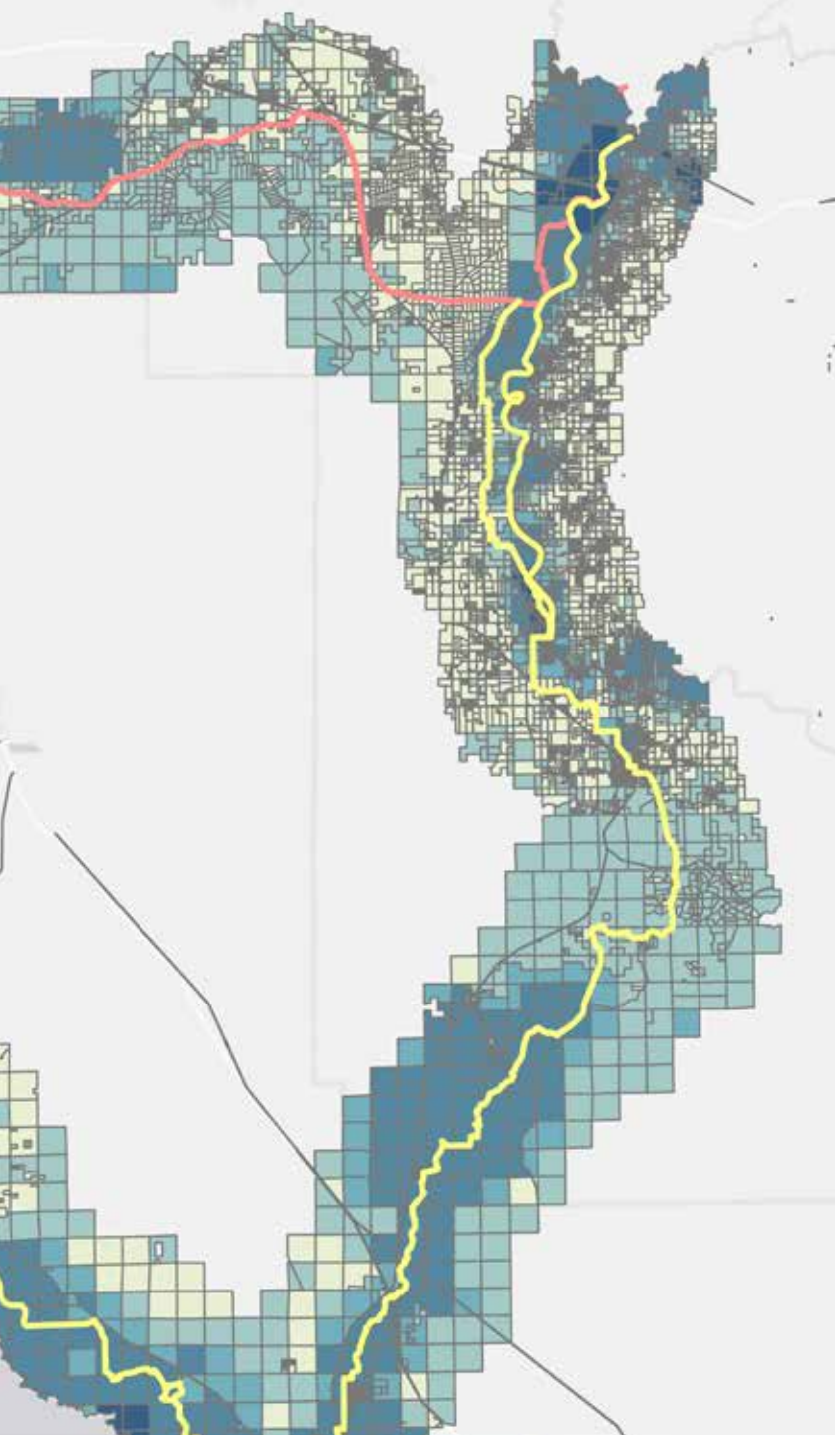
Land Acquisition Priority Parcel Model

Background on the Florida Trail (FT)

- 1,500 miles from Gulf Islands National Seashore near Pensacola to Big Cypress National Preserve in the Everglades.
- The trail is administered by the USDA Forest Service and maintained by volunteers through the Florida Trail Association.
- One of 11 National Scenic trails in the United States.



The Model

Analyzing Parcels Based on Criteria for Planning the Florida Trail:

- Land cover data
- Future conservation land acquisitions by the state of Florida
- Existing public and private consevation lands.

The model produces a map that shows land parcels ranked based on routing suitability criteria.

FLORIDA TRAIL PROGRAM NEEDS:

The model addresses parts of FT's 2018 Strategic Plan Implementation Guide.

Goal 2, "Complete the Trail", task 2.2.1 – Identify and systematically contact landowners of critical segments. Program needs described under this task:

1.) A spatial analysis of natural communities and property ownership along the Florida Trail.

2.) Track for sale information to create a dynamic and comprehensive list of willing sellers.

3.) Identify and prioritize parcels for potential acquisition.

4.) Identify shared acquisition priorities then rank each parcel by type, feasibility and potential timeline of acquisition.

History of Florida Trail Land Acquistion Planning

December 2000

"Preferred Routing for the Florida National Scenic Trail" Document

February 2004

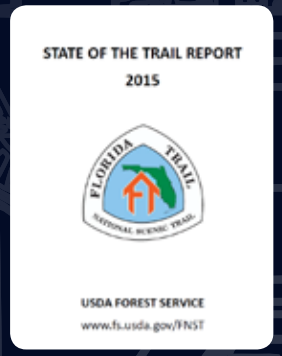
Land Acquisition Ownership Atlas

February 2014

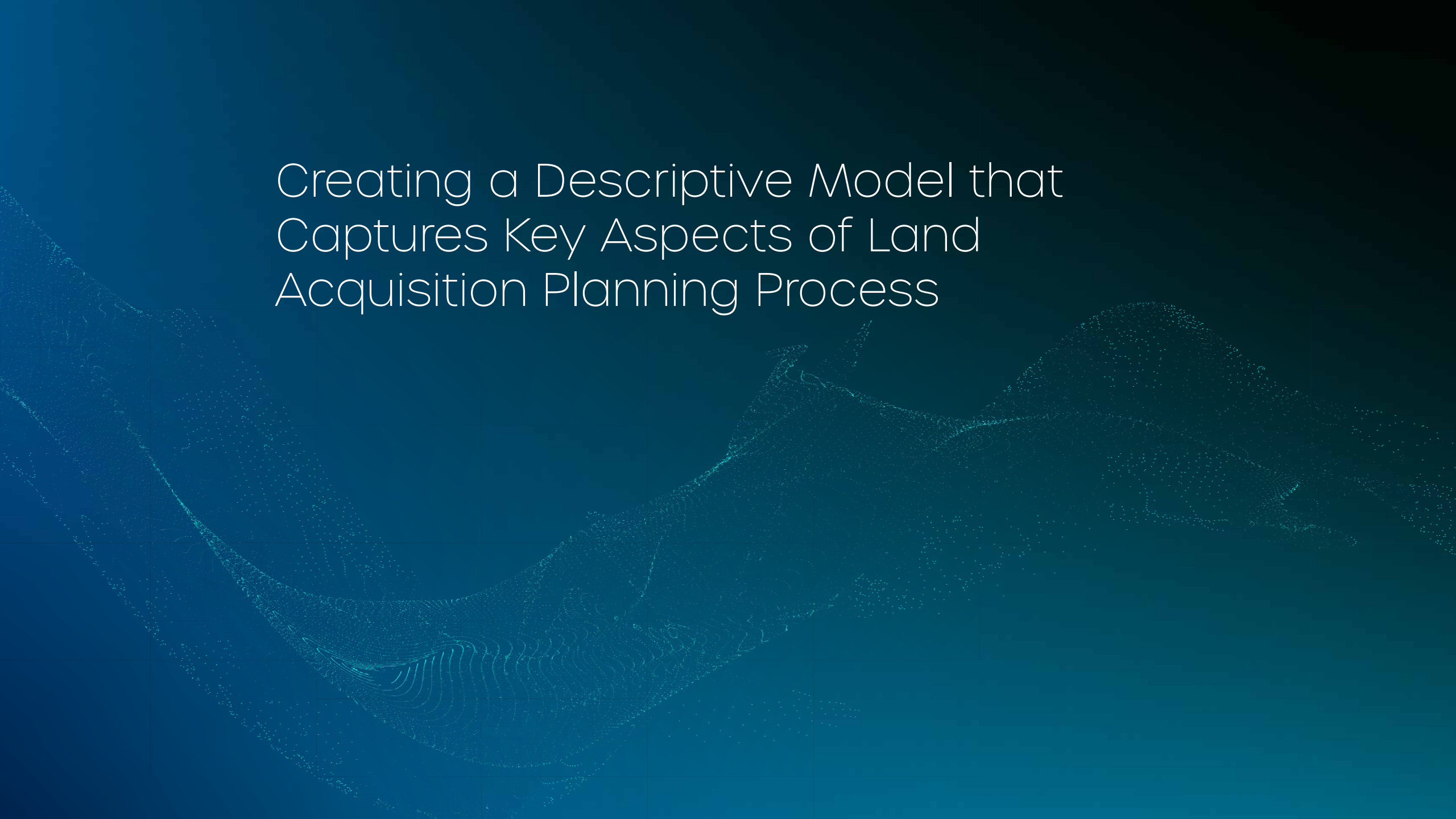
Land Acquisition Ownership Atlas v2

February 2015

FNST State of The Trail Report



Creating a Descriptive Model that Captures Key Aspects of Land Acquisition Planning Process



"A simplified representation of a complex reality"

CORRIDOR LOCATION REVIEW (CLR):

- A process to qualitatively and quantitatively analyze trail routing opportunities to identify and assess alternative trail corridors.
- Expands on the Optimal Location Review Process.
- Document the process criteria and evidence utilized to complete a trail routing recommendation.

Corridor Location Review Criteria:

Trail Miles

Impacts to Landowners

Biodiversity

Speed on Roadwalk

Historical and Cultural Sites

Recreation opportunities

Spur Trail Opportunities

Public Conservation Land

Amount of Roadwalk

Total Land Acquisition Needs

Altered Landscape

Trail Towns

Obstacles

Major Infrastructure Costs

Potential for Camping

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Potential for Camping

Data Sources Selected:

Cooperative Land Cover

Conservation Lands

Florida Forever Board of Trustees Projects

Parcel Data

Trail Segment Data

Applying meaning to *land cover* data

Rank 4

Example Land Cover Type: Pine Flatwoods

Rank 3

Example Land Cover Type: Citrus

Rank 2

Example Land Cover Type: Tree Plantations

Rank 1

Example Land Cover Type: Sugarcane

Rank 0

Example Land Cover Type: Abandoned Mining Lands

Combining Metrics to Create a Total Rank

1. What % of each parcel is comprised of each of these land cover rankings?
2. How close is each parcel to a Florida Forever Board of Trustees project and what priority level is that project?
3. How close is each parcel to conservation lands?

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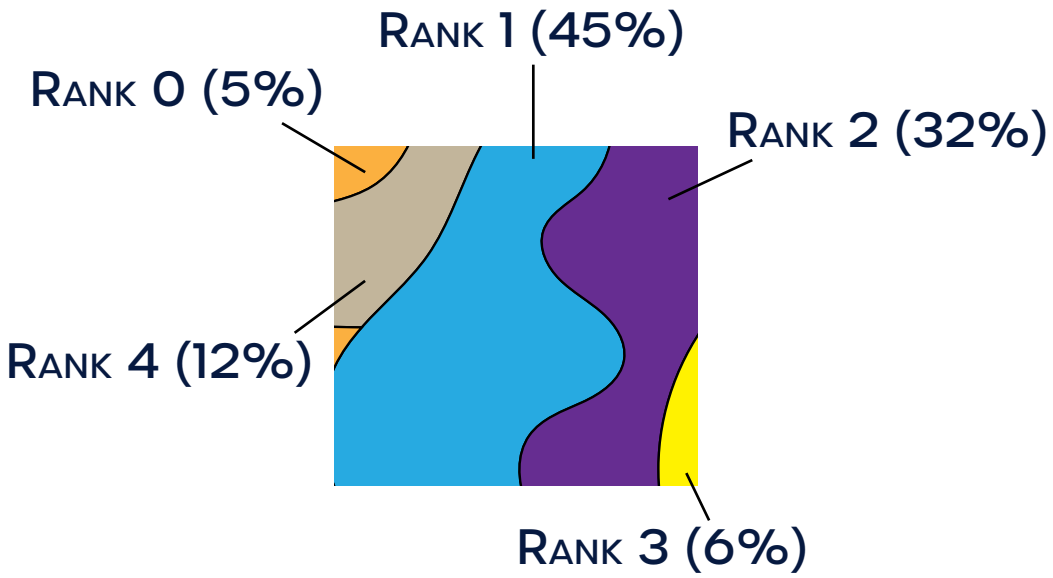
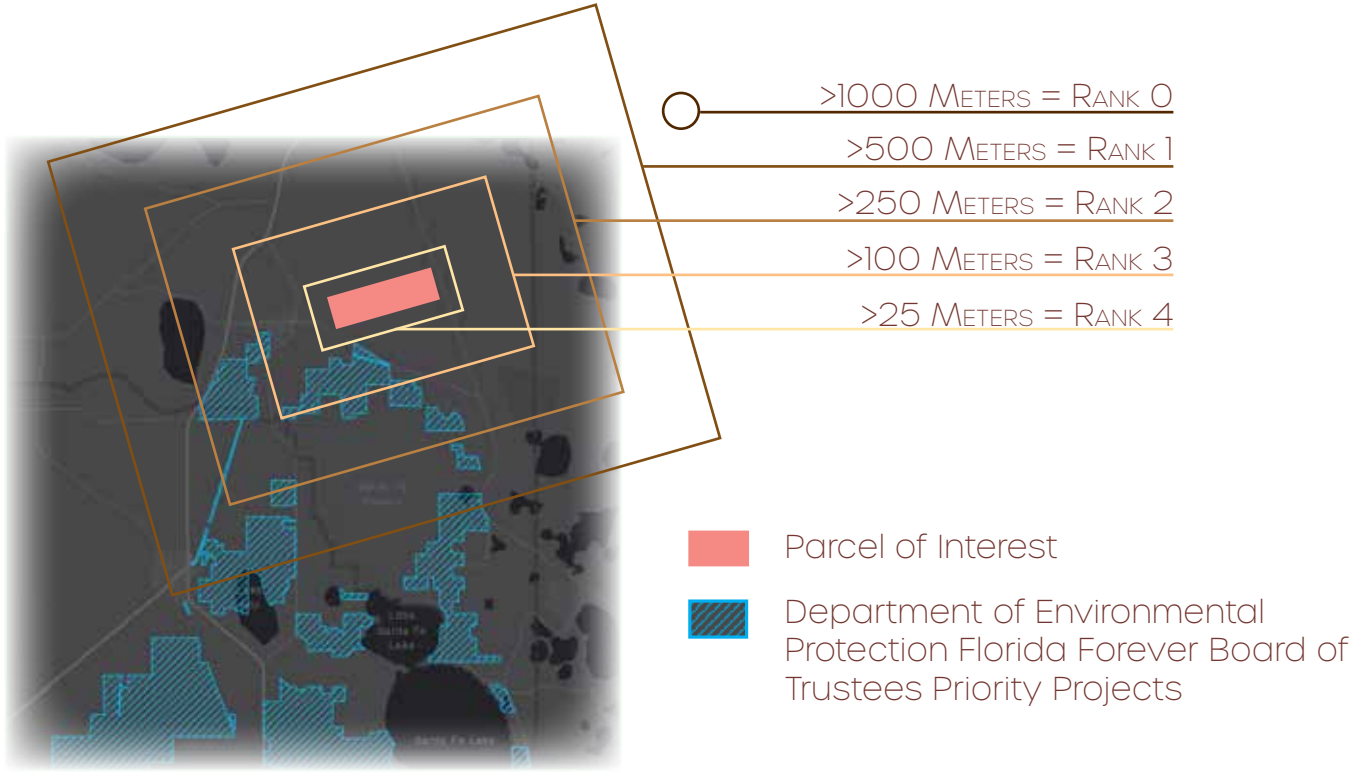
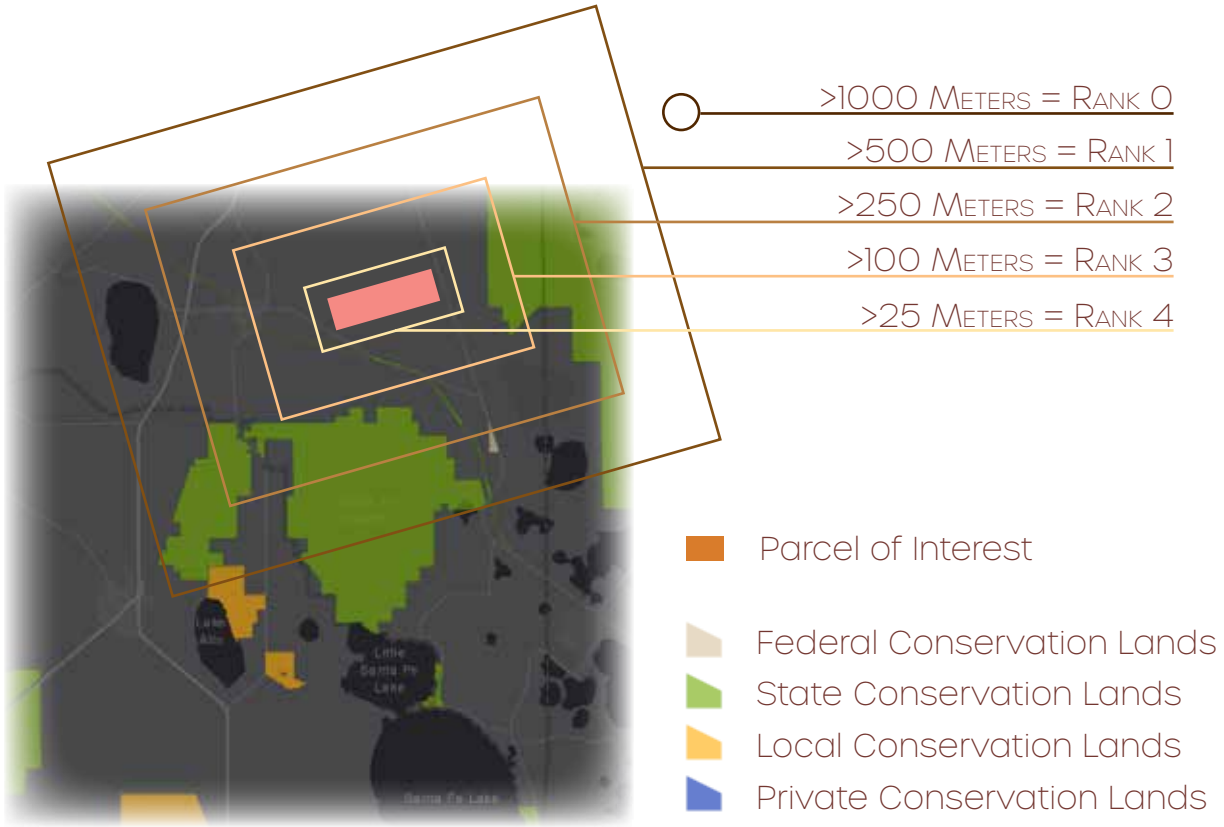


% of Rank 0(.5) + % of Rank 1 + % of Rank 2(1.5) + % of Rank 3(2) + % of Rank 4(2.5) = **Rank Order.**

2. How close is each parcel to a Florida Forever Board of Trustees project and what priority level is that project?



3. How close is each parcel to conservation lands?



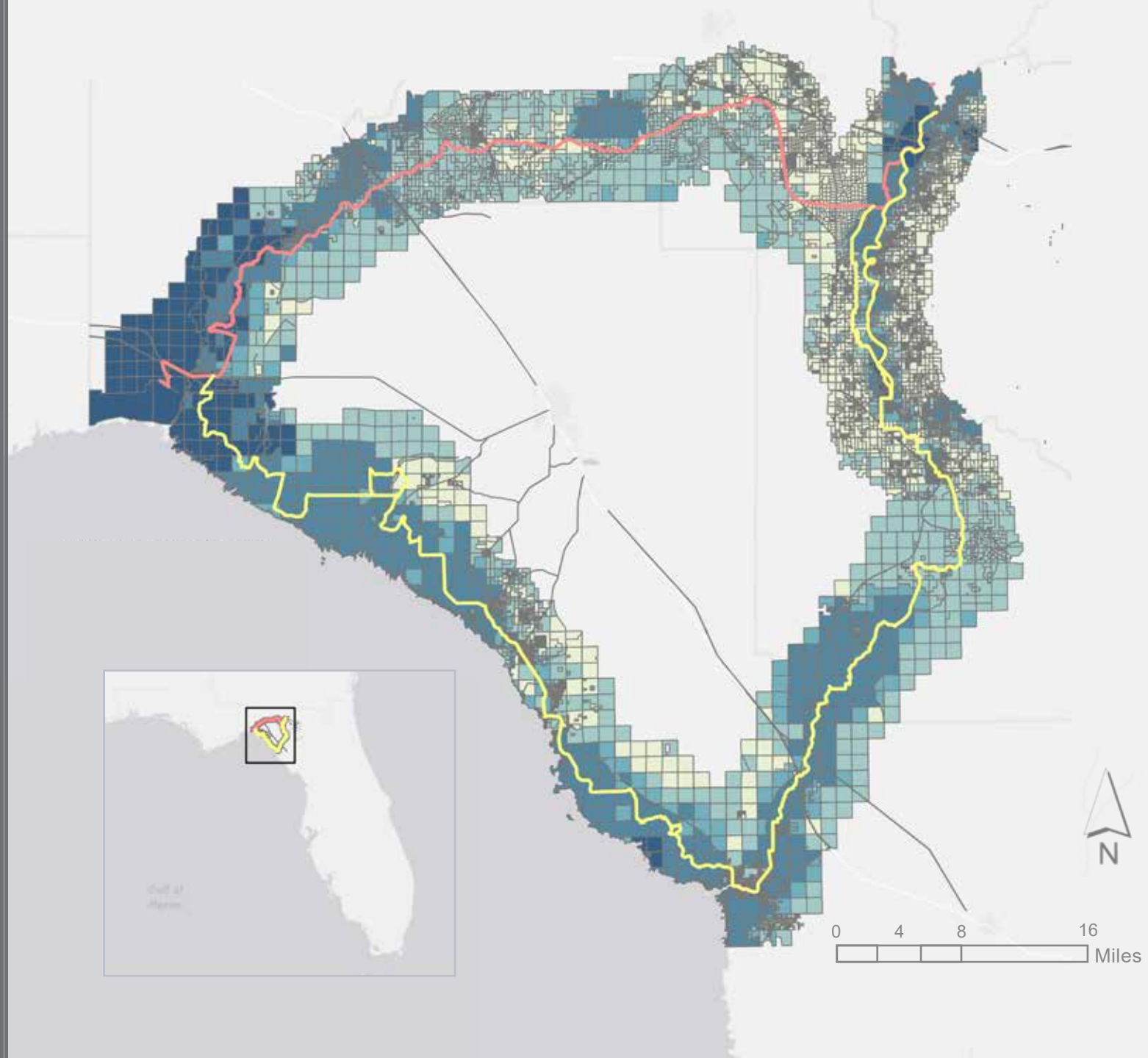
Florida Trail Land Acquisition Priority Parcel Model Big-Bend Reroute Analysis

Priority Parcel

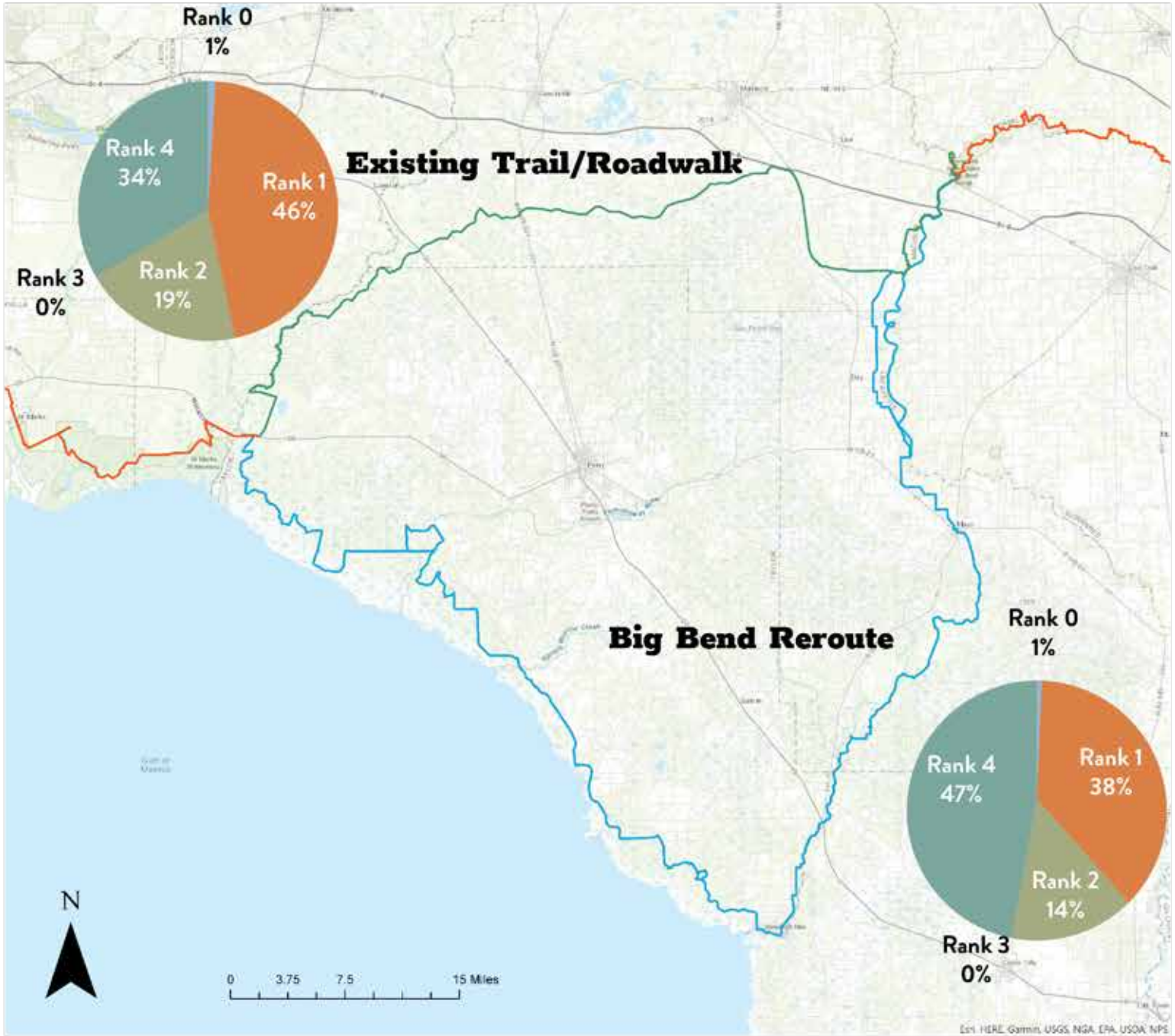
- Least Desirable
- Less Suitable
- Suitable
- Highly Suitable
- Most Desirable

Florida Trail Route

- Existing Route
- Proposed Reroute



Map by Haden Macbeth
January 31, 2020
Credits: ESRI, USDA Forest Service, Florida Department of Revenue



Big Bend Reroute Land Cover Suitability Analysis

	Existing Trail/ Roadwalk	Big Bend Reroute
Rank 0: Lowest Suitability	1%	1%
Rank 1: Low Suitability	46%	38%
Rank 2: Moderate Suitability	19%	14%
Rank 3: High Suitability	0%	0%
Rank 4: Highest Suitability	34%	47%

Thanks!

Haden Macbeth

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