



# CONSERVATION AND PARK PROJECT WORK PLAN

Site name: **North Pine Island**

Area: **13 acres**

Location: **Braden River**, South of State Road 64

Zoning: **A**

Future Land Use: **AG-R**

Parcel ID: 1131610009

## Natural Habitat and Features

The North Pine Island property is approximately 13 acres, most of which directly abuts the existing Pine Island Preserve. The site is forested wetland, comprised mostly of mangroves. Acquisition will protect native habitat and water quality along the Braden River. Located approximately 0.3 miles away from the site is the Dot Dash Dit Critical Wildlife Area (CWA), supporting Tampa Bay’s only coastal colony of wood storks. Acquisition of North Pine Island will protect wildlife species that reside in and migrate to the area.

## Site Importance

The property contributes to native wildlife habitat and water quality protection within the Braden River, a tributary to the Manatee River. The site adds conservation value to the Manatee River Corridor, a strategic conservation corridor extending from Tampa Bay and Terra Ceia Bay Aquatic Preserve to the Florida Wildlife Corridor. The property is also within the Florida Ecological Greenways Network and an FDEP Impaired Water Quality Basin. Adding this property to the existing Pine Island Preserve will make site management more efficient for Manatee County staff.

## Proposed Site Protection Type

Fee Simple Acquisition

## Proposed Public Access

Potential recreational opportunities include fishing, kayaking, and hiking.

## Resource Management

Manatee County will own and manage the property in perpetuity. With the landowner’s permission, the site has been managed in conjunction with the existing Pine Island Preserve for several years. Purchasing the site will increase efficiency of managing the resource because County staff will no longer need to request landowner permission to access/manage natural resources on the north end of the island, nor manage concerns about public use of the Pine Island Preserve extending onto private property. Invasive species treatment/removal and routine prescribed burns will continue on-site as done in the past.

## Anticipated Costs, Funding Partnership(s), and Revenue

County Purchase from Owners: \$41,500.

Capital Improvements and Equipment: None planned.

Restoration: None planned.

Maintenance: No additional costs. Management will be incorporated with existing Pine Island Preserve costs.

## Location Map

