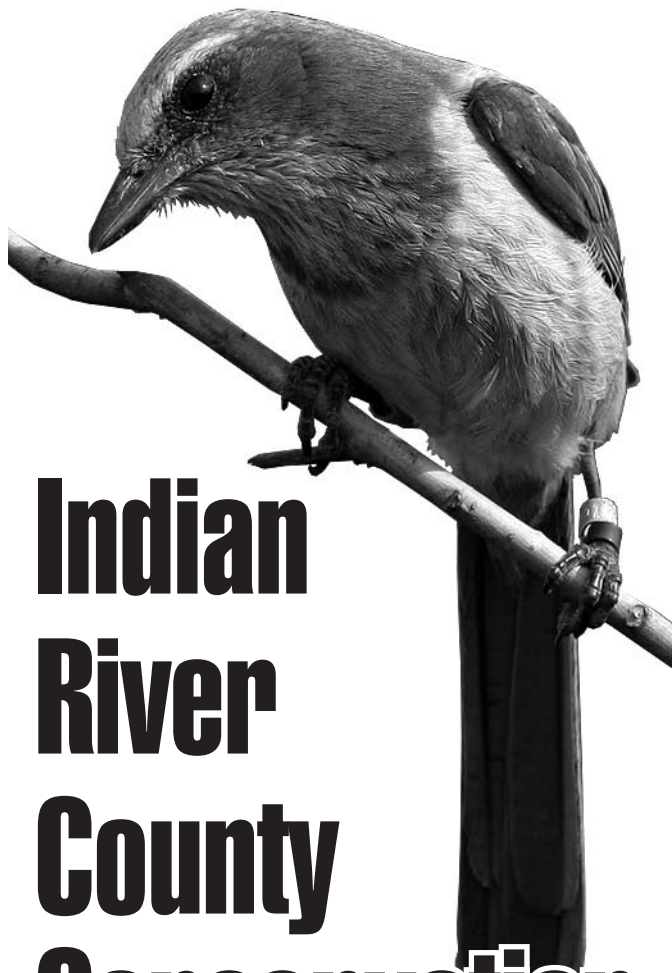


CONSERVATION LAND PURCHASED	ACRES
Archie Smith Fish House ²	1.13
Captain Forster Hammock Preserve ¹	110.7
Cypress Bend Community Preserve ²	47.25
Fellsmere Trailhead Preserve ²	87.5
Flinn Tract ²	37.5
Hallstrom Farmstead ³	93
Harmony Oaks Conservation Area ²	90
Jones's Pier ²	16.5
Lost Tree Islands ¹	508
North Sebastian Conservation Area ¹	541
Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area ¹	440
Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge ¹ (Lier, Kennedy Buffer, Korangy, Rodney Kroegel Homestead) ²	201.71
Prange Island(s) ¹	26.5
Round Island South Conservation Area ¹ (Green Salt Marsh ² , Oyster Bar Marsh Conservation Area ²)	171
Sand Lakes Tract & Corrigan 460 Tract Easement ²	1,714
Sebastian Harbor Preserve ²	163
Sebastian River Canoe Launch ¹ (Ansin & Fischer Tract)	123.12
Sebastian Scrub Conservation Area ²	10
St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park (Carson Platt Estate) ¹	5,334
South Prong Preserve (Ryall & Shadowbrook)	37.48
Golden Sands Preserve ¹ (Spallone Tract)	1.43
Wabasso Scrub Conservation Area ²	112
TOTAL ACRES	9,702.82
<hr/>	
CONSERVATION EASEMENTS	ACRES
Padgett Branch ³	1,585
Treasure Hammock Ranch (Sexton Ranch) ³	462
TOTAL ACRES	2,047

1. Open to the public.
2. Open to the public in the future.
3. Scheduled tours only

(Call Pelican Island Audubon Society at 772-567-3520 or email piaudubon@bellsouth.net for more information.)



Indian River County Conservation Lands



In response to rampant land development and population growth, Indian River County purchased its first conservation lands for preservation and public enjoyment in 1991. These lands...

- **protect** native habitats and the plants insects, and animals, some rare and endangered, that depend upon them
- **provide** flood protection and reduced flood insurance premiums
- **maintain** groundwater quality
- **preserve** open, green spaces and our quality of life
- **protect** our historic and cultural legacy
- **offer** opportunities for you and everyone to hike, bike, canoe, bird-watch, and enjoy natural Florida

Indian River County voters twice elected to tax themselves to secure the future of these lands.

1st Bond Referendum: \$26 million for environmental lands

Taking advantage of state Florida Forever matching dollars, voters, on a November 1992 environmental lands referendum, opted to tax themselves \$26 million to purchase environmentally significant lands that allowed about \$32 million in matching state and federal funds. Thus, purchased were 5,700 acres of environmentally endangered lands.

2nd Bond Referendum: \$50 million for environmental, agricultural & historic lands

In November 2004, voters approved up to \$50 million to purchase environmentally significant, historic, and agricultural lands. With the \$28 million and more than \$55 million in matching funds, Indian River County purchased more than 1,850 acres of environmental lands. \$23 million was devoted to the purchase of agricultural easements on more than 2,000 acres, and \$1.5 million was spent to purchase the historic Archie Smith Fish House in Sebastian.

ENVIRONMENTAL LANDS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Of the 29 areas purchased from 1991 to 2008, 7 properties are currently open for you to use with care and enjoy:

OSLO RIVERFRONT CONSERVATION AREA

Before the bond issues, in 1991, Indian River County had purchased its first environmental lands, 298 acres on the north side of Oslo Road where a 1/4 mile marked loop trail circles through a magnificent moist hammock with fabulous fern beds, and a 1 1/2 mile

trail travels through dry hammock & scrubby pine flatwoods to a 15-foot tower, viewing platform, and canoe/fishing dock overlooking coastal wetlands. With the bond issues an additional 142 acres total on the south side of Oslo Road were purchased in 2000, 2004, and 2005 and scrubby pine flatwoods and sand pine scrub habitats were protected.

Location: On the left side of Oslo Road, east of US Highway 1, (behind the South Vero Square Shopping Center) is the main entrance with parking. Continue east for access trails for drier habitats for the south side of Oslo Road. No bathroom facilities.

PELICAN ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

With state and federal assistance Indian River County purchased lands in 1995 and 2001 purchased additional lands around Pelican Island (protected as the first US Wildlife Refuge by Theodore Roosevelt, 1903), all managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Osprey, wading birds, otters, and other wildlife are frequently seen at the refuge. Two 2 1/2 mile loop trails on mosquito control dikes provide walking and wildlife viewing opportunities. The south entrance offers access to 2 viewing platforms, one with spotting scopes on the Indian River Lagoon overlooking Pelican Island, an historic and important rookery for wading birds & pelicans. Visit <http://www.fws.gov/pelicanisland/> for more information about the refuge.

Location: 2 entrances are off historic Jungle Trail, 3.7 miles north of the intersection of CR510 & Highway A1A. Parking and bathrooms at north-most entrance on the east side of Jungle Trail. The 2 viewing platforms are at south entrance on west side of Jungle Trail about 1/2 mile to south.

PRANGE ISLAND CONSERVATION AREA

Two islands totaling more than 26 acres including 5 acres of tropical maritime hammock and 8 acres of estuarine wetlands, accessible only by boat. Trails, but no restrooms or signs.

Location: South of the 17th Street Bridge on the east side of the Indian River Lagoon.

continued on other side >>>

>>> continued from other side

CAPTAIN FORSTER HAMMOCK PRESERVE

This 110-acre property stretches from the Atlantic Ocean (1,492 feet of oceanfront) to the Indian River Lagoon (960 feet of shoreline). Homesteaded by Captain Frank Forster who settled on the banks of the Indian River Lagoon in the 1880's, this preserve has 75 acres of maritime hammock, 17 1/2 acres of coastal strand, 17 acres of disturbed areas (including 2 historic homestead sites and roads) & 1 acre of human-made freshwater ponds. A farmstead road, used since the 1920's, runs from the parking lot to the oceanfront, and side trails offer opportunities to explore other parts of the preserve.

Location: Entrance, parking lot & restrooms are 1 mile south of County Road 510 on east side of historic Jungle Trail.

NORTH SEBASTIAN CONSERVATION AREA

Composed of 540 acres including 136 acres of xeric (dry) scrub, 270 acres of pine flatwoods/dry prairie, 113 acres of freshwater wetlands, and 22 acres of disturbed land. Sand pine scrub, scrubby flatwoods and xeric oak scrub communities comprise almost approximately one third of the conservation area and provide habitat for the endangered scrub jay. Extensive trails of varying difficulty provide access for hiking, biking & horseback riding.

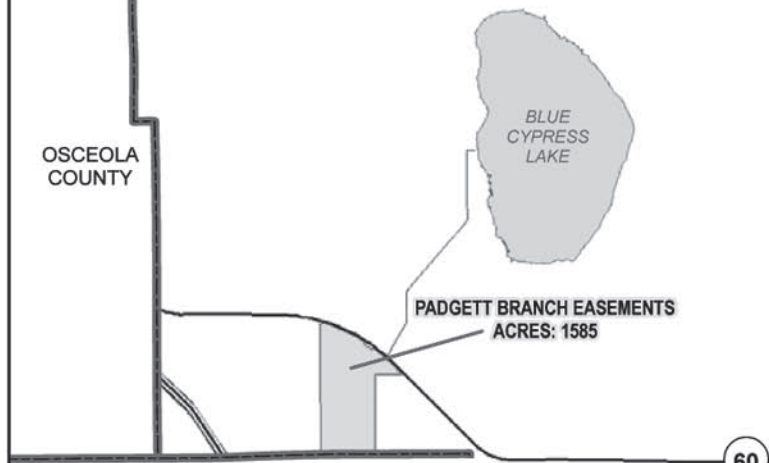
Location: Just off Main street the entrance is located west of the Sebastian City Hall Complex down Gibson Street., where parking is available. Equestrian entrance is located further west off of Main Street further west across from the Sebastian Post Office.

SEBASTIAN RIVER CANOE LAUNCH

Parking, restrooms, picnic area, and canoe/kayak dock on the banks of the narrow beginnings of the south prong of the Sebastian River on land purchased in 1997. **Location:** Just north of the intersection County Roads 510 & 512 on the east side of 510.

CARSON PLATT ESTATE

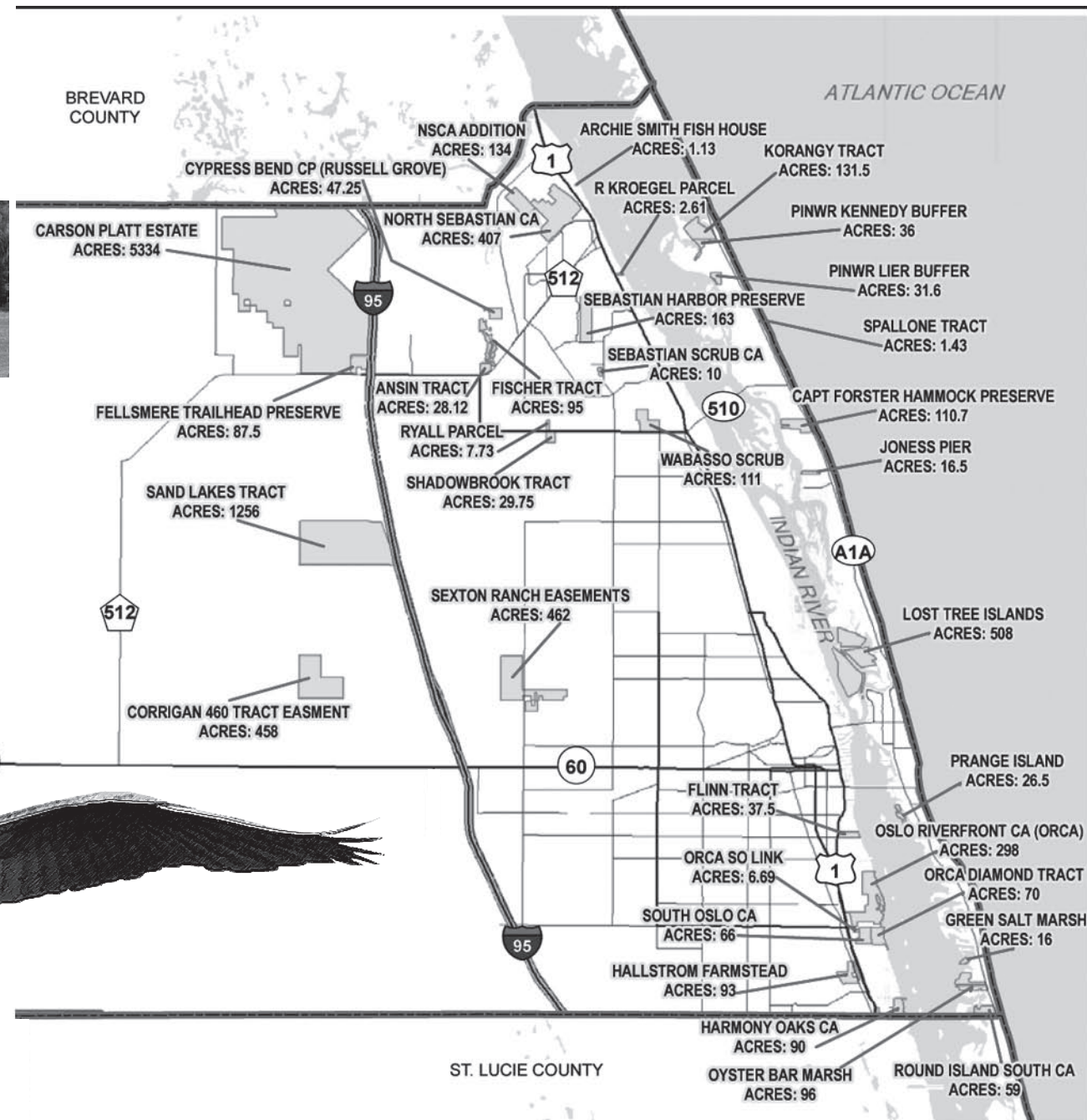
The 5,334 Acres is managed by the State of Florida as part of the 20,000 acres of St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park and has multiple entrances. Camping by permit, trails, equestrian facilities, and restrooms in grassy forests of longleaf pine, cypress domes, scrubby flatwoods, For more information, go to <http://www.floridastateparks.org/stsebastianriver/default.cfm>



On lands managed by Indian River County ...

- Trails are rustic so watch your step
- Trails are open from dawn to dusk
- Leashed pets are welcome
- Sun & mosquito protection are recommended

Interested in helping out and learning more about our conservation lands? Contact Pelican Island Audubon Society at 772-567-3520 or piaudubon@bellsouth.net



IRC - GIS 9/03/2009

CONSERVATION LANDS - INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FL

Legend

CONSERVATION LANDS

