

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

AGRICULTURE
Senator Montford, Chair
Senator Bullard, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Monday, October 7, 2013
TIME: 4:00 —6:00 p.m.
PLACE: 301 Senate Office Building

MEMBERS: Senator Montford, Chair; Senator Bullard, Vice Chair; Senators Brandes, Galvano, Garcia, Grimsley, and Sachs

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Presentation on Land Management and Fire Suppression by Mr. Jim Karels, Florida State Forester		Presented
2	Presentation by Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands		Presented
3	Presentation by Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Parks		Presented
4	Presentation by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on Land Management		Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents			

THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

10/7/13
Meeting Date

Topic Presentation on Land Mgmt + Fire Suppression

Bill Number _____
(if applicable)

Name Jim Karels

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Florida State Forester

Address _____
Street

Phone 1-800-435-7382

_____ City State Zip

E-mail Jonathon.Rees@freshfromflorida.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Forest Service

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

School system

701 2

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

10/7/13

Meeting Date

Topic Florida Forest Service

Bill Number _____
(if applicable)

Name Cheryl Sanders

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Franklin County Commissioner

Address 33 Market St.

Phone 852-899-8861

Apalachicola Fl.
City State Zip

E-mail Cheryl@FranklinCounty
Florida.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

Florida's State Forests FDACS - Florida Forest Service

Senate Agriculture Committee
October 7, 2013



Florida Forest Service (FFS), Mission...
To protect Florida and its people from the
Dangers of Wildfire and manage the forest through
a stewardship ethic so that they will be available
for future generations



WILDFIRE & DISASTER RESPONSE FY 2012-13

FFS has primary responsibility for wildfire suppression for more than 26 million acres of Florida wildland of which 5 million acres are public lands



WILDFIRE & DISASTER RESPONSE

Last 10-year Average



**3,377 fires burned;
136,366 acres**



FY 2013-13

**2,309,156 acres of Prescribed Fire
80,602 Burning Authorizations**

•OBJECTIVES:

- **Reduce Hazardous Fuels**
- **Maintain & Restore Natural Communities**
- **Enhance Listed Species Habitat**
- **Improve Wildlife Habitat**
- **Control Disease/Pests**



Fire Prevention and Management

Land Management Public and Private



Multi-functional



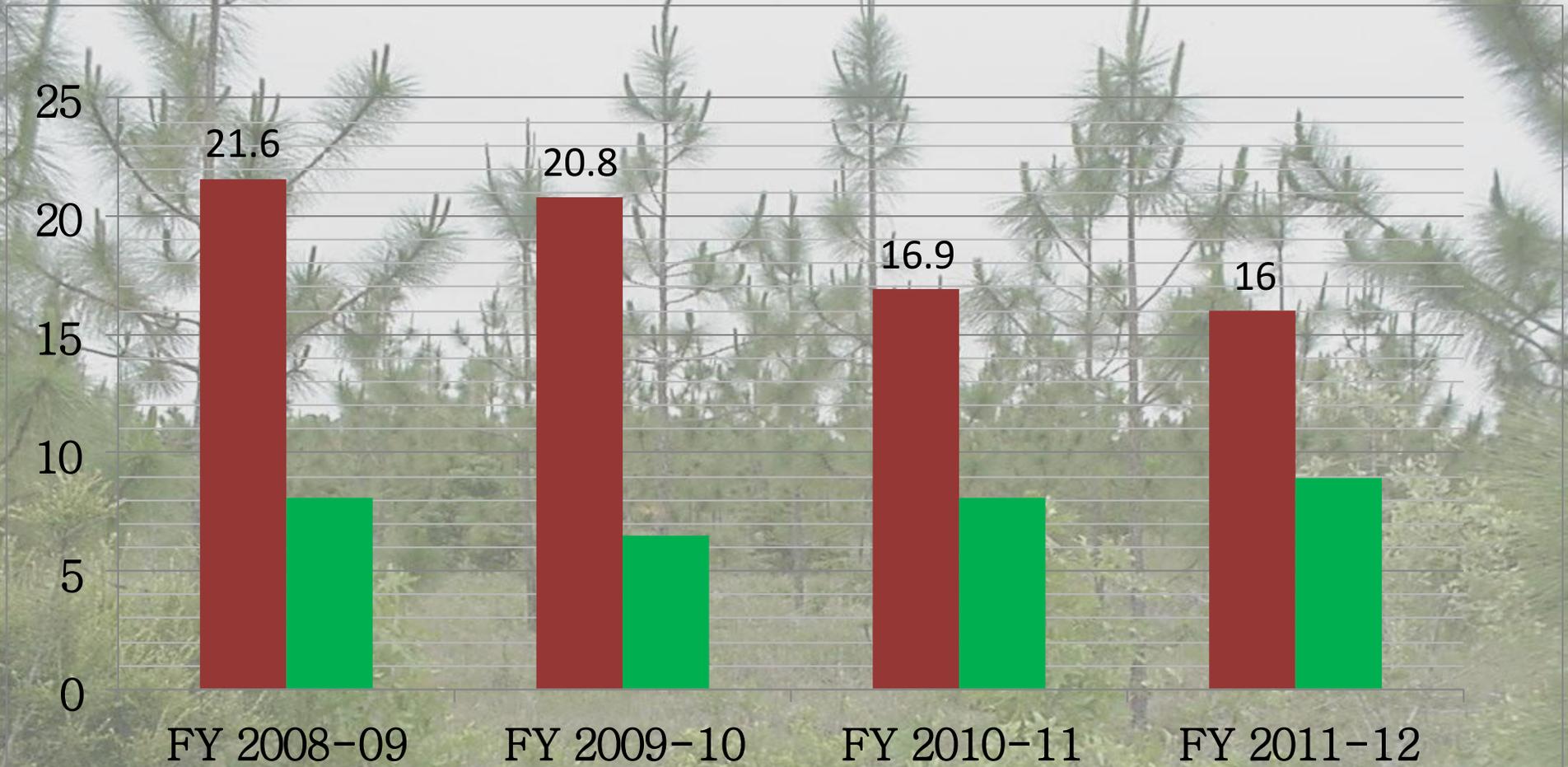
State Forest Management

35 state forests managed with a
multiple use concept

- **Public Access**
- **Recreation**
- **Resource Management**
- **Revenue Generation**
- **Clean Air and Water**
- **Healthy Forests**



Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Florida Forest Service



- State Forest Management Expenditure (millions)
- State Forest Revenue (millions)



FFS Manages 35 State Forests

- 1,060,556 Total Acres

FY 12/13 Facts

- 151,405 Acres of Prescribed Fire
- 4,018 Acres Reforested
- 15,135 Acres of Invasive Exotics Treated
- 3,632 Miles of Roads Maintained
- 1,236 Miles of Trails Maintained
- 96% of Managed Acres Open to Hunting
- \$17.96 Average Cost per Acre to Manage



FOREST RESOURCES

- Timber
- Grazing Lease
- Apiary
- Palm Fronds
- Cabbage Palms
- Citrus Lease
- Pine Straw
- Christmas Trees
- Future Oil-Gas Leasing



PUBLIC ACCESS



Florida's State Forests Our Working Forests FY 2012-13

- 1.1 million acres of lands
- 35 state forests
- \$6,600,000 in timber and other forest products revenue
- More than \$1 million in recreation revenue
- 151,405 Florida state forest acres were prescribed burned
- 4,018 acres reforested with 53,017 acres during last 10 years



Florida's Forest Resources



- FFS has been managing state forests since 1936
- In the last 10 years more than \$65 million in revenue has been earned by managing the forest products on our state forests
- The economic impact to Florida from forest products alone on state forests is \$361,614,000 and 1,882 jobs annually



2011 Florida's Forestry and Forest Product Industry Economic Impacts

Economic Output:
\$14 billion was generated
from timberlands supported
activities

Employment:
Nearly 76,000 jobs

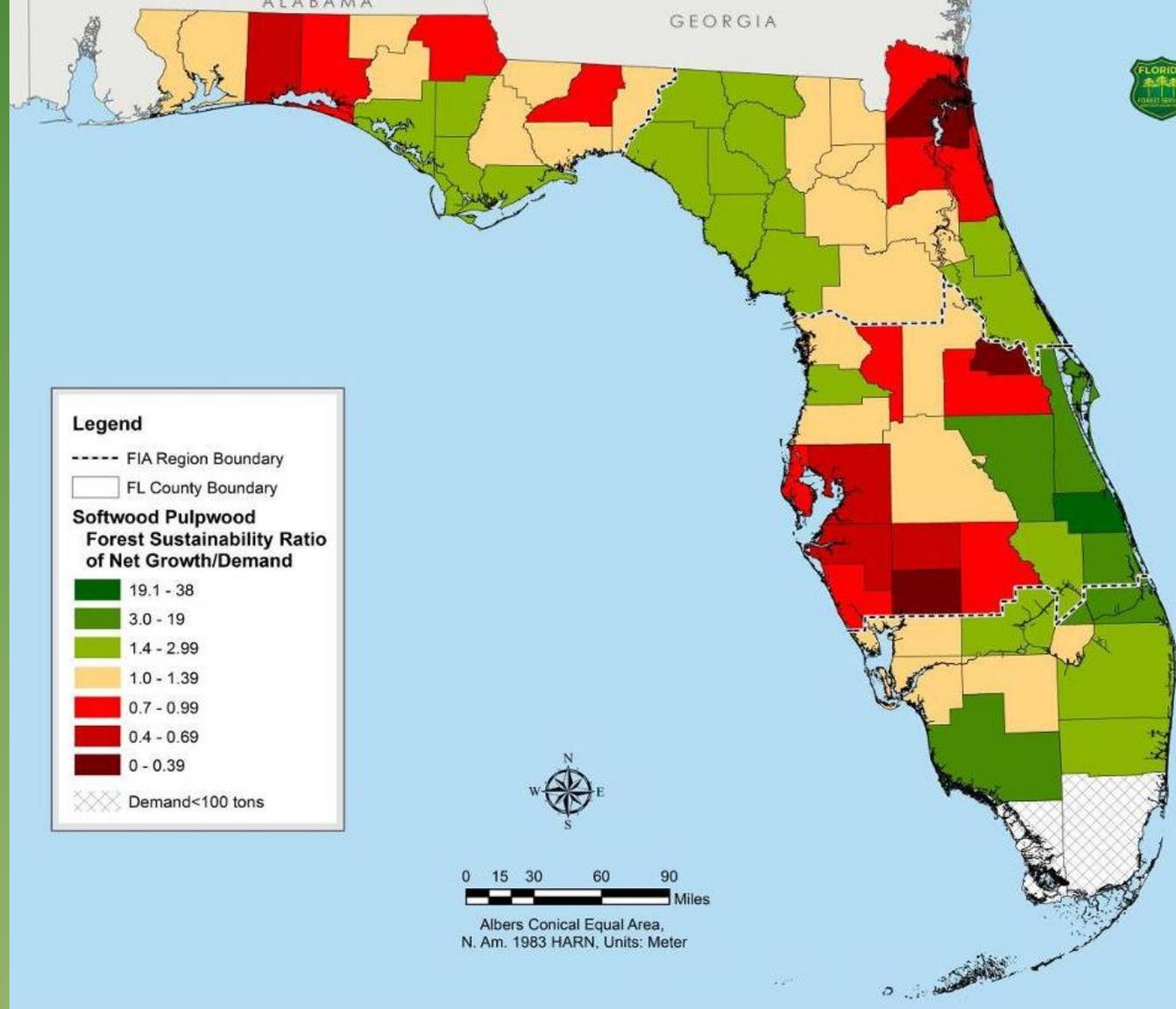
Fiscal Impacts:
\$401 million business taxes
from forestry and forest
products industries



Forest Inventory— provided for in HB 7117, 2012 Session

In North Florida,
unsustainable values are
largely due to high levels
of industrial timber
demand for pine
pulpwood and low
reforestation rates.

In Central Florida, low
sustainability indices
result from low net growth
combined with low timber
demand.



Sustainability index for softwood pulpwood (5.0" to 8.9" DBH) aggregated by county.

State Forest Management Activities

- 606 volunteers provided more than 58,100 hours of service on State Forest land.

- 120,000 hours of inmate labor was utilized on our state forest lands in 2010-2011



Florida State Forests Open to everyone

- 1,514 miles of hiking, horseback riding, off road vehicle and canoeing trails.
- 3,632 miles of state forest roads are maintained for public access.
- 978 campsites
- More than 96 percent of the land is open to public hunting



FLORIDA STATE FOREST

Protecting more
than 200 species of
threatened or
endangered plants
and animals.



BABCOCK RANCH occupies 73,239 acres in southeast Charlotte County and northwest Lee County.

Prior to its purchase in 2006, the Preserve was part of the working ranch known as Crescent B Ranch and produced timber, cattle, row crops, and sod, and also provided recreation.



Operation Outdoor Freedom

FFS has provided outdoor hunting and fishing opportunities for disabled veterans in cooperation with Wounded Warrior Project, other state agencies, and private landowners including ranchers, the forestry industry as well as commercial guide fisherman.



Since 2010

- More than 50 events held
- More than 300 participants
- Participation by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Northwest Florida, St. Johns, and Southwest Florida water management districts
- 32 events planned for 2013-14 for more than 250 veterans

Contact Information:

Jim Karels

850.617.7700

James.Karels@freshfromflorida.com



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner



761 2

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

10/7/13
Meeting Date

Topic Division of State Lands

Bill Number _____
(if applicable)

Name Susan Grandin

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Director

Address _____
Street

Phone _____

City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing DEP

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection



Division of State Lands

Division of State Lands

October 2013





Staff to Board of Trustees (BOT)

Real estate arm for State

Oversight of Management

Administration

12 million acres



Staff to Board of Trustees (BOT)

Real estate arm for State

Oversight of Management

Administration

12 million acres

3.1 million acres – conservation





Staff to Board of Trustees (BOT)

Real estate arm for State

Oversight of Management

Administration

12 million acres

3.1 million acres – conservation

200,000 acres – non-conservation





Staff to Board of Trustees (BOT)

Real estate arm for State

Oversight of Management

Administration

12 million acres

3.1 million acres – conservation

200,000 acres – non-conservation

9 million acres – sovereign

submerged





Division of State Lands

Responsibilities—BOT-owned land



- Administration (vs. management)
- Buying
- Selling



Administers/obtains revenue from:

- **Leases**

- 1,550+ public uplands
 - 2,800 submerged land
 - 30 commercial

- **Subleases**

- 430 subleases

- **Easements**

- 1,427 easements

- **Use agreements**

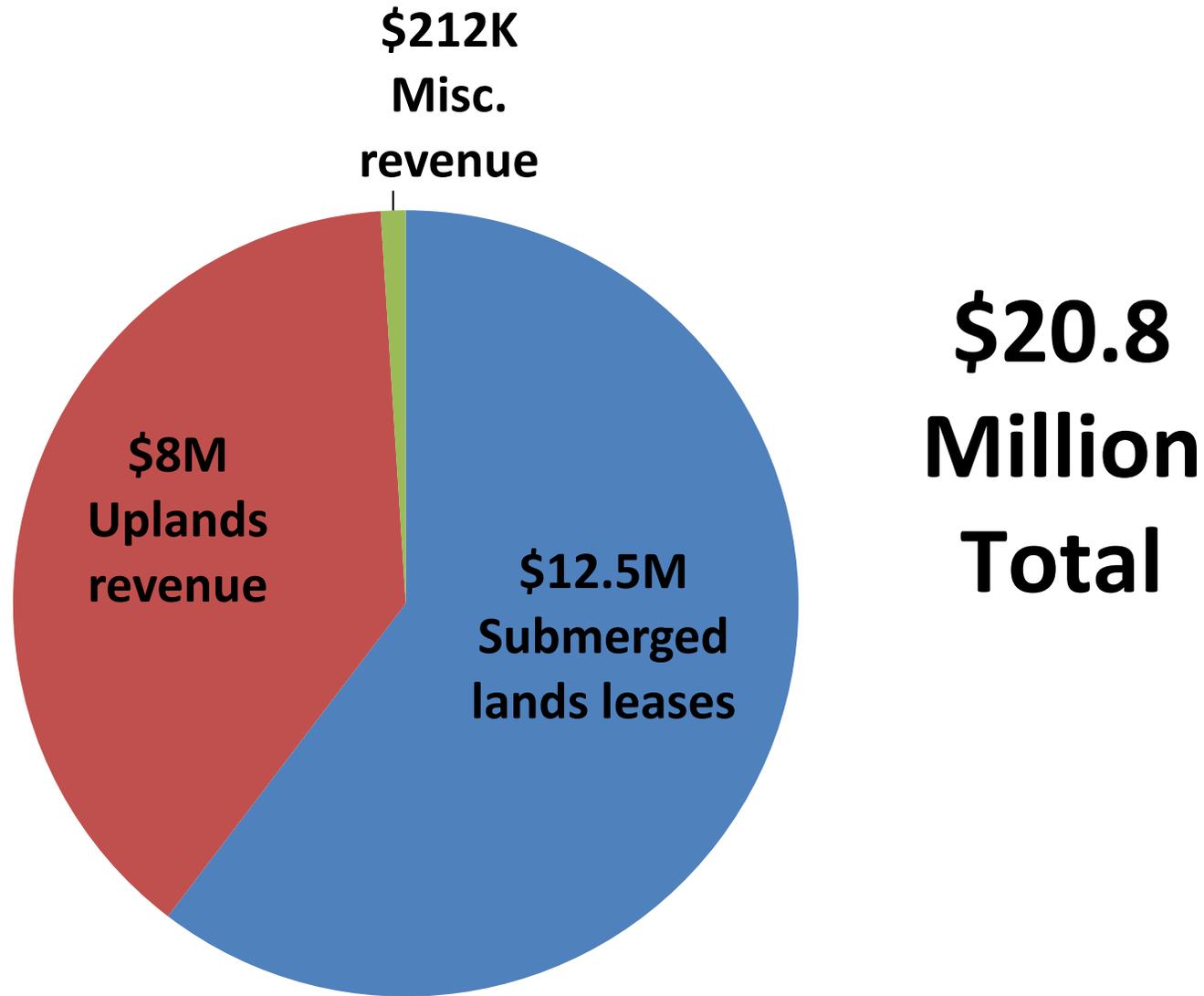
- **Deed restrictions**

- **Reverter revisions**





Revenue Generated FY 12-13





Land Administration Activities



- **Review land management/use plans**

 - Florida Forest Service

 - DEP Division of Recreation and Parks

 - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

 - Department of State Division of Historic Resources

 - DEP Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas

- **Surveying and mapping**

 - GIS land records mapping & document management

 - Titles and records

 - Public land and geodetic surveys

Conservation *Florida Forever* projects



STATEWIDE DISTRIBUTION OF FLORIDA FOREVER LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS
JANUARY 2013

Florida Forever Project Categories

- Climate Change Lands
- Critical Historical Resources
- ◆ Critical Natural Lands
- Less-Than-Fee
- Partnerships and Regional Incentives
- ▲ Substantially Complete

NOTE: Numerals within the symbols represent the project rank within each category. See priority list for project name and details.

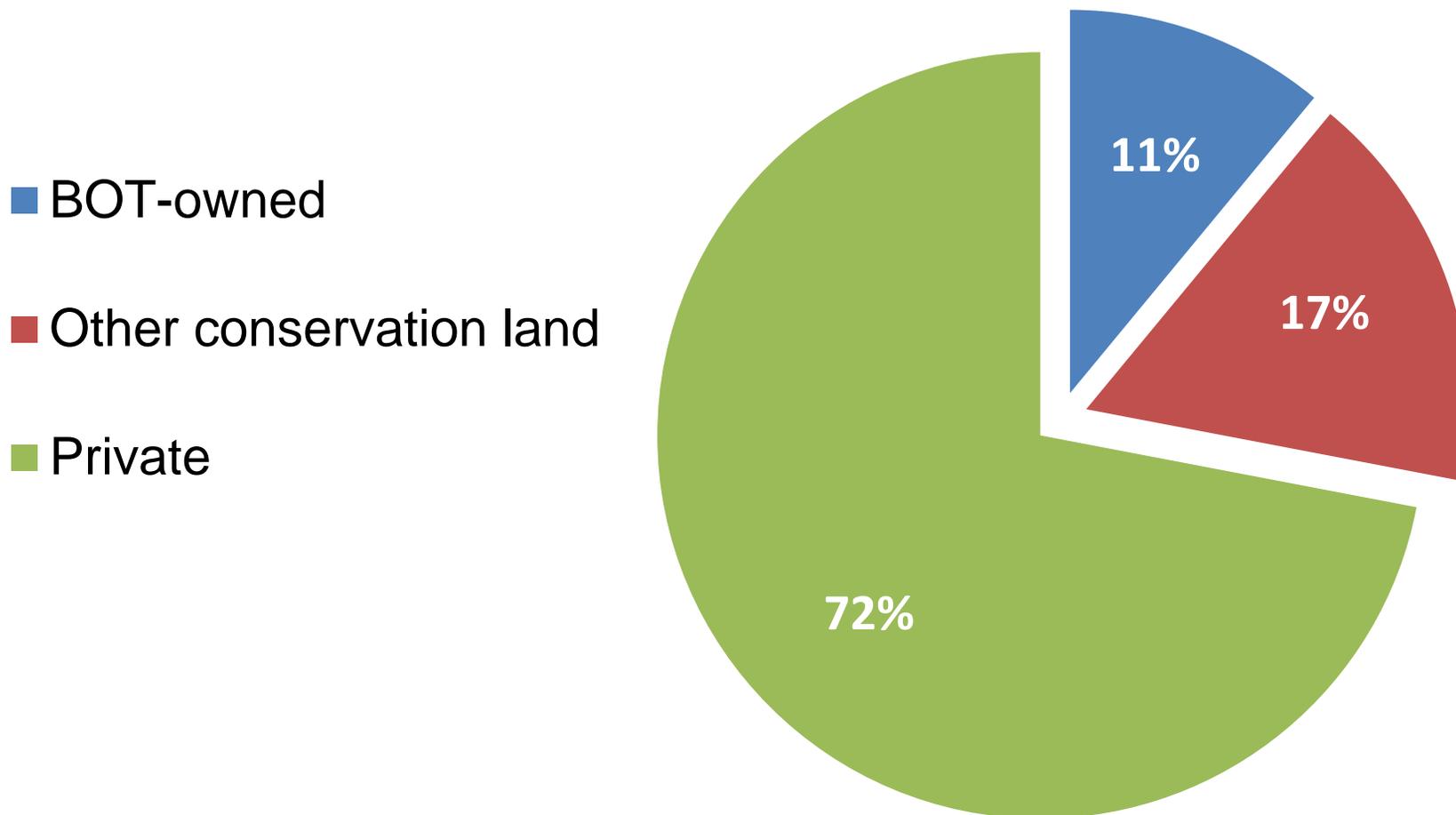


Land Ownership in Florida

Public vs. Private



There are a total of 34.7 million acres of land in Florida



Source: *Public Lands Inventory for State of Florida (based on DOR Property assessment rolls) , January 2011*



Conservation Land Acquisitions

1963 to the present



PROGRAM	PROGRAM START DATE	ACRES ACQUIRED	TOTAL SPENT
Florida Forever (as of 6/30/13)	2001	685,363	\$2.9 billion
Farm Bill	1998	17,549	\$33 million
Preservation 2000	1991	1,781,489	\$3.2 billion
Save Our Coast	1981	77,825	\$293 million
Save Our Rivers	1981	556,407	\$554 million
Conservation and Recreation Lands	1979	255,432	\$559 million
Environmentally Endangered Lands	1972	428,016	\$217 million
Land and Water Conservation Fund	1968	27,567	\$26 million
Outdoor Recreation	1968	18,588	\$60 million
Land Acquisition Trust Fund	1963	52,711	\$88 million
TOTAL		3,900,947	\$7.9 billion



Selling Lands

Prisons

Hospitals

Office buildings



Vision Moving Forward



Barr Hammock Ledwith Prairie, Alachua County

Questions?



Florida State Parks 2010 Photo Contest Winner

7063

THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

10/7/13
Meeting Date

Topic Division of Rees & Parks

Bill Number _____
(if applicable)

Name Albert Gregory

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Assistant Director

Address _____
Street

Phone _____

City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing DEP

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection



Division of Recreation and Parks

**Albert Gregory
Assistant Director**

October 7, 2013





Mission



To provide resource-based recreation while preserving, interpreting and restoring natural and cultural resources.

Bahia Honda State Park

Parks by the Numbers



Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park



Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park

Natural and Cultural Resources



Resource-Based Recreation





Natural Resources



Myakka River State Park

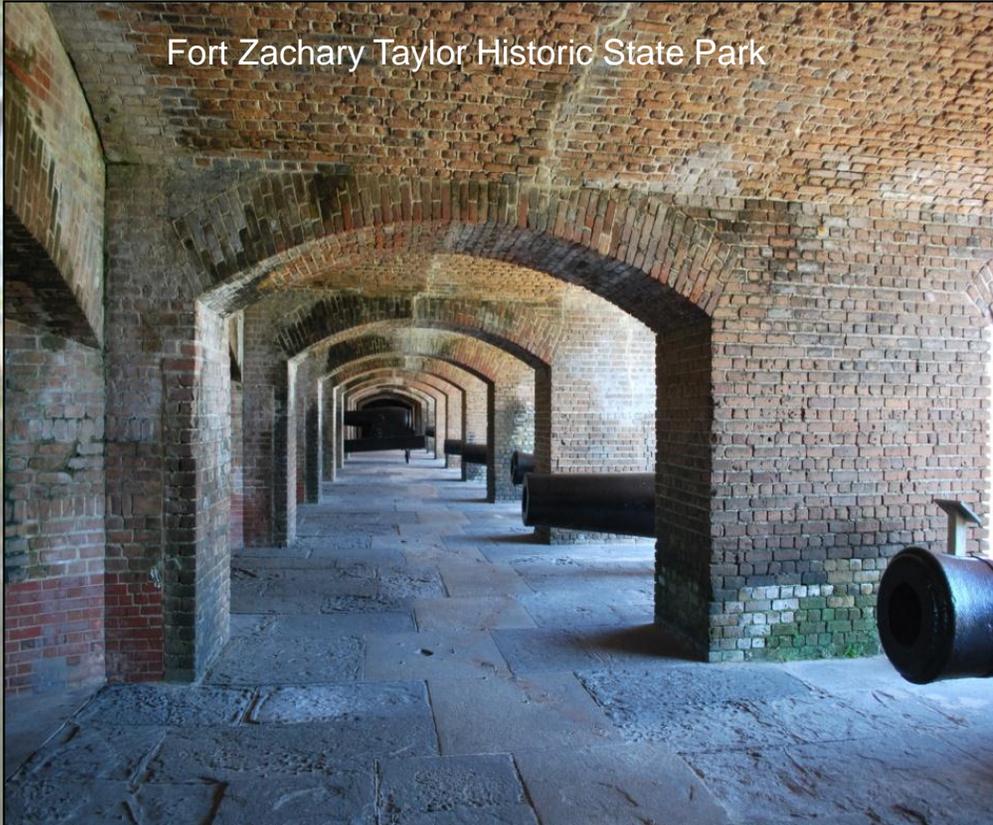


T.H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula State Park



Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park

Cultural Resources





Recreation

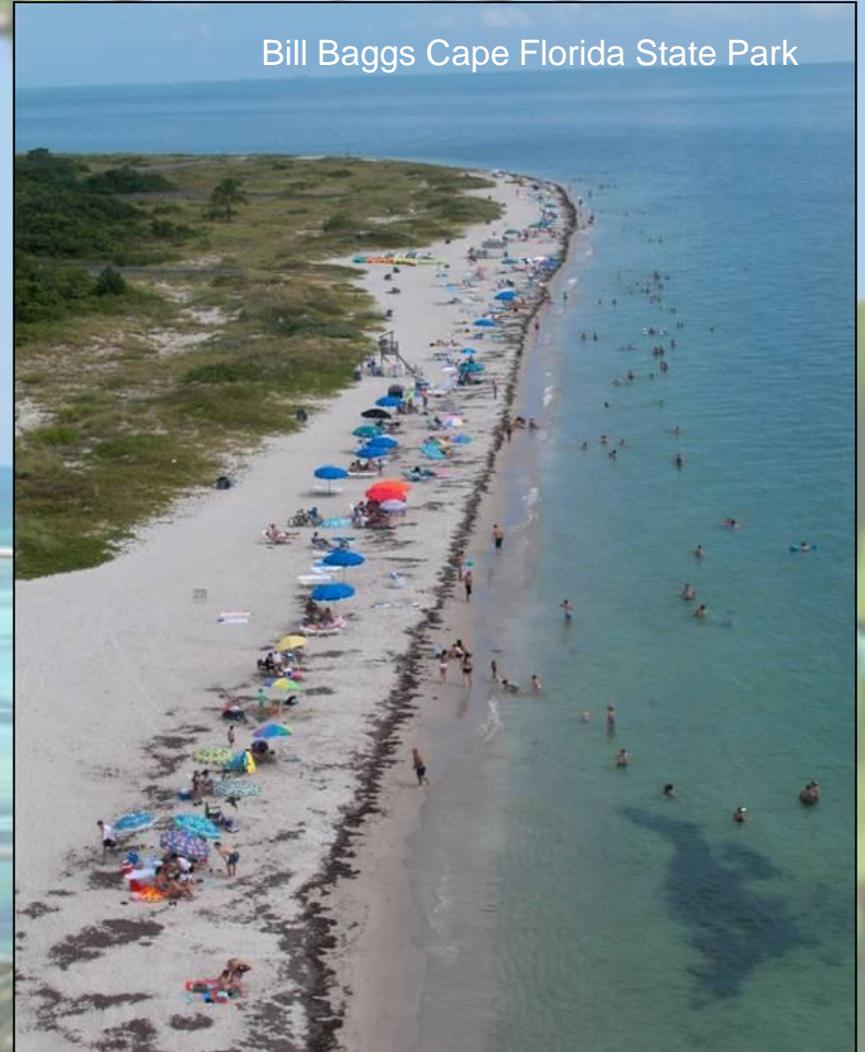


Visitors

St. Andrews State Park



Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park



Weeki Wachee Springs State Park

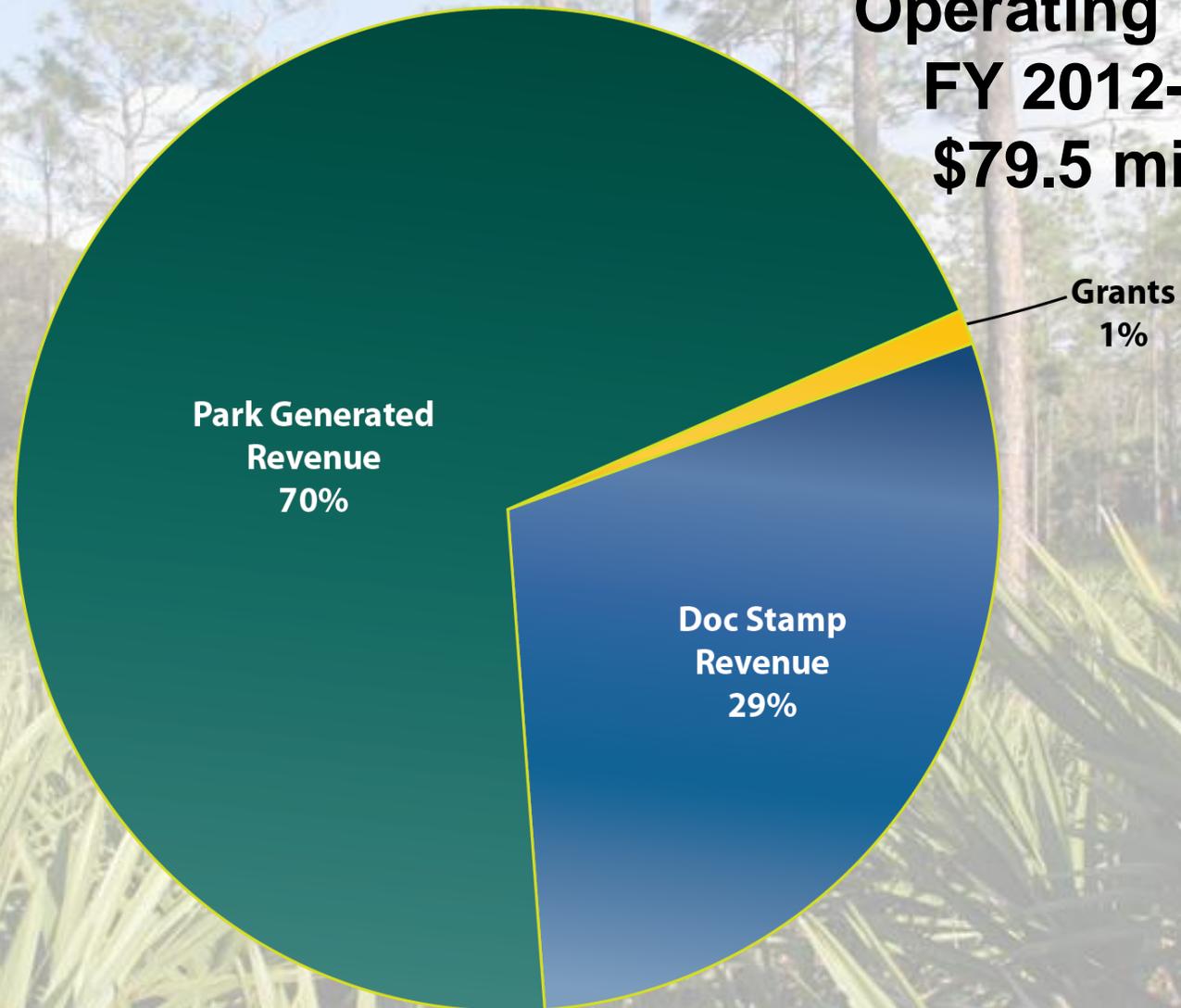




Funding Sources

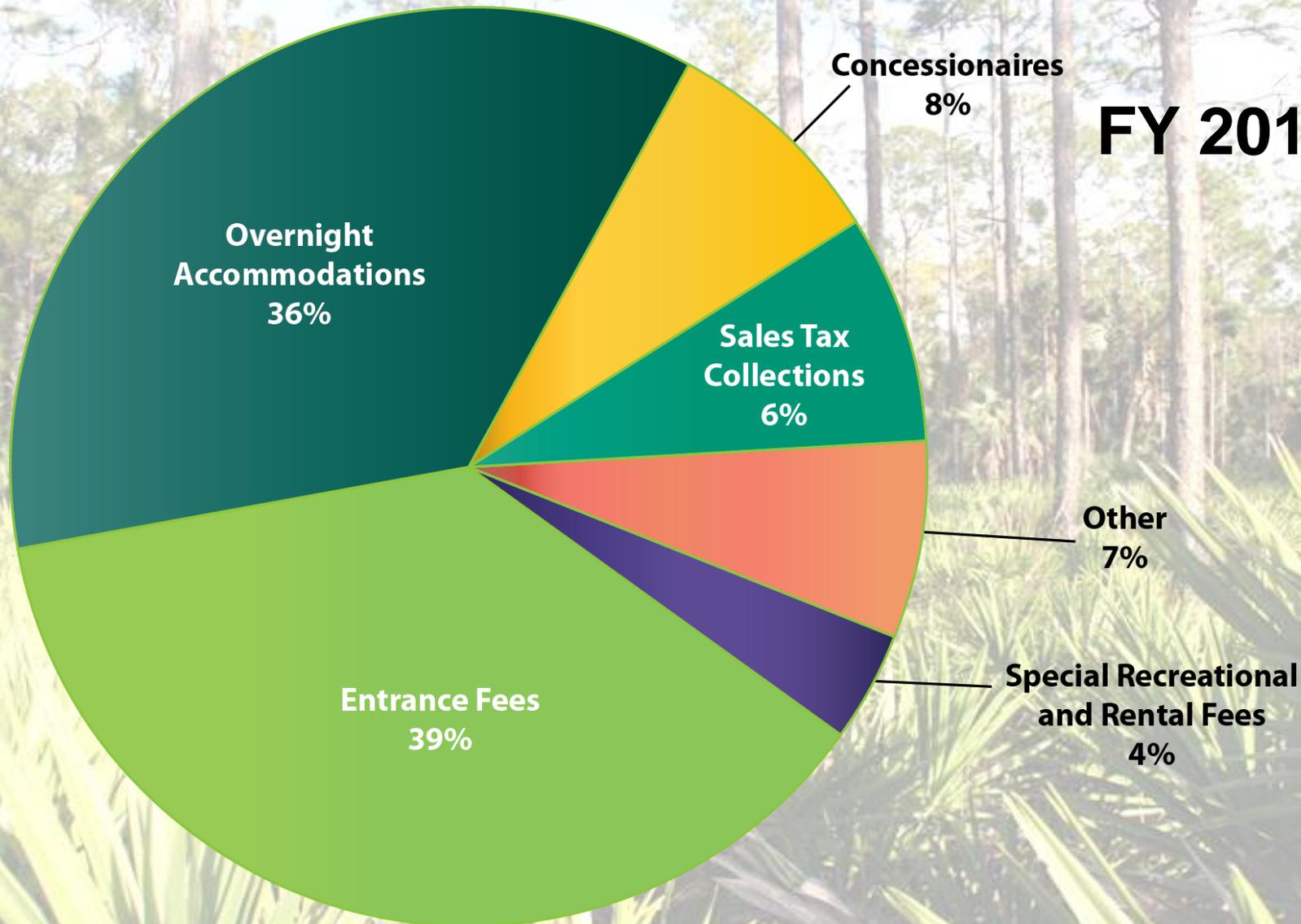


**Operating Budget
FY 2012-2013
\$79.5 million**

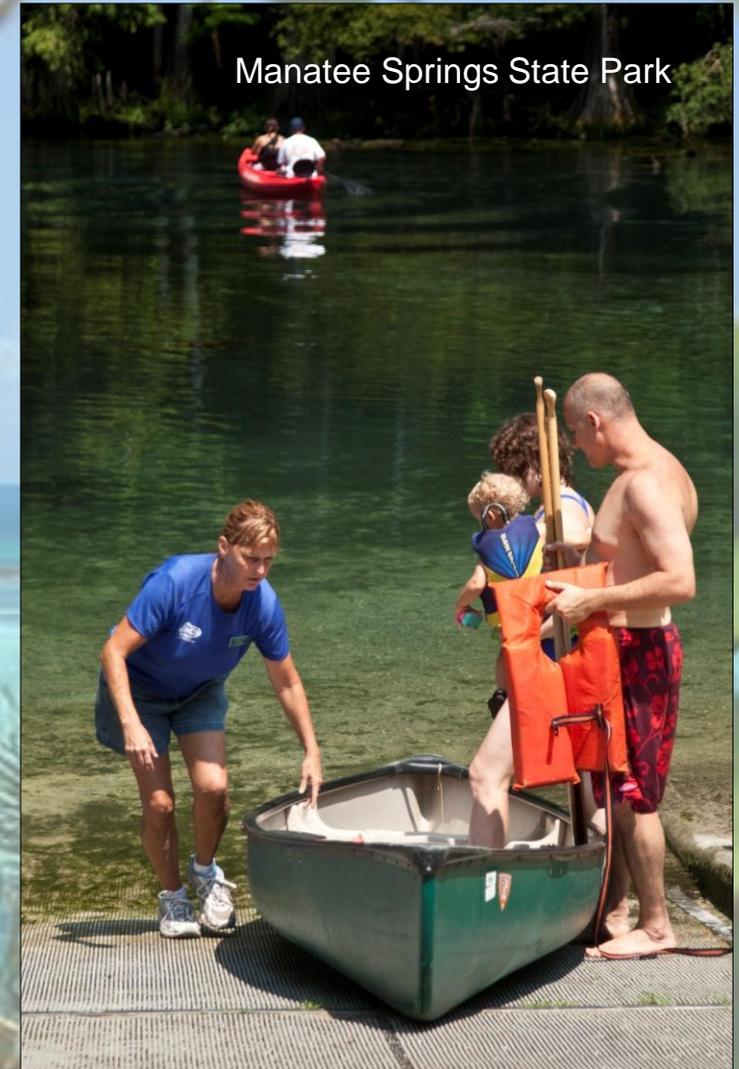


Park Generated Revenue

FY 2012-2013



Concessions





Volunteers and Partners





Questions?



Albert Gregory
Assistant Director
Division of Recreation and Parks
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Albert.Gregory@dep.state.fl.us

850.245.3029

T064

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic Land Management

Bill Number n/a

Name Dr. Thomas Eason

Amendment Barcode n/a (if applicable)

Job Title Director, Division of Habitat + Species Conservation

Address 620 S. Mendham St.

Phone (850) 487-3796

Tallahassee FL
City State Zip

E-mail Thomas.Eason@myfivc.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Fish + Wildlife Conservation Commission

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Senate Agriculture Committee Land Management Presentation October 7, 2013





The Mission of FWC



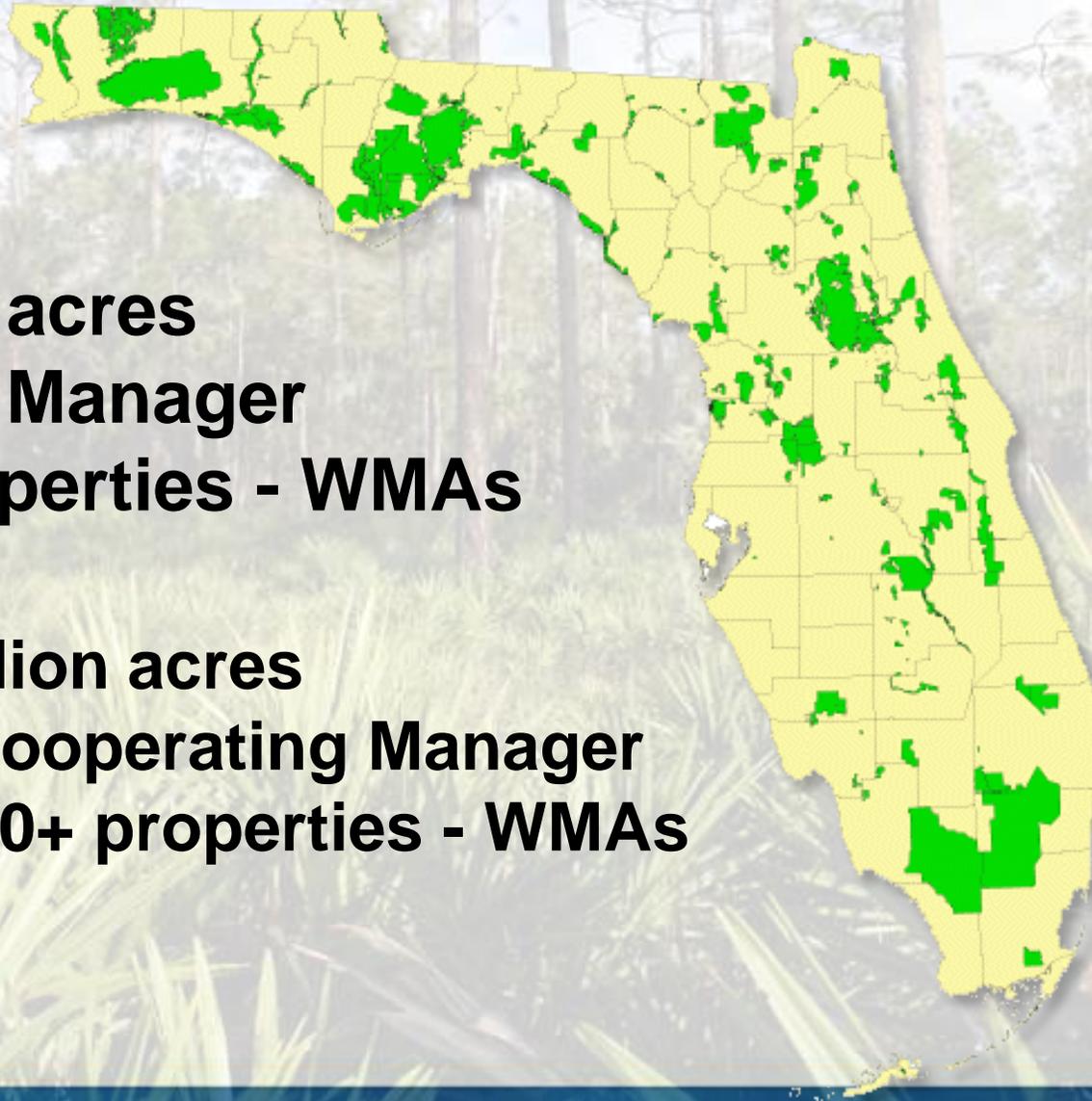
Managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well being and the benefit of people



Florida's Wildlife Management Area System

1.4 million acres
FWC Lead Manager
• **54 properties - WMAs**

4.4 million acres
FWC Cooperating Manager
• **100+ properties - WMAs**





FWC's Land Management Approach

Public Enjoyment: 2.8 million visitors, FY 2012-2013

Wildlife Habitats: Provide the best possible wildlife habitat by using a variety of management techniques

Wildlife: Sustain healthy populations of more than 700 species through monitoring and strategic management actions





Expenditures for FWC WMAs, FY 2012-13

**FWC Lead Manager
1.4 million acres**

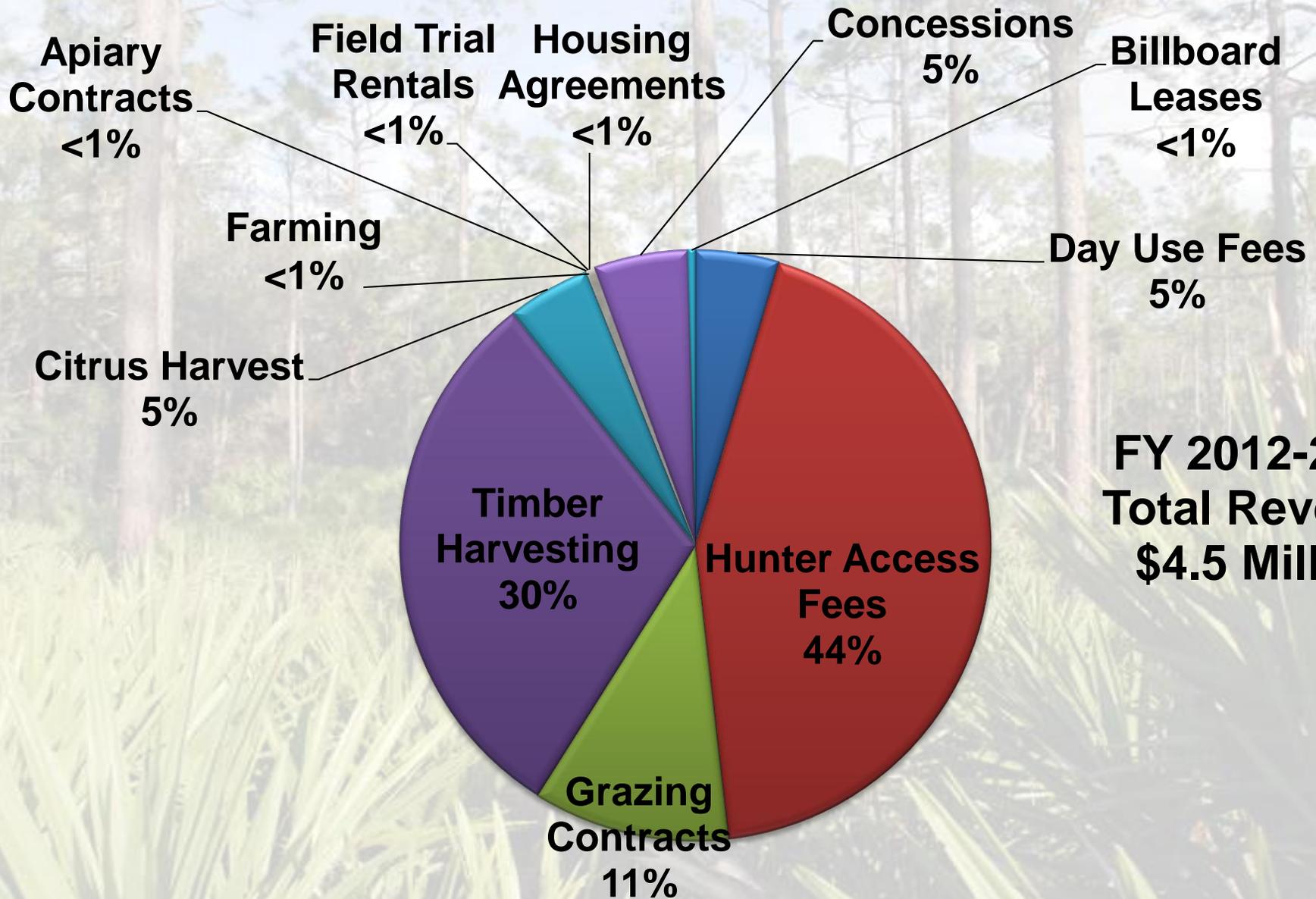
**FWC Coop Manager
4.4 million acres**

**Total Expenditures
\$24.5 million**

**Total Expenditures
\$28.6 million**



Revenues Derived from the Properties





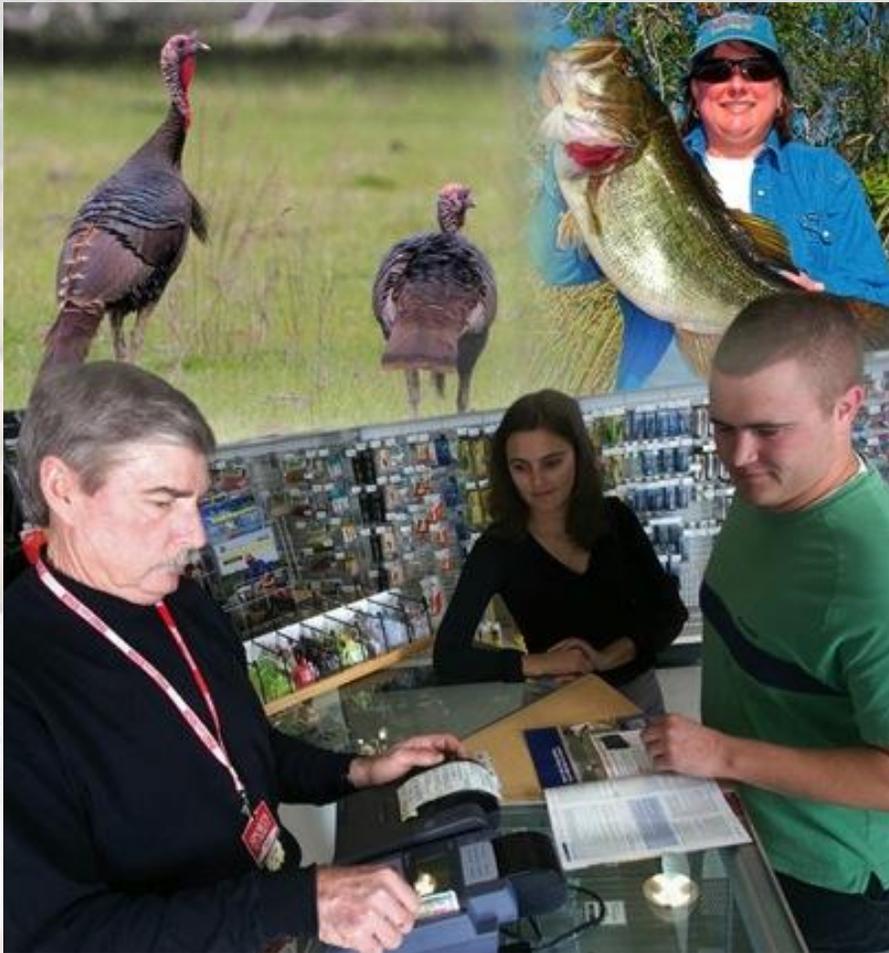
How Management Activities Are Accomplished

- **Core FWC staff**
- **Contractual Services**
- **Volunteers & Partners**





The Value of Wildlife Management Areas



- **Ensure long term well being of fish and wildlife habitat and species**
- **Provide readily accessible and affordable public hunting and fishing experiences**
- **Important tourist destination for wildlife viewing, hiking, paddling**
- **Annual Economic Benefit: \$462 million; most important in rural communities**



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health
and Human Services, *Chair*
Agriculture
Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and
Civil Justice
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Health Policy

SELECT COMMITTEE:
Select Committee on Patient Protection
and Affordable Care Act

SENATOR DENISE GRIMSLEY

21st District

September 30, 2013

The Honorable Bill Montford
214 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Chairman Montford,

I am writing to request permission to be excused from the Agriculture Committee meeting to be held on Monday, October 7, 2013. I have a previous engagement that I need to attend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Grimsley".

Denise Grimsley
District 21

Cc: The Honorable Bill Montford
Chair, Agriculture Committee

Katherine Halley, Staff Director

REPLY TO:

- 205 South Commerce Avenue, Suite A, Sebring, Florida 33870
- 212 East Stuart Avenue, Lake Wales, Florida 33853
- 306 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5021

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

DON GAETZ
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Agriculture, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Subcommittee on Education
Appropriations Subcommittee on General
Government
Education
Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee

SENATOR DWIGHT BULLARD

39th District

October 7, 2013

Chairman Montford,

I am requesting to be excused from our Agriculture Committee meeting on Monday, October 7, 2013 at 4:00 pm.

Due to a scheduling conflict in my district, I will not be in the Capitol until tomorrow morning.

Sincerely,

Dwight M. Bullard

State Senator, District 39

REPLY TO:

- 10720 Caribbean Boulevard, #435, Cutler Bay, Florida 33189
- 218 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5039

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

DON GAETZ
President of the Senate

GARRETT RICHTER
President Pro Tempore

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 301
Caption: Senate Agriculture Committee

Case:
Judge:

Type:

Started: 10/7/2013 4:04:55 PM

Ends: 10/7/2013 5:21:46 PM

Length: 01:16:52

4:05:09 PM The meeting was called to order by Chairman Montford
4:05:31 PM Roll call by Administrative Assistant, Joyce Butler
4:05:49 PM Excused absence from Senators Grimsley and Bullard
4:06:10 PM Comments from Chairman Montford regarding birth of Senator Brandes baby
4:06:25 PM Additional comments from Chairman Montford regarding speakers for today
4:07:26 PM First Speaker, Mr. Jim Karels, Florida State Forester on Land Management and Fire Suppression
4:16:32 PM Question from Senator Galvano
4:16:45 PM Response from Mr. Jim Karels
4:16:54 PM Continued presentation from Mr. Jim Karels
4:18:35 PM Question from Chairman Montford
4:18:42 PM Response from Mr. Jim Karels
4:18:53 PM Continued presentation by Mr. Jim Karels
4:20:38 PM Question from Senator Sachs
4:21:14 PM Response from Mr. Jim Karels
4:22:12 PM Follow up question from Senator Sachs
4:22:28 PM Response from Mr. Jim Karels
4:23:27 PM Question from Chairman Montford
4:23:47 PM Response from Mr. Jim Karels
4:24:28 PM Continued presentation from Mr. Jim Karels
4:30:01 PM Comments from Chairman Montford
4:30:35 PM Chairman Montford recognition of Cheryl Sanders, Franklin County Commission
4:30:51 PM Response from Mr. Jim Karels
4:34:45 PM Comments from Chairman Montford
4:35:09 PM Comments from Cheryl Sanders
4:41:07 PM Next speaker, Ms. Susan Grandin, Director of State Lands
4:46:51 PM Question from Senator Sachs
4:46:51 PM Additional question from Senator Sachs
4:47:13 PM Comments from Senator Sachs
4:48:48 PM Response from Ms. Susan Grandin
4:50:26 PM Question from Senator Garcia
4:50:34 PM Response from Ms. Susan Grandin
4:51:33 PM Continued presentation from Ms. Susan Grandin
4:52:31 PM Comments from Chairman Montford
4:53:10 PM Next speaker, Mr. Albert Gregory, Assistant Director, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Parks
4:53:59 PM Comments from Mr. Albert Gregory and presentation
5:08:31 PM Comments from Chairman Montford
5:09:01 PM Next speaker, Dr. Thomas Eason, Director, Division of Habitat & Species Conservation
5:09:17 PM Presentation by Dr. Thomas Eason
5:14:58 PM Comments from Chairman Montford
5:15:15 PM Question from Senator Sachs
5:15:31 PM Response from Dr. Thomas Eason
5:15:50 PM Response from Chairman Montford
5:16:49 PM Comments/question from Senator Garcia
5:17:37 PM Response from Dr. Eason
5:18:35 PM Question from Senator Garcia
5:19:09 PM Response from Mr. Jim Karels
5:20:37 PM Additional comments from Senator Garcia
5:21:07 PM Response from Dr. Eason
5:21:21 PM Comments from Chairman Montford
5:21:38 PM Senator Garcia moves to rise