



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 24-00081

Agenda Date: 2/13/2024

Agenda Item Name:

Addition of Land Conservation Projects to the Alachua County Forever Active Acquisition List

Presenter:

Emily Uhlmann, Senior Planner – Environmental Protection Dept., (352) 275-2050

Description:

Staff requests the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approve the addition of the following land conservation project to the Alachua County Forever Active Acquisition List. The staff recommendation is based on the addition of these properties to the Priority Pool by the Land Conservation Board as outlined in Resolution 22-066.

1. Buck Bay Flatwoods – Burnsed Addition (Full Price List)

Addition of this project to the Active Acquisition List, authorizes staff to: obtain title work and appraisals, negotiate price and terms with the owners, and execute purchase or option contracts. Any purchase contract or option will be brought back to the Board for consideration.

Recommended Action:

Approve the addition of the following property on the Active Acquisition List.

1. Buck Bay Flatwoods – Burnsed Addition (Full Price List)

Prior Board Motions:

None for the new additional parcels. The originally nominated (280-acre) Burnsed parcels were placed on the Active Acquisition list at the August 22, 2023 BoCC meeting.

Fiscal Note:

Total estimated cost for acquisition and 10-year stewardship: \$1,061,635

The current annual property tax revenue of all the project parcels is: \$4,880.50

Purchase and maintenance would be funded from either the 2016 Wild Spaces Public Places surtax or the Conservation Lands portion of the new infrastructure surtax. Additional details can be found in Exhibit 4.

Strategic Guide:

Environment

Background:

Buck Bay Flatwoods – Burnsed Addition: On January 05, 2024, a Burnsed family representative nominated the subject property to the Alachua County Forever Program for consideration as a fee simple purchase. This nomination is an addition to the three parcels already placed on the active Acquisition List on August 22, 2023 (Alachua County Property Appraiser Tax Parcel Number (ACPA TPN) 07588-000-000, 07613-000-000, and 0716-000-000). On January 25, 2024, the Land Conservation Board placed the 78.05-acre Buck Bay Flatwoods – Burnsed Addition parcels in the Priority Pool.

The Burnsed project Addition includes two parcels (ACPA TPN 07614-000-000 and 07621-000-000). The property is located in north-central Alachua County, approximately 0.75 miles south of the Santa Fe River, and north of North County Road (CR) 225. The majority of the property consists of 4–6-year-old planted slash pine (~59 acres). The property contains approximately 0.25 mile of Deep Creek (a branch of Monteocha Creek), and the wooded portion of the property south of the creek is a mixed hardwood and pine forest. Acquisition of these additional parcels may provide better access to the originally nominated parcels due to the road frontage on CR 225.

Additional information about the previously nominated parcels can be found in the attached site evaluation.

(Exhibits 1 and 2)

General:

The staff recommendation is based on the addition of these properties to the Priority Pool by the Land Conservation Board as outlined in Resolution 22-066.

As with all Alachua County conservation lands, if accepted as an acquisition, this property will go through the vetting process for the Registry of Protected Places.

Comp Plan Reference:

Policy 6.0 Land Conservation Program within the Conservation and Open Space Element, states “Establish and maintain a land conservation program for the purchase, preservation, and management of natural areas and open space to complement the regulatory approaches identified in other section of this element.”