

Biodiversity Hotspots In the Continental U.S. and Hawai'i

# The Florida Panhandle is one of the five richest biodiversity hotspots in North America

Biodiversity: highest

lowest

**BioScience Magazine (October 2008)** 

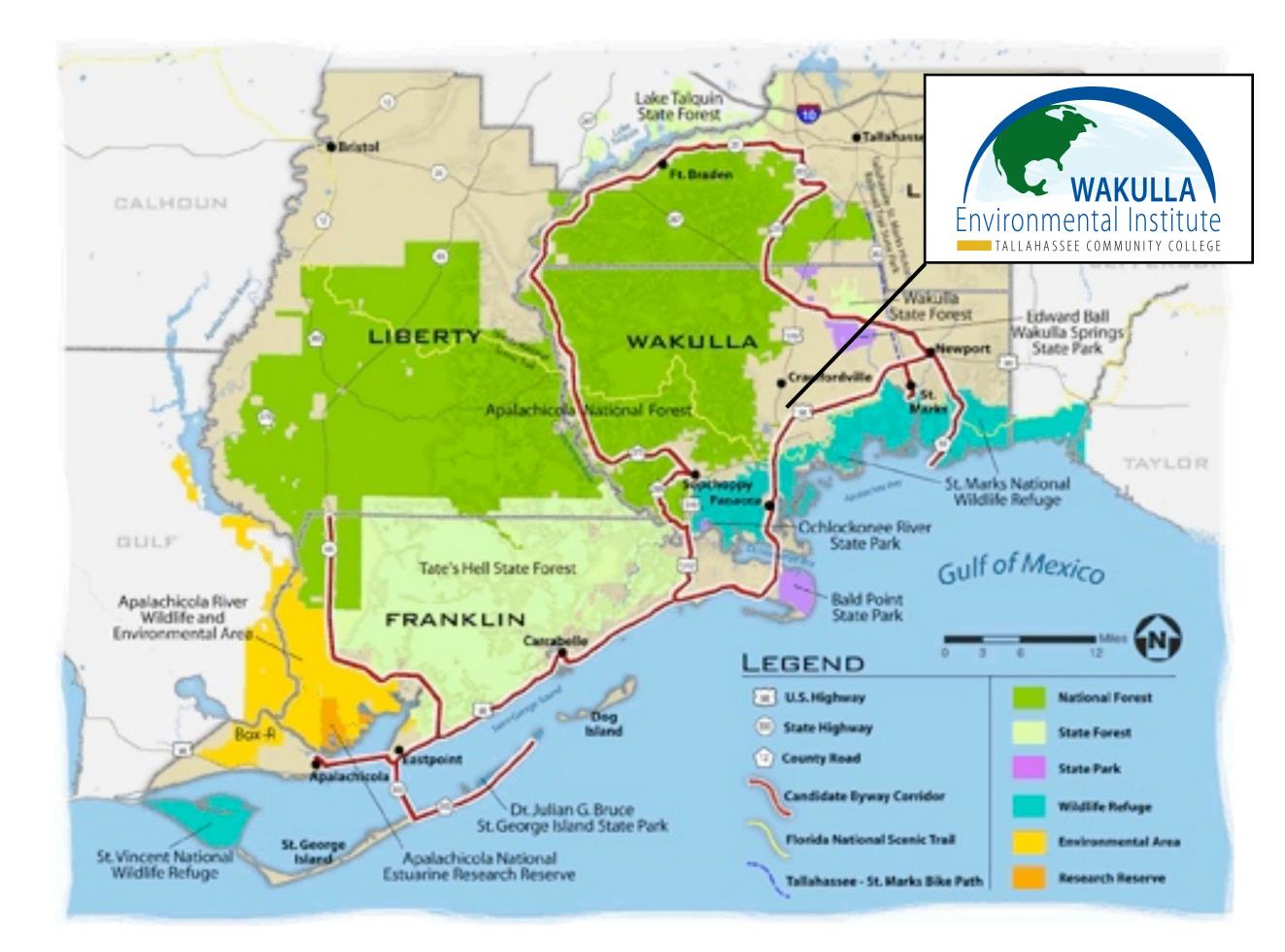
Scale 1: 4,000,000

100 Kilomater





Map adapted from <u>Percipus Haulter</u>: <u>The Status of Richlaremity</u> Data from State Natural Haritage Programs and their cooperators Map produced by TNC Eastern Conservation Science GIS, 5(19) Copyright (c) 2000, The Nature Conservancy.



### The Wakulla Environmental Institute will be a world-class destination that combines

### Education

## Conservation

## Recreation

**WEI** 

# Education

### **WEI Education and Training**

#### Phase I

- College Credit Certificate in Water Quality Management
- AS Degree in Environmental Science Technology
  - Professional Diving Program
- AS Degree in Aquaculture Management
- Oyster Aquaculture Certificate

#### Phase II

- AS Degree in Parks & Leisure Services Technology
- AS Degree in Hospitality & Tourism Management
- College Credit Certificate in Aquaculture Technology

#### Phase III

- AS Degree in Agribusiness Management with emphasis in Forest Operations
- College Credit Certificate in Invasive Species Management

## INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL DIVING Certification in SCUBA instruction and NITROX breathing gases (pool exposure to hose diving, back mounted doubles, side mounted doubles, rebreathers and remotely operated vehicles) TCC Class PEN2136C Course begins Tuesday, January 7 Lecture 1-3 p.m. | Pool session 4-6 p.m. Space is limited. Register today at Eaglenet.TCC.fl.edu



### Oyster Aquaculture





### Oyster Aquaculture



# Conservation







# Recreation



Decatur N Florida Caverns State Park noe Adventures Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy Three Rivers State Park Letchworth Love Mounds State Park Forreya State Park Maclay Gardens State Park **Big Shoals State Park** Gadsden Madison Stephen Fost Leon Lake Talquin State Park **Twin Rivers State Park** Suwanee River S lefferson Suwanne River Wilderness Trail Capital City to the Sea Trails Canoe and Kayak River Camp Wakulla State Forest Canoe and Kayak River Camp St. Marks Trail State Park Wakulla Springs State Park ola National Forest Cano Aucilla River Wildlife Management Area **TCC Wakulla Environmental Institute** Liberty St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge Wakulla County Tourist Development Council Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratories, Inc. Ochlockonee River State Park Shell Point Flats Fishing Service-Mashes-Sands-County Park Palmetto Expeditions Bald Point State Park CC WEI Submerged Managed Lands achicola River Wildlife Area **Big Bend Scenic Byway** Hell State Forest tten Coast Adventures Steinhatchee Wildlife Rec achicola National Estuary Research-Reserve **River to Gulf Adventures** St. George Island State Park lie's/Chart

> © 2014 Google Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO Image Landsat

Island Outfitters

fuge 🥜

Imagery Date: 4/9/2013 30°07'04.29" N 84°08'57.17" W elev 3 ft eye alt 125.12 mi

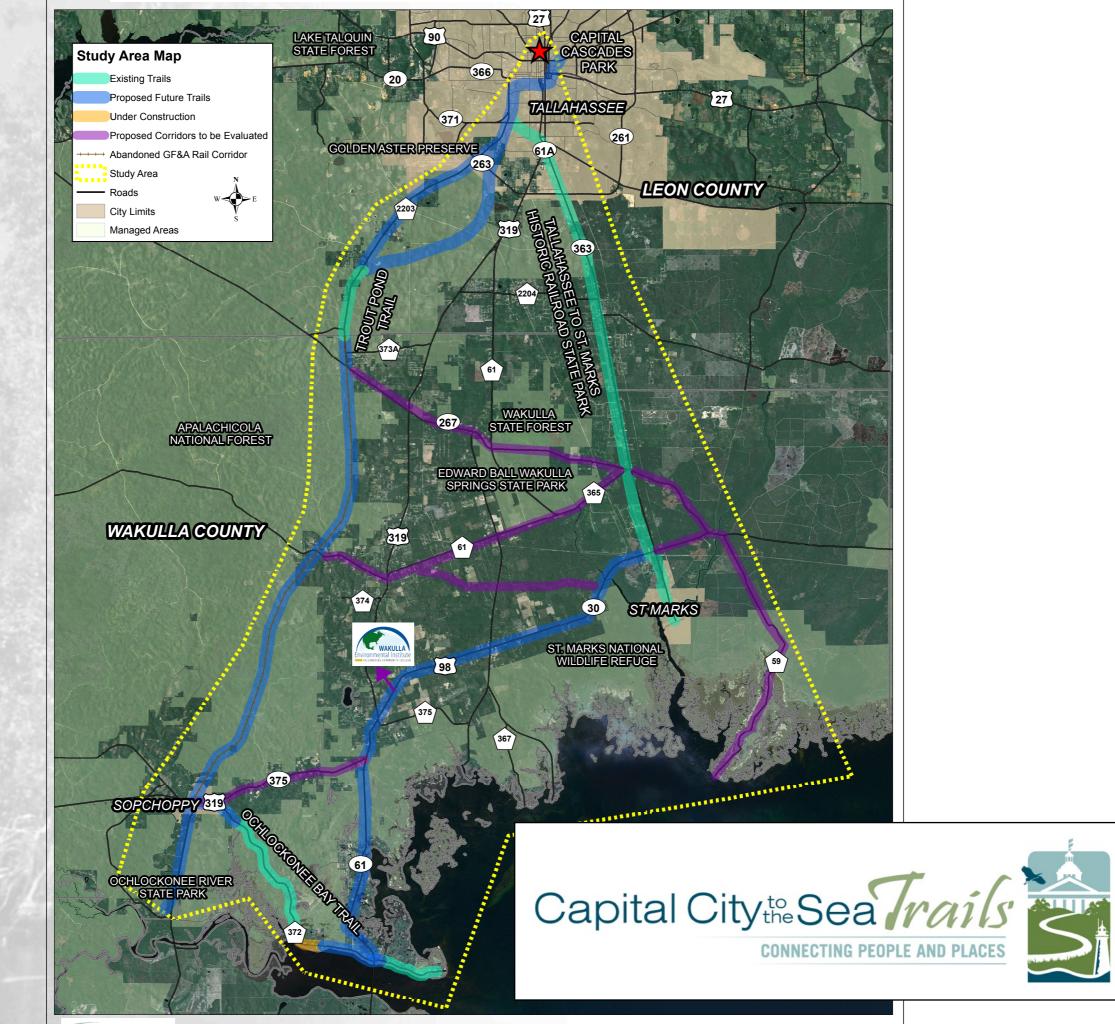
Google earth



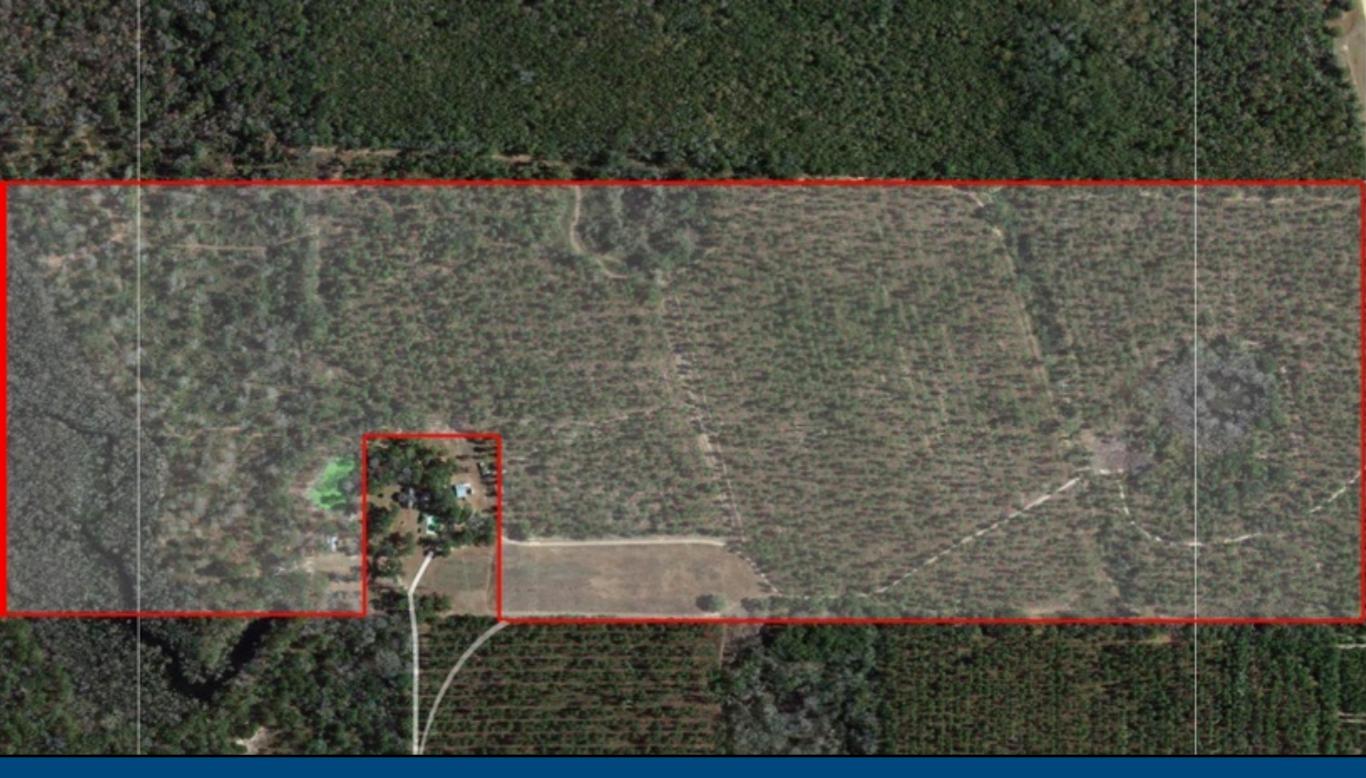




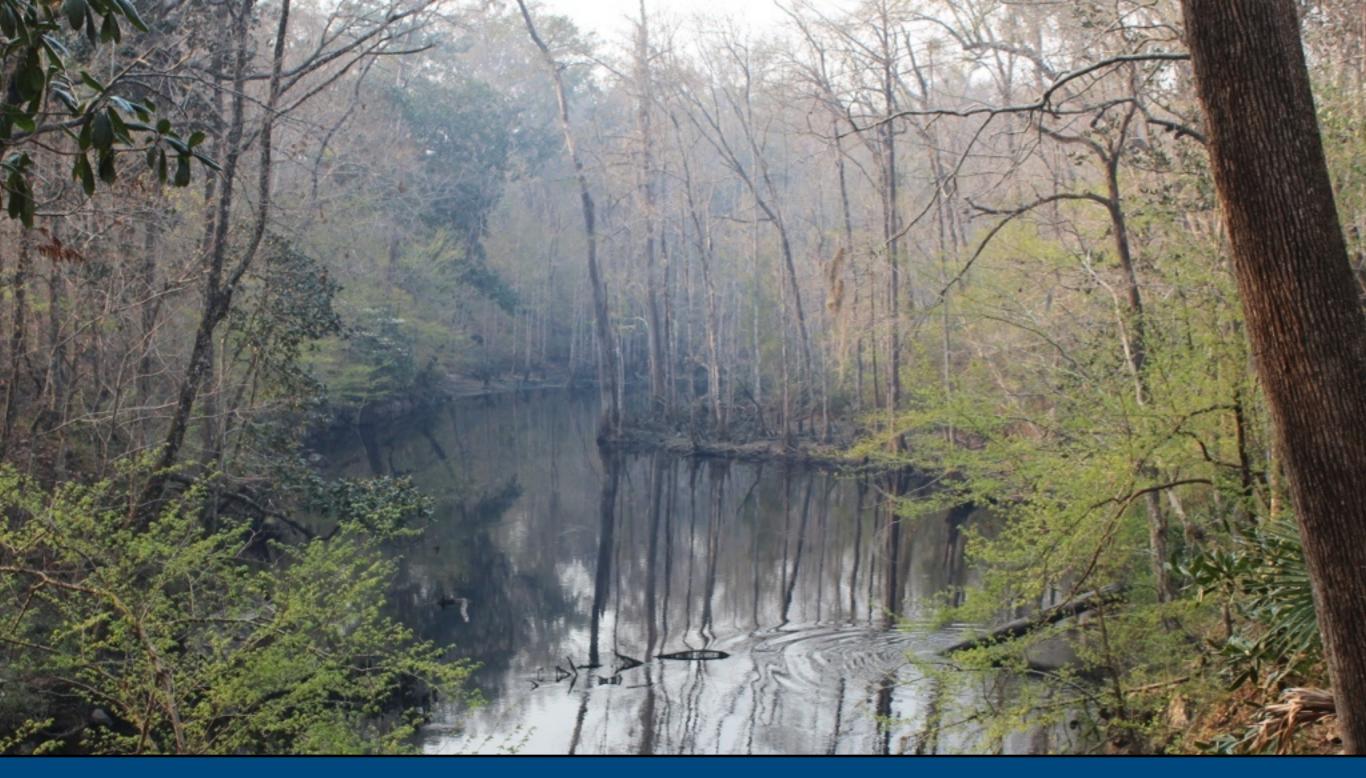




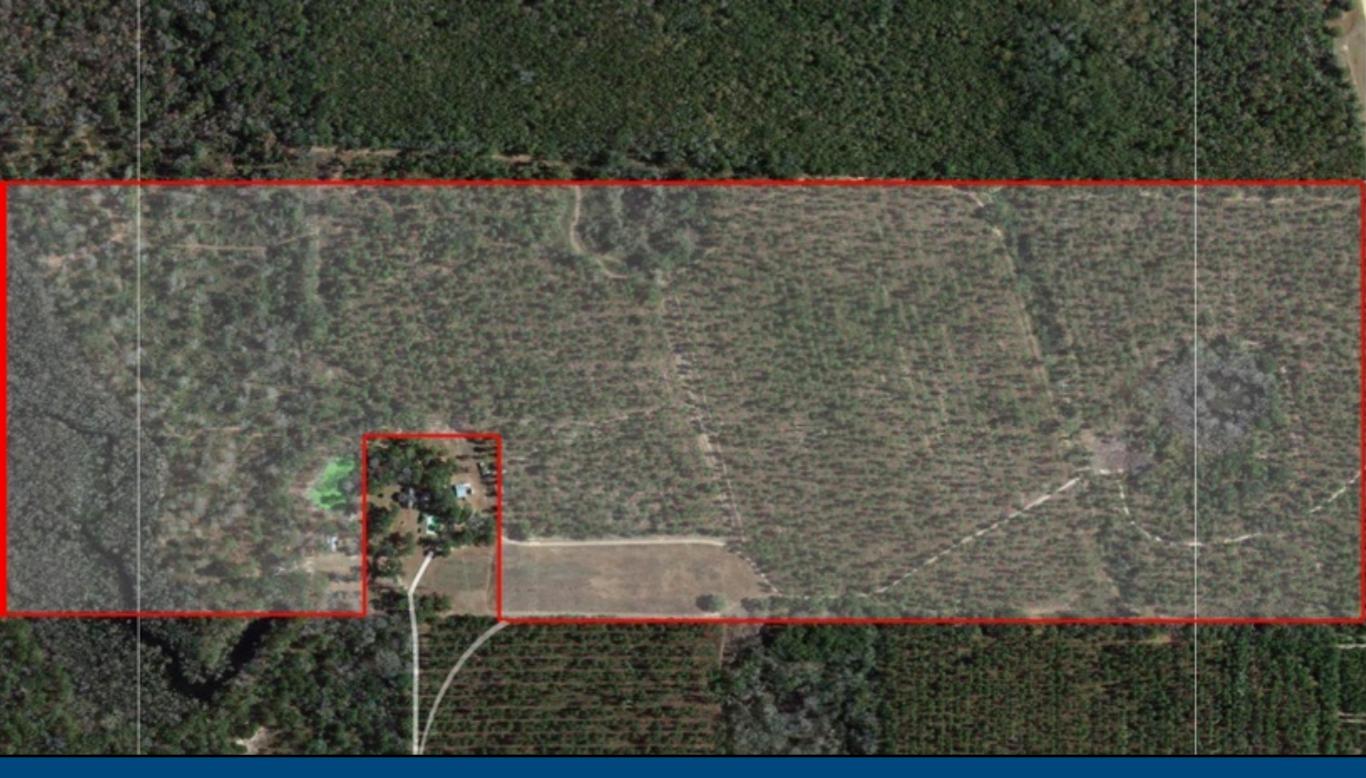
**Next Steps** 

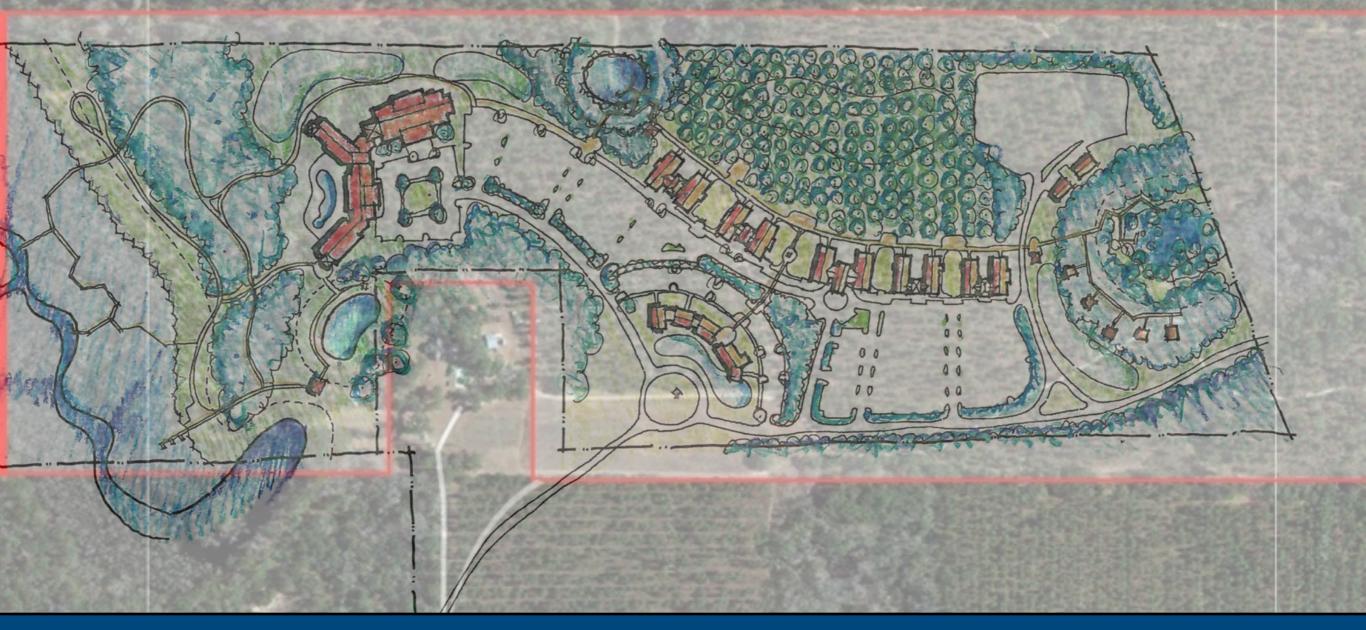






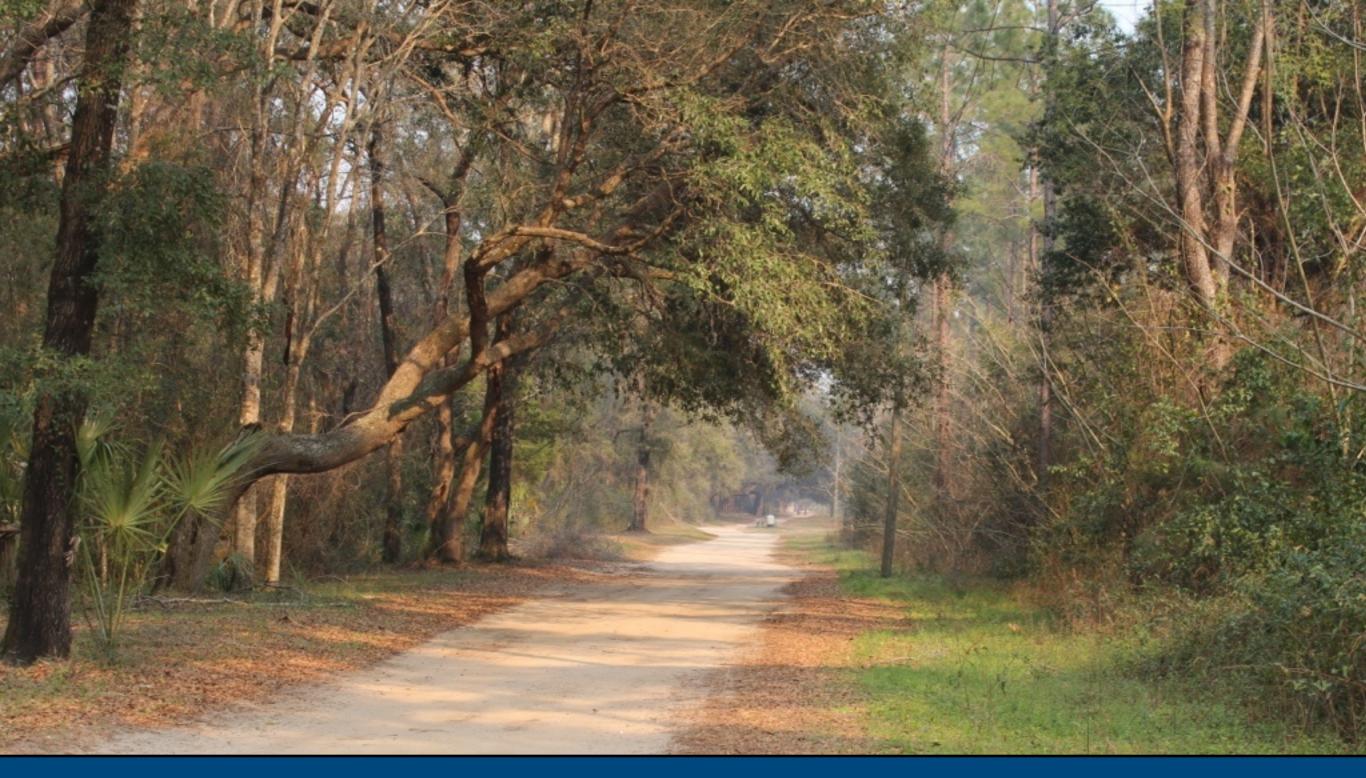




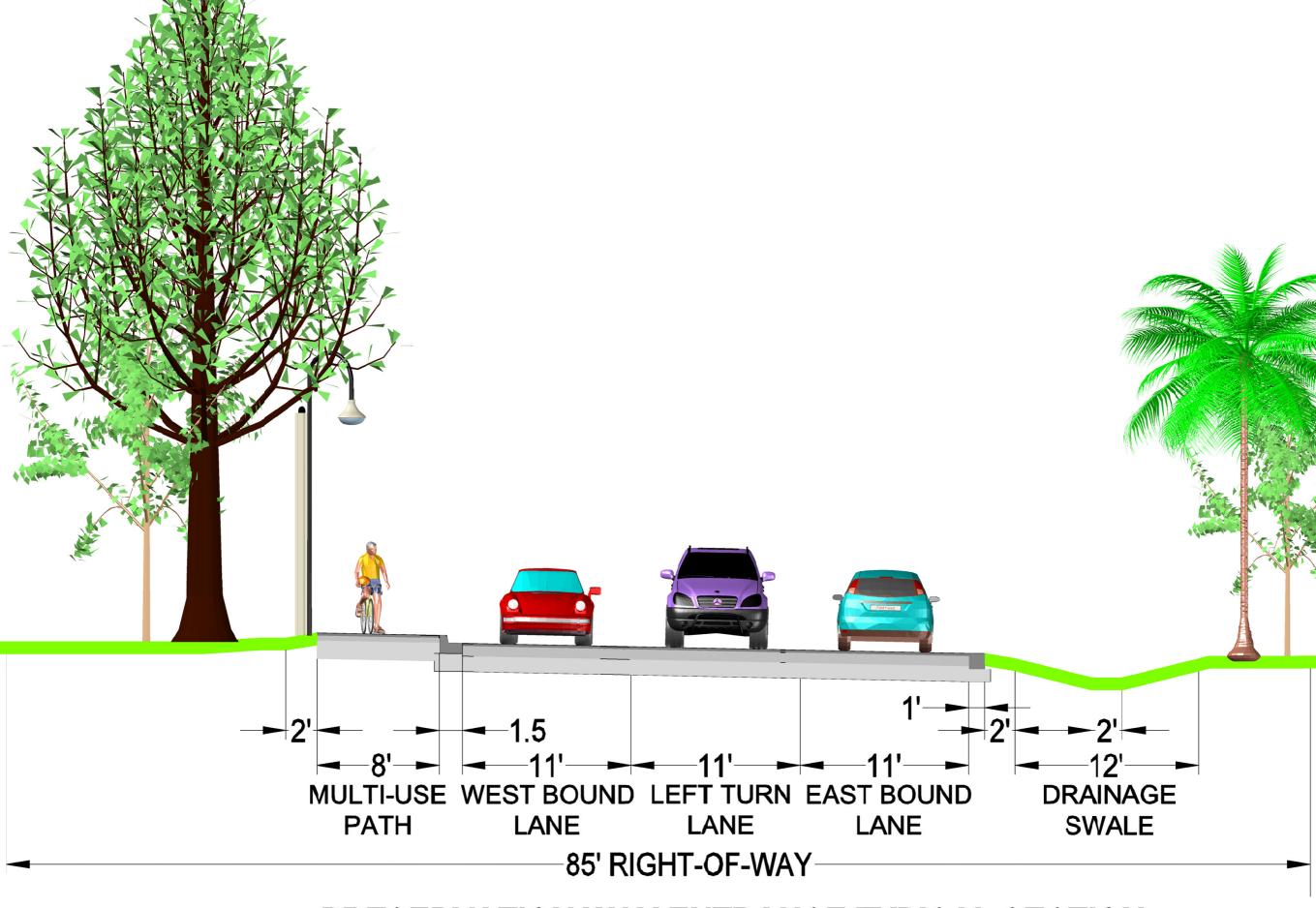


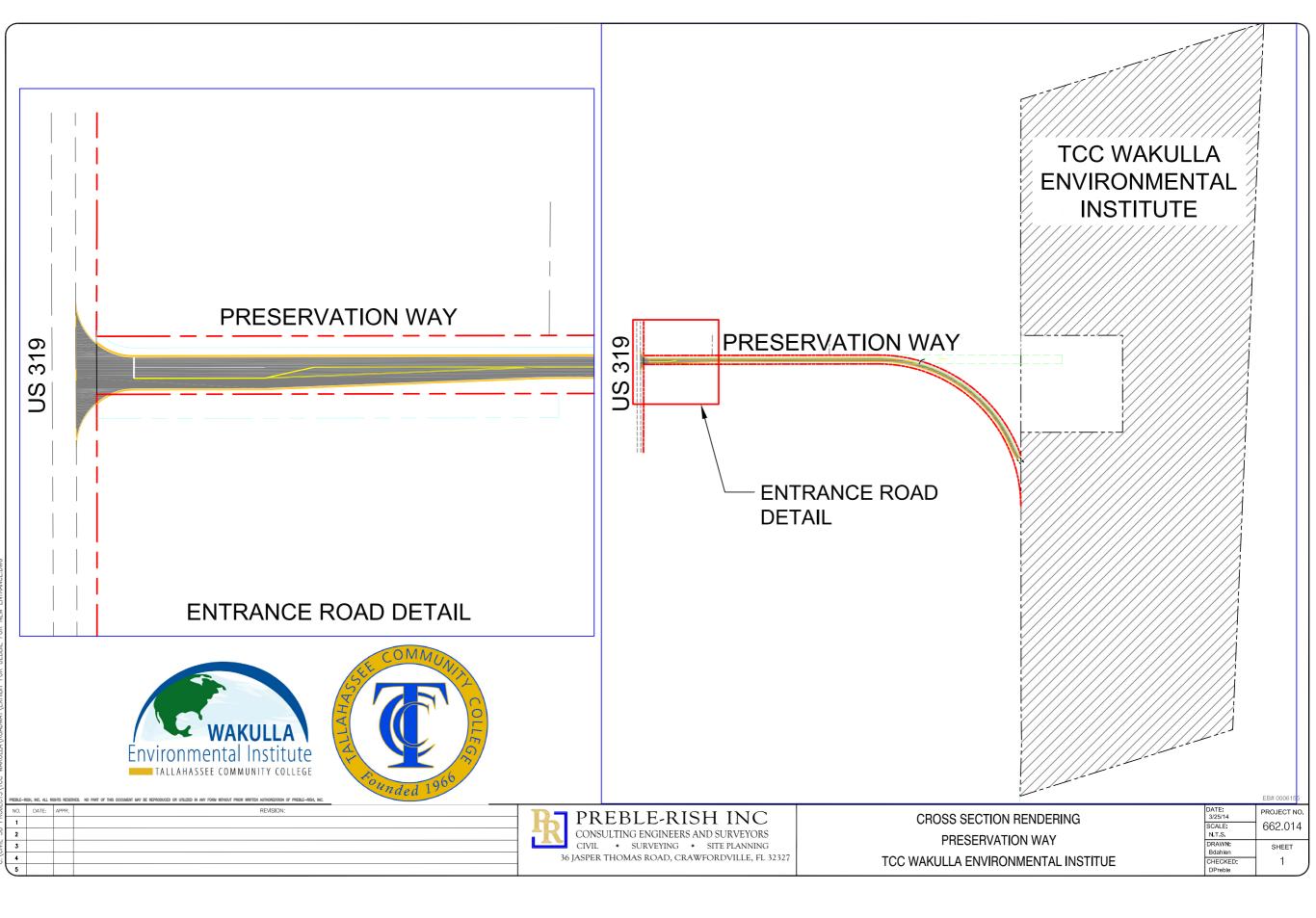


### Wakulla Environmental Institute Institute Master Plan - Draft



#### **PRESERVATION WAY ENTRANCE TYPICAL SECTION**



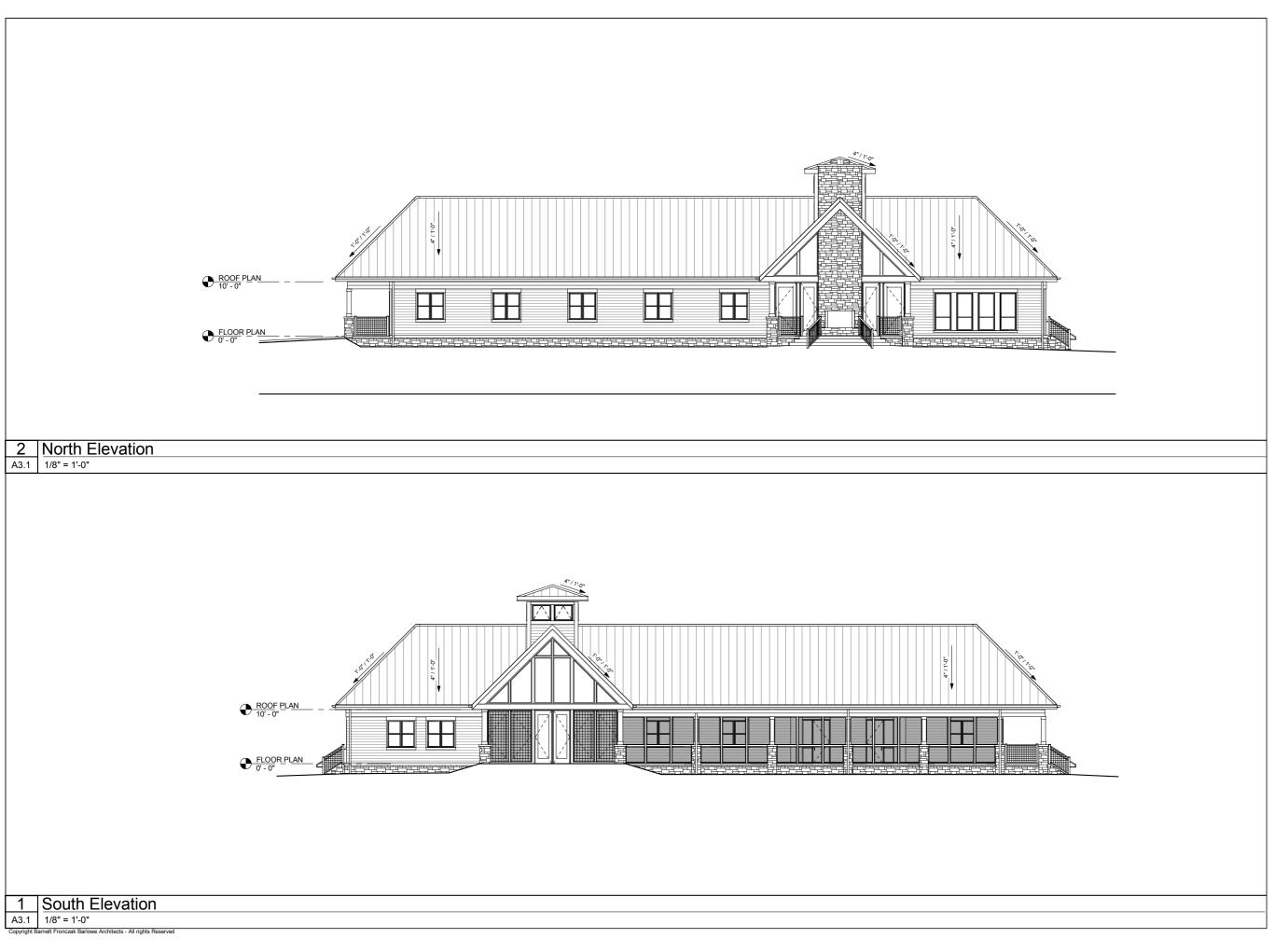


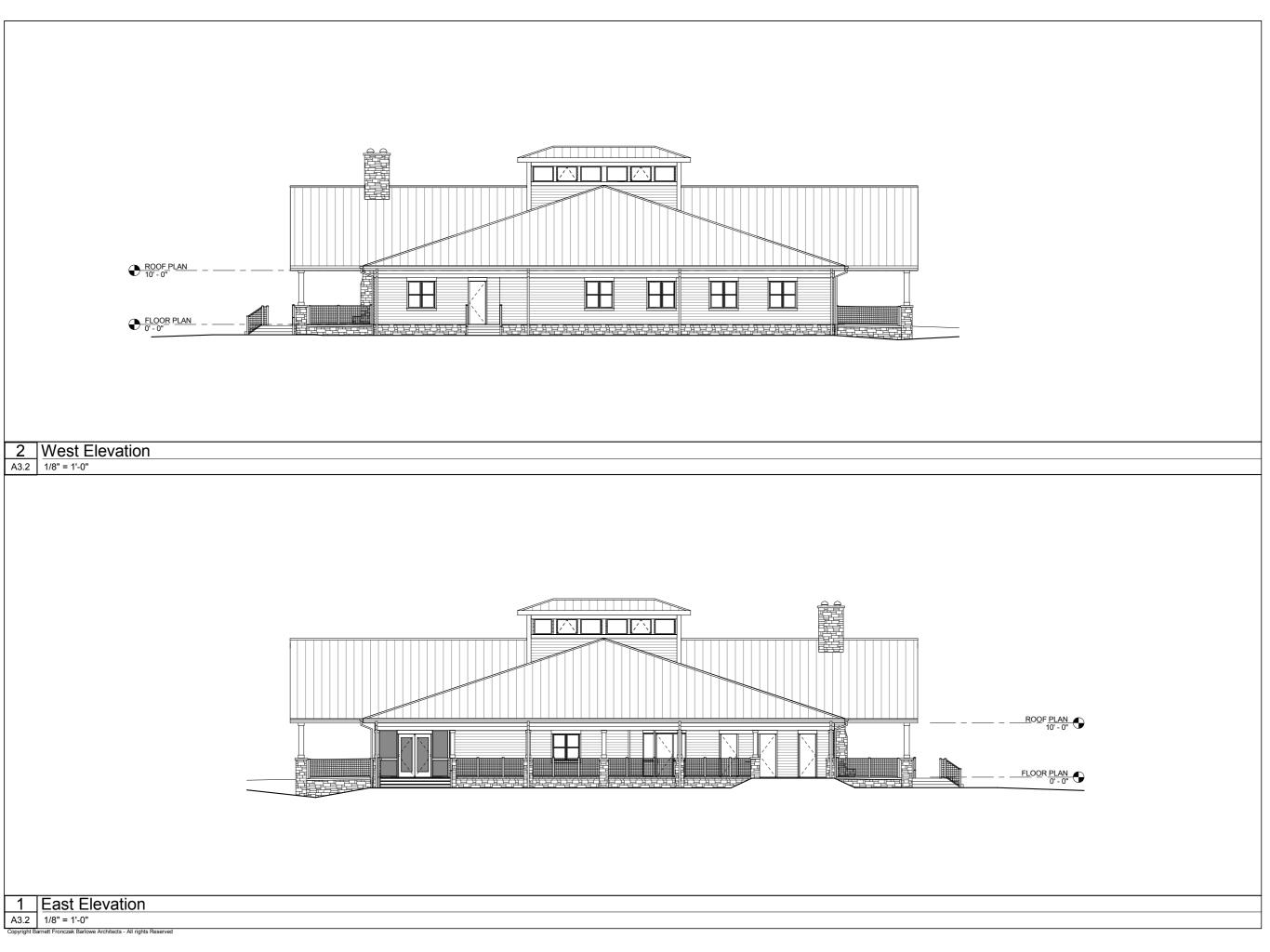


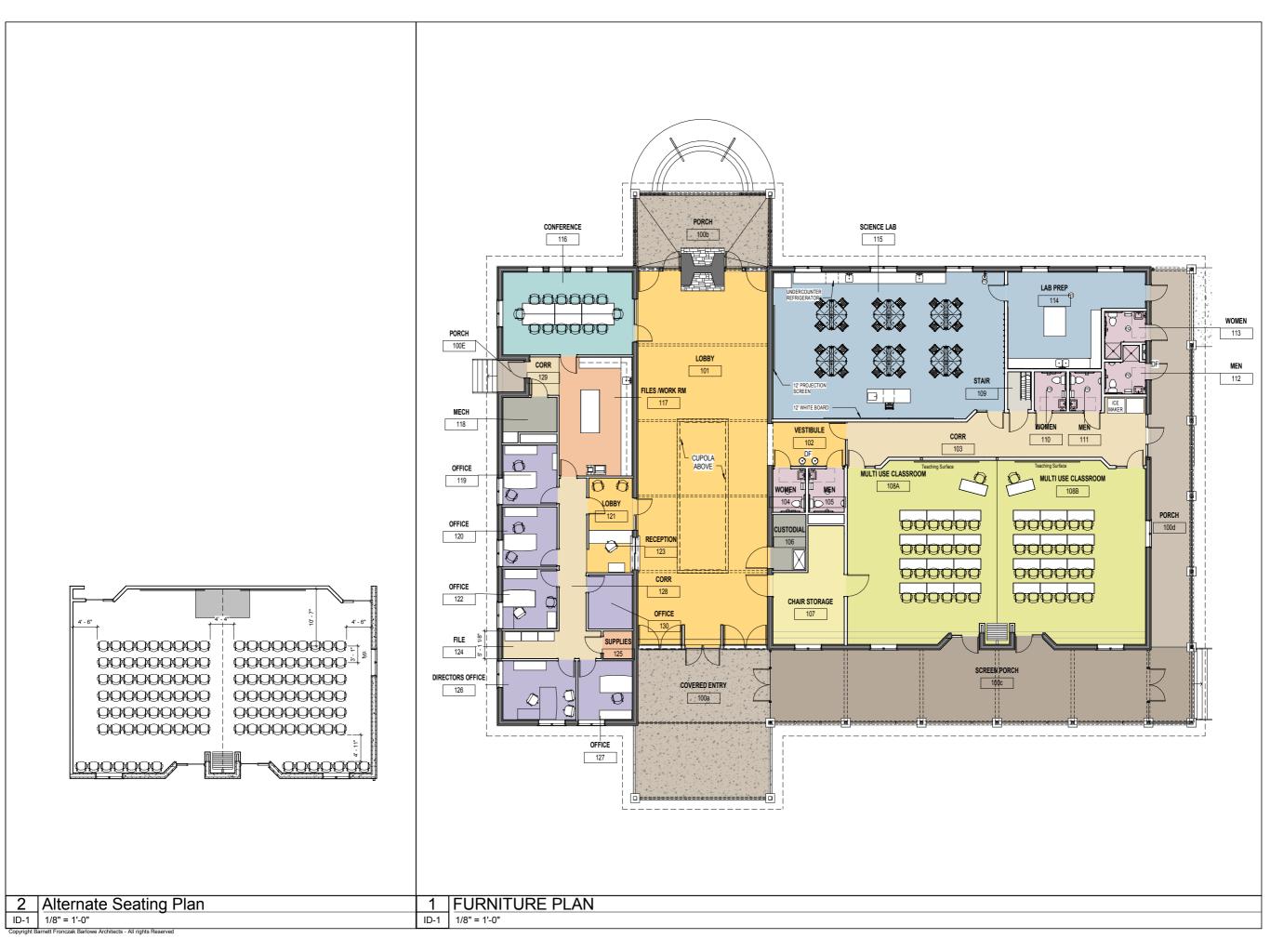
### Wakulla Environmental Institute Institute Master Plan - Draft



### Wakulla Environmental Institute Institute Rendering

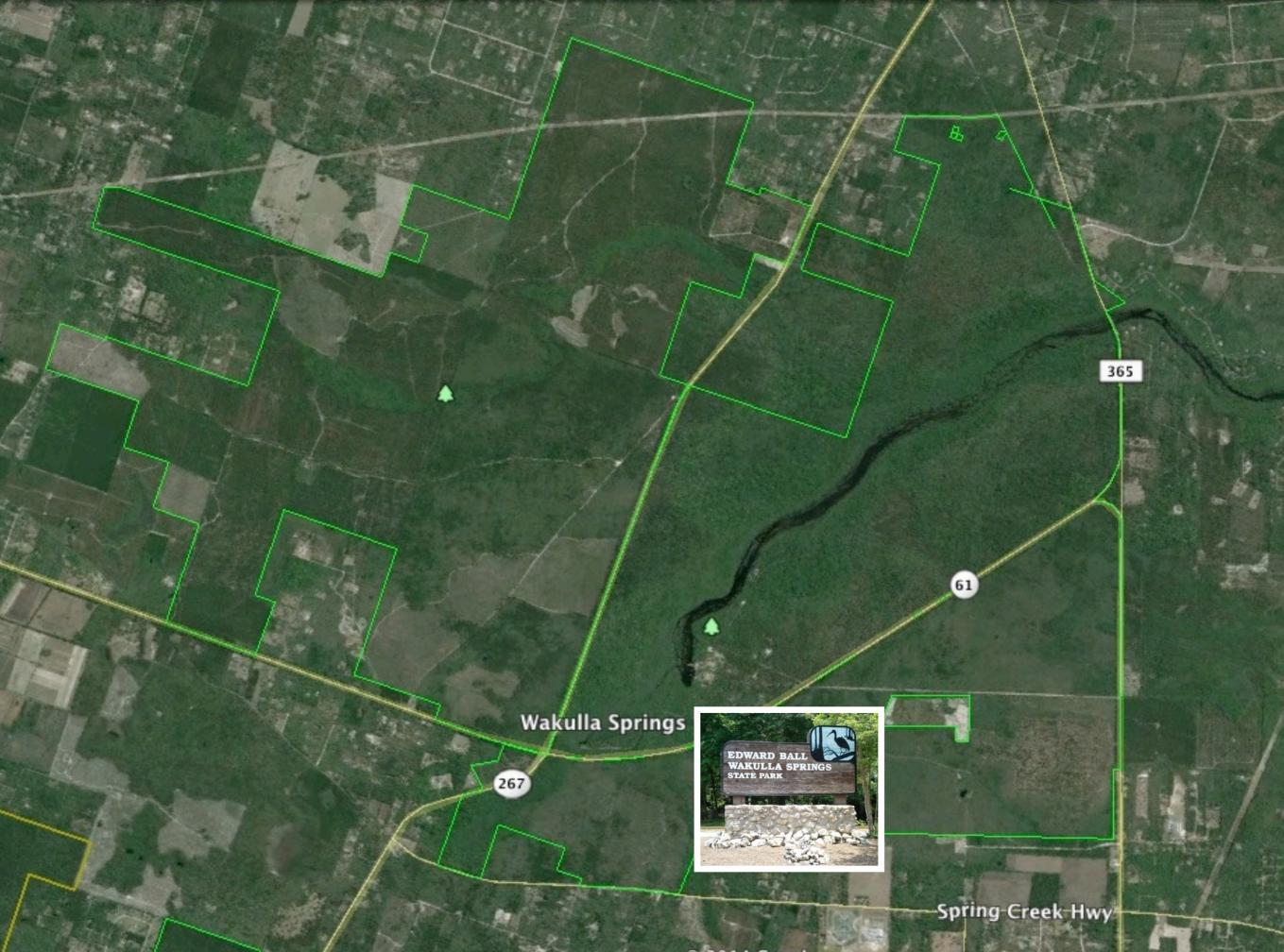




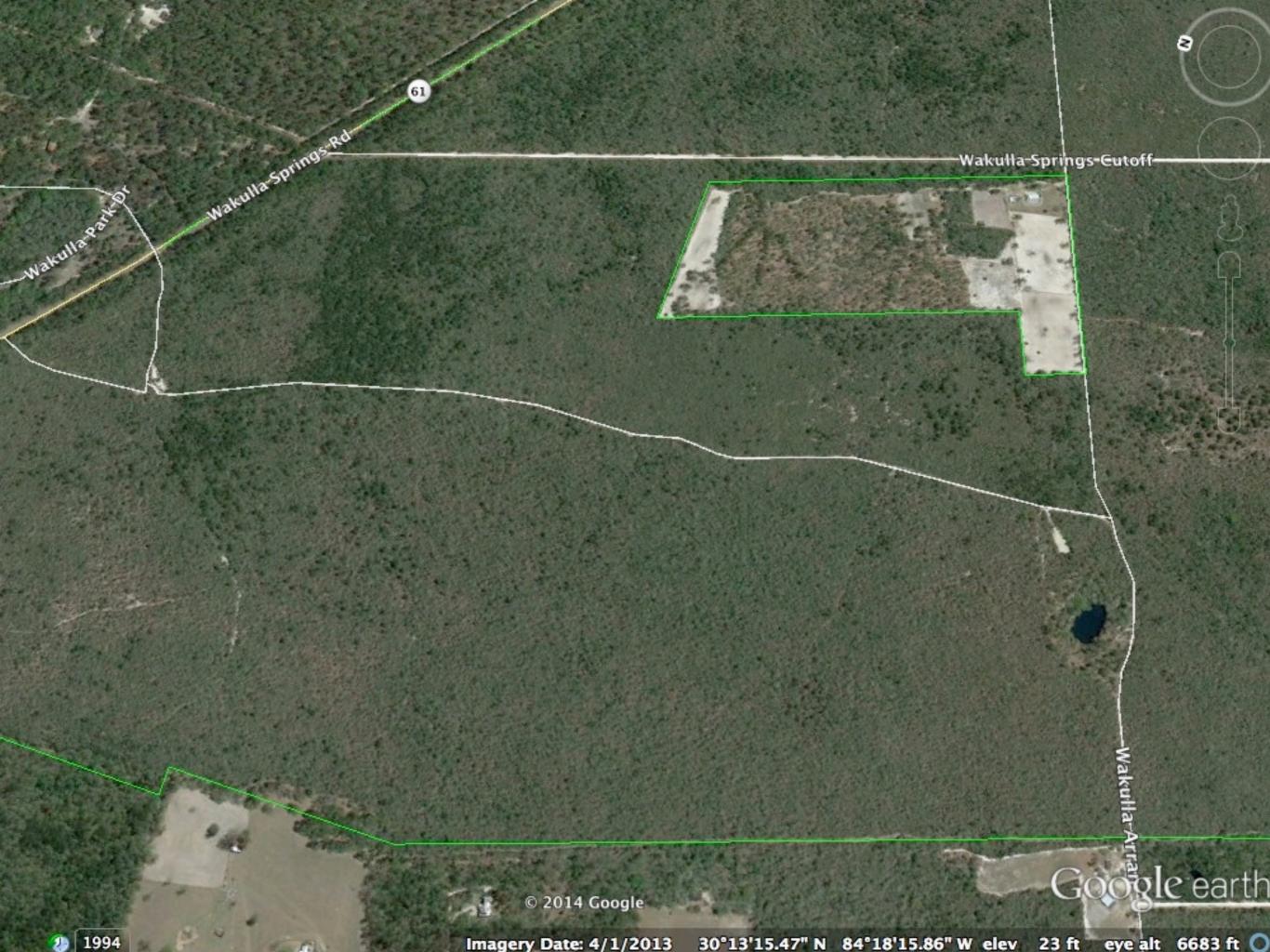


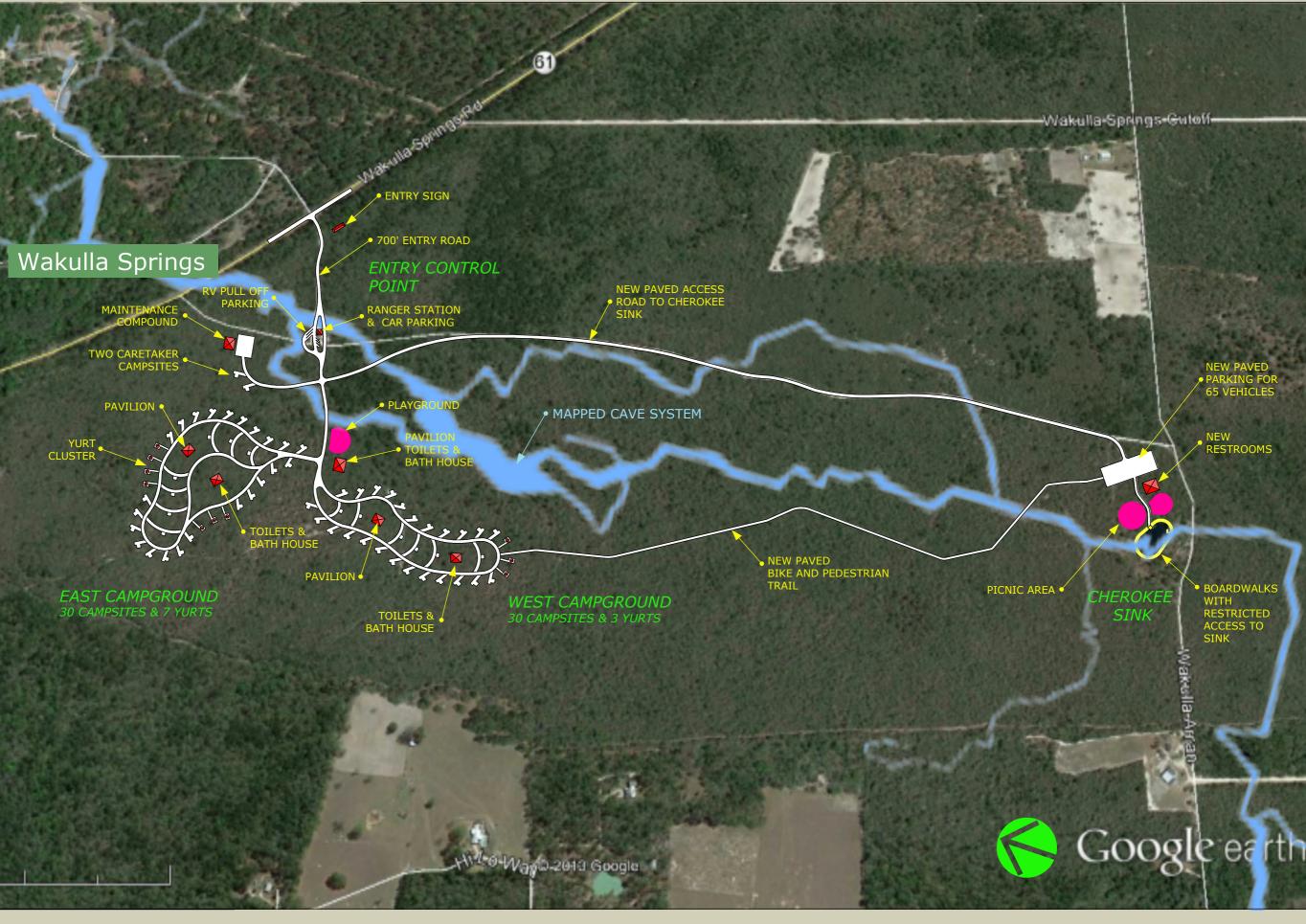


## **Creating a Destination**



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NEW PAVED PARKING FOR 65 VEHICLES

NEW RESTROOMS

• MAPPED CAVE SYSTEM

NEW PAVED ACCESS ROAD BACK TO RANGER STATION & ENTRY POINT

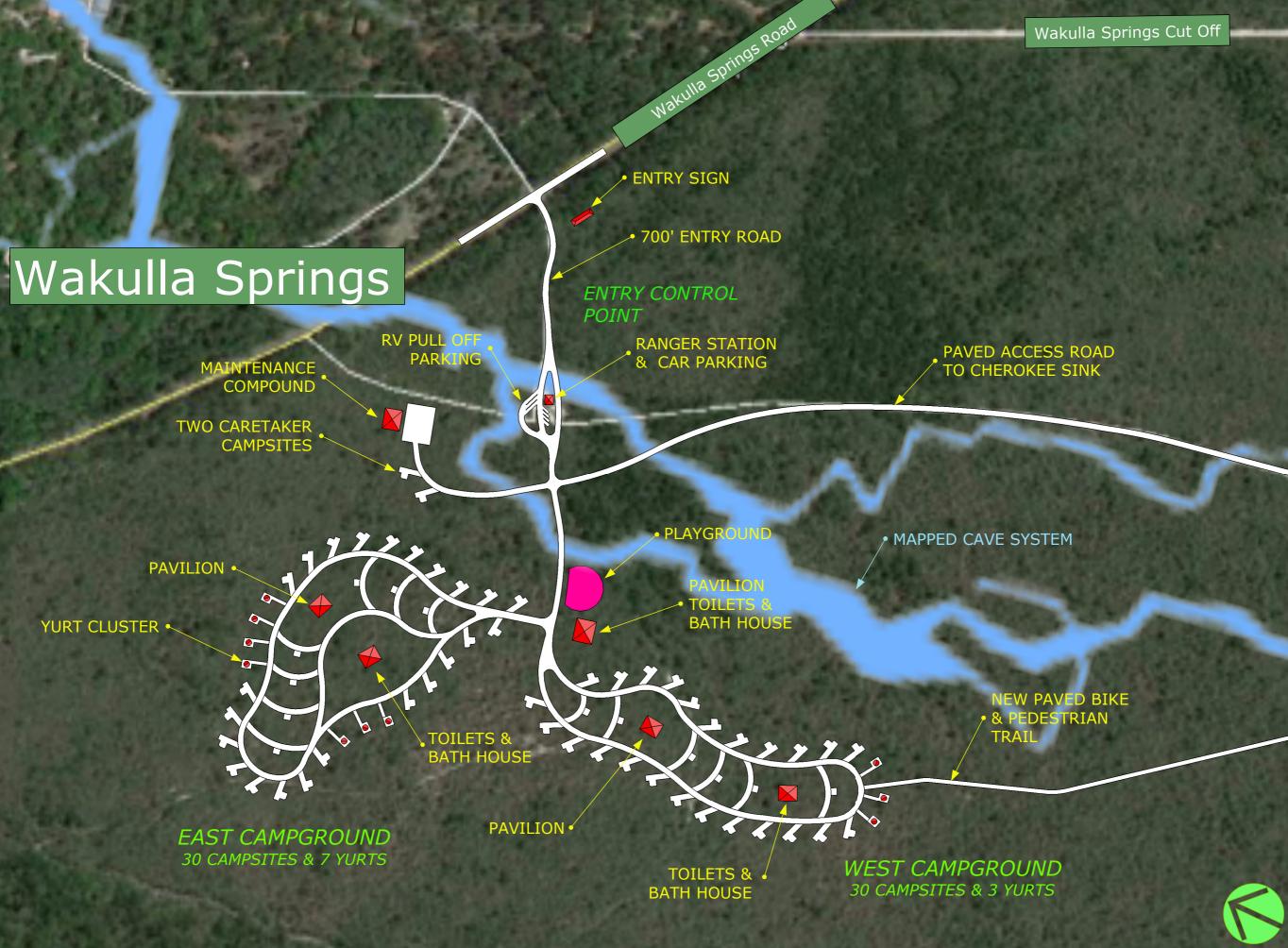
PICNIC AREA

CHEROKEE SINK

NEW PAVED BIKE PATH AND PEDESTRIAN TRAIL

BOARDWALKS WITH RESTRICTED ACCESS TO SINK





## **Restore** Act

Funds Received for Gulf Coast Restoration from BP



## Wakulla Environmental Institute Institute Master Plan - Draft

