

Section 4(f) Resources

Florida Department of Transportation

US 98/SR 35/SR 700 FROM CR54 TO US 301/US 98/SR 35/SR 700

District: FDOT District 7

County: Pasco County

ETDM Number: 14374

Financial Management Number: 443368-2-22-01

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Manager: Craig Fox

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2016 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and FDOT. Submitted pursuant 49 U.S.C. § 303.

Table of Contents

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Summary and Approval | 1 |
| Upper Hillsborough Preserve | 2 |
| Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve | 4 |
| Project-Level Attachments | 5 |
| Resource Attachments | 8 |

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Summary and Approval

| Resource Name | Facility Type | Property Classification | Owner/Official with Jurisdiction | Recommended Outcome | OEM SME Action |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Upper Hillsborough Preserve | Preserve | Park/Rec Area | Southwest Florida Water Management District | No Use | Determination 11-17-2021 |
| Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve | Wilderness Preserve | Park/Rec Area | Southwest Florida Water Management District | No Use | Determination 11-17-2021 |

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Upper Hillsborough Preserve

Facility Type: Preserve

Property Classification: Park/Rec Area

Address and Coordinates:

Address: 41404 CR-54, Zephyrhills, FL, 33540, USA

Latitude: 28.25462 Longitude: -82.13170

Description of Property:

The Upper Hillsborough Preserve (Preserve) is located in southeastern Pasco County and northwestern Polk County. The Preserve is adjacent to the city of Zephyrhills to the west, and approximately six miles southeast of Dade City. Major highways that intersect the property include US 98, which forms the northeastern boundary of the property, and County Road (CR) 54, which bisects the preserve. The majority of the property is within the Hillsborough River Basin.

The Preserve protects natural resources and offers recreational resources to visitors. The Preserve supports a multiple-use concept for environmental conservation, public water supply and recreational access. The Preserve protects natural wetland and upland systems that provide habitat for many notable species of wildlife and plant life, including many federal and state listed species. The Preserve offers visitors opportunities for passive, nature-based recreation with hours of operation daily from sunrise to sunset.

The recreational activities permitted at the Preserve include bicycling, inline skating, camping, horseback riding, fishing, birding, and hiking. Public access to the property is provided by four walkthrough access points. An access to the northern portion of the Preserve is provided by a gate and parking area off of CR 54, midway between Chancey Road and US 98. A second access for the northern portion of the property is also provided by a gate and parking area east of the main entrance and east of the CSX railroad. A third access is provided by a gate and parking area at the west side of the property on Chancey Road. A fourth access point is provided by a gate and parking area at the end of Deems Road. This gate and parking area is the main entrance to the Alston Tract and is accessed off CR 39 by taking County Line Road to Deems Road. There are informational kiosks located at the north, west and south public access points which contain a large trail map of the property and trail map brochures. Motorized access on the property is restricted to authorized personnel directly affiliated with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District), and any other non-affiliated personnel that are held in cooperative agreement with the District.

Trails: There are approximately 39 miles of designated multi-use trails traversing the entire Preserve. The hiking trails give nature-based experiences while minimizing impacts to the lands and natural systems. The trails are accessible from five access points. The Trail markers identify the type of recreational use and the arrows indicate the direction of the trail. The main trail intersections are numbered, which coincide with the trail map brochure. Of the 39 miles of multi-use trails, there are approximately 30 miles of the trails that are also designated for bicycling and equestrian use.

Camping: The Preserve provides primitive camping, backcountry tent camping, and equestrian camping opportunities. These opportunities are accessible from the primary access points. Each of the sites are equipped with picnic tables, and fire rings. Potable water is not provided on the property.

Wildlife Viewing, Hunting, Fishing and Boating: The Preserve has a wide variety of wildlife viewing opportunities, including the Hillsborough River. Currently, there is a land use agreement with FWC for hunting opportunities on the Preserve;

however, hunting is only allowed within the portion of the Upper Hillsborough Tract that lies between CR 54 and the Alston Tract. Fishing is typically open along the river and is accessible by foot only. Fishing is regulated by the FWC and a license may be required. Although the Hillsborough River may appear to be suitable for canoeing or kayaking, there is no designated launch site, and the waterway is not maintained for boating recreation.

Owner/Official with Jurisdiction: Southwest Florida Water Management District

Relationship Between the Property and the Project

The Preserve is located to the south of US 98. The proposed roadway widening adjacent to the Preserve is being conducted within the existing right of way. No right of way is proposed to be acquired from the Preserve. No use of the Preserve is anticipated. No acquisition or occupation of land from the protected property on either a temporary or permanent basis, no meaningful proximity impacts to protected properties, and no impacts to the access and usage of protected properties is anticipated.

Best Management Practices (BMP's) will be utilized during construction to minimize erosion and sediment transport. Erosion control measures are to be installed and maintained in accordance with standard FDOT specifications and the erosion control plan found in the Roadway Construction Plans.

Yes No

 Will the property be "used" within the meaning of Section 4(f)?

Recommended Outcome: No Use

OEM SME Determination Date: 11-17-2021

Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve

Facility Type: Wilderness Preserve

Property Classification: Park/Rec Area

Address and Coordinates:

Address: 13347 Ranch Rd, Dade City, FL, 33525, USA

Latitude: 28.35582 Longitude: -82.12300

Description of Property:

The Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve (Green Swamp) totals 560,000 acres of wetlands and flatlands, with occasional low ridges, located in the center of the Florida peninsula. It is bounded by US 27 on the east, State Road (SR) 50 on the north, US 301 on the west, and US 98 on the south.

Recreational activities at the Green Swamp include hunting, fishing, horseback riding, camping, hiking, canoeing, birding, bicycling, and nature study. Hours of operation are daily from sunrise to sunset.

Hunting: A total of 48,050 acres of land in the Green Swamp Wildlife Management Area (WMA), located entirely within the Green Swamp Preserve, provides hunting opportunities to the public.

Hiking, Equestrian Use, Bicycling: A total of 21 miles of the Green Swamp Trail is located within the Green Swamp for public use.

Camping: Several camping areas are available to a variety of groups within the Green Swamp. There are campsites within the WMA for hunters, equestrian camping, youth group camping areas, and primitive camping for all ages. The main campground is located at the Rock Ridge entrance.

Owner/Official with Jurisdiction: Southwest Florida Water Management District

Relationship Between the Property and the Project

The Green Swamp is located to the north of US 98. The proposed roadway widening adjacent to the Green Swamp is being conducted within the existing right of way. No right of way is proposed to be acquired from the Green Swamp. No use of the Green Swamp is anticipated. No acquisition or occupation of land from the protected property on either a temporary or permanent basis, no meaningful proximity impacts to protected properties, and no impacts to the access and usage of protected properties is anticipated.

Best Management Practices (BMP's) will be utilized during construction to minimize erosion and sediment transport. Erosion control measures are to be installed and maintained in accordance with standard FDOT specifications and the erosion control plan found in the Roadway Construction Plans.

Yes No

Will the property be "used" within the meaning of Section 4(f)?

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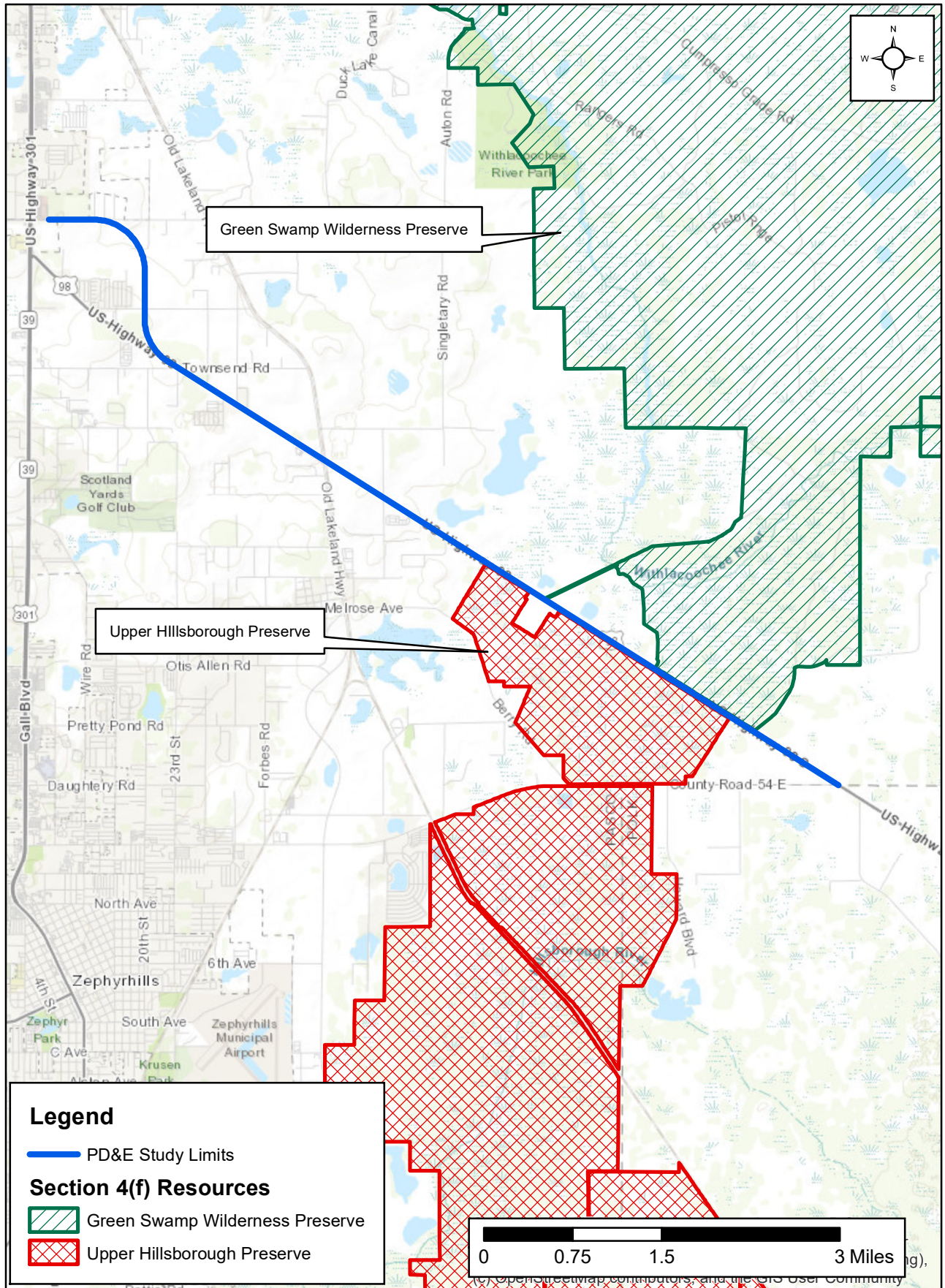
OEM SME Determination Date: 11-17-2021

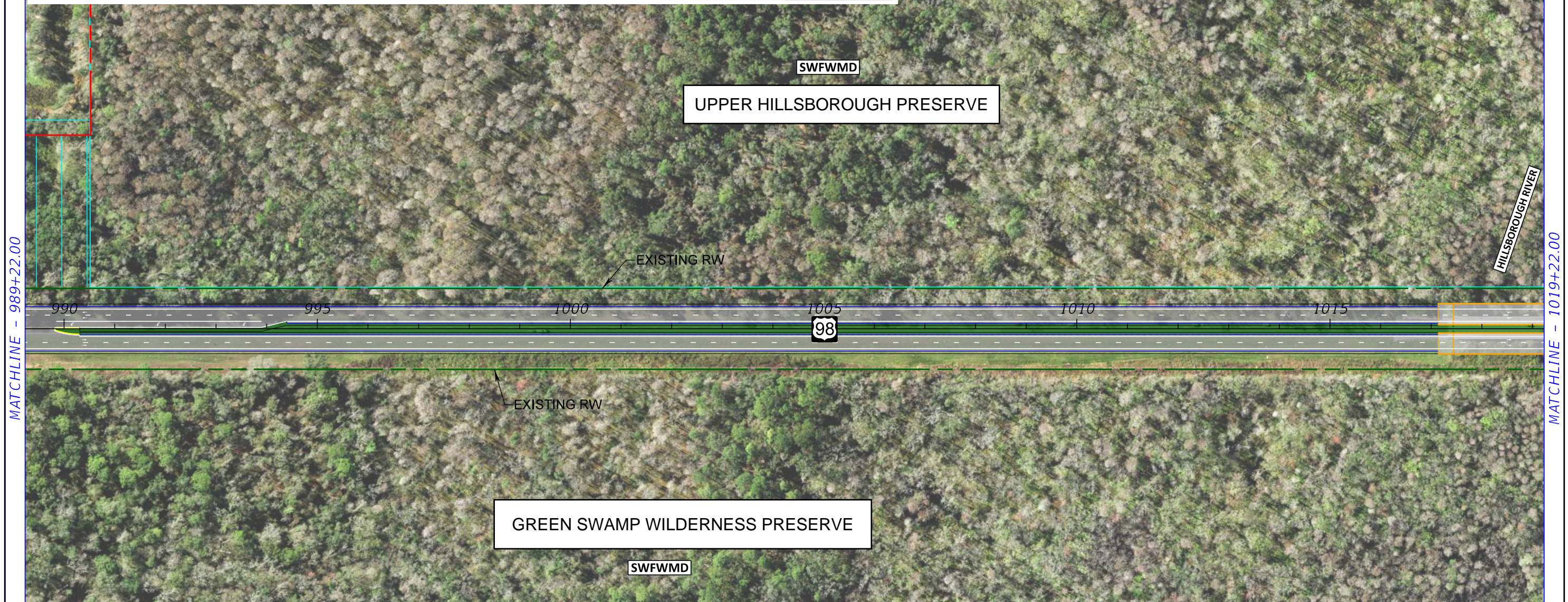
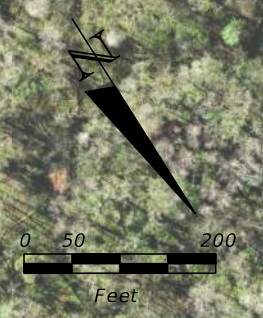
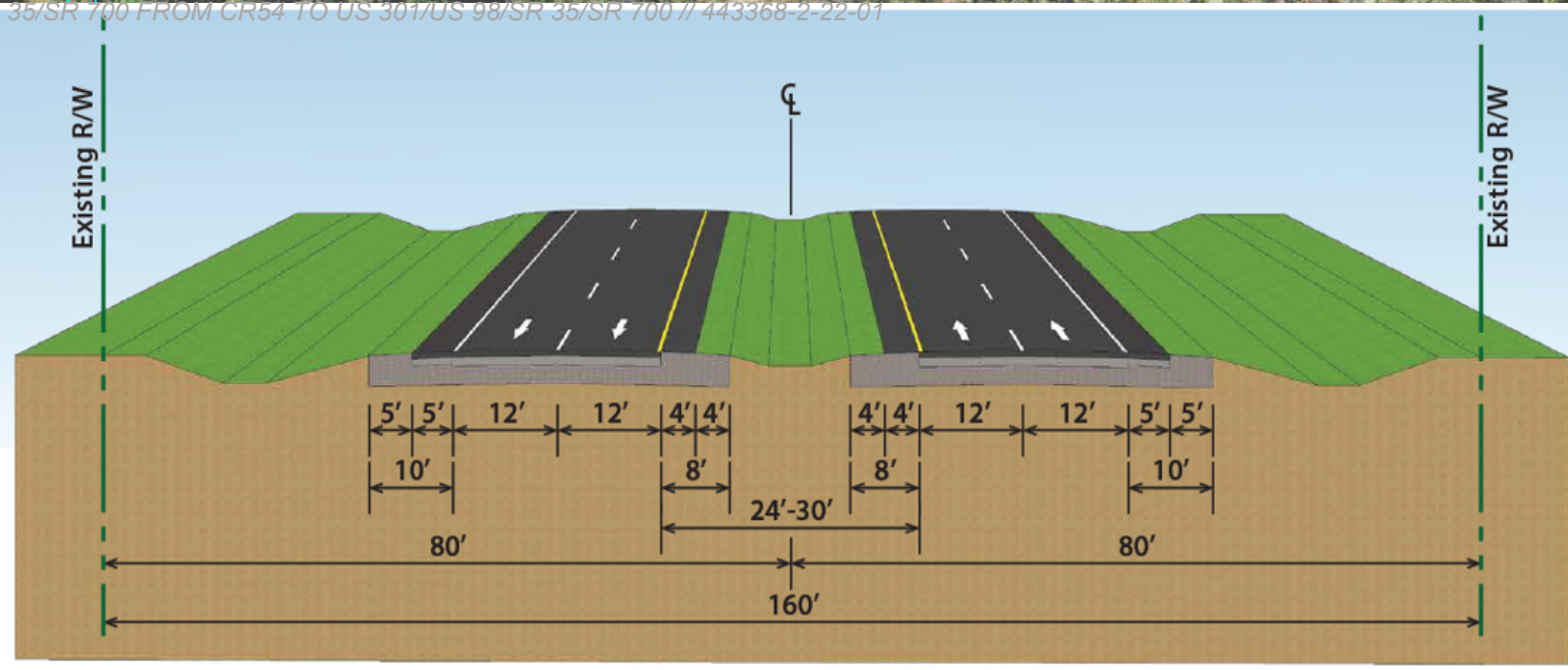
Project-Level Attachments

Section 4(f) Resource Map

Concept Plan with Typical Section

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| | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|-----------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| LEGEND --- Existing Right-of-Way --- Parcels --- Proposed Right-of-Way --- CSX Railroad --- Curb and Gutter --- Bridge --- Roadway Pavement --- Traffic Separator --- Pavement Removal --- Concrete Sidewalk --- Shared Use Path --- Road Labels --- Property Labels 98 US 98 --- Grass --- Proposed Pond Site --- Proposed FPC Site | STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | | | PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT PLAN SHEET | SHEET NO. 3 Page 7 of 12 |
| | US 98 FROM POLK COUNTY LINE TO US 301 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT (PD&E) STUDY PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA FPID: 443368-1-22-01 | ROAD NO. SR35 / SR700 | COUNTY PASCO | | |

Resource Attachments

Upper Hillsborough Preserve

Upper Hillsborough Preserve Recreational Map

Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve

Green Swamp Recreation Map

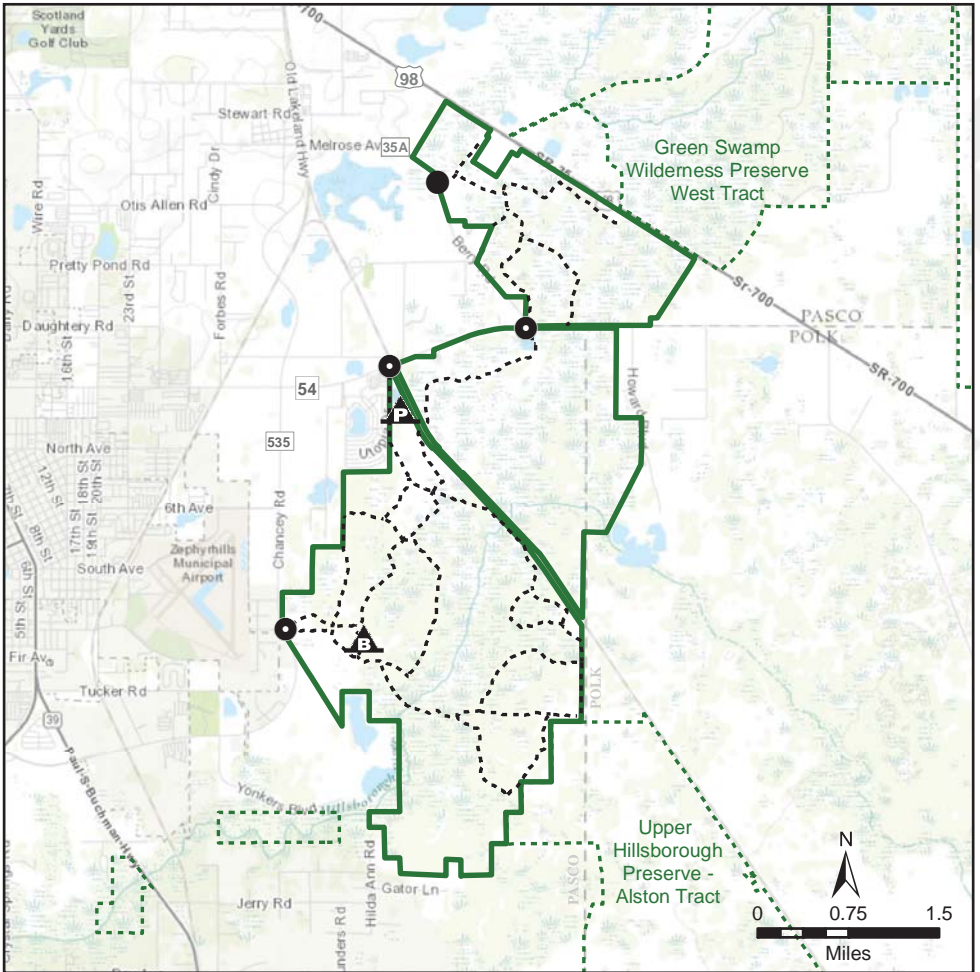
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Upper Hillsborough Preserve

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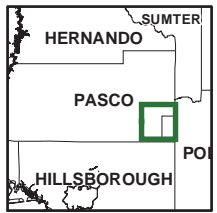
Upper Hillsborough Preserve Recreational Map

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Upper Hillsborough Preserve Upper Hillsborough Tract

- highway/major road
- minor road
- designated trail
- other public lands
- property boundary
- county line
- river/stream
- lake/pond
- forest
- wetland/swamp
- walk-through
- access point & parking
- backcountry camping
- primitive camping



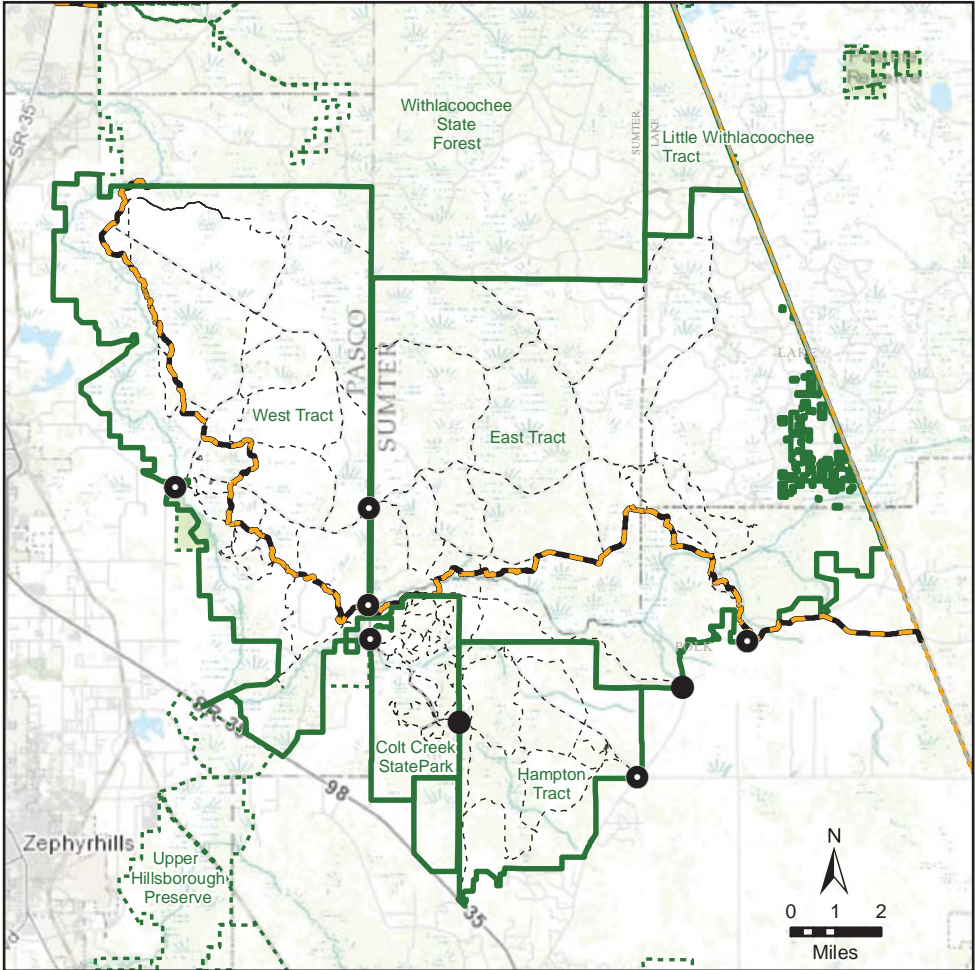
General Location

Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve

Contents:

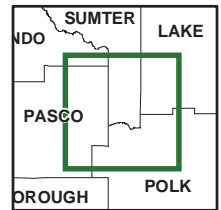
Green Swamp Recreation Map

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Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve

- highway/major road
- minor road
- designated trail
- other public lands
- property boundary
- county line
- river/stream
- lake/pond
- forest
- wetland/swamp
- access point & parking
- walk-through
- Van Fleet State Trail
- Florida National Scenic Trail



General Location