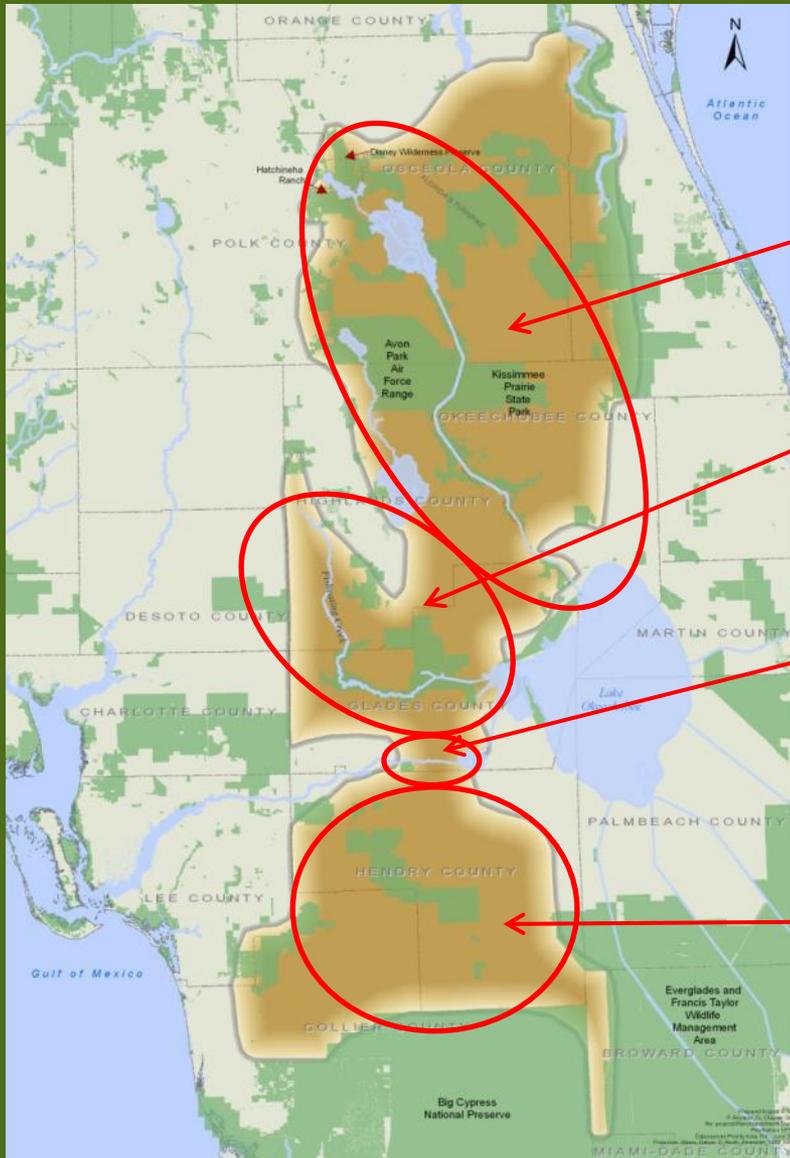




Northern Everglades



Kissimmee River Basin

Fisheating Creek Basin

Florida Panther Dispersal Zone

Primary & Secondary Florida Panther Habitat Zones

Restorable Wetlands in the Northern Everglades

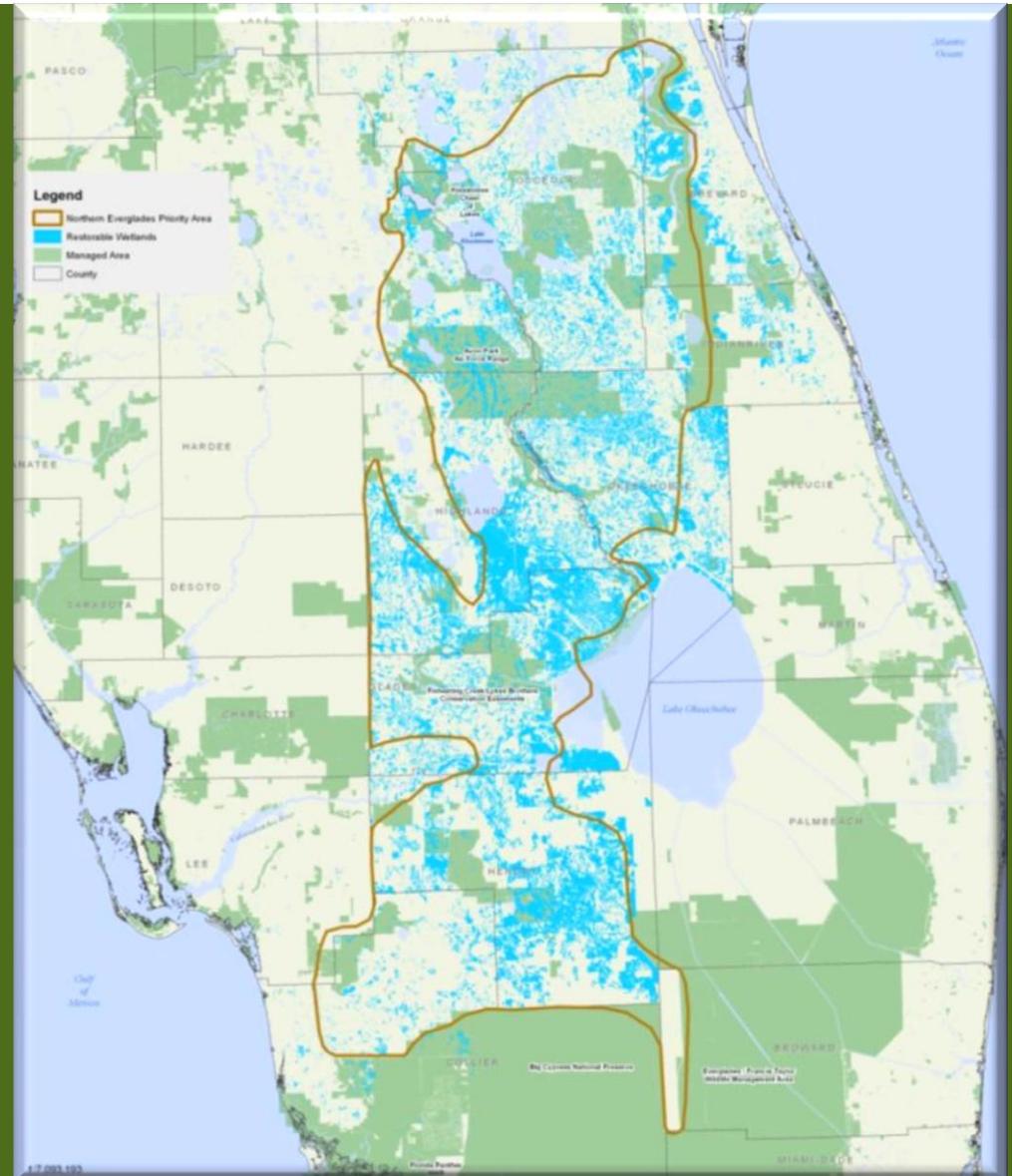
Total Acres: 4,000,000

Restorable Wetland Acres:
1,000,000

Opportunities with natural lands restoration:

- Water storage / detention
- Restore historical timing of water flow
- Restore wetland habitats for listed species

Dispersed storage in natural systems is consistent with landscape diversity



Northern Everglades Program Objectives

Hydrological restoration
for the greater Everglades



Permanent protection and linkage
of high quality habitats



Ensure
sustainability of
Florida's cattle
industry

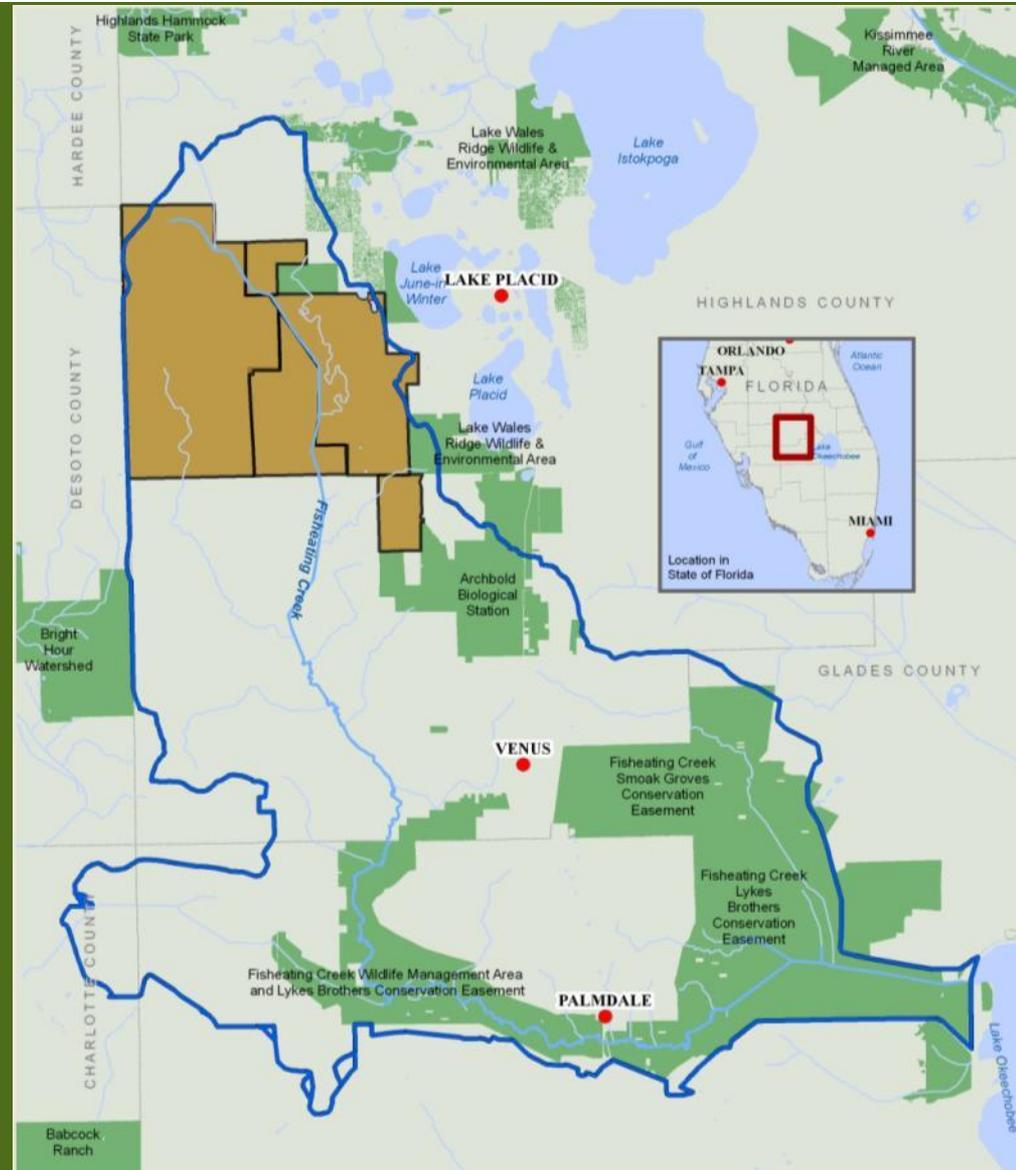


Fisheating Creek Special Project

“Nearly 26,000 acres in the northern Everglades ecosystem are being targeted for environmental protection in an ambitious deal to be formally announced today in Kissimmee by federal agricultural authorities. “

Orlando Sentinel July 19, 2010

- \$89,000,000
- 11 miles of Fisheating Creek
- 26,000 acres
- Complements other conservation lands



Wetland Reserve Program

- 100% funding for **perpetual** conservation easements
- Cost is paid by one-time allocation
- Protection of adjacent high quality habitats
- Funds hydrological restoration resulting in **dispersed storage**
- Restores **historical timing** of water to Lake Okeechobee
- Continued economic activity (cattle grazing)



Wetland Reserve Program

<u>Year</u>	<u>Florida Allocation</u>
2002	\$ 32,070,000
2003	\$ 15,369,200
2004	\$ 15,000,001
2005	\$ 12,420,000
2006	\$ 22,905,565
2007	\$ 49,750,143
2008	\$ 35,451,525
2009	\$ 76,303,257
2010	\$128,000,000



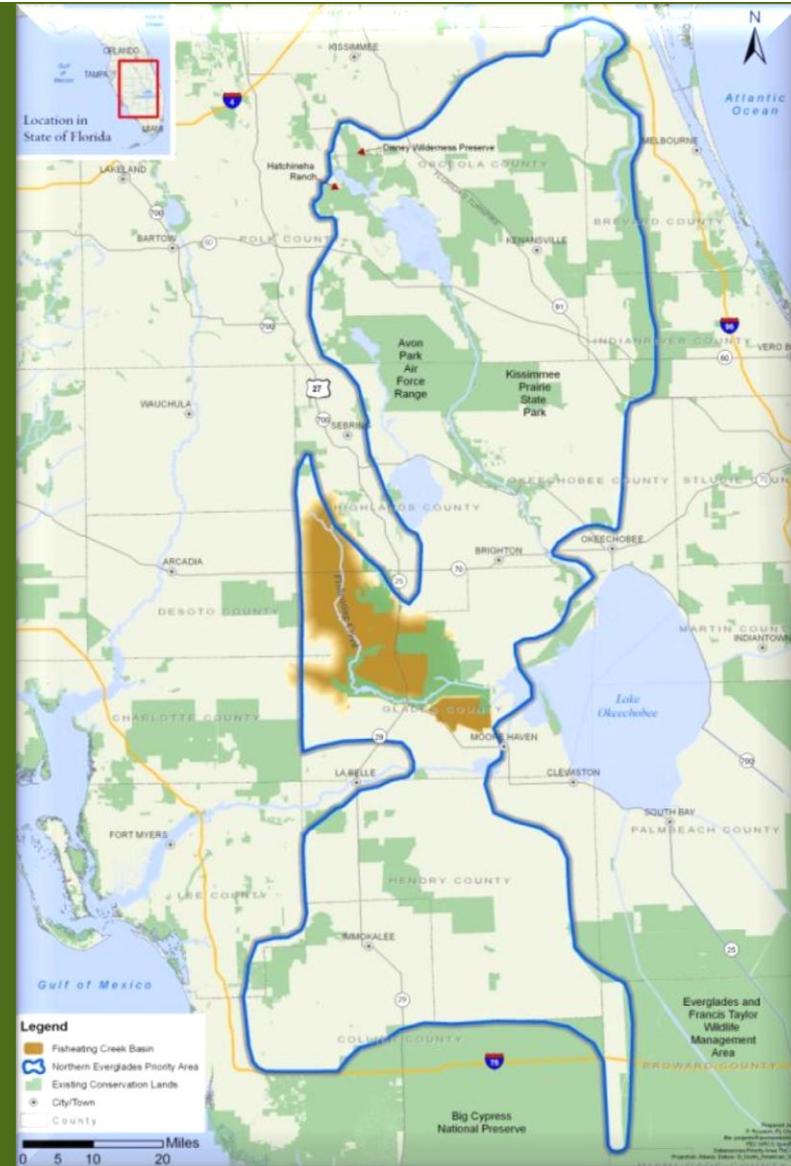
Fisheating Creek – Significance for NRCS

Location:

- Landscape-scale hydrological restoration that can significantly impact the timing of delivery of water to Lake Okeechobee
- Contains some of peninsula Florida's globally significant natural communities

Size:

- 26,000 acres



Fisheating Creek Biodiversity

- Eastern indigo snake
- Florida grasshopper sparrow
- Florida scrub-jay
- Crested caracara
- Wood stork
- Bald eagle
- Snail kite
- Florida panther
- Red-cockaded woodpecker
- Gopher tortoise
- Florida sandhill crane
- Swallow-tailed kite
- Florida burrowing owl
- Sherman's fox squirrel
- Florida black bear



Dry Prairie
Mesic Flatwoods
Scrub



Immediate Opportunities

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Fisheating Creek – Northern Everglades

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

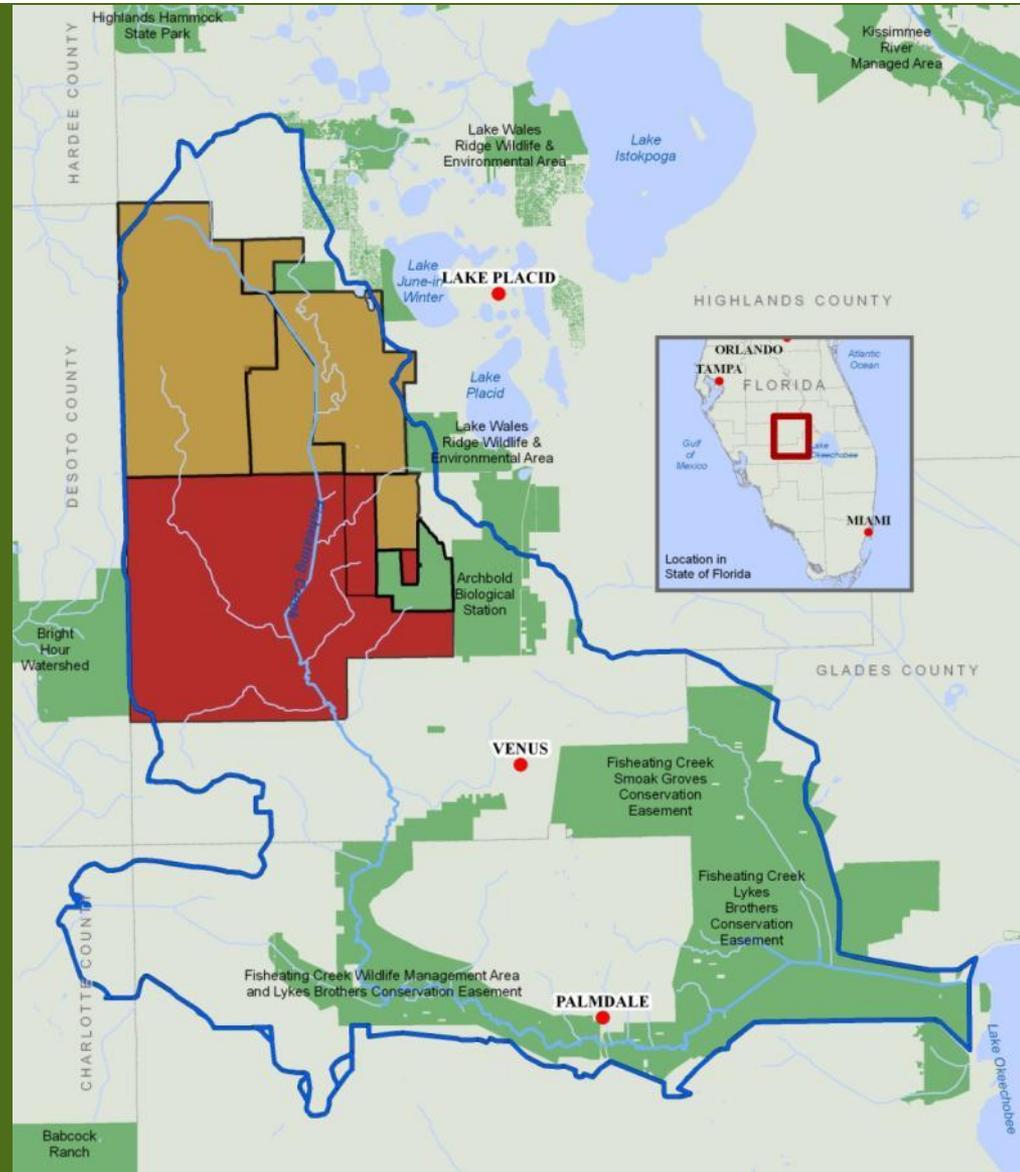
Establishment of new national wildlife refuge(s)

Department of Defense

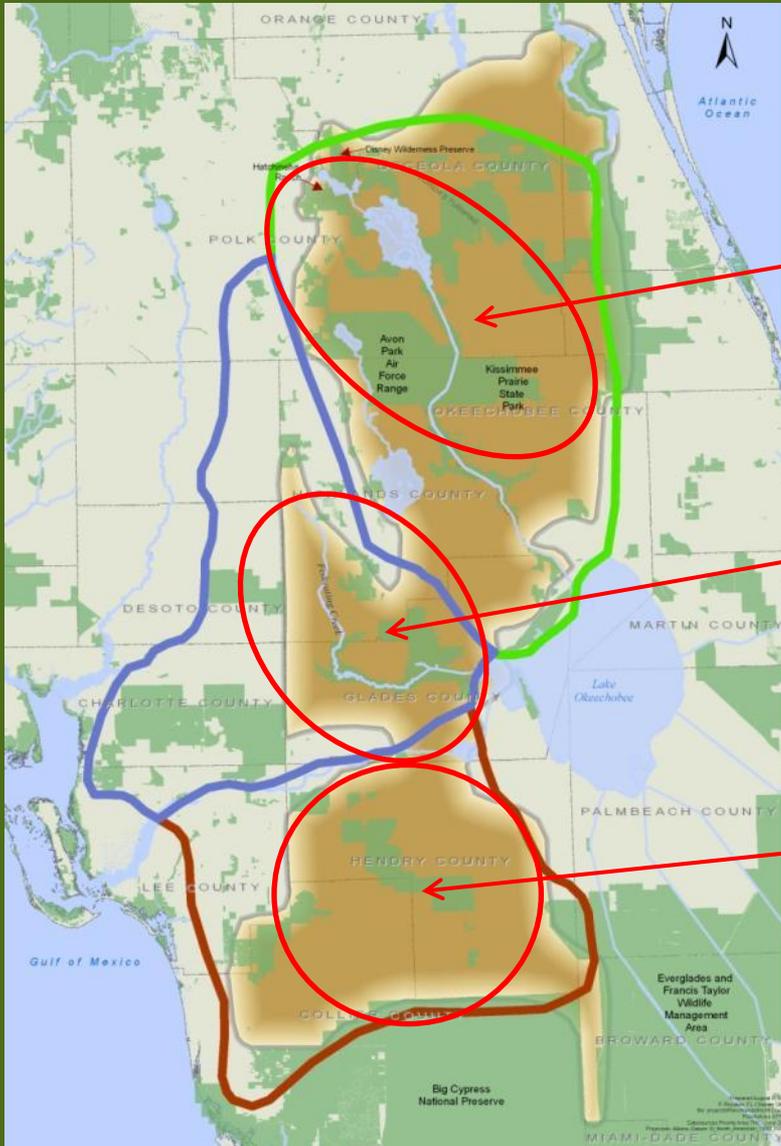
Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative

Completing Fisheating Creek

- Many ranchers interested in conservation easements
- More than 90,000 acres
- 20 miles of Fisheating Creek
- Lower creek already protected (Lykes Bros)
- Fisheating Creek Florida Forever Project (Lykes Bros)



USFWS Study Areas



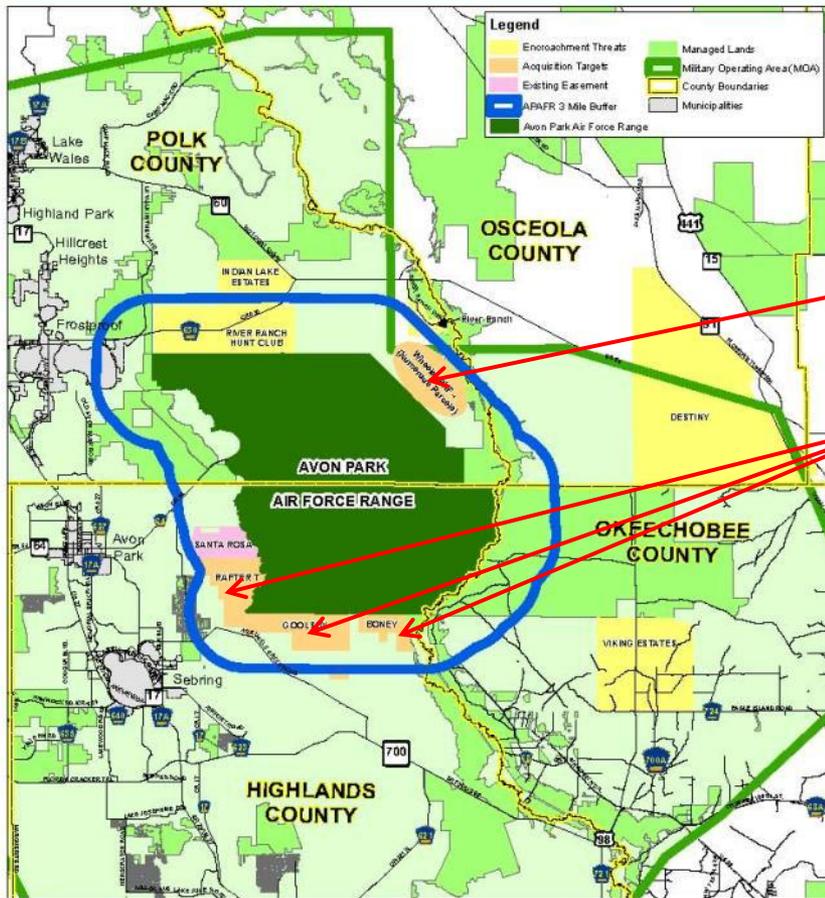
Everglades Headwaters NWR

Fisheating Creek NWR

Florida Panther NWR

Avon Park Air Force Range

ACQUISITION TARGETS & ENCROACHMENT THREATS



Bombing Range Ridge Florida
Forever Project

Boney, Goolsby and Rafter T
Ranches

DISCLAIMER:
This information and/or map should be considered as conceptual
and subject to change. This map is not a survey.

Prepared by:
Central Florida Planning Council
for the Department of Transportation
Map Date: 04/15/10
Publication: Planning Assistance
Area: Avon Park Air Force Range



CENTRAL FLORIDA PLANNING COUNCIL



Kissimmee River Restoration



November 10, 2009

Conservation Strategies vs. Programs

Greater Everglades Hydrology

Wetland Reserve Program

Kissimmee River Restoration

Mitigation Banks

Reservoirs

Stormwater Treatment Areas

FRESP

Aquifer Storage & Recovery

Permanent Habitat Protection

Wetland Reserve Program

Kissimmee River Restoration

Mitigation Banks

Florida Forever

NRCS Easement Programs

Conservation Banks

National Wildlife Refuges

Readiness & Environmental

Protection Initiative

Roles of SFWMD & The Nature Conservancy

- *America's Great Outdoors* Listening Session – August 26
- Maintain national, multi-agency support for NRCS focus on the Northern Everglades, particularly Fisheating Creek
- Support NRCS with:
 - Landowner outreach
 - Project planning
 - Real estate transactions
 - Design and permitting of restoration
 - Monitoring success
- Promote USFWS rapid approval and LWCF funding for new national wildlife refuges
- Promote the allocation of REPI funds for conservation easements at the Avon Park Air Force Range
- Support Florida Forever projects in the Northern Everglades
- **Lead collaboration and coordination of all partners engaged in the Northern Everglades**

The Nature Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™