

## **CLIENT:** FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – FLORIDA PARK SERVICE

YEARS ACTIVE: 7 • FIRST YEAR: 2015 • ACREAGE: 796,000 +/-Focus: Land Management, restoration and decision support



Since 2015, F4 has directly supported the Florida Park Service (FPS) in natural resources management and their mission to conserve the Real Florida<sup>SM</sup>. F4 has helped FPS reach and exceed internal natural resources management goals and objectives by providing data-driven planning, decision making, and project implementation services. Initially, F4 assisted the FPS by mapping 175 state parks, and creating a baseline of current conditions by designing, developing, and implementing a forest/vegetation inventory system.

F4's technology suite – SilvAssist – was used to inform future planning efforts by streamlining field data collection and workflows, enhancing reporting, tracking project progress, and supporting an increased level of analytics. After analyzing, interpreting, and summarizing baseline inventory data, F4 helped develop a data-driven process to objectively score and evaluate ecosystem health.

Since 2015, most of our support has been focused on helping FPS complete over 300 land management projects. These projects have included, but are not limited to, timber sale management (thinnings and restoration harvests), site prep and reforestation/restoration, invasive species management, and prescribed burning. F4 has also helped create and improve fire lines and installed or replaced low water crossings and culverts in dozens of state parks.



## **PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

- 1. Installed approximately 42,000 inventory plots across portions of 74 state parks
- 2. Helped create a method to quantitively evaluate ecosystem health
- 3. Used SilvAssist Suite:
  - a. Efficiently collected inventory data (SilvAssist Mobile)
  - b. Hosted and compiled inventory data to help streamline land management decision making (SilvAssist Inventory Manager)
- 4. Supported FPS prescribed burning program on +/-1,000 acres per year
- 5. Helped administer timber management operations to enhance forest health
- 6. Hurricane Support:
  - a. Helped administer the salvage of storm damaged timber on approximately 1,500 acres
  - b. Helped oversee contractor operations that targeted the reopening of 48 state parks

