



Alachua County

San Felasco Hammock Freeland Conservation Easement



Purchase Date: March 22, 2012
Seller: Freeland Family
Purchase Price: \$254,381 **Size:** 109 acres

- The property is located on the northern boundary of San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park south of US 441.
- It connects two previous ACF acquisitions: Martin & White, and Rolling Meadows.
- The easement protects the western half of the property which consists of diverse calcareous mesic hammock which includes Cellon Creek. From the Freeland property Cellon Creek flows west into Rolling Meadows. The creek continues into San Felasco Preserve where it drains into the Floridan aquifer at Lee Sink. Cellon Creek is designated an Outstanding Florida Water within the State Park. A remnant upland pine community exists along the eastern boundary shared with the Martin and White property.
- The conservation easement strengthens the northern boundary of State Park and the adjacent conservation areas while serving as a buffer between preservation land and adjacent urbanized land uses.
- This is the 41st acquisition by the ACF Program and the 13th using the Wild Spaces and Public Places Surtax, approved by the voters in 2008 to extend the ACF Program.

ALACHUA COUNTY FOREVER MISSION

Approved in November 2000 by the voters, to acquire, improve and manage the county's environmentally sensitive lands to protect water resources, wildlife habitats and natural areas suitable for resource-based recreation.

Program Notes

- ✓ Alachua County Forever responds to public nominations.
- ✓ Property owners must be willing. Condemnation of property is not permitted under Alachua County Forever.
- ✓ Projects evaluated by staff and the Land Conservation Board.
- ✓ Criteria include protection of water resources, habitats, species, social value, manageability, and the economics of the acquisition.
- ✓ The County Commission approves acquisition projects.
- ✓ County can acquire property outright or certain rights through less-than-fee mechanisms such as conservation easements.
- ✓ Offers are made based on independent, private appraisals.
- ✓ Program funded by \$29 million in voter-approved bonds and \$15 million in Sales Surtax.
- ✓ Program actively seeks state, federal and private grants.
- ✓ Properties are managed as preserves.
- ✓ Resource-compatible, passive recreation is encouraged on sites where appropriate.



Freeland Conservation Easement - Baseline Map



For more information:
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Alachua County Commission

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