Perdido II Mitigation Inspection Report (September 2025) USACE Permit No. SAJ-2007-5634 (IP-AWP)

On September 17, 2025, Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD) staff conducted a site inspection and photo-monitoring at the Perdido II Mitigation Area (Perdido River and Bay Watershed; Escambia County) for mitigation associated with replacement of the US 90 Perdido River Bridge (SAJ-2007-5634, IP-AWP). Initiated in 2009, this project seeks to enhance and restore approximately 67 acres of Pine Flatwoods (FLUCCS 411), Hydric Pine Flatwoods (FLUCCS 625), Hydric Pine Savanna (FLUCCS 626), and Mixed Forested Wetlands (FLUCCS 630). Part of a 2006 fee-simple purchase of 5,456 acres from the International Paper Company, this site consists of approximately 11± acres of preserved Mixed Forested Wetlands and 55± acres of former pine plantation that is being restored to a diverse mosaic of wetlands and forested uplands. A 2024 vegetation assessment by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) observed 179 plant taxa onsite.

During the current inspection, areas of preserved Mixed Forested Wetlands (approximately 11± acres) appeared to be generally of high quality. However, the areas (55± acres) being restored from pine plantation are in need of additional management. Excessive vine (especially *Vitis* spp.) and shrub (especially *Cliftonia monophylla* and *Ilex glabra*) cover is likely affecting desirable native groundcover. Exotics, such as *Triadica sebifera*, are present. To bring the site back to desired conditions, remediation efforts will include prescribed fire, herbicide treatment of exotic and invasive vegetation, and mechanical shrub reduction.

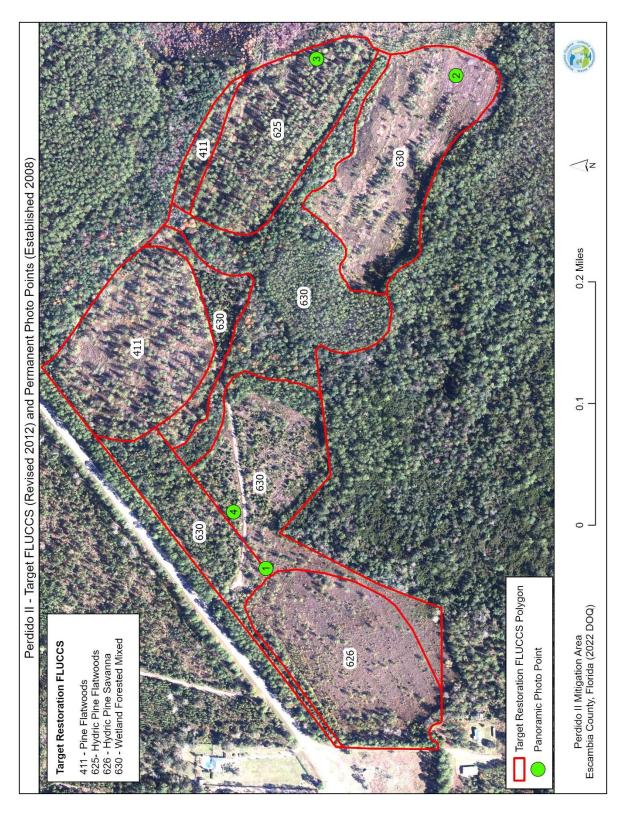


Figure 1. Restoration Targets (Revised 2012) and Permanent Panoramic Photo Points (Established 2008)



Perdido II Photo Point No. 1 – 9/17/2025



Perdido II Photo Point No. 2 – 9/17/2025



Perdido II Photo Point No. 3 – 9/17/2025



Perdido II Photo Point No. 4 – 9/17/2025