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Commissioners approve purchase of 2 parcels totaling 600+ acres for Conservation 20/20

Fort Myers, FL, Aug. 25, 2020 – The Lee Board of County Commissioners today voted to approve the purchase of two parcels for Conservation 20/20 totaling more than 600 acres, including land adjacent to Four Mile Cove Ecological Park in Cape Coral and land in Alva.

The parcels are:

- About 193.82 acres located on Four Mile Cove Parkway, Cape Coral and adjacent to Four Mile Cove Ecological Park to the south and the Caloosahatchee River and creek frontage along the easterly boundary. The purchase price is \$6,050,000, plus costs to close. The property includes pine flatwoods, mangrove swamp, saltwater marshes, cabbage palm hammock, palmetto prairie, hardwood/conifer mixed, mixed wetland hardwoods and live oak. The river and creek habitats are home to species including bald eagle, manatee and smalltooth sawfish.

On Aug. 10, the Cape Coral City Council approved an Interlocal Agreement specifying the terms and conditions of the City's restoration of a portion of the property. The Lee Board of County Commissioners also approved the agreement on Tuesday.

The Conservation 20/20 Land Acquisition and Stewardship Advisory Committee (CLASAC) voted unanimously on Aug. 19 to forward this purchase agreement for Board consideration.

- About 426.98 acres at 2200 Carter Lane, Alva. The land is within Hickey Creek Swamp, on the south side of S.R. 80 and about one-quarter mile west of Hickey Creek Road. This parcel is a diverse mix of upland and wetland native plant communities including cypress forest, cabbage palms, pine flatwoods, and mesic hardwood hammock. With quick access from S.R. 80, the property has potential for marked hiking trails.

The purchase price is \$4.4 million, plus costs to close. CLASAC voted unanimously to forward this purchase agreement for Board consideration to approve.

There are currently 30,225 acres within the Conservation 20/20, Lee County's land acquisition and management program. Conservation lands help the county protect drinking water, enhance water quality, provide nature-based recreational opportunities, protect areas from flooding and provide wildlife habitat. For more information, visit www.Conservation2020.org