A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to land acquisition and management; 3 amending s. 20.18, F.S.; providing for the appointment of an executive director for the Florida Communities Trust 4 5 program; amending s. 20.255, F.S.; providing for appointment of the director of the Division of State Lands 6 7 of the Department of Environmental Protection; amending s. 8 201.15, F.S., relating to the distribution of excise taxes 9 on documents; extending the deadline for retiring the bonds issued under the Florida Forever Act; amending s. 10 215.618, F.S.; increasing the bonding authority for the 11 issuance of Florida Forever bonds for the acquisition of 12 conservation lands; directing the Legislature to complete 13 a debt analysis by a specified date prior to authorizing 14 the issuance of Florida Forever land acquisition bonds; 15 16 directing the Legislature to complete an analysis on 17 potential revenue sources for Florida Forever by a specified date; amending s. 253.002, F.S.; designating the 18 19 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the 20 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as the state's primary land managers; providing duties and 21 responsibilities; designating the Department of State and 22 the Department of Environmental Protection as the state's 23 24 specialty land managers; providing duties and responsibilities; providing legislative intent; providing 25 26 procedures and requirements with respect to land 27 management evaluations and procurements; providing for a

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report; amending s. 253.025, F.S., relating to acquisition

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

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of state lands for purposes other than preservation, conservation, and recreation; revising procedures and requirements with respect to appraisals required prior to acquisition; requiring the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to adopt rules relating to selection of appraisers; deleting provisions that allow appraisers to reject an appraisal report under certain conditions; providing authority to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to waive sales history requirements under certain conditions; requiring the board of trustees to adopt relevant rule; revising provisions with respect to specified joint acquisitions; amending s. 253.03, F.S.; removing obsolete provisions; amending s. 253.0325, F.S.; requiring the Division of State Lands, rather than the Department of Environmental Protection, to initiate an ongoing computerized information systems program to modernize its state lands records and documents that relate to lands acquired under the Florida Preservation 2000 Act or the Florida Forever Act, and all lands to which title is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund; requiring all recipients of funds under the Florida Preservation 2000 Act or the Florida Forever Act to annually submit records for land acquired; requiring the Division of State Lands to initiate and maintain an information system that is the basis for land acquisition and land management decisionmaking and modeling; providing requirements with respect to the system; amending s.

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253.034, F.S.; revising the definitions of "multiple use," "single use," and "conservation lands"; defining "imperiled species" for purposes of chapters 253 and 259, F.S.; defining "public access" for purposes of chapters 253 and 259, F.S.; revising conditions under which a manager of conservation lands is required to update a land management plan; requiring that land management plans provide short-term and long-term management goals; specifying measurable objectives thereof; specifying required elements of a land management plan; providing procedures and requirements with respect to a land management plan; providing for biennial monitoring of land management activities on state lands with an approved land management plan; providing procedures and requirements with respect thereto; providing for modification and approval of the plan by the Acquisition and Restoration Council; providing for updating of land management plans; requiring public hearings; providing for expiration of provisions; revising requirements for determining which state-owned lands may be surplus lands; requiring additional appraisals under certain conditions; requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Division of Forestry to contract with an organization for the purpose of determining the value of carbon capture and carbon sequestration with respect to state lands and to conduct a specified inventory; requiring the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to submit an annual work plan for the use of all state lands to protect, manage, or

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restore habitat for native or imperiled species; amending s. 253.036, F.S.; revising provisions with respect to preparation of an analysis of multiple-use potential in a land management plan; amending s. 253.111, F.S.; extending the period within which a board of county commissioners must provide a resolution to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund before state-owned lands are otherwise sold; amending s. 253.82, F.S.; revising requirements of the sale of nonsovereign lands owned by the board of trustees; deleting appraisal limitations; amending s. 259.032, F.S., relating to the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund; revising purposes for which moneys from the fund may be allocated in any one year; revising purposes for which a specified percentage of moneys in the fund may be allocated; authorizing the lead land managing agency to contract with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for lands which contain imperiled species habitat; revising requirements with respect to lands managed under ch. 259, F.S., and s. 253.034, F.S.; providing for the designation of a primary land manager for specified purposes; authorizing state agencies designated to manage lands acquired under ch. 259, F.S., to contract with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, local governments, private entities, and soil and water conservation districts to assist in restoration and management activities; revising provisions with respect to

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individual management plans; eliminating a specified percentage distribution of acquisition funds; revising required components of individual land management plans; revising lands that are eligible for a specified percentage of funding from the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund and the Florida Forever Trust Fund; requiring a report that provides an interim and long-term management formula and associated methodologies which shall be used to allocate land management; providing criteria for methodology and formula for long-term management; providing that, commencing on a specified date, no funds shall be allocated, distributed, or expended until the allocation formula for funding land management activities has been adopted by the Legislature; providing for interim allocation and disbursement; revising purposes for which a specified percentage of funds are reserved; providing that the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council shall set long-range and annual goals for the control and removal of nonnative, invasive plant species on public lands; revising provisions with respect to payment in lieu of taxes for property acquired by a tax-exempt entity for ultimate conveyance to the state; removing obsolete provisions; amending s. 259.0322, F. S.; revising provisions with respect to reinstitution and continuation of payments to a governmental entity by the Department of Environmental Protection for tax losses; amending s. 259.035, F.S.; revising provisions with respect to the Acquisition and Restoration Council; revising membership

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and membership criteria; directing the council to develop rules which define specific criteria and numeric performance measures for the acquisition of land; providing procedure with respect to the adoption of such rules; requiring specified reports; amending s. 259.036, F.S.; revising provisions with respect to land management review teams; revising membership criteria; amending s. 259.037, F.S.; revising the categories used by the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council to collect and report the costs of land management activities; requiring agencies to report additional information to the council; requiring certain land management costs to be tied to the land management plan by a specified date; requiring a review and report; amending s. 259.04, F.S., relating to a comprehensive, statewide 5-year plan to conserve, restore, and protect environmentally endangered lands and ecosystems, to conform; amending s. 259.041, F.S., relating to the acquisition of state-owned lands for preservation, conservation, and recreation purposes; requiring review and approval of specified land acquisitions by the Division of State Lands; limiting the state contribution in specified joint acquisitions; requiring legislative approval for acquisitions by the state exceeding a certain amount; revising provisions with respect to appraisals of land to be acquired and the selection of appraisers; requiring that specific language be included on option contracts; amending s. 259.07, F.S.; revising requirements with respect to public meetings on

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the proposed purchase of land; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; relating to the Florida Forever Act; revising legislative intent; directing the state's primary land managers to develop creative partnerships between governmental agencies and private landowners for specified purposes; revising and providing additional purposes of the Florida Forever Act; revising the distribution of cash and bond proceeds under the act by the Department of Environmental Protection; revising specified uses of such proceeds; revising goals of funded projects and acquisitions; revising criteria for the development of rules by the Acquisition and Restoration Council to competitively evaluate, select, and rank projects eligible for Florida Forever funds and for additions to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list; revising the transfer of specified funds within an annual distribution to the South Florida Water Management District; revising requirements with respect to an interim management budget included within a report prepared by the Acquisition and Restoration Council; requiring the Division of State Lands to prepare an annual work plan; providing priorities and specifications of the work plan; providing categories of expenditure to be considered by the work plan; providing for adoption of the work plan by the Acquisition and Restoration Council; revising provisions with respect to the management of lands listed as projects for acquisition, restoration, or management under the Florida Forever program; providing for deposit of specified funds

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in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund; amending s. 259.1051, F.S.; increasing the required deposit of specified proceeds from the sale of bonds into the Florida Forever Trust Fund; amending s. 373.503, F.S.; providing that a water management district's millage rate is subject to annual authorization by the Legislature; requiring the Legislature to annually review a district's millage rate; requiring the Legislature to annually set the amount of revenue authorized to be raised by a district from ad valorem taxes; providing for the amount of authorized revenue to be raised by a district if the Legislature does not set the amount by a specified date; amending s. 373.536, F.S.; revising the beginning and ending dates of a water management district's fiscal year; revising the date by which a district must submit a tentative budget to the Governor and the Legislature; eliminating the authorization for the Legislature to comment on such budgets; eliminating the requirement for districts to respond to such comments and to forward such responses to the Governor and Legislature; revising the date by which the Executive Office of the Governor must file a specified report with the Legislature; directing districts to implement conforming measures; amending s. 373.073, F.S.; revising provisions relating to nomination of members for appointment to the governing boards of water management districts; providing dates of commencement and termination of the terms of office of governing board members; providing for recommendations of the nominating council to

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be nonpartisan; providing procedures and requirements with respect to filling a vacancy on a governing board other than for expiration of a term; providing for the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct a background investigation of an applicant prior to appointment; providing for each appointment to the governing board to be subject to specified confirmation by the Senate; providing for reinitiation of the nominating process under specified circumstances; precluding service by an appointee on the governing board of a water management district without Senate confirmation; amending s. 373.1391, F.S.; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to ensure that water management districts provide consistent levels of public access to district lands; amending s. 373.199, F.S.; revising project information required to be included within Florida Forever water management district work plans; amending s. 570.71, F.S., relating to conservation easements and agreements; authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to allocate funds to enter into working waterfront protection agreements for specified purposes; authorizing the department to accept applications for project proposals that fund working waterfront protection agreements and that fund fee simple acquisitions in working waterfronts; providing requirements with respect to working waterfront protection agreements; authorizing the department to acquire fee simple interest in working waterfront properties on behalf of the Board of Trustees

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of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund; defining "working waterfronts"; providing that working waterfront acquisitions by fee simple acquisition may be completed by the department in whole or in partnership with other entities; providing that working waterfront acquisitions shall be managed by the department; authorizing the department to enter into management agreements with other entities for the management of such acquisitions; providing for transfer of all statutory powers, duties and functions, records, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds for the administration of the Florida Communities Trust by a type two transfer from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of Environmental Protection; providing for conforming legislation; providing for assistance to certain legislative substantive committees by the Division of Statutory Revision of the Office of Legislative Services for certain purposes; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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- Section 1. Subsection (7) is added to section 20.18, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 20.18 Department of Community Affairs.--There is created a Department of Community Affairs.
- (7) There is created within the Florida Communities Trust an executive director who shall administratively serve the

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Florida Communities Trust. The executive director shall have all the powers and duties necessary to carry out the purposes provided in ss. 380.504-380.515. The executive director is to be appointed by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund from a recommendation by the secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The executive director shall report directly to the Board of Trustees on all matters and shall serve at the exclusive pleasure of the Board of Trustees.

- Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section 20.255, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 20.255 Department of Environmental Protection.--There is created a Department of Environmental Protection.
- (3) The following divisions of the Department of Environmental Protection are established:
- (h) Division of State Lands, the director of which is to be appointed by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund from a recommendation by the secretary of the department, subject to confirmation by the Senate Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The division director shall report directly to the Board of Trustees on all matters and shall serve at the exclusive pleasure of the Board of Trustees. The Florida Communities Trust program created pursuant to ss. 380.501-380.515 shall be located organizationally within the Division of State Lands.

In order to ensure statewide and intradepartmental consistency, the department's divisions shall direct the district offices and bureaus on matters of interpretation and applicability of the department's rules and programs.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.--All taxes collected under this chapter shall be distributed as follows and shall be subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1), except that such service charge shall not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent that the amount of the service charge is required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds:

- (1) Sixty-two and sixty-three hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:
- (a) Amounts as shall be necessary to pay the debt service on, or fund debt service reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with respect to Preservation 2000 bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051 and Florida Forever bonds issued pursuant to s. 215.618, shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to be used for such purposes. The amount transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund shall not exceed \$300 million in fiscal year 1999-2000 and thereafter for Preservation 2000 bonds and bonds issued to refund Preservation 2000 bonds, and \$300 million in fiscal year 2000-2001 and thereafter for Florida Forever bonds. The annual amount transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for

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Florida Forever bonds shall not exceed \$30 million in the first fiscal year in which bonds are issued. The limitation on the amount transferred shall be increased by an additional \$30 million in each subsequent fiscal year, but shall not exceed a total of \$300 million in any fiscal year for all bonds issued. It is the intent of the Legislature that all bonds issued to fund the Florida Forever Act be retired by December 31, 2040 2030. Except for bonds issued to refund previously issued bonds, no series of bonds may be issued pursuant to this paragraph unless such bonds are approved and the debt service for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the bonds are issued is specifically appropriated in the General Appropriations Act. For purposes of refunding Preservation 2000 bonds, amounts designated within this section for Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever bonds may be transferred between the two programs to the extent provided for in the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds. The Preservation 2000 bonds and Florida Forever bonds shall be equally and ratably secured by moneys distributable to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this section, except to the extent specifically provided otherwise by the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds. No moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph, or earnings thereon, shall be used or made available to pay debt service on the Save Our Coast revenue bonds.

Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 215.618, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.618 Bonds for acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests and resources.--

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(1)(a) The issuance of Florida Forever bonds, not to exceed \$5.3 \$3 billion, to finance or refinance the cost of acquisition and improvement of land, water areas, and related property interests and resources, in urban and rural settings, for the purposes of restoration, conservation, recreation, water resource development, or historical preservation, and for capital improvements to lands and water areas that accomplish environmental restoration, enhance public access and recreational enjoyment, promote long-term management goals, and facilitate water resource development is hereby authorized, subject to the provisions of s. 259.105 and pursuant to s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution. Florida Forever bonds may also be issued to refund Preservation 2000 bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051. The \$5.3 \\$3 billion limitation on the issuance of Florida Forever bonds does not apply to refunding bonds. The duration of each series of Florida Forever bonds issued may not exceed 20 annual maturities. Preservation 2000 bonds and Florida Forever bonds shall be equally and ratably secured by moneys distributable to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15(1)(a), except to the extent specifically provided otherwise by the documents authorizing the issuance of the bonds.

- (b) Beginning July 1, 2010, the Legislature shall analyze the state's debt ratio in relation to projected revenues prior to the authorization to issue any bonds for Florida Forever land acquisition.
- (c) By February 1, 2010, the Legislature shall complete an analysis of potential revenue sources for Florida Forever.

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393 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 253.002, Florida 394 Statutes, is amended to read: 395 253.002 Department of Environmental Protection, water 396 management districts, Department of State, Fish and Wildlife 397 Conservation Commission, and Department of Agriculture and 398 Consumer Services; duties with respect to state lands. --399 The Department of Environmental Protection shall perform all staff duties and functions related to the 400 401 acquisition, administration, and disposition of state lands, 402 title to which is or will be vested in the Board of Trustees of 403 the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Department of Agriculture and 404 Consumer Services are designated the state's primary land 405 406 managers. The duties and responsibilities of the state's primary land managers include, but are not limited to, developing the 407 408 land management plans required pursuant to s. 253.034, 409 implementing the approved land management plans, and monitoring 410 the results of land management activities conducted pursuant s. 411 253.034. The Department of State and the Department of 412 Environmental Protection are designated as the state's specialty 413 land managers. Specialty land managers manage sites that focus 414 on providing education, public access and recreation at sites 415 that include, but are not limited to, parks, gardens, aquatic preserves, museums, and historical and cultural sites. The 416 417 duties and responsibilities of the state's specialty land managers include, but are not limited to, developing the land 418 management plans required pursuant to s. 253.034, implementing 419 420 the approved land management plans, and monitoring the results

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421	of land management activities conducted pursuant s. 253.034
422	related to public access and recreation, and public-use
423	administration. It is the intent of the Legislature that the
424	agencies carry out these duties in a cost-effective manner by
425	exploring private-sector innovation, best land management
426	practices and, wherever cost-effective, partnering with private
427	entities to best accomplish these duties and responsibilities at
428	a cost savings to the taxpayers of Florida. Therefore, each
429	agency, in consultation with the Acquisition and Restoration
430	Council shall, no later than October 1, 2008, and biennially
431	thereafter, request information from private land managers, land
432	management consultation firms, and other interested parties
433	experienced in land management to evaluate whether private
434	contractors can accomplish these duties and responsibilities at
435	a lesser cost than those costs incurred by the agencies. Within
436	2 months after issuing this request, the agencies shall compile,
437	review and evaluate this information and may, either
438	individually or collectively, begin procurements consistent with
439	chapter 287 to contract with private land managers, land
440	management consulting firms, and other interested parties
441	experienced in land management to accomplish some or all of
442	these duties and responsibilities when cost-effective. When the
443	agencies choose not to procure or contract with a private
444	entity, the agencies shall provide an evaluation demonstrating
445	the savings to be attained by performing such services with
446	existing resources. The evaluation shall be provided to the
447	Acquisition and Restoration Council, the Executive Office of the
448	Governor, the Speaker of the House Representatives, and the

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449 President of the Senate. The agencies' evaluation shall include 450 an identification of all personnel assigned, all administrative 451 overhead, and all costs to carry out the duties and 452 responsibilities listed in this section related to land 453 management. However, upon the effective date of rules adopted 454 pursuant to s. 373.427, a water management district created 455 under s. 373.069 shall perform the staff duties and functions related to the review of any application for authorization to 456 457 use board of trustees-owned submerged lands necessary for an 458 activity regulated under part IV of chapter 373 for which the 459 water management district has permitting responsibility as set forth in an operating agreement adopted pursuant to s. 460 373.046(4); and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer 461 462 Services shall perform the staff duties and functions related to 463 the review of applications and compliance with conditions for 464 use of board of trustees-owned submerged lands under 465 authorizations or leases issued pursuant to ss. 253.67-253.75 466 and 597.010. Unless expressly prohibited by law, the board of 467 trustees may delegate to the department any statutory duty or obligation relating to the acquisition, administration, or 468 469 disposition of lands, title to which is or will be vested in the 470 board of trustees. The board of trustees may also delegate to any water management district created under s. 373.069 the 471 472 authority to take final agency action, without any action on behalf of the board, on applications for authorization to use 473 board of trustees-owned submerged lands for any activity 474 regulated under part IV of chapter 373 for which the water 475 management district has permitting responsibility as set forth 476

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in an operating agreement adopted pursuant to s. 373.046(4). This water management district responsibility under this subsection shall be subject to the department's general supervisory authority pursuant to s. 373.026(7). The board of trustees may also delegate to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services the authority to take final agency action on behalf of the board on applications to use board of trusteesowned submerged lands for any activity for which that department has responsibility pursuant to ss. 253.67-253.75 and 597.010. However, the board of trustees shall retain the authority to take final agency action on establishing any areas for leasing, new leases, expanding existing lease areas, or changing the type of lease activity in existing leases. Upon issuance of an aquaculture lease or other real property transaction relating to aquaculture, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services must send a copy of the document and the accompanying survey to the Department of Environmental Protection.

- Section 6. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 253.025, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 253.025 Acquisition of state lands for purposes other than preservation, conservation, and recreation.--
- (6) Prior to negotiations with the parcel owner to purchase land pursuant to this section, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, an appraisal of the parcel shall be required as follows:
- (a) Each parcel to be acquired shall have at least one appraisal. Two appraisals are required when the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$500,000 \$1 million. When two appraisals

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are required, one appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. When both appraisals 507 exceed \$500,000 and differ significantly, a third appraisal 508 shall be obtained, with the Department of Financial Services selecting the third appraiser. Two appraisals shall be considered to differ significantly if the higher of the two values exceeds 120 percent of the lower value. When the estimated value of a parcel exceeds \$500,000, the review appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Financial Services. An agency shall select appraisers from the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands in accordance with paragraph (b). To provide for payment by the agency selecting the second and third appraiser and review appraiser, as required by this section, the Department of Environmental Protection shall enter into interagency agreements with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Financial Services, whereby funds will be transferred to those agencies for that purpose upon direction of the selecting agency. When a parcel is estimated to be worth \$100,000 or less and the director of the Division of State Lands finds that the cost of an outside appraisal is not justified, an appraisal prepared by the division may be used a comparable sales analysis or other reasonably prudent procedures may be used by the division to estimate the value of the parcel, provided the public's interest is reasonably protected. The state is not required to appraise the value of lands and 530 appurtenances that are being donated to the state.

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(b) Appraisal fees shall be paid by the agency proposing the acquisition. The board of trustees shall approve qualified fee appraisal organizations. All appraisals used for the acquisition of lands pursuant to this section shall be prepared by a member of an approved appraisal organization or by a state-certified appraiser. The board of trustees Division of State Lands shall adopt rules for selecting individuals to perform appraisals pursuant to this section. Each fee appraiser selected to appraise a particular parcel shall, prior to contracting with the agency, submit to that agency an affidavit substantiating that he or she has no vested or fiduciary interest in such parcel.

The board of trustees shall adopt by rule the minimum criteria, techniques, and methods to be used in the preparation of appraisal reports. Such rules shall incorporate, to the extent practicable, generally accepted appraisal standards. Any appraisal issued for acquisition of lands pursuant to this section must comply with the rules adopted by the board of trustees. A certified survey must be made which meets the minimum requirements for upland parcels established in the Minimum Technical Standards for Land Surveying in Florida published by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and which accurately portrays, to the greatest extent practicable, the condition of the parcel as it currently exists. The requirement for a certified survey may, in part or in whole, be waived by the board of trustees any time prior to submitting the agreement for purchase to the Division of State Lands. When an existing boundary map and description of a parcel are

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determined by the division to be sufficient for appraisal purposes, the division director may temporarily waive the requirement for a survey until any time prior to conveyance of title to the parcel. The fee appraiser and the review appraiser for the agency shall not act in any way that may be construed as negotiating with the property owner.

Appraisal reports are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), for use by the agency and the board of trustees, until an option contract is executed or, if no option contract is executed, until 2 weeks before a contract or agreement for purchase is considered for approval by the board of trustees. However, the Division of State Lands may disclose appraisal information to public agencies or nonprofit organizations that agree to maintain the confidentiality of the reports or information when joint acquisition of property is contemplated, or when a public agency or nonprofit organization enters into a written agreement with the division to purchase and hold property for subsequent resale to the division. In addition, the division may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a public agency or nonprofit organization, provided the appraiser is selected from the division's list of appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the division. For the purposes of this paragraph, "nonprofit organization" means an organization whose purpose is the preservation of natural resources, and which is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The agency may release an appraisal report when the passage of time has rendered the conclusions of value in the report invalid.

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(e) Prior to acceptance of an appraisal, the agency shall submit a copy of such report to the Division of State Lands. The division shall review such report for compliance with the rules of the board of trustees. With respect to proposed purchases in excess of \$250,000, this review shall include a general field inspection of the subject property by the review appraiser. The review appraiser may reject an appraisal report following a desk review, but is prohibited from approving an appraisal report in excess of \$250,000 without a field review. Any questions of applicability of laws affecting an appraisal shall be addressed by the legal office of the agency.

- (f) The appraisal report shall be accompanied by the sales history of the parcel for at least the prior 5 years. Such sales history shall include all parties and considerations with the amount of consideration verified, if possible. If a sales history would not be useful, or its cost prohibitive compared to the value of a parcel, the sales history may be waived by the board of trustees Secretary of Environmental Protection or the director of the Division of State Lands. The board of trustees department shall adopt a rule specifying guidelines for waiver of a sales history.
- (g) The board of trustees may consider an appraisal acquired by a seller, or any part thereof, in negotiating to purchase a parcel, but such appraisal may not be used in lieu of an appraisal required by this subsection or to determine the maximum offer allowed by law.
- (7)(a) When the owner is represented by an agent or broker, negotiations may not be initiated or continued until a

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written statement verifying such agent's or broker's legal or fiduciary relationship with the owner is on file with the agency.

- (b) The board of trustees or any state agency may contract for real estate acquisition services, including, but not limited to, contracts for real estate commission fees.
- (c) Upon the initiation of negotiations, the state agency shall inform the owner in writing that all agreements for purchase are subject to approval by the board of trustees.
- (d) All offers or counteroffers shall be documented in writing and shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) until an option contract is executed, or if no option contract is executed, until 2 weeks before a contract or agreement for purchase is considered for approval by the board of trustees. The agency shall maintain complete and accurate records of all offers and counteroffers for all projects.
- (e)1. The board of trustees shall adopt by rule the method for determining the value of parcels sought to be acquired by state agencies pursuant to this section. No offer by a state agency, except an offer by an agency acquiring lands pursuant to s. 259.041, may exceed the value for that parcel as determined pursuant to the highest approved appraisal or the value determined pursuant to the rules of the board of trustees, whichever value is less.
- 2. In the case of a joint acquisition by a state agency and a local government or other entity apart from the state, the joint purchase price may not exceed 150 percent of the value for a parcel as determined in accordance with the limits prescribed

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in subparagraph 1. The state agency share of a joint purchase offer shall may not exceed the difference between the appraised value, as determined by the state, and the sum of the contributions of the other parties what the agency may offer singly as prescribed by subparagraph 1.

- 3. The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to the acquisition of historically unique or significant property as determined by the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State.
- (f) When making an offer to a landowner, a state agency shall consider the desirability of a single cash payment in relation to the maximum offer allowed by law.
- (g) The state shall have the authority to reimburse the owner for the cost of the survey when deemed appropriate. The reimbursement shall not be considered a part of the purchase price.
- (h) A final offer shall be in the form of an option contract or agreement for purchase and shall be signed and attested to by the owner and the representative of the agency. Before the agency executes the option contract or agreement for purchase, the contract or agreement shall be reviewed for form and legality by legal staff of the agency. Before the agency signs the agreement for purchase or exercises the option contract, the provisions of s. 286.23 shall be complied with. Within 10 days after the signing of the agreement for purchase, the state agency shall furnish the Division of State Lands with the original of the agreement for purchase along with copies of the disclosure notice, evidence of marketability, the accepted

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appraisal report, the fee appraiser's affidavit, a statement that the inventory of existing state-owned lands was examined and contained no available suitable land in the area, and a statement outlining the public purpose for which the acquisition is being made and the statutory authority therefor.

- (i) Within 45 days of receipt by the Division of State
 Lands of the agreement for purchase and the required
 documentation, the board of trustees or, when the purchase price
 does not exceed \$100,000, its designee shall either reject or
 approve the agreement. An approved agreement for purchase is
 binding on both parties. Any agreement which has been
 disapproved shall be returned to the agency, along with a
 statement as to the deficiencies of the agreement or the
 supporting documentation. An agreement for purchase which has
 been disapproved by the board of trustees may be resubmitted
 when such deficiencies have been corrected.
- Section 7. Subsection (17) of section 253.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 253.03 Board of trustees to administer state lands; lands enumerated.--
- (17) Notwithstanding subsections (1)-(16), for the 20072008 fiscal year only, and upon approval of the Board of
 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund if necessary,
 the Division of State Lands of the Department of Environmental
 Protection shall lease the existing South Florida Evaluation and
 Treatment Center complex in Miami Dade County, currently under
 lease to the Department of Children and Family Services, to
 Miami Dade County for the amount of \$1 per year for 99 years to

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be used by the county for its expanded jail diversion program.

The lease of the property shall take place in the 2007-2008

fiscal year, and Miami-Dade County shall sublease the facility
to the existing lessee for \$1 per year until the new South

Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center is completed on or about

April 2008. This subsection expires July 1, 2008.

Section 8. Section 253.0325, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.0325 Modernization of state lands records.--

- (1) The <u>Division of State Lands</u> Department of

 Environmental Protection shall initiate an ongoing computerized information systems program to modernize its state lands records and documents that relate to all lands that have been acquired under the Florida Preservation 2000 Act pursuant to s. 259.101 or the Florida Forever Act pursuant to s. 259.105, and all lands to which title is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. All recipients of funds pursuant to s. 259.101 or s. 259.105 shall annually submit their records for land acquired to facilitate the compilation of state lands inventory. The program shall include, at a minimum:
- (a) A document management component to automate the storage and retrieval of information contained in state lands records.
- (b) A land records management component to organize the records by key elements present in the data.
- (c) An evaluation component which includes the collection of resource and environmental data.

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(d) A mapping component to generate and store maps of state-owned parcels using data from the land records management and evaluation components.

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- (e) The bond covenants related to each tract purchased pursuant to s. 259.101 or s. 259.105 and the expiration of such bond covenants.
- (2) The Division of State Lands shall initiate and maintain an information system that is the basis for land acquisition and land management decisionmaking and modeling. The information system shall be based on a uniform set of data. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall assist in the development and standardization of the information system. The information system shall be capable of mapping capital improvements, ecosystem, and current and planned land uses. The information system shall be utilized to map all current lands managed for conservation purposes, infrastructure, and future land acquisitions, both fee acquisitions and less-than-fee acquisitions. Additionally, the information system shall be utilized to demonstrate a comprehensive plan that protects, restores and manages the integrity and function of ecological systems, including waterways, springs and aquifers while maintaining working landscapes, including agriculture, and providing recreation space for urban and rural areas, including water access for the public. The existence and use of such an information system does not preclude the use of empirical data and other observational records including, but not limited to, cultural and historical records. The information system shall,

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at a minimum, map in an electronic format the natural communities on each tract of state land and each proposed land acquisition. "Natural community" is defined as a distinct and recurring assemblage of populations of plants, animals, fungi and microorganisms naturally associated with each other and their physical environment. Each natural community shall be partitioned into natural community categories. Each natural community category shall be partitioned into natural community groups, and each natural community group shall be partitioned into natural community types. The Division of State Lands may utilize a third party to develop or assist in developing, manage, or maintain the information system and its data. The information system and its data are to be the property of the state. The Division of State Lands shall review the form and content of the data utilized by the information system.

(3)(2) At all stages of its records modernization program, the department shall seek to ensure information systems compatibility within the department and with other state, local, and regional governmental agencies. The department also shall seek to promote standardization in the collection of information regarding state-owned lands by federal, state, regional, and local agencies.

 $\underline{(4)}$ The information collected and stored as a result of the department's modernization of state lands records shall not be considered a final or complete accounting of lands which the state owns or to which the state may claim ownership.

Section 9. Section 253.034, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.034 State-owned lands; uses.--

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All lands acquired pursuant to chapter 259 shall be managed to serve the public interest by protecting and conserving land, air, water, and the state's natural resources, which contribute to the public health, welfare, and economy of the state. These lands shall be managed to provide for areas of natural resource based recreation, and to ensure the survival of plant and animal species and the conservation of finite and renewable natural resources. The state's lands and natural resources shall be managed using a stewardship ethic that assures these resources will be available for the benefit and enjoyment of all people of the state, both present and future. It is the intent of the Legislature that, where feasible and consistent with the goals of protection and conservation of natural resources associated with lands held in the public trust by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, public land not designated for single-use purposes pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) be managed for multiple-use purposes. All multiple-use land management strategies shall address public access and enjoyment, resource conservation and protection, ecosystem maintenance and protection, and protection of threatened and endangered species, and the degree to which public-private partnerships or endowments may allow the entity with management responsibility to enhance its ability to manage these lands. The council created in s. 259.035 shall recommend rules to the board of trustees, and the board shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) As used in this section, the following phrases have the following meanings:

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- "Multiple use" means the harmonious and coordinated management of public access, timber, recreation, conservation of fish and wildlife, forage, archaeological and historic sites, habitat and other biological resources, or water resources, including alternative water supplies and water resource development as defined in s. 373.019, so that they are utilized in the combination that will best serve the people of the state, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources and giving consideration to the relative values of the various resources. Where necessary and appropriate for all state-owned lands that are larger than 1,000 acres in project size and are managed for multiple uses, buffers may be formed around any areas that require special protection or have special management needs. Such buffers shall not exceed more than one-half of the total acreage. Multiple uses within a buffer area may be restricted to provide the necessary buffering effect desired. Multiple use in this context includes both uses of land or resources by more than one management entity, which may include private sector land managers. In any case, lands identified as multiple-use lands in the land management plan shall be managed to enhance public access and conserve the lands and resources for the enjoyment of the people of the state.
- (b) "Single use" means management for one particular purpose to the exclusion of all other purposes, except that the using entity shall have the option of including in its management program compatible secondary purposes which will not

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detract from or interfere with the primary management purpose. Such single uses may include, but are not necessarily restricted to, the use of agricultural lands for production of food and livestock, the use of improved sites and grounds for institutional purposes, and the use of lands for parks, preserves, wildlife management, archaeological or historic sites, or wilderness areas where the maintenance of essentially natural conditions is important. All submerged lands shall be considered single-use lands and shall be managed primarily for the maintenance of essentially natural conditions, the propagation of fish and wildlife, and public recreation, including hunting and fishing where deemed appropriate by the managing entity, except where the public's access to state waters is enhanced.

(c) "Conservation lands" means lands that are currently managed for conservation, outdoor resource based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation, except those lands that were acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands. Lands acquired for uses other than conservation, outdoor resource based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation shall not be designated conservation lands except as otherwise authorized under this section. These lands shall include, but not be limited to, the following: correction and detention facilities, military installations and facilities, state office buildings, maintenance yards, state university or state community college campuses, agricultural field stations or offices, tower sites, law enforcement and license facilities, laboratories, hospitals,

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clinics, and other sites that possess no significant natural or historical resources. However, lands acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands shall, and for which the land management plan has not yet been completed or updated, may be evaluated by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund on a case-by-case basis to determine if they will be designated conservation lands. However, lands acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands shall be deemed conservation lands and included in land management plans, if doing so provides an increase in public access and recreation opportunities or creates a more efficient land management plan.

- (d) "Imperiled species," as used in this chapter and chapter 259, shall mean plants and animals that are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act or state-listed by either the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- (e) "Public access," as used in this chapter and chapter 259, shall mean access by the general public to state lands and waters, including vessel access made possible by boat ramps, docks, associated parking, and appropriate amenities approved by the board of trustees excluding marinas, fuel dispensing and storage. The exclusions do not apply to existing facilities on state lands, facilities existing at the time of acquisition by the state and working waterfronts acquisitions purchased pursuant to s. 570.71.

Lands acquired by the state as a gift, through donation, or by any other conveyance for which no consideration was paid, and which are not managed for conservation, outdoor resource-based recreation, or archaeological or historic preservation under a land management plan approved by the board of trustees are not conservation lands.

- (3) In recognition that recreational trails purchased with rails-to-trails funds pursuant to s. 259.101(3)(g) or s. 259.105(3)(h) have had historic transportation uses and that their linear character may extend many miles, the Legislature intends that when the necessity arises to serve public needs, after balancing the need to protect trail users from collisions with automobiles and a preference for the use of overpasses and underpasses to the greatest extent feasible and practical, transportation uses shall be allowed to cross recreational trails purchased pursuant to s. 259.101(3)(g) or s. 259.105(3)(h). When these crossings are needed, the location and design should consider and mitigate the impact on humans and environmental resources, and the value of the land shall be paid based on fair market value.
- (4) No management agreement, lease, or other instrument authorizing the use of lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall be executed for a period greater than is necessary to provide for the reasonable use of the land for the existing or planned life cycle or amortization of the improvements, except that an easement in perpetuity may be granted by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund if the improvement is a

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transportation facility. An entity managing or leasing stateowned lands from the board may not sublease such lands without
prior review by the division and, for conservation lands, by the
Acquisition and Restoration Council created in s. 259.035. All
management agreements, leases, or other instruments authorizing
the use of lands owned by the board shall be reviewed for
approval by the board or its designee. The council is not
required to review subleases of parcels which are less than 160
acres in size.

Each manager of conservation lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land management plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board and in accordance with the provisions of s. 259.032. Each manager of conservation lands shall also update a land management plan whenever the manager proposes to add new facilities or make substantive land use or management changes that were not addressed in the approved plan, or within 1 year of the addition of significant new lands. Each manager of nonconservation lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land use plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board. The division shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection and the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this section. All land use plans, whether for single-use or multiple-use properties, shall include an analysis of the property to determine if any significant natural or cultural resources are located on the property. Such resources include archaeological and historic sites, state and federally listed plant and animal

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species, and imperiled natural communities and unique natural features. If such resources occur on the property, the manager shall consult with the Division of State Lands and other appropriate agencies to develop management strategies to protect such resources. Land use plans shall also provide for the control of invasive nonnative plants and conservation of soil and water resources, including a description of how the manager plans to control and prevent soil erosion and soil or water contamination. Land use plans submitted by a manager shall include reference to appropriate statutory authority for such use or uses and shall conform to the appropriate policies and quidelines of the state land management plan. Plans for managed areas larger than 1,000 acres shall contain an analysis of the multiple-use potential of the property, which analysis shall include the potential of the property to generate revenues to enhance the management of the property. Additionally, the plan shall contain an analysis of the potential use of private land managers to facilitate the restoration or management of these lands. In those cases where a newly acquired property has a valid conservation plan that was developed by a soil and conservation district, such plan shall be used to guide management of the property until a formal land use plan is completed.

(a) All state lands shall be managed to ensure the conservation of the state's plant and animal species and to ensure the accessibility of state lands for the benefit and enjoyment of all people of the state, both present and future.

Each land management plan shall provide a desired future

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condition of the property, and shall describe both short-term and long-term management goals and include measurable objectives to achieve each goal. Short-term goals shall be achievable within a 2-year planning period and long-term goals shall be achievable within a 10-year planning period. These short-term and long-term management goals shall be the basis for all subsequent land management activities and are intended to be financially sustainable in achieving the desired future condition.

- (b) Short-term and long-term management goals shall include measureable objectives for the following:
- 1. Natural communities habitat maintenance, restoration, and improvement.
- 2. Wildlife habitat maintenance, restoration, and improvement.
- 3. Advancement of imperiled species, both plant and animal.
 - 4. Public access and recreational opportunities.
 - 5. Hydrological preservation and restoration.
 - 6. Sustainable forest management.

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- 7. Exotic and invasive species maintenance and control.
- 8. Capital facilities and infrastructure.
- Financial sustainability of land management activities.
- 1000 (c) The land management plan shall, at a minimum, contain the following elements:
 - 1. Physical description of the land.
- 1003 <u>2. A quantitative data description of the land that</u> 1004 includes an inventory of:

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1005 Forest resources; 1006 Imperiled species and their habitats; 1007 Exotic and invasive plants; c. 1008 Hydrological features; d. 1009 Infrastructure and capital improvements, including 1010 recreational facilities; and 1011 f. Other significant land features. 1012 1013 The inventory under subparagraph 2. shall reflect the number of 1014 acres for each resource and feature, when appropriate. The 1015 inventory shall be included in the information system 1016 established pursuant to s. 253.0325(2). The inventory shall be 1017 of such detail that objective measures and benchmarks can be 1018 established for each tract of land and monitored during the lifetime of the plan. All quantitative data collected shall be 1019 1020 aggregated, standardized, collected and presented in an electronic format to allow for uniform management reporting and 1021 1022 analysis. The information collected by the Department of 1023 Environmental Protection pursuant to s. 253.0325(2) shall be 1024 available to the land manager and the land manager's assignee. 1025 3. A detailed description of each short-term and long-term 1026 land management goal, the associated measureable objectives, and 1027 the related activities that are to be performed to meet the land 1028 management objectives. Where habitat or potential habitat for 1029 imperiled species is located on state lands, the short-term and

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long-term management goals shall advance the goals and

objectives of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

management plan approved under commission rule. Each land

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management objective must be addressed by the land management plan. No land management objective shall be performed to the detriment of the other land management objectives or contrary to the goals and objectives of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission management plan approved under commission rule. Every land management objective must lead to the desired future condition of the property.

- 4. A schedule of land management activities shall be prepared that contains short-term and long-term land management goals and the related measureable objectives and activities. The schedule shall include for each activity a timeline for completion and detailed cost estimates, including expense and personnel budgets. The schedule is to provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures.
- 5. A summary budget for the scheduled land management activities of the land management plan. For state lands containing or anticipated to contain imperiled species habitat, the summary budget shall include the expected revenues from fees collected for adverse impact to imperiled species from public or private projects. The summary budget shall be prepared in such a manner that it facilitates computing an aggregate accounting of land management costs for all state-managed lands utilizing the categories described in s. 259.037(3).
- (d) Upon completion, the land management plan will be transmitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review. The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall have 60 days to review the plan and submit its recommendations to the board of trustees. During the review period, the land management

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1061 plan may be revised if agreed to by the primary land manager and 1062 the Acquisition and Restoration Council taking into 1063 consideration public input. If the Acquisition and Restoration 1064 Council fails to make a recommendation for a land management 1065 plan, the Secretary of the Department of Environmental 1066 Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Executive 1067 Director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or their designees shall submit the land management plan to the 1068 1069 board of trustees. The land management plan becomes operational 1070 upon approval by the board of trustees. Beginning July 1, 2010, and biennially thereafter, 1071 1072 state lands with an approved land management plan must be 1073 monitored for land management activities by a monitoring team 1074 and reviewed by a third party selected by Acquisition and Restoration Council. The Division of State Lands shall 1075 1076 coordinate the activities of the review teams and third parties. 1077 The land management monitoring team shall consist of three 1078 members. One member shall be selected by the Secretary of 1079 Department of Environmental Protection, or his or her designee, 1080 and shall have experience with public recreation or public-use 1081 administration. One member shall be selected by the Commissioner 1082 of Agriculture, or his or her designee, and shall have 1083 experience with applied land management. One member shall be 1084 selected by the executive director of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, or his or her designee, and shall have 1085 experience with applied habitat management. The monitoring team 1086

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towards achieving short-term and long-term land management goals

shall prepare a monitoring report that assesses the progress

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1089	and shall propose corrective actions for identified deficiencies
1090	in management activities. The monitoring report shall be
1091	submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the
1092	managing agency. The third party reviewer selected by the
1093	Acquisition and Restoration Council shall perform an audit of
1094	selected land management activities based on a risk-based
1095	approach and shall identify the progress toward achieving short-
1096	term and long-term land management goals. The third party audit
1097	is to be submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council
1098	and the managing agency. The Acquisition and Restoration Council
1099	shall review the monitoring report and the third party audit,
1100	and determine whether the deficiencies warrant a corrective
1101	action plan or revisions to the land management plan.
1102	Significant and recurring deficiencies shall be brought before
1103	the board of trustees, which shall determine whether the
1104	corrective actions being proposed by the land manager and the
1105	Acquisition and Restoration Council sufficiently address the
1106	identified deficiencies. Corrective action plans shall be
1107	prepared and submitted in the same manner as land management
1108	plans.

- (f) Land management plans are to be updated every 10 years on a rotating basis.
- (g) In developing land management plans, at least two public hearings must be held within the county most affected by the parcel or project.
- $\underline{\text{(h)}}$ The Division of State Lands shall make available to the public $\underline{\text{an electronic}}$ $\underline{\text{a}}$ copy of each land management plan $\underline{\text{for}}$ $\underline{\text{parcels that exceed 160 acres in size}}$. The $\underline{\text{Division of State}}$

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Lands council shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection, the requirements of chapter 259, and the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this section. The council shall also consider the propriety of the recommendations of the managing entity with regard to the future use of the property, the protection of fragile or nonrenewable resources, the potential for alternative or multiple uses not recognized by the managing entity, and the possibility of disposal of the property by the board. After its review, the council shall submit the plan, along with its recommendations and comments, to the board. The council shall specifically recommend to the board whether to approve the plan as submitted, approve the plan with modifications, or reject the plan. If the Acquisition and Restoration Council fails to make a recommendation for a land management plan, the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or their designees shall submit the land management plan to the board of trustees.

- (i)(b) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall consider the land management plan submitted by each entity and the recommendations of the council and the Division of State Lands and shall approve the plan with or without modification or reject such plan. The use or possession of any such lands that is not in accordance with an approved land management plan is subject to termination by the board.
- (6) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement
 Trust Fund shall determine which lands, the title to which is

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vested in the board, may be surplused. For conservation lands, the board shall make a determination that the lands are no longer needed for conservation purposes and may dispose of them by an affirmative vote of at least three members. In the case of a land exchange involving the disposition of conservation lands, the board must determine by an affirmative vote of at least three members that the exchange will result in a net positive conservation benefit. For all other lands, the board shall make a determination that the lands are no longer needed and may dispose of them by an affirmative vote of at least three members.

- (a) For the purposes of this subsection, all lands acquired by the state prior to July 1, 1999, using proceeds from the Preservation 2000 bonds, the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, the Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, and the Save Our Coast Program and titled to the board, which lands are identified as core parcels or within original project boundaries, shall be deemed to have been acquired for conservation purposes.
- (b) For any lands purchased by the state on or after July 1, 1999, a determination shall be made by the board prior to acquisition as to those parcels that shall be designated as having been acquired for conservation purposes. No lands acquired for use by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Management Services for use as state offices, the Department of Transportation, except those specifically managed for conservation or recreation purposes, or the State University

System or the Florida Community College System shall be designated as having been purchased for conservation purposes.

- (c) At least every 10 years, as a component of each land management plan or land use plan and in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board, each manager shall evaluate and indicate to the board those lands that are not being used for the state purposes purpose for which they were originally leased. For conservation lands, the council shall review and shall recommend to the board whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board. For nonconservation lands, the division shall review such lands and shall recommend to the board whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board.
- (d) Lands owned by the board which are not actively managed by any state agency or for which a land management plan has not been completed pursuant to subsection (5) shall be reviewed by the council or its successor for its recommendation as to whether such lands should be managed by a private contractor, leased, or disposed of by the board.
- (e) Prior to any decision by the board to surplus lands, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review and make recommendations to the board concerning the request for surplusing. The council shall determine whether the request for surplusing is compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands.
- (f) In reviewing lands owned by the board, the council shall consider whether such lands would be more appropriately owned or managed by the county or other unit of local government

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in which the land is located. The council shall recommend to the board whether a sale, lease, or other conveyance to a local government would be in the best interests of the state and local government. The provisions of this paragraph in no way limit the provisions of ss. 253.111 and 253.115. Such lands shall be offered to the state, county, or local government for a period of 45 30 days. Permittable uses for such surplus lands may include public schools; public libraries; fire or law enforcement substations; governmental, judicial, or recreational centers; and affordable housing meeting the criteria of s. 420.0004(3). County or local government requests for surplus lands shall be expedited throughout the surplusing process. If the county or local government does not elect to purchase such lands in accordance with s. 253.111, then any surplusing determination involving other governmental agencies shall be made upon the board deciding the best public use of the lands. Surplus properties in which governmental agencies have expressed no interest shall then be available for sale on the private market.

2. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1., any parcel of surplus lands less than 3 acres in size which was acquired by the state before 1955 by gift or other conveyance or for \$1 consideration from a fair association incorporated under chapter 616 for the purpose of conducting and operating public fairs or expositions, and concerning which the department has filed by July 1, 2008, a notice of intent to dispose of as surplus lands, shall be offered for reconveyance to such fair association for no consideration; however, the agency that last held the lease from

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the board for management of such lands may remove from the lands any improvements, fixtures, goods, wares, and merchandise within 180 days after the effective date of the reconveyance. This subparagraph expires July 1, 2008.

- pursuant to this subsection and s. 253.82 shall be determined by the division and shall take into consideration an appraisal of the property, or, when the estimated value of the land is less than \$100,000, a comparable sales analysis or a broker's opinion of value. In the event that a single appraisal yields a value equal to or greater than \$1 million, a second appraisal is required. The individual or entity requesting the surplus shall select and use appraisers from the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands in accordance with s. 253.025(6)(b). The individual or entity requesting the surplus is to incur all costs of the second appraisal, and the price paid by the state to originally acquire the lands.
- 1.a. A written valuation of land determined to be surplus pursuant to this subsection and s. 253.82, and related documents used to form the valuation or which pertain to the valuation, are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution until 2 weeks before the contract or agreement regarding the purchase, exchange, or disposal of the surplus land is first considered for approval by the board. Notwithstanding the exemption provided under this subparagraph, the division may disclose appraisals, valuations, or valuation information regarding surplus land during negotiations for the sale or exchange of the land, during the marketing effort or

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bidding process associated with the sale, disposal, or exchange of the land to facilitate closure of such effort or process, when the passage of time has made the conclusions of value invalid, or when negotiations or marketing efforts concerning the land are concluded.

- b. This subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2009, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
- 2. A unit of government that acquires title to lands hereunder for less than appraised value may not sell or transfer title to all or any portion of the lands to any private owner for a period of 10 years. Any unit of government seeking to transfer or sell lands pursuant to this paragraph shall first allow the board of trustees to reacquire such lands for the price at which the board sold such lands.
- (h) Where a unit of government acquired land by gift, donation, grant, quitclaim deed, or other such conveyance where no monetary consideration was exchanged, the price of land sold as surplus may be based on one appraisal. In the event that a single appraisal yields a value equal to or greater than \$1 million, a second appraisal is required. The individual or entity requesting the surplus shall select and use appraisers from the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands in accordance with s. 253.025(6)(b). The individual or entity requesting the surplus is to incur all costs of the appraisals.

(h)(i) After reviewing the recommendations of the council, the board shall determine whether lands identified for surplus are to be held for other public purposes or whether such lands are no longer needed. The board may require an agency to release its interest in such lands. For an agency that has requested the use of a property that was to be declared as surplus, said agency must have the property under lease within 6 months of the date of expiration of the notice provisions required under this subsection and s. 253.111.

(i)(j) Requests for surplusing may be made by any public or private entity or person. All requests shall be submitted to the lead managing agency for review and recommendation to the council or its successor. Lead managing agencies shall have 90 days to review such requests and make recommendations. Any surplusing requests that have not been acted upon within the 90-day time period shall be immediately scheduled for hearing at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the council or its successor. Requests for surplusing pursuant to this paragraph shall not be required to be offered to local or state governments as provided in paragraph (f).

(j) (k) Proceeds from any sale of surplus lands pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the fund from which such lands were acquired. However, if the fund from which the lands were originally acquired no longer exists, such proceeds shall be deposited into an appropriate account to be used for land management by the lead managing agency assigned the lands prior to the lands being declared surplus. Funds received from the sale of surplus nonconservation lands, or lands that were

acquired by gift, by donation, or for no consideration, shall be deposited into the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

- $\underline{(k)}$ (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, no such disposition of land shall be made if such disposition would have the effect of causing all or any portion of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to lose the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes.
- (1) (m) The sale of filled, formerly submerged land that does not exceed 5 acres in area is not subject to review by the council or its successor.
- (m) (n) The board may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section, which may include procedures for administering surplus land requests and criteria for when the division may approve requests to surplus nonconservation lands on behalf of the board.
 - (7) This section shall not be construed so as to affect:
- (a) Other provisions of this chapter relating to oil, gas, or mineral resources.
- (b) The exclusive use of state-owned land subject to a lease by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of state-owned land for private uses and purposes.
- (c) Sovereignty lands not leased for private uses and purposes.
- (8)(a) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, the Division of State Lands is directed to prepare a state inventory of all federal lands and all lands titled in the name of the state, a state agency, a water management district, or a local government on a county-by-county basis. To facilitate the

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1339 development of the state inventory, each county shall direct the 1340 appropriate county office with authority over the information to provide the division with a county inventory of all lands 1341 1342 identified as federal lands and lands titled in the name of the 1343 state, a state agency, a water management district, or a local government. The Legislature recognizes the value of the state's 1344 1345 conservation lands as water recharge areas and air filters, and in an effort to better understand the scientific underpinnings 1346 of carbon sequestration, carbon capture, and greenhouse gas 1347 1348 mitigation, to inform policy and decisionmakers, and to provide 1349 the infrastructure for land owners, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Division of Forestry 1350 1351 in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection 1352 shall contract with an organization experienced and specialized in carbon sinks and emission budgets, to conduct an inventory of 1353 1354 all lands acquired pursuant to Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever and that were titled in the name of the Board of 1355 1356 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The inventory 1357 shall determine the value of carbon capture and carbon sequestration. Such inventory shall consider potential carbon 1358 1359 offset values of changes in land management practices including, 1360 but not limited to, replanting of trees, routine prescribed burns and land use conversion. Such an inventory shall be 1361 completed and presented to the Board of Trustees by July 1, 1362 1363 2009. The state inventory must distinguish between lands 1364 purchased by the state or a water management district as part of 1365

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a core parcel or within original project boundaries, as those

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

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terms are used to meet the surplus requirements of subsection (6), and lands purchased by the state, a state agency, or a water management district which are not essential or necessary for conservation purposes.

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- In any county having a population of 75,000 or less, or a county having a population of 100,000 or less that is contiguous to a county having a population of 75,000 or less, in which more than 50 percent of the lands within the county boundary are federal lands and lands titled in the name of the state, a state agency, a water management district, or a local government, those lands titled in the name of the state or a state agency which are not essential or necessary to meet conservation purposes may, upon request of a public or private entity, be made available for purchase through the state's surplusing process. Rights-of-way for existing, proposed, or anticipated transportation facilities are exempt from the requirements of this paragraph. Priority consideration shall be given to buyers, public or private, willing to return the property to productive use so long as the property can be reentered onto the county ad valorem tax roll. Property acquired with matching funds from a local government shall not be made available for purchase without the consent of the local government.
- (9) Land management plans required to be submitted by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children and Family Services, or the Department of Education are not subject to the provisions for review by the council or its successor described in subsection

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(5). Management plans filed by these agencies shall be made available to the public <u>electronically and</u> for a period of 90 days at the administrative offices of the parcel or project affected by the management plan and at the Tallahassee offices of each agency. Any plans not objected to during the public comment period shall be deemed approved. Any plans for which an objection is filed shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for consideration. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall approve the plan with or without modification, or reject the plan. The use or possession of any such lands which is not in accordance with an approved land management plan is subject to termination by the board.

- (10) The following additional uses of conservation lands acquired pursuant to the Florida Forever program and other state-funded conservation land purchase programs shall be authorized, upon a finding by the board of trustees, if they meet the criteria specified in paragraphs (a)-(e): water resource development projects, water supply development projects, stormwater management projects, linear facilities, and sustainable agriculture and forestry. Such additional uses are authorized where:
- (a) Not inconsistent with the management plan for such lands;
- (b) Compatible with the natural ecosystem and resource values of such lands;

(c) The proposed use is appropriately located on such lands and where due consideration is given to the use of other available lands;

- (d) The using entity reasonably compensates the titleholder for such use based upon an appropriate measure of value; and
 - (e) The use is consistent with the public interest.

A decision by the board of trustees pursuant to this section shall be given a presumption of correctness. Moneys received from the use of state lands pursuant to this section shall be returned to the lead managing entity in accordance with the provisions of s. 259.032(11)(d).

managed for conservation pursuant to s. 259.032, on an interim basis by a private party in anticipation of a state purchase in accordance with a contractual arrangement between the acquiring agency and the private party that may include management service contracts, leases, cost-share arrangements or resource conservation agreements. Lands designated as eligible under this subsection shall be managed to maintain or enhance the resources the state is seeking to protect by acquiring the land. Funding for these contractual arrangements may originate from the documentary stamp tax revenue deposited into the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund and Water Management Lands Trust Fund. No more than 5 percent of funds allocated under the trust funds shall be expended for this purpose.

(12) Any lands available to governmental employees, including water management district employees, for hunting or other recreational purposes shall also be made available to the general public for such purposes.

- (13) (a) All state lands may be used to protect, manage, or restore habitat for native or imperiled species. The commission shall submit an annual work plan for such uses to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the council may, at its discretion, modify the work plan prior to approval. Following approval of the work plan by the council, the commission shall submit the approved work plan to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for adoption.
- (b) By February 1, 2010, the commission shall submit a report to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the board of trustees on the efficacy of utilizing state-owned lands to protect, manage, or restore habitat for native or imperiled species. This subsection expires July 1, 2014. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, funds from the sale of property by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles located in Palm Beach County are authorized to be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund to facilitate the exchange as provided in the General Appropriations Act, provided that at the conclusion of both exchanges the values are equalized. This subsection expires July 1, 2008.

Section 10. Section 253.036, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.036 Forest management.--All land management plans described in s. 253.034(5) which are prepared for parcels larger

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1476 than 1,000 acres shall contain an analysis of the multiple-use potential of the parcel. The, which analysis shall include the 1477 1478 potential of the parcel to generate revenues to enhance the 1479 management of the parcel. The Division of Forestry of the 1480 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services or other 1481 qualified professional forester approved by the Division of 1482 Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services lead agency shall prepare the analysis, which shall contain a 1483 1484 component or section prepared by a qualified professional forester which assesses the feasibility of managing timber 1485 1486 resources on the parcel for resource conservation and revenue generation purposes through a stewardship ethic that embraces 1487 1488 sustainable forest management practices if the lead management 1489 agency determines that the timber resource management is not in 1490 conflict with the primary management objectives of the parcel. 1491 For purposes of this section, practicing sustainable forest management means meeting the needs of the present without 1492 compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own 1493 1494 needs by practicing a land stewardship ethic which integrates the reforestation, managing, growing, nurturing, and harvesting 1495 1496 of trees for useful products with the conservation of soil, air 1497 and water quality, wildlife and fish habitat, and aesthetics. The Legislature intends that each lead management agency, 1498 whenever practicable and cost effective, use the services of the 1499 1500 Division of Forestry of the Florida Department of Agriculture 1501 and Consumer Services or other qualified private sector professional forester approved by Division of Forestry of the 1502 1503 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in completing

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such feasibility assessments and implementing timber resource management. The Legislature further intends that the lead management agency develop a memorandum of agreement with the Division of Forestry to provide for full reimbursement for any services provided for the feasibility assessments or timber resource management. All additional revenues generated through multiple-use management or compatible secondary use management shall be returned to the lead agency responsible for such management and shall be used to pay for management activities on all conservation, preservation, and recreation lands under the agency's jurisdiction. In addition, such revenue shall be segregated in an agency trust fund and shall remain available to the agency in subsequent fiscal years to support land management appropriations.

Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 253.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.111 Notice to board of county commissioners before sale.--The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the state may not sell any land to which they hold title unless and until they afford an opportunity to the county in which such land is situated to receive such land on the following terms and conditions:

(3) If the board receives, within $\underline{45}$ 30 days after notice is given to the board of county commissioners pursuant to subsection (1), the certified copy of the resolution provided for in subsection (2), the board shall forthwith convey to the county such land at a price that is equal to its appraised market value established by generally accepted professional

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standards for real estate appraisal and subject to such other terms and conditions as the board determines.

- Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 253.82, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 253.82 Title of state or private owners to Murphy Act lands.--
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- (b) Land to which title is vested in the board of trustees by paragraph (a) shall be treated in the same manner as other nonsovereignty lands owned by the board. However, any parcel of land the title to which is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund pursuant to this section which is 10 acres or less in size and has a an appraised market value of \$250,000 or less is hereby declared surplus, except for lands determined to be needed for state use, and may be sold in any manner provided by law. Only one appraisal shall be required for a sale of such land. All proceeds from the sale of such land shall be deposited into the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund is authorized to adopt rules to implement the provisions of this subsection.
- Section 13. Section 259.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 259.032 Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund; 1556 purpose.--
 - (1) It is the policy of the state that the citizens of this state shall be assured public ownership of natural areas for purposes of maintaining this state's unique natural

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resources; protecting air, land, and water quality; promoting water resource development to meet the needs of natural systems and citizens of this state; promoting restoration activities on public lands; and providing lands for natural resource based recreation. In recognition of this policy, it is the intent of the Legislature to provide such public lands for the people residing in urban and metropolitan areas of the state, as well as those residing in less populated, rural areas. It is the further intent of the Legislature, with regard to the lands described in paragraph (3)(c), that a high priority be given to the acquisition, restoration, and management of such lands in or near counties exhibiting the greatest concentration of population and, with regard to the lands described in subsection (3), that a high priority be given to acquiring lands or rights or interests in lands proposed for acquisition pursuant to s. 570.71, or lands within any area designated as an area of critical state concern under s. 380.05 which, in the judgment of the advisory council established pursuant to s. 259.035, or its successor, cannot be adequately protected by application of land development regulations adopted pursuant to s. 380.05. Finally, it is the Legislature's intent that lands acquired through this program and any successor programs be managed in such a way as to protect or restore their natural resource values, and provide the greatest benefit, including public access, to the citizens of this state.

(2)(a) The Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund is established within the Department of Environmental Protection.

The fund shall be used as a nonlapsing, revolving fund

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exclusively for the purposes of this section. The fund shall be credited with proceeds from the following excise taxes:

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- 1. The excise taxes on documents as provided in s. 201.15; and
- 2. The excise tax on the severance of phosphate rock as provided in s. 211.3103.

The Department of Revenue shall credit to the fund each month the proceeds from such taxes as provided in this paragraph.

There shall annually be transferred from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund that amount, not to exceed \$20 million annually, as shall be necessary to pay the debt service on, or fund debt service reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts with respect to bonds issued pursuant to s. 375.051 to acquire lands on the established priority list developed pursuant to ss. 259.101(4) and 259.105; however, no moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph, or earnings thereon, shall be used or made available to pay debt service on the Save Our Coast revenue bonds. Amounts transferred annually from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to this paragraph shall have the highest priority over other payments or transfers from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, and no other payments or transfers shall be made from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund until such transfers to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund have been made. Moneys in the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund also

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shall be used to manage lands and to pay for related costs, activities, and functions pursuant to the provisions of this section.

- (3) The Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, may allocate moneys from the fund in any one year to acquire the fee or any lesser interest in lands for the following public purposes:
- (a) To conserve and protect environmentally unique and irreplaceable lands that contain native, relatively unaltered flora and fauna representing a natural area unique to, or scarce within, a region of this state or a larger geographic area;
- (b) To conserve and protect lands within designated areas of critical state concern, if the proposed acquisition relates to the natural resource protection purposes of the designation;
- (c) To conserve and protect native species habitat or imperiled endangered or threatened species, emphasizing long-term protection for imperiled endangered or threatened species designated G 1 or G 2 by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and-especially those areas that are special locations for breeding and reproduction;
- (d) To conserve, protect, manage, or restore important ecosystems, landscapes, and forests, if the protection and conservation of such lands is necessary to enhance or protect significant surface water, groundwater, coastal, recreational, timber, or fish or wildlife resources which cannot otherwise be accomplished through local and state regulatory programs;
- (e) To promote water resource development that benefits natural systems and citizens of the state;

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(f) To facilitate the restoration and subsequent health and vitality of the Florida Everglades;

- (g) To provide areas, including recreational trails, for natural resource based recreation and other outdoor recreation on any part of any site compatible with conservation purposes;
- (h) To preserve significant archaeological or historic sites; or
- (i) To conserve urban open spaces suitable for greenways or outdoor recreation which are compatible with conservation purposes.
- (j) To preserve agricultural lands and working waterfronts under threat of conversion to development through fee simple and less-than-fee acquisitions, including acquisition pursuant to s. 570.71.
- (4) (a) Lands acquired under this section shall be for use as state-designated parks, recreation areas, preserves, reserves, historic or archaeological sites, geologic or botanical sites, recreational trails, forests, wilderness areas, wildlife management areas, urban open space, or other state-designated recreation or conservation lands; or they shall qualify for such state designation and use if they are to be managed by other governmental agencies or nonstate entities as provided for in this section.
- (b) In addition to the uses allowed in paragraph (a), moneys may be transferred from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the Florida Forever Trust Fund or the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. This paragraph expires July 1, 2007.

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(5) The board of trustees may allocate, in any year, an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the money credited to the fund in that year, such allocation to be used for the <u>purposes of 253.0325(2)</u> initiation and maintenance of a natural areas inventory to aid in the identification of areas to be acquired <u>pursuant to this section</u>.

- (6) Moneys in the fund not needed to meet obligations incurred under this section shall be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to the credit of the fund and may be invested in the manner provided by law. Interest received on such investments shall be credited to the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund.
- (7) The board of trustees may enter into any contract necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section. The lead land managing agencies designated by the board of trustees also are directed by the Legislature to enter into contracts or interagency agreements with other governmental entities, including local soil and water conservation districts, or private land managers who have the expertise to perform specific management activities which a lead agency lacks, or which would cost more to provide in-house. Such activities shall include, but not be limited to, controlled burning, road and ditch maintenance, mowing, and wildlife assessments. The lead land managing agency may contract with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for those lands which contain imperiled species habitat.
- (8) Lands to be considered for purchase under this section are subject to the selection procedures of s. 259.035 and

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related rules and shall be acquired in accordance with acquisition procedures for state lands provided for in s. 259.041, except for acquisition pursuant to s. 570.71 or as otherwise provided by the Legislature. An inholding or an addition to a project selected for purchase pursuant to this chapter is not subject to the selection procedures of s. 259.035 if the estimated value of such inholding or addition does not exceed \$500,000. When at least 90 percent of the acreage of a project has been purchased pursuant to this chapter, the project may be removed from the list and the remaining acreage may continue to be purchased. Moneys from the fund may be used for title work, appraisal fees, environmental audits, and survey costs related to acquisition expenses for lands to be acquired, donated, or exchanged which qualify under the categories of this section, at the discretion of the board. When the Legislature has authorized the Department of Environmental Protection to condemn a specific parcel of land and such parcel has already been approved for acquisition under this section, the land may be acquired in accordance with the provisions of chapter 73 or chapter 74, and the fund may be used to pay the condemnation award and all costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee, associated with condemnation.

- (9) All lands managed under this chapter and s. 253.034 shall be:
- (a) Managed in a manner that will provide the greatest combination of benefits to the public and to the resources.
- (b) Managed for public outdoor recreation which is compatible with the conservation and protection of public lands.

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Such management may include, but not be limited to, the following public recreational uses: fishing, hunting, camping, bicycling, hiking, nature study, swimming, boating, canoeing, horseback riding, diving, model hobbyist activities, birding, sailing, jogging, and other related outdoor activities compatible with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.

(c) Managed for the purposes for which the lands were acquired, consistent with paragraph (11)(a).

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- (d) Concurrent with its adoption of the annual Conservation and Recreation Lands list of acquisition projects pursuant to s. 259.035, the board of trustees shall adopt a management prospectus for each project. The management prospectus shall delineate:
 - 1. The management goals for the property;
- 2. The conditions that will affect the intensity of management;
- 3. An estimate of the revenue-generating potential of the property, if appropriate;
- 4. A timetable for implementing the various stages of management and for providing access to the public, if applicable;
- 5. A description of potential multiple-use activities as described in this section and s. 253.034;
- 6. Provisions for protecting existing infrastructure and for ensuring the security of the project upon acquisition;
- 7. The anticipated costs of <u>restoration and</u> management and projected sources of revenue, including legislative appropriations, to fund management needs; and

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8. Recommendations as to how many employees will be needed to manage the property, and recommendations as to whether local governments, volunteer groups, the former landowner, or other interested parties can be involved in the <u>restoration and</u> management.

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- Concurrent with the approval of the acquisition (e) contract pursuant to s. 259.041(3)(c) for any interest in lands except those lands being acquired under the provisions of s. 259.1052, the board of trustees shall designate a primary land manager an agency or agencies to restore and manage such lands as provided for in s. 253.002(1). The board shall evaluate and amend, as appropriate, the management policy statement for the project as provided by s. 259.035, consistent with the purposes for which the lands are acquired. For any fee simple acquisition of a parcel which is or will be leased back for agricultural purposes, or any acquisition of a less-than-fee interest in land that is or will be used for agricultural purposes, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall first consider having a soil and water conservation district, created pursuant to chapter 582, manage and monitor such interests.
- (f) State agencies designated to manage lands acquired under this chapter except those lands acquired under s. 259.1052 may contract with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, local governments, private entities, and soil and water conservation districts to assist in restoration and management activities, including the responsibility of being the lead land manager. Such land

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restoration and management contracts may include a provision for the transfer of management funding to the local government or soil and water conservation district from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund in an amount adequate for the local government or soil and water conservation district to perform its contractual land management responsibilities and proportionate to its responsibilities, and which otherwise would have been expended by the state agency to manage the property.

- (g) Immediately following the acquisition of any interest in lands under this chapter, the <u>Division of State Lands</u>

 Department of Environmental Protection, acting on behalf of the board of trustees, may issue to the lead managing entity an interim assignment letter to be effective until the execution of a formal lease.
- (10) (a) State, regional, or local governmental agencies or private entities designated to manage lands under this section shall develop and adopt, with the approval of the board of trustees, an individual management plan for each project designed to conserve and protect such lands and their associated natural resources. Private sector involvement in management plan development may be used to expedite the planning process.
- (b) Individual management plans required by s. 253.034(5)7 for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group and the general public. Members of this advisory group shall include, at a minimum, representatives of the lead land managing agency, comanaging entities, local private property owners, the appropriate soil and water conservation district, a local conservation organization, and a

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local elected official. The lead land manager and the advisory group shall conduct at least two public hearings one public hearing within the county in which the parcel or project is located. For those parcels or projects that are within more than one county, at least one additional areawide public hearing shall be acceptable and the lead managing agency shall invite a local elected official from each county. The additional areawide public hearing shall not be held in the county in which the core parcels are located. Notice of such public hearing shall be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the actual public hearing. The management prospectus required pursuant to paragraph (9)(d) and any draft land management plans shall be available to the public for a period of 30 days prior to each the public hearing.

(c) Once a plan is adopted, the managing agency or entity shall update the plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule of the board of trustees. Such updates, for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group in the same manner as described in paragraph (b). Such plans may include transfers of leasehold interests to appropriate conservation organizations or governmental entities designated by the Acquisition and Restoration Council Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council or its successor, for uses consistent with the purposes of the organizations and the protection, preservation, conservation, restoration, and proper management of the lands

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and their resources. Volunteer management assistance is encouraged, including, but not limited to, assistance by youths participating in programs sponsored by state or local agencies, by volunteers sponsored by environmental or civic organizations, and by individuals participating in programs for committed delinquents and adults.

- (d)1. For each project for which lands are acquired after July 1, 1995, an individual management plan shall be adopted and in place no later than 1 year after the essential parcel or parcels identified in the priority list developed pursuant to ss. 259.101(4) and 259.105 have been acquired. The Department of Environmental Protection shall distribute only 75 percent of the acquisition funds to which a budget entity or water management district would otherwise be entitled from the Preservation 2000 Trust Fund to any budget entity or any water management district that has more than one-third of its management plans overdue.
- 2. The requirements of subparagraph 1. do not apply to the individual management plan for the Babcock Crescent B Ranch being acquired pursuant to s. 259.1052. The management plan for the ranch shall be adopted and in place no later than 2 years following the date of acquisition by the state.
- (e) Individual <u>land</u> management plans shall conform to the appropriate policies and guidelines of the state land management plan and shall include, but not be limited to:
- 1. A statement of the purpose for which the lands were acquired, the projected use or uses as defined in s. 253.034, and the statutory authority for such use or uses.

2. Key Management activities necessary to <u>achieve the</u>
desired future conditions, including, but not limited to,
providing public access, preserving and protecting natural
resources, protecting cultural and historical resources,
restoring and repopulating habitat, protecting imperiled
species, controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals,
and performing prescribed fire activities and other appropriate
resource management preserve and protect natural resources and
restore habitat, and for controlling the spread of nonnative
plants and animals, and for prescribed fire and other
appropriate resource management activities.

- 3. A specific description of how the managing agency plans to identify, locate, protect, and preserve, or otherwise use fragile, nonrenewable natural and cultural resources.
- 4. A priority schedule for conducting restoration and management activities, based on the short-term, long-term, and desired future condition provided in the land management plan purposes for which the lands were acquired.
- 5. A cost estimate for conducting priority management activities, including utilization of the private sector to include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities.
- 6. A cost estimate for conducting other management activities which would enhance the natural resource value or public recreation value for which the lands were acquired. The cost estimate shall include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities.

7. A determination of the public uses and public access that are to be provided would be consistent with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.

- (f) The Division of State Lands shall submit a copy of each individual management plan for parcels which exceed 160 acres in size to each member of the Acquisition and Restoration Council Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council or its successor, which shall:
- 1. Within 60 days after receiving a plan from the division, review each plan for compliance with the requirements of chapter 253, this subsection and with the requirements of the rules established by the board pursuant to this subsection.
- 2. Consider the propriety of the recommendations of the managing agency with regard to the future use or protection of the property.
- 3. After its review, submit the plan, along with its recommendations and comments, to the board of trustees, with recommendations as to whether to approve the plan as submitted, approve the plan with modifications, or reject the plan.
- (g) The board of trustees shall consider the individual management plan submitted by each state agency and the recommendations of the <u>Acquisition and Restoration Council</u> <u>Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council</u>, or its successor, and the Division of State Lands and shall approve the plan with or without modification or reject such plan. The use or possession of any lands owned by the board of trustees which is not in accordance with an approved individual management plan is subject to termination by the board of trustees.

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By July 1 of each year, each governmental agency and each private entity designated to manage lands shall report to the Division of State Lands Secretary of Environmental Protection on the progress of funding, staffing, and resource management of every project for which the agency or entity is responsible.

- (11) (a) The Legislature recognizes that acquiring lands pursuant to this chapter serves the public interest by protecting land, air, and water resources which contribute to the public health and welfare, providing areas for natural resource based recreation, and ensuring the survival of unique and irreplaceable plant and animal species. The Legislature intends for these lands to be managed and maintained for the purposes for which they were acquired and for the public to have access to and use of these lands if it will where it is consistent with acquisition purposes and would not harm the resources the state is seeking to protect, restore, and manage on the public's behalf.
- (b) An amount not less than up to 1.5 percent of the cumulative total of funds ever deposited into the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund and the Florida Forever Trust Fund shall be made available for the purposes of restoration, management, maintenance, and capital improvements not eligible for funding pursuant to s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution, and for associated contractual services, for lands managed acquired pursuant to this section, s. 259.101, s. 259.105, s. 259.1052, or previous programs for the acquisition of lands for conservation and recreation, including state

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forests, to which title is vested in the board of trustees and other conservation and recreation lands managed by a state agency. Of this amount, \$250,000 shall be transferred annually to the Plant Industry Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of implementing the Endangered or Threatened Native Flora Conservation Grants Program pursuant to s. 581.185(11). Each agency with management responsibilities shall annually request from the Legislature funds sufficient to fulfill such responsibilities to implement individual land management plans developed under s. 253.034. For the purposes of this paragraph, capital improvements shall include, but need not be limited to, habitat restoration, perimeter fencing, signs, firelanes, access roads and trails, and minimal public accommodations, such as primitive campsites, garbage receptacles, and toilets. Any equipment purchased with funds provided pursuant to this paragraph may be used for appropriate land management activities the purposes described in this paragraph on any conservation and recreation lands managed by a state agency.

Protection, the Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission, and the Commissioner of Agriculture
shall prepare and deliver a report to the Board of Trustees of
the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, the President of the
Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later
than December 31, 2008, that provides an interim management
formula and a long-term management formula, and the
methodologies used to develop the formulas, which shall be used

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to allocate land management In requesting funds provided for in paragraph (b) for interim and long-term management of all acquisitions pursuant to this chapter and for associated contractual services. The methodology and formula for interim management shall be based on the land acquisitions from the prior year. The methodology and formula for long-term management shall consider, but not be limited to, the following, the managing agencies shall recognize the following categories of land management needs:

- 1. The level and complexity of resource management activities required for each of the natural community categories, groups and types provided in s. 253.0325(2), and the related management activities necessary to obtain the land management goals provided in s. 253.034, including, but not limited to, the acres of land that require:
- <u>a. Minimal effort for resource preservation or restoration.</u>
- <u>b. Moderate effort for resource preservation or restoration.</u>
- <u>c.</u> Significant effort for resource preservation or restoration.
- 2. The level and complexity of management intensity
 required to provide public access, including, but not limited to
 the acres of land that require:
- a. Minimal effort. Such lands generally are open to the public but offer no more than minimally developed facilities.
- b. Moderate effort. Such lands typically have a high degree of public use and offer highly developed facilities.

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c. Significant effort. Such lands generally are sites with historic significance or unique natural features and a very high degree of public use.

3. The location, size, and nature of the tract.

- 4. The monitoring activities required pursuant s. 253.034.
- 5. The acres of land with a secondary manager contributing to the overall management effort.
- 6. The anticipated revenues generated from management, restoration, and repopulation of the lands.
- 7. The acres of land with infestations of nonnative or invasive plants, animals, or fish.
- 1. Lands which are low need tracts, requiring basic resource management and protection, such as state reserves, state preserves, state forests, and wildlife management areas. These lands generally are open to the public but have no more than minimum facilities development.
- 2. Lands which are moderate need tracts, requiring more than basic resource management and protection, such as state parks and state recreation areas. These lands generally have extra restoration or protection needs, higher concentrations of public use, or more highly developed facilities.
- 3. Lands which are high need tracts, with identified needs requiring unique site specific resource management and protection. These lands generally are sites with historic significance, unique natural features, or very high intensity public use, or sites that require extra funds to stabilize or protect resources, such as lands with heavy infestations of nonnative, invasive plants.

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Any formula devised hereunder shall describe both the factors used and the factors not used in the formula. Beginning July 1, 2010, no funds provided under paragraph (b) shall be allocated, distributed, or expended until the allocation formula for funding land management activities has been adopted by the Legislature. Until the adoption of the formula described in this paragraph, interim and long-term management dollars shall continue to be allocated and disbursed under existing methods. Upon adoption, the allocation formula shall be used in the allocation and distribution of funds provided in paragraph (b). In evaluating the management funding needs of lands based on the above categories, the lead land managing agencies shall include in their considerations the impacts of, and needs created or

(d) All revenues generated through multiple-use management or compatible secondary-use management shall be returned to the lead agency responsible for such management and shall be used to pay for management activities on all conservation, preservation, and recreation lands under the agency's jurisdiction. In addition, such revenues shall be segregated in an agency trust fund and shall remain available to the agency in subsequent fiscal years to support land management appropriations. For the purposes of this paragraph, compatible secondary-use management shall be those activities described in subsection (9) undertaken on parcels designated as single use pursuant to s. 253.034(2)(b).

addressed by, multiple use management strategies.

(e) Up to one-fifth of the funds provided for in paragraph (b) shall be reserved by the board of trustees for <u>initial</u> restoration activities and interim management of acquisitions and for associated contractual services, to ensure the conservation and protection of natural resources on project sites and to allow limited public recreational use of lands. Interim management activities may include, but not be limited to, resource assessments, control of invasive, nonnative species, habitat restoration, fencing, law enforcement, controlled burning, and public access consistent with preliminary determinations made pursuant to paragraph (9)(g). The board of trustees shall make these interim funds available immediately upon purchase.

- department shall set long-range and annual goals for the control and removal of nonnative, invasive plant species on public lands. Such goals shall differentiate between aquatic plant species and upland plant species. In setting such goals, the department may rank, in order of adverse impact, species that impede or destroy the functioning of natural systems.

 Notwithstanding paragraph (a), up to one-fourth of the funds provided for in paragraph (b) may be used by the agencies receiving those funds for control and removal of nonnative, invasive species on public lands.
- (g) In addition to the purposes specified in paragraph
 (b), funds from the 1.5 percent of the cumulative total of funds
 ever deposited into the Florida Preservation 2000 Trust Fund and
 the Florida Forever Trust Fund may be appropriated for the 2006

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2007 fiscal year for the construction of replacement museum facilities. This paragraph expires July 1, 2007.

- (12)(a) Beginning July 1, 1999, the Legislature shall make available sufficient funds annually from the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund to the department for payment in lieu of taxes to qualifying counties and local governments as defined in paragraph (b) for all actual tax losses incurred as a result of board of trustees acquisitions for state agencies under the Florida Forever program or the Florida Preservation 2000 program during any year. Reserved funds not used for payments in lieu of taxes in any year shall revert to the fund to be used for land management in accordance with the provisions of this section.
 - (b) Payment in lieu of taxes shall be available:
- 1. To all counties that have a population of 150,000 or fewer. Population levels shall be determined pursuant to s. 11.031.
 - 2. To all local governments located in eligible counties.
- 3. To Glades County, where a privately owned and operated prison leased to the state has recently been opened and where privately owned and operated juvenile justice facilities leased to the state have recently been constructed and opened, a payment in lieu of taxes, in an amount that offsets the loss of property tax revenue, which funds have already been appropriated and allocated from the Department of Correction's budget for the purpose of reimbursing amounts equal to lost ad valorem taxes.
- (c) If insufficient funds are available in any year to make full payments to all qualifying counties and local

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governments, such counties and local governments shall receive a pro rata share of the moneys available.

- (d) The payment amount shall be based on the average amount of actual taxes paid on the property for the 3 years preceding acquisition. Applications for payment in lieu of taxes shall be made no later than January 31 of the year following acquisition. No payment in lieu of taxes shall be made for properties which were exempt from ad valorem taxation for the year immediately preceding acquisition.
- (e) If property which was subject to ad valorem taxation was acquired by a tax-exempt entity for ultimate conveyance to the state under this chapter, payment in lieu of taxes shall be made for such property based upon the average amount of taxes paid on the property for the 3 years prior to its being removed from the tax rolls. The department shall certify to the Department of Revenue those properties that may be eligible under this provision. Once eligibility has been established, for a county, and local governments within that county, whose population is less than 150,000 residents, shall continue to receive annual payments for each tax loss. Once a county has a population of 150,000 or more, payments shall end. However, no eligible that county or local government shall receive less than 10 consecutive annual payments for each tax loss, and no further eligibility determination shall be made during that period.
- (f) Payment in lieu of taxes pursuant to this subsection shall be made annually to qualifying counties and local governments after certification by the Department of Revenue that the amounts applied for are reasonably appropriate, based

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on the amount of actual taxes paid on the eligible property. With the assistance of the local government requesting payment in lieu of taxes, the state agency that acquired the land is responsible for preparing and submitting application requests for payment to the Department of Revenue for certification.

- (g) If the board of trustees conveys to a local government title to any land owned by the board, any payments in lieu of taxes on the land made to the local government shall be discontinued as of the date of the conveyance.
- For the purposes of this subsection, "local government" includes
 municipalities, the county school board, mosquito control
 districts, and any other local government entity which levies ad
 valorem taxes, with the exception of a water management
 district.
 - (13) Moneys credited to the fund each year which are not used for <u>restoration</u>, management, maintenance, or capital improvements pursuant to subsection (11); for payment in lieu of taxes pursuant to subsection (12); or for the purposes of subsection (5), shall be available for the acquisition of land pursuant to this section.
 - (14) The board of trustees may adopt rules to further define the categories of land for acquisition under this chapter.
 - (15) Within 90 days after receiving a certified letter from the owner of a property on the Conservation and Recreation Lands list or the priority list established pursuant to s.

 259.105 objecting to the property being included in an

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acquisition project, where such property is a project or part of a project which has not been listed for purchase in the current year's land acquisition work plan, the board of trustees shall delete the property from the list or from the boundary of an acquisition project on the list.

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Section 14. Section 259.0322, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.0322 Reinstitution of payments in lieu of taxes; duration.--If the Department of Environmental Protection has made a payment in lieu of taxes to a governmental entity and subsequently suspended such payment, the department shall reinstitute appropriate payments and continue the payments for each tax loss as long as the eligible county's population stays below 150,000 residents. Once an eligible county has a population that reaches or exceeds 150,000 residents, payments to the county or local government for each tax loss shall cease. However, no eligible county or local government shall receive less than 10 consecutive annual payments for each tax loss in consecutive years until the governmental entity has received a total of 10 payments for each tax loss.

Section 15. Section 259.035, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.035 Acquisition and Restoration Council. --

- (1) There is created the Acquisition and Restoration Council.
- (a) The council shall be composed of nine voting members, $\underline{\text{two}}$ four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor. These $\underline{\text{two}}$ four appointees shall be from scientific disciplines related to

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public recreation, public land use administration land, water, or environmental sciences. One member shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and shall be from a discipline related to agriculture, which may include silviculture. One member shall be appointed by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and shall be from a discipline related to wildlife management or wildlife ecology. The appointed members They shall serve 4-year terms, except that, initially, to provide for staggered terms, two of the appointees shall serve 2-year terms. All subsequent appointments shall be for 4-year terms. No appointee shall serve more than 6 years. The Governor and the Commissioner of Agriculture shall fill the first two vacancies with one appointment each. The subsequent two vacancies shall be filled by the Governor and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The Governor, the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission may at any time fill a vacancy for their respective appointment for the unexpired term of a member appointed under this paragraph.

- (b) The five remaining appointees shall be composed of the Secretary of Environmental Protection, the director of the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the director of the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, and the Director of Community Planning secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, or their respective designees.
- (c) The Governor shall appoint the chair of the council, and a vice chair shall be elected from among the members.

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(d) The council shall hold periodic meetings at the request of the chair.

- (e) The Department of Environmental Protection shall provide primary staff support to the council and shall ensure that council meetings are electronically recorded. Such recording shall be preserved pursuant to chapters 119 and 257.
- (f) The board of trustees has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section.
- (2) The four <u>appointed</u> members of the council <u>shall</u>

 <u>receive reimbursement for</u> appointed by the Governor shall

 receive \$75 per day while engaged in the business of the council, as well as expenses and per diem for travel <u>to attend council, including attendance at meetings</u>, as allowed state officers and employees while in the performance of their duties, pursuant to s. 112.061.
- (3) The council shall provide assistance to the board of trustees in reviewing the recommendations and plans for state-owned lands required under ss. 253.034 and 259.032. The council shall, in reviewing such recommendations and plans, consider the optimization of multiple-use and conservation strategies to accomplish the provisions funded pursuant to ss. 259.101(3)(a) and 259.105(3)(b).
- (4) (a) The council may use existing rules adopted by the board of trustees, until it develops and recommends amendments to those rules, to competitively evaluate, select, and rank projects eligible for the Conservation and Recreation Lands list pursuant to ss. 259.032(3) and 259.101(4) and, beginning no

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later than May 1, 2001, for Florida Forever funds pursuant to s. 259.105(3)(b).

- (b) By December 1, 2009, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall develop rules defining specific criteria and numeric performance measures needed for lands that are to be acquired for public purpose under the Florida Forever program pursuant to s. 259.105. Each recipient of Florida Forever funds shall assist the council in the development of such rules. These rules shall be reviewed and adopted by the Board of Trustees then submitted to the Legislature for consideration by February 1, 2010. The Legislature may reject, modify, or approve the proposed rules. Each recipient of Florida Forever funds shall annually report to the Division of State Lands on each of the numeric performance measures accomplished during the previous fiscal year.
- (c) In developing or amending the rules, the council shall give weight to the criteria included in s. 259.105(10). The board of trustees shall review the recommendations and shall adopt rules necessary to administer this section.
- (5) An affirmative vote of five members of the council is required in order to change a project boundary or to place a proposed project on a list developed pursuant to subsection (4). Any member of the council who by family or a business relationship has a connection with all or a portion of any proposed project shall declare the interest before voting on its inclusion on a list.
- (6) The proposal for a project pursuant to this section or s. 259.105(3)(b) may be implemented only if adopted by the

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council and approved by the board of trustees. The council shall consider and evaluate in writing the merits and demerits of each project that is proposed for Conservation and Recreation Lands, Florida Preservation 2000, or Florida Forever funding and shall ensure that each proposed project will meet a stated public purpose for the restoration, conservation, or preservation of environmentally sensitive lands and water areas or for providing outdoor recreational opportunities. The council also shall determine whether the project conforms, where applicable, with the comprehensive plan developed pursuant to s. 259.04(1)(a), the comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan developed pursuant to s. 375.021, the state lands management plan adopted pursuant to s. 253.03(7), the water resources work plans developed pursuant to s. 373.199, and the provisions of s. 259.032, s. 259.101, or s. 259.105, whichever is applicable. Section 16. Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, is amended

to read:

259.036 Management review teams. --

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To determine whether conservation, preservation, and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund are being managed to achieve the long-term management goals of the land management plans provided in s. 253.034, for the purposes for which they were acquired and in accordance with a land management plan adopted pursuant to s. 259.032, the board of trustees, acting through the Division of State Lands Department of Environmental Protection, shall cause periodic management reviews to be conducted as follows:

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2312 The Division of State Lands department shall establish a regional land management review team composed of the following members: 2314

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- One individual who is from the county or local community in which the parcel or project is located and who is selected by the county commission in the county which is most impacted by the acquisition.
- One individual from the Division of Recreation and Parks of the department or one individual from the department's district office in which the parcel is located.
- One individual from the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services with applied land management experience.
- 4. One individual from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission with applied wildlife habitat experience.
- A private land manager selected by the Commissioner of Agriculture One individual from the department's district office in which the parcel is located.
- A private land manager selected by the executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission mutually agreeable to the state agency representatives.
- A member selected by of the local soil and water conservation district board of supervisors.
- A member of a conservation organization selected by the Division of State Lands.
- The staff of the Division of State Lands shall act as the review team coordinator for the purposes of establishing schedules for the reviews and other staff functions. The

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Legislature shall appropriate funds necessary to implement land management review team functions.

- management areas prior to the date the manager is required to submit a 10-year land management plan update. For management areas that exceed 1,000 acres in size, the Division of State Lands shall schedule a land management review at least every 5 years. A copy of the review shall be provided to the land manager, the Acquisition and Restoration Council, and the Division of State Lands for incorporation into the land management plan, and the Acquisition and Restoration Council. The land manager and the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required 10-year update of the land its management plan.
- team shall evaluate the extent to which the existing management plan provides sufficient protection to threatened or endangered species, unique or important natural or physical features, geological or hydrological functions, or archaeological features. The review shall also evaluate the extent to which the land is being managed to achieve the goals of the land management plans provided in s. 253.034 for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices, including public access, are in compliance with the adopted management plan. As part of the review, the land management review teams shall consider and review the biennial reports and audits provided under s. 253.034.

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(4) In the event a land management plan has not been adopted within the timeframes specified in s. 259.032(10), the <u>Division of State Lands shall</u> department may direct a management review of the property, to be conducted by the land management review team. The review shall consider the extent to which the land is being managed for the purposes for which it was acquired and the degree to which actual management practices are in compliance with the management policy statement and management prospectus for that property.

- (5) If the land management review team determines that reviewed lands are not being managed to achieve the goals of the land management plans provided in s. 253.034 for the purposes for which they were acquired or in compliance with the adopted land management plan, management policy statement, or management prospectus, or if the managing agency fails to address the review findings in the updated management plan, the Division of State Lands department shall provide the review findings to the board, and the managing agency must report to the board its reasons for managing the lands as it has.
- (6) No later than the second board meeting <u>following the</u> <u>submittal of the review in October of each year</u>, the <u>Division of State Lands and the land manager shall department shall</u> report the annual review findings of <u>the</u> <u>its</u> land management review team <u>to the board of trustees</u>.
- Section 17. Section 259.037, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 259.037 Land Management Uniform Accounting Council .--

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The Land Management Uniform Accounting Council is created within the Department of Environmental Protection and shall consist of the director of the Division of State Lands, the director of the Division of Recreation and Parks, the director of the Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas, and the director of the Office of Greenways and Trails of the Department of Environmental Protection; the director of the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and the director of the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State, or their respective designees. Each state agency represented on the council shall have one vote. The chair of the council shall rotate annually in the foregoing order of state agencies. The agency of the representative serving as chair of the council shall provide staff support for the council. The Division of State Lands shall serve as the recipient of and repository for the council's documents. The council shall meet at the request of the chair.

- (2) The Auditor General and the director of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, or their designees, shall advise the council to ensure that appropriate accounting procedures are utilized and that a uniform method of collecting and reporting accurate costs of land management activities are created and can be used by all agencies.
- (3) (a) All land management activities and costs must be assigned to a specific category, and any single activity or cost may not be assigned to more than one category. Administrative

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costs, such as planning or training, shall be segregated from other management activities. Specific management activities and costs must initially be grouped, at a minimum, within the following categories:

- 1. (a) Resource management.
- 2428 2. Restoration.
- 2429 3. Visitor Services.
- 2430 4.(b) Administration.
- 2431 <u>5. Support.</u>

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- 2432 6. Law Enforcement.
- 2433 <u>7.(c)</u> New <u>capital improvement and infrastructure</u> facility 2434 construction.
- 2435 <u>8.(d)</u> <u>Capital improvement and infrastructure</u> Facility 2436 maintenance.
 - (b) Each reporting agency shall also:
 - 1. List the acres of land requiring minimal management effort, moderate management effort, and significant management effort pursuant to s. 259.032(11)(c). For each category the reporting agency shall include the amount of funds requested, the amount of funds received, and the amount of funds expended for land management.
 - 2. Include a report of the available public use opportunities for each tract of state land, the total management cost for public access and public use, and the cost associated with each use option.
 - 3. List the acres managed and the cost of management for each park, preserve, forest, reserve, or management area.
 - 4. List the acres managed, the cost of management, and the

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lead manager for state lands tracts for which secondary management activities were provided.

- Upon adoption of the initial list of land management categories by the council, agencies assigned to manage conservation or recreation lands shall, on July 1, 2000, begin to account for land management costs in accordance with the category to which an expenditure is assigned. <u>Beginning July 1, 2010, all such costs shall be tied to the land management plan.</u>
- (4) The council shall report agencies' expenditures pursuant to the adopted categories to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives annually, beginning July 1, 2001. The council shall also provide this report to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the Division of State Lands for inclusion in its annual report required pursuant to s. 259.036 259.105. Beginning July 1, 2010, the council shall conduct a review every 5 years and report to the Legislature the value added by the report and provide a recommendation with respect to revising the reporting requirements.
- (5) Should the council determine that the list of land management categories needs to be revised, it shall meet upon the call of the chair.
- Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 259.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 259.04 Board; powers and duties.--
- 2477 (1) For projects and acquisitions selected for purchase 2478 pursuant to ss. 259.035, 259.101, and 259.105:

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(a) The board is given the responsibility, authority, and power to develop and execute a comprehensive, statewide 5-year plan to conserve, restore, and protect environmentally endangered lands, ecosystems, lands necessary for outdoor recreational needs, and other lands as identified in ss. 259.032, 259.101, and 259.105. This plan shall be consistent with the rules adopted pursuant to s. 259.035(4)(b) and kept current through continual reevaluation and revision. The advisory council or its successor shall assist the board in the development, reevaluation, and revision of the plan.

Section 19. Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (7) of section 259.041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

259.041 Acquisition of state-owned lands for preservation, conservation, and recreation purposes.--

(1) Neither the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund nor its duly authorized agent shall commit the state, through any instrument of negotiated contract or agreement for purchase, to the purchase of lands with or without appurtenances unless the provisions of this section have been fully complied with. Except for the requirements of subsections (3), (7), (14), and (15), the board of trustees may waive any requirements of this section, may waive any rules adopted pursuant to this section, notwithstanding chapter 120, or may substitute other reasonably prudent procedures, provided the public's interest is reasonably protected. The title to lands acquired pursuant to this section shall vest in the board of trustees as provided in s. 253.03(1), unless otherwise

provided by law, and all such titled lands shall be administered pursuant to the provisions of s. 253.03.

- (2) The board of trustees has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section, including rules governing the terms and conditions of land purchases. Such rules shall address with specificity, but not be limited to:
- (a) The procedures to be followed in the acquisition process, including selection of appraisers, surveyors, title agents and closing agents, and the content of appraisal reports.
- (b) The determination of the value of parcels which the state has an interest to acquire.
- (c) Special requirements when multiple landowners are involved in an acquisition.
- (d) Requirements for obtaining written option agreements so that the interests of the state are fully protected.
- (e) Special requirements when multiple purchasers are involved in an acquisition.
- (3) No agreement to acquire real property for the purposes described in this chapter, chapter 260, or chapter 375, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, may bind the state unless and until the agreement has been reviewed and approved by the <u>Division of State Lands Department of Environmental Protection</u> as complying with the requirements of this section and any rules adopted pursuant to this section. When the state is a party to a joint acquisition in which another entity is contributing to the agreed contract price, the state contribution shall not exceed the difference between the

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appraised value, as determined by the state, and the sum of the contributions of the other parties. Where any of the following conditions exist, the agreement shall be submitted to and approved by the board of trustees:

- (a) The purchase price agreed to by the seller exceeds the value as established pursuant to the rules of the board of trustees;
- (b) The contract price agreed to by the seller and acquiring agency exceeds \$1 million;
- (c) The acquisition is the initial purchase in a project; or
- (d) Other conditions that the board of trustees may adopt by rule. Such conditions may include, but not be limited to, projects where title to the property being acquired is considered nonmarketable or is encumbered in such a way as to significantly affect its management.

Where approval of the board of trustees is required pursuant to this subsection, the acquiring agency must provide a justification as to why it is in the public's interest to acquire the parcel or project. Approval of the board of trustees also is required for projects the department recommends acquiring pursuant to subsections (14) and (15). Review and approval of agreements for acquisitions for Florida Greenways and Trails Program properties pursuant to chapter 260 may be waived by the department in any contract with nonprofit corporations that have agreed to assist the department with this program. Where the contribution of the acquiring agency exceeds

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\$100 million in any one fiscal year, the agreement shall be submitted to and approved by the Legislative Budget Commission.

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- (7) Prior to approval by the board of trustees or, when applicable, the Department of Environmental Protection, of any agreement to purchase land pursuant to this chapter, chapter 260, or chapter 375, and prior to negotiations with the parcel owner to purchase any other land, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, an appraisal of the parcel shall be required as follows:
- (a) The board of trustees shall adopt by rule the method for determining the value of parcels sought to be acquired by state agencies pursuant to this section.
- Each parcel to be acquired shall have at least one (b) appraisal. Two appraisals are required when the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$500,000. When two appraisals are required, one appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. However, When both appraisals exceed \$500,000 and differ significantly, a third appraisal shall may be obtained, with the Department of Financial Services selecting the third appraiser. Two appraisals shall be considered to differ significantly if the higher of the two values exceeds 120 percent of the lower value. When the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$500,000, the review appraiser shall be selected by the Department of Financial Services. To provide for payment by the agency selecting the second and third appraiser and review appraiser, as required by this section, the Department of Environmental Protection shall enter into interagency agreements with the Department of

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Agriculture and Consumer Services and Department of the Financial Services, whereby funds will be transferred to those agencies for that purpose upon direction of the selecting agency. All appraisers shall be selected from among the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands in accordance with s. 253.025(6)(b). When a parcel is estimated to be worth \$100,000 or less and the director of the Division of State Lands finds that the cost of obtaining an outside appraisal is not justified, an appraisal prepared by the division may be used. The state is not required to appraise the value of lands and appurtenances that are being donated to the state.

- (c) Appraisal fees and associated costs shall be paid by the agency proposing the acquisition. The board of trustees shall approve qualified fee appraisal organizations. All appraisals used for the acquisition of lands pursuant to this section shall be prepared by a member of an approved appraisal organization or by a state-certified appraiser who meets the standards and criteria established in rule by the board of trustees. Each fee appraiser selected to appraise a particular parcel shall, prior to contracting with the agency or a participant in a multiparty agreement, submit to that agency or participant an affidavit substantiating that he or she has no vested or fiduciary interest in such parcel.
- (d) The fee appraiser and the review appraiser for the agency shall not act in any way that may be construed as negotiating with the property owner.

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Generally, appraisal reports are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), for use by the agency and the board of trustees, until an option contract is executed or, if no option contract is executed, until 2 weeks before a contract or agreement for purchase is considered for approval by the board of trustees. However, the department has the authority, at its discretion, to disclose appraisal reports to private landowners during negotiations for acquisitions using alternatives to fee simple techniques, if the department determines that disclosure of such reports will bring the proposed acquisition to closure. The Division of State Lands may also disclose appraisal information to public agencies or nonprofit organizations that agree to maintain the confidentiality of the reports or information when joint acquisition of property is contemplated, or when a public agency or nonprofit organization enters into a written multiparty agreement with the division to purchase and hold property for subsequent resale to the division. In addition, the division may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a public agency or nonprofit organization, provided the appraiser is selected from the division's list of appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the division. For the purposes of this chapter, "nonprofit organization" means an organization whose purposes include the preservation of natural resources, and which is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The agency may release an appraisal report when the passage of time has rendered the conclusions of

value in the report invalid or when the acquiring agency has terminated negotiations.

(f) The Division of State Lands may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a public agency or nonprofit organization, provided that the appraiser is selected from the division's list of appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the division. For the purposes of this chapter, the term "nonprofit organization" means an organization whose purposes include the preservation of natural resources and which is exempt from federal income tax under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, on behalf of the board and before the appraisal of parcels approved for purchase under this chapter, the Secretary of Environmental Protection or the director of the Division of State Lands may enter into option contracts to buy such parcels. Any such option contract shall state that the final purchase price is subject to approval by the board or, when applicable, the secretary and that the final purchase price may not exceed the maximum offer allowed by law. Any such option contract presented to the board for final purchase price approval shall explicitly state that payment of the final purchase price is subject to an appropriation from the Legislature. The consideration for such an option may not exceed \$1,000 or 0.01 percent of the estimate by the department of the value of the parcel, whichever amount is greater.

Section 20. Section 259.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.07 Public meetings.--The council, before making recommendations to the board for the purchase of any land pursuant to s. 259.035, shall hold at least two one or more public meetings on the proposed purchase of such land in areas of the state where major portions of such land are situated. At least 30 days in advance of such public meeting, notice shall be published in newspapers of general circulation in the areas where such lands are located, indicating the date, time, and place of such public meeting. A report of the public meeting shall be submitted to the board along with the recommendation for purchase of such land.

Section 21. Section 259.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.105 The Florida Forever Act.--

- (1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Forever Act ."
 - (2)(a) The Legislature finds and declares that:
- 1. Land acquisition programs have The Preservation 2000 program provided tremendous financial resources for purchasing environmentally significant lands to protect those lands from imminent development or further alteration, and have the potential to thwart the conversion of agricultural lands to nonagricultural uses, thereby assuring present and future generations access to important waterways, open spaces, and recreation and conservation lands.

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2. The continued alteration and development of Florida's natural <u>and rural</u> areas to accommodate the state's rapidly growing population have contributed to the degradation of water resources, the fragmentation and destruction of wildlife habitats, including imperiled species, the loss of outdoor recreation space, and the diminishment of wetlands, forests, <u>agriculture</u>, working water fronts, coastal open space, and public beaches.

- 3. The potential development of Florida's remaining natural areas, agricultural lands, and escalation of land values require a continuation of government efforts to restore, bring under public protection, or acquire lands and water areas to preserve the state's invaluable quality of life.
- 4. It is essential to protect the state's ecosystems by promoting a more efficient use of land, ensuring opportunities for viable agricultural activities on working lands, and promoting vital rural communities which support and produce development patterns consistent with natural resource protection and provide surrogate habitat for wildlife.
- 5.4. Florida's groundwater, surface waters, and springs are under tremendous pressure due to population growth and economic expansion and require special protection and restoration efforts, including the protection of uplands and springsheds that provide vital recharge to aquifer systems and are critical to the protection of water quality and water quantity of the aquifers and springs. To ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of the natural systems, including springs and springsheds

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that provide vital recharge to aquifer systems, and citizens of the state, and assist in achieving the planning goals of the department and the water management districts, water resource development projects and alternative water supplies as defined in s. 373.019 on public lands, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for the lands, are appropriate.

- 6.5. The needs of urban suburban and small communities in Florida for high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities, greenways, trails, and open space have not been fully met by previous acquisition programs. Through such programs as the Florida Communities Trust and the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program, the state shall place additional emphasis on acquiring, protecting, preserving, and restoring open space, greenways, and recreation properties within urban, suburban, and rural areas where pristine natural communities or water bodies no longer exist because of the proximity of developed property.
- 7.6. Many of Florida's unique ecosystems, such as the Florida Everglades, are facing ecological collapse due to Florida's burgeoning population growth and other economic activities. To preserve these valuable ecosystems for future generations, essential parcels of land must be acquired to facilitate ecosystem restoration.
- 8.7. Access to public lands to support a broad range of outdoor recreational opportunities and the development of necessary infrastructure, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands, promotes an

appreciation for Florida's natural assets and improves the quality of life.

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- 9.8. Acquisition of lands, in fee simple or less-than-fee simple interest, or through other techniques, or in any lesser interest, should be based on a comprehensive science-based assessment of Florida's natural resources that targets essential conservation lands by prioritizing all current and future acquisitions based on a uniform set of data and planned so as to protect the integrity and function of ecological systems and working landscapes, and provide multiple benefits, including preservation of fish and wildlife habitat, recreation space for urban and as well as rural areas, and the restoration of water storage, flow, and recharge. Such acquisition shall be based on the rules adopted pursuant s. 259.035.
- 10.9. The state has embraced performance-based program budgeting as a tool to evaluate the achievements of publicly funded agencies, build in accountability, and reward those agencies which are able to consistently achieve quantifiable goals. While previous and existing state environmental programs have achieved varying degrees of success, few of these programs can be evaluated as to the extent of their achievements, primarily because performance measures, standards, outcomes, and goals were not established at the outset. Therefore, the Florida Forever program shall be developed and implemented in the context of measurable state goals and objectives.
- 11. The Legislature recognizes that the state must play a major role in the recovery and management of its imperiled species through the acquisition, restoration, enhancement, and

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management of ecosystems which can or could support the major life functions of imperiled species. It is the intent of the Legislature to support local, state, and federal programs that provide public and private land owners meaningful incentives to restore, manage, and repopulate such imperiled species habitat on private lands. It is further the intent of the Legislature that public lands, both existing lands and those to be acquired in any fashion, be restored, managed, and repopulated as habitat for imperiled species to advance the goals and objectives of imperiled species management plans approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission under commission rules without unnecessarily restricting the use of such land for recreational and water supply uses. As part of the state's role, state lands which include imperiled species habitat shall include as a management activity the restoration, management, and repopulation of such habitats. In addition, the primary land managers of such state lands may use fees received for adverse impacts to imperiled species from private and public projects as a means to restore, manage, and repopulate such land, and such fees received shall be used as a revenue source to implement land management plans developed under s. 253.034 or land management prospectus developed and implemented under this chapter. It is the intent of the Legislature to change the

focus and direction of the state's major land acquisition programs and to extend funding and bonding capabilities, so that the state fulfills its role in the recovery and management of Florida's imperiled species consistent with the goals and

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objectives of the imperiled species management plans approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission under commission rules; provides ample access to Florida waterways and; enhances adequate water supply to meet the needs of natural systems as well as Florida citizens through the implementation of alternative supplies and water resource development as defined in s. 373.019; ensuring future generations may enjoy the natural resources of Florida.

- (b) The Legislature recognizes that acquisition is only one way to achieve the aforementioned goals and directs the state's primary land managers to develop encourages the development of creative partnerships between governmental agencies and private landowners. Such partnerships shall include the restoration, repopulation and management of imperiled species habitat on state lands as provided for subparagraph (a)11. Easements acquired pursuant to s. 570.71(2)(a) and (b), land protection agreements, rural land stewardship agreements, sector planning, mitigation, and similar tools should be used, where appropriate, to bring environmentally sensitive tracts under an acceptable level of protection at a lower financial cost to the public, and to provide private landowners with the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from their property.
- (c) Public agencies or other entities that receive funds under this section <u>shall</u> are encouraged to better coordinate their expenditures so that project acquisitions, when combined with acquisitions under <u>Florida Forever</u>, Preservation 2000, Save Our Rivers, the Florida Communities Trust, and other public land acquisition programs, will form more complete patterns of

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protection for and management of natural areas, habitat for Florida's wildlife, including imperiled species, ecological greenways, and functioning ecosystems, to better accomplish the intent of this section. Sector planning, rural land stewardship programs, and strategies referenced in subparagraph (a)11. are also to be utilized to form a more complete pattern of restored, managed, and protected ecosystem to accomplish the intent of this section and to advance the goals and objectives of the imperiled species management plans approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission under commission rules.

- (d) A long-term financial commitment to managing Florida's public lands to implement land management plans developed under s. 253.034 or land management prospectus developed and implemented under this chapter must accompany any new land acquisition program to ensure that the natural resource values of such lands are protected, that the public enjoys has the opportunity to enjoy the lands to their fullest potential, and that the state achieves the full benefits of its investment of public dollars. Innovative strategies such as public-private partnerships and interagency planning and sharing of resources shall be used to achieve the state's management goals.
- (e) With limited dollars available for restoration, management, and acquisition of land and water areas and for providing long-term management and capital improvements, a competitive selection process shall can select those projects best able to meet the goals of Florida Forever and maximize the efficient use of the program's funding.

(f) To ensure success and provide accountability to the citizens of this state, it is the intent of the Legislature that any <u>cash or</u> bond proceeds used pursuant to this section be used to implement the goals and objectives recommended by <u>comprehensive science-based assessment and the Florida Forever Advisory Council as</u> approved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and the Legislature.

- (g) As it has with previous land acquisition programs, the Legislature recognizes the desires of the citizens of this state to prosper through economic development and to preserve, restore, and manage the natural areas and recreational open space of Florida. The Legislature further recognizes the urgency of restoring the natural functions of public lands or water bodies before they are degraded to a point where recovery may never occur, yet acknowledges the difficulty of ensuring adequate funding for restoration and management efforts in light of other equally critical financial needs of the state. It is the Legislature's desire and intent to fund the implementation of this section and to do so in a fiscally responsible manner, by issuing bonds to be repaid with documentary stamp tax revenue sources, including those sources identified in subparagraph (a)11.
- (h) The Legislature further recognizes the important role that many of our state and federal military installations contribute to protecting and preserving Florida's natural resources as well as our economic prosperity. Where the state's land conservation plans overlap with the military's need to protect lands, waters, and habitat to ensure the sustainability

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of military missions, it is the Legislature's intent that agencies receiving funds under this program cooperate with our military partners to protect and buffer military installations and military airspace, by:

- 1. Protecting <u>and restoring</u> habitat on nonmilitary land for any species found on military land that is designated as threatened or endangered, or is a candidate for such designation under the Endangered Species Act, or any Florida statute, or any rule of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
- 2. Providing the military with technical assistance to restore, enhance, and manage military land as habitat for imperiled species, species designated as a threatened or endangered species, or species that are candidates for designation as a threatened or endangered species, and for the recovery or reestablishment of such species;
- 3.2. Protecting areas underlying low-level military air corridors or operating areas; and
- $\underline{4.3.}$ Protecting areas identified as clear zones, accident potential zones, and air installation compatible use buffer zones delineated by our military partners.
- (3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the proceeds of <u>cash payments or</u> bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund created by s. 259.1051. The proceeds shall be distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection in the following manner:
- (a) $\underline{\text{Thirty-five}}$ percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition $\underline{\text{and restoration}}$ of

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lands and capital project expenditures necessary to implement the water management districts' priority lists developed pursuant to s. 373.199. The funds are to be distributed to the water management districts as provided in subsection (11). A minimum of 50 percent of the total funds provided over the life of the Florida Forever program pursuant to this paragraph shall be used for the acquisition of lands.

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- Thirty-five percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition, restoration, and management of lands and capital project expenditures described in this section. Of the proceeds distributed pursuant to this paragraph, it is the intent of the Legislature that an increased priority be given to those acquisitions which achieve a combination of conservation goals, including protecting Florida's water resources, providing support for developing alternative water supplies and water resource development as defined in s. 373.019, and natural groundwater recharge. At a minimum, 3 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph, shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that meet land management planning activities necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Twenty-two percent to the Department of Environmental Protection Community Affairs for use by the Florida Communities Trust for the purposes of part III of chapter 380, as described and limited by this subsection, and grants to local governments or nonprofit environmental organizations that are tax-exempt

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under s. 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code for the acquisition of community-based projects, urban open spaces, parks, and greenways to implement local government comprehensive plans. From funds available to the trust and used for land acquisition, 75 percent shall be matched by local governments on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The Legislature intends that the Florida Communities Trust emphasize funding projects in low-income or otherwise disadvantaged communities and projects that provide areas for public access and offer public access by vessels to waters of the state, including docks, boat ramps, associated parking, and other amenities. At least 30 percent of the total allocation provided to the trust shall be used in Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, but one-half of that amount shall be used in localities in which the project site is located in built-up commercial, industrial, or mixed-use areas and functions to intersperse open spaces within congested urban core areas. From funds allocated to the trust, no less than 5 percent shall be used to acquire lands for recreational trail systems, provided that in the event these funds are not needed for such projects, they will be available for other trust projects. Local governments may use federal grants or loans, private donations, or environmental mitigation funds, including environmental mitigation funds required pursuant to s. 338.250, for any part or all of any local match required for acquisitions funded through the Florida Communities Trust. Any lands purchased by nonprofit organizations using funds allocated under this paragraph must provide for such lands to remain permanently in public use through a reversion of title

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to local or state government, conservation easement, or other appropriate mechanism. Projects funded with funds allocated to the Trust shall be selected in a competitive process measured against criteria adopted in rule by the Trust.

(d) Two percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for grants pursuant to s. 375.075.

- (e) One and five-tenths percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the purchase of inholdings and additions to state parks and for capital project expenditures as described in this section. At a minimum, 1 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that meets land management planning activities necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "state park" means any real property in the state which is under the jurisdiction of the Division of Recreation and Parks of the department, or which may come under its jurisdiction.
- (f) One and five-tenths percent to the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to fund the acquisition of state forest inholdings and additions pursuant to s. 589.07, the implementation of reforestation plans or sustainable forestry management practices, restoration and management of state lands, and for capital project expenditures as described in this section. At a minimum, 1 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated for the acquisition

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of inholdings and additions pursuant to this paragraph shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that meet land management planning activities necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.

- (g) One and five-tenths percent to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to fund the acquisition of inholdings and additions to lands managed by the commission which are important to the conservation of fish and wildlife, restoration and management of state lands, and for capital project expenditures as described in this section. At a minimum, 1 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall be spent on capital projects identified during the time of acquisition that meet land management planning activities necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.
- (h) One and five-tenths percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the Florida Greenways and Trails Program, to acquire greenways and trails or greenways and trail systems pursuant to chapter 260, including, but not limited to, abandoned railroad rights-of-way and the Florida National Scenic Trail and for capital project expenditures as described in this section. At a minimum, 1 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition that meet land management planning activities

necessary for public access Capital project expenditures may not exceed 10 percent of the funds allocated under this paragraph.

- (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that proceeds of Florida Forever bonds distributed under this section shall be expended in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner. An agency that receives proceeds from Florida Forever bonds under this section may not maintain a balance of unencumbered funds in its Florida Forever subaccount beyond 3 fiscal years from the date of deposit of funds from each bond issue. Any funds that have not been expended or encumbered after 3 fiscal years from the date of deposit shall be distributed by the Legislature at its next regular session for use in the Florida Forever program.
- Program Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to fund the acquisition of fee simple and perpetual easements by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund pursuant to the provisions of s. 570.71. Of the proceeds distributed pursuant to this paragraph, one-third shall be used to fund working waterfront protection agreements or acquisitions of fee simple interest in working waterfronts. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Environmental Protection shall coordinate the development of annual workplans for proposed fee simple and less-than-fee simple acquisition projects developed pursuant to this paragraph and those developed pursuant to paragraph (17) (e). Terms of easements proposed for acquisition under this subsection shall be developed by the Department of Agriculture

and Consumer Services in coordination with the Division of State Lands.

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(k) (j) For the purposes of paragraphs (d), (e), (f), and (q), the agencies which receive the funds shall develop their individual acquisition or restoration lists. Proposed additions may be acquired if they are identified within the original project boundary, the management plan required pursuant to s. 253.034(5), or the management prospectus required pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(d), or pursuant to s. 570.71, or if they contain lands that advance the goals and objectives of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission approved species or habitat recovery plans. Proposed additions not meeting the requirements of this paragraph shall be submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for approval. The council may only approve the proposed addition if it meets two or more of the following criteria: serves as a link or corridor to other publicly owned property; enhances the protection or management of the property; would add a desirable resource to the property; would create a more manageable boundary configuration; has a high resource value that otherwise would be unprotected; or can be acquired at less than fair market value.

- (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that projects or acquisitions funded pursuant to paragraphs (3)(a) and (b) contribute to the achievement of the following goals, which shall be evaluated in accordance with specific criteria and numeric performance measures developed pursuant s. 259.035(4):
- (a) Enhance the coordination and completion of land acquisition projects, as measured by:

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1. The number of acres acquired, restored, and managed through the state's land acquisition programs that contribute to the enhancement of essential natural resources, ecosystem service parcels, and connecting linkage corridors as identified and developed by the best available scientific analysis completion of Florida Preservation 2000 projects or projects begun before Preservation 2000;

2. The number of acres protected through the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition; or

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- 3. The number of shared acquisition projects among Florida Forever funding partners and partners with other funding sources, including local governments and the Federal Government.
- (b) Increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired of significant strategic habitat conservation areas;
- 2. The number of acres acquired of highest priority conservation areas for Florida's rarest <u>plant</u> species <u>and</u> imperiled species;
- 3. The number of acres acquired of significant landscapes, landscape linkages, and conservation corridors, giving priority to completing linkages;
- 4. The number of acres acquired of underrepresented native ecosystems;
- 5. The number of landscape-sized protection areas of at least 50,000 acres that exhibit a mosaic of predominantly intact

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or restorable natural communities established through new acquisition projects or augmentations to previous projects; or

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- 6. The percentage increase in the number of occurrences of endangered species, threatened species, or species of special concern on publicly managed conservation areas.
- 7. The number of acres which represent actual or potential imperiled species habitat.
- (c) Protect, restore, and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems of the state, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres of publicly owned land identified as needing restoration, acres undergoing restoration, and acres with restoration activities completed;
- 2. The percentage of water segments that fully meet, partially meet, or do not meet their designated uses as reported in the Department of Environmental Protection's State Water Quality Assessment 305(b) Report;
- 3. The percentage completion of targeted capital improvements in surface water improvement and management plans created under s. 373.453(2), regional or master stormwater management system plans, or other adopted restoration plans;
- 4. The number of acres acquired that protect natural floodplain functions;
- 5. The number of acres acquired that protect surface waters of the state;
- 3138 6. The number of acres identified for acquisition to
 3139 minimize damage from flooding and the percentage of those acres
 3140 acquired;

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7. The number of acres acquired that protect fragile coastal resources;

- 8. The number of acres of functional wetland systems protected;
- 9. The percentage of miles of critically eroding beaches contiguous with public lands that are restored or protected from further erosion;
- 10. The percentage of public lakes and rivers in which invasive, nonnative aquatic plants are under maintenance control; $\frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial t}$
- 11. The number of acres of public conservation lands in which upland invasive, exotic plants are under maintenance control; or \cdot
- 12. The number of acres restored or enhanced that serve as habitat for imperiled species which advance the goals and objectives of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission approved species or habitat recovery plans.
- (d) Ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of natural systems and the citizens of the state, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired which provide retention and storage of surface water in naturally occurring storage areas, such as lakes and wetlands, consistent with the maintenance of water resources or water supplies and consistent with district water supply plans;
- 2. The quantity of water made available through the water resource development component of a district water supply plan for which a water management district is responsible; or

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3. The number of acres acquired of groundwater recharge areas critical to springs, sinks, aquifers, other natural systems, or water supply.

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- 4. The means in which support is provided for the development of alternative water supply projects and water resource development as defined in s. 373.019.
- (e) Increase natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for natural resource-based public recreation or education;
- 2. The miles of trails that are available for public recreation, giving priority to those that provide significant connections including those that will assist in completing the Florida National Scenic Trail; or
- 3. The number of new resource-based recreation facilities, by type, made available on public land.
- (f) Preserve significant archaeological or historic sites, as measured by:
- 1. The increase in the number of and percentage of historic and archaeological properties listed in the Florida Master Site File or National Register of Historic Places which are protected or preserved for public use; or
- 2. The increase in the number and percentage of historic and archaeological properties that are in state ownership.
- (g) Increase the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources, as measured by:
- 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management;

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2. The number of acres of state-owned forestland managed for economic return in accordance with current best management practices;

- 3. The number of acres of forestland acquired that will serve to maintain natural groundwater recharge functions; or
- 4. The percentage and number of acres identified for restoration actually restored by reforestation; or \cdot
- 5. The number of acres restored or enhanced that serve as habitat for imperiled species which advance the goals and objectives of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission approved species or habitat recovery plans.
- (h) Increase the amount of open space available in urban areas, as measured by:
- The percentage of local governments that participate in land acquisition programs and acquire open space in urban cores;
- 2. The percentage and number of acres of purchases of open space within urban service areas.
- (i) Increase the amount of agricultural and working land protected from conversion and development.
- 1. The number of acres of agricultural and working lands under perpetual rural land protection easement.
- 2. The number of acres of agricultural and working lands under time-certain conservation easement.
- 3. The number of acres under conservation easement providing surrogate habitat for wildlife as determined by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

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Florida Forever projects and acquisitions funded pursuant to paragraph (3)(c) shall be measured by goals developed by rule by the Florida Communities Trust Governing Board created in s. 380.504.

- (5)(a) All lands acquired pursuant to this section shall be managed for multiple-use purposes, where compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands. As used in this section, "multiple-use" includes, but is not limited to, outdoor recreational activities as described in ss. 253.034 and 259.032(9)(b), water resource development projects, and sustainable forestry management.
- (b) Upon a decision by the entity in which title to lands acquired pursuant to this section has vested, such lands may be designated single use as defined in s. 253.034(2)(b).
- (6) As provided in this section, a water resource or water supply development project may be allowed only if the following conditions are met: minimum flows and levels have been established for those waters, if any, which may reasonably be expected to experience significant harm to water resources as a result of the project; the project complies with all applicable permitting requirements; and the project is consistent with the regional water supply plan, if any, of the water management district and with relevant recovery or prevention strategies if required pursuant to s. 373.0421(2).
- (7)(a) Beginning no later than July 1, 2001, and every year thereafter, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall accept applications from state agencies, local governments, nonprofit and for-profit organizations, private land trusts, and

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individuals for project proposals eligible for funding pursuant to paragraph (3)(b). The council shall evaluate the proposals received pursuant to this subsection to ensure that they meet at least one of the criteria under subsection (9).

- (b) Project applications shall contain, at a minimum, the following:
- 1. A minimum of two numeric performance measures that directly relate to the overall goals adopted by the council. Each performance measure shall include a baseline measurement, which is the current situation; a performance standard which the project sponsor anticipates the project will achieve; and the performance measurement itself, which should reflect the incremental improvements the project accomplishes towards achieving the performance standard.
- 2. Proof that property owners within any proposed acquisition have been notified of their inclusion in the proposed project. Any property owner may request the removal of such property from further consideration by submitting a request to the project sponsor or the Acquisition and Restoration Council by certified mail. Upon receiving this request, the council shall delete the property from the proposed project; however, the board of trustees, at the time it votes to approve the proposed project lists pursuant to subsection (16), may add the property back on to the project lists if it determines by a super majority of its members that such property is critical to achieve the purposes of the project.
- (c) The title to lands acquired under this section shall vest in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust

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Fund, except that title to lands acquired by a water management district shall vest in the name of that district and lands acquired by a local government shall vest in the name of the purchasing local government.

- (8) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall develop a project list that shall represent those projects submitted pursuant to subsection (7).
- (9) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall recommend rules for adoption by the board of trustees to competitively evaluate, select, and rank projects eligible for Florida Forever funds pursuant to paragraph (3)(b) and for additions to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list pursuant to ss. 259.032 and 259.101(4). In developing these proposed rules, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall give weight to the following criteria:
- (a) The project meets multiple goals described in subsection (4).
- (b) The project is part of an ongoing governmental effort to restore, protect, or develop land areas or water resources.
- (c) The project enhances or facilitates management of properties already under public ownership.
- (d) The project has significant archaeological or historic value.
- (e) The project has funding sources that are identified and assured through at least the first 2 years of the project.
- (f) The project includes the acquisition, restoration, repopulation, or management of habitat for imperiled species.

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 $\underline{\text{(g)}}$ The project contributes to the solution of water resource problems on a regional basis.

- (h)(g) The project has a significant portion of its land area in imminent danger of development, in imminent danger of losing its significant natural attributes or recreational open space, or in imminent danger of subdivision which would result in multiple ownership and make acquisition of the project costly or less likely to be accomplished.
- (i) (h) The project implements an element from a plan developed by an ecosystem management team or advances the goals and objectives of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission approved species or habitat recovery plans.
- $\underline{\text{(j)}}$ (i) The project is one of the components of the Everglades restoration effort.
- (k)(j) The project may be purchased at 80 percent of appraised value or prevents the conversion and development of agricultural and working lands.
- (1)(k) The project may be acquired, in whole or in part, through tax incentives, mitigation funds, or other revenues, and using alternatives to fee simple, including but not limited to, purchase of development rights, hunting rights, agricultural or silvicultural rights, or mineral rights or obtaining conservation easements or flowage easements.
- $\underline{\text{(m)}}$ (1) The project is a joint acquisition, either among public agencies, nonprofit organizations, or private entities, or by a public-private partnership.
- (10) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall give increased priority to those projects for which matching funds

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are available and to project elements previously identified on an acquisition list pursuant to this section that can be acquired at 80 percent or less of appraised value. The council shall also give increased priority to those projects where the state's land conservation plans overlap with the military's need to protect lands, water, and habitat to ensure the sustainability of military missions including:

- (a) Protecting habitat on nonmilitary land for any species found on military land that is designated as threatened or endangered, or is a candidate for such designation under the Endangered Species Act or any Florida statute;
- (b) Protecting areas underlying low-level military air corridors or operating areas; and
- (c) Protecting areas identified as clear zones, accident potential zones, and air installation compatible use buffer zones delineated by our military partners, and for which federal or other funding is available to assist with the project.
- (11) For the purposes of funding projects pursuant to paragraph (3)(a), the Secretary of Environmental Protection shall ensure that each water management district receives the following percentage of funds annually:
- (a) Thirty-five percent to the South Florida Water Management District, of which amount \$25 million for 2 years beginning in fiscal year 2000-2001 shall be transferred by the Department of Environmental Protection into the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund and shall be used exclusively to implement the comprehensive plan under s. 373.470.

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(b) Twenty-five percent to the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

- (c) Twenty-five percent to the St. Johns River Water Management District.
- (d) Seven and one-half percent to the Suwannee River Water Management District.
- (e) Seven and one-half percent to the Northwest Florida Water Management District.
- (12) It is the intent of the Legislature that in developing the list of projects for funding pursuant to paragraph (3)(a), that these funds not be used to abrogate the financial responsibility of those point and nonpoint sources that have contributed to the degradation of water or land areas. Therefore, an increased priority shall be given by the water management district governing boards to those projects that have secured a cost-sharing agreement allocating responsibility for the cleanup of point and nonpoint sources.
- (13) An affirmative vote of five members of the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall be required in order to place a proposed project on the list developed pursuant to subsection (8). Any member of the council who by family or a business relationship has a connection with any project proposed to be ranked shall declare such interest prior to voting for a project's inclusion on the list.
- (14) Each year that <u>cash disbursements or</u> bonds are to be issued pursuant to this section, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review the most current approved project list and shall, by the first board meeting in May, present to the Board

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of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for approval a listing of projects developed pursuant to subsection (8). The board of trustees may remove projects from the list developed pursuant to this subsection, but may not add projects or rearrange project rankings.

- (15) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall submit to the board of trustees, with its list of projects, a report that includes, but shall not be limited to, the following information for each project listed:
 - (a) The stated purpose for inclusion.
 - (b) Projected costs to achieve the project goals.
- (c) An interim management budget <u>developed in accordance</u> with s. 253.034 that includes all costs associated with immediate public access.
 - (d) Specific performance measures.
 - (e) Plans for public access.

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- (f) An identification of the essential parcel or parcels within the project without which the project cannot be properly managed.
- (g) Where applicable, an identification of those projects or parcels within projects which should be acquired in fee simple or in less than fee simple.
- (h) An identification of those lands being purchased for conservation purposes.
- (i) A management policy statement for the project and a management prospectus pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(d).
- 3417 (j) An estimate of land value based on county tax assessed 3418 values.

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(k) A map delineating project boundaries.

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- (1) An assessment of the project's ecological value, outdoor recreational value, forest resources, wildlife resources, ownership pattern, utilization, and location.
- (m) A discussion of whether alternative uses are proposed for the property and what those uses are.
 - (n) A designation of the management agency or agencies.
- All proposals for projects pursuant to paragraph (3)(b) or subsection (20) shall be implemented only if adopted by the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approved by the board of trustees. The council shall consider and evaluate in writing the merits and demerits of each project that is proposed for Florida Forever funding and each proposed addition to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list program. The council shall ensure that each proposed project will meet a stated public purpose for the restoration, conservation, or preservation of environmentally sensitive lands and water areas or for providing outdoor recreational opportunities and that each proposed addition to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list will meet the public purposes under s. 259.032(3) and, when applicable, s. 259.101(4). The council also shall determine whether the project or addition conforms, where applicable, with the comprehensive plan developed pursuant to s. 259.04(1)(a), the comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plan developed pursuant to s. 375.021, the state lands management plan adopted pursuant to s. 253.03(7), the water resources work plans developed pursuant to s. 373.199, and the provisions of this section.

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(17) On an annual basis, the Division of State Lands shall prepare an annual work plan that prioritizes projects on the Florida Forever list and sets forth the funding available in the fiscal year for land acquisition. The work plan shall consider the following categories of expenditure for land conservation projects already selected for the Florida Forever list pursuant to subsection (8).

- (a) A critical natural lands category including functional landscape-scale natural systems, intact large hydrological systems, lands with significant imperiled natural communities, and corridors linking large landscapes as identified and developed by the best available scientific analysis.
- (b) A partnerships or regional incentive category, including:
- 1. Projects where local and regional cost-share agreements provide a lower cost and greater conservation benefit to the people of the state. Additional consideration shall be provided under this category where parcels are identified as part of a local or regional visioning process and are supported by scientific analysis;
- 2. Bargain and shared projects where the state will receive a significant reduction in price for public ownership of land as a result of the removal of development rights or other interests in lands, or receives alternative or matching funds.
- (c) A substantially complete category of projects where mainly inholdings, additions, and linkages between preserved areas will be acquired and where 85 percent of the project is complete.

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(d) A climate change category list of lands where acquisition or other conservation measures will address the challenges of global climate change, such as through protection, restoration, mitigation, and strengthening of Florida's land, water, and coastal resources. This category includes lands which provide opportunities to sequester carbon, provide habitat, protect coastal lands or barrier islands, and otherwise mitigate and help adapt to the effects of sea level rise, and meet other objectives of the program.

(e) A less-than-fee category for working agricultural lands that significantly contributes to resource protection through conservation easements and other less-than-fee techniques, tax incentives, life estates, landowner agreements, and other partnerships, including conservation easements acquired in partnership with federal conservation programs, that will achieve the objectives of Florida Forever while allowing the continuation of compatible agricultural uses on the land. Terms of easements proposed for acquisition under this category shall be developed by the Division of State lands in coordination with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The workplan shall be adopted by the Acquisition and Restoration

Council after at least one public hearing. A copy of the

workplan shall be provided to the Board of Trustees of the

Internal Improvement Trust Fund no later than October 1 of each

year.

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(18) (17) (a) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, or, in the case of water management district lands, the owning water management district, may authorize the granting of a lease, easement, or license for the use of certain lands acquired pursuant to this section, for certain uses that are determined by the appropriate board to be compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands.

- (b) Any existing lease, easement, or license acquired for incidental public or private use on, under, or across any lands acquired pursuant to this section shall be presumed to be compatible with the purposes for which such lands were acquired.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), no such lease, easement, or license shall be entered into by the Department of Environmental Protection or other appropriate state agency if the granting of such lease, easement, or license would adversely affect the exclusion of the interest on any revenue bonds issued to fund the acquisition of the affected lands from gross income for federal income tax purposes, pursuant to Internal Revenue Service regulations.
- (19)(18) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall recommend adoption of rules by the board of trustees necessary to implement the provisions of this section relating to: solicitation, scoring, selecting, and ranking of Florida Forever project proposals; disposing of or leasing lands or water areas selected for funding through the Florida Forever program; and the process of reviewing and recommending for approval or rejection the land management plans associated with publicly

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owned properties. Rules promulgated pursuant to this subsection shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for review by the Legislature, no later than 30 days prior to the 2001 Regular Session and shall become effective only after legislative review. In its review, the Legislature may reject, modify, or take no action relative to such rules. The board of trustees shall conform such rules to changes made by the Legislature, or, if no action was taken by the Legislature, such rules shall become effective.

(20) (19) Lands listed as projects for acquisition, restoration, or management under the Florida Forever program may be managed for conservation pursuant to s. 259.032, on an interim basis by a private party in anticipation of a state purchase, or on a permanent basis after state purchase, in accordance with a contractual arrangement between the acquiring agency and the private party that may include management service contracts, leases, cost-share arrangements, or resource conservation agreements. Lands designated as eligible under this subsection shall be managed to maintain or enhance the resources the state is seeking to protect by acquiring the land and to accelerate public access to the lands. Funding for these contractual arrangements may originate from the documentary stamp tax revenue deposited into the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund and Water Management Lands Trust Fund. No more than 5 percent of funds allocated under the trust funds shall be expended for this purpose. In addition, funding obtained from

sources as provided in subparagraph (2)(a)11. shall be deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund.

described in s. 570.71(3) and rural lands stewardship areas described in s. 163.3177(11)(d) are encouraged as a way to maintain working lands while furthering the goals of this chapter. The Acquisition and Restoration Council, as successors to the Land Acquisition and Management Advisory Council, may amend existing Conservation and Recreation Lands projects and add to or delete from the 2000 Conservation and Recreation Lands list until funding for the Conservation and Recreation Lands program has been expended. The amendments to the 2000 Conservation and Recreation Lands board of trustees in conjunction with the council's report developed pursuant to subsection (15).

Section 22. Subsection (1) of section 259.1051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.1051 Florida Forever Trust Fund. --

(1) There is created the Florida Forever Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of ss. 259.032, 259.105, 259.1052, and 375.031. The Florida Forever Trust Fund shall be held and administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. Proceeds from the sale of bonds, except proceeds of refunding bonds, issued under s. 215.618 and payable from moneys transferred to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund under s. 201.15(1)(a), not to exceed \$5.3 \$3 billion, must be deposited into this trust fund to be distributed and used as provided in s. 259.105(3). The bond resolution adopted by the governing

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board of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration may provide for additional provisions that govern the disbursement of the bond proceeds.

Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 373.503, Florida Statutes, is amended, subsection (5) is renumbered as subsection (6), and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

373.503 Manner of taxation.--

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Subject to annual authorization by the Legislature to levy ad valorem taxes under subsection (5), the districts may levy ad valorem taxes on property within the district solely for the purposes of this chapter and of chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, as amended, and chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, as amended. The authority to levy ad valorem taxes as provided in this act shall commence with the year 1977. However, the taxes levied for 1977 by the governing boards pursuant to this section shall be prorated to ensure that no such taxes will be levied for the first 4 days of the tax year, which days will fall prior to the effective date of the amendment to s. 9(b), Art. VII of the State Constitution, which was approved March 9, 1976. When appropriate, taxes levied by each governing board may be separated by the governing board into a millage necessary for the purposes of the district and a millage necessary for financing basin functions specified in s. 373.0695. Beginning with the taxing year 1977, and Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general or special law to the contrary and subject to annual authorization by the Legislature to levy ad valorem taxes

under subsection (5), the maximum total millage rate for district and basin purposes shall be:

- 1. Northwest Florida Water Management District: 0.05 mill.
- 2. Suwannee River Water Management District: 0.75 mill.
- 3. St. Johns River Water Management District: 0.6 mill.
- 4. Southwest Florida Water Management District: 1.0 mill.
- 5. South Florida Water Management District: 0.80 mill.
- (5) To ensure that the taxes authorized by this chapter continue to be in proportion to the benefits derived by the several parcels of real estate within the districts, the Legislature shall annually review the authorized millage rate for each district and annually set the maximum amount of revenue authorized to be raised by each district from the taxes authorized by this chapter. However, if the annual maximum amount of revenue authorized to be raised by each district is not set by the Legislature on or before July 1 of each year, each district is authorized to raise the amount of revenue authorized by the Legislature in the preceding fiscal year and adjusted by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for the preceding fiscal year.
- Section 24. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraphs (c), (e), and (f) of subsection (5) of section 373.536, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 373.536 District budget and hearing thereon.--
- (1) FISCAL YEAR.--The fiscal year of districts created under the provisions of this chapter shall extend from $\underline{\text{July}}$ October 1 of one year through $\underline{\text{June}}$ September 30 of the following year.

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(2) BUDGET SUBMITTAL.--The budget officer of the district shall, on or before July 15 of each year, submit for consideration by the governing board of the district a tentative budget for the district covering its proposed operations and funding requirements for the ensuing fiscal year.

- (5) TENTATIVE BUDGET CONTENTS AND SUBMISSION; REVIEW AND APPROVAL. --
- August 1 of each year, submit for review a tentative budget to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairs of all legislative committees and subcommittees with substantive or fiscal jurisdiction over water management districts, as determined by the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives as applicable, the secretary of the department, and the governing body of each county in which the district has jurisdiction or derives any funds for the operations of the district.
- (e) By September 5 of the year in which the budget is submitted, the House and Senate appropriations chairs may transmit to each district comments and objections to the proposed budgets. Each district governing board shall include a response to such comments and objections in the record of the governing board meeting where final adoption of the budget takes place, and the record of this meeting shall be transmitted to the Executive Office of the Governor, the department, and the chairs of the House and Senate appropriations committees.

(e)(f) The Executive Office of the Governor shall annually, on or before September December 15, file with the Legislature a report that summarizes its review of the water management districts' tentative budgets and displays the adopted budget allocations by program area. The report must identify the districts that are not in compliance with the reporting requirements of this section. State funds shall be withheld from a water management district that fails to comply with these reporting requirements.

Section 25. For the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 fiscal years, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the water management districts are directed to budget and plan for their fiscal management to conform to the provisions of this act.

Section 26. Section 373.073, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.073 Governing board.--

(1) (a) The governing board of each water management district shall be composed of 9 members who shall reside within the district, except that the Southwest Florida Water Management District shall be composed of 13 members who shall reside within the district. Members of the governing boards shall be <u>nominated</u> by the nominating council created in s. 350.031 and appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate <u>pursuant to subsection (5)</u>. at the next regular session of the Legislature, and The refusal or failure of the Senate to confirm an appointment creates a vacancy in the office to which the appointment was made. The term of office for a governing board member is 4 years and commences on June March 2 of the year in

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which the appointment is <u>confirmed</u> made and terminates on <u>June</u>

March 1 of the fourth calendar year of the term or may continue

until a successor is appointed, but not more than 180 days.

Terms of office of governing board members shall be staggered to help maintain consistency and continuity in the exercise of governing board duties and to minimize disruption in district operations.

- (b) Commencing January 1, 1999, the Governor shall appoint the following number of governing board members in each year of the Governor's 4-year term of office:
- 1. In the first year of the Governor's term of office, the Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board of each district.
- 2. In the second year of the Governor's term of office, the Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and two members to the governing board of each other district.
- 3. In the third year of the Governor's term of office, the Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and two members to the governing board of each other district.
- 4. In the fourth year of the Governor's term of office, the Governor shall appoint two members to the governing board of each district.

For any governing board vacancy that occurs before the date scheduled for the office to be filled under this paragraph, the nominating council created in s. 350.031 shall nominate and the

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Governor shall appoint a person meeting residency requirements of subsection (2) for a term that will expire on the date scheduled for the term of that office to terminate under this subsection. In addition to the residency requirements for the governing boards as provided by subsection (2), the Governor shall consider appointing governing board members to represent an equitable cross-section of regional interests and technical expertise.

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(2) A person may not be nominated to serve as a member of a water management district governing board until the nominating council created in s. 350.031 has determined that the person has Membership on governing boards shall be selected from candidates who have significant experience in one or more of the following areas, including, but not limited to: agriculture, the development industry, local government, government-owned or privately owned water utilities, law, civil engineering, environmental science, hydrology, accounting, or financial businesses. The nominating council created in s. 350.031 shall nominate appointees to represent an equitable cross-section of regional interests and technical expertise. Recommendations of the nominating council created in s. 350.031 shall be nonpartisan. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general or special law to the contrary, vacancies in the governing boards of the water management districts shall be filled according to the following residency requirements, representing areas designated by the United States Water Resources Council in United States Geological Survey, River Basin and Hydrological Unit Map of Florida -- 1975, Map Series No. 72:

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(a) Northwest Florida Water Management District:

- 1. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Perdido River Basin-Perdido Bay Coastal Area-Lower Conecuh River-Escambia River Basin" hydrologic units and that portion of the "Escambia Bay Coastal Area" hydrologic unit which lies west of Pensacola Bay and Escambia Bay.
- 2. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Blackwater River Basin-Yellow River Basin-Choctawhatchee Bay Coastal Area" hydrologic units and that portion of the "Escambia Bay Coastal Area" hydrologic unit which lies east of Pensacola Bay and Escambia Bay.
- 3. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Choctawhatchee River Basin-St. Andrews Bay Coastal Area" hydrologic units.
- 4. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Lower Chattahoochee-Apalachicola River-Chipola River Basin-Coastal Area between Ochlockonee River Apalachicola Rivers-Apalachicola Bay coastal area and offshore islands" hydrologic units.
- 5. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Ochlockonee River Basin-St. Marks and Wakulla Rivers and coastal area between Aucilla and Ochlockonee River Basin" hydrologic units.
- 6. Four members shall be appointed at large, except that no county shall have more than two members on the governing board.
 - (b) Suwannee River Water Management District:

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1. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Aucilla River Basin" hydrologic unit.

- 2. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Coastal Area between Suwannee and Aucilla Rivers" hydrologic unit.
- 3. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Withlacoochee River Basin-Alapaha River Basin-Suwannee River Basin above the Withlacoochee River" hydrologic units.
- 4. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Suwannee River Basin below the Withlacoochee River excluding the Santa Fe River Basin" hydrologic unit.
- 5. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Santa Fe Basin-Waccasassa River and coastal area between Withlacoochee and Suwannee River" hydrologic units.
- 6. Four members shall be appointed at large, except that no county shall have more than two members on the governing board.
 - (c) St. Johns River Water Management District:
- 1. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "St. Marys River Basin-Coastal area between St. Marys and St. Johns Rivers" hydrologic units.
- 2. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "St. Johns River Basin below Oklawaha River-Coastal area between the St. Johns River and Ponce de Leon Inlet" hydrologic units.
- 3. One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Oklawaha River Basin" hydrologic unit.

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One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "St. Johns River Basin above the Oklawaha River" hydrologic unit.

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- One member shall reside in the area generally designated as the "Coastal area between Ponce de Leon Inlet and Sebastian Inlet-Coastal area Sebastian Inlet to St. Lucie River" hydrologic units.
- 6. Four members shall be appointed at large, except that no county shall have more than two members on the governing board.
 - (d) South Florida Water Management District:
 - Two members shall reside in Dade County.
 - One member shall reside in Broward County. 2.
 - 3. One member shall reside in Palm Beach County.
- One member shall reside in Collier County, Lee County, 3821 Hendry County, or Charlotte County.
 - One member shall reside in Glades County, Okeechobee County, Highlands County, Polk County, Orange County, or Osceola County.
 - Two members, appointed at large, shall reside in an area consisting of St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Dade, and Monroe Counties.
 - One member, appointed at large, shall reside in an area consisting of Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry, Glades, Osceola, Okeechobee, Polk, Highlands, and Orange Counties.
 - No county shall have more than three members on the governing board.
 - Southwest Florida Water Management District: (e)

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- 1. Two members shall reside in Hillsborough County.
- 2. One member shall reside in the area consisting of Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties.
 - 3. Two members shall reside in Pinellas County.
 - 4. One member shall reside in Manatee County.
 - 5. Two members shall reside in Polk County.
 - 6. One member shall reside in Pasco County.
- 7. One member shall be appointed at large from Levy,
- 3842 Citrus, Sumter, and Lake Counties.

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- 3843 8. One member shall be appointed at large from Hardee, 3844 DeSoto, and Highlands Counties.
 - 9. One member shall be appointed at large from Marion and Hernando Counties.
 - 10. One member shall be appointed at large from Sarasota and Charlotte Counties.
 - created in s. 350.031 to nominate to the Governor three persons for each vacancy on the governing boards of any of the five water management districts. The nominating council created in s. 350.031 shall submit the recommendations to the Governor by December 31 for the seats of those governing board members whose terms are to expire the following calendar year, or within 90 days after a vacancy occurs for any reason other than the expiration of the term.
 - (4) The Governor shall select from the list of nominees provided by the nominating council created in s. 350.031. The Governor shall fill a vacancy occurring on the governing board of a water management district by appointment of one of the

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applicants nominated by the nominating council created in s.

350.031 only after a background investigation of such applicant has been conducted by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

If the Governor does not made an appointment within 60 consecutive calendar days after the receipt of the recommendations, the nominating council created in s. 350.031 shall initiate, in accordance with this section, the nominating process within 30 days.

- (5) Each appointment to the governing board of a water management district shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate during the next regular session of the Legislature after the vacancy occurs. If the Senate refuses to confirm or fails to consider the appointment of the Governor, the nominating council created in s. 350.031 shall, in accordance with this section, initiate the nominating process in 30 days. Under no circumstances may an appointee serve on the governing board of a water management district until confirmed by the Senate.
- Section 27. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 373.1391, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 3881 373.1391 Management of real property.--

3882 (1)

(b) Whenever practicable, such lands shall be open to the general public for recreational uses. General public recreational purposes shall include, but not be limited to, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, swimming, camping, hiking, canoeing, boating, diving, birding, sailing, jogging, and other related outdoor activities to the maximum extent possible considering the environmental sensitivity and suitability of

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those lands. These public lands shall be evaluated for their resource value for the purpose of establishing which parcels, in whole or in part, annually or seasonally, would be conducive to general public recreational purposes. Such findings shall be included in management plans which are developed for such public lands. These lands shall be made available to the public for these purposes, unless the district governing board can demonstrate that such activities would be incompatible with the purposes for which these lands were acquired. The department in its supervisory capacity shall ensure that the districts provide consistent levels of public access to district lands, consistent with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.

Section 28. Paragraph (h) of subsection (4) of section 373.199, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.199 Florida Forever Water Management District Work Plan.--

- (4) The list submitted by the districts shall include, where applicable, the following information for each project:
- (h) A clear and concise An estimate of the funding needed to carry out the restoration, protection, or improvement project, or the development of new water resources, where applicable, and a clear and concise identification of the projected sources of the funding for the uses of Florida Forever funds.

Section 29. Section 570.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

570.71 Conservation easements and agreements.--

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(1) The department, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, may allocate moneys to acquire perpetual, less-than-fee interest in land, to enter into agricultural protection agreements, and to enter into resource conservation agreements, and to enter into working waterfront protection agreements for the following public purposes:

- (a) Promotion and improvement of wildlife habitat;
- (b) Protection and enhancement of water bodies, aquifer recharge areas, wetlands, and watersheds;
- (c) Perpetuation of open space on lands with significant natural areas; or
- (d) Protection of agricultural lands threatened by conversion to other uses.
 - (e) Protection of working waterfronts.

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- (2) To achieve the purposes of this act, beginning no sooner than July 1, 2002, and every year thereafter, The department may accept applications for project proposals that:
- 3934 (a) Purchase conservation easements, as defined in s. 3935 704.06.
 - (b) Purchase rural-lands-protection easements pursuant to
- 3938 (c) Fund resource conservation agreements pursuant to this 3939 act.
- 3940 (d) Fund agricultural protection agreements pursuant to 3941 this act.
- 3942 (e) Fund working waterfront protection agreements pursuant to this act.

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(f) Fund fee simple acquisitions in working waterfronts pursuant to subsection (12).

- (3) Rural-lands-protection easements shall be a perpetual right or interest in agricultural land which is appropriate to retain such land in predominantly its current state and to prevent the subdivision and conversion of such land into other uses. This right or interest in property shall prohibit only the following:
- (a) Construction or placing of buildings, roads, billboards or other advertising, utilities, or structures, except those structures and unpaved roads necessary for the agricultural operations on the land or structures necessary for other activities allowed under the easement, and except for linear facilities described in s. 704.06(11);
 - (b) Subdivision of the property;

- (c) Dumping or placing of trash, waste, or offensive materials; and
- (d) Activities that affect the natural hydrology of the land or that detrimentally affect water conservation, erosion control, soil conservation, or fish or wildlife habitat, except those required for environmental restoration; federal, state, or local government regulatory programs; or best management practices.
- (4) Resource conservation agreements will be contracts for services which provide annual payments to landowners for services that actively improve habitat and water restoration or conservation on their lands over and above that which is already required by law or which provide recreational opportunities.

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They will be for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 10 years. Property owners will become eligible to enter into a resource conservation agreement only upon entering into a conservation easement or rural lands protection easement.

- (5) Agricultural protection agreements shall be for terms of 30 years and will provide payments to landowners having significant natural areas on their land. Public access and public recreational opportunities may be negotiated at the request of the landowner.
- (a) For the length of the agreement, the landowner shall agree to prohibit:
- 1. Construction or placing of buildings, roads, billboards or other advertising, utilities, or structures, except those structures and unpaved roads necessary for the agricultural operations on the land or structures necessary for other activities allowed under the easement, and except for linear facilities described in s. 704.06(11);
 - 2. Subdivision of the property;

- 3. Dumping or placing of trash, waste, or offensive materials; and
- 4. Activities that affect the natural hydrology of the land, or that detrimentally affect water conservation, erosion control, soil conservation, or fish or wildlife habitat.
- (b) As part of the agricultural protection agreement, the parties shall agree that the state shall have a right to buy a conservation easement or rural land protection easement at the end of the 30-year term. If the landowner tenders the easement for the purchase and the state does not timely exercise its

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right to buy the easement, the landowner shall be released from the agricultural agreement. The purchase price of the easement shall be established in the agreement and shall be based on the value of the easement at the time the agreement is entered into, plus a reasonable escalator multiplied by the number of full calendar years following the date of the commencement of the agreement. The landowner may transfer or sell the property before the expiration of the 30-year term, but only if the property is sold subject to the agreement and the buyer becomes the successor in interest to the agricultural protection agreement. Upon mutual consent of the parties, a landowner may enter into a perpetual easement at any time during the term of an agricultural protection agreement.

- (6) Working waterfront protection agreements shall be perpetual less-than-fee interest in lands that currently or historically have been used as a working waterfront. The agreements shall prevent the conversion of the land into other inconsistent uses and shall maintain the use of the land in its predominate historical or current state.
- (7)(6) Payment for conservation easements, and rural land protection easements, working waterfront protection agreements, and working waterfront acquisitions shall be a lump-sum payment at the time the easement or agreement is entered into.
- (8)(7) Landowners entering into an agricultural protection agreement may receive up to 50 percent of the purchase price at the time the agreement is entered into, and remaining payments on the balance shall be equal annual payments over the term of the agreement.

(9) (8) Payments for the resource conservation agreements shall be equal annual payments over the term of the agreement.

- (10) (9) Easements purchased pursuant to this act may not prevent landowners from transferring the remaining fee value with the easement.
- (11) (10) The department, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, the water management districts, the Department of Community Affairs, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, shall adopt rules that establish an application process, a process and criteria for setting priorities for use of funds consistent with the purposes specified in subsection (1) and giving preference to ranch and timber lands managed using sustainable practices, an appraisal process, and a process for title review and compliance and approval of the rules by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.
- department, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, is authorized to acquire fee simple interest in working waterfront properties. Such acquisitions are to prevent further loss of Florida's cultural history and the marine industries supported by working waterfronts. For purposes of chapters 253 and 259 and this chapter, "working waterfronts" means a parcel or parcels of real property that support waterdependent commercial activities, including commercial fishing, or that provide public access to state waters.
- (a) Working waterfront acquisitions by fee simple acquisition may be completed by the department in whole or in

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partnership with other entities.

- (b) Working waterfront acquisitions shall be managed by the department. The department is authorized to enter into management agreements with other entities for the management of the acquisitions.
- (13) (11) If a landowner objects to having his or her property included in any lists or maps developed to implement this act, the department shall remove the property from any such lists or maps upon receipt of the landowner's written request to do so.
- $\underline{(14)}$ (12) The department is authorized to use funds from the following sources to implement this act:
 - (a) State funds;
 - (b) Federal funds;
 - (c) Other governmental entities;
 - (d) Nongovernmental organizations; or
- 4072 (e) Private individuals.

4073 4074 Any such funds provided shall be deposited into the Conservation

and Recreation Lands Program Trust Fund within the Department of

4076 Agriculture and Consumer Services and used for the purposes of

4077 this act.

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(15)(13) No more than 10 percent of any funds made available to implement this act shall be expended for resource conservation agreements and agricultural protection agreements.

Section 30. All of the statutory powers, duties and functions, records, personnel, property, and unexpended balances

of appropriations, allocations, or other funds for the

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administration of sections 380.501 through 380.515, Florida

Statutes, relating to the Florida Communities Trust, shall be transferred by a type two transfer, as defined in s. 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, from the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 31. The Legislature recognizes that there is a need to conform the Florida Statutes to the organizational changes in this act and that there may be a need to resolve apparent conflicts with any other legislation that has been or may be enacted during the 2008 Regular Session. Therefore, in the interim between this act becoming a law and the 2009 Regular Session of the Legislature or an earlier special session addressing this issue, the Division of Statutory Revision shall provide the relevant substantive committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives with assistance, upon request, to enable such committees to prepare draft legislation to conform the Florida Statutes and any legislation enacted during 2008 to the provisions of this act.

Section 32. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

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