

Alabama's Grand Bay Savanna



Contributed by The Nature Conservancy

The Grand Bay Savanna is one of the largest remaining expanses of Gulf Coast wet pine savanna in the world. Located in southern Mobile County in Alabama and southeastern Mississippi, the iconic savanna is a jewel of the greater Gulf Coast. With only three percent of this ecosystem remaining across its historic range, it is important to conserve and restore this unique and beautiful landscape.

Thanks to committed partners, this area is now protected forever and will be open to the public to enjoy. A unique public-private partnership between The Nature Conservancy, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), and the State of Alabama means more than 26,000 acres of key coastal lands in Alabama and Mississippi will remain as they are, with beautiful open-pine savanna that remains healthy because of prescribed burning. These park-like forests then transition into salt marsh finally yielding to the Gulf of Mexico.

With Governor Kay Ivey as special guest, The Nature Conservancy and partners announced the acquisition of 2,460 acres in south Mobile County in October 2017.

“Our great state, bless it, we are so blessed with abundance of natural diversity. From the Gulf Shores beaches, all the way to the lower Appalachian Mountains,” Ivey said. “Alabama is truly blessed with natural resources and diversity. This natural beauty and our abundant wildlife and outdoor resources, very definitely, positively impact our economy. And today, I am honored to be with you to celebrate The Nature Conservancy’s recent acquisition of more than 2,400 acres here in south Mobile County,” said Ivey. “This addition serves as a keystone piece for the Forever Wild Land Trust’s remarkable Grand Bay Savanna Complex. And, this project truly exemplifies how wonderful Forever Wild program has been for the great State of Alabama since being established in 1992. Furthermore, this project is the culmination of decades of persistent partnerships between state agencies, federal partners, and conservation groups.”

Acquired through funds from a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) grant under the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, the 2,460 acres will eventually be transferred to the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) Forever Wild Land Trust. 🌿



The Nature Conservancy is a 501c3 non-profit conservation organization working in all 50 states and around the globe. Our conservation goals focus on protecting biodiversity, native habitats, and resources for the benefit of people and nature. In Alabama, The Nature Conservancy helps conserve and manage the most biodiverse state east of the Mississippi River.

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