



WHAT WILL YOUR CONSERVATION LEGACY BE?

All projects listed here are priorities on the Florida Forever list and are eligible for Water and Land Conservation Amendment funds.



"Beautiful landscape of green swamp with calm waters" by Gentry George, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Green Swamp

Drinking water supply, rivers, wildlife habitat

A vast mosaic of cypress swamps, hardwood forests, and wetlands, the Green Swamp plays a critical role in replenishing underground sources of drinking water. It also gives rise to four of Florida's major rivers, including the Hillsborough River which together with the Alafia River meets nearly half of Tampa Bay's water needs. The Green Swamp is also critical habitat for more than 300 species of animals, including many that are threatened including Florida black bears, scrub jays, gopher tortoises, and wood storks.

Counties: Lake, Pasco, Polk, Hillsborough, Pinellas



"Peaceful Cove," Terra Ceia Bay by Bill Dickinson

Terra Ceia

Mangrove habitat restoration, fisheries restoration

The mangrove swamps on the islands and mainland around Terra Ceia Bay are some of the last undisturbed natural areas left on the southeast shore of Tampa Bay. The area is critical to protecting and restoring mangrove habitat and seagrasses to ensure the health of manatees, local fisheries, and bird rookeries. Growth pressure in the area is intense, yet more than 50 percent of the Terra Ceia project has yet to be protected.

Counties: Manatee



Whooping cranes by Geoff Gallice

Crossbar / Al Bar Ranch

Drinking water supply, wetlands protection, rare wildlife habitat, wildlife corridor

The 12,440 acres comprising Crossbar/Al Bar Ranch provide critical protection to existing drinking water supplies and help replenish underground sources of drinking water. Funding this project plays a pivotal role in protecting wildlife habitat for several rare species, such as the Florida scrub jay, and would also allow for completion of the wildlife corridors between several existing preserves (Starkey Wilderness, Conner, and Cypress Creek). Almost none of this area is currently protected.

Counties: Pasco



Annutteliga Hammock

Longleaf pine and wildlife habitat

The Annutteliga Hammock project would protect unique sandhill habitat including many trees typically found in northern forests that are at their furthest southern range. It would allow Florida to conserve the remaining fragments of forests between the Withlacoochee State Forest and Chassahowitzka Wildlife Management Area, protecting important habitat for black bears, gopher tortoises, and many other plants and animals. Fifty percent of the land for this project has yet to be protected.

Counties: Citrus, Hernando