1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to greenways and trails;
3	amending s. 253.7825, F.S.; providing acreage
4	requirements for a horse park-agricultural
5	center; repealing s. 253.787, F.S.; relating to
6	the Florida Greenways Coordinating Council;
7	amending s. 260.012, F.S.; clarifying
8	legislative intent; amending s. 260.013, F.S.;
9	clarifying definitions; creating s. 260.0142,
10	F.S.; creating the Florida Greenways and Trails
11	Council within the Department of Environmental
12	Protection; providing for appointment,
13	membership, powers, and duties; amending s.
14	260.016, F.S.; deleting reference to the
15	Florida Recreational Trails Council; revising
16	powers of the Department of Environmental
17	Protection; amending s. 260.018, F.S.;
18	correcting cross references; amending s.
19	288.1224, F.S.; providing conforming language;
20	directing the Department of Environment
21	Protection and the Department of Agriculture
22	and Consumer Services to provide a report;
23	providing an effective date.
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25	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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27	Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
28	253.7825, Florida Statutes is amended to read:
29	253.7825 Recreational uses
30	(4)(a) A horse park-agricultural center may be
31	constructed by or on behalf of the Florida Department of
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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Agriculture and Consumer Services on not more than 500 250 acres of former canal lands which meet the criteria for surplus lands and which lie outside the greenways boundary.

Section 2. Section 253.787, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

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Section 3. Subsections (2), (3) and (4) of section 260.012, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to read:

260.012 Declaration of policy and legislative intent.--

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that a statewide system of greenways and trails be established to provide open space benefiting environmentally sensitive lands and wildlife and providing people with access to healthful outdoor activities. It is also the intent of the Legislature to acquire or designate lands and waterways to facilitate the establishment of a statewide system of greenways and trails; to encourage the multiple use of public rights-of-way and use to the fullest extent existing and future scenic roads, highways, park roads, parkways, greenways, trails, and national recreational trails; to encourage the development of greenways and trails by counties, cities, and special districts and to assist in such development by any means available; to coordinate greenway and trail plans and development by local governments with one another and with the state government and Federal Government; to encourage, whenever possible, the development of greenways and trails on federal lands by the Federal Government; and to encourage the owners of private lands to protect the existing ecological, historical, and cultural values of their lands, including those values derived from working landscapes.

(3) It is the intent of the Legislature that designated greenways and trails be located on public lands <u>and waterways</u> and, subject to the written agreement of the private landowner, on private lands. Designated greenways and trails located on public <u>lands or waterways</u> or <u>on private lands may or may not provide public access, as agreed by the department or the landowner, respectively.</u>

- (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that information produced for the purpose of the identification of lands <u>and waterways</u>, both public and private, that are suitable for greenways and trails be used only for the purposes of:
- (a) Setting priorities for acquisition, planning, and management of public lands <u>and waterways</u> for use as greenways and trails; and
- (b) Identification of private lands which are eligible for designation as part of the greenways and trails system and are thereby eligible for incentives.
- Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 260.013, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:
- 260.013 Definitions.--As used in ss. 260.011-260.018, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (3) "Designation" means the identification and inclusion of specific lands <u>and waterways</u> as part of the statewide system of greenways and trails pursuant to a formal public process, including the specific written consent of the landowner. When the department determines that public access is appropriate for greenways and trails, written authorization must be granted by the landowner to the department permitting public access to all or a specified part of the landowner's property. The department's determination shall be noticed

pursuant to s. 120.525, and the department shall also notify the landowner by certified mail at least 7 days before any public meeting regarding the intent to designate.

Section 5. Section 260.014, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

260.014 Florida Greenways and Trails System.--The Florida Greenways and Trails System shall be a statewide system of greenways and trails which shall consist of individual greenways and trails and networks of greenways and trails which may be designated as a part of the statewide system by the department. Mapping or other forms of identification of lands and waterways as suitable for inclusion in the system of greenways and trails, mapping of ecological characteristics for any purpose, or development of information for planning purposes shall not constitute designation. No lands or waterways may be designated as a part of the statewide system of greenways and trails without the specific written consent of the landowner.

Section 6. Section 260.0142, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

260.0142 Florida Greenways and Trails Council created; composition of council; powers and duties.--

- (1) There is hereby created within the Department of Environmental Protection the Florida Greenways and Trails

 Council which shall advise the department in the execution of the department's powers and duties under this chapter. The council shall be composed of 21 members, consisting of:
- (a) Five members appointed by the Governor, with two members representing the trail user community, two members representing the greenway user community, and one member representing private landowners. Of the initial appointments,

two shall be appointed for 2-year terms and three shall be
appointed for 1-year terms. Subsequent appointments shall be
for 2-year terms.

- (b) Three members appointed by the President of the Senate, with one member representing the trail user community and two members representing the greenway user community. Of the initial appointments, two shall be appointed for 2-year terms and one shall be appointed for a 1-year term. Subsequent appointments shall be for 2-year terms.
- (c) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with two members representing the trail user community and one member representing the greenway user community. Of the initial appointments, two shall be appointed for 2-year terms and one shall be appointed for a 1-year term. Subsequent appointments shall be for 2-year terms.

Those eligible to represent the trail user community shall be chosen from, but not be limited to, paved trail users, hikers, off-road bicyclists, paddlers, equestrians, disabled outdoor recreational users, and commercial recreational interests.

Those eligible to represent the greenway user community shall be chosen from, but not be limited to, conservation organizations, nature study organizations, and scientists and university experts.

- (d) The ten remaining members shall include:
- 1. The Secretary of Environmental Protection or a designee;
- 2. The executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or a designee;
 - 3. The Secretary of Community Affairs or a designee;

1	4. The Secretary of Transportation or a designee;
2	5. The Director of the Division of Forestry of the
3	Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services or a designee;
4	6. The director of the Division of Historical
5	Resources of the Department of State or a designee;
6	7. A representative of the water management districts
7	who shall serve for 1 year. Membership on the council shall
8	rotate among the five districts. The districts shall
9	determine the order of rotation;
LO	8. A representative of a federal land management
L1	agency. The Secretary of Environmental Protection shall
L2	identify the appropriate federal agency and request
L3	designation of a representative from the agency to serve on
L4	the council;
L5	9. A representative of the regional planning councils
L6	to be appointed by the Secretary of Environmental Protection,
L7	in consultation with the Secretary of Community Affairs, for a

10. A representative of local governments to be appointed by the Secretary of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Secretary of Community Affairs, for a single 2-year term. Membership shall alternate between a county representative and a municipal representative.

single 2-year term. The representative cannot be selected

from the same regional planning council for successive terms;

- (2) The department shall provide necessary staff assistance to the council.
- (3) The council is authorized to contract for and to accept gifts, grants, or other aid from the United States

 Government or any person or corporation.

and

(4) The duties of the council shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Advise the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Transportation, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the water management districts, and the regional planning councils on policies relating to the Florida Greenways and Trails System, and promote intergovernmental cooperation;
- (b) Facilitiate a statewide system of interconnected landscape linkages, conservation corridors, greenbelts, recreational corridors and trails, scenic corridors, utilitarian corridors, reserves, regional parks and preserves, ecological sites, and historical/historic/recreational sites;
- (c) Facilitate a statewide system of interconnected land-based trails that connect urban, suburban, and rural areas of the state and facilitate expansion of the statewide system of freshwater and saltwater paddling trails;
- (d) Recommend priorities for critical links in the Florida Greenways and Trails System;
- (e) Review applications for acquisition funding under the Florida Greenways and Trails Program and recommend to the Secretary of Environmental Protection which projects should be acquired;
- (f) Provide funding recommendations to agencies and organizations regarding the acquisition, development, and management of greenways and trails, including the promotion of private landowner incentives;
- (g) Review designation proposals for inclusion in the Florida Greenways and Trails System;

1	(h) Provide advocacy and education to benefit the
2	statewide system of greenways and trails by encouraging
3	communication and conferencing;
4	(i) Encourage public-private partnerships to develop
5	and manage greenways and trails;
6	(j) Review progress toward meeting established
7	benchmarks and recommend appropriate action;
8	(k) Make recommendations for updating and revising the
9	implementation plan for the Florida Greenways and Trails
10	System;
11	(1) Advise the Land Acquisition and Management
12	Advisory Council or its successor to ensure the incorporation
13	of greenways and trails in land management plans on lands
14	managed by the Department of Environmental Protection, the
15	Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Division of
16	Historical Resources of the Department of State, and the
17	Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and
18	Consumer Services;
19	(m) Provide advice and assistance to the Department of
20	Transportation and the water management districts regarding
21	the incorporation of greenways and trails into their planning
22	efforts;
23	(n) Encourage land use, environmental, and coordinated
24	linear infrastructure planning to facilitate the
25	implementation of local, regional, and statewide greenways and
26	<pre>trails systems;</pre>
27	(o) Promote greenways and trails support
28	organizations; and
29	(p) Support the Florida Greenways and Trails System in
30	any other appropriate way.
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- (5) The council shall establish procedures for conducting its affairs in execution of the duties and responsibilities stated in this section, which operating procedures shall include determination of a council chair and other appropriate operational guidelines. The council shall meet at the call of the chair, or at such times as may be prescribed by its operating procedures. The council may establish committees to conduct the work of the council and the committees may include nonmembers as appropriate.
- (6) A vacancy in the council shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. Members whose terms have expired may continue to serve until replaced or reappointed. No member shall serve on the council for more than two consecutive terms.
- (7) Members of the council shall not receive any compensation for their services but shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, as provided in s. 112.061.

Section 7. Section 260.016, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended, to read:

260.016 General powers of the department.--

- (1) The department may:
- (a) Publish and distribute appropriate maps of designated greenways and trails. The description shall include a generalized map delineating the area designated, location of suitable ingress and egress sites, as well as other points of interest to enhance the recreational opportunities of the public.

- (b) Establish access routes and related public-use facilities along greenways and trails which will not substantially interfere with the nature and purposes of the greenway or trail.
- (c) Adopt appropriate rules to implement or interpret this act and portions of chapter 253 relating to greenways and trails, which may include, but are not limited to, rules for the following:
 - 1. Establishing a designation process.
- 2. Negotiating and executing agreements with private landowners.
- 3. Establishing prohibited activities or restrictions on activities to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
 - 4. Charging fees for use.

- 5. Providing public access.
- 6. Providing for maintenance.
- 7. Any matter necessary to the evaluation, selection, operation, and maintenance of greenways and trails.

Any person who violates or otherwise fails to comply with the rules adopted pursuant to subparagraph 3. commits a noncriminal infraction for which a fine of up to \$500 may be imposed.

- (d) Coordinate the activities of all governmental units and bodies and special districts that desire to participate in the development <u>and implementation</u> of the Florida Greenways and Trails System.
- (e) Appoint an advisory body to be known as the
 "Florida Recreational Trails Council" which shall advise the
 department in the execution of its powers and duties under

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

this chapter. The department may establish by rule the duties, structure, and responsibilities of the council.

Members of the Florida Recreational Trails Council shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

(e)(f) Establish, develop, and publicize greenways and trails saltwater paddling trails in a manner that will permit public recreation when appropriate without damaging natural resources. The Big Bend Historic Saltwater Paddling Trail from the St. Marks River to the Suwannee River is hereby designated as part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System. Additions to this trail may be added by the department from time to time as part of a statewide saltwater circumnavigation trail.

(f)(g) Enter into sublease agreements or other use agreements with any federal, state, or local governmental agency, or any other entity local governmental agencies for the management of greenways and trails for recreation and conservation purposes consistent with the intent of this chapter.

(h) Enter into management agreements with other entities only if a federal agency, another state agency, local government, county, or municipality is unable to manage the greenways or trails lands. Such entities must demonstrate their capabilities of management for the purposes defined in ss. 260.011-260.018.

(g)(i) Charge reasonable fees or rentals for the use or operation of facilities and concessions. All such fees, rentals, or other charges collected shall be deposited in the account or trust fund of the managing entity. All such fees, rentals, or other charges collected by the Division of

Recreation and Parks under this paragraph shall be deposited in the State Park Trust Fund pursuant to s. 258.014.

- (2) The department shall:
- (a) Evaluate lands for the acquisition of greenways and trails and compile a list of suitable corridors, greenways, and trails, ranking them in order of priority for proposed acquisition. The department shall devise a method of evaluation which includes, but is not limited to, the consideration of:
- 1. The importance and function of such corridors within the statewide system.
- 2. Potential for local sharing in the acquisition, development, operation, or maintenance of greenway and trail corridors.
- 3. Costs of acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance.
- (b) Maintain an updated list of abandoned and to-be-abandoned railroad rights-of-way. The department shall request information on current and potential railroad abandonments from the Department of Transportation and railroad companies operating within the state. At a minimum, the department shall make such requests on a quarterly basis.
- (c) Provide information to public and private agencies and organizations on abandoned rail corridors which are or will be available for acquisition from the railroads or for lease for interim recreational use from the Department of Transportation. Such information shall include, at a minimum, probable costs of purchase or lease of the identified corridors.

- (d) Develop and implement a process for designation of lands and waterways as a part of the statewide system of greenways and trails, which shall include:
- 1. Development and dissemination of criteria for designation.

- 2. Development and dissemination of criteria for changes in the terms or conditions of designation, including withdrawal or termination of designation. A landowner may have his or her lands property removed from designation by providing the department with a written request that contains an adequate description of such lands to be removed. Provisions shall be made in the designation agreement for disposition of any future improvements made to the land by the department.
- 3. Compilation of available information on and field verification of the characteristics of the lands $\underline{\text{and waterways}}$ as they relate to the developed criteria.
- 4. Public notice pursuant to s. 120.525 in all phases of the process.
- 5. Actual notice to the landowner by certified mail at least 7 days before any public meeting regarding the department's intent to designate.
- 6. Written authorization from the landowner in the form of a lease or other instrument for the designation and granting of public access, if appropriate, to a landowner's property.
- 7. Development of a greenway or trail use plan as a part of the designation agreement. In any particular segment of a greenway or trail, the plan components must be compatible with connecting segments and, at a minimum, describe the types and intensities of uses of the property.

- (e) Implement the plan for the Florida Greenways and Trails System as adopted by the Florida Greenways Coordinating Council on September 11, 1998.
- (3) The department or its designee is authorized to negotiate with potentially affected private landowners as to the terms under which such landowners would consent to the public use of their lands as part of the greenways and trails system. The department shall be authorized to agree to incentives for a private landowner who consents to this public use of his or her lands for conservation or recreational purposes, including, but not limited to, the following:
- (a) Retention by the landowner of certain specific rights in his or her lands, including, but not limited to, the right to farm, hunt, graze, harvest timber, or use the lands for other purposes which are consistent with use as greenways or trails.
- (b) Agreement to exchange, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or other applicable unit of government, ownership or other rights of use of public lands for the ownership or other rights of use of privately owned <u>lands</u> property. Any exchange of state-owned lands, title to which is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, for privately owned lands shall be subject to the requirements of s. 259.041.
- (c) Contracting with the landowner to provide management or other services on the lands.
- (d) At the option of the landowner, acceleration of the acquisition process or higher consideration in the ranking process when any lands owned by the landowner are under

consideration for acquisition by the state or other unit of government.

- (e) At the option of the landowner, removal of any lands owned by the landowner from consideration for acquistion by the state or other unit of government.
 - (f) Execution of patrol and protection agreements.
- (g) Where applicable and appropriate, providing lease fees, not to exceed fair market value of the leasehold interest.

Section 8. Section 260.018, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

260.018 Agency recognition.--All agencies of the state, regional planning councils through their comprehensive plans, and local governments through their local comprehensive planning process pursuant to chapter 163 shall recognize the special character of publicly owned lands and waters designated by the state as greenways and trails and shall not take any action which will impair their use as designated. Identification of lands or waterways in planning materials, maps, data, and other information developed or used in the greenways and trails program shall not be cause for such lands or waterways to be subject to this section, unless such lands or waterways have been designated as a part of the statewide system or greenways and trails pursuant to s. 260.016(2)(d)(1)(k).

Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section 288.1224, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.1224 Powers and duties.--The commission:

(11) Shall create an advisory committee of the commission which shall be charged with developing a regionally based plan to protect and promote all of the natural, coastal,

historical, cultural, and commercial tourism assets of this state.

(a) Members of the advisory committee shall be appointed by the chair of the commission and shall include representatives of the commission, the Departments of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Environmental Protection, Community Affairs, Transportation, and State, the Florida Greenways and Trails Coordinating Council, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission, and, as deemed appropriate by the chair of the commission, representatives from other federal, state, regional, local, and private sector associations representing environmental, historical, cultural, recreational, and tourism-related activities.

Section 10. The following trails located upon or within public lands or waterways and designated prior to May 30, 1998 shall not be subject to the designation process established in chapter 260, Florida Statutes, 1998

Supplement: thirty-six canoe trails designated by the Governor and Cabinet in 1970 and redesignated by the Governor and Cabinet on December 8, 1981; the Historic Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail; Hillsborough River State Recreational Canoe Trail; and trails located within state parks and forests.

Section 11. The Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services are directed to work together to provide a report on cattle dipping vats, with recommendations and appropriate draft legislation, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees in the Senate

and House of Representatives by February 1, 2000. The report shall include, at a minimum"

(1) A summary of the current information on cattle dipping vats in the state;

- (2) A proposed plan for discovery and listing of cattle dipping vat sites on public and private property;
- (3) A proposed method for risk-based priority ranking of sites, which considers significant factors such as the proximity of populations and water resources to cattle dipping vat sites;
- (4) Proposed strategies for risk-based cleanup of cattle-dipping vat sites, with a cost-benefit analysis and recommended sources of funding, for sites on pubic and private lands;
- (5) Recommended incentives for private landowners to conduct voluntary cleanup of cattle dipping vat sites on their property;
- (6) A discussion of the potential impacts on ownership and transfer of ownership, including any potential claims under chapter 70, Florida Statutes, if the report recommendations are implemented; and
- (7) A proposed strategy for developing partnerships with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S.

 Department of Agriculture, the Florida Department of health, local governments, affected landowners, and other affected parties to implement report recommendations that may be adopted by the Legislature.
- (8) Any recommendations made by the report, including any proposed legislation, shall not distinguish differently between public or private lands, and any regulatory or funding strategies shall treat all properties equitably.

Section 12. The Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services are directed to work together to provide a report on cattle dipping vats, with recommendations and appropriate draft legislation, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the appropriate substantive and fiscal committees in the Senate and House of Representatives by February 1, 2000. The report shall include, at a minimum"

- (1) A summary of the current information on cattle dipping vats in the state;
- (2) A proposed plan for discovery and listing of cattle dipping vat sites on public and private property;
- (3) A proposed method for risk-based priority ranking of sites, which considers significant factors such as the proximity of populations and water resources to cattle dipping vat sites;
- (4) Proposed strategies for risk-based cleanup of cattle-dipping vat sites, with a cost-benefit analysis and recommended sources of funding, for sites on pubic and private lands;
- (5) Recommended incentives for private landowners to conduct voluntary cleanup of cattle dipping vat sites on their property;
- (6) A discussion of the potential impacts on ownership and transfer of ownership, including any potential claims under chapter 70, Florida Statutes, if the report recommendations are implemented; and
- (7) A proposed strategy for developing partnerships with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Florida Department of health,

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    local governments, affected landowners, and other affected
    parties to implement report recommendations that may be
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    adopted by the Legislature.
          (8) Any recommendations made by the report, including
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    any proposed legislation, shall not distinguish differently
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    between public or private lands, and any regulatory or funding
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    strategies shall treat all properties equitably.
           Section 13. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
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