

APPLICATION FOR CONSERVATION EASEMENTS ON PROPERTY UNDER 40 ACRES IN SIZE

This form is required for the Acquisition and Restoration Council to determine whether a conservation easement under 40 acres in size fulfills a clearly delineated state conservation policy and yields a significant public benefit. Please submit application packages (including maps) electronically.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

(Date Stamp)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Owner's Name _____

Address _____

County _____ Acreage _____

Phone No. _____ Email _____

SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION TO:

Office of Conservation Services
Division of State Lands
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 140
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000
PHONE: 850/245-2713
Attention: Hank Vinson
Hank.Vinson@dep.state.fl.us

APPLICATION FORM

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A

Copy of Executed and Recorded Conservation Easement

Attachment B

Copy of Easement Baseline Documentation Report (Should contain at a minimum)

1. Description of the property including general and specific location maps.
 2. Map delineating the Florida Natural Areas Inventory community types with estimated acreages.
 3. Any listed species on the property.
 4. Any unique features on the property (e.g. springs, rookeries, eagle's nests, etc.).
 5. Summary of the type, location and extent of invasive exotic vegetation.
 6. Identification and location of all improvements, including buildings, roads, fences, ditches, etc.
 7. Identification and location of any agricultural areas and other non-natural land use and land cover.
 8. Color photographs of all improvements, habitat types and, where practicable, listed species. Reference each photo with GPS location and compass direction and all located on maps.
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Attachment C

Management Plan and Identification of Manager (Management Plan Template)

Attachment D

Explain How Property Fulfills a Clearly Delineated State Conservation Policy and Yields a Significant Public Benefit

A. Clearly Delineated State Conservation Policy:

The property must meet at least one of the following to fulfill a clearly delineated state conservation policy:

1. Contains a natural sinkhole or spring;
2. Contains a unique geological feature;
3. Located within a significant strategic habitat conservation area;
4. Provides nursery habitat for marine and estuarine species;
5. Provides for protection or restoration of fragile coastal areas;
6. Provides habitat for endangered or threatened species;
7. Provides habitat for imperiled species;
8. Contributes to a significant landscape, landscape linkage or conservation corridor;
9. Contains an underrepresented native ecosystem;
10. Protects natural floodplain functions;
11. Protects surface waters of the state;
12. Protects fragile coastal resources;
13. Protects functional wetlands;
14. Protects critically eroding beaches;
15. Provides groundwater recharge critical to springs, sinks, aquifers or other natural systems;
16. Provides retention of natural open space within densely built-up areas or urban service areas; or
17. Meets other state conservation policies.

B. SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC BENEFIT

For the conservation easement to yield a significant public benefit, the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) must determine that the property provides a meaningful, noticeable or measurable effect on one or more of the natural resources listed above.

If the property is adjacent to other lands permanently protected for conservation purposes, ARC may consider this enhanced ability to protect and manage the natural resources of the existing conservation lands when determining whether a property yields a significant public benefit.
