



# Alachua County

## Alachua County Forever Santa Fe River Ranch Addition



**Purchase Date:** August 4, 2010  
**Seller:** Osceola Land & Timber, Inc.  
**Purchase Price:** \$2,500,000      **Size:** 464 acres

- Located 1.5 miles southwest of Worthington Springs on the Santa Fe River, SFRR lies immediately east of the Suwannee River Water Management District's (SRWMD) 737 acre Santa Fe River Ranch property and would add 1.4 miles of River frontage to the 4.45 miles already protected through the River Ranch property.
- A wide stretch of the Santa Fe River forms the northern boundary of the property. There is a well developed river levee running along the River with floodplain forest and floodplain swamp to the south. These high quality natural communities are in excellent condition. The basin swamp, baygall and blackwater stream are in good condition. The mesic flatwoods are in fair condition but have high restoration potential.
- SRWMD contributed 75% of the acquisition cost and manages the site as part of the Santa Fe River Ranch to preserve wetlands and natural floodplain function and to improve the quality of the forested landscape. The recreation potential of the site is very high.
- This is the sixth acquisition using the Wild Spaces and Public Places Surtax, approved by the voters in 2008 to extend the ACF Program.

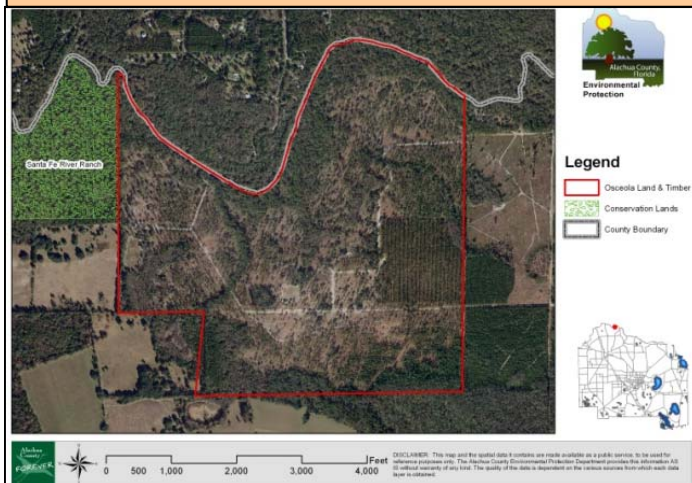


### ALACHUA COUNTY FOREVER MISSION

*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.



For more information:  
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### Alachua County Commission

Cynthia Moore-Chestnut, Chair  
 Lee Pinkoson, Vice-Chair  
 Paula M. DeLaney  
 Rodney J. Long  
 Mike Byerly

### Administration

Randall H. Reid, County Manager  
 Chris Bird, Environmental Protection Dept. Director