Project Overview

- Historically, fire exclusion, invasive nonnative vegetation, hydrologic alterations, and canal construction have impacted this 53-acre site.
- Restoration activities have included the following:
  - Removed over 13,000 pounds of trash.
  - Eradicated Brazilian pepper, Old World climbing fern, Australian pine, and rose myrtle infestations.
  - Constructed 2 lowhead dams (weirs) to rehydrate the historic blackwater Limestone Creek by reducing water velocity, increasing upstream hydration, preventing salt water intrusion, and promoting freshwater pooling.
  - Constructed 3 oxbows, covering approximately 4.5 acres to create estuarine habitat while reducing turbidity and erosion from water released from the C18 Canal.
- Upland areas were expanded by planting approximately 2,100 native grasses and plants.
- Public use facilities available include:
  - 150-foot fishing pier on the west end of the northern oxbow.
  - Observation platform on the east end of the northern oxbow.
  - Hiking trail from the fishing pier west to Island Way Road over the upper weir.
  - Public parking and an accessible trail to the observation platform off Church St.
  - Multi-use trail along both sides of the C-18 Canal.
  - Kayak/canoe launch.
  - Parking on the south side of the C-18 Canal off Island Way and Central Blvd.

Natural Areas Program
- Over 31,000 acres of County-owned and/or managed lands protected to maintain the diversity of biological communities and species.
- Open from sunrise to sunset, 7 days/week including holidays.
- Available for passive, natural resource-based, recreation activities such as hiking, bird watching, nature study, and photography, as well as for environmental education and scientific research.
- Other recreation uses, such as horseback riding, bicycling, and fishing are permitted in designated areas on a site-specific basis.

Project Area Location
- 6570 Church Street in Jupiter.
- The natural area is part of NENA (Northeast Everglades Natural Area), a collection of 165,000 acres of conservation lands and activity and education centers in northern Palm Beach County and southern Martin County offering a wide range of nature-based outdoor recreational opportunities.

Plants & Animals
- Site contains 4 native ecosystems: mesic flatwoods, scrubby flatwoods, hydric hammock, and tidal swamp.
- Listed plants observed: tiny polygala, wild cotton, common wild pine, giant wild pine, Simpson stopper, cinnamon fern, and royal fern.
- Listed animals observed: gopher tortoise, West Indian manatee, American redstart, little blue heron, yellow-crowned night-heron, and bald eagle.