## Reliant Energy Osceola

dome and mixed prairie habitat surrounding a Reliant Energy plant in central Florida. This area has been protected through the efforts of Reliant Energy, and is a valuable migration stopover point for birds utilizing the eastern Caribbean migration pathway.

LOCATION: The protected area is located in Osceola County, Florida, southeast of Kissimmee.



SIZE: 168 ha (415 acres)

HABITAT: The
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Osceola preserve is an area of cypress trees, scattered pines, and mixed prairie. The cypress trees grow tallest in the center to create the

in the center to create the "dome" effect. The area also has elements of bottomland hardwood forest scattered throughout.

BIRDS: This site is strategically located in the eastern migration pathway for neotropical migrants. The diverse, mixed habitat hosts many warblers in migration, including Black and white, Northern Parula, Palm, and Pine. Sandhill Cranes are resident in the area, and the Florida population of

Whooping Crane is nearby and may occasionally use the site. Other birds of interest include Swallow-tailed Kite, Bald Eagle, Great-crested Flycatcher, and several species of woodpeckers.



CONSERVATION: Reliant Energy has helped secure a habitat easement on the

property with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. This will protect the site from further development. Since the site also hosts an energy facility, security is available, and site disturbances can be kept to a minimum.



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