

A chapter of the national Sierra Club, <u>Sierra Club Florida</u> is made up of volunteer leaders and civic activists representing over 32,000 members. Our mission is to enjoy, explore, and protect the natural places in Florida.

LEARN MORE AT:

https://www.sierraclub.org/florida

SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES:

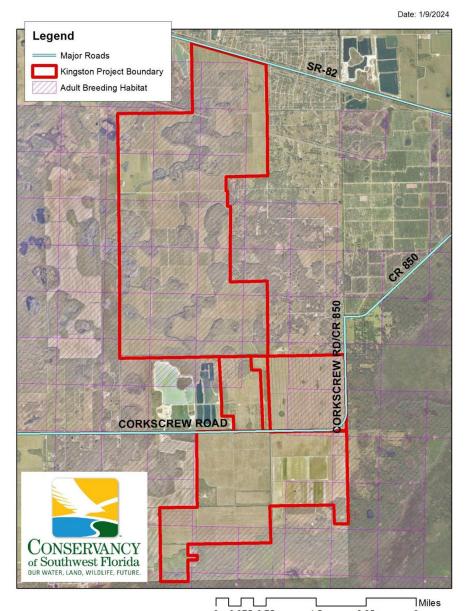
@SierraClubFL







Where do you live in reference to these maps?



- How would these developments impact your quality of life?
- What is at risk of being lost for yourself and your neighbors?
- What do you want to protect?

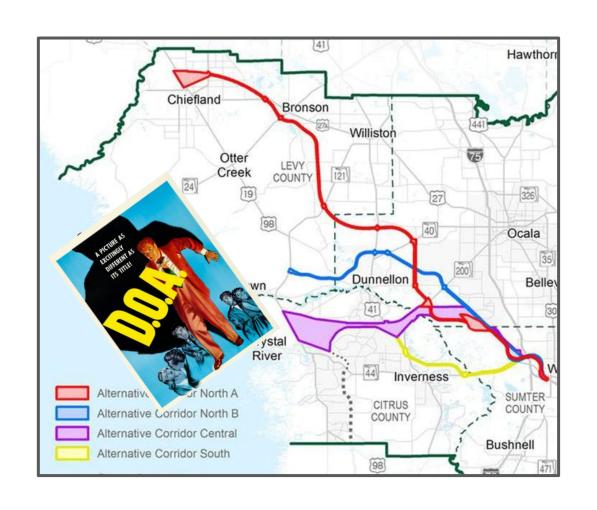
Learning Objective and Key Concept: Habitat Fragmentation

 What do you know about habitat fragmentation?



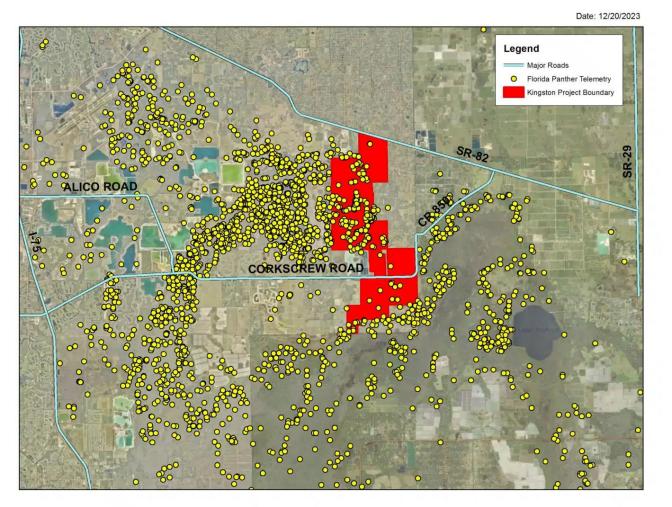
- Why do you think wildlife needs connected habitat?
- What do you think would happen if we have more poorly planned developments in SWFL?
- What kind of future do you want to see for SWFL?

We have STOPPED development threats before





AND WE CAN DO IT AGAIN



WE ASK THAT FDEP DENY THIS PROJECT

Kingston, FDEP State 404 permit application # 423130-001

- Significant impact to taxpayer funded conservation lands like CREW Trust public lands and the Imperial Marsh Preserve (Lee County Parks and Rec)
 - 60,000-acre preserve that spans the eastern border of Lee and Collier counties
- Destroys more than 3,300 acres of Florida panther habitat essential to its survival and recovery
 - Only ~120 panther left in the wild
- Kingston would add about ~10,000 new homes
- More than 95,000 additional daily vehicle trips on alreadydeadly roadways, according to the applicant's documents
- The US Fish and Wildlife Service has authorized harm, harassment, and potential death of up to 4-23 panthers per year incidental to the development of just this one project. It is our understanding that this is more panther "take" than has even been authorized in the history of panther regulation.
- Has received SFWMD ERP and local approvals



The Kingston project is proposed on listed species habitat:

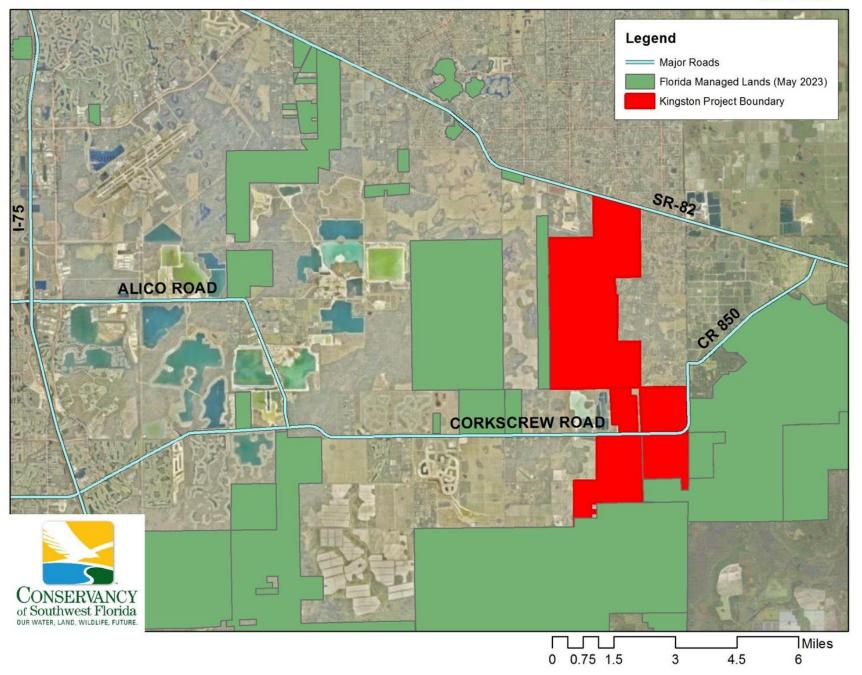
- Florida bonneted bat
- Florida panther
- Crested caracara
- Gopher tortoise
- Wildlife corridor

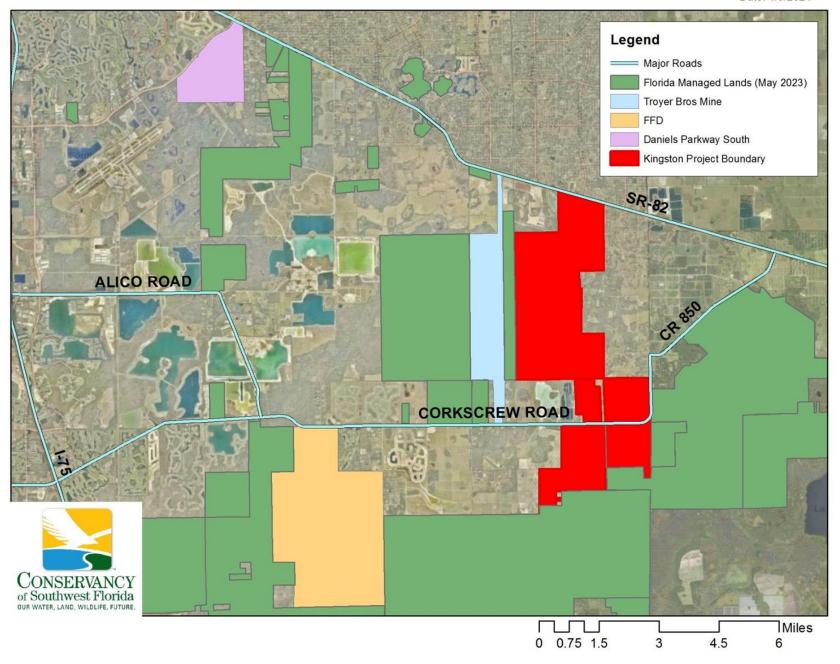


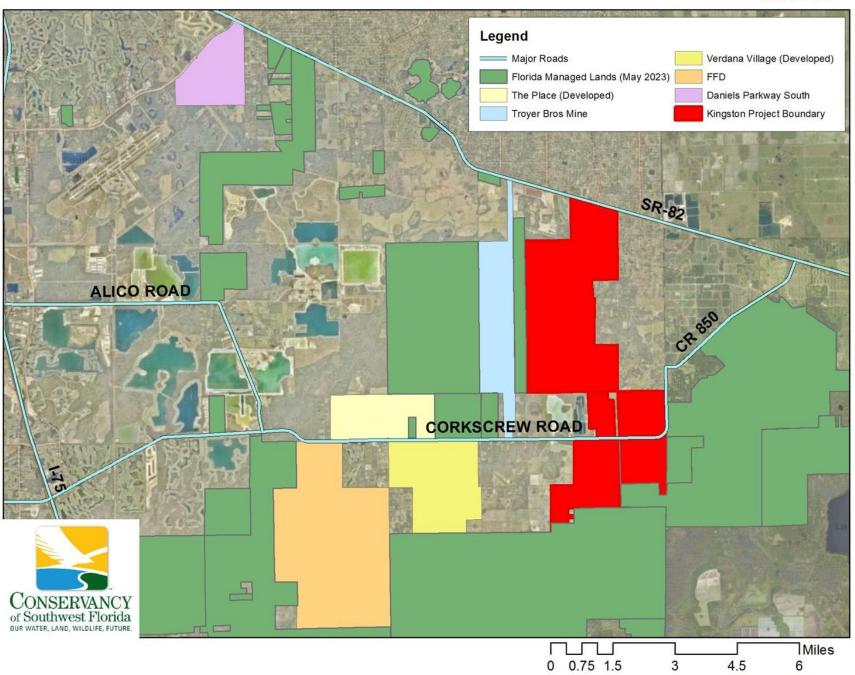


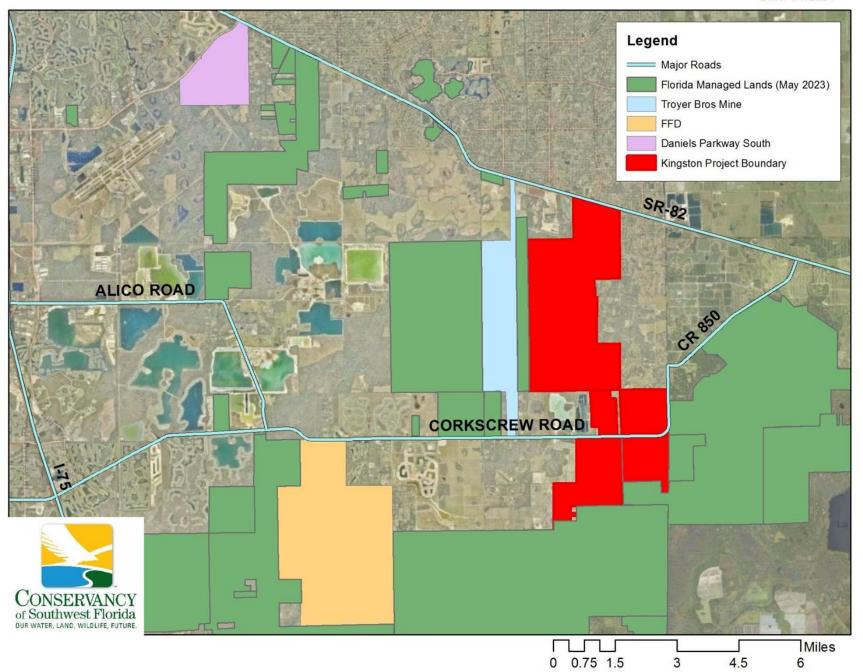
Loss of habitat, fragmentation of corridors, increased traffic, loss of prey and other disruptions to life cycle needs, and increased presence of human populations will jeopardize the future of the Florida panther.



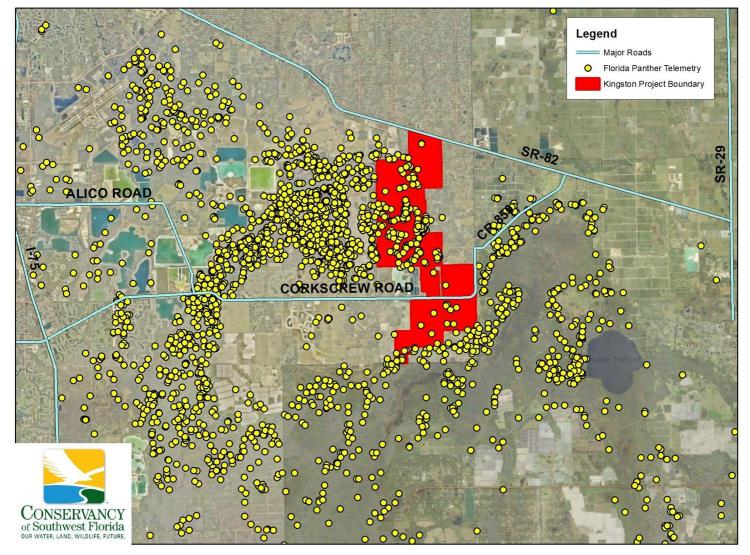








Date: 1/4/2024





- Kingston is sprawl.
- It is sited in one of the most problematic areas because of the significant environmental resources that are at risk.
- Kingston, along with other individual permits that FDEP is also currently reviewing, would transform a currently rural and landscape into an urban area.



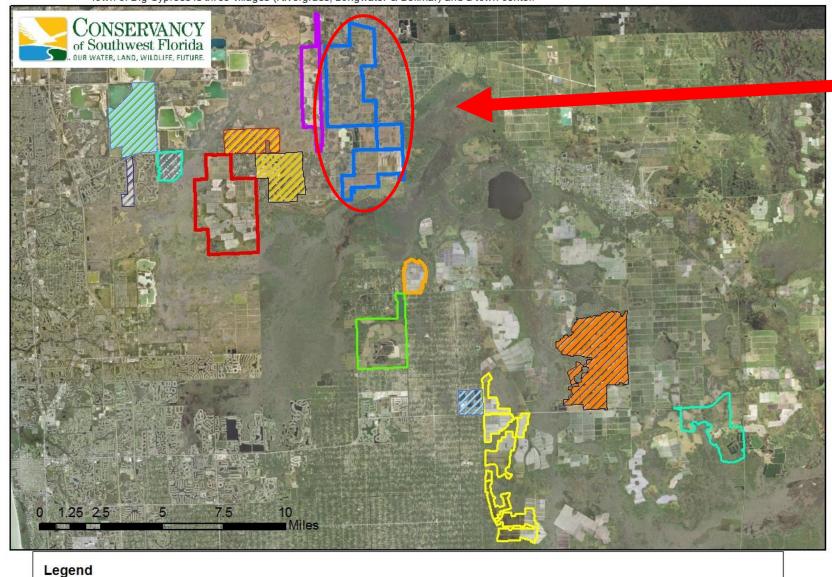
Vehicular collisions, which have already killed 13 panthers this year and are the leading cause of death for this iconic and endangered species, would necessarily increase.



Corkscrew Shores (Lee)

Corkscrew Crossing (Lee)

Wild Blue (Lee)



Skysail (Collier)

IRRV (Collier)

Town of Big Cypress (Collier)

he Place (Lee)

Ave Maria (Collier)

erdana Village (Lee)

Brightshore (Collier)

Collier Rod & Gun

FFD (Lee)

Troyer Bros Mine (Lee)

OCP/Kingston (Lee)

Cumulative impacts of Kingston and other proposed projects put the panther in jeopardy

Eastern Collier landowners envision at least 45,000 acres of mining and development.



HELP PROTECT OUR WAY OF LIFE!





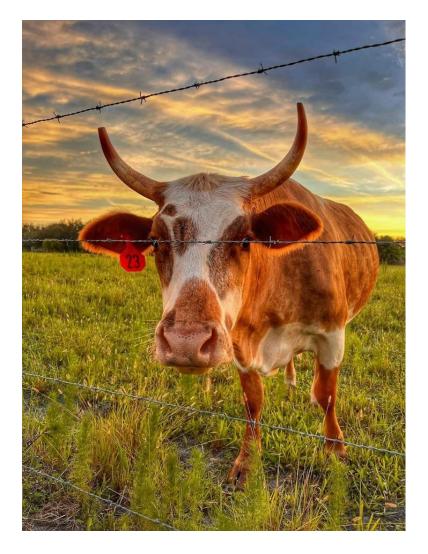


HELP PROTECT OUR OPEN SPACES!

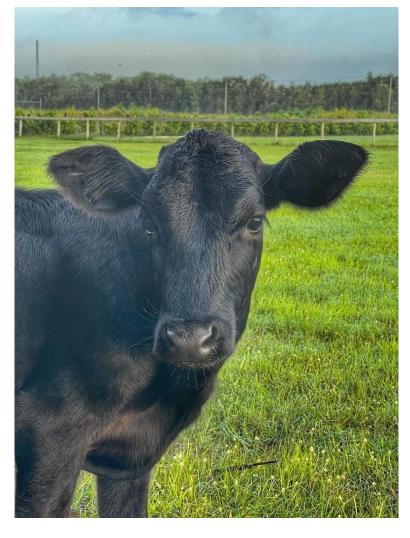




HELP PROTECT OUR RURAL WAY OF LIFE!







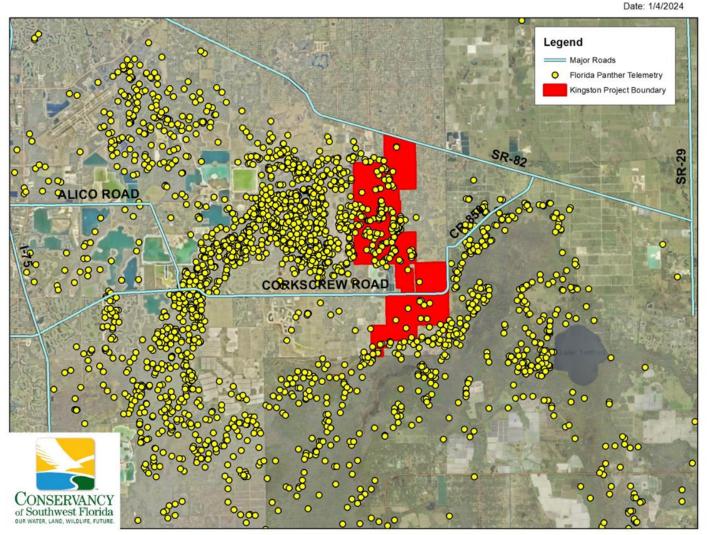


"Tug on anything at all and you'll find it connected to everything else in the universe."

-John Muir



SPRAWL KILLS





What you can do now!

- Submit a public comment opposing the Kingston development
- Speak up now to protect the panther! Scan the QR code to send your comments to FDEP, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the EPA, and FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission asking them to deny this 404 wetland permit!
- When making written comments, be sure to include: Kingston permit #
 423130-001. You can submit your own written public comments by email to jonathan.guinn@floridadep.gov.



What you can do now!







Help share the FDEP public meeting and press conference event in your activist networks and with your neighbors on Facebook, Instagram, and

https://bit.ly/48tfwLZ

Nextdoor. Shareable link:





LET'S STOP THE KINGSTON SPRAWL! JOIN US FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE AHEAD OF FDEP MEETING TO PROTECT THE PANTHER



RSVP is not required but is greatly appreciated!

Want more information? Join us for a citizen primer event before next week's press conference discussing how you can best oppose this project and other conservation issues facing the FL Panther.

- South County Regional Library in Estero
- Saturday, January 13th from 2:00-3:30 PM.
- We will be in room SC. Address: 21100 Three
 Oaks Parkway Estero, FL 33928

Q & A





Thank You