Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: February 2, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members, Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Item No. 8(D)(1)(D)

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Subject: Resolution Approving the Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Acquisition List with Two Additions to the List

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Recommendation
It is recommended that the Board adopt the attached resolution approving the EEL Acquisition List with two additions to the list. The Keyhole Wetlands will be added to the existing South Dade Wetlands Project and the Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve will be added to the existing Other Rockridge Pinelands Project. The resolution is based on the unanimous recommendations of the Land Acquisition Selection Committee at their October 21, 2009 public hearing.

Scope
The EEL Program is countywide in nature.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source
As of November 30, 2009, the balance of the EEL Trust Fund GF080 (Subfund 081, Project Numbers 081005, 081006, 081007 and 081008) is $60,978,214 of which $27,608,723 is reserved for acquisition and $33,378,491 is reserved for management. Negotiated contracts for EEL Parcels within the Keyhole Wetlands would require Board approval. The parcel comprising the existing Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve is already owned by Miami-Dade County but must be added to the EEL Acquisition List to allow the use of the EEL Management Trust Fund for site management. The adjacent parcel is on the EEL Acquisition List and any EEL purchase contract would require Board approval.

Track Record/Monitor
Not Applicable

Background
Containing 46 parcels on 198 acres, the Keyhole Wetlands are proposed for addition to the South Dade Wetlands Project on the EEL Priority A List (see Attachments A and B-1). The natural areas consist of seasonally flooded freshwater and marl prairie wetlands, including sawgrass, native shrubs and some exotic species. There are no natural uplands, however three different sections comprising approximately 20 acres were altered to create non-wetland areas prior to the establishment of the County's wetland regulatory program. A small amount of the altered area consists of a remnant railroad bed from the original Florida East Coast railway line to the Florida Keys and has historic value. There are over 100 plant species that have been identified within the Keyhole Wetlands, including two listed by the State of Florida as endangered. Over 85% of the vegetative species identified were native. The addition of these lands to the EEL list would close a gap in the South Dade Wetlands Project area that is mostly bounded by EEL land to the west and private conservation/mitigation land to the east.

The South Dade Wetlands Project area contains an important wetland system in the southern part of the County. Land in this area is targeted for acquisition because of its strategic location between two national parks (Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park) within the watersheds of Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay, Card Sound and Barnes Sound. Preserving and maintaining these wetlands is important for protecting against saltwater intrusion of the Biscayne Aquifer and because of the importance of the region to endangered and threatened species.

Containing two parcels on five acres, the Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve is proposed for addition to the Other Rockridge Pinelands Project on the EEL Priority A List (see Attachments A and B-2). The northernmost parcel is already owned by Miami-Dade County. After the untimely death of DERM's first public information officer, the site was named Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve under Resolution No. R-641-96. The southern parcel offers an opportunity to expand the size of the existing preserve if it is acquired.

Pine rocklands are designated as a Globally Imperiled Community by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory and the Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve is a designated Natural Forest Community by DERM. The natural areas consist of pine rockland habitat with invasive plants on the perimeter and there are two federally listed endangered plant species documented on the site. Pine rocklands occur only in southern Miami-Dade County, the Florida Keys and a few Bahamian islands. More than 20% of the plant species in pine rocklands are found nowhere else in the world. These pinelands, interspersed with hardwood hammocks, once covered 180,000 acres of Miami-Dade County. By 1994, only 2% of pine forests remained, most of it within the protective border of Everglades National Park. The EEL Program has acquired over 1,400 acres which is less than 1% of the original extent. The diversity of the pine rockland species and the biological continuity with nearby privately-owned and managed natural areas are beneficial to wildlife usage.

Assistant County Manager

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 2, 2010

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(D)(1)(D)

Please note any items checked.

_____ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised

_____ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing

_____ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing

_____ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget

_____ Budget required

_____ Statement of fiscal impact required

_____ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing

_____ No committee review

_____ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous _____) to approve

✓ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____Mayor

Veto _____

Override _____

Agenda Item No. 8(D)(1)(D)
2-2-10

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL) ACQUISITION LIST WITH TWO ADDITIONS TO THE LIST

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes of Section 24-50 of the Code of Miami-Dade County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board hereby approves the Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Acquisition List shown in Attachment A and hereby:

(1) Adds the Keyhole Wetlands , as shown in Attachment B-1, to the South Dade Wetlands Project on the Priority A List; and

(2) Adds the Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve, as shown in Attachment B-2, to the Other Rockridge Pineland Project on the Priority A List.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dennis C. Moss, Chairman
Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Vice-Chairman

Bruno A. Barreiro	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Dorrin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 2nd day of February, 2010. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By:_____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Robert A. Duvall

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ATTACHMENT A

ACQUISITION PROJECTS: Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

Attachment A

EEL ACQUISITION PROJECTS: Priority A List

	PROJECT # / Project Name	LIST STATUS	Partially Acquired	ACRES Unacquired	LOCATION
1	**Bird Key**	A List		38	NW 79 St. & Bisc. Bay
2	**Black Creek Forest**	A List	xxx	45	SW 214 St. & 112 Ave.
3	**Coastal Wetlands:**	A List			
	Biscayne Wetland (FCT)			445	SW 280 St. & 107 Ave.
	Black Point Wetlands (FCT)		xxx	192	SW 248 St. & 97 Ave.
	Cutler Wetlands (FCT)		xxx	793	SW 216 St. & 85 Ave.
	R. Hardy Matheson Preserve Add'n		xxx	21	Old Cutler Rd. & SW 108 St.
4	**Miami Rockridge Pinelands: (CARL)**	A List			
	Goulds Addition (CARL)		xxx	28.8	SW 232 St. & 120 Ave.
	Kings Highway (CARL14)			31.1	SW 304 St. & 202 Ave.
	Navy Wells 2 (CARL)			20	SW 324 St. & 197 Ave.
	Navy Wells 23 (CARL)		xxx	9	SW 352 St. & 182 Ave.
	Navy Wells 39 (CARL)		xxx	4	SW 354 St. & 210 Ave.
	School Board (CARL 10)			19	SW 268 St. & 129 Ave.
	West Biscayne (CARL 13)		xxx	2	SW 288 St. & 190 Ave.
	Wilkins-Pierson (CARL)		xxx	10	SW 184 St. & 164 Ave.
5	**Other Rockridge Pinelands:**	A List			
	Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve		xxx	1	SW 248 St. & 127 Ave.
	Bowers Pineland			10	SW 296 St. & 197 Ave.
	Calderon Pineland			17.5	SW 192 St. & 140 Ave.
	Federal Richmond Pinelands		xxx	212	SW 152 St. & 130 Ave.
	Hattie Bauer Pineland			5	SW 266 St. & 157 Ave.
	Whispering Pines (Ned Glenn Preserve)		xxx	24	SW 188 St. & 87 Ave.
6	**Oleta River Corridor:**	A List			
	Tract A			3	NE 171 St. & US-1
	Tract B (FCT)			8	NE 165 St. & US-1
	Tract D			8	NE 191 St. & 24 Ave.
7	**South Dade Wetlands (SAMP, SOR)**	A List	xxx	12,883	SOUTH DADE COUNTY
	Keyhole Wetlands			198	US 1 & Card Sound Road
	South Dade Wetlands Addition		xxx	2,145	SW 344 St. & 137 Ave.
8	**Tropical Hammocks:**	A List			
	Big George Addition			3	SW 141 St. & 149 Ave.
	Castellow 31 (CARL)			10	SW 218 St. & 157 Ave.
	Owaissa Bauer Addition #2			10	SW 264 St. & 176 Ave.
	Round Hammock (CARL)			32.6	SW 408 St. & 220 Ave.
	SW Island Hammock (CARL 4)			12.5	SW 392 St. & 207 Ave.
	Silver Palm Hammock Addition			19	SW 228 St. & 149 Ave.
	Vizcaya Hammock Addition			2	3300 South Miami Ave.

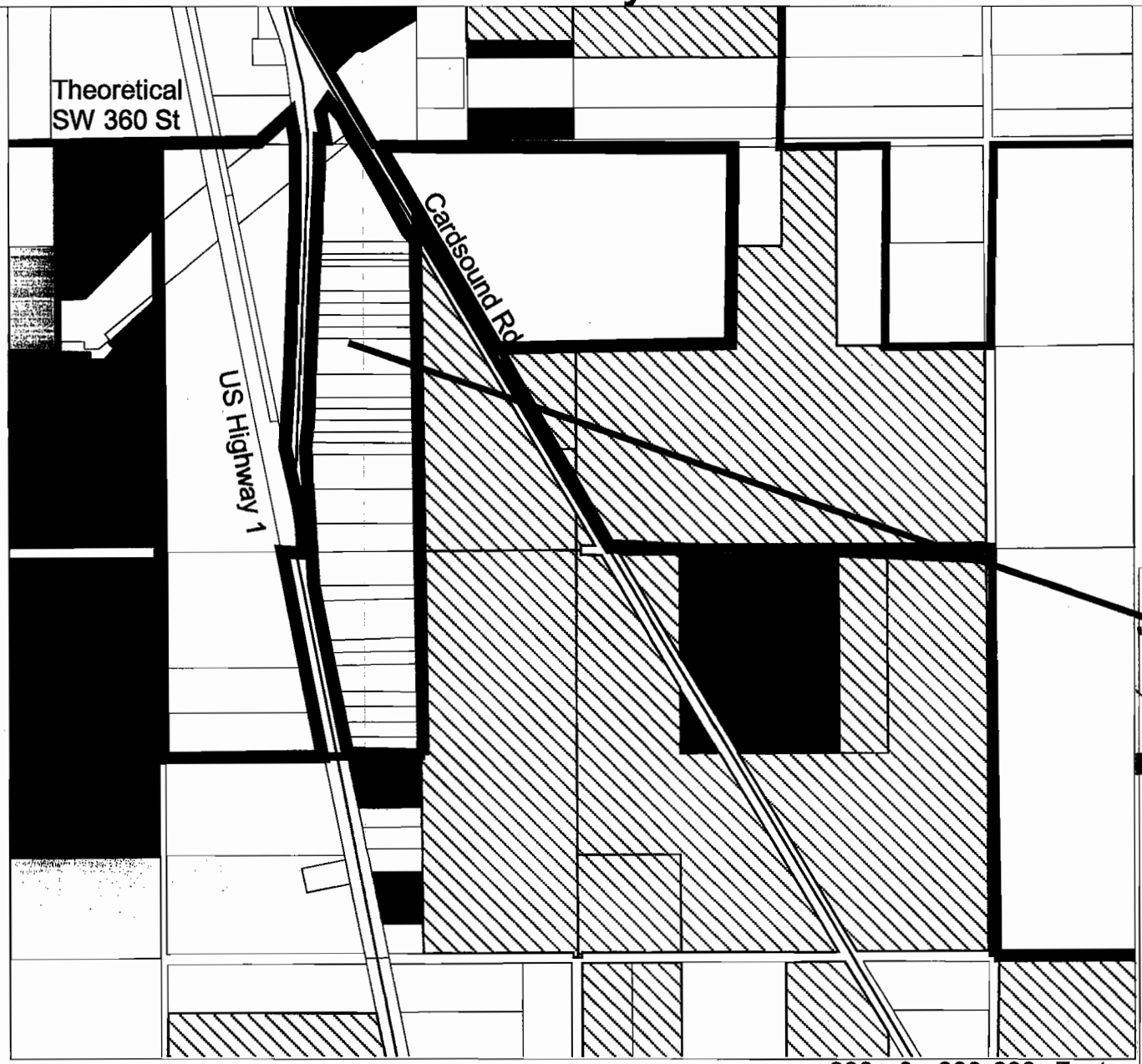
EEL ACQUISITION PROJECTS: Priority B List

	PROJECT # / Project Name	LIST STATUS	Partially Acquired	ACRES Unacquired	LOCATION
1	Barnacle Addition (CARL and City of Miami)	B List		6	Main Highway
2	Cutler Wetlands North Addition Hammock	B List		37	SW 184 St. & Old Cutler Rd.
3	Dixie Heights Pineland	B List		27	SW 268 St. & 130 Ave.
4	Hammock Island	B List		100	SW 360 St. & L-31 W.
5	Homestead General Aviation Hammock	B List		4	SW 296 St. & 217 Ave.
6	Maddens (CARL 10)	B List		60	NW 154 St. & 87 Ave.
7	Notre Dame Pineland	B List		32	SW 280 St. & 132 Ave.
8	Pino Pineland	B List		2	SW 39 St. & 69 Ave.
9	Railroad Pineland	B List		18	SW 184 St. &147 Ave.
10	Tamiami 15	B List		35	SW 124 St. & 137 Ave.

NOTE: Acronyms in parentheses following the project name indicate the potential source of matching funds. Funding sources are:
CARL=Conservation And Recreation Lands; FCT =Florida Communities Trust; SAMP = Bird Drive Special Area Management Plan; SOR = Save Our Rivers.

TOTAL A List Acres	**17,262**
TOTAL B List Acres	**321**

SOUTH DADE WETLANDS PROJECT
Keyhole Wetlands

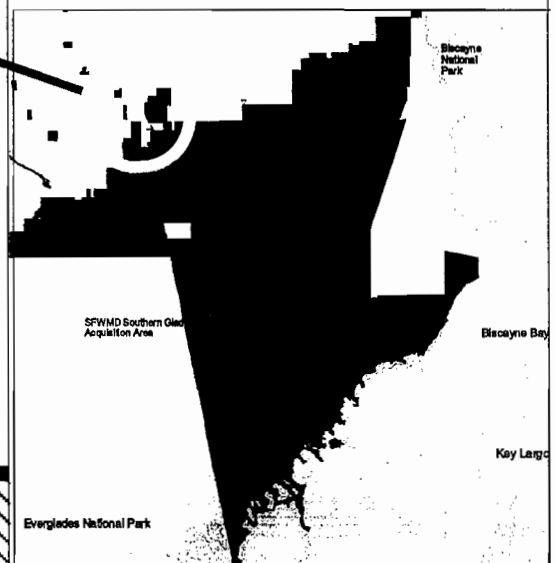


Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

Legend

- Keyhole Wetlands
- County Owned
- SFWMD Owned
- Mitigation Land
- South Dade Wetlands Project Boundary

N



South Dade Wetlands Acquisition Project Area approved by Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners 4/27/1993.

300 0 300 600 Feet

P:/EEL/EEL GIS Projects/applications/keyhole.apr

ATTACHMENT B-1

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MIAMI ROCKRIDGE PINELANDS PROJECT

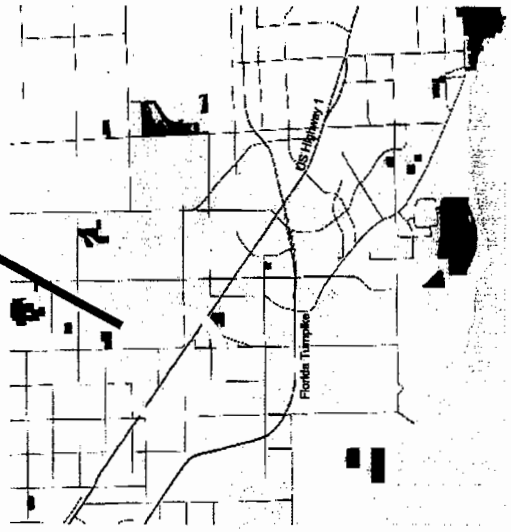
Andrew Dodge New Pines Preserve

Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

Legend

- Miami-Dade County Parcel
- Private Parcel
- Streets

N



200 0 200 400 Feet

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ATTACHMENT B - 2

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