CHAPTER 2016-233

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1075

An act relating to state areas; creating s. 327.45, F.S.; defining a term; authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to establish certain protection zones; requiring the commission to develop such zones in consultation and coordination with certain entities; requiring the commission to coordinate with additional entities under certain circumstances; providing penalties for certain violations; providing applicability; amending s. 327.73, F.S.; providing penalties for violations relating to protection zones for springs; amending s. 327.731, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 253.025, F.S.; authorizing the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to waive certain requirements and rules and substitute procedures relating to the acquisition of state lands under certain conditions; providing that title to certain acquired lands are vested in the board; providing for the administration of such lands; authorizing the board to adopt specified rules; revising requirements for the appraisal of lands proposed for acquisition; requiring an agency proposing an acquisition to pay the associated costs; deleting provisions directing the board to approve qualified fee appraisal organizations; requiring fee appraisers to submit certain affidavits to an agency before contracting with a participant in a multiparty agreement; prohibiting fee appraisers from negotiating with property owners; revising the minimum survey standards incorporated by reference for conducting certified surveys; authorizing the disclosure of confidential appraisal reports under certain conditions; providing for public agencies and nonprofit organizations to enter into written agreements with the Department of Environmental Protection rather than the Division of State Lands to purchase and hold property for subsequent resale to the board rather than the division; revising the definition of the term "nonprofit organization"; directing the board to adopt by rule the method for determining the value of parcels sought to be acquired by state agencies; providing requirements for such acquisitions; expanding the scope of real estate acquisition services for which the board and state agencies may contract; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to use outside counsel to review any agreements or documents or to perform acquisition closings under certain conditions; requiring state agencies to furnish the Department of Environmental Protection rather than the Division of State Lands with specified acquisition documents; providing that the purchase price of certain parcels is not subject to an increase or decrease as a result of certain circumstances; authorizing the board of trustees to direct the Department of Environmental Protection to exercise eminent domain for the acquisition of certain conservation parcels under certain circumstances; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to exercise condemnation authority directly or by contracting with the Department of Transportation or a water

management district to provide such service; authorizing the board of trustees to direct the Department of Environmental Protection to purchase lands on an immediate basis using specified funds; authorizing the board of trustees to waive or modify all procedures required for such land acquisition; providing that title to certain lands held jointly by the board of trustees and a water management district meet the standards necessary for ownership by the board; creating s. 253.0251, F.S.; providing for the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition for land purchases by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and water management districts; amending s. 253.03, F.S.; deleting provisions directing the board of trustees to adopt by rule an annual administrative fee for certain leases and similar instruments; revising the criteria by which specified structures have the right to continue submerged land leases; directing the board of trustees to adopt by rule an annual administrative fee for certain leases and instruments; authorizing nonwater-dependent uses for submerged lands; amending s. 253.031, F.S.; providing for the Department of Environmental Protection to maintain documents concerning all state lands; deleting an obsolete provision; amending s. 253.034, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to submit certain stateowned lands to the Acquisition and Restoration Council or board of trustees for review and consideration; requiring that all nonconservation land use plans are managed to provide the greatest benefit to the state; deleting provisions requiring an analysis of natural or cultural resources as part of a nonconservation land use plan; specifying that certain management and short-term and long-term goals for the conservation of plant and animal species apply to conservation lands; providing conditions under which the Secretary of Environmental Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, or executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or their designees are required to submit land management plans to the board of trustees; requiring that updated land management plans identify conservation lands that are no longer needed for conservation purposes; deleting provisions directing the board of trustees to make certain determinations regarding the surplus and disposition of state lands; deleting provisions requiring that buildings and parcels of land be offered for lease to state agencies, state universities, and Florida College System institutions before being offered for lease or sale to a local or federal unit of government or a private party; amending s. 253.0341, F.S.; deleting provisions authorizing counties and local governments to submit requests for the surplus of state-owned lands and requiring that such requests be expedited; directing the board of trustees to make certain determinations regarding the surplus and disposition of state lands; providing that lands acquired before a certain date using specified proceeds are deemed to have been acquired for conservation purposes; providing that certain lands used by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Management Services, and the Department of Transportation may not be designated as lands acquired for conservation purposes; requiring updated land management plans to identify conservation and nonconservation lands that are no longer used

for the purposes for which they were originally leased and that could be disposed of; deleting an obsolete provision; requiring that facilities and nonconservation parcels of land be offered for lease to state agencies, state universities, or Florida College System institutions before being offered for lease or sale to a local or federal unit of government or private party; providing priority for state universities or Florida College System institutions; providing for the valuation and disposition of surplus lands; providing for the deposit of proceeds from the sale of such lands; authorizing the board of trustees to adopt rules; requiring surplus lands conveyed to a local government for affordable housing to be disposed of by the local government; amending s. 253.111, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the board of trustees to afford an opportunity to local governments to purchase certain state-owned lands; revising provisions relating to the rights of riparian owners to secure certain state-owned lands; amending s. 253.42, F.S.; authorizing individuals or entities to submit requests to the Division of State Lands to exchange state-owned land for privately held land; requiring the state to retain permanent conservation easements over the state-owned land and all or a portion of the privately held land; requiring the division to submit requests to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review and recommendation or to the board of trustees with recommendations from the division and the council: review requests and provide recommendations to the Acquisition and Restoration Council; providing applicability; directing the board of trustees to consider a request if certain conditions are met; providing special consideration for certain requests; providing that such lands are subject to inspection; amending s. 253.782, F.S.; deleting a provision directing the Department of Environmental Protection to retain ownership of and maintain lands or interests in land owned by the board of trustees; amending s. 253.7821, F.S.; assigning the Cross Florida Greenways State Recreation and Conservation Area to the Department of Environmental Protection rather than the Office of Greenways Management within the Office of the Secretary; creating s. 253.87, F.S.; directing the Department of Environmental Protection to include certain county, municipal, state, and federal lands in the Florida State-Owned Lands and Records Information System (SOLARIS) database and to update the database at specified intervals; requiring counties, municipalities, and financially disadvantaged small communities to submit a list of certain lands to the department by a specified date and at specified intervals; directing the department to conduct a study and submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature on the technical and economic feasibility of including certain lands in the database or a similar public lands inventory; amending s. 259.01, F.S.; renaming the "Land Conservation Act of 1972" as the "Land Conservation Program"; repealing s. 259.02, F.S., relating to issuance of state bonds for certain land projects; amending s. 259.032, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; revising provisions relating to the management of conservation and recreation lands to conform with changes made by the act; revising duties of the Acquisition and Restoration Council; amending s. 259.035, F.S.; requiring recipients of funds from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to annually report certain performance measures to the

Department of Environmental Protection rather than the Division of State Lands; amending s. 259.036, F.S.; revising the composition of the regional land management review team; providing for the Department of Environmental Protection rather than the Division of State Lands to act as the review team coordinator; revising requirements for conservation and recreation land management reviews and plans; amending s. 259.037, F.S.; removing the director of the Office of Greenways and Trails from the Land Management Uniform Accounting Council; repealing s. 259.041(1)-(6) and (8)-(19), F.S., relating to the acquisition of state-owned lands for preservation, conservation, and recreation purposes; amending s. 259.047, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the acquisition of land on which an agricultural lease exists to conform with changes made by the act; amending s. 259.101, F.S.; conforming cross-references; revising provisions relating to alternate use of lands acquired under the Florida Preservation 2000 Act to conform with changes made by the act; deleting provisions for alternatives to fee simple acquisition of such lands to conform with changes made by the act; amending s. 259.105, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the advancement of certain goals and objectives of imperiled species management on state lands to conform with changes made by the act; conforming cross-references; revising provisions directing the Acquisition and Restoration Council to give increased priority to certain projects when developing proposed rules relating to Florida Forever funding and additions to the Conservation and Recreation Lands list; deleting provisions requiring that such rules be submitted to the Legislature for review; amending s. 259.1052, F.S.; deleting provisions authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to distribute revenues from the Florida Forever Trust Fund for the acquisition of a portion of Babcock Crescent B Ranch; amending s. 373.089, F.S.; extending the time within which a certified appraisal may be obtained for lands to be sold as surplus; revising the procedures that a water management district must follow for publishing a notice of intention to sell surplus lands; authorizing the governing board of a water management district to sell certain lands acquired with Florida Forever funds without first offering title to the lands to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund; authorizing the governing board of a water management district to sell parcels of land no longer needed for conservation purposes and valued at or below a specified threshold as surplus; requiring certain notice before the sale of such parcels; providing procedures for the sale of such parcels; creating s. 570.715, F.S., and transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 259.04(7), F.S.; providing procedures for the acquisition of conservation easements by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; amending ss. 73.015, 125.355, 166.045, 215.82, 215.965, 253.027, 253.7824, 260.015, 260.016, 369.317, 373.139, 375.031, 375.041, 380.05, 380.055, 380.508, 589.07, 944.10, 957.04, 985.682, and 1013.14, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an appropriation and authorizing positions; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 327.45, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

<u>327.45 Protection zones for springs.</u>

(1) As used in this section, the term "navigable waters of the United States" means the waters of the United States, including the territorial seas, as referenced in the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq., and the federal rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

(2) The commission may establish by rule protection zones that restrict the speed and operation of vessels to protect and prevent harm to springs. This harm includes negative impacts to water quality, water quantity, hydrology, wetlands, and aquatic and wetland-dependent species.

(3) When developing a protection zone, the commission shall do so in consultation and coordination with the water management district, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the governing bodies of the county and municipality, if applicable, in which the zone is located. If the zone includes navigable waters of the United States, the commission shall additionally coordinate with the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(4) Any individual who operates a vessel in violation of a spring protection zone rule adopted pursuant to this section shall be charged on a uniform boating citation as provided in s. 327.74 and is subject to the penalties provided in s. 327.73(1)(y).

(5) Restrictions in a protection zone do not apply:

(a) To law enforcement, firefighting, or rescue personnel operating a vessel in the course of performing their official duties; or

(b) In emergency situations. However, the emergency operation of a vessel must be a reasonable response given the circumstances.

(6) The commission is responsible for the posting and maintenance of regulatory markers identifying protection zones.

(7) The commission may adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 2. Paragraph (y) is added to subsection (1) of section 327.73, Florida Statutes, to read:

327.73 Noncriminal infractions.—

(1) Violations of the following provisions of the vessel laws of this state are noncriminal infractions:

(y) Section 327.45, relating to protection zones for springs, for which the penalty is:

1. For a first offense, \$50.

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2. For a second offense occurring within 12 months after a prior conviction, \$250.

3. For a third offense occurring within 36 months after a prior conviction, \$500.

4. For a fourth or subsequent offense occurring within 72 months after a prior conviction, \$1,000.

Any person cited for a violation of any provision of this subsection shall be deemed to be charged with a noncriminal infraction, shall be cited for such an infraction, and shall be cited to appear before the county court. The civil penalty for any such infraction is \$50, except as otherwise provided in this section. Any person who fails to appear or otherwise properly respond to a uniform boating citation shall, in addition to the charge relating to the violation of the boating laws of this state, be charged with the offense of failing to respond to such citation and, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. A written warning to this effect shall be provided at the time such uniform boating citation is issued.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 327.731, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.731 Mandatory education for violators.—

(1) A person convicted of a criminal violation under this chapter, convicted of a noncriminal infraction under this chapter if the infraction resulted in a reportable boating accident, or convicted of two noncriminal infractions as specified in s. 327.73(1)(h)-(k), (m), (o), (p), and (s)-(y) (s)-(x), said infractions occurring within a 12-month period, must:

(a) Enroll in, attend, and successfully complete, at his or her own expense, a classroom or online boating safety course that is approved by and meets the minimum standards established by commission rule;

(b) File with the commission within 90 days proof of successful completion of the course; and

(c) Refrain from operating a vessel until he or she has filed proof of successful completion of the course with the commission.

Section 4. Section 253.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.025 Acquisition of state lands for purposes other than preservation, conservation, and recreation.—

 $(1)(\underline{a})$ Neither The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund <u>or nor</u> its duly authorized agent <u>may not shall</u> commit the state, through any instrument of negotiated contract or agreement for purchase, to

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the purchase of lands with or without appurtenances unless the provisions of this section \underline{has} have been fully complied with.

(b) Except for the requirements of subsections (4), (11), and (22), if the public's interest is reasonably protected, the board of trustees may:

1. Waive any requirements of this section.

2. Waive any rules adopted pursuant to this section, notwithstanding chapter 120.

3. Substitute other reasonably prudent procedures.

(c) However, The board of trustees may <u>also</u> substitute federally mandated acquisition procedures for the provisions of this section <u>if when</u> federal funds are available and will be <u>used</u> <u>utilized</u> for the purchase of lands, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, and qualification for such federal funds requires compliance with federally mandated acquisition procedures.

(d) Notwithstanding any provisions in this section to the contrary, if lands are being acquired by the board of trustees for the anticipated sale, conveyance, or transfer to the Federal Government pursuant to a joint state and federal acquisition project, the board of trustees may use appraisals obtained by the Federal Government in the acquisition of such lands. The board of trustees may waive any provision of this section when land is being conveyed from a state agency to the board.

(e) The title to lands acquired pursuant to this section shall vest in the board of trustees pursuant to s. 253.03(1) unless otherwise provided by law, and all such titled lands shall be administered pursuant to s. 253.03.

(2) <u>Before Prior to</u> any state agency <u>initiates initiating</u> any land acquisition, except <u>for as pertains to</u> the purchase of property for transportation facilities and transportation corridors and property for borrow pits for road building purposes, the agency shall coordinate with the Division of State Lands to determine the availability of existing, suitable state-owned lands in the area and the public purpose for which the acquisition is being proposed. If the state agency determines that no suitable state-owned lands exist, the state agency may proceed to acquire such lands by employing all available statutory authority for acquisition.

(3) The board of trustees is authorized to adopt rules to implement this section, including rules governing the terms and conditions of land purchases. The rules shall address, with specificity, but need 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.

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(b) The determination of the value of parcels which the state has an interest in acquiring.

(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.

(4) An agreement to acquire real property for the purposes described in this chapter, chapter 259, chapter 260, or chapter 375, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, may not bind the state before the agreement is reviewed and approved by the Department of Environmental Protection as complying with this section and any rules adopted pursuant to this section. If 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 the acquiring agency exceeds \$1 million;

(c) The acquisition is the initial purchase in a Florida Forever project; or

(d) Other conditions that the board of trustees may adopt by rule. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, Florida Forever projects when title to the property being acquired is considered nonmarketable or is encumbered in such a way as to significantly affect its management.

If 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 Florida Forever project. Approval of the board of trustees is also required for Florida Forever projects the department recommends acquiring pursuant to subsections (11) and (22). 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. If the contribution of the acquiring agency exceeds \$100 million in any one fiscal year, the agreement shall be submitted to and approved by the Legislative Budget Commission.

(5)(3) Land acquisition procedures provided for in this section are for voluntary, negotiated acquisitions.

 $(\underline{6})(\underline{4})$ For the purposes of this section, the term "negotiations" does not include preliminary contacts with the property owner to determine the availability of the property, existing appraisal data, existing abstracts, and surveys.

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(7)(5) Evidence of marketable title shall be provided by the landowner <u>before prior to</u> the conveyance of title, as provided in the final agreement for purchase. Such evidence of marketability shall be in the form of title insurance or an abstract of title with a title opinion. The board of trustees may waive the requirement that the landowner provide evidence of marketable title, and, in such case, the acquiring agency shall provide evidence of marketable title. The board of trustees or its designee may waive the requirement of evidence of marketability for acquisitions of property assessed by the county property appraiser at \$10,000 or less, <u>if where</u> the Division of State Lands finds, based upon such review of the title records as is reasonable under the circumstances, that there is no apparent impediment to marketability, or to management of the property by the state.

(8)(6) Before 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 259, chapter 260, or chapter 375, and before Prior to negotiations with the parcel owner to purchase any other 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) 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.

(b)(a) Each parcel to be acquired shall have at least one appraisal. Two appraisals are required when the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$1 million. However, if both appraisals exceed \$1 million and differ significantly, a third appraisal may be obtained. If 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, a comparable sales analysis, an appraisal prepared by the division, 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 appurtenances that are being donated to the state.

(c)(b) Appraisal fees <u>and associated costs</u> 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 shall adopt rules for selecting individuals to perform appraisals pursuant to this section. Each fee appraiser selected to appraise a particular parcel shall, <u>before prior to contracting with the agency or a participant in a multiparty agreement</u>, submit to the that agency 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 may not act in any manner that may be construed as negotiating with the owner of a parcel proposed for acquisition.

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(e)(c) 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 of Practice for Land Surveying in Florida published by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services 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 before prior to submitting the agreement for purchase to the Division of State Lands. When an existing boundary map and description of a parcel are determined by the division to be sufficient for appraisal purposes, the division director may temporarily waive the requirement for a survey until any time before 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.

 $(\underline{f})(d)$ 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. The Department of Environmental Protection may 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. However, the private landowner must agree to maintain the confidentiality of the reports or information. However, The department 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 agreement with the <u>department</u> division to purchase and hold property for subsequent resale to the board of trustees division. In addition, the department division may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a public agency or nonprofit organization, if provided the appraiser is selected from the department's division's list of appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the department division. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "nonprofit organization" means an organization that 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 and, for purposes of the acquisition of conservation lands, an organization whose purpose must include the preservation of natural resources. 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.

(g)(e) <u>Before</u> 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. Any questions of applicability of laws affecting an appraisal shall be addressed by the legal office of the agency.

(h)(f) The appraisal report shall be accompanied by the sales history of the parcel for at least the <u>previous prior</u> 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 <u>it is</u> its cost prohibitive compared to the value of a parcel, the sales history may be waived by the board of trustees. The board of trustees shall adopt a rule specifying guidelines for waiver of a sales history.

(i)(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.

(j)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. An offer by a state agency may not 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. For 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 in subparagraph 1. The state agency share of a joint purchase offer may not exceed what the agency may offer singly pursuant to subparagraph 1.

3. This paragraph does not apply to the acquisition of historically unique or significant property as determined by the Division of Historical Resources of the Department of State.

Notwithstanding this subsection, on behalf of the board of trustees and before the appraisal of parcels approved for purchase under this chapter or chapter 259, 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 of trustees or, if applicable, the Secretary of Environmental Protection, and that the final purchase price may not exceed the maximum offer allowed by law. Any such option contract presented to the board of trustees 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.

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 $(\underline{9})(7)(a)$ When the owner is represented by an agent or broker, negotiations may not be initiated or continued until a 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, surveying, mapping, environmental audits, title work, and legal and other professional assistance to review acquisition agreements and other documents and to perform acquisition closings. However, the Department of Environmental Protection may use outside counsel to review any agreements or documents or to perform acquisition closings unless department staff can conduct the same activity in 15 days or less.

(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 in subparagraph 1. The state agency share of a joint purchase offer may not exceed 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.

(e)(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.

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 $(\underline{f})(\underline{g})$ The state shall have the authority to reimburse the owner for the cost of the survey when deemed appropriate. The reimbursement is shall not be considered a part of the purchase price.

(g)(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 <u>Department of Environmental Protection</u> Division of State Lands with the original of the agreement for purchase along with copies of the disclosure notice, evidence of marketability, the accepted 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.

(h)(i) Within 45 days <u>after</u> of receipt by the <u>Department</u> of Environ-<u>mental Protection</u> Division of State Lands of the agreement for purchase and the required documentation, the board of trustees or, <u>if</u> 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.

(10)(8)(a) <u>A</u> No dedication, gift, grant, or bequest of lands and appurtenances may <u>not</u> be accepted by the board of trustees until the receiving state agency supplies sufficient evidence of marketability of title. The board of trustees may not accept by dedication, gift, grant, or bequest any lands and appurtenances that are determined as being owned by the state either in fee or by virtue of the state's sovereignty or which are so encumbered so as to preclude the use of such lands and appurtenances for any reasonable public purpose. The board of trustees may accept a dedication, gift, grant, or bequest of lands and appurtenances without formal evidence of marketability, or when the title is nonmarketable, if the board or its designee determines that such lands and appurtenances have value and are reasonably manageable by the state, and that their acceptance would serve the public interest. The state is not required to appraise the value of such donated lands and appurtenances as a condition of receipt.

(b) <u>A No deed filed in the public records to donate lands to the board of trustees does not of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall be construed to transfer title to or vest title in the board of trustees unless there shall also be filed in the public records, a document indicating that the board of</u>

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trustees has agreed to accept the transfer of title to such donated lands <u>is</u> <u>also filed in the public records</u>.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the maximum value of a parcel to be purchased by the board of trustees as determined by the highest approved appraisal or as determined pursuant to the rules of the board of trustees may not be increased or decreased as a result of a change in zoning or permitted land uses, or changes in market forces or prices that occur within 1 year after the date the Department of Environmental Protection or the board of trustees approves a contract to purchase the parcel.

(11) Notwithstanding this section, the board of trustees, by an affirmative vote of at least three members, voting at a regularly scheduled and advertised meeting, may direct the Department of Environmental Protection to exercise the power of eminent domain pursuant to chapters 73 and 74 to acquire any conservation parcel identified on the acquisition list established by the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approved by the board of trustees pursuant to chapter 259. However, the board of trustees may only make such a vote under the following circumstances:

(a) The state has made at least two bona fide offers to purchase the land through negotiation and, notwithstanding those offers, an impasse between the state and the landowner was reached.

(b) The land is of special importance to the state because of one or more of the following reasons:

1. It involves an endangered or natural resource and is in imminent danger of development.

2. It is of unique value to the state and the failure to acquire it will result in irreparable loss to the state.

3. The failure of the state to acquire it will seriously impair the state's ability to manage or protect other state-owned lands.

Pursuant to this subsection, the department may exercise condemnation authority directly or by contracting with the Department of Transportation or a water management district to provide that service. If the Department of Transportation or a water management district enters into such a contract with the department, the Department of Transportation or a water management district may use statutorily approved methods and procedures ordinarily used by the agency for condemnation purposes.

 $(\underline{12})(9)$ Any conveyance to the board of trustees of fee title shall be made by no less than a special warranty deed, unless the conveyance is from the Federal Government, the county government, or another state agency or, in the event of a gift or donation by quitclaim deed, if the board of trustees, or its designee, determines that the acceptance of such quitclaim deed is in the best interest of the public. A quitclaim deed may also be accepted to aid in clearing title or boundary questions. The title to lands acquired pursuant to

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this section shall vest in the board of trustees as provided in s. 253.03(1). All such lands, title to which is vested in the board pursuant to this section, shall be administered pursuant to the provisions of s. 253.03.

(13)(10) The board of trustees may purchase tax certificates or tax deeds issued in accordance with chapter 197 relating to property eligible for purchase under this section.

(14)(11) The Auditor General shall conduct audits of acquisitions and divestitures which, according to his or her preliminary assessments of boardapproved acquisitions and divestitures, he or she deems necessary. These preliminary assessments shall be initiated not later than 60 days <u>after</u> following the <u>board of trustees</u>' final approval by the board of land acquisitions under this section. If an audit is conducted, the Auditor General shall submit an audit report to the board of trustees, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and their designees.

 $(\underline{15})(\underline{12})$ The board of trustees and all affected agencies shall adopt and may modify or repeal such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including rules governing the terms and conditions of land purchases. Such rules shall address the procedures to be followed, when multiple landowners are involved in an acquisition, in obtaining written option agreements so that the interests of the state are fully protected.

(16)(13)(a) The board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund may deed property to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, so that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is department shall be able to sell, convey, transfer, exchange, trade, or purchase land on which a forestry facility resides for money or other more suitable property on which to relocate the facility. Any sale or purchase of property by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall follow the requirements of subsections (7)-(10) and (12) (5)-(9). Any sale shall be at fair market value, and any trade shall ensure that the state is getting at least an equal value for the property. Except as provided in subsections (7)-(10) and (12) (5)-(9), the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is excluded from following the provisions of this chapter and chapters 259 and 375. This exclusion does shall not apply to lands acquired for conservation purposes in accordance with s. 253.0341(1) or (2) 253.034(6)(a) or (b).

(b) In the case of a sale by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services of a forestry facility, the proceeds of the sale shall <u>be deposited</u> go into the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Incidental Trust Fund. The Legislature may, at the request of the <u>Department of Agriculture</u> <u>and Consumer Services department</u>, appropriate such money within the trust fund to the <u>Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services</u> <u>department</u> for purchase of land and construction of a facility to replace the disposed facility. All proceeds other than land from any sale, conveyance, exchange, trade, or transfer conducted <u>pursuant to</u> as provided for in this

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subsection shall be <u>deposited into</u> <u>placed within</u> the <u>Department of</u> <u>Agriculture and Consumer Services</u> department's Incidental Trust Fund.

(c) Additional funds may be added from time to time by the Legislature to further the relocation and construction of forestry facilities. If In the instance where an equal trade of land occurs, money from the trust fund may be appropriated for building construction even though no money was received from the trade.

(17)(14) Any agency that acquires land on behalf of the board of trustees is authorized to request disbursement of payments for real estate closings in accordance with a written authorization from an ultimate beneficiary to allow a third party authorized by law to receive such payment provided the Chief Financial Officer determines that such disbursement is consistent with good business practices and can be completed in a manner minimizing costs and risks to the state.

(18)(15) Pursuant to s. 944.10, the Department of Corrections is responsible for obtaining appraisals and entering into option agreements and agreements for the purchase of state correctional facility sites. An option agreement or agreement for purchase is not binding upon the state until it is approved by the board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The provisions of paragraphs (8)(c), (e), and (f) and (9)(b), (c), and (d) (6)(b), (c), and (d) and (7)(b), (c), and (d) apply to all appraisals, offers, and counteroffers of the Department of Corrections for state correctional facility sites.

(19)(16) Many parcels of land acquired pursuant to this section may contain cattle-dipping vats as defined in s. 376.301. The state is encouraged to continue with the acquisition of such lands, including <u>any the cattle-dipping vats vat</u>.

(20)(17) Pursuant to s. 985.682, the Department of Juvenile Justice is responsible for obtaining appraisals and entering into option agreements and agreements for the purchase of state juvenile justice facility sites. An option agreement or agreement for purchase is not binding upon the state until it is approved by the board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. The provisions of paragraphs (8)(c), (e), and (f) and (9)(b), (c), and (d) and (7)(b), (c), and (d) apply to all appraisals, offers, and counteroffers of the Department of Juvenile Justice for state juvenile justice facility sites.

(21)(18) The board of trustees may acquire, pursuant to s. 288.980(2)(b), nonconservation lands from the annual list submitted by the Department of Economic Opportunity for the purpose of buffering a military installation against encroachment.

(22) The board of trustees, by an affirmative vote of at least three members, may direct the department to purchase lands on an immediate

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basis using up to 15 percent of the funds allocated to the department pursuant to s. 259.105 for the acquisition of lands that:

(a) Are listed or placed at auction by the Federal Government as part of the Resolution Trust Corporation sale of lands from failed savings and loan associations;

(b) Are listed or placed at auction by the Federal Government as part of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation sale of lands from failed banks; or

(c) Will be developed or otherwise lost to potential public ownership, or for which federal matching funds will be lost, by the time the land can be purchased under the program within which the land is listed for acquisition.

For such acquisitions, the board of trustees may waive or modify all procedures required for land acquisition pursuant to this chapter and all competitive bid procedures required pursuant to chapters 255 and 287. Lands acquired pursuant to this subsection must, at the time of purchase, be on one of the acquisition lists established pursuant to chapter 259, or be essential for water resource development, protection, or restoration, or a significant portion of the lands must contain natural communities or plant or animal species that are listed by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory as critically imperiled, imperiled, or rare, or as excellent quality occurrences of natural communities.

(23) Title to lands to be held jointly by the board of trustees and a water management district and acquired pursuant to s. 373.139 may be deemed to meet the standards necessary for ownership by the board of trustees, notwithstanding this section or related rules.

Section 5. Section 253.0251, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

253.0251 Alternatives to fee simple acquisition.—

(1) The Legislature finds that:

(a) With the increasing pressures on the natural areas of this state and on open space suitable for recreational use, the state must develop creative techniques to maximize the use of acquisition and management funds.

(b) The state's conservation and recreational land acquisition agencies should be encouraged to augment their traditional, fee simple acquisition programs with the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition techniques. In addition, the Legislature finds that generations of private landowners have been good stewards of their land, protecting or restoring native habitats and ecosystems to the benefit of the natural resources of this state, its heritage, and its citizens. The Legislature also finds that using alternatives to fee simple acquisition by public land acquisition agencies will achieve the following public policy goals:

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1. Allow more lands to be brought under public protection for preservation, conservation, and recreational purposes with less expenditure of public funds.

2. Retain, on local government tax rolls, some portion of or interest in lands which are under public protection.

3. Reduce long-term management costs by allowing private property owners to continue acting as stewards of their land, when appropriate.

Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature that public land acquisition agencies develop programs to pursue alternatives to fee simple acquisition and to educate private landowners about such alternatives and the benefits of such alternatives. It is also the intent of the Legislature that a portion of the shares of Florida Forever bond proceeds be used to purchase eligible properties using alternatives to fee simple acquisition.

(2) All applications for alternatives to fee simple acquisition projects shall identify, within their acquisition plans, projects that require a full fee simple interest to achieve the public policy goals, together with the reasons full title is determined to be necessary. The state agencies and the water management districts may use alternatives to fee simple acquisition to bring the remaining projects in their acquisition plans under public protection. For purposes of this section, the phrase "alternatives to fee simple acquisition" includes, but is not limited to, purchase of development rights; obtaining conservation easements; obtaining flowage easements; purchase of timber rights, mineral rights, or hunting rights; purchase of agricultural interests or silvicultural interests; fee simple acquisitions with reservations; creating life estates; or any other acquisition technique that achieves the public policy goals listed in subsection (1). It is presumed that a private landowner retains the full range of uses for all the rights or interests in the landowner's land which are not specifically acquired by the public agency. The lands upon which hunting rights are specifically acquired pursuant to this section shall be available for hunting in accordance with the management plan or hunting regulations adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, unless the hunting rights are purchased specifically to protect activities on adjacent lands.

(3) When developing the acquisition plan pursuant to s. 259.105, the Acquisition and Restoration Council may give preference to those less than fee simple acquisitions that provide any public access. However, the Legislature recognizes that public access is not always appropriate for certain less than fee simple acquisitions. Therefore, any proposed less than fee simple acquisition may not be rejected simply because public access would be limited.

(4) The Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and each water management district shall implement initiatives for using alternatives to fee simple acquisition and to educate private landowners about such alternatives. The Department

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of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the water management districts may enter into joint acquisition agreements to jointly fund the purchase of lands using alternatives to fee simple techniques.

(5) The Legislature finds that the lack of direct sales comparison information has served as an impediment to successful implementation of alternatives to fee simple acquisition. It is the intent of the Legislature that, in the absence of direct comparable sales information, appraisals of alternatives to fee simple acquisitions be based on the difference between the full fee simple valuation and the value of the interests remaining with the seller after acquisition.

(6) The public agency that has been assigned management responsibility shall inspect and monitor any less than fee simple interest according to the terms of the purchase agreement relating to such interest.

(7) For less than fee simple acquisitions pursuant to s. 570.71, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall comply with the acquisition procedures set forth in s. 570.715.

Section 6. Subsection (2), paragraph (c) of subsection (7), and subsections (11) and (15) of section 253.03, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

253.03 Board of trustees to administer state lands; lands enumerated.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that the board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund continue to receive proceeds from the sale or disposition of the products of lands and the sale of lands of which the use and possession are not subsequently transferred by appropriate lease or similar instrument from the board of trustees to the proper using agency. Such using agency shall be entitled to the proceeds from the sale of products on, under, growing out of, or connected with lands which such using agency holds under lease or similar instrument from the board of trustees. The board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund is directed and authorized to enter into leases or similar instruments for the use, benefit. and possession of public lands by agencies which may properly use and possess them for the benefit of the state. The board of trustees shall adopt by rule an annual administrative fee for all existing and future leases or similar instruments, to be charged agencies that are leasing land from it. This annual administrative fee assessed for all leases or similar instruments is to compensate the board for costs incurred in the administration and management of such leases or similar instruments.

(7)

(c) Structures which are listed in or are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or the State Inventory of Historic Places which are over the waters of the state of Florida and which have a submerged land lease, or have been grandfathered-in to use sovereignty submerged lands until

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January 1, 1998, pursuant to <u>former</u> rule 18-21.00405, Florida Administrative Code, <u>as it existed in rule on March 15, 1990</u>, shall have the right to continue such submerged land leases, regardless of the fact that the present landholder is not an adjacent riparian landowner, so long as the lessee maintains the structure in a good state of repair consistent with the guidelines for listing. If the structure is damaged or destroyed, the lessee <u>may shall be allowed to</u> reconstruct, so long as the reconstruction is consistent with the integrity of the listed structure and does not increase the footprint of the structure. If a <u>listed</u> structure so listed falls into disrepair and the lessee is not willing to repair and maintain it consistent with its listing, the state may cancel the submerged lease and either repair and maintain the property or require that the structure be removed from sovereignty submerged lands.

(11) The board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund may adopt rules to provide for the assessment and collection of reasonable fees, commensurate with the actual cost to the board, for disclaimers, easements, exchanges, gifts, leases, releases, or sales of any interest in lands or any applications therefor and for reproduction of documents. All revenues received from the application fees charged by a water management district to process applications that include a request to use state lands are to be retained by the water management district. The board of trustees shall adopt by rule an annual administrative fee for all existing and future leases or similar instruments to be charged to agencies that are leasing land from the board of trustees. This annual administrative fee assessed for all leases or similar instruments is to compensate the board of trustees for costs incurred in the administration and management of such leases or similar instruments.

(15) The board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall encourage the use of sovereign submerged lands for <u>public access and</u> waterdependent uses <u>which may include related minimal secondary nonwater-</u> <u>dependent uses</u> and <u>public access</u>.

Section 7. Subsections (8) and (9) of section 253.031, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7) and (8), respectively, and present subsections (2) and (7) of that section are amended, to read:

253.031 Land office; custody of documents concerning land; moneys; plats.—

(2) The board of trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall have custody of, and the department shall maintain, all the records, surveys, plats, maps, field notes, and patents and all other evidence touching the title and description of the public domain.

(7) The board shall receive all of the tract books, plats, and such records and papers heretofore kept in the United States Land Office at Gainesville, Alachua County, as may be surrendered by the Secretary of the Interior; and the board shall carefully and safely keep and preserve all of said tract books,

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plats, records, and papers as part of the public records of its office, and at any time allow any duly accredited authority of the United States, full and free access to any and all of such tract books, plats, records, and papers, and shall furnish any duly accredited authority of the United States with copies of any such records without charge.

Section 8. Section 253.034, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.034 State-owned lands; uses.—

(1) 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 Acquisition and Restoration Council created in s. 259.035 shall recommend rules to the board of trustees, and the board of trustees shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) As used in this section, the $\underline{\text{term}}$ following phrases have the following meanings:

(a) "Multiple use" means the harmonious and coordinated management of timber, recreation, conservation of fish and wildlife, forage, archaeological and historic sites, habitat and other biological resources, or water resources so that they are <u>used utilized</u> 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 <u>may shall</u> 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

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managers. In any case, lands identified as multiple-use lands in the land management plan shall be managed to enhance 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 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.

"Conservation lands" means lands that are currently managed for (\mathbf{c}) 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 may 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 Florida College System institution campuses, agricultural field stations or offices, tower sites, law enforcement and license facilities, laboratories, hospitals, clinics, and other sites that do not possess no significant natural or historical resources. However, lands acquired solely to facilitate the acquisition of other conservation lands, 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 caseby-case basis to determine if they will be designated conservation lands.

(d) "Public access," as used in this chapter and chapter 259, means access by the general public to state lands and water, including vessel access made possible by boat ramps, docks, and associated support facilities, where compatible with conservation and recreation objectives.

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) Recognizing that recreational trails purchased with rails-to-trails funds pursuant to former s. 259.101(3)(g), Florida Statutes 2014, or s.

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259.105(3)(h) have had historic transportation uses and that their linear character may extend many miles, the Legislature intends that if 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 former s. 259.101(3)(g), Florida Statutes 2014, 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) A No management agreement, lease, or other instrument authorizing the use of lands owned by the board of trustees may not 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 transportation facility. If an entity managing or leasing state-owned lands from the board of trustees does not meet the short-term goals under paragraph (5)(b) for conservation lands, the Department of Environmental Protection may submit the lands to the Acquisition and Restoration Council to review whether the short-term goals should be modified, consider whether the lands should be offered to another entity for management or leasing, or recommend to the board of trustees whether to surplus the lands. If an entity managing or leasing state-owned lands from the board of trustees does not meet the short-term goals under paragraph (5)(i) for nonconservation lands, the department may submit the lands to the board of trustees to consider whether to require the managing or leasing entity to release its interest in the lands and to consider whether to surplus the lands. If the state-owned lands are determined to be surplus, the board of trustees may require an entity to release its interest in the lands. An entity managing or leasing state-owned lands from the board <u>of trustees</u> may not sublease such lands without prior review by the Division of State Lands and, for conservation lands, by the Acquisition and Restoration Council ereated in s. 259.035. All management agreements, leases, or other instruments authorizing the use of lands owned by the board of trustees shall be reviewed for approval by the board of trustees or its designee. The council is not required to review subleases of parcels which are less than 160 acres in size.

(5) 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 <u>adopted</u> prescribed by rule <u>of</u> by the board <u>of</u> trustees 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 <u>after</u> of the addition of significant new lands. Each manager of nonconservation

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lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land use plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner <u>adopted</u> prescribed by rule of by the board of trustees. The division shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection and the requirements of the rules adopted established by the board of trustees pursuant to this section. All nonconservation land use plans, whether for single-use or multiple-use properties, shall be managed to provide the greatest benefit to the state 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 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 crosion 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 guidelines 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 <u>includes</u> analysis shall include the potential of the property to generate revenues to enhance the management of the property. In addition Additionally, the plan shall contain an analysis of the potential use of private land managers to facilitate the restoration or management of these lands. If 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) State <u>conservation</u> 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 <u>for state conservation</u> <u>lands</u> shall provide a desired outcome, describe both short-term and longterm management goals, and include measurable objectives to achieve those goals. 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.

(b) Short-term and long-term management goals <u>for state conservation</u> <u>lands</u> shall include measurable objectives for the following, as appropriate:

- 1. Habitat restoration and improvement.
- 2. Public access and recreational opportunities.
- 3. Hydrological preservation and restoration.

- 4. Sustainable forest management.
- 5. Exotic and invasive species maintenance and control.
- 6. Capital facilities and infrastructure.
- 7. Cultural and historical resources.

8. Imperiled species habitat maintenance, enhancement, restoration, or population restoration.

(c) The land management plan shall, at a minimum, contain the following elements:

1. A physical description of the land.

2. A quantitative data description of the land which includes an inventory of forest and other natural resources; exotic and invasive plants; hydrological features; infrastructure, including recreational facilities; and other significant land, cultural, or historical features. The inventory shall reflect the number of acres for each resource and feature, when appropriate. The inventory shall be of such detail that objective measures and benchmarks can be established for each tract of land and monitored during the lifetime of the plan. All quantitative data collected shall be aggregated, standardized, collected, and presented in an electronic format to allow for uniform management reporting and analysis. The information collected by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to s. 253.0325(2) shall be available to the land manager and his or her assignee.

3. A detailed description of each short-term and long-term land management goal, the associated measurable objectives, and the related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives. Each land management objective must be addressed by the land management plan, and <u>if where practicable</u>, <u>a no</u> land management objective <u>may not shall</u> be performed to the detriment of the other land management objectives.

4. A schedule of land management activities which contains short-term and long-term land management goals and the related measurable objective and activities. The schedule shall include for each activity a timeline for completion, quantitative measures, and detailed expense and manpower budgets. The schedule shall 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 any fees anticipated from public or private entities for projects to offset adverse impacts to imperiled species or such habitat, which fees shall be used solely to restore, manage, enhance, repopulate, or acquire imperiled species habitat. The summary budget shall be prepared in such manner that it

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facilitates computing an aggregate of land management costs for all statemanaged lands using the categories described in s. 259.037(3).

(d) Upon completion, the land management plan <u>must</u> will be transmitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review. The Acquisition and Restoration council shall have 90 days <u>after receipt of the plan</u> to review the plan and submit its recommendations to the board of trustees. During the review period, the land management plan may be revised if agreed to by the primary land manager and the Acquisition and Restoration council taking into consideration public input. If the Acquisition and Restoration Council fails to make a recommendation for a land management plan, the secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, Commissioner of Agriculture, or Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or their designces shall submit the land management plan to the board of trustees. The land management plan becomes effective upon approval by the board of trustees.

(e) Land management plans are to be updated every 10 years on a rotating basis. <u>Each updated land management plan must identify any conservation lands under the plan, in part or in whole, that are no longer needed for conservation purposes and could be disposed of in fee simple or with the state retaining a permanent conservation easement.</u>

(f) In developing land management plans, at least one public hearing shall be held in any one affected county.

(g) The Division of State Lands shall make available to the public an electronic copy of each land management plan for parcels that exceed 160 acres in size. The division of State Lands shall review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection, the requirements of chapter 259, and the requirements of the rules adopted established by the board of trustees pursuant to this section. The Acquisition and Restoration 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 of trustees. After its review, the council shall submit the plan, along with its recommendations and comments, to the board of trustees. The council shall specifically recommend to the board of trustees 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, Commissioner of Agriculture, or executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or their designees shall submit the land management plan to the board of trustees.

(h) 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 <u>Acquisition and Restoration</u> Council and the

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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 <u>of trustees</u>.

(i)1. State nonconservation lands shall be managed to provide the greatest benefit to the state. State nonconservation lands may be grouped by similar land use types under one land use plan. Each land use plan shall, at a minimum, contain the following elements:

a. A physical description of the land to include any significant natural or cultural resources as well as management strategies developed by the land manager to protect such resources.

b. A desired development outcome.

c. A schedule for achieving the desired development outcome.

d. A description of both short-term and long-term development goals.

e. A management and control plan for invasive nonnative plants.

<u>f.</u> A management and control plan for soil erosion and soil and water contamination.

g. Measureable objectives to achieve the goals identified in the land use plan.

2. Short-term goals shall be achievable within a 5-year planning period and long-term goals shall be achievable within a 10-year planning period.

3. The use or possession of any such lands that is not in accordance with an approved land use plan is subject to termination by the board of trustees.

4. 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 guidelines of the state land management plan.

(6) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall determine which lands, the title to which is vested in the board, may be surplused. For conservation lands, the board shall determine whether 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 determine whether 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 before July 1, 1999, using proceeds from Preservation 2000 bonds, the

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former Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, the former Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, and the Save Our Coast Program and titled to the board which are identified as core parcels or within original project boundaries are deemed to have been acquired for conservation purposes.

(b) For any lands purchased by the state on or after July 1, 1999, before acquisition, the board must determine which parcels must be designated as having been acquired for conservation purposes. 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 College System may not 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 purpose for which they were originally leased. For conservation lands, the council shall review and 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 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) must be reviewed by the council or its successor for its recommendation as to whether such lands should be disposed of by the board.

(c) Before 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 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 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

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purchase such lands in accordance with s. 253.111, any surplusing determination involving other governmental agencies shall be made when the board decides the best public use of the lands. Surplus properties in which governmental agencies have expressed no interest must then be available for sale on the private market.

(g) The sale price of lands determined to be surplus pursuant to this subsection and s. 253.82 shall be determined by the division, which shall consider an appraisal of the property, or, if the estimated value of the land is \$500,000 or less, a comparable sales analysis or a broker's opinion of value. The division may require a second appraisal. The individual or entity that requests to purchase the surplus parcel shall pay all costs associated with determining the property's value, if any.

1. 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.

a. The exemption expires 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.

b. Before expiration of the exemption, the division may disclose confidential and exempt appraisals, valuations, or valuation information regarding surplus land:

(I) During negotiations for the sale or exchange of the land.

(II) During the marketing effort or bidding process associated with the sale, disposal, or exchange of the land to facilitate closure of such effort or process.

(III) When the passage of time has made the conclusions of value invalid.

(IV) When negotiations or marketing efforts concerning the land are concluded.

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 10 years. Any unit of government seeking to transfer or sell lands pursuant to this paragraph must first allow the board of trustees to reacquire such lands for the price at which the board sold such lands.

(h) Parcels with a market value over \$500,000 must be initially offered for sale by competitive bid. The division may use agents, as authorized by s. 253.431, for this process. Any parcels unsuccessfully offered for sale by competitive bid, and parcels with a market value of \$500,000 or less, may be sold by any reasonable means, including procuring real estate services, open

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or exclusive listings, competitive bid, auction, negotiated direct sales, or other appropriate services, to facilitate the sale.

(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 are no longer needed. The board may require an agency to release its interest in such lands. A state agency, county, or local government that has requested the use of a property that was to be declared as surplus must secure the property under lease within 90 days after being notified that it may use such property.

(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 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 are not required to be offered to local or state governments as provided in paragraph (f).

(k) Proceeds from the sale of surplus conservation lands purchased before July 1, 2015, shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund.

(1) Proceeds from the sale of surplus conservation lands purchased on or after July 1, 2015, shall be deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, except when such lands were purchased with funds other than those from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund or a land acquisition trust fund created to implement s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution, the proceeds shall be deposited into the fund from which the lands were purchased.

(m) 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.

(n) Notwithstanding this subsection, such disposition of land may not be made if it 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.

(o) 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.

(p) The board may adopt rules to administer 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.

(6)(7) This section $\underline{\text{does}}$ shall not be construed so as to affect:

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(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.

(7)(8)(a) The Legislature recognizes the value of the state's conservation lands as water recharge areas and air filters.

(b) If state-owned lands are subject to annexation procedures, the Division of State Lands must notify the county legislative delegation of the county in which the land is located.

(8)(9) Land management plans required to be submitted by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children and Families, or the Department of Education are not subject to the provisions for review by the <u>Acquisition and Restoration</u> Council or its successor described in subsection (5). Management plans filed by these agencies shall be made available to the public 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 <u>of trustees</u>.

(9)(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 <u>if where</u>:

(a) <u>The use is not inconsistent with the management plan for such lands;</u>

(b) <u>The use is</u> compatible with the natural ecosystem and resource values of such lands;

(c) The proposed use is appropriately located on such lands and <u>if where</u> 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

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(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 s. 259.032(9)(c).

(10)(11) Lands listed as projects for acquisition may be 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 Land Acquisition Trust Fund. No more than \$6.2 million may be expended from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for this purpose.

 $(\underline{11})(\underline{12})$ 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) Before a building or parcel of land is offered for lease or sale to a local or federal unit of government or a private party, it shall first be offered for lease to state agencies, state universities, and Florida College System institutions, with priority consideration given to state universities and Florida College System institutions. Within 60 days after the offer for lease of a surplus building or parcel, a state university or Florida College System institution that requests the lease must submit a plan for review and approval by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund regarding the intended use, including future use, of the building or parcel of land before approval of a lease. Within 60 days after the offer for lease of a surplus building or parcel, a state agency that requests the lease of such facility or parcel must submit a plan for review and approval by the board of trustees regarding the intended use. The state agency plan must, at a minimum, include the proposed use of the facility or parcel, the estimated cost of renovation, a capital improvement plan for the building, evidence that the building or parcel meets an existing need that cannot otherwise be met, and other criteria developed by rule by the board of trustees. The board or its designee shall compare the estimated value of the building or parcel to any submitted business plan to determine if the lease or sale is in the best interest of the state. The board of trustees shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 for the implementation of this section.

Section 9. Section 253.0341, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.0341 Surplus of state-owned lands to counties or local governments. Counties and local governments may submit surplusing requests for state-

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owned lands directly to the board of trustees. County or local government requests for the state to surplus conservation or nonconservation lands, whether for purchase or exchange, shall be expedited throughout the surplusing process. Property jointly acquired by the state and other entities shall not be surplused without the consent of all joint owners.

The board of trustees shall determine which lands, the title to which (1)is vested in the board, may be surplused. For all conservation lands, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall make a recommendation to the board of trustees, and the board of trustees shall determine whether the lands are no longer needed for conservation purposes. If the board of trustees determines the lands are no longer needed for conservation purposes, it may dispose of such lands by an affirmative vote of at least three members. In the case of a land exchange involving the disposition of conservation lands, the board of trustees must determine by an affirmative vote of at least three members that the exchange will result in a net positive conservation benefit. For all nonconservation lands, the board of trustees shall determine whether the lands are no longer needed. If the board of trustees determines the lands are no longer needed, it may dispose of such lands by an affirmative vote of at least three members. Local government requests for the state to surplus conservation or nonconservation lands, whether for purchase or exchange, shall be expedited throughout the surplusing process. Property jointly acquired by the state and other entities may not be surplused without the consent of all joint owners The decision to surplus state-owned nonconservation lands may be made by the board without a review of, or a recommendation on, the request from the Acquisition and Restoration Council or the Division of State Lands. Such requests for nonconservation lands shall be considered by the board within 60 days of the board's receipt of the request.

(2) For purposes of this section, all lands acquired by the state before July 1, 1999, using proceeds from Preservation 2000 bonds, the former Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, the former Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, and the Save Our Coast Program and titled to the board of trustees which are identified as core parcels or within original project boundaries are deemed to have been acquired for conservation purposes County or local government requests for the surplusing of state-owned conservation lands are subject to review of, and recommendation on, the request to the board by the Acquisition and Restoration Council. Requests to surplus conservation lands shall be considered by the board within 120 days of the board's receipt of the request.

(3) For any lands purchased by the state on or after July 1, 1999, before acquisition, the board of trustees must determine which parcels must be designated as having been acquired for conservation purposes. 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 lands specifically managed for conservation or recreation purposes; the State University System; or the Florida College System

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may not be designated as having been acquired for conservation purposes A local government may request that state lands be specifically declared surplus lands for the purpose of providing alternative water supply and water resource development projects as defined in s. 373.019, public facilities such as schools, fire and police facilities, and affordable housing. The request shall comply with the requirements of subsection (1) if the lands are nonconservation lands or subsection (2) if the lands are conservation lands. Surplus lands that are conveyed to a local government for affordable housing shall be disposed of by the local government under the provisions of s. 125.379 or s. 166.0451.

At least every 10 years, as a component of each land management (4)plan or land use plan and in a form and manner adopted by rule of the board of trustees, each manager shall evaluate and indicate to the board of trustees those lands that are not being used for the purpose for which they were originally leased. For conservation lands, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review and recommend to the board of trustees whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board of trustees. For nonconservation lands, the Division of State Lands shall review and recommend to the board of trustees whether such lands should be retained in public ownership or disposed of by the board of trustees Notwithstanding the requirements of this section and the requirements of s. 253.034 which provides a surplus process for the disposal of state lands, the board shall convey to Miami-Dade County title to the property on which the Graham Building, which houses the offices of the Miami-Dade State Attorney, is located. By January 1, 2008, the board shall convey fee simple title to the property to Miami-Dade County for a consideration of one dollar. The deed conveying title to Miami-Dade County must contain restrictions that limit the use of the property for the purpose of providing workforce housing as defined in s. 420.5095, and to house the offices of the Miami-Dade State Attorney. Employees of the Miami-Dade State Attorney and the Miami-Dade Public Defender who apply for and meet the income qualifications for workforce housing shall receive preference over other qualified applicants.

(5) Conservation lands owned by the board of trustees which are not actively managed by any state agency or for which a land management plan has not been completed pursuant to s. 253.034(5) must be reviewed by the Acquisition and Restoration Council for its recommendation as to whether such lands should be disposed of by the board of trustees.

(6) Before any decision by the board of trustees to surplus conservation lands, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review and make recommendations to the board of trustees 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.

(7) Before a building or parcel of land is offered for lease or sale to a local or federal unit of government or a private party, it shall first be offered for

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lease to state agencies, state universities, and Florida College System institutions, with priority consideration given to state universities and Florida College System institutions. Within 60 days after the offer for lease of a surplus building or parcel, a state university or Florida College System institution that requests the lease must submit a plan for review and approval by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund regarding the intended use, including future use, of the building or parcel of land before approval of a lease. Within 60 days after the offer for lease of a surplus building or parcel, a state agency that requests the lease of such facility or parcel must submit a plan for review and approval by the board of trustees regarding the intended use. The state agency plan must, at a minimum, include the proposed use of the facility or parcel, the estimated cost of renovation, a capital improvement plan for the building, evidence that the building or parcel meets an existing need that cannot otherwise be met, and other criteria developed by rule by the board of trustees. The board or its designee shall compare the estimated value of the building or parcel to any submitted business plan to determine if the lease or sale is in the best interest of the state. The board of trustees shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 for the implementation of this section.

(8) The sale price of lands determined to be surplus pursuant to this section and s. 253.82 shall be determined by the Division of State Lands, which shall consider an appraisal of the property or, if the estimated value of the land is \$500,000 or less, a comparable sales analysis or a broker's opinion of value. The division may require a second appraisal. The individual or entity that requests to purchase the surplus parcel shall pay all costs associated with determining the property's value, if any.

(a) A written valuation of land determined to be surplus pursuant to this section 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.

<u>1. The exemption expires 2 weeks before the contract or agreement</u> regarding the purchase, exchange, or disposal of the surplus land is first considered for approval by the board of trustees.

2. Before expiration of the exemption, the Division of State Lands may disclose confidential and exempt appraisals, valuations, or valuation information regarding surplus land:

a. During negotiations for the sale or exchange of the land;

b. During the marketing effort or bidding process associated with the sale, disposal, or exchange of the land to facilitate closure of such effort or process;

c. When the passage of time has made the conclusions of value invalid; or

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d. When negotiations or marketing efforts concerning the land are concluded.

(b) A unit of government that acquires title to lands pursuant to this section for less than appraised value may not sell or transfer title to all or any portion of the lands to any private owner for 10 years. A unit of government seeking to transfer or sell lands pursuant to this paragraph must first allow the board of trustees to reacquire such lands for the price at which the board of trustees sold such lands.

(9) Parcels with a market value over \$500,000 must be initially offered for sale by competitive bid. Any parcels unsuccessfully offered for sale by competitive bid, and parcels with a market value of \$500,000 or less, may be sold by any reasonable means, including procuring real estate services, open or exclusive listings, competitive bid, auction, negotiated direct sales, or other appropriate services, to facilitate the sale.

(10) After reviewing the recommendations of the Acquisition and Restoration Council, the board of trustees shall determine whether conservation lands identified for surplus should be held for other public purposes or are no longer needed. The board of trustees may require an agency to release its interest in such lands. An entity approved to use conservation lands by the board of trustees must secure the property under a fully executed lease within 90 days after being notified that it may use such property or the request is voidable.

(11) Requests to surplus lands may be made by any public or private entity or person and shall be determined by the board of trustees. All requests to surplus conservation lands shall be submitted to the lead managing agency for review and recommendation to the Acquisition and Restoration Council, and all requests to surplus nonconservation lands shall be submitted to the Division of State Lands for review and recommendation to the board of trustees. The lead managing agencies shall review such requests and make recommendations to the council within 90 days after receipt of the requests. Any requests to surplus conservation lands that are not acted upon within the 90-day period shall be immediately scheduled for hearing at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the council. Requests to surplus lands shall be considered by the board of trustees within 60 days after receipt of the requests from the council or division. Requests to surplus lands pursuant to this subsection are not required to be offered to state agencies as provided in subsection (7).

(12) Proceeds from the sale of surplus conservation lands purchased before July 1, 2015, shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund.

(13) Proceeds from the sale of surplus conservation lands purchased on or after July 1, 2015, shall be deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, except when such lands were purchased with funds other than those from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund or a land acquisition trust fund

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created to implement s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution, the proceeds shall be deposited into the fund from which the lands were purchased.

(14) 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.

(15) Notwithstanding this section, such disposition of land may not be made if it 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.

(16) The sale of filled, formerly submerged land that does not exceed 5 acres in area is not subject to review by the Acquisition and Restoration Council.

(17) The board of trustees may adopt rules to administer this section, including procedures for administering surplus land requests and criteria for when the Division of State Lands may approve requests to surplus nonconservation lands on behalf of the board of trustees.

(18) Surplus lands that are conveyed to a local government for affordable housing shall be disposed of by the local government under s. 125.379 or s. 166.0451.

Section 10. Section 253.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.111 <u>Riparian owners of land Notice to board of county commis-</u> sioners 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:

(1) If an application is filed with the board requesting that they sell certain land to which they hold title and the board decides to sell such land or if the board, without such application, decides to sell such land, the board shall, before consideration of any private offers, notify the board of county commissioners of the county in which such land is situated that such land is available to such county. Such notification shall be given by registered mail, return receipt requested.

(2) The board of county commissioners of the county in which such land is situated shall, within 40 days after receipt of such notification from the board, determine by resolution whether or not it proposes to acquire such land.

(3) If the board receives, within 45 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 standards for real estate

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appraisal and subject to such other terms and conditions as the board determines.

(4) Nothing in This section restricts any right otherwise granted to the board by this chapter to convey land to which they hold title to the state or any department, office, authority, board, bureau, commission, institution, court, tribunal, agency, or other instrumentality of or under the state. The word "land" as used in this act means all lands vested in the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

(1)(5) If <u>a</u> any riparian owner exists with respect to any land to be sold by the board <u>of trustees</u>, such riparian owner shall have a right to secure such land, which right is prior in interest to the right in the county created by this section, provided that such riparian owner shall be required to pay for such land upon such prices, terms, and conditions as determined by the <u>board of</u> trustees. Such riparian owner may waive this prior right, in which case this section shall apply.

(2)(6) This section does not apply to:

(a) Any land exchange approved by the board <u>of trustees;</u>

(b) The conveyance of any lands located within the Everglades Agricultural Area; or

(c) Lands managed pursuant to ss. 253.781-253.785.

Section 11. Section 253.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.42 Board of trustees may exchange lands.—The provisions of This section <u>applies apply</u> to all lands owned by, vested in, or titled in the name of the board <u>of trustees</u> whether the lands were acquired by the state as a purchase, or through gift, donation, or any other conveyance for which no consideration was paid.

(1) The board of trustees may exchange any lands owned by, vested in, or titled in <u>its</u> the name of the board for other lands in the state owned by counties, local governments, individuals, or private or public corporations, and may fix the terms and conditions of any such exchange. Any nonconservation lands that were acquired by the state through gift, donation, or any other conveyance for which no consideration was paid must first be offered at no cost to a county or local government unless otherwise provided in a deed restriction of record or other legal impediment, and so long as the use proposed by the county or local government is for a public purpose. For conservation lands acquired by the state through gift, donation, or any other conveyance for which no consideration was paid, the state may request land of equal conservation value from the county or local government but no other consideration.

(2) In exchanging state-owned lands not acquired by the state through gift, donation, or any other conveyance for which no consideration was paid,

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with counties or local governments, the board <u>of trustees</u> shall require an exchange of equal value. Equal value is defined as the conservation benefit of the lands being offered for exchange by a county or local government being equal or greater in conservation benefit than the state-owned lands. Such exchanges may include cash transactions if based on an appropriate measure of value of the state-owned land, but must also include the determination of a net-positive conservation benefit by the Acquisition and Restoration Council, irrespective of appraised value.

(3) The board <u>of trustees</u> shall select and agree upon the state lands to be exchanged and the lands to be conveyed to the state and shall pay or receive any sum of money <u>the board of trustees deems</u> deemed necessary by the board for the purpose of equalizing the value of the exchanged property. The board <u>of trustees</u> is authorized to make and enter into contracts or agreements for such purpose or purposes.

(4)(a) A person who owns land contiguous to state-owned land titled to the board of trustees may submit a request to the Division of State Lands to exchange all or a portion of the privately owned land for all or a portion of the state-owned land, whereby the state retains a permanent conservation easement over all or a portion of the exchanged state-owned land and a permanent conservation easement over all or a portion of the exchanged privately owned land. State-owned land exchanged pursuant to this subsection shall be contiguous to the privately owned land upon which the state retains a permanent conservation easement. If the division elects to proceed with a request, the division must submit the request to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review and the council must provide recommendations to the division. If the division elects to forward a request to the board of trustees, the division must provide its recommendations and the recommendations of the council to the board. This subsection does not apply to state-owned sovereign submerged land.

(b) After receiving a request and the division's recommendations, the board of trustees shall consider such request and recommendations and may approve the request if:

1. At least 30 percent of the perimeter of the privately owned land is bordered by state-owned land and the exchange does not create an inholding.

2. The approval does not result in a violation of the terms of a preexisting lease or agreement by the board of trustees, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

3. For state-owned land purchased for conservation purposes, the board of trustees makes a determination that the exchange of land under this subsection will result in a net positive conservation benefit.

4. The approval does not conflict with any existing flowage easement.

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5. The request is approved by three or more members of the board of trustees.

(c) Special consideration shall be given to a request that maintains public access for any recreational purpose allowed on the state-owned land at the time the request is submitted to the board of trustees. A person who maintains public access pursuant to this paragraph is entitled to the limitation on liability provided in s. 375.251.

(d) Land subject to a permanent conservation easement granted pursuant to this subsection is subject to inspection by the Department of Environmental Protection to ensure compliance with the terms of the permanent conservation easement.

Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 253.782, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.782 Retention of state-owned lands in and around Lake Rousseau and the Cross Florida Barge Canal right-of-way from Lake Rousseau west to the Withlacoochee River.—

(2) The Department of Environmental Protection is authorized and directed to retain ownership of and maintain all lands or interests in land owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, including all fee and less than fee less-than-fee interests in lands previously owned by the canal authority in Lake Rousseau and the Cross Florida Barge Canal right-of-way from Lake Rousseau at U.S. Highway 41 west to and including the Withlacoochee River.

Section 13. Section 253.7821, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.7821 Cross Florida Greenways State Recreation and Conservation Area assigned to the <u>Department of Environmental Protection</u> Office of the <u>Executive Director</u>.—The Cross Florida Greenways State Recreation and Conservation Area is <u>hereby</u> established and <u>is initially</u> assigned to the <u>department</u> Office of Greenways Management within the Office of the <u>Secretary</u>. The <u>department</u> office shall manage the greenways pursuant to the department's existing statutory authority until administrative rules are adopted by the department. However, the provisions of-this act shall control in any conflict between this act and any other authority of the department.

Section 14. Section 253.87, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

<u>253.87</u> Inventory of state, federal, and local government conservation lands by the Department of Environmental Protection.—

(1) By July 1, 2018, the department shall include in the Florida State-Owned Lands and Records Information System (FL-SOLARIS) database all federally owned conservation lands in the state, all lands on which the Federal Government retains a permanent conservation easement in the

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state, and all lands on which the state retains a permanent conservation easement. The department shall update the database at least every 5 years.

(2) By July 1, 2018, for counties and municipalities, and by July 1, 2019, for financially disadvantaged small communities, as defined in s. 403.1838, and at least every 5 years thereafter, respectively, each county, municipality, and financially disadvantaged small community shall identify all conservation lands that it owns in fee simple and all lands on which it retains a permanent conservation easement and submit, in a manner determined by the department, a list of such lands to the department. Within 6 months after receiving such list, the department shall add such lands to the FL-SOLARIS database.

(3) By January 1, 2018, the department shall conduct a study and submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the technical and economic feasibility of including the following lands in the FL-SOLARIS database or a similar public lands inventory:

(a) All lands on which local comprehensive plans, land use restrictions, zoning ordinances, or land development regulations prohibit the land from being developed or limit the amount of development to one unit per 40 or more acres.

(b) All publicly and privately owned lands for which development rights have been transferred.

(c) All privately owned lands under a permanent conservation easement.

(d) All lands owned by a nonprofit or nongovernmental organization for conservation purposes.

(e) All lands that are part of a mitigation bank.

Section 15. Section 259.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.01 Short title.—This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Land Conservation <u>Program Act of 1972</u>."

Section 16. Section 259.02, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 17. Subsections (6), (7), and (8) and paragraphs (a) and (d) of section (9) of section 259.032, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

259.032 Conservation and recreation lands.—

(6) Conservation and recreation lands are subject to the selection procedures of s. 259.035 and related rules and shall be acquired in accordance with acquisition procedures for state lands provided for in s. 253.025 259.041, except as otherwise provided by the Legislature. An inholding or an addition to conservation and recreation lands is not subject

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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 for conservation and recreation purposes, the project may be removed from the list and the remaining acreage may continue to be purchased. Funds appropriated to acquire conservation and recreation lands 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, the land may be acquired in accordance with the provisions of chapter 73 or chapter 74, and the funds appropriated to acquire conservation and recreation lands may be used to pay the condemnation award and all costs, including reasonable attorney fees, associated with condemnation

(7) 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. 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 (9)(a).

<u>(c)(d)</u> Concurrent with its adoption of the annual 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;

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6. Provisions for protecting existing infrastructure and for ensuring the security of the project upon acquisition;

7. The anticipated costs of management and projected sources of revenue, including legislative appropriations, to fund management needs; and

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 management.

(d)(e) Concurrent with the approval of the acquisition contract pursuant to s. 253.025(4)(c) 259.041(3)(c) for any interest in lands except those lands being acquired <u>pursuant to</u> under the provisions of s. 259.1052, the board of trustees shall designate an agency or agencies to manage such lands. The board shall evaluate and amend, as appropriate, the management policy statement for the project as provided by s. 259.035 to ensure that the policy statement is compatible with conservation, recreation, or both, 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 <u>less than fee less than-fee</u> 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.

(e)(f) State agencies designated to manage lands acquired under this chapter or with funds deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, except those lands acquired under s. 259.1052, may contract with local governments and soil and water conservation districts to assist in management activities, including the responsibility of being the lead land manager. Such land management contracts may include a provision for the transfer of management funding to the local government or soil and water conservation district from the land acquisition trust fund of the lead land managing agency 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.

 $(\underline{f})(\underline{g})$ Immediately following the acquisition of any interest in conservation and recreation lands, the 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.

(8)(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

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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), for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. 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 local elected official. If habitat or potentially restorable habitat for imperiled species is located on state lands, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall be included on any advisory group required under chapter 253, and the short-term and long-term management goals required under chapter 253 must advance the goals and objectives of imperiled species management without restricting other uses identified in the management plan. The advisory group shall conduct at least 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 areawide public hearing shall be acceptable and the lead managing agency shall invite a local elected official from each county. The areawide public hearing shall 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 $(7)(c) \frac{(7)(d)}{(7)(d)}$ shall be available to the public for a period of 30 days before prior to 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 <u>adopted prescribed</u> by rule of the board of trustees. Such updates, for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. Such plans may include transfers of leasehold interests to appropriate conservation organizations or governmental entities designated by the 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 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 s. 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

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otherwise be entitled 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 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 achieve the desired outcomes, including, but not limited to, providing public access, preserving and protecting natural resources, protecting cultural and historical resources, restoring habitat, protecting threatened and endangered species, controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, performing prescribed fire activities, and other appropriate resource management.

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 management activities, based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired.

5. A cost estimate for conducting priority management activities, 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 <u>that would be</u> <u>compatible with conservation</u>, recreation, or both that 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, which shall:

1. Within 60 days after receiving a plan from the Division <u>of State Lands</u>, review each plan for compliance with the requirements of this subsection

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and with the requirements of the rules <u>adopted</u> 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 Acquisition and Restoration council and the <u>department</u> 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.

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

(9)(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 <u>in a manner that is compatible with conservation</u>, recreation, or both, consistent with the <u>land management plan</u> for the purposes for which they were acquired and for the public to have access to and use of these lands <u>if public access</u> where it is consistent with acquisition purposes and would not harm the resources the state is seeking to protect on the public's behalf.

(d) Up to one-fifth of the funds appropriated for the purposes identified in paragraph (b) shall be reserved by the board of trustees for 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 (7)(f) (7)(g). The board of trustees shall make these interim funds available immediately upon purchase.

Section 18. Subsection (3) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 259.035, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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259.035 Acquisition and Restoration Council.—

(3) The council shall provide assistance to the board of trustees in reviewing the recommendations and plans for state-owned conservation lands required under s. 253.034 and this chapter. 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 former s. 259.101(3)(a), Florida Statutes 2014, and to s. 259.105(3)(b).

(4)(a) By December 1, 2016, 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 or with funds deposited into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund pursuant to s. 28(a), Art. X of the State Constitution. These rules shall be reviewed and adopted by the board, then submitted to the Legislature for consideration by February 1, 2017. The Legislature may reject, modify, or take no action relative to the proposed rules. If no action is taken, the rules shall be implemented. Subsequent to their approval, each recipient of funds from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund shall annually report to the <u>department Division of State Lands</u> on each of the numeric performance measures accomplished during the previous fiscal year.

Section 19. Subsections (1), (2), (4), and (5) of section 259.036, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

259.036 Management review teams.—

(1) 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 for the purposes that are compatible with conservation, preservation, or recreation 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 department of Environmental Protection, shall cause periodic management reviews to be conducted as follows:

(a) The department shall establish a regional land management review team composed of the following members:

1. 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.

2. One individual from the Division of Recreation and Parks of the department.

3. One individual from the Florida Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

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4. One individual from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

5. One individual from the department's district office in which the parcel is located.

6. A private land manager, preferably from the local community, mutually agreeable to the state agency representatives.

7. A member <u>or staff from the jurisdictional water management district</u> <u>or of the</u> local soil and water conservation district board of supervisors.

8. A member of a conservation organization.

(b) The <u>department</u> 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 Legislature shall appropriate funds necessary to implement land management review team functions.

(2) The land management review team shall review select management areas <u>before prior to</u> 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 <u>department Division of State Lands</u> shall schedule a land management review at least every 5 years. A copy of the review shall be provided to the manager, the <u>department Division of State Lands</u>, and the <u>Acquisition and Restoration</u> council. The manager shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan.

(4) In the event a land management plan has not been adopted within the timeframes specified in s. 259.032(8), the 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 <u>in a manner that is compatible with conservation, recreation, or both</u> 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 in a manner that is compatible with conservation, recreation, or both, consistent 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 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.

Section 20. Section 259.037, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.037 Land Management Uniform Accounting Council.—

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(1) The Land Management Uniform Accounting Council (LMUAC) 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, and 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 Florida Forest Service 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 LMUAC council shall have one vote. The chair of the LMUAC 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 LMUAC council. The Division of State Lands shall serve as the recipient of and repository for the LMUAC's council's documents. The LMUAC 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 <u>LMUAC</u> council to ensure that appropriate accounting procedures are <u>used</u> 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 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. Resource management.
- 2. Administration.
- 3. Support.
- 4. Capital improvements.
- 5. Recreation visitor services.
- 6. Law enforcement activities.

Upon adoption of the initial list of land management categories by the <u>LMUAC</u> 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.

(b) Each reporting agency shall also:

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1. Include a report of the available public use opportunities for each management unit of state land, the total management cost for public access and public use, and the cost associated with each use option.

2. List the acres of land requiring minimal management effort, moderate management effort, and significant management effort pursuant to s. 259.032(9)(c). For each category created in paragraph (a), the reporting agency shall include the amount of funds requested, the amount of funds received, and the amount of funds expended for land management.

3. List acres managed and cost of management for each park, preserve, forest, reserve, or management area.

4. List acres managed, cost of management, and lead manager for each state lands management unit for which secondary management activities were provided.

5. Include a report of the estimated calculable financial benefits to the public for the ecosystem services provided by conservation lands, based on the best readily available information or science that provides a standard measurement methodology to be consistently applied by the land managing agencies. Such information may include, but need not be limited to, the value of natural lands for protecting the quality and quantity of drinking water through natural water filtration and recharge, contributions to protecting and improving air quality, benefits to agriculture through increased soil productivity and preservation of biodiversity, and savings to property and lives through flood control.

(4) The <u>LMUAC</u> council shall provide a report of the agencies' expenditures pursuant to the adopted categories to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the Division <u>of State Lands</u> for inclusion in its annual report required pursuant to s. 259.036.

(5) Should the <u>LMUAC</u> council determine that the list of land management categories needs to be revised, it shall meet upon the call of the chair.

(6) Biennially, each reporting agency shall also submit an operational report for each management area along with an approved management plan. The report should assess the progress toward achieving short-term and long-term management goals of the approved management plan, including all land management activities, and identify any deficiencies in management and corrective actions to address identified deficiencies as appropriate. This report shall be submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration Council and the Division of State Lands for inclusion in its annual report required pursuant to s. 259.036.

Section 21. <u>Subsections (1) through (6) and (8) through (19) of section</u> 259.041, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 259.047, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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259.047 Acquisition of land on which an agricultural lease exists.—

(2) <u>If Where consistent with the purposes of conservation and recreation</u> for which the property was acquired, the state or acquiring entity shall make reasonable efforts to keep lands in agricultural production which are in agricultural production at the time of acquisition.

Section 23. Subsection (8) of section 259.101, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (7), and subsection (5), paragraph (a) of subsection (6), and present subsection (7) of that section are amended, to read:

259.101 Florida Preservation 2000 Act.—

(5) DISPOSITION OF LANDS.—

(a) Any lands acquired pursuant to former paragraphs (3)(a), (3)(c), (3)(d), (3)(e), (3)(f), or (3)(g) of this section, Florida Statutes 2014, if title to such lands is vested in the board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, may be disposed of by the board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund in accordance with the provisions and procedures set forth in s. 253.0341 253.034(6), and lands acquired pursuant to former paragraph (3)(b) of this section, Florida Statutes 2014, may be disposed of by the owning water management district in accordance with the procedures and provisions set forth in ss. 373.056 and 373.089 provided such disposition also shall satisfy the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) Before land acquired with Preservation 2000 funds may be surplused as required by s. $\underline{253.0341}$ $\underline{253.034(6)}$ or determined to be no longer required for its purposes under s. 373.056(4), as applicable, there shall first be a determination by the board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, or, in the case of water management district lands, by the owning water management district, that such land no longer needs to be preserved in furtherance of the intent of the Florida Preservation 2000 Act. Any lands eligible to be disposed of under this procedure also may be used to acquire other lands through an exchange of lands if such lands obtained in an exchange are described in the same paragraph of former subsection (3) of this section, Florida Statutes 2014, as the lands disposed.

(c) Revenue derived from the disposal of lands acquired with Preservation 2000 funds may not be used for any purpose except for deposit into the Florida Forever Trust Fund within the department of Environmental Protection, for recredit to the share held under former subsection (3) of this section, Florida Statutes 2014, in which such disposed land is described.

(6) ALTERNATE USES OF ACQUIRED LANDS.—

(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 any lands acquired pursuant to former subsection (3) of this section, Florida Statutes 2014, for any governmental use permitted by s. 17, Art. IX

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of the State Constitution of 1885, as adopted by s. 9(a), Art. XII of the State Constitution, and any other incidental public or private use that is determined by the board or the owning water management district to be compatible with <u>conservation</u>, <u>preservation</u>, <u>or recreation</u> the purposes for which such lands were acquired.

(7) ALTERNATIVES TO FEE SIMPLE ACQUISITION.—

(a) The Legislature finds that, with the increasing pressures on the natural areas of this state, the state must develop creative techniques to maximize the use of acquisition and management moneys. The Legislature finds that the state's environmental land-buying agencies should be encouraged to augment their traditional, fee simple acquisition programs with the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition techniques. The Legislature also finds that using alternatives to fee simple acquisition by public land-buying agencies will achieve the following public policy goals:

1. Allow more lands to be brought under public protection for preservation, conservation, and recreational purposes at less expense using public funds.

2. Retain, on local government tax rolls, some portion of or interest in lands that are under public protection.

3. Reduce long-term management costs by allowing private property owners to continue acting as stewards of the land, as appropriate.

Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature that public land-buying agencies develop programs to pursue alternatives to fee simple acquisition and to educate private landowners about such alternatives and the benefits of such alternatives. It also is the intent of the Legislature that the department and the water management districts spend a portion of their shares of Preservation 2000 bond proceeds to purchase eligible properties using alternatives to fee simple acquisition. Finally, it is the intent of the Legislature that public agencies acquire lands in fee simple for public access and recreational activities. Lands protected using alternatives to fee simple acquisition techniques may not be accessible to the public unless such access is negotiated with and agreed to by the private landowners who retain interests in such lands.

(b) The Land Acquisition Advisory Council and the water management districts shall identify, within their 1997 acquisition plans, those projects that require a full fee simple interest to achieve the public policy goals, along with the reasons why full title is determined to be necessary. The council and the water management districts may use alternatives to fee simple acquisition to bring the remaining projects in their acquisition plans under public protection. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "alternatives to fee simple acquisition" includes the purchase of development rights; conservation easements; flowage easements; the purchase of timber rights, mineral rights, or hunting rights; the purchase of agricultural

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interests or silvicultural interests; land protection agreements; fee simple acquisitions with reservations; or any other acquisition technique that achieves the public policy goals identified in paragraph (a). It is presumed that a private landowner retains the full range of uses for all the rights or interests in the landowner's land which are not specifically acquired by the public agency. Life estates and fee simple acquisitions with leaseback provisions do not qualify as an alternative to fee simple acquisition under this subsection, although the department and the districts are encouraged to use such techniques if appropriate.

(c) The department and each water management district shall implement initiatives to use alternatives to fee simple acquisition and to educate private landowners about such alternatives. These initiatives must include at least two acquisitions a year by the department and each water management district utilizing alternatives to fee simple.

(d) The Legislature finds that the lack of direct sales comparison information has served as an impediment to successful implementation of alternatives to fee simple acquisition. It is the intent of the Legislature that, in the absence of direct comparable sales information, appraisals of alternatives to fee simple acquisitions be based on the difference between the full fee simple valuation and the value of the interests remaining with the seller after acquisition.

(c) The public agency that has been assigned management responsibility shall inspect and monitor any less-than-fee-simple interest according to the terms of the purchase agreement relating to such interest.

(f) The department and the water management districts may enter into joint acquisition agreements to jointly fund the purchase of lands using alternatives to fee simple techniques.

Section 24. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraphs (i) and (l) of subsection (3), subsections (10) and (13), paragraph (i) of subsection (15), and subsection (19) of section 259.105, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

259.105 The Florida Forever Act.—

(2)(a) The Legislature finds and declares that:

1. Land acquisition programs have provided tremendous financial resources for purchasing environmentally significant lands to protect those lands from imminent development or alteration, thereby ensuring present and future generations' access to important waterways, open spaces, and recreation and conservation lands.

2. The continued alteration and development of <u>the state's</u> Florida's natural and rural areas to accommodate the state's growing population have contributed to the degradation of water resources, the fragmentation and destruction of wildlife habitats, the loss of outdoor recreation space, and the

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diminishment of wetlands, forests, working landscapes, and coastal open space.

3. The potential development of <u>the state's</u> Florida's remaining natural areas and escalation of land values require government efforts to restore, bring under public protection, or acquire lands and water areas to preserve the state's essential ecological functions and invaluable quality of life.

4. It is essential to protect the state's ecosystems by promoting a more efficient use of land, to ensure opportunities for viable agricultural activities on working lands, and to promote vital rural and urban communities that support and produce development patterns consistent with natural resource protection.

5. <u>The state's Florida's</u> 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 and citizens of the state, and assist in achieving the planning goals of the department and the water management districts, water resource development projects on public lands, <u>if where</u> compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for the lands, are appropriate.

6. The needs of urban, suburban, and small communities in <u>the state</u> 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, ecological 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. Many of <u>the state's</u> Florida's unique ecosystems, such as the Florida Everglades, are facing ecological collapse due to <u>the state's</u> 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. Access to public lands to support a broad range of outdoor recreational opportunities and the development of necessary infrastructure, <u>if where</u> compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands, promotes an appreciation for <u>the state's Florida's</u> natural assets and improves the quality of life.

9. Acquisition of lands, in fee simple, <u>less than fee</u> less than fee interest, or other techniques shall be based on a comprehensive science-based

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assessment of <u>the state's</u> Florida's natural resources which 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 rural areas, and the restoration of natural water storage, flow, and recharge.

10. 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.

The state must play a major role in the recovery and management of 11. its imperiled species through the acquisition, restoration, enhancement, and management of ecosystems that can support the major life functions of such species. It is the intent of the Legislature to support local, state, and federal programs that result in net benefit to imperiled species habitat by providing public and private land owners meaningful incentives for acquiring, restoring, managing, and repopulating habitats for imperiled species. It is the further intent of the Legislature that public lands, both existing and to be acquired, identified by the lead land managing agency, in consultation with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for animals or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for plants, as habitat or potentially restorable habitat for imperiled species, be restored, enhanced, managed, and repopulated as habitat for such species to advance the goals and objectives of imperiled species management for conservation, recreation, or both, consistent with the land management plan purposes for which such lands are acquired without restricting other uses identified in the management plan. It is also the intent of the Legislature that of the proceeds distributed pursuant to subsection (3), additional consideration be given to acquisitions that achieve a combination of conservation goals, including the restoration, enhancement, management, or repopulation of habitat for imperiled species. The Acquisition and Restoration council, in addition to the criteria in subsection (9), shall give weight to projects that include acquisition, restoration, management, or repopulation of habitat for imperiled species. The term "imperiled species" as used in this chapter and chapter 253, means plants and animals that are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act, or state-listed by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

a. As part of the state's role, all state lands that have imperiled species habitat shall include as a consideration in management plan development the restoration, enhancement, management, and repopulation of such habitats. In addition, the lead land managing agency of such state lands

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may use fees received from public or private entities for projects to offset adverse impacts to imperiled species or their habitat in order to restore, enhance, manage, repopulate, or acquire land and to implement land management plans developed under s. 253.034 or a land management prospectus developed and implemented under this chapter. Such fees shall be deposited into a foundation or fund created by each land management agency under s. 379.223, s. 589.012, or s. 259.032(9)(c), to be used solely to restore, manage, enhance, repopulate, or acquire imperiled species habitat.

b. Where habitat or potentially restorable habitat for imperiled species is located on state lands, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall be included on any advisory group required under chapter 253, and the short-term and long-term management goals required under chapter 253 must advance the goals and objectives of imperiled species management consistent with the purposes for which the land was acquired without restricting other uses identified in the management plan.

12. There is a need to change the focus and direction of the state's major land acquisition programs and to extend funding and bonding capabilities, so that future generations may enjoy the natural resources of this state.

(3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the proceeds of cash payments or 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:

(i) Three and five-tenths percent to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the acquisition of agricultural lands, through perpetual conservation easements and other perpetual <u>less than fee less-than-fee</u> techniques, which will achieve the objectives of Florida Forever and s. 570.71. Rules concerning the application, acquisition, and priority ranking process for such easements shall be developed pursuant to s. 570.71(10) and as provided by this paragraph. The board shall ensure that such rules are consistent with the acquisition process provided for in s. <u>570.715</u> 259.041. Provisions of The rules developed pursuant to s. 570.71(10), shall also provide for the following:

1. An annual priority list shall be developed pursuant to s. 570.71(10), submitted to the Acquisition and Restoration council for review, and approved by the board pursuant to s. 259.04.

2. Terms of easements and acquisitions proposed pursuant to this paragraph shall be approved by the board and \underline{may} shall not be delegated by the board to any other entity receiving funds under this section.

3. All acquisitions pursuant to this paragraph shall contain a clear statement that they are subject to legislative appropriation.

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No Funds provided under this paragraph <u>may not</u> shall be expended until final adoption of rules by the board pursuant to s. 570.71.

(1) For the purposes of paragraphs (e), (f), (g), and (h), the agencies that receive the funds shall develop their individual acquisition or restoration lists in accordance with specific criteria and numeric performance measures developed pursuant to s. 259.035(4). Proposed additions may be acquired if they are identified within the original project boundary, the management plan required pursuant to s. 259.032(7)(c) 259.032(7)(d). 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.

(10) The Acquisition and Restoration council shall give increased priority to:

(a) those Projects for which matching funds are available.

(b) 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.

(c) Projects that can be acquired in less than fee ownership, such as a permanent conservation easement.

(d) Projects that contribute to improving the quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater.

(e) Projects that contribute to improving the water quality and flow of springs.

(f) The council shall also give increased priority to those Projects for which 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:

<u>1.(a)</u> 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;

2.(b) Protecting areas underlying low-level military air corridors or operating areas; and

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<u>3.(e)</u> 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.

(13) An affirmative vote of <u>at least</u> five members of the Acquisition and Restoration council shall be required in order to place a proposed project submitted pursuant to subsection (7) on the proposed project 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 <u>before</u> prior to voting for a project's inclusion on the list.

(15) The Acquisition and Restoration council shall submit to the board of trustees, with its list of projects, a report that includes, but <u>need shall</u> not be limited to, the following information for each project listed:

(i) A management policy statement for the project and a management prospectus pursuant to s. 259.032(7)(c) 259.032(7)(d).

(19)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 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 2010 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.

Section 25. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 259.1052, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

259.1052 Babcock Crescent B Ranch Florida Forever acquisition; conditions for purchase.—

(6) In addition to distributions authorized under s. 259.105(3), the Department of Environmental Protection is authorized to distribute \$310 million in revenues from the Florida Forever Trust Fund. This distribution shall represent payment in full for the portion of the Babcock Crescent B Ranch to be acquired by the state under this section.

(7) As used in this section, the term "state's portion of the Babcock Crescent B Ranch" comprises those lands to be conveyed by special warranty

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deed to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund under the provisions of the agreement for sale and purchase executed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the participating local government, as purchaser, and MSKP, III, a Florida corporation, as seller.

Section 26. Subsections (1), (3), and (7) of section 373.089, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

373.089 Sale or exchange of lands, or interests or rights in lands.—The governing board of the district may sell lands, or interests or rights in lands, to which the district has acquired title or to which it may hereafter acquire title in the following manner:

(1) Any lands, or interests or rights in lands, determined by the governing board to be surplus may be sold by the district, at any time, for the highest price obtainable; however, in no case shall the selling price be less than the appraised value of the lands, or interests or rights in lands, as determined by a certified appraisal obtained within <u>360</u> 120 days before the <u>effective date of a contract for sale</u>.

(3) Before selling any surplus land, or interests or rights in land, it shall be the duty of the district shall publish to cause a notice of intention to sell to be published in a newspaper published in the county in which the land, or interests or rights in the land, is situated once each week for 3 successive weeks, (three insertions being sufficient.), The first publication of the required notice must occur at least which shall be not less than 30 days, but not nor more than <u>360</u> 45 days, before prior to any sale and must include, which notice shall set forth a description of lands, or interests or rights in lands, to be offered for sale.

(7) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, the governing board shall first offer title to lands acquired in whole or in part with Florida Forever funds which are determined to be no longer needed for conservation purposes to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund unless the disposition of those lands is for the following purposes:

(a) Linear facilities, including electric transmission and distribution facilities, telecommunication transmission and distribution facilities, pipeline transmission and distribution facilities, public transportation corridors, and related appurtenances.

(b) The disposition of the fee interest in the land where a conservation easement is retained by the district to fulfill the conservation objectives for which the land was acquired.

(c) An exchange of the land for other lands that meet or exceed the conservation objectives for which the original land was acquired in accordance with subsection (4).

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(d) To be used by a governmental entity for a public purpose.

(e) The portion of an overall purchase deemed surplus at the time of the acquisition.

(8)(a) If a parcel of land is no longer essential or necessary for conservation purposes and is valued at \$25,000 or less as determined by a certified appraisal obtained within 360 days before the effective date of a contract for the sale, the governing board may determine that the parcel of land is surplus. The notice of intention to sell must be published as required under subsection (3), one time only. The governing board shall send the notice of intention to sell the parcel to adjacent property owners by certified mail and publish the notice on its website.

(b) Fourteen days after publication of such notice, the district may sell the parcel to an adjacent property owner or, if there are two or more owners of adjacent property, accept sealed bids and sell the parcel to the highest bidder or reject all offers.

(c) Thirty days after publication of such notice, the district shall accept sealed bids and may sell the parcel to the highest bidder or reject all offers.

<u>If</u> In the event the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund declines to accept title to the lands offered under this section, the land may be disposed of by the district under the provisions of this section.

Section 27. Section 570.715, Florida Statutes, is created, and subsection (7) of section 259.041, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as subsection (5) of section 570.715, Florida Statutes, and amended, to read:

570.715 Conservation easement acquisition procedures.—

(1) For less than fee simple acquisitions pursuant to s. 570.71, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall comply with the following acquisition procedures:

(a) Before conveyance of title by the department, evidence of marketable title in the form of a commitment for title insurance or an abstract of title with a title opinion shall be obtained.

(b) Before approval by the board of trustees of an agreement to purchase less than fee simple title to land pursuant to s. 570.71, an appraisal of the parcel shall be required as follows:

1. Each parcel to be acquired shall have at least one appraisal. Two appraisals are required when the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$1 million. However, when both appraisals exceed \$1 million and differ significantly, a third appraisal may be obtained.

2. Appraisal fees and associated costs shall be paid by the department. All appraisals used for the acquisition of less than fee simple interest in

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lands pursuant to this section shall be prepared by a state-certified appraiser who meets the standards and criteria established by rule of the board of trustees. Each appraiser selected to appraise a particular parcel shall, before contracting with the department or a participant in a multiparty agreement, submit to the department or participant an affidavit substantiating that he or she has no vested or fiduciary interest in such parcel.

(c) A certified survey must be made that meets the minimum requirements for upland parcels established in the Standards of Practice for Land Surveying in Florida published by the department and that accurately portrays, to the greatest extent practicable, the condition of the parcel as it currently exists. The requirement for a certified survey may, in whole or in part, be waived by the board of trustees any time before acquisition of the less than fee simple interest. If an existing boundary map and description of a parcel are determined by the department to be sufficient for appraisal purposes, the department may temporarily waive the requirement for a survey until any time before conveyance of title to the parcel.

(d) On behalf of the board of trustees and before the appraisal of parcels approved for purchase under s. 259.105(3)(i) and s. 570.71, the department may enter into option contracts to buy less than fee simple interest in such parcels. Any such option contract shall state that the final purchase price is subject to approval by the board of trustees and that the final purchase price may not exceed the maximum offer authorized by law. Any such option contract presented to the board of trustees for final purchase price is subject to an appropriation by the Legislature. The consideration for any such option contract 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.

(e) A final offer shall be in the form of an option contract or agreement for purchase of the less than fee simple interest and shall be signed and attested to by the owner and the department. Before the department signs the agreement for purchase of the less than fee simple interest or exercises the option contract, the requirements of s. 286.23 shall be complied with.

(f) The procedures provided in s. 253.025(9)(a)-(d) and (10) shall be followed.

(2) If the public's interest is reasonably protected, the board of trustees may:

(a) Waive any requirement of this section.

(b) Waive any rules adopted pursuant to s. 570.71, notwithstanding chapter 120.

(c) Substitute any other reasonably prudent procedures, including federally mandated acquisition procedures, for the procedures in this

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section, if federal funds are available and will be used for the purchase of a less than fee simple interest in lands, title to which will vest in the board of trustees, and qualification for such federal funds requires compliance with federally mandated acquisition procedures.

(3) The less than fee simple land acquisition procedures provided in this section are for voluntary, negotiated acquisitions.

(4) For purposes of this section, the term "negotiations" does not include preliminary contacts with the property owner to determine availability or eligibility of the property, existing appraisal data, existing abstracts, and surveys.

(5)(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.

(b) Each parcel to be acquired shall have at least one appraisal. Two appraisals are required when the estimated value of the parcel exceeds \$1 million. However, when both appraisals exceed \$1 million and differ significantly, a third appraisal may be obtained. 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.

(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.

(e) Generally, Appraisal reports are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), for use by the <u>department agency</u> and the board of trustees, until an option contract is executed or, if <u>an</u> no option contract is

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<u>not</u> 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 <u>department</u> 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 <u>department</u> 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 subsection 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. The department agency may release an appraisal report when the passage of time has rendered the conclusions of value in the report invalid or when the department 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 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 28. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 73.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

73.015 Presuit negotiation.—

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(1) Effective July 1, 2000, before an eminent domain proceeding is brought under this chapter or chapter 74, the condemning authority must attempt to negotiate in good faith with the fee owner of the parcel to be acquired, must provide the fee owner with a written offer and, if requested, a copy of the appraisal upon which the offer is based, and must attempt to reach an agreement regarding the amount of compensation to be paid for the parcel.

(d) Notwithstanding this subsection, with respect to lands acquired under s. <u>253.025</u> 259.041, the condemning authority is not required to give the fee owner the current appraisal before executing an option contract.

Section 29. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 125.355, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.355 Proposed purchase of real property by county; confidentiality of records; procedure.—

(1)

(b) If the exemptions provided in this section are utilized, the governing body shall obtain at least one appraisal by an appraiser approved pursuant to s. 253.025 253.025(6)(b) for each purchase in an amount of not more than \$500,000. For each purchase in an amount in excess of \$500,000, the governing body shall obtain at least two appraisals by appraisers approved pursuant to s. 253.025 253.025(6)(b). If the agreed purchase price exceeds the average appraised price of the two appraisals, the governing body is required to approve the purchase by an extraordinary vote. The governing body may, by ordinary vote, exempt a purchase in an amount of \$100,000 or less from the requirement for an appraisal.

Section 30. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 166.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

166.045 Proposed purchase of real property by municipality; confidentiality of records; procedure.—

(1)

(b) If the exemptions provided in this section are utilized, the governing body shall obtain at least one appraisal by an appraiser approved pursuant to s. 253.025 253.025(6)(b) for each purchase in an amount of not more than \$500,000. For each purchase in an amount in excess of \$500,000, the governing body shall obtain at least two appraisals by appraisers approved pursuant to s. 253.025 253.025(6)(b). If the agreed purchase price exceeds the average appraised price of the two appraisals, the governing body is required to approve the purchase by an extraordinary vote. The governing body may, by ordinary vote, exempt a purchase in an amount of \$100,000 or less from the requirement for an appraisal.

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Section 31. Subsection (2) of section 215.82, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.82 Validation; when required.—

(2) Any bonds issued pursuant to this act which are validated shall be validated in the manner provided by chapter 75. In actions to validate bonds to be issued in the name of the State Board of Education under s. 9(a) and (d), Art. XII of the State Constitution and bonds to be issued pursuant to chapter 259, the Land Conservation Program Act of 1972, the complaint shall be filed in the circuit court of the county where the seat of state government is situated, the notice required to be published by s. 75.06 shall be published only in the county where the complaint is filed, and the complaint and order of the circuit court shall be served only on the state attorney of the circuit in which the action is pending. In any action to validate bonds issued pursuant to s. 1010.62 or issued pursuant to s. 9(a)(1), Art. XII of the State Constitution or issued pursuant to s. 215.605 or s. 338.227, the complaint shall be filed in the circuit court of the county where the seat of state government is situated, the notice required to be published by s. 75.06 shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the complaint is filed and in two other newspapers of general circulation in the state, and the complaint and order of the circuit court shall be served only on the state attorney of the circuit in which the action is pending; provided, however, that if publication of notice pursuant to this section would require publication in more newspapers than would publication pursuant to s. 75.06, such publication shall be made pursuant to s. 75.06.

Section 32. Section 215.965, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.965 Disbursement of state moneys.—Except as provided in s. 17.076, s. $\underline{253.025(17)}$ $\underline{253.025(17)}$

Section 33. Subsection (8) of section 253.027, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.027 Emergency archaeological property acquisition.—

(8) WAIVER OF APPRAISALS OR SURVEYS.—The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund may waive or limit any appraisal or survey requirements in s. 253.025 259.041, if necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section. Fee simple title is not required to be conveyed if some lesser interest will allow the preservation of the archaeological resource. Properties purchased pursuant to this section shall be considered archaeologically unique or significant properties and may be purchased under the provisions of s. 253.025(9) 253.025(7).

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Section 34. Section 253.7824, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

253.7824 Sale of products; proceeds.—The Department <u>of Environmental Protection</u> may authorize the removal and sale of products from the land where environmentally appropriate, the proceeds from which shall be deposited into the appropriate trust fund in accordance with the same disposition provided under s. <u>253.0341</u> <u>253.034(6)(k)</u>, (l), or (m) applicable to the sale of land.

Section 35. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) of section 260.015, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

260.015 Acquisition of land.-

(2) For purposes of the Florida Greenways and Trails Program, the board may:

(b) Accept title to abandoned railroad rights-of-way which is conveyed by quitclaim deed through purchase, dedication, gift, grant, or settlement, notwithstanding s. 253.025 259.041(1).

(c) Enter into an agreement or, upon delegation, the department may enter into an agreement, with a nonprofit corporation, as defined in s. 253.025 259.041(7)(e), to assume responsibility for acquisition of lands pursuant to this section. The agreement may transfer responsibility for all matters which may be delegated or waived pursuant to s. 253.025 259.041(1).

Section 36. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 260.016, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

260.016 General powers of the department.—

(3) The department or its designee is authorized to negotiate with potentially affected private landowners as to the terms under which such landowners would consent to the public use of their lands as part of the greenways and trails system. The department shall be authorized to agree to incentives for a private landowner who consents to this public use of his or her lands for conservation or recreational purposes, including, but not limited to, the following:

(b) Agreement to exchange, subject to the approval of the board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or other applicable unit of government, ownership or other rights of use of public lands for the ownership or other rights of use of privately owned lands. Any exchange of state-owned lands, title to which is vested in the board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, for privately owned lands shall be subject to the requirements of s. <u>253.025</u> <u>259.041</u>.

Section 37. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 369.317, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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369.317 Wekiva Parkway.—

The Central Florida Expressway Authority is hereby granted the (6)authority to act as a third-party acquisition agent, pursuant to s. 253.025 259.041 on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or chapter 373 on behalf of the governing board of the St. Johns River Water Management District, for the acquisition of all necessary lands, property and all interests in property identified herein, including fee simple or less than fee less-than-fee simple interests. The lands subject to this authority are identified in paragraph 10.a., State of Florida, Office of the Governor, Executive Order 03-112 of July 1, 2003, and in Recommendation 16 of the Wekiva Basin Area Task Force created by Executive Order 2002-259, such lands otherwise known as Neighborhood Lakes, a 1,587+/-acre parcel located in Orange and Lake Counties within Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34 of Township 19 South, Range 28 East, and Sections 3, 4, 5, and 9 of Township 20 South, Range 28 East; Seminole Woods/Swamp, a 5,353+/-acre parcel located in Lake County within Section 37, Township 19 South, Range 28 East; New Garden Coal; a 1,605+/-acre parcel in Lake County within Sections 23, 25, 26, 35, and 36, Township 19 South, Range 28 East; Pine Plantation, a 617+/-acre tract consisting of eight individual parcels within the Apopka City limits. The Department of Transportation, the Department of Environmental Protection, the St. Johns River Water Management District, and other land acquisition entities shall participate and cooperate in providing information and support to the third-party acquisition agent. The land acquisition process authorized by this paragraph shall begin no later than December 31, 2004. Acquisition of the properties identified as Neighborhood Lakes, Pine Plantation, and New Garden Coal, or approval as a mitigation bank shall be concluded no later than December 31, 2010. Department of Transportation and Central Florida Expressway Authority funds expended to purchase an interest in those lands identified in this subsection shall be eligible as environmental mitigation for road construction related impacts in the Wekiva Study Area. If any of the lands identified in this subsection are used as environmental mitigation for road-construction-related impacts incurred by the Department of Transportation or Central Florida Expressway Authority, or for other impacts incurred by other entities, within the Wekiva Study Area or within the Wekiva parkway alignment corridor, and if the mitigation offsets these impacts, the St. Johns River Water Management District and the Department of Environmental Protection shall consider the activity regulated under part IV of chapter 373 to meet the cumulative impact requirements of s. 373.414(8)(a).

(a) Acquisition of the land described in this section is required to provide right-of-way for the Wekiva Parkway, a limited access roadway linking State Road 429 to Interstate 4, an essential component in meeting regional transportation needs to provide regional connectivity, improve safety, accommodate projected population and economic growth, and satisfy critical transportation requirements caused by increased traffic volume growth and travel demands.

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(b) Acquisition of the lands described in this section is also required to protect the surface water and groundwater resources of Lake, Orange, and Seminole counties, otherwise known as the Wekiva Study Area, including recharge within the springshed that provides for the Wekiva River system. Protection of this area is crucial to the long term viability of the Wekiva River and springs and the central Florida region's water supply. Acquisition of the lands described in this section is also necessary to alleviate pressure from growth and development affecting the surface and groundwater resources within the recharge area.

(c) Lands acquired pursuant to this section that are needed for transportation facilities for the Wekiva Parkway shall be determined not necessary for conservation purposes pursuant to ss. <u>253.0341</u> <u>253.034(6)</u> and 373.089(5) and shall be transferred to or retained by the Central Florida Expressway Authority or the Department of Transportation upon reimbursement of the full purchase price and acquisition costs.

(7) The Department of Transportation, the Department of Environmental Protection, the St. Johns River Water Management District, Central Florida Expressway Authority, and other land acquisition entities shall cooperate and establish funding responsibilities and partnerships by agreement to the extent funds are available to the various entities. Properties acquired with Florida Forever funds shall be in accordance with s. <u>253.025</u> 259.041 or chapter 373. The Central Florida Expressway Authority shall acquire land in accordance with this section of law to the extent funds are available from the various funding partners; <u>however, the</u> <u>authority is, but shall</u> not be required <u>or nor</u> assumed to fund the land acquisition beyond the agreement and funding provided by the various land acquisition entities.

Section 38. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 373.139, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.139 Acquisition of real property.—

(3) The initial 5-year work plan and any subsequent modifications or additions thereto shall be adopted by each water management district after a public hearing. Each water management district shall provide at least 14 days' advance notice of the hearing date and shall separately notify each county commission within which a proposed work plan project or project modification or addition is located of the hearing date.

(a) Appraisal reports, offers, and counteroffers are 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 30 days before a contract or agreement for purchase is considered for approval by the governing board. However, each district may, at its discretion, disclose appraisal reports to private landowners during negotiations for acquisitions using alternatives to fee simple techniques, if the district determines that disclosure of such reports will bring the proposed acquisition to closure. If In the event that

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negotiation is terminated by the district, the appraisal report, offers, and counteroffers shall become available pursuant to s. 119.07(1). Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and s. 253.025 259.041, a district and the Division of State Lands may share and disclose appraisal reports, appraisal information, offers, and counteroffers when joint acquisition of property is contemplated. A district and the Division of State Lands shall maintain the confidentiality of such appraisal reports, appraisal information, offers, and counteroffers in conformance with this section and s. 253.025 259.041, except in those cases in which a district and the division have exercised discretion to disclose such information. A district may disclose appraisal information, offers, and counteroffers to a third party who has entered into a contractual agreement with the district to work with or on the behalf of or to assist the district in connection with land acquisitions. The third party shall maintain the confidentiality of such information in conformance with this section. In addition, a district may use, as its own, appraisals obtained by a third party provided the appraiser is selected from the district's list of approved appraisers and the appraisal is reviewed and approved by the district.

Section 39. Subsection (8) of section 375.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

375.031 Acquisition of land; procedures.—

The department may, if it deems it desirable and in the best interest (8) of the program, request the board of trustees to sell or otherwise dispose of any lands or water storage areas acquired under this act. The board of trustees, when so requested, shall offer the lands or water storage areas, on such terms as the department may determine, first to other state agencies and then, if still available, to the county or municipality in which the lands or water storage areas lie. If not acquired by another state agency or local governmental body for beneficial public purposes, the lands or water storage areas shall then be offered by the board of trustees at public sale, after first giving notice of such sale by publication in a newspaper published in the county or counties in which such lands or water storage areas lie not less than once a week for 3 consecutive weeks. All proceeds from the sale or disposition of any lands or water storage areas pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the appropriate trust fund pursuant to s. 253.0341 253.034(6)(k), (l), or (m).

Section 40. Subsection (2) of section 375.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

(2) All moneys and revenue from the sale or other disposition of land, water areas, or related resources acquired on or after July 1, 2015, for the purposes of s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution shall be deposited into or credited to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, except as otherwise provided pursuant to s. 253.0341 253.034(6)(1).

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Section 41. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 380.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.05 Areas of critical state concern.—

(1)(a) The state land planning agency may from time to time recommend to the Administration Commission specific areas of critical state concern. In its recommendation, the agency shall include recommendations with respect to the purchase of lands situated within the boundaries of the proposed area as environmentally endangered lands and outdoor recreation lands under the Land Conservation Program Act of 1972. The agency also shall include any report or recommendation of a resource planning and management committee appointed pursuant to s. 380.045; the dangers that would result from uncontrolled or inadequate development of the area and the advantages that would be achieved from the development of the area in a coordinated manner; a detailed boundary description of the proposed area; specific principles for guiding development within the area; an inventory of lands owned by the state, federal, county, and municipal governments within the proposed area; and a list of the state agencies with programs that affect the purpose of the designation. The agency shall recommend actions which the local government and state and regional agencies must accomplish in order to implement the principles for guiding development. These actions may include, but need shall not be limited to, revisions of the local comprehensive plan and adoption of land development regulations, density requirements, and special permitting requirements.

Section 42. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 380.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.055 Big Cypress Area.—

(5) ACQUISITION OF BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE.

(b) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund shall set aside from the proceeds of the full faith and credit bonds authorized by the Land Conservation <u>Program Act of 1972</u>, or from other funds authorized, appropriated, or allocated for the acquisition of environmentally endangered lands, or from both sources, \$40 million for acquisition of the area proposed as the Federal Big Cypress National Preserve, Florida, or portions thereof.

Section 43. Paragraph (f) of subsection (4) of section 380.508, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

380.508 Projects; development, review, and approval.-

(4) Projects or activities which the trust undertakes, coordinates, or funds in any manner shall comply with the following guidelines:

(f) The trust shall cooperate with local governments, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations in ensuring the reservation of lands for parks, recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, historical preservation,

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or scientific study. If any local government, state agency, federal agency, or nonprofit organization is unable, due to limited financial resources or other circumstances of a temporary nature, to acquire a site for the purposes described in this paragraph, the trust may acquire and hold the site for subsequent conveyance to the appropriate governmental agency or nonprofit organization. The trust may provide such technical assistance as required to aid local governments, state and federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations in completing acquisition and related functions. The trust may not reserve lands acquired in accordance with this paragraph for more than 5 years from the time of acquisition. A local government, federal or state agency, or nonprofit organization may acquire the land at any time during this period for public purposes. The purchase price shall be based upon the trust's cost of acquisition, plus administrative and management costs in reserving the land. The payment of the purchase price shall be by money, trust-approved property of an equivalent value, or a combination of money and trust-approved property. If, after the 5-year period, the trust has not sold to a governmental agency or nonprofit organization land acquired for site reservation, the trust shall dispose of such land at fair market value or shall trade it for other land of comparable value which will serve to accomplish the purposes of this part. Any proceeds from the sale of such land received by the department shall be deposited into the appropriate trust fund pursuant to s. 253.0341 253.034(6)(k), (l), or (m).

Project costs may include costs of providing parks, open space, public access sites, scenic easements, and other areas and facilities serving the public where such features are part of a project plan approved according to this part. In undertaking or coordinating projects or activities authorized by this part, the trust shall, when appropriate, use and promote the use of creative land acquisition methods, including the acquisition of less than fee interest through, among other methods, conservation easements, transfer of development rights, leases, and leaseback arrangements. The trust shall assist local governments in the use of sound alternative methods of financing for funding projects and activities authorized under this part. Any funds over and above eligible project costs, which remain after completion of a project approved according to this part, shall be transmitted to the state and deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund.

Section 44. Section 589.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

589.07 Florida Forest Service may acquire lands for forest purposes.— The Florida Forest Service, on behalf of the state and subject to the restrictions mentioned in s. 589.08, may acquire lands, suitable for state forest purposes, by gift, donation, contribution, purchase, or otherwise and may enter into agreements with the Federal Government, or other agency, for acquiring by gift, purchase, or otherwise, such lands as are, in the judgment of the Florida Forest Service, suitable and desirable for state forests. The acquisition procedures for state lands provided in s. <u>253.025</u> 259.041 do not apply to acquisition of land by the Florida Forest Service.

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Section 45. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (4) of section 944.10, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

944.10 Department of Corrections to provide buildings; sale and purchase of land; contracts to provide services and inmate labor.—

(4)(a) Notwithstanding s. 253.025 or s. 287.057, whenever the department finds it to be necessary for timely site acquisition, it may contract without the need for competitive selection with one or more appraisers whose names are contained on the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands of the Department of Environmental Protection in accordance with s. <u>253.025(8)</u> <u>253.025(6)(b)</u>. In those instances in which the department directly contracts for appraisal services, it must also contract with an approved appraiser who is not employed by the same appraisal firm for review services.

(b) Notwithstanding s. <u>253.025(8)</u> <u>253.025(6)</u>, the department may negotiate and enter into an option contract before an appraisal is obtained. The option contract must state that the final purchase price cannot exceed the maximum value allowed by law. The consideration for such an option contract may not exceed 10 percent of the estimate obtained by the department or 10 percent of the value of the parcel, whichever amount is greater.

Section 46. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 957.04, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

957.04 Contract requirements.—

(6) Notwithstanding s. <u>253.025(9)</u> <u>253.025(7)</u>, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund need not approve a lease-purchase agreement negotiated by the Department of Management Services if the Department of Management Services finds that there is a need to expedite the lease-purchase.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding s. 253.025 or s. 287.057, whenever the Department of Management Services finds it to be in the best interest of timely site acquisition, it may contract without the need for competitive selection with one or more appraisers whose names are contained on the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands of the Department of Environmental Protection in accordance with s. 253.025(8) 253.025(6)(b). In those instances when the Department of Management Services directly contracts for appraisal services, it shall also contract with an approved appraiser who is not employed by the same appraisal firm for review services.

(b) Notwithstanding s. <u>253.025(8)</u> <u>253.025(6)</u>, the Department of Management Services may negotiate and enter into lease-purchase agreements before an appraisal is obtained. Any such agreement must state that the final purchase price cannot exceed the maximum value allowed by law.

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Section 47. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (12) of section 985.682, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

985.682 Siting of facilities; criteria.—

(12)(a) Notwithstanding s. 253.025 or s. 287.057, when the department finds it necessary for timely site acquisition, it may contract, without using the competitive selection procedure, with an appraiser whose name is on the list of approved appraisers maintained by the Division of State Lands of the Department of Environmental Protection under s. <u>253.025(8)</u> <u>253.025(6)(b)</u>. When the department directly contracts for appraisal services, it must contract with an approved appraiser who is not employed by the same appraisal firm for review services.

(b) Notwithstanding s. <u>253.025(8)</u> <u>253.025(6)</u>, the department may negotiate and enter into an option contract before an appraisal is obtained. The option contract must state that the final purchase price may not exceed the maximum value allowed by law. The consideration for such an option contract may not exceed 10 percent of the estimate obtained by the department or 10 percent of the value of the parcel, whichever amount is greater.

Section 48. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 1013.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1013.14 Proposed purchase of real property by a board; confidentiality of records; procedure.—

(1)

(b) <u>Before</u> Prior to acquisition of the property, the board shall obtain at least one appraisal by an appraiser approved pursuant to s. 253.025(8)253.025(6)(b) for each purchase in an amount greater than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000. For each purchase in an amount in excess of \$500,000, the board shall obtain at least two appraisals by appraisers approved pursuant to s. 253.025(8) 253.025(6)(b). If the agreed to purchase price exceeds the average appraised value, the board is required to approve the purchase by an extraordinary vote.

Section 49. For the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the sums of \$396,040 in recurring funds and \$1,370,528 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund are appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection, and four full-time equivalent positions with associated salary rate of 182,968 are authorized, for the purpose of implementing the amendments made by this act to ss. 253.034 and 253.0341, Florida Statutes, and the provisions of s. 253.87, Florida Statutes, as created by this act.

Section 50. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor April 14, 2016.

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Filed in Office Secretary of State April 14, 2016.