

**CONSERVATION AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT
DATA AND ANALYSIS**

Conservation and Coastal Management Element Data & Analysis

SOILS

See **Attachment 5** for the Soils Map for the Village. This map was developed using data provided by USDA and NRCS through the Florida Geographic Data Library published in 1994.

According to the USDA/Soil Conservation Service Soil Survey of Lee County, Hydric soils (cross hatch pattern on the Soils Map) are those soils that, in their natural conditions, are saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season (February-December in Lee County) to develop anaerobic conditions that favor the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic (wetland) vegetation. Areas containing hydric soils may require additional review prior to development to assess the presence of jurisdictional wetlands and potential permitting with the State and/or US Army Corps of Engineers prior to local development approval. No defined soil erosion areas were identified.

WATER RESOURCES

The Village of Estero includes a variety of water resources ranging from project level storm water management systems to Estero Bay including the drainage-ways, ditches, canals, tributaries and rivers that connect them. Many of these resources hold special state level status as discussed below:

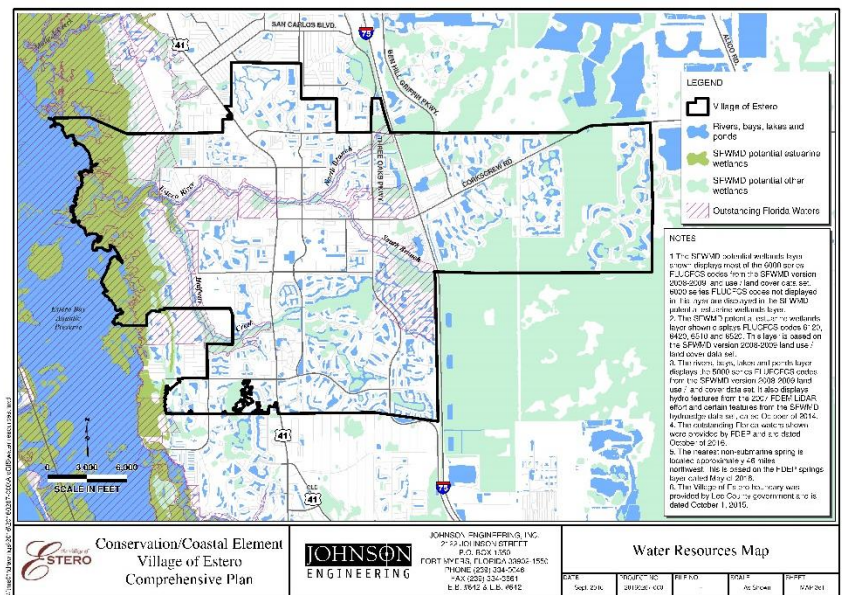
ESTERO BAY AQUATIC PRESERVE

The entire western border of the Village of Estero abuts the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve (EBAP). This was the first Aquatic Preserve designated by FDEP in 1966. The EBAP is a shallow estuary covering approximately 11,000 acres of sovereign submerged lands fed by five minor freshwater tributaries including the Estero River, Halfway Creek, and Mullock Creek within the Village of Estero. Several diverse environments including seagrass beds, mangrove islands, salt marshes, tidal flats, oyster bars and passes provide habitat to numerous protected fish, reptile, bird, and mammal species. The EBAP is used heavily for boating, kayaking, fishing and more, and includes the Estero Bay and River Paddling Trail and portions of the Great Calusa Blueway. Commercially important fisheries are limited due to the protected status of the Village's coastline.

OUTSTANDING FLORIDA WATERS

Section 403.061(27) Florida Statutes, grants FDEP the power to establish rules that provide for a special category of waterbodies within the state to be referred to as "Outstanding Florida Waters," (OFW) which shall be worthy of special protection because of their natural attributes. Estero Bay and its tributaries including portions of the Estero River, Halfway Creek, and Mullock Creek have been designated by FDEP as OFWs as depicted **Figure 27: Water Resources Map** to the right.

Figure 27: Water Resources Map



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Projects regulated by FDEP or a Water Management District (WMD) that are proposed within an OFW must not lower existing ambient water quality, which is defined for purposes of an OFW designation as the water quality at the time of OFW designation or the year before applying for a permit, whichever water quality is better. In general, the State cannot issue permits for direct discharges to OFWs that would lower ambient (existing) water quality. In most cases, this deters new wastewater discharges directly into an OFW, and requires increased treatment for stormwater discharging directly into an OFW. The State also may not issue permits for indirect discharges that would significantly degrade a nearby waterbody designated as an OFW.

Development within the Village of Estero that may potentially impact OFW may be subject to increased review by local permitting agencies during comprehensive plan amendments, zoning, and/or land use changes.

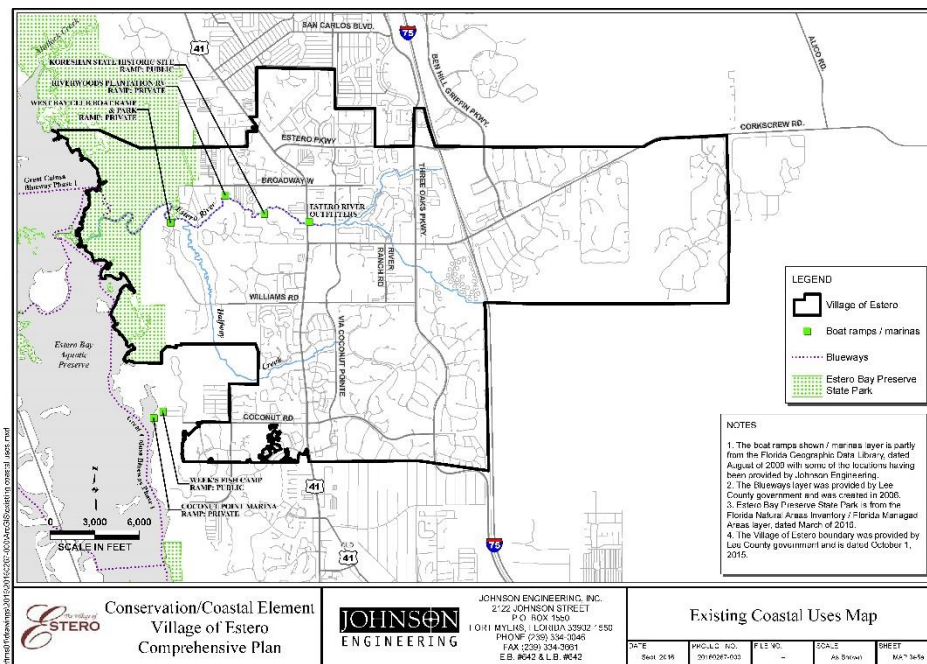
In addition, activities or discharges within an OFW, or which significantly degrade an OFW, must meet a more stringent public interest test during permitting. The activity or discharge must be "clearly in the public interest." For example, activities requiring an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP), such as dredging or filling within a wetland or other surface water or construction/operation of a stormwater system, must be clearly in the public interest instead of not contrary to the public interest.

EXISTING COASTAL USES

The Village of Estero borders the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve and its western edge includes portions of the Estero Bay Preserve State Park. As such, existing coastal uses are comprised of boating, fishing, and paddling, along with passive recreational uses such as hiking, bicycling, and wildlife viewing.

There are four known boat ramps within the Village of Estero, all located along the Estero River. Additionally, portions of the Great Calusa Blueway paddling trail circle Estero Bay and continue up the Estero River to US 41. Existing Coastal Uses are depicted below in **Figure 28** below.

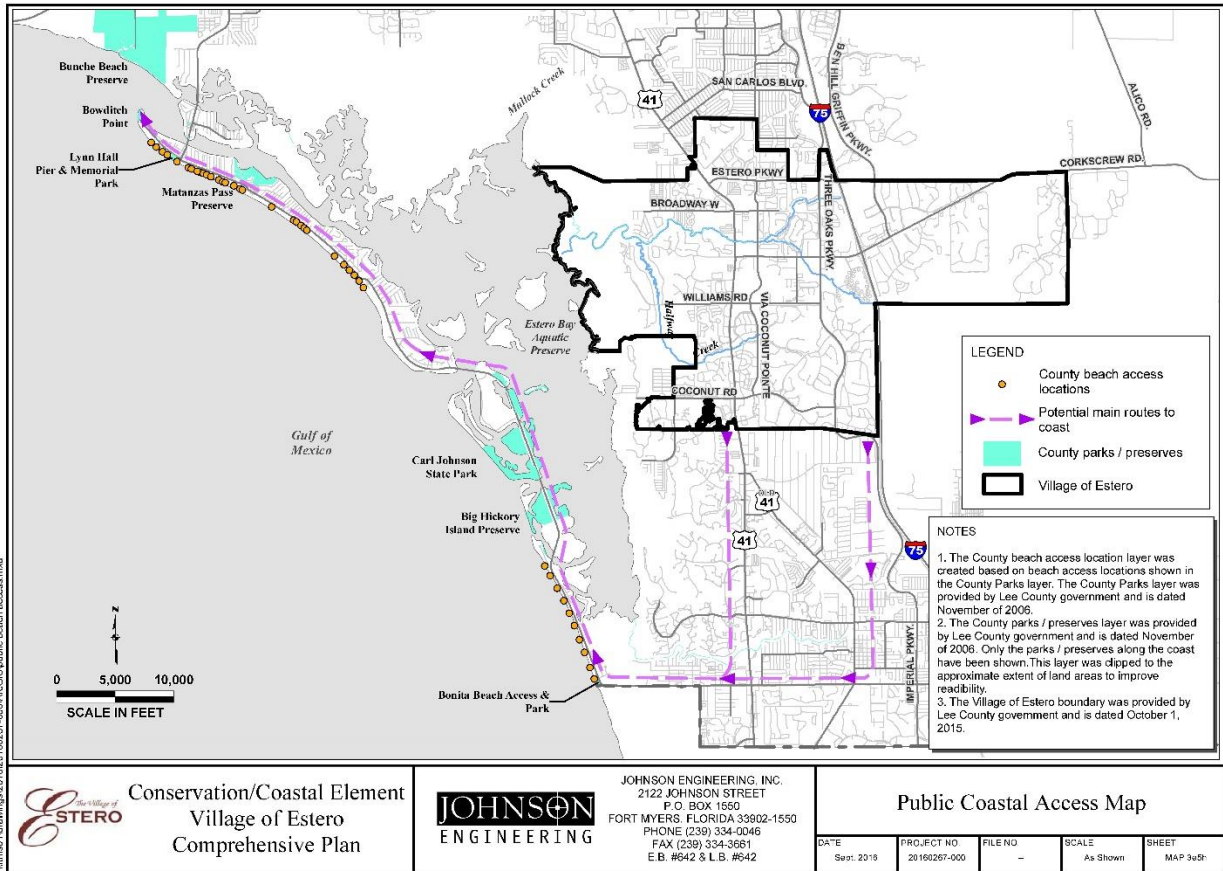
Figure 28: Existing Coastal Uses Map



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Access to the coastline is limited in Estero due to the protected status of the Estero Bay Preserve State Park along the Village's western limits. Estero residents must travel outside the Village limits to access public beaches as depicted in **Figure 29** below.

Figure 29: Public Coastal Access Map



EXISTING VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES

Generalized land cover data for the Village of Estero is depicted on the Existing Vegetative Communities Map provided as **Attachment 6**. This map was prepared using data from the South Florida Water Management District from their 2008-2009 land use/land cover data set. It is important to note that land cover presented here are derived from aerial interpretation, soils maps, and local knowledge, but have not been field verified. Additionally, recent developments within areas designated as agriculture, rangeland, and upland forest have reduced these areas, as may be evident on an aerial overlay.

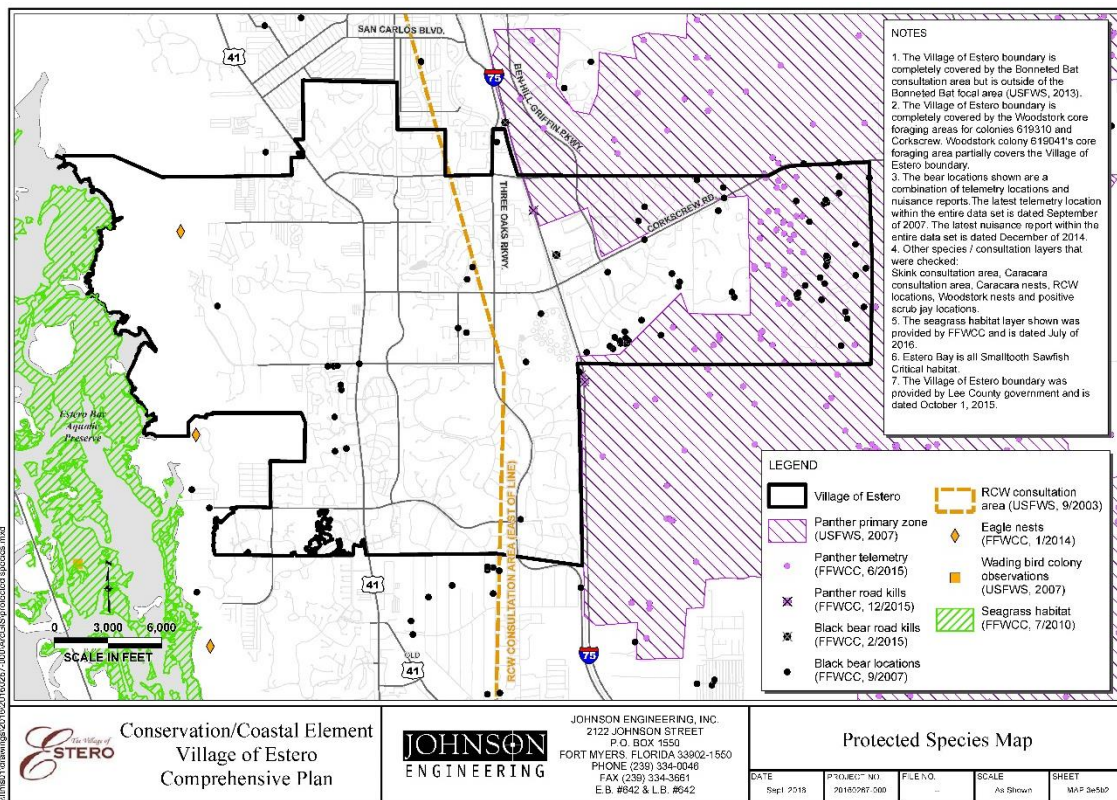
The Coastal Planning Area as depicted on the Existing Vegetative Communities Map is defined in the Lee Plan and offers additional protection to wetlands and uplands defined as Rare and Unique that are located within the Coastal Planning Area. Further discussion on Rare and Unique uplands is provided below.

PROTECTED SPECIES

The Village of Estero provides habitat for several State and federally listed invertebrate, fish, amphibian, reptile, bird, mammal, and plant species. Lists of species that are endangered, threatened, and of special concern are maintained by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (available at <http://myfwc.com/media/1515251/threatened-endangered-species.pdf>) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) (available at <http://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/>).

Figure 30 below depicts areas of generally suitable habitat for several listed species as discussed further on the following pages.

Figure 30: Protected Species Map



Florida Panther

The Florida panther (*Puma concolor coryi*) is a large, wide ranging cat in the cougar family that lives in forests and swamps of southern Florida. As shown on the Protected Species Map, much of the Village of Estero lying east of I-75 is within the Primary Panther Zone as designated by FWS. Additionally, panther telemetry and road kills have been recorded within the boundaries of the Village as shown. Projects within the Primary Panther Zone typically require review in accordance with the Florida Panther Recovery Plan (<https://www.fws.gov/verobeach/MammalsPDFs/FinalizedFloridaPantherRecoveryPlan081218.pdf>) through consultation with FWS during the wetland permitting process, and likely require some form of compensatory mitigation for impacts to panther habitat.

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Black Bear

The Florida black bear (*Ursus americanus floridanus*) has seen increases in population over the past few decades and there are likely more black bears in Florida now than there have been in the past 100 years. For that reason, the black bear was recently delisted by FWC. As the Protected Species Map indicates, several black bear sightings and road kills have been observed throughout the Village boundary, especially east of I-75. FWC has developed the BearWise program aimed at reducing human – black bear conflicts. Information regarding the BearWise program can be found on the FWC website and may provide a valuable tool for future developments in territory inhabited by black bears.

(<http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/managed/bear/wise/>).

Florida Bonneted Bat

The Florida bonneted bat (*Eumops floridanus*) (FBB) was listed as endangered by FWS in 2013. FBB are known to utilize various forested and open habitats along with manmade habitats such as golf courses and lakes. Very little information regarding the life history, roosting and breeding behavior of the FBB is available at this time. However, the FWS has designated both a Consultation Area and a Focal Area for the FBB. The entire Village of Estero is within the FBB Consultation Area, but no portion of the Village lies within the FBB Focal Area. Information regarding the FBB is available from FWC at:

(<http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/imperiled/profiles/mammals/florida-bonneted-bat/>).

Red Cockaded Woodpecker

The red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) (RCW) is listed as endangered by FWS. The RCW makes its home in mature pine forests. RCWs are the only woodpecker to excavate cavities exclusively in live pine trees. FWS adopted the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Recovery Plan and designated an RCW Consultation Area, which covers the eastern portion of the Village of Estero (See Protected Species Map). Information regarding RCW is available from the FWS website (<https://www.fws.gov/rcwrecovery/rcw.html>). Future development within the Village of Estero that contain stands of mature pine trees may require further review to determine the potential use of the site by RCW.

Bald Eagle

The southern bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was delisted by FWS in 2007. However, it is still protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Bald eagles and their nests are protected from being disturbed or taken, and additional protection is offered via a buffer around the nest site that limits or precludes development up to 660 feet from the nest. The FWC offers a bald eagle nest locator service (<https://public.myfwc.com/FWRI/EagleNests/nestlocator.aspx>) for the location of known bald eagle nests. Any development within 660 feet of a bald eagle nest may require a management plan in accordance with the Bald Eagle Management Plan published by FWC and may require additional review.

Wood Stork

The wood stork (*Mycteria americana*) is a large social wading bird classified as endangered by FWS. Wood Storks feed on small fish in wetlands, ponds and ditches and are particularly attracted to depressions in marshes or swamps where receding water traps and concentrates small fish. Large protected nesting colonies have been designated by FWS for protection along with a core foraging area that extends 18.6 miles from the colony. Although no wood stork colonies are located within the Village of Estero boundary, the entire Village is within the core foraging area of either the Corkscrew colony, which FWS delineates on their Atlas Number 619018, or Caloosahatchee River colony, which FWS delineates on their Atlas Number

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619040. Developments impacting wetlands within a core foraging area may be required to provide compensatory mitigation for loss of foraging habitat.

Smalltooth Sawfish

The smalltooth sawfish (*Pristis pectinata*) is a relative of sharks, rays and skates and lives in shallow tropical waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The smalltooth sawfish bears live pups in shallow brackish water often using the prop roots of red mangroves as nursery areas. FWS listed the smalltooth sawfish as endangered and designated areas of Critical Habitat for the species. All of the Estero Bay is included as Critical Habitat for the smalltooth sawfish. Any development that impacts mangroves or shallow areas of Estero Bay will likely require review by the National Marine Fisheries Society.

Seagrass

Seagrasses are flowering plants that live completely submerged in marine and estuarine waters. Seven species of seagrasses can be found in Florida waters including turtle grass (*Thalassia testudinum*), shoal grass (*Halodule wrightii*), Manatee grass (*Syringodium filiforme*), Widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*), Stargrass (*Halophila engelmannii*), Paddle-grass (*Halophila decipiens*) and Johnson's seagrass (*Halophila johnsonii*). The depth at which seagrasses occur is limited by water clarity because most species require high levels of light. The Protected Species Map (**Figure 30** above) includes existing areas seagrass beds in Estero Bay mapped by FDEP. Development of docks, marinas, channels, bridges or other uses that impact seagrasses are reviewed by FDEP and may require compensatory mitigation.

- The Conservation and Coastal Management Element includes an Objective and supporting policies to maintain and enhance the marine and wildlife diversity in the Village.

RARE AND UNIQUE UPLANDS

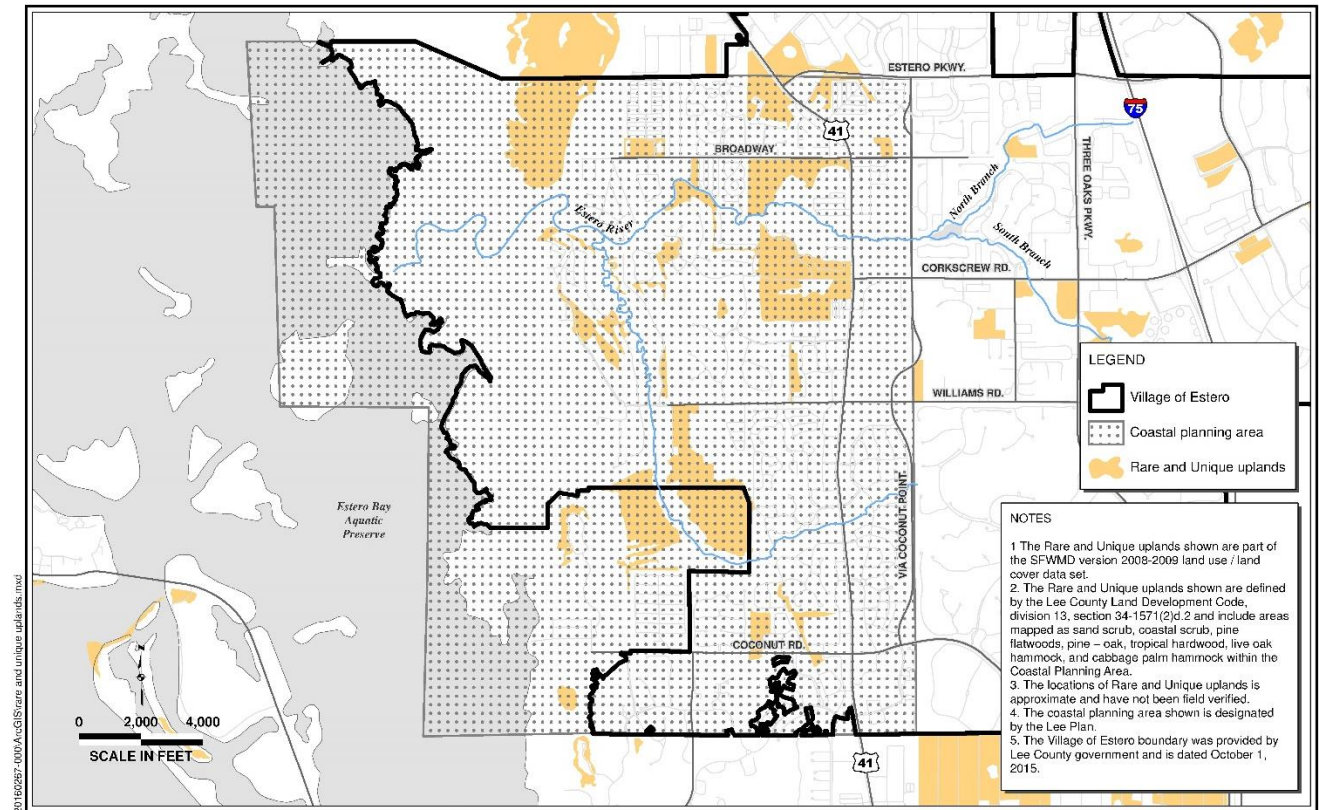
Goal 104 (Coastal Resource Protection) of the Lee Plan is to protect the natural resources of the coastal planning area from damage caused by inappropriate development. The coastal planning area is defined as:

The coastal study area of the 1988 Lee County Coastal Study which is defined as all sections of unincorporated Lee County containing any portion of the 1988 A Zone (the 100- year floodplain as mapped in 1988 by FEMA), lying westward of the municipal boundaries of Fort Myers and Cape Coral.

Within the Village, this area includes 14 sections comprised of Sections 25, 28 – 33, and 36 of Township 46 South, 25 East, along with Sections 4 – 9 of Township 47 South, 25 East.

The coastal planning area is designated in order to identify an area that calls for local management and regulation of environmentally critical areas to conserve and enhance natural functions. Environmentally critical areas include wetlands and Rare and Unique (R&U) upland habitats. R&U upland habitats are high-quality native upland habitats, that include but are not limited to: sand scrub; coastal scrub; those pine flatwoods which can be categorized as "mature" due to the absence of severe impacts caused by logging, drainage, and exotic infestation; slash pine/midstory oak; tropical hardwood; live oak hammock; and cabbage palm hammock.

Figure 31: Rare and Unique Uplands and Coastal Planning Area



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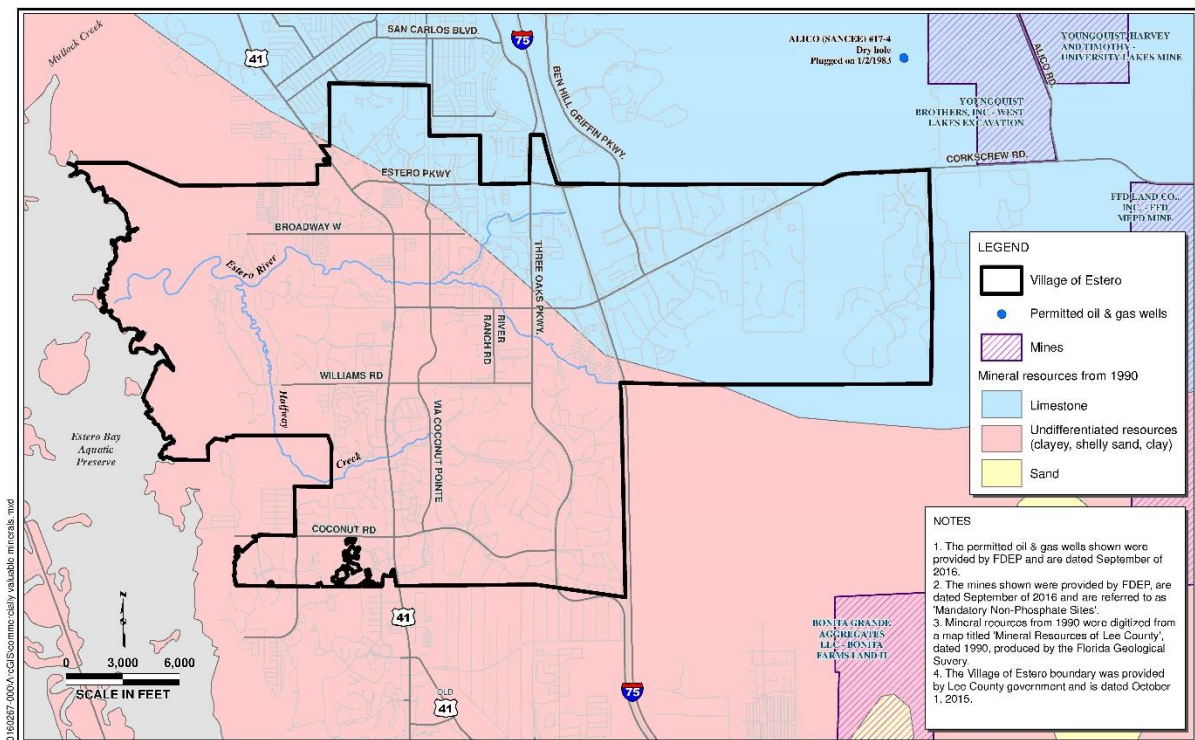
Figure 31 on the preceding page depicts the location of the coastal planning area along with potential R&U uplands as mapped by the South Florida Water Management District Land Use/Land Cover data set (2008 – 2009). It is important to note that the depiction of R&U uplands is based on aerial photograph interpretation, therefore some areas of R&U uplands that merit preservation may not be shown on the map. Additionally, some areas that are mapped as R&U uplands may not qualify due to past development, logging, drainage, and exotic infestation. Finally, some of the R&U uplands shown on the map are located within State, County, or private preserve areas.

➤ The Conservation and Coastal Management Element includes policies encourage retention and preservation of upland and wetland habitat that are unique and rare.

COMMERCIALLY VALUABLE MINERALS

Florida Geological Survey (FGS) Map Series No. 130, depicting the mineral resources of Lee County, was used to determine the sources of commercially valuable minerals within the Village. According to the FGS, the principal economic mineral commodities in Lee County are limestone and sand. The units depicted on the FGS map are intended to present a geographic overview of the mineral commodities, and Map Series No. 130 states, "Factors such as thickness of overburden, quality, and volume of deposit could affect the mining of the mineral commodity at any specific site." Areas shown as potentially commercially valuable with respect to limestone and undifferentiated resources (clayey, shelly sand, clay) occur within the boundary of the Village of Estero. Areas of potentially commercially valuable limestone are depicted in the eastern part of the Village, while undifferentiated resources occur in the west, as depicted in **Figure 32** below.

Figure 32: Commercially Valuable Minerals Map



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In Map Series No. 130, FGS states the extraction of limestone dominates the mining industry of Lee County. Although the map was created originally around 1990, that statement likely remains valid today. Most of the limestone mined comes from the Tamiami formation, and is extracted via open pit mining. The mined limestone is generally used for base material in roadway construction, as aggregate-grade rock for concrete and asphalt, and as riprap and drainfield aggregate. Undifferentiated resources composed of clayey, shelly sand, marl and organic muck occur in the western part of Lee County near the coast. These sediments are not typically amenable to large-scale economical utilization due to the heterogeneous nature. Locally, the sediments may be utilized for fill on project sites, as well as for top soil and road fill.

No lands given a DOR code of 92 (mining, petroleum, gas lands) exist within the Village of Estero. No mines permitted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) are located within the Village of Estero, although several do exist in the surrounding area, primarily to the east along Corkscrew Road. Some of these mines are located in the area shown as containing limestone as a mineral commodity in the FGS map series. These mines include West Lakes Excavation, University Lakes Mine, and FFD MEPD Mine, the latter of which covers an area shown as containing both limestone and undifferentiated resources. Bonita Farms I and II Mine is located in an area shown on the FGS map series as dominated by undifferentiated resources, but presumably the site contains commercially valuable mineral resources, such as limestone and/or sand. Based on FGS Map Series No. 130 and the presence of permitted mines in the immediate vicinity, commercially valuable limestone deposits likely exist in the eastern portion of the Village of Estero. However, this area has already experienced residential and commercial development, with no large, undeveloped parcels remaining that would be necessary for a commercially viable mining operation.

According to FGS Map Series No. 130, two oil fields are located in Lee County, the West Felda and Lehigh Park fields. Both of these fields tap the Sunniland Formation as the production zone. In Lee County, the Sunniland production zone occurs at approximately 11,500 to 12,000 feet below land surface. Neither field falls within the boundary of the Village of Estero. No oil or gas production wells permitted through the FDEP, as taken from published FDEP datasets, occur within the Village of Estero. Permitted wells do exist to the east, but these sites have been identified as dry holes, indicating no oil or gas was present in economically extractable quantities. Given the geologic trend of the Sunniland Formation, it is unlikely that petroleum reserves on par with the West Felda and Lehigh Park fields exist within the Village.

**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT
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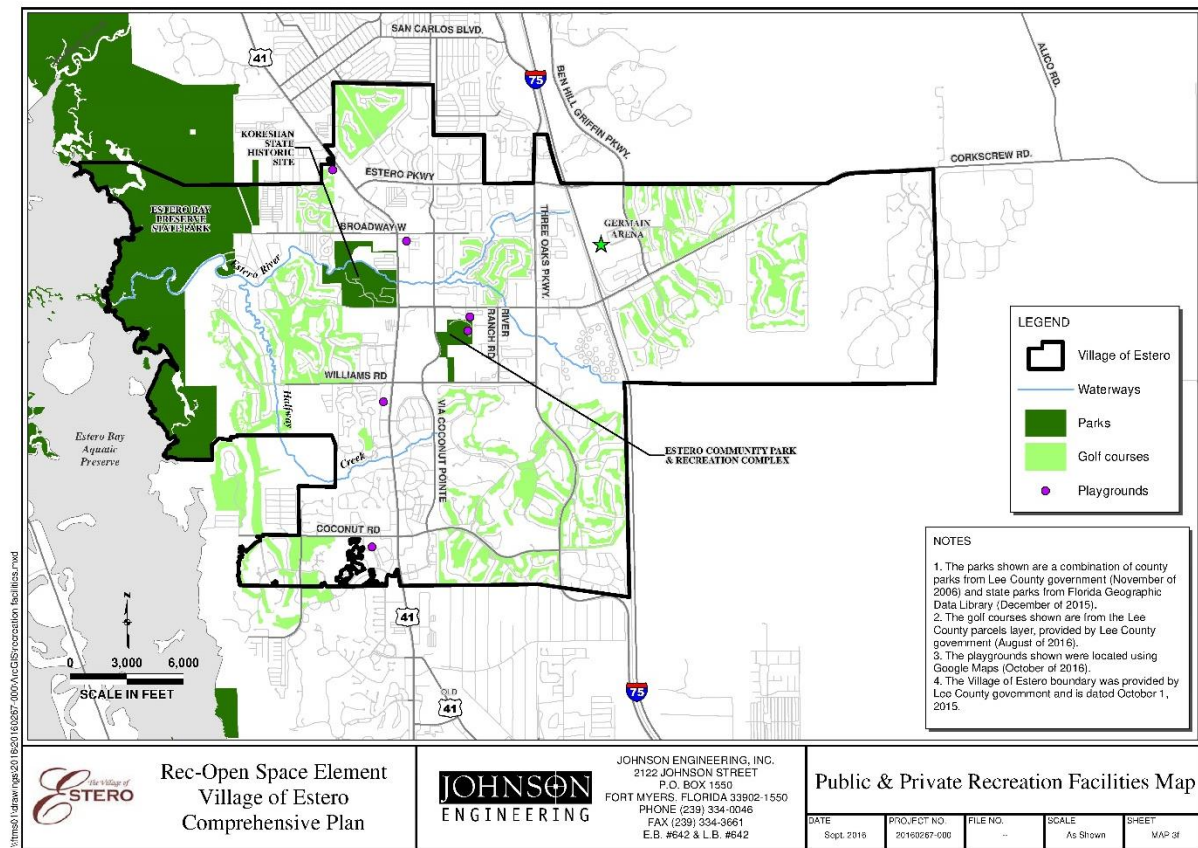
Recreation and Open Space Element Data & Analysis

INTRODUCTION

Florida Statutes were updated in 2011 to limit the public facilities subject to concurrency and level of service standards. Florida Statute 163.3180 provides that "Sanitary sewer, solid waste, drainage, and potable water are the only public facilities and services subject to the concurrency requirement on a statewide basis... however, any local government may extend the concurrency requirement so that it applies to additional public facilities within its jurisdiction. If concurrency is applied to other public facilities, the local government comprehensive plan must provide the principles, guidelines, standards, and strategies, including adopted levels of service, to guide its application."

Figure 33 below displays the variety of public and private recreation facilities in the Village.

Figure 33: Public and Private Recreation Facilities Map



The following narrative summarizes the existing and future conditions relative to public regional, community and neighborhood parks in Estero for consideration in the Goals, Objectives and Policies developed for the Comprehensive Plan.

Recreation and Open Space Element Data & Analysis

REGIONAL PARKS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The following regional scale public park and recreation facilities are within the Village:

- Estero Community Park and Recreation Complex is an approximately 55-acre County-owned and operated park within the Village. Facilities include:
 - Recreation Center
 - Amphitheater; Stage/Lawn Area
 - Restrooms
 - Lighted Playground
 - Six (6) Picnic Shelters
 - Two (2) rentable Pavilions
 - Off-lead Dog Park with Shelter
 - Four (4) lighted Bocce Courts
 - 12 lighted Horseshoe Courts
 - Three lighted Sand Volleyball Courts
 - One (1) multipurpose bermuda field- no lights
 - Two (2) lighted multipurpose bermuda fields
 - 18 hole Disc Golf Course*(source: leegov.com)*

- Koreshan State Historic Site Park is a 135-acre state-owned and operated park within the Village. Facilities include:
 - Boat ramp
 - Canoe/kayak rental
 - Self guided or ranger guided tours
 - Full facility campground

- Estero Bay Preserve State Park is an over 10,000-acre state-owned and operated park that extends along 10 miles of coastline. Approximately half of the park lies within the Village of Estero. The main entrance to the Park is off Winkler Road in unincorporated Lee County. A second entrance known as the Estero River Scrub site is at the western extent of Broadway within the Village. Hiking trails are offered at this location, and paddling trails are offered along Estero River. *(source: floridastateparks.org)*

The Calusa Blueway provides a paddling trail that circles Estero Bay and continues up the Estero River to US 41, linking the Estero Bay Preserve State Park and Koreshan State Historic Site Park as depicted in **Figure 34** to the right.

Figure 34: Calusa Blueway Map



Source: <https://www.fortmyers-sanibel.com/calusablueway/maps>

Recreation and Open Space Element Data & Analysis

Because regional parks are a regional resource, the Lee Plan service levels and Countywide population should be considered for analyzing adequacy of regional facilities. Policy 95.1.3 of the Lee Plan establishes minimum acceptable level of service standards for regional parks at 6 acres of developed regional park land open for public use per 1,000 total seasonal county population. The 2013 estimated functional population of Lee County was 759,173 based on BEBR Estimates. At that functional population estimate, the need for regional park acreage to meet minimum level of service standards calculates to 4,555.04 acres.

According to the Lee County 2013 Concurrency Report, there are 7,220 acres of existing Regional Parks currently operated by the County, City, State and Federal governments.

Minimum level of service standards are currently met and exceeded on a regional scale for Regional Parks.

For comprehensive planning purposes, the population and service levels within the Village limits is also considered. Given the Village ~~total~~current seasonal population of ~~46,091~~51,738 and inventory of Regional scale parks of approximately 5,190 acres, the service level within the Village is ~~112.6~~100.3 acres per 1,000 total seasonal Village population.

FUTURE CONDITIONS

With a projected total seasonal population of ~~67,786~~74,575 in the ~~ten-year planning horizon~~long-term planning period (2040), the current inventory of Regional scale parks of approximately 5,190 acres yields a service level within the Village of ~~76.6~~69.6 acres per 1,000 total seasonal Village population, which is an adequate service level for the current and future population.

On July 6, 2016, the Village of Estero adopted Resolution 2016-17 (attached) declaring support for and willingness to partner and possibly jointly fund environmental improvements to Koreshan State Park and Estero Bay Preserve State Park, with the following suggestions:

- Upgrades of the canoe and kayak launch at Koreshan, and the development of additional canoe and kayak shore facilities in the Estero Bay Preserve Park,
- Adding separate boat launch facilities at both Parks,
- Adding, with parking, boat transport options for residents to reach Lover's Key and other beach locations directly from Estero and as part of this enhancement consider electric boat launches to maintain the quiet and natural setting of the Estero River,
- Adding interpretive tours of Mound Key,
- Adding a nature walk, boardwalk and floating walkway along the entire length of the Estero River to connect the State Parks, as well as connecting the State Parks to other community recreational assets,
- Adding a pedestrian bridge from the Koreshan Park to the State owned Florida Forever property northwest of the Boomer property,
- Focus on maintaining a natural setting along the Estero River where possible and throughout the Parks while facilitating access via enhanced trails,
- Changing the name of the Koreshan State Park to Estero River/Koreshan Historic Site State Park,

Recreation and Open Space Element Data & Analysis

- Exploring environmental research facilities and environmental restoration through the Florida Gulf Coast University Environmental Studies Group.

- The Recreation and Open Space Element includes an Objective and supporting policies focused on performing a Recreation and Open Space Master Plan to assess existing park facilities and services and determine improvements and additions desired to better serve residents.
- The Village will further support state parks and coordinate with state agencies per policies of the Recreation and Open Space Element.

COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION CENTERS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Estero Community Park encompasses 55 acres and contains a 40,000 square foot community recreation center. At 55 acres, Estero Community Park is adequate to serve a population of up to 68,750 permanent residents when applying the Lee County minimum level of service standard of 0.8 acres per 1,000 permanent population.

FUTURE CONDITIONS

The Estero permanent population anticipated in ~~through the ten-year planning horizon is 46,091~~ the long-term planning period (2040) is 49,916. With 55 acres of existing community park, the future service level will be ~~1.2~~ 1.1 acres per 1,000 permanent population, which is an adequate service level for the current and future population

- The Recreation and Open Space Element includes an Objective and supporting policies focused on performing a Recreation and Open Space Master Plan to assess existing park facilities and services and determine improvements and additions desired to better serve residents.
- The Recreation and Open Space Element includes an Objective and supporting policies to evaluate Estero Community Park and other areas as signature recreation spaces for the Village.

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NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

While Estero's established residential areas in the vicinity of US 41 and Broadway are not associated with gated communities, the majority of Estero's residential areas built since the 1990s are developed as gated communities. The majority of these gated communities have been developed with some combination of internal golf courses, clubhouses, and other recreation facilities such as tennis courts and pools, designed as part of the communities.

Golf courses are depicted in **Figure 33: Public & Private Recreation Facilities Map** above. Five playgrounds (outside of Estero Community Park) are also identified on this map.

FUTURE CONDITIONS

Future Planned Development communities will continue to be designed with amenities to serve the residents of those communities.

The Village is not required to have a level of service standard for neighborhood parks. Public input received during the preparation of the comprehensive plan revealed that park and recreation facilities are a priority among those who participated. A robust planning process of a Recreation and Open Space Master Plan for the Village will help determine the population's needs and desires to inform further policy on parks and recreation planning and programming. Facilities may include purchase and development of new public facilities and publicly accessible park spaces within larger developments and urban centers. The comprehensive plan may also identify goals to integrate active lifestyle opportunities with infrastructure by encouraging and supporting walkways or exercise trails around water management lakes, and along railroad, FPL, and roadway corridors.

- The Recreation and Open Space Element includes an Objective and supporting policies focused on performing a Recreation and Open Space Master Plan to assess existing park facilities and services and determine improvements and additions desired to better serve residents.
- The Recreation and Open Space Element includes an Objective and supporting policies to encourage the creation of neighborhood parks, pocket parks, linear parks and open space.
- The Village further promotes designations of public open spaces through Placemaking policies in the Community Design Sub Element of the Future Land Use Element.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT
DATA AND ANALYSIS**

Intergovernmental Coordination Element Data & Analysis

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element is to ensure appropriate coordination between the Village, neighboring jurisdictions, and other governmental agencies.

The table below lists the various governmental entities and the subjects of coordination with those entities. Generally, the office with primary responsibility for coordination is the Village Manager’s office or its representatives. The Village Council has the authority, in many instances, to make determinations regarding the continuance of, or changes to, coordination issues with other agencies or jurisdictions. This table is not to be intended to be an all-inclusive list of entities with which the Village will coordinate.

Figure 35: Coordinating Entities

Entity	Subject of Coordination
Lee County	
Lee County Administration	General Administrative
Lee County Community Development	Planning Activities
Lee County Utilities	Water, Sewer
Lee County Solid Waste	Solid Waste
Lee County Department of Transportation	Concurrency, Impact Fees
Lee County School District	Schools, Shared Recreation Facilities
Lee County Sheriff’s Office	Law Enforcement
Lee County Port Authority	Airport Compatibility Planning
Lee County Emergency Services	Disaster and Hazard Planning
State of Florida	
Department of Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Development	Planning Activities
Division of Emergency Management	Emergency Management
Environmental Protection	Water Quality, Parks, Trails
Florida Department of Transportation	Transportation
South Florida Water Management District	Permitting, Water Supply
State Division of Historic Resources	Historic & Archaeological Resources
Southwest Regional Planning Council	General Planning
Florida Gulf Coast University	Education
Florida Fish and Wildlife	Environment

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Entity	Subject of Coordination
Federal	
US Census Bureau	Census and Surveys
US Army Corps of Engineers	Engineering and Environmental
Environmental Protection Agency	Environmental
US Department of Housing and Urban Development	Affordable Housing
Special Districts	
Estero Fire District	Fire and Rescue
San Carlos Fire District	Fire and Rescue
Other	
Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization	Transportation
Florida League of Cities	Governmental Coordination
Bonita Springs Utilities	Sewer, Water

- The Intergovernmental Coordination Element includes principles and guidelines for coordination with the Lee County School District, the South Florida Water Management District, and other units of local, state and federal government.
- Procedures are in the Intergovernmental Coordination Element for identifying and implementing joint planning areas, for purposes of annexation, municipal incorporation, and joint infrastructure service areas.
- Processes are described in the Intergovernmental Coordination Element for collaborative planning and decision making on population projections and public school siting, the location and extension of public facilities subject to concurrency, and siting facilities with countywide significance.
- Policies in the Intergovernmental Coordination Element enable interlocal agreements with Bonita Springs, Lee County and the Lee County School District.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT
DATA AND ANALYSIS**

Capital Improvements Element Data & Analysis

The Capital Improvements Element is designed to consider the need for and the location of public facilities in order to encourage the efficient use of such facilities. Principles for construction, extension, or increase in capacity of public facilities are also outlined in this Element. Per statutory provisions, the Capital Improvements Element shall be reviewed annually, and the capital improvement schedule shall be updated annually.

The standards to ensure the availability of public facilities and the adequacy of those facilities to meet established acceptable levels of service are incorporated in the Capital Improvements Element. Professionally accepted studies and methods have been used to evaluate the appropriate levels of service. To determine the appropriate levels of service, the facility capacity that will be necessary to meet level-of-service demands has been considered. The schedule of facility improvements that are necessary to meet the adopted level of service is reflected in the capital improvement element.

Public facilities will be provided in order to achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standards. Appropriate amendments will be made to the capital improvements element of the comprehensive plan, consistent with the requirements of Florida Statute. 163.3177(3). The capital improvements element shall identify facilities necessary to meet adopted levels of service during a 5-year period. Public school level-of-service standards shall be included and adopted into the capital improvements element of the local comprehensive plan and shall apply districtwide to all schools of the same type.

- The Capital Improvement Schedule is included in the Capital Improvements Element to indicate all projects necessary to ensure that any adopted level-of-service standards are achieved and maintained for a 5-year period.
- The capital improvement schedule includes transportation improvements which are relied upon to ensure concurrency and financial feasibility. The schedule has been coordinated with the metropolitan planning organization's long-range transportation plan.
- By policy in the Capital Improvements Element, the Village shall use professionally accepted techniques for measuring levels of service when evaluating potential impacts of a proposed development.