



MEMORANDUM
from the
Department of Parks & Recreation

Date: 12-5-2023

To: Christine Brady
Assistant County Manager

From: Mack Young
Director, Parks & Recreation

SUBJECT: Conservation 20/20 FY2022-2023 Annual Report

Please find attached a report documenting land acquisitions, large projects and overall land management during Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for the Lee County Conservation 20/20 program.

cc: Alise Flanjack, Deputy Director, Parks & Recreation
Kathy Loomis, Deputy Director, Parks & Recreation
Lisa Weaver, Strategic Operation Manager, Parks & Recreation

CONSERVATION 20/20 ANNUAL REPORT

FY2022-2023 (October 2022-September 2023)

OVERVIEW

Total acreage to date	31,432.09
Total acquisitions to date	157
Total preserves to date	52

I. ACQUISITION

<i>Preserve</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Nomination</i>	<i>Date acquired</i>
Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve Parcel	0.23	610	12/15/2022
CREW Parcel	5	576	3/16/2023
Pine Island Rd Parcel	1.99	621	4/12/2023
Alva Scrub Parcel	9.96	618	5/1/2023
Total	17.18		

II. FINANCIALS (as of end of fiscal year)

Current acquisition fund balance	\$41,597,336.03
Cost of property purchased during FY2022-2023	\$258,050.00
Management fund balance	\$862,029.25

III. LAND MANAGEMENT

A. Large projects initiated or completed- Exotic control projects

<i>Preserve</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Initiated</i>	<i>Completed/expiration</i>
Wild Turkey Strand Preserve	882 acres, exotic maintenance	12/15/21	10/31/22
Alva Scrub Preserve	339 acres; parcels 325,57, 127, 136	4/01/22	10/01/22
Hickey Creek Mitigation Park	491 acres, exotic maintenance	4/15/22	12/14/22
Orange River Preserve	63 acres, exotic maintenance	4/18/22	12/14/22
Yellow Fever Creek Preserve	339 acres, exotic maintenance	3/02/22	4/01/23
Bob Janes Preserve	1324 acres; MU 1, 2, 6	3/17/22	12/29/22
Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve East	350 acres; parcels 108, 188, Donar	6/01/22	12/20/22

Six Mile Cypress	964 acres; MU 6, 8, 11, 16; exotic maintenance	5/15/23	11/11/23
Pine Lake Preserve	175 acres, exotic maintenance	5/01/23	9/01/23
Wild Turkey Strand Preserve	305 acres, exotic maintenance	5/29/23	9/22/23
Mullock Creek Preserve	4 acres, exotic maintenance	7/17/23	10/07/23
St James Creek Preserve	62 acres, exotic maintenance	9/05/23	10/20/23
Alva Scrub Preserve	380 acres, exotic maintenance	3/13/23	1/02/24
Bob Janes Preserve	617 acres, exotic maintenance	3/13/23	5/31/23
Four Mile Cove Preserve	52 acres, exotic maintenance	4/03/23	9/30/23
Charlotte Harbor Buffer Preserve	98.2 acres, exotic maintenance	4/17/23	8/31/23
Imperial Marsh Preserve	400 acres, site 288, exotic maintenance	5/01/23	9/01/23
Persimmon Ridge Preserve	40 acres, exotic maintenance	4/24/23	9/23/23
Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve	288 acres; MU 6, 8,11, 16; exotic maintenance	7/03/23	9/15/23
Galt Preserve	265 acres, exotic maintenance	5/13/23	7/14/23
Yellow fever Creek Preserve	3 acres, mitigation area exotic maintenance	6/01/23	10/29/23
Powell Creek Preserve	56 acres, exotic maintenance	7/20/23	10/09/23
Columbus G McLeod Preserve	9.2 acres, exotic maintenance	3/01/23	6/29/23
Yucca Pens Preserve	165 acres, exotic maintenance	3/13/23	8/31/23
Prairie Pines Preserve	240 acres, exotic maintenance	3/16/23	12/10/23
Flag Pond Preserve	67 acres, exotic maintenance	3/27/23	10/31/23
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve	377 acres; MU 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 7; exotic maintenance	3/26/23	7/14/23
Olga Shores Preserve	66 acres, exotic maintenance	5/01/23	9/01/23
Pop Ash Creek Preserve	307 acres, exotic maintenance	7/01/23	10/30/23
Total Acres Treated	8,729.4		

B. Large projects initiated or completed- (*Restoration/fencing/other Projects*) include partnership projects

<i>Preserve</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Partner (if any)</i>	<i>Initiated</i>	<i>Completed/expiration</i>
Yellow Fever Creek Preserve	Restoration Planting		8/01/22	11/29/22
Yellow Fever Creek Preserve	.75 acres, mitigation area plantings		12/16/22	1/15/23
Bob Janes Preserve	Lee County Community Development to develop a long-term gopher tortoise recipient site. Permitting phase.	Community Development	2023	TBD
Bob Janes Preserve	Hydrologic improvements to divert flows via addition of diversion structures, berms, ditches, and ditch blocks to provide passive and native means to reduce pollutants.	Natural Resources	2018	Spring 2024
Wild Turkey Strand Preserve	Replace portion of the trails with board walks and accessible walkways. Design and Permitting phase.		2021	TBD
Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve East	Replace portion of the trails with board walks and accessible walkways. Design and Permitting phase.		2021	TBD
Telegraph Creek Preserve	Well installation. Permitting phase.	Utilities	2021	TBD
Larry Kiker Preserve	Stormwater management design phase.	Natural Resources	2022	TBD

C. Funding received

<i>Preserve</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>FY</i>
Buttonwood Preserve	\$20,000	Beautiful pawpaw management	USFWS	Implementation	20/21
Buttonwood Preserve	\$6,316	Beautiful pawpaw management	FDACS, Forest Management	Completed	20/21
Telegraph Creek Preserve	\$6,450	Gopher tortoise habitat management	FWC	Completed	20/21
Various Preserves	\$1,620	Environmental Education Signage-Gopher Tortoises	Gopher Tortoise Council Grant	Completed	20/21
Pine Island Flatwoods Bayside	\$25,000	Restoration of Habitat	Dept of Interior	Canceled due to site conditions	21/22
Pine Island Flatwoods Bayside	\$15,000	Beautiful pawpaw management	FDACS, Forest Management	Completed	20/21
TOTAL	\$74,386				

D. Prescribed burns

<i>Preserve</i>	<i>Acres burned</i>	<i>Date</i>
Alva Scrub Preserve	44	1/19/2023
Alva Scrub Preserve	28	2/22/23
TOTAL	72	

E. Feral hog removal

<i>Preserve</i>	<i>Hogs removed</i>
Alva Scrub Preserve	53
Bob Janes Preserve	14
Buckingham Trails Preserve	69
Buckingham Park	0
Charlotte Harbor Buffer Preserve	0
Daniels Preserve at Spanish Creek	0
Pop Ash Creek Preserve	0
Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve North	179
Six Mile Cypress Slough	0
Smokehouse Bay Preserve	0
Telegraph Creek Preserve	63
Yellow Fever Creek Preserve	5
Yucca Pens Preserve	15
Wakehatchee	0
Caloosahatchee Creeks	0
Caloosahatchee Regional Park	0
Hickey's Creek	15
Prairie Pines	0
Pine Island Flatwoods	0
Imperial Marsh	0
TOTAL	413

IV. PUBLIC ACCESS

Amenities maintained

Marked hiking trails	132.4 miles
Fire line trails	56.95 miles
Equestrian trails	58 miles
Bicycling trails	23.5 miles
Paddle craft launches/landings	4
Paved/gravel parking entrances	17

V. UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR (FY2023-2024)

Large projects (upcoming and ongoing) include:

<i>Preserve</i>	<i>Project</i>
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve	Hydrologic restoration of abandoned shrimp ponds.
Larry Kiker Preserve	Design of preserve amenities.
Frank Mann Preserve	Hydrologic restoration project conducted by LAMSID, parking lot and paddle craft launch.
Various Preserves	Hurricane damaged fencing repairs and replacements.

Acronyms:

FDACS – Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

FWC – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

USFWS – United States Fish and Wildlife Service