

THE APALACHICOLA RIVER & BAY

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APALACHICOLA  RIVERKEEPER®
SAVING AN AMERICAN TREASURE

APALACHICOLA RIVER, FLOODPLAIN AND BAY

Largest forested floodplain in
Florida (112,000 acres)

Florida's largest river in volume

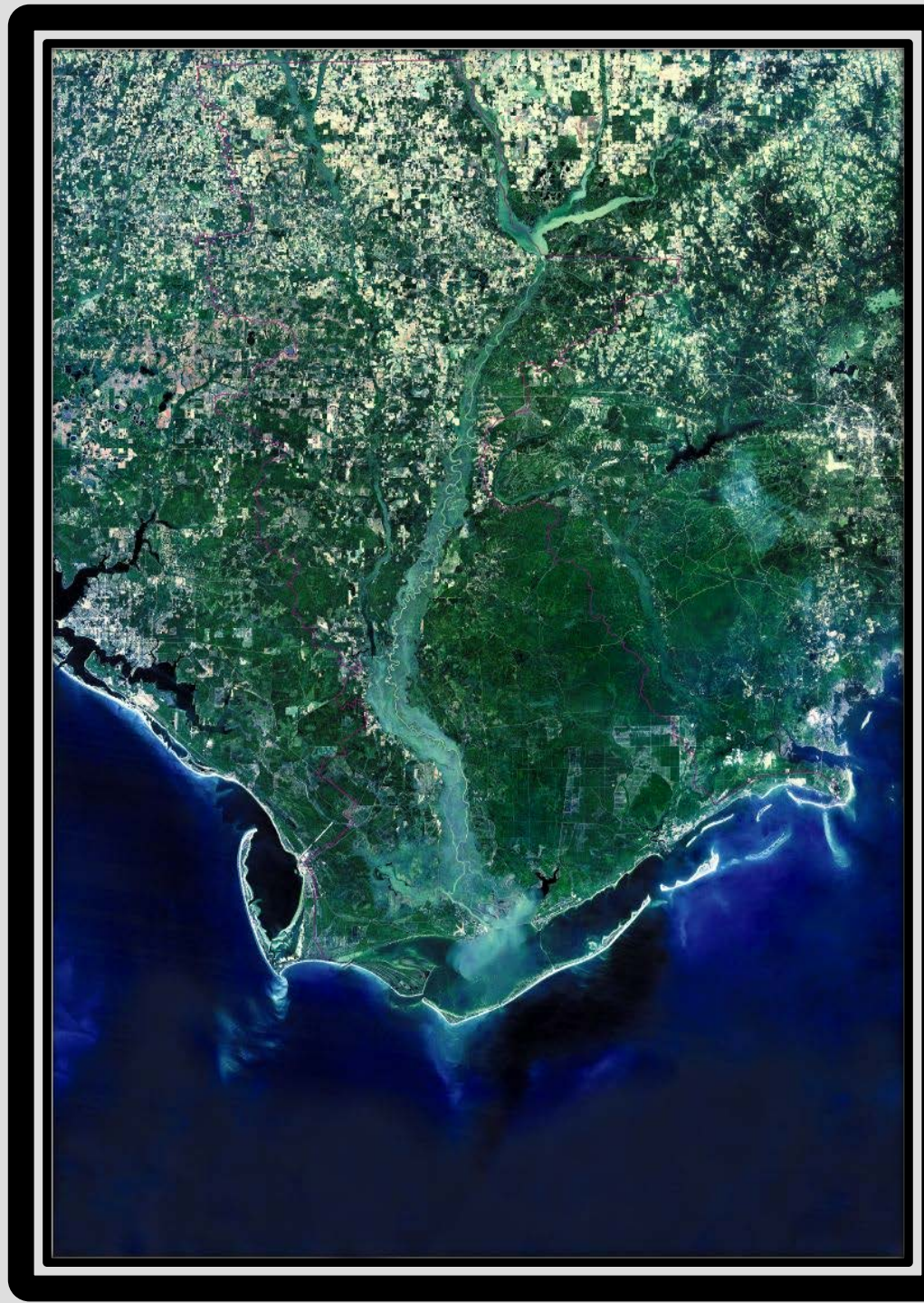
Highest species diversity of any
river system in North America

UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

Outstanding Florida Water

National Estuarine Research
Reserve

Florida Aquatic Preserve



Chipola River

60+ fresh water springs, the largest number of any river in Northwest Florida.

Springs provide natural, recreational and economic benefits.



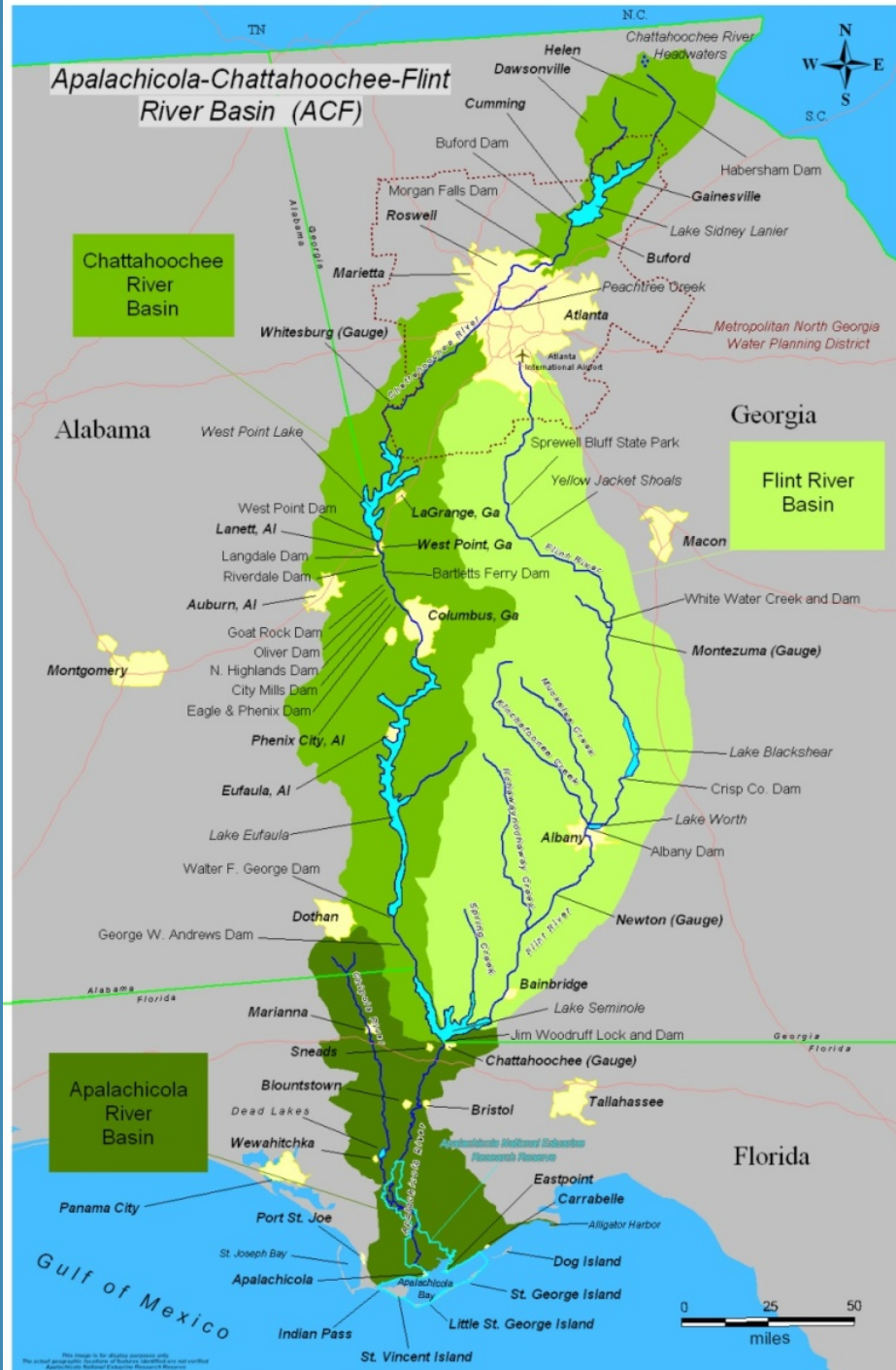
River Floodplain Habitat Diversity

Apalachicola River Floodplain hosts the highest biodiversity of any River System in North America

- ✦ 50 species of mammals
- ✦ 1300 species of plants
- ✦ 40 species of amphibians
- ✦ 80 species of reptiles
- ✦ 300 species of birds

Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve

Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin (ACF)



Chattahoochee River Basin

Flint River Basin

Apalachicola River Basin

Gulf of Mexico

This map is for general reference only. The actual geographic location of features identified are not verified. Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve



SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS:

DECLINING RIVER STAGE

Reduced flow

Woody debris removal

Loss of Fish Habitat and Fish

Reduction of aquatic species

DRYING OUT OF FLOODPLAIN FOREST

Decrease in Forests Density

Loss of 4 million trees

Disconnected Sloughs

DECLINING SEAFOOD HARVEST

River flow drives the Bay and Eastern Gulf

Loss of Nutrients and Organics

Increased Salinity, Temperature and Disease

Chain reaction thru Food Chain

"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased; and not impaired in value."
--Theodore Roosevelt



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