



4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

2020-30 CAMPUS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

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4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

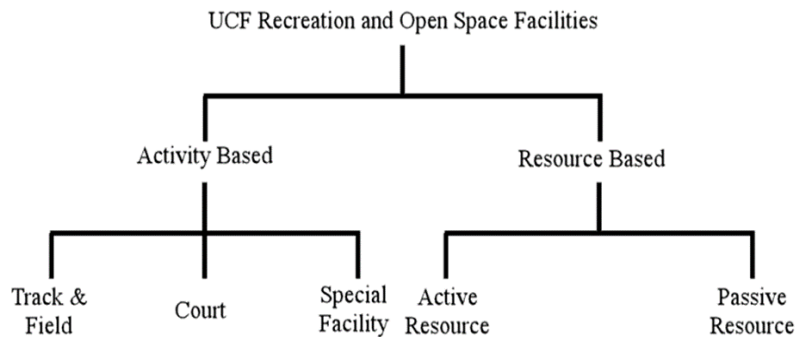
NARRATIVE



This element ensures the provision of adequate and accessible recreation facilities and open space to meet the future needs of the University.

Intercollegiate athletics facilities (courts, fields, specialty facilities) have always been part of the Recreation & Open Space Element. For the 2020-30 CMP, UCF has changed the name of the element to clearly include Athletics.

In order to provide a comprehensive inventory of all existing recreation and open space facilities, such facilities will be organized based on the following chart.



Activity-based Facilities

Activity-based facilities are defined as those facilities designed, constructed, and designated for specific sports or recreation activities, including intercollegiate, intramural, and recreational tracks and sports fields, multipurpose courts, and special facilities (fitness centers, ropes courses, pools).

Resource-based Facilities



Resource-Based refers to those facilities that are primarily used for general recreation or organized social functions. Resource-Based facilities are open to all and not designated for specific recreational activities or sports. Resource-Based facilities may include open green space, public parks, nature trails, conservation areas. Resource-Based facilities are further defined and categorized as active and passive resources.

- **Active Resource-Based Facilities** are generally accessible open spaces or parks where recreation activities are not specific, such as open fields, picnic areas, nature trails, public parks
- **Passive Resource-Based Facilities** refer to those areas that are relatively inaccessible to any types of recreation activities; and although not publicly accessible, they provide visual and climatic enhancements to the campus. They include conservation and environmental mitigation lands.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE INTRODUCTION

RELATED ELEMENTS

See 2.0 FUTURE LAND USE for additional information on conservation, wetlands and open space.

See 6.0 TRANSPORTATION for Figure 6.0-18 Cycling Map.

See 9.0 CONSERVATION for additional information on open space.

See 10.0 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS & IMPLEMENTATION for athletics and recreation capital projects projected for the planning timeframe.

STATUTE & REGULATION

UCF's name for the required element RECREATION & OPEN SPACE is 4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE. The element is required by Florida Statute 1013.30(3); and must follow the guidelines stated in Florida Board of Governors (BOG) Regulations, Chapter 21.

BOG 21.209 states the purpose of the RECREATION & OPEN SPACE element as follows:

“This element ensures the provision of adequate and accessible recreation facilities and open space to meet the future needs of the university.”

BOG 21.209 (2)(c.) indicates that athletics facilities are included as recreation & open space facilities.



4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, & POLICIES

4.1 Recreation & Open Space

NARRATIVE



Goals, Objectives & Policies (GOP) are stated here for “Activity-Based Recreation”

- Indoor and outdoor recreation facilities. e.g. intramural sports facilities and clubs (softball, soccer, tennis, etc.), gymnasias (including those in Recreation & Wellness Center and the Education Building), and the UCF Band facility.
- GOP for sporting event venues (football, soccer, softball, etc.) and training facilities for UCFAA teams, will be discussed further under Intercollegiate Athletics.

And for “Resource-Based Recreation”

- Open fields, picnic areas, nature trails, boating lakes, and public parks. This category may also include on-campus man-made landscape features (malls, courtyards, plazas, quadrangles, parks) where students, faculty, and staff gather for casual interaction or play.
- Conservation and environmental mitigation areas that provide visual and climatic enhancements to the campus.

See Nature Trails maps at the end of this element:

Figure 4.0-14 The Arboretum Nature Trails Map

Figure 4.0-15 The Lake Claire Nature Trails Map

Figure 4.0-16 The East Parcel Nature Trails Map

Goal 1: Provide a variety of safe, efficient, and enjoyable on-campus recreation and educational laboratories, and open space areas which promote the health, well-being, and campus visual aesthetic for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Objective 1.1: Pursue a variety of public and private funding sources and programs to ensure the development and availability of recreational facilities and educational laboratories for students and other user groups.

Policy 1.1.1: Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES) and the College of Community Innovation and Education (CCIE) shall be responsible for the provision of adequate recreation and open space facilities for quality recreational and sports programs for all students of the University. The development of such programs and facilities shall be based upon existing and prospective student demand, user interest, and the availability of funds from such sources as student and user fees.

POLICY 1.1.2: Landscape & Natural Resources (LNR) and the Arboretum shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of all trails and trail systems in the campus natural lands. We shall be responsible for the encouragement of the campus and surrounding communities use of our natural lands

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

OBJECTIVE 1.2: Pursue a variety of continuing in-house planning and facility development programs to ensure that *high quality* recreation, educational laboratories, and open space areas are adequately and efficiently provided.

as an outdoor living, learning laboratory and recreational space for both physical and mental wellness. Additionally, the Arboretum will pursue funding opportunities for the development of the core Arboretum site as a park like setting for recreational opportunities for students, faculty, staff and outside community members.

POLICY 1.1.3: As necessary, the University shall continue to rely upon service contracts and other contractual relationships with off-campus, private, and public facility providers to meet recreation or physical education needs.

POLICY 1.2.1: UCF shall continue to maintain and develop functional and aesthetically-pleasing open spaces between structures and throughout the campus. This shall be accomplished through the application of building development and land use intensity guidelines consistent with elements 2.0 FUTURE LAND USE & URBAN DESIGN and 9.0 CONSERVATION.

POLICY 1.2.2: While future planning recognizes the distinct need for separate facilities for Recreation, Intercollegiate Athletics, and Sports Education programs, program representatives shall coordinate and attempt to share facilities wherever feasible.

POLICY 1.2.3: Future recreation facilities shall continue to be developed, consolidating and strengthening recreation. As planned location options in the south area of campus become maximized, additional space must be explored.

POLICY 1.2.4: When designing and programming future campus development of open spaces, Facilities Planning and Construction (FPC), Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES), and the College of Community Innovation and Education (CCIE) shall consider which recreation programs and facilities could be maintained in these spaces as part of the campus open space scheme.

POLICY 1.2.5: The University shall continue to identify priorities for improvements to recreation and open space facilities in order to correct existing deficiencies and meet future demands. Facilities projected within the planning period are indicated in the Schedule of Capital Projects (SCP), found in element 10.0 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS & IMPLEMENTATION.

OBJECTIVE 1.3: Promote unrestricted or managed public access to all campus recreation and open space areas to the maximum extent feasible.

POLICY 1.3.1: Campus open space areas shall be developed and maintained as areas of unrestricted public access wherever feasible. Such provisions for access include those special provisions or design criteria necessary under federal regulations to provide for people with disabilities. Access to certain areas of environmentally-sensitive habitat may be restricted (on

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

OBJECTIVE 1.4: To protect and enhance present campus open spaces.



occasion) or limited if it is determined necessary to protect animal and plant species.

POLICY 1.3.2: The University shall establish the priority use of campus recreational facilities for UCF students, faculty, and staff. Once student demands are adequately met, faculty, staff, and non-campus users will be accommodated, on a fee basis. Allowances will be made for reasonable maintenance and restoration periods for any particular facility.

POLICY 1.4.1: The University shall protect all existing conservation lands from encroachment and maximize the retention of open space by strictly enforcing the future placement of buildings, parking facilities, infrastructure, and other man-made improvements consistent with sites selected and adopted in elements 2.0 FUTURE LAND USE & URBAN DESIGN, 9.0 CONSERVATION, and 10.0 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS & IMPLEMENTATION.

The pattern of open spaces established in Figure 2.0-1, Future Land Use Map and Figure 4.0-11, Athletics, Recreation and Open Space Map, shall not be subject to encroachment without amending the adopted Campus Master Plan.

POLICY 1.4.2: The University shall maintain densities and intensities for the development of the campus, which maximize the retention of on-campus open space as identified in elements 2.0 FUTURE LAND USE & URBAN DESIGN and 9.0 CONSERVATION.

POLICY 1.4.3: The University shall select sites for infrastructure and academic and support facilities that ensure the retention of campus open space, to the extent feasible.

POLICY 1.4.4: The University shall create new, formal open spaces, or "greenspaces," through the careful placement of buildings as adopted in Figure 2.0-1, Future Land Use Map, and Figure 10.0-1 Capital Improvements Map.

4.2 Intercollegiate Athletics

MISSION

To positively transform the lives of our students academically, athletically, and personally through a nationally competitive intercollegiate athletics program that enhances the reputation and visibility of the University of Central Florida.

VISION

To be Florida's preeminent intercollegiate athletics program, representing UCF and our community with distinction on the national stage as ***"Orlando's Hometown Team."***

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

CORE VALUES

Student-Athlete Success: In support of UCF's commitment to student success, we invest in our student-athletes as individuals and maintain an environment that encompasses their holistic development, empowering them to achieve their personal best in all facets of life.

Integrity: In support of UCF's commitment to excellence, we maintain an unwavering commitment to the highest standards of character and sportsmanship in all we do.

Partnership: In support of UCF's role as America's Partnership University, we are committed to fostering teamwork on campus and engaging the community through collaboration and mutually beneficial relationships.

Inclusion: In support of UCF's commitment to inclusion, we embrace diversity and champion a welcoming and supportive environment for all members of our community.

Accountability: In support of UCF's commitment to excellence, we set high standards, are reliable, and hold ourselves responsible for our actions and results.

PRIORITIES



Resources: Our goal is to enhance our resources to allow our coaches and student-athletes to compete at the highest levels by engaging all stakeholders.

Competitive Success: We will create a championship culture that propels UCF to compete successfully at the highest level in all facets of athletics.

Culture: We will recruit and retain highly talented individuals with strong character to enhance our team-oriented, innovative, and creative environment.

Student-Athlete Success: We will enhance the student-athlete experience through the promotion of health and safety, experiential learning, and academic achievement.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, & POLICIES

OBJECTIVE 1.1: Design and pursue a world-class athletics master facilities development plan.

POLICY 1.1.1: The UCF Athletics Association (UCFAA), in consultation with UCF Facilities Planning and Construction (FPC), will review and assess athletics facilities needs and prioritize future construction, enhancements, and expansion projects for competition, training, nutrition, academic, and personal development and administration.

POLICY 1.1.2: Intercollegiate Athletics facilities, projected for the 10-year planning timeframe, shall be listed on the Schedule of Capital Improvements (SCP) included in element 10.0 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS & IMPLEMENTATION.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

POLICY 1.1.3: UCFAA shall establish the priority use of intercollegiate athletics facilities.

POLICY 1.1.4: UCFAA will seek external creative assistance with conceptualizing capital projects and facilities enhancements to obtain donor support for the facilities development campaign.

POLICY 1.1.5: UCFAA will establish an annual facilities maintenance and reinvestment budget for new capital projects and existing facilities.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

DATA & ANALYSIS

4.0 Athletics, Recreation & Open Space Facilities Inventory

INVENTORY OF UNIVERSITY OWNED AND MANAGED FACILITIES

University owned and managed facilities are used primarily for:

- Academic classes within the College of Community Innovation and Education (CCIE) and College of Health Professions and Sciences (CHPS)
- Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) programs including Intramural Sports and Sport Clubs
- Intercollegiate Athletics programs sponsored by the UCF Athletics Association (UCFAA)
- On-campus residential recreation
- Outdoor, nature based, active recreational programming and activities supported by the Natural Resources and Arboretum departments.
- UCF facilities are periodically rented and/or open to public use as noted in the **Typical Uses** column in the following figures.

The following tables comprise an inventory of all existing athletics, recreation and open space facilities that are UCF owned and managed, along with their acreages and typical uses.

Figure 4.0-1 On-Campus UCFAA Facilities

University Owned and Managed Facilities (acres) used primarily by Intercollegiate Athletics Keys refer to Figure 4.0-13 UCFAA Current Facilities Inventory Map.

Key	Description	Activity-Based Acres			Resource-Based Ac.		Typical Uses
		Field	Court	Specialty	Active	Passive	
A	Addition Financial Arena (2007)	0	3.15	0	0	0	Men's and Women's Intercollegiate Basketball training and competition, Commencement ceremonies, and Special Events. Managed by UCF Convocation Corporation
B	The Venue (1991)	0	0.93	0	0	0	Intercollegiate Women's Volleyball training and competition, and Special Events. Managed by UCF Convocation Corporation
C	John Euliano Park (2001)	4.7	0	0	0	0	Intercollegiate Baseball (Spring home games). Youth Camps
D	Track and Soccer Complex (1991, Stadium added 2010)	4.63	0	2.22	0	0	Intercollegiate Women's Track, Men's Soccer, and Women's Soccer training and competition. Limited University community use
E	Soccer Practice Field (2006)	2.37	0	0	0	0	Intercollegiate Men's and Women's Soccer training
F	Nicholson Field House (2005)	2.05	0	0	0	0	Indoor conditioned training. Regulation football field

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H	Wayne Densch Sports Center (2004)	0.99	0	0	0	0	Student-Athlete Training Facility, Football Staff Offices, Sports Medicine, Strength and Conditioning, Equipment Operations
I	Spectrum Stadium (2007)	10.12	0	0	0	0	Intercollegiate Football games (Fall), and Special Events
J	Wayne Densch Center for Student-Athlete Leadership (2016)	0	0	0.25	0	0	Student-Athlete dining and nutrition, and Special Events
K	Garvy Center for Student-Athlete Nutrition (2018)	0	0	0.25	0	0	Student-Athlete dining and nutrition, and Special events
L	Football Practice Fields (2006)	4.57	0	0	0	0	Fall/Spring Practice, and Youth Camps
N	Softball Complex (2006)	1.65	0	0	0	0	Fall/Spring Practice, Home Games, and Youth Camps
	UCF Tennis Courts						See Figure 4.0-4 Shared On-Campus Facilities
Subtotals		31.08	4.08	2.72	0	0	

Figure 4.0-2 Off-Campus UCFAA Facilities

University Owned and Managed Facilities (acres) used primarily by Intercollegiate Athletics

	Description	Activity-Based Acres			Resource-Based Acres		Typical Uses
		Field	Court	Specialty	Active	Passive	
	UCF Evans Family Rowing Center (Lake Pickett)			5.0			Varsity Fall/Spring Home Games, Practices, Youth Camps
Subtotals				5.0			

Figure 4.0-3 On-Campus Recreation

University Owned and Managed Facilities (acres) used primarily for Recreation

Code	Description	Activity-Based Acres			Resource-Based Ac.		Typical Uses
		Field	Court	Specialty	Active	Passive	
1	Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC)	0	0	2.41	0	0	Recreation Use for Students and Faculty/Staff.
1.1	RWC Lap Pool	0	0	0.23	0	0	Recreation Use for Students and Faculty/Staff
1.2	RWC Leisure Pool	0	0	2.06	0	0	Recreation Use for Students and Faculty/Staff
2	William E. and Mary Jo Davis Lake Claire Recreation Area	0	0	0	44.2	0	Scheduled Reservations for Student Organizations and General Community Use
3	RWC Park Turf Fields & Support Facilities	14.81	0	0	0	0	Intramural Leagues, Sport Club Practices and Games, Rentals
3.1	RWC Park Sport Club Field	3.87	0	0	0	0	Sport Club Practice and Games
3.2	RWC Park Softball Field	2.02	0	0	0	0	Recreation Use and Intramural Tournaments

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

3.3	RWC Park North Grass Field	4.15	0	0	0	0	Reservations, Sport Clubs Games and Practices
4	Challenge Course	0	0	4.52	0	0	Student Groups, UCF Depts, Community Reservations
5	Outdoor Basketball Courts (3 lighted)	0	0.43	0	0	0	Campus Recreation Use, Student Groups and community reservations
6	Sand Volleyball Courts (4 lighted)	0	0.35	0	0	0	Campus Recreation Use, Intramural tournaments
7	RWC @ Knights Plaza	0	0	0.22	0	0	University Recreation Use for Students and Faculty/Staff
8	RWC @ Ferrell Commons	0	0	0.15	0	0	Sport Club Practices
Subtotals		24.85	0.78	4.89	44.2	0	

Figure 4.0-4 Shared On-Campus Facilities

University Owned and Managed Facilities (acres) shared by UCFAA CCIE, CHPS, and Recreation & Wellness¹

Code	Description	Activity-Based Ac.			Resource-Based Ac.		Typical Uses
		Field	Court	Specialty	Active	Passive	
9	Tennis Courts Qty 9, lighted	0	1.62	0	0	0	Varsity Practice, Intramurals, Campus Recreation, Youth Tennis Camp, Tennis Club
10	Disc Golf	0	0	37.15	0	0	Campus Community Use
11	Band Field	1.79	0	0	0	0	UCF Marching Knights, and Campus Recreation Use
12	Education Building ²						Sport Clubs, Academic Classes, UCFAA Practice
12.1	Gymnasium (ED 176)						Academic Classes
12.2	Multipurpose (ED 174)						Strength and Conditioning Lab
12.3	Wellness Research Center (ED 179)						Kinesiology Lab
Subtotals		1.79	1.62	37.15	0	0	

Figure 4.0-5 Open Space

University Owned and Managed Open Space (acres)

	Description	Activity-Based			Resource-Based		Typical Uses
		Field	Court	Specialty	Active	Passive	
	Nature Trails	0	0	0	16.85	0	Hiking, biking, nature observation
	Wetlands	0	0	0	0	273.37	
	Upland Preservation	0	0	0	0	25.36	

¹ UCF Athletics Association (UCFAA), the College of Community Innovation and Education (CCIE), and the College of Health Professions and Sciences (CHPS).

² Figure 4.04, Items 12.0-12.3: The Physical Education program is housed in the School of Teacher Education in CCIE. The Division of Kinesiology is housed in the School of Kinesiology and Physical Therapy in CHPS. Both PE and Kinesiology use the gymnasium (12.1) and manage activity courses within the facility.

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	Upland Riparian Habitat Preservation Zone	0	0	0	0	39.39	
	Lakes	0	0	0	0	32.68	
	Subtotals	0	0	0	16.85	370.8	

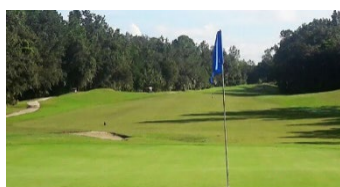
Figure 4.0-6 Total Acres of UCF Owned and Managed Recreation & Open Space

University Owned/Managed Intercollegiate Athletics Facilities, Recreation/Education Facilities, and Open Space

		Activity-Based			Resource-Based		All UCF Owned/Managed Recreation & Open Space
		Field	Court	Specialty	Active	Passive	
	Subtotals	57.72	6.48	49.76	61.05	370.8	
	TOTAL	113.96			431.85		545.81

INVENTORY OF NON-UNIVERSITY OWNED AND MANAGED RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

Golf



Existing privately-owned, state-owned, or local government-owned sports facilities, recreation facilities, and open space are available within and near the Context Area.

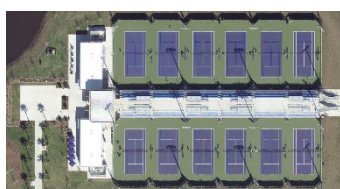
UCFAA, Intramural Sports, Education, and Sport Clubs utilize Non-University Owned/Managed facilities for Golf, Tennis, and Bowling.

UCFAA uses the Intercollegiate Golf Training Facility at Twin Rivers Golf Club for intercollegiate men's and women's golf training. The facility is owned and managed by the City of Oviedo.

Several local golf courses are used by Intramural Sports and education classes; and UCF entities pay a use fee. These par 72, 18-hole courses are near UCF, but outside of the Context Area:

- Twin Rivers Golf Club – 6,600 Yards
- Stoneybrook Golf Club – 6,842 Yards
- Eastwood Golf Club – 7,176 Yards

Tennis



UCFAA uses the Collegiate Center (12 courts, clubhouse, and stadium) at the U.S Tennis Association (USTA) National Campus in Lake Nona for intercollegiate men's and women's tennis training and competition.

In addition to UCF's on-campus courts, UCF faculty, staff, and students have access to many other tennis courts outside of the Context Area.

- The City of Orlando has courts at thirteen parks and centers, including the Orlando Tennis Center.
- Orange County has courts at eleven parks and recreation complexes.
- The City of Oviedo has courts at three parks: Riverside, Round Lake, and Sweetwater.
- Seminole County has courts at four parks: Red Bug Lake, Sanlando, Sylvan Lake, and Greenwood Lakes.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

Bowling

Local bowling lanes are used for events as well as academic classes by Intramural Sports and Sport Clubs. The facilities are privately owned and managed and are used on a fee basis.

- Boardwalk Bowl (80 lanes)
- Oviedo Bowling Center (24 lanes).

Hiking, Canoeing,
Kayaking, Cycling, Birding,
etc.

State Parks and Natural Areas: There are many off campus Resource-Based facilities that are used by academic programs and RWC adventure trips, and even more that are open and accessible to the public. Locations in the Central Florida area include, but are not limited to:

- Wekiva Springs State Park
- Orlando Wetlands Park
- Little Big Econlockhatchee State Forest
- Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park
- Seminole-Wekiva Recreational Trail
- Econ River Wilderness Area

LEVEL-OF-SERVICE STANDARD (LOS)

UCF is abounding in **Resource-Based** active and passive recreation space (see Figure 4.0-6 for the total Resource-Based Recreation & Open Space acreage).

A review of **Activity-Based** recreation space illustrates a deficit of space to serve the campus community's needs (see Figure 4.0-6 for the total Activity-Based based Recreation & Open Space acreage). The following comparisons to other institutions and to recognized space-planning guidelines further illuminate the need for additional Activity-Based recreation space.

Several projects specific to the UCF Recreation and Wellness Center have been undertaken to address this deficit; but more indoor, outdoor, and fitness recreation spaces are needed.

Figure 4.0-7 Recreational Sports Space Planning Guidelines

Based on a review of the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association's (NIRSA) "Space Planning Guidelines for Campus Recreational Sport Facilities," the following LOS standards are presented for comparison purposes.

Recreation Facility Type	National Standard per 1,000 students
Playing Field Space	0.94 acres
Indoor Fitness Space	1,008 square feet

Peer Comparisons

Based on total enrollment,³ the following figures are an assessment of UCF against peer institutions of similar size, as well as against other state universities.

The figures demonstrate UCF's comparative lack of Indoor Recreation Space (Figure 4.0-8), Outdoor Recreation Space (Figure 4.0-9), and Indoor Fitness Space (Figure 4.0-10).

³ Comparable data was unavailable to support a comparison of other Universities Main Campuses to UCF 's Main Campus only.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

**Figure 4.0-8 Comparison
Indoor Recreation Space**

Peer Institutions and other State Universities	Fall 2018 Enrollment	Indoor Space (SF)	Indoor Space SF/Student
The Ohio State University	68,100	725,000	10.64
University of Texas Austin	51,832	500,000	9.64
Texas A&M	64,126	413,000	6.44
Florida State University	46,733	180,000	3.85
University of South Florida	50,755	185,000	3.64
University of Florida	55,862	183,100	3.27
UCF	68,558⁴	158,700	2.31

**Figure 4.0-9 Comparison
Outdoor Playing Field
Recreation Space**

Peer Institutions and other State Universities	Fall 2018 Enrollment	Field Space (acres)	Acres/1,000 students
Florida State University	46,733	53.87	1.15
The Ohio State University	68,100	54.98	.80
University of Texas Austin	51,832	35.67	.68
University of Florida	55,862	28.56	.51
Texas A&M	64,126	30.36	.47
University of South Florida	50,755	22.75	.44
UCF	68,558	24.85	.36

**Figure 4.0-10 Comparison
Indoor Fitness Space**

Peer Institutions and other State Universities	Fall 2018 Enrollment	Indoor Fitness Space (SF)	SF/1,000 students
University of Texas Austin	51,832	36,000	694
University of Florida	55,862	35,000	626
Florida State University	46,733	28,000	599
The Ohio State University	68,100	39,500	580
University of South Florida	50,755	28,000	551
Texas A&M	64,126	32,000	499
UCF	68,558	32,545	474

4.1 Recreation & Open Space – Current & Future Facilities

Analysis – Recommendations for Improvement



UCF continually investigates the problems, constraints and opportunities to provide recreation and open space facilities which meet the future demand of the University.

For locations of Recreation facilities on-campus facilities, see Figure 4.0-14 Current Recreation Facilities Inventory Map.

As indicated by the Level of Service (LOS) standards, UCF currently has a lower existing level of service for recreation space than the NIRSA standards or other universities with similar enrollment.

In addition to the LOS standard from NIRSA, it is important to consider current NIRSA Facilities and Construction Reports such as *“Facility Construction & Renovation at NIRSA Member*

⁴ Source: [UCF IKM Enrollment](#)

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

Institutions, 2016-2020,” and other publications such as “*Physical Space on Campus*” from the ACUI 2012 Summit on Building Community, and *Recreation Planning Principles*, outlined by the NIRSA and Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) through a joint effort, that include:

- Establish recreation as a pillar of the University’s comprehensive plan
- Create and maintain a vision of physical development of recreational facilities, a vision which supports the mission and master plan
- Instill a real sense of community and enrich the experience of all who come to campus; and
- Foster a safe, secure, and accessible environment

SUMMARY



The UCF Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) comprises many programs, such as Intramural Sports, Sport Clubs, Outdoor Adventure, Fitness, and Aquatics. The RWC is open to all students; paid memberships are available for non-students. The RWC offers a vast array of state-of-the-art facilities, including:

- Recreation and Wellness Center – the main facility (156,111 gross square feet), includes:
 - Track (1/8 mile)
 - Multipurpose Courts (6)
 - Racquetball Courts (4)
 - Fitness Space
 - Custom Climbing Wall
- Outdoor Adventure Center, includes:
 - Challenge Course
 - Equipment Rentals
 - Climbing Tower
 - Lake Claire Recreation Area
 - Adventure Trips
- Leisure Pool (186,000 gallon)
- Lap Pool (9-lane regulation)
- Tennis Courts (9)
- Disc Golf Course (nine-hole)
- Sand Volleyball Courts (4) ⁵
- Outdoor basketball courts (3)
- Knights Plaza satellite fitness facility (8,700 square feet)
- RWC Park (Sport fields complex that includes multipurpose sport fields, softball fields, and the Challenge Course)

These facilities support the recreational needs of the UCF community. Additional enhancements and expansion at the Recreation and Wellness Center, RWC Park, and Lake Claire would help to offset the space deficit and bring recreation space

⁵ The sand volleyball courts (4) will eventually be moved to RWC Park, to provide space for one more tennis court, and because the sand is a maintenance and safety issue for the Leisure Pool and tennis courts.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

Improvements to Recreation Facilities

Lake Claire Recreation Area



closer to the level that is desirable based on national standards, usage demands, and comparisons to other universities.

Past expansion of the RWC and the addition of the Knights Plaza facility in 2013 have greatly improved the indoor facility inventory. Existing recreation facilities still remain insufficient to support the current and future needs of UCF and its student enrollment.

Overall, UCF is currently below the national guidelines and standards for **Activity-Based** recreation facilities. The vision of the UCF Recreation and Wellness center strives to both set and stay ahead of national standards for university recreation programs and facilities. As the campus continues to grow, more land will be needed for buildings, parking and Activity-Based recreation facilities.

Future **Resource-Based** recreation and open space must be carefully developed, utilizing spaces formed between buildings and the protection and expansion of natural areas.

Based on observation, student satisfaction surveys, and data published by NIRSA, the following specific list of problems, constraints, and opportunities were identified. They are not in priority order.

The Mary Jo and William E. Davis Recreation Area at Lake Claire has become a thriving natural recreation facility on campus, with a highly visible location on the northwest corner of campus near Greek Park.

The facility was redeveloped in 2012 to include new picnic pavilions (3), new sand volleyball courts (2), and a lighted playing field. Exercise stations and an ADA accessible dock and restroom have also been added to enhance the facility.

- Boathouse storage space at the Lake Claire Recreation Area is currently not adequate to store the necessary equipment. A total renovation of the boathouse is needed to create a boathouse that is both fitting to the area's aesthetics and allows its staff to serve students more efficiently as well as to assure proper gear and boat storage techniques; and create more secure storage space. A master plan for the facility was created in 2010.
- Currently, the parking lot at the Lake Claire Recreation Area is composed of dirt and gravel, bordered by movable blocks of wood. There is a need to renovate this lot to create an efficient and defined parking system. UCF will consider porous paving options, to offset an increase to impervious surfaces.
- There are a few under-maintained trails through the woods behind Lake Claire. To keep up with the progress and aesthetics of the trails created by the Arboretum, these trails

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

DATA & ANALYSIS

The Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC)



should be extended, maintained, and connected with current on-campus trails.

The Recreation and Wellness Center helps to serve the recreation needs of the UCF community. The 85,000 square foot facility was opened in 2002 and expanded in 2010 to add 65,000 square feet, including more fitness area, multipurpose courts, racquetball courts, a new lap pool, and an outdoor adventure center. These additions have been successful, but still leave UCF with inadequate square footage compared to peer institutions and national standards.

- The intent is for the current site, south and west of the existing facility, to be built out to serve the needs of the UCF community. A master plan exercise in 2007 indicates that the site could be expanded to over 200,000 square feet and include additional court space, multipurpose rooms, functional fitness space, and an expansion to the outdoor adventure center.

The RWC @ Ferrell Commons facility was renovated in 2015 to provide a dedicated space for Sport Club martial arts clubs to practice, however it decreased the overall space available for Sport Clubs, as the facility was divided to accommodate the Lead Scholars Academy. For operational purposes, dedicated indoor Sport Club space should be included in the expansion of the Recreation and Wellness Center.

RWC Outdoor Facilities

RWC Park

The RWC Park encompasses all of the outdoor playing field facilities in a park-like environment on the south side of campus. The Park was master planned to include state-of-the-art artificial turf fields and support facilities.

- The first phase of the redevelopment of the park was completed in 2006, and added three (3) lighted artificial turf fields to the existing softball fields, sport club fields, and multipurpose fields.
- Phase II construction was completed in 2009, and added three (3) additional lighted turf fields, a support and restroom facility (building 320), and a maintenance facility (building 321).

Other RWC Outdoor Facilities

Additional outdoor facilities include a 9-court tennis complex, 3 outdoor basketball courts, and a 9-hole disc golf course.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

Softball Fields

Future phases of RWC Park must address the shortfall of softball fields, the addition of lighted fields dedicated to Sport Clubs, and a support facility for safety, security, and access.

- UCF currently has a critical shortage of softball fields. UCF currently has one (1) softball field, and NIRSA standards call for 9.9 (0.15 fields per 1000 students). As recently as 2000, UCF had three (3) softball fields, but expansion of University Housing decreased the quantity. There is only enough space to add one (1) softball field within the current RWC park footprint, due to the size parcel required. Additional space for softball fields should be identified elsewhere on campus or adjacent to campus.
- Recreational fields in the south area of campus need to be expanded to increase student capacity and provide opportunities for field rotation to avoid compaction and abuse. During expansion, a resulting temporary reduction in service is a concern, because of the critical need for recreational space on a residential campus. Calculations used to assess facility sufficiency take into consideration a number of factors, including variety of fields (sport clubs, intramural sports, or open recreation), frequency of use, student enrollment, and unique layout that diminishes the flexibility for use (i.e. softball field).
- RWC Park needs a Support Facility to provide additional security and a severe weather shelter, along with restrooms and indoor programming space.
- The RWC Park area needs additional parking. This can be accommodated by expanding the current parking lot. It is recommended that UCF assess the access roads and parking near the RWC Park, as these are currently ineffective.

Challenge Course



The RWC Park also includes the Challenge Course. The Challenge Course contains high and low ropes course elements for team development and leadership training.

- Future phases of the Challenge Course should include additional high and low elements to provide new program resources and accommodate larger groups.
- The open space around the Challenge Course must also be preserved, as the facility is intended to be secluded within a natural area and any encroachment on its buffer would lessen its effectiveness.

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

DATA & ANALYSIS

Tennis Courts	<p>UCF has an inadequate quantity of tennis courts. The current tennis complex, west of Libra Garage, has nine (9) courts that are shared by the entire campus, including UCF Athletics. Additional courts should be provided to serve the UCF student body.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NIRSA standards indicate 0.41 Tennis Courts per 1,000 students, which would indicate that UCF needs 27 courts (deficit of 18 courts). ○ The current tennis complex can accommodate one additional court, for a total of ten (10), after the relocation of the four sand volleyball courts to RWC Park. ○ UCF Athletics is considering adding intercollegiate tennis courts near the Softball Complex. This will relieve a great deal of strain on the existing tennis complex.
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4.2 Intercollegiate Athletics – Current & Future Facilities

NARRATIVE	UCF Athletics is committed to making the Kenneth G. Dixon Athletics Village the best of its kind in collegiate athletics.
Planning Objective	On a continual basis, review and assess athletics facility needs and prioritize future construction, enhancements, and expansion projects.
Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student-athlete competition, training, nutrition, academic, and personal/career development • Fan experience • Revenue development • Administration and support
CURRENT FACILITIES	<p>MAIN CAMPUS FACILITIES</p> <p>For locations of UCFAA on-campus facilities, see Figure 4.0-13 UCFAA Current Facilities Inventory Map.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Addition Financial Arena B. The Venue C. John Euliano Park D. Track and Soccer Complex E. Soccer Practice Field F. Nicholson Field House G. Wayne Densch Sports Center H. Spectrum Stadium I. Wayne Densch Center for Student-Athlete Leadership J. Garvy Center for Student Athlete Nutrition

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE DATA & ANALYSIS

K. Football Practice Fields

L. Softball Complex

The Roth Athletics Center is under construction; and is shown on Figure 4.0-14 as M.

OFF-CAMPUS FACILITIES

- UCF Evans Family Rowing Center (University-managed)
- Intercollegiate Golf Training Center at Twin Rivers GC, Oviedo
- USTA National Campus Intercollegiate Tennis Center, Lake Nona

FUTURE FACILITIES



Although major expansion is not anticipated during this planning period, UCFAA will begin to complete their portion of this Campus Master Plan, as funding becomes available.

Consistent with POLICY 1.1.2 of this element, Intercollegiate Athletics Facilities, projected for the 10-year planning timeframe, are listed on the Schedule of Capital Improvements (SCP) included in element 10.0 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS & IMPLEMENTATION.

Those projects include:

- Spectrum Stadium Steel Re-coating
- Basketball Excellence Center
- Soccer Stadium & Parking
- Tennis Complex
- McNamara Cove (aka Recovery Cove)

4.0 ATHLETICS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

MAPS

Figure 4.0-11
Athletics, Recreation
& Open Space Map

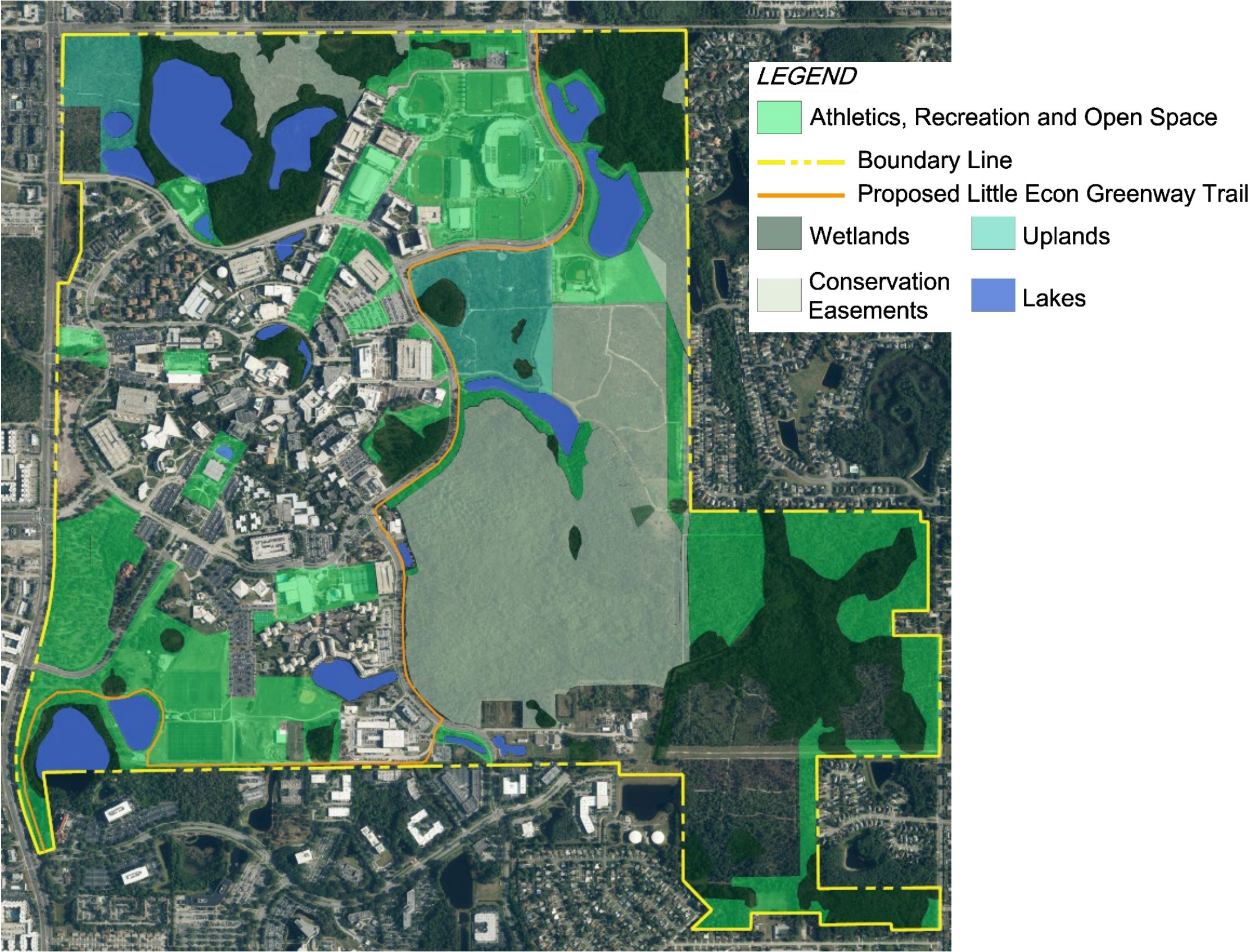


Figure 4.0-12
Recreation and
Wellness Facilities
Inventory Map

RECREATION FACILITIES (South Campus)

- A. Recreation and Wellness Center
- B. Lap Pool
- C. Leisure Pool
- D. Tennis Courts (9)
- E. Sand Volleyball Courts (4)
- F. Outdoor basketball courts (3)
- G. RWC Park – Multipurpose Sport Fields, Softball Field
- H. Outdoor Adventure Center – Challenge Course, Disc Golf Course



RECREATION FACILITIES (North Campus)

Not shown

- Lake Claire Recreation Center
- Knights Plaza fitness facility

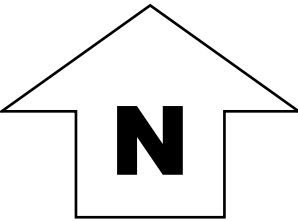
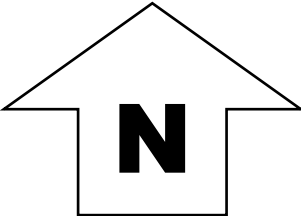


Figure 4.0-13 UCFAA
Current Facilities
Inventory Map



MAIN CAMPUS FACILITIES

- A. Addition Financial Arena
- B. The Venue
- C. John Euliano Park
- D. Soccer Practice Field
- E. Track and Soccer Complex
- F. Nicholson Field House
- G. Wayne Densch Sports Center
- H. Football Practice Fields
- I. Garvy Center for Student-Athlete Nutrition
- J. Spectrum Stadium
- K. Wayne Densch Center for Student-Athlete Leadership
- L. Softball Complex
- M. Roth Athletics Center (under construction 2019)
- N. MacNamara Cove (in design 2019)

OFF-CAMPUS FACILITIES

- (not shown)
- UCF Evans Family Rowing Center (UCF-Managed)
 - Intercollegiate Golf Training Center at Twin Rivers GC, Oviedo
 - USTA National Campus Intercollegiate Tennis Center, Lake Nona

Figure 4.0-14 The Arboretum Nature Trails Map

Just east of the Arboretum, where Scorpius Street intersects Gemini Blvd., the Timothy R. Newman nature pavilion is a great place to gather with a group and grill some food (requires a reservation) ;and take a hike through Scrubby and Mesic Flatwoods. These flatwoods are dominated by an open canopy of pine sand a dense, ground layer of shrubs and grasses.

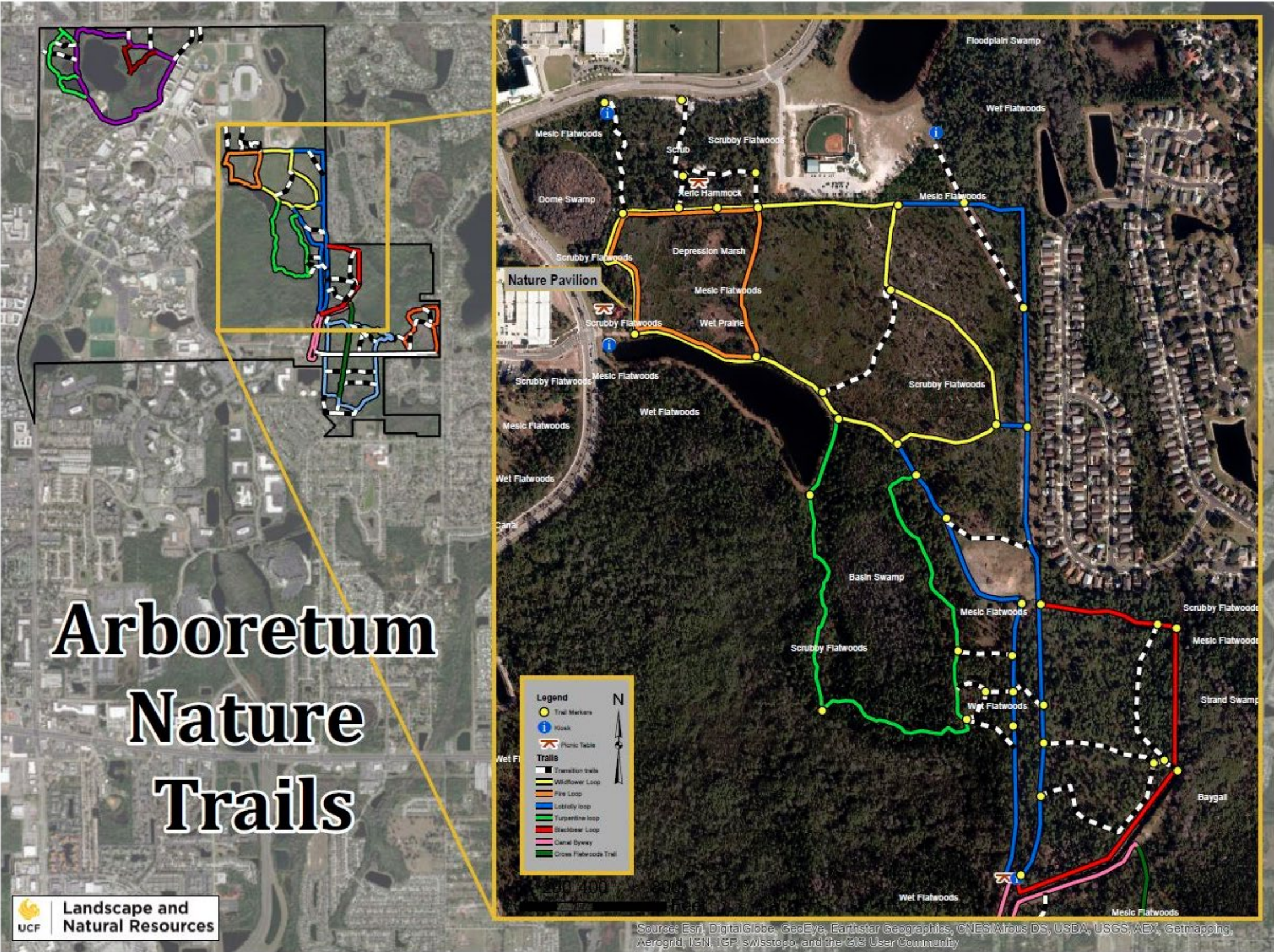
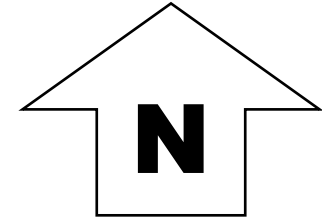


Figure 4.0-15 The Lake Claire Nature Trails Map

In the northwest corner of campus, a loop around Lake Claire will take you through communities of scrub and baygall. Baygall is a low-lying tract of boggy or spongy land.

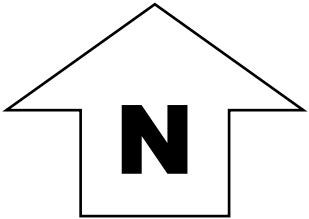
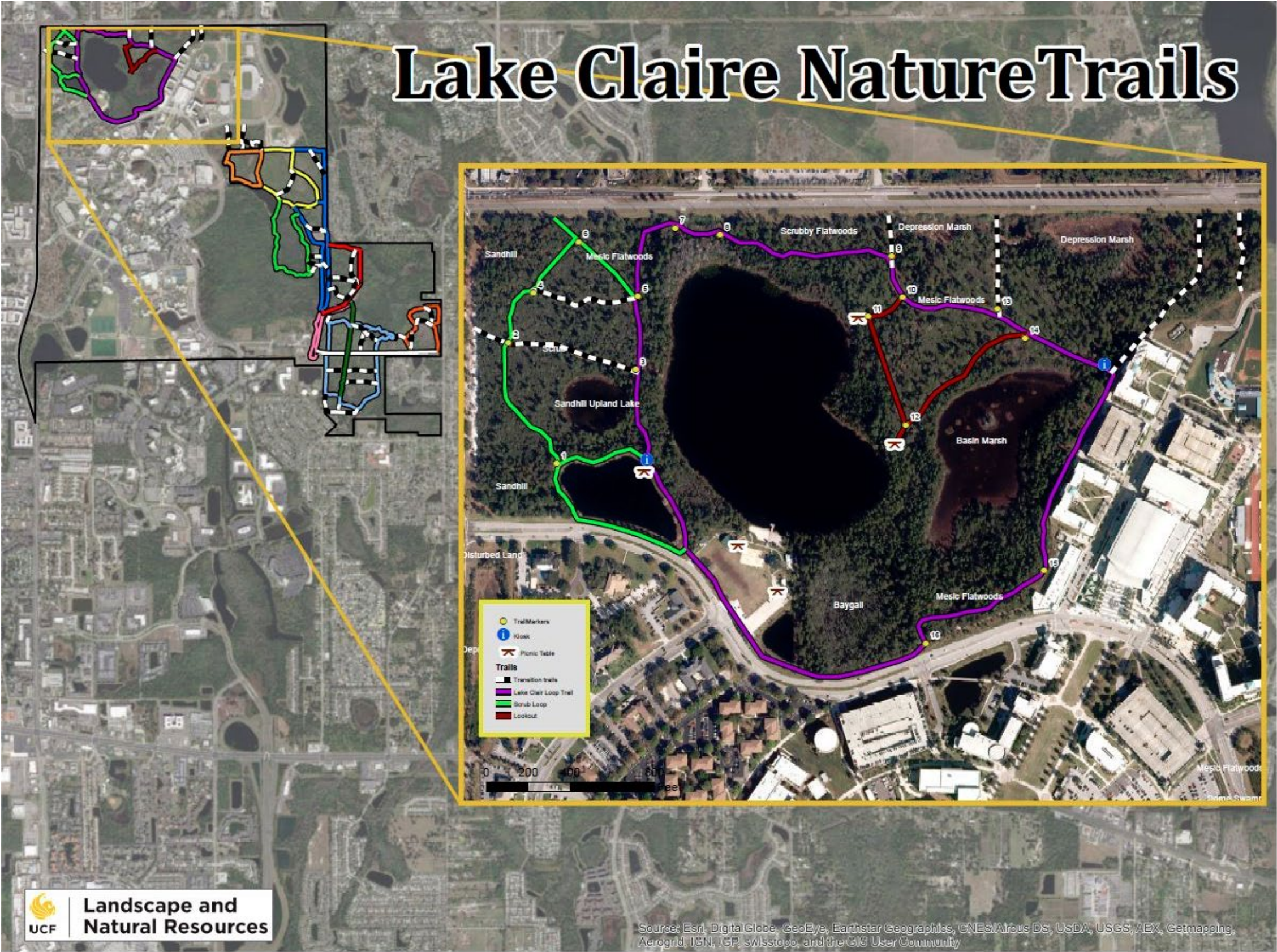


Figure 4.0-16 The East Parcel Nature Trails Map

From the Arboretum trails, you can access the East Parcel trail system which is UCF's most remote area.

