,869,162	\$ -	\$ 41,892,718
Jupiter Ridge		287	271	0	271	16	\$ 11,047,600	\$ 12,052,350	\$ -	\$ 23,099,950
Kissimmee River (Lower Basin)	C&SF	68,332	65,920	0	65,920	2,412	\$ 167,957,869	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 167,957,869
Kissimmee River (Upper Basin)	C&SF	36,763	35,613	0	35,613	1,150	\$ 99,778,239	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 99,778,239
Kissimmee-St. Johns River Connector	(2)	9,463	0	0	0	9,463	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lake Hatchineha Watershed/Parker-Ponciana		6,437	0	0	0	6,437	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem	(2)	13,848	9,223	0	9,223	4,625	\$ 24,617,827	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,617,827
Loxahatchee Slough		15,200	12,833	0	12,833	2,367	\$ 6,756,675	\$ 29,164,118	\$ -	\$ 35,920,793
McDaniel Ranch		7,000	0	0	0	7,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Model Lands Basin	CERP	42,402	13,458	0	13,458	28,944	\$ 7,338,179	\$ 17,115,857	\$ -	\$ 24,454,036
North Fork of the St. Lucie River	CERP	3,800	1,646	0	1,646	2,154	\$ 2,960,796	\$ 2,148,824	\$ -	\$ 5,109,620
North Key Largo Hammocks		5,048	3,538	0	3,538	1,510	\$ 75,403,715	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,403,715
Okaloacoochee Slough		37,210	34,982	0	34,982	2,228	\$ 20,570,673	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,570,673
Okeechobee Battlefield		211	145	0	145	66	\$ 3,217,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,217,250
Osceola Pine Savannas	(2)	1,374	1,333	0	1,333	41	\$ 310,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 310,000
Pal-Mar	CERP	36,745	26,336	0	26,336	10,409	\$ 65,312,802	\$ 13,295,242	\$ -	\$ 78,608,044
Panther Glades		57,604	21,724	0	21,724	35,880	\$ 75,049,836	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,049,836
Paradise Run		4,265	3,308	0	3,308	957	\$ 4,908,582	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,908,582
Pine Island Slough Ecosystem	(2)	21,583	0	0	0	21,583	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pineland Site Complex		206	57	0	57	149	\$ 1,355,000	\$ 396,874	\$ -	\$ 1,751,874
Ranch Reserve	(2)	2,217	67	0	67	2,150	\$ 39,286	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,286
Rookery Bay		18,721	18,636	0	18,636	85	\$ 45,500,833	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,500,833
Rotenberger/Holey Land Tract		79,170	70,833	0	70,833	8,337	\$ 20,114,395	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,114,395
Shingle Creek		7,655	2,004	0	2,004	5,651	\$ 4,264,344	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,264,344
South Savannas		6,046	5,182	0	5,182	864	\$ 19,902,290	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 20,902,290
Southern Glades	CERP	37,620	33,736	0	33,736	3,884	\$ 12,902,651	\$ 2,410,058	\$ -	\$ 15,312,709
Southern Golden Gate Estates (Save Our Everglades)	CERP	55,247	54,442	0	54,442	805	\$ 92,692,713	\$ -	\$ 38,084,965	\$ 130,777,678
STA 1W, 2, 3/4, 5, 6		41,089	41,043	0	41,043	46	\$ 126,772,412	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126,772,412
Twelve Mile Slough		15,653	7,486	0	7,486	8,167	\$ 11,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,000,000
Upper Lakes Basin Watershed (ULBW)		47,300	12,561	0	12,561	34,739	\$ 11,507,908	\$ 836,049	\$ -	\$ 12,343,957
Water Conservation Areas - 2 and 3	(5) C&SF	721,433	670,844	0	670,844	50,589	\$ 10,572,395	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,572,395
Subtotal: State/SFWMD		2,234,131	1,467,938	-	1,467,938	766,193	\$ 1,857,146,886	\$ 170,420,449	\$ 224,589,589	\$ 2,252,156,924
State/SFWMD COMPLETED PROJECTS										
Babcock Ranch		73,542	73,542	0	73,542	0	\$ 308,461,380	\$ 41,538,620	\$ -	\$ 350,000,000
Cayo Costa Island		1,955	1,955	0	1,955	0	\$ 28,807,346	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,807,346
Corkscrew Regional Mitigation Bank		633	633	0	633	0	\$ 2,600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,600,000
Cypress Creek/Loxahatchee		4,347	4,573	0	4,573	0	\$ 36,407,660	\$ 15,541,513	\$ -	\$ 51,949,173
DuPuis Reserve		21,875	21,875	0	21,875	0	\$ 23,016,601	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,016,601
Frog Pond/L31N	C&SF	10,450	11,126	0	11,126	0	\$ 98,172,897	\$ -	\$ 4,700,000	\$ 102,872,897
Kissimmee Prairie Ecosystem		38,284	38,284	0	38,284	0	\$ 21,953,790	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,953,790
Loxahatchee River		1,936	1,936	0	1,936	0	\$ 11,927,120	\$ 1,147,583	\$ -	\$ 13,074,703
Nicodemus Slough		2,231	2,231	0	2,231	0	\$ 1,894,501	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,894,501
Six Mile Cypress I & II		1,966	2,083	0	2,083	0	\$ 1,770,323	\$ 1,685,151	\$ -	\$ 3,455,474
South Fork of the St. Lucie River		184	184	0	184	0	\$ 2,480,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,480,000
STA 1-E/C-51	C&SF	6,503	1,636	4,867	6,503	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48,991,000	\$ 48,991,000
Sumica (previously Lake Walk-In-Water)		4,009	4,009	0	4,009	0	\$ 1,975,000	\$ 1,975,000	\$ -	\$ 3,950,000
Ten Mile Creek	CRP	917	917	0	917	0	\$ 5,081,513	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 5,331,513
Tibet Butler Preserve		439	439	0	439	0	\$ 3,601,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,601,900
Yamato Scrub		207	207	0	207	0	\$ 17,500,000	\$ 8,432,850	\$ -	\$ 25,932,850
Subtotal: State/SFWMD COMPLETED PROJECTS		169,478	165,629	4,867	170,496	0	\$ 565,650,031	\$ 70,570,717	\$ 53,691,000	\$ 689,911,748
FCT, State Parks, & WMA's										
State Florida Communities Trust Lands	(6)	25,962	25,962	0	25,962	0	\$ 243,822,471	\$ 244,589,570	\$ -	\$ 488,412,041
State Park Lands		101,438	88,600	0	88,600	12,838	\$ 17,244,317	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,244,317
State Wildlife Management Areas	(7)	126,867	126,629	0	126,629	238	\$ 47,400,960	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47,400,960
Subtotal: FCT, Parks, & WMA's		254,267	241,192	-	241,192	13,076	\$ 308,467,748	\$ 244,589,570	\$ -	\$ 553,057,318
Federal Conservation Lands										
A.R.M. Loxahatchee NWR	(8)	145,567	141,324	2,550	143,874	1,693	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 119,000	\$ 119,000
Big Cypress National Preserve	(9)	574,449	186,558	387,056	573,614	835	\$ 41,533,000	\$ -	\$ 180,572,000	\$ 222,105,000
Big Cypress National Preserve Addition	(9)	146,117	32,557	110,879	143,436	2,681	\$ 23,386,737	\$ -	\$ 49,572,000	\$ 72,958,737
Biscayne National Park	(9)	172,924	74,139	98,451	172,590	334	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,850,735	\$ 31,850,735
Crocodile Lake NWR		7,100	126	6,570	6,696	404	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,093,000	\$ 13,093,000
Dry Tortugas National Park	(10)	64,701	0	0	64,701	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Everglades National Park	(9)	1,399,078	908,931	489,686	1,398,617	461	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 29,791,250	\$ 31,791,250
Everglades National Park Expansion	(9)	109,504	24,817	83,980	108,797	707	\$ 16,272,000	\$ -	\$ 81,397,000	\$ 97,669,000
Florida Panther NWR	(11)	61,573	0	61,563	61,563	10	\$ 449,000	\$ -	\$ 10,233,000	\$ 10,682,000
Hobe Sound NWR		1,130	0	1,034	1,034	96	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
J. N. "Ding" Darling NWR	(12)	10,275	1,175	7,592	8,767	1,508	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,785,000	\$ 9,785,000
Lower Florida Keys NWR Complex	(13)	415,433	392,833	17,212	410,045	5,388	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,374,000	\$ 31,374,000
Subtotal: Federal Lands		3,107,851	1,762,460	1,266,573	3,093,734	14,117	\$ 83,640,737	\$ -	\$ 437,804,985	\$ 521,445,722
Grand Totals		5,765,727	3,637,219	1,271,440	4,973,360	793,386	\$ 2,814,905,402	\$ 485,580,736	\$ 716,085,574	\$ 4,016,571,712

Footnotes:

- (1) State expenditures may include local government contributions on CARL, Florida Forever, FCT, and SOR Projects.
- (2) This project is not entirely within SFWMD; the numbers here are that portion of the project within the SFWMD. Expenditures are pro-rated for that portion of the project.
- (3) The EAA/Talisman Project includes Talisman Ranch parcels as well as other EAA parcels purchased by the SFWMD, in partnership with USDOI.
- (4) Breakdown of Fisheating Creek total acres acquired is 59,910.07 - 9,879.80 fee, 50,030.27 conservation easement.
- (5) The total project size of the WCA's is 867,000 acres. Which encompasses WCA's 1,2 and 3. WCA 1 is reported as the State/SFWMD acquired acres under the ARM Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge entry.
- (6) Project size, expenditures and acreages reflect acquired lands only and do not include additional active projects. Some FCT funds were used to acquire State/SFWMD projects; those contributions are included under the specific projects.
- (7)

**Appendix E: County Land Acquisitions and
Florida's Greenways and Trails Program**

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County Land Acquisitions and Florida's Greenways and Trails Program

This appendix provides information regarding progress made toward two of the strategic objectives for South Florida Ecosystem restoration.

Objective 3-A.1: Designate an additional 480,000 acres as part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System by 2009.

The FDEP OGT is working to establish a statewide system of greenways and trails, a "green infrastructure" that connects Florida's communities with the nature that surrounds them. To meet this goal, OGT administers the annual \$4.5 million Florida Greenways and Trails Land Acquisition Program under the Florida Forever Act. OGT also provides technical assistance and grants for the development of both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects through the federally funded Recreational Trail Program.

Currently, over 4,000 miles of trails on Florida's public lands provide a variety of recreation opportunities, including hiking, biking, inline skating, horseback riding, paddling, and wildlife viewing. Some trails meander through state and local parks and conservation areas, while others provide convenient access to playgrounds and urban shopping areas. In addition to providing fitness and recreation opportunities, greenways provide a glimpse into natural Florida.

Local counties partner with the State for designation and funding for greenways and trails. The FDEP reports that ~~298,744~~ 298,826 acres plus an additional 147 linear miles of greenways and trails lands in the sixteen-county area are part of the State's system.

Objective 3-A.3: Acquire an additional 2,500 acres of park, recreation, and open space by 2007.

Counties with conservation land acquisition programs provided a summary of their programs. Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Highlands, Lee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Polk, and St. Lucie counties provided this information. The smaller rural counties of Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee do not have conservation land acquisition programs. Conservation lands in these counties are acquired through the State or the SFWMD. For this edition of the LAS, the LATT collected county-wide information, although parts of Orange, Osceola, Highlands, Polk, and Charlotte counties are outside the boundary of the SFWMD.

The counties were asked to list only those land acquisitions that are titled to the county on a summary table and provide a map illustrating those properties. It is important to note that county conservation land acquisitions can contribute to more than one ecosystem restoration objective. The counties determined which objective a particular land acquisition project addressed and reflected that information on the summary table. For this document, all county land acquisitions were credited towards meeting this objective. Currently, counties hold title to over ~~138,000~~ 165,000 acres of lands that contribute towards the park, recreation, and open space objective.

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Appendix F: SFWMD FY 2007-08 Land Acquisition Priorities

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SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
SFWMD FY 2007- 2008 Land Acquisition Priorities¹²

Project	CERP or Master Project Name	Acres	County	Original Fund Source
C23/24 Reservoirs	Indian River Lagoon – South	2,851	Martin St. Lucie	SOETF
Lake Okeechobee Watershed	Lake Okeechobee Watershed	TBD*	Highlands Okeechobee	SOETF
L-31 North Acquisition Area	C-111 Canal Project	40	Miami-Dade	Florida Forever
Total		2,891		

* As part of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program, or Senate Bill 0392/House Bill 7157, technical plans are being developed to identify the land acquisition requirements for the construction and operation of restoration projects within the watershed.

¹² Subject to available funds.

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Appendix G: Potential Funding Sources in Support of Restoration

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Potential Funding Sources in Support of the Restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem

Program	Purpose
FEDERAL	
DOI	
Federal land acquisition programs	
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) – Federal Land Acquisition	Acquisition for various federal agencies (FWS, NPS, BLM, and USDA Forest Service).
Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (FWS)	Receipts in this account allow FWS to acquire important migratory breeding areas, migration resting places, and wintering areas. Areas acquired become part of the refuge system.
Grant programs strictly for land acquisition by non-Federal entities	
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Act Program (FWS)	To provide grants to States for Recovery Land Acquisition. (There is additional funding for Habitat Conservation Fund Land Acquisition Grants.)
Grant programs that may be used for land acquisition and other purposes by non-Federal agencies	
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants (FWS)	To help States and Tribes to implement comprehensive wildlife conservation plans and activities.
LWCF State Grant Program (NPS)	To provide matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.
Sport Fish Restoration – Grants to States (FWS)	To provide funding for fisheries recreation and conservation efforts in the United States. Non-competitive apportionment based program.
Federal Aid and Wildlife Restoration – Grants to States	This program apportions funds to States and territories for use in restoring and protecting wildlife.
Grant programs that may be used for land acquisition and other purposes by Federal and non-Federal agencies	
North American Wetlands Conservation Act (FWS)	May fund the acquisition of habitat for waterfowl and migrating birds in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.
Sport Fish Restoration –Coastal Wetlands Grants (FWS)	To acquire, restore and enhance wetlands in coastal states (DEP/TNC used this program for a project in Hendry Creek to buffer Estero Bay).
Federal Aid Wetlands Conservation (FWS)	May fund the acquisition of habitat for waterfowl and migrating birds in support of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.
Other partnership programs supporting non-land acquisition conservation activities	
Private Stewardship Grants Program (FWS)	To provide grants for on-the-ground conservation projects on private lands benefiting federally listed, threatened, endangered species or other at-risk species.
Landowner Incentive Program (FWS)	Establish or supplement existing landowner incentive programs that provide technical or financial assistance, including habitat protection and restoration, to private landowners to benefit species at risk.
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (FWS)	To provide assistance to landowners to voluntarily restore wetlands, streams, grasslands, woodlands, and other important habitat that support fish and wildlife.

Programs that have been used to acquire lands for CERP are shaded in yellow.

Program	Purpose
Coastal Program	To work with coastal communities and other partners to focus and leverage resources on high-priority coastal habitat issues by providing important technical and financial support to our existing and new partners, including the Everglades/South Florida Ecosystem.
NPS Challenge Cost Share	To increase the participation of neighboring communities and qualified partners in preserving and improving the cultural, natural, and recreational resources for which the Service is responsible.
FWS Challenge Cost Share	Foster innovative and creative cooperative efforts to restore natural resources and establish or expand wildlife habitat, with an emphasis on Federal lands and resources.
BLM Challenge Cost Share	To leverage federal dollars with private and state funding for conservation efforts, benefiting resources on BLM administered public lands. The program solicits partnerships and partnership funding through a variety of resource management programs, including fisheries, wildlife, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources and recreation.
DOT	
National Scenic Byways Program	To provide grants in support of eligible projects, including protection of natural resources in an area adjacent to a scenic byway.
Federal Lands Highway Program	To provide funds for eligible projects to include acquisition of necessary scenic easements and scenic or historic sites.
High Priority Projects	To support member priority projects.
Transportation Enhancements	To provide reimbursement for 12 eligible activities that enhance the transportation experience, including acquisition of scenic easements and sites.
USDA	
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	To remove marginal agricultural lands from production and establish conservation practices to improve water quality and create wildlife habitat.
Forest Legacy Program	To help states acquire fee or easements for perpetual forest preservation.
Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)	To assist landowners in restoring wetlands and wetland functions.
Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FPP)	To purchase easements on farm and ranch lands that will remain in agricultural production.
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)	To encourage the creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations on wetland, riparian, upland and aquatic habitat on Ag Lands.
Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Farm Bill) Section 390	To provide \$200 million to the Secretary of the Interior to conduct restoration activities in the Everglades ecosystem in South Florida, including the acquisition of real property.
NOAA	
Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)	To provide matching funds to states to acquire land or easements to protect or restore coastal areas that have considerable conservation, recreation, ecological, or economic value and are threatened by conversion from their natural state to other uses or could be managed or restored to effectively conserve, enhance or restore ecological function.

Programs that have been used to acquire lands for CERP are shaded in yellow.

Program	Purpose
STATE	
Florida Forever Program/Board of Trustees (FDEP)	To fund the acquisition and restoration of environmentally sensitive lands, lands to protect water resource development and supply, to increase public access, public lands management and maintenance, and increase protection of land by acquisition of conservation easements. Florida Forever is the umbrella funding source for the state programs listed below.
Florida Forever Program Water Management Districts (FDEP)	To fund the acquisition of lands and capital project expenditures necessary to implement the water management districts' priority lists; \$25 million of the annual Florida Forever allocation to the SFWMD is to be used exclusively for the acquisition of land needed to implement the CERP.
Florida Communities Trust (FCT) (DCA)	To fund the state's land acquisition grant program for local governments and non-profits to acquire lands that promote outdoor recreation and natural resource protection needs identified in local government comprehensive plans.
Florida Forever Program Inholdings and Additions Programs (FDEP)	To acquire inholdings and additions to existing conservation lands.
Florida Greenways and Trails (FDEP)	To fund the statewide initiative to create a system of greenways and trails connecting communities and conservation areas.
FL Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) (FDEP)	To fund the acquisition or development of land for public outdoor recreation and the acquisition of inholdings and additions for state parks.
Save Our Everglades Trust Fund (FDEP)	To implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and the Northern Everglades Estuaries Protection Program.
COUNTIES	
Broward Safe Parks and Land Preservation Bond Program	To protect the remaining natural lands in Broward County not currently managed for preservation.
Conservation Collier	To acquire, preserve, restore and manage environmentally significant lands.
Lee County Conservation Lands Program (Conservation 20/20)	To acquire, restore and manage lands important to wildlife, water supply, flooding, water quality, and resource oriented public uses.
Martin County Lands for Healthy Rivers and Natural Resource Protection (Healthy Rivers) and Lands for You	Healthy Rivers: to acquire lands for river restoration, provide matching funds for state and federal land acquisition programs for conservation and protection of natural resources and provide for municipal infrastructure. Lands for You: to preserve and protect environmental resources and cultural history while providing expanded outdoor recreational opportunities.
Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands	To acquire, preserve, enhance, restore, conserve, and maintain environmentally endangered lands for the benefit of the present and future generations.
Monroe County Land Authority	To acquire land for recreation, affordable housing, environmental protection, and the protection of private property rights.
Orange County Green PLACE	To preserve conservation and water resource lands.

Programs that have been used to acquire lands for CERP are shaded in yellow.

Program	Purpose
COUNTIES CONTINUED	
Osceola County S.A.V.E Osceola	To acquire lands to protect open space and water quality, preserve natural areas, protect endangered or threatened animals or plants and provide passive recreation such as trails.
Palm Beach County Land Acquisition Program for Conservation Purposes	To acquire additional environmentally sensitive lands for perpetual preservation and to acquire agricultural lands to preserve agriculture in the County's Ag Reserve.
Polk County Environmental Lands Program	To acquire, preserve, manage and restore endangered and environmentally sensitive lands, water resources and important wildlife habit.
St. Lucie County Environmentally Significant Lands Program	To preserve native ecosystems and meet County Comprehensive Plan open space requirements.
NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
Conservancy of Southwest Florida	For the preservation and stewardship of the land and water resources in and around the 60,000-acres Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW).
CREW Trust	For the preservation and stewardship of the land and water resources in and around the 60,000 acre Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed.
Florida Keys Land and Sea Trust	For the preservation, conservation and the restoration of rare and endangered areas of the Florida Keys.
Green Horizon Land Trust, Inc.	To preserve environmentally valuable or sensitive lands and open space areas in and around the Central Florida Ridge for the benefit of the general public, and to educate the public as to the importance of such lands and their preservation.
Martin County Regional Land Trust	To preserve land on Florida's highly developed east coast.
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	To award challenge grants that address priority actions promoting fish and wildlife conservation and the habitats on which they depend; work proactively to involve other conservation and community interests; leverage available funding; and evaluate project outcomes.
National Park Foundation	The South Florida National Parks Trust seeks to create a new tradition of philanthropy in support of Biscayne, Dry Tortugas and Everglades National Parks.
The Conservation Fund	To forge partnerships to preserve our nation's outdoor heritage, American's legacy of wildlife habitat, working landscapes and community open space.
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	To preserve plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth. TNC works to increase public funding at the local, state and federal level and works with landowners to craft innovative land protection projects.
Trust for Public Lands (TPL)	To help agencies and communities create a vision for conservation, raise funds for conservation and complete conservation real estate transactions. TPL raises public as well as private funds and packages projects to funders and agencies.

Programs that have been used to acquire lands for CERP are shaded in yellow.

Appendix H: Land Acquisition Strategy Task Team Directive

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Land Acquisition Strategy Task Team Directive

BACKGROUND: Land acquisition is critical to South Florida ecosystem restoration efforts. Land is needed to preserve habitat for native plants and animals and to act as a buffer to existing natural areas. Land is also needed for water quality treatment areas, water storage reservoirs, and aquifer recharge areas that will help restore natural hydrology. Land acquisition efforts are often complemented by less-than-fee acquisition and other conservation programs that provide permanent and long-term easements such as provided in USDA's Wetland Reserve Program and the Conservation Reserve Program.

Several planning efforts related to land acquisition have recently been accomplished. In December 1999, an ecosystem-wide acquisition map (the "Graham Map") was developed. In April 2000, The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) issued a report entitled, "South Florida Ecosystem Restoration: A Land Acquisition Plan Would Help Identify Lands That Need to Be Acquired." Subsequently, the Task Force strategy document, "Coordinating Success: Strategy for Restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem," was delivered to Congress. This strategy document provided information on numerous land acquisition projects undertaken for ecosystem restoration. In February 2003, the Task Force accepted the South Florida Ecosystem Land Acquisition Strategy prepared by the Land Acquisition Task Team. This Strategy built on the information in "Coordinating Success" and the "Graham Map," updating and adding information as necessary. The Task Force decided to produce an annual update.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Task Team is to develop the annual updates to the land acquisition strategy originally accepted by the Task Force in March 2003. It describes the lands identified jointly by federal and state agencies for ecosystem restoration, and with its appendices, provides a broad picture of all land acquisition initiatives that contribute to the restoration. The annual updates will report land acquisition data from July 1 through June 30 each year.

MEMBERS:

Marsha Bansee (OED)	Gaye Sharpe (Polk County)
Don Burgess (Broward County)	Jim Sherman (Martin County)
David Burr (SWFRPC)	Wanda Caffie-Simpson (SFWMD)
Brian Coleman (NPS)	Andy Stevens (Charlotte County)
Gary Cochran(FWC)	Alexandra Sulecki (Collier County)
Darrell Enfinger (Okeechobee County)	Lynda Thompson (Lee County)
Grant Gelhardt (DCA)	Susan Trokey (Ding Darling NWR)
Beth Jackson (Orange County)	Diana Waite (St. Lucie County)
Randy Mathews (Osceola County)	Rich Walesky (Palm Beach County)
Janice McCarthy (Highlands County)	Joe Walsh (WRAC/FWC)
Anne Morkill (Florida Keys NWR) – Co-Chair	Edward Wright (USDA)
Wayne O'Neal (Hendry County)	Theresa Woody (OED)
John Outland (FDEP) – Co-Chair	Emilie Young (Miami-Dade County)
Mark Rosch (Monroe County)	
Alan Shatto (Glades County)	

GUIDANCE:

1. The strategy will focus on acquisition efforts for lands where there is a federal or joint interest, including:
 - a) an assessment of the lands with both joint state and federal interest needed to accomplish each of the goals of the restoration,
 - b) a description of the purpose for which the lands will be acquired and how they will be managed,
 - c) an estimate of the cost of these lands,
 - d) an estimate of when the lands will be needed for related restoration projects, and
 - e) the agencies responsible for acquiring the lands.
2. The strategy will focus on those federal or joint requirements supportive of the three goals of the Task Force: Goal 1 (Get the Water Right), Goal 2 (Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats and Species), Goal 3 (Foster Compatibility of the Built and Natural Systems).
3. The strategy will be limited to those lands that will be acquired with federal funds or as part of a federally cost shared project.
4. The strategy will be updated to reflect changes and additions to the restoration initiative's land acquisition needs.
5. The strategy will not infringe on existing missions, authorities or jurisdictions of the participating agencies.
6. The strategy should include other related state, district, local government, or non-governmental organization land acquisition projects in an appendix as appropriate.

DELIVERABLES:

The team shall produce the following interim and final deliverables for review and approval of the Working Group:

1. Public Comment workshop (August)
2. First draft for Working Group, Task Force, and interested parties (includes a subset of WRAC) review and comment (August)
3. WRAC briefing (September)
4. Revised draft for Working Group, Task Force, and interested parties (September)
5. Task Force approval of Land Acquisition Strategy (September)

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All team meetings will be open to the public, and if appropriate, time will be included in the agenda for public comment. Meetings will be advertised in accordance with the Pilot Public Affairs Procedures developed by the Working Group.
2. The representative from the OED will serve as the Public Affairs representative for the team and will be responsible for providing public notice of meetings, facilitating public comment, and providing a brief meeting summary for each meeting that is suitable for publication on the Task Force Web Site.
3. The OED will provide contract staff support, as needed, to assist the team in drafting and producing its proposed plan.

**Appendix I: Land Protected Through Mitigation
Map and Description**

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Selected Mitigation Lands in South Florida

TYPE/PROJECT NAME	ACRES
Mitigation lands with a conservation easement, with the fee title held by a private entity (excluding private non-profit conservation organizations)	
Big Cypress Mitigation Bank	1,101
Bluefield Ranch Mitigation Bank	2,693
Everglades Mitigation Bank	13,512
Florida Mitigation Bank	1,585
Panther Island Mitigation Bank	2,821
R.G. Reserve Mitigation Bank	658
Reedy Creek Mitigation Bank	4,100
Other Mitigation Projects	44,011
<i>Subtotal</i>	70,482
Mitigation lands with a conservation easement, with the fee title held by government or a private non-profit conservation organization	
Bear Point Mitigation Bank	327
Corkscrew Regional Mitigation Bank	633
Disney Wilderness Preserve	11,518
Imperial Marsh/Flint Pen System	8,220
Loxahatchee Mitigation Bank	1,256
Palm Beach County-area mitigation projects	339
Pembroke Pines Mitigation Bank/Wetlands Bank	343
<i>Subtotal</i>	22,919
Mitigation lands with no conservation easement, fee simple title held by government or a private non-profit conservation organization	
CREW	756
East Coast Buffer - cell 15 mitigation lands	32
East Coast Buffer - cells 17, 18 DOT I-75 mitigation lands	384
Hole in the Donut Mitigation Bank	6,032
Little Pine Island Mitigation Bank	1,728
Pennsucco Wetlands - East Coast Buffer	2,042
Platt's Creek Mitigation Bank	100
Shingle Creek	861
Split Oak Forest Mitigation Bank	1,050
<i>Subtotal</i>	12,986

Mitigation lands protected through Federal, State, or local regulatory instruments with the title held by a private entity

Mitigation for Card Sound Quarry-Lake D	1191
Mitigation for Cutler Cay project	79
Mitigation for Florida City Rock Mine	341
Mitigation for Homestead Speedway	465
Other mitigation projects	1,636
<i>Subtotal</i>	3,712*
 Total acres all categories	 109,816

* As reported by Miami-Dade County.

Source: The South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and Miami-Dade County.

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Land Acquisition Strategy

Land Protected through Mitigation as of 30 June 2007



ATLANTIC OCEAN

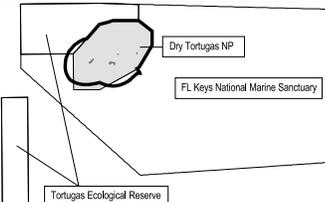
GULF OF MEXICO

LEGEND

Land Protected through Mitigation

- Mitigation land with a conservation easement, with fee title held by a private entity (excluding private non-profit conservation organizations)
- Mitigation land with a conservation easement, with fee title held by a government or a private non-profit conservation organization
- Mitigation land with no conservation easement, with fee simple title held by a government or a private non-profit conservation organization
- Mitigation land protected through federal, state or local regulatory instruments, with fee title held by a private entity
- Other Conservation Land
- Tribal Land
- CERP Project Conceptual Boundary
- Acceler8
- SFWMD Boundary
- Northern Everglades
- Southern Everglades
- County Boundary
- Lake
- River
- Interstate
- U.S. Highway

DRAFT
8/21/2007



DATA SOURCES: Digital data on mitigation lands were provided by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection 2007-05, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and Miami-Dade County 2007-07, and The Nature Conservancy 2007-08. SFWMD provided digital data for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Projects and Acceler8 Projects 2007-07. [Disclaimer: Any information, including but not limited to software and data, received from the SFWMD ("District") in fulfillment of a request is provided "AS IS" without warranty of any kind, and the District expressly disclaims all express and implied warranties, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. The District does not warrant, guarantee, or make any representations regarding the use, or the results of the use, of any information provided to you by the District in terms of correctness, accuracy, reliability, timeliness or otherwise. The entire risk as to the results and performance of any information obtained from the District is entirely assumed by the recipient. This map is a conceptual tool utilized for project development only. This map is not self-extracting or binding, and does not otherwise affect the interests of any persons including any vested rights or existing uses of real property.] The Conservation Lands data layer was compiled by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) using data received from many different sources including federal, state and local managing agencies, water management districts, and private conservation organizations.



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