

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Milton E. Thompson Park

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department

November 19, 2012

Public Hearing

Draft



PREPARED FOR:

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PREPARED BY:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Executive Summary

Lead Agency: Miami-Dade County
Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department

Common Name of Property: Milton E. Thompson Park

Location: Miami-Dade County

Acreage:	Restored Everglades marsh	130.0 acres
	Everglades marsh with moderate to dense melaleuca cover	439.0 acres
	Park development	28.5 acres
	Dredged lakes	9.5 acres
	Canal ROW	11.0 acres
	Total:	618.0 acres

Lease: #1795 – the State Board of Education

Use: The Milton E. Thompson Park is considered a multiple-use site as it is managed for active and passive recreational uses and environmental protection.

Management Responsibilities: Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department (MDPROS)

Sub-lease: Lease with operator of motocross track

Type of Acquisition: Section 16 school board property; fee simple

Location / Context:

Milton E. Thompson Park (Park) is located (**Map 1**) at 16665 NW 177th Avenue in Miami-Dade County, Florida. The approximately 618-acre Park can be accessed from Krome Avenue. The primary features of the Park are an Everglades marsh occupying 580 acres and exhibiting varying levels of melaleuca cover and a 38-acre fill pad with a motocross track, associated infrastructure, and three borrow lakes. The lands associated with Water Conservation Area 3 occur on the west side of Krome Avenue and the L-30 Canal.

Natural Resources:

A 130 acre portion of the wetland systems has been restored through exotic species removal as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with the South Dade Landfill Facility. Active management has maintained exotic plant species below required control levels (<5% areal cover) within the mitigation area. The remaining 450 acres consist of marshes with varying densities of melaleuca.

Cultural Resources:

Comprehensive cultural resource assessments have not been completed for the Park. A 2007 inquiry with the Florida Division of Historical Resources (DHR) Master Site File indicated that no previously recorded sites exist within the Park.

Management History:

In 1962, the State Board of Education leased the property to Miami-Dade Count via State Lease # 1795 for the purpose of providing a park, recreation, and education area. A 38-acre portion of the Park was subsequently developed in 1966

as a campground for primitive tent camping and recreational vehicle camping, including a 1,340 square-foot restroom/shelter building. The campground use continued until the 1980s. In the 1990s, attendance dropped and the Park exhibited low attendance for the following years. In 2006, a motocross track was installed. Currently, the Park is a multiple-use facility for active recreation consisting of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) use and conservation of wetland systems (**Map 7**).

Management Needs:

Management needs for the Park include the following:

- Continued control of exotic species;
- Cultural resource survey;
- Assess opportunities for mineral rights transfer consistent with the Lake Belt Plan; and
- Management of OHV and passive recreation uses.

Management Goals:

Park Management Plan goals are aligned with those the Vision and Mission of the MDPROS along with three specific natural resource goals, which are as follows:

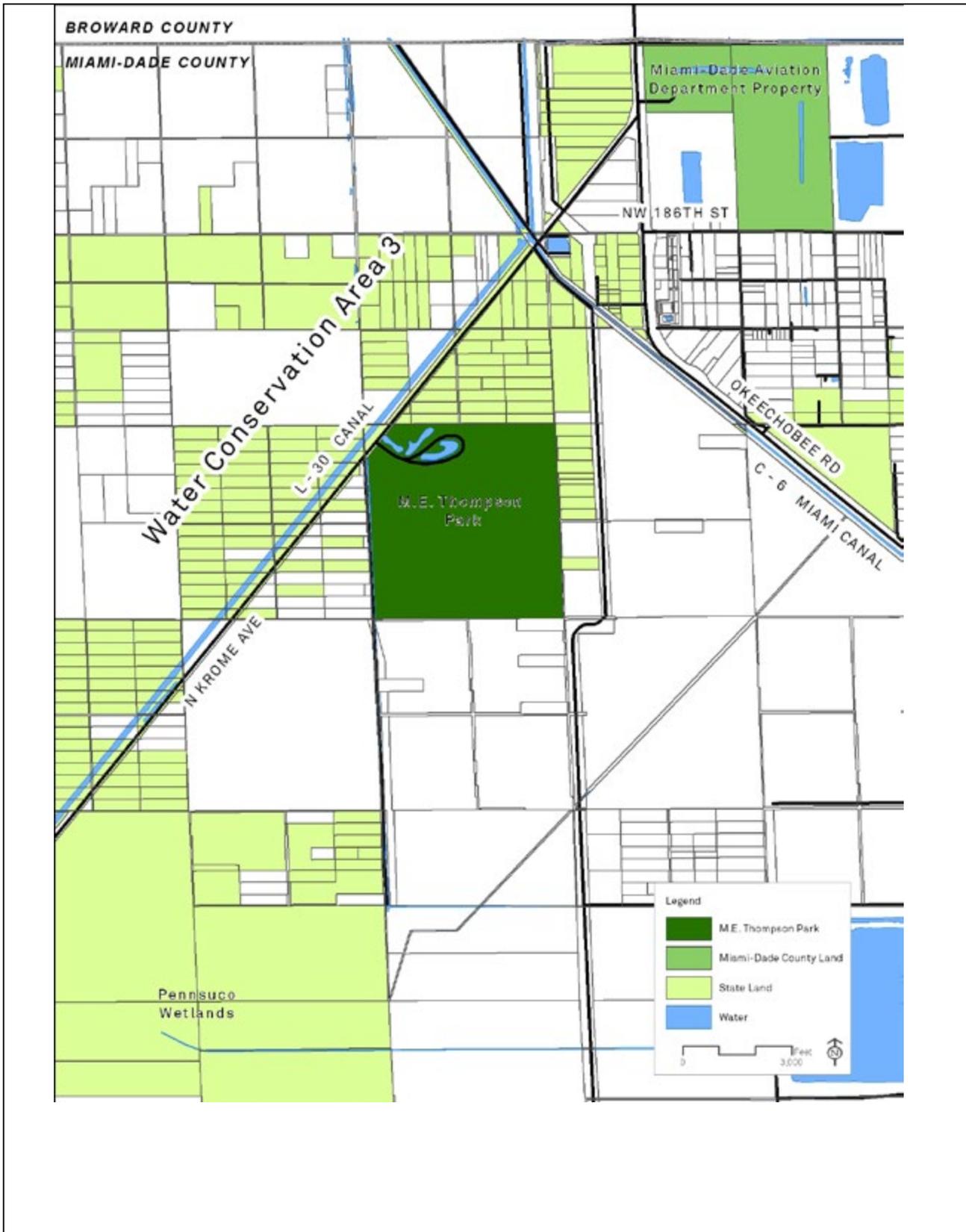
- Goal 1. Preserve and maintain natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2. Provide unique passive and active recreation opportunities in the Park.
- Goal 3. Consider the potential for the transfer of mineral rights consistent with the Lake Belt Plan.

Potential Acquisition Parcel / Acreage: None

Surplus Lands / Acreage: None

Public Involvement: Stakeholder meeting, advisory committee meeting, public hearing

Map 1: Location Map / Public Lands in Vicinity



Map 7: Conceptual General Plan



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GENERAL DESCRIPTION



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MILTON E. THOMPSON PARK

The purpose of Milton E. Thompson Park (Park) is to provide passive and active recreation opportunities to the residents of Miami-Dade County. The Park provides the primary publicly available location for motocross sports in the County. In addition, the Park includes managed natural areas of sawgrass marsh that are part of the historical Everglades system. The Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department (MDPROS) manages the Park.

A. Park Significance

The Park is classified as an “Existing County Park” and “ECO Hub Park” in the Miami-Dade County Parks and Open Space Master Plan. This classification means that the site is connected to an eco-zone that includes property suitable for recreational and educational experiences, and provides an opportunity to restore and protect the natural environment. The site is also within a network of greenways, trails and blueways throughout the county. Krome Avenue is designated in the Open Space Master Plan as a “Greenway” in the vicinity of the Park that will become a boulevard with sidewalks, clearly defined crosswalks, signalization, trees and landscaping and bicycle lanes. It is intended to connect urban areas of Miami to the Park. The Park is not located in an Aquatic Preserve or designated Area of Critical State Concern.

Overview of Park Features

- The Park provides a publicly available motocross track sufficient for recreational riding and Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) training.
- The Park provides opportunities to view natural and restored areas as well as future opportunities for



Restored portion of the Park

- passive recreation activities such as hiking.
- Portions of the sawgrass marsh in the Park serve as mitigation to offset wetland impacts that were completed as part of County Waste Management operations associated with a permitted County landfill.
- The Park also protects and provides habitat for a diversity of species of plants and animals.
- The Park contains mineral resources with commercial value as part of the Lake Belt Plan.

B. Site Location and Legal Description

The Park is located near the northwest corner of Miami-Dade County, just east of State Road 997/Krome/NW 177th Avenue, at 16665 Krome Avenue (**Map 1** - Location Map). According to the Miami-Dade Property Appraiser, the Park is more specifically described as the 640 acres which comprise tax folio number 30-2916-000-0010, or Section 16, Township 52 South, Range 39 East. The effective acreage of the Park is approximately 618 acres, since State Road 997 intersects the Park near its northwest corner. An aerial photograph of the Park is



Motocross track

included as **Map 2** - Aerial Photograph.

A portion of the original Park acreage occurs on the west side of Krome Avenue along the L-30 Levee and canal. This canal extends 12.5 miles along a generally north to south alignment from the Miami Canal to the L-29 Canal along the eastern boundary of Water Conservation Area 3B. In 1968, the County was issued a permit (Permit #3518) (**Attachment A**) by the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District, now known as the South Florida Water Management District (District), to

construct and operate a public boat ramp on the west side of Krome Avenue. In 1992, the Department subsequently cancelled Permit #3518 (**Attachment B**) and the District now maintains the area. Because the District maintains the area, the launching area has been excluded from this Management Plan.

C. Site Use

Multiple-use is defined as a land management objective seeking to coordinate several environmental, recreational, economic, historic, cultural and/or social values in the same geographic area in a compatible and sustainable manner. The Park is considered a multiple-use site as the site is managed for both environmental protection and recreational activities.

D. Degree of Title Interest, Land Acquisition and Lease History

The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for the State of Florida (TIITF) hold title to the property. The federal Land Ordinance of 1785 identified Section 16 of each township as a set aside for public education and schools, which could include leases for public use, mineral extraction, and other revenue generating activities. For Miami-Dade County, this parcel was identified to support a community college. Because Miami-Dade Community College decided to build elsewhere, there was no need for the reservation of the school space. In 1962, the Board of Education of the State of Florida leased 630.8 acres of Section 16, Township 52 South, Range 39 East now comprising the Park to Miami-Dade County for public park, public recreational, and educational purposes. The original lease agreement between the state and county is provided as **Attachment C**.

In 1973, the County granted a permit to the United States of America for a two-year period to use the site for military field exercises (**Attachment D**). The County modified the lease with the State in 1987 to allow for the Florida Department of Natural Resources (precursor to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection) to maintain ambient air monitoring stations at the Park. As described further within this plan, a motocross track within the Park is currently being managed by a vendor.

E. Purpose of Plan

This document provides a ten-year Management Plan for the Park that is designed to set policy guidelines and management direction for the Park by identifying the needs, actions and costs necessary to balance recreation opportunities, natural resource protection, and mineral extraction.

The plan consists of three interconnected components: the Resource Management, the Land Use and the Implementation. The Resource Management Component provides a thorough account and assessment of the natural and cultural resources of the Park. Resource management needs and issues are identified, and measurable management objectives are established for each of the Park's management goals and resource types. This component provides guidance on the application of such measures as prescribed burning, exotic species removal, imperiled species management, and restoration of natural environments.

The Land Use Component provides the recreational resource allocation plan for the Park. This portion of the plan provides considerations for access, adjacent land uses, current public uses and proposed improvements to the physical space of the Park. These objectives locate user areas, the proposed types of facilities, and the volume of public use to be provided.

The Implementation Component consolidates the objectives and actions for the Park's management goals. Included in this portion of the plan are (1) measures that will be used to evaluate implementation progress, (2) time frames for completing actions and objectives and (3) estimated costs to complete each action and objective.

This plan provides a basic statement of policy necessary to bring this vision to fruition. It functions as a broad directive for managing the entire Park, as compared to a more specifically focused implementation plan that provides details for land use and facility development, operational manuals, or resource protection plans.

Map 1: Location Map / Public Lands in Vicinity



Map 2: Aerial Photograph



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MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW



A. Management Authority and Responsibility

MDPROS was granted management authority at the Park in 1962 by Lease #1795 from the State of Florida. The MDPROS has managed the Park as a recreation area and preserve for more than 50 years.

B. Park Management Goals

The following goals provide the intent for long-term management of this Park.

- Goal 1. Preserve and maintain natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2. Provide unique active and passive recreation opportunities in the Park.
- Goal 3. Consider the potential for the transfer of mineral rights consistent with the Lake Belt Plan.



Motocross track

C. Management Coordination

The Park is managed in accordance with all applicable laws and administrative rules. Agencies having a major or direct role in the management of the Park are discussed in this plan.

The Park is wholly managed by MDPROS through a lease agreement with the State of Florida. Through a sub-lease, a portion of the Park is operated by a private entity for motocross. The Florida Forest Service (FFS) and Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department assist MDPROS in the

development and implementation of wildfire emergency plans. The FFS also provides authorization for prescribed burning if conducted. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) assists MDPROS in the enforcement of state laws pertaining to wildlife within the Park. The Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources (DHR) assists staff to document and protect cultural resources. The Miami-Dade County Public Works and Waste Management Department (PWWMD) provides assistance in implementing exotic species removal in the portion of the site designated for mitigation activities.

D. Public Participation

Miami-Dade County provided multiple opportunities for input throughout the development of this management plan. Opportunities for participation included a stakeholder committee comprised of County staff, an advisory group consisting of the stakeholder committee, public agencies representatives, and members of the public, and lastly, a public hearing, which was conducted on December 13, 2012. Each meeting or hearing was conducted with the purpose of providing an opportunity for public input at various stages of development of this Plan.

A stakeholder committee meeting was held on September 20, 2012. The meeting's purpose was to finalize goals, objectives and actions for the plan. It was held at the MDPROS Headquarters located on 275 N.W. Second Street, Miami, Florida 33128. The stakeholder committee reviewed the project goals, schedule for the plan development, and management plan format. In addition, the stakeholders developed draft management goals, objectives, and actions for the Park during this meeting.

Stakeholders in attendance included:

- George Parrado, MDPROS
- Jon Seaman, MDPROS
- Jeff Ransom, Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (MDRER)
- Martha Garcia, MDRER
- Eduardo Salcedo, MDPROS
- Jay Exum, AECOM, Orlando

- Randy Mejeur, AECOM, Orlando
- Kevin Asher, MDPROS
- Andy McCall, MDPROS
- Steve Christensen, PWWMD

An advisory group comprised of the following members and affiliations (an * indicates attendees at the October 19, 2012 advisory committee meeting) has provided input on this plan:

- County Commissioner Jose “Pepe” Diaz, District 12
- Eduardo Salcedo, MDPROS*
- Joe Maguire, MDPROS
- Andy McCall, MDPROS*
- Kevin Asher, MDPROS*
- George Parrado, MDPROS
- Jon Seaman, MDPROS*
- German Hernandez, PWWMD
- Michael Spinelli, MDRER
- Martha Garcia, MDRER
- Jeff Ransom, MDRER
- Marshall Jones, Mack’s Fish Camp* (local landowner)
- Frank Denninger, Jetport Conservation and Recreation Club*
- Randy Mejeur, AECOM
- Bonnie Moser, AECOM
- Steve Christensen, PWWMD
- Dan Boyar, South Florida Water Management District
- A representative from the South Dade Soil and Water Conservation District

An advisory committee meeting was held on October 19, 2012 at the MDPROS Headquarters located on 275 N.W. Second Street, Miami, Florida 33128. During this meeting, the draft management plan was reviewed. A summary of the advisory committee discussions at this meeting is provided as part of **Attachment E**.

A public hearing with the advisory committee was held on TBD. The management prospectus was available on TBD, which was TBD days prior to the public hearing as required by Florida Statutes Section 259.032 (9)(d). Notice to the public was achieved through an announcement of the public meeting date, time, and location at a Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting and a newspaper announcement. A copy of the BCC minutes, newspaper announcement, and a postcard are included in **Attachment E**. In addition, signs were posted at the site, in advance of the meeting. A draft copy of the Park management plan was completed on TBD, and was made available to of the public prior to the Public Hearing. The following comments and concerns were identified during the public meeting concerning the plan:

TBD

A summary of the Public Hearing is provided in **Attachment E**.

E. Description of Legislative or Executive Directives that Constrain the Use of Property.

All resource and development alterations proposed in this plan are subject to the granting of appropriate permits, easements, licenses, and other required legal instruments. Approval of this plan does not constitute an exemption from complying with the regulations and policies of local, state or federal agencies. Federal, state and local legislation potentially affecting implementation of the plan include:



View of restored marsh



Shaded areas within the developed portion of the Park

Federal Government

- 14CFR, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department Of Transportation (DOT). Aeronautics and Space, and FAA Order 9700.M
- 16CFR 1531-1544 Endangered Species Act of 1973 and Migratory Bird Treaty Act. US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS).
- 28CFR, Part 36, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Section 404, Clean Water Act, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties)
- Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Regulation Act

State of Florida

- Florida Statute (FS) 258.397. Public Lands and Property, State Parks and Preserves; Board of Internal Improvements Trust Fund, South Florida Water Management District, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

- FS 267.061(2) and 872.05. Public Lands and Property, Historical Resources; Crimes. Offenses Concerning Dead Bodies and Graves, Unmarked Burials; and Rule 1A-32 and 1A-40 Florida Administrative Code (FAC). DHR.
- FS 311, 373.414, and 403.802, -.811, -.9321-.9333 and 62-312 FAC, Natural Resources, Water Resources; Public Health, Environmental Control. Florida Department of Environmental Protection. (Florida Environmental Reorganization Act of 1975, and the Warren S. Henderson Wetlands Protection Act of 1984).
- FS 373 and 378 Miami-Dade County Lake Belt Plan and Lake Belt Mitigation Plan
- Rule 18-4 FAC, Land Management Advisory Committee. Chapter 68-27.002, -.003 FAC and Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution. Wildlife Rules and Chapter 68A, 62-11 FAC and FS 379, FFWCC.
- Chapter 62-321; -330; -340; -343; -344 FAC Environmental Protection. DEP
- State Lease of Land #1795

Miami-Dade County, (Board of County Commissioners)

- Resolution 5911-53, Chapter 2, Administration; Article X Park & Recreation Department; Section 2-86 Functions, Powers and Duties; and Chapter 23A Planning Generally Section 23A-1 Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP), III. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.
- Resolution 7730 governing lease and approved site plan
- Article 7 PARKS, AQUATIC PRESERVES, AND PRESERVATION LANDS
- Chapter 14 Fire Prevention; Article I In General; Sections 14-1, 14-2, 14-3, 14-21, 14-27, Setting fires without permit prohibited; Duties and responsibilities of occupants of land; Setting fires in forest protection district; Procedure to lawfully burn land. and Sections 14-44 and 14-58 Uniform Fire Safety Standards (pursuant to Chapter 633, Section 633.15 FS).
- Chapter 16A Historic Preservation Ordinance; Sections 16A-13, 16A-13.1, 16A-14 Maintenance of designated properties and Demolition by Neglect Prohibited.
- Chapter 24 Environmental Protection; Article IV, Division 1. Work in Canal Rights-of-Way, Tidal Waters, Submerged Bay-Bottom Lands, and Wetlands; Dewatering; Construction of Drainage Systems; Section 24-48 Permits; Work standards; Compliance (Coastal Wetlands) and Chapter 33D BISCAYNE BAY MANAGEMENT.
- Chapter 24 Environmental Protection; ARTICLE IV, Division 2. TREE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION; Section 24-49 Permits for tree removal and relocation (NFC) pursuant to Resolution No. R-1764-84 and Chapters 11D Diseased Palm Trees and 18A Miami-Dade County Landscape Ordinance.
- Chapter 26 Park and Recreation Department rules and regulations



Central lake in the middle of the motocross track

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RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT



Table 1: Milton E. Thompson Park Management Zones

Management Zone	Acreage	Managed with Prescribed Fire
1: Motocross Park (divided into zones 1a-active recreation and 1b-passive recreation)	38	No
2: Mitigation Project	130	No
3: Everglades Marsh with Moderate to Dense Melaleuca	450	No

A. Introduction

In accordance with Chapter 258, FS, MDPROS has implemented resource management programs for managing representative examples of natural resources of statewide significance under its administration. This component describes the natural resources of the Park and identifies the procedures that will be used to manage them. The management measures expressed in the plan are consistent with the overall mission for ecosystem management of the County.

Resource management addresses the management of both natural and cultural resources. Natural resource management focuses on restoring and maintaining natural resources such as vegetation communities and wildlife species along with the natural processes that shaped the structure, function and species composition of the systems and targeted species. Single species management for imperiled species is suitable when the maintenance, recovery or restoration of a species or population is problematical due to limits associated with long-term restoration efforts, unnaturally high mortality or insufficient habitat. Single species management should be compatible with the maintenance and restoration of natural processes, and should not imperil other native species or seriously compromise park values. Management of cultural resources generally includes identification and management of sites and objects representative of cultural periods and significant historic events/people within Florida’s history.

Because park units are often components of larger ecosystems, their proper management can be affected by conditions and events that occur beyond park boundaries. Natural resource management is implemented through a resource management evaluation program that assesses resource conditions, evaluates management activities and refines management actions. As a consequence, local comprehensive plans and development permit applications for park/ecosystem impacts are reviewed. The entire Park is divided into management zones that separate specific or seasonal management activities (see **Map 3 - Management Zones Map**).

B. Resource Description and Assessment

B.1 Natural Resources

Context

The site occurs adjacent to Krome Avenue and the L-30 Canal, which border the State Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3-B (see **Map 1 – Location Map**). Other conservation and public land holdings within 1 mile of the Park include state-owned lands associated with the East Coast Buffer and land owned by the Miami-Dade Aviation Department.

The site is also located within the District’s regional mitigation area known as the Pennsuco wetlands, or Cell 26, of the East Coast Buffer project. The Pennsuco wetlands/Cell 26 covers approximately 13,000 acres in

Map 3: Management Zones



the county that are bordered on the west and north by State Road 997, to the south by Tamiami Trail/US Highway 41, and to the east by the Dade-Broward levee. The majority of this land includes large parcels reserved for mitigation by rock mining companies and landholdings of the District and the State of Florida. Currently, there is a high groundwater seepage rate from the aquifer in the Everglades, east toward the Pennsuco wetlands and the County's Northwest Wellfield, which provides a large portion of the water supply for residents of the County.

In 1992, the MDPROS and the PWWMD entered into an agreement to enhance 130 acres of wetlands on the site through the removal of exotic vegetation to offset permitted wetland impacts incurred by PWWMD in the expansion of the South Dade Landfill Facility. By the agreement terms, PWWMD paid to implement an initial melaleuca treatment and removal with continued funding to MDPROS thereafter for ongoing maintenance. The Natural Areas Management Division of MDPROS has conducted annual monitoring and exotic vegetation control in the mitigation area from 1993 to the present.

Topography

Topography in much of south Florida is characterized as flat and low-elevation and is characteristic of the Everglades. The majority of the Park exhibits ground surface elevations that are approximately 5 feet above mean sea level. Elevations in the Park gently slope north to south with an average gradient of 0.15 feet per mile. The active recreation portions of the Park, including the entry drive and motocross track, exhibit elevations of 5 to 10+ feet. In 1965, three lakes were excavated in the Park as part of implementing the Park improvement master plan identified in the lease between the County and TITF.

Geology

The Miami Limestone geological formation that underlies the Park and surrounding areas is formed by centuries of sea levels compressing layers of calcium carbonate, sand and shells. This limestone occurs at or near the ground surface and underlies the marshes and wet prairies characteristic of the portion of the Everglades systems near the Park. Thin layers of organic materials occur over the limestone in the marshes of the site. The limestone found within this formation is a significant mineral resource.

Soils

Two soil types occur within the Park according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Dade County Soil Survey (1994) and are depicted on **Map 4 – Soils Map**. These include Lauderhill muck, depressional, and Udorthents limestone substratum – Urban land complex. Lauderhill muck, depressional is typically black or dark brown, contains high amounts of organic matter, and underlies the expansive sawgrass marshes on the site. Udorthents contain high limestone content with some gravel that were deposited on the filled portions of the site. Lauderhill muck, depressional is a hydric soil and characterized by seasonal inundation of 9-12 months in most years.

Minerals

Minerals of commercial value occurring within the boundaries of the Park consist of limerock (limestone). Commercial interest has been expressed in excavating limestone from approximately 300 acres of the Park consistent with the Lake Belt Plan. It is anticipated that mineral excavation would take place within a long-term time frame of more than 10 years, if it were authorized to occur.

Hydrology

Historically, surface water sheetflow associated with the Everglades system passed through the site and ultimately drained into the Shark Valley Slough. The installation of the L-30 Canal altered the hydrology of the area. The sawgrass marshes on the site seasonally inundate from rainfall and sheetflow from lands east of the L-30 Canal, but can dry to the ground surface during dry periods. The three lakes adjacent to the motocross track remain inundated throughout the year.

Natural Communities

Natural community designations employed in this plan generally follow the designations developed by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI), while the park development and dredged lake land use designations reflect the constructed portion of the site. The Park contains two biotic communities, which consist of Restored Everglades Marsh and Everglades Marsh with Moderate to Dense Melaleuca Cover (see **Map 5 – Natural Communities**). The common and scientific names of plant and wildlife species referenced in the text of this management plan are identified in **Attachment F**.

Map 4: Soils Map



The Institute for Regional Conservation (IRC) maintains lists of plant taxa documented for conservation areas in South Florida, including the Park, that are available at: <http://regionalconservation.org/ircs/database/plants/ByConsArea.asp?SiteID=661&SN=Milton> E. Thompson Park. As of October 9, 2012, the IRC had documented 200 plant taxa occurring within the Park. At least 24 wildlife species have been observed at the Park.

The following provides descriptions of the biotic communities, species using the Park, and desired future condition (DFC) of each natural community with associated actions required to bring the community to its DFC. When the Park's natural communities have reached their DFC, they are considered to be in a state of maintenance and share certain management requirements and basic characteristics. These include:

- maintenance control of non-native plant and animal species,
- maintenance of natural hydrological functions (including historic water quality and water flows),
- maintenance of proper vegetative structure that represents the natural diversity of the community,
- maintenance of healthy populations of plant and wildlife species (including those that are imperiled or endemic), and
- upkeep of intact ecotones between natural communities among the landscape.

Most of the original natural communities of Park were affected by the invasion of noxious species like melaleuca, Brazilian pepper, and Old World climbing fern. By the early 1990's, the tree species covered a majority of the natural areas remaining in the Park. Successful restoration of 130 acres of the Park took place and today the area is in maintenance status. Wetland vistas occur on the eastern and southern portions of the park land use.

Restored Everglades Marsh and Everglades Marsh with Moderate to Dense Melaleuca Cover

Description and Assessment:

The entire 618 acres of the site consisted of historical Everglades marsh area prior to construction of the 38 acres of park facilities. Approximately 130 acres of the Park that has been restored through exotic species removal currently meets the DFC for Everglades marsh. The remaining 450 acres (labeled as Everglades Marsh with Moderate to Dense Melaleuca Cover on **Map 5**) exhibit significant densities of melaleuca, a non-native invasive species.

Desired Future Condition:

The marshes on the site will exhibit characteristics of the historical Everglades marshes that occurred in south Florida. Everglades marsh is a predominantly herbaceous wetland in the Everglades basin that occurs in broad shallow channels or depressions over a substrate of peat or marl covering limestone. While ordinarily dominated by a dense, tall stand of sawgrass, deeper Everglades marsh may support an array of emergent plants that includes sparse sawgrass, maidencane, Tracy's beaksedge, or Gulf Coast spikerush. During periods of high water and in areas transitional to deeper sloughs, floating plants may be common. Drought conditions may allow other herbs to temporarily thrive. Saltmarsh morning glory and white twinevine may be found climbing sawgrass blades. Woody vegetation is sparse, and typically seen around so-called "gator holes" or near the edges of the many tree islands that dot the landscape of the Everglades. Coastal plain willow, coco plum, and buttonbush are typical of these locations.

General Management Measures:

Continued maintenance of the restored section of the Park will keep this Everglades marsh habitat viable. The Everglades Marsh with Moderate to Dense Melaleuca Cover areas will require removal of the exotic melaleuca with long-term maintenance to meet the DFC. Completion of this removal will be evaluated following the completion of mineral extraction, if mineral extraction occurs. Trails from OHVs illegally crossing the property are found in several portions of both marsh variants. Monitoring of this natural area needs to be maintained or increased to keep vehicles from accessing or crossing through the Park illegally.

Developed (Park Development, Lakes)

Description and Assessment:

Approximately 38 acres of the Park are considered developed. This acreage includes paved roads and parking lots, trails, motocross trails, concessions, vendor support and storage facilities, three dredged lakes and former camping facilities. Invasive exotic plant species occasionally occur in these areas. Stormwater runoff from parking lots and motocross tracks can drain into the natural areas without treatment. Lake edges currently exhibit cattails and other littoral plants.

Map 5: Natural Communities Map



Desired Future Condition:

Park areas will exhibit appropriate vegetation to provide shade or groundcover and will be free of invasive exotic plant species. Berms and groundcover will be used to maintain the site relatively free of erosion and to cleanse stormwater prior to discharge into the adjacent natural areas. Lakes will exhibit high water quality and will exhibit vegetated littoral zones. Field roads will be maintained for access to natural areas.

General Management Measures:

Invasive exotic plant species control needs to be implemented in the developed areas. Stormwater runoff is currently detained within the site by low berms and needs to be monitored bordering neighboring natural areas and possibly directed into dredged lakes.

Imperiled Species

Imperiled species are those that are (1) tracked by FNAI as critically imperiled (G1, S1) or imperiled (G2, S2); or (2) listed by the USFWS, FFWCC or the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) as endangered, threatened or of special concern. FNAI provided a standard data report for the Park documenting the records of imperiled species and other unique natural resources in the area of the Park, which is included as **Attachment G**.

The FNAI report notes that great egret, wood stork and Florida panther have been observed in WCA 3-B, less than two miles from the site. Additionally, little blue herons have been observed within the park boundaries. Great egrets are tracked by FNAI as a G5/S4 species, but are not listed by federal or state agencies as an endangered, threatened, or special concern species. Little blue herons are listed as species of special concern by the State of Florida. The wood stork is listed as endangered by the USFWS and FFWCC. The marshes on the site provide potential foraging habitat for great egrets, little blue herons, and wood storks. The Florida panther is listed as an endangered species by the USFWS and FFWCC. The marshes and park areas could provide potential foraging areas and movement corridors for Florida panthers, although the site is outside of the Panther Focus Area. The management and maintenance of the wetlands on the site maintain habitat for all three species.

B.1.9 Exotic Species

Invasive exotic species are able to out-compete, displace or destroy native species and their habitats, often because they have been released from the natural controls of their native range, such as diseases, predatory insects, etc. The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) maintains a list of Category 1 and 2 invasive exotic species that have been problematic within Florida, which is attached as **Attachment H**. If left unchecked, invasive exotic plants and animals can alter the character, productivity and conservation values of the natural areas they invade. Melaleuca, Brazilian pepper, and Old World climbing fern have been observed on the site, with melaleuca occurring on more than 400 acres of the site. Exotic species are maintained below 5% areal coverage within the 130 acre mitigation portion of the Park. Exotic plant control efforts are ongoing within the mitigation area.

Nuisance and exotic invasive wildlife species can pose management problems for natural systems or become a nuisance for park visitors. Native species such as raccoons, gray squirrels, venomous snakes, and alligators can generate nuisance cases for visitors, which will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Non-native species such as wild hogs or pythons known to occur in the region may also disrupt ecosystem function through direct impacts to desirable native wildlife or plant species or indirectly through habitat alterations. Non-native species observed on the site will be removed opportunistically when feasible.

B.2 Cultural Resources

Comprehensive cultural resource assessments have not been completed for the Park. A 2007 inquiry with the DHR Master Site File indicated that no previously recorded sites exist within the park. In the same letter (**Attachment I**), the FDHR indicated that no surveys have been conducted within the parcel and that the Park may likely contain unrecorded archaeological and/or historic sites. In response to the current preparation of the Park management plan, Miami-Dade's County Archaeologist conducted an archival review of the subject parcel. Historic aerial photographs revealed that several moderate to high probability locations for archaeological sites exist within the 618-acre park. The County archaeologist recommends a Phase I archaeological survey of the Park be conducted.

The Park occurs within the vicinity of the Everglades and is part of the regional lands used historically by members of the Modern Gladesmen Ethnographic culture for recreational and subsistence purposes. The Gladesmen have recently been identified as a rural folk culture considered a subset of the modern American culture with unique cultural and socioeconomic ties to the southern Florida environment, including strong ties to the environment of the Everglades ecosystem. A study for the Army Corps of Engineers in 2011 reviewed the Gladesmen cultural use of south Florida (http://evergladesplan.org/pm/progr_master_rec_plan_gladesmen.aspx). While this study recognized Mack’s Fish Camp, a fish camp located approximately 1 mile north of the Park on the Miami Canal Levee, as a property that warranted listing as a Traditional Cultural Property of the Gladesmen Culture, the study did not designate the Park as a property associated with the Gladesmen Culture warranting study as a Traditional Cultural Property.

aesthetically pleasing as possible, and to compliment the natural and cultural landscape.

Access – Every resident should be able to safely and comfortably walk, bicycle, drive and/or ride transit from their home to work, school, parks, shopping and community facilities.

Equity – Every resident should be able to enjoy the same quality of public facilities and services regardless of income, age, race, ability or geographic location.

Sustainability – Every action and improvement of the park System, including facilities, programs, operations and management, should contribute to the economic, social and environmental prosperity of the Country.

Multiple Benefits – Every single public action should generate multiple public benefits to maximize taxpayer dollars.

C. Resource Management Program

C.1 Goals, Objectives and Actions

The management goals and objectives for the Park are in alignment with those of its managing agency, MDPROS. The agency’s mission is:

“We create outstanding recreational, natural, and cultural experiences to enrich you and to enhance the quality of life for our community for this and future generations.”

The MDPROS Vision Statement is:

“We will build a model park, recreation and open space system to create a healthy, livable, sustainable community and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.”

The County prepared a County-wide Parks and Open Space System Master Plan (OSMP) in 2007. Guiding Principles within that Master Plan include:

Seamlessness – Every element of the county including neighborhoods, parks, natural area, streets, civic centers and commercial areas, should be connected without regard to jurisdiction.

Beauty – Every public space, including streets, parks, plazas and civic buildings, should be designed to be as

OSMP Goals

- Every resident in the County can walk (within 5 minutes) to a neighborhood park or civic space for picnics, special events, informal play and socialization.
- Every resident can safely and comfortably walk, bicycle, or take transit to community parks, recreation centers and special use/sports facilities.
- A balance of active and passive recreation opportunities are available to all residents.
- The MDPROS works with State and Federal Agencies, municipalities in the County and the School District to provide public access to schools, parks, and recreation.
- Public access is provided to lakes, beaches, forests and other natural areas.
- The County’s significant cultural and historical sites are protected, and maintained.
- Conservation areas and critical habitats are protected from over-use and negative impacts.
- An interconnected network of shaded and safe bikeways and trails connect to parks, neighborhoods, schools, employment centers, civic buildings, and other community destinations.
- Existing streets are transformed into tree-lined boulevards and parkways that define the County’s urban form.
- Transit is provided to parks and civic sites.
- Public art, signage and cultural/historical exhibits are integrated into park and public realm infrastructure

projects to “tell the County’s story” and to create a sense of pride and place.

- Park improvements are used to create a sense of place for neighborhood stabilization and/or redevelopment.
- Parks are designed to reduce energy and water consumption, and to serve as models for sustainable development County-wide.
- Parks are designed to be flexible in order to accommodate ever-changing recreation trends and demographics.
- Residents of surrounding neighborhoods are engaged in the planning, design and stewardship of each park.

This 10-year management plan provides a basic statement of policy and future direction for the Park and is intended to provide a framework for annual management activities. Work plans that provide additional detail on specific activities identified to address goals and objectives of this plan will be prepared annually or as needed to meet the Park operation needs and provide flexibility for adaptive techniques to be incorporated into the management activities on the site. The following goals, objectives and activities identified in this management plan will provide a basis for the work plans developed to implement management of the Park. As work plans are implemented, it may become necessary to adjust the priority schedules and cost estimates identified within this plan to reflect changing conditions.

Goal 1:

Preserve and maintain natural and cultural resources.

Objective 1-A: Comply with the mitigation requirements of the Army Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District, and Miami-Dade County permits intended to restore and protect wetland resources on the 130+ acre mitigation area.

Proposed Activities:

1. Continue to control invasive pest plants and exotic animals in the mitigation area.
2. Comply with the monitoring plans required by the permits.
3. Develop a wild land fire management plan for the Park.

Objective 1-B: Remove/Control exotic species in the natural areas outside of the mitigation area and motocross track.

Proposed Activities:

1. Identify opportunities to expand mitigation activities to remove exotic species.

Objective 1-C: Identify and protect cultural resources within the entire 618-acre tract.

Proposed Activities:

1. Conduct a Phase I archaeological assessment.
2. Document findings of the Phase I assessment and update the Florida Master Site Files with the results of the assessment.
3. Protect cultural resources, and if appropriate, make these resources a Park attraction.

Goal 2:

Provide unique active and passive recreation opportunities in the Park.

Objective 2-A: Improve the ability of the site to support active recreation.

Proposed Activities:

1. Pursue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a private vendor to operate the OHV facility.
2. Determine the feasibility of providing OHV trails outside of the motocross track relative to mitigation requirements, natural systems management, improvement requirements, site security, liability, and revenue generation.
3. Provide a venue for OHV training pursuant to FS 261.20 (3).
4. Ensure compatibility with, and begin implementing the Western Greenway and Blueway Plan embodied in the OSMP.
5. Evaluate additional active recreational activities consistent with the Lake Belt Plan when the Lake Belt Plan is implemented.

Objective 2-B: Provide access for passive use of the site.

Proposed Activities:

1. Develop a plan to implement facilities to support passive uses of the site.
2. Provide vehicular and pedestrian access for passive uses within the context of the Park as an individual parcel.

3. Identify additional long-term recreational and cultural interpretation opportunities for the site based on final plans for mineral extraction.
4. Evaluate additional passive recreational activities consistent with the Lake Belt Plan when the Lake Belt Plan is implemented.

Goal 3:

Consider the potential for the transfer of mineral rights consistent with the Lake Belt Plan.

Objective 3-A: Define the area of potential mineral extraction.

Proposed Activities:

1. Document regulatory criteria for mineral extraction, including limitations on blasting in the vicinity of Krome Avenue levee.
2. Continue discussions with mine operators to understand the quality of minerals within the Park, and how that relates to extraction.

Objective 3-B: Assure the extraction of minerals is consistent with local and regional goals for natural and cultural resource protection and enhancement.

Proposed Activities:

1. Ensure the mining contractor develops a plan to assure that operations will not compromise natural resource values beyond the areas of disturbance from mining operations.
2. Ensure the mining contractor signs a written agreement that indemnifies the State of Florida and the County should any mining operations negatively impact natural resources at the site. The signed agreement would also provide that the mining contractor restore any natural resources that are degraded due to unforeseen deleterious effects of mining.
3. Ensure the mining contractor develops a plan for restoration in the areas of the Park dominated by melaleuca that will not be disturbed by mining operations.
4. Ensure the mining contractor funds a Phase II survey to identify potential archaeological sites in areas of potential disturbance from mining operations, and use these data to establish a cultural resource protection plan for future mining activities.

Objective 3-C: Assure that the extraction of minerals is consistent with local and regional goals for providing active and passive recreation.

Proposed Activities:

1. Ensure the mining contractor develops and fund a plan to promote water-based active and passive recreation amenities and supporting infrastructure.
2. Ensure the mining contractor constructs shallow slopes around mined lake edges to assure safety of potential users after completion of mining activities.
3. Ensure the mining contractor plans and develops roads for mining operations that will function as future park roads or recreation compatible trails.

C.2 Resource Management

Hydrological Management

The goal of hydrological management is to protect water quality and quantity in the Park. Florida’s native habitats are adapted to natural drainage configurations and seasonal water level fluctuations. The natural hydrology of the Park has been altered due to regional drainage improvements and the historical construction of the Park facilities. The marshes within the Park historically depended on regional surface water sheetflow resulting in periodic inundation to maintain hydrology. These natural habitats now depend on local rainfall or local sheetflow. Because of irreparable regional alterations, hydrological improvements are limited to groundwater and surface water improvements that may result from implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). Any future mineral extraction will be conducted to maintain or improve the existing hydrology of the mitigation area and other wetland areas remaining within the Park.

Imperiled Species Management

The Everglades marsh habitats and lakes adjacent to the park provide potential foraging habitat and movement corridors for imperiled wildlife species. These areas also provide potential habitats for rare plant species associated with Everglades marsh habitats. Continued maintenance of the mitigation area to limit the spread of exotic species will provide habitat and movement corridors for these species. Monitoring of imperiled species use of the property will be done opportunistically as staff and budget allow and will be documented in management plan updates.

Exotic Species Management

Objective 1-A: Comply with the mitigation requirements of the Army Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District, and Miami-Dade County permits intended to restore and protect wetland resources on the 130+ acre mitigation area.

Objective 1-B: Remove/Control exotic species in the natural areas outside of the mitigation area and motocross track.



View of burned melaleuca marsh from motocross track

The Natural Areas Management Division of MDPROS has conducted monitoring and removal of exotic vegetation at the site since November 1994. An extensive melaleuca control effort was implemented in the early years of exotic species management, while recent management activities have focused on maintaining the high quality habitats that were restored by the initial effort. Management for exotic species includes periodic monitoring efforts coupled with spot treatments of herbicide to exotic species encountered during the monitoring. While significant management efforts have been targeted to eliminate exotic plant species from mitigation wetlands, no management has been implemented in the remaining melaleuca dominated areas. As a result, non-mitigation areas of the property exhibit melaleuca cover much greater than 5% areal coverage.

Funding for maintenance and monitoring of the site comes from PWWMD. The Natural Areas Management division of MDPROS provides an annual progress and monitoring report for the site, and PWWMD adds soil and water monitoring data to the report as a requirement of the South Dade Landfill mitigation program. Exotic removal outside of the mitigation area is not currently done and not anticipated to occur in the future.



Barriers installed within the developed area to control erosion

MDPROS and MDREER entered into a memorandum of understanding to establish a cooperative program to control exotic plants within the Park (**Attachment J**). This agreement recognizes opportunities to for future mitigation activities involving exotic species removal within the property that include mitigation for outside entities, including private entities. Any future mitigation activities would need to be balanced with the potential use of the site for mineral extraction.

Soil and Erosion Control Management

An erosion control plan has been implemented within the developed portions of the Park as part of management and improvements to the motocross track. Prior to starting work at the Park, the vendor managing the motocross track installed temporary protective barriers (silt screens) as sediment control measures along the wetland areas adjacent to the tracks. These screens are inspected periodically to ensure there are no erosion, siltation, and turbid discharges onto the wetlands. If erosion, siltation, or turbid discharges are noted, immediate corrective measures are taken to fix potential problems. A permanent protective barrier consisting of a 2 – 3 foot tall berm around the margins of the track and adjacent park parcels has been constructed from on-site materials. Bahiagrass sod will be installed on the berm adjacent to the lakes and wetlands in the future to limit erosion. This berm stabilizes the area and prevents future impacts to adjacent wetlands.

Permanent barriers are being constructed behind the temporary screens three to five feet apart from the screens and away from the wetlands. They are permanent 1 and a half to 3 foot high dirt berms with 60-90 degree slopes on both sides. Once completed, the sides facing the lakes and wetlands will be sodded with bahiagrass to stabilize the soil and prevent future erosion. These barriers will be inspected periodically to ensure their integrity and functionality. Other erosion control methods currently used include dust control and grass stabilization of exposed areas outside of the motocross track.

It is recommended that the motocross operator should not plant any vegetation without consulting with MDPROS. All future vegetation should be approved by the MDPROS and if approved will preferably be native or non-invasive vegetation.

Forest Management

For all land management plans for parcels larger than 1,000 acres, the lead agency shall prepare an analysis, which assesses the feasibility of managing timber resources for resource conservation and revenue generation through a stewardship ethic that embraces sustainable forest management practices. This plan shall contain a component or section prepared by a qualified professional forester and shall assure that the timber resource management is not in conflict with the primary management objectives of the parcel.

An analysis of this Park is not applicable, since the Park is smaller than 1,000 acres.

C.3 Special Management Considerations

Human Impact and Use

Human impacts are present at the site, but are principally limited to the upland area previously used as a campground and now a motocross track. Equipment associated with motocross track operations is present on portions of the site. The operator of the motocross track is prohibited from changing oil or making other repairs to motorized vehicles on the property. The motocross vendor has posted signage, and does not allow riders to leave the track area and enter the wetlands area. Occasionally, tracks from all-terrain vehicles and motorbikes are found in the wetland areas, which result from illegal access along the District canal on the west side of the site. This has been an increasing problem in the last few years, causing significant damage to vegetation, and considerable substrate disturbance and compaction. This activity began before the motocross track was built.

Public Access

Compatible activities that allow public use and access within the natural areas of the Park are those that do not compromise natural resource values. Interpretive nature trails along existing field roads on the margin of the mitigation area may improve the public's understanding and appreciation of these sensitive areas. Public access to the Park natural areas must be considered in the management of the Park. Inundation levels during much of the year limit public access to the natural areas of the Park. Existing field roads typically remain dry all year long and can provide pedestrian access around the site throughout much of the year.

Security

Security of the site is currently provided by the operator, who provides an on-site caretaker. Access is controlled at the Park by a double-swinging steel gate at NW Krome Avenue. The Park is only open during daylight hours and the vendor locks the gate each night. Several large boulders are arranged side-by-side by the gate to limit unauthorized access to the Park by motorized vehicles. There is no access control along the remainder of the western side of the Park.

Mineral Management

Objective 3-A: Define the area of potential mineral extraction.

Objective 3-B: Assure the extraction of minerals is consistent with local and regional goals for natural and cultural resource protection and enhancement.

Objective 3-C: Assure that the extraction of minerals is consistent with local and regional goals for providing active and passive recreation.

The Park occurs within the Miami-Dade Lake Belt and is anticipated to contain minerals, primarily consisting of limestone, with commercial value following extraction. Commercial mineral extraction companies have expressed interest in extracting limestone from portions of the site. This plan accommodates future mineral extraction within the eastern half of the site with a focus such that resulting landscape features from mineral extraction will contribute land area and amenities for recreation and open space uses consistent with lease. The extent of area in which mineral extraction may occur will be determined through coordination with the State of Florida, Miami-Dade County, and commercial mineral extraction interests. Any mineral extraction activities will be conducted to prevent impacts to the wetland mitigation areas. The design of mining operations will be conducted such that recreational use of the site will be improved following the cessation of mineral extraction consistent with the Lake Belt Plan. This will include vegetated littoral shelves in any created lakes, haul roads converted to trails, and other improvements that provide additional access to the Park.

Fire Management

The long term viability of Miami-Dade County's and the Park's fire-dependent lands (including marsh communities) depends upon internal and public support of fire management programs. Prescribed burns are typically used to enhance ecosystem functions. Particular attention is given to smoke management and contingency planning, mop-up, and public education and notification. The Office of Safety, Miami-Dade County Risk Management, is involved in assessing prescribed fire needs. All personnel involved with prescribed burning are required to be adequately trained and equipped to participate in prescribed fire activities. Appropriate management of risk associated with fire management is vital to the future of prescribed fire applications in the County.

The marsh systems within the Park historically burned every 6-8 years as part of region wide natural fires. Installation of roads, canals, and other features in the region have fragmented the regional system, which limits natural ignition sources and adds safety concerns for successful burn implementation. Although fire is a desirable management technique for the Park, application is problematic. The site is not currently programmed for prescribed fire because of the continuity of vegetation of the Park with adjacent parcels, lack of defined firebreaks due to wetland conditions, dense stands of highly flammable melaleuca, and proximity to Krome Avenue, which could create hazardous driving conditions due to smoke. There are no current plans to implement prescribed fire in the Park. In case of a wildfire in the area, the FFS will control and manage the fire.

In 2004, a wildfire burned the entire property. This fire originated south of the Park but quickly moved north through the area due to large quantities of natural fuel present and the windy conditions of that day. The results of the 2004 wildfire were positive: large amounts of natural fuels burned, melaleuca seedlings and other exotic invasive vegetation were killed and kept under control, and additional access was gained for management of the area.

Arthropod Control

Damage to, and the loss of, native insect fauna such as rare butterflies has been attributed in part to insecticidal sprays used in attempts to control mosquito populations surrounding the Park. County staff will continue to monitor impacts to the natural areas and associated insect fauna as a result of County Mosquito Control operations. An arthropod control plan has been established for the Park (**Attachment K**).

C.4 Cultural Resource Management

Objective 1-C: Identify and protect cultural resources within the entire 618-acre tract.

A Phase I Archaeological Assessment shall be conducted prior to any improvements or any ground disturbing activities, particularly mining. This assessment is intended to provide a description of the archaeological resources within the subject area through a combination of documentary research, surface reconnaissance, and subsurface testing. The survey should result in the

discovery of unrecorded sites, but the goal of a Phase I survey is to identify both archaeological and historical resources within the park and to record all findings with the Florida Master Site File.

Depending on future the use of the property, a Phase II archaeological survey may be warranted. This survey involves an intensive study of individual sites through techniques designed to reveal information on site boundaries, stratification, past environmental conditions, artifact inventory, and chronology, among others. The goal of this investigation is to provide sufficient evidence to relate a site to others in the local area, region, state, or nation. It will also help assess eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The assessment shall be conducted in accordance with cultural resource requirements set forth in Florida’s Chapters 267 and 373, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties), and shall conform to the specification of FAC Chapter 1A-46, Archaeological and Historical Report Standards and Guidelines. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the federal agency responsible for Section 106 review as it pertains to the Lake Belt mining. Under existing USACE permits, no impacts on archaeological resources are allowed by mining activities in the Lake Belt. Close coordination with USACE is required.

C.5 Management Budget and Timetable

Exotic vegetation management occurs annually in approximately 130 acres of restored wetlands. The work is performed by a Natural Areas Management team of six to seven employees and a landscape supervisor during the dry season/winter months because lower water levels improve access. The work is overseen by a Natural Areas Management biologist, who also is charged with report preparation for the Park. Approximately \$25,000 is currently allocated annually to complete these management efforts.

There are two reports the State of Florida requires for the Park:

1. Annual Monitoring and Progress Report. This report includes the photo point report and notes invasive species and wildlife on the property, a copy of which is included (without photos) as **Attachment L**.
2. Comprehensive monitoring report, completed every 5 years.

The 38-acre motocross track is currently operated by a vendor that is responsible for management costs. The county intends to issue a new RFP for operations of the motocross track and associated maintenance of the Park following the completion of earthwork in the park to remove undesirable soils. The motocross operations are expected to generate a revenue stream that will be collected by the MDPROS Operations Division. Additional revenue information and operating costs of vendor will be determined once a vendor is chosen for long-term management of the Park.

C.6 Land Management Review

Section 259.036, FS, established land management review teams to determine whether conservation, preservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and in accordance with their approved land management plans.

At less than 1,000 total acres, the Park does not meet the size threshold for the land management review requirement.

C.7 Statement of Purpose

Consistent with definitions found in FS 253.034, the Park was acquired for the multiple-use purpose of natural and historical preservation and education, active recreation and passive recreation. Additional activities may consist of mineral extraction consistent with the Lake Belt plan.

C.8 Private Land Manager Evaluation

The use of private land managers to conduct management of the Park was analyzed. The management, including security and maintenance of recreational facilities, is anticipated to be provided by a private vendor. Mineral extraction, if conducted in the next 10 years would be conducted by a private manager. It is anticipated that management of natural resources will continue to be conducted by MDPROS unless case-by-case assessments dictate a different approach.

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LAND USE COMPONENT



This component of the management plan includes a brief record of the external conditions and the recreational potential of the unit. Existing uses, facilities, special conditions on use, and specific areas within the Park that will be given special protection are identified. The land use component summarizes the current conceptual general plan for the Park, in which the existing or proposed activities suited to the resource base of the Park are identified. Any new facilities needed to support the proposed activities are described and located in general terms.

A. External Conditions

An assessment of the conditions that exist beyond the boundaries of the Park can identify any special development problems or opportunities that exist because of the Park's unique setting or environment. This also provides an opportunity to deal systematically with various planning issues such as location, regional demographics, adjacent land uses and park interaction with other facilities.

The Park is located within the Lake Belt of Miami-Dade County. Much of the lands in the vicinity of the Park consist of marshes and wet prairies exhibiting varying levels of exotic species cover similar to the Park. These include the wetland systems in Water Conservation Area 3B to the west. A number of lakes resulting from historical mining activities occur to the east of the site, while rural residential areas occur to the northeast of the Park east of US-27. The exotic species in adjacent lands provide recruitment sources for exotic species that pose a continual maintenance threat.

Miami-Dade County's population is working class, predominantly young, and diverse culturally. More than 60 percent of residents identify as Hispanic or Latino, while one-fifth identify as black and one-fifth as non-Hispanic white. Furthermore, more than half of the population is under the age of 40, and only one-fifth is over the age of 60. Nearly two-thirds of the population is of working age (16 to 65) (U.S. Census Bureau 2009). The per capita personal income for Miami-Dade County was \$22,957 in 2010, slightly lower than the statewide average of \$26,551.

Out of Florida's 67 counties, Miami-Dade ranks first in total population and fourth in population density, respectively (BEBR 2010). More than 2.5 million people lived in the county in 2009, accounting for nearly 14 percent of the statewide population (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). Census information indicates that between 2000 and 2009, the population of Miami-Dade grew by approximately 11 percent (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). This rate is slower than the statewide average of 16 percent during the same period, but congruent with medium to high population projection estimates (BEBR 2010). If the county continues to grow at the current rate, the population will exceed three million by the year 2030 (BEBR 2010).

A.1 Existing Use of Adjacent Lands

The site is adjacent to state Water Conservation Area 3-B, and contains a fairly well-preserved wetland marsh prairie. The site is also located within the District's regional mitigation area known as the Pennsuco wetlands, or Cell 26 of the East Coast Buffer project. Adjacent conservation lands are larger in scale than the Park and are designated as preserved lands and mitigation areas. Lands to the east have historically been mined for limestone. Rural residential neighborhoods occur to the northeast of US-27.

A.2 Planned Use of Adjacent Lands

Lands surrounding the Park are designated as environmental protection and open land by the Adopted 2015 and 2025 Land Use Plan for Miami-Dade County. The lands are included within the Lake Belt Plan, which addresses potential mineral extraction zones.

B. Property Analysis

A thorough understanding of the Park's natural resources is required for effective planning. This section describes the resource characteristics and existing uses of the property. Recreation resource elements are examined to identify the opportunities and constraints they present for recreational development. Past and present uses are assessed for their effects on the property, compatibility with the site, and relation to the unit's classification.

B.1 Recreation Resource Elements

This section assesses the recreation resource elements of the Park, which includes those physical qualities that, either singly or in certain combinations, support the various resource-based recreation activities. Breaking down the property into such elements provides a means for measuring the property’s capability to support individual recreation activities. This process also analyzes the existing spatial factors that either favor or limit the provision of each activity.

Land Area

One natural community is represented in the Park along with one developed area. The presence and health of the Park’s natural communities are largely due to restoration efforts conducted by the Natural Areas Management Division of MDPROS in cooperation with the PWWMD. Eradication of exotic wetland plants has restored the landscape within portions of the Park to its natural state. The journey of the wetlands from natural, to disturbed, and then restored in some portions provides an exceptional interpretive opportunity for park visitors. Both management zones; restored wetlands and preserved wetlands, should be included in this interpretation.

Water Area

Three dredged lakes within the Park boundary enhance possible resource-based recreation activities. Sediment control efforts associated with the motocross track have been implemented to protect water quality of these lakes. Dredged lakes totaling seven acres were initially intended to be stocked fishing areas for visiting campers. The lakes offer opportunity for wildlife observation, canoe and kayak launching. The Everglades marshes provide important habitat for wading birds and other creatures. The sawgrass wetland area is not accessible for visitors, but views allow for natural areas wildlife observation.

Natural Scenery

Views of the restored native wetlands are an exceptional visual resource at the Park. Noxious, exotic wetland species are major visual intrusions that can be seen in and outside of the Park.



Restored views within the Park

Significant Wildlife Habitat

The Park’s value to native wildlife also provides important interpretive opportunities for visitors. Allowing visitors to learn about and view species in their native habitats provides opportunities to increase awareness of the organisms that use the historical Everglades system and educating visitors about potential impacts and the importance of species preservation.

Over the past two decades, 130 acres of the Park’s natural areas have undergone substantial restoration. Today, restored natural areas are monitored by MDPROS staff and efforts are made to maintain these areas in good condition. This vigilance makes the site vital to a large number of native species.

Archaeological and Historic Features

The site has not been surveyed, so if any significant historical or cultural resources are found in a future survey, DHR will be contacted and the Master Site File will be updated.

B.2 Assessment of Use

Legal boundaries, significant natural features, structures, facilities, roads and trails existing in the Park are delineated on the base map (see **Map 6** - Base Map). Specific uses are briefly described in the following sections.

Past Uses

Since being leased by Miami-Dade County in 1962, the site has been cleared and three lakes dredged. After

clearing of the site, the Park was used as a campground for primitive camping and recreational vehicle camping. The Park had good attendance levels as a camp site until the late 1980s. A NEXRAD radar station for monitoring wind and precipitation was approved in 1987, and another station for ozone level monitoring was approved in 1988. In the 1990s, a portion of the property was reserved for mitigation by the PWWMD. An investment of \$1.7 million was used to restore and preserve 130 acres of natural area of the Park. Annual maintenance of the mitigation area still takes place today. In 2006, a lease was granted to a vendor for a motocross track in the 38 acres of developed area previously used as a campground.

Future Land Use and Zoning

The adopted 2015 and 2025 Land Use Plan for Miami-Dade County, Florida designates the site as “Parks and Recreation.” According to county policy, parks shall be used for public park purposes only consistent with code.

Current Recreation Use and Visitor Programs

Much of the Park is preserved or restored wetland, while 38 acres is currently in use as a motocross track. In 2006, the Department granted a one-year temporary permit for a motocross track, and the permit has since been renewed on a month-to-month basis. A ½-mile long, dirt motocross track with a bridge jump and tunnel, turns, moguls, and jumps was developed. The motocross track is designed for a moderate difficulty level of rider, and provides enjoyment for OHV riders of all ability levels. Track time is shared between motocross riders and all-terrain vehicle riders. Motocross lessons are taught by the vendor manager. The feasibility of providing OHV trails outside of the motocross track will be evaluated relative to mitigation requirements, natural systems management, improvement requirements, site security, liability, and revenue generation. The 1,343 square-foot building adjacent to the motocross track was renovated for use as restrooms and an overlook viewing area for spectators. Twenty-four hour security and management staff are provided by the vendor. The vendor ensures that motocross riders do not ride into the adjacent wetland marsh prairie. Since the track opened, the vendor has implemented sediment control and re-graded the track.

MDPROS contacted the Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ), Metropolitan Planning Section, to ensure that use of the property as a motocross track is consistent

with the County’s Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). A meeting between staff from both departments was held on January 17, 2008 to discuss the property, its recreational use history, and current proposed use. The DPZ issued a determination by memorandum in March 2008, included as **Attachment M**, that motocross activities on the northwestern 38 acres of Park and the retention of the remainder of the site as a wetland nature preserve are consistent with the “Parks and Recreation” designation on the Land Use Plan map and the text of the Miami-Dade County CDMP.

Incompatible Uses

Incompatible uses for the Park include timber harvesting, hunting, horseback riding, a gun range, recreational OHV use outside of the designated area inconsistent with the feasibility study for additional OHV use, and mountain biking (except on approved roadways). The potential of the Park to accommodate secondary management purposes was analyzed during the development of this plan. Secondary purposes such as water resource development, water supply projects, stormwater management, linear facilities, and sustainable forestry and/or agriculture are not consistent with this plan. Mineral extraction was considered consistent with the purposes of the plan so long as they are consistent with the Lake Belt Plan for County-wide mineral extraction. The lakes and landscape features resulting from mineral extraction would provide additional recreational opportunities consistent with the original lease and the Parks and Open Space Master Plan.

Protected Zones

A protected zone is an area of high sensitivity or outstanding character from which most types of development are excluded as a protective measure. Generally, facilities requiring extensive land alternation or resulting in intensive resource use, such as parking lots, camping areas, shops or maintenance areas, are not permitted in protected zones. Facilities with minimal resource impacts, such as trails, interpretive signs and boardwalks are generally allowed. All decisions involving the use of protected zones are made on a case-by-case basis after careful site planning and analysis.

The mitigation zone and additional restoration areas are noted on the Conceptual Development Plan and are protected zones for the Park.

Map 6: Base Map



Revenue Generation Evaluation

The potential for generating revenue to fund enhanced management of the Park was also evaluated. Lease revenue from a vendor generated through visitor fees is currently the principal source of revenue. Additional multiple-use activities such as exotic species removal for mitigation activities and mineral extraction may also be appropriate revenue sources for management of the Park.

B.3 Existing Facilities

Existing facilities on site include the parking lots, motocross tracks for children and adults, and restrooms as shown on **Map 6** – Base Map. A circle loop drive extends throughout the 38 acres of the developed area and provides access to parking and the motocross tracks. There is a parking lot near the tracks. The eastern side of the developed area houses the adult and children’s motocross track. Restrooms are located between the two tracks. A trailer for vendor offices and equipment is also located on site.

Recreation Facilities

Recreational facilities are concentrated in one area: the northwest 38 acres of the Park. Facilities include a motocross track system with MX style elements, a motocross pit area and a children’s motocross track for beginners.

Support Facilities

Support facilities are concentrated in one area: the northwest 38 acres of the Park as well. Facilities in the area include entry roads, parking and concessions.

B.4 Accomplishments

Since the site was acquired by Miami-Dade County in 1962, the site has had many changes for the use of recreation. The following changes to the site occurred:

- 1966 – Dredging of three lakes to produce fill for 38 acres as a campground for primitive camping;
- 1966 – A 1,343 square foot restroom/shelter was built;
- 1994 – Monitoring and removal of exotic vegetation of the site is initiated on the 130-acre mitigation

area;

- 1999-Present – The 30-acre mitigation area has been maintained;
- 2001 – A portion of the restroom was destroyed by fire and vandalism;
- 2006 – A lease was signed to allow a vendor to use a portion of the site for a motocross track; and
- 2011 – Sediment control around the motocross track was begun.

C. Conceptual General Plan

The conceptual land use proposal for this Park documents the planned uses for the site. As new information is provided regarding the environment of the park and recreational uses, the conceptual land use plan may be amended to address the new conditions (see **Map 7** - Conceptual General Plan). A detailed development plan for the Park and a site plan for specific facilities will be developed based on this conceptual land use plan, as funding becomes available.

The conceptual land use plan described here is the long-term, optimal development plan for the Park, based on current conditions and knowledge of the Park’s resources and landscape. The development plan will be reassessed during the next update of the park management plan and modified to address new conditions, as needed.

During the development of the management plan, Miami-Dade assessed potential impacts of proposed uses or development on the park resources and applied that analysis to decisions on the future physical plan of the Park as well as the scale and character of proposed development. All new facilities will be designed and constructed using best management practices to avoid impacts and to mitigate those that cannot be avoided. Federal, state and local permit and regulatory requirements will be met by the final design of the projects. This includes the design of all new park facilities consistent with the universal access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The planned uses are consistent with the State Lands Management Plan.

C.1 Potential Uses

Potential uses on site are motocross, conservation, passive recreation and mineral extraction.

Map 7: Conceptual General Plan



C.2 Proposed Facilities

Objective 2-A: Improve the ability of the site to support active recreation.

Objective 2-B: Provide access for passive use of the site.

The general plan identifies several potential facilities that will be evaluated for implementation based on staffing and public need. These include:

- A pavilion and parking area near the entrance to provide additional venues for passive recreation, including trail access and fishing within the dredged lakes;
- Hiking trails along the margins of the restoration areas on existing field roads to provide pedestrian access to the site; and
- The potential area for mineral extraction that occurs east and south of the yellow and/or red lines on the general plan depicting distances of 3500 feet or one mile, respectively, from Krome Avenue.

C.3 Facilities Development

Preliminary costs for the pavilion and parking area are estimated to be \$20,000 by the County. Specific costs will be determined at the time of design and construction of these improvements.

C.4 Additional Considerations

C.4.1 Property that Warrants Acquisition

At this time, there is no property adjacent to the Park for which acquisition is warranted to enhance the resource restoration or value of the property. The majority of the adjacent properties is in the ownership of the State of Florida and contribute to the District East Coast Buffer project.

C.4.2 Property Conflicting with or Threatening Planned Use

At this time, there is no property adjacent to the Park which threatens or conflicts with the planned use of this site. Adjacent properties on all four sides are wetland marsh prairies.

C.4.3 Determination of Surplus Property

At this time, a determination of land for surplus property is not applicable. The Department is currently using the site for recreation and preservation purposes, and does not intend to request that any of the acreage be deemed surplus.

C.5 Determination of Consistency

A ruling on whether or not proposed activities in the Park are consistent with the Comprehensive Development Master Plan determined that the off-road motocross track on a portion of the Park is consistent. Further information about the consistency with the Miami-Dade County CDMP can be found in **Attachment M**. The proposed plan is consistent with the State Lands Management Plan.

C.6 Optimum Boundary

The optimum boundary for the Park consists of the existing boundary. No additional lands are required to meet the management purpose of the Park. As additional needs are identified through park use, development, or research, and changes to land use on adjacent private property occurs, modification of the Park's optimum boundary may be necessary.

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IMPLEMENTATION COMPONENT



The implementation component addresses the administrative goal for the Park through the establishment of budgets, schedules, and priority management activities. Estimated costs for the ten-year period of this plan are provided for each action and objective, and the costs are summarized under standard categories of land management activities.

A. Management Progress

A management plan for the Park has not been submitted prior to this current plan.

B. Management Plan Implementation

This management plan is written for a timeframe of ten years, as required by Section 253.034 FS. The Ten-Year Implementation Schedules and Cost Estimates summarize the management goals, objectives and actions that are recommended for implementation over this period. A timeframe for completing each objective and action is provided. Preliminary cost estimates for each action

are provided and the estimated total costs to complete each objective are computed. The ability to complete any identified objectives and actions outlined in the management plan is contingent on the availability of funding and other resources being available for the purposes specified.

B.1 Schedule of Land Management Activities

The schedule shall include for each activity a timeline for completion, quantitative measures, and detailed expense and manpower budgets. The schedule shall provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures.

B.2 Summary Budget for Land Management Activities

1. Annually monitor and treat 130 acres of mitigation wetlands to remove exotic species - \$25,000 /yr
2. Conduct a Phase 1 cultural resources assessment - \$5,000
3. Develop a wild land fire plan - \$2,500
4. Construction an pavilion and associated parking area - \$20,000
5. Passive recreation plan development - \$2,500

Table 2: Schedule of Land Management Activities

How to Use: goals and objectives are identified above each corresponding table of activities. Priority activities are highlighted in green. Short-term is defined as less than two (2) years. Long-term is two (2) or more years.

Goal 1: Preserve and maintain natural and cultural resources.

Objective 1A: Comply with the mitigation requirements of the Army Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District, and Miami-Dade County permits intended to restore and protect wetland resources on the 130-acre mitigation area.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Document regulatory criteria for mineral extraction, including limitations on blasting in the vicinity of Krome Avenue levee.	Yes		Yes	< 2 yrs.
Continue discussions with mine operators to understand the needs for quality minerals.	Yes			< 2 yrs.

Objective 1B: Remove/Control exotic species in the natural areas outside of the mitigation area and motocross track.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Identify opportunities to expand mitigation activities to remove exotic species		Yes		< 2 yrs.

Objective 1C: Identify and protect cultural resources within the entire 618-acre tract.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Conduct a Phase I archaeological assessment.	Yes		Yes	< 2 yrs.
Document findings of the Phase I assessment and update the Florida Master Site Files with the results of the assessment.		Yes		< 10 yrs.
Protect cultural resources, and if appropriate, make these resources a Park attraction.		Yes		On-Going

Goal 2: Provide unique active and passive recreation opportunities in the Park.

Objective 2A: Improve the ability of the site to support active recreation.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Pursue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a private vendor to operate the OHV facility.	Yes		Yes	<2 years
Determine the feasibility of providing OHV trails outside of the motocross track relative to mitigation requirements, natural systems management, improvement requirements, site security, liability, and revenue generation.	Yes			0-2 yrs
Provide a venue for OHV training pursuant to Florida Statute 261.20 (3).	Yes	Yes		5-10+ yrs
Ensure compatibility with, and begin implementing the Western Greenway and Blueway embodied in the Open Space Master Plan.		Yes	Yes	5-10+ yrs
Evaluate additional active recreational activities consistent with the Lake Belt Plan when the Lake Belt Plan is implemented.		Yes		5-10+ yrs

Objective 2B: Provide access for passive use of the site.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Develop a plan to implement facilities to support passive uses of the site.	Yes			<2 yrs
Provide vehicular and pedestrian access for passive uses within the context of the Park as an individual parcel.		Yes		3-5 yrs
Identify additional long-term recreational and cultural interpretation opportunities for the site based on final plans for mineral distraction.		Yes		5-10+ yrs
Evaluate additional passive recreational activities consistent with the Lake Belt Plan when the Lake Belt Plan is implemented.		Yes		5-10+ yrs

Goal 3: Consider the potential for the transfer of mineral rights consistent with the Lake Belt Plan.

Objective 3A: Define the area of potential mineral extraction.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Document regulatory criteria for mineral extraction, including limitations on blasting in the vicinity of Krome Avenue levee.	Yes		Yes	< 2 yrs.
Continue discussions with mine operators to understand the needs for quality minerals.	Yes			< 2 yrs.

Objective 3B: Assure the extraction of minerals is consistent with local and regional goals for natural and cultural resource protection and enhancement.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Ensure the mining contractor develops a plan to assure that operations will not compromise natural resource values beyond the areas of disturbance from mining operations.		Yes		3-10+ yrs
Ensure the mining contractor signs a written agreement that indemnifies the State of Florida and the County should any mining operations negatively impact natural resources at the site. The signed agreement would also provide that the mining contractor restore any natural resources that are degraded due to unforeseen deleterious effects of mining.		Yes		3-10+ yrs
Ensure the mining contractor develops a plan for restoration in the areas of the Park dominated by melaleuca that will not be disturbed by mining operations.		Yes		3-10+ yrs
Ensure the mining contractor funds a Phase II survey to identify potential archaeological sites in areas of potential disturbance from mining operations, and use these data to establish a cultural resource protection plan for future mining activities.		Yes		3-10+ yrs

Objective 3C: Assure that the extraction of minerals is consistent with local and regional goals for providing active and passive recreation.

Activity	Short-Term	Long-Term	Priority	Year/Frequency
Ensure the mining contractor develops and fund a plan to promote water-based active and passive recreation amenities and supporting infrastructure.		Yes		3-10+ yrs
Ensure the mining contractor constructs shallow slopes around mined lake edges to assure safety of potential users after completion of mining activities.		Yes		>10 yrs.
Ensure the mining contractor plans and develops roads for mining operations that will function as future park roads or recreation compatible trails.		Yes		>10 yrs.

MANAGEMENT PLAN: ATTACHMENTS

EXHIBIT A: Management Plan Compliance Checklist – Natural Resource Lands

Management Plan Compliance Checklist - Natural Resource Lands	
Requirements	Page Numbers
18-2.021 Acquisition and Restoration Council.	
1. Executive Summary	8
Management Plans. Plans submitted to the division for ARC review under the requirements of Section 253.034 F.S. should be in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the board and in accordance with the provisions of S. 259.032 and should contain where applicable to the management of resources the following:	
2. The common name of the property.	8
3. A map showing the location and boundaries of the property plus any structures or improvements to the property.	11
4. The legal description and acreage of the property.	14
5. The degree of title interest held by the Board, including reservations and encumbrances such as leases.	15
6. The land acquisition program, if any, under which the property was acquired.	15
7. The designated single use or multiple use management for the property, including other managing agencies.	15
8. Proximity of property to other significant State/local/federal land or water resources.	26
9. A statement as to whether the property is within an Aquatic Preserve or a designated Area of Critical State Concern or an area under study for such designation. If yes, make sure appropriate managing agencies are notified of the plan.	14
10. The location and description of known and reasonably identifiable renewable and non-renewable resources of the property including, but not limited to, the following:	
A. Brief description of soil types, using U. S. D. A. maps when available;	28
B. Archaeological and historical resources*;	32
C. Water resources including the water quality classification for each water body and the identification of any such water body that is designated as an Outstanding Florida Waters;	28
D. Fish and wildlife and their habitat;	30
E. State and federally listed endangered or threatened species and their habitat;	32
F. Beaches and dunes;	N/A
G. Swamps, marshes and other wetlands;	30
H. Mineral resources, such as oil, gas and phosphate;	28
I. Unique natural features, such as coral reefs, natural springs, caverns, large sinkholes, virgin timber stands, scenic vistas, and natural rivers and streams; and	N/A
J. Outstanding native landscapes containing relatively unaltered flora, fauna, and geological conditions.	30
11. A description of actions the agency plans , to locate and identify unknown resources such as surveys of unknown archeological and historical resources.	32

EXHIBIT A: Management Plan Compliance Checklist – Natural Resource Lands

12.	The identification of resources on the property that are listed in the Florida Natural Areas Inventory.	32
13.	A description of past uses, including any unauthorized uses of the property. (Example #4)	43
14.	A detailed description of existing and planned use(s) of the property. (Example #5)	46
15.	A description of alternative or multiple uses of the property considered by the managing agency and an explanation of why such uses were not adopted.	44
16.	A detailed assessment of the impact of planned uses on the renewable and non-renewable resources of the property and a detailed description of the specific actions that will be taken to protect, enhance and conserve these resources and to mitigate damage caused by such uses.	44
17.	A description of management needs and problems for the property.	30
18.	Identification of adjacent land uses that conflict with the planned use of the property, if any.	48
19.	A description of legislative or executive directives that constrain the use of such property.	21
20.	A finding regarding whether each planned use complies with the State Lands Management Plan adopted by the Trustees on March 17, 1981, and incorporated herein by reference, particularly whether such uses represent "balanced public utilization", specific agency statutory authority, and other legislative or executive constraints.	46
21.	An assessment as to whether the property, or any portion, should be declared surplus.	48
22.	Identification of other parcels of land within or immediately adjacent to the property that should be purchased because they are essential to management of the property. Clearly defined map of parcels can be used.	48
23.	A description of the management responsibilities of each agency and how such responsibilities will be coordinated, including a provision that requires that the managing agency consult with the Division of Archives, History and Records Management before taking actions that may adversely affect archaeological or historic resources. (Example #6)	20
24.	A statement concerning the extent of public involvement and local government participation in the development of the plan, if any, including a summary of comments and concerns expressed. (Example #7)	20
Additional Requirements—Per Trustees		
25.	Letter of Compliance of the management plan with the Local Government Comprehensive Plan. Letter from local government saying that the plan is in compliance with local government's comprehensive plan.	44
253.034 State-Owned Lands; Uses. —Each entity managing conservation lands shall submit to the Division of State Lands a land management plan at least every 10 years in a form and manner prescribed by rule by the Board.		
26.	All management plans, whether for single-use or multiple-use properties, shall specifically describe how the managing entity plans to identify, locate, protect and preserve, or otherwise use fragile nonrenewable resources, such as archaeological and historic sites, as well as other fragile resources, including endangered plant and animal species.	38
27.	The management plan shall provide for the conservation of soil and water resources and for the control and prevention of soil erosion.	37
28.	Land management plans submitted by an entity shall include reference to appropriate statutory authority for such use or uses and shall conform to the appropriate polices and guidelines of the state land management plan.	21,46
29.	All land management plans for parcels larger than 1,000 acres shall contain an analysis of the multiple-use potential of the parcel, which analysis shall include the potential of the parcel to generate revenues to enhance the management of the parcel.	N/A
30.	Additionally, the land management plan shall contain an analysis of the potential use of private managers to facilitate the restoration or management of these lands.	39
31.	A physical description of the land.	26
32.	A desired outcome	30

EXHIBIT A: Management Plan Compliance Checklist – Natural Resource Lands

33. A quantitative data description of the land which includes an inventory of forest and other natural resources; exotic and invasive plants; hydrological features; infrastructure, including recreational facilities; and other significant land, cultural, or historical features.	30
34. A detailed description of each short-term and long-term land management goal, the associated measurable objectives, and the related activities that are to be performed to meet the land management objectives. Each land management objective must be addressed by the land management plan, and where practicable, no land management objective shall be performed to the detriment of the other land management activities.	33
35. A schedule of land management activities which contains short-term and long-term land management goals and the related measurable objectives and activities. The schedule shall include for each activity a timeline for completion, quantitative measures, and detailed expense and manpower budgets. The schedule shall provide a management tool that facilitates development of performance measures.	52
36. A summary budget for the scheduled land management activities of the land management plan. For state lands containing or anticipated to contain imperiled species habitat, the summary budget shall include any fees anticipated from public or private entities for projects to offset adverse impacts to imperiled species or such habitats, which fees shall be used solely to restore, manage, enhance, repopulate, or acquire imperiled species habitat. The summary budget shall be prepared in such a manner that it facilitates computing an aggregate of land management costs for all state-managed lands using the categories described in s. 259.037(3).	52
37. Each management plan shall describe both short-term and long-term management goals, and include measurable objectives to achieve those goals. <i>Short-term and long-term management goals shall include measurable objectives for the following, as appropriate:</i>	34
(A) Habitat restoration and improvement;	34
(B) Public access and recreational opportunities;	34
(C) Hydrological preservation and restoration;	34
(D) Sustainable forest management;	N/A
(E) Exotic and invasive species maintenance and control;	34
(F) Capital facilities and infrastructure;	34
(G) Cultural and historical resources;	34
(H) Imperiled species habitat maintenance, enhancement, restoration, or population restoration	34
253.036 Forest Management. —	
38. For all land management plans for parcels larger than 1,000 acres, the lead agency shall prepare the analysis, which shall contain a component or section prepared by a qualified professional forester which assesses the feasibility of managing timber resources on the parcel for resource conservation and revenue generation purposes through a stewardship ethic that embraces sustainable forest management practices if the lead management agency determines that the timber resource management is not in conflict with the primary management objectives of the parcel. (Example #8)	N/A
259.032 Conservation And Recreation Lands Trust Fund; Purpose. —	
(10)(a) State, regional or local governmental agencies or private entities designated to manage lands under this section shall develop and adopt, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, an individual management plan for each project designed to conserve and protect such lands and their associated natural resources. Private sector involvement in management plan development may be used to expedite the planning process.	
39. Individual management plans required by s. 259.032(10)(b), for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group - Management plan should list advisory group members and affiliations.	21
40. The advisory group shall conduct at least one public hearing in each county in which the parcel or project is located. Managing agency should provide DSL/OES with documentation showing date and location of public hearing.	21

EXHIBIT A: Management Plan Compliance Checklist – Natural Resource Lands

41. Notice of such public hearing shall be posted on the parcel or project designated for management, advertised in a paper of general circulation, and announced at a scheduled meeting of the local governing body before the actual public hearing. Managing agency should provide DSL/OES with copy of notice.	21
42. The management prospectus required pursuant to 259.032 (9)(d) shall be available to the public for a period of 30 days prior to the public hearing.	21
43. Summary of Advisory Group Meeting should be provided to DSL/OES.	21
44. Individual management plans shall conform to the appropriate policies and guidelines of the state land management plan and shall include, but not be limited to:	
A. A statement of the purpose for which the lands were acquired, the projected use or uses as defined in s. 253.034, and the statutory authority for such use or uses.	14
B. Key management activities necessary to achieve the desired outcomes, including, but not limited to, providing public access, preserving and protecting natural resources, protecting cultural and historical resources, restoring habitat, protecting threatened and endangered species, controlling the spread of nonnative plants and animals, performing prescribed fire activities, and other appropriate resource management activities.	35
C. A specific description of how the managing agency plans to identify, locate, protect, and preserve, or otherwise use fragile, nonrenewable natural and cultural resources.	38
D. A priority schedule for conducting management activities, based on the purposes for which the lands were acquired. (Example #10) The schedule must include a goal, an objective, and a time frame for completion.	52
E. A cost estimate for conducting priority management activities, to include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities. <i>Using categories as adopted pursuant to 259.037, F.S., is suggested. These are: (1) Resource Management; (2) Administration; (3) Support; (4) Capital Improvements; (5) Visitor Services/Recreation; and (6) Law Enforcement.</i>	52
F. A cost estimate for conducting other management activities which would enhance the natural resource value or public recreation value for which the lands were acquired. The cost estimate shall include recommendations for cost-effective methods of accomplishing those activities. <i>Using categories as adopted pursuant to 259.037, F.S., is suggested. These are: (1) Resource Management; (2) Administration; (3) Support; (4) Capital Improvements; (5) Visitor Services/Recreation; and (6) Law Enforcement. (Example #10) Include approximate monetary cost and cost effective methods. Can be placed in the appendix.</i>	52
45. A determination of the public uses and public access that would be consistent with the purposes for which the lands were acquired.	44
259.036 Management Review Teams.—	
46. The managing agency shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required 10-year update of its management plan. <i>Can be addressed in the body of the plan or addressed in an appendix. If not in agreement, the managing agency should reply in a statement in the appendix.</i>	N/A
Other Requirements	
47. This checklist table at front of plan (pursuant to request of ARC and consensus agreement of managing agencies.)	56
48. Accomplishments (implementation) from last plan (format variable by agency)	46
49. FNAI-based natural community maps (may differ from FNAI in some cases)	31
50. Fire management plans (either by inclusion or reference)(259.032)	38
51. A statement regarding incompatible uses [ref. Ch. 253.034 (9)]	44
52. Cultural resources, including maps of all sites <u>except Native American sites*</u>	38
53. Arthropod control plan	38

ATTACHMENT A: PERMIT #3518 LETTER

DUPLICATE

Attachment D
F.C.D. PERMIT NO. 3518

(NON-ASSIGNABLE)

FEB 1 1968

DATE ISSUED

AUTHORIZING:

- A PUBLIC BOAT RAMP AND PARKING LOT TO BE BUILT AND
- MAINTAINED BY THE FLORIDA STATE ROAD DEPARTMENT ON
- STATE ROAD 27 (LEVEE 30 AND STRUCTURE S-32-A).

LOCATED IN Dade COUNTY SECTION 16 TWP. 52S RGE. 39E

ISSUED TO: Metropolitan Dade County Park and Recreation Department
(Owner) 50 S. W. 32nd Road
Miami, Florida 33129
Attention: Charles W. Pezoldt,
Ph.D., Chief of Operations

This permit is issued pursuant to Application for Permit No. 8250 dated Sept. 12 1967 and permittee's agreement to hold and save the Flood Control District and its successors harmless from any and all damages, claims, or liabilities which may arise by reason of the construction, operation, maintenance, or use of the work or structure involved in the permit. Said application, including all plans and specifications attached thereto, is by reference made a part hereof.

This permit may be cancelled upon thirty (30) days written notice to the permittee or under emergency circumstances as set forth in *Standards of Construction and Permit Procedures*, with which permittee is put on notice.

This Permit does not convey to permittee any property rights nor any rights or privileges other than those specified herein, nor relieve the permittee from complying with any law, regulation or requirement affecting the rights of other bodies or agencies. All structures and works installed by permittee hereunder shall remain the property of the permittee.

WORK PROPOSED, WILL BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE JULY 31 1968 otherwise, this permit is voided and all rights thereunder are automatically cancelled unless an extension to the construction period is applied for and granted.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ISSUANCE RECOMMENDED:

Engineering: WCB
By: WMM

Maintenance & Operation
By: AKZ UN

CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT, BY ITS
GOVERNING BOARD
Original Signed

by G. E. Dail, Jr.
Secretary

ATTACHMENT B: CANCELLED PERMIT #3518 LETTER



Attachment F

 METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT • 50 SW 32 ROAD • MIAMI, FLORIDA 33129

July 13, 1992

Mr. Tilford C. Creel, Executive Director
 South Florida Water Management District
 3301 Gun Club Road
 P.O. Box 24680
 West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680

RE: Cancellation of Permits #2583, 3518 and 1805

Dear Mr. Creel:

It has come to the attention of this Department that the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission intends to eliminate the Fish Management Area status of the Tamiami Canal (L-29) and canals L-30 and L-31. When these permits were issued in the 1960's, the intention was to provide adequately-stocked and managed areas for licensed recreational fishing. The Game and Fish Commission constructed chickee shelters in the area for fishermen and boat ramps. The State Road Department (Now FDOT) agreed to pave the ramps and furnish picnic and other facilities for the area since neither Fish and Game or Park and Recreation were in a position financially to develop the recreation areas. Any trees in the areas came up on their own since no funds were ever budgeted for landscaping.

Therefore, due to the forthcoming elimination of the Fish Management status and continual budget restraints, the Dade County Park and Recreation Department hereby cancels Permits #2583, 3518 and 1805 effective immediately.

Sincerely,

for Bill Bird
 Director

MAW:mkm

NATIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD WINNER FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE FIELD OF PARK AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT

ATTACHMENT C: ORIGINAL LEASE AGREEMENT

Milton E. Thompson

Agenda Item No. 7 (q)
7-17-62

RESOLUTION NO. 7730

RESOLUTION APPROVING PROPOSED LEASE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, COVERING APPROXIMATELY 630.8 ACRES OF LAND TO BE DEVELOPED BY THE COUNTY FOR PUBLIC PARK, RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

WHEREAS, pursuant to the request of the Board of County Commissioners, the Board of Education of the State of Florida has submitted a proposed lease granting to Dade County the perpetual use for public park and public recreational and educational purposes, upon certain conditions, of the following described lands, to-wit:

All that part of Section 16, Township 52 South, Range 39 East which lies South-easterly of the Easterly right of way of State Road #27 (Krome Avenue Extension) containing 630.8 acres more or less, subject to that certain right of way easement granted to the Central and Southern Flood Control District, dated July 12, 1961, covering the West 130 feet of Section 16 lying South of the Southeasterly line of the right of way for Laves L-30.

AND, WHEREAS, the County Manager recommends that the County Commission approve said proposed lease and authorize execution thereof on behalf of Dade County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that the proposed lease agreement between the Board of Education of the State of Florida, as lessor, and Dade County, Florida, as lessee (a copy of which said lease is hereto attached and made a part of this Resolution) is hereby approved; and the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Clerk

Agenda Item No. 7 (q)
Page No. 2

or Deputy Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners are hereby authorized and directed to execute said Lease in triplicate for and on behalf of Dade County, and the County Manager is directed to transmit the original and one copy of such executed lease to the State Land Office.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner

Joseph A. Boyd, Jr., who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Milton E. Thompson, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

James H. Allen	Aye
Jack H. Beckwith	Aye
Joseph A. Boyd, Jr.	Aye
Charles F. Hall	Absent
Robert M. Haverfield	Absent
Ben C. McGahey	Aye
Arthur H. Patten, Jr.	Absent
Frank O. Pruitt	Aye
Harold B. Spact	Aye
Milton E. Thompson	Aye
Walter Weiss	Aye
Winston W. Wynne	Aye
Alexander S. Gordon	Aye

The Chairman thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this 17th day of July, 1962.

DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

E. B. LEATHERMAN, CLERK

By: W. F. RUSSELL
Deputy Clerk.

LEASE

This Agreement and Lease made and entered into this 6 day of ^{Aug.} ~~Sept.~~, 1962, by and between the Board of Education of the State of Florida, a component governmental agency hereinafter called the "Lessor" and Dade County, Florida, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, hereinafter called the "Lessee", WITNESSETH:

That the Lessor, for and in consideration of the sum of \$10.00, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, together with the performance by the Lessee of the covenants hereinafter set forth, does hereby grant perpetual lease for public park and public recreational and educational purposes the following described land in Dade County, Florida, to wit:

All that part of Section 16, Township 52 South, Range 39 East which lies southeasterly of the Easterly right of way of State Road #27 (Krome Avenue Extension) containing 630.8 acres more or less, subject to that certain right of way easement granted to the Central and Southern Flood Control District, dated July 12, 1961 covering the West 150 feet of Section 16 lying South of the southeasterly line of the right of way for Levee L-30.

upon the following terms and conditions:

(1) Lessee agrees to expend sufficient funds, to make the leased premises suitable for use as a public park and public recreational and educational area in accordance with the general plan of development submitted to Lessor as prepared by the Dade County Park and Recreation Department, by A. S. Barnes, its Director, dated March 12, 1962, copy of which plan is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof.

(2) Lessee agrees to submit to Lessor an annual report which shall contain complete information concerning the administration, development and the educational and recreational uses for which the leased premises are being made.

(3) Lessee agrees to maintain an accurate system of accounting of all funds derived from the operation of the facilities placed on the leased parcel and present to Lessor at the expiration of each yearly period acceptable evidence that all sums of money received above and beyond the actual sums expended by the county in the development, maintenance and operation of said park, be paid to the State Board of Education to be disposed of as provided in Article XII, Section 4, of the Constitution of the State of Florida, or invested in improvements to be placed upon the leased property for public park and recreational and educational purposes.

(4) Lessor reserves the right to withdraw from the area herein leased the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter whenever this parcel shall be required for public school purposes in the judgment of the Lessor.

(5) This lease does not cover petroleum and petroleum products or minerals and does not give the right to Lessee to drill for and develop the same.

(6) The Lessor, through its duly authorized representative, shall have the right at all times to inspect the premises and works of the Lessee.

(7) This lease shall not be assigned wholly or in part or subleased wholly or in part without formal approval of the assignment or sublease, including all the terms of the said assignment, by Lessor.

(8) Lessee agrees that it will not do or suffer any act which will result in damage to the leased premises.

(9) The Lessee shall be responsible to the Lessor for the reasonable protection of the leased premises against fire and damage therefrom.

(10) It is expressly agreed and understood that the Lessor assumes no liability or obligation to the Lessee, its

agents or tenants, with reference to the condition of the lands and water levels at any time.

(11) Lessee agrees to pay any and all drainage or special assessments of taxes of every sort and description which are now or may be hereafter lawfully assessed against the leased premises.

(12) In the event the land described herein shall cease to be used for the purposes for which it is leased and shall be abandoned by Lessee for a period of three consecutive years, then this lease shall be considered as void at the option of the Lessor and the leasehold herein granted and conveyed shall revert to Lessor.

(13) In the event the land described herein shall be converted and used for other than public park and public recreational and educational purposes as herein set forth, then this lease shall be considered as void at the option of Lessor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the State Board of Education of the State of Florida, pursuant to authorization in action taken by said governmental agency at its meeting held on May 29, 1962, has executed these presents and has caused the seal of the Department of Agriculture of the State of Florida to be affixed hereto and the Lessee has caused these presents to be executed in its name by its Board of County Commissioners, acting by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of said Board, the day and year aforesaid.

STATE OF FLORIDA, By

Javier Beyard (SEAL)
Governor

Tom Adams (SEAL)
Secretary of State

G. Edwin Larson (SEAL)
State Treasurer

Richard W. Lewis (SEAL)
Attorney General

Thomas W. Bailey (SEAL)
Superintendent of Public Instruction

(SEAL, DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE)

As and constituting the State Board of Education of the State of Florida.

LESSORS

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By Its Board of County Commissioners

By Winston H. Hines
Chairman or Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

H. J. Russell
Clerk or Deputy Clerk
Circuit Court

LESSEE

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
Debra A. Quinn
County Clerk

ATTACHMENT D: MILITARY LEASE AGREEMENT

Agenda Item No. 7 (e) (10)
~~XXXXX~~ 1-11-73

RESOLUTION NO. R-65-73

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PERMIT FOR THE USE
OF THOMPSON PARK BY THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXECUTION

WHEREAS, the United States of America has requested that the Board of County Commissioners grant it a permit for the use of Thompson Park from time to time during a two year period from the date of execution of the permit for the use of military personnel engaged in field exercises; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds that such use by the United States of America is required for the public interest and welfare and that the land to be used is not needed for county purposes; and

WHEREAS, by the terms of the permit, the County will receive no rent or other compensation for the granting of such permit; and

WHEREAS, the County Manager and the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department have recommended that such permit be issued and the Manager of the Insurance and Safety Division concurs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that the permit granting the use of Thompson Park to the United States of America, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, is hereby approved and the County Manager and the Clerk of the Board are hereby authorized to execute said permit by and on behalf of Dade County.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner **Mrs. Stanley (Joyce) Goldberg**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Edward T. Graham**, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

JGF/rt/71 a

Agenda Item No. 7 (e) (10)
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Harry P. Cain	Aye
Mike Calhoun	Aye
Edward C. Fogg III	Aye
Mrs. Stanley (Joyce) Goldberg	Aye
Edward T. Graham	Aye
Beverly B. Phillips	Nay
Harvey Ruvin	Nay
Edward T. Stephenson	Aye
John B. Orr, Jr.	Nay

The Mayor thereupon declared the resolution duly passed
11th
and adopted this ~~30th~~ day of January, 1973.

DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD P. BRINKER, CLERK

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency. *JJA*

By: EDWARD D. PHELAN
Deputy Clerk.



Public Open House Meeting

As a part of Miami-Dade County's continuing commitment to public participation in local government, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and the Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department invite area residents to attend a public open house meeting for:

MILTON E. THOMPSON PARK

The purpose of this public open house meeting is to receive public comments regarding the proposed revisions to the management plan for Milton E. Thompson Park. Residents and interested parties are encouraged to attend and participate in the public open house meeting. The meeting will take place at:

**North Trail Park
780 NW 127th Avenue, Miami, FL 33182
December 13th, 2012 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

For more information regarding this project or to view a copy of the plan please contact:

**Eduardo Salcedo, Biologist II
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department
305-257-0933 x 240**

To request material in an accessible format, information on access for persons with disabilities, or sign interpreter services (7 days in advance), call 305-365-6706.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability or family status.

For legal ads online, go to <http://legalads.miamidade.gov>

ATTACHMENT F: PLANT AND WILDLIFE SCIENTIFIC NAMES

Attachment H. Common and Scientific Names of Plant and Wildlife Species Referenced in the 2012 Milton E. Thompson Park Management Plan

Common Name	Scientific Name
alligator	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>
bahia grass	<i>Paspalum notatum</i>
Brazilian pepper	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>
Burmese python	<i>Python lourus bivittatus</i>
buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>
coco plum	<i>Chrysobalanus icaco</i>
coastal plain willow	<i>Salix caroliniana</i>
Florida panther	<i>Puma concolor coryi</i>
gray squirrels	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Gulf-coast spikerush	<i>Eleocharis cellulosa</i>
maidencane	<i>Panicum hemitomon</i>
melaleuca	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>
Old World climbing fern	<i>Lygodium microphyllum</i>
raccoons	<i>Procyon lotor</i>
saltmarsh morning glory	<i>Ipomoea sagittata</i>
sawgrass	<i>Cladium jamaicense</i>
Tracy's beaksedge	<i>Rhynchospora tracyi</i>
white twinevine	<i>Sarcostemma clausum</i>
wild hog	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>

ATTACHMENT G: FNAI DATA REPORT



1018 Thomasville Road
Suite 200-C
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850-224-8207
fax 850-681-9364
www.fnai.org

October 11, 2007

Andy McCall
Miami-Dade County
Park and Recreation Department
275 NW 2nd Street
Miami, FL 33128

Dear Mr. McCall,

Thank you for your request for information from the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). We have compiled the following information for your project area.

Project: Milton E. Thompson Park
Date Received: October 9, 2007
Location: Township 52S, Range 39E, Section 16
Dade County

Element Occurrences

A search of our maps and database indicates that currently we have several Element Occurrences mapped within the vicinity of the study area (see enclosed map and element occurrence table). Please be advised that a lack of element occurrences in the FNAI database is not a sufficient indication of the absence of rare or endangered species on a site.

The Element Occurrences data layer includes occurrences of rare species and natural communities. The map legend indicates that some element occurrences occur in the general vicinity of the label point. This may be due to lack of precision of the source data, or an element that occurs over an extended area (such as a wide ranging species or large natural community). For animals and plants, Element Occurrences generally refer to more than a casual sighting; they usually indicate a viable population of the species. Note that some element occurrences represent historically documented observations which may no longer be extant.

Likely and Potential Rare Species

In addition to documented occurrences, other rare species and natural communities may be identified on or near the site based on habitat models and species range models (see enclosed Biodiversity Matrix Report). These species should be taken into consideration in field surveys, land management, and impact avoidance and mitigation.

FNAI habitat models indicate areas, which based on land cover type, offer suitable habitat for one or more rare species that is known to occur in the vicinity. Habitat models have been developed for approximately 300 of the rarest species tracked by the Inventory, including all federally listed species.

FNAI species range models indicate areas that are within the known or predicted range of a species, based on climate variables, soils, vegetation, and/or slope. Species range models have been developed for approximately 340 species, including all federally listed species.



Florida Resources
and Environmental
Analysis Center

Institute of Science
and Public Affairs

The Florida State University

Tracking Florida's Biodiversity

Andy McCall

Page 2

October 11, 2007

The FNAI Biodiversity Matrix Geodatabase compiles Documented, Likely, and Potential species and natural communities for each square mile Matrix Unit statewide.

Managed Areas

Portions of the site appear to be located within: the Everglades and Francis S. Taylor Wildlife Managed Area, managed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The Managed Areas data layer shows public and privately managed conservation lands throughout the state. Federal, state, local, and privately managed conservation lands are included.

The Inventory always recommends that professionals familiar with Florida's flora and fauna should conduct a site-specific survey to determine the current presence or absence of rare, threatened, or endangered species.

Please visit www.fnai.org/trackinglist.cfm for county or statewide element occurrence distributions and links to more element information.

The database maintained by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory is the single most comprehensive source of information available on the locations of rare species and other significant ecological resources. However, the data are not always based on comprehensive or site-specific field surveys. Therefore, this information should not be regarded as a final statement on the biological resources of the site being considered, nor should it be substituted for on-site surveys. Inventory data are designed for the purposes of conservation planning and scientific research, and are not intended for use as the primary criteria for regulatory decisions.

Information provided by this database may not be published without prior written notification to the Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and the Inventory must be credited as an information source in these publications. FNAI data may not be resold for profit.

Thank you for your use of FNAI services. If I can be of further assistance, please give me a call at (850) 224-8207.

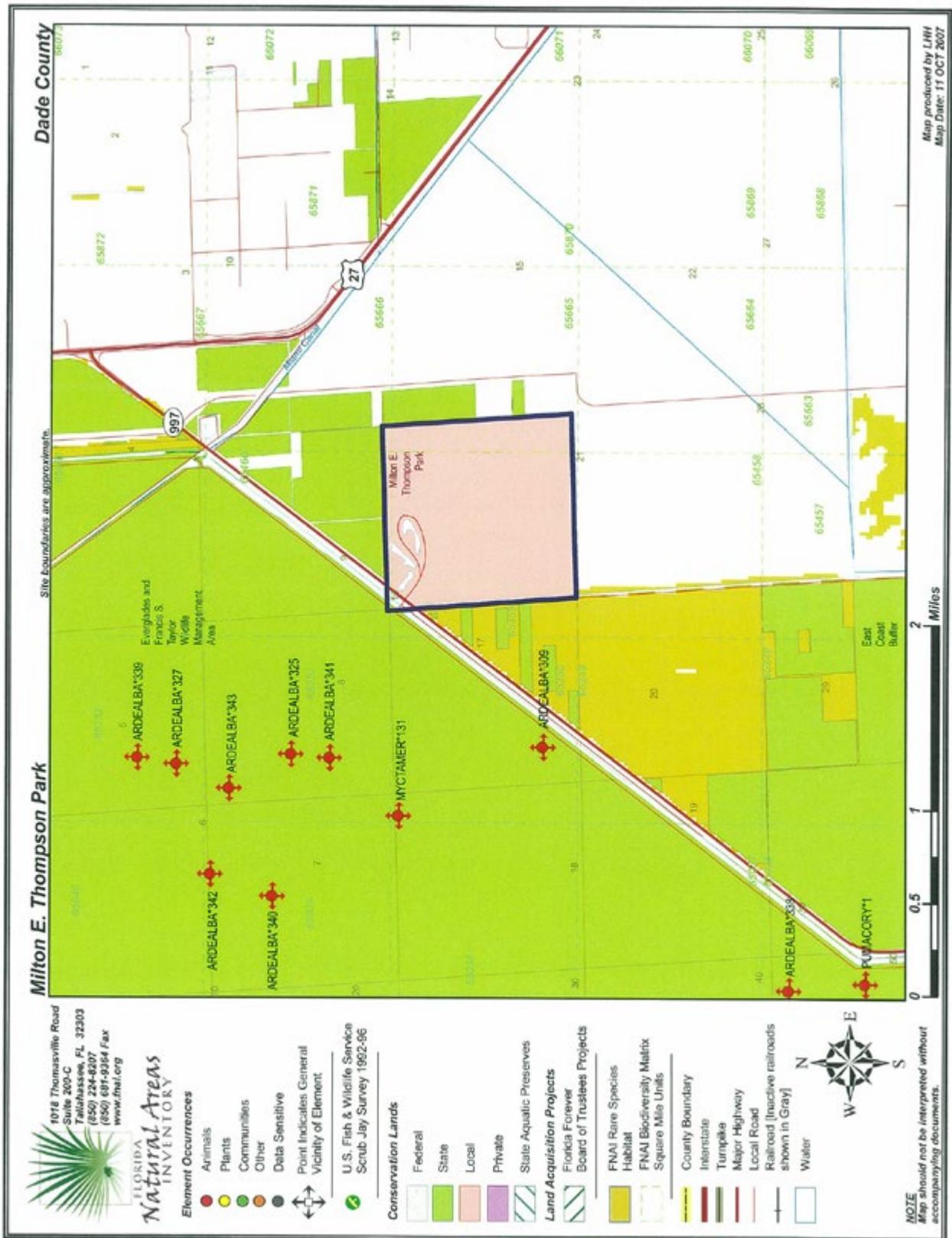
Sincerely,

Lindsay Horton

Lindsay Horton
Data Services Coordinator

End

Tracking Florida's Biodiversity





1018 Thomasville Road
 Suite 200-C
 Tallahassee, FL 32303
 (950) 224-8207
 (950) 681-9364 Fax
 www.fnai.org

Florida Natural Areas Inventory
 ELEMENT OCCURRENCES DOCUMENTED ON OR NEAR
 PROJECT SITE



Map Label	Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	Listing	Observation Date	Description	EO Comments
ARDEALBA*339	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1989	No general description given	1989: WADING BIRD RECORD ADDED TO WILDOBS.DBF BASED UPON ATLAS (RUNDE ET AL. 1991) ENTRY. Total = A.
ARDEALBA*340	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1989	No general description given	1989: WADING BIRD RECORD ADDED TO WILDOBS.DBF BASED UPON ATLAS (RUNDE ET AL. 1991) ENTRY. Total = B.
ARDEALBA*325	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1988-05-18	Freshwater Marsh; Melaleuca	1988/05/18: J.W. Adult, GFC; Nest status: all eggs, some near fledging; nest composition: 10 ANHI, 2GBHE, 1GRHE, 2GREG.
PUMACORY*1	Puma concolor coryi	Florida Panther	G5T1	S1	LE	LE	1990	PART OF BIG CYPRESS SWAMP, INCLUDES SEVERAL WATER COURSES, NUMEROUS PONDS AND LOW "UPLANDS". DIVERSE HABITATS INCLUDE WET AND DRY PRAIRIE CYPRESS FOREST (LOGGED), MIXED PINES, MIXED HARDWOODS, SEASONALLY FLOOD.	PROBABLY THE LARGEST REMAINING EO, DESPITE FREQUENT ROADKILLS ON S-29 AND S-84 (ALLIGATOR ALLEY); KNOWN ANIMALS (1987) INCLUDE: 3 ADULT FEMALES, 3 ADULT MALES, 1 JUV. FEMALE; ANIMALS TEND TO BE MALNOURISHED, THOUGH SOME ARE HEALTHY, 1 OF 3 "POPULATION CE
MYCTAMER*131	Mycteria americana	Wood Stork	G4	S2	LE	LE	1989	No general description given	1989: WADING BIRD RECORD ADDED TO WILDOBS.DBF BASED UPON ATLAS (RUNDE ET AL. 1991) ENTRY. "Total" = B (includes GBHE, WOST).
ARDEALBA*343	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1988	No general description given	1988: WADING BIRD RECORD ADDED TO WILDOBS.DBF BASED UPON ATLAS (RUNDE ET AL. 1991) ENTRY. Total = B.
ARDEALBA*338	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1989	No general description given	1989: WADING BIRD RECORD ADDED TO WILDOBS.DBF BASED UPON ATLAS (RUNDE ET AL. 1991) ENTRY. Total = B (includes GREG, GBHE).
ARDEALBA*341	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1988	No general description given	1988: WADING BIRD RECORD ADDED TO WILDOBS.DBF BASED UPON ATLAS (RUNDE ET AL. 1991) ENTRY. Total = B.
ARDEALBA*327	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1988-03-31	Willowhead surrounded by freshwater marsh.	1988/03/31: J.W. Adult, GFC; Nest status: unknown, nest composition: 4 GREG.



Florida Natural Areas Inventory
 ELEMENT OCCURRENCES DOCUMENTED ON OR NEAR
 PROJECT SITE



Map Label	Scientific Name	Common Name	Global State			Date	Observation	Description	EO Comments
			Rank	Status	Listing				
ARDEALBA*342	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1988	No general description given	1988: WADING BIRD RECORD ADDED TO WILDOBS.DBF BASED UPON ATLAS (RUNDE ET AL. 1991) ENTRY. Total = B (includes GREG, GBHE).
ARDEALBA*309	Ardea alba	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N	1987-05-01	No general description given	1987/05/01: P.C. Frederick, ISU; maximum estimate of nesting attempts = 18, date is approximate date of initiation (Frederick & Collopy, 1988).

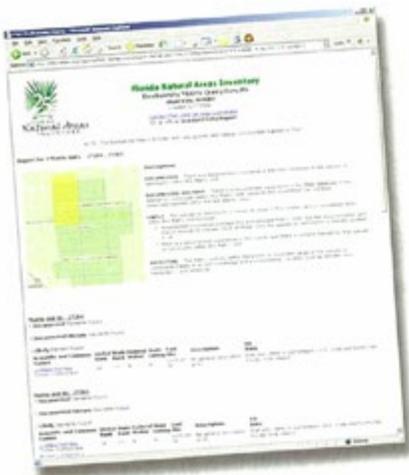


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FNAI's Biodiversity Matrix Online



The Biodiversity Matrix Map Server is a new **screening tool** from FNAI that provides **immediate, free access** to rare species occurrence information statewide. This tool allows you to zoom to your site of interest and create a report listing documented, likely, and potential occurrences of rare species and natural communities.



The FNAI Biodiversity Matrix offers **built-in interpretation** of the likelihood of species occurrence for each 1-square-mile Matrix Unit across the state. The report includes a site map and list of species and natural communities by occurrence status: Documented, Documented-Historic, Likely, and Potential.

Try it today:

www.fnai.org/biointro.cfm

Please note: FNAI will continue to offer our Standard Data Report service as always. The Standard Data Report offers the most comprehensive information available on rare species, natural communities, conservation lands, and other natural resources.

www.fnai.org



Florida Natural Areas Inventory
Biodiversity Matrix Report



Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Federal Status	State Listing
Matrix Unit ID: 65459					
Likely					
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Wood Stork	G4	S2	LE	LE
<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus</i>	Snail Kite	G4G5T3Q	S2	LE	LE
Matrix Unit ID: 65460					
Likely					
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret	G5	S4	N	N
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Wood Stork	G4	S2	LE	LE
<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus</i>	Snail Kite	G4G5T3Q	S2	LE	LE
Matrix Unit ID: 65666					
Likely					
<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus</i>	Snail Kite	G4G5T3Q	S2	LE	LE
Potential from any/all selected units					
<i>Ammodramus maritimus mirabilis</i>	Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow	G4T1	S1	LE	LE
<i>Argythamnia blodgettii</i>	Blodgett's Wild-mercury	G2	S2	C	LE
<i>Conradina grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Rosemary	G3	S3	N	LT
<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	Eastern Indigo Snake	G3	S3	LT	LT
<i>Elytraria caroliniensis var. angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Carolina Scalystem	G4T2	S2	N	N
<i>Encyclia cochleata var. triandra</i>	Clamshell Orchid	G4G5T2	S2	N	LE
<i>Eumops floridanus</i>	Florida bonneted bat	G1	S1	N	LE
<i>Forestiera segregata var. pinetorum</i>	Florida Pinewood Privet	G4T2	S2	N	N
<i>Glandularia maritima</i>	Coastal Vervain	G3	S3	N	LE
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Gopher Tortoise	G3	S3	N	LS
<i>Jacquemontia curtissii</i>	Pineland Jacquemontia	G2	S2	N	LT
<i>Linum carteri var. smallii</i>	Carter's Large-flowered Flax	G2T2	S2	N	LE
<i>Phyllanthus pentaphyllus var. floridanus</i>	Florida Five-petaled Leaf-flower	G4T2	S2	N	N
<i>Puma concolor coryi</i>	Florida Panther	G5T1	S1	LE	LE
<i>Roystonea elata</i>	Florida Royal Palm	G2G3	S2	N	LE
<i>Sachsis polycephala</i>	Bahama Sachsis	G2	S2	N	LT
<i>Trichomanes punctatum ssp. floridanus</i>	Florida Filmy Fern	G4G5T1	S1	N	LE

Definitions: Documented - Rare species and natural communities documented on or near this site.
 Documented-Historic - Rare species and natural communities documented, but not observed/reported within the last twenty years.
 Likely - Rare species and natural communities likely to occur on this site based on suitable habitat and/or known occurrences in the vicinity.
 Potential - This site lies within the known or predicted range of the species listed.

GLOBAL AND STATE RANKS

Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) defines an **element** as any rare or exemplary component of the natural environment, such as a species, natural community, bird rookery, spring, sinkhole, cave, or other ecological feature. FNAI assigns two ranks to each element found in Florida: the **global rank**, which is based on an element's worldwide status, and the **state rank**, which is based on the status of the element within Florida. Element ranks are based on many factors, including estimated number of occurrences, estimated abundance (for species and populations) or area (for natural communities), estimated number of adequately protected occurrences, range, threats, and ecological fragility.

GLOBAL RANK DEFINITIONS

- G1** Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or less than 1000 individuals) or because of extreme vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G2** Imperiled globally because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or less than 3000 individuals) or because of vulnerability to extinction due to some natural or man-made factor.
- G3** Either very rare and local throughout its range (21-100 occurrences or less than 10,000 individuals) or found locally in a restricted range or vulnerable to extinction from other factors.
- G4** Apparently secure globally (may be rare in parts of range).
- G5** Demonstrably secure globally.
- G#?** Tentative rank (e.g., G2?)
- G#G#** Range of rank; insufficient data to assign specific global rank (e.g., G2G3)
- G#T#** Rank of a taxonomic subgroup such as a subspecies or variety; the G portion of the rank refers to the entire species and the T portion refers to the specific subgroup; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G3T1)
- G#Q** Rank of questionable species - ranked as species but questionable whether it is species or subspecies; numbers have same definition as above (e.g., G2Q)
- G#T#Q** Same as above, but validity as subspecies or variety is questioned.
- GH** Of historical occurrence throughout its range, may be rediscovered (e.g., ivory-billed woodpecker)
- GNA** Ranking is not applicable because element is not a suitable target for conservation (e.g. as for hybrid species)
- GNR** Not yet ranked (temporary)
- GVRTNR** Neither the full species nor the taxonomic subgroup has yet been ranked (temporary)
- GX** Believed to be extinct throughout range
- GXC** Extirpated from the wild but still known from captivity/cultivation
- GU** Unrankable. Due to lack of information, no rank or range can be assigned (e.g., GUT2).

STATE RANK DEFINITIONS

Definition parallels global element rank: substitute "S" for "G" in above global ranks, and "in Florida" for "globally" in above global rank definitions.

Tracking Florida's Biodiversity

**FEDERAL AND STATE LEGAL STATUSES (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – USFWS)
PROVIDED BY FNAI FOR INFORMATION ONLY.**

For official definitions and lists of protected species, consult the relevant state or federal agency.

FEDERAL LEGAL STATUS

Definitions derived from U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973, Sec. 3. Note that the federal status given by FNAI refers only to Florida populations and that federal status may differ elsewhere.

- LE** Listed as Endangered Species in the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. Defined as any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
- LE,XN** A non essential experimental population of a species otherwise Listed as an Endangered Species in the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants. LE,XN for *Grus americana* (Whooping crane), Federally listed as XN (Non essential experimental population) refers to the Florida experimental population only. Federal listing elsewhere for *Grus americana* is LE.
- PE** Proposed for addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants as Endangered Species.
- LT** Listed as Threatened Species, defined as any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
- LT,PDL** Species currently listed Threatened but has been proposed for delisting.
- PT** Proposed for listing as Threatened Species.
- C** Candidate Species for addition to the list of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants, Category 1. Federal listing agencies have sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list the species as Endangered or Threatened.
- SAT** Threatened due to similarity of appearance to a threatened species.
- SC** Species of Concern, species is not currently listed but is of management concern to USFWS.
- N** Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants.

**FLORIDA LEGAL STATUSES (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission – FFWCC/
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services – FDACS)**

Animals: Definitions derived from “Florida’s Endangered Species and Species of Special Concern, Official Lists” published by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - FFWCC, 1 August 1997, and subsequent updates.

- LE** Listed as Endangered Species by the FFWCC. Defined as a species, subspecies, or isolated population which is so rare or depleted in number or so restricted in range of habitat due to any man-made or natural factors that it is in immediate danger of extinction or extirpation from the state, or which may attain such a status within the immediate future.
- LT** Listed as Threatened Species by the FFWCC. Defined as a species, subspecies, or isolated population which is acutely vulnerable to environmental alteration, declining in number at a rapid rate, or whose range or habitat is decreasing in area at a rapid rate and as a consequence is destined or very likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future.
- LT*** Indicates that a species has LT status only in selected portions of its range in Florida. LT* for *Ursus americanus floridanus* (Florida black bear) indicates that LT status does not apply in Baker and Columbia counties and in the Apalachicola National Forest. LT* for *Neovison vison* pop. 1 (Southern mink, South Florida population) state listed as Threatened refers to the Everglades population only (Note: species formerly listed as *Mustela vison* mink pop. 1. Also, priorly listed as *Mustela evergladensis*).
- LS** Listed as Species of Special Concern by the FFWCC, defined as a population which warrants special protection, recognition, or consideration because it has an inherent significant vulnerability to habitat modification.

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environmental alteration, human disturbance, or substantial human exploitation which, in the foreseeable future, may result in its becoming a threatened species.

- LS*** Indicates that a species has LS status only in selected portions of its range in Florida. LS* for *Pandion haliaetus* (Osprey) state listed as LS (Species of Special Concern) in Monroe County only.
- PE** Proposed for listing as Endangered.
- PT** Proposed for listing as Threatened.
- PS** Proposed for listing as a Species of Special Concern.
- N** Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.

Plants: Definitions derived from Sections 581.011 and 581.185(2), Florida Statutes, and the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act, 5B-40.001. FNAI does not track all state-regulated plant species; for a complete list of state-regulated plant species, call Florida Division of Plant Industry, 352-372-3505 or please visit: <http://DOACS.State.FL.US/PI/Images/Rule05b.pdf>

- LE** Listed as Endangered Plants in the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act. Defined as species of plants native to the state that are in imminent danger of extinction within the state, the survival of which is unlikely if the causes of a decline in the number of plants continue, and includes all species determined to be endangered or threatened pursuant to the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.
- PE** Proposed by the FDACS for listing as Endangered Plants.
- LT** Listed as Threatened Plants in the Preservation of Native Flora of Florida Act. Defined as species native to the state that are in rapid decline in the number of plants within the state, but which have not so decreased in such number as to cause them to be endangered. LT* indicates that a species has LT status only in selected portions of its range in Florida.
- PT** Proposed by the FDACS for listing as Threatened Plants.
- N** Not currently listed, nor currently being considered for listing.



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ATTACHMENT H: FLEPPC INVASIVE EXOTIC SPECIES LIST

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's 2011 List of Invasive Plant Species

Purpose of the List: *To focus attention on —*

- ▶ the adverse effects exotic pest plants have on Florida's biodiversity and native plant communities,
- ▶ the habitat losses in natural areas from exotic pest plant infestations,
- ▶ the impacts on endangered species via habitat loss and alteration,
- ▶ the need for pest-plant management,
- ▶ the socio-economic impacts of these plants (e.g., increased wildfires or flooding in certain areas),
- ▶ changes in the severity of different pest plant infestations over time,
- ▶ providing information to help managers set priorities for research and control programs.

CATEGORY I

Invasive exotics that are altering native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, or hybridizing with natives. This definition does not rely on the economic severity or geographic range of the problem, but on the documented ecological damage caused.

Scientific Name	Common Name	FLEPPC Cat.	Gov. List	Reg. Dist.
<i>Alnus incana</i>	rosary pea	I	N	C, S
<i>Acacia acridifolia</i>	earleaf acacia	I		C, S
<i>Albizia julibrissis</i>	mimosa, silk tree	I		N, C
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	woman's tongue	I		C, S
<i>Ardisia crenata</i> (<i>A. crenulata</i> misapplied)	coml ardisia	I		N, C, S
<i>Ardisia elliptica</i> (<i>A. Auewiti</i> misapplied)	shoebutton ardisia	I	N	C, S
<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i> (<i>A. sprengeri</i> ; <i>A. densiflorus</i> misapplied)	asparagus-fern	I		N, C, S
<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	orchid tree	I		C, S
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	bishopwood	I		C, S
<i>Calophyllum antillarum</i> (<i>C. calaba</i> and <i>C. inophyllum</i> misapplied)	santa maria, mast wood, Alexandrian laurel	I		S
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	Australian-pine, beach sheoak	I	F, N	N, C, S
<i>Casuarina glauca</i>	suckering Australian-pine, gray sheoak	I	F, N	C, S
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	camphor tree	I		N, C, S
<i>Colonia esculenta</i>	wild taro	I		N, C, S
<i>Colubrina asiatica</i>	leather leaf	I	N	S
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	carrotwood	I	N	C, S
<i>Deparia petersenii</i>	Japanese false spleenwort	I		N, C
<i>Dioscorea alata</i>	winged yam	I	N	N, C, S
<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>	air-potato	I	N	N, C, S
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	water-hyacinth	I	P	N, C, S
<i>Eugenia uniflora</i>	Sour cherry	I		C, S
<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> (<i>F. nitida</i> and <i>F. retusa</i> var. <i>nitida</i> misapplied) ¹	laurel fig	I		C, S
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	hydrilla	I	F, U	N, C, S
<i>Hydrophila polysperma</i>	green hygro	I	F, U	N, C, S
<i>Hymenoclea azevaredensis</i>	West Indian marsh grass	I		N, C, S
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i> (<i>I. brasiliensis</i> misapplied)	coon grass	I	N, U	N, C, S
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	water-spinach	I	F, U	C
<i>Jasminum dichotomum</i>	Gold Coast jasmine	I		C, S
<i>Jasminum fluminense</i>	Brazilian jasmine	I		C, S
<i>Lantana camara</i> (= <i>L. strigocamara</i>)	lantana, shrub verbena	I		N, C, S
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	glossy privet	I		N, C
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese privet, hedge privet	I		N, C, S
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle	I		N, C, S
<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>	Peruvian primrosewillow	I		N, C, S
<i>Lumnitzera racemosa</i>	kripi, white-flowered mangrove, black mangrove	I		S
<i>Luziola subintegra</i>	Tropical American water grass	I		S
<i>Lygodium japonicum</i>	Japanese climbing fern	I	N	N, C, S
<i>Lygodium microphyllum</i>	Old World climbing fern	I	N, U	C, S

¹Does not include *Ficus microcarpa* subsp. *lyvensis*, which is sold as "Green Island Ficus"

FLEPPC 2011 List of Invasive Plant Species – Summer/Fall 2011

FLEPPC List Definitions:

Exotic – a species introduced to Florida, purposefully or accidentally, from a natural range outside of Florida.

Native – a species whose natural range includes Florida.

Naturalized exotic – an exotic that sustains itself outside cultivation (it is still exotic; it has not "become" native).

Invasive exotic – an exotic that not only has naturalized, but is expanding on its own in Florida native plant communities.

Abbreviations:

Government List (Gov. List):
P = Prohibited aquatic plant by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;

N = Noxious weed listed by Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services;

U = Noxious weed listed by U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Regional Distribution (Reg. Dist.):
N = north, C = central, S = south, referring to each species' current distribution in general regions of Florida (not its potential range in the state). Please refer to the map below.



Changes to the 2011 List:

New Listings to Category I:

Deparia petersenii
(Japanese false spleenwort)
Documented in numerous near exotic-free ravines in the central panhandle, it is displacing native flora and likely insect populations because it forms extremely dense colonies. Documented in seven Florida counties.

Lumnitzera racemosa
(black mangrove)
This Asian mangrove has spread abundantly following plantings at Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden in Miami-Dade County between 1966 and 1971. The species subsequently spread into mangrove forests at Fairchild and the adjacent Matheson Hammock Park, infesting 19 acres with stem densities exceeding that of native mangrove species. Looks very similar to the protected native white mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*).

Phymatosorus scolopendria
(serpent fern, wart fern)
This fern, native to tropical Asia, Africa, and Polynesia, has been documented naturalizing in three south Florida counties. It is invading rockland hammocks and forested wetlands where it displaces native understory species including endangered ferns.

New Listings to Category II:

Ardisia japonica (Japanese ardisia)
Ardisia japonica is a plant species from Japan. Thirteen populations have been located in San Felasco Hammock in Alachua County, two more at the Loblolly Nature Center in Gainesville, and another one containing 3,000 to 4,000 plants in Florida Caverns State Park in the Florida panhandle. All of the infestations are in undisturbed mature upland hardwood forest with healthy, diverse ground cover that is displaced as it spreads by underground rhizomes. Fruits collected from these populations produced viable seedlings.

Scientific Name	Common Name	FLEPPC Cat.	Gov. List	Reg. Dist.
<i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i>	cat's claw vine	I		N, C, S
<i>Mamillaria zapota</i>	axpodilla	I		S
<i>Melaleuca quinquevervia</i>	melaleuca, paper bark	I	P, N, U	C, S
<i>Melinis repens</i> (= <i>Rhynchosytrum repens</i>)	Natal grass	I		N, C, S
<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	catclaw mimosa	I	P, N, U	C, S
<i>Nandina domestica</i>	nandina, heavenly bamboo	I		N, C
<i>Nephrrolepis brownii</i> (= <i>N. multiflora</i>)	Asian sword fern	I		C, S
<i>Nephrrolepis cordifolia</i>	sword fern	I		N, C, S
<i>Neyraudia reynaudiana</i>	Burma reed, cane grass	I	N	S
<i>Nymphodes cristata</i>	snowflake	I		C, S
<i>Paederia cruddasiana</i>	sewer vine, onion vine	I	N	S
<i>Paederia foetida</i>	skunk vine	I	N	N, C, S
<i>Panicum repens</i>	torpedo grass	I		N, C, S
<i>Pennisetum purpuratum</i>	Napier grass	I		N, C, S
<i>Phymatosorus scolopendria</i>	serpent fern, wart fern	I		S
<i>Pitla stratiotes</i>	water-lettuce	I	P	N, C, S
<i>Psidium cattleianum</i> (= <i>P. littorale</i>)	strawberry guava	I		C, S
<i>Psidium guajava</i>	guava	I		C, S
<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i> (= <i>P. lobata</i>)	loudou	I	N	N, C, S
<i>Rhodomomyrtus tomentosa</i>	downy rose-myrtle	I	N	C, S
<i>Rhynchosytrum repens</i> (See <i>Melinis repens</i>)				
<i>Ruellia simplex</i> ²	Mexican petunia	I		N, C, S
<i>Salvinia minima</i>	water spangles	I		N, C, S
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i> (= <i>Triadica sebifera</i>)	popcorn tree, Chinese tallow tree	I	N	N, C, S
<i>Scaevola taccada</i> (= <i>Scaevola sericea</i> , <i>S. frutescens</i>)	scaevola, half-flower, beach naupaka	I	N	C, S
<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i> (= <i>Brassia actinophylla</i>)	schefflera, Queensland umbrella tree	I		C, S
<i>Schinus molle</i>	Brazilian pepper	I	P, N	N, C, S
<i>Scleria lacustris</i>	Wright's nutrush	I		C, S
<i>Senna pendula</i> var. <i>glabrata</i> (= <i>Cassia columboides</i>)	climbing cassia, Christmas cassia, Christmas senna	I		C, S
<i>Solanum tamnense</i> (= <i>S. Houstonii</i>)	wetland nightshade, aquatic soda apple	I	N, U	C, S
<i>Solanum viarum</i>	tropical soda apple	I	N, U	N, C, S
<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>	arrowhead vine	I		N, C, S
<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	jambolan plum, Java plum	I		C, S
<i>Tectaria baccata</i>	incised halberd fern	I		S
<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	seaside mahoe	I		C, S
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	small-leaf spiderwort	I		N, C
<i>Urena lobata</i>	Caesar's weed	I		N, C, S
<i>Urochloa mutica</i> (= <i>Brachiaria mutica</i>)	Pani grass	I		C, S

CATEGORY II

Invasive exotics that have increased in abundance or frequency but have not yet altered Florida plant communities to the extent shown by Category I species. These species may become ranked Category I, if ecological damage is demonstrated.

Scientific Name	Common Name	FLEPPC Cat.	Gov. List	Reg. Dist.
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i>	red sandalwood	II		S
<i>Agave sisalana</i>	sisal hemp	II		C, S
<i>Aleurites fordii</i> (= <i>Vernicia fordii</i>)	tung oil tree	II		N, C
<i>Alstonia macrophylla</i>	devil tree	II		S
<i>Alternanthera phalaroides</i>	alligator weed	II	P	N, C, S
<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>	coral vine	II		N, C, S
<i>Ardisia japonica</i>	Japanese ardisia	II		N
<i>Aristolochia fiftoralis</i>	calico flower	II		N, C, S
<i>Asystasia gangetica</i>	Ganges primrose	II		C, S
<i>Begonia cucullata</i>	wax begonia	II		N, C, S

²Many names are applied to this species in Florida because of a complicated taxonomic and nomenclatural history. Plants cultivated in Florida, all representing the same invasive species, have in the past been referred to as *Ruellia hillstoniana*, *R. buxifera*, *R. coerulea*, and *R. simplex*.

Scientific Name	Common Name	FLEPPC Cat.	Gov. List	Reg. Dist.
<i>Elechem pyramidatum</i> (see <i>Baelia blechno</i>)				
<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>	paper mulberry	II		N, C, S
<i>Bruguiera gymnorhiza</i>	large-leaved mangrove	II		S
<i>Calisia fragrans</i>	inch plant, spionemus	II		C, S
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> (= <i>Melaleuca viminalis</i>)	bottlebrush, weeping bottlebrush	II		C, S
<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	river sheok, Australian-pine	II	P	C, S
<i>Cecropia palmata</i>	trumpet tree	II		S
<i>Cestrum diurnum</i>	day jasmine	II		C, S
<i>Chamaedorea seifrizii</i>	bamboo palm	II		S
<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	Japanese clematis	II		N, C
<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	coconut palm	II		S
<i>Cryptostegia madagascariensis</i>	rubber vine	II		C, S
<i>Cyperus involucreatus</i> (<i>C. alternifolius</i> misapplied)	umbrella plant	II		C, S
<i>Cyperus proflifer</i>	dwarf papyrus	II		C, S
<i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i>	Durban crowfootgrass	II		N, C, S
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	Indian rosewood, sissoo	II		C, S
<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>	silverchorn, thorny olive	II		N, C
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	silverberry, autumn olive	II		N
<i>Epipremnum pinnatum</i> cv. <i>Azureum</i>	pothos	II		C, S
<i>Ficus altissima</i>	false banyan, council tree	II		S
<i>Flacourtia indica</i>	governor's plum	II		S
<i>Hemarthra altissima</i>	limpo grass	II		C, S
<i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i> (See <i>Talipariti tiliaceum</i>)				
<i>Hyparrhenia rufa</i>	janagan	II		N, C, S
<i>Ipomoea carnea</i> ssp. <i>futalosa</i> (= <i>I. futalosa</i>)	shrub morning glory	II	P	C, S
<i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i> (= <i>Bryophyllum pinnatum</i>)	life plant	II		C, S
<i>Kodivateria elegans</i> ssp. <i>formosana</i> (= <i>K. formosana</i> ; <i>K. paniculata</i> misapplied)	lanagold tree	II		C, S
<i>Landolphia punctata</i> (= <i>Sporobolus punctata</i>)	Spotted duckweed	II		N, C, S
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	lead tree	II	N	N, C, S
<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>	Asian marshweed	II	R, U	N, C, S
<i>Livistona chinensis</i>	Chinese fan palm	II		C, S
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Chinaberry	II		N, C, S
<i>Melinis minutiflora</i>	Molassesgrass	II		C, S
<i>Merremia tuberosa</i>	wood-rose	II		C, S
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	mile-a-minute vine	II	N, U	S
<i>Murraya paniculata</i>	orange-jessamine	II		S
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian water-milfoil	II	P	N, C, S
<i>Panicum maximum</i> (= <i>Urochloa maxima</i> , <i>Megathyraus maximum</i>)	Guinea grass	II		N, C, S
<i>Passiflora biflora</i>	two-flowered passion vine	II		S
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	green fountain grass	II		S
<i>Phoenix reclinata</i>	Senegal date palm	II		C, S
<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	golden bamboo	II		N, C
<i>Pitocporum pesian-drum</i>	Philippine pitocporum, Taiwanese cheese-wood	II		S
<i>Pteris vittata</i>	Chinese brake fern	II		N, C, S
<i>Psychosperma elegans</i>	solitaire palm	II		S
<i>Rhoeo spathacea</i> (see <i>Trilescantia spathacea</i>)				
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	castor bean	II		N, C, S
<i>Rotala rotundifolia</i>	roundleaf toothcup, dwarf <i>Rotala</i> , redweed	II		S
<i>Ruellia blechno</i>	green shrimp plant, Brown's blechno	II		N, C, S
<i>Sansoneia hyacinthoides</i>	bowstring hemp	II		C, S
<i>Seibania punicea</i>	purple seabai, rattlebox	II		N, C, S
<i>Solanum aphyllum</i>	two-leaf nightshade	II		N, C, S

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Bruguiera gymnorhiza

(large-leaved mangrove)
This mangrove from the Old World tropics is established at the Kampong, a botanical garden in Miami-Dade County where it was planted in 1940. The leaves and propagules of this species bear a strong resemblance to the native red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*). In a 2008 survey it was found naturalized in mangrove forest on the property, where 86 individuals were observed and recruitment rates were higher than for native species. There is a strong chance that it will disperse to other nearby mangrove forests.

Cocos nucifera (coconut palm)
Coconut palm, ubiquitous along Florida's coastlines, is thought to be native to the Malay Peninsula or the South Pacific. This species has been found invading beach dune and coastal grassland communities in extreme south Florida and the Florida Keys. Plants form thick clusters and shed leaves that form dense layers on the ground, displacing native species. Impacted species include the federally threatened Garber's spurge (*Chamaesyce garberi*) in the Cape Sable area of Everglades National Park and nickerbean (*Caesalpinia bonduc*), the host plant for the endangered Miami Blue butterfly at Bahia Honda State Park.

Mikania micrantha

(mile-a-minute vine)
This vine of the American tropics is listed on the Federal Noxious Weed List because of invasiveness in other tropical regions. *M. micrantha* was first observed in Florida in 2008 in Miami-Dade County. It has since been observed at over two dozen sites throughout the Redland area of Miami-Dade County. It is primarily associated with agricultural sites, particularly container nurseries and tree farms, but has been found within the interiors of two rockland hammock fragments. It is a threat to other natural areas in Miami-Dade County, and poses a very high risk of dispersing to other counties.

Syzygium jambos

(Malabar plum, rose apple)
This species was downgraded from the Category II list in 2009 because of a lack of data in EDDMapS, herbaria, and observations of committee members. However, data compiled by FNAI shows 62 records in 9 counties in mesic and wet flatwoods, basin and floodplain wetlands. It has been reinstated as a Category II.

Category Changes

Jasminum sambac and *Solanum jamaicense* removed from Category II based on lack of data in natural areas. *Urena lobata* moved from Category II to Category I.

Use of the FLEPPC List

The FLEPPC List of Invasive Plant Species is not a regulatory list. Only those plants listed as Federal Noxious Weeds, Florida Noxious Weeds or in local ordinances are regulated by law. FLEPPC encourages use of the Invasive Species List for prioritizing and implementing management efforts in natural areas, for educating lay audiences about environmental issues, and for supporting voluntary invasive plant removal programs. For more information on using the FLEPPC List of Invasive Plant Species, see *Wildland Weeds* Summer 2002 issue (Vol. 5, No. 3), pp. 16-17, or <http://www.fleppc.org/list/list.htm>

NOTE: Not all exotic plants brought into Florida become pest plants in natural areas. The FLEPPC List of Invasive Plant Species represents only about 11% of more than 1,400 exotic species that have been introduced into Florida and have subsequently established outside of cultivation. Most escaped exotics usually present only minor problems in highly disturbed areas (such as roadsides). And there are other exotics cultivated in Florida that are "well-behaved" — that is, they don't escape cultivation at all.



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Scientific Name	Common Name	FLEPPC Cat.	Gov. List	Reg. Dist.
<i>Solanum torquatum</i>	susumber, turkey berry	II	N, U	N, C, S
<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i> (= <i>Wedelia trilobata</i>)	wedelia	II		N, C, S
<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i> (= <i>S. ionicifolia</i>)	nettle-leaf porterweed	II		S
<i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i> (= <i>Arecastrum romanzoffianum</i>)	queen palm	II		C, S
<i>Syzygium jambos</i>	Malabar plum, rose-apple	II		N, C, S
<i>Talitpariti tiliaceum</i> (= <i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i>)	mahoe, sea hibiscus	II		C, S
<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	tropical almond	II		C, S
<i>Terminalia muelleri</i>	Australian almond	II		C, S
<i>Tridacnia spathulata</i> (= <i>Rhoeo spathulata</i> , <i>Rhoeo discolor</i>)	oyster plant	II		S
<i>Tribulus cicutoides</i>	puncture vine, burr-out	II		N, C, S
<i>Vitex trifolia</i>	simple-leaf chaste tree	II		C, S
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Washington fan palm	II		C, S
<i>Wedelia</i> (see <i>Sphagneticola</i> above)				
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Chinese wisteria	II		N, C
<i>Xanthosoma sagittifolium</i>	malanga, elephant ear	II		N, C, S

Citation example:

FLEPPC. 2011. List of Invasive Plant Species. Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. Internet: <http://www.fleppc.org/list/list.htm> or *Wildland Weeds* Vol. 14(3-4):11-14. Summer/Fall 2011.

The 2011 list was prepared by the FLEPPC Plant List Committee:

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- David W. Hall**, Private Consulting Botanist, 3666 NW 13th Place, Gainesville, FL 32605, (352) 375-1370
- Roger L. Hammer**, Retired Naturalist and Author, 17360 Avocado Drive, Homestead, FL 33030, kaskam44@comcast.net
- Patricia L. Howell**, Broward County Parks, Environmental Section, 950 NW 38th St., Oakland Park, FL 33309, (954) 357-8137, pHOWELL@broward.org
- Colette C. Jacomo**, USDA/APHIS/FPQ, 1911 SW 34th Street, Gainesville, FL 32608, (352) 258-4458, Colette.C.Jacomo@aphis.usda.gov
- Kenneth A. Langland**, University of Florida-IFAS, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, 7922 NW 71st St., Gainesville, FL 32653, (352) 392-9614, gaace@ufl.edu
- Chris Lockhart**, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, c/o P.O. Box 243116, Joynton Beach, FL 33424-3116, (561) 738-1179, chris@foccharts.org
- Gil Nelson**, Gil Nelson Associates, 157 Leonard's Dr., Thomasville, GA 31792, gil@gilnelson.com
- Robert W. Pemberton**, Research Associate, Florida Museum of Natural History and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 2121 SW 28th Terrace, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312, rpemberton5@gmail.com
- Jim L. Saddle**, Everglades National Park, 40001 State Road 9336, Homestead, FL 33034, (305) 242-7806, jlm_saddle@nps.gov
- Robert W. Simons**, 1122 SW 11th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601-7816
- Daniel B. Ward**, Department of Botany University of Florida, 220 Bartman Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611
- Richard P. Wunderlin**, Institute for Systematic Botany Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL 33620, (813) 974-2359, rwunderl@usf.edu

FLEPPC Database – The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Database contains over 211,000 sight records of infestations of FLEPPC Category I and Category II species in Florida public lands and waters. 143 species are recorded. Nearly all of the records are from local, state, and federal parks and preserves; a few records document infestations in regularly disturbed public lands such as highways or utility rights-of-way. Natural area managers and other veteran observers of Florida's natural landscapes submit these records, with many supported further by voucher specimens housed in local or regional herbaria for future reference and verification. New and updated observations can be submitted online at www.edinaps.org/Florida/. This database, along with other plant data resources such as the University of South Florida Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants at www.plantatlas.usf.edu, the Florida Natural Areas Inventory database at www.fnai.org, and The Institute for Regional Conservation Florida Inventory of South Florida database at www.regionalconservation.org, provides important basic supporting information for the FLEPPC List of Invasive Plant Species.

Images of FLEPPC-listed species may be found at one or more of the following websites: University of South Florida Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants, www.plantatlas.usf.edu, the University of Florida Herbarium collection catalog, <http://www.flinh.ufl.edu/herbarium/cat/>, and image gallery, <http://www.flinh.ufl.edu/herbarium/cat/imagesearch.asp>, at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden's Virtual Herbarium, www.virtualherbarium.org/vhportal.html, The Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium at Florida State University, <http://herbarium.bio.fsu.edu/index.php>; the University of Florida's IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu>, and the USDA PLANTS database, <http://plants.usda.gov/>. Please note that greater success and accuracy in searching for plant information is likely if you search by scientific name rather than common name. Common names often vary in cultivation and across regions.

FLEPPC 2011 List of Invasive Plant Species – Summer/Fall 2011

ATTACHMENT I: DHR LETTER OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

AUG-14-2007 10:02

P.02



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHARLIE CRIST
Governor

KURT S. BROWNING
Secretary of State

August 14, 2007

Andy McCall
Park Planner II
Miami Dade County Park and Recreation Dept.
275 NW 2nd Street, 4th Floor
Miami, FL 33128
Fax: 305-755-7864

Dear Mr. McCall:

In response to your inquiry of August 14, 2007, the Florida Master Site File lists no previously recorded cultural resources in the following parcel:

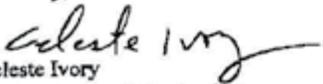
T52S, R39E, Section 16

In interpreting the results of our search, please remember the following points:

- **Areas which have not been completely surveyed, such as yours, may contain unrecorded archaeological sites, unrecorded historically important structures, or both.**
- **As you may know, state and federal laws require formal environmental review for some projects. Record searches by the staff of the Florida Master Site File do not constitute such a review of cultural resources. If your project falls under these laws, you should contact the Compliance Review Section of the Bureau of Historic Preservation at 850-245-6333 or at this address.**

If you have any further questions concerning the Florida Master Site File, please contact us as below.

Sincerely,


Celeste Ivory
Archaeological Data Analyst,
Florida Master Site File
Division of Historical Resources
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Phone: 850-245-6440
Fax: 850-245-6439
Email: sitefile@doh.state.fl.us
Web: <http://flheritage.com/preservation>
<http://dhr.doh.state.fl.us/comments/>

R. A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250
Telephone: (850) 245-6500 • Facsimile: (850) 245-6125
www.doh.state.fl.us

TOTAL P.02

ATTACHMENT J: COOPERATIVE EXOTIC PLANT PROGRAM MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

AND

METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
PROFESSIONAL SAVINGS BANK BUILDING
33 S.W. 2ND AVENUE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33130

THIS AGREEMENT (hereinafter the "AGREEMENT") is made and entered into this 6th day of April 1994, by and between the Metropolitan Dade County Park and Recreation Department (hereinafter the "PRD") and the Department of Environmental Resources Management (hereinafter the "DERM").

ARTICLE I.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

WHEREAS, the DERM and the PRD have agreed to establish a cooperative program to implement control of exotic plants in the M.E. Thompson Park; and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 1992, the Dade County Board of County Commissioners created Section 24-58.21 of the Code Metropolitan Dade County, which established the Freshwater Wetland Mitigation Trust Fund (FWMT Fund) for receiving mitigation contributions from developers in the Bird Drive Everglades Wetland Basin and the North Trail Wetland Basin and other areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, the FWMT Fund was created for the use in acquiring (including by eminent domain), restoring, enhancing, managing or monitoring freshwater wetlands within Dade County.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of these premises and mutual covenants contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE II.

STATEMENT OF WORK

A. PRD's RESPONSIBILITIES

1) Implementation of Restoration. The PRD agrees to implement, and shall be solely responsible for implementing, the program in accordance with the general procedures and methods contained in the document entitled "Freshwater Wetland Mitigation Plan for M.E. Thompson Park", attached hereto as Exhibit "A". The PRD shall be solely responsible for obtaining all of the required federal, state, and local permits for the performance of the work, writing, and awarding of contracts or cooperative agreements regarding implementation of work, scheduling, hiring, and payment of personnel, purchase or rental of supplies, materials, and equipment or other project support as necessary. The PRD may, at its sole discretion, add to or modify the methods or procedures contained in Exhibit A as deemed necessary or appropriate based on information from the results of previous or ongoing project work, monitoring data or study results in order to improve or enhance any of the elements or purposes of this project as described in this AGREEMENT, provided, however, that such modification shall not alter the PRD's obligation to mitigate the number of acres for which payments have been committed prior to such modification pursuant to this AGREEMENT. This AGREEMENT, including all appendices, attachments, and codicils shall not be under any of its terms, limitations, or conditions be considered by any of the parties to this AGREEMENT to encumber or otherwise in any way limit the use or direction of funds received from sources other than those described within this AGREEMENT by the PRD or the DERM.

2) Preparation and Submission of Reports. The PRD shall provide to the DERM documentation and reports, as specified in Article VI of this AGREEMENT, sufficient to verify satisfactory completion of work in accordance with Exhibit "A". Annual reports shall be generated by the PRD and provided to the DERM for distribution to any parties of their choosing. The PRD's reports shall include a general description of the work performed to date, discussion of monitoring results (as they become available) or general observations, as well as a summary of expenditures to date.

3) Receipt of Funds by the PRD. The PRD agrees and represents that receipt of fund(s) from the DERM in accordance with the provisions of this AGREEMENT shall constitute receipt by the PRD of the funds for use in implementing the M.E. Thompson Park project in accordance with Exhibit "A".

4) Maintenance of Records. The PRD shall keep accounting records which conform with generally accepted accounting principles which shall include, but not be limited to, a cash receipt journal, general ledger, and all such subsidiary ledgers as reasonably necessary. All such records will be retained by the PRD for not less than five (5) years beyond the term of this AGREEMENT.

5) Access to Records. The PRD shall provide access to all their records of or relating to this project and AGREEMENT, and agrees to provide such assistance as may be necessary to facilitate their review by the DERM when deemed necessary by either to ensure compliance with accounting and financial standards. The DERM shall have the right to access all records for not less than five (5) years beyond the term of this AGREEMENT. The PRD shall make all records or documents which relate to this AGREEMENT available to the DERM at the PRD's offices during regular business hours.

6) Nothing in this AGREEMENT shall be construed to require the PRD to expend funds that have not been lawfully appropriated and administratively allocated for such purposes.

B. DERM'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1) Review of the Implementation of Program. The DERM shall participate in the review of the implementation of this exotic plant control/freshwater wetland restoration program to ensure compliance with project goals, procedures, and methods contained in Exhibit "A".

2) Identification of M.E. Thompson Park Contribution Amounts. The DERM shall, upon receipt of a mitigation contribution, designate, by mutual consent and agreement of the DERM and the PRD, such contribution for use in restoring the M.E. Thompson Park site. The costs associated with the performance of services outlined in Article (2)a and Exhibit "A" shall be paid to the PRD by the DERM from mitigation contributions made to the Freshwater Mitigation Trust Fund, M.E. Thompson Park Mitigation. Mitigation contributions of \$9,000 per acre have been collected by the DERM. As of February 7, 1994, PRD estimates indicate that the cost of mitigating 1 acre of wetlands at M.E. Thompson Park is \$10,000. Therefore, any contributions accepted after February 7, 1994 by the DERM and the PRD shall be for \$10,000 per acre of mitigation at M.E. Thompson Park, providing for periodic revisions of the per acre cost.

3) Crediting to the Index Code of M.E. Thompson Park Contribution Amounts. The DERM shall credit to a revenue index code within the FWMT Fund the mitigation amount received in accordance with paragraph 2 above. Interest accrued on this principal amount prior to disbursement to the PRD shall be retained by the DERM for use for administrative costs.

4) Transfer to the PRD of M.E. Thompson Park Contribution Amounts. The DERM shall, within 5 days of the end of each month, transfer to the PRD those principal amounts accrued in the above-described revenue index code of the FWMT Fund. The DERM agrees to transfer, as a lump sum payment, all moneys in the Wetland Mitigation Trust Fund designated for the M.E. Thompson Park Mitigation to the PRD's M.E. Thompson Park Mitigation Bank Account.

5) Maintenance of Records. The DERM shall keep accounting records which conform with generally accepted accounting principles which shall include, but not be limited to, a cash receipt journal, general ledger, and all such subsidiary ledgers as reasonably necessary. All such records will be retained by the DERM for not less than five (5) years beyond the term of this AGREEMENT. The DERM will provide to the PRD a list of the permittees along with the permit numbers, the required mitigation acreage and the mitigation contributions on a monthly basis.

6) Access to Records. The DERM shall provide access to all its records of or relating to this project and AGREEMENT, and agrees to provide such assistance as may be necessary to facilitate their review by the PRD when deemed necessary by either to insure compliance with accounting and financial standards. The PRD shall have the right to access all records for not less than five (5) years beyond the terms of this AGREEMENT. The DERM shall make records or documents which relate to this AGREEMENT available to the PRD at the DERM's offices during regular business hours.

7) Preparation and Submission of Reports. Annual reports shall be generated by the DERM and provided to the PRD for distribution to any parties of their choosing. The DERM's reports shall include a summary of all activities (i.e., deposits, transfers, expenditures, and land purchases) of the above-described revenue index code of the FWMT Fund.

ARTICLE III.

TERM(S) OF AGREEMENT

1) Initial Term. This AGREEMENT shall have an initial term of

TWENTY (20) years, beginning on the latest day and year noted on the WITNESS page of this AGREEMENT contingent upon the PRD's control of the property.

2) Renewal Term(s). This AGREEMENT may be renewed upon the same terms and conditions for up to TWO (2) additional FIVE (5) year terms by mutual written agreement of all parties.

3) Continuation of this AGREEMENT (in whole or part) beyond the term specified in ARTICLE III, item 1 above is contingent upon the PRD's control of the property and upon the availability of funds.

ARTICLE IV.

KEY OFFICIALS

PRD. The Director of the PRD will provide review and approval of terms of all agreements and will exercise the authority to approve conduct of cooperative projects regarding M.E. Thompson Park. Robert Line, Natural Areas Supervisor, will act as the contracting officers' authorized technical representative with regard to the technical scope of this AGREEMENT. The PRD shall provide written notice to DERM of any change in key officials within thirty (30) days of such change.

DERM. The Director of the DERM will provide review and approval of the terms of all agreements and will exercise the authority to approve conduct of the cooperative projects regarding Dade County. Eric Myers, Chief, Uplands and Freshwater Resources Section, shall act as the authorized technical representative of the DERM with regard to the technical scope of this AGREEMENT. The DERM shall provide written notice to the PRD any change in authorized technical representative within thirty (30) days of such change.

ARTICLE V.

PROPERTY UTILIZATION N/A

ARTICLE VI.

PRIOR APPROVAL N/A

ARTICLE VII.

REPORTS

Reports shall be prepared and submitted as previously described for each party in ARTICLE II above. Annual reports documenting the progress of the work shall be due by the PRD ninety (90) days after the end of the fiscal year.

ARTICLE VIII.

AMENDMENT

ARTICLE IX.

TERMINATION

1) This AGREEMENT shall terminate automatically unless the same is extended by mutual written agreement prior to twenty (20) years from the latest date of authorized signature upon the WITNESS page, provided, however, that this AGREEMENT shall NOT terminate until the PRD has completed the amount of mitigation required under the terms of the AGREEMENT for the funds already transferred to the PRD for this project, from the above-described revenue index code for the FWMT Fund. During the term of this AGREEMENT, should further funds become unavailable, this AGREEMENT shall NOT terminate until the PRD has completed the amount of mitigation required for this AGREEMENT for the funds already transferred to the PRD for this project, from the above-described revenue index code of the FWMT Fund.

2) Either the PRD or the DERM may terminate this AGREEMENT at any time by providing ninety (90) days written notice to the other party. The PRD shall complete all mitigation work for which principal monies have been remitted by the DERM. Receipt of written notice from the PRD, issued upon completion of the mitigation work for monies, remitted up to the point of written notice of termination, shall constitute the date of termination of this AGREEMENT.

ARTICLE X.

NOTICES

All notices required or permitted to be given under the terms and provisions of this AGREEMENT by either party to the other shall be sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the parties as follows:

As to the DERM:

John W. Renfrow, Director
Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management
Professional Savings Bank Building
33 S.W. 2nd Ave
Miami, Florida 33130

As to the PRD:

Dr. Charles W. Pezoldt, Acting Director
Dade County Park & Recreation Department
50 S.W. 32nd Road, Building 1
Miami, Florida 33129

or to such other address as may hereafter be provided by the parties in writing. Notices by registered or certified mail shall be deemed received on the delivery date indicated by the U.S. Postal Service on the return receipt.

ARTICLE XI.

RIGHTS OF OTHERS

Nothing in this AGREEMENT expressed or implied is intended to confer upon any person other than the parties hereto any rights or remedies under or by reason of this AGREEMENT.

EXHIBIT A

Freshwater Wetland Mitigation Plan for the M.E. Thompson Park

I. General Site Description

M.E. Thompson Park is a part of the historical Everglades ecosystem, located on the east side of Krome Avenue near U.S. Highway 27, in Dade County, Florida. It is a long hydroperiod sawgrass marsh that has been invaded by the exotic tree Melaleuca quinquenervia. The density of Melaleuca ranges from individual mature trees, seedlings, or saplings scattered throughout the sawgrass marsh to dense heads of mature trees with little or no native vegetation.

Legal Site Description of M.E. Thompson Park:

"All that part of Section 16, Township 52 South, Range 39 East which lies Southeasterly of the Easterly right of way of State Road #27 (Krome Avenue Extension) containing 630.8 acres more or less, subject to that certain right of way easement granted to the Central and Southern Flood Control District, dated July 12, 1961, covering West 130 feet of Section 16 lying South of the Southeasterly lines of right of way for Levee L-30."

Mitigation Site Description:

The mitigation site will encompass the entire Park, except a 130 acre parcel. This parcel is a previously dedicated mitigation site, as per an interdepartmental agreement between the PRD and the Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM), effective 08/12/93. The remainder of the Park, excluding this 130 acre parcel, is available for the mitigation site. Attachment 1 is an aerial photograph of the Park, showing the DSWM Mitigation site and the remainder of the Park available for the mitigation site. In light of the pre-existing agreement, this 130 acre parcel will not be subject to the terms and conditions of the present agreement.

II. MITIGATION GOALS

1. Bring the current Melaleuca population at M.E. Thompson Park to a maintenance level. Maintenance level shall mean 100% of the seed bearing trees will be removed, and no more than 10% of the vegetative cover on the site shall be composed of Melaleuca.
2. Control all other invasive exotic plants on the mitigation site.
3. Establish a prescribed burn schedule for the mitigation site
4. Promote the sawgrass marsh community and associated wildlife.

III. CONTROL STRATEGY

Control efforts will be initiated in the areas of low Melaleuca density, and move towards areas of higher density. Work shall commence south of the DSWM's mitigation site shown in attachment 1, and east of the Dade/Broward Levee. This area was chosen because of its proximity to Water Conservation Area 3B, which is presently under active Melaleuca management by The south Florida Water Management District, and the Pennsuco Wetland Basin which has a relatively light Melaleuca infestation. Seedling recruitment will be lower from the west allowing the creation of a Melaleuca control front that can be pushed progressively eastward toward the areas of higher Melaleuca density.

Mature seed bearing trees will be treated first (Phase 1), followed by saplings and seedlings. Follow-up seedling, sapling, and mature tree removal will be repeatedly performed (Phase 2).

IV. CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Mature Melaleuca trees will be cut stump or frill treated with Arsenal. Where Melaleuca density exceeds 90% of the vegetative cover, aerial herbicide treatments may be utilized. Seedlings and saplings will be pulled or cut stump treated. Prescribed fire will be used when feasible to control seedlings, reduce hazard fuels, and promote the sawgrass marsh community. Since current control techniques are continually changing the above described methods are subject to change. All herbicides will be used in compliance with the label regulations.

Brazilian pepper, when encountered, will be either cut stump or basal bark treated with Garlon.

V. MONITORING AND REPORTS

A permanent 50 meter, Melaleuca specific, line-intercept transect, will be established within each 10 hectare treatment block to estimate Melaleuca densities. Photo points will be established at each corner of the 10 hectare plot and at both ends of the 50 meter transect. Photos will be taken from the corners of the 10 hectare plot into the center, covering a 45 degree angle. One photo will be taken facing north, south, east, and west from the photo points located at the ends of the 50 meter transect. Sampling will be performed prior to the initiation of control efforts (Phase 1) within a treatment block, then annually for the next four years. A species list will be established, including both plants and animals. Said monitoring program may be modified with the mutual consent of both the PRD and DERM.

The PRD will prepare a yearly report documenting the

progress of the work including:

1. Number of hectares treated.
2. Number of hectares re-treated.
3. Number of mature trees (>3 meters in height), saplings (1-3 meters), and seedlings (0-1 meter) treated along with the treatment method.
4. Labor hours.
5. Amount of herbicide used.
6. Amount of money spent along with a cost break down, i.e.. Labor, equipment, herbicide.
7. An aerial Photograph of the mitigation site with an overlay delineating the previous years treatment.

VI. ACCESS CONTROL

The Chain-link fence installed by the South Florida Water Management District along the Dade/Broward Levee will be extended approximately 600 feet, 300 feet on either side of the Park entrance. This should hinder ORV access into the Park.

VII. PROJECT MANAGERS

Rob Line of the PRD and Eric Myers of DERM will be the project managers for the M.E. Thompson Park Mitigation Plan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this AGREEMENT to be executed by their duly authorized representative(s) on the latest day and year noted below.

PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

By: [Signature]
Deputy Director

By: [Signature]
Contracting Officer

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

By: [Signature]
Asst. Director

By: [Signature]
Contracting Officer

ATTEST:

[Signature]



By: Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney
as to form and legal sufficiency [Signature]

ATTACHMENT K: ARTHROPOD MANAGEMENT PLAN



CHARLES R. BRONSON
COMMISSIONER

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Agricultural Environmental Services

ARTHROPOD MANAGEMENT PLAN - PUBLIC LANDS

Chapters 388.4111, F.S. and 5E-13.042(4)(b), F.A.C.
Telephone: (850) 922-7011

For use in documenting an Arthropod control plan for lands designated by the State of Florida or any political subdivision thereof as being environmentally sensitive and biologically highly productive therein.

Name of Designated Land:
Milton E. Thompson Park

Is Control Work Necessary: Yes No

Location:
See attached map.

Land Management Agency:
Miami-Dade County

Are Arthropod Surveillance Activities Necessary? Yes No
If "Yes", please explain:
MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE

Which Surveillance Techniques Are Proposed?
Please Check All That Apply:

- Landing Rate Counts
- Light Traps
- Sentinel Chickens
- Citizen Complaints
- Larval Dips
- Other

If "Other", please explain:

Arthropod Species for Which Control is Proposed:
MOSQUITOES

Proposed Larval Control:

Proposed larval monitoring procedure:
Are post treatment counts being obtained: Yes

Biological Control of Larvae:

Might predacious fish be stocked: Yes
Other biological controls that might be used:

Material to be Used for Larvaciding Applications:

(Please Check All That Apply.)

- Bti
- Bs
- Methoprene
- Non-Petroleum Surface Film
- Other, please specify:

Please specify the following for each larvacide:

Chemical or Common name:

- Ground Aerial

Rate of application:

Method of application:

Proposed Adult Mosquito Control:

- Aerial adulticiding Yes No
- Ground adulticiding Yes No

Please specify the following for each adulticide:

Chemical or common name:

Rate of application:

Method of application:

Proposed Modifications for Public Health Emergency Control: Arthropod control agency may request special exception to this plan during a threat to public or animal health declared by State Health Officer or Commissioner of Agriculture.

Proposed Notification Procedure for Control Activities:

Records:

Are records being kept in accordance with Chapter 388, F.S.

- Yes No

Records Location: 8901 NW 58 ST, MIAMI, FL 33178

How long are records maintained:
INDEFINITELY

Vegetation Modification:

What trimming or altering of vegetation to conduct surveillance or treatment is proposed?
NONE

Proposed Land Modifications:

Is any land modification, i.e., rotary ditching, proposed:
NO

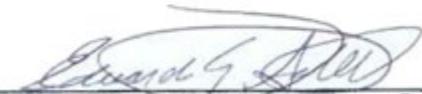
Include proposed operational schedules for water fluctuations:
NONE

List any periodic restrictions, as applicable, for example peak fish spawning times.
NONE

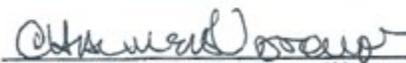
Proposed Modification of Aquatic Vegetation:
NONE

Land Manager Comments:

Arthropod Control Agency Comments:


09/18/2012

 Signature of Lands Manager or Representative Date


09.17.2012

 Signature of Mosquito Control Director / Manager Date

**M.E. Thompson Park
Progress and Monitoring Report
August 2012**

Submitted by
Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department
Natural Areas Management

Executive Summary

The Miami-Dade County Park, Recreation and Open Spaces Department's Natural Areas Management Division is submitting this photo point report as required by the "Enhancement of Wetlands, M. E. Thompson Park" Agreement between the Department of Solid Waste Management and Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department. Exotic control work occurred on the site between March 8th and May 30th, 2012. Photo points were taken on August 23rd, 2012.

INTRODUCTION

Presented here is the August 23rd, 2012 photo point report as required by the Public Works and Waste Management Department (former DSWM) and Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department (former Parks and Recreation) agreement entitled "Enhancement of Wetlands, M.E. Thompson Park," signed in August 1993. The goal of this project is to enhance wetlands at M.E. Thompson Park through the removal of noxious exotic species. *Melaleuca* has been expanding its range in M.E. Thompson Park for over thirty years. Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department has agreed to control and attempt to eradicate the noxious, exotic wetland plants, *Melaleuca* (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*) and Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) on approximately 130 acres of M. E. Thompson Park. Miami-Dade Park, Recreation and Open Spaces is responsible for all operational aspects of this project. The PWWM Department has agreed to fund this enhancement project and perform the required ground water monitoring.

M.E. Thompson Park is located at 16665 N.W. 177 Avenue and legally described as "All that part of Section 16, Township 52 South, Range 39 East which lies Southeasterly of the Easterly right of way of State Road # 27 (Krome Avenue Extension) containing 630.8 acres more or less, subject to that certain right of way easement granted to the Central and Southern Flood Control District, dated July 12, 1961, covering West 130 feet of Section 16 lying South of the Southeasterly line of right of way for Levee L-30".

PHOTO POINT REPORT, AUGUST 2012

INTRODUCTION

This report documents the progress of the *Melaleuca* control program, the status of old world climbing fern, and the re-establishment of the native saw grass marsh vegetation by monitoring changes in vegetation over time in the 130 acre enhancement site.

METHODS

Photographs were taken at the end of each of the five permanent transects in the cardinal directions using a digital AF Zoom 4.6-92 mm 1:2.8-4.5 lens at high quality resolution (3648 x 2736). These transects ran west to east and were established in the management area between January and April 1994, (Please see attached map). Photo points were established in early November 1994.

RESULTS

The west facing photo point on the west end of each transect from the monitoring episodes from 2004 through 2012 are shown in Figures 1 – 45. These photos document the progress of vegetative re-growth following the wildfire that burned the entire restoration area in winter 2004. All other photo points are maintained in a slide file or digital format at the NAM office and are available upon request.

The site appears to have stable plant diversity, as a low density, short hydroperiod wetland. All photo point locations were saturated the date of monitoring. The treated individuals of Old World climbing fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*) have not shown evidence of re-growth. No new climbing fern specimens were recorded this year on any of the plots.

DISCUSSION

Due to the current level of *Melaleuca* in the restoration area, utilization of line transects methodology or meter square plot is no longer effective at detecting density. This may be extrapolated by comparing the number of trees found per treatment unit which is available from the daily work logs of the crew located at the NAM office. Saw grass density and cover have fluctuated over time, as have other native species, indicating a cyclical nature in the composition and density of these wetland plants. Fluctuations in water levels may also play a key role.

The lack of re-growth of any treated specimens of old world climbing fern indicates that 1% Rodeo is currently effective in killing *Lygodium* as individual specimens. As of this date only individual plants have been observed, no mats of growth. Natural Areas Management will continue to aggressively track and manage *Lygodium* in the restoration area.

Wildlife noted included various species of spiders, butterflies and dragonflies, horse flies, mosquito fish, mockingbird, little blue heron, great blue heron, osprey, red shoulder hawk, turkey vulture, and mourning dove.

PHOTO POINT REPORT, AUGUST 2012

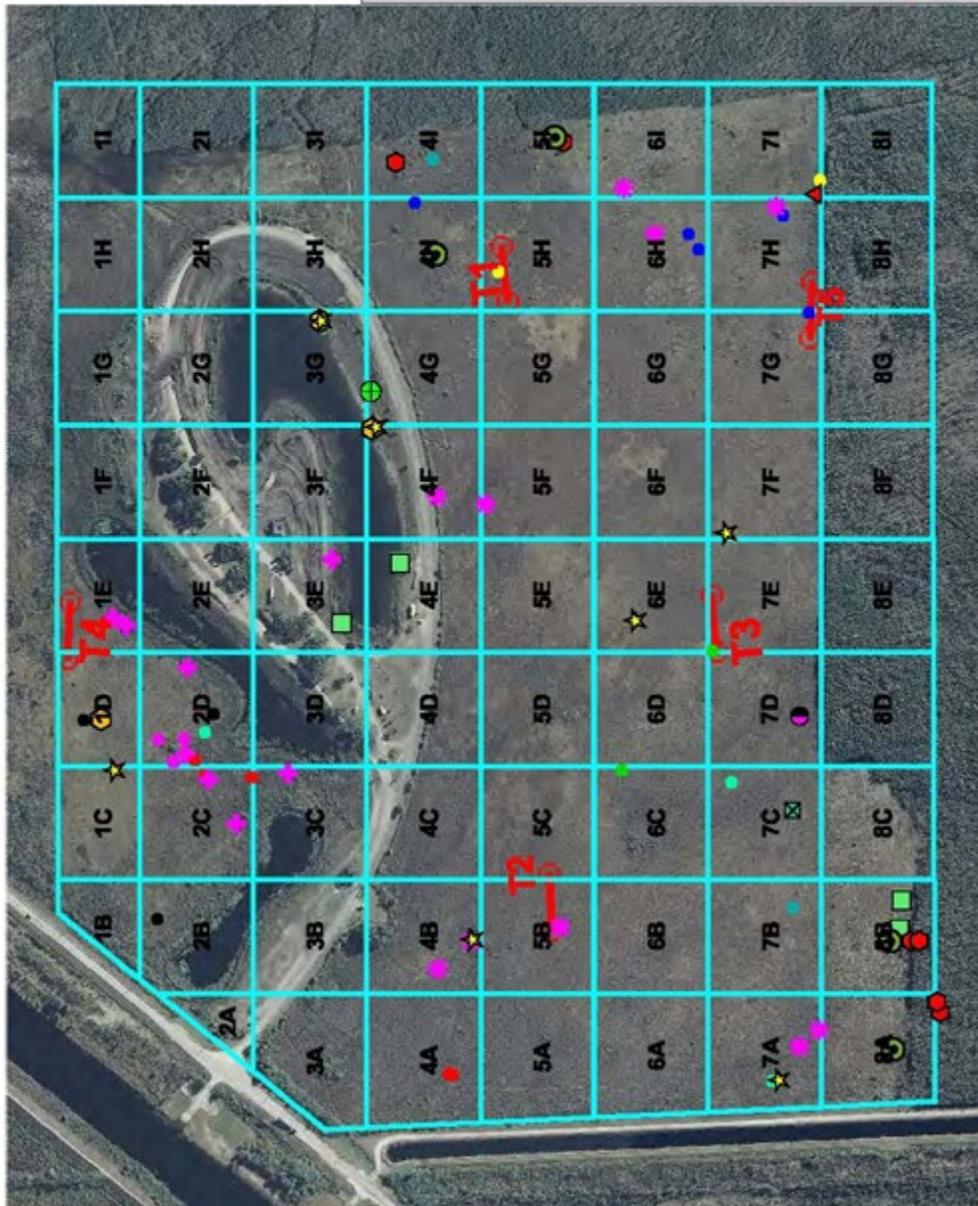
Treatment of the enhancement area for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 took place between March 8th and May 30th, 2012. Photo points were taken on August 23rd, 2012.

Invasive plant species treated during FY 11-12 included *Melaleuca*, possum grape (*Cissus verticillata*), Australian pine (*Casuarina* spp.), air-potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*), lantana (*Lantana camara*), castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), Brazilian pepper (*Shinus terebinthifolius*), possum grape (*Cissus*), and rattle box (*Crotalaria*)

The total number of labor hours spent on the project to date is approximately 66,977. The total number of trees treated is approximately 8,934,484 using 982.52 gallons of herbicide mixture.

The sum of labor hours for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 is approximately 130. The sum of trees treated for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 is 10,977 using 3.60 gallons of herbicide mixture.

M.E. Thompson Park
2009 Aerial



●	Lygodium 7-15-11
●	Lygodium 3-30-11
●	Lygodium 3-22-10
●	Lygodium 4-27-07
●	Lygodium 4-15-09
●	Lygodium 3-20-06
☆	Lygodium 3-12-04
☆	Lygodium 3-31-03
☆	Lygodium 2-28-03
☆	Lygodium 3-11-03
☆	Lygodium 5-3-02
●	Lygodium 3-27-02
●	Lygodium 2-28-02
●	Lygodium 1-31-01
●	Lygodium 12-22-00
●	Lygodium 5-31-00
●	Lygodium 5-15-00
●	Lygodium 4-10-00
●	Lygodium 5-11-99
□	Units
○	Monitoring
○	Transect
○	Ends

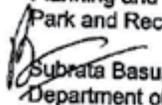


Miami-Dade County
Park and Recreation Department
Natural Areas Management DTH 072111

Attachment K

Memorandum



Date: March 21, 2008
To: Dr. Barbara Falsey, Chief
 Planning and Research Division
 Park and Recreation Department
From:  Subrata Basu, AIA, AICP, Interim Director
 Department of Planning & Zoning
Subject: Determination of consistency with the Comprehensive Development Master Plan for an off-road motocross track on a portion of Milton E. Thompson Park, 16655 Krome Avenue (Real Property Folio No. 30-2916-000-0010)

This memorandum responds to Park and Recreation Department's (PAR) request of October 10, 2007 for a determination of consistency with the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) regarding the use of 38 acres in Milton E. Thompson Park as a motocross track for off-highway vehicle recreation. You have further requested a determination of consistency regarding the balance of this park as a wetland preserve. It is our understanding that this request is made to complete a State of Florida 10-Year Management Plan for Natural and Non-Natural Resource Properties, which includes this park.

Milton E. Thompson (ME Thompson) Park consists of approximately 640-acres bounded by theoretical NW 170 Street on the north, theoretical NW 154 Street on the south, theoretical NW 147 Avenue on the east and NW 157 Avenue on the west. The northwest corner of the park is bisected by NW 177 Avenue/North Krome Avenue, thus the effective park acreage is 618 acres. The property is designated "Parks and Recreation" on the Adopted 2015 and 2025 Land Use Plan (LUP) map of the CDMP and is located outside the 2015 Urban Development Boundary. The CDMP also locates the south and southeastern portions of the park inside the Northwest Wellfield Protection Area, and designates the park as a future wetland. Additionally, the Open Space and Recreation Master Plan for Metropolitan Dade, County, 1969, identifies this park as a Nature Preserve with listed uses as a camp ground, fishing and for nature study.

Based on information provided at a meeting held on January 10, 2008 between the Department of Planning and Zoning and PAR, ME Thompson Park was leased to the County in perpetuity from the Board of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund in the 1960s. The northwestern 38 acres of the site had been used as a camp ground with improvements including trailer pads and a circular paved roadway for access. The proposed motocross activities would be limited to the 38-acre former campground and would include an instructional course for the operation of All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs). This instructional course would be operated by an outside vendor and may therefore be considered a commercial operation. Discussions with the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) have indicated that the 38-acre former camp ground had been filled and is no longer considered a wetland area, and therefore not subject to the wetland policies of the CDMP. However, the remaining 580 acres of the park are considered a wetland area. Miami-Dade County used this sensitive area as a wetland mitigation area into the mid 1990s until the Lake Belt Plan (Phase II) identified the southeast portion of ME Thompson as an area that could be mined in the future.

The text of the Land Use Element regarding Parks and Recreation (page I-51 of the CDMP) states that "The Land Use Plan map specifically illustrates parks and recreation areas of

Dr. Barbara Falsey
March 21, 2008
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metropolitan significance...and other parks of approximately 40 acres and larger which are significant community features." Furthermore, the text states that "the siting and use of future parks and recreation areas shall be guided by the Park and Open Space, and Capital Improvements Elements, and by the goals, objectives and policies of the CDMP." Diversified recreational uses such as a motocross track provide recreational opportunities to the residents of the County that do not exist in most parks and are consistent with Policy ROS-1A which states: "Countywide park and recreation open spaces shall be provided to meet the diverse needs of all Miami-Dade residents and tourists."

With regards to the commercial nature of the ATV operation, the Parks and Recreation text in the Land Use Element of the CDMP (page I-52) states: "other commercial recreational, entertainment or cultural uses may be considered for approval in the Parks and Recreation category, if authorized in accordance with Article 6 (renumbered as Article 7) of the Miami-Dade County Charter, as amended and if they are related to and would increase the quality, utility or enjoyment of the site and its natural, historical and archeological resources and facilities." Article 7 (Section 7.02 Restrictions and Exceptions) of the Charter states: "nothing in this Article shall prevent ... the construction, operation, maintenance and repair by government agencies or private operators of or issuance of temporary permits for ... C. User participation non-spectator recreation ...". Therefore, it could be interpreted that the use of a vendor for the ATV course is excepted from Article 7. Your department has provided information via an e-mail dated February 7, 2008 from Mr. Andy McCall of PARD, stating that this interpretation was confirmed in a conversation between PARD and the County Attorney's Office.

With regard to the use of the remaining 580-acres of wetlands with CDMP, such use is consistent with Policies ROS-6B and CON-7D, which call for the management and long-term viability and integration of the natural resource into the park. Additionally, CON 7B states that off-road vehicles shall not be allowed in the future publicly owned and managed wetlands unless located in permitted facilities or areas specified for their use. Therefore, the motocross activities would not be allowed outside of the 38-acre portion of the site unless properly permitted by the County. However, according to the PARD, the remaining 580 acres would remain as a wetland preserve in accordance with the PARD plans for the park.

In conclusion, the Department of Planning and Zoning determines that the proposed motocross activities on the northeastern 38-acre portion of M.E. Thompson Park and the retention of the remainder of the site as a wetland nature preserve are consistent with the "Parks and Recreation" designation on the LUP map and the text of the Miami-Dade County CDMP. If you have any questions regarding this information, feel free to call me at (305) 375-2557 or Mr. Mark R. Woerner, Chief of the Metropolitan Planning Section, at (305) 375-2835 for further assistance.

SB:MRW:PM:smd



Milton E. Thompson Park - MANAGEMENT PLAN