

Human-caused climate change and pollution are devastating Florida ecosystems.

VIDEO: <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/human-caused-climate-change-pollution-devastating-florida-ecosystems/>

Audubon Florida has released its annual "State of the Everglades" report. Fascinating, in-depth document for anyone who loves birding or the Everglades.

[https://fl.audubon.org/sites/default/files/sote_fall2021_v7_web.pdf?ms=fl-eng-email-ea-newsletter-engagement \(fl\) statewide news 12172021&utm_source=ea&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=engagement \(fl\) statewide news 12172021&emci=e0f1370f-785f-ec11-94f6-0050f2e65e9b&emdi=4c217d93-0b60-ec11-94f6-0050f2e65e9b&ceid=907790](https://fl.audubon.org/sites/default/files/sote_fall2021_v7_web.pdf?ms=fl-eng-email-ea-newsletter-engagement%20(fl)%20statewide%20news%2012172021&utm_source=ea&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=engagement%20(fl)%20statewide%20news%2012172021&emci=e0f1370f-785f-ec11-94f6-0050f2e65e9b&emdi=4c217d93-0b60-ec11-94f6-0050f2e65e9b&ceid=907790)

Protection under the federal Endangered Species Act is often all that separates an animal or plant from extinction. The Endangered Species Act works by designating habitat as "critical" for the survival of a species, thereby limiting human uses of the area along with other protections.

In Florida, lawsuits or motions are being filed to help [manatees](#) (which were listed as endangered and then de-listed under the Trump Administration), [the ghost orchid](#), and [a lizard](#) existing on a sliver of land on the state's Gulf Coast receive categorization as "endangered."

Manatee: <https://miami.cbslocal.com/2022/02/01/lawsuit-seeks-habitat-protections-manatees/?emci=957e8e47-6684-ec11-94f6-281878b85110&emdi=cbf065dd-2b85-ec11-94f6-281878b85110&ceid=2023608>

Ghost Orchid: <https://www.tampabay.com/news/environment/2022/01/26/us-protection-sought-for-threatened-florida-ghost-orchid/?emci=b4ba4700-cc7e-ec11-94f6-c896650d4442&emdi=89f87d39-a87f-ec11-94f6-c896650d4442&ceid=2023608>

Cedar Key Mole Skink: [https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/lawsuit-challenges-denial-of-endangered-species-protection-for-florida-lizard-2022-01-26/?utm_source=eao&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eao1126&utm_term=Endangered Species&emci=957e8e47-6684-ec11-94f6-281878b85110&emdi=cbf065dd-2b85-ec11-94f6-281878b85110&ceid=2023608](https://biologicaldiversity.org/w/news/press-releases/lawsuit-challenges-denial-of-endangered-species-protection-for-florida-lizard-2022-01-26/?utm_source=eao&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eao1126&utm_term=Endangered%20Species&emci=957e8e47-6684-ec11-94f6-281878b85110&emdi=cbf065dd-2b85-ec11-94f6-281878b85110&ceid=2023608)

Recently, a United Airlines flight flew from Chicago to Washington powered partially by cooking oil. A glimmer of clean(er) energy hope for an industry which produces a massive volume of climate warming emissions.

https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2021-12-30/can-airlines-cut-emissions-to-zero-by-2050?utm_id=46007&sfmc_id=1642332

Florida wildflower expert Craig Huegel joined a recent episode of [my "Welcome to Florida" podcast](#) to share tips and strategies for installing a successful wildflower in your landscape.

LINK: <https://www.stitcher.com/show/welcome-to-florida/episode/episode-83-wildflowers-89966396>