



Sunset in Pinelands



Anhinga

APPENDIXES, GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS,
REFERENCES, PREPARERS AND CONSULTANTS, AND INDEX

APPENDIX A: LEGISLATION

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73d CONGRESS. SESS. II. CHS. 370, 371. MAY 29, 30, 1934.

[CHAPTER 371.]

AN ACT

May 30, 1934.
[H. R. 2837.]
[Public, No. 267.]

To provide for the establishment of the Everglades National Park in the State of Florida and for other purposes.

Everglades National
Park, Fla.
Establishment, when
title to lands is vested
in United States.
Area, location, etc.

Vol. 45, p. 1443.

Proviso.
Lands secured only
by donation.

Acceptance of title.

Proviso.
Restriction, until ex-
clusive jurisdiction
over entire area is
ceded.

National Park Serv-
ice to administer, etc.

Vol. 39, p. 331.

Proviso.
Water Power Act not
applicable.
Vol. 41, p. 1093.
Rights of Indians.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to all the lands within boundaries to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior within the area of approximately two thousand square miles in the region of the Everglades of Dade, Monroe, and Collier Counties, in the State of Florida, recommended by said Secretary, in his report to Congress of December 3, 1930, pursuant to the Act of March 1, 1929 (45 Stat., pt. 1, p. 1443), shall have been vested in the United States, said lands shall be, and are hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people and shall be known as the Everglades National Park: *Provided*, That the United States shall not purchase by appropriation of public moneys any land within the aforesaid area, but such lands shall be secured by the United States only by public or private donation.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion and upon submission of evidence of title satisfactory to him, to accept on behalf of the United States, title to the lands referred to in the previous section hereof as may be deemed by him necessary or desirable for national-park purposes: *Provided*, That no land for said park shall be accepted until exclusive jurisdiction over the entire park area, in form satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior, shall have been ceded by the State of Florida to the United States.

SEC. 3. The administration, protection, and development of the aforesaid park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes", as amended: *Provided*, That the provisions of the Act approved June 10, 1920, known as the Federal Water Power Act, shall not apply to this park: *Provided further*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to lessen any existing rights of the Seminole Indians which are not in conflict with the purposes for which the

Everglades National Park is created: *And provided further*, That the United States shall not expend any public moneys for the administration, protection, or development of the aforesaid park within a period of five years from the date of approval of this Act.

SEC. 4. The said area or areas shall be permanently reserved as a wilderness, and no development of the project or plan for the entertainment of visitors shall be undertaken which will interfere with the preservation intact of the unique flora and fauna and the essential primitive natural conditions now prevailing in this area.

Approved, May 30, 1934.

No Federal expense
for first 5 years.

Permanently re-
served as a wilderness.

6. Everglades

An Act to authorize additional appropriations for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands within the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in Idaho. (92 Stat. 3467) (P.L. 95-625)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

TITLE IV—WILDERNESS

SEC. 401. The following lands are hereby designated as wilderness in accordance with section 3(c) Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), and shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act:

* * * * *

(3) Everglades National Park, Florida, wilderness comprising approximately one million two hundred and ninety-six thousand five hundred acres and potential wilderness additions comprising approximately eighty-one thousand nine hundred acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Everglades National Park, Florida", numbered 160-20,011 and dated June 1974, to be known as the Everglades Wilderness.

SEC. 402. A map and description of the boundaries of the areas designated in this title shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and in the Office of the Superintendent of each area designated in this title. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, maps of the wilderness areas and descriptions of their boundaries shall be filed with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, and such maps and descriptions shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided*, That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such maps and descriptions may be made.

SEC. 403. Any lands which represent potential wilderness additions in this title, upon publication in the Federal Register of a notice by the Secretary that all uses thereon prohibited by the Wilderness Act have ceased, shall thereby be designated wilderness. Lands designated as potential wilderness additions shall be managed by the Secretary insofar as practicable as wilderness until such time as said lands are designated as wilderness.

SEC. 404. The areas designated by this Act as wilderness shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of

the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act, and, where appropriate, any reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 405. Nothing in this title shall be construed to diminish the authority of the Coast Guard, pursuant to sections 2 and 81 of title 14, United States Code, and title 1 of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1221), or the Federal Aviation Administration to use the areas designated wilderness by this Act within the Everglades National Park, Florida; and the Gulf Islands National Seashore, Florida and Mississippi, for navigational and maritime safety purposes.

* * * * *

Approved November 10, 1978.

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8. Everglades

103 STAT. 1946

PUBLIC LAW 101-229—DEC. 13, 1989

Public Law 101-229
101st Congress

An Act

Dec. 13, 1989
[H.R. 1727]

To modify the boundaries of the Everglades National Park and to provide for the protection of lands, waters, and natural resources within the park, and for other purposes.

Everglades
National Park
Protection and
Expansion Act of
1989.
Florida.
16 USC 410r-5
note.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989".

**TITLE I—EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
EXPANSION**

16 USC 410r-5.

SEC. 101. FINDINGS, PURPOSES AND DEFINITIONS OF TERMS.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Everglades National Park is a nationally and internationally significant resource and the park has been adversely affected and continues to be adversely affected by external factors which have altered the ecosystem including the natural hydrologic conditions within the park.

(2) The existing boundary of Everglades National Park excludes the contiguous lands and waters of the Northeast Shark River Slough that are vital to long-term protection of the park and restoration of natural hydrologic conditions within the park.

(3) Wildlife resources and their associated habitats have been adversely impacted by the alteration of natural hydrologic conditions within the park, which has contributed to an overall decline in fishery resources and a 90 percent population loss of wading birds.

(4) Incorporation of the Northeast Shark River Slough and the East Everglades within the park will limit further losses suffered by the park due to habitat destruction outside the present park boundaries and will preserve valuable ecological resources for use and enjoyment by future generations.

(5) The State of Florida and certain of its political subdivisions or agencies have indicated a willingness to transfer approximately 35,000 acres of lands under their jurisdiction to the park in order to protect lands and water within the park, and may so transfer additional lands in the future.

(6) The State of Florida has proposed a joint Federal-State effort to protect Everglades National Park through the acquisition of additional lands.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purposes of this Act are to—

(1) increase the level of protection of the outstanding natural values of Everglades National Park and to enhance and restore

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PUBLIC LAW 101-229—DEC. 13, 1989

103 STAT. 1947

the ecological values, natural hydrologic conditions, and public enjoyment of such area by adding the area commonly known as the Northeast Shark River Slough and the East Everglades to Everglades National Park; and

(2) assure that the park is managed in order to maintain the natural abundance, diversity, and ecological integrity of native plants and animals, as well as the behavior of native animals, as a part of their ecosystem.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this Act:

(1) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) The term “addition” means the approximately 107,600 acre area of the East Everglades area authorized to be added to Everglades National Park by this Act.

(3) The term “park” means the area encompassing the existing boundary of Everglades National Park and the addition area described in paragraph (2).

(4) The term “project” means the Central and Southern Florida Project.

SEC. 102. BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.

16 USC 410r-6.

(a) AREA INCLUDED.—The park boundary is hereby modified to include approximately 107,600 acres as generally depicted on the map entitled “Boundary Map, Everglades National Park Addition, Dade County, Florida”, numbered 160-20,013B and dated September 1989. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

Public information.

(b) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary may from time to time make minor revisions in the boundaries of the park in accordance with section 7(c) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 and following). In exercising the boundary adjustment authority the Secretary shall ensure all actions will enhance resource preservation and shall not result in a net loss of acreage from the park.

(c) ACQUISITION.—(1) Within the boundaries of the addition described in subsection (a), the Secretary may acquire lands and interests in land by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. For purposes of acquiring property by exchange, the Secretary may, notwithstanding any other provision of law, exchange the approximately one acre of Federal land known as “Gilberts’ Marina” for non-Federal land of equal value located within the boundaries of the addition. Any lands or interests in land which are owned by the State of Florida or any political subdivision thereof, may be acquired only by donation.

(2) It is the express intent of Congress that acquisition within the boundaries of the addition shall be completed not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section. The authority provided by this section shall remain in effect until all acquisition is completed.

Termination date.

(d) ACQUISITION OF TRACTS PARTIALLY OUTSIDE BOUNDARIES.—When any tract of land is only partly within boundaries referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary may acquire all or any portion of the land outside of such boundaries in order to minimize the payment of severance costs. Land so acquired outside of the boundaries may be exchanged by the Secretary for non-Federal lands within the boundaries, and any land so acquired and not utilized for exchange shall be reported to the General Services Administration for disposal

under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377).

(e) OFFERS TO SELL.—In exercising the authority to acquire property under this Act, the Secretary shall give prompt and careful consideration to any offer made by any person owning property within the boundaries of the addition to sell such a property, if such owner notifies the Secretary that the continued ownership of such property is causing, or would result in undue hardship.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), there are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(2) With respect to land acquisition within the addition, not more than 80 percent of the cost of such acquisition may be provided by the Federal Government. Not less than 20 percent of such cost shall be provided by the State of Florida.

(g) ASSISTANCE.—Upon the request of the Governor of the State of Florida, the Secretary is authorized to provide technical assistance and personnel to assist in the acquisition of lands and waters within the Kissimmee River/Lake Okeechobee/Everglades Hydrologic Basin, including the Big Cypress Swamp, through the provision of Federal land acquisition personnel, practices, and procedures. The State of Florida shall reimburse the Secretary for such assistance in such amounts and at such time as agreed upon by the Secretary and the State. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, reimbursement received by the Secretary for such assistance shall be retained by the Secretary and shall be available without further appropriation for purposes of carrying out any authorized activity of the Secretary within the boundaries of the park.

16 USC 410r-7.

SEC. 103. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer the areas within the addition in accordance with this Act and other provisions of law applicable to the Everglades National Park, and with the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the national park system, including the Act entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes", approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat 535; 16 U.S.C. 1-4). In order to further preserve and protect Everglades National Park, the Secretary shall utilize such other statutory authority as may be available to him for the preservation of wildlife and natural resources as he deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(b) PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEM.—The Secretary shall manage the park in order to maintain the natural abundance, diversity, and ecological integrity of native plants and animals, as well as the behavior of native animals, as a part of their ecosystem.

Boating.

(c) PROTECTION OF FLORA AND FAUNA.—The park shall be closed to the operation of airboats—

(1) except as provided in subsection (d); and

(2) except that within a limited capacity and on designated routes within the addition, owners of record of registered airboats in use within the addition as of January 1, 1989, shall be issued nontransferable, nonrenewable permits, for their individual lifetimes, to operate personally-owned airboats for noncommercial use in accordance with rules prescribed by the Secretary to determine ownership and registration, establish

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PUBLIC LAW 101-229—DEC. 13, 1989

103 STAT. 1949

uses, permit conditions, and penalties, and to protect the biological resources of the area.

(d) CONCESSION CONTRACTS.—The Secretary is authorized to negotiate and enter into concession contracts with the owners of commercial airboat and tour facilities in existence on or before January 1, 1989, located within the addition for the provision of such services at their current locations under such rules and conditions as he may deem necessary for the accommodation of visitors and protection of biological resources of the area.

(e) VISITOR CENTER.—The Secretary is authorized and directed to expedite the construction of the visitor center facility at Everglades City, Florida, as described in the Development Concept Plan, Gulf Coast, dated February 1989, and upon construction shall designate the visitor center facility as “The Marjory Stoneman Douglas Center” in commemoration of the vision and leadership shown by Mrs. Douglas in the protection of the Everglades and Everglades National Park.

Marjory
Stoneman
Douglas.

SEC. 104. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN WATER PROJECTS.

16 USC 410r-8.

(a) IMPROVED WATER DELIVERIES.—(1) Upon completion of a final report by the Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers, the Secretary of the Army, in consultation with the Secretary, is authorized and directed to construct modifications to the Central and Southern Florida Project to improve water deliveries into the park and shall, to the extent practicable, take steps to restore the natural hydrological conditions within the park.

(2) Such modifications shall be based upon the findings of the Secretary's experimental program authorized in section 1302 of the 1984 Supplemental Appropriations Act (97 Stat. 1292) and generally as set forth in a General Design Memorandum to be prepared by the Jacksonville District entitled “Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park”. The Draft of such Memorandum and the Final Memorandum, as prepared by the Jacksonville District, shall be submitted as promptly as practicable to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Public Works and Transportation of the United States House of Representatives.

(3) Construction of project modifications authorized in this subsection and flood protection systems authorized in subsections (c) and (d) are justified by the environmental benefits to be derived by the Everglades ecosystem in general and by the park in particular and shall not require further economic justification.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the operation of project facilities to achieve their design objectives, as set forth in the Congressional authorization and any modifications thereof.

(b) DETERMINATION OF ADVERSE EFFECT.—(1) Upon completion of the Final Memorandum referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Army, in consultation with the South Florida Water Management District, shall make a determination as to whether the residential area within the East Everglades known as the “Eight and One-Half Square Mile Area” or adjacent agricultural areas, all as generally depicted on the map referred to in subsection 102(a), will be adversely affected by project modifications authorized in subsection (a).

Agriculture and
agricultural
commodities.

(2) In determining whether adjacent agricultural areas will be adversely affected, the Secretary of the Army shall consider the impact of any flood protection system proposed to be implemented pursuant to subsection (c) on such agricultural areas.

(c) FLOOD PROTECTION; EIGHT AND ONE-HALF SQUARE MILE AREA.—If the Secretary of the Army makes a determination pursuant to subsection (b) that the "Eight and One-Half Square Mile Area" will be adversely affected, the Secretary of the Army is authorized and directed to construct a flood protection system for that portion of presently developed land within such area.

(d) FLOOD PROTECTION; ADJACENT AGRICULTURAL AREA.—(1) If the Secretary of the Army determines pursuant to subsection (b) that an adjacent agricultural area will be adversely affected, the Secretary of the Army is authorized and directed to construct a flood protection system for such area. Such determination shall be based on a finding by the Secretary of the Army that:

(A) the adverse effect will be attributable solely to a project modification authorized in subsection (a) or to a flood protection system implemented pursuant to subsection (c), or both; and

(B) such modification or flood protection system will result in a substantial reduction in the economic utility of such area based on its present agricultural use.

(2) No project modification authorized in subsection (a) which the Secretary of the Army determines will cause an adverse effect pursuant to subsection (b) shall be made operational until the Secretary of the Army has implemented measures to prevent such adverse effect on the adjacent agricultural area: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army or the South Florida Water Management District may operate the modification to the extent that the Secretary of the Army determines that such operation will not adversely affect the adjacent agricultural area: *Provided further*, That any preventive measure shall be implemented in a manner that presents the least prospect of harm to the natural resources of the park.

(3) Any flood protection system implemented by the Secretary of the Army pursuant to this subsection shall be required only to provide for flood protection for present agricultural uses within such adjacent agricultural area.

(4) The acquisition of land authorized in section 102 shall not be considered a project modification.

(e) PERIODIC REVIEW.—(1) Not later than 18 months after the completion of the project modifications authorized in subsection (a), and periodically thereafter, the Secretary of the Army shall review the determination of adverse effect for adjacent agricultural areas.

(2) In conducting such review, the Secretary of the Army shall consult with all affected parties, including, but not limited to, the Secretary, the South Florida Water Management District and agricultural users within adjacent agricultural areas.

(3) If, on the basis of such review, the Secretary of the Army determines that an adjacent agricultural area has been, or will be adversely affected, the Secretary of the Army is authorized and directed, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d), to construct a flood protection system for such area: *Provided*, That the provisions of subsection (d)(2) shall be applicable only to the extent that the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Army, determines that the park will not be adversely affected.

Agriculture and
agricultural
commodities.

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103 STAT. 1951

(4) The provisions of this subsection shall only be applicable if the Secretary of the Army has previously made a determination that such adjacent agricultural area will not be adversely affected.

(f) **CURRENT CANAL OPERATING LEVELS.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require or prohibit the Secretary of the Army or the South Florida Water Management District from maintaining the water level within any project canal below the maximum authorized operating level as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(g) **NO LIMITATION ON OTHER CLAIMS.**—If the Secretary of the Army makes a determination of no adverse effect pursuant to subsection (b), such determination shall not be considered as a limitation or prohibition against any available legal remedy which may otherwise be available.

(h) **COORDINATION.**—The Secretary and the Secretary of the Army shall coordinate the construction program authorized under this section and the land acquisition program authorized in section 102 in such a manner as will permit both to proceed concurrently and as will avoid unreasonable interference with property interests prior to the acquisition of such interests by the Secretary under section 102.

(i) **WEST DADE WELLFIELD.**—No Federal license, permit, approval, right-of-way or assistance shall be granted or issued with respect to the West Dade Wellfield (to be located in the Bird Drive Drainage Basin, as identified in the Comprehensive Development Master Plan for Dade County, Florida) until the Secretary, the Governor of the State of Florida, the South Florida Water Management District and Dade County, Florida enter into an agreement providing that the South Florida Water Management District's water use permit for the wellfield, if granted, must include the following limiting conditions: (1) the wellfield's peak pumpage rate shall not exceed 140,000,000 gallons per day; (2) the permit shall include reasonable, enforceable measures to limit demand on the wellfield in times of water shortage; and (3) if, during times of water shortage, the District fails to limit demand on the wellfield pursuant to (2), or if the District limits demand on the wellfield pursuant to (2), but the Secretary certifies that operation of the wellfield is still causing significant adverse impacts on the resources of the Park, the Governor shall require the South Florida Water Management District to take necessary actions to alleviate the adverse impact, including, but not limited to, temporary reductions in the pumpage from the wellfield.

(j) **PROTECTION OF NATURAL VALUES.**—The Secretary of the Army is directed in analysis, design and engineering associated with the development of a general design memorandum for works and operations in the "C-111 basin" area of the East Everglades, to take all measures which are feasible and consistent with the purposes of the project to protect natural values associated with Everglades National Park. Upon completion of a general design memorandum for the area, the Secretary shall prepare and transmit a report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Public Works and Transportation of the United States House of Representatives on the status of the natural resources of the C-111 basin and functionally related lands.

Reports.

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103 STAT. 1952

PUBLIC LAW 101-229—DEC. 13, 1989

Approved December 13, 1989.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1727 (S. 724):
HOUSE REPORTS: No. 101-182, Pt. 1 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs)
and Pt. 2 (Comm. on Public Works and Transportation).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 135 (1989):
Nov. 7, considered and passed House.
Nov. 21, considered and passed Senate, amended, in lieu of S. 724. House
concurred in Senate amendment.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 25 (1989):

111 STAT. 1540

PUBLIC LAW 105-82—NOV. 13, 1997

Public Law 105-82
105th Congress

An Act

Nov. 13, 1997
[S. 931]

To designate the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness and the Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Marjory
Stoneman
Douglas
Wilderness and
Ernest F. Coe
Visitor Center
Designation Act.
16 USC 410r-5
note.
16 USC 410r-7
note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness and Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center Designation Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1)(A) Marjory Stoneman Douglas, through her book, “The Everglades: River of Grass” (published in 1947), defined the Everglades for the people of the United States and the world;

(B) Mrs. Douglas's book was the first to stimulate widespread understanding of the Everglades ecosystem and ultimately served to awaken the desire of the people of the United States to restore the ecosystem's health;

(C) in her 107th year, Mrs. Douglas is the sole surviving member of the original group of people who devoted decades of selfless effort to establish the Everglades National Park;

(D) when the water supply and ecology of the Everglades, both within and outside the park, became threatened by drainage and development, Mrs. Douglas dedicated the balance of her life to the defense of the Everglades through extraordinary personal effort and by inspiring countless other people to take action;

(E) for these and many other accomplishments, the President awarded Mrs. Douglas the Medal of Freedom on Earth Day, 1994; and

(2)(A) Ernest F. Coe (1886–1951) was a leader in the creation of Everglades National Park;

(B) Mr. Coe organized the Tropic Everglades National Park Association in 1928 and was widely regarded as the father of Everglades National Park;

(C) as a landscape architect, Mr. Coe's vision for the park recognized the need to protect south Florida's diverse wildlife and habitats for future generations;

(D) Mr. Coe's original park proposal included lands and waters subsequently protected within the Everglades National Park, the Big Cypress National Preserve, and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; and

(E)(i) Mr. Coe's leadership, selfless devotion, and commitment to achieving his vision culminated in the authorization of the Everglades National Park by Congress in 1934;

(ii) after authorization of the park, Mr. Coe fought tirelessly and lobbied strenuously for establishment of the park, finally realizing his dream in 1947; and

(iii) Mr. Coe accomplished much of the work described in this paragraph at his own expense, which dramatically demonstrated his commitment to establishment of Everglades National Park.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this Act to commemorate the vision, leadership, and enduring contributions of Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Ernest F. Coe to the protection of the Everglades and the establishment of Everglades National Park.

SEC. 3. MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS WILDERNESS.

16 USC 1132
note.

(a) **REDESIGNATION.**—Section 401(3) of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-625; 92 Stat. 3490; 16 U.S.C. 1132 note) is amended by striking "to be known as the Everglades Wilderness" and inserting "to be known as the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness, to commemorate the vision and leadership shown by Mrs. Douglas in the protection of the Everglades and the establishment of the Everglades National Park".

(b) **NOTICE OF REDESIGNATION.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall provide such notification of the redesignation made by the amendment made by subsection (a) by signs, materials, maps, markers, interpretive programs, and other means (including changes in signs, materials, maps, and markers in existence before the date of enactment of this Act) as will adequately inform the public of the redesignation of the wilderness area and the reasons for the redesignation.

(c) **REFERENCES.**—Any reference in any law, regulation, document, record, map, or other paper of the United States to the "Everglades Wilderness" shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness".

SEC. 4. ERNEST F. COE VISITOR CENTER.

(a) **DESIGNATION.**—Section 103 of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 (16 U.S.C. 410r-7) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(f) **ERNEST F. COE VISITOR CENTER.**—On completion of construction of the main visitor center facility at the headquarters of Everglades National Park, the Secretary shall designate the visitor center facility as the 'Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center', to commemorate the vision and leadership shown by Mr. Coe in the establishment and protection of Everglades National Park."

111 STAT. 1542

PUBLIC LAW 105-82—NOV. 13, 1997

SEC. 5. CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Section 103 of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 (16 U.S.C. 410r-7) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “personnally-owned” and inserting “personally-owned”; and

(2) in subsection (e), by striking “VISITOR CENTER” and inserting “MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS VISITOR CENTER”.

Approved November 13, 1997.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 931 (H.R. 136):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 105-328 accompanying H.R. 136 (Comm. on Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 105-68 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 143 (1997):

Sept. 16, considered and passed Senate.

Nov. 4, considered and passed House.

PUBLIC LAW 108-483—DEC. 23, 2004

118 STAT. 3919

Public Law 108-483
108th Congress

An Act

To authorize the exchange of certain land in Everglades National Park.

Dec. 23, 2004

[H.R. 3785]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Florida.

SECTION 1. EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK.

Section 102 of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 (16 U.S.C. 410r-6) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “The park boundary” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The park boundary”;

(B) by striking “The map” and inserting the following:

“(2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire from 1 or more willing sellers not more than 10 acres of land located outside the boundary of the park and adjacent to or near the East Everglades area of the park for the development of administrative, housing, maintenance, or other park purposes.

“(B) ADMINISTRATION; APPLICABLE LAW.—On acquisition of the land under subparagraph (A), the land shall be administered as part of the park in accordance with the laws (including regulations) applicable to the park.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(h) LAND EXCHANGES.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Administrator’ means the Administrator of General Services.

“(B) COUNTY.—The term ‘County’ means Miami-Dade County, Florida.

“(C) COUNTY LAND.—The term ‘County land’ means the 2 parcels of land owned by the County totaling approximately 152.93 acres that are designated as ‘Tract 605-01’ and ‘Tract 605-03’.

“(D) DISTRICT.—The term ‘District’ means the South Florida Water Management District.

“(E) DISTRICT LAND.—The term ‘District land’ means the approximately 1,054 acres of District land located in the Southern Glades Wildlife and Environmental Area and identified on the map as ‘South Florida Water Management District Exchange Lands’.

118 STAT. 3920

PUBLIC LAW 108–483—DEC. 23, 2004

“(F) GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION LAND.—The term ‘General Services Administration land’ means the approximately 595.28 acres of land designated as ‘Site Alpha’ that is declared by the Department of the Navy to be excess land.

“(G) MAP.—The term ‘map’ means the map entitled ‘Boundary Modification for C–111 Project, Everglades National Park’, numbered 160/80,007A, and dated May 18, 2004.

“(H) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE LAND.—The term ‘National Park Service land’ means the approximately 1,054 acres of land located in the Rocky Glades area of the park and identified on the map as ‘NPS Exchange Lands’.

“(2) EXCHANGE OF GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION LAND AND COUNTY LAND.—The Administrator shall convey to the County fee title to the General Services Administration land in exchange for the conveyance by the County to the Secretary of fee title to the County land.

“(3) EXCHANGE OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE LAND AND DISTRICT LAND.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the completion of the exchange under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall convey to the District fee title to the National Park Service land in exchange for fee title to the District land.

“(B) USE OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE LAND.—The National Park Service land conveyed to the District shall be used by the District for the purposes of the C–111 project, including restoration of the Everglades natural system.

“(C) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—On completion of the land exchange under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall modify the boundary of the park to reflect the exchange of the National Park Service land and the District land.

“(4) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.”.

SEC. 2. BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE.

Subsection (d)(3) of the first section of Public Law 93–440 (16 U.S.C. 698f) is amended by striking “The amount described in paragraph (1)” and inserting “The amount described in paragraph (2)”.

Approved December 23, 2004.

PUBLIC LAW 111-11—MAR. 30, 2009

Public Law 111-11
111th Congress

An Act

To designate certain land as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

Mar. 30, 2009
[H.R. 146]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009”.

Omnibus
Public Land
Management Act
of 2009.
16 USC 1 note.

SEC. 7107. EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK.

Florida.
16 USC 410r-9.

(a) **INCLUSION OF TARPON BASIN PROPERTY.**—

(1) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection:

(A) **HURRICANE HOLE.**—The term “Hurricane Hole” means the natural salt-water body of water within the Duesenbury Tracts of the eastern parcel of the Tarpon Basin boundary adjustment and accessed by Duesenbury Creek.

(B) **MAP.**—The term “map” means the map entitled “Proposed Tarpon Basin Boundary Revision”, numbered 160/80,012, and dated May 2008.

(C) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(D) **TARPON BASIN PROPERTY.**—The term “Tarpon Basin property” means land that—

- (i) is comprised of approximately 600 acres of land and water surrounding Hurricane Hole, as generally depicted on the map; and
- (ii) is located in South Key Largo.

(2) **BOUNDARY REVISION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The boundary of the Everglades National Park is adjusted to include the Tarpon Basin property.

(B) **ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may acquire from willing sellers by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange, land, water, or interests in land and water, within the area depicted on the map, to be added to Everglades National Park.

(C) **AVAILABILITY OF MAP.**—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(D) **ADMINISTRATION.**—Land added to Everglades National Park by this section shall be administered as part of Everglades National Park in accordance with applicable laws (including regulations).

(3) **HURRICANE HOLE.**—The Secretary may allow use of Hurricane Hole by sailing vessels during emergencies, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(4) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.

APPENDIX B: INTERIM 2011 COSTS AND STAFFING

COST SUMMARY OF THE ALTERNATIVES AS THEY EXISTED IN 2011

As part of the planning process for this general management plan, the National Park Service conducted extensive internal and external scoping to identify the issues and concerns that needed to be addressed in the planning effort. The alternatives that grew out of scoping were in turn subjected to internal review by multiple levels of NPS management. Additional assessment related to the cost and economic feasibility of new development at Everglades National Park, specifically at Flamingo and the park's site in Everglades City, was performed. The intent of this reassessment was to put park managers and the public in a position to work toward implementation of an achievable vision in the next 15 to 20 years.

Due to reassessment, the planning teams decided to scale back some of the proposed development features at Flamingo and Everglades City. These reductions were made primarily due to concerns about (a) the high cost of construction and operation, (b) the

vulnerability of the proposed developments to storm damage, and (c) the need to plan for projected sea level rise at both locations. Accordingly, the earlier proposals for Flamingo and the Everglades City site are no longer part of the action alternatives in the draft plan. Likewise, the cost and staffing estimates prepared in connection with the earlier proposals are no longer valid.

The table below presents cost and staffing information as it existed in 2011. This information is presented in order for the public to more fully understand the evolution of the costs and staffing associated with the draft plan. While the costs summarized below for the action alternatives were deemed feasible at the time they were developed, the reality of current and anticipated funding levels for the life of this plan (20 years) necessitated a reassessment of the alternatives, as discussed above.

The assumptions used in developing the table below are identical to those used in developing the cost table in the current draft (see chapter 2).

Costs Summary of the Alternatives as They Existed in 2011

	Alternative 1 (No Action)	NPS Preferred	Alternative 2	Alternative 4
Annual Operating Costs (ONPS)	\$19,750,000	\$25,900,000	\$24,900,000	\$25,800,000
Staffing (FTE)	219	262.5	252.5	262.5
Total One-time Costs	\$65,000,000	\$110,200,000	\$106,750,000	\$107,950,000
Facility Costs	\$0	\$40,200,000	\$38,000,000	\$38,500,000
Nonfacility Costs	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$3,750,000	\$4,450,000
Other Costs				
Flamingo Redevelopment	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000

The following explanatory notes pertain to table 2:

- Annual operating costs (ONPS) are the total costs per year for maintenance and operations associated with each alternative, including utilities, supplies, staff salaries and benefits, leasing, and other materials. Cost and staffing estimates assume that the alternative is fully implemented as described in the narrative (but see 8th bullet statement on the preceding page). For all alternatives annual operating costs includes staffing and other costs associated with Flamingo improvements.
- The staffing figure (total number of FTEs) is the number of person-years of staff required to maintain the assets of the park at a good level, provide acceptable visitor services, protect resources, and generally support the park's operations. The FTE number indicates ONPS-funded NPS staff only, not volunteer positions or positions funded by partners. FTE salaries and benefits are included in the annual operating costs. [The 219 FTE figure for the no-action alternative equals 210 authorized positions plus 5 positions associated with operating an upgraded Flamingo (common to all alternatives). The actual staffing level in 2012 was 195 FTE because funding was insufficient to fill all 210 authorized positions.]
- Total one-time costs include facility costs, nonfacility costs, and other costs. They are calculated by summing the rows that follow in table 2.
- One-time facility costs include those for the design, construction, rehabilitation, or adaptive use of visitor centers, roads, parking areas, administrative facilities, comfort stations, educational facilities, entrance stations, fire stations, maintenance facilities, museum collection facilities, and other visitor facilities.
- One-time nonfacility costs include actions for the preservation of cultural or natural resources not related to facilities, the development of visitor use tools not related to facilities, and other park management activities that would require substantial funding above park annual operating costs. Examples include the seagrass restoration program and the boater education/permit program.
- Other costs are for projects that would be partially or wholly funded from other sources. Flamingo costs have been separated out in table 2 because (a) they make up a large share of the overall cost, and , and (b). they are common to every alternative, including alternative 1 (no-action). Costs for Flamingo redevelopment would likely be shared by donors and partners, including the concessioner.
- Land acquisition costs are not included in the cost estimates.

APPENDIX C: RELATIONSHIP OF THE GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN TO OTHER PLANNING EFFORTS—ADDITIONAL PLANS

This appendix is a continuation of the chapter 1 section titled “Relationship of the General Management Plan to Other Planning Efforts.”

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PLANS

Everglades National Park Strategic Plan (2007–2011)

The Strategic Plan for Everglades National Park is a five-year plan that includes a mission statement born out of the NPS Organic Act and the legislation that established and expanded the national park. It includes mission goals for the park that closely parallel NPS mission goals. It also includes objectives (measurable targets) to be achieved over a five-year time frame. Achievement of these targets demonstrates progress toward meeting the park’s mission goals. The desired conditions in this general management plan for Everglades National Park will provide the information necessary to update the Strategic Plan.

Everglades National Park Fire Management Plan

Everglades National Park Fire Management Plan is being updated in 2012. The fire management plan provides the guidance necessary for managing fire to safely achieve the management objectives of the park in accordance with applicable policies and regulations. Fire management is an integral part of the park’s natural and cultural resource management program. Managing the role of fire in park ecosystems is one of the highest natural resource management priorities given the presence of critically

endangered species (including Cape Sable seaside sparrow), threatened habitat (pine rockland savannas), more than 750,000 acres of designated terrestrial wilderness, and vast tracts of invasive nonnative vegetation. Managers must also consider the millions of residents and visitors near the park, and the substantial infrastructure and historic properties that must be protected from wild land fire.

Everglades National Park Backcountry Management Plan (1981)

The *Everglades National Park Backcountry Management Plan* provides management guidance for the nearly 95% of Everglades National Park that is considered backcountry. Its aim is to provide opportunities for quality visitor experiences while protecting park resources. It also serves as an action plan for programming and budgeting. Portions of this plan will be superseded by a wilderness management plan to be developed after the general management plan for Everglades National Park is approved.

Everglades National Park Resource Management Plan (1991) and Resource Stewardship Strategy

Following approval of the general management plan, a resource stewardship strategy will be prepared for Everglades National Park. The resource stewardship strategy will replace the park’s resource management plan. The resource stewardship strategy will serve as a bridge between the desired conditions in the approved general management plan and the goals and

implementation actions determined through park strategic planning. An important outcome will be comprehensive strategies for achieving or maintaining the desired condition of each natural and cultural resource or value (e.g., wildlife populations and vegetation, archeological sites and cultural properties). Strategies will also be developed to gather basic data that is missing but needed to understand the natural variability of the park's natural resources.

Big Cypress National Preserve General Management Plan (1991)

The general management plan for Big Cypress National Preserve was completed in 1991. The preserve is north of the western portion of Everglades National Park. The preserve plan guides visitor use, natural and cultural resource management, and general development in Big Cypress National Preserve. An amendment to the original general management plan is being prepared and will likely be finished in late 2010 for the 147,000 acres added to the preserve by the Big Cypress National Preserve Addition Act of 1988. The amendment addresses management of the Addition and includes a wilderness study and off-road vehicle management plan. The *General Management Plan Amendment* for the Addition was approved in 2011. This general management plan for Everglades National Park is consistent with the management direction in the *Big Cypress National Preserve General Management Plan* and the *General Management Plan Amendment* for the Big Cypress National Preserve Addition lands.

Biscayne National Park General Management Plan

Biscayne National Park is developing a new general management plan to replace the plan approved in 1983. This planning effort is on a similar time line to the Everglades National Park general management plan. Coordination

between the two parks on their respective general management plans is ongoing.

South Florida Parks Collections Management Plan (2007)

This multipack collections management plan defines the relationship, role, and responsibilities between Everglades National Park and the other south Florida national park system units, including the establishment of the multipack South Florida Collections Management Center, which Everglades National Park hosts and supports. This plan also establishes the vision, mission, goals, and objectives for the multipack museum program (which has an impact on Everglades National Park and its collections). The charter of the South Florida Collections Management Center has been approved by five superintendents, the regional curator, and the regional director. The location of Everglades National Park as a multipack repository for the five south Florida parks is also stated in the congressionally approved NPS Museum Collection Storage Strategy.

South Florida and Caribbean Parks Exotic Plant Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (2010)

The plan outlines the management of invasive nonnative plants in nine south Florida and Caribbean parks, including Everglades National Park. The plan promotes restoration of native plant communities and habitat conditions in ecosystems that have been invaded by invasive nonnative plants and protects resources, values, visitors, staff, and area residents from adverse effects resulting from invasive nonnative plant presence and control activities. The plan takes a collaborative approach to managing invasive nonnative plants across the nine parks, improving effectiveness and efficiency and providing a consistent management

frame work for responding to this threat. The plan also seeks to establish plant and treatment location priorities, reduce new invasive nonnative plant introductions, and reduce the number of individually targeted plants to protect natural resources.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE PLANS

Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan (2000)

This plan outlines an ecosystem approach to managing the national wildlife refuge, which is just north of the western portion of Everglades National Park. The plan includes desired future conditions and long-range guidance (goals, objectives, and strategies) for accomplishing the purpose of the wildlife refuge. This general management plan for Everglades National Park is consistent with the Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan (2006)

This plan describes efforts to protect critical breeding and nesting habitat for the endangered American crocodile and other wildlife. The refuge, established in 1980, is in north Key Largo and is comprised of 6,700 acres, including 650 acres of open water. The plan includes desired future conditions and long-range guidance (goals, objectives, and strategies) for fulfilling the refuge mission. This general management plan for Everglades National Park is consistent with the Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION PLANS

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Revised Management Plan (2007)

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary consists of coastal and ocean waters and submerged lands surrounding the Florida Keys. Its northeastern boundary intersects the boundary of the Everglades National Park, so the two management areas are part of the same south Florida ecosystem. The revised management plan replaced the 1996 sanctuary management plan and serves two main purposes: (1) it provides updates about the outcomes of successfully implemented management strategies; and, (2) it disseminates useful information about the sanctuary and its management strategies, activities, and products. This general management plan for Everglades National Park is consistent with the revised management plan for Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

STATE AGENCY PLANS

John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park Management Plan (2004)

The management plan for Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park in Key Largo identifies goals and objectives for meeting its management responsibilities to protect natural and cultural resources associated with the nation's first underwater state park. The park comprises more than 63,000 acres near Everglades National Park's southeastern boundary in lower Florida Bay. This general management plan for Everglades National Park is consistent with the management plan for John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park.

Conceptual Management Plan for the Everglades Complex of Wildlife Management Areas (2002)

The Everglades Complex is part of the Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Everglades basin. Through a cooperative management agreement with the South Florida Water Management District, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has management authority over the Everglades Complex of Wildlife Management Areas (mainly lands in Water Conservation Areas 2 and 3, located north of the eastern portion of Everglades National Park). The plan outlines management strategies that emphasize maintenance and restoration of plant and animal communities, public education and recreation, and habitat protection. The plan was considered during development of this general management plan for Everglades National Park.

Lignumvitae Key State Aquatic Preserve Management Plan (1991)

Lignumvitae Key State Aquatic Preserve lies in the Florida Keys, south of Everglades National Park. It includes expansive seagrass beds that are bisected by channels that exchange water between Florida Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. The management plan for the aquatic preserve is the primary tool for managing and protecting the preserve's natural resources. The preserve management plan was considered during development of this general management plan for Everglades National Park.

Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan (draft 2008)

The Rookery Bay reserve is immediately north of Everglades National Park, adjacent to the park's Gulf Coast / Ten Thousand Islands area. The reserve contains 110,000

acres of mangrove forests, seagrass beds, saltwater marshes, and other coastal and upland habitats. It is one of the few remaining sanctuaries for the federally threatened American crocodile. The reserve was designated in 1978 and expanded in 2000 to include the rest of the Rookery Bay Aquatic Preserve and Cape Romano-Ten Thousand Islands Aquatic Preserve. The reserve shares many natural and cultural resource management and visitor experience goals with Everglades National Park, and this general management plan will be consistent with the reserve's management plan, which is in the process of being updated.

Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail Master Plan (2000)

The vision for 100+ mile trail connecting all of the Florida Keys was in response to public demand to use hundreds of old bridges for pedestrian and recreational activities. The bicycle and pedestrian trail parallels U.S. 1 from Key Largo to Key West, following Henry Flagler's historic railroad route. The trail links ecological resources such as Everglades and Biscayne national parks, Florida Keys and Key West national marine sanctuaries, and Great White Heron, Key Deer, and Crocodile Lakes national wildlife refuges, as well as 10 state parks. This general management plan for Everglades National Park is consistent with the revised management plan for Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail Master Plan.

Florida Circumnavigation Saltwater Paddling Trail

The Florida Circumnavigation Saltwater Paddling Trail is a 1,515-mile sea kayaking trail around Florida; the trail is coordinated by the Office of Greenways and Trails (Florida Department of Environmental Protection), but numerous other government agencies at the federal, state, regional, and local levels, along with private outfitters,

businesses, paddling clubs, and individual volunteers are cooperators. Scouting for the trail concluded in 2007; most of the trail is now open. The trail incorporates several local and regional trails such as the Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail, the Nature Coast Trail, and the Gulf and Wilderness waterways in Everglades National Park. The trail includes various Florida coastal habitat types, from barrier island dune systems to salt marsh to mangroves (FDEP 2009).

Planning for the Past: Preserving Florida's Heritage, 2006–2010 (2006)

Planning for the Past: Preserving Florida's Heritage, a plan published by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, is designed to guide Florida's cultural heritage preservation efforts during 2006–2010. This plan describes cultural heritage preservation issues, opportunities, goals, and strategies. The state historic preservation office plans to track implementation of and progress toward accomplishing the plan's goals and objectives. This plan is consistent with the management guidance provided in this general management plan for Everglades National Park.

COUNTY AND LOCAL PLANS

Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan

Florida's Growth Management Act (1985) requires Florida's counties and municipalities to adopt local government comprehensive plans that guide future growth and development. Miami-Dade County adopted its first plan, the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan, in 1988 and has updated it as necessary. The various plan elements (land use, transportation, housing, conservation, recreation and open space, coastal

management, etc.) provide the frame work to guide future development while providing a variety of goals, such as controlling urban expansion, promoting mass transit, conserving natural resources, encouraging appropriate kinds and locations of development and redevelopment, and maintaining agriculture. The county plan was considered during development of this general management plan for Everglades National Park.

Southeast Florida Regional Transportation Plan, 2035

Various agencies within the three-county southeast Florida metropolitan area are developing a regional long-range transportation plan to outline how to meet the area's transportation needs through the year 2035. The plan will also be used to determine which projects are of highest priority from a regional standpoint. The regional transportation plan was considered during development of this general management plan for Everglades National Park.

Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space System Master Plan (2008)

Miami-Dade County's Park and Open Space System Master Plan envisions that parks, public spaces, natural and cultural areas, streets, greenways, blueways, and trails can form the frame work for a more sustainable community. The plan's vision provides a frame work for outdoor recreation and environmental protection strategies to serve the more than two million residents of Miami-Dade County. With Everglades National Park making up a large portion of the county and the Open Space Plan outlining a way to create a seamless, sustainable system of parks, recreation, and conservation open spaces for this and future generations, there is

clear consistency between the two planning efforts.

Biscayne-Everglades Greenway Master Plan (2010)

The cities of Homestead and Florida City, Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department, the South Florida Water Management District, Everglades and Biscayne national parks, the NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, as well as numerous organizations, local businesses, and citizens, have been working collaboratively since 2006 to develop a multipurpose trail and greenway to link south Miami-Dade communities with Biscayne and Everglades national parks. The greenway plan was considered during development of this general management plan for Everglades National Park.

River of Grass Greenway Feasibility Study (ongoing)

The purpose of the River of Grass Greenway Feasibility Study is to determine if it is feasible to create a greenway extending across the state from Krome Avenue (on the eastern edge of Everglades National Park near Miami) to the outskirts of Naples/Marco Island, with a 3-mile spur to Everglades City and the Gulf Coast Visitor Center of Everglades National Park. The greenway is envisioned as a sustainable, 12- to 14-foot-wide corridor (separated from the highway) suitable for a range of nonmotorized recreation activities such as bicycling, walking, bird-watching,

photography, fishing, and general enjoyment of the greater Everglades natural area. It would also provide opportunities for education, stewardship, and preservation of the area's environmental, historic, and cultural assets. The greenway would parallel the park and Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41) for more than 20 miles. The feasibility study, begun in 2009, is being developed in cooperation with the NPS Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program and Everglades National Park. This general management plan for Everglades National Park is consistent with the vision for the River of Grass Greenway study.

Collier County Manatee Protection Plan (1995)

The purpose of this county plan is to provide county-wide protection for the manatee. The plan examines and provides criteria related to marina and boat facility shoreline and submerged land development, manatee-human interaction, habitat protection, educational programs, law enforcement, and intergovernmental coordination. Objectives include reducing the number of boat-related manatee mortalities, achieving sustainable manatee populations, protecting manatee habitat, and promoting safe boating and public awareness about manatees. The Park Service will be coordinating with Collier County, as well as state and other federal agencies, in developing the manatee management plan for Everglades National Park (described in chapter 1 of this general management plan) while Collier County revises its Manatee Protection Plan.

APPENDIX D: IMPLEMENTATION PHASING OF THE NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Actions in the NPS preferred alternative have been divided into three phases or priorities for implementation. Factors that were considered in determining these phases are as follows:

- relevance to meeting NPS mission, park mission, and desired future conditions
- importance as identified by the NPS planning team
- importance as determined by public involvement efforts during the last six years
- relative feasibility to implement given resource, funding, and other requirements
- anticipated high benefit to cost ratio (“bang for the buck”)

[Note: This is the phasing approach envisioned at the writing of this management plan; however, as circumstances change and opportunities arise over time, there could be adjustments to these phases.]

Refer to the NPS preferred alternative for full descriptions of the elements listed in the phases below. For more detailed information regarding the scope of improvements see the NPS Gulf Coast Visitors Contact Station and Ranger Station Value Analysis report (2012), the NPS Flamingo Master plan and design program (dated June 2012).

PHASE I

Phase 1 includes elements that are important and feasible to implement with relatively modest staffing and funding support. Please note that not all funding sources have been identified at the time of this printing.

- At the Gulf Coast site – Construct the new visitor center, construct site improvements, and construct canoe/kayak ramp.
- boater education/permit program
- Florida Bay seagrass restoration program
- boating safety and resource protection plan
- Florida Keys information/orientation facility
- Key Largo ranger station/science center and/or Tarpon Basin improvements
- enhanced paddling access at three sites
- Florida Bay pole/troll zone marking, maps, guides
- backcountry chickee campsites in Florida Bay and Gulf Coast (part also in phase 2)
- Homestead/Florida City interpretive/orientation kiosk
- Royal Palm interpretive media improvements
- Long Pine Key campground improvements
- Hole-in-the-Donut interpretive media improvements
- main park road interpretive media improvements (part also in phase 2)
- private airboat launch facilities (part also in phase 3)
- Alternative Wilderness Waterway and Gopher Creek marking and interpretive/educational materials
- historic/cultural resources water trail interpretive/educational materials

- hiking and biking opportunity improvements
- Tamiami Trail paddling opportunity improvements
- Shark Valley improvements

Resources required for phase 1:

10 FTE staff members (\$0.9 million)
\$14.5 million in facility, and program costs

PHASE 2

Phase 2 includes elements that are important to implement but require substantial funding or other support not currently available or anticipated.

- South Florida Collections Management Center
- Backcountry chickee campsites in Florida Bay and Gulf Coast (part also in phase 1)
- Rehabilitate the existing visitor center at Flamingo
- Rehabilitate/restore 50 acres of landscape at camping loops B and C at Flamingo
- Anhinga Trail water flow restoration improvements
- main park road interpretive media improvements (part also in phase 1)
- East Everglades administrative complex
- additional law enforcement housing (part also in phase 1)

- At the Gulf Coast Site – remove existing visitor center, remove existing day use shelter and construct new site improvements.
- Wilderness Stewardship Plan

Resources required for phase 2:

- 19.5 FTEs (\$1.8 million)
- \$21.6 million in facility and program costs

PHASE 3

Phase 3 includes elements that are important to implement but are contingent on other projects happening first.

- Daniel Beard Center and Robertson Building improvements
- Nike Missile Base improvements
- private airboat launch facilities (part also in phase 1)
- commercial airboat site(s) modifications for park visitor use
- Chekika improvements
- Tamiami Trail operations consolidation/improvements

Resources required for phase 3:

- 5.5 FTEs (\$0.5 million)
- \$4.8 million in facility and program costs

APPENDIX E: LIST OF SPECIES NAMED IN THIS DOCUMENT WITH COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAMES

PLANTS

- angadenia (*Angadenia sagrae*)
 Australian pine (*Casuarina equisetifolia*)
 beaksedge (*Rhynchospora* spp.)
 Black mangrove (*Avicennia germinans*)
 black needlerush (*Juncus roemerianus*)
 black sedge (*Schoenus nigricans*)
 bladderwort (*Utricularia purpurea*)
 Blodgett's silverbush (*Argythamnia blodgettii*)
 blue water hyssop (*Bacopa caroliniana*)
 bluejoint panicgrass (*Panicum tenerum*)
 blue maidencane (*Amphicarpum* spp.)
 Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*)
 buttonwood (*Conocarpus erecta*)
 cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*)
 Cape Sable thoroughwort (*Chromolaena frustrata*)
 cocoplum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*)
 common spikebrush (*Eleocharis cellulosa*)
 coontie (*Zamia pumila*)
 crenulate lead-plant (*Amorpha crenulata*)
 cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
 dahoon holly (*Ilex cassine*)
 Deltoid spurge (*Chamaesyce deltoidea* ssp. *Deltoidea*)
 devil's claw (*Pisonia aculeata*; armed with wicked spines)
 firegrass (*Andropogon cabanisii*)
 Florida pineland crabgrass (*Digitaria pauciflora*)
 Florida prairie clover (*Dalea carthagenensis* v. *floridana*)
 Garber's spurge (*Chamaesyce garberi*)
 glasswort (*Salicornia* spp.)
 gumbo limbo (*Bursera simaruba*)
 hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*)
 Jamaica dogwood (*Piscidia piscipula*)
 lancewood (*Nectandra coriacea*)
 lantana (*Lantana involucrata*)
 large reed (*Neyraudia* sp.)
 lather leaf (*Colubrina asiatica*)
 live oak (*Quercus virginiana*)
 lygodium (*Lygodium microphyllum*)
 maidencane (*Panicum hemitomon*)
 manatee grass (*Syringodium filiforme*)
 mastic (*Mastichodendron foetidissimum*)
 melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*)
 mermaid weed (*Proserpinaca palustris*)
 muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)
 panic grass (*Panicum dichotomum*)
 pineland clustervine (*Jacquemontia curtissii*)
 Pineland sandmat (*Chamaesyce deltoidea pinetorum*)
 poisonwood (*Metopium toxiferum*)
 pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*)
 pondapple (*Annona glabra*)
 red bay (*Persea borbonia*)
 Red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*)
 royal palm (*Roystonea elata*)
 salt grass (*Distichlis spicata*),
 saltwort (*Batis maritima*)
 saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*)
 sawgrass (*Cladium jamaicense*)
 sea grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*)
 sea lavender (*Limonium carolinianum*)
 sea oats (*Uniola paniculata*)
 sea purslane (*Sesuvium portulacastrum*)
 shoal grass (*Halodule wrightii*)
 shortleaf basketgrass (*Oplismenus setarius*)
 slash pine, south Florida variety of (*Pinus elliottii* var. *densa*)
 smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*)
 spikerush (*Eleocharis* spp.)
 St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
 strangler fig (*Ficus aurea*)
 sweet bay (*Magnolia virginiana*)
 turtle grass (*Thalassia testudinum*)
 Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
 wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*)
 West Indian bluestem (*Schizachyrium semiberbe*)
 white mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*)
 white stopper (*Eugenia axillaris*)
 white top sedge (*Dichromena colorata*)
 wild coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*)
 wild tamarind (*Lysiloma latisiliqua*)
 willow (*Salix caroliniana*)
 willow bustic (*Bumelia salicifolia*)

MAMMALS

black bear (*Ursus americanus*)
 bonnethead (*Sphyrna tiburo*)
 bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*)
 cotton mice (*Peromyscus gossypinus*)
 Florida bonneted bat (*Eumops glaucinus floridanus*)
 Florida panther (*Puma concolor coryi*)
 Florida water rat (*Neofiber alleni*)
 fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger avicennia*),
 golden mice (*Ochrotomys nuttalli*)
 Jamaican fruit bat (*Artibeus jamaicensis*)
 Key deer (*Odocoileus virginianus clavium*)
 manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*)
 mangrove fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger*)
 marsh rabbit (*Sylvilagus palustris*),
 mastiff bat (*Eumops glaucinus floridanus*)
 muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*)
 opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*)
 raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)
 rice rat (*Oryzomys palustris*).
 river otter (*Lutra canadensis*)
 southeastern shrew (*Sorex longirostris*)
 striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*)
 white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

BIRDS

American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)
 anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)
 Antillean nighthawk (*Chordeiles gundlachii*)
 Audubon's crested caracara (*Caracara cheriway* or *Polyborus plancus audubonii*)
 Belted kingfisher (*Megasceryle alcyon*)
 blue-gray gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*)
 boat-tailed grackle (*Quiscalus major*)
 Cape Sable seaside sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus mirabilis*)
 Carolina wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*)
 cattle egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)
 clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris*)
 common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)
 common yellowthroat red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)
 Cuban yellow warbler (*Dendroica petechia gundlachi*)
 double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*)
 egret (*Egretta* spp.)
 elegant Caspian tern (*Sterna caspia*)

Everglades snail kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus*)
 frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*)
 glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)
 gray kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*)
 great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*)
 great egret (*Casmerodius albus*)
 greater Antillean subspecies of the mourning dove (*Zenaida m. macroura*)
 green-backed heron (*Butorides striatus*)
 king rail (*Rallus elegans*)
 Kirtland's warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*)
 least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)
 limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)
 long-billed marsh wren (*Cistothorus palustris*)
 mangrove cuckoo (*Coccyzus minor*)
 marsh wren (*Cistothorus palustris*)
 Mississippi kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*)
 northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*)
 pine warbler (*Dendroica pinus*)
 piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*)
 popular brown pelican (*Pelecanus fuscus*)
 raucous laughing gull (*Larus atricilla*)
 red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*)
 red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)
 roseate spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*)
 roseate tern (*Sterna dougallii dougallii*)
 seaside sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus* ssp.).
 smooth-billed ani (*Crotophaga ani*)
 Swainson's warbler (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*)
 swallow-tailed kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)
 West Indian cave swallow (*Hirundo f. fulva*)
 white-crowned pigeon (*Columba leucocephala*)
 white ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)
 wood stork (*Mycteria americana*)

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*)
 American crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*)
 aquatic salamander called "sirens" (*Amphiuma means*)
 bark anole (*Anolis distichus*)
 bird-voiced tree frog (*Hyla avivoca*)
 black racer (*Coluber constrictor*)
 brown anole (*Anolis sagrei*)
 bufo toad (*Bufo terrestris*)
 bullfrog (*R. catesbeiana*)
 Burmese python (*Python molarus bivittatus*)

cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*)
 Cuban treefrog (*Hyla septentrionalis*)
 diamondback terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*)
 dwarf siren (*Pseudobranchius striatus*)
 Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*)
 fire-bellied newt (*Cynops orientalis*)
 Florida cooter (*Chrysemys floridana*)
 Florida kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus*)
 four-toed salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*)
 glossy crayfish snake (*Regina rigida*)
 green anole (*Anolis carolinensis*)
 green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)
 green treefrog (*Hyla cinerea*)
 green water snake (*Nerodia cyclopion*)
 greenhouse frog (*Eleutherodactylus planirostris*)
 hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)
 Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempi*)
 leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)
 leopard frog (*Rana sphenoccephala*)
 loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*)
 marbled salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*)
 Miami black-headed snake (*Tantilla oolitica*)
 mud snake (*Farancia abacura*)
 mud turtle (*Kinosternon obauri* and *K. subrubrum*)
 musk turtle (*Sternotherus odoratus*)
 pig frog (*R. grylio*)
 rainbow snake (*F. erythrogramma*)
 red-bellied turtle (*C. nelsoni*)
 reef gecko (*Sphaerodactylus notatus*)
 rough green snake (*Opheodrys aestivus*)
 salt marsh snake (*Nerodia fasciata clarkii*)
 striped crayfish snake (*Regina alleni*)
 swamp snake (*Seminatrix pygaea*)

FISHES

Bay anchovy (*Anchoa mitchilli*)
 black acara (*Cichlasoma bimaculatum*)
 blue tilapia (*Tilapia niloticus*)
 bluespotted sunfish (*Enneacanthus gloriosus*)
 bonefish (*Albula vulpes*)
 brown hoplosternum (*Hoplosternum littorale*)
 flagfish (*Jordanella floridae*)
 Florida gar (*Lepisosteus platyrhincus*)
 Florida pompano (*Trachinotus carolinus*)
 golden topminnow (*Fundulus chrysotus*)
 gray snapper (*L. griseus*)

jaguar guapote (*Cichlasoma managuense*)
 jewel cichlid (*Hemichromis spp.*)
 lane snapper (*L. synagris*)
 largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*)
 least killifish (*Heterandria formosa*)
 lemon shark (*Negaprion brevirostris*)
 Mayan cichlid (*Cichlasoma urophthalmus*)
 mosquitofish (*Gambusia spp.*)
 mullet (*Mugil spp.*)
 mutton snapper (*Lutjanus analis*)
 nurse shark (*Ginglymostoma cirratum*)
 oscar (*Astronotus ocellatus*)
 pike killifish (*Belonesox belizanus*)
 pinfish (*Lagodon rhomboides*)
 pirate perch (*Aphredoderus sayanus*)
 pygmy sunfish (*Elassoma spp.*)
 redear sunfish (*Lepomis microlophus*)
 sea trout (*Salmo trutta*)
 smalltooth sawfish (*Pristis pectinata*)
 snook (*Centropomus undecimalis*)
 Spanish sardine (*Sardinella aurita*)
 spot (*Leiostomus xanthurus*)
 spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*)
 tarpon (*Megalops atlanticus*)
 walking catfish (*Clarias batrachus*)
 warmouth (*Lepomis gulosus*)
 yellow bullhead (*Ameiurus natalis*)
 yellowtail snapper (*Ocyurus chrysurus*)

INVERTEBRATES

apple snail (*Pomacea paludosa*)
 atala (*Eumaeus atala*)
 blue crab (*Callinectes sapidus*)
 eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*)
 Florida tree snail (*Ligus fasciatus*)
 marsh crab (*Sesarma spp.*)
 Miami blue butterfly (*Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri*)
 midge (the aquatic insects *Chironomidae* and *Ceratopogonidae*)
 planthopper (*Prokelesia spp.*)
 prawn (freshwater shrimp, *Macrobrachium spp.*)
 queen conch (*Strombus gigas*)
 Schaus swallowtail (*Heracles aristodemus ponceanus*)
 snail (*Littorina* and *Melampus spp.*)
 Stock Island tree snail (*Orthalicus reses reses*)
 stone crab (*Menippe mercenaria*)

APPENDIX F: FLOODPLAIN STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

The “Draft Statement of Findings” included on the following pages presents the rationale for the locating a proposed new (replacement) visitor center and related improvements in the floodplain at the NPS Gulf Coast administrative site at Everglades National Park. It also documents the anticipated effects on floodplain values. The proposed visitor center and related improvements are elements of the NPS preferred alternative in the *Draft Everglades General Management Plan*.

It is NPS policy to preserve floodplain values and minimize potentially hazardous conditions associated with flooding. If a

proposed action is found to be in an applicable regulatory floodplain and relocating the action to a nonfloodplain site is considered not to be a viable alternative, then flood conditions and associated hazards must be quantified as a basis for management decision making and a formal “Statement of Findings” must be prepared. The “Statement of Findings” must describe the rationale for selection of a floodplain site, disclose the amount of risk associated with the chosen site, and explain flood mitigation plans. The “Statement of Findings” will generally be available for public review and comment by including it in applicable National Environmental Policy Act compliance documentation.

DRAFT
STATEMENT OF FINDINGS
FOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11988 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

GULF COAST SITE DEVELOPMENT
EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
FLORIDA

Recommended: _____
Superintendent, Everglades National Park Date

Concurred: _____
Chief, Water Resources Division Date

Approved: _____
Director, Southeast Region Date

The above signatures certify that this document is technically adequate and consistent with NPS policy.

INTRODUCTION

Executive Order 11988, “Floodplain Management” requires the National Park Service (NPS) and other federal agencies to evaluate the likely impacts of actions in floodplains. The objectives of the executive order is to avoid to the extent possible the long-term and short-term adverse impacts associated with occupancy, modification, or destruction of floodplains and to avoid indirect support of development and new construction in such areas wherever there is a practicable alternative.

The NPS guidelines for compliance with Executive Order 11988 allow construction within a 100-year floodplain for recreational facilities such as parking and trails. The guidelines also state that in coastal areas structures can only be placed in the coastal high hazard area when the structures or facilities are for management and legislated use of the affected area. The guidelines go on to state that “their placement and construction shall be at locations least likely to be affected by the actions of coastal storms and flooding.” The purpose of this Statement of Findings is to present the rationale for the location of a proposed action (building a new visitor center at the NPS Gulf Coast administrative site) in the floodplain and to document the anticipated effects on floodplain values.

PROPOSED ACTION

The National Park Service would propose to implement the NPS preferred alternative of the *Everglades General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement*. An action in the preferred alternative is to construct the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Visitor Center and related improvements at the Gulf Coast administrative site. Construction of the visitor center was included in park legislation.

The proposed action would be to replace the existing 45-year old wood-frame visitor center. The new building would incorporate innovative design to achieve net zero energy use. It would be a concrete modular design prefabricated at a facility 131 miles from the park and hauled in to the site. Earlier environmental analysis documented that there are no wetlands in the Gulf Coast site (NPS 1990). Because no wetlands would be impacted by this project, this Statement of Findings is for floodplains only.

The proposed action has been designed to meet the needs of the increasing numbers of visitors to the Gulf Coast area of the park, to enhance the quality of their experiences there, and to ensure safety and improved efficiency of management and operations. Previously, the National Park Service prepared and made available for public review the *Gulf Coast Development Concept Plan and Environmental Assessment* (DCP/EA) that documented the alternatives considered for development at the Gulf Coast administrative site of Everglades National Park (NPS 1990). The DCP/EA assessed alternative planning strategies and potential environmental impacts of implementation. The current project proposal is slightly different from that described in the 1990 DCP/EA, so this Statement of Findings supersedes the statement in the DCP/EA.

No alternatives have been carried forward other than construction. Moving administrative functions off-site was considered and rejected because it would not be as cost-effective or efficient operationally as the proposed project. The existing facilities were constructed on the same site in Everglades City where President Truman dedicated the park in 1947. In 1989 Congress called for construction of the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Visitor Center at this site (see appendix A), and Ms. Douglas attended the dedication there. This establishes

extraordinary context to interpret and educate visitors, as well as carrying out the will of Congress.

FLOODPLAINS WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA

The Everglades Gulf Coast administrative site is a 20-acre site within Everglades City and outside Everglades National Park boundary proper. The site was purchased by the National Park Service in 1959 for the development of park administrative and visitor use facilities. The administrative site is composed primarily of filled land built up in the past 30 years by dredging sand into a swampy area previously used as a city dump.

The floodplains of Everglades City, in Collier County, Florida, were mapped in 1986 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. About 25% of Everglades City is within the “coastal flood with velocity hazard (wave action)” zone (coastal high hazard area); the rest of the city is within the base elevation for 100-year flooding.

The Gulf Coast site is on an area that has been filled to approximately 5 feet above mean sea level and is completely within the coastal high hazard area zone VE, with a base flood elevation of 13 feet. The coastal high hazard area is an area where high winds, high waves, and tidal flooding can be expected. At the Gulf Coast site, the combined storm surge and wave elevation is 13 feet above mean sea level. In recent years several storms (hurricanes or tropical depressions) have required personnel and equipment evacuation and closure of the facilities. These storms, coupled with high tides and westerly winds, have caused minor flooding at the Gulf Coast site. Most of the damage to the facilities at Gulf Coast has been wind induced.

The Proposal in Relation to Floodplains

The major Gulf Coast development actions called for in the GMP preferred alternative are constructing a new visitor center and concession facility, improving the parking area, and building a new canoe/kayak ramp and launch. Approximately 8 acres of land would be used for the total site development and planted with turf grass as exists at the current site.

The planned structures and facilities are limited to those necessary to meet the minimum needs for visitor use projected for the next several years to provide a quality visitor experience while minimizing impacts on the park’s resources and site management. The planned construction actions would occur in areas of the site already impacted with development, therefore not introducing significant new impacts on floodplain values.

The site, being totally within the coastal high hazard area, could potentially have floodwater elevations as deep as 13 feet. The design of new structures would incorporate methods for minimizing storm damage as contained in the National Flood Insurance Program’s Floodplain Management Criteria for Flood-Prone Areas (44 CFR section 60.3) and in accordance with local, county, or state requirements for flood-prone areas.

The proposed replacement of the existing visitor center at a new site within the coastal high hazard area would have floor elevations above the combined storm surge and wave height calculated for the site. The space below the lowest floor would be free of obstructions to minimize impact on the structure by abnormally high tides and wind-driven water (storm surges).

Interpretation and natural resources management would emphasize perpetuation of floodplain and wetland values. The park staff would actively assist private landowners and federal, state, and local regulatory agencies in protecting wetlands that are

outside the park boundary, but whose use may affect park resources. Moreover, wetlands and floodplains would be used for their educational, recreational, and scientific qualities through expanded interpretive programs and possibly research emphasis.

JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUED USE OF THE FLOODPLAIN

Most of Everglades National Park is in 100-year or 500-year floodplains. Park development and public use in these areas has been in place for many years. Actions proposed in the NPS preferred alternative include the retention or replacement of visitor services and park operation facilities within floodplains. The Gulf Coast site is the only land-based access to the park on the west coast of Florida, providing access for the public and park staff to Ten Thousand Islands, Wilderness Waterway, Gulf of Mexico, and Florida Bay. The facilities are historically and functionally dependent on their locations. Moving the entire administrative and visitor services site out of the floodplains would be cost-prohibitive and may not meet the will of Congress.

The situations that lead to storm-caused high water events, and the scope and duration of these events, are known by park staff, making warning and evacuation a practical option for protection of human life. Everglades National Park will continue to maintain an active hurricane evacuation plan. The plan details responsibilities of individual park employees for advanced preparedness measures at the onset of the hurricane season (June through October). The hurricane plan has proven effective in maintaining safety and reducing property damage during storms, and it will be annually reviewed and updated.

SPECIFIC FLOOD RISKS

In recent years, several severe storms (hurricanes or tropical depressions) have required the evacuation of personnel and equipment and facility closures. These storms, coupled with high tides and westerly winds, have caused minor flooding at the Gulf Coast site. Most of the damage to the facilities at Gulf Coast has been wind induced. Ample notice of severe weather is provided by the National Weather Service and other agencies, making warning and evacuation a practical option for protection of human life.

There would be no additional storage facilities for fuels or toxic materials or museum collections in a floodplain proposed by the NPS preferred alternative.

MITIGATION

Everglades National Park would continue to maintain an active hurricane evacuation plan. The plan details responsibilities of individual park employees for advanced preparedness measures at the onset of the hurricane season (June through October). These include removing or securing park property, records and utility systems during a hurricane warning; monitoring communications during a hurricane; and conducting rescue and salvage operations following a hurricane. The hurricane plan has proven effective in reducing property damage and maintaining safety during storms, and it would be annually reviewed and updated.

The design of new structures would incorporate methods for minimizing storm damage as contained in the National Flood Insurance Program's Floodplain Management Criteria for Flood-Prone Areas (44 CFR section 60.3) and in accordance with local, county or state requirements for flood-prone areas. The proposed replacement of the existing visitor center would have floor elevations above the combined storm surge

and wave height calculated for the site. The new facility would be a concrete modular design entirely prefabricated at a facility 131 miles from the park. This process achieves a level of construction efficiency that is impossible using conventional methods. Advantages include a shorter construction period, superior quality control, reduced labor and transportation costs, and reduced construction site pollution and solid waste disposal.

To avoid potential pollution of bay waters by storm water runoff contaminated by oil and other petroleum products, the developed area (especially the parking lot) would use techniques such as backsloping to allow percolation and filtration of runoff through the soils.

The environmental analysis contained in the *Everglades National Park General Management Plan / East Everglades Wilderness Study/ Environmental Impact Statement* and this Statement of Findings constitute the environmental compliance necessary to implement the Gulf Coast development should the NPS preferred alternative be selected.

SUMMARY

The National Park Service has determined that implementing the NPS preferred alternative would not result in any additional disruption of floodplains. Risk to life from storms and high water can be mitigated. The National Park Service would allow the

existing visitor center to be replaced, the parking area improved, and a new canoe/kayak ramp and launch in the current Gulf Coast administrative site because there are no reasonable alternative locations. Construction of the visitor center would replace an existing facility with a sustainable structure that meets National Flood Insurance Program standards. Visitors would be informed of changes caused by storm events through regular interpretation and local media.

Therefore, the National Park Service finds that the proposed action would not have any additional adverse impacts on floodplains and their associated values.

Statement of Findings References:

Executive Order 11988, "Floodplain Management" (May 28, 1980). Executive Order of the President of the United States.

National Park Service, 2006. *Management Policies 2006*. National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

National Park Service, 2003. Director's Order 77-2: *Floodplain Management*. Washington Office, Washington, D.C.

National Park Service, 1990. *Gulf Coast Everglades National Park Development Concept Plan / Environmental Assessment*. Everglades National Park, Homestead, Florida.

APPENDIX G: CONSULTATION LETTERS



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Everglades National Park
and
Dry Tortugas National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034-6733

REPLY REFER TO:
D18

NOV 20 2002

Ms. Martha Catlin, Historic Preservation Specialist
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Old Post Office Building
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 809
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Ms. Catlin:

The National Park Service has initiated the preparation of a General Management Plan (GMP) for Everglades National Park. The GMP will provide the National Park Service (NPS) with a comprehensive planning framework for managing the park over the next twenty years.

Consistent with the park's purpose, significance, and legislative mandates, the plan will identify strategies for achieving desired resource conditions, visitor experiences, and appropriate types and general intensities of development. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and NPS policy, the GMP will be developed concurrent with preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). The GMP/EIS will identify significant management and operational issues confronting the park, and present a reasonable range of management alternatives for addressing these issues consistent with the park's mission, and its legal and policy mandates. The environmental impacts associated with implementing each of the management alternatives will be fully analyzed.

In accordance with provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the 1995 Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, we wish to notify you that we have initiated the GMP/EIS process and invite your participation. We will keep you informed throughout plan development, and welcome your comments and advice on decisions regarding protection and preservation of Everglades National Park's diverse array of historic and cultural resources. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this project in more detail, please contact Fred Herling in our Ecosystem Planning and Compliance Branch at 305-242-7704 or at fred_herling@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

cc: Dr. Janet Matthews, Florida State Historic Preservation Officer



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Everglades National Park
and
Dry Tortugas National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034-6733

REPLY REFER TO:

D18

NOV 13 2002

Billy Cypress, Chairman
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida
Mile Marker 70, U.S. Hwy 41, Tamiami Trail
Miami, Florida 33194

Dear Mr. Cypress:

This letter is to inquire whether your tribe desires to undertake government-to-government consultation in conjunction with a General Management Plan (GMP) to be prepared for Everglades National Park.

A GMP is the most comprehensive of four kinds of plans the National Park Service produces for its parks. It articulates the park's mission, clearly defines what resource conditions and visitor experiences should be maintained over time, and establishes a practical framework for all future decision making at the park. Enclosed is a National Park Service brochure that describes the general management planning process in greater detail.

To prepare the GMP, the National Park Service will work in close consultation with a wide range of public and private organizations, and the general public to identify future management goals, analyze existing conditions and future possibilities, and determine the most appropriate course of action to accomplish these goals. A GMP does not include facility design, resolve all issues, or guarantee funding for the park. Rather, it describes the general path the National Park Service intends to follow in managing a unit of the National Park System over a 20-year timeframe.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience if you wish to undertake government-to-government consultation concerning the Everglades National Park General Management Plan. Even if you do not wish to engage in formal consultation, I would welcome any thoughts and recommendations you might have about this project.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

Enclosure: GMP Planning Brochure



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Everglades National Park
and
Dry Tortugas National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034-6733

REPLY REFER TO:

NOV 13 2002

D18

Kenneth Chambers, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
5th & Brown Streets
Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884

Dear Mr. Chambers:

This letter is to inquire whether your tribe desires to undertake government-to-government consultation in conjunction with a General Management Plan (GMP) to be prepared for Everglades National Park.

A GMP is the most comprehensive of four kinds of plans the National Park Service produces for its parks. It articulates the park's mission, clearly defines what resource conditions and visitor experiences should be maintained over time, and establishes a practical framework for all future decision making at the park. Enclosed is a National Park Service brochure that describes the general management planning process in greater detail.

To prepare the GMP, the National Park Service will work in close consultation with a wide range of public and private organizations, and the general public to identify future management goals, analyze existing conditions and future possibilities, and determine the most appropriate course of action to accomplish these goals. A GMP does not include facility design, resolve all issues, or guarantee funding for the park. Rather, it describes the general path the National Park Service intends to follow in managing a unit of the National Park System over a 20-year timeframe.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience if you wish to undertake government-to-government consultation concerning the Everglades National Park General Management Plan. Even if you do not wish to engage in formal consultation, I would welcome any thoughts and recommendations you might have about this project.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

Enclosure: GMP Planning Brochure



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Everglades National Park
and
Dry Tortugas National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034-6733

REPLY REFER TO:
D18

NOV 13 2002

Mitchell Cypress, Acting Chairman
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, Florida 33024

Dear Mr. Cypress:

This letter is to inquire whether your tribe desires to undertake government-to-government consultation in conjunction with a General Management Plan (GMP) to be prepared for Everglades National Park.

A GMP is the most comprehensive of four kinds of plans the National Park Service produces for its parks. It articulates the park's mission, clearly defines what resource conditions and visitor experiences should be maintained over time, and establishes a practical framework for all future decision making at the park. Enclosed is a National Park Service brochure that describes the general management planning process in greater detail.

To prepare the GMP, the National Park Service will work in close consultation with a wide range of public and private organizations, and the general public to identify future management goals, analyze existing conditions and future possibilities, and determine the most appropriate course of action to accomplish these goals. A GMP does not include facility design, resolve all issues, or guarantee funding for the park. Rather, it describes the general path the National Park Service intends to follow in managing a unit of the National Park System over a 20-year timeframe.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience if you wish to undertake government-to-government consultation concerning the Everglades National Park General Management Plan. Even if you do not wish to engage in formal consultation, I would welcome any thoughts and recommendations you might have about this project.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

Enclosure: GMP Planning Brochure



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Everglades National Park
and
Dry Tortugas National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034-6733

REPLY REFER TO:
D18

NOV 20 2002

Dr. Janet Matthews, State Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Historical Resources
Department of State
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 305
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Dr. Matthews:

The National Park Service has initiated the preparation of a General Management Plan (GMP) for Everglades National Park. The GMP will provide the National Park Service (NPS) with a comprehensive planning framework for managing the park over the next twenty years.

Consistent with the park's purpose, significance, and legislative mandates, the plan will identify strategies for achieving desired resource conditions, visitor experiences, and appropriate types and general intensities of development. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and NPS policy, the GMP will be developed concurrent with preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). The GMP/EIS will identify significant management and operational issues confronting the park, and present a reasonable range of management alternatives for addressing these issues consistent with the park's mission, and its legal and policy mandates. The environmental impacts associated with implementing each of the management alternatives will be fully analyzed.

In accordance with provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the 1995 Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, we wish to invite the participation of the Florida Division of Historical Resources throughout GMP preparation. We will keep you informed throughout plan development, and welcome your comments and advice on decisions regarding protection and preservation of Everglades National Park's diverse array of historic and cultural resources. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this project in more detail, please contact Fred Herling in our Ecosystem Planning and Compliance Branch at 305-242-7704 or at fred_herling@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

cc: Ms. Martha Catlin, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Everglades & Dry Tortugas National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead Florida 33034



D18

November 26, 2002

Eric Hawk
Southeast Regional Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
9721 Executive Center Drive, Room 102
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Hawk:

The National Park Service has initiated the preparation of a General Management Plan (GMP) for Everglades National Park. The GMP will provide the National Park Service (NPS) with a comprehensive planning framework for managing the park over the next twenty years.

Consistent with the park's purpose, significance, and legislative mandates, the plan will identify strategies for achieving desired resource conditions, visitor experiences, and appropriate types and general intensities of development. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and NPS policy, the GMP will be developed concurrent with preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). The GMP/EIS will identify significant management and operational issues confronting the park, and present a reasonable range of management alternatives for addressing these issues. The environmental impacts associated with implementing each of the management alternatives will be fully analyzed.

In accordance with the consultation requirement of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and NPS policy, we wish to notify you that we have initiated the GMP/EIS process and invite your participation. You will soon receive an introductory project newsletter that outlines the planning project and announces the schedule of public scoping meetings, and an invitation to participate in agency scoping meetings.

Enclosed is a list of federally-listed species that are or may be found in Everglades National Park for which the National Marine Fisheries Service would appear to have Endangered Species Act implementation responsibility. Please review for its adequacy and provide advice to ensure proper evaluation of the potential impacts that the GMP/EIS would have on these species.

We look forward to working closely with you throughout plan development and welcome your comments and advice regarding protection and preservation of Everglades National Park's diverse natural resources. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this project in more detail, please contact Fred Herling in our Ecosystem Planning and Compliance Branch at 305-242-7704 or at fred_herling@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

Enclosures

cc: Jay Slack, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Common names – Listed Species from NMFS Website
Initial list for Everglades National Park General Management Plan Project
(Species in or in proximity to Everglades National Park)

Turtles

- Green turtle
- Hawksbill turtle
- Kemp's ridley turtle
- Leatherback turtle
- Loggerhead turtle

Anadromous/Marine Fish

- Smalltooth Sawfish
- Dusky Shark
- Opossum Pipefish
- Saltmarsh Topminnow
- Goliath Grouper
- Key Silverside
- Mangrove Rivulus
- Nassau Grouper
- Sand Tiger Shark

Plants/Invertebrates

- Johnson's Sea Grass

Cetaceans

- bottlenose dolphin



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Everglades & Dry Tortugas National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead Florida 33034



D18

November 26, 2002

Jay Slack, Field Supervisor
South Florida Office
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
1339 20th Street
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

Dear Mr. Slack:

The National Park Service has initiated the preparation of a General Management Plan (GMP) for Everglades National Park. The GMP will provide the National Park Service (NPS) with a comprehensive planning framework for managing the park over the next twenty years.

Consistent with the park's purpose, significance, and legislative mandates, the plan will identify strategies for achieving desired resource conditions, visitor experiences, and appropriate types and general intensities of development. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and NPS policy, the GMP will be developed concurrent with preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). The GMP/EIS will identify significant management and operational issues confronting the park, and present a reasonable range of management alternatives for addressing these issues. The environmental impacts associated with implementing each of the management alternatives will be fully analyzed.

In accordance with the consultation requirement of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and NPS policy, we wish to notify you that we have initiated the GMP/EIS process and invite your participation. You will soon receive an introductory project newsletter that outlines the planning project and announces the schedule of public scoping meetings, and an invitation to participate in agency scoping meetings.

Enclosed is a list of federally-listed endangered, threatened and candidate species for Everglades National Park for which the Fish and Wildlife Service would appear to have Endangered Species Act implementation responsibility. Please review for its adequacy and provide advice to ensure proper evaluation of the potential impacts that the GMP/EIS would have on these species.

We look forward to working closely with you throughout plan development and welcome your comments and advice regarding protection and preservation of Everglades National Park's diverse natural resources. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this project in more detail, please contact Fred Herling in our Ecosystem Planning and Compliance Branch at 305-242-7704 or at fred_herling@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

Enclosures

cc: Eric Hawk, National Marine Fisheries Service

**Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened, and
Candidate Species for Everglades National Park, Florida**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing	Status
REPTILES			
American crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	Endangered	Breeding
Atlantic hawksbill turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Endangered	Casual
Green turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Endangered	Casual
Atlantic Ridley turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempi</i>	Endangered	Casual
Atlantic leatherback turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Endangered	Casual?
Eastern indigo snake	<i>Drymarchon corias couperi</i>	Threatened	Breeding
Loggerhead turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Threatened	Breeding
BIRDS			
Wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Endangered	Breeding
Everglades snail kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus</i>	Endangered	Breeding
Red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Endangered	Formerly
Cape Sable seaside sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritima mirabilis</i>	Endangered	Breeding
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Threatened	Breeding
Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Threatened	Wintering
Roseate tern	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	Threatened	Wintering
MAMMALS			
Key Largo cotton mouse	<i>Peromyscus gossypinus allapaticola</i>	Endangered	Casual?
Key Large woodrat	<i>Neotoma floridana smalli</i>	Endangered	Casual?
West Indian manatee	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	Endangered	Breeding
Florida panther	<i>Felis concolor coryi</i>	Endangered	Breeding
Mangrove fox squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger</i>	Proposed Candidate	Breeding
PLANTS			
Garber's spurge	<i>Euphorbia garberi</i>	Threatened	Resident
INVERTEBRATES			
Stock Island tree snail	<i>Orthalicus reses</i>	Threatened	Introduced
Schaus swallowtail butterfly	<i>Papilio aristodemus ponceanus</i>	Endangered	Casual?



Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

David B. Struhs
Secretary

March 17, 2003

Ms. Maureen Finnerty
National Park Service
Everglades National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034-6733



Re: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Scoping Notice, Development of Comprehensive Plan to Replace Outdated 1979 Master Plan, Development of General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS), Everglades National Park, Miami-Dade County, Florida

SAI: FL200301293352

Dear Ms. Finnerty:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated the review of the above-referenced notification.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recommends that the Everglades National Park (ENP) planning staff utilize the park's 1979 Master Plan as a framework for updating the inventory of natural resources within the newly acquired acreage. It is further recommended that the staff avail itself of the water models that are constantly being refined by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE). The models can be used to determine critical thresholds for supplying water to habitat utilized by listed species within the park, and can help establish policies to govern the intensity of public uses within the park. Please see the enclosed DEP comments for additional recommendations.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is actively coordinating a number of projects in close proximity to the park, and has provided a list of those projects (see attachment). FDOT is also serving on the Project Development Team (PDT) for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), and will be able to provide the park service with additional information on projects in the area. Please see the enclosed comments from FDOT.

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) has summarized the relevant goals and policies that apply to this project. Please see the attached comments from the SFRPC and specific recommendations for complying with its goals and policies.

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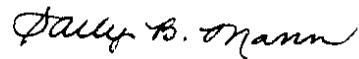
Ms. Maureen Finnerty.

March 17, 2003

Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in your scoping meetings and to make recommendations for scoping the GMP for the Everglades National Park. We look forward to reviewing the draft GMP that will be formulated from the public participation. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Bob Hall at (850) 245-2163.

Sincerely,



Sally B. Mann, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Programs

SBM/rwh
Enclosures

cc: Gordon Romeis, DEP Ft. Myers
Willie Puz, DEP SED
Marjorie Bixby, FDOT, District 6, Miami
Allyn L. Childress, SFRPC

APPENDIX H: WILDERNESS ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Wilderness Eligibility Assessment – 2012
 Everglades National Park – East Everglades Addition



INTRODUCTION

This document sets forth the wilderness eligibility assessment for the East Everglades Addition of Everglades National Park. This wilderness eligibility assessment meets the policy mandate that all lands administered by the National Park Service (NPS) be evaluated for their eligibility for inclusion in the national wilderness preservation system. This assessment does not propose wilderness, potential or otherwise, nor does it recommend wilderness boundaries. The purpose is solely to assess the eligibility of lands pursuant to section 6.2.1 of NPS *Management Policies 2006*.

The wilderness eligibility assessment for the East Everglades Addition has been made by analyzing all areas of the Addition relative to the wilderness criteria in the Wilderness Act of 1964 and the primary eligibility criteria in NPS *Management Policies 2006*, section 6.2.1, with consideration for the criteria in section 6.2.1.2.

WILDERNESS CRITERIA

The following criteria were used to evaluate all lands in the East Everglades Addition for wilderness eligibility:

- The area is at least 5,000 acres or of sufficient size to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.
- The earth and its community of life are untrammeled by humans, where humans are visitors and do not remain.
- The area is undeveloped and retains its primeval character and influence without permanent improvements or human habitation.
- The area generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of humans' work substantially unnoticeable.
- The area is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions.
- The area offers outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

CONSIDERATIONS

- The park's 1978 Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness boundaries and determinations were used to help inform findings of this assessment.
- Public input from the 2006 East Everglades Wilderness Study Scoping process was used for this portion of the DEIS.

- This assessment was conducted to relative to the legislative mandates of Everglades National Park including its enabling legislation and the 1989 Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act.
- When discussing the areas determined to be eligible, application of the wilderness criteria was considered for both existing conditions and conditions expected in the future (once nonconforming or incompatible uses are expected to conclude).

FINDINGS

East Everglades Addition

Not Eligible for Wilderness Designation

1. Highway 41 Right-of-Way (ROW): 0.25 mile (1,320 feet) on south side of the park boundary/Florida DOT ROW so as to include all past disturbances and anticipated road/bridge related improvements to restore water flows and restoration of park resources from Tamiami Trail highway engineering, construction and maintenance, restoration activities (e.g., nonnative vegetation removal, prescribed fire management activities), as well as continued motorized use and access for infrastructure maintenance; areas of existing development associated with the commercial airboat operations and radio transmission buildings along the south side of Tamiami Trail. This area does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

2. L-31 Levee and Canal: 0.25 mile (1,320 feet) on west side of the actual park boundary so as to include all past disturbances from canal engineering, construction and maintenance activities, restoration activities (e.g., nonnative vegetation removal, prescribed fire management activities) and allow for future water management activities (i.e., seepage management) or other uses for this area (i.e., potential NPS-FPL land exchange currently being evaluated per the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009). This area does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

3. SW 168 Street ROW: 150-foot corridor on either side of the paved road; includes the areas that have been altered or disturbed by techniques used to create roads and grades in wetlands. Other human disturbances such as borrow pits are present. These areas do not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

4. SW 237 Avenue ROW: 150-foot corridor on either side of the paved road; includes the areas that have been altered or disturbed by techniques used to create roads and grades in wetlands. Other human disturbances such as borrow pits are present. These areas do not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

5. Chekika recreation area and surrounding lands: Approximately 3,000-acre area, surrounding the Chekika recreation area previously part of the Florida state park system; includes the Chekika ranger station, fire station and fire cache at SW 237th Avenue and SW 168th Street; irregularly shaped; boundaries based on property lines in the absence of any major topographic features; includes 300-foot buffer extending outward from perimeter

boundary of site (north, west, south); area has been disturbed by past construction and maintenance activity; humans' work is substantially noticeable in the form of a parking area, comfort stations, and recreational facilities; motorized access to the area would continue in the future for recreational activities. This area is developed and does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

Eligible for Wilderness Designation (Reminder of East Everglades Addition)

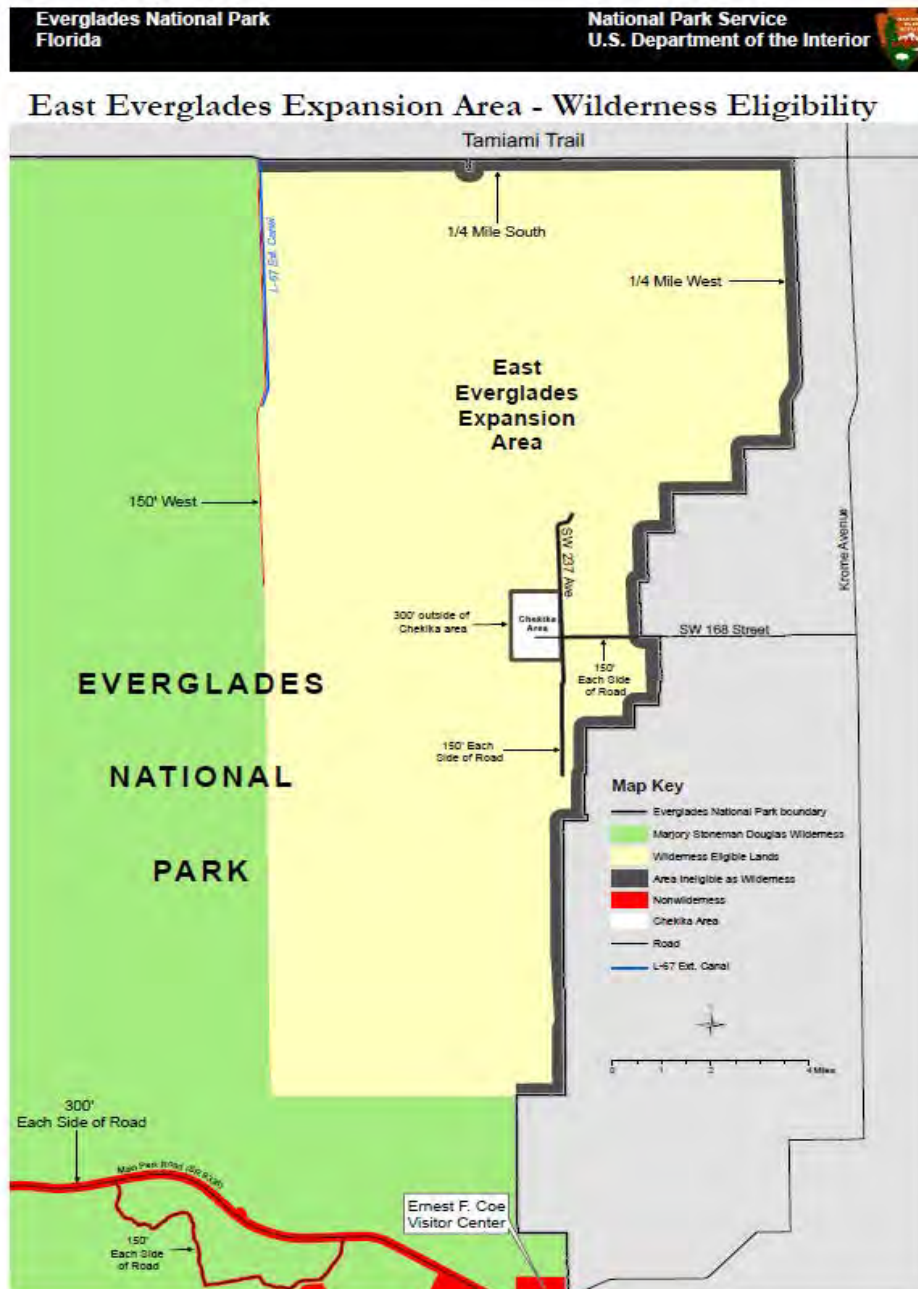
All parts of the East Everglades Addition not listed and described above are eligible for designation as wilderness. The eligible lands total approximately 102,100 acres and fall into two zones: the Rocky Glades/Freshwater Marl Prairie zone, and the Ridge and Slough zone.

1. Rocky Glades/Freshwater Marl Prairie zone – This area comprises approximately 42,500 acres to the south and east of Northeast Shark River Slough. Elevations increase along the eastern edge of the slough and the slough gives way to freshwater marl prairie. Much of this area has extended dry periods annually due to the elevation increase, and rock is exposed most of the year. The area is remote, inaccessible, and roadless, except for one underdeveloped and unused dirt road known as Context Road. Natural processes dominate in this area and the imprint of human activity is substantially unnoticeable. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation exist.

2. Ridge and Slough zone – This area comprises approximately 60,100 acres on the eastern edge of Shark River Slough in the north part of the Addition. It is bounded on the south by the edge of the slough and by a rock ridge feature known as Grossman's Ridge (also called Hogback Ridge). It contains the headwaters of the Northeast Shark River Slough and Taylor Slough, which are the primary sources of water flow to the park. The area is composed of wetland communities typical of those parts of the southern Everglades which are inundated for 9 to 12 months each year. Vegetation consists of a mosaic of sawgrass marshland, lower-lying flats and sloughs, and tree islands and hardwood hammocks at higher elevations.

The slough has an extended hydroperiod and contains sufficient water to allow airboat operations for much of the year, and in wet years for year round opportunities. Within the slough, the area contains hundreds of hammocks ranging in size from a few yards to several hundred acres. There are at least nine camps/cabins that were privately constructed on tree islands in the interior prior to NPS ownership. Some of the camps are still used by airboaters despite NPS ownership.

Nonconforming uses in this zone have not resulted in permanent developments. The camps/cabins currently found on tree islands can be easily removed. Natural processes dominate in this area and the imprint of human activity will be substantially unnoticeable once nonconforming uses end. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation exist here.



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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Adaptive management: The Natural Resources Council defines adaptive management as

[A]decision process that promotes flexible decision making that can be adjusted in the face of uncertainties as outcomes from management actions and other events become better understood. Careful monitoring of these outcomes both advances scientific understanding and helps adjust policies or operations as part of an iterative process. Adaptive management also recognizes the importance of natural variability in contributing to ecological resilience and productivity. It is not a “trial and error” process, but rather emphasizes learning while doing. Adaptive management does not represent an end in itself, but rather a means to more effective decisions and enhanced benefits. Its true measure is in how well it helps meet environmental, social, and economic goals; increases scientific knowledge; and reduces tensions among stakeholders.

Affected environment: Existing biological, physical, social, and economic conditions of an area that are subject to change, both directly and indirectly, as a result of a proposed human action.

Alternatives: Sets of management elements that represent a range of options for how, or whether to proceed with a proposed project. An environmental impact statement analyzes the potential environmental and social impacts of the range of alternatives presented.

Archeological resources: Historic and prehistoric deposits, sites, features, structure ruins, and anything of a cultural nature found

within, or removed from, an archeological site.

Area of potential effect: The geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if such properties exist. The area of potential effect is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking.

Benthic: Of, relating to, or occurring at the bottom of a body of water.

Best Management Practices: Effective, feasible (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) conservation practices and land and water management measures that avoid or minimize adverse impacts to natural and cultural resources. BMPs may include schedules for activities, prohibitions, maintenance guidelines, and other management practices.

Biodiversity: Biodiversity, or biological diversity, is generally accepted to include genetic diversity within species, species diversity, and a full range of biological community types. The concept is that a landscape is healthy when it includes stable populations of native species that are well distributed across the landscape.

CEQ regulations: The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) was established by the National Environmental Policy Act (see NEPA) and given the responsibility for developing federal environmental policy and overseeing the implementation of the act by federal agencies.

Cultural landscape: “A geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein,

associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values.” There are four general types of cultural landscapes, not mutually exclusive: historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and ethnographic landscapes. (Preservation Brief 36)

Cultural landscapes inventory: The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is a database containing information on the historically significant landscapes within the national park system. This evaluated inventory identifies and documents each landscape’s location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management.

Designated Wilderness: See later “Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms.”

Ecological restoration: Ecological restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.

Ecosystem: An ecosystem can be defined as a geographically identifiable area that encompasses unique physical and biological characteristics. It is the sum of the plant community, animal community, and environment in a particular region or habitat.

Eligible wilderness: See later “Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms.”

Emergent wetland: A wetland characterized by frequent or continual inundation dominated by herbaceous species of plants typically rooted underwater and emerging into air (e.g., cattails, rushes). The emergent wetland class is characterized by erect, rooted, herbaceous hydrophytes (e.g., cattails, rushes), excluding mosses and lichens. This vegetation is present for most of the growing season in most years. Perennial plants usually dominate these wetlands. All

water regimes are included, except sub-tidal and irregularly exposed.

Environmental consequences: This section of an environmental impact statement describes the impacts a proposed action could have on resources. Direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, both beneficial and adverse, are analyzed. The context, duration, and intensity of impacts are defined and quantified as much as possible.

Environmental impact statement (EIS): A public document required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that identifies and analyzes actions that might affect the human and natural environment.

Environmentally preferable alternative: The environmentally preferable alternative is the alternative within the range of alternatives presented in a *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* that best promotes the national environmental policy expressed in the National Environmental Policy Act (section 101(b)). In general, this is the alternative causes the least damage to the environment and best protects natural and cultural resources. In practice, one alternative may be more preferable for some environmental resources while another alternative may be preferable for other resources. (Director’s Order 12 and Handbook).

Facilities: Buildings and the associated supporting infrastructure such as roads, trails, and utilities.

Floodplain: A nearly level alluvial plain that borders a stream or coastal shore and is subject to flooding unless protected artificially. A base floodplain, or 100-year floodplain, is an area that has a 1% chance of flooding in any given year and a 39% chance of flooding during a 50-year period.

Groundwater: All subsurface water (below soil/ground surface), distinct from surface water.

Historic building: For the purposes of the National Register of Historic Places, a building can be a house, barn, church, hotel, or similar construction, created principally to shelter human activity. “Building” may also refer to a historically and functionally related unit, such as a courthouse and jail or a house and barn.

Historic district: A historic district is an area which possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. To be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a district must be significant, as well as being an identifiable entity. It must be important for historical, architectural, archeological, engineering, or cultural values.

Historic property: A historic property is any prehistoric or historic building, site, district, structure, or object that is included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places. Types of historic properties can include archeological sites, historic cultural landscapes, and traditional cultural properties (listed as sites, buildings, or districts).

Historic site: A historic site is the location of significant event which can be prehistoric or historic in nature. It can represent activities or buildings (standing, ruined, or vanished). It is the location itself which is of historical interest in a historic site, and it possesses cultural or archeological value regardless of the value of any structures that currently exist on the location. Examples of sites include shipwrecks, battlefields, campsites, natural features, and rock shelters.

Historic structure: For the purposes of the National Register of Historic Places, the term “structure” is used to distinguish from buildings those functional constructions made usually for purposes other than creating human shelter. Examples of structures include bridges, gazebos, and highways.

Implementation plan: Implementation plans, which tier from programmatic plans (like a general management plan) focus on how to implement an activity or project needed to achieve a long-term goal. Implementation plans may direct specific projects as well as ongoing management activities or programs. They provide a more extensive level of detail and analysis than do general management plans. Implementation plans are required to undergo NEPA review.

Implementation project: Implementation projects are specific actions identified in an implementation plan.

Invasive nonnative species: Species of plants or wildlife that are not native to a particular area and that tend to spread, often interfering with natural biological systems.

Management zone: A geographical area for which management directions or prescriptions have been developed to determine what can and cannot occur in terms of resource management, visitor use, access, facilities or development, and park operations.

Marine wilderness or submerged marine wilderness: See later “Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms.”

Mitigation: Activities that will avoid, reduce the severity of, or eliminate an adverse environmental impact.

National Environmental Policy Act: The federal act that requires the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for federal actions that might have substantial environmental, social, or other impacts.

National Park Service Management Policies: A policy is a guiding principle or procedure that sets the frame work and provides direction for management decisions. National Park Service (NPS) policies are guided by and consistent with the Constitution, public laws, executive proclamations and orders, and regulations

and directives from higher authorities. Policies translate these sources of guidance into cohesive directions. Policy direction may be general or specific. It may prescribe the process by which decisions are made, how an action is to be accomplished, or the results to be achieved. The primary source of NPS policy is the publication *Management Policies 2006*. The policies contained therein are applicable servicewide. They reflect NPS management philosophy.

National Park Service Organic Act: In 1916 the National Park Service Organic Act established the National Park Service in order to “promote and regulate use of parks” and defined the purpose of the national parks as “to conserve the scenery and natural and historic objects and wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” This law provides overall guidance for the management of Everglades National Park.

National Parks and Recreation Act: The 1978 law that establishes national parks, monuments, recreation areas, and other recreation lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior. This law continues to be amended as new lands are acquired or boundaries of existing lands are changed.

Natural processes: All processes such as hydrologic, geologic, and ecosystem that are not the result of human manipulation.

No-action alternative: The alternative in a plan that proposes to continue current management direction. “No action” means the proposed activity would not take place, and the resulting environmental effects from taking no action would be compared with the effects of permitting the proposed activity or an alternative activity to go forward.

Nonwilderness: See later “Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms.”

NPS preferred alternative: The NPS preferred alternative is the alternative within the range of alternatives presented in a draft environmental impact statement that the agency believes would best fulfill the purpose and need of the proposed action. Although the NPS preferred alternative is a different concept from the environmentally preferable alternative, they may also be one and the same for some environmental impact statements. (Director’s Order 12 and Handbook).

On plane: As it refers to motorboats, on plane means the boat is moving fast enough that the hull is partially lifted from the water’s surface, so it skims across the water rather than plows through it. The boat bottom, then, is more parallel to the water level when it is on plane.

Particulate matter (PM-10 and PM-2.5): Fractions of particulate matter characterized by particles with diameters of 10 microns or less (PM-10) or 2.5 microns or less (PM-2.5). Such particles can be inhaled into the air passages and the lungs and can cause adverse health effects. High levels of PM-2.5 are also associated with regional haze and visibility impairment.

Pelagic: relating to or occurring or living in or frequenting the open ocean.

Potential wilderness: See “Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms.”

Pristine: Unaltered, unpolluted by humans.

Proposed wilderness: See “Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms.”

Public comment process: The public comment process is a formalized process required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in which the National Park Service must publish a “Notice of Availability” in the *Federal Register* which provides public notice that a *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* and associated information, including scoping

comments and supporting documentation, is available for public review and input pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. In addition, the National Park Service must conduct formal public hearings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement when required by statute or the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA regulations.

Public scoping process: Scoping is a formalized process used by the National Park Service to gather the public's and other agencies' ideas and concerns on a proposed action or project. A "Notice of Intent" is published in the *Federal Register* announcing the agency's intent to prepare an environmental impact statement and a request for written public/other agency scoping comments to further define the goals and data needs for the project. In addition, although not required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations, public scoping meetings may be held and integrated with any other early planning meetings relating to the proposed project.

Recommended wilderness: See "Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms."

Record of Decision: The public document describing the decision made on an alternative in an environmental impact statement.

Site hardening: Any development that creates an impervious ground surface. Usually used as a way to direct visitor use and reduce impacts to resources.

Social trails: A social trail is an informal, nondesignated trail between two locations. Social trails often result in trampling stresses to sensitive vegetation types.

Special status species: Species of plants and animals that receive special protection under state and/or federal laws. Also referred to as "listed species" or "endangered species."

Submerged marine wilderness: See "Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms."

Superintendent's Compendium: Each park superintendent has discretionary authority to regulate or limit certain uses and/or require permits for specific activities within the boundaries of a national park.

Traditional cultural resource: Any site, structure, object, landscape, or natural resource feature assigned traditional, legendary, religious, subsistence, or other significance in the cultural system of a group traditionally associated with it.

Traditional cultural property: Traditional cultural resource that is eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a historic property

Treatment: Work carried out to achieve a historic preservation goal. The four primary treatments are *preservation*, *rehabilitation*, *restoration*, and *reconstruction* (as stated in the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*).

User capacity: As it applies to parks, user capacity is the type and level of use that can be accommodated while sustaining the desired resource and social conditions based on the purpose and objectives of a park unit.

User: Visitors and employees in Everglades National Park.

Value analysis: An organized team effort directed at analyzing the functions of facilities, processes, systems, equipment, services, and supplies for the purpose of achieving essential functions at the lowest life-cycle cost with required performance, reliability, quality, consistency, and safety. Value methods can be applied at any stage of a project, with the potential savings greater the earlier in the planning and design process you begin to use the methods. Value planning, value analysis, and value engineering are the same basic process applied at different stages of a project.

Visitor experience: The perceptions, feelings, and reactions a park visitor has in relationship with the surrounding environment.

Visitor use: Refers to the types of recreation activities visitors participate in, numbers of people in an area, their behavior, the timing of use, and distribution of use within a given area.

Visitor use levels: Refers to the quantity or amount of use a specific area receives, or the amount of parkwide visitation on a daily, monthly or annual basis.

Wetland: Wetlands are defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CFR, section 328.3[b], 1986) as “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.”

Wilderness Act of 1964: The Wilderness Act restricts development and activities to maintain certain places where wilderness conditions predominate.

Wilderness and Other Relevant Terms:

Wilderness: Areas protected by provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964. These areas are characterized by a lack of human interference in natural processes; generally, there are no roads, structures, or installations, and the use of motorized equipment is not allowed. General references to the term wilderness can include the categories of eligible, marine, wilderness study, designated, potential, proposed, and recommended wilderness. Potential wilderness may be a subset of any of these five categories. See also chapter 3 in the “Summary of Uses, Developments, and Management Actions Permitted and Prohibited in Wilderness” section.

Eligible wilderness: Eligible wilderness are lands determined by the National Park Service to be eligible for inclusion in the national wilderness preservation system because the lands meet wilderness criteria as identified in the Wilderness Act.

Submerged marine wilderness: The submerged marine (marine waters) portion of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness, approximately 530,000 acres in extent, is very unusual in that it includes the marine bottom (benthic surface), but not the water column or the water surface. This distinction, which generally allows motorboating on the water surface, was included in the original wilderness recommendation and was carried forward in Congress’s designation.

Wilderness study: A study of areas eligible for wilderness designation. The study typically evaluates lands and waters against the criteria outlined in the Wilderness Act of 1964. The findings of a wilderness study are forwarded to the director of the National Park Service, and sometimes are incorporated into a general management plan.

Designated wilderness: Designated wilderness are federal lands designated by Congress as a wilderness area and a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The National Park Service is required to manage these lands according to the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Nonwilderness: Areas that have not been designated for special protection under the Wilderness Act.

Potential wilderness: Lands that are surrounded by or adjacent to lands proposed for wilderness designation but that do not themselves qualify for immediate designation due to temporary nonconforming or incompatible conditions can be deemed “potential wilderness.” If so authorized by Congress, these potential wilderness areas will

become designated wilderness upon the secretary's determination, published in the *Federal Register*, that they have finally met the qualifications for designation by the cessation or termination of the nonconforming use.

Proposed wilderness: Proposed wilderness is an area that has been studied by the National Park Service that has been submitted as a proposal for designation by a park or region to the director of the National Park Service but has not been

approved by the Department of the Interior.

Recommended wilderness:

Recommended wilderness is an area that has been studied and proposed by the National Park Service, recommended for wilderness designation by the secretary to the president, and then transmitted by the president to Congress. Once approved by the secretary, the area can be considered recommended wilderness for management purposes.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	kWh	Kilowatt Hour
ADA	The Americans with Disabilities Act	MWD	Modified Water Deliveries project
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
ARPA	Archaeological Resources Protection Act	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
CEPP	Central Everglades Planning Project	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
CERP	Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
CSP	Concession Services Plan	NPS	National Park Service
dB	Decibel	NRCS	National Resources Conservation Service
dba	Decibel (on the “A-weighted” scale)	NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
DO	Director’s Order	NPS	National Park Service
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement	NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
EA	Environmental Assessment	ONPS	Annual Operating Costs
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	PCPI	Per Capita Personal Income
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	PEPC	Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (NPS website)
ERTP	Everglades Restoration Transition Plan	PILT	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
FAA	Federal Aeronautics Administration	PM	Particulate Matter
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement	RV	Recreational Vehicle
FFWCC	Florida Fish and Wildlife	SFESO	South Florida Ecological Field Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact	SFCMC	South Florida Collections Management Center
FPL	Florida Power and Light	SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office(r)
FTE	Full-time Equivalent	USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
FWC	Conservation Commission	USC	United States Code
GIS	Geographic information system(s)	USFS	U.S. Forest Service
GMP	General Management Plan	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
GPS	Global Positioning System	USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

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Anhinga Trail	manatee
backcountry	Miccosukee
boat access zone	Middle Cape
campgrounds	Native American
carrying capacity	night sky
Chekika	Nike Missile Base site
chickee	no-action alternative
Chokoloskee	orientation
climate change	panther
Commercial Services Plan	park purpose
cost estimates	park significance
Crocodile Sanctuary	pole/troll
crocodile sanctuary	potential wilderness
developed zone	primary interpretive themes
East Cape	Royal Palm
endangered species	sea level rise
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environmentally preferable alternative?	Snake Bight
ethnographic resources	soundscapes
Everglades City	special regulations
Flamingo	special protection zone
flood	storm surge
floodling	submerged wilderness
floodplain	Tamiami Trail
Florida City	Tarpon Basin
Florida panther	threatened and endangered species
frontcountry	traffic
FTE	user capacity
full-time equivalent employee	vehicles
Gopher Creek	visitors with disabilities
hardened elevation	visual intrusions
Hole-in-the-Donut	wetlands
Homestead	wilderness
invasive species	wilderness waterway
invasive plants	Wood River
Joe Bay	



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN/EAST EVERGLADES WILDERNESS STUDY/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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