



FLORIDA WILDLIFE CORRIDOR COALITION

IMPACT REPORT
2020

2021 IMPACT REPORT

SNEAK PEEK

- **The Florida Wildlife Corridor Act** passed with unanimous, bi-partisan support. Learn how this momentous legislation transforms our ability to connect, protect, and restore our wild Florida.

- Meet our new leader! For many, she's a familiar face – renowned conservationist, co-founder of our organization, and a lead in our expeditions. **We welcome Mallory Dimmitt as our inaugural CEO.** Learn how her record of combining conservation science with compelling imagery and storytelling will usher in our next phase of collaborative work.

- Find out how **Bellini Better World Foundation's** support is catapulting the ability to expand the pace of conservation in the Corridor.



Message from the Executive Director

Jason Lauritsen

To safeguard the health and diversity of the best of Wild Florida we have a puzzle to complete. There are eight million acres of unprotected land needing conservation protections within the Florida Wildlife Corridor (Corridor), an area larger than Maryland, stretching from the Perdido River bordering Alabama to the Everglades. It is a daunting task. It is also attainable. The Corridor holds the promise of a Florida resilient enough to endure changes over centuries, underwriting our food and water security, our economy and our quality of life while simultaneously protecting wild places, and the 42 Federally endangered species that depend on them.

We spent the year building partnerships, listening to experts and sharing the story of the Corridor to the public and decision makers. Success will require diverse partnerships. It will take creativity and commitment to weave protections among the sprawling ranches, timberlands, and bottleneck sections of the Corridor adjacent to populated areas.

This report provides a glimpse into our efforts to inspire, connect and collaborate with Floridians en route to protecting the corridor. Please take time to see what we've been up to, and consider how you might grow your involvement. The report is also an opportunity to acknowledge individuals and organizations who contribute to Corridor conservation. While there are many heroes among our supporters, we are always looking for more.

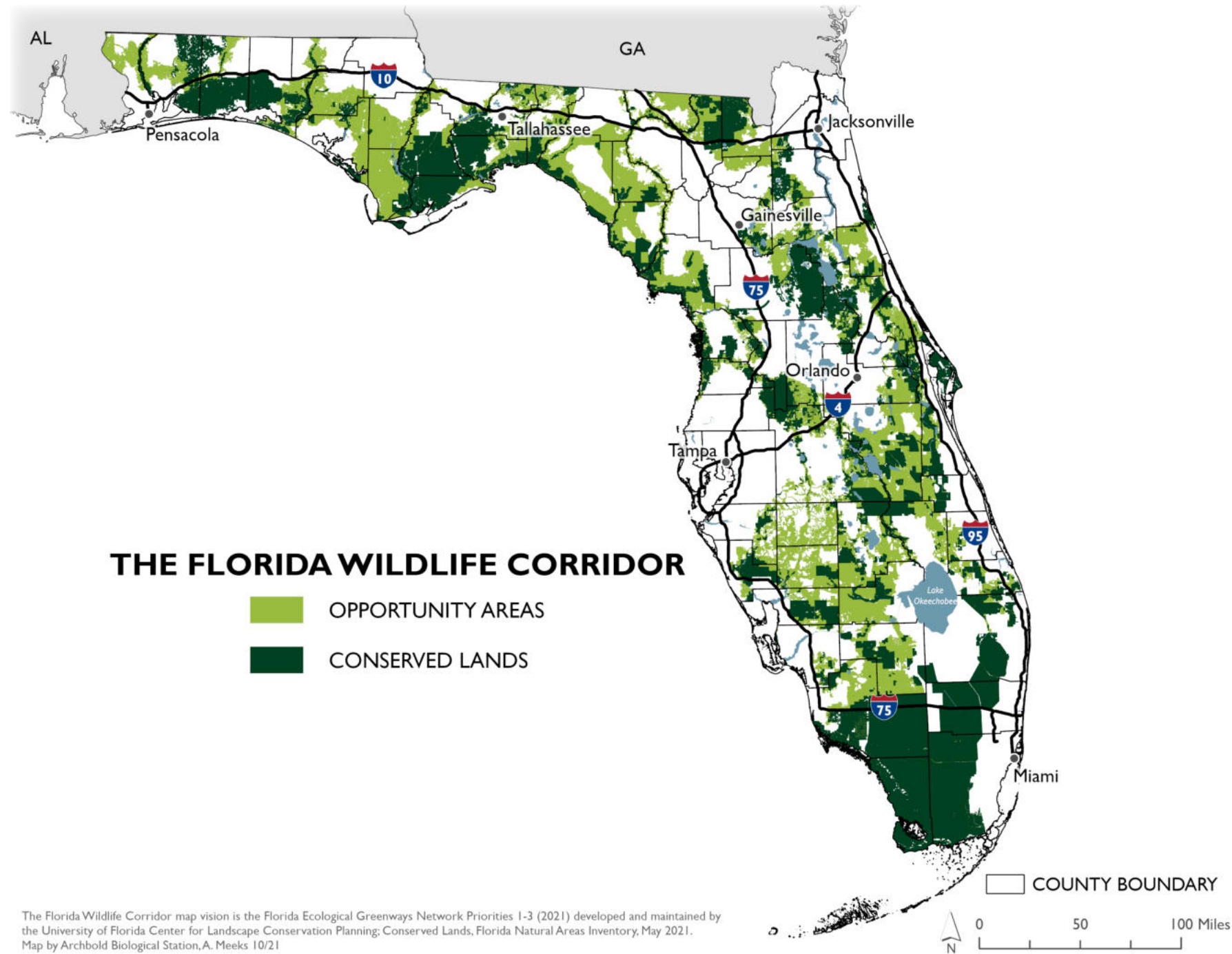
Message from President, Board of Directors

Sue Williams

In a year of unparalleled challenges, the Florida Wildlife Corridor Coalition stood strong, continuing our unwavering commitment to preserve and protect Florida's ecological treasures. Around the world and in our state people leaned into their connections to nature and wildlife, renewing their appreciation for this place that we love so very much.

I'm awestruck by what we were able to accomplish in 2020 through the combined efforts of our partners, donors, board members, and staff. Your generous gifts will enable us to build on our successes and realize the dream of a preserved and connected wildlife corridor. Thank you!





The Florida Wildlife Corridor map vision is the Florida Ecological Greenways Network Priorities 1-3 (2021) developed and maintained by the University of Florida Center for Landscape Conservation Planning; Conserved Lands, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, May 2021. Map by Archbold Biological Station, A. Meeks 10/21

Our mission is to champion a collaborative campaign to permanently connect, protect and restore the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

The network of habitat connections which sustain our best wild places is at risk. If we wish to save wild Florida and the **imperiled species** it supports, including our beloved Florida panther, we must protect the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

Florida's population is growing fast, adding **a million new residents every three years**. This growth exponentially strains our natural resources and habitat connections.

THE CORRIDOR BY THE NUMBERS...



18 Million Acres Of Land

The Florida Wildlife Corridor encompasses nearly 17.7 million acres – 9.6 million acres (54%) are already protected and 8.1 million acres (46%) are opportunity areas that do not have conservation status.



Waterways and Trails Within The Corridor

There are 1,346 named rivers and streams crossing the Corridor that include 1,683 miles of designated paddling trails. There are also 2,673 miles of trails within the Corridor; including 1,085 miles of the Florida National Scenic Trail.



Millions Of Acres Are Ranches And Timberland

Of the 17.7 million acres the Corridor encompasses, 7 million acres are composed of working lands - ranchlands and timberlands. These working lands are a vital component to conservation in Florida.





Our Growing Population

Between 900 and 1000 people move to Florida each day. Each new car, rooftop, and irrigated lawn added to the Corridor landscape has an impact.



The Effects of Habitat Loss

Habitat loss and fragmentation are primary drivers of plant and animal population declines. The Florida Wildlife Corridor provides essential habitat and connectivity for many of Florida's 131 imperiled animals and 567 imperiled plants.





State Parks, State Forests and Springs

The Corridor includes 75 Florida State Parks, 32 State Forests and 43 Major Springs



Our Strategic Impact

We joined forces with **Archbold Biological Station** and **Florida Wild** to work in collaboration with state agencies, non-government organizations, private landowners, ranchers and statewide institutions towards achieving official recognition and funding for the corridor. This partnership allowed us to leverage the strengths of each organization, increasing our collective efforts.

A Powerful Economic Engine.

Outdoor recreation and sporting activity account for one of Florida's largest economic sectors. Serving Floridians, national and international tourists, this economic impact is the lifeblood of communities across the state. Preserving the Corridor and other natural spaces in Florida is an investment in our economic health.



55%

of Florida residents participate
in outdoor recreation and
sporting each year



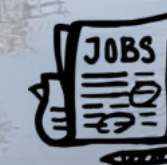
\$58.6 Billion

in annual consumer spending



\$3.5 Billion

in state and local tax revenue



485,000

direct jobs



\$10.7 Billion

in wages



Photo by Carlton Ward, Jr.

Path of the Panther

We are proud of our partnership with Carlton Ward Jr as he leverages his talents as a photojournalist and explorer to raise awareness of the threats and opportunities involved in protecting the endangered Florida Panther. Carlton's impact media project, supported by our organization and National Geographic Society, celebrates the unique habitats within the corridor while inspiring the work needed to preserve them for wildlife and people alike.



Conservation through the Arts

We connect people to the Corridor's natural beauty by working with local artists who share our conservation mission. This year we collaborated with Canvas of the Wild to bring nature to kids and their families through an educational coloring adventure and a live takeover of our social media for educational drawing sessions highlighting keystone and endangered species found within the Corridor.



Strategic Impact Spotlight Tent Talks

We launched a series of outdoor conversations, "Tent Talks," to mobilize support for formal recognition for Florida's priority wildlife corridor network. Representatives from conservation groups and agencies, the heroes of conservation in



Florida, gathered to explore how to leverage the work already being done and close the gaps needed to sustain large ranging species like bears and panthers, and other imperiled species such as Florida scrub jays and red-cockaded woodpeckers.



The Ranch to Ridge Expedition and The Wild Divide film were made possible through the generosity of the following businesses and individuals. Thank you!

Sponsors

The Spurlino Foundation
Cooper Burchenal Memorial Fund
Steve and Merrilee Nellis
Joe Ambrozy
Alex & Sue Williams
Pamela Adkins



In-Kind Donations

Archbold Biological Station • Bok Tower Gardens • Light Hawk Inc. • Ralph Arwood of Inside Out Photography

Special Thanks

fStop Foundation • Troutman Properties Inc, Baxter Troutman • MATCO Enterprises LLC, Byron and Cindy Matteson • Lucy Anne and Wayne Collier, Collier's Rocking Bar W Ranch • George & Allison Wood • JD & Cindy Alexander • David Price, Bok Tower Gardens



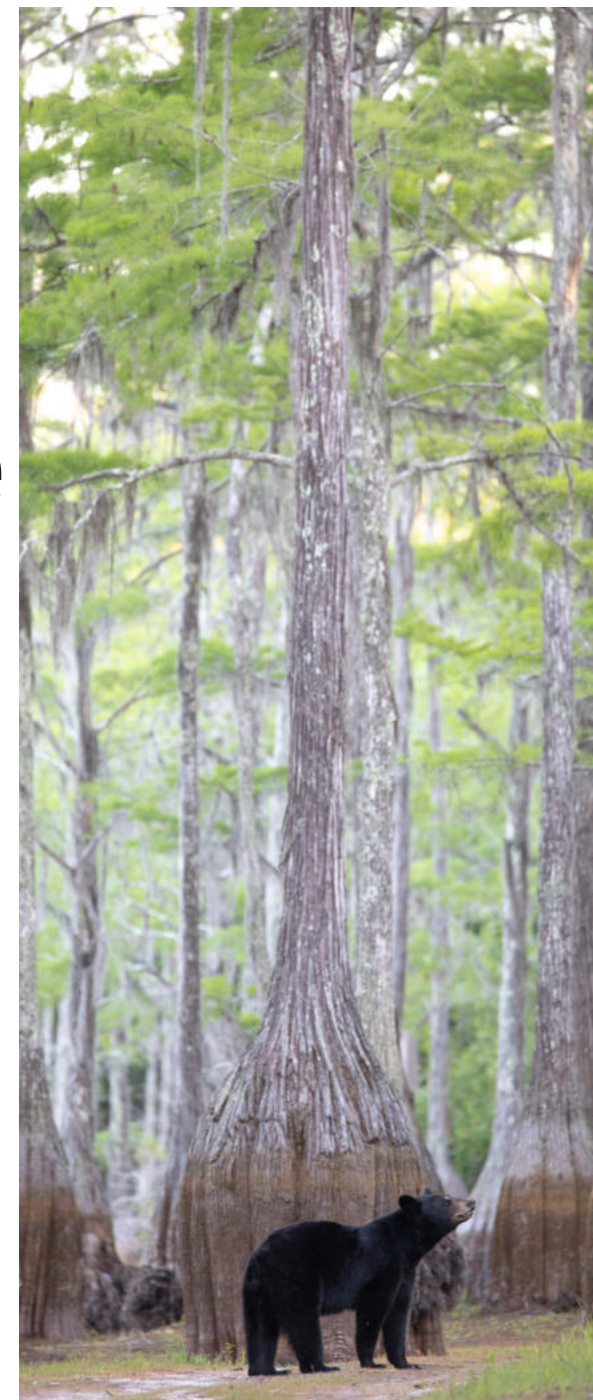
Storytelling *Award Winning Expedition Film* The Wild Divide

Outdoor Screenings

Exploration and storytelling are part of our DNA. The Wild Divide documented our Ranch to Ridge Expedition, a 7 day trek along a unique geological feature known as the Lake Wales Ridge. The 60 mile path weaved through a diverse array of lands; from private ranches and residential neighborhoods to State Forests and private mitigation banks, highlighting how habitat connections sustain wildlife. We hit the road for outdoor screenings of

The Wild Divide across the state. Outfitted with a trailer and a screen, we gathered audiences for the first look of this award-winning film and Q & A with the Expedition trekkers. We held screenings at Bok Tower Gardens in central Florida, Archbold Biological Station's Buck Island Ranch, and other scenic locations for these inspiring, fun events. View this powerful, short film on YouTube today!

View this powerful short film in the Expeditions section of floridawildlifecorridor.org or here:



With Gratitude

A Special Thank You to
Bellini Better World Foundation
for the Transformative Gifts Enabling us to
Preserve Wild Florida for Generations to Come

Support from the following truly made a
difference...Thank you!

The Bell Family Foundation
John Bierley
Big Cat Rescue
Kristen Brand
Kurt Hine in Honor of Jack Martin
Linda Mack
Marshall and Jamee Field Family Fund
Marco Family Foundation
Rob Joslin
Weeder's Garden Club

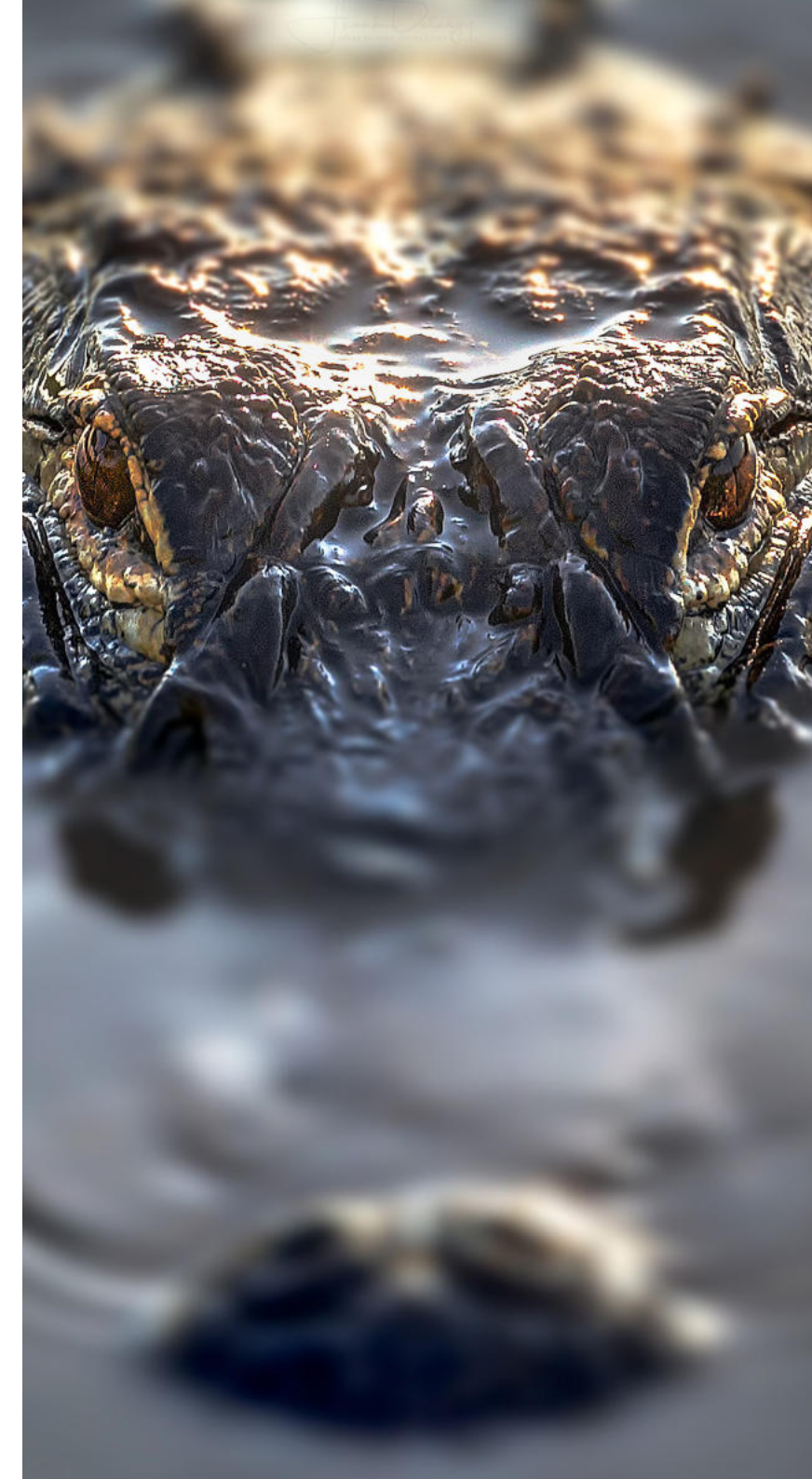
The Wild Ones

Wild Ones are members of a special giving society of passionate supporters. With an investment of \$1,000 or more per year for three years, Wild Ones play a critical role in helping to keep Florida wild.



Joseph Ambrozy
Grace Anderson
Virginia Arabia
Thomas D. Arthur
Ralph Arwood
Renée Athey & Tito Vargas
Ann Burchenal
Don Burton, Burton Family Foundation
Mallory Dimmitt
Liz Dimmitt
Lawrence & Vevie Dimmitt
Pit & Joy Gills Foundation
Allyn Golub
Neil & Sarah Harvey
Sally & David Hemerick
Hunt & Molly James
Beth Jones
Krusen Family Foundation

Joshua & Eileen Magidson
Bert Martin
Marsha H Martin
In Memory of Jacob Mast
Sara & Harold O'Connell
Scott Rubin
Armando Sanchez-Aballi
Charles Sawyer
Thayer & Tready Arthur Smith
The Spurlino Foundation
Don & Bretta Sullivan
Tom & Lee Touchton
David & Linda Ward, Jr.
Alex & Sue Williams
Rob & Jackie Williams
George & Allison Wood



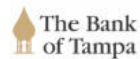


CORPORATE CONNECTORS

FLORIDA WILDLIFE CORRIDOR

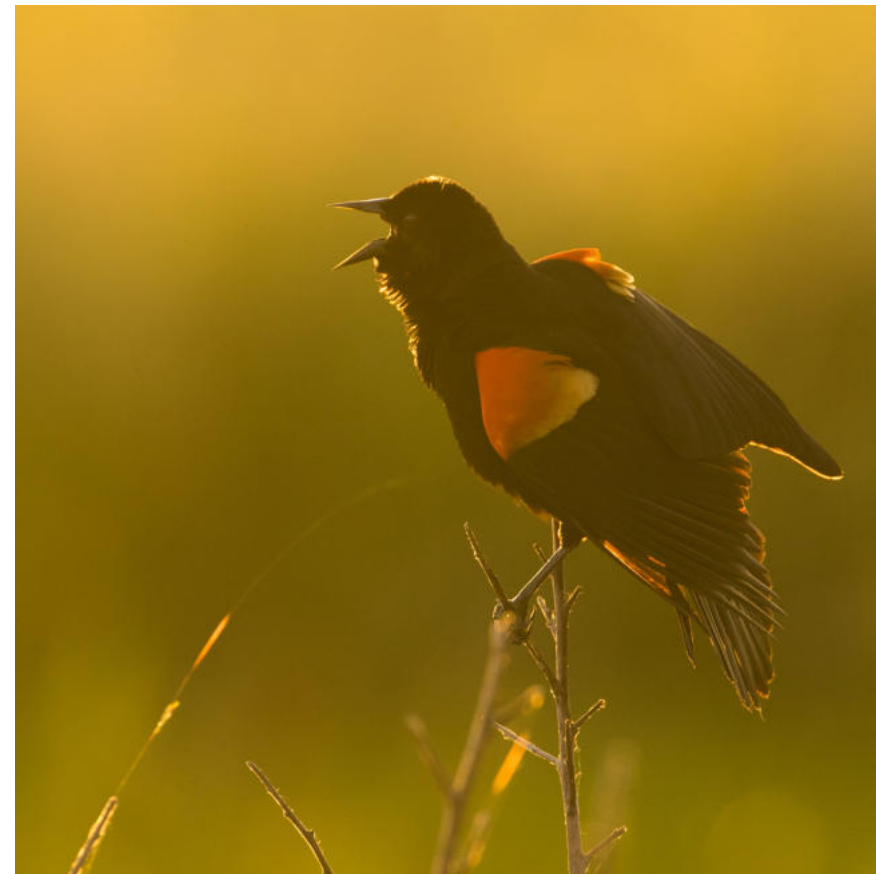
We build relationships with companies that share the mutual goal of protecting wild Florida. Corporate Connectors are a respected network of businesses that recognize the direct link between a healthy economy and a healthy environment.

J. Crayton Pruitt Foundation
Burton Family Foundation



"Homes by WestBay is grateful for Florida Wildlife Corridor Coalition's efforts to safeguard the best of wild Florida. We're proud to support their work through the Corporate Connectors program, and are inspired to make sure Florida grows the right way."

Willy Nunn, President



Our Leadership

2020 Board of Directors

Sue Williams - President
Amanda Moore - Vice President
Oscar Anderson - Treasurer
Chad Rischar - Secretary
Mallory Dimmitt - Past President
Matthew Blackshear
Tiffany Busby
Gage Couch
Kimberly Davis Reyher
Meg Lokey
PJ Marinelli
Bert Martin





Ways to Give

We offer a variety of giving vehicles through which you can support our vital mission. To learn more please visit our website at floridawildlifecorridor.org, or email Maureen@floridawildlifecorridor.org

Donations can be made online or mailed to:

PO Box 1802
Tampa, FL 33601

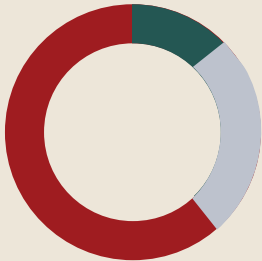
Gifts made to the Florida Wildlife Corridor, a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax deductible.



Financial Report

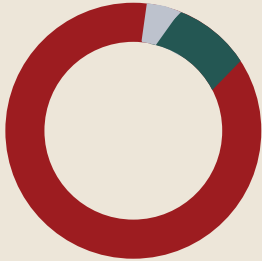
As of Dec. 31, 2020

Revenue



Program Services Revenue	813,552 (65%)
Contributions	402,100 (32.1%)
Investments	35,124 (2.8%)
TOTAL	1,250,776

Expenses



Program Services	933,418 (89.1%)
Management	85,990 (8.2%)
Fundraising	27,920 (2.7%)
TOTAL	1,047,328

Liabilities 7,170

Assets* 1,874,786

**includes reserve funds of \$1,019,758 for future programming*





CONTACT US

727.202.9055

info@floridawildlifecorridor.org
PO Box 1802 Tampa, Florida 33601