

Example Florida Forever Priority Projects in Southwest Florida

Panther Glades:

Rank: #4 on Critical Lands

Total Project: 64,810 acres

Acres Remaining: 39,384

County: Hendry

Description: This project would connect Devils' Garden, Half Circle L Ranch, and Save Our Everglades Florida Forever projects, and is adjacent to the Big Cypress National Preserve. Protecting this large landscape would provide crucial habitat for wide-ranging species like the endangered Florida panther and Florida black bear, as well as protect an Everglades watershed.



Fisheating Creek Ecosystem:

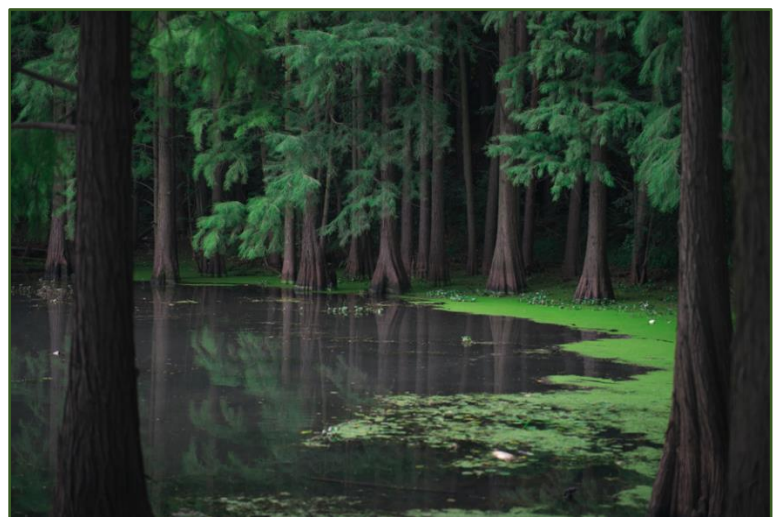
Rank: #1 on Less-Than-Fee

Total Project: 183,925 acres

Acres Remaining: 112,639

County: Glades & Highlands

Description: This project, composed of both fee-simple acquisitions and conservation easements, would connect the Okaloacoochee Slough, Big Cypress Swamp, Babcock-Webb Wildlife Management Area, and Lake Okeechobee. Fisheating Creek is the only undammed tributary to Lake Okeechobee, and protecting this area would protect the quality of water flowing into the Lake, which is often discharged to the East and West. This project would also provide important habitat for the endangered Florida panther, American swallow-tailed kite, and Florida grasshopper sparrow.



All Florida Forever Priority Projects in Southwest Florida

- **Panther Glades** – Hendry County, #4 on the Critical Natural Lands Projects (**High Priority**), Nearly 40,000 acres remaining
- **Half Circle L Ranch** – Hendry/Collier Counties, #8 on the Critical Natural Lands Projects (**High Priority**), Approximately 11,000 acres remaining
- **Belle Meade** – Collier County, #9 on the Critical Natural Lands Projects (**High Priority**), Approximately 7,000 acres remaining
- **Devil’s Garden** – Hendry/Collier Counties, #15 on the Critical Natural Lands Projects (Medium Priority), Approximately 71,000 acres remaining
- **Twelvemile Slough** – Hendry County, #16 on the Critical Natural Lands Projects (Medium Priority), Approximately 8,000 acres remaining
- **Caloosahatchee Ecoscape** – Hendry/Glades Counties, #17 on the Critical Natural Lands Projects (Medium Priority), Approximately 10,600 acres remaining
- **Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed** – Lee/Collier Counties, #7 on the Partnerships and Regional Incentives Projects (**High/Medium Priority**), Approximately 37,000 acres remaining
- **Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods** – Charlotte/Lee Counties, #14 on the Partnerships and Regional Incentives Projects (Low Priority), Approximately 4,000 acres remaining
- **Hall Ranch** – Charlotte County, #24 on the Partnerships and Regional Incentives Projects (Low Priority), Approximately 7,500 acres remaining
- **Fisheating Creek Ecosystem** – Glades/Highlands Counties, #1 on the Less-than-Fee Projects (**High Priority**), Approximately 112,600 acres remaining
- **Charlotte Harbor Estuary** – Charlotte/Lee/Sarasota Counties, #2 on the Substantially Complete Projects (**High/Medium Priority**), Approximately 6,000 acres remaining
- **Estero Bay** – Lee County, #3 on the Substantially Complete Projects (Medium Priority), Approximately 2,000 acres remaining
- **Save Our Everglades** – Collier County, #8 on the Substantially Complete Projects (Low Priority), 24 acres remaining
- **Pineland Site Complex** – Lee County, #5 on the Critical Historical Resources Projects (Low Priority), 145 acres remaining