

Exciting news, as promised, from the North Florida Land Trust which has announced completion of fundraising in the amount of \$1.305 million to protect Little NaNa Dune at American Beach on Amelia Island. Following [an anonymous \\$500,000 donation](#) earlier this fall, an Amelia Island resident who'd never donated to NFLT previously was reading about the Little NaNa fundraising effort and cold called the non-profit land conservation organization offering to finish it off. A \$150,000 commitment was secured.

How would you have liked to take that phone call?

LINK: <https://www.nflt.org/2021/10/15/north-florida-land-trust-to-receive-an-anonymous-donation-to-save-little-nana-dune/>

LINK: https://www.nflt.org/2021/11/01/little-nana-dune/?fbclid=IwAR1eGLIWI4AZ4ZMrJsnbkFFGx4_ZL8SFSzwwl8g4Tq1M42nKDwnm32bYW8

A bill allowing local governments to ban smoking has moved to the Florida Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee. Under SB 224, the power to regulate smoking in public places reverts to the local government who could either ban smoking in all public places or to designate special smoking areas within their jurisdictions – like beaches. Walk a beach in Florida and you're soon to recognize it's also an ashtray.

The Nature Conservancy has reached agreement on a conservation easement to be placed on over [1,000 acres of working cattle in Highlands County](#) just northwest of Lake Okeechobee, permanently prohibiting development on the property while allowing cattle ranching operations to continue uninterrupted. The property protects critical wildlife corridors and freshwater resources.

Another example of how ranchland is essential to conservation efforts in state.

LINK: https://www.nature.org/en-us/newsroom/florida-ravensworth-farms-conservation-easement/?src=e.ch_fl.eg.x.gpn.1103.n.sas.loc_fl&en_txn8=NewSch.WJEMSA2111NPNZNZZE01Z00-ZZZZZ-ST00&lu=cd668c06-3202-416c-aa82-1a74b7d58ac5

Anyone who's ever tried to slow growth, protect a tree or work for conservation in Florida is keenly aware of the insidious ["Bert Harris Act"](#) which makes all of the above tricky for municipalities and further tips the scales in Florida in favor of developers.

Here's an easy-to-understand introduction to the law and how developers use it to thwart community opposition.

LINK: <https://floridaphoenix.com/2021/11/04/floridas-awful-bert-harris-act-is-for-the-birds/>

The Biden Administration has committed the United States to [sharply cut its methane emissions](#). While most of the climate change conversation rightly focuses on carbon dioxide

emissions, methane is the second leading source of heat-trapping greenhouse gasses and much more potent, pound-for-pound, than CO₂.

Environmental groups call methane reduction the fastest and most cost-effective action to slow the rate of global warming.

As you'd expect, the oil and gas sectors are the largest sources of methane emissions globally and in the U.S.

A deeper dive into methane emissions and this action can be found here:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/us-sharply-cut-methane-pollution-threatens-climate-and-public-health>

LINK: <https://www.denverpost.com/2021/11/02/bidens-climate-plan-aims-to-reduce-methane-emissions/>