

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lands Committee

FROM: Stephen Schroeder, Office of Administration Chief

THRU: Steve Minnis, Deputy Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: July 30, 2020

RE: Detailed Assessment and Negotiations for a Conservation Easement over a 300 +/- Acre Parcel, Econfina Timberlands (Bishop), Jefferson County

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests the Lands Committee recommend to the Governing Board to enter into detailed assessments and negotiations for the acquisition of a 300 +/- acre parcel located in Jefferson County.

BACKGROUND

District staff received an offer to acquire a conservation easement over a parcel of real property located in Jefferson County consisting over 750 acres +/- offered by Econfina Timberlands. After initial review, staff revisited the offer with the offeror's representative who reduced the offered land to 300 +/- acres. The property is located within the District's Florida Forever Plan and a conservation easement would protect from further development in the floodway and floodplain and would protect the Aucilla River. Additionally, the project is located in the Wacissa Spring Priority Focus Area.

Land Management staff have identified no management issues. Currently, the offeror is indicating a price in the range of \$1,600 - \$1,800 per acre and is willing to accept 90 percent of the appraised value.

Triage maps are attached.

SCS/rl
Attachments
File #2020-008