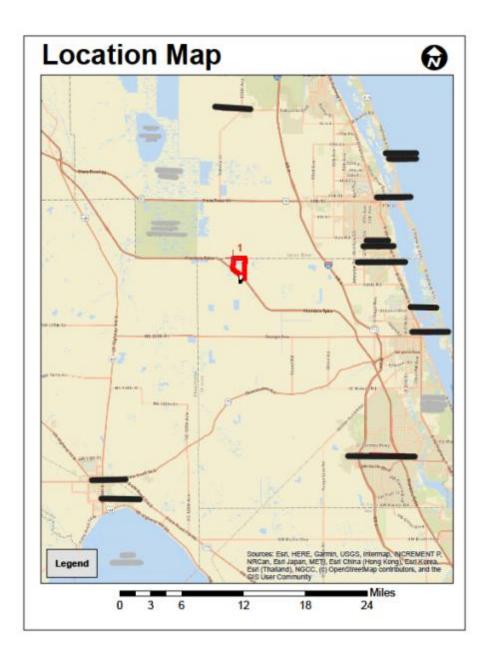
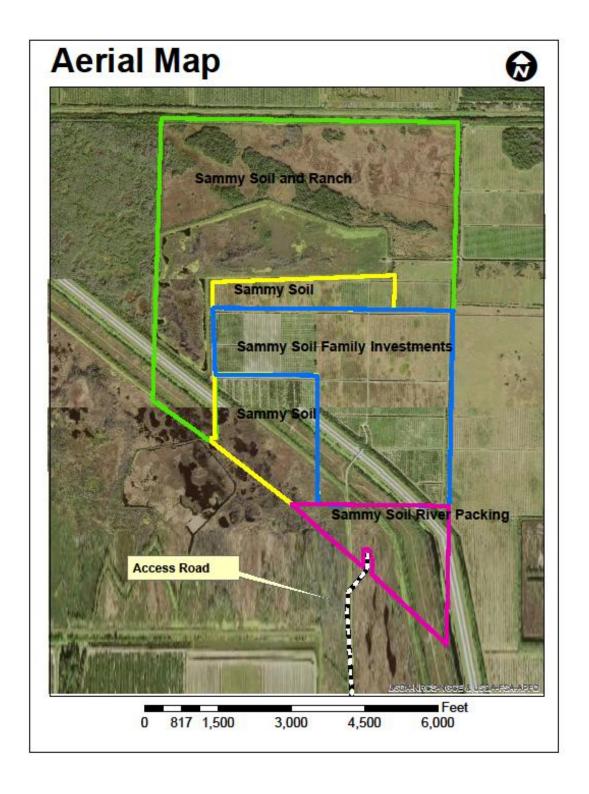
## **Sammy Soil Group WRE Preliminary WRPO**

**Restoration Objective:** The objective of the proposed Sammy Soil Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) project is to return, to the extent practicable, the natural historic hydrology and associated wetland characteristics of the site which existed prior to hydrological manipulation and agricultural conversion of the property. This preliminary WRPO covers the restoration practices for all four properties as one restoration project. See the aerial map on page two for the ownership boundaries of the project.



Property location, description, current land uses, and historic communities: The Sammy Soil proposed WRE is in Easement County in Section \_\_\_, Township \_\_\_ East, Range \_\_\_ South and Sections \_\_\_ and \_\_\_, Township \_\_\_ East, Range \_\_\_ South. The easement consists of approximately 1100 acres and is currently managed citrus and pasture.



The proposed easement consists of approximately 1,000 acres and is currently managed as a citrus operation with some cattle also. Most of the property has been bedded and drained for citrus with some natural area and a reservoir. A few native hammocks still exist on the site along with a few remnant depressional wetlands. The property was originally part of an extensive slough/wet prairie system characterized by slow-moving water and saturated soils, with South Florida flatwoods interspersed throughout. About one-quarter of the site was historically Freshwater Marsh with areas Slough/Wet Prairie and South Florida flatwoods on the eastern portion of the site.

The Sammy Soil Group WRE was originally a large depressional marsh known as Scenic Island Marsh surrounded by wet prairie and flatwoods. Scenic Island Marsh received inflow from the northeast which gradually flowed through the marsh westerly to Peninsula Creek which is a tributary of the Hydro Creek and ultimately the Peace River and Gulf of Mexico. The marsh would have been dominated by sawgrass, Sagittaria species, Pickerel weed and various wetland grasses and forbs such as creeping bluestem. The surrounding communities would have consisted little creeping bluestem and andropogon species transitioning into the flatwoods with pine trees, palmettos and native.

**Soils, Ecological Communities, and Inundation Levels:** The following table lists type and extent of soils found within the easement area, associated ecological communities, and inundation levels.

Map Unit and Soil Name	Ecological Community	Acres and % of Site	Hydric	Inundation/Saturation Level Wet Season	Inundation/Saturation Level Dry Season
6 – Hallandale fine sand, wet, 0 -2 percent slopes	South Florida Flatwoods	12.5 acres, 0.4%	Yes	At surface to 18 inches below surface	Below surface 12 to 30 inches
12 – Felda fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Slough/Wet Prairie	355.7 acres, 10.1%	Yes	At surface to 12 inches above surface	Surface to 18 inches below surface
13 – Boca fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	South Florida Flatwoods	5.4 acres, 0.2%	No	Below surface 6 to 18 inches	Below surface 18 to 40+ inches
19 - Gator muck, frequently ponded, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Freshwater Marsh	1844.0 acres, 53.3%	Yes	At surface to 24 inches above surface	At surface to 12 inches below surface
20 – Terra Ceia muck, frequently ponded, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Freshwater Marsh	695.6 acres, 19.7%	Yes	At surface to 24 inches above surface	At surface to 12 inches below surface
26 - Pined-Pineda, wet fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	South Florida Flatwoods	347.6 acres, 9.8%	Yes	At surface to 18 inches below surface	Below surface 12 to 30 inches
28 - Immokalee sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	South Florida Flatwoods	1.0 acres, 0.0%	No	Below surface 6 to 18 inches	Below surface 18 to 40+ inches
51 - Flor dana sand, frequently ponded, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Freshwater Marsh	162.9 acres, 5.0%	Yes	At surface to 24 inches above surface	At surface to 12 inches below surface
53 - Myakka sand, frequently ponded, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Freshwater Marsh	0.5 acres, 0.0%	Yes	At surface to 24 inches above surface	At surface to 12 inches below surface
62 - Flor dana sand, frequently ponded, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Freshwater Marsh	36.8 acres, 1.4%	Yes	At surface to 24 inches above surface	At surface to 12 inches below surface

**Target Post Restoration Ecological Communities:** The following map depicts the target post restoration ecological communities.

**Restoration:** Hydrologic restoration of the Sammy Soil Group WRE will focus on restoring predrainage site conditions by clearing and land smoothing the citrus beds and land smoothing the interior portions of the existing reservoir. Also, a perimeter dike will be installed to prevent offsite impacts. The existing outlet discharge structure and emergency overflow structure will be replaced with a new water control structure and emergency overflow structure. Four stream crossings are included to facilitate access across the site. Restoration plan elements are designed to restore historical flow patterns and hydrology to the prairie and marsh areas and initiate the restoration of native species to the existing bedded citrus and pasture areas. Habitat management practices potentially utilized on the property to restore and maintain proper community structure may include prescribed grazing, herbaceous weed control, brush management, and prescribed burning. Anticipated long-term management, operations, and maintenance activities on the WRE include monitoring structures for water control to ensure they are functioning and controlling exotic invasive vegetation.

