Mosaic celebrates Earth Day at NFM1

This 500-acre wetland in Manatee County demonstrates Mosaic’s leadership in re-establishing important habitats.

Spanning 500 acres, this vast wetland serves as a haven for migratory birds as well as vital nesting grounds for several protected species.

We’re celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day by highlighting one of our most successful reclamation projects: the 500-acre reclaimed herbaceous wetland also known as North Fork Manatee -1 (NFM1).

NFM1 is a mature stage reclamation project, having been established by Mosaic between 2001 and 2002. It consists of 517 acres of herbaceous marsh with three embedded lakes. In addition, an upland forest buffer was planted around the wetland.

NFM1 was deemed self-sustaining by regulatory agencies less than 10 years after it was developed. For established sites like NFM1, meeting the criteria needed to achieve a “release” status by the regulatory agency is a key indicator of the potential success of a wetland. For a reclaimed wetland to be “released,” it must demonstrate that it is functioning equally as well as or better than the natural system which it replaces.

Prior to mining, NFM1 had small areas of wetlands, but was predominately agricultural lands, including row crop fields and cattle pastures.