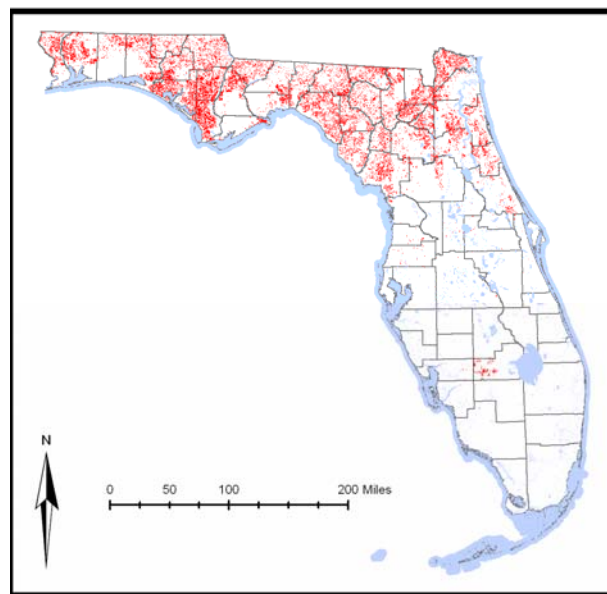


# Industrial/Commercial Pineland



Some habitat distributions or locations may be misrepresented on this map due to size, resolution and insufficient data sources.

## Status

Current condition: Good and declining.

According to the best available GIS information at this time (Appendix D. GIS Data Tables), 3,363,024 acres (1,360,968 ha) of Industrial/Commercial Pineland are in Florida. Of that total, 19% (634,848 acres; 256,914 ha) are in existing conservation or managed areas, 11% (358,029 acres; 144,889 ha) are on private lands encompassed by Florida Forever projects, 6% (196,264 acres; 79,425 ha) are within SCHAs-identified lands, and the remaining 65% (2,173,883 acres; 879,739 ha) are within other private lands.

## Habitat Description

**FNAI type:** None

This category includes industrial and commercial pine plantations that are almost exclusively artificially produced through silvicultural practices. Due to a climate conducive to rapid growth, Florida is part of one of the most productive timber-producing regions in the world; Florida's timberlands are a major contributor to the state's economy and provide critical water recharge areas within Florida. Industrial/Commercial Pineland habitat is characterized by high density, even-aged, single-species stands, planted in rows at regular intervals, across large areas. This habitat includes sites predominantly planted to slash pine, although longleaf pine and loblolly pine tracts also occur. Also included in this category are sand pine plantations, which often are

planted on sites with poorer soils; many of these areas occur on intensively prepared sites. Ground cover and shrub vegetation on Industrial/Commercial Pineland sites vary with the growth stage of the pine trees and management techniques used at the site. On early or recently planted sites, ground cover and shrub vegetation may be excessively dense, and may include species such as palmetto, gallberry, and wax myrtle. As the trees become taller and canopy cover becomes complete, ground cover and shrub vegetation becomes sparse. As Industrial/Commercial Pineland sites approach maturity other vegetation may disappear and the ground cover may consist of a thick layer of pine needles and other litter. Industrial/Commercial Pineland may provide habitat for a variety of species depending upon the growth stage of the forest and the management practices employed on-site. Species such as the Florida panther and the black bear may use this habitat as a corridor between primary habitats.

## Associated Species of Greatest Conservation Need

### **Mammals**

- |                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • <i>Sorex longirostris</i>          | Southeastern Shrew         |
| • <i>Myotis grisescens</i>           | Gray Bat                   |
| • <i>Lasiurus borealis</i>           | Eastern Red Bat            |
| • <i>Lasiurus seminolus</i>          | Seminole Bat               |
| • <i>Lasiurus intermedius</i>        | Northern Yellow Bat        |
| • <i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>           | Hoary Bat                  |
| • <i>Sciurus niger niger</i>         | Southeastern Fox Squirrel  |
| • <i>Sciurus niger shermani</i>      | Sherman's Fox Squirrel     |
| • <i>Ursus americanus floridanus</i> | Florida Black Bear         |
| • <i>Mustela frenata olivacea</i>    | Southeastern Weasel        |
| • <i>Mustela frenata peninsulæ</i>   | Florida Long-tailed Weasel |
| • <i>Spilogale putorius</i>          | Spotted Skunk              |
| • <i>Mephitis mephitis</i>           | Striped Skunk              |
| • <i>Puma concolor coryi</i>         | Florida Panther            |

### **Birds**

- |                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • <i>Mycteria Americana</i>         | Wood Stork                    |
| • <i>Elanoides forficatus</i>       | Swallow-tailed Kite           |
| • <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>   | Bald Eagle                    |
| • <i>Falco sparverius paulus</i>    | Southeastern American Kestrel |
| • <i>Falco peregrinus</i>           | Peregrine Falcon              |
| • <i>Columbina passerine</i>        | Common Ground-Dove            |
| • <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> | Red-headed Woodpecker         |
| • <i>Picoides villosus</i>          | Hairy Woodpecker              |
| • <i>Colaptes auratus auratus</i>   | Northern Flicker              |
| • <i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>    | Swainson's Warbler            |
| • <i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>       | Bachman's Sparrow             |

### **Amphibians**

- |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| • <i>Rana capito</i> | Gopher Frog |
|----------------------|-------------|

### **Reptiles**

- |                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| • <i>Clemmys guttata</i>          | Spotted Turtle     |
| • <i>Terrapene carolina bauri</i> | Florida Box Turtle |

- *Gopherus polyphemus* Gopher Tortoise
- *Heterodon platirhinos* Eastern Hognose Snake
- *Drymarchon couperi* Eastern Indigo Snake
- *Pituophis melanoleucus mugitus* Florida Pine Snake
- *Lampropeltis calligaster* Mole Kingsnake
- *Lampropeltis getula* Common Kingsnake
- *Crotalus horridus* Timber Rattlesnake
- *Crotalus adamanteus* Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake

## Conservation Threats

Threats to Industrial/Commercial Pineland habitat that were also identified for multiple other habitats are addressed in Chapter Multiple Habitat Threats and Conservation Actions. These threats include:

- Conversion to commercial and industrial development
- Conversion to housing and urban development
- Incompatible forestry practices
- Roads

Although intensively managing pine stands alters the native habitat conditions and reduces habitat quality for some SGCN, other species sometimes benefit from these conditions. Threats specific to Commercial/Industrial Pineland apply to loss of habitat quality for SGCN requiring a less altered pineland environment. Such losses in habitat quality vary by species and may result from inappropriate application of BMPs or other management actions that are not compatible with habitat needs for the species. These management actions may include bedding and other site preparation, dense stocking of single-age monocultures, short rotation lengths, overuse of herbicide instead of fire or other alternatives for vegetation management, major hydrological alterations, and insufficient invasive control efforts.

The following stresses and sources of stress threaten this habitat:

Stresses		Habitat Stress Rank
A	Habitat degradation/disturbance	High
B	Habitat destruction or conversion	High
C	Low genetic diversity in pines	Low

The sources of the stress, or threats, were used to generate conservation actions.

Sources of Stress		Habitat Source Rank	Related Stresses (see above)
1	Incompatible forestry practices	High	A
2	Conversion to housing and urban development	High	B
3	Conversion to commercial and industrial development	High	B
4	Roads	Medium	B
<b>Statewide Threat Rank of Habitat</b>		<b>High</b>	

## Conservation Actions

Actions to abate the threats to Industrial/Commercial Pineland that were also identified as statewide threats (Incompatible forestry practices [see habitat specific actions below], Conversion to housing and urban development, Conversion to commercial and industrial development, Roads) are in Chapter Multiple Habitat Threats and Conservation Actions.

Actions to abate specific threats that were identified for Industrial/Commercial Pineland are below. These actions were designed to increase management consistency with habitat for wildlife SGCN and control of Japanese climbing fern where pine straw is harvested, but none were ranked as of high priority for implementation.

### *Incompatible Forestry Practices*

Overall Rank	Economic and Other Incentives	Feasibility	Benefits	Cost
L	Provide incentives for increasing rotation length, reducing tree densities, and improving native ground cover on industrial and NIPF ownerships. Use incentive programs to compensate forest managers and owners for any profit lost due to use of longer rotations.	H	L	L
Overall Rank	Planning and Standards	Feasibility	Benefits	Cost
M	Promote and encourage full and comprehensive utilization of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI).	M	M	L
Overall Rank	Research	Feasibility	Benefits	Cost
L	Research on alternatives to bedding for silvicultural production.	H	L	M
L	Research on productivity loss if bedding is not implemented (to identify whether subsidies might be necessary to reimburse for productivity loss)	H	L	L