



# Bill Coy

This 80.04-acre preserve is located along the northern section of Buck Creek on the Cape Haze Peninsula. The entire preserve is *preserve* comprised of native habitat, predominantly scrubby flatwoods and mesic pine flatwoods. These flatwoods transition into coastal hammock and mangrove swamp along Buck Creek, which flows into Lemon Bay - an aquatic preserve and outstanding Florida water. The uplands on the site exhibit signs of fire suppression and many areas are succeeding into mesic oak and xeric hammocks. Mechanical restoration strategies enable the property to be restored to historical natural conditions.

These overgrown flatwoods are interspersed with open areas where gopher tortoise burrows are present. There is also an active bald eagle nest on the site, as well as listed wading birds foraging along the banks of Buck Creek\*. It was one of the largest areas of unprotected native habitat remaining on the Cape Haze Peninsula. A grant from Florida Communities Trust assisted with the acquisition of the property.

*\* The site provides protection of an intact mangrove shoreline, and is entirely within the 100-year flood plain. Several listed species use the parcel.*

