

# Florida Scrub Jays

## Need Our Help



### WHY DO FLORIDA SCRUB JAYS NEED HELP?

- Population has declined 90% in the last century.
- Federally listed as threatened.

### WHERE DO FLORIDA SCRUB JAYS LIVE?

- Only found in Florida.
- Only in scrub habitat--ancient sand dunes in the middle of Florida and current sand dunes near the coast.



### WHAT IS CAUSING SCRUB JAY DECLINE?

- Habitat loss--only 15% of scrub habitat remains.
- Scrub habitat fragmentation.
- Fire suppression.

### HOW DOES THIS AFFECT SCRUB JAYS?

- Reduced genetic diversity and gene flow affects ability to adapt to future changes, further threatening the species.



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Support prescribed burns in scrub.
- Support expanding connected scrub jay conservation areas.
- Do not hand-feed them; it is a danger to their well-being.





# Fun Facts about the Florida Scrub Jay in Lyonia Preserve



## LIVE IN FAMILY GROUPS

- A breeding pair and up to 6 older offspring as helpers.
- A family has 22-24 acre territory.

## THE SENTINEL

- Watches for predators including snakes and hawks.
- Gives an alarm call if a predator is seen.



## EAT ACORNS & MORE

- Eat acorns. Can cache 6,500 acorns a year and remember where they are.
- Also eat berries, insects, lizards.

## APPEARANCE

- Males and females look identical, but can differentiate because the female makes a hiccup sound.
- Juveniles have gray head.



## HOMEBODIES

- Scrub jays don't migrate.
- Generally remain within 5 miles from where they hatched.
- Don't like to fly across roads or through developed areas.

