

CHAIRS REPORT

September 20, 2024

Jono Miller

Since our last meeting March 15, 2024

North of MRSP FISH KILL

Guide and Tour Boats - Snook Haven

County Protection Efforts

Curry Creek Conservation Subdivision

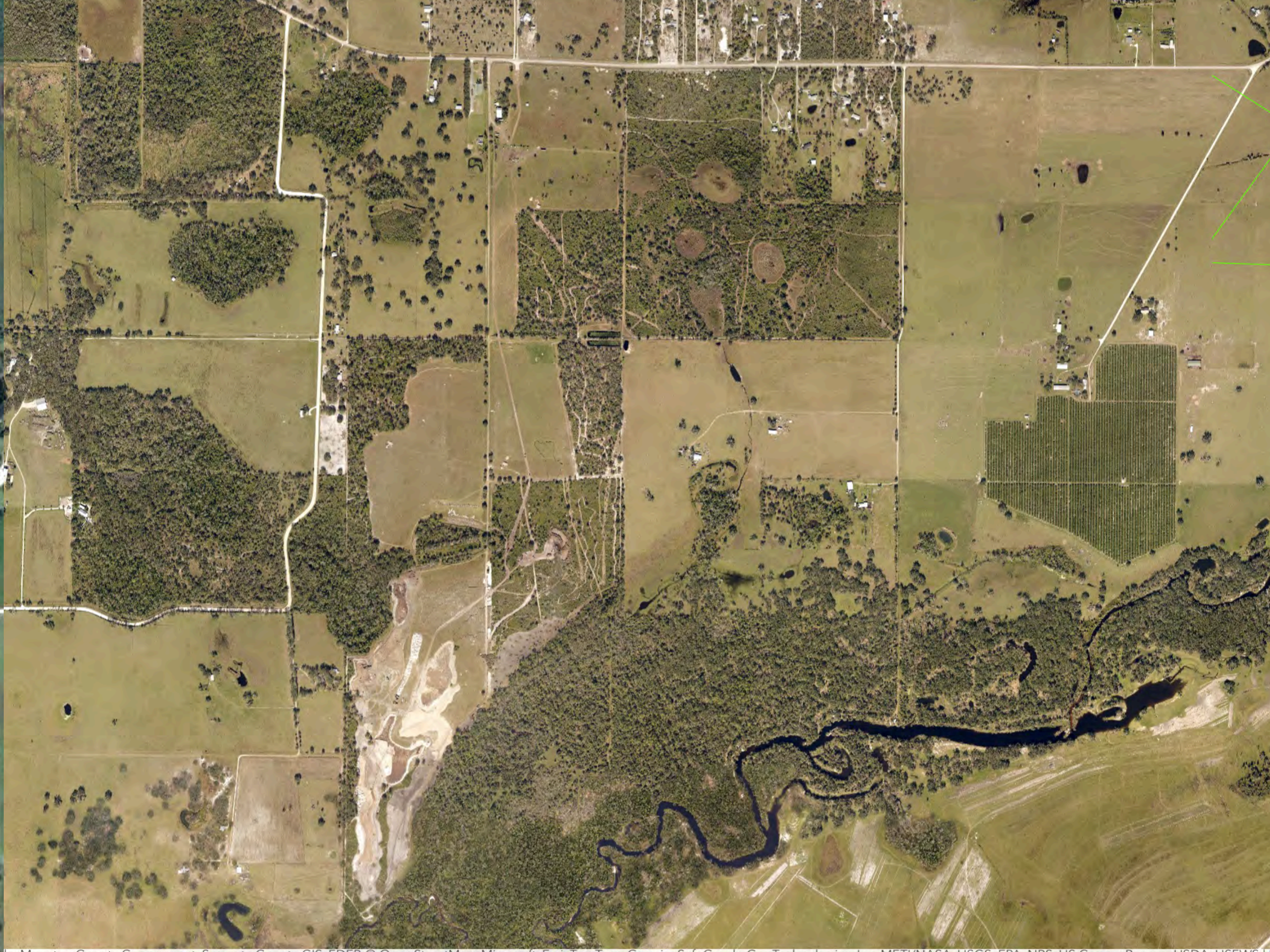
Initial Rough Draft Land Use Component

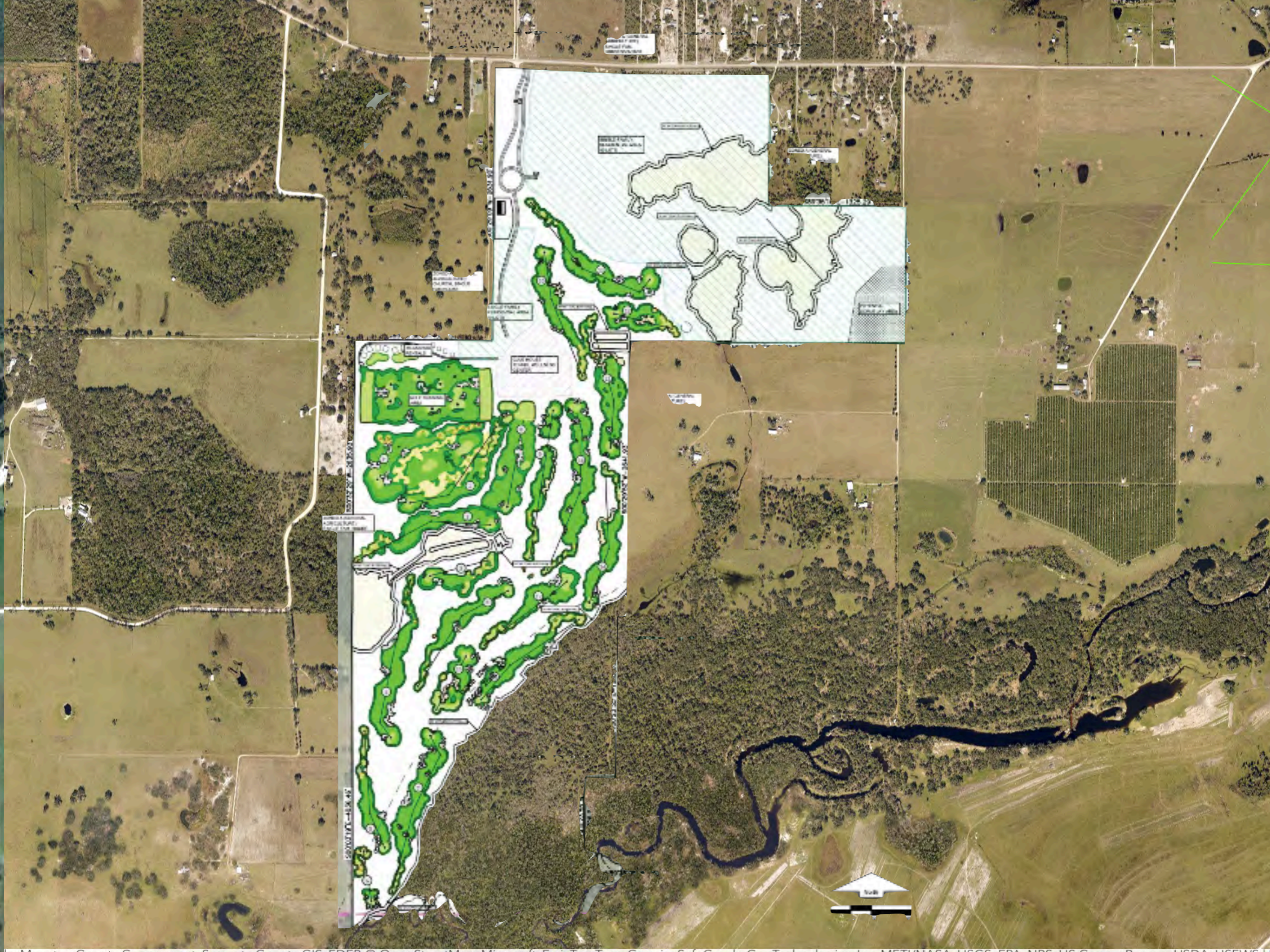
Darron Rose

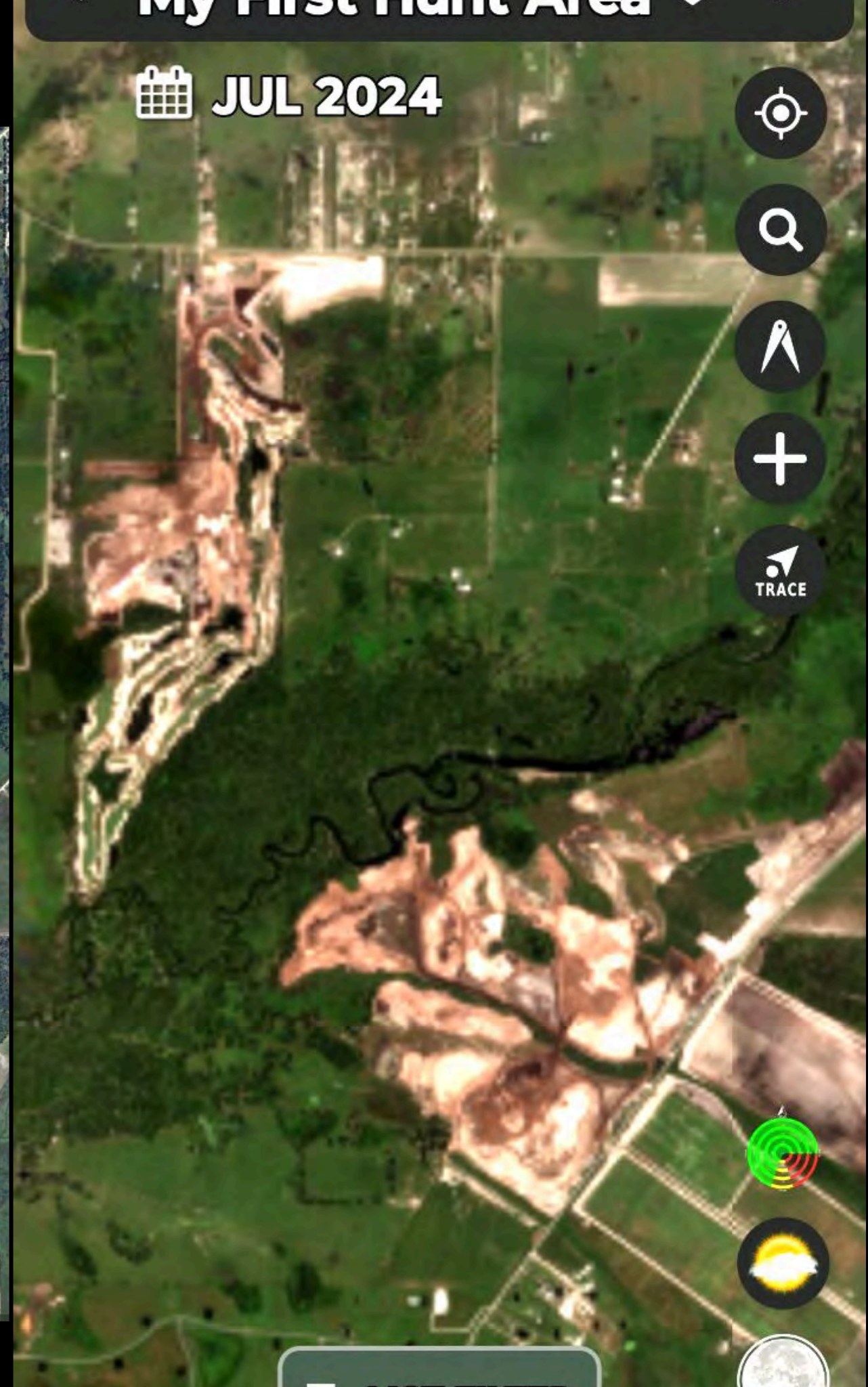
MANATEE COUNTY FISH KILL











Guide and Tour Boats - Snook Haven

Commercial Water-based Charter Boat and Tour Operators Task Force Final Report

September 11, 2024

- August 2022 – PRNR staff completed Board Assignment No. 22-015, where staff researched the development of a permit program for fishing charter and/or tour boats within the County water access parks.
 - In response to an increase in unauthorized commercial watercraft using parks and amenities as the pick-up and drop-off location for guests of private charters.
- October 24, 2023 – Board requested that the County Administrator bring back guidance on a potential composition of a task force to investigate unauthorized commercial activity and delegation of authority for approval of penalty fees for unauthorized use of County parks.

Purpose: Determine the mechanism for lawful and legal operation of commercial water-based charter boat and tour excursion operators.

Scope:

- Evaluate existing opportunities and requirements for commercial water-based charter boat and tour excursion operations.
- Develop final report and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners related to the purpose of the Task Force.

Timeframe: Two months (approximately June 1, 2024 – August 1, 2024)

1. Implement Permit Program

- Task Force recommends that Sarasota County move forward with a permit program that will allow for the legal operation of OUPV "6 Pack" Fishing Charters and Tour Excursions out of our County Park system.
- Once requirements are met, these permits will be sufficient for both the County Marine Park District and Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources (PRNR). These requirements will set standards for professional and safe operation.

2. Issue Permits by Zone

- Task Force recommends that County issue permits by zones including north county, mid-county and south county.
- Businesses will be able to apply for the zone or zones that best serve their customers. Permit holders will have flexibility to pick up and drop off their customers at any of the locations within the specified zone.

Note: Task Force recommends the inclusion of Nora Patterson Bay Island Park within the north county zone even though it is located within the City of Sarasota and currently zoned for residential use. Issuing permits at this park may require the County to rezone the property and obtain additional approvals from the City of Sarasota.

Chart follows on next page.

3. Number of Permits by Zone

Methodology

% of Vehicle Spaces per Park	50%	Revised 8/7/24
OUPV (Vehicles per Charter)	1	6 passenger

County Park Name	Sea Wall Dock/Boat Ramp	Proposed Zone	# Trailer Spaces	# Vehicle Spaces	% of Vehicle Spaces	OUPV Permits (Vehicle/Charter)	Adjusted Permit # Per Zone
North Zone							
Turtle Beach Public Boat Ramp	Yes/Yes	1	20	33	17.00	17	37
Nora Patterson Bay Island Park	Yes/No	1	0	40	20.00	20	
Mid-County Zone							
Nokomis Beach Public Boat Ramp	Yes/Yes	2	24	40	20.00	20	48
Nokomis Beach Park	Yes/No	2	0	50	25.00	25	
Loreto Court Bay Access	Yes/Yes	2	8	5	3.00	3	
South County Zone							
Snook Haven Park (Addition)	Yes/Yes	3	12	42	21.00	21	39
Indian Mound Park	Yes/Yes	3	28	22	11.00	11	
Marina Park and Boat Ramp - WCIND	Yes/Yes	3	33	14	7.00	7	
							124

3. Number of Permits by Zone

- The Task Force based the number of permits issued per zone on 50% of available vehicle spaces within each park. The total recommended number of permits is 124. These are broken down into 37 for north county, 48 for mid-county and 39 in south county.
- Businesses should not be able to purchase more than four permits per zone. Each permit represents the use of one vessel and must meet the program requirements.
- One year after implementation, the County should conduct a review analyzing the impact this program has on the park system to determine if additional permits can be issued.

Chart follows on next page.

4. Bid Process to Obtain Permits

- The Task Force recommends utilizing a bid process similar to what the County used for the Commercial Recreation and Tour Operator Permit Program.
- Minimum bids should start at \$1,200 per permit, per year with a term of three years with two additional one-year renewals.

5. Enforcement

- Enforcement is critical, and we advise the County and BOCC to take any steps needed to ensure the integrity of the program.

6. Proceeds

- Excess proceeds from this program after management expenses be allocated for the acquisition of additional waterfront properties to support the growing need of water access in Sarasota County.

Commissioners: I'm writing in anticipation of your discussion on Wednesday regarding Commercial Water-Based Charter Boat and Tour Operators Task Force Report. I don't have financial interests in charter or tour boats and I am not representing the views of any entity -- just the comments of a guy who knows too much and cares too much about the Myakka River. **Allow me to make several points:**

The Wild and Scenic Myakka River is not mentioned in the task force's report, although it is by implication, since it references Snook Haven. I don't know if there are currently any motorized fishing charters on the Myakka, but there are two tour boats: The boat operating on Upper Myakka Lake inside the State Park, and the boat operated by Logan Tours out of Snook Haven. Non-motorized tours may be another dimension. (It is not clear to me if the County intended to include or exclude kayak tours in this effort.)

The task force proposal divides the county's waters into three sections, but I'm not sure the proposed section 3 makes a lot of sense. Sarasota has about 35 miles of bay waters, but it is close to fifty miles from Indian Mound Park to Snook Haven. Since the distance is so great and the conditions so different, I hope you will consider creating a fourth zone, with the Myakka being a zone by itself.

Furthermore, the list of recommended required permits on Page 3 makes no mention of any Myakka Permits. At a minimum any tour or charter operation that was not operating in 1985 on the Myakka would need a permit pursuant to Rule 16D-15.

There are a number of other state and county requirements unique to the Myakka in Sarasota County. These requirements are based on adopted goals of the State and County to maintain the wild and scenic resource values. Lax enforcement and increased use of the river are literally and figuratively eroding these resources and the tragic death of a personal watercraft operator during Debby highlights the importance of getting things right.

My advice would be to initially set the new Zone 4 Myakka permit number at 2, pending analysis by the Office of the County Attorney in consultation with County staff, and DEP Parks personnel. This analysis should also incorporate a fresh look at parking at all the Snook Haven facilities in light of anticipated changes. The goal of the OCA report would be to clarify opportunities and constraints unique to the Myakka that were not anticipated in the task force's proposal.

Thanks for giving special consideration to the only state-designated Wild and Scenic River.

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SNOOK HAVEN ADDITION: PHASE I CONCEPT PLAN



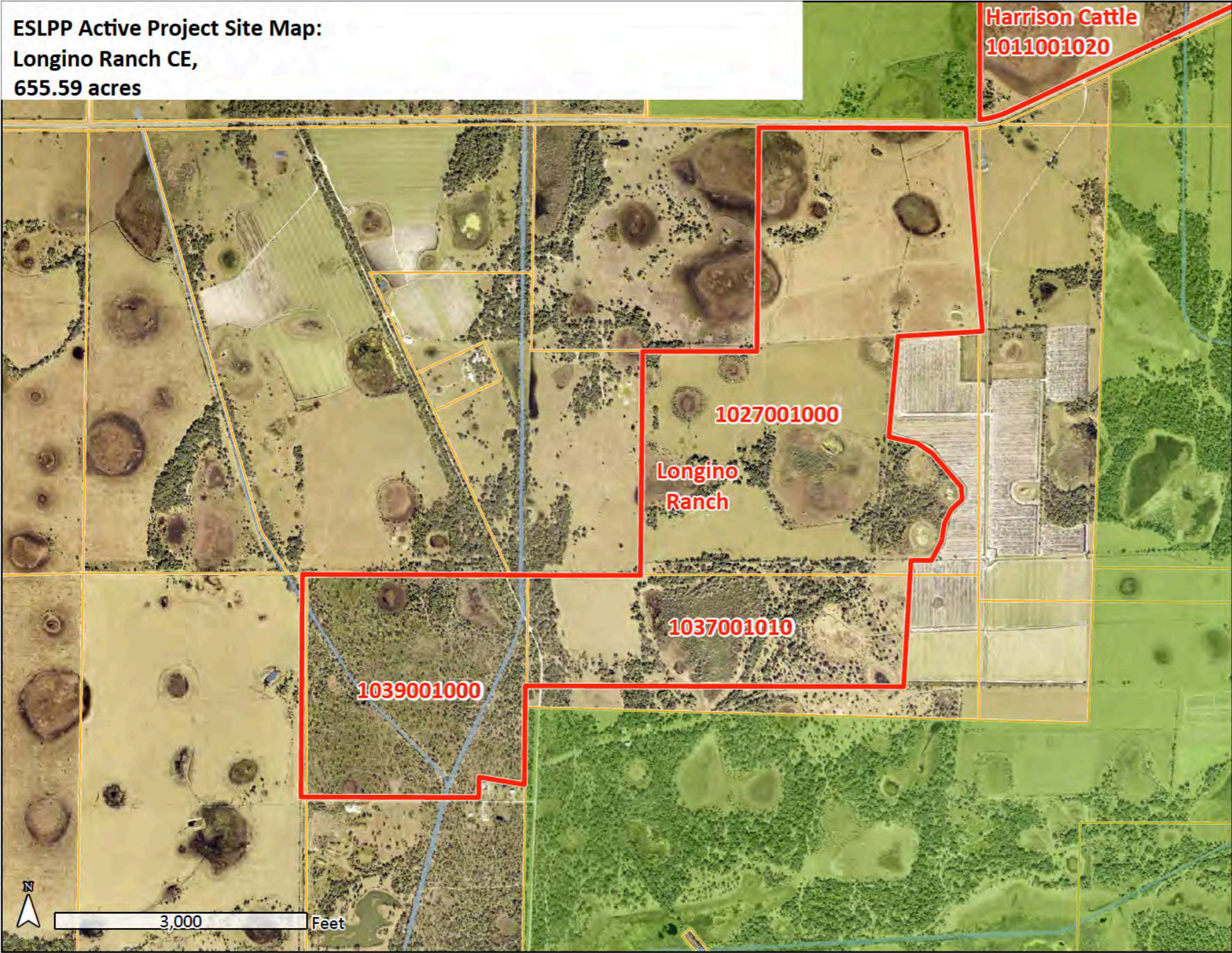
11 (or 13?) Car spaces

14 labeled trailer



Sarasota County Protection Efforts

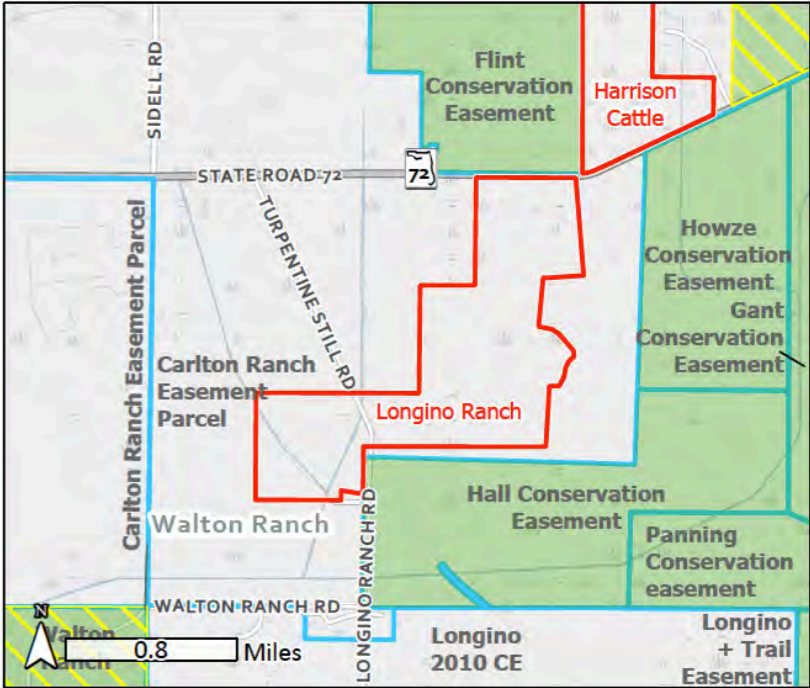
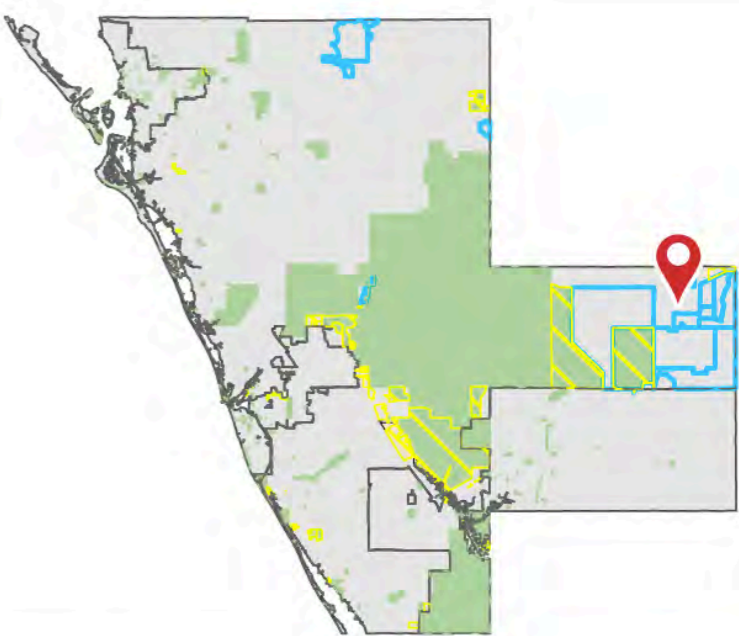
ESLPP Active Project Site Map:
Longino Ranch CE,
655.59 acres



Parcel ID: 1027001000,
 1037001010, 1039001000
 Status as of August 2024:
 BCC Approved - Under
 Contract - In Due Diligence

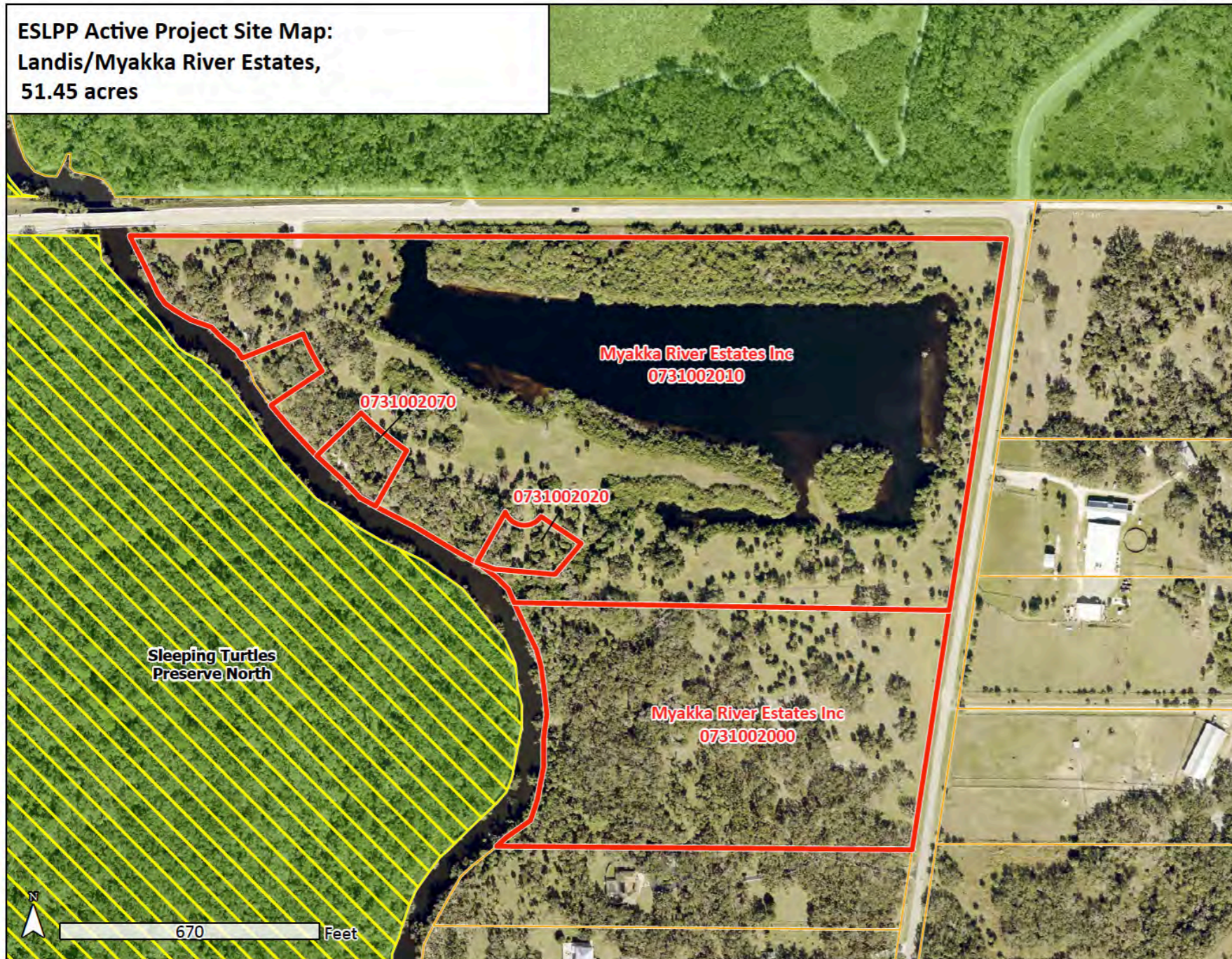
- ESLPP Land Acquisition Project
- Parcels
- Sarasota County Boundary
- Parks
- ESLPP Acquired Properties
- ESLPP Conservation Easements

Data Sources: Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, Florida Department Of Transportation, University of South Florida, Sarasota County GIS, FDEP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS
 This map is for informational purposes only. The County does not warranty, guarantee, or assume responsibility for geographic information completeness and/or accuracy. The map should not be used as a guide for navigation.



- ESLPP Land Acquisition Project
- ESLPP Acquired Properties

**ESLPP Active Project Site Map:
Landis/Myakka River Estates,
51.45 acres**

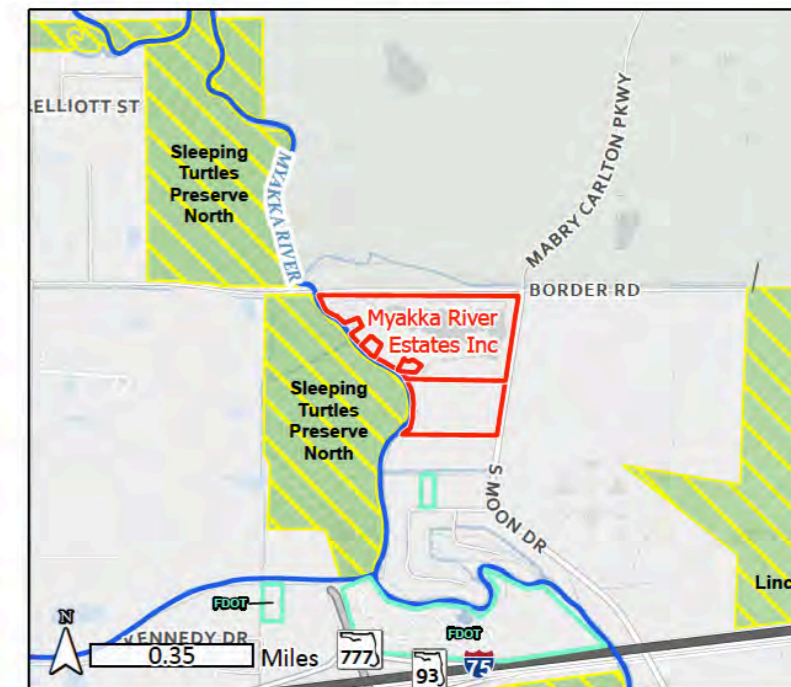
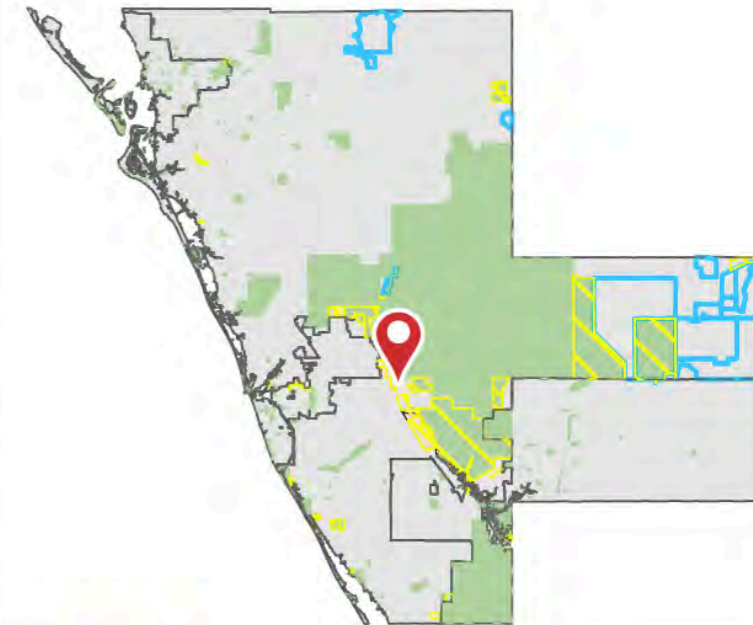


**Parcel ID: 0731002000,
0731002010, 0731002020,
and 0731002070**

**Status as of August 2024:
Failed to Negotiate**

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Parcels | Parks |
| ESLPP Land Acquisition Project | Sarasota County Boundary |
| | ESLPP Acquired Properties |
| | ESLPP Conservation Easements |

Data Sources: Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, Florida Department Of Transportation, University of South Florida, Sarasota County GIS, FDEP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS
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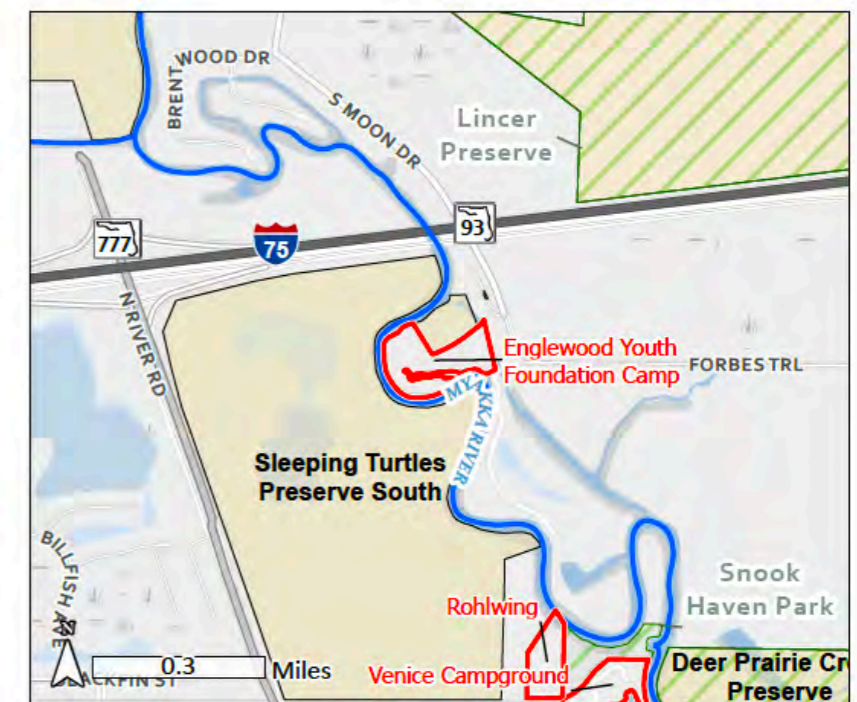
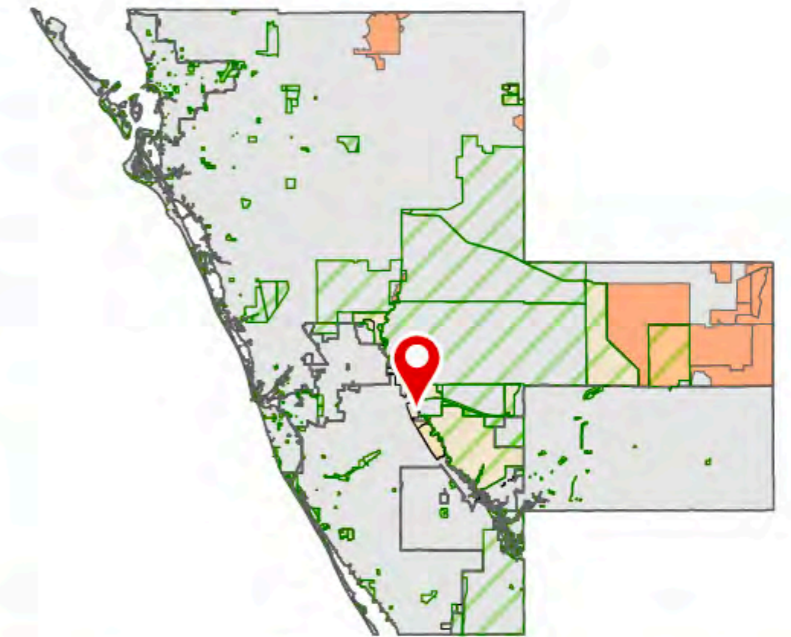
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Paddle Trail | Other Public Land |
| ESLPP Land Acquisition Project | |

ENGLEWOOD YOUTH FOUNDATION 9.58 ACRES



Parcel ID: 0732004130
Status as of August 2023:
Under Review by Staff -
Appraisal Phase

ESLPP Land Acquisition	Sarasota County Boundary
Parcels	Parks
	ESLPP Acquired Properties
	ESLPP Conservation Easements



Paddle Trail
 ESLPP Land
Acquisition Parcels

SLEEPING TURTLES
SOUTH

SNOOK HAVEN

DEER
PRAIRIE
SLOUGH

E VENICE AVE

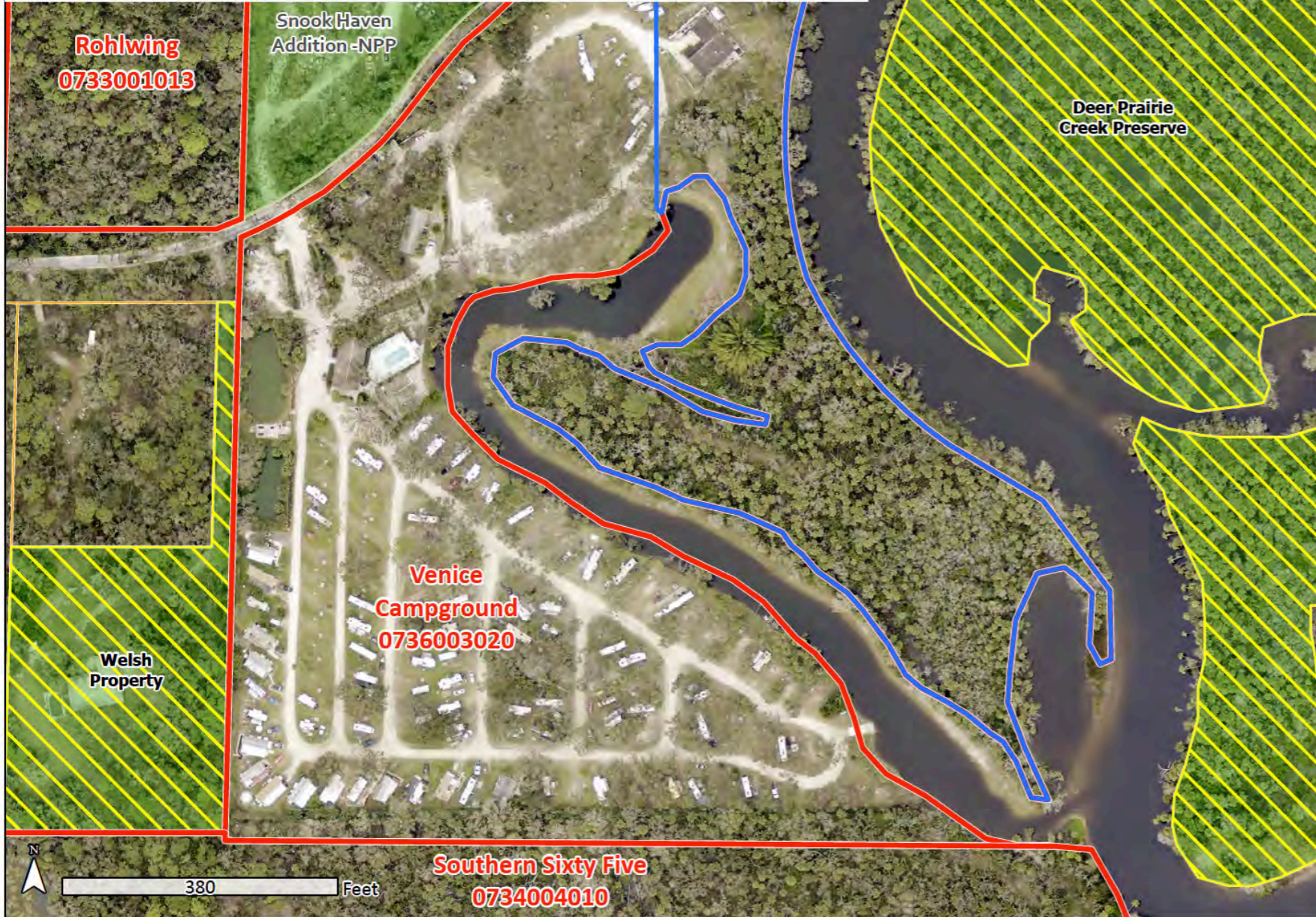
CAMP
VENICE
CAMPGROUND

DOT

JELKS

N R

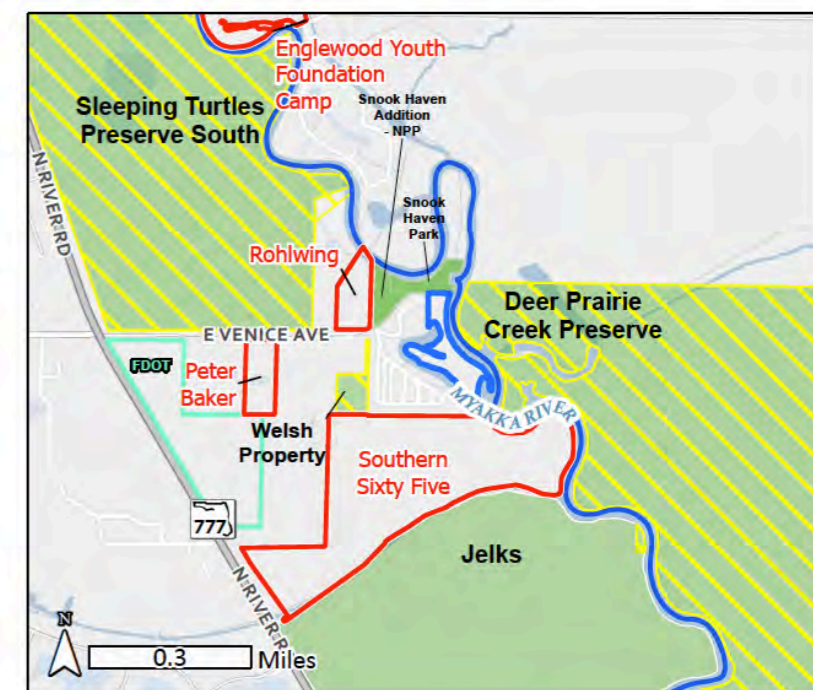
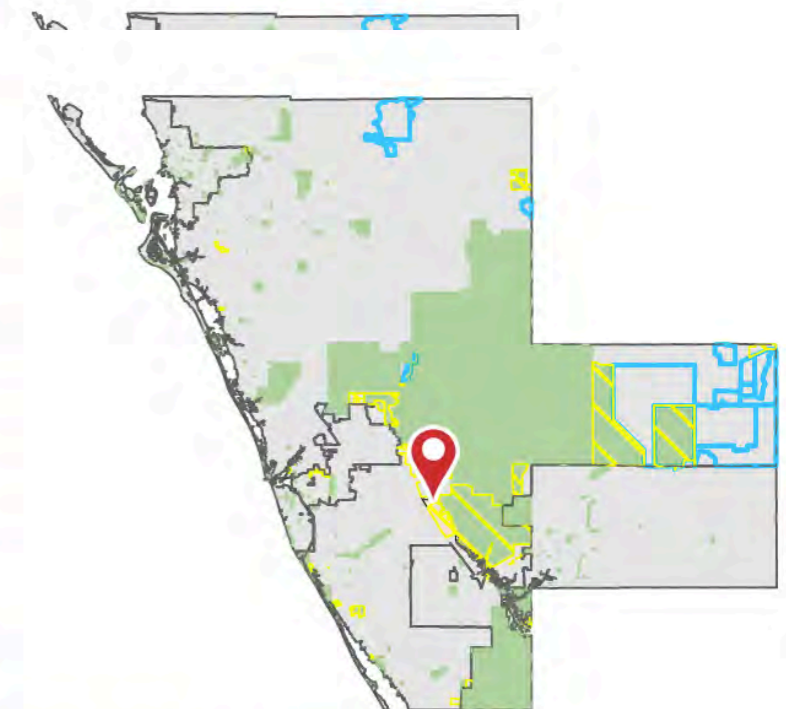
ESLPP Active Project Site Map: Venice Campground 2018-210, 20.83 acres



Parcel ID: 0736003020
Status as of August 2024: On Hold

- 6.5+/- acres Myakka River Peninsula of the Camp Venice LLC property
- ESLPP Land Acquisition Project
- Sarasota County Boundary
- Parks
- ESLPP Acquired Properties
- ESLPP Conservation Easements

Data Sources: Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, Florida Department Of Transportation, University of South Florida, Sarasota County GIS, FDEP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS



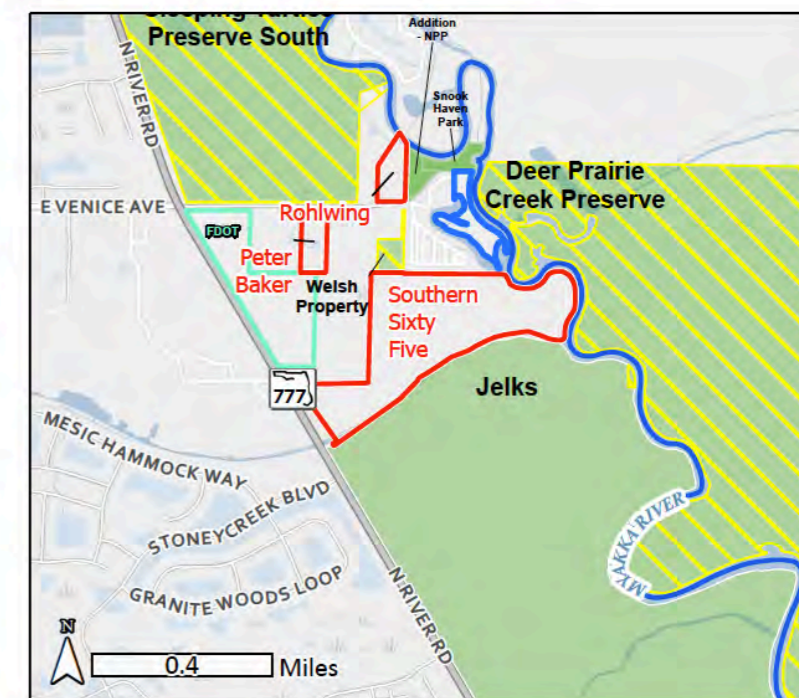
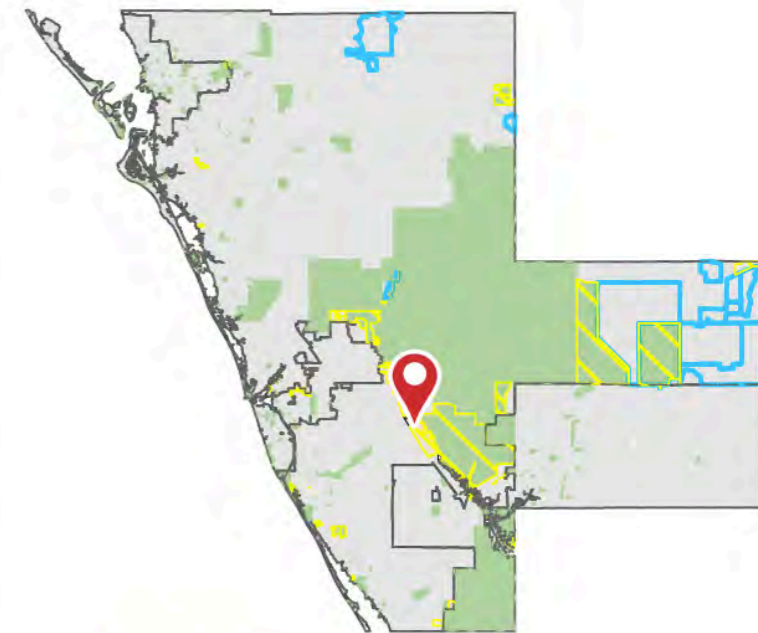
- Paddle Trail
- ESLPP Land Acquisition Project
- 6.5+/- acres Myakka River Peninsula of the Camp Venice LLC property

ESLPP Active Project Site Map:
S. River Road - Southern Sixty Five,
62.14 acres



- Parcel ID: 0734004010
 Status as of August 2024: On Hold
- 6.5+/- acres Myakka River Peninsula of the Camp Venice LLC property
 - ESLPP Land Acquisition Project
 - Sarasota County Boundary
 - Parks
 - ESLPP Acquired Properties
 - ESLPP Conservation Easements

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- 6.5+/- acres Myakka River Peninsula of the Camp Venice LLC property
- ESLPP Land Acquisition Project
- Paddle Trail

MYAKKA RIVER STATE PARK CONCEPTUAL LAND USE PLAN

Planning for the future of Myakka River State Park in the face of long range successional changes and new understandings of visitor use and impacts

11-page document

EMERGING THEMES

Better access & interpretation of dry prairie

Distribute Impacts better (reduce car use)

Reduce impacts in the River Corridor

Optimize boundary

Myakka River State Park

HIDDEN RIVER

Hidden River Road

Sarasota County

Township 37 S

Myakka Valley Trail

MYAKKA VALLEY RANCHES

Secret Island Road

Single Tree Road

Crosey Road

Vanderipe Slough

Myakka Valley Trail

Myakka River State Park

Range 20 E



Upper Myakka Lake

Upper Myakka Lake Region

- ① Dry Prairie Interpretive Area - Dry Prairie Interpretive Center and back country trailhead.
- ② Big Flats Campground - Discontinue use - phased removal of all facilities and infrastructure to eliminate associated impacts to water quality.
- ③ Stop Camp - Repurpose Stop Camp building for administrative and meeting space - renovate cabins/ improve vegetative buffers.
- ④ Visitor Center - Renovate building interior, update exhibits, and improve ADA parking.
- ⑤ Park Shop Compound - Construct a pole barn with up to 6-bay capacity.
- ⑥ Birdwalk - Restore all original segments of the boardwalk.
- ⑦ Boylston Trail and Canopy Walk - Improve trailhead parking delineation and traffic flow. Improve trail directions/wayfinding.

- ⑧ Myakka River Bridge - Develop design options for expanded pedestrian/viewing space on the bridge - including pedestrian crossings/walkways and improved parking delineation.
- ⑨ Upper Myakka Lake Use Area - Interior renovations of the concessionaire building.
- ⑩ Boardwalk Platform - Construct wildlife viewing platform or extend trail to improve vantage.
- ⑪ Old Prairie Campground - Replace aging bathhouse.
- ⑫ Palmetto Ridge Campground - Expand number of sites to make up for loss of sites at Big Flats Campground.
- ⑬ Low Water Crossing - Access to eastern portion of the park.

- Legend**
- All-Weather Road full one-way loop option
 - Ranchhouse Road partial one-way loop option
 - Powerline Road partial one-way loop option
 - Wilderness Area single track hiking trail



MYAKKA RIVER STATE PARK Conceptual Land Use Plan



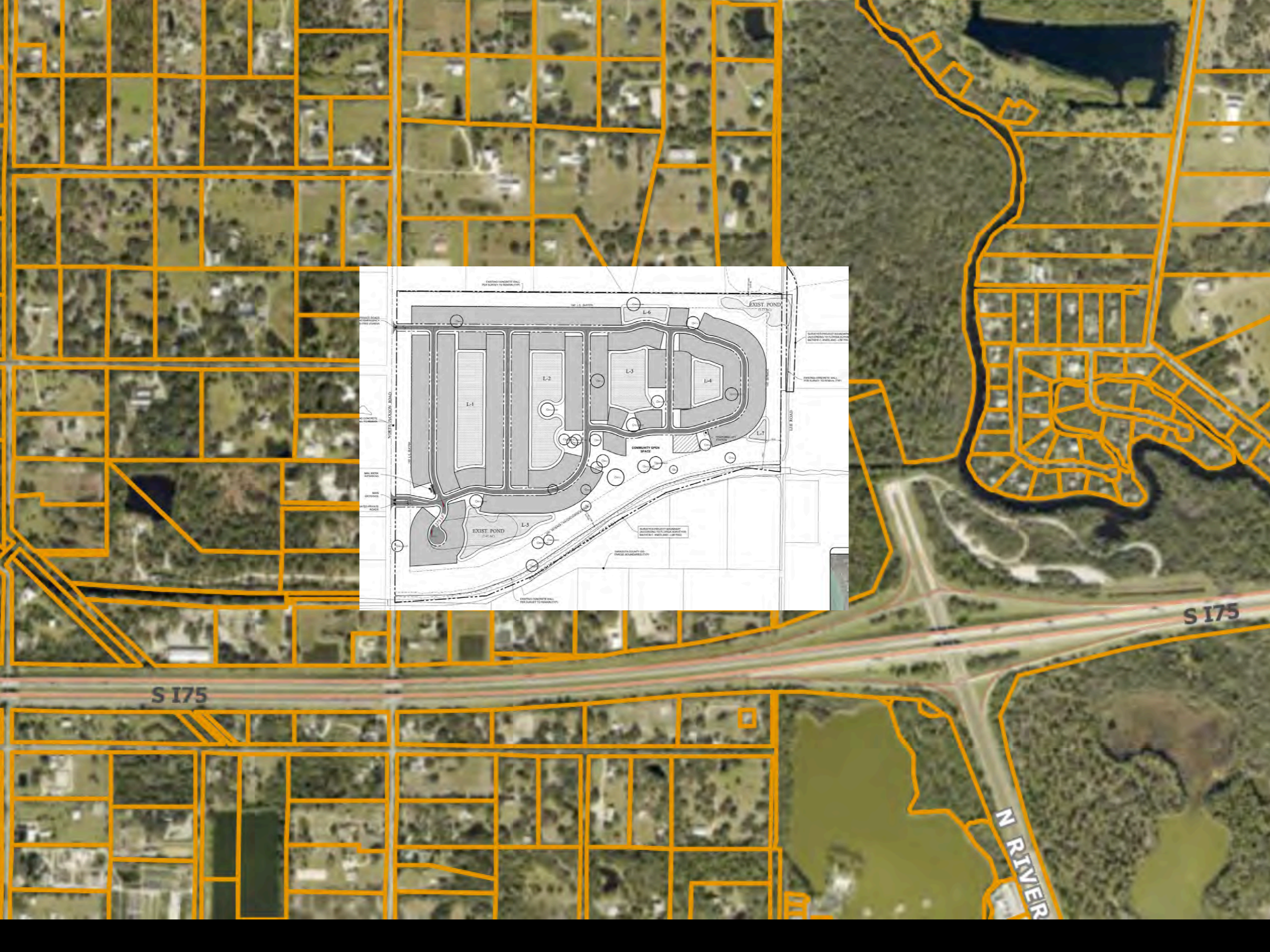
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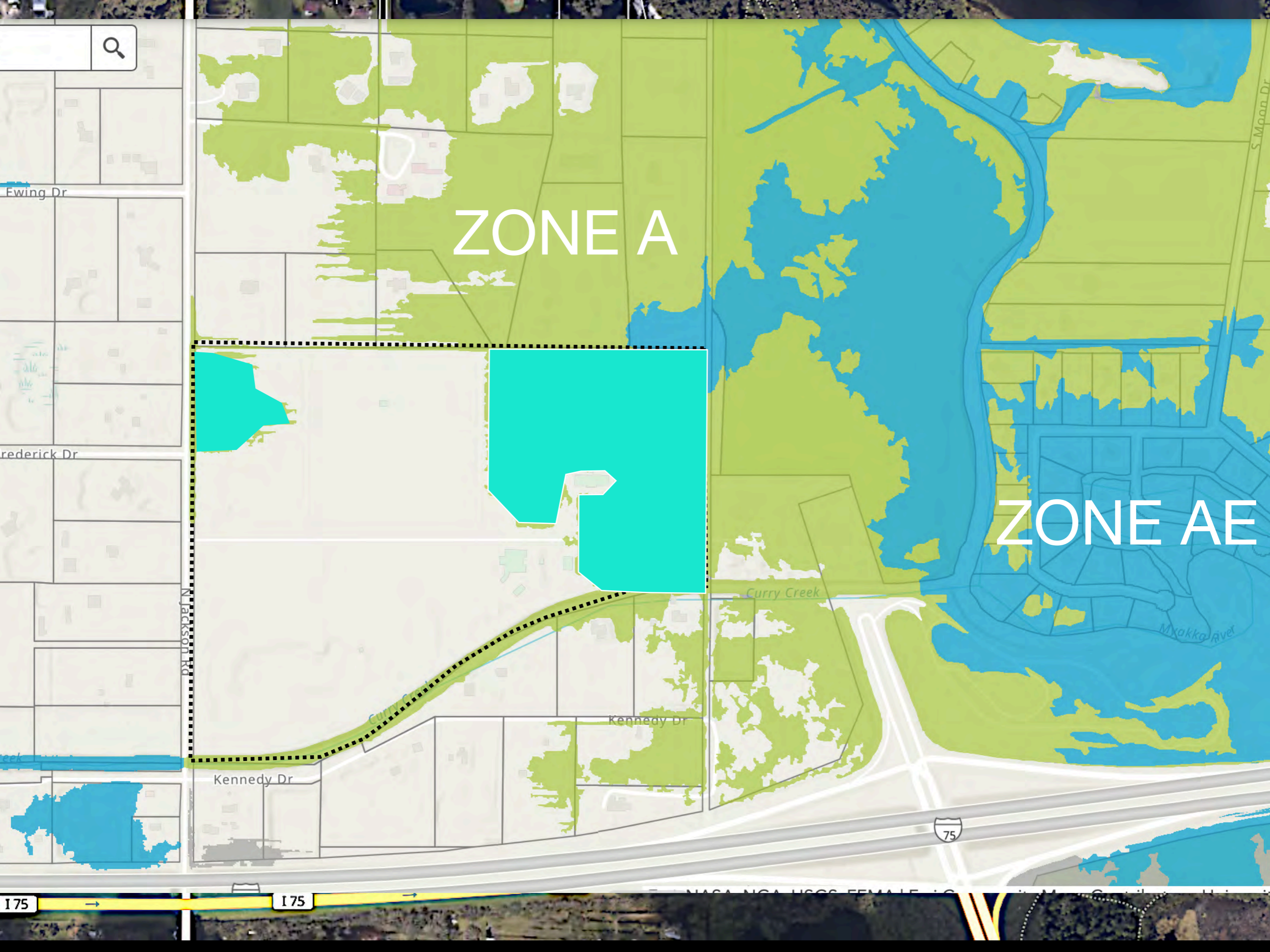
CURRY CREEK CONSERVATION SUBDIVISION

Comments by Jono Miller

The Neighborhood







ZONE A

ZONE AE

Fwing Dr

Frederick Dr

N Jackson Rd

Kennedy Dr

Kennedy Dr

Curry Creek

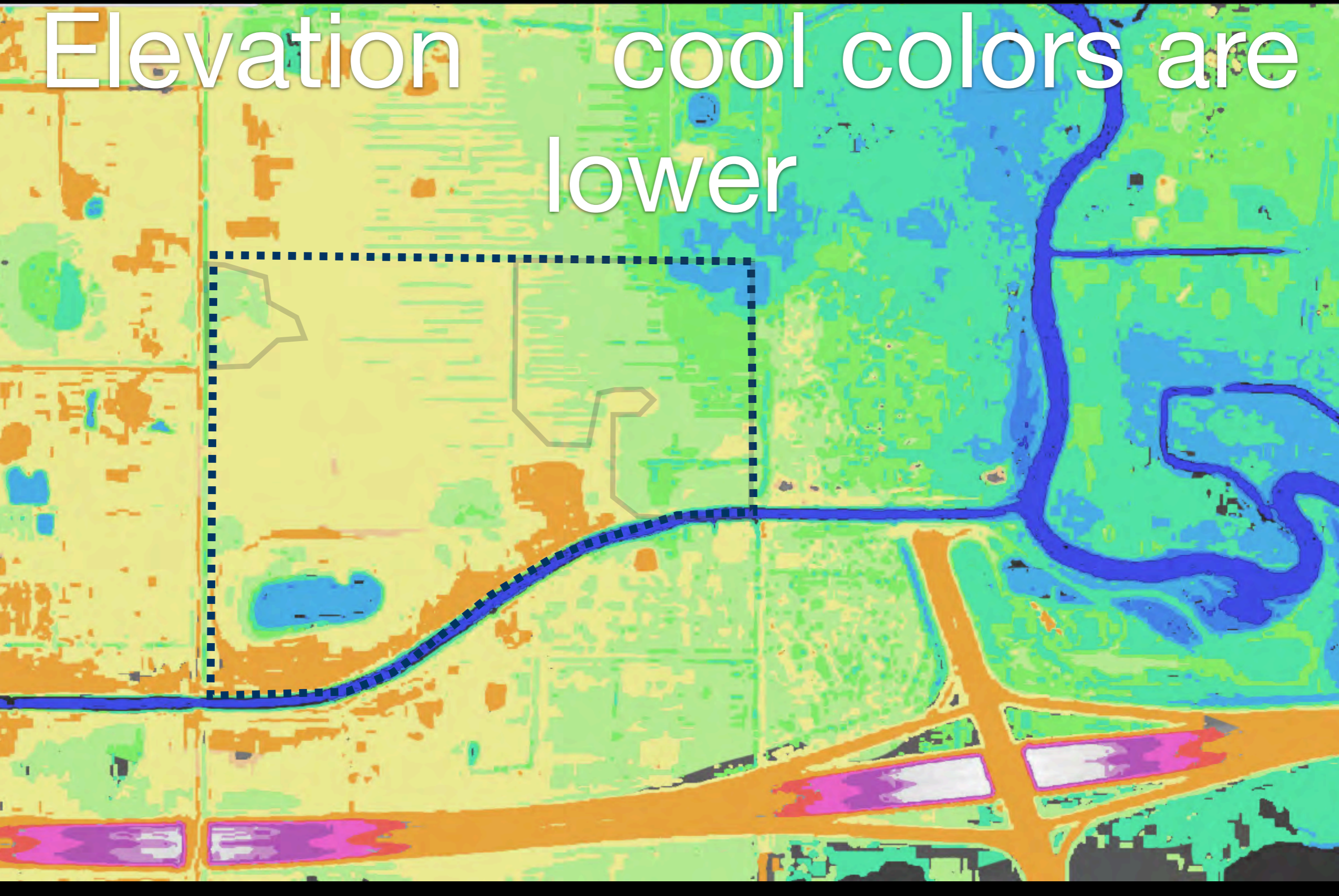
Myakka River

75

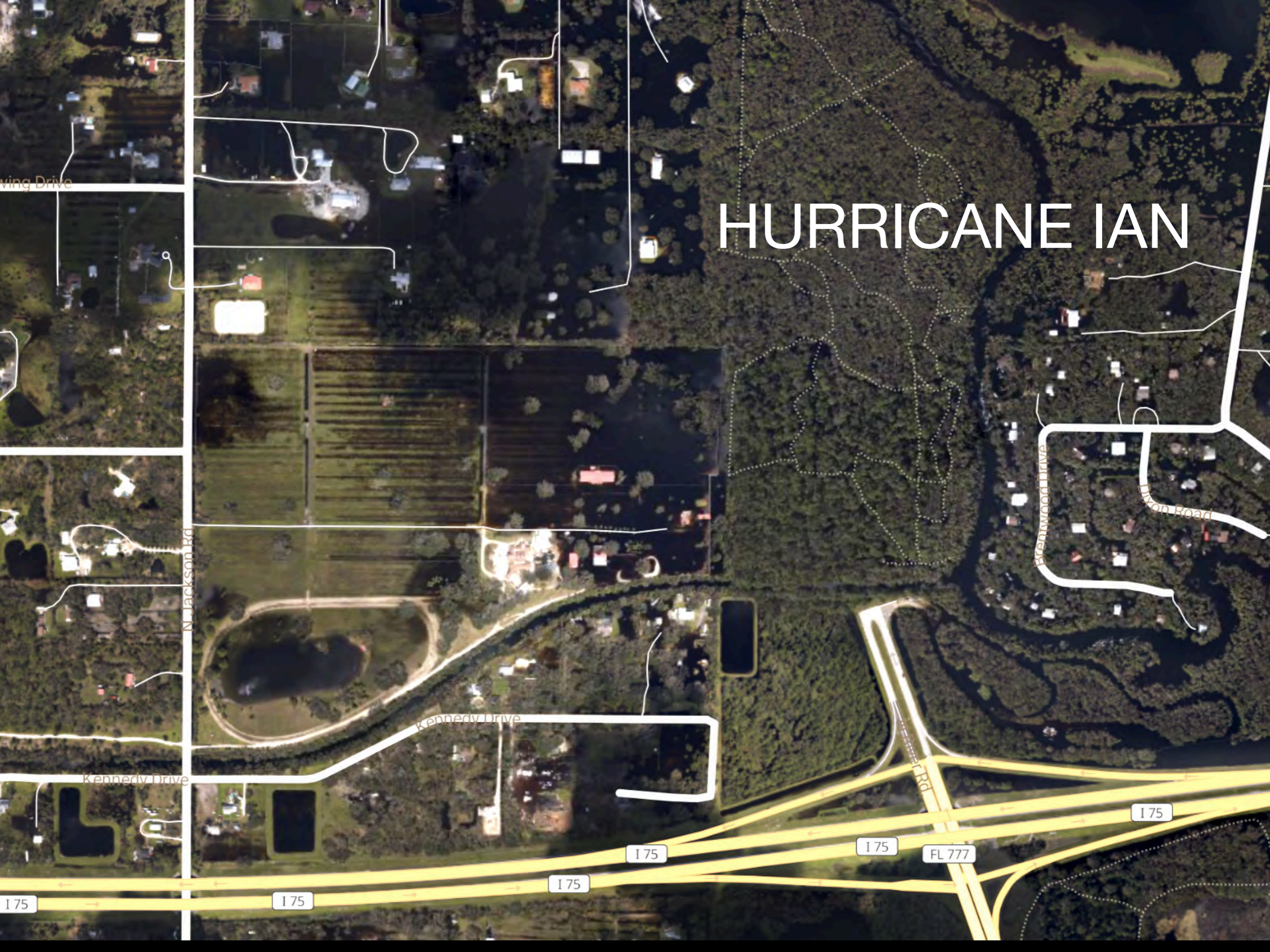
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I 75

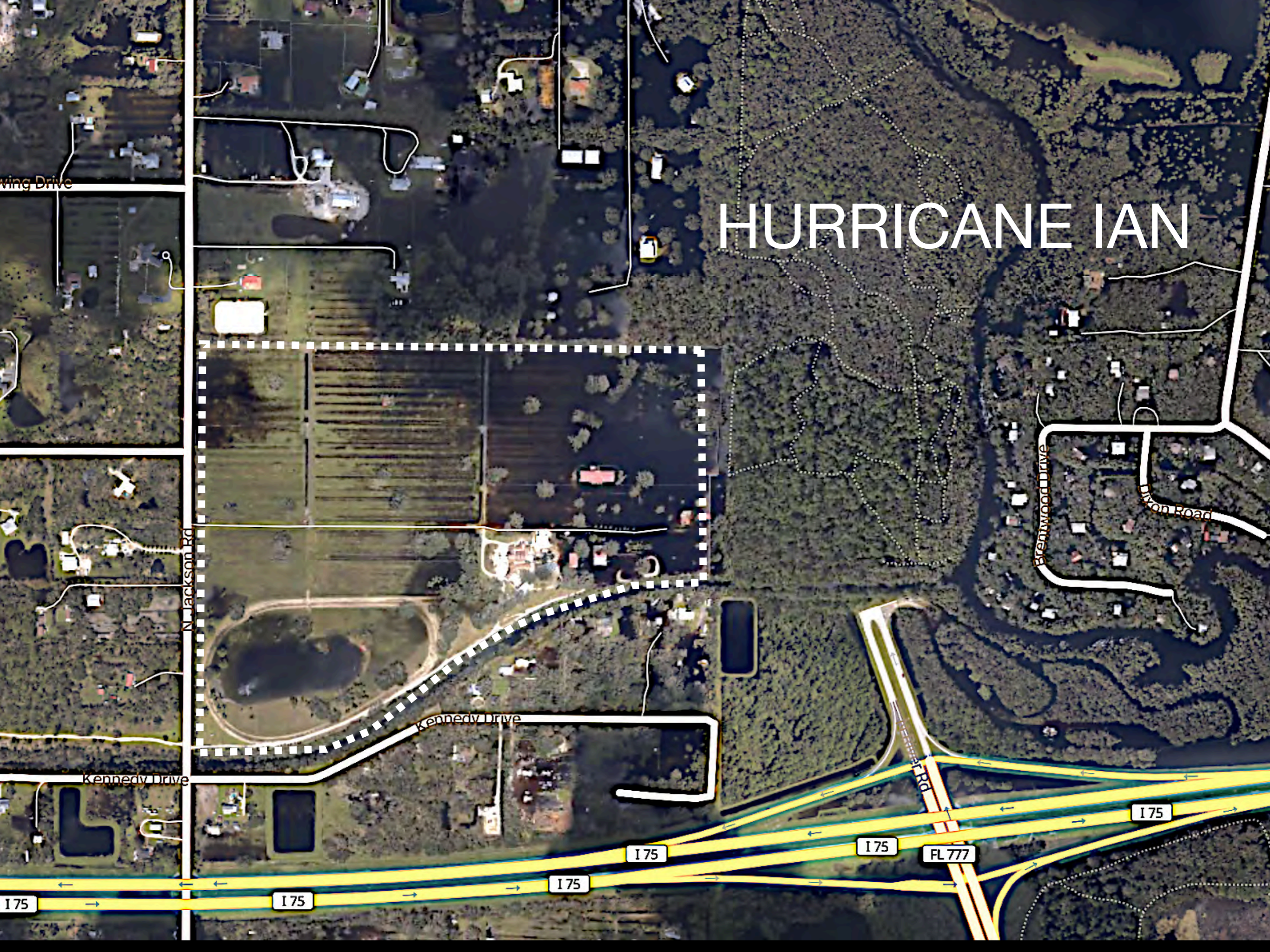
NAGA NGA USGS FEMALE 10



HURRICANE IAN



HURRICANE IAN



HURRICANE IAN



Kennedy Drive

Kennedy Drive



19064
12.10

19060
12.85



DARRON ROSE

Missing jet skier's body found in Myakka River

Support the Rose Family in their time of need



\$27



254 c



Co
fir



Help the Rose Family in their time of need (GoFundMe)

By ABC7 Staff

Published: Aug. 16, 2024 at 3:06 PM EDT | Updated: Aug. 16, 2024 at 8:51 PM EDT



DARRON ROSE

END