

Chapter 6

Glossary



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK DRAFT

FLAMINGO COMMERCIAL SERVICES PLAN/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Affected Environment — The existing environment to be affected by a proposed action and alternatives.

Alternatives — different options for taking action.

Appropriate (Services) — Those services that are: consistent with the park purpose, significance, and enabling legislation; consistent with federal laws and regulations; not harmful to park resources, leaving them unimpaired for future generations; not harmful to public health and safety; profitable for a concessioner to operate; sustainable; consistent with other park activities and programs.

Best Management Practices — Methods that have been determined to be the most effective, practical means of preventing or reducing pollution or other adverse environmental impacts.

Capitalization Rate - A method used to convert an estimate of a single year's income expectancy into an indication of value in one direct step, by dividing the income estimate by an appropriate rate.

Chickees — Small wooden platforms, with roofs and a self-contained toilet, used for backcountry camping over water.

Commercial Services — Any activity or service that occurs in a park for which compensation is made.

Contributing Resource — A building, site, structure, or object that adds to the historic significance of a property or district.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) — Established by Congress within the Executive Office of the President with passage of the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969*. CEQ coordinates federal environmental efforts and works closely with agencies and other White House offices in the development of environmental policies and initiatives.

Cultural Resources — Prehistoric and historic districts, sites, buildings, objects, or any other physical evidence of human activity considered important to a culture, subculture, or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or any other reason.

Cumulative Impacts — Under NEPA regulations, the incremental environmental impact or effect of an action together with the effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions (40 CFR Part 1508.7).

Decibels — A unit of relative sound loudness, electric voltage, or current equal to ten times the common logarithm of the ratio of two readings.

Enabling Legislation — National Park Service legislation setting forth the legal parameters by which each park may operate.

Endangered Species — "...any species (including subspecies or qualifying distinct population segment) that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range (ESA Section 3(6))." The lead federal agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for the listing of a species as endangered is responsible for reviewing the status of the species on a five-year basis.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) — An Act to provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved and to provide a program for the conservation of such endangered species and threatened species.

Environmental Assessment (EA) — An environmental analysis prepared pursuant to the *National Environmental Policy Act* to determine whether a federal action would significantly affect the environment and thus require a more detailed environmental impact statement (EIS).

Executive Order — Official proclamation issued by the President that may set forth policy or direction or establish specific duties in connection with the execution of federal laws and programs.

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) — A document prepared by a federal agency showing why a proposed action would not have a significant impact on the environment and thus would not require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. A FONSI is based on the results of an Environmental Assessment.

Floodplain — The flat or nearly flat land along a river or stream or in a tidal area that is covered by water during a flood.

Impacts (beneficial, adverse) - The effect on a resource or value. Beneficial impacts are favorable and adverse impacts are unfavorable.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) — The Act as amended articulates the federal law that mandates protecting the quality of the human environment. It requires federal agencies to systematically assess the environmental impacts of their proposed activities, programs, and projects including the “no action” alternative of not pursuing the proposed action. NEPA requires agencies to consider alternative ways of accomplishing their missions in ways which are less damaging to the environment.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.) — An Act to establish a program for the preservation of historic properties throughout the nation, and for other purposes, approved October 15, 1966 [Public Law 89-665; 80 STAT. 915; 16 U.S.C. 470 as amended by Public Law 91-243, Public Law 93-54, Public Law 94-422, Public Law 94-458, Public Law 96-199, Public Law 96-244, Public Law 96-515, Public Law 98-483, Public Law 99-514, Public Law 100-127, and Public Law 102-575].

National Register of Historic Places (National Register) — A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects important in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture, maintained by the Secretary of the Interior under authority of Section 2(b) of the *Historic Sites Act of 1935* and Section 101(a)(1) of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, as amended.

Necessary (Services) – Those accommodations and activities that: contribute to a visitor’s understanding and appreciation of the park’s purpose and significance; enhance a visitor’s experience consistent with park area philosophies; assist the park in managing visitor use and educating park visitors; and provide an essential service or facility that is not available within a reasonable distance of the park.

Net Operating Income - Income after deducting for operating expenses but before deducting for income taxes and interest.

Organic Act — Enacted in 1916, this Act commits the National Park Service to making informed decisions that perpetuate the conservation and protection of park resources unimpaired for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

Scoping — Scoping, as part of NEPA, requires examining a proposed action and its possible effects; establishing the depth of environmental analysis needed; determining analysis procedures, data needed, and task assignments. The public is encouraged to participate and submit comments on proposed projects during the scoping period.

Silt Curtain – A temporary barrier of geotextile material used to contain sediments within a defined zone in the aquatic environment.

Skiff – A small motorized boat.

Threatened Species — Any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range (ESA Section 3(20)).

Warranted Investment – total estimated budget that the project can support, based on the cost and the term of the debt.

Wetlands —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. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

“Yellow Bike” system -- Offering of free (or nearly free) access to bicycles for transportation to reduce the use of automobiles for short trips.