ANCIENT FLORIDA

36-40 million years ago

PALEO-GEOGRAPHY

Underwater carbonate banks build up on old Florida shelf.

Source: ‘The Geology of the Everglades and Adjacent areas” by Edward J. Petuch and Charles Roberts.
ANCIENT FLORIDA
28-20 million years ago

PALEO-GEOGRAPHY
The Tampa subsea deposits marine sediments. Shallow lagoons and sand banks.
ANCIENT FLORIDA

16.5 – 15 million years ago

PALEO-GEOGRAPHY

ANCIENT FLORIDA
8-4 million years ago

PALEO-GEOGRAPHY

The Charlotte subsea delta deposits and fringing reef. Central platform still exposed.
PALEO-GEOGRAPHY

The shape and morphology of the ancient Tamiami subsea and the central platform affects the geography, hydrology and biology of South Florida today. Note the shallow basin / delta where the Kissimmee River and Lake Okeechobee will eventually form. The oceanic channels to the east and west of the river delta will be where the Loxahatchee and Caloosahatchee Rivers will go. Foundation sediments for the Florida Keys being deposited.
ANCIENT FLORIDA
1.5 million years ago

PALEO-GEOGRAPHY

Loxahatchee subsea deposits sediments. Note how the parts of South Florida still underwater are where the big lakes, rivers and Taylor Slough are found today.
ANCIENT FLORIDA

150-100 thousand years ago

PALEO-GEOGRAPHY

The “Lake Worth” period. Cape Sable is forming, and offshore Keys are forming.
PRESENT FLORIDA